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Saint Patrick's G'day!



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Gates open 10am

the IRISH are taking over BRUNSWICK STREET MALL
live entertainment across 2 stages

THE GATHERING LIMERICK

TARTAN SHAMROCK



pop up BARS ✻ IRISH pipe BANDS ✻ IRISH DANCERS



the IRISH are taking over BRUNSWICK STREET MALL!

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

SUNDAY 17 MARCH

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT ACROSS 2 STAGES

THE GATHERING LIMERICK

TARTAN SHAMROCK



pop up BARS, QLD IRISH pipe BAND, IRISH DANCERS

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WELCOME

by editor Mary Allen, editor@angloandceltic.com

On page 4, Melbourne Celtic Festival brings a fusion of traditional and contemporary Celtic music and culture to the city.



On pages 6 to 18, we look at a host of events happening around the country to celebrate Saint Patrick's Day.



On page 31, we preview upcoming concerts, including news of Take That bringing their huge live tour to Australia.



On page 33, Tom Jones, the legendary Welsh singer, is set to grace Australia with his Ages & Stages tour.



On pages 38 & 39, as Riverdance 25 comes to our shores, we take a look at the success of the phenomenal dance show.



On pages 40 & 41, we take a tour around BAFTA-winning actor Cillian Murphy's home city of Cork.



CORKING CRAIC: Conor and Jock from *The Young Offenders* put in an appearance with Billy Murphy at the 2023 Brisbane Saint Patrick's Day Parade. The fourth series of the hit comedy set in Cork will be shown by the BBC this year and sneak pics of the cast in action have been released. See page 35 for full story.

Don't be offended, it's just a bit of craic!

WELCOME to our March edition, celebrating St Patrick's Day 2024.

This is the time of year when the spotlight falls on the Irish, celebrating a rich culture, a love of fun, and a 'craic'ing sense of humour. Expect wall-to-wall Derry Girls, Father Teds and Young Offenders at the Paddy's Day parades across Australia.

Community leaders, committees and venues have been working hard to line up fun and meaningful celebrations to mark the day. Most of this task is taken on by volunteers, organising for months on end so that things run smoothly on the day. I hope lots of people come out to support parades and festivals.

What about this month's absolutely stunning front-page picture of three young, talented Queensland Irish Association (QIA) Dancers? The colours of the traditional, embroidered dresses are stunning, especially set against the backdrop of jacarandas. Thank you to the

girls and their parents for this picture.

Among our stories in this edition are a horse going into a bar, a globe-trotting and vanishing quilt, a pub that pays tribute to a closed-down nightclub 15,000 km away, and the strange story of an Irish Lord's son who ended up long forgotten in a Brisbane cemetery. We love a good yarn!

Melbourne Celtic Festival has a feast of entertainment in store for you this month, both in Melbourne and Frankston, including Scottish Indian singer and harpist, Chloe Matharu.

We always keep you up to date on who's touring in Australia from the homelands and this month, we have Tom Jones, The Human League, East 17, Nik Kershaw and Go West. We also have a feature on Riverdance's 25th Anniversary Show.

If you have a story you'd like featured in this magazine, get in touch by email to editor@angloandceltic.com.

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www.irishqueenslander.com

Singer Chloe setting sail for Melbourne Celtic Festival

Hot on the back of a sell-out event in 2023, Melbourne Celtic Festival brings a fusion of traditional and contemporary Celtic music and culture to the iconic Mission to Seafarers complex in the heart of Melbourne on the weekend of the 16th and 17th of March.

It features special international guest artist, Scottish Indian singer-songwriter and harpist, Chloe Matharu.

In spectacular symmetry, Scots Singer of the Year Finalist, Chloe Matharu's

"Absolutely incredible"
– BBC Woman's Hour

"Voice with the purity of milk and honey"
– Herald Scotland

songs draw on her time as a Navigational Officer in the Merchant Navy, inspired by the natural world as experienced at sea. On tour, she performs solo with her harp in English, Scots and Welsh. Chloe received Celtic Music



Radio's Album of the Year for her debut album. She lives on her family-run alpaca trekking and goat yoga centre on the west coast of Scotland.

The Melbourne Celtic Festival line-up includes more than 100 diverse Celtic artists across four intimate stages. They include premier Aussie Scottish rock band Claymore, much-loved legends The Bushwackers, Austral, Victoria Welsh Choir, Saoirse, Bhan Tre, Apolline, Claire Patti and Pria Schwall-Kearney, Blairdardie, Big Fiddle Little Fiddle, Co-cheòl, Maria Forde, and more.

New in 2024 is the Free Ceilidh Dance with the famous Melbourne Scottish Fiddlers, Irish hard shoe dance performance and children's class with National champion, Patrick Gigacz from Christine Ayres Irish Dance Academy, sound bath with Fiona Ross, and delicious food from Kilted Haggis and The Wee Kitchen. The festival is also going 'ON TOUR' for one show only at Frankston Arts Centre on Friday, March 22nd. Ticket revenue goes to important mental health initiatives through Australian Rotary Health and Port Phillip Rotary.

FESTIVAL DETAILS

Melbourne Celtic Festival
Venue: The Mission to Seafarers, 717 Flinders St, Melbourne VIC
Date: Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th March
Time: 12pm to 11pm
Bookings: [TICKETS](#)
Tickets: \$40 - \$45 (Children under 12 free)

Melbourne Celtic Festival 'ON TOUR'
Venue: Frankston Arts Centre, 27-37 Davey Street, Frankston VIC
Date: Friday, 22nd March
Time: 8pm to 10.30pm
Tickets: \$35 - \$62
Bookings: [TICKETS](#)

Socials: [FACEBOOK](#)
[INSTAGRAM](#)

The Melbourne Celtic Festival is generously supported by Murrumbeena Community Bendigo Bank, The Mission to Seafarers, FreshPict Creative, City of Melbourne, Oliver-Ramsay Security, Dimattina Coffee, Jimmy O'Neill's Irish Pub, Scottish Business Network Victoria and a groundswell of community support.

MELBOURNE
CELTIC
FESTIVAL

16-17 MARCH 2024
12.00PM - 11.00PM

**SPECIAL SCOTTISH
GUEST ARTIST
SINGER SONGWRITER
HARPIST
CHLOE MATHARU**

"Absolutely incredible"
BBC Woman's Hour

THE MISSION TO SEAFARERS
717 FLINDERS STREET
MELBOURNE

www.melbournecelticfestival.com.au

[f](#) [@](#)

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Red Lion
TAVERN

Where Celtic Meets Country

New England Highway, Glencoe, New South Wales

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ST. PATRICK'S DAY

WEEKEND

15-17 MARCH

**LEAH MANNING
(IRISH DANCE)**

**PETER CAMPBELL
(LIVE MUSIC)**



**SPECIAL
IRISH-THEMED
MENU!**



**PERFORMANCES
SATURDAY EVENING & SUNDAY LUNCH**

Red Lion Tavern celebrates first anniversary Irish-style

The Red Lion Tavern, nestled along the scenic New England Highway at Glencoe, New South Wales, is gearing up to celebrate its first year of hearty hospitality on Saint Patrick's weekend!

Petar and Jessica Grulovic, the dynamic duo behind this cozy Celtic haven, launched their new venture last year to celebrate St Patrick's Day.

They can hardly contain their excitement as they look back on a year brimming with laughter, camaraderie, and more than a few spirited shindigs. Taking the reins from the previous owners, the Grulovics infused the tavern with the unmistakable charm of their Celtic heritage, transforming it into a beloved gathering spot for locals and wanderers alike.

As the anniversary weekend approaches, the tavern crackles with anticipation, promising festivities that'll have patrons raising their



glasses and tapping their toes in celebration. A special Irish-themed menu awaits to tantalise taste buds and warm hearts.

Of course, let's not forget the entertainment! Live music, courtesy of the talented Peter Campbell, will fill the air with melodies. And Irish dancer extraordinaire, Leah Manning will bring a bit of Emerald Isle magic to the festivities.

"We want people to walk in and feel like they've stepped into another country and back into another time," beams Petar. "And it's a very comforting, welcoming, spacious area."

The tavern has also released an exclusive Red Lion Rewards program, giving back to their loyal customers.

Petar said: "Our loyalty card offers something complimentary to our returning

customers every six meals, ranging from entrees to mains to gift vouchers, depending on the level of membership!"

And the best part? All the rewards are free for their wonderful customers. It's a one-of-a-kind rewards program, exclusive to The Red Lion Tavern - a favourite weekend destination.

Fresh off their success at the Red Lion Tavern, Petar and Jessica have expanded their Celtic empire with the acquisition of The Croft - a beloved cultural centre and café nestled within the Australian Standing Stones in Glen Innes. It's a double dose of Celtic charm that's sure to keep the good times rolling!

So, mark your calendars, dust off your finest green attire, and join the Grulovics as they raise a glass to St Patrick's Day, one unforgettable year, and many more to come at the Red Lion Tavern.

Finn McCool's throwing two epic parties

We know where the best shenanigans and craic will be in Brisbane this Saint Patrick's Day - Finn McCool's in Fortitude Valley.

That's because Brisbane's number one Irish bar will be taking over Brunswick Street Mall for a huge street party with live entertainment across two stages.

The party starts on Saturday, 16th March at 10am with the Parade Day After Party, featuring live entertainment with The Gathering, Limerick, Tartan Shamrock and Johnny Jump Up. But that's not all, there will also be pop up bars, Irish pipe bands, Irish dancers and more.

As if that's not enough, they're doing it all over again on Sunday, Saint Patrick's Day. Finns shared: "On March 17th, we have



Saint Patrick's Day party at Finn McCool's Gold Coast.

a HUGE day of festivities planned with our doors opening from 10am. Have double the fun with live entertainment across two stages all day long."

You'll have a chance to once again catch lively sets

from crowd favourites The Gathering, Limerick, Tartan Shamrock and Johnny Jump Up! Once again there will be Irish dancers, pop up bars and a performance by the brilliant Queensland Irish Association Pipe Band.

Shamrocks, shenanigans and a whole lot of craic await.

Meanwhile, on the Gold Coast at Finn McCool's Surf-ers Paradise, there is also an epic weekend of celebrations planned from 15th to 17th March. With live entertainment all weekend, you can catch Limerick in action on Friday, and Jumpstart Duo, Tales of Strangers and DJ Kimmy J providing the tunes on Saturday, with the bar staying open till 5am. And on Sunday, St Patrick's Day, you can catch Drunken Midnight Choir, Tales of Strangers, The Gathering, DJ Kimmy J, Irish dancers and the Gold Coast Pipe Band.

Finn McCool's is the destination for the best Guinness, live entertainment, and great craic!

St Patrick wasn't a snake chasing Irishman after all

The big day – 17th March – will soon be here, and once again people all around the world will be inspired to pay homage to Saint Patrick, Ireland, and Irish culture and heritage.

As one of the most popular cultural events on the planet, St Patrick's Day is celebrated by millions every year. Yet the enigmatic and larger-than-life figure behind the annual Irish extravaganza is shrouded in mystery, with much of what is known about the 'Apostle of Ireland' interwoven with myth and legend.

So, let's take a moment to look at some startling and quirky 'did you know' facts behind the folklore surrounding St Patrick.

Patrick wasn't Irish

Yes, it's true, Patrick is thought to have originally come from either Wales or Scotland, where he was abducted at the age of 16 and brought to what is now Northern Ireland as a slave. He was sent to Slemish Mountain in County Antrim – still a popular pilgrimage spot to this day – to herd sheep. But after his escape he had a vision which prompted him to return to Ireland to spread the word of Christianity. Patrick remained in Ireland for the rest of his life, preaching, baptising, and founding schools, churches and monasteries before his death in County Down, on 17th March, AD 461.

He isn't an official saint

It's hard to believe, but the man behind Ireland's national day is technically not a saint. Surprisingly, Patrick was never officially canonised as a saint by the Catholic Church. However, the lack of official sainthood is simply because there was no formal canonisation process in the 400s. In Patrick's time saints



Slemish Mountain in Antrim where Patrick, below, was brought as a slave. Words/pictures: Ireland.com

were declared by popular acclamation. Calling him 'St Patrick' is likely to have caught on over time because of his obvious talents, gifts and holiness.

St Patrick's colour is actually blue

Before green came on the scene, blue was the colour associated with St Patrick. The earliest depictions of Ireland's patron saint show him clothed in blue garments, not green, and in fact when George III created a new order of chivalry for the Kingdom of Ireland in 1783 its official colour was a sky blue known as 'St Patrick's Blue'. It's thought that the shift to green happened over time because of Ireland's nickname – the Emerald Isle, as well as the green in the Irish flag, the shamrock and the idea of the country's 40 shades of lush green fields. Things like the wearing of green and the more recent global greening of landmark



buildings around the world, evolved over time.

Snakes, what snakes?

Among the many legends associated with St Patrick is that he stood on top of a hillside and delivered a sermon that drove Ireland's serpents into the sea. It's true the island is snake-free, but in fact the story is likely an allegory for Patrick eradicating paganism on the island. Research suggests snakes were never resident in the Emerald Isle in the first place. There are no signs of snakes in the country's fossil record and water has surrounded Ireland since the last glacial period. Before

that, the region was covered in ice and would have been far too cold for reptiles.

The first St Patrick's Day parade

It's actually the big centres of Irish immigration in Boston (1737) and New York (1762) that have the longest laid claims to holding the first St Patrick's Day parade, though recent research has suggested the US city of St Augustine in Florida had one in 1601. This is long before they started in Ireland itself – the first parade in the country was held in Waterford in 1903, while Dublin joined the club back in 1931.

St Patrick's Day parades bring party to the streets

Across Australia, the anticipation for St Patrick's Day 2024 is building, promising a vibrant celebration of Irish culture and heritage. As the emerald hues begin to take over cities and towns, Australians are gearing up for a festive extravaganza featuring parades, live music, and a sea of green.

From Sydney to Melbourne, and Brisbane to Perth, communities are uniting to mark this global phenomenon with an Australian twist. The streets will echo with the sounds of traditional Irish tunes, creating an atmosphere of camaraderie and joy. Join us as we delve into the spirited festivities unfolding across the country.

SYDNEY, NSW

In the heart of Sydney, excitement brews for the upcoming St Patrick's Day Parade and Festival from March 14th to 17th. Big gigs include Sharon Shannon Big Band and Sásta. The main event, the renowned parade and festival takes centre stage on Sunday, March 17th. The parade runs from Pitt Street/Hunter Street to Circular Quay, beginning at 11am. sydneystpatricksday.com

MELBOURNE, VIC

In the heart of St Kilda, the fifth annual St Patrick's Festival unfolds over two days, on March 16th and 17th. The family-friendly festivities commence on Saturday at 10am in O'Donnell Gardens, offering free admission. Expect roving entertainers, Irish dancers, and a vibrant parade on Acland Street. Then on Sunday, the excitement continues with a ticketed event featuring Irish bands and workshops. melbournestpatricksday.com.au
Also on St Patrick's Day, the annual St Patrick's Family Fun Day by the Melbourne Irish Festival takes place in



Our sister publication, Irish Queenslander (IQ), with a Belfast-made DeLorean DMC on parade in Brisbane.

Edinburgh Gardens, North Fitzroy. The not-for-profit event is open to all. www.melbourneirishfestival.com

BRISBANE, QLD

Since 1989, a spirited St Patrick's Day Parade has weaved through the vibrant streets of Brisbane almost annually, with floats showcasing the city's rich tapestry of Irish heritage. In 2024, the parade will enchant spectators with the theme Irish Myths and Legends, starting at 10.30am on March 16th in Alice Street, Brisbane. brisbaneirishfestival.com.au

PERTH, WA

St Patrick's Festival WA will shower Leederville in a beautiful shade of green come March 16th. Join in the parade and free family fun day at the Oval from 10am to 3pm. It promises to be the best yet! www.facebook.com/stpatricksfestivalwa/

TOOWOOMBA, QLD

Join the crew for the annual Darling Downs Irish Club St Patrick's Day Parade on Sunday, March 17th from 10am. Then enjoy traditional Irish

music, Irish dancers and the Toowoomba Caledonian Pipe Band in the Irish Club Hotel after the parade. [Details here](#)

WESTBURY, TAS

The annual festival will take place on March 16th from 10am on the Village Green. It will feature music, dancing, a market and the St Patrick's Day parade. [Facebook/Westbury St Patrick's Festival](#)

ST PATRICK'S DAY PARADES

- 16 MAR Brisbane QLD
- 16 MAR St Kilda, Melbourne VIC
- 16 MAR Leederville, Perth WA
- 16 MAR Westbury TAS
- 17 MAR Sydney NSW
- 17 MAR Toowoomba QLD



Queensland Irish Association

St Patrick's Day Parade 2024





Walk with us!

Queensland Irish Association invites you don the green and walk with us in the Brisbane parade behind our float with the star of the day, Saint Patrick. Members and friends of all ages are welcome to take part!

Join us on Saturday, 16th March from 10am (for 10.30am parade start) at Brisbane Botanic Gardens, Alice Street, Brisbane CBD

ST PATRICK'S GIGS & REELS



Saint Patrick's Day parties are legendary and take over the street at Finn McCool's Fortitude Valley in Brisbane. Picture: Finn McCool's

SUN 3 MAR
Irish National Day
Gaelic Park VIC

WED 6 MAR
The Guard screening for Brisbane Irish Festival at Elizabeth Street Picture House
Brisbane QLD [Tickets](#)

FRI 8 MAR
Aisling Society St Patrick's Day Dinner
Sydney NSW

SAT 9 MAR
Westside Paddies St Patrick's Day Celebrations
The Gap QLD

SUN 10 MAR
Queensland Irish Association and Friends of Toowong Cemetery Irish History Tour
Toowong Cemetery QLD [Details here](#)
Queensland Irish Choir St Patrick's Day Concert
Chermside QLD
Queensland Gaelic Football and Hurling Association Family Festival Day
Willawong QLD
Queensland Irish Choir St Patrick's Day Concert
Kedron Community Church QLD

THU 14 MAR
Sharon Shannon's Big Band
Sydney, NSW
County Bondi St Patrick's Festival (to 17 MAR)
Bondi Junction NSW

FRI 15 MAR
St Patrick's Day Weekend at The Red Lion Tavern
Glencoe NSW
[Bookings](#): 0409 776 906
St Patrick's Festival Bunbury 2024 (until MAR 17)

Bunbury WA
Irish Australian Chamber of Commerce St Patrick's Events
Melbourne VIC, Perth WA, Sydney NSW and Brisbane, QLD
NT Irish Assoc St Patrick's Golf Day
Darwin NT
St Patrick's Dance Party
Norwood SA
The Landsdowne Club St Patrick's Day Lunch 2024
Sydney NSW
Melbourne Comhaltas Patrick's Day Hooley
Abbotsford VIC
Munster Bucks Gold Coast Irish festival
Gold Coast QLD

SAT 16 MAR
St Patrick's Day Parade After Party
Finn McCool's Fortitude Valley
Brisbane QLD [Details here](#)
St Patrick's Day Weekend at The Red Lion Tavern
Glencoe NSW
[Bookings](#): 0409 776 906
Melbourne Celtic Festival (to 17 MAR)
The Mission to Seafarers, 717 Flinders St, Melbourne VIC, 12pm - 11pm
[TICKETS](#): \$40 - \$45 (Children under 12 free)
Queensland Irish Association 126th annual St Patrick's Eve Dinner at Brisbane City Hall
Brisbane QLD [Details here](#)
St Patrick's Weekend Festival (to 17 MAR)
Finn McCool's Surfer's Paradise
Gold Coast QLD
Song of the Sea screening
Brisbane QLD
Brisbane St Patrick's Day 2024 Parade
Brisbane QLD
Cairns Irish Association St Patrick's Day Festival
Manunda QLD
St Patrick's Day Celebration with Barley-shakes and the SAR Irish dancers
Sunshine Beach QLD

Feast Day of St Patrick at Cathedral Centre
Toowoomba QLD
St Patrick's Eve Ceilidh
Club Macquarie, Argenton NSW
Sasta live at The Sydney St Patrick's Day Festival
Sydney NSW
St Patrick's Day Dance 2024
Surry Hills NSW
Paddy's Gay 2024
Erskineville NSW
St Patrick's Day at The Station
Newcastle NSW
County Coogee St Patrick's Weekend Market
Coogee NSW
St Kilda St Patrick's Festival (to 17 MAR)
St Kilda VIC
St Patrick's Day Eve Car Park Party
Geelong VIC
An Emerald Hour of Irish Music, Culture and Song
Bendigo VIC
Westbury St Patrick's Festival
Westbury TAS
St Patrick's Festival WA
Leederville WA
Saint Patrick's Party
Irish Club of WA, Subiaco WA

SUN 17 MAR
St Patrick's Day Live Entertainment across two stages at Finn McCool's Fortitude Valley
Brisbane QLD [Details here](#)
St Patrick's Day Weekend at The Red Lion Tavern
Glencoe NSW
[Bookings](#): 0409 776 906
Melbourne Celtic Festival
The Mission to Seafarers, 717 Flinders St, Melbourne VIC, 12pm - 11pm
[TICKETS](#): \$40 - \$45 (Children under 12 free)
Queensland Irish Association Saint Patrick's Day Lunch at Wests Rugby Club
Toowong QLD [RSVP](#)
Harrigan's St Patrick's Day
Calypso Bay QLD

St Patrick's Day Parade
Toowoomba QLD
The Sydney St Patrick's Day Festival
The Rocks, Sydney NSW
St Patrick's Day flag lowering ceremony at the Australian Standing Stones
Glen Innes NSW
St Patrick's Day Concert - Carefree Road Band
Wollongong NSW
St Paddy's Day at Dinah Beach Cruising Yacht Assoc
Darwin City NT
Kelly's Wayke - Big Irish Festival
Hindmarsh SA
Melbourne Irish Festival Family Fun Day
Fitzroy VIC
St Patrick's Day Minerva Social
Ballarat VIC
St Patrick's Day Family Fun Fair
Norwood Hotel, Norwood SA
Kelly's Wayke - Big Irish Festival
Hindmarsh SA
St Patrick's Festival Family Day
Bunbury WA
St Patrick's Day Breakfast followed by full day of entertainment
Irish Club of WA, Subiaco WA

MON 18 MAR
"The Day After" St Patrick's Day Party
Caloundra QLD

FRI 22 MAR
Melbourne Celtic Festival 'ON TOUR'
Frankston Arts Centre, 27-37 Davey Street, Frankston VIC
Time: 8pm - 10.30pm
[TICKETS](#): \$35 - \$62
A spectacular post St Patrick's Irish Night
Bayswater WA

SAT 23 MAR
Post St Patrick's Day Trivia and Games Night at Gold Coast Rugby Union Football Club
Southport QLD

Sydney calling all redheads

Sydney St Patrick's Festival is calling all redheads to unite and join them to find the best ceann (head) in town.

The festival committee shared: "Only 2% of the world's population have red hair jumping to 10% in the Emerald Isle, so we would like to celebrate the rarest hair type on the planet by uniting all the redheaded Sydney-siders."

They will be choosing a king and queen of the redheads and best redheaded family.

They said: "At this festival, red is more than a hair colour – it's an identity worth celebrating."

You can register your interest at www.sydneystpatricksday.com.

The four-day St Patrick's Festival kicks off on March 14th with Sharon Shannon Big Band.

They've also got last year's performers Sásta back for



Redheads are invited to gather for a special contest. Picture: [Sydney St Patrick's Festival website](http://www.sydneystpatricksday.com)

their free night concert on Saturday, March 16th in First Fleet Park, as well as the parade and festival taking place on Sunday, March 17th.

To help support the festival, you can Sponsor a Shamrock.

This is your opportunity to have your family name and

county be a part of the Sydney St Patrick's Celebrations. You can show your support for the day by having your name and county displayed on a shamrock at the festival on 17th March.

Shamrock prices range from \$25 to \$100. Book in your shamrock at the festival

website before Tuesday, 12th March.

Also part of the festival was Irish Support Agency NSW's The Rambling Irish Walk that took place from Centennial Park to Bronte on February 18th. If you'd like to join The Rambling Irish, contact [Irish Support Agency NSW](http://www.irishsupportagency.com.au).

TOOWOOMBA

 **DARLING DOWNS IRISH CLUB**

St. Patrick's Day

PARADE

MARCH 17TH

JOIN US FOR THE PARADE AT THE IRISH CLUB HOTEL, 10 STATION STREET FROM 10:00 AM (10:30 START).

AND AFTER THE PARADE FOR A DRINK AND ENTERTAINMENT BY IRISH DANCERS, THE CALEDONIAN PIPE BAND AND LIVE MUSIC.

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY THE EMBASSY OF IRELAND

 **Embassy of Ireland Canberra**

ST PATRICK'S

FAMILY FUN DAY

SUNDAY 17TH MARCH
12 - 5PM

EDINBURGH GARDENS, NORTH FITZROY

FREE ENTRY

MUSIC
THE SIMPSONS THREE
THE MAGGIE CARTY BAND
CEOLTOIRÍ NAARM
MICK RYAN
AND OTHERS...

KIDS ACTIVITIES
MAGICIAN
BUBBLES LADY
KIDS ACTIVITY TENT
KIDS SPORT & GAA
AND MORE.....

IRISH DANCING ON THE MAIN STAGE

IRISH FOOD VENDORS

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CELEBRATING OUR SHARED HERITAGE

Le chéile
TOGETHER



SYDNEY 2024 ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE & FESTIVAL 14-17 MARCH

4 DAY FESTIVAL

THURSDAY 14TH MARCH - Sharon Shannon Big Band

Festival Kick off | The Factory Theatre | Presented by Road and Rail Excavations

FRIDAY 15TH MARCH | Irish Party in Scruffy Murphy's

Live Music | DJ | Dancing until late | Prize Draw - Win a flight to Ireland

SATURDAY 16TH MARCH | Live music in First Fleet Park

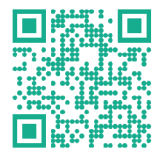
Bar open from 6pm | FREE event from 7pm featuring Sásta | Food Truck | Over 18s event

SUNDAY 17TH MARCH 11am-6pm | Sydney St. Patrick's Day Festival in the Rocks

Free family friendly event | Parade from 11am | Irish markets

| Live music | Irish dancing | Citizenship Ceremonies | Bars

| Children's Entertainment | RedHead Celebration



Westbury festival celebrates daring escapes and heritage

Nestled in the rolling hills of Tasmania lies the charming town of Westbury, where history comes alive every year during the vibrant St Patrick's Festival. This annual celebration not only honours the rich Irish heritage of the town but also commemorates the daring escapes of two legendary figures from Irish history: John Mitchel and Thomas Francis Meagher.

Westbury's Irish roots run deep, with its eastern region, once known as Pensioners Bush, settled by Irish soldier settlers seeking refuge from the famine-stricken shores of Ireland. These resilient pioneers were granted land and resources, shaping the landscape of the town with their indomitable spirit and unwavering determination.

By the 1850s, Westbury had become a thriving com-



Local school children dancing around the Maypole at Westbury Saint Patrick's Festival in Tasmania.

Picture: [Facebook/Westbury St Patrick's Festival](https://www.facebook.com/WestburyStPatrick'sFestival)

munity, predominantly Irish and comprised mostly of free settlers.

Central to the tale of Westbury's St Patrick's Festival

are the daring escapes of two iconic figures from Irish history: John Mitchel and Thomas Francis Meagher. Exiled to Tasmania for their involvement in Irish nationalist movements, both men plotted their escape from captivity.

John Mitchel, immortalised in his gripping memoir *The Jail Journal*, staged a daring getaway, riding through the rugged terrain of Tasmania's mountains with the help of sympathetic locals. His escape became the stuff of legend, inspiring in its audacity and ingenuity. The most wanted man in all Tasmania, he boarded a public coach to travel to Hobart, dressed as a priest and found himself sitting opposite the ex-Attorney General of the colony who had met him previously, but did not recognise him. He was smuggled onto a boat to America. He was greeted there as a hero. One of his sons fired the first shot in the American Civil War.

Thomas Francis Meagher, known for designing the Irish flag, also embarked on a perilous journey to freedom. Escaping from prison, he crossed treacherous landscapes and evaded capture, ultimately finding sanctuary

in the welcoming embrace of Westbury's residents. Meagher went on to found the Irish Brigade and became a Brigadier-General in the American Civil War, and later Governor of Montana.

Each year, the St Patrick's Festival in Westbury pays homage to the town's Irish heritage and the remarkable feats of Mitchel and Meagher. Visitors flock to Westbury, drawn by the allure of live music, traditional dance, and hearty Irish fare.

This year, the festival will take place on Saturday, March 16th from 10am on the Village Green. The family-friendly event will feature Maypole dancing, children's activities, food and craft stalls, music, dancing, a church market and vintage tractors. It will also feature a St Patrick's Day parade.

Acts playing at the festival include The Wheels, The Meander Men's Choir, Matt Dames and Anna Talbot, Tasmanian harp and violin duo Matt Wooley and Annie Parsell, Flitch - Bottom Pub Ceilidh Band, Aileen Poynter Irish Dancers, Kimroe Dance School and much more. Entry costs just \$5 and children under 15 are free.

Westbury St Patrick's Festival

Saturday 16th March
10am to 5pm
on the Village Green, Westbury

MUSIC + DANCE + KIDS ACTIVITIES
FOOD & CRAFT STALLS + MAYPOLE DANCING
CHURCH MARKET + VINTAGE TRACTORS

And Acts...
THE WHEELS
THE MEANDER MEN'S CHOIR
MATT DAMES & ANNA TALBOT
KATE FRASER ~ SHEFFIELD FOLK
TASMANIAN HARP & VIOLIN DUO
MATT WOOLEY & ANNIE PARSELL
FLITCH ~ BOTTOM PUB CEILIDH BAND
AILEEN POYNTER IRISH DANCERS
KIMROE DANCE SCHOOL
...and so much more!

for information contact
Amanda Taylor - 0467 097 791
amanda.m.taylor@bigpond.com

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ALL WEEKEND

friday 15 mar

LIMERICK

saturday 16 mar

OPEN TIL 5AM

JUMPSTART DUO
TALES OF STRANGERS
DJ KIMMY J

sunday 17 mar

OPEN AT 10AM

DRUNKEN MIDNIGHT CHOIR
TALES OF STRANGERS
THE GATHERING
DJ KIMMY J
IRISH DANCERS
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Irish Lord's son's forgotten grave is found in Toowong

The long-forgotten, vandalised and overgrown grave of the son of an Irish Lord has been found in a Brisbane cemetery and restored to its former glory.

Heritage-listed Toowong Cemetery is the largest cemetery in Queensland, with its first burial taking place in 1871. A group of volunteers, [Friends of Toowong Cemetery](#), restores broken headstones and researches the history of the monuments, as well as conducting tours.

Darcy Maddock from Friends of Toowong Cemetery recently lifted a broken headstone to discover that the grave belonged to the son of an Irish Lord.

Darcy contacted Queensland Irish Association seeking help with lifting the small marble headstone back onto its base and restoring it.

Darcy said at the time: "I found an Irishman who deserves to be visited but the headstone has been vandalised. I am sure it can be repaired. The lovely cross is in two pieces which I can put back together with a special adhesive."

Speaking about the inscription on the headstone, Darcy said: "His name is Bentinck Yelverton Bingham, he is the third son of John Charles Robert Bingham, fourth Baron of Clanmorris, Creg Clare, Co. Galway."

Queensland Irish Association Friends and Supporters group ran a request for help from the Irish community. They are very grateful to Kevin Morrissey, who volunteered to help.

Research is ongoing by Friends of Toowong Cemetery on the history of the young man in the grave, and so far it is a very sad story.

According to the research undertaken by Darcy Maddock so far, Bentinck Yelverton Bingham was born in Galway and came out to



Clockwise from top left, the grave of the son of Lord Clanmorris was located broken at Toowong Cemetery. It has been restored thanks to the work Darcy Maddock, bottom right with his wife Lynette nee Bell.

Australia when he was just 20 years old. He was notified of an inheritance and went home to Ireland, then came back to Queensland with money. He invested in property but was ripped off and became mentally disturbed. He ended up in an asylum in the year he died, aged 36. The headstone was erected by his brother and sister.

Work undertaken on the grave included cleaning, painting the railings and putting down artificial grass.

The grave will be included in Queensland Irish Association's Irish history tour of the cemetery, in association with Friends of Toowong Cemetery, as part of their St Patrick's Day celebrations.

This will be a guided walk and fascinating talk on the lives of the prominent Irish people buried in the cemetery as participants visit their grave sites.

The tour will take place on Sunday, 10th March at 10am. If you'd like to join in, meet at the flagpole at the Frederick Street entrance.



Queensland Irish Association

Irish History Tour




Queensland Irish Association
&
Friends of Toowong Cemetery
invite you to

Irish History Tour at Toowong Cemetery

on Sunday, 10th March at 10am

*Cash donation welcome to Friends of Toowong Cemetery on the day.
More info: Friends of Toowong Cemetery - inquiries@fotc.au*

This tour will involve two hours of walking/standing.
Bring comfortable, enclosed shoes and clothing suitable for the weather.
Meet at the flag pole near the main entrance at Frederick Street, Toowong. Parking available in cemetery.

- 02**
March

BRISBANE IRISH FESTIVAL CHARITY BALL
Time 6:00 pm - 11:59 pm
Venue Victoria Park Complex
- 06**
March

THE GUARD MOVIE SCREENING
Time 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm
Venue Elizabeth Picture Theatre
- 10**
March

IRISH HISTORY TOUR AT TOOWONG CEMETERY
Time From 10:00am
Venue Toowong Cemetery
- 10**
March

FAMILY FESTIVAL DAY
Time 11:00 am - 6:30 pm
Venue Gaelic Park, Willawong
- 10**
March

ST PATRICK'S DAY CONCERT
Time 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Venue Kedron Community Church
- 16**
March

ST PATRICK'S DAY PARADE
Time 10:30 am - 11:30 pm
Venue Brisbane City
- 16**
March

SONG OF THE SEA MOVIE SCREENING
Time 12:30 - 2:00pm
Venue Elizabeth Picture Theatre
- 16**
March

ST PATRICK'S EVE DINNER
Time 6:30 pm - 11:59 pm
Venue Brisbane City Hall
- 16 & 17**
March

GILHOOLEYS ST PATRICK'S DAY WEEKEND CELEBRATIONS
Time From 10:30 am
Venue Gilhooleys Irish Pub & Restaurant
- 17**
March

MASS ON ST PATRICK'S DAY
Time 10:00 am - 11:00 am
Venue Cathedral of St Stephen
- 17**
March

QIA ST PATRICK'S DAY LUNCH
Time From 11:30am
Venue Western Districts Rugby Football Club
- 17 & 18**
March

LIGHTING THE CITY GREEN
Venue Brisbane City

SCAN FOR MORE INFO



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Queensland Irish Association has packed diary for St Pat's

Queensland Irish Association (QIA) has been at the heart of the Irish community for over 125 years and they have a stacked line-up of St Patrick's Day events happening this month.

It begins with an Irish History Tour of Toowong Cemetery, which has seen months of preparation by organisers to make it full of great stories. That's on Sunday, 10th March, beginning at 10am.

The Brisbane St Patrick's Day parade takes place on Saturday, 16th March at 10.30am and the Association is inviting you to walk in the parade with them. Meet outside the City Botanical Gardens main entrance in Alice Street from 10am.

They also have their St Patrick's Eve Dinner on Saturday, March 16th at 6pm. For amazing value at \$160, you



Queensland Irish Association's Finding Brigid screening at Brigidine College was a big success.

get a three-course meal, five-hour drinks package and the chance to mix with dignitaries at this wonderful event in the Main Auditorium at Brisbane City Hall. The dress code for this event is black tie or lounge suit/after-five wear. You'll have to be quick to secure a spot as tickets are

selling like hotcakes. Email stpatricksevedinner@hotmail.com to secure your spot.

Then, on St Patrick's Day, 17th March at 11.30am, is the Association's annual St Patrick's Day lunch. Admission is free and it will be held at Wests Rugby Club in Toowong. Irish menu and drinks

will be available to purchase.

The Association recently held a documentary screening to celebrate Saint Brigid's Day and around 60 people attended the event at Brigidine College, Indooroopilly.

If you'd like to join QIA, it costs just \$20 at www.queenslandirish.com.

Queensland Irish Choir St Patrick's Day Concert

2.00pm Sunday 10 March 2024
Doors Open 1.30 pm

Chermside-Kedron Community Church
(Cnr Gympie and Rode Roads)

Enjoy an afternoon of
**Irish Music,
Song and Dance**

Musical Director: David O'Keeffe
Accompanist: Tim Li

Guest Performers
QIA Pipe Band
QIA Dancers

Tickets
<https://www.trybooking.com/GOTQP>
\$25 Adults \$10 under 15 years
At the Door – if not previously sold out



Enquiries
0493 455 487



Queensland Irish Association St Patrick's Day Lunch



Queensland Irish Association
invites Members and friends to

The QIA St Patrick's Day Lunch

on Sunday, 17th March from 11.30am
at
Wests Rugby Football Union Club,
65 Slyvan Rd, Toowong

Great food with traditional Irish menu and drinks available
Entertainment with QIA Dancers and music by Tom Kimmel
Admission is free

Enquiries: Please contact Claire Moore on 0419 673 126

Queensland Irish Association

since 1898

announces a move to an Exciting New Venue at
Brisbane City Hall Main Auditorium
for

St Patrick's Eve Dinner

2024

Saturday

16 March 2024

6.00 for 6.45 pm

Join Distinguished Guests, Irish and Queensland representatives to continue a 126 year old tradition of celebrating Irish heritage & culture in Queensland.

\$1,600.00 per table

(\$160 per person)

Booking enquiries to:

stpatricksevedinner@hotmail.com

Dress Code: Black Tie or Lounge Suit/After-Five Wear



Terms and conditions and Government health directives apply. Please do not attend if you are unwell. You may nominate a replacement to attend in your place.

Knot your average phone book thanks to Celtic artist

Step into the enchanting world of Glen Innes artist Peter Grimes, whose mesmerizing creation graces this year's local phone book. Aptly titled 'Lyre Bird', his stunning artwork is poised to captivate every mailbox in the Glen Innes Severn Shire of New South Wales.

Beyond its practical directory function, the phone book also serves as a digital resource for the community, accessible online at www.celticinformer.com.au.

A self-taught artist with more than 25 years of experience, Peter's journey into Celtic art began far from Glen Innes. Raised in England, his passion was ignited by intricate designs adorning record covers.

Drawing inspiration from masterpieces like The Book of Kells, he now showcases his



Peter Grimes's art on the cover of the 2024 Celtic Informer. Pictures: [Facebook/PeterGrimesCelticArt](https://www.facebook.com/PeterGrimesCelticArt)

art at his The Croft Cafe in Glen Innes.

Peter's dedication to promoting Celtic heritage extends beyond his art. From the Australian Standing

Stones to the Australian Celtic Festival, his involvement in the Celtic community is unwavering.

Immerse yourself in Peter's world of Celtic art at www.petergrimescelticart.com.

[petergrimescelticart.com](http://www.petergrimescelticart.com).

Whether it's the grace of a lyre bird or the intricate twists of a Celtic knot, Peter's work captures the essence of Glen Innes' rich cultural heritage.

Liverpool Plains Military Tattoo returns

If you have been dreaming of a Celtic country experience, you won't have to travel far with the Liverpool Plains Military Tattoo on again on Saturday, 9th March in Quirindi, New South Wales.

This will be the fifth time the event has been held and the afternoon and evening activities are sure to entertain everyone.

"We are very lucky to have a number of high-quality pipe bands and Celtic performers joining us for the event," says Mayor Councillor Doug Hawkins OAM.

"We are thrilled that they will be doing individual performances, as well as a combined show. It is incredible to watch and will transport you straight into the Scottish Highlands for the evening."

The pipe bands are coming from both New South Wales and Queensland, with 40 pipers already confirmed to perform together on the night.



Liverpool Plains Military Tattoo will return to Quirindi, New South Wales on March 9th. Picture: Supplied

There will be dancers and the Mad Kelpie Celtic folk band to entertain the crowds.

As part of the event, there will be a community market.

The Military Tattoo has free entry and will be held at the Longfield Oval on Henry Street. The market will

kick off at 5pm, with musical entertainment starting at 5.30pm and the pipe band performances at 7pm.

"There will be lots on offer for everyone to enjoy at this year's Liverpool Plains Military Tattoo. Over 25 market stalls have already signed

up and we will have free face-painting for the kids, a fun Celtic-themed photo booth and a fantastic firework display," said Mayor Councillor Hawkins OAM.

Attendees are encouraged to bring a picnic blanket or chairs and sit under the stars.

Clifton locals enjoy horsing around at Finnegan's Wake

Get ready for a tale that's as lively as the horse that walks into a bar! Clifton in the Darling Downs, Queensland, is about to set the stage for the quirky and whimsical Finnegan's Wake parade on Saturday, 2nd March.

Finnegan, the star of the show, will be paraded through the town in his coffin. The procession will include characters like the Pope, Saint Patrick, Weeping Widow, and the nuns, creating a spectacle that is both good fun and bewildering. As if that's not enough, there may even be a horse strolling into O'Shanley's Irish Pub for a drink - because why should humans have all the fun?

Inspired by James Joyce's prose work, this annual event made its debut at the historic 120-year-old pub in 2003.



A horse kicking off Finnegan's Wake in O'Shanleys, Clifton, Queensland. Pictures: Irish Queenslander

The story revolves around Timothy Finnegan, a cantankerous fellow known for attending every wake, even those he wasn't invited to.

Not wanting to miss out on the ultimate party - his own wake - Finnegan decided to throw one while he was still alive.

The parade itself is a lively re-enactment of the wake, with Finnegan enjoying a few drinks in his coffin as he's paraded through the town. Everyone is invited to join in the revelry by dressing in the spirit of the day to be entered into a draw for a \$50

voucher. The festivities kick off at 12pm with the parade making its way up Clifton's main street, culminating in a grand finale at O'Shanley's.

Get ready for a day filled with Irish entertainment, delectable food and drink, and endless fun. With Guinness, Kilkenny, and craic flowing all day long, Finnegan's Wake promises an experience that's as spirited as the town itself.

O'Shanley's IRISH PUB

FINNEGAN'S WAKE

SATURDAY 2ND MARCH

Street Parade - 12 noon sharp
 There will be bagpipes, the Pope, St Patrick, Cardinal, Nuns, Undertaker, Weeping Widow, and of course, Finnegan himself.

Irish Music, Irish Food & Irish Fun all day
 Guinness, Kilkenny & Cider on tap

Join the Shenanigans

Win **\$50 VOUCHER**
 Dress in the spirit of Finnegan's Wake and join the parade to go in the draw to win a \$50 Voucher




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Australian Celtic Festival marks year of Ireland and Isle of Man

Those keen to get their Celt on and celebrate the festival's Year of Ireland & The Isle of Man won't want to miss the general release tickets for The Australian Celtic Festival in Glen Innes, New South Wales.

Entry to the festival includes an incredible program of events and attractions, including live music and dance performances across three stages. There will be pipe bands and competitions, Highland games and strongman events, Celtic wrestling, jousting and re-enactment groups.

Among the unique attractions will be a Celtic fashion parade, Celtic dog parade and animal displays, the new Celtic Kitchen marquee, and the Celtic Kids marquee. There's also the Australian Standing Stones parkrun, market stalls, food trucks, and more.

Running from May 2nd to



5th, this is the Year of Ireland and The Isle of Man at the annual festival.

The live music line-up is set to impress, with Gerry O'Connor (from Ireland), Elizabeth Davidson-Blythe and Daniel Quayle (from The Isle of Man), Australian Celtic

Women, Asleep at the Reel, MunsterBucks, Murphy's Pigs, The Gathering, Limerick and The Shamrock Dancers, Sionnach Rua's Great Irish

Songbook, Ian Hayden and Friends Ceili Band, Moreton Celtic Fiddle Club, The Parsons & The Peas, Lorna and Dave, The Scotsman, Elizabeth Sutherland, Mo McMorrow, Matt Scullion, Katy Haselwood, Hester Fraser, and Tim Scanlan sure to wow the crowds.

Festival day passes and weekend passes also include entry to the separately ticketed Fire & Feasting events to be held at the festival site on the evenings of Friday, 3rd May and Saturday, 4th May from 5pm to 9pm, featuring music, dance, food trucks, and a bar.

Start preparing to kilt up for an exciting and memorable weekend of good craic!

Tickets are available at gleninnessevernecouncil.iwanaticket.com.au.

Melbourne Festival announces Chieftain

The Chieftain of the Day for the 2024 Melbourne Highland Games and Celtic Festival will be Frank McGregor.

Frank is the High Commissioner and Chief's Lieutenant for Clan Gregor Australia and the Honorary Consul for the United Kingdom in Tasmania.

The Clan Gregor Society is one of the oldest clan societies in the world, being established in 1822.

In 2016, Frank helped co-ordinate a documentary on the Clan Gregor Society with Charles Wooley from Sixty minutes called No Surrender.

In 2018, Clan Chief Sir Malcolm MacGregor awarded Frank with the title of High Commissioner and Chiefs



Lieutenant with the approval and official documentation from the Lord Lyon Court of Scotland, enabling Frank to wear the feathers of the position.

Melbourne Highland Gathering and Celtic Festival will be held on Sunday, 24th March at Eastfield Park, Croydon.

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Michael Burke Penny Whistle Co.

O ble wyt ti'n dod? An American's journey to reconnect with Welsh

by Liz Williams

As a newcomer to the Welsh language class in Canberra, I was recently asked the question, "O ble wyt ti'n dod yn wreiddiol?" or, "Where are you from originally?" I answered to the class that I was from Efrog Newydd (New York) originally, and was met with some perplexed looks. If I was American, why was I learning Welsh?

My link to Wales goes back several generations to 1886, when my great-great-grandfather left his home near Aberdaron, in North Wales, to join a small community of Welsh immigrants living in central New York. This area was a hub of Welsh-American immigration during that time period, and his family remained there for generations.

When I was growing up there in the 1990s, the Welsh culture was still prominent, with 'Gymanfa Ganu' hymn-singing events held regularly and other Welsh cultural traditions celebrated. My Welsh heritage interested me, and I travelled to Wales several times over the years to explore this connection, and even began learning the language in 2012.

It wasn't until I became an immigrant myself, though, relocating to Australia in 2018, that I really started to appreciate my Welsh heritage. While adapting to life in a new country, I found myself drawn toward the Welsh-Australian community.



Liz Williams and her son, Levin, holding a photo of the house near Aberdaron, Wales, where Liz's great-great-grandfather lived before emigrating to New York in 1886. Pictures: Supplied

It felt familiar to me, while so many other aspects of adjusting to Australia were disorienting and unsettling. I joined the Welsh language classes at the Melbourne Welsh Church, and linked up with the Canberra Welsh Society after moving there last year.

Reconnecting with my Welsh heritage as an immigrant has been a fulfilling experience for me, and I see learning Welsh as a lifelong journey that will continuously bring me closer to that part of my heritage. I hope to share this connection to Wales with my son someday, as he is just two years old and has only known Australia as his home.

Like many who call this country home, that question "O ble wyt ti'n dod yn

wreiddiol?" can be complex. Yes, my son is from Australia, but from America before that, and from Wales even before that. I hope to share this multifaceted heritage with him as he grows, wherever in the

world we may be.

Liz Williams is an American writer living in Australia with family ties to Wales. She can be contacted through her website at lizwilliamswrites.com.

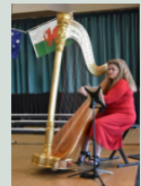
New Venue

**The Sydney Welsh Choir
St David's Day Concert 2024
West Ryde Community Hall
3-6 Anthony Road West Ryde
2pm Saturday March 2nd**

Cost \$10 each (pay cash at door)

This year we plan hold a concert in the style of a cymanfa ganu with lots of opportunity for community singing

The choir will sing a few songs. Our poet in residence Rob Ferguson will deliver prose. There will be a short talk on the life and times of Hwyl Dda. The guest performer will be Karen Hickmott on the harp.



Welsh cakes, bara bryth, sandwiches/ tea and coffee will be served after the concert

The West Ryde Community Hall is in the main shopping precinct directly opposite Coles and Woolworths. It is close to the railway station and the bus routes along Victoria Road. There is some street parking and 2hr free parking in Coles.

There will be lots of hwyll!



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England beats Australia in world's best cities ranking



Liverpool came seventh in Time Out magazine's list of the world's top 50 cities in 2024. Picture: [VisitLiverpool](#)



MediaCity and The Quays is an iconic waterfront destination that's part of Salford Quays in Manchester. The northern English city came 15th place in the world's top cities ranking. Picture: [VisitManchester](#)

In the fierce battle of the world's best cities, England stands tall, flexing its metropolitan muscle against the Southern Hemisphere. Time Out magazine's 2024 Best Cities in the World rankings have sparked debate, not least in the expat communities of England, Ireland, Scotland, and beyond in Australia.

The highest-ranking UK city in the list was London, clinching the fourth spot. Impressive, but London topped the ranking in 2023.

The British capital trailed New York this year, at number one, second-placed Berlin in Germany, and South Africa's Cape Town in third spot.

A testament to London's enduring allure, the city outshone its rivals with its vibrant culture, iconic landmarks, and unbeatable nightlife.

But, the English pride didn't stop there. Liverpool, the city of The Beatles and football legends, made a surprising surge, landing a respectable seventh place, an amazing leap from 74th place in 2023, while Manchester secured the 15th spot, up from 72nd in 2023, showcasing the North's undeniable charm.

Surprisingly, Australia's flagship cities, Sydney and

Melbourne, found themselves trailing behind the UK, with Sydney clinching the 31st position and Melbourne at 20th.

In 2023, Melbourne was ranked at 31st so it has jumped 11 places, and Sydney was 35th last year, so it has climbed four.

Meanwhile, Glasgow proudly represented Scotland, breaking into the top 30, from 61st position last year, a testament to its rich heritage and warm hospitality.

Ireland didn't get a look-in in the top 50, despite being known for its beauty and friendly, lively cities. In last year's ranking, Dublin came in at number 20.

Time Out asks thousands of city-dwellers around the world to tell them what it's like to work, live and play in their hometowns. Thanks to the insights of these locals, they create their global ranking of world's best cities. Here are the top 10:

1. New York
2. Cape town
3. Berlin
4. London
5. Madrid
6. Mexico city
7. Liverpool
8. Tokyo
9. Rome
10. Porto

HEAR! HEAR! THE PLAINS ARE CALLING

Saturday 9th March 2024

Hay Oval

FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY
Street Parade - 10am
Riverina Highland Dancing Titles
 Highland Muscle Heavy Events
 Athletics & Kids Events
 Golf Tournament
 Stalls & Food
 Pipe Bands

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Kilted Warriors will take on the Bundanoon Stones at the Bundanoon Highland Gathering. Picture: Supplied

Grab your kilt and get ready to rock up to Bundanoon

Bundanoon Highland Gathering is set to burst to life with a pulse-pounding display of athleticism and tradition that will leave you on the edge of your seat!

Nestled in the breathtaking landscapes of the Southern Highlands, New South Wales, this annual spectacle, happening this year on Saturday, April 6th, is the crown jewel of regional events, drawing crowds from across the country and beyond.

At the heart of the festivities lies the Bundanoon Stones event, organised by the esteemed Kilted Warriors under the expert direction of Dr Lance Holland-Keen and Aaron Monks. These elite athletes, including competitors Corey Polkinghorne, Luke Reynolds, Sean Gillen, and Aidan Canini, are set to take the stage at 3.10pm on the oval, ready to test their mettle against the formidable weights of the Bundanoon Stones.

Weighing in at an impressive 100kgs, 110kgs, 120kgs, 145kgs, and 165kgs, these stones represent not only physical prowess but also a rich heritage deeply rooted in Scottish tradition.

Modeled after the historic

MacGlashen Stones from Scotland, these iconic symbols hold significant cultural importance, embodying the transition from boyhood to manhood.

The Brigadoon committee would like to express their deep appreciation and congratulate the Kilted Warriors for their continual support at Bundanoon

The history of the stones goes back over one thousand years to the Highlands of Scotland when a boy was considered to have reached manhood when he could lift two stone in weight from the bare ground onto the top of a stone dyke or fence as we know it. Most villages took part in this exercise and the stones varied from village to village.

The stones are laid out five metres apart lightest to heaviest with each competitor having to lift all five stones on top of a wooden barrel four feet in height. The person who can lift all five stones on top of the barrels in the fastest time is declared the champion.

Get your tickets for Bundanoon Highland Gathering 2024 at www.brigadoon.org.au



My lucky charm is my girl Rosie

As I sit here, reflecting on the journey that brought me to the sun-kissed shores of Australia, one thing stands out amidst the whirlwind of change and adaptation – my lucky charm, Rosie. Born in October 2020, she's been a constant source of joy and inspiration, her very presence seeming to weave a thread of good fortune into the fabric of our lives.

You see, since Rosie's arrival, Scotland hasn't lost the Calcutta Cup (sorry lads, it happened again!), a fact that's become something of a running joke among friends and family back home. But to me, it's more than just a coincidence – she truly is my lucky charm, bringing with her a touch of magic from the moment she entered the world.

Yet, as any expat will tell you, the journey of raising children in a new country comes with its own set of challenges. Caught between two worlds, we find ourselves navigating the delicate balance of preserving our heritage and identity while embracing the opportunities that come with a new life in Australia.

For our family, that journey is often marked by moments of laughter and linguistic mishaps, as Rosie breaks from her mum's Aussie accent to proclaim in perfect Glaswegian "I don't noooo", asks for "mulk" instead of milk and will gladly shout "no ye cannae" during the Granny song.

And when I ask her where Scotland is, she simply points to her heart – a gesture that never fails to warm my soul.



Music has become our bridge between worlds, our way of staying connected to the land we left behind. Together, Rosie and I sing the old Scottish tunes – Ye Cannae Shove Yer Granny Off the Bus, Ally Bally Bee – to her little brother, Finn. And let me tell you, there's nothing quite like the sight of a toddler belting out every word of Flower of Scotland, even if there is a slight Aussie twang in her rendition. Music our way of keeping the flame of tradition alive in our new home, while creating memories that will last a lifetime.

So, while I may occasionally find myself missing the misty glens of Scotland, I wouldn't change the decision to move here for anything. And as for Rosie, well, she's not just my lucky charm – she's my partner in crime, my fellow Celt, and the star of our very own daddy-daughter Celtic band.

And if you listen closely to my new album, Distant Shores, you might just catch a glimpse of Rosie's sweet voice chiming in alongside mine – a reminder that no matter where life takes us, the bonds of family and music will always keep us connected to our roots.

The Scotsman
Graeme McColgan

Top international panel to judge Maclean gathering

The 119th Maclean Highland Gathering on 29th and 30th March boasts an exceptional adjudicating panel assembled by the Lower Clarence Scottish Association.

Chief Peter Smith is thrilled by the caliber, stating, "We've gathered a panel in Maclean that rivals World Championships, offering our visiting bands and soloists the chance to be assessed by some of the world's finest players and adjudicators."

Among the international pipers on the panel is US-born Donald MacPhee, who relocated to Scotland in 1997 and boasts an impressive record, including 33 major pipe band championship wins, including six World Pipe Band Championships.

Glenn Brown, hailing from Ontario, Canada, brings extensive experience, having been Pipe Sergeant of the World Championship winning Shotts & Dykehead in 2015. Brian Switalla, a two-time world champion bagpiper from New Zealand, rounds out the international contingent, bringing his expertise



City of Ipswich Pipe Band from Queensland warming up before their display at the 118th Maclean Highland Gathering. Picture: Anglo&Celtic

from both solo and band arenas.

Joining them are Australian judges Sam Young and Garry Barker, along with Tom McGirr and Dr. Alastair McInnes from Queensland and Grafton, respectively, who complete the illustrious

pipings panel.

Drumming adjudicators Joe Fleming and David Grey, alongside Drum Major Brian May, and Highland Dancing judges Carolyne Davidson and Judith Greer, complete the expert panel for this year's gathering.

Don't miss the 119th Maclean Highland Gathering on 29th and 30th March in New South Wales. For more information, visit www.macleanhighlandgathering.com.au or check the Lower Clarence Scottish Association's social media pages.

Tourists complain about lack of 4G on Ben Nevis

Tourists who recently scaled the majestic Ben Nevis have discovered a significant flaw – no 4G signal at the top!

Outraged visitors complained about the lack of connectivity, with one daring soul even hoping for a McDonald's to salvage the day.

Despite Ben Nevis being Scotland's crown jewel, boasting breathtaking views and attracting over 100,000 visitors annually, some suggest it needs a supermarket makeover. Frustrated tourists

have taken to TripAdvisor, brainstorming innovative ways to jazz up the outdoor hotspot.

One intrepid reviewer attempted the ascent on a mobility scooter, lamenting, "After four-and-a-half hours on the path, a lovely family took turns carrying me up the mountain." Yet, the summit held no solace, as she exclaimed, "Not a single shop. I almost died getting to the top, and I couldn't even get McDonald's there!"



Others shared their misadventures, with one proposing a government-mandated reduction in the mountain's height, deeming it "simply too high."

Another claimed, "Even the sheep looked miserable," while a disgruntled spouse declared the trip cost him his hiking gear and a divorce.

The saga continued with visitors from around the globe expressing their discontent. A Swede rued the absence of a pub, asserting that the summit was nothing more than a pile of rocks and an emergency shelter. A creative Brit suggested installing "flat escalator things" for a leisurely climb.

Forget flying carpet, come see a vanishing, globe-trotting quilt!

Soon to go on display in the National Gallery of Australia in Canberra, the Rajah quilt is a poignant symbol of Australia's convict history. And it's got a strange back story that involves vanishing for almost 150 years before showing up in an attic in Scotland!

This remarkable piece of work, created by convict women aboard the ship Rajah from England to Van Dieman's Land (now Tasmania) in 1841, is a living artifact that reflects the resilience and cooperation of women in dire circumstances.

Quilting projects were initiated by reformer Elizabeth Fry, concerned by the plight of women prisoners in gaol and during transportation, she formed the British Ladies Society for the Reformation of Female Prisoners. The project aimed to provide useful tasks for female prisoners, keeping them occupied. Supplies such as fabric, wool, thread and needles were provided to women convicts being transported, including the 180 women prisoners on the Rajah, who made the patchwork quilt.

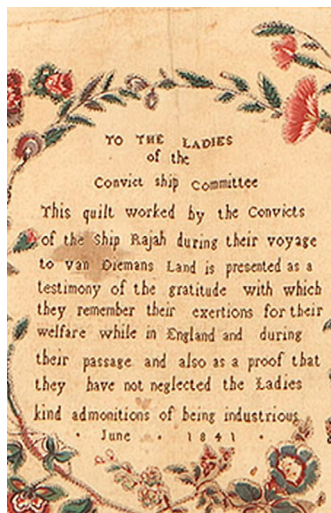
The stitched inscription on its border, dated June 1841, immortalises the convicts' gratitude towards the convict ship committee for their welfare during the voyage to Van Dieman's Land. Its 2,815 pieces showcase intricate patterns, offering a cross-section of 19th-century textile technology.

At some stage after its arrival in Tasmania, the quilt was returned to England, to be presented to Elizabeth Fry. Its life and ownership during the following 146 years is unknown. In 1987, the quilt mysteriously re-appeared in an attic in Scotland. It was returned to Australia, where it found a home in the National Gallery of Australia.

This month, the quilt will be



Kezia Hayter, Unidentified women of the HMS Rajah convict ship, The Rajah quilt, 1841, National Gallery of Australia, gift of Les Hollings and the Australian Textiles Fund, 1989, and, below, a stitched inscription on its border. Pictures: National Gallery of Australia



put on display at the gallery in Canberra. A Century of Quilts is an opportunity to see a special collection of National Gallery textiles showcasing the artistic expression of women from 1840 to 1940.

A Century of Quilts opens on 16th March and runs until 25th August. Entry is free. For more information and to book a ticket, go to <https://nga.gov.au/exhibitions/a-century-of-quilts/>

IN BRIEF

- Australia's Rajah quilt vanished for 150 years before a surprise discovery in a Scottish attic.
- It was created by convict women in 1841 on the ship Rajah, travelling from England to Van Dieman's Land.
- Quilting projects equipped female convicts with supplies to craft patchwork.
- The quilt's 2815 pieces, adorned with intricate patterns, offer a peek into nineteenth-century textile artistry and technology.
- After an enigmatic stint in England, the quilt reemerged in 1987.
- It will go on display in the National Gallery of Australia in Canberra this month.

Melbourne Comhaltas Irish Weekend in Queenscliff



Join us for a weekend of traditional Irish music, song & dance. Workshops will be at beginner, intermediate & advanced levels in many instruments. Workshops & sessions led by renowned professionals from all over Victoria. Music sessions held each night.

Save the date!
Details to follow

THURS 11TH-MON 15TH APRIL 2024
QUEENSLIFF TOWN HALL & WHITEHALL GUESTHOUSE, LEARMONTH STREET



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Business listings cost \$20+GST per edition or six editions for \$100+GST - name, type of business, contact details - max 30 words. Classified ads and family announcements cost \$30+GST, six editions for \$150+GST, maximum 50 words. Email your ad to editor@angloandceltic.com

Classifieds

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Business listings

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Queensland Irish Association

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PO Box 12745, George St, QLD 4003

www.queenslandirish.com

Australian Historical Dance

Heather Clarke, Brisbane QLD

(07) 3289 4708

heather@historicaldance.au

<https://www.historicaldance.au>

GENEALOGY

Queensland Family History Society

46 Delaware Street, Chermside/Geebung, QLD.

+61 7 3355 3369

www.qfhs.org.au

MUSIC

The Scotsman

Glasgow-born musician and dance caller.

Graeme McColgan

0476 565 062

www.thescotsmanmusic.com

@thescotsmanmusic

PUBS

Finn McCool's Fortitude Valley

295 Brunswick St, Fortitude Valley QLD

4006

Phone: (07) 3166 2477

finnmccool.com.au

The Red Lion Tavern

8025 New England Hwy, Glencoe NSW

2365

0409 776 906

[Red Lion Facebook](#)

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WEBSITES

Irish Queenslander

News and events for the Irish community in Queensland

www.irishqueenslander.com

www.facebook.com/irishqueenslander

ANGLO&CELTIC

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Listen any time at www.4eb.org.au

Tuilleadh eolais le fáil/contact details:
Facebook: The Irish Program - Radio 4EB 98.1 FM Fón: (07) 3240 8600 (oifig)
office) nó (07) 3240 8686 (studio)Riomphost / Email: irish@4eb.org.au
Seoladh/Address: 140 Main St, Kangaroo Point, Brisbane, Queensland



THE SCOTSMAN

UPCOMING GIGS

| DATE | EVENT | LOCATION |
|--------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| 8 | RIVERINA HOTEL | HAY, NSW |
| 9 | HAYLAND GATHERING | HAY, NSW |
| 21 | ST ANDREWS SOCIETY | MELBOURNE, VIC |
| 22-23 | LAUNCESTON UKE JAMBOREE | LAUNCESTON, TAS |
| APRIL | | |
| 12 | RIVERSIDE GOLF CLUB | LAUNCESTON, TAS |
| 13 | LITTLE GREEN MEN BREWERY | GLENCOE, NSW |
| MAY | | |
| 3-5 | AUSTRALIAN CELTIC FESTIVAL | GLENN INNES, NSW |
| 4 | RED LION TAVERN | GLENCOE, NSW |
| 18 | HILLS UKULELE FESTIVAL | EMERALD, VIC |
| 25-26 | SUNSHINE COAST UKE FESTIVAL | KENILWORTH, QLD |
| JUNE | | |
| 8 | BELLARINE DISTILLERY | DRYSDALE, VIC |
| 4 | AHCS NATIONAL SHOW | GEELONG, VIC |

WWW.THESCOTSMANMUSIC.COM

Festivals

MELBOURNE CELTIC FESTIVAL

Among the highlights will be Scottish singer, songwriter and harpist Chloe Matharu. [Info](#)

Melbourne VIC

16 - 17 MAR

ADELAIDE FRINGE FESTIVAL

Arts fest including Best of British comedy, and Irish concert with Dave Clark & Kate Townsend.

Adelaide SA

16 FEB - 17 MAR

LIVERPOOL PLAINS MILITARY TATTOO

Pipe bands, Celtic music, face painting, photo booth, fireworks.

Quirindi NSW

9 MAR

PORT FAIRY FOLK FESTIVAL

Ralph McTell, Luka Bloom and Sharon Shannon are among the headliners.

Port Fairy VIC

8 - 11 MAR

MELBOURNE HIGHLAND GAMES & CELTIC FESTIVAL

Dancing, pipe bands, heavy events, folk music, displays, clans and stalls.

Croydon VIC

24 MAR

As events are subject to change, please go to events' and artists' websites to confirm dates and full details. Paid advertisers get a ticket link. Email listings to editor@angloandceltic.com

ANGLO&CELTIC

What's happening around Australia - by www.angloandceltic.com

QUEENSLAND IRISH ASSOCIATION ST PATRICK'S EVE DINNER

Brisbane QLD

Queensland's most prestigious Irish event at the Main Auditorium of Brisbane City Hall. It will feature a five-hour drinks package, three-course dinner, Irish dancing and pipe band.

16 MAR

www.angloandceltic.com



FRI 1 MAR

Europa! Europa! Film Festival (until 11 MAR)
Sydney NSW & Melbourne VIC
St David's Day flag lowering ceremony Australian Standing Stones, Glen Innes NSW
Australian Welsh Male Choir St David's Day 50th Anniversary Concert
Frankston Arts Centre VIC
St David's Day Flag Raising
Melbourne Welsh Church VIC
Nannup Music Festival (runs to 4 MAR)
Nannup WA
Yussef Dayes
Perth WA
Ralph McTell
Bendigo VIC
The Animals
Albury NSW
Pop Will Eat Itself
Sydney NSW
Luka Bloom
Franklin TAS
Alone it Stands
Kirribilli NSW
Herman's Hermits
Foster NSW

SAT 2 MAR

Melbourne Welsh Church Gymnasia Gona
St Paul's Cathedral Melbourne VIC
Cymru Gold Coast Wales St David's Day
Alleygators Currumbin QLD
The Chemical Brothers
Geelong VIC
Ralph McTell
Upwey VIC
Cymande
Brisbane QLD
The Animals headlining Wanstock
Doncaster VIC
Pop Will Eat Itself
Melbourne VIC
Cobargo Folk Festival (to 3 MAR)
Cobargo NSW
Luka Bloom
Ulverston TAS
Finnegan's Wake at O'Shanleys
Clifton QLD
Vaxneon
St Kilda VIC
Cornish Association of New South Wales 49 years and St Piran's Celebration
Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club, West Ryde NSW
Port Adelaide Caledonian Society Family Ceilidh
Exeter SA
Herman's Hermits
Coalingatta QLD

SUN 3 MAR

Irish Sundays
Finn McCool's Forritude Valley QLD
Yussef Dayes
Brisbane QLD
Ralph McTell
Clarence Park VIC
Pop Will Eat Itself
Perth WA
Luka Bloom
Launceston TAS
St David's Day 2024 with Melbourne Welsh
Methodist Ladies' College, Kew VIC
Ballarat Cornish Assoc of Victoria St Piran's Day at Skipton Street Uniting Church
Ballarat South VIC
National Day at Gaelic Park
Keysborough VIC
Tre na Cheile
Peninsula Folk Club, Frankston VIC
Ma le Cheile (International Women's Day)

Abbotsford VIC

GAA Day
Penrith NSW
Herman's Hermits
Chermside Brisbane QLD
Tarago Show and Medieval Faire
Tarago NSW

MON 4 MAR

Cymande
Sydney NSW
Labour Day
WA
TUE 5 MAR
St Piran's Day flag lowering ceremony
Australian Standing Stones, Glen Innes NSW
Teenage Fanclub
Perth WA
Yussef Dayes
Sydney NSW
Black Country, New Road
Brisbane QLD
The Streets
Perth WA
Nik Kershaw and Go West
Adelaide SA
Cymande
Melbourne VIC
Luka Bloom
Euroa VIC

WED 6 MAR

The Human League
Brisbane QLD
Yussef Dayes
Melbourne VIC
Nik Kershaw and Go West
Brisbane QLD
Australian British Chamber of Commerce International Women's Day 2024 Melbourne Breakfast
Melbourne VIC
Luka Bloom
Yackandandah VIC
Herman's Hermits
Thirroul NSW

THU 7 MAR

Five
Brisbane QLD
Graham Nash
Melbourne, VIC
Black Country, New Road
Sydney NSW
Ralph McTell
Main Ridge VIC
Nik Kershaw and Go West
Sydney NSW
Morcheeba
Perth WA
Daorí Farrell
Melbourne VIC
Herman's Hermits
Wyong NSW

FRI 8 MAR

International Women's Day
Nationwide
International Women's Day at the Slug and Lettuce
Parafield Gardens WA
Teenage Fanclub
Sydney NSW
The Human League
Sydney NSW
LETZ ZEP
Melbourne VIC
Port Fairy Folk Festival
Port Fairy VIC

Five

Melbourne VIC
Sandford Bush Music Festival
Sandford VIC
Daniel O'Donnell
Sydney NSW
Black Country, New Road
Melbourne VIC
The Streets
Sydney NSW
Murphy's Pigs
Redcliffe QLD
WOMAdelaide (to 10 MAR)
Adelaide SA

A Taste of Ireland
Orange NSW
Luka Bloom
Canberra ACT
The U2 Show Achtung Baby
Eildon VIC
Gaelic Club Ceili Band All Stars
Marrickville NSW
Australian Historical Dance Community Folk Dance
Samford QLD
The Scottish, Welsh and Irish Pub Show
Deception Bay QLD
Aisling Society St Patrick's Day Dinner
Sydney NSW
Herman's Hermits
Dee Why NSW

SAT 9 MAR

Teenage Fanclub
Melbourne VIC
LETZ ZEP
Tweed Heads NSW
Port Fairy Folk Festival
Port Fairy VIC
The Streets
Melbourne VIC
Ralph McTell
Port Fairy Folk Festival VIC
Nik Kershaw and Go West
Hobart TAS
Morcheeba
Melbourne VIC
Folk Federation of Tasmania Masked Mediaeval and Renaissance Ball
New Town TAS
Australian Celtic Women 'Songs of the Heart'
Sandgate QLD
Tickets
A Scottish Ceilidh
Mitcham SA
Herman's Hermits
Cammeray NSW

SUN 10 MAR

Mother's Day
UK and Ireland
International Bagpipe Day
Nationwide
Port Fairy Folk Festival
Port Fairy VIC
Ralph McTell
Port Fairy Folk Festival VIC
Black Country, New Road and The Streets
Golden Plains Festival Meredith VIC
Nik Kershaw and Go West
Melbourne VIC
Cymande
Golden Plains Festival Meredith VIC
A Taste of Ireland
Wagga Wagga NSW
Queensland Irish Association and Friends of
Toowong Cemetery Irish History Tour Toowong
Cemetery QLD
RSVP

Queensland Irish Choir St Patrick's Day Concert Chermside QLD Herman's Hermits Kingsford NSW

MON 11 MAR

Adelaide Cup Day
SA
Canberra Day
Canberra ACT
Eight Hours Day
TAS
Nik Kershaw and Go West
Melbourne VIC
Port Fairy Folk Festival
Port Fairy VIC
Luka Bloom
Queensriff VIC
Morcheeba at WOMAdelaide
Adelaide SA
An Evening With Nigella Lawson
Perth WA

TUE 12 MAR

Teenage Fanclub
Byron Bay NSW
Black Country, New Road
Perth WA
The Streets
Brisbane QLD
James Bay
Sydney NSW
A Taste of Ireland
Dubbo NSW

WED 13 MAR

Teenage Fanclub
Brisbane QLD
Nik Kershaw and Go West
Perth WA
A Taste of Ireland
Bathurst NSW
Daorí Farrell
Launceston TAS
Melbourne Celtic Club Pub Choir
Brunswick VIC

THU 14 MAR

LETZ ZEP
Brisbane QLD
Sharon Shannon & Big Band
Marrickville NSW
Morcheeba
Sydney NSW
The Tumbling Paddies
Sydney NSW
James Bay
Fremantle WA
A Taste of Ireland
Penrith NSW
An Evening With Nigella Lawson
Brisbane QLD
Daorí Farrell
Gowrie Park TAS
Herman's Hermits
Melbourne VIC

FRI 15 MAR

St Patrick's Day Weekend at The Red Lion Tavern
(to 17 MAR)
Glencoe NSW
All-Irish menu
Bookings 0409 776 906
LETZ ZEP
Sydney NSW
The Tumbling Paddies
Sydney NSW
Luka Bloom
Newcastle NSW

www.angloandceltic.com

GIGS & REELS

English Scottish Irish Welsh Celtic Other events



HAYLAND GATHERING

Hay NSW

The second Hayland Gathering will feature a street parade, pipe bands, the dancing titles, Highland Muscle heavy event, stalls, athletic events, and entertainment. [Info](#)

9 MAR

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Marcheaba
Brisbane QLD
The Primitives
Brisbane QLD
A Taste of Ireland
Parramatta NSW
Daorí Farrell
Hobart TAS
Eleanor McEvoy
Blue Mountains Festival NSW
Herman's Hermits
Albury NSW

SAT 16 MAR
St Patrick's Day Weekend at the Red Lion Tavern
(to 17 MAR)
Glencoe NSW
All-Irish menu, live music, Irish dancing
Bookings: 0409 776 906
Queensland Irish Association 126th annual St
Patrick's Eve Dinner at Brisbane City Hall
Brisbane QLD
Tickets

Melbourne Celtic Festival (to 17 MAR)
The Mission to Seafarers, 717 Flinders St,
Melbourne VIC
Time: 12pm - 11pm
TICKETS \$40 - \$45 (Children under 12 free)
Brisbane St Patrick's Day 2024 Parade
Brisbane QLD
St Patrick's Day Parade After Party
Finn McCool's Fortitude Valley
Brisbane QLD
Details here

St Patrick's Weekend Festival (to 17 MAR)
Finn McCool's Paradise
Gold Coast QLD

LETZ ZEP
Perth NSW
The Tumbling Paddies
Perth WA

Darling Downs Heavy Horse Festival (to 17 MAR)

Allora QLD
The Primitives
Melbourne VIC
Chaotic Ceilidh
The Rocks NSW

Nik Kershaw and Go West
Brisbane QLD
Daorí Farrell
Yackandandah VIC
City of Newcastle RSL Pipe Band Centenary Ceilidh
Argenton NSW
Eleanor McEvoy
Blue Mountains Festival NSW
Herman's Hermits
Sydney NSW

SUN 17 MAR
St Patrick's Day Live Entertainment across two
stages at Finn McCool's Fortitude Valley
Brisbane QLD
Details here

The Tumbling Paddies
St Kilda VIC
Nik Kershaw and Go West
Sydney NSW

Daorí Farrell
St Kilda VIC
Eleanor McEvoy
Blue Mountains Festival NSW
Celtica
Cairns QLD
Medieval Times at Victory Village at Riverbend
Tiara QLD

Dancing Monsters parade
Port Adelaide SA
Miriam Margolyes
Perth WA
Herman's Hermits
Lambton NSW

MON 18 MAR
Dylan
Brisbane QLD

TUE 19 MAR
Maisie Peters
Brisbane QLD
An Evening With Nigella Lawson
Adelaide SA
Luka Bloom
Mooloolaba QLD
Uncomfortable Conversations LIVE - Douglas
Murray & Josh Szepts in Conversation
Perth WA
The Irish Songbook - Suellen Cusack
Tweed Heads NSW

WED 20 MAR
LETZ ZEP
Perth WA

The Damned
Brisbane QLD
James Bay
Canberra ACT
Daorí Farrell
Byron Bay NSW
Eleanor McEvoy
Bathurst NSW
The Irish Songbook - Suellen Cusack
Macgregor QLD
Miriam Margolyes
Adelaide SA
Herman's Hermits
Sutherland NSW

THU 21 MAR
Maisie Peters
Sydney NSW

Jimeoin
Queanbeyan NSW
The Damned
Sydney NSW
Daorí Farrell
Brisbane QLD
Luka Bloom
Townsville QLD
Mixtape Festival featuring East 17
Brisbane QLD
Eleanor McEvoy
Sydney NSW
Uncomfortable Conversations LIVE - Douglas
Murray & Josh Szepts in Conversation
Adelaide SA
Herman's Hermits
Soldiers Point NSW

FRI 22 MAR
Melbourne Celtic Festival 'ON TOUR'
Frankston Arts Centre, 27-37 Davey Street,
Frankston VIC
Time: 8pm - 10.30pm
TICKETS \$35 - \$62
Dylan
Sydney NSW
Jimeoin
Canberra ACT
Luka Bloom
Cairns QLD
Yackandandah Folk Festival (to 24 MAR)

Yackandandah VIC
The Damned
Melbourne VIC
James Bay
Gold Coast QLD
The Reflex
Kingsford NSW
Daorí Farrell
Sydney NSW
Mixtape Festival featuring East 17
Melbourne VIC
Eleanor McEvoy
Wollongong NSW
Uncomfortable Conversations LIVE - Douglas
Murray & Josh Szepts in Conversation
Brisbane QLD
Australian Historical Dance Community Folk Dance:
Alice in Wonderland
Arana Hills QLD
Seo Linn
Lake Tyres Beach VIC
Bish Bash Bosh Best of British at Old Courthouse
Fremantle WA
Miriam Margolyes
Melbourne VIC
Herman's Hermits
Katoomba NSW
Paddy McDonnell On The Tools
Perth WA

SAT 23 MAR
Maisie Peters
Melbourne VIC

Jimeoin
Goulburn NSW
A Taste of Ireland
Adelaide SA
Daorí Farrell
Perth WA
Voxneon
Gostard NSW
Eleanor McEvoy
Way Way NSW
Daorí Farrell
Irish Club of WA, Subiaco WA
Shaybakes
Ipswich QLD
Seo Linn
Lake Tyres Beach VIC
5th Skatoberfest in March
Adelaide SA
Herman's Hermits
Sydney NSW

SUN 24 MAR
Luka Bloom
Brisbane QLD

The Damned
Adelaide SA
A Taste of Ireland
Tanunda SA
Daorí Farrell
Perth WA
Mixtape Festival featuring East 17
Sydney NSW
Celtic Council of Australia Queensland Pan Celtic
Lunch and Awards
Toowoong QLD
Eleanor McEvoy
Newcastle NSW
Daorí Farrell
Irish Club of WA, Subiaco WA
Uncomfortable Conversations LIVE - Douglas
Murray & Josh Szepts in Conversation
Sydney NSW
Miriam Margolyes

Brisbane QLD
Herman's Hermits
Etahlong NSW
MON 25 MAR
Dylan
Melbourne VIC

TUE 26 MAR
The Damned
Perth WA

Mixtape Festival featuring East 17
Adelaide SA
Uncomfortable Conversations LIVE - Douglas
Murray & Josh Szepts in Conversation
Melbourne VIC

WED 27 MAR
Luka Bloom
Sydney NSW

Eleanor McEvoy
Canberra ACT
Uncomfortable Conversations LIVE - Douglas
Murray & Josh Szepts in Conversation
Melbourne VIC
Miriam Margolyes
Canberra ACT

THU 28 MAR
Mixtape Festival featuring East 17
Perth WA

Genealogy Center's Discover Your Irish Ancestors
using the Periodical Source Index
Online at acpl.libnet.info
National Folk Festival (to 1 APR)
Canberra ACT
Miriam Margolyes
Newcastle NSW
Paddy McDonnell On The Tools
Melbourne VIC

FRI 29 MAR
Good Friday
Nationwide
Jimeoin

Melbourne VIC
119th Maclean Highland Gathering (to 30 MAR)
Maclean NSW
Luka Bloom
Milton NSW
Paddy McDonnell On The Tools
Melbourne VIC

SAT 30 MAR
Easter Saturday
Nationwide

Elvis Costello at Bluesfest
Byron Bay NSW
Subculture
It's Still a Secret, Brisbane QLD
Jimeoin
Melbourne VIC
Eleanor McEvoy
Valencia Creek VIC
Miriam Margolyes
Sydney NSW
Paddy McDonnell On The Tools
Melbourne VIC

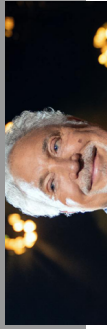
SUN 31 MAR
Easter Sunday
Nationwide

Elvis Costello
Sydney NSW
Paddy McDonnell On The Tools
Melbourne VIC

Tours

TOM JONES

21 MAR Perth WA
23 MAR Bowral NSW
26 MAR Adelaide SA
28 MAR Melbourne VIC
30 MAR Byron Bay NSW
2 APR Newcastle NSW
4 APR Sydney NSW



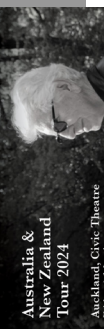
DANIEL O'DONNELL

1 MAR Melbourne VIC
3 MAR Tweed Heads NSW
4 MAR Tweed Heads NSW
5 MAR Brisbane QLD
8 MAR Sydney NSW
9 MAR Wollongong NSW
10 MAR Newcastle NSW
12 MAR Adelaide SA
14 MAR Perth WA



GRAHAM NASH

7 MAR Melbourne VIC
13 MAR Adelaide SA
16 MAR Perth WA
19 MAR Sydney NSW
20 MAR Newcastle NSW
23 MAR Wollongong NSW
26 MAR Brisbane QLD
27 MAR Tweed Hds NSW



THE HUMAN LEAGUE

6 MAR Brisbane QLD
8 MAR Sydney NSW
9 MAR Melbourne VIC
11 MAR Adelaide SA
13 MAR Sydney NSW
14 MAR Melbourne VIC
16 MAR Perth WA
17 MAR Perth WA



FIVE

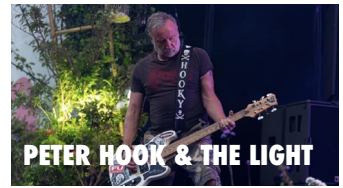
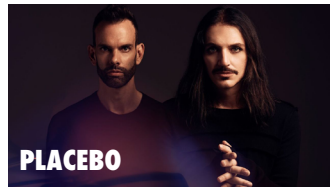
7 MAR Brisbane QLD 8
8 MAR Melbourne VIC
9 MAR Sydney NSW
13 MAR Adelaide SA
14 MAR Perth WA



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GIGS & REELS

GIG ANNOUNCEMENTS - CLICK ON PICS FOR DETAILS



APRIL

Tours:
Riverdance WA, VIC, QLD, NSW [Tickets](#)

Elvis Costello NSW, VIC
Tom Jones NSW
Jimeoin VIC
Dawn French WA, SA, NSW, VIC, TAS
Eireborne WA, NSW
Lebanon Hanover VIC, NSW, QLD, WA
Niall Horan QLD
Luka Bloom SA, WA
Chase & Status QLD, NSW, SA, VIC, WA
Nothing But Thieves NSW
The Kooks VIC, NSW, WA

Festivals:
Bundanoon Highland Gathering NSW
Maclean Highland Gathering NSW
Ironfest NSW
The Thing (Viking Festival) ACT
Koroit Irish Festival VIC
Harry Potter: A Forbidden Forest Experience VIC
Pandemoneum featuring Placebo, Deep Purple, Psychedelic Furs VIC, NSW, QLD
Mixtape Festival featuring East 17, Phats & Small, Big Brovaz, Booty Luv, Urban Cookie Collective QLD, VIC, NSW, SA, WA
Blackbox, Tecnotronic and N-Trance NSW, VIC, QLD, WA
Fairbridge Festival WA
Boddington Fayre & Feast WA
Australian Heritage Festival nationwide

MAY

Tours:
Niall Horan NSW, VIC
The SKIDS QLD, NSW, VIC, SA, WA

Eireborne ACT, QLD
Dawn French ACT, NSW, QLD
Peter Hook & The Light SA, QLD, NSW, VIC, WA
Ben Howard WA, SA, VIC, NSW, QLD
The Mary Wallopers VIC, NSW, WA, SA, QLD
Jungle VIC, QLD, NSW
The Snuts QLD, NSW, VIC
The Vaccines and Everything Everything QLD, NSW, VIC, SA, WA
Nothing But Thieves QLD, VIC, SA
The Kooks QLD

Festivals:
Aberdeen Celtic Festival NSW
Wintermoon Festival QLD
SA Medieval Fair SA
Medieval and Rare Trades Festival SA
Berry Celtic Festival NSW

JUNE

Tours:
Dr Jane Goodall's Reasons for Hope Tour VIC, NSW
Led Zeppelin IV Live NSW, QLD, WA, ACT, VIC
Absolute Bowie NSW, VIC
Jimeoin VIC
The High Kings QLD, NSW, ACT, VIC, SA, WA
A Taste of Ireland WA, QLD

Festivals:
Bonnie Wingham Scottish Festival NSW
Townsville Folk Festival QLD
Sussex Inlet Viking Festival NSW
National Celtic Festival Portarlinton VIC
10th Townsville Tartan Weekend QLD
Robert Burns Celtic Festival 2024 Camperdown VIC

Clydesdale Spectacular 2024 Boonah QLD
Scottish Week 2024 Sydney NSW

JULY

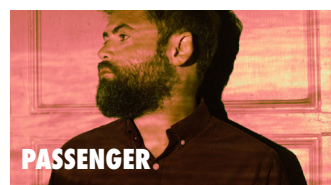
Tours:
A Taste of Ireland QLD
Jimeoin NSW
Ben Portsmouth This Is Elvis QLD, NSW, ACT, VIC
Hugh Cornwell NSW
Absolute Bowie QLD, SA, WA

Festivals:
Aberdeen Highland Games NSW
Willie Smith's Mid-Winter Festival TAS
Abbey Medieval Festival QLD
Tynwald Day
Melbourne Tartan Festival Gala Dinner VIC
Irish Support Agency NSW Christmas in July Ball, Sydney NSW
Bonfire Night at Sandstone Point Hotel QLD
The 47th Australian Winter School QLD

AUGUST

Tours:
Hugh Cornwell NSW, VIC, QLD, SA, WA
The Mersey Beatles NSW, QLD, VIC, SA
The U2 Show Achtung Baby VIC

Festivals:
Royal Queensland Show QLD
Highland Spectacular VIC
Hunter Valley Highland Games NSW
Mackay Blue Water Fling QLD



Take That bringing This Life On Tour to Australia

Take That will return down under with a huge live tour set in October and November of this year.

Take That's This Life On Tour will see the trio – Gary Barlow, Mark Owen and Howard Donald – take in seven dates across Australia and New Zealand, visiting a series of arenas and spectacular A Day on the Green wineries along the way.

Fans will undoubtedly rejoice as the band returns to Australia for their first shows since 2017, and with fellow pop icon **Sophie Ellis-Bextor** joining the tour as a very special guest on all dates.

"We are so looking forward to coming back to Australia and New Zealand later this year, our first live shows over there since 2017! It's going to be great to see everyone again and perform the songs from our new album *This Life*, as well as all the favourites, and a few surprises! We can't wait... see you all soon," said Take That.

The band are renowned for their huge productions and incredible live shows, and currently hold the record for the most performances at London's The O2 with a stunning 34 headline shows. Released last year, *Take That's* ninth studio album, *This Life*, is a vibrant body of work, which stormed to No.1 on the UK's Official Charts and was the biggest selling album from a UK artist in 2023, outselling the whole Top 25 combined.

Following the renaissance of her early-2000's hit *Murder On The Dancefloor*, Sophie Ellis-Bextor will join Take That on their Australia tour. With her hit single in the spotlight once again, racing up the charts following its inclusion in the epic final scene of much talked about film



Saltburn, the track was last month covered by Australia's own Royel Otis for triple j's Like A Version, and was released on limited edition 7" red vinyl in February.

New festival Pandemonium encountered controversy about the location of its Sydney stop on Anzac Day. The gig will now take place in Cathy Freman Park.

Some of the most iconic acts in rock and roll will make history at the inaugural festival as it sweeps across Australia's east coast this April.

Pandemonium is a rock fans dream come true, with an unparalleled lineup of rock legends including British bands Placebo, Deep Purple and The Psychedelic Furs.

Here is the full line-up: Alice Cooper, Blondie, **Placebo**, **Deep Purple**, Wheatus, **The Psychedelic Furs**, Dead Kennedys, Gang Of Four, Palaye Royale plus Australian icons

Wolfmother, Cosmic Psychos, Gyroscope and introducing Thai solo artist Petch.

A dozen bands across two giant stages will be busting out countless hits that have become the soundtrack to our lives over the last half a century. *Schools Out*, *Call Me*, *Highway Star*, *Every You Every Me*, *Teenage Dirtbag*, *Love My Way*, *Holiday In Cambodia*, *Lonely*, *Damaged Goods* and sooo many more.

With April dates in Melbourne, Gold Coast and Bribie Island, besides the Sydney date, you'll find tickets for sale at www.pandemonium.rocks

Also in April, you can step into the 90s and relive the music that defined a generation with a huge tour of dance legends.

Featuring iconic acts Black Box, Technotronic, and British duo **N-Trance**, this electrifying tour promises a euphoric journey through the era that



Take That, left, will perform a huge live tour in October and November. **Placebo**, top, are one of the headliners of the Pandemonium Festival in April. And **N-Trance**, above, will be supporting **Black Box** in a 90s dance festival touring Australia in April.

shaped dance music as we know and love it.

Black Box, known for chart-toppers like *Ride on Time* and *Everybody Everybody*, catapulted to international stardom, delivers an unparalleled dance floor experience that will transport you back in time.

Technotronic, the trailblazers of the 90s dance scene, revolutionised the game with *Pump Up the Jam* and *This Beat is Technotronic*. Get ready for a stage ablaze with their signature songs, pioneering the fusion of house music and hip hop in the early 90s.

The British duo N-Trance stormed the charts with unforgettable anthems including *Set You Free* and *Do Ya Think I'm Sexy*. Their tracks capture the essence of a time when dance music ruled.

This celebration of the 90s will visit venues in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and Western Australia.



Corinne Bailey Rae joins WOMADelaide line-up

WOMADelaide has a stacked line-up of artists for its 2024 festival – a celebration of music, arts and dance presented in the glorious Botanic Park in Adelaide, from 8th to 11th March.

The program of newly-discovered and distinguished artists from across the world includes Grammy-winning singer **Corinne Bailey Rae**, vintage funk maestros **Cyman-de**, and jazz wunderkind **Yussef Dayes**.

Singer-songwriter Corinne Bailey Rae may be best known for her 2006 single Put Your Records on, but 2023's *Black Rainbows* has been described by The Guardian as "her best work yet". Inspired by a life-changing visit to Chicago's Stony Island Arts Bank, it is a majestic album that showcases her

extraordinary talent across almost any music genre.

One of the most sampled bands in the history of hip-hop, house and dance music, 1970s British band Cyman-de has reached legendary status. Taking influences from their Guyanese and Jamaican roots, they fuse reggae bass lines, Afro-tinged Nyabingihi percussion, psychedelic touches, and American-style funk into a unique sound they've dubbed 'Nyah-rock'.

Formed in England in the mid 1990s, atmospheric 'trip-hop' duo **Morcheeba's** influences of hip-hop, soul, rock and electronica, and the stunning vocals of SKYE, quickly made them a household name. Ten albums and 10 million sales later, with big tracks such as *Rome Wasn't Built in a Day* and *The Sea*

under their belt, the pair still exude an effortless cool with their signature rich and mellow sound.

Ibibio Sound Machine, led by Nigerian singer Eno Williams and formed in London in 2013, is an astonishing clash of African and electronic elements inspired by the golden era of West-African funk, disco and modern post-punk.

Two of Ireland's most exciting musicians, singer-songwriter **Lisa O'Neill** and instrumentalist **Cormac Begley**, perform both traditional and contemporary songs that tell stories of a shared humanity that is Irish, and at the same time, deeply personal.

Another Irish artist playing and known for redefining and reimagining the boundaries of Irish traditional music, is

Sharon Shannon Big Band. Sharon Shannon has released 20 original, best-selling albums and collaborated with Bono, the late Sinead O'Connor and Jackson Browne. She is a prolific composer and multi-instrumentalist and her live shows, featuring an incomparable six-piece band, are rousing and gleeful affairs full of surprises.

It's been 31 years since WOMADelaide, 'the World's Festival' made its debut as an independent major event in 1993, and it is now established as an internationally acclaimed event and pilgrimage for artists and audiences from around the world, hosting more than 30 countries to date.

For tickets, go to www.womadelaide.com.au

Sex bomb Tom Jones to ignite Australian stages

Tom Jones, the legendary Welsh singer, is set to grace Australia with his Ages & Stages tour, marking his first national tour since he wowed audiences across the country in 2016.

The exciting national tour announcement came hot on the heels of Tom's inclusion as one of the headline acts for the renowned Bluesfest in Byron Bay this Easter.

Tom Jones boasts a legendary career spanning over six remarkable decades, solidifying his status as one of the greatest singers and recording artists in music history. With over 100 million records sold, he remains a revered and influential figure in the industry. The New York Times aptly describes him as a "musical shapeshifter" known for his soulful rasp and pop crooning, a voice both husky and beautiful.

Sir Tom is renowned for a plethora of chart-topping hits that have left an indelible mark on the music industry. Perhaps best known for his dynamic vocal prowess, Jones rose to fame in the 1960s with classics like It's



Not Unusual, a song that became synonymous with his powerful, soulful delivery. His rendition of What's New Pussycat? showcased his versatility, blending pop and rock elements. The timeless ballad Delilah is another signature hit, resonating with emotional intensity. Jones also brought the heat with the sultry Sex Bomb, proving his ability to captivate audiences across generations. With a career spanning several decades, Tom Jones's hits continue to be celebrated for their

enduring appeal and his remarkable ability to infuse each song with his distinctive, charismatic style.

As a living legend, Tom Jones continues to captivate audiences with his timeless music, transcending generations and genres. His performances appeal to a wide range of fans, from the young to the old, and from mainstream to cutting edge.

Knighted by Queen Elizabeth II in 2006, Tom has earned numerous awards. Don't miss the chance to

TOUR DATES

21 MAR Perth WA
23 MAR Bowral NSW
26 MAR Adelaide SA
28 MAR Melbourne VIC
30 MAR Byron Bay NSW
2 APR Newcastle NSW
4 APR Sydney NSW

witness Tom Jones's unforgettable live show during his Ages & Stages tour, with special guest Germein.

East 17 to support Aqua in massive 90s tour



Everybody in the House of Love listen up because iconic British boyband East 17 are coming to Australia!

The London band emerged in the early 1990s, leaving an indelible mark on the pop music scene with their catchy tunes and unique blend of pop and R&B influences. Their breakthrough hit, Stay Another Day, became an instant classic with its emotive lyrics and heartfelt melody, showcasing the group's ability to resonate on a deeper level. The infectious energy of House of Love and the urban

vibes of Deep solidified East 17's reputation as pioneers in the boy band genre. It's Alright became an anthem of resilience and optimism, while Thunder showcased the group's experimentation with different sounds. Their string of hits remains emblematic of the vibrant music scene of the 1990s.

The boys who put Walthamstow on the map will be joining a tour headlined by 90s pop icons Aqua this month.

Aqua will bring their high-energy pop tunes Barbie Girl, Doctor Jones, and Lollipops

TOUR DATES

21 MAR Brisbane QLD
22 MAR Melbourne VIC
24 MAR Sydney NSW
26 MAR Adelaide SA
28 MAR Perth WA

pop (Candyman) to some of the biggest stages across the country.

Aqua will also be joined by 90s icons 2 Unlimited, and UK acts Phats & Small, Big Brovaz, Booty Luv, and Urban Cookie Collective.



Nik Kershaw and Go West join forces for Eighties tour

There's a massive 80s double header in store for Australia when chart toppers Go West and Nik Kershaw come together for a national co-headline tour this March.

Fans can expect to hear some of the best songs of the 80s and early 90s, including *We Close Our Eyes*, *King Of Wishful Thinking*, *Call Me* and many more from Go West, while Nik Kershaw fans will relive songs such as *Wouldn't it Be Good*, *The Riddle*, *Wide Boy* and more. Both acts bring some surprising songs and covers to their sets too, that promise an evening of music hits from across the decades.

"The last time we were in Australia was just before the pandemic, so this tour is long overdue. We always enjoy playing across Australia and it will be extra special this year as we tour alongside our mate, Nik Kershaw. We look forward to seeing you all in March 2024," said Go West.

Go West are Peter Cox and Richard Drummie from London. The two have been friends since they were boys and formed Go West in the early 80s. Their debut single *We Close Our Eyes* reached number 5 on the UK singles chart in the spring of 1985. Their self-titled debut album sold more than two million copies worldwide and remained on the UK chart for 83 weeks, establishing them as one of the finest song-writing partnerships to emerge in the 80s.

Six albums and 20 million sales later, Go West are stronger than ever. They have enjoyed numerous chart singles worldwide, notably *King Of Wishful Thinking*, the opening song in the extremely successful film *Pretty Woman*. The film's soundtrack has sold more than 10 million copies. *King Of Wishful Thinking* received ASCAP Awards in 1991 and 1992 as one of the most played songs on American radio. It is still

a radio staple on playlists across the world.

Hailing from Bristol, Nik Kershaw exploded onto the UK pop scene in 1984 as a solo artist. A string of global hit singles – including *Wouldn't it Be Good*, *The Riddle* and his biggest hit, *I Won't Let the Sun Go Down on Me* – helped to propel him to 62 weeks on the UK Singles Chart through 1984 and 1985 – beating every other solo artist, together with performing at Live Aid. Elton John has described Nik as "the best songwriter of a generation".

After stepping out of the limelight to concentrate on writing and producing, Nik wrote Chesney Hawkes's *The One and Only* and has collaborated with Elton John (including writing and producing one of the songs on the *Duets* album), Sia, Gary Barlow and Bonnie Tyler, while continuing to release his own well-reviewed studio albums, featuring his distinc-

TOUR DATES

5 MAR Adelaide SA
6 MAR Brisbane QLD
7 MAR Sydney NSW
9 MAR Hobart TAS
10 MAR Melbourne VIC
11 MAR Melbourne VIC
13 MAR Perth WA
16 MAR Brisbane QLD
17 MAR Sydney NSW

tive voice and highly personal lyrics. He also regularly plays festivals and performs live to his loyal and fervent fanbase.

"Looking forward to getting back to Australia after so many years. We always have such a good time playing across the country. See you all in March," said Nik Kershaw.

Don't miss this mammoth co-headline tour that promises to deliver an evening of big hits and thrilling memories from two of the very best music acts of the 1980s.

The Human League making electric dreams come true

After the overwhelming response to their Dare 2024 tour, British synth-pop legends The Human League rearranged their schedule to accommodate even more Australian shows, spreading the synth-pop love with extra shows in Sydney and Melbourne.

Fans can't contain their excitement, and rightly so – they're a legendary stage act.

Hailing from Sheffield, The Human League dominated the airwaves and charts throughout the 80s with their stylish synth-pop that still remains as fresh, current and highly influential today as it did when released.

Pioneering a new era in music, The Human League were one of the first bands to use computers and sequencers to create rhythm and music, paving the way for the decades of electronic music that were to follow.

In 1982, the Sydney Morning Herald described them



as 'one of the first futurist bands.'

The Human League celebrate their iconic synth-pop masterpiece Dare, by performing the album in full,

alongside other anthems and classics from across their catalogue.

The apex of 80s synth-pop, Dare contained four hit singles, including the synth-pop

TOUR DATES

6 MAR Brisbane QLD
8 MAR Sydney NSW
9 MAR Melbourne VIC
11 MAR Adelaide SA
13 MAR Sydney NSW
14 MAR Perth WA
17 MAR Perth WA

masterpiece Don't You Want Me, Love Action, The Sound of The Crowd and Open Your Heart, and is sheer perfection from start to finish. Dare was the second-biggest album in Australia in 1982 and achieved Platinum status.

The Human League features original member Philip Oakey and vocalists Joanne Catherall and Susan Ann Sulley. The band's career spans over four decades. They have continued to tour and release music, maintaining a dedicated fan base around the world. So, mark your calendars and get ready to be Together In Electric Dreams.

Crosby, Stills and Nash legend to tour Australia

Prepare for a musical journey led by the legendary artist Graham Nash, who hails from the iconic seaside town of Blackpool, Lancashire. A two-time Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee and a founding member of the Hollies and Crosby, Stills and Nash, Nash's career is a testament to the rich musical heritage of England.

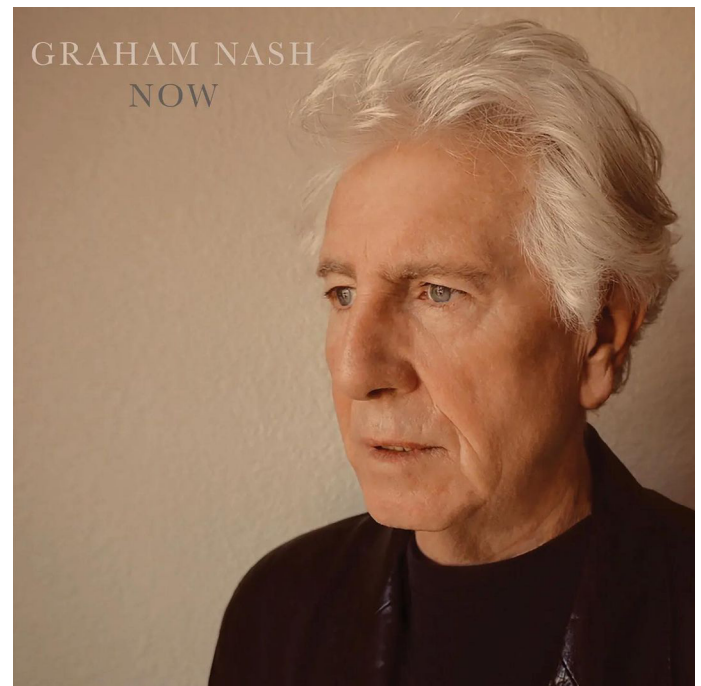
This month, Nash is set to embark on his first solo headline tour of Australia. Along with eight performances, the tour also includes a two-day stop at the Port Fairy Folk Festival. These gigs promise to be a celebration of British musical excellence, as Nash and his musical partners, Shane Fontayne and Todd Caldwell, perform songs that

TOUR DATES

7 MAR Melbourne VIC
13 MAR Adelaide SA
16 MAR Perth WA
19 MAR Sydney NSW
20 MAR Newcastle NSW
23 MAR Wollongong NSW
26 MAR Brisbane QLD
27 MAR Tweed Heads NSW

span his 60-year career.

From the British Invasion to the Laurel Canyon movement, Nash has played a pivotal role in shaping the sound of British music. His solo hits, such as Chicago/We Can Change the World and Military Madness, have left an indelible mark on the soundtrack of our lives.



The Guard strikes comedy gold for Brisbane festival

Sergeant Gerry Boyle is a small-town Irish cop with a confrontational personality, a subversive sense of humour, a dying mother, a fondness for prostitutes, and absolutely no interest whatsoever in the international cocaine-smuggling ring that has brought straight-laced FBI agent Wendell Everett to his door.

Five Star Cinemas and Brisbane Irish Festival invites you to come watch a special screening of *The Guard* on Wednesday, 6th March at the Elizabeth Picture Theatre in Brisbane.

Come at 6pm for a 6.30pm start to enjoy a drink with friends before and after. There will also be a raffle on the night for a bottle of whiskey.

This official Brisbane Irish Festival event is the only screening of *The Guard* during the festival so get your tickets quickly before they're snapped up. All proceeds from the screening will go towards the cost of running the parade and maintaining its long-term viability as an annual free event for the community.

The Guard is a 2011 Irish buddy cop comedy film written and directed by John



The Guard will be screened in Brisbane as part of the Irish festival. Picture: [Facebook/The Guard](#)

Michael McDonagh, starring Brendan Gleeson, Don Cheadle, Mark Strong and Liam Cunningham.

A vulgar Irish cop (Brendan Gleeson) and a straight-laced American FBI agent (Don Cheadle) uncover police corruption among the former's superiors while probing a drug trafficking ring.

The film received critical

acclaim and was a box-office success. Both Gleeson and Cheadle received acclaim for their performances, with Gleeson receiving a Golden Globe Award nomination.

John Michael McDonagh was in turn nominated for a BAFTA Award for his writing achievement.

It is the most successful independent Irish film of all

TICKETS

The Guard, MA 15+
Elizabeth Picture Theatre, Brisbane.
MAR 6, 6.30pm - 9pm.

[Tickets](#)

time in terms of Irish box-office receipts, overtaking *The Wind that Shakes the Barley*.

WIN ONE OF THREE DOUBLE PASSES TO SEE THE GUARD

Anglo&Celtic and Five Star Cinemas are offering you the chance to win one of three sets of double passes to see *The Guard* at Elizabeth Picture Theatre in Brisbane on March 6th.

To be in with a chance of winning, you must answer this question. Which Irish actor plays the role of Sergeant Gerry Boyle in *The*

Guard? Go to our [Facebook page](#) to enter the contest. Entries close on March 3rd.

Five Star Cinemas is a family picture theatre business that has been in Brisbane for decades. The Sourris brothers, Stephen and Peter, are the passionate movie lovers behind the Five Star Cinema brand.

All five cinemas (Elizabeth

Picture Theatre, Graceville, New Farm, Red Hill and Yatala Drive-In) have the latest in cinema projection, sound, luxurious seating and one of a kind movie bean bags.

The Elizabeth Picture Theatre is located in the Heritage-listed Tara House, best known as the old Irish Club in Elizabeth Street, and offers an affordable and

quality cinema experience for movie goers of all ages.

The [Five Star Cinemas](#) chain brings back the 'grand old days' of cinema to Brisbane. Experience movies and premiere screenings with family and friends, entertain clients or reward your staff by hosting a function with exclusive use of their auditoriums.

Keep sketch for new series of The Young Offenders

Get ready for another round of laughter and mischief as *The Young Offenders*, the beloved Irish comedy, gears up for its fourth season. The BBC has given fans a sneak peek into the upcoming antics of Conor MacSweeney (Alex Murphy) and Jock O'Keeffe (Chris Walley) in the vibrant city of Cork.

Following the success of its last season in 2020, the show, inspired by the 2016 movie of the same name, has unveiled several stills from the upcoming season. One intriguing image features Conor and Billy Murphy (Shane Casey) taking cover in a bin, teasing fans with the promise of hilarious escapades.

In another snapshot, Conor and Sergeant Tony Healy (Dominic MacHale) share a cheeky moment as they both plant a kiss on Mairéad MacSweeney's (Hilary Rose) cheeks. The misadventures of these delinquent teens have captivated audiences, making *The Young Offenders* a cultural phenomenon.

Originally airing on BBC Three in the UK, the show later moved to BBC One for its 2018 Christmas special, which boasted a cameo from *The Umbrella Academy's* Robert Sheehan. Now, the highly anticipated new season is set to launch on BBC



The Young Offenders sneak peek images show Billy Murphy and Conor MacSweeney hiding in a wheelie bin and, right, Sergeant Tony Healy, Conor's mam Mairéad MacSweeney and Conor MacSweeney puckering up. Pictures: BBC

One and iPlayer, promising a fresh dose of laughter and heartwarming moments.

The series was available on ABC iView here in Australia.

The cast, including Jennifer Barry, Demi Isaac Oviawe, PJ Gallagher, and Orla Fitzgerald, is geared up to bring the beloved characters back to life for another round of unforgettable adventures.

The producers have issued



a casting call for the new series, further details can be seen at www.theyoungoffenders.com. Stay tuned for more details about the transmission as the countdown to laughter begins!

In other exciting BBC TV news, viewers can rejoice as Michelle Keegan's series, *Ten Pound Poms*, is confirmed for a second season.

Keegan will reprise her role in the drama, narrating the compelling stories of British immigrants who made Australia their home post-World War II.

"The positive viewer response to *Ten Pound Poms* was a true delight," shared writer, creator, and executive producer Danny Brocklehurst. "I couldn't be more thrilled to be teaming again with the BBC, Stan, and Eleven to continue our characters' adventure down under."

Film festival celebrates best of European cinema



Irish actor Barry Keoghan in director Yorgos Lanthimos's *The Killing of a Sacred Deer*.

Step into the enchanting world of Europa! Europa, a dazzling celebration of European cinema. The festival is back for its third edition, promising three weeks of awe-inspiring and entertaining Australian premieres.

Running until March 10th, the best new European films will grace the screens of Ritz Cinemas in Randwick for Sydney audiences and Classic Cinemas in Elsternwick,

along with Lido Cinemas in Hawthorn for the cinephiles of Melbourne.

Europa! Europa isn't just a film festival; it's a vibrant hub of extraordinary cinema, lively storytelling, and community spirit.

With a kaleidoscopic view into the experiences of 47 diverse European countries including the UK and Ireland, this celebration invites you to join the cinematic journey

only available in theaters.

A highlight is the Yorgos Lanthimos Retrospective, featuring six films from the master of the Greek Weird Wave. Among these is *The Killing of a Sacred Deer* starting Irish actor Barry Keoghan. These wickedly funny and impeccably stylized creations showcase cinema at its most surreal, provocative, and entertaining. www.europafilmfestival.com.au

Riverdance: A timeless celebration of dance

Promising an unforgettable experience, the 25th anniversary production of Riverdance is set to grace Australian stages in April.

Riverdance 25th Anniversary Show is poised to be a captivating reinvention of the beloved classic, celebrated worldwide for its Grammy Award-winning score and the electrifying energy of Irish and international dance.

Under the artistic direction of composer Bill Whelan, the iconic soundtrack has been rerecorded to mesmerise audiences anew. Meanwhile, producer Moya Doherty and director John McColgan have worked their magic, infusing the show with innovative lighting, video, stage, and costume designs that promise to transport viewers to a realm of enchantment.

The tour has performances scheduled in Perth, Melbourne, Brisbane, and Sydney.

Since its debut in Dublin in 1995, Riverdance has captivated over 30 million people worldwide, playing more than 15,000 performances in 49 countries across six continents. Its reach extends far beyond the stage, with a global television audience exceeding 3.5 billion people.

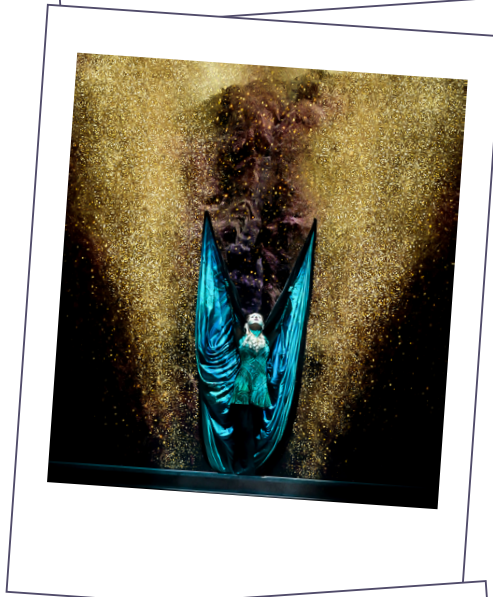
More than three million copies of its Grammy Award-winning album have been sold, as well as 10 million Riverdance DVDs.

It also holds the Guinness World Record for the 'Longest Riverdance Line'.

More than 2,800 aspiring dancers have attended Riverdance Summer School, mastering the iconic Riverdance steps.

The show's impact transcends mere numbers; it has become a symbol of unity and cultural exchange. Through its spellbinding performances and enduring melodies, Riverdance has woven itself into the fabric of our collective consciousness, leaving an indelible mark on the world of dance and music.

This new critically acclaimed 25th Anniversary show has been



touring the world since 2020 with sold out seasons in North America, the UK, Europe, Dubai and in 2022 and 2023 Riverdance returned home to Dublin, Ireland for record-breaking runs.

Riverdance burst onto the world stage during the Eurovision Song Contest in 1994, captivating millions with its blend of traditional Irish step dancing, contemporary rhythms, and mesmerising visuals. What began as a seven-minute performance during the interval of the song contest quickly grew into a global phenomenon, captivating audiences with its exhilarating blend of dance, music, and spectacle.

In 1997, Riverdance first swept across Australia, leaving an indelible mark on the nation's cultural landscape. From the moment it first graced our stages, this mesmerising fusion of Irish and international dancing captured the hearts of audiences.

The explosive energy and unparalleled precision of the dancers and musicians left audiences in awe and established Riverdance as a cultural sensation. Riverdance went on to achieve extraordinary success in Australia touring five times between 1997 to 2012 and selling a phenomenal 830,000 tickets!

Since its debut, Riverdance has been hailed as a cultural ambassador, bringing the rich traditions of Irish dance to audiences around the world. Its influence extends beyond entertainment, inspiring countless individuals to take up dancing and fostering a renewed appreciation for Irish culture and heritage.

Traditional Irish dance, with its roots in folk and social dancing, underwent a transformation because of Riverdance, with the introduction of innovative choreography. Dancers began incorporating more complex footwork, intricate formations, and theatrical elements into their



routines, pushing the boundaries of the art form.

Over the years, Riverdance has evolved and adapted, continually pushing the boundaries of traditional dance and music. The 25th Anniversary production promises to be a culmination of these decades of innovation, featuring a reimagined score, stunning choreography, and state-of-the-art production elements that promise to transport audiences to new heights of awe and wonder.

Beyond its artistic achievements, Riverdance has also made significant contributions to charitable causes around the world. Through partnerships with organizations like UNICEF and the Irish Cancer Society, Riverdance has raised millions of dollars for vital humanitarian efforts, demonstrating the power of art to make a positive impact on the world.

As the 25th Anniversary production embarks on its tour, it carries with it a legacy of excellence, innovation, and inspiration. With each electrifying performance, Riverdance continues to captivate

TOUR DATES

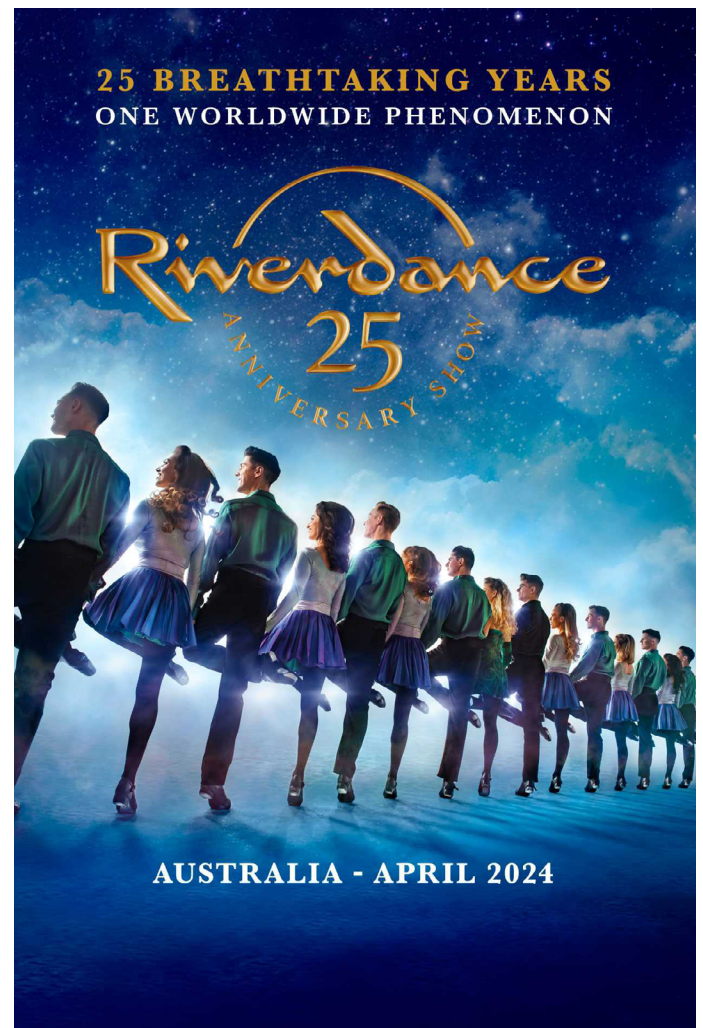
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 10 APR Brisbane QLD
 11 APR Brisbane QLD
 13 APR Sydney NSW
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audiences and remind us of the boundless possibilities of the human spirit.

The 25th Anniversary Show promises to reignite the magic that has made Riverdance a timeless celebration of the human spirit.

From the thunderous applause to the joyous laughter, each performance is a testament to the power of art to uplift, inspire, and unite us all.

For further information and to buy tickets to the shows, go to www.riverdance.com/tours/australia/





Cork is built on an island formed by the River Lee, it is a city of bridges, churches and colourful, lively streets. Pictures: Ireland.com

A trip around Cillian Murphy's home city

All eyes are on currently on Cillian Murphy who has taken home a Golden Globe and a BAFTA award for his outstanding performance in *Oppenheimer*. As the Academy Awards draw closer, CBS's *60 Minutes* travelled to Ireland to follow in Murphy's footsteps and discover the landscapes and vibrant cities that have shaped the actor's extraordinary career.

In the interview, Cillian shared his love for his homeland, emphasising the profound influence Ireland has had on his life and career. Reflecting on his roots, he remarked, "I'm Irish. That informs everything."

The much-lauded actor now lives in Dublin but it is Cork, Cillian's hometown, that emerges as a focal point in this cultural odyssey. The picturesque destination has played a significant role in shaping the actor's identity and was where he launched

his stage career. The *60 Minutes* interview featured a look inside one of the city's performance venues, the Triskel, where Cillian rehearsed for stage productions including Enda Walsh's 1990's play, *Disco Pigs*. As Murphy expressed during the CBS interview: "The place you come from is always a part of who you are."

Cillian Murphy is known for his love of music and as a teenager, he had a band that was offered a record deal but when things didn't work out, he turned his attention to acting. However, Cillian didn't leave his love of music behind and went on to co-found *Sounds from a Safe Harbour*, a biennial festival of music, dance, art, theatre and conversation that takes place in Cork City.

In an interview with *Condé Nast Traveller* about his travel inspiration, Cillian said that West Kerry on Ireland's



Cillian Murphy. Picture: Elena Ternovaja, Wikimedia Commons

Wild Atlantic Way is the place in the world that makes him feel happiest. "I've been going since I was a small boy; my parents took me there and I take my kids now. I love going out to the Blasket Islands, which haven't been populated since the 1950s. No shops, no electricity, nothing, just seals on the beach. It makes you feel pure, cleans out your soul, cleans out the cobwebs from your brain."

In recent years, the actor has been seen on stage at

one of Ireland's best-loved festivals, the Galway International Arts Festival, once again working with Enda Walsh in plays *Ballyturk* and *Misterman*. The festival takes place against the bustling backdrop of this west of Ireland city and, as he says in his *Condé Nast* interview, "A pint of Guinness on a sunny day in Galway is one of the greatest things in the world." Murphy has recently collaborated once again with Enda Walsh in the movie *Small Things Like These*, filmed in County Wexford and adapted by Walsh from a novel by Irish writer Claire Keegan.

As Cillian Murphy's BAFTA triumph continues a successful award season, global travellers can embark on a journey through the actor's roots, discovering the charm, history, and hospitality that make Cork and Ireland an unforgettable destination.

www.ireland.com



Colourful buildings portside in Cobh, County Cork, just a short train ride from Cork City. Pictures: Ireland.com



The National Monument on the Grand Parade in Cork City.



Cork City Gaol is a former women's prison open to visitors.



The tower of Shandon, home of the famous Shandon Bells.

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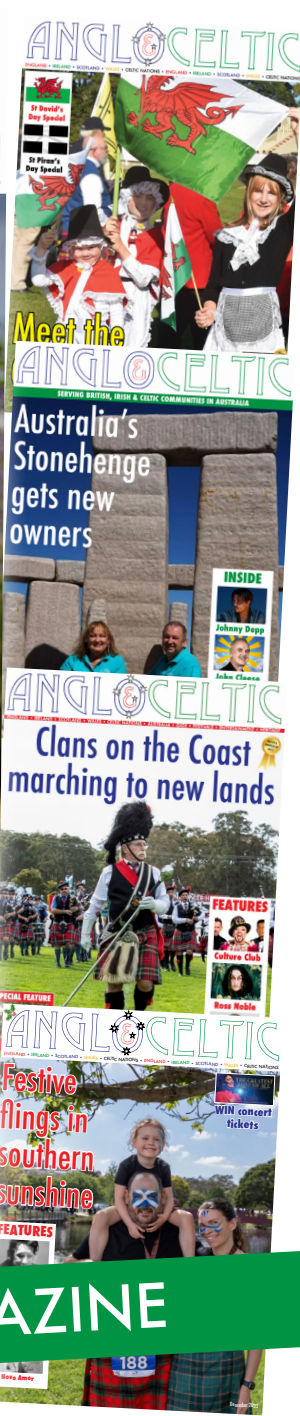
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