

# ANGLO CELTIC

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Issue 20

February 2025



**St Piran's  
Day Feature**



**St David's  
Day Feature**



# The Kernow kids

**Moonta minors celebrating Copper Coast's Cornish heritage**



# Queensland Irish Association

*Celebrating Irish women peace makers  
in the season of Brigid*



Join us on Saturday, 8th February at 2.00pm at

The Brigid Centre,  
Brigidine College, Indooroopilly

Documentary film screening of  
'Wave Goodbye to Dinosaurs'

The story of Northern Irish Catholic and Protestant women who unite to ensure their policies are reflected in the Good Friday Agreement.

Followed by light afternoon tea  
Cost: \$10 per person

*RSVP and further information:*

*Michele Bourke on 0438 763 439 or [mtcbourke@bigpond.com](mailto:mtcbourke@bigpond.com)*

*Claire Moore on 0419 673 126 or [claire\\_moore@bigpond.com](mailto:claire_moore@bigpond.com)*

**ENTRANCE AT CECIL STREET - DISABILITY ACCESSIBLE - PARKING IN CENTRAL AVE, INDOOROOPILLY**



# WELCOME

by editor Mary Allen, editor@angloandceltic.com



Queensland Irish Association members celebrating Women's Little Christmas in Chocolate Elements, South Brisbane. Picture: Anglo&Celtic

# Love and laughs as Celts celebrate

What comes to mind when you think of the great cities of love and romance - Paris, Rome, Venice, Prague - but Dublin? Not the first place that comes to mind. It's surprising then that the Irish capital is exactly where the patron saint of love, Valentine himself, has taken up residence. Couples flock to see him on February 14th in the hopes that he will bless their union. Read the surprising story of how Valentine came to end up in rainy Ireland on page 4.

This month we also have Saint Brigid's celebrations among the Irish community across Australia. And with the Welsh gearing up for Saint David's Day and the Cornish busy arranging St Piran's Day celebrations next month, it's all hands on deck for the Celts.

Not to mention our Scottish community, who are still hosting Robbie Burns Night events, having just recovered from Hogmanay.

The Australian Irish Heritage Association in

Western Australia has a packed calendar of events over the coming months. Although the Irish Club of WA's current venue in Subiaco is being sold, that doesn't mean that the community won't have plenty of Irish get-togethers - a club is its people, not its clubhouse.

Another active group is Queensland Irish Association, who celebrated their first Women's Little Christmas last month. They will have a screening for St Brigid's Day this month, and are gearing up for another lively St Patrick's Day festival season in March. Be sure to book their St Patrick's Eve Dinner tickets early, as it's the premier Irish event in Brisbane and last year's dinner sold out quickly. We have details in this issue of their plans for a fascinating Irish history tour of beautiful South Brisbane Cemetery.

If you have a story you'd like to see published in Anglo&Celtic, email editor@angloandceltic.com

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# Lovers flocking to home of St Valentine in Dublin

Saint Valentine: the patron saint of love, the man behind the mushy cards and heart-shaped chocolates. But did you know the legendary symbol of romance is actually buried in Dublin? Yes, while you're busy planning candlelit dinners, Valentine himself is resting in the heart of Ireland – and his journey there is as fascinating as any love story.

Let's rewind to 3rd-century Rome, where Valentine, a defiant priest, risked everything by performing secret Christian marriages. Emperor Claudius II, thinking single men made better soldiers, banned weddings. However, Valentine had other plans – he united couples anyway, earning himself a swift trip to martyrdom. Before his execution, he reportedly healed his jailer's blind daughter and signed a farewell note to her, "From your Valentine." Romance, rebellion, and a side of miracle-working? No wonder he's a legend.

Fast-forward to 1836, and Valentine's remains made a surprising detour to Dublin. Pope Gregory XVI gifted his relics to a group of Irish Carmelites at Whitefriar Street Church, possibly as a gesture of faith – or maybe the Pope just thought the Irish could use a bit of love. Since then, Valentine's shrine has become a hotspot for romantics,

newly-weds, and the occasional sceptical singleton.

Housed in a marble alcove, the relics include Valentine's bones and a vial of his blood, sealed in a casket and marked by an inscription detailing their provenance. Visitors flock to the shrine, especially on February 14th, to pray for love, strengthen relationships, or just snap a selfie with the saint himself.

Whitefriar Street Church embraces its connection to love with open arms. Special masses are held on Valentine's Day, and couples exchange vows in his presence. The atmosphere is electric – part spiritual pilgrimage, part love-fest.

So, the next time you're in Dublin, skip the chocolates and visit the man who started it all. Whether you're single, married, or somewhere in between, Saint Valentine reminds us that love, in all its messy glory, is worth the effort – even if it takes you all the way from Australia to Ireland!



The resting place of Saint Valentine in Whitefriar Street Church, Dublin. Pictures: [Whitefriarstreetchurch.com](http://Whitefriarstreetchurch.com)



## Surly Griffin Morris invite you to try out free



Surly Griffin Morris side invite you to join us for an exciting introduction to Morris Dancing!

Surly Griffin dance at fairs, festivals, and fetes throughout the Canberra region, including traditional seasonal May Day, solstice, and wassailing dance outs.

They invite you to come and try for free. No prior experience necessary, just

a sense of fun. Surly Griffin Morris shared: "Be part of an active global community. Learn traditional dances and have a great time with like-minded people. Don't miss out on the fun!"

Try your hand at Morris on 16th February 2025 at Ginninderra Sea Scouts Hall, Belconnen, at 5.30pm. Visit them at [www.facebook.com/SurlyGriffinMorris](http://www.facebook.com/SurlyGriffinMorris).

# Manx to mingle by the seaside for family picnic

Queensland Manx Society Inc. will be holding their traditional annual seaside family picnic day on Sunday 23rd February in Scarborough, Queensland.

Queensland Manx Society shared: "Everyone is most welcome to join us, bring your friends and families.

"To our friends in kindred societies, please come along, we would love to see you."

Founded in 1914, the society continues to meet regularly. Any interested persons are encouraged to join, regardless of their heritage.

The society held their Christmas party in December. They shared: "The room was buzzing as we celebrated the festive season at the Arana Leagues Club. It was fabulous catching up with old



Jennifer, Jan (treasurer) and Mihyun at the Queensland Manx Society Christmas lunch recently.

friends and meeting several new friends."

The attendees were enter-

tained by the talented band Phillip's Dog and dancing by Australian Historical Dance.

## DATES & DEETS

23 FEB  
Scarborough QLD  
[queenslandmanx.org.au](http://queenslandmanx.org.au)

And the main man, Santa paid a visit too.

The family picnic day will be held at Jamieson Park, Reef Point Esplanade. The entertainment will include music, displays, games, and activities, plus good old Manx hospitality.

You can bring your own food and drinks, or purchase fish and chips from the nearby bay boats.

The picnic supports One Salt Water Inc., who provide humanitarian aid to the Pacific region.

**ST DAVID'S DAY CELEBRATIONS 2025**




**SATURDAY 1ST MARCH 2025**  
**5PM - 10PM**  
**NERANG RSL**  
**69 NERANG ST, NERANG, 4211**

**JOIN US TO CELEBRATE ST DAVID'S DAY (DYDD GWYL DEWI) WITH ALL THE WELSH FOLK ON THE GOLD COAST AND SURROUNDS.**

**THERE WILL BE LOVELY WELSH FOOD, DRINKS, FUN & RAFFLE PRIZES. LIVE ENTERTAINMENT PROVIDED BY RUNES DUO (LOCAL GC BAND)**

**RSVP BEFORE 17.02.25**  
**BOOKING IS RECOMMENDED DUE TO LIMITED SEATING CAPACITY**




Dear Families and friends of the Queensland Manx Society,

You are invited to attend the Annual Seaside Family Picnic to be held on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2025.

**10:30 am at Jamieson Park, Reef Point Esplanade. SCARBOROUGH.**

**FREE PARKING AND EASY ACCESS TO OUR LOCATION.**

**LOTS OF MUSIC, DISPLAYS, GAMES AND ACTIVITIES, AND POSSIBLY ABOVE ALL, SOME GOOD OLD-FASHIONED MANX HOSPITALITY.**

**REMEMBER TO BRING ALONG A GOOD COMFORTABLE CHAIR AND MAYBE A PICNIC RUG.**

**BYO FOOD AND DRINKS, OR MAYBE YOU MIGHT LIKE TO PURCHASE SOME FISH AND CHIPS FROM THE NEARBY .... BAY BOATS, OR PERHAPS A COFFEE AND SNACK FROM THE ADJACENT .... SEA SALT AND VINE TAKEAWAY.**

EVERYONE IS MOST WELCOME TO JOIN US, BRING ALONG YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILIES.

To our friends from Kindred Societies, please come along we would love to see you.

At our QMS Annual Picnic we regularly support the work of the charity ONE SALT WATER Inc. with their Humanitarian Aid across The Pacific and in particular Vanuatu. We would welcome any donations of basic medical goods, soaps, bandages etc, school books, pens and pencils, and used children's or adult summer clothing.




# Lift the lid on Brisbane Irish cemetery tales

Queensland Irish Association (QIA) is inviting Members and friends to join them for a special tour on March 23rd at 10am as they visit the graves of some of the many Irish people laid to rest within the beautiful and historical South Brisbane Cemetery.

The Association is teaming up with Friends of South Brisbane Cemetery who will tell stories of community leaders, poor farmers, ships captains, 19th-century sectarianism, and Catholic superstitions and symbolism.

This follows a hugely popular QIA tour of Brisbane's Toowong Cemetery in 2024.

The Irish section of South Brisbane Cemetery features many Celtic crosses, as well as Irish symbols such as



shamrocks and harps.

Among the well-known Irish figures buried in the cemetery is Captain Henry O'Reilly, who captained a number of Australasian United Steam Navigation Company ships. O'Reilly's sandstone monument is one of the most

impressive in the cemetery, featuring a large ship's funnel design at the top.

Irish freedom fighter Captain Daniel O'Carroll is also buried at the cemetery. He was a noted Irish Volunteer and a personal friend of Irish revolutionary leader Michael

## DATES & DEETS

23 MAR  
South Brisbane QLD  
RSVP

Collins. Christmas Day 2024 marked the centenary of his passing.

The tour will take about 1.5 hours. A donation of \$10 is recommended on the day, to help fund the cemetery's maintenance and history projects. Parking is available inside the cemetery. Please wear a hat and enclosed shoes. Access to toilets can be provided during the tour. Walking difficulty is medium. Enquiries to [mary@queenslandirish.com.au](mailto:mary@queenslandirish.com.au).

## Irish Club of WA selling clubhouse

The Irish Club of WA, a well-established Subiaco landmark for nearly half a century, is moving on from its long-time residence as the iconic property at 61 Townshend Road is officially up for sale.

Ray White Commercial is marketing the venue as a versatile space, perfect for clubs, offices, or religious use, with capacity for up to 400 guests. The two-storey building features a spacious ballroom, a full stage complete with green room and lighting, as well as bars on both levels and a commercial kitchen.

The property, set on a 608sqm block, also presents significant redevelopment opportunities, allowing for up to four storeys of high-density development.

The decision to sell was made at the club's annual general meeting in Septem-



ber, with members voting to part ways with the venue. The Irish Club has been a focal point for the Perth community since its founding in 1950, and it has called Townshend Road home since 1978. The club has long been a hub for functions, events, and community theatre, and was a popular gathering spot during Subiaco's bustling football season.

For further information, contact Stephen Harrison at Ray White Commercial WA on 0421 622 777 or email [stephen.harrison@raywhite.com](mailto:stephen.harrison@raywhite.com).

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# Garden festival of Irish cinema flicks on in Perth



The Australian Irish Heritage Association celebrating their 30th anniversary recently at Parliament House, Western Australia. Picture: [Facebook/Australian Irish Heritage Association](#)

**DATES & DEETS**

AIHA Film Club - Outdoor Irish Film Festival

05 FEB Wide Open Spaces - Comedy

12 FEB Moondance - Romance Drama

19 FEB Albert Nobbs - Period Drama

26 FEB The Secret of Roan Inish - Fantasy/Adventure

05 MAR Patrick's Day - Romance

Location: 8 Fourth Avenue, Kensington (South Perth), 7.45pm nightly

The Australian Irish Heritage Association (AIHA) in Western Australia is welcoming the new year with a vibrant array of activities in February, offering a taste of Irish culture and film, alongside community engagements that celebrate Australia's Irish heritage. From outdoor film screenings to literary discussions, there's something for everyone in the upcoming season.

The AIHA Film Club will kick off its season with the Fifteenth Annual Outdoor Irish Film Festival, beginning on February 5th and continuing every Wednesday through March 5th. The festival will showcase a range of Irish films, from comedies to fantasy adventures, and each night will feature an additional short film or documentary. Films will be screened at a private garden cinema in Kensington, South Perth, with a big 15-foot cinema screen. Along with the screenings, there will be tea, coffee, cakes, and ice creams available for attendees.

Also on the horizon is the Fourth Tuesday Book Club, which will meet on February

25th. The club meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month, with the exception of December, at 7.30pm. For details, contact convener Mary Purcell at [m.purcell@telstra.com](mailto:m.purcell@telstra.com).

The Saint Brigid's Festival takes place on February 2nd. Presented by Torc Ceili, it will be held at Kidogo Arthouse, Fremantle, and AIHA will participate with a presentation at 2pm.

AIHA also continues its commitment to supporting the Irish-Australian community through a variety of partnerships, including their ongoing involvement with the Claddagh Association, the Irish Scene magazine, and the annual Brendan Award, which honours individuals or groups for their dedicated service to Australia's Irish heritage.

Other upcoming events include the Saint Patrick's Festival parade and concert on March 15th. The parade and concert will take place at Birdwood Square, Beaufort and Bulwer Streets, Perth.

For more information or to register for events, visit the AIHA website at [irishheritage.com.au](http://irishheritage.com.au) or follow them on [Facebook](#).

**Australian Irish Heritage Assoc.** *the aiha film club*

**Presents a Feast of Irish Films**  
8 Fourth Avenue  
Kensington  
At 7:45pm

Films will be screened on a fifteen foot screen in a beautiful garden setting. A short supporting film will precede the main film each night. Tea, coffee and cakes will be served during the evening. Ice creams \$3.

**\$15 donation covering light supper**

**Enquires to Tony Bray at 9367 6026**

05 February 2025  
12 February 2025  
19 February 2025  
26 February 2025  
05 March 2025

# Tassie folk invite you to a Central Highlands Seisiún

## DATES & DEETS

21 - 22 FEB Miena TAS  
[TICKETS](#)

The Miena Seisiún (formerly part of the Tasmanian Highlands Gathering) will be held on Saturday, February 22nd, at the Great Lake Community Centre.

Early birds can enjoy an informal session on the evening of Friday, 21st February. This is a chance to connect with your friends, and it will be held from 8pm at the Great Lake Hotel.

Saturday begins at the community centre with workshops on traditional instruments with Bodhrán (Tim Gleeson), Fiddle (Elise Okell), Guitar (John Hickey), and Whistle (Suzie Thomas).

This will be followed by a group workshop on Playing Well Together.

An afternoon concert follows from 2pm, headlined by Luke Plumb and Dave McNamara, and featuring Wallaby Track Bush Duo and Sinn Aaron.

There will be a BBQ from 6pm, and a bush dance in the evening.

Kicking off at 7.30pm, the dance will feature the talents



of Wallaby Track Bush Duo and caller David 'Oddsocks' Wanless.

Organisers invite you to come and enjoy playing, listening to, and dancing to some of Tasmania's best traditional Celtic musicians in the heart of Tasmania's beautiful Central Highlands.

Click [here](#) for the program.

Tickets: <https://events.humanitix.com/miena-sei-un-2025>

The event is organised by the Miena Seisiún Subgroup of the Folk Federation of Tasmania Inc.



**SATURDAY  
12TH APRIL  
2025**



**HAY OVAL,  
NSW**

# Publican to dish on Irish soft power at festival of Brigid

BrigidFest – Féile Bríde – is an annual celebration of Brigid, Irish, and Australian women which has been held in Melbourne since 2004.

BrigidFest 2025 promises an afternoon of fascinating insights and warm hospitality with keynote speaker Siobhan Dooley, the award-winning publican of Melbourne's iconic The Drunken Poet. On Sunday, 9th February, Siobhan will take to the stage at Batman's Hill on Collins to share her unique perspective on Irish Soft Power: The View from Behind the Bar.

Hailing from Kilkenny, Siobhan has turned her love for Irish culture and hospitality into a thriving career. After studying Economics and Business at Trinity College Dublin, her journey took her across Ireland, the US, and finally Melbourne, where she established The Drunken Poet in 2006. Named one of the top ten Irish pubs in the world by the Irish Times, The Drunken Poet has become a beloved institution, celebrating Irish music, poetry, and connection.

Siobhan's talk will explore how Irish pubs act as conduits for cultural diplomacy, fostering community through warmth, hospitality, and the



Siobhan Dooley of The Drunken Poet will speak at BrigidFest 2025. Picture: [thedrunkenpoet.com.au](http://thedrunkenpoet.com.au)

arts. She'll reflect on the evolution of the Irish community in Australia and confront enduring stereotypes about Ireland's relationship with alcohol, all while celebrating the intimate, transformative power of the modern Irish pub.

The afternoon will include an introduction by the Hon. Gabrielle Williams MP and a two-course lunch. A raffle will

raise funds for the Brigidine Asylum Seeker Project.

Tickets are \$76 (plus booking fee), with the event running from 12pm-4pm at Batman's Hill on Collins. Don't miss this chance to hear from a cultural icon redefining what it means to share Ireland's story from behind the bar. For more info, go to <https://brigidfest.wordpress.com>.

## Irish clubs celebrating Brigid

The Wild Geese Hotel in Melbourne, home to the Celtic Club, and the Gaelic Club in Sydney are both rolling out the green carpet for lively St Brigid's Day celebrations on 1st February.

At the [Wild Geese Hotel](http://WildGeeseHotel.com.au), the festivities kick off early with full Irish breakfasts from 8am, followed by St Brigid's cross-making for kids at 9am. The fun continues with a set dancing demonstration and live traditional music from 11am. Food lovers can indulge in the "Irish Queens of

Cuisine" specials from 12pm to 8pm, inspired by Ireland's finest female chefs, while feature cocktails, raffles, and spot prizes add to the excitement. Live performances by She Sings – The Sound of Ireland's Women by Ambraya (2pm), Maggie Alley (7pm), Ella Sweeny (8pm), Harmony Blue (9pm), and Aunty Blue (10pm) will round out the day.

Meanwhile, the [Gaelic Club](http://GaelicClub.com.au) in Sydney is hosting a St Brigid's Day concert featuring award-winning concertina

and flute player Doireann Nic Mhathúna, who is also a talented singer, dancer, and Irish language speaker. Joining her are special guests, including singer and flautist Caitlín Ní Mhéalóid, singer-songwriter Dominic Breen, and Doireann's sister, professional musician Eithne Nic Mhathúna, direct from Ireland.

The concert begins at 7pm at the Gaelic Club, 64 Devonshire St, Surry Hills. Tickets are \$30, with children admitted free.

## ST BRIGID'S DAY EVENTS

01 FEB

St Brigid's Dinner  
Brisbane QLD  
Ballarat Irish Assoc BrigidFest Ceili  
Ballarat East VIC  
Irish Women Unleashed  
Celtic Club, Melbourne VIC  
Doireann Nic Mhathúna and friends St Brigid's Day concert  
The Gaelic Club, Surry Hills NSW  
St Brigid's Mass and get together, St Brigid's Church, Crossley VIC  
St Brigid's Day Celebrations  
Adelaide Irish Club, Adelaide SA

02 FEB

Brigid The Rebel - Brigid's cross laying at the Irish 1798 Memorial  
Waverley Cemetery NSW  
St Brigid's Festival Family Day  
Kidogo Arthouse, Fremantle WA  
Darling Downs Irish Club St Brigid's Day lunch, Toowoomba QLD

03 FEB

Brigid the Rebel  
Bronte Beach NSW  
Brigid the Rebel - Book Launch  
The Gaelic Club, Sydney NSW  
Cairns Irish Association St Brigid's Day  
Manunda QLD  
St Brigid's Day lunch at Canberra Irish Club, Canberra ACT

04 FEB

Brigid The Rebel - Fashion Show  
Bondi Pavilion NSW  
Brigid The Rebel - Prankquean Concert  
Bondi Pavilion NSW  
Australian Celtic Women St Brigid's Day Celebration  
New Farm Bowls Club QLD

08 FEB

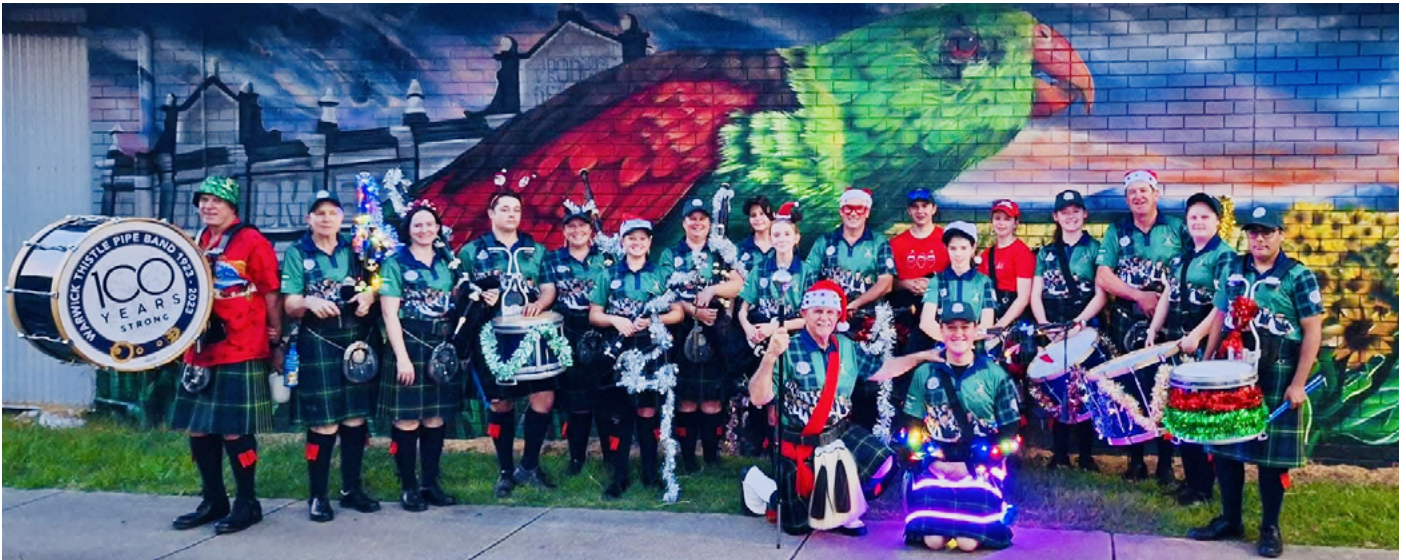
Queensland Irish Association Season of Brigid Celebration  
Indooroopilly QLD  
[Details](#)

09 FEB

BrigidFest - Feile Bríde 2025  
Melbourne VIC

16 FEB

Concert on the Hill, St Brigid's Church, Crossley VIC



Warwick Thistle Pipe Band at Allora Bush Christmas celebration 2024. Pictures: Supplied

# Warwick Thistle Pipe Band heading for global glory

Warwick Thistle Pipe Band, an inspired group of musicians from the Southern Downs, is preparing for the adventure of a lifetime – the most momentous journey in its illustrious 100-year history!

Known for their impressive performances at events such as the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo (REMT) in Sydney, the Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers Parade, the Australian Celtic Festival in Glen Innes, and as a key partner and performer at CelticFest Warwick, the band is now ready to entertain audiences on the world stage.

In 2019, the Warwick Thistle Pipe Band transformed from a small band, struggling with numbers, into a proud ensemble of 50 musicians performing at the Sydney Olympic Stadium for the REMT Saturday main event. With members ranging in age from 10 to over 80, the band became the largest single group in the opening ceremony's massed band – a truly inspiring display of passion, dedication, and community pride.

Now, the band is gearing up for its biggest performance yet. Pipe Major Chris Donaldson has announced that the band has been invited to take part in Piping



Performing at Yangan Anzac Day 2024.

Live! 2025 in Glasgow, Scotland. He says that it is the world's premier piping festival, drawing over 30,000 attendees during a music filled, week-long celebration in August. But that's not all! In addition to Piping Live!, Chris is excited to share that the band will perform at iconic Scottish venues such as Stirling Castle, the Crieff Highland Games, and The Kelpies, showcasing the band's talent.

Drum Sergeant, Alexander Manfield, said that this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity

isn't just about representing Warwick on an international stage, it's also about honing the skills of our musicians, fostering a legacy of excellence, and sharing the vibrant culture of the Southern Downs with the world.

Our band is quite special, as it is very much a family band where we have all ages and even several generations from a number of families represented, says Pipe Sergeant, Megan Mauch. However, turning this dream into reality comes with significant costs, shared Megan,

with band members having tirelessly fund-raised over the last couple of years. She said they shall continue to fund-raise until the trip especially with the current state of the exchange rate.

To shine on this global stage, the band requires additional uniforms and essential gear, including Inverness rain capes, moisture control systems for pipes, durable travel cases for instruments, drum skins, chanter reeds, and specialised equipment. On top of this, transport to airports and within Scotland adds to the financial challenge.

For a century, the Warwick Thistle Pipe Band has been a part of the fabric of the Southern Downs' community, performing at cherished events like ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day commemorations, the Killarney Bonfire Night, Apple and Grape Festival Parade, Untamed Border Run, Allora Christmas festivities, and more. Now, the chance to represent Warwick in Scotland is a shining moment of pride for this community band punching above its weight.

You'll find Warwick Thistle Pipe Band on [Facebook](#) and you can email them at [WarwickThistlePB@gmail.com](mailto:WarwickThistlePB@gmail.com).

# International athletes rock up in Melbourne for games

Melbourne Highland Games & Celtic Festival marks a ground-breaking milestone in 2025 as the festival debuts its inaugural International Games, bringing together over 30 athletes from across the globe – including the United Kingdom, Europe, Japan, and North America – to compete alongside 20 of Australia’s finest.

The International Highland Games Federation will be accompanied by a European Film Crew and will be here for the week leading up to the Games, filming the surrounding area and places of interest. They are producing a live feed for their European and North American audience.

The festival has been hosted in Melbourne for more than 50 years. It is one of the highlights of the Scottish Australian calendar and is considered the number-one multicultural festival in the City of Maroondah and greater Melbourne.

This day-long celebration of Scottish/Celtic culture and heritage, held annually in Croydon, Victoria, echoes the original games that took place centuries ago in Scotland during the reign of King Malcolm III.

This multicultural event that



includes wonderful music and competitions in dancing and pipe bands and world-class athletic competitions, is a must-see outing for everyone.

Organisers said: “This year’s event on Sunday, 23rd of March 2025 will be our first truly international Games, in partnership with Events Victoria, the International Highland Games Federation (IHGF) and hosted by

Australia’s Highland Muscle bringing up to sixty Athletes and officials from Australia, North America, United Kingdom, Europe and Japan to compete in a traditional Scottish Heavy Games Competition.”

Another addition to this grassroots event will be in the opening ceremony with a traditional “Scottish Clan Role Call”.

The festival is supported by locals and travellers from all over Australia and the world, with international athletes and their entourage attending to compete in the IHGF Championship Competition in the World Hammer Throwing and World Weight for Distance Championships, sponsored by and including the Australian contingent of the Highland Muscle Organisation, whose members come from all over Australia.

With an expected 7,000 attendees, the festival plays a pivotal role in preserving Scottish and Celtic traditions among the Victorian diaspora and fostering connections to ancestral roots for younger generations.

## DATES & DEETS

23 MAR  
Croydon VIC

[melbournehighlandgames.org.au](http://melbournehighlandgames.org.au)

The festival brings together people from all walks of life including their Patron, Mr Simon Abney-Hastings, the Right Honourable 15th Earl of Loudoun, Ambassador, the honourable Mr Ted Baillieu AO, Chieftain of the Day Carol Davis, CEO Victorian Scottish Heritage Cultural Foundation Ltd and President of Clan MacLennan, and many other dignitaries alongside the number of dedicated volunteers who work tirelessly all year long with significant sponsors like the Bendigo Bank, to present the best day out for all.

The Melbourne Highland Games & Celtic Festival is back on Sunday, 23rd March 2025 from 9am to 5pm at Eastfield Park, 119 Eastfield Road, Croydon, Victoria.

For tickets, go to [www.melbournehighlandgames.org.au](http://www.melbournehighlandgames.org.au).



# The Kernow Kids



Deputy Premier of South Australia, Susan Close MP visited Burra & Moonta to celebrate the sites being added to Australia's UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List. Picture: [facebook.com/coppercoastcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/coppercoastcouncil)

South Australia's Deputy Premier Susan Close MP visited the Cornish copper mines Burra and Moonta recently to celebrate the sites being added to Australia's UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List.

Members of the bid team, VIPs, and community members enjoyed Cornish pasties, a train ride to the Moonta site, and speeches from renowned historian Barry Gamble, Mayor Talbot, and the Deputy Premier.

Moonta Area School Year 5 class attended in heritage dress and played old-time games, such as marbles, skipping, coits, croquet, and limbo, at Hughes Engine House.

The mine sites date back to the 1840s.



Moonta Area School year 5 class attended in heritage dress and played old time games such as marbles, skipping, coits, croquet and Limbo at Hughes Engine House, Moonta. These pictures and front page cover picture: [facebook.com/@moontaheritage](https://www.facebook.com/@moontaheritage)



# Cornish Aussies dig deep to celebrate Saint Piran



The Cornish community of Copper Coast, South Australia, spreading news of the 2025 Kernewek Lowender, a biennial Cornish festival held on the Copper Coast. The next festival will be held from May 12th to 18th, 2025. Picture: [facebook.com/kernewek](https://facebook.com/kernewek)

St Piran's Day, celebrated annually on March 5th, honors St Piran, the patron saint of Cornwall, which is renowned for its rich Celtic heritage. This day is a vibrant tribute to Cornish culture, history, and identity, engaging locals and enthusiasts in lively festivities.

The legend of St Piran tells of an Irish abbot cast into the sea tied to a millstone, who miraculously washed ashore in Cornwall, discovering rich tin deposits that shaped the region's history. The Cornish flag, featuring a white cross on a black background, symbolises the colours of St Piran's millstone.

Festivities commence with parades where participants don black, white, and gold – the symbolic colours of Cornwall. Traditional Cornish music fills the air as processions wind through towns and villages. Delicacies like Cornish pasties offer a taste of Cornwall's culinary heritage. Communities engage in folk dancing, live music, and storytelling, sharing tales of

St Piran and Cornish folklore. Cultural events, art exhibitions, and activities celebrate Cornwall's distinct language and traditions.

Here in Australia, Cornish immigrant miners brought their customs, including music, dance, and the beloved Cornish pasty. The Copper Coast in South Australia, encompassing towns like Moonta, Wallaroo, and Kadina, became known as "Australia's Little Cornwall" due to its historical connections with Cornish miners who played a pivotal role in the region's 19th-century mining industry.

A recent milestone in preserving this heritage occurred in September 2024, when the Australian Cornish Mining Sites at Burra and Moonta were added to Australia's UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List. This recognition marks the first step towards a World Heritage nomination, acknowledging the outstanding universal value of these sites and their unparalleled

demonstration of the transfer of Cornish mining technology and culture to Australia in the 1840s.

The legacy of their presence is evident today in historic buildings, Cornish pasty shops, and events celebrating Cornish heritage.

The biennial Kernewek Lowender Copper Coast Cornish Festival, the world's largest Cornish festival outside Cornwall, is scheduled for May 12th to 18th, 2025. This festival offers a unique opportunity to immerse yourself in Cornish culture and traditions.

In Glen Innes, the Celtic heart of Australia, a Cornish flag-lowering ceremony will take place, with all welcome to attend this free event and toast St Piran. Light refreshments will be available for a gold coin donation.

These celebrations highlight the enduring legacy of Cornish culture in Australia, reflecting a shared heritage that continues to thrive across continents.

## ST PIRAN'S DAY EVENTS

05 MAR

St Piran's Day Flag Lowering  
Australian Standing Stones, Glen Innes NSW

CASA (Cornish Assoc. of South Australia) St Piran's Day lunch at the Maid of Auckland Hotel  
Edwardstown SA

08 MAR

Cornish Association of New South Wales AGM & St Piran's Celebration & Association jubilee fun  
West Ryde NSW [Details](#)

• Cornish community groups: Cornish Assoc of NSW – [www.cornishnsw.org](http://www.cornishnsw.org); Cornish Assoc of SA – [www.cornishsa.org.au](http://www.cornishsa.org.au); Cornish Assoc of Victoria – [www.cornishvic.org.au](http://www.cornishvic.org.au).

## WHO WAS SAINT PIRAN?

Saint Piran is the Patron Saint of Cornwall, believed to have been a 5th-century Irish abbot. He was said to have been cast into the sea tied to a millstone by the kings of Ireland.

The white cross on a black background, the St Piran's Flag, is said to be based on the colours of his millstone.

After washing up in Cornwall, legend has it that Piran discovered tin, making him a symbol of Cornwall's mining heritage.

St Piran is known as the merriest, hardest drinking, hardest living holy man Cornwall ever knew.

He laboured to build himself a little church: St Piran's Oratory, the oldest Christian church in all of Britain, which to this day still exists near Perranporth.

Celebrated on March 5th, St Piran's Day honours the saint with events featuring Cornish music and dance.

# Welsh keeping the dragon roaring on St David's Day

Saint David, or Dewi Sant in Welsh, is the patron saint of Wales and a symbol of Welsh pride and heritage. Born in the 6th century, David was a preacher, teacher, and founder of monasteries, living a life of humility and devotion. According to legend, he was born during a storm on the rugged cliffs of Pembrokeshire, with a divine sign marking his arrival. His mother, Saint Non, was said to have given birth on the very spot where St Non's Chapel now stands.

David's teachings emphasized simplicity, kindness, and a connection to nature. His followers were known for their austere lifestyle, abstaining from meat and living off bread, water, and vegetables – a diet David himself adhered to. Miracles are often associated with him, the most famous being the moment a hill rose beneath his feet while he preached, ensuring his voice carried to the crowd.

Saint David's Day, celebrated annually on March 1st, honours the day of his death in 589 AD. It's a day when Wales bursts with national pride, as daffodils and leeks – symbols of Wales – are worn with pride. Traditional dishes like cawl (a hearty soup) and bara brith (a spiced fruit bread) take centre stage, while parades and concerts fill towns and villages.

The day is marked with music, poetry, and dancing, showcasing the richness of Welsh culture. Schools often host eisteddfodau – competitions celebrating poetry and song, reflecting David's emphasis on learning and creativity.

In Cardiff, the capital, you'll find a colourful parade winding through the streets, led by red dragons and harpists, while castles across Wales light up in the national



The Cymru Gold Coast Wales team had a wonderful day at the Multi-cultural Families Organisation Inc. festival at Southport Broadwater Parklands recently, and catching up with Sam O'Connor MP. Picture: [facebook.com/GoldCoastWales](https://facebook.com/GoldCoastWales)

colours of red, white, and green.

David's legacy is a unifying thread for the Welsh people, a reminder of resilience and faith. His famous last words, "Do the little things," continue to inspire generations to cherish the small acts that make life meaningful. On Saint David's Day, the Welsh come together to celebrate not just their patron saint, but the vibrant spirit of their nation.

St David's Day 2025 will be celebrated on March 1st from 5pm with an all ages free event at The Fox and Hounds, Wongawallan, Queensland. Join in with the celebrations, and solve the Welsh crossword to receive red letters to feed the Dragon for good luck in 2025. Welsh specialities will be available, and reservations are a must.

Celebrate St David's Day on the Gold Coast with Cymru

Gold Coast Wales.

They shared: "Join us as we bring a touch of Wales down under!"

"Come along for delicious Welsh food, drinks and good cheer, fun and raffle prizes, live entertainment by Runes Duo, our fantastic local GC band! There will also be a Welsh Cake competition, so bring along your homemade Welsh Cakes.

"Everyone is welcome – whether you're Welsh at heart or just want to enjoy a great evening out with the community!"

Booking by February 17th is highly recommended due to limited seating capacity.

The Australian Standing Stones Management Board will conduct a flag lowering ceremony to honour Saint David on March 1st. Join in the celebration, hear about St David's exploits, and enjoy a toast to the Patron Saint

## ST DAVID'S DAY EVENTS

28 FEB

[Melbourne Welsh Male Choir](#) Celebrate Saint David's Day 2025  
Kew VIC

01 MAR

[Gymnafa Ganu](#) at St Paul's Cathedral  
Melbourne VIC  
St David's Day at The Fox & Hounds  
Wongawallan QLD  
St David's Day Flag Lowering Ceremony  
Glen Innes NSW  
[Cymru Gold Coast Wales](#) St David's Day Celebration  
From 5pm at Nerang RSL, Nerang QLD  
[Sydney Welsh Choir](#) St David's Day Concert  
West Ryde NSW

02 MAR

[Victoria Welsh Choir](#) St David's Day Annual Concert, 2.30pm at Alexander Theatre  
Clayton VIC



The Welsh Society of Western Australia said they had: "An absolutely bendigedig turnout" for their annual St David's Day lunch in 2024. Picture: [facebook.com/wawelshsociety](https://facebook.com/wawelshsociety)

and some traditional Welsh Cakes. It's taking place in Glen Innes, New South Wales. Further information from [Glen Innes Severn Council](#).

# Welsh choirs raising the roofs in heritage churches

Choral singing is a vibrant and cherished tradition deeply rooted in Welsh culture, and it's no wonder Welsh migrants brought it with them to Australia. Today, Australia boasts its own share of Welsh churches and choirs, keeping this rich heritage alive.

## Blackstone-Ipswich Cambrian Choir Inc.

Originating in 1886, this Queensland-based choir has evolved into an organisation with five ensembles. They contribute to Ipswich's cultural scene, recently participating in the 140th anniversary of the Blackstone United Welsh Church. Learn more at [www.cambrianchoir.org.au](http://www.cambrianchoir.org.au).

## Sydney Welsh Choir

Sydney Welsh Choir, since its establishment in 1978, has been a vocal ambassador of Welsh culture in New South Wales. Comprising around 30 members from diverse backgrounds, the choir's repertoire spans traditional Welsh tunes and global performances. Catch them rehearsing at West Ryde Community Centre Hall, and for more information, visit [www.sydneywelshchoir.com](http://www.sydneywelshchoir.com).

## Cantorion Sydney

Boasting 45 male members, Cantorion Sydney showcases a wide-ranging repertoire from Welsh traditionals to opera choruses. They collaborate with various ensembles, fostering a rich musical experience. Earlier this year they sang at a 180 years of history celebration at the Welsh Church of Sydney, St Peter's Presbyterian in North Sydney, where they practice every Wednesday at 6pm. They also sang at Allianz Stadium. Learn more at [www.cantorionsydneychoir.com](http://www.cantorionsydneychoir.com).

## Australian Welsh Male Choir

Celebrating its 50th an-



**The Trinity Church on St George's Terrace in Perth has been the home of Welsh Church services for more than 100 years.**

niversary last year, Melbourne-based the Australian Welsh Male Choir, with 60 members, sings in the spirit of the great male choirs of Wales. They've toured globally, including singing at the Royal Albert Hall, and last year, they enjoyed a tour of Outback Australia. More details at [www.awmc.org.au](http://www.awmc.org.au).

## Melbourne Welsh Male Choir

Established in 1984, the Melbourne Welsh Male Choir blends Welsh choral traditions with an Australian twist. The choir will celebrate St David's Day on February 28th, from 7.30pm at MLC James Tatoulis Auditorium, 207 Barkers Road, Kew 3101. They will perform a wide array of songs that they sing best, particularly the Welsh standards that are so important on this day in particular. The soloist this year will be Heulen Cynfal. Details at [www.melbournwelshchoir.com.au](http://www.melbournwelshchoir.com.au).

## Victoria Welsh Choir (Vic Welsh)

Founded in 1980, Vic Welsh, a traditional Welsh men's choir, enchants audiences with 15 concerts annually. At least a quarter of what the choir sing is in Welsh. Their Musical Director Faleiry Koczkar OAM is a native Welsh speaker. They have led the singing at Cymanfa Ganu Hymn Festivals held by the Welsh Church in Melbourne since their foundation. Learn more at [www.vicwelshmen-choir.com.au](http://www.vicwelshmen-choir.com.au).

## Geelong Welsh Ladies Choir

A group of 30 members performing since 1998, the Geelong Welsh Ladies Choir in Victoria meets weekly. In 2024, the choir sang at the Shrine of Remembrance as part of the 80th Anniversary of the D-Day Landing. They embrace varied musical genres. Follow them at [facebook.com/GeelongWelshLadiesChoir/](https://facebook.com/GeelongWelshLadiesChoir/).



**Blackstone United Welsh Church in Ipswich, Queensland.**



**St Peter's Presbyterian is the Welsh Church of Sydney.**



**Melbourne's Welsh Church at 320 La Trobe Street. Picture: [Facebook/melbwelshchurch](https://facebook.com/melbwelshchurch).**

## Mornington Peninsula Welsh Ladies Choir

Formed in 2018, this choir revives the Welsh ladies' choir tradition, embodying the cultural essence of Wales. Join them in celebrating Welsh choral heritage on the Mornington Peninsula, Victoria. Explore more at [www.mpwlc.com](http://www.mpwlc.com).

## Perth Male Voice Choir

Perth Male Voice Choir is a performance choir singing in four-part harmony. In 2024, they toured Chester and North Wales. They hold rehearsals at 7.30pm on Wednesdays at Royal Park Hall, 180 Charles Street, West Perth, WA. [www.perthmalevoicechoir.org](http://www.perthmalevoicechoir.org).

# Putting the fun in funeral with Finnegan's Wake

Did you hear about the horse that walked into a bar? The barman asked: "Why the long face?". Yes, it may be an old joke but you'll be laughing into your drink when you see the scene recreated in real life at Finnegan's Wake.

Clifton in the Darling Downs, Queensland, is gearing up for its annual Finnegan's Wake Parade, which takes place on Saturday, March 1st. This quirky, hilarious event has grown into a cherished tradition, blending Irish literary inspiration with Aussie flair.

At the heart of the celebration is Finnegan himself putting the fun in 'fun'eral, paraded through the streets in his coffin, a grin on his face, and perhaps a pint nearby. The coffin is surrounded by a whimsical procession of nuns, priests, bishops, and other Irish characters, including the show-stealing Weeping Widow. As the parade winds its way through the streets, a horse might even trot into O'Shanley's Irish Pub for a cheeky pint - because why should humans have all the fun?

The event celebrates Timothy Finnegan, a jovial Irishman with a reputation for mischief and an unshakable fondness for revelry. Known for gate-crashing wakes to indulge in the food, drink, and banter, Finnegan decided to ensure he wouldn't miss his own wake by holding it before he actually died. True to his character, the event was a riot of laughter, music, and pints - a tradition that Clifton brings to life in its annual parade.

The highlight of the day is the procession through Clifton's main street, led by none other than Finnegan himself, lounging in his coffin, pint in hand. He's joined by a colourful cast of characters, including Saint Patrick, the Pope, bishops, priests, nuns, pipers, and, of course, the tearful Grieving Widow, whose dramatic wails bring an extra dash of hilarity. Adding to the spectacle is the annual appearance of a horse strolling



## DATES & DEETS

01 MAR  
Clifton QLD  
[Details](#)

into O'Shanley's Irish Pub for its traditional drink - a sight that never fails to raise a cheer (and a few eyebrows)!

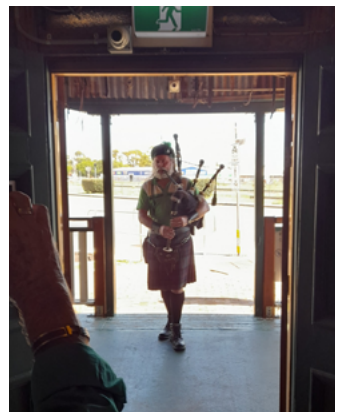
The event takes inspiration from James Joyce's lesser-known prose work Finnegan's Wake. Joyce, famed for his complex and innovative storytelling, wove Irish humour, mythology, and wordplay into this masterpiece. The novel tells of Tim Finnegan, a Dublin hod-carrier with a love for whiskey, whose "wake" is the backdrop for chaos and hilarity. Finnegan's story also reflects themes of rebirth and renewal, which resonate in Clifton's celebration.

Joyce's influence extends far beyond Finnegan's Wake. His magnum opus, Ulysses, is honoured annually worldwide on Bloomsday, June 16th. In Dublin, thousands retrace Leopold Bloom's iconic journey through the city, dressed in Edwardian attire and reading passages from the book. Similarly, cities like Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane host Bloomsday events, celebrating Joyce's contribution to modern literature. These celebrations bridge global cultures and highlight the enduring relevance of Joyce's work.

In the same spirit of literary joy, Clifton's Finnegan's Wake Parade offers a distinctly Australian twist. With its roots in the 120-year-old O'Shanley's Irish Pub, this event has brought the community together since 2003. From the charming streets of Clifton to the wider Darling Downs, Irish heritage runs deep, with many families tracing their roots back to the Emerald Isle.

Clifton was a major destination for Irish immigrants in the 19th century, who brought with them their rich culture, traditions, and love for a good party.

# Putting the fun in funeral with Finnegans Wake



Finnegans Wake 2024 at O'Shanley's Irish Pub, Clifton, Queensland. Pictures: [Facebook.com/OShanleys](https://www.facebook.com/OShanleys)



O'Shanley's  
**IRISH PUB**

**20**  
YEARS  
ANNIVERSARY

**Finnegans  
wake**

**SATURDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> MARCH**

**STREET PARADE STARTS AT 12 NOON**

There will be bagpipes, the Pope, St Patrick, Cardinal, Undertaker, Naughty Nuns, Gravedigger, Irish Dancers, Leprechauns, Weeping Widow, and of course, Finnegan himself.

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

*Join the Shenanigans*

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO JOIN THE PARADE  
DRESS IN THE SPIRIT OF FINNEGANS WAKE  
PRIZES TO BE WON!

**CLARK STREET | CLIFTON | PH: 07 4697 3288**

# Irish-Australian heritage hub calling for support

Nestled among the rolling hills of South West Victoria, St Brigid's Church in Crossley isn't just a building – it's the beating heart of a community, a testament to the resilience of Irish immigrants, and a living celebration of Irish-Australian heritage. Since the Friends of St Brigid's Association saved the site in 2009, it has flourished as a hub of culture, history, and community. But rising costs, particularly sky-rocketing insurance premiums, now threaten the very future of this cherished precinct.

The St Brigid's precinct, built by Irish immigrants who settled in Crossley from the 1840s, stands as a monument to the highest rate of Irish migration outside Australia's major cities. The influence of these settlers on local politics, family life, religion, and community spirit is still felt today, and the five-acre site of St Brigid's church and hall is its enduring symbol.

Since taking ownership, the Friends of St Brigid's have raised an incredible \$450,000 to maintain and improve the site. Today, the precinct hosts over 150 events annually, from weddings and concerts to community meetings and birthday parties. It's also home to the first Australian-Irish Cultural Heritage Centre, The Well of the Irish, where 430 archival items – from ceremonial robes to baptismal records – are collated and displayed for visitors and researchers.

However, the rising cost of insurance is placing an enormous strain on the entirely volunteer-run organisation. Despite their best fundraising efforts, covering basic expenses is becoming increasingly difficult.

"We need your support to continue," said a spokesperson for the Friends of St Brigid's. "Like so many in the community who are facing ris-



The recent Christmas Carols at St Brigid's Church in Crossley. Pictures: [Facebook/StBrigidsCrossley](https://www.facebook.com/StBrigidsCrossley)



ing insurance premiums, we were amazed and saddened recently when our insurance account increased by another \$28,224. This means we need to pay \$2,352 per month or over \$540 per week!

"When coupled with our mortgage interest, gas and electricity bills, we need to pay a minimum of \$4,160 per month. That is a huge amount for our hard working volunteer group, who rely solely on income from two sources

- our fundraising functions and annual memberships. Currently we are struggling to raise anywhere near that amount."

The centre remains a hive of activity, hosting regular events like Tuesday Irish dancing, Thursday traditional music lessons, and special celebrations such as St Brigid's Day Mass on February 1st and a music retreat in April. But to keep the doors open, the Friends of St Brigid's are appealing for support.

## DATES & DEETS

01 FEB  
St Brigid's Mass and get together

16 FEB  
Concert on the Hill

10 MAR  
St Brigid's Seisiun/Session

18 - 21 APR  
St Brigid's Music Retreat

How can you help? Donations, venue hire, and becoming a member of the Friends of St Brigid's Association are just a few ways to make a difference. Tax-deductible contributions are also welcome, and every dollar goes directly to sustaining this cultural treasure.

For more information or to lend your support, visit [www.stbrigidscrossley.org.au](http://www.stbrigidscrossley.org.au), email [stbrigidscrossley@outlook.com](mailto:stbrigidscrossley@outlook.com), or call 0418 519 152.

# Influence of Irish migrants in 1840s is still felt today

Nestled on Victoria's rugged southern coast, the towns of Koroiit, Crossley, and Port Fairy hold the story of one of Australia's most significant Irish settlements. This area became a haven for Irish immigrants during the 19th century, their influence woven into its cultural and physical landscape.

Port Fairy, originally named by whalers in the 1820s after their ship The Fairy, was officially renamed Belfast in 1854. The name reflected the influx of Irish settlers, many of whom were fleeing famine and hardship back home. Much of this was thanks to James Atkinson, a wealthy Irishman who purchased large tracts of land in the 1840s. Atkinson's influence and the growing Irish community transformed



Crossley builders. Picture: [Facebook/StBrigidsCrossley](#)

Belfast into a hub of Catholic life, complete with churches, schools, and thriving farming settlements.

Nearby Koroiit and Crossley became extensions of this Irish heartland, with strong

ties to faith, music, dance, and storytelling. The fertile volcanic plains provided perfect farmland, and the Irish families who worked the land built a tight-knit community that celebrated their herit-

age. Today, places like Saint Brigid's Church in Crossley remain living testaments to their resilience and faith.

In 1887, Belfast reverted to its original name, Port Fairy, reflecting the town's maritime heritage. While some mourned the loss of its Irish identity in name, the spirit of Belfast endures in the traditions and architecture that remain.

The Irish legacy is celebrated annually during the Port Fairy Folk Festival, a nod to the music and stories brought by those early settlers.

From the Celtic crosses in its cemeteries to the Irish surnames that are still common in the region, the Great South Coast stands as a testament to how Irish immigrants shaped the history and culture of Australia.



## Concert on the Hill to support heritage hub

An enjoyable afternoon of relaxing music performed by local artists. Pre-show introduction by Martin Sullivan on the grand piano, followed by Mel and Trevor McKenzie, Triptych, Harpistry, and Demby McKenzie and Friends.

Afternoon tea and refreshments are included. Organisers said: "This is a wonderful concert, a musically superb

venue, ample parking and a great social opportunity. All for very little money."

This fund-raiser is supported by my Moyne Council. Feel free to donate a little extra.

It will take place on Sunday, 16th February 2025 from 2pm to 4.15pm at St Brigid's Church, 212 Koroiit - Port Fairy Road, Crossley Victoria 3283.

Sunday  
February 16th.  
2.00pm till 4.30pm



Just \$25.  
Including  
afternoon tea.

### Concert on the Hill

An afternoon 'MUSICAL MATINEE' of beautiful music.  
In support of our local artists, featuring.

Mel & Trevor McKenzie. Triptych.  
Harpistry. Demby McKenzie and friends.  
Supported by Martin Sullivan.



Proceeds go towards the St. Brigid's Community Centre.  
Additional donations very much needed and welcomed.

St Brigid's Church. 212 Koroiit—  
Port Fairy Road. Crossley. Victoria.

[www.crossley.com.au](http://www.crossley.com.au)

[Try-booking.com](http://Try-booking.com) essential.



# See Scotland's Viking treasures in Adelaide

In an international coup, Adelaide is the first stop on a world tour of the exhibition, Treasures of the Viking Age: The Galloway Hoard, and it will be the very first time this precious collection of objects has ever travelled outside the United Kingdom.

The Galloway Hoard is the richest find of rare and unique Viking-age objects ever made in Britain or Ireland. Buried around AD 900 and only discovered in 2014 in southwest Scotland, the Hoard contains a stunning variety of objects and materials buried together at one time.

Dr Martin Goldberg, principal curator of Medieval Archaeology & History at National Museums Scotland, said: "The Galloway Hoard has repeatedly drawn international attention since its discovery and acquisition by National Museums Scotland."

"But this hoard was in many respects a journey into the unknown, and the exhibition presents all the amazing discoveries we have made through our research. We're delighted the exhibition can now be seen by audiences outside the UK, a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to experience these exceptional objects in person."

Dr David Gaimster, CEO of South Australian Museum, said: "The Galloway Hoard is a rich collection in every sense, from rare and unique examples of gold and silver work that shows the artistry of the period to items of hacked bullion that show the intensity of trade and exchange. Taken together, this hoard challenges popular understandings of this period in world history. Indeed, the Hoard reveals the extensive networks of trade and exchange that stretched from Scandinavia and the Atlantic across to Central Asia and



**An Anglo-Saxon cross from the Galloway Hoard, which will go on public display in Adelaide. Picture: [South Australian Museum](http://www.southaustralianmuseum.gov.au)**

the Silk Routes.

"We are delighted to partner with National Museums Scotland to bring the Galloway Hoard halfway across the globe for Australian audiences to experience up close – a turn of events the Hoard's original owners could scarcely have imagined."

The exhibition shows how the Hoard was buried in four distinct parcels and as the visitor is drawn further into this ancient world each parcel becomes richer and more unusual. The top layer was a parcel of silver bullion and a rare Anglo-Saxon cross, separated from a lower layer of three parts: firstly, another parcel of silver bullion wrapped in leather and twice as big as the one above; secondly, a cluster of four

elaborately decorated silver 'ribbon' arm-rings bound together and concealing in their midst a small wooden box containing three items of gold; and thirdly, a lidded, silver gilt vessel wrapped in layers of textile and packed with carefully wrapped objects that appear to have been curated like relics or heirlooms. They include beads, pendants, brooches, bracelets, relics and other curios, often strung or wrapped with silk.

Decoding the secrets of the Galloway Hoard has also been a multi-layered process. Decorations, inscriptions, and other details hidden for over a thousand years have been revealed through careful conservation, painstaking cleaning, and cutting-edge research by a team of experts

## DATES & DEETS

08 FEB - 27 JUL  
Adelaide SA

[www.southaustralianmuseum.gov.au](http://www.southaustralianmuseum.gov.au)

led by National Museums Scotland. Conservation of metal objects has revealed decorations, inscriptions, and other details that were not previously visible.

Many of the objects are types that have never been seen before in Britain and Ireland. Some had travelled thousands of miles to reach Scotland. Some items are too fragile to travel long distances, particularly those which still have rare traces of textiles that have survived for more than 1,000 years. The exhibition will employ audio-visual and 3D reconstructions to enable visitors to experience these objects and learn more about the detailed research that is being done.

In a surprising twist, the South Australian Museum has also uncovered two Viking-Age pieces in its own collection of world cultures material, and they will also go on display for the first time to coincide with the exhibition.

A private collector from Sweden, Bertil Gunnarsson-Hagman, donated two brooches from Gotland to the Museum after settling in Adelaide during the 1940s. The Swedish Island of Gotland occupied a strategic position in Viking Age trade networks. The bronze women's brooches would have originally been flashy fashion accessories, gilt in gold and silver to highlight the intricate metalwork. Authentic Viking-Age items like this are rarely found in Australian museum collections.

# Roisin seeking support to compete for Ireland

Logan, Queensland-based athlete Roisin O'Dwyer-Mazur is calling on the community to help her represent Ireland on the global stage. Recently selected to compete at the 2025 World Triathlon Multisport Championships in Pontevedra, Spain, Roisin is on a mission to fulfil a deeply personal promise she made as a child.

"I promised my Irish grandmother, who lived her whole life in Limerick, that one day I would represent Ireland," Roisin explained. "I've worked so hard to keep that promise, and now I've been given the honour of competing for Ireland once again."

Roisin has proudly represented her Irish heritage at international multisport championships in Slovakia in 2022, Ibiza in 2023, and Townsville in 2024. Now, with the world championships in Spain approaching in June, she faces a new challenge: funding the journey.

These championships are completely self-funded," she said. "Transport, accommo-



dation, uniforms, race entry fees – it all adds up, and I'm reaching out to the Irish community here in Australia for

support to make this dream a reality."

The championships, held from June 20th to 29th, will

showcase top athletes competing in events like aquathlon, duathlon, and cross triathlon. As a member of the Triathlon Ireland international age-group team, Roisin's dedication to her sport and heritage shines through.

She said: "Qualifying for three events, these championships are entirely making it a very expensive endeavour. Therefore, I am asking for the support of my local Irish community to help get me to Spain. Any donations regardless of how small will be greatly appreciated."

To Roisin, representing Ireland is more than just a race. "It's about honouring my family and my heritage," she said. "Your support would mean the world to me."

The community is invited to help Roisin achieve her goal by contributing to her fund-raiser via her [GoFundMe](#) page. Every donation, big or small, brings her closer to fulfilling her promise.

"Go raibh mile maith agat – thank you so much," Roisin said.

## Experience the spirit of Brittany in Sydney

Region Bretagne invites you to experience the spirit of Brittany in Sydney!

Step into the vibrant energy of Brittany Down Under and immerse yourself in the festive traditions of this fabulous region at this one-of-a-kind celebration!

Join the fun at the breathtaking Sub Base Platypus in Kirribilli for a day bursting with Celtic charm, authentic flavours, and the joyful atmosphere of Brittany's legendary festivities.

On 1st February 2025 from 2pm to 8pm at 140 High Street in North Sydney, you can enjoy:

- Traditional Breton music and dancing: Feel the rhythm

### DATES & DEETS

01 FEB  
North Sydney NSW  
[Details](#)

of Celtic tunes and join in with traditional Breton circle dances.

- Delicious cuisine: Indulge in crêpes, galettes, fresh cider, and other iconic delicacies that capture the heart of Brittany.
- Festive drinks: Raise a glass of sparkling rosé, Breton cider, or a perfectly fresh beer – Yec'hed mat! (That's "Cheers" in Breton!)
- Cultural highlights: Explore



the authentic crafts, tales, and treasures of Brittany's unique heritage.

Whether you're a Francophile, a foodie, or simply love a lively festival, this event will whisk you away to the Celtic heart of France.

A day of music, laughter, and unforgettable moments awaits! Dance, feast, and celebrate the Breton way – authentic, joyful, and full of life!

Yec'hed mat et Kenavo! (Cheers and see you there!)

# Festivals



## ADELAIDE FRINGE FESTIVAL

World-renowned arts festival that celebrates culture and artists from across the globe.

Adelaide SA

21 FEB - 23 MAR



## COBARGO FOLK FESTIVAL

The best little folk and roots festival on the NSW Sapphire Coast.

Cobargo NSW

28 FEB - 02 MAR



## NATIONAL MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL

The 2025 National Multicultural Festival will be Australia's largest celebration of cultural diversity.

Canberra ACT

07 - 09 FEB

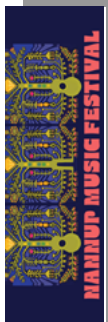


## PAKO FESTA

Pako Festa is the largest free celebration of cultural diversity in Australia! Includes National Celtic Folk Festival showcase.

Geelong VIC

22 FEB



## NANNUP MUSIC FESTIVAL

Much-loved folk music festival featuring David Francey (Scot), and John Smith (UK).

Nannup WA

28 FEB - 03 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](mailto:editor@angloandceltic.com)

# ANGLO&CELTIC

What's happening around Australia - by [www.angloandceltic.com](http://www.angloandceltic.com)

## PARTY IN THE PADDOCK

Carrick TAS

The Kooks are among the head-liners at this all-ages, independent camping music and arts festival, held in the scenic, rural location of Quercus Park, in Carrick, Tasmania.

06 - 09 FEB

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01 FEB

Welsh Society of Western Australia  
Amser Coffi  
The Kiosk Floreat Beach WA,  
12.30pm

Tony Hadley

Perth WA

Bear Grylls

Brisbane QLD

Soft Play

Perth WA

Dizzee Rascal

Melbourne VIC

Every Breath You Take (A Tribute

to The Police & Sting)

Brisbane QLD

The Script & Calum Scott

Geelong VIC

Damien Rice

Thirroul NSW

Obskur

Brisbane QLD (Day)

Obskur

Perth WA (Night)

Hunter Valley Scots Burns' Night

Supper & Ceilidh

Argenton NSW

Burns Supper 2025

Townsville QLD

Robert Burns Club of Melbourne

Burns Supper

Melbourne VIC

Robbie Burns Night at The St

Ives Club

St Ives NSW

Scots Down Under Burns Supper

Perth WA

Caledonian Society of WA Febru-

ary Ceilidh and AGM

Inglewood WA

Voxneon

Wollongong NSW

Caligula perform The Human

League Dare

Melbourne VIC

St Brigid's Dinner

Brisbane QLD

Ballarat Irish Assoc BrigidFest

Ceilidh

Ballarat East VIC

Irish Women Unleashed

Celtic Club, Melbourne VIC

Doireann Nic Mhathúna and

friends St Brigid's Day concert

The Gaelic Club, Surry Hills NSW

St Brigid's Mass and get

together, St Brigid's Church,

Crossley VIC

St Bridget's Day Celebrations

Adelaide Irish Club, Adelaide SA

Brittany Down Under at Sub Base

Playtippus in Kirribilli

North Sydney NSW

02 FEB

The Script & Calum Scott

Barossa Valley SA

Dizzee Rascal

Melbourne VIC

Brigid The Rebel - Brigid

cross laying at the Irish 1798

Memorial

Waverley Cemetery NSW

St Brigid's Festival Family Day

Kidogal Arthouse, Fremantle WA

Darling Downs Irish Club St

Brigid's Day lunch, Toowoomba

QLD

Perth WA (Night)

Perth WA

Australian Welsh Male Choir

rehearsal

Frankston Mechanics Hall VIC

03 FEB

Jack & Michael Whitehall Live

Melbourne VIC

Damien Rice

Sydney NSW

Set dancing at The Quiet Man

Melbourne VIC

Brigid the Rebel

Bronte Beach NSW

Brigid the Rebel - Book Launch

The Gaelic Club, Sydney NSW

Cairns Irish Association St

Brigid's Day Manunda QLD

St Brigid's Day lunch at Canberra

Irish Club, Canberra ACT

Set Dancing at The Quiet Man

Melbourne VIC

04 FEB

Damien Rice

Newcastle NSW

Panti Bliss

Melbourne VIC

Australian Celtic Women St Brigid's

Day Celebration

The BUG, New Farm Bowls Club,

© [www.angloandceltic.com](http://www.angloandceltic.com)

New Farm QLD. Tickets: \$10 at door.

Porter Robinson

Brisbane QLD

Jack & Michael Whitehall Live

Melbourne VIC

Dizzee Rascal

Sydney NSW

Brigid The Rebel - Fashion Show

Bondi Pavilion NSW

Brigid The Rebel - Prankquean

Concert

Bondi Pavilion NSW

Australian Celtic Women St

Brigid's Day Celebration

New Farm Bowls Club QLD

05 FEB

The Script & Calum Scott

Perth WA

Jack & Michael Whitehall Live

Adelaide SA

Panti Bliss

Melbourne VIC

Dizzee Rascal

Adelaide SA

06 FEB

Troy Hawke

Melbourne VIC

British Chamber Summer Drinks

Melbourne VIC, Perth WA & Sydney

NSW

Bryan Adams

Melbourne VIC

Damien Rice

Brisbane QLD

Porter Robinson

Melbourne VIC

Panti Bliss

Melbourne VIC

07 FEB

Bruce Fummey

Melbourne VIC

Jersey Guys

Melbourne VIC

Troy Hawke

Melbourne VIC

Bryan Adams

Adelaide SA

Jack & Michael Whitehall Live

Gold Coast QLD

Caligula perform The Human

League Dare

Brisbane QLD

Porter Robinson

Sydney NSW

The Kooks

Launceston TAS

Panti Bliss

Melbourne VIC

Dizzee Rascal

Brisbane QLD

Jimeoin

Wonthaggi VIC

Malachy O'Reilly

Adelaide Irish Club, Adelaide SA

08 FEB

Bruce Fummey

Melbourne VIC

Jersey Guys

Melbourne VIC

Troy Hawke

Sydney NSW

Jack & Michael Whitehall Live

Brisbane QLD

Panti Bliss

Melbourne VIC

Dizzee Rascal

Sydney NSW

Queensland Irish Association

Season of Brigid screening - Wave

Goodbye to Dinosaurs

Indooroopilly QLD

The U2 Show Achtung Baby -THE

DESIRE TOUR - U2's Greatest Hits

Bairnsdale VIC

Traditional Celtic & Irish Folk

Session at Cardigan Bar

Brisbane QLD

Jimeoin

Traralgon VIC

09 FEB

Bryan Adams

Perth WA

Panti Bliss

Melbourne VIC

Dizzee Rascal

Byron Bay NSW

BrigidFest - Feile Bride 2025

Melbourne VIC

10 FEB

Jack & Michael Whitehall Live

Perth WA

# GIGS & REELS

English Scottish Irish Welsh Celtic Other events



## FRINGEWORLD FESTIVAL

Perth WA

Acts include 100% Scottish Comedy, 2 Englishmen And An Aussie, 3 Funny Foreigners, Full Blown Irish, Bravehearts of Scottish Comedy, The Jarrah Celts (pictured), and Amarach.

TO 16 FEB

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11 FEB

Troy Hawke  
Brisbane QLD  
Jack & Michael Whitehall Live  
Perth WA  
Panti Bliss  
Brunswick VIC  
Set dancing at the Celtic Club  
Melbourne VIC

12 FEB

Jersey Guys  
Adelaide SA  
Troy Hawke  
Brisbane QLD  
Bryan Adams  
Sydney NSW  
Panti Bliss  
Brunswick VIC

13 FEB

OMD  
Perth WA  
The Smyths  
Fremantle WA  
The Prodigy  
Sydney NSW  
Troy Hawke  
Adelaide SA  
Rudim3ntal  
Perth WA  
Bryan Adams  
Brisbane QLD

14 FEB

Bruce Fummey  
Perth TAS  
Jersey Guys  
Hornsby NSW  
The Smyths  
Perth WA  
Troy Hawke  
Perth WA  
Rudim3ntal  
Adelaide SA

15 FEB

Bruce Fummey  
Hobart TAS  
OMD  
Sydney NSW  
Jersey Guys

Campbelltown NSW

The Smyths  
Adelaide SA  
Troy Hawke  
Perth WA  
Bryan Adams  
Melbourne VIC  
Rudim3ntal  
Melbourne VIC  
Black Vinyl - UK tribute band  
Woodvale WA  
Bush Dance  
Adelaide Irish Club, Adelaide SA

16 FEB

OMD  
Sydney NSW  
Jersey Guys  
Sydney NSW  
The Prodigy  
Brisbane QLD  
Concert on the Hill, St Brigid's  
Church, Crossley VIC

18 FEB

OMD  
Adelaide SA  
The Prodigy  
Melbourne VIC  
Rudim3ntal  
Brisbane QLD  
CASA (Cornish Assoc. of South  
Australia) meeting  
Unley SA

19 FEB

Jersey Guys  
Wyong NSW  
The Primitives  
Brisbane QLD  
The Corrs  
Brisbane QLD  
Rudim3ntal  
Sydney NSW

20 FEB

OMD  
Melbourne VIC  
The Smyths  
Brisbane QLD  
The Primitives  
Melbourne VIC

The Kooks

Sydney NSW  
The Corrs  
Sydney NSW

21 FEB

Bruce Fummey  
Canberra ACT  
OMD  
Melbourne VIC  
Jersey Guys  
Kingsford NSW  
The Smyths  
Melbourne VIC  
The Primitives  
Sydney NSW  
Voxneon  
Sunshine Coast QLD

22 FEB

Bruce Fummey  
Sydney NSW  
Jersey Guys  
Brisbane QLD  
The Smyths  
Sydney NSW  
The Corrs  
Yarra Valley VIC  
Mercure Canberra's Celtic Court-  
yard Concert  
Canberra ACT  
Claire's Mardi Gras Cabaret Season  
presents Mary Kiani  
Surry Hills NSW  
The Miena Seisiún  
Miena TAS  
Voxneon  
Redlands QLD

23 FEB

OMD  
Brisbane QLD  
Jersey Guys  
Tweed Heads NSW  
The Primitives  
Adelaide SA  
Queensland Manx Society Picnic  
Scarborough QLD  
Celtic Sunset Session at Chelsea  
Yacht Club  
Chelsea VIC

25 FEB

The Primitives  
Perth WA  
Panti Bliss  
Sydney NSW

26 FEB

Panti Bliss  
Sydney NSW  
British Chamber End of Summer  
Drinks  
Brisbane QLD

27 FEB

Bruce Fummey  
Brisbane QLD  
The Kooks  
Melbourne VIC  
Groove Armada (DJ set)  
Perth WA  
Jimeoin  
Malvern VIC

28 FEB

Seventh Wonder (Fleetwood Mac  
tribute)  
Launceston TAS  
Cobargo Folk Festival (to 2 MAR)  
Cobargo NSW  
Nannup Music Festival (to 2 MAR)  
Nannup WA  
Voxneon  
Melbourne VIC  
Australian Historical Dance -  
Regency Dance six-week course  
begins  
Samford Village QLD  
The Songs of Elton John and  
George Michael  
Frankston VIC  
British Chamber International  
Women's Day business breakfast  
Perth WA  
Darling Downs Irish Club Monthly  
Members Night  
Toowoomba QLD  
Science in Pub  
Adelaide Irish Club, Adelaide SA  
Claymore  
Sandgate QLD

## OMD

12 FEB Red Hill WA  
15 FEB Sydney NSW  
16 FEB Sydney NSW  
18 FEB Adelaide SA  
20 FEB St Kilda VIC  
21 FEB St Kilda VIC  
23 FEB Brisbane QLD



## THE CORRS

19 FEB Brisbane QLD  
20 FEB Sydney NSW  
22 FEB Yarra Vly VIC



## THE PRODIGY

13 FEB Sydney NSW  
14 FEB Sydney NSW  
16 FEB Brisbane QLD  
18 FEB Melbourne VIC



## THE KOOKS

07 FEB Launceston TAS  
20 FEB Sydney NSW  
27 FEB Melbourne VIC  
01 MAR Brisbane QLD  
02 MAR Wollongong NSW  
04 MAR Adelaide SA  
06 MAR Perth WA



## DAMIEN RICE

01 FEB Thirroul NSW  
03 FEB Sydney NSW  
04 FEB Newcastle NSW  
06 FEB Brisbane QLD



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# GIGS & REELS

UPCOMING TOURS - CLICK ON PICS FOR DETAILS



THE MURDER CAPITAL



THE HIGH KINGS



GAVIN JAMES



GILBERT O'SULLIVAN



FEEDER



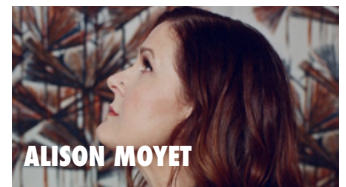
THE STRANGLERS



OASIS



THE LONGEST JOHNS



ALISON MOYET



ROB BECKETT



ROISIN MURPHY



BOYZLIFE



SOFT CELL

## MARCH

22 MAR  
Australian Celtic Women Spellbound concert at Sandgate Town Hall, Sandgate QLD. [Tickets](#)

23 MAR  
Australian Celtic Women - Viva La Musica at Moggill Home, 157 Livesay Rd, Moggill QLD. Tickets available soon, go to [www.celticwomen.com.au](http://www.celticwomen.com.au)

Tours:  
The Songs of Elton John and George Michael  
Sarah Millican  
PJ Harvey  
Graham Norton  
Max Fosh  
Kneecap  
The Tumbling Paddies  
Fatboy Slim  
New Order  
Ben Elton  
Bob Geldof  
3 Bucks Left  
The Kooks  
Roisin Murphy  
Danny Bhoy  
Kasabian  
'80s Mania  
Bess Atwell  
Groove Armada (DJ set)  
Gary Óg  
Jimeoin  
Melbourne Celtic Festival on tour

Festivals:  
St David's Day  
Melbourne Highland Games & Celtic Festival VIC  
Melbourne Celtic Festival VIC  
St Piran's Day  
Saint Patrick's Day  
Brisbane Irish Festival  
Misneach, Sydney NSW  
St Kilda Irish Festival VIC  
St Patrick's Festival WA  
Melbourne Irish Festival VIC  
Darling Downs Irish Club St Patrick's Day Parade QLD  
Sydney St Patrick's Day Parade & Festival NSW  
Westbury St Patrick's Festival TAS  
Port Fairy Folk Festival VIC

## APRIL

Tours:  
Blindboy Podcast  
Bob Geldof  
Boyzlife  
The Murder Capital  
Bad Manners  
Ministry of Sound  
The Songs of Elton John and George Michael  
Soft Cell  
The Black Charade  
Ben Elton  
Feeder  
Gavin James  
Gilbert O'Sullivan  
Pat & Faye Shortt

Sex Pistols feat. Frank Carter  
Jimeoin  
Danny Bhoy  
Dairi Farrell  
In Conversation With Jameela Jamil

Festivals:  
CresFest VIC  
Bundanoon Highland Gathering NSW  
The Hayland Gathering NSW  
Rowany Festival NSW  
120th Maclean Highland Gathering NSW  
Koroit Irish Festival VIC  
National Folk Festival ACT  
2025 Fantasy Medieval Fair SA

## MAY

Tours:  
Chris de Burgh  
Gilbert O'Sullivan  
Myles Smith  
The Blow Monkeys  
The Longest Johns  
Roachford  
Letz Zep  
Alison Moyet  
The Songs of Elton John and George Michael

Festivals:  
Australian Celtic Festival NSW  
Copper Coast Cornish Festival SA  
Berry Celtic Festival NSW  
Bonnie Wingham Scottish Festival NSW



GRAHAM NORTON



TORVILL & DEAN



SARAH MILLICAN



ROACHFORD



TOCC



NEW ORDER



FATBOY SLIM



BLINDBOY



LED ZEPPELIN APPROVED TRIBUTE BAND  
**LETZ ZEP**  
Perform the Very Best of  
**LED ZEPPELIN**

# Introducing Carter the unstoppable Sex Pistol

## TOUR DATES

02 APR Auckland NZ  
03 APR Christchurch NZ  
05 APR Melbourne VIC  
06 APR Adelaide SA  
08 APR Sydney NSW  
09 APR Brisbane QLD  
11 APR Fremantle WA

In August 2024, Frank Carter joined Paul Cook, Steve Jones, and Glen Matlock of Sex Pistols for one of the most surprising and adored music events of the year. Members of perhaps the most influential punk rock band of all time, plus life-long fan and modern-day punk icon Carter, performed the Sex Pistols' iconic 1977 album *Never Mind The Bollocks* in full.

Teaming up to play three nights of fundraising for West London's iconic Bush Hall, the foursome stunned fans and critics alike, creating a sonic onslaught and mayhem reminiscent of 1976. Carter fitted like a glove, perfectly recreating the songs that changed the world, while resolutely remaining himself.

In exciting news for Australian and New Zealand fans, nearly 30 years since they were last on these shores, Sex Pistols featuring Frank



Carter have announced an exclusive run of shows, playing *Never Mind The Bollocks* in its entirety.

Sex Pistols (Paul Cook, Steve Jones, Glen Matlock) featuring Frank Carter -

Australia and New Zealand tour commences on April 2nd, 2025 at Auckland Town Hall, the tour then heads to Christchurch and across to Melbourne, Adelaide, Sydney, Brisbane, and concluding

at Fremantle Prison on April 11th.

General public tickets are now on sale. For tour and ticket information, visit [livenation.com.au](http://livenation.com.au) and [livenation.co.nz](http://livenation.co.nz).

## Waltz your way to a Bridgerton ball

Australian Historical Dance is running a six-week course – an Introduction to Regency Dance. Whether you're inspired by Miss Bennet and Mr Darcy from Jane Austen's *Pride & Prejudice*, or Simon and Daphne from *Bridgerton*, they offer you the chance to learn authentic dances of the period.

They will cover all the basic steps and movements to ensure you'll be confident in

any Regency ballroom! Their repertoire encompasses the dances from Jane Austen's lifetime, as well as dances made popular in recent TV/film productions.

The classes are for all levels of ability and age is no restriction, however, Regency dancing is a lively form of dance, so be prepared for an energetic evening. Most of the dances are in groups, unlike modern ballroom dancing,

so you don't need to come with a partner. Come by yourself, with a friend, partner, or group. You do not need a costume, however, it is advisable to wear comfortable clothing and low/flat comfortable shoes. There's the option to dress up on the final night, and later in the year for their annual Jane Austen Ball.

Live music by Phillip's Dog and cheerful, friendly

## DATES & DEETS

28 FEB, 07 MAR, 14 MAR,  
21 MAR, 28 MAR, 04 APR.

Samford Farmers Hall,  
Samford Village QLD

[TICKETS](#)

tuition. Cost is only \$24 (\$4 a session). Friday evenings 7.30pm to 9.30pm and time for tea and cake.



# Australian Celtic Women to leave you Spellbound

Australian Celtic Women are back this year with more gigs throughout Queensland and beyond, including shows at the Australian Celtic Festival, Stanthorpe Civic Centre, Ipswich Civic Centre, Brisbane Town Hall, Wamuran Hall and Redcliffe Entertainment Centre.

The ladies will start their busy schedule by performing a couple of local Brisbane shows starting at the famous BuG (Brisbane's best folk secret) at New Farm Bowls Club on Tuesday, 4th February. They will be promoting women in music and celebrating St Brigid's Day (albeit a few days late). This is your opportunity to learn about Ireland's female patron Saint and listen to songs primarily from Ireland to celebrate both Saint Brigid's Day and the upcoming Saint Patrick's Day.

Then, on Saturday, March

22nd, be mesmerised by their full two-hour Spellbound show at Sandgate Town Hall. The show will feature new songs as well as a few favourites to sing and dance along with.

Tickets available through TryBooking - <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1327295>.

If you haven't seen Australian Celtic Women, then you're in for a treat. Australian Celtic Women brings together an all-female seven-piece musical ensemble, made up of award-winning musicians and singers, who all share a love of Celtic music from around the world. Their concerts will transport you back to your Celtic roots.

Stunning visual effects, angelic voices, costumes, and choreography combined with the richness of Celtic instruments – fiddles, harp, bagpipes, bodhrans, tin whistle,

cello, drums and keyboards - provides an unforgettable performance full of warmth, memories, exhilaration and leaves the audience crying out for more.

In addition, the Spellbound show features special guests. There will be afternoon tea available for purchase made by the lovely local Sandgate Country Women's Association. This is in-keeping with the band's philosophy of women supporting women.

The following day, on Sunday 23rd March, they are performing a relaxed picnic-style show at Moggill Home, 157 Livesay Road, Moggill. This is a celebration of Viva La Musica, who have been performing and producing a variety of shows for over 30 years. Tickets and details coming soon.

Other upcoming gigs include two performances at Australian Celtic Festival in

## TOUR DATES

04 FEB The BUG, New Farm Bowls Club, New Farm QLD. Tickets: \$10 at door.

22 MAR Spellbound concert at Sandgate Town Hall, Sandgate QLD. [Tickets](#)

23 MAR Viva La Musica at Moggill Home, 157 Livesay Rd, Moggill QLD. Tickets available soon, go to [www.celticwomen.com.au](http://www.celticwomen.com.au)

Glen Innes on May 1st and 3rd, as well as Ipswich Civic Centre on May 17th. Check out their website for tickets and more upcoming gigs at [www.celticwomen.com.au](http://www.celticwomen.com.au).

• We are running a competition on our [Facebook](#) page to win two tickets to see Australian Celtic Women in Sandgate on 22nd March.

# Don't be a Hermit, come dance to Sixties' hits!

One of the best-selling bands in the history of the British Invasion, Herman's Hermits are touring Australia in August 2025, bringing their timeless hits and infectious energy to fans Down Under.

With a career spanning over six decades, Herman's Hermits were a defining force of the 1960s pop scene. Led by the charismatic Peter Noone during their early years, the band became synonymous with feel-good, catchy tunes that resonated across the globe. They hit the American pop charts 22 times, with songs that have become anthems to rock'n'roll fans everywhere. Classics like Mrs. Brown, You've Got a Lovely Daughter, No Milk Today, There's a Kind of Hush, and I'm Into Something Good remain as beloved today as when they first hit the airwaves.

Herman's Hermits have sold over 60 million records worldwide, earning multiple gold records along the way. Their unique ability to blend playful storytelling with



upbeat melodies earned them a special place in the British Invasion alongside iconic bands like The Beatles and The Rolling Stones.

Today, Herman's Hermits continue to tour the world, led by original member Barry Whitwam on drums. Their energetic live show delivers

the unmistakable sound of the '60s and '70s at its peak, keeping the spirit of the era alive for audiences of all ages. Whether you're a lifelong fan or discovering their music for the first time, this is a chance to experience the magic of Herman's Hermits live on stage. Don't miss this

## TOUR DATES

25 JUL Launceston TAS  
 26 JUL Hobart TAS  
 06 AUG Caloundra QLD  
 08 AUG Lismore NSW  
 09 AUG Twin Towns NSW  
 10 AUG Kedron-Wavell QLD  
 12 AUG Taree NSW  
 14 AUG Wyong NSW  
 15 AUG Shoalhaven NSW  
 16 AUG Penrith NSW  
 17 AUG The Juniors NSW  
 21 AUG Canberra ACT  
 22 AUG Katoomba NSW  
 23 AUG Cammeray NSW  
 24 AUG Ettalong NSW  
 26 AUG Perth WA  
 30 AUG Liverpool NSW  
 31 AUG Bankstown NSW  
 02 SEP Bendigo VIC  
 05 SEP Albury NSW  
 06 SEP Melbourne VIC  
 07 SEP Melbourne VIC

unforgettable celebration of one of the most cherished bands of the British Invasion!

Tickets from [Abstract Touring](#).

## Gary Óg bringing full band for St Patrick's tour

Gary Óg, the legendary Celtic rebel singer from Glasgow, is returning to Australia and New Zealand in March 2025, just in time for the St Patrick's Day festivities!

This time, he's bringing a full band to deliver an unforgettable experience that will have you singing and dancing all night long.

The shows are going to be recorded on this tour, and released as a full band live album later in the year!

For three decades, Gary Óg has captivated audiences worldwide with his powerful vocals and passionate performances. His unique blend of traditional Irish folk and rock has made him a much beloved

## TOUR DATES

07 MAR Auckland NZ  
 08 MAR Sydney NSW  
 14 MAR Brisbane QLD  
 15 MAR Perth WA

ed singer for so many.

His 2024 tour was a massive success, with sold-out shows across the country. Now, he's back and better than ever, bringing a full band to deliver an unforgettable experience sharing stories, songs, and the spirit of rebellion.

Don't miss this incredible opportunity to celebrate 30 years of Gary Óg in full



band mode around St Patrick's Day.

Grab your tickets now and prepare to be blown away

by the power of song!

Tickets on sale now via [www.troubadourpresents.com](http://www.troubadourpresents.com).

# Everybody Wang Chung as '80s Mania hits Australia

Everybody Wang Chung Tonight! Everybody have fun tonight! The Escape Club is on the way!

Get ready to travel back in time to the unforgettable Eighties as '80s Mania returns to Australia in March 2025. The tour is bringing you five of the biggest acts from the decade that defined pop culture, promising a night of non-stop hits, electronic pop, and pure nostalgia.

Eighties UK pop-rockers The Escape Club, pictured below right, are joining the party, set to electrify Aussie audiences for the very first time with their smash-hit *Wild Wild West*.

Direct from the UK, head-liners Wang Chung, main picture, will rock the stage with their iconic anthems *Everybody Have Fun Tonight* and *Dance Hall Days*. Joining them is Katrina, who will light up the night with *Walking on Sunshine*.

The line-up continues with Scott Carne from *Kids in the Kitchen*, ready to deliver hits like *Change in Mood* and *Current Stand*, and Brian Mannix of *Uncanny X-Men*, set to perform classics like *50 Years* and *Everybody Wants to Work*. Adding to the excitement, Aussie girl-power group *The Chantoozies* will bring their infectious hits *Wanna Be Up* and *He's Gonna Step on You Again*.



## TOUR DATES

20 MAR Hindmarsh SA  
21 MAR Melbourne VIC  
22 MAR Sydney NSW  
23 MAR Thirroul NSW  
29 MAR Brisbane QLD  
30 MAR Tweed Heads NSW

Don't miss this chance to relive the Eighties magic! Get your [tickets](#) and prepare to dance the night away with these legendary performers.



## Twist and shout with The Fab Four



Don't miss the Emmy Award-winning homage to The Beatles... 'The Fab Four - The Ultimate Tribute'

Elevated far above every other Beatles tribute due to their precise attention to detail, their uncanny, note-for-note live renditions of classics such as *Can't Buy Me Love*, *Yesterday*, *A Day In The Life*, *Twist And Shout*, *Here Comes The Sun*, and *Hey Jude*,

will make you think you are watching the real thing.

Their incredible stage performances include three costume changes representing every era of the Beatles ever-changing career, and this loving tribute has amazed audiences in countries around the world, including France, the UK, and Germany.

The Fab Four tickets are now on sale [here](#).

## TOUR DATES

06 MAR Coffs Harbour NSW  
07 MAR Lismore NSW  
08 MAR Tweed Heads NSW  
09 MAR Brisbane QLD  
13 MAR Cammeray NSW  
14 MAR Newtown NSW  
15 MAR Penrith NSW  
16 MAR Liverpool NSW  
20 & 21 MAR Melbourne VIC  
22 MAR Perth WA  
23 MAR Mandurah WA

# D:Ream come true as '90s dance legends come to Oz

Nineties dance music fans - get ready to SNAP! up tickets to your D:Ream night out as you're in store for unforgettable live music, high-energy performances, and iconic hits by a stellar line-up of artists.

Among the headline acts are Belfast legends D:Ream (pictured). Known for their uplifting, feel-good anthems, D:Ream burst onto the global stage in 1993 with the iconic hit *Things Can Only Get Better*. The track not only became a chart-topping success but also became a symbol of positivity and hope. Follow-up hit *U R The Best Thing* further solidified their place in music history, earning them nominations for Best Dance Act at the MTV Europe Music Awards and Best Single at the 1995 BRIT



Awards. D:Ream's infectious energy and uplifting vibe are sure to light up the stage and get the crowd moving.

But that's not all – SNAP!, with original vocalist Penny Ford, will take you back to the dance anthems of the

90s, delivering global hits like *The Power and Rhythm Is A Dancer*.

Also gracing the stage is the powerhouse vocalist CeCe Peniston, known for timeless classics like *Finally* and *Keep On Walkin'*. Her

## TOUR DATES

04 APR Brisbane QLD  
05 APR Perth WA  
10 APR Sydney NSW  
12 APR Melbourne VIC

soulful voice and infectious grooves will bring the ultimate party vibes to the night.

To keep the energy soaring, DJ PDULA is back after an amazing debut in 2024, spinning the ultimate classics to keep the dance floor packed.

It's going to be a night of pure energy and iconic tunes from some of the best in the business. Get your Brisbane Tickets via [Ticketmaster](#), Melbourne, Sydney and Perth tickets via [Ticketek](#).



## St Patrick's Day Concert

2.00pm Saturday 8 March 2025

Doors Open 1.30 pm  
Hills Church Auditorium  
79 Queens Road, Everton Hills

Queensland Irish Choir  
QIA Dancers

QIA Pipe Band (Outside 1.20pm – 1.50pm)

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



Enquiries  
0493 455 487



## Queensland Irish Association since 1898

### St Patrick's Eve Dinner 2025

Brisbane City Hall Main Auditorium

Sunday

16 March 2025

6.00 for 6.45 pm

Join Distinguished Guests, Irish and Queensland representatives to continue a 127 year old tradition of celebrating Irish heritage & culture in Queensland.

\$1,600.00 per table of 10  
(\$160 per person)

Bookings close 5/3/2025

(unless sold out prior)

Booking enquiries to:

[stpatricksevedinner@hotmail.com](mailto:stpatricksevedinner@hotmail.com)

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



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Terms and conditions and Government health directives apply. No Refunds. Please do not attend if you are unwell. You may nominate a replacement to attend in your place.

# Get a taste of Scotland's sharpest wit Bruce Fummey

Bruce Fummey is a Scottish stand-up comedian and after-dinner speaker renowned for his engaging storytelling and humorous insights into Scottish history and culture.

Born and raised in Perth, Scotland, Bruce pursued a degree in physics at Paisley before embarking on a diverse career path. He has worked as a physics teacher, training consultant, and financial adviser. However, his passion for comedy led him to perform stand-up routines, eventually earning the title of Scottish Comedian of the Year in 2014.

In addition to his stand-up career, Bruce is the creator of the popular YouTube channel Scotland History Tours, where he combines his love for history with his comedic flair, offering viewers entertaining and informative content about Scotland's past.

Bruce's unique blend of humour and historical knowledge has garnered him a dedicated following, leading to performances at prestigious events and festivals worldwide. His shows are celebrated for their wit, charm, and ability to make history both accessible and entertaining.

In the coming months, Bruce Fummey will be touring Australia and New Zealand with his new show, *Scotland Made the World*.

The tour includes performances in several cities, offering audiences a chance to experience his distinctive comedic style first-hand.

Anglo&Celtic caught up with Bruce to talk about his life and what audiences can expect from his upcoming tour.

**What inspired you to transition from physics and financial advising to comedy and storytelling?**

"I was 39 years old and



working as a financial adviser. I hated the job and saw 40 approaching. I asked myself: 'What do you really want to work at for the rest of your life?' I've never worked since."

**Your comedy blends humour with history—a unique combination. How did you discover this niche, and why does it resonate with you?**

"My first show at Edinburgh Festival Fringe in 2005 was about physics, because I was a physics teacher. I got a nice review, but the guy said: 'The only question is can he repeat this with a different subject?' Well, what else was I enthusiastic about? The history and culture of the land that I love."

**What's your favourite piece of Scottish history to share with audiences, and why?**

"My favourite piece of Scottish history to share is whatever I'm sharing at the time. So in this tour it's the turning points in world history that people probably don't

realise were as a result of Scotland and its people."

**Do you think Scots have a unique sense of humour? If so, how would you describe it?**

"Everyone has a unique sense of humour. Everything in your live to date impacts what you find funny. When that reservoir we draw on is shared by others is where we laugh together. I think, as such, Scots can be quite self-deprecating about our humour. We don't take ourselves too seriously."

**Scotland Made the World sounds like an ambitious theme. What inspired the show, and what can audiences expect?**

"In 2003, I started with the intention of travelling Australia and New Zealand with my son and doing a few shows along the way. It was more successful than I expected and we added Canada to what became an 18-month tour. This is my second go around and I wanted to do a show that talked about things

## TOUR DATES

01 - 02 FEB Perth WA  
07 - 08 FEB Melbourne VIC  
14 FEB Perth TAS  
15 FEB Hobart TAS  
21 FEB Canberra ACT  
22 FEB Sydney NSW  
27 FEB Brisbane QLD  
02 MAR Auckland NZ  
07 MAR Wellington NZ  
08 MAR Christchurch NZ  
13 - 15 MAR Dunedin NZ  
18 - 23 MAR Adelaide SA

that, whilst *Scottish*, had wider implications across the world."

**You're bringing your new show to Australia and New Zealand. What excites you most about performing here?**

"Visiting my son. The reason I did the last tour was really an excuse for my son. He is an Australian citizen because my wife was born in South Australia. The last show of the tour was in Melbourne, and he stayed and has made his home in Melbourne. So, whilst it's great to be in the sun when it's cold in Scotland and it's great to visit new towns, like Canberra, and do shows where I haven't before, like Sydney and Wellington, the thing that excites me most is seeing my boy."

Among the venues Bruce's tour will take him to are The Brass Monkey Rooftop in Perth, The MC Showroom in Melbourne, the Salamanca Arts Centre's Founder's Room in Hobart, Smith's Alternative in Canberra, The Gaelic Club in Sydney, Good Chat Comedy Club in Brisbane, and The Historian and Hymn in Adelaide.

To purchase tickets, please visit Bruce Fummey's official website at [www.brucefummey.co.uk](http://www.brucefummey.co.uk).

# Melbourne Celtic Festival takes a leap into touring



Coming to a theatre near you - the cream of the crop from the Melbourne Celtic Festival, touring Australia in 2025.

With its unique blend of world-class talent and a warm community vibe, Melbourne Celtic Festival offers

a lively mix of music, dance and craic you won't want to miss.

Join them for an unforgettable production featuring the best of Celtic music with Australian Folk Band of the Year Austral, pictured above,

international sensation, singer, songwriter, and harpist Chloe Matharu direct from Scotland, and traditional Irish trio Bhan Tre.

For a full list of venues and details, visit [www.melbournecelticfestival.com.au](http://www.melbournecelticfestival.com.au).

## TOUR DATES

13 MAR Wollongong NSW  
 15 MAR Coolangatta QLD  
 17 MAR Melbourne VIC  
 19 MAR Shepparton VIC  
 20 MAR Warragul VIC  
 21 MAR Narre Warren VIC 1  
 21 MAR Sale VIC  
 22 MAR Bairnsdale VIC  
 23 MAR Bendigo VIC  
 26 MAR Hamilton VIC  
 27 MAR Casteron VIC  
 28 MAR Warrnambool VIC  
 30 MAR Ringwood VIC

## No shortage of laughs from Irish comedy duo

Knuckle Down shows off the incredible talent of two performers, Pat and Faye Shortt, as they glide seamlessly from stand up to hilarious characterisation of everyday Irish people.

They have the genius of taking everyday ordinary situations and making us laugh at the mundane. Previously described as being indigenously Irish in their approach and observation of characters, their new show Knuckle Down doesn't disappoint.

Characters such as "Michael" (Pat Shortt), the hapless builder (followed weekly on TikTok, X, Insta and Facebook by hundreds of thousands), seems to have the answer to all things that are wrong in the world and shares the advice gifted to him by his late grandmother from Tipperary.

Another outrageous character is the "Mother of the Child" (Faye Shortt) at the school railings waiting to pick up her child, PJ. It's not like

## TOUR DATES

26 APR Brisbane QLD  
 30 APR Melbourne VIC  
 02 MAY Sydney NSW  
 03 MAY Chatswood NSW  
 09 MAY Perth WA

her at all to talk bad about anyone but she just can't help herself, sharing her views on the school principal and her tummy-tucking friend back from Turkey.



The sharp wit and physical comedy genius of this comedic duo will have you in pain with laughter. More information [here](#).

# Port Fairy Folk Festival to feature world of musicians

Celebrate your love of music with artists drawn from around the world at the 48th Port Fairy Folk Festival on the March long weekend.

Among the artists visiting from England, Ireland and Scotland are:

- Bess Atwell (ENG)
- Clare Sands (IRE)
- Dean Owens & The Sinners (SCO)
- John Smith (ENG)
- Lucy Farrell (ENG/CAN) - pictured.
- Katie Spencer (ENG)
- Muireann Bradley (IRE)
- Niamh Bury (IRE)
- SíOMHA (IRE)
- Skerryvore (SCO)
- Talisman (SCO).

From humble beginnings in 1977, Port Fairy Folk Festival has become one of Australia's largest and most-loved festivals. Featuring a multi-venue main arena, free entertainment within the township, exhibitions, community mar-



ket, interactive workshops, forums, themed concerts and showcases, theatre,

film, writers program, roving performances, handmade crafts, great food, and family

## DATES & DEETS

07 - 10 MAR Port Fairy VIC  
TICKETS

friendly entertainment.

The picturesque, historic seaside township of Port Fairy is the place to be during the Victorian Labour Day long weekend in March, as we present the finest Artists from around the World in a four-day celebration of music, community and culture.

Port Fairy is a year-round family-friendly destination, but even more so at festival time!

The 2025 Family and Roving Program features circus acts, workshops, stage shows, a bush dance and more. Children under 12 enjoy the fun for free.

Grab your tickets at [www.portfairyfolkfestival.com](http://www.portfairyfolkfestival.com).

## Bess Atwell bringing English folk brilliance

### TOUR DATES

06 MAR Sydney NSW  
07 MAR WOMAD Adelaide SA  
09 MAR Port Fairy Folk Festival VIC  
10 MAR Port Fairy Folk Festival VIC  
12 MAR Melbourne VIC  
14 MAR Brisbane QLD

Brighton-based folk artist Bess Atwell has today announced some very special Australian tour dates in March 2025. Marking her first time down under, Bess Atwell will perform intimate shows, gracing stages in Sydney, Melbourne, and Brisbane, alongside her appearances at WOMAD and Port Fairy Folk Festival.

Fans will experience favourite tracks from critically acclaimed *Already, Always* as well as material from her most recent album *Light*



*Sleeper*, produced by The National's Aaron Dessner. Released in 2021, Atwell's song *Already, Always* placed her at the forefront of the British folk scene, and now sits at over 28 million streams on Spotify.

Released during lock-down, its themes of longing, connec-

tion and mortality resonated deeply with listeners around the globe.

2024's *Light Sleeper* saw Bess grapple with her recent diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder, allowing for a newfound sense of clarity and opportunity for reflection.

Bess dissects the complex-

ity of the human experience with delicate vocals and unmatched lyrical depth. Her exploration of trauma, mental health issues, relationships, and loneliness makes for a deeply personal and melancholic sound.

Tickets are now on sale from [Destroy All Lines](https://www.destroyalllines.com).

# Music soars and stew pours at Curraweela Irish getaway

## DATES & DEETS

14 - 16 FEB Curraweela NSW  
BOOKINGS

Get ready for a weekend steeped in Irish tradition, music, and camaraderie at the Irish Traditional Music Weekend, running from Friday, February 14th, to Sunday, February 16th.

Hosted at the picturesque Curraweela Farm, this unique event promises a heart-warming celebration of Irish culture amidst the stunning landscapes of the Southern Tablelands in New South Wales. Situated at 6875 Taralga Road, Curraweela, just north of Goulburn and Taralga, the farm offers the perfect blend of rural charm and community spirit.

At the heart of the festivities is "The Studio," a welcoming performance and gathering space that brings musicians and music lovers together. Throughout the weekend, the air will be alive with the sounds of traditional Irish tunes, as informal



sessions unfold in this cosy and intimate setting. Whether you're a seasoned musician, an enthusiastic listener, or someone simply looking for a unique cultural experience, the weekend promises to deliver something special.

Curraweela Farm provides a range of accommodation options. There's ample space for camping under the starry sky, as well as two charming cottages – the Blue Slate

Cottage and the Shearers Cottage – for a more comfortable stay.

Food is as much a part of Irish tradition as music, and the event does not disappoint. Guests can indulge in hearty Irish stews, traditional bacon and cabbage, and generous Irish breakfasts – meals that are sure to satisfy both the stomach and the soul.

The setting itself is a

draw-card, with rolling hills, tranquil surroundings, and the timeless beauty of the countryside providing a serene backdrop to the vibrant music sessions. Whether you're camping or relaxing in one of the cottages, the location invites you to unwind and embrace the slower pace of rural life.

For more information and bookings, visit the event's [Facebook](#) page.

## What a braw hoot for Hogmanay in Tassie!

The Scotsman, Graeme McColgan is celebrating after a magical Tassie New Year's Eve Hogmanay Hootenanny 2024.

Graeme said: "Our event was once again sold out, with over 100 wonderful revelers filling the dance-floor to capacity and even spilling out the door.

"We are delighted to have recreated the community spirit and joy of a Scottish Hogmanay right here in Tassie."

The Glasgow-born musician and dance caller swapped the dreich drizzle of Scotland for the sunny shores of Sydney and hasn't looked back.



Tassie's Hogmanay Hootenanny 2024. Pictures: Garry Hn / [facebook.com/thescotsmanmusic](#).

His upbeat, contemporary style brings new audiences to Scottish and Irish folk classics.

The success of this event, and the one held in 2023, has solidified the Tassie Hog-

manay Hootenanny as an annual tradition, with plans already in place for 2025.

Graeme added: "Our sincere thanks go to Gary Hn for his outstanding work



behind the camera!"

For more information about The Scotsman's upcoming events, go to his Facebook page at [facebook.com/thescotsmanmusic](#).

# Dance, sing, and create at the National Folk Festival

For more than 55 years, the National Folk Festival has been a cornerstone of Australia's folk community, bringing together musicians, dancers, and storytellers to celebrate and share cherished traditions. This event provides a space where folk culture thrives, connecting people through music, dance, and storytelling.

As April approaches, excitement builds for this year's Festival, set to run from the 17th to the 21st.

The Festival kicks off on Thursday with a dynamic Opening Concert featuring the poignant storytelling of David Francey and the captivating sounds of Chris Stout and Catriona McKay. The Welcome Dance promises lively energy, showcasing the Kameruka Bush Orchestra, Super Mande Percussion, and Amaidí.

Friday brings a stellar lineup, including the soaring harmonies of Ruth Moody and the Stiff Gins, and a tribute to James Taylor by John Flanagan. The evening buzzes with activity, from a Scottish



Limestone Morris in action at the 2024 National Folk Festival. Picture: [facebook.com/folkfestival](https://facebook.com/folkfestival)

Céilidh to the glamour of the Bridgerton Ball.

Saturday keeps the momentum going with performances by Josh Pyke, Stuart Joel Nuggett, and Daoirí Farrell. Dance enthusiasts can revel in the Queer Céilí, the Yankadi African Party, or the Trad Rave, making for an unforgettable night.

On Sunday, the spotlight

turns to Irish Mythen and Charlie Needs Braces, among others. The day's highlights include the Masked Heritage Ball, showcasing two centuries of Australian folk music, and the vibrant Latin Fiesta.

The Festival concludes on Monday with performances by The Tuck Shop Ladies and Joel Havea, followed by the

## DATES & DEETS

17 - 21 APR Canberra ACT  
TICKETS

lively Contra Dance with the National Contra Band. The grand finale, the Festival Parade, is a celebration of the creativity and spirit that define this beloved event.

## Dan McCabe brings Back to Life on tour

Singer-songwriter Dan McCabe (Kildare, Ireland) has captivated audiences worldwide with his soulful music. Honoured by the President of Ireland and celebrated by Irish sports icons, McCabe's music has become a symbol of Irish heritage and spirit. His previous tours across Ireland have filled iconic venues like Vicar Street and the Olympia Theatre.

In 2024, Dan performed his first-ever Australian shows, many of which were sold-out to captivated audiences.

So get ready, Australia! Dan McCabe is returning in May 2025 to play bigger venues and celebrate his

### TOUR DATES

09 MAY Brisbane QLD  
10 MAY Sydney NSW  
16 MAY Perth WA  
17 MAY Melbourne VIC

brand-new album, *Back to Life*. This time, he's bringing his most powerful performances yet.

Dan said: "Myself and my band will be making the journey down under in May to do bring some songs home to Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne and Perth. Can't wait to see you all! Grá Mór."

[Tickets](#) on sale now.



# NOTICES & LISTINGS

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

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## Business listings

### CULTURAL CLUBS

#### Queensland Irish Association

07 3067 3064

enquiries@queenslandirish.com

PO Box 12745, George St, QLD 4003

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

#### The Australian Irish Heritage Association WA

PO Box 1583, Subiaco, WA 6904.

[www.irishheritage.com.au](http://www.irishheritage.com.au)

#### Celtic Council of Australia Queensland

[www.ccaq.org.au](http://www.ccaq.org.au)

[Instagram.com/ccaq.qld](https://www.instagram.com/ccaq.qld)

[facebook.com/celtic.council.aus.qld](https://www.facebook.com/celtic.council.aus.qld)

### DANCE

#### 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/Geelong, QLD.

+61 7 3355 3369

[www.qfhs.org.au](http://www.qfhs.org.au)

### MUSIC

#### The Scotsman

Glasgow-born musician and dance caller.

Graeme McColgan

0476 565 062

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

@thescotsmanmusic

### ONLINE GROUPS

#### Anglo&Celtic Events

[Facebook Group](https://www.facebook.com)

#### Connecting British and Irish Ex-Pats around Australia

[Facebook Group](https://www.facebook.com)

#### Friends and Supporters of Queensland Irish Association

#### [Facebook Group](https://www.facebook.com)

#### Sydney Raffles Luck of the Irish

[Facebook Group](https://www.facebook.com)

### PUBS

#### Finn McCool's Fortitude Valley

295 Brunswick St, Fortitude Valley QLD 4006

Phone: (07) 3166 2477

[finnmccools.com.au](http://finnmccools.com.au)

#### The Red Lion Tavern

8025 New England Hwy, Glencoe NSW 2365

0409 776 906

[Red Lion Facebook](https://www.facebook.com)

### REAL ESTATE AGENTS

#### Amir Ardat

Real Estate Agent

Belle Property Aspley, QLD

0488 997 581

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### REGISTERED MIGRATION AGENTS

#### Enda O'Callaghan MARN 1383553

02 8095 6406

Enda@WorkPermitsandVisas.com.au

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[www.facebook.com/WorkStudyTravelVisas](https://www.facebook.com/WorkStudyTravelVisas)

### WEBSITES

#### Irish Queenslander

News and events for the Irish community in Queensland

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

[www.facebook.com/irishqueenslander](https://www.facebook.com/irishqueenslander)

## ANGLO&CELTIC

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- contribute to Celtic Culture in Queensland
- keep up to date with Celtic music, dance, art and language events around the state
- make new connections in the Celtic community
- wear your family tartan or traditional Celtic clothes!

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# Queensland Irish Association

## *The Irish of South Brisbane Cemetery*



Queensland Irish Association  
&  
Friends of South Brisbane Cemetery  
invite you to

## *The Irish of South Brisbane Cemetery* tour

on Sunday, 23rd March 2025 at 10am

*Cash donation (suggested min. \$10) welcome to Friends of South Brisbane Cemetery on the day  
For further information, email [mary@queenslandirish.com.au](mailto:mary@queenslandirish.com.au)*

*This tour will involve one and a half hours of walking/standing.  
Bring comfortable, enclosed shoes and clothing suitable for the weather.  
Meet at 9.45am at the Annerley Road entrance to the cemetery. Parking available in cemetery.*