

ANGLO-CELTIK

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Issue 21

March 2025

Leap into St Pat's!



THE IRELAND FUNDS AUSTRALIA

THE MERCANTILE HOTEL AUSTRALIA

SYDNEY PATRICK'S FESTIVAL 2025

TIME	ACT
10:30-11:30	St Patrick's Day Parade
11:00-4:00	Craft Tent
11:00-6:00	Irish Markets
11:30	CoComelon Meet and Greet
11:45	Smoking Ceremony
12:00-12:15	Kennedy School of Dance
12:00-12:15	Address from our President
12:15-1:00	The Vegetable Plot
12:30-12:45	Spraggaadh Na Rince
1:00	Citizenship Ceremony
1:00-2:00	Adult As Gaeilge Table Quiz
1:00-1:15	Blackbird Academy
1:15-2:45	Kennedy School of Dance
2:00-3:45	Meduna's Wake
2:00-4:30	Cois Academy
2:00-2:15	Pop Up Gaeltacht
2:30-2:45	St Patrick's Day Group Dance - AIDUN
2:45-3:00	Dear Queen Story telling & Performance
2:45-3:30	Dance: Whelan Academy of Irish Dance
3:00-4:30	Visible Women Presentation
3:00-3:15	The Bottlers
3:30-3:45	Lamhan Academy
4:00-4:30	Spraggaadh Na Rince
4:30-5:00	Sydney Irish Cab Drivers
4:45-5:15	Irish

Shamrocks and sunshine as Australia's St Paddy's Party kicks off



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*

*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.*



WELCOME

by editor Mary Allen, editor@angloandceltic.com



Orchestral Man-Machines in the Dark: Beloved English band OMD giving a nod to fellow electro pioneers Kraftwerk in front of a loud and enthusiastic crowd at Fortitude Valley Music Hall last month. It was the band's first gig in Brisbane in 38 years! Picture: Anglo&Celtic

Dig the green out of the wardrobe!

It's that time of year when many in Australia don the green and turn Irish for a day to join in the St Patrick's Day celebrations.

The Irish diaspora is a credit to the small nation, with volunteers across the world working hard year-round to promote their culture.

This St Pat's will be a special one in Brisbane, with the city's iconic City Hall being lit up in green, white and orange on 16 March, organised by Queensland Irish Association. We are pretty sure this is the first time the building has been lit in the Irish colours and can't wait to see it in person. It might even bring a proud tear to Irish eyes.

Our front page picture is from the Sydney Saint Patrick's Day Parade and Festival's [Facebook](#) page. Shout-out to all the volunteers on the festival committee there. It's hard to add even more wow to Sydney Harbour

but somehow, each year, they pull it off with a spectacular festival.

And a big shout-out too to the Irish Australian Heritage Association of WA, who are supporters of this magazine. Thank you so much for the help and encouragement.

Thanks also to Bundanoon Highland Gathering who always share our new editions on social media.

March is dominated by St Patrick's Day but there are so many other events coming up too. Our February edition covered Saint David's Day and Saint Piran's Day events which are also happening at the beginning of this month. You'll find some of those Welsh and Cornish events in our gig guide and on page 4 of this edition.

If you have a story you'd like included, email editor@angloandceltic.com.

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donate, or sponsor us!



Grab the opportunity for your business to be in Anglo&Celtic. Email for our media pack to editor@angloandceltic.com

Having a Function

We can add a whole lot more to your evening

Photo's (60x80cm) printed the same night and returned before the function finishes. We will do PR photos of the event at no extra cost. (subject to numbers) Studio lights if requested will be set up before guests arrive. There is no additional cost beyond the price of the photo's.

This is a great way to have a memory of the evening. Good Times Network Photography Phone 0401450977 www.goodtimesbrisbane.com

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING

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Clans on the Coast 2023



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Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Anglo&Celtic



We are on X as [@Anglo&Celtic](https://twitter.com/Anglo&Celtic)



Visit our sister title at www.irishqueenslander.com

You'll hevva split cake? Cornish party for Piran

Saint Piran's Day on 5 March is a celebration of all things Cornish, honouring Saint Piran, the patron saint of Cornwall, who's said to have discovered tin in the region. Over time, Saint Piran has become a symbol of Cornish pride, especially for those with Cornish roots living around the world, including in Australia. And let's face it, the Cornish know how to throw a party!

In 2025, celebrations will be happening right across the country, from the iconic Saint Piran's Day Flag Lowering at the Australian Standing Stones in Glen Innes, New South Wales, to a delicious Saint Piran's Day lunch hosted by the Cornish Association of South Australia at the Maid of Auckland Hotel in Edwardstown, South Austral-



Delicious Cornish splits were shared at 2024 Saint Piran's Day celebrations in Glen Innes. Credit: [facebook.com/australianstandingstones](https://www.facebook.com/australianstandingstones)

ia. Cornish folks down under will also be gathering in West Ryde, Sydney, on March 8th for a Cornish Association of New South Wales AGM and some jubilee fun.

Of course, no celebration

is complete without food – and if Cornwall is known for one thing, it's its rich baking heritage. From sweet treats like hevva cake to the ever-popular split cake, the food is as much a part of the

ST PIRAN'S DAY EVENTS

05 MAR

St Piran's Day Flag Lowering
Glen Innes NSW
CASA 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

celebration as the festivities themselves. So, whether you're munching on split cake or joining in the festivities, it's the perfect way to honour Cornish heritage and feel that community spirit!



Queensland Irish Association St Patrick's Day Parade 2025



*Join the parade
and walk with us!*

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

Join us
on Saturday, 15th March
from 10am (for 10.30am parade start)
meet us near the front of the parade
at

Brisbane Botanic Gardens, Alice Street, Brisbane CBD



Queensland Irish Association St Patrick's Day Lunch



Queensland Irish Association
invites Members and friends to

St Patrick's Day Lunch

on Monday, 17th March from 12pm
at
West's Rugby Club,
65 Sylvan Road, Toowong

Great food and drinks available to purchase
Irish entertainment
Admission is free

RSVP to Mavis Williams on 3849 8271

Scots can Wynnum all with newest highland gathering

The Bayside suburbs of Brisbane are set to come alive with the sounds of bagpipes, drums, and Scottish celebration as the Wynnum Highland Gathering debuts in style.

On Saturday, 29th March, the Wynnum RSL Pipe Band, in collaboration with Pipe Bands Queensland, will present the first pipe band competition in the area in many years. The event will take place at Wynnum-Manly Juniors Rugby League Football Club and promises a full day of music, culture, and community spirit.

The free event will feature thrilling pipe band performances and competitions, market stalls offering unique goods and crafts, delicious food from local vendors, and a licensed bar.



Following the day's competition, the celebrations will continue into the evening with a lively ceilidh at the Wynnum RSL Club, where a

ceilidh band will get everyone dancing. The bistro will be serving meals, and a full cash bar will be available. Whether you're an expe-

DATES & DEETS

29 MAR
Wynnum QLD
RSVP

rienced dancer or giving it a go for the first time, the ceilidh is a great way to embrace Scottish tradition.

The Wynnum Highland Gathering marks an exciting revival of Scottish culture in the area, offering a day of family-friendly fun and heritage celebration. For more details and event updates, visit [Pipe Bands Queensland](#) or follow the [Wynnum RSL Pipe Band](#) on social media.

Save the date and be part of this spectacular celebration of Scottish music and culture!

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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

Government of Ireland
Emigrant Support Programme

Shenanigans guaranteed at Paddy's Day parades

Get ready to go green, Australia! St Patrick's Day 2025 is just around the corner! Get ready for a tidal wave of Irish spirit, shamrocks, and plenty of fun. Here's our guide to the Saint Patrick's Day parades happening across Australia.

SYDNEY NSW

Sydney's St Patrick's Day Parade and Festival will take place on Sunday, 16 March. The parade begins at 11 am, starting at Hunter and Pitt Streets and making its way through the CBD to Circular Quay. Afterward, a family-friendly festival will unfold in The Rocks. More info: sydneystpatrikssday.com

MELBOURNE VIC

St Patrick's Festival, St Kilda: Scheduled for 15 and 16 March, this event takes place at O'Donnell Gardens. Saturday is a free family day from 10 am to 6 pm, featuring a parade along Acland Street, Irish dancing, and live music. Sunday is a ticketed event from 12 pm to 9 pm, with performances by Irish bands and workshops. More info: melbournestpatrikssday.com.au

St Patrick's Family Fun Day: Hosted by the Melbourne Irish Festival at Edinburgh Gardens in North Fitzroy, this free event offers music, dancing, and family-friendly activities. The fun starts at 12 pm on Sunday, 16 March. More info: melbourneirishfestival.com

BRISBANE QLD

The Brisbane St Patrick's Day Parade will take place on Saturday, 15 March, beginning at 10:30 am. The parade starts and ends at the Brisbane City Botanic Gardens on Alice Street. This year's theme is Molly Malone, the famous Dublin fishmonger. More info: brisbaneirishfestival.com.au



The leprechauns came out of hiding for the Brisbane Saint Patrick's Day parade in 2024. Picture: Anglo&Celtic

CANBERRA ACT

While there is no parade in Canberra, the local Irish Club in Weston has planned a day of Irish celebrations on Monday, 17 March. More info: irishclub.com.au

ADELAIDE SA

Celebrate St Patrick's Week-end from Friday, 14 March to Monday, 17 March at the Adelaide Irish Club. Friday: Free live music and a pint-pulling competition from 5 pm until late. Saturday: A free event from 11 am to 6 pm, featuring a parade, live music by The Shambolics, Irish dancing,

and food.

Monday: Free for members, with Irish dancing, a pipe band, and live music starting at 12 noon. More info: irishclub.org.au

BENDIGO VIC

At the Brougham Arms, Bendigo's only Irish-themed bar, there's a two-day festival on 16 and 17 March. Expect live music from noon until late across two stages, Irish dancing, Irish food and drinks, promos and giveaways, a best-dressed competition, and St Patrick's Parades. Tickets cost \$10. More info: www.broughamarms.com.au

ST PATRICK'S DAY PARADES

15 MAR Melbourne VIC
15 MAR Perth WA
15 MAR Brisbane QLD
15 MAR Adelaide SA
15 MAR Westbury TAS
16 MAR Sydney NSW
16 MAR Toowoomba QLD

PERTH WA

The St Patrick's Festival WA will take place on Saturday, 15 March along Beaufort Street, with the parade starting and finishing at Birdwood Square sports ground. This year brings a new parade route and festival space, with organisers promising a bigger children's zone, more shade, great entertainment, and cold pints. More info: facebook.com/stpatricksfestivalwa

TOOWOOMBA QLD

The Darling Downs Irish Club's St Patrick's Day Parade will take place on Sunday, 16 March, starting at 10:30 am from the Irish Club Hotel. After the parade, enjoy traditional Irish music, dancing, and performances by the Toowoomba Caledonian Pipe Band at the Irish Club Hotel. More info: www.darlingdownsirishclub.org.au

WESTBURY TAS

All are welcome at the Westbury St Patrick's Festival 2025, starting at 10 am on Saturday, 15 March on the Village Green, Westbury. Entry costs \$5 for adults and is free for children. Enjoy a parade, music, dance, food and craft stalls, a maypole, a church and school market, children's activities, vintage tractors, and live performances. More info: facebook.com/Westbury-St-Patricks-Festival

Join in the craic at Saint Patrick's Day festivals

Whether you're after a lively party, a cosy pub session, or a full weekend of Celtic festivities, there's no shortage of ways to celebrate St Patrick's Day across Australia. Here's a look at some of the best places to don your green and join the craic in 2025.

BUNBURY WA

The Bunbury St Patrick's Day Festival promises a vibrant celebration of culture and community from Friday, 15 March to Monday, 17 March. This free event offers a fun-filled weekend for the whole family, featuring live music from an incredible line-up that blends the sounds of Ireland and Australia. Enjoy spirited Irish dance performances that will have you tapping your feet, along with exciting family entertainment. New this year is a captivating magic show, plus a roaming magician who will amaze and delight festival-goers. Immerse yourself in Irish culture with engaging workshops, including traditional Irish dancing and language sessions, as well as a special GAA event hosted by the Bunbury Gaels. More info: www.facebook.com/SouthwestIrish

BENDIGO VIC

The Central Victorian Irish Association presents the Saint Patrick's Day Concert at The Engine Room in Bendigo at 7:30 pm on Monday, 17 March. Among the performers will be director/accompanist John Clancy, soprano Suzanne Houlden, baritone Bryan Milne, Uilleann pipes with Matthew Horsley, Emily Calder on fiddle, Celtic harpist and singer Meryl Wilkinson, and The O'Shea Ryan Academy of Irish Dance. Tickets are now on sale on www.gotix.com.au. More info: [facebook.com/centralvictorianirish](https://www.facebook.com/centralvictorianirish)

MELBOURNE VIC

The Melbourne Celtic Festival is set to take place on Saint Patrick's Day, Monday, 17 March at the Mission to Seafarers in Docklands, promising a full day of music, culture, and celebration. Running from midday until late into the night, the festival will bring together a stellar line-up of traditional and contemporary Celtic performers across three indoor stages. Festival-goers can immerse themselves in culture, with Celtic-inspired food and drink, as well as Irish singing, dancing and performers. More info: www.melbournecelticfestival.com.au

JOONDALUP WA

Celebrate a day for the history books as the city of Joondalup holds its first St Patricks Festival on Sunday, 16 March. The day will feature live music, market stalls, family entertainment, fresh food, traditional beverages and activities for all ages. It's going to be a free family-friendly event designed to bring everyone together in the heart of Joondalup, from near and far. Playing live music on the outdoor stage will be Jonny Reid and The Broken Pokers. The festival will be held at the top of Central Walk and Davidson Avenue. More info: www.facebook.com/profile

[php?id=61573106200010](https://www.facebook.com/misneachfestival)

SYDNEY NSW

Misneach is a new annual global music festival curated by acclaimed Irish singer-songwriter Dermot Kennedy. In 2025, Misneach will take place in two cities with significant Irish communities - Sydney on Sunday, 16 March, and Boston, USA on 18 and 19 March. The Sydney event will be an outdoor festival at The Domain, following the city's official St Patrick's Day parade. The line-up includes Dermot Kennedy, The Frames, Matt Corby, Kneecap, Meg Mac, Amble, Sorcha Richardson, and The Scratch. Tickets and more info: [misneachfestival.com](https://www.misneachfestival.com)

KOROIT VIC

Koroit, renowned as Australia's most Irish town, hosts its annual Koroit Irish Festival to celebrate its rich Irish heritage. The festival is scheduled from 25 to 27 April. It will feature live music performances, cultural displays, and community activities. The town will also come alive on St Patrick's weekend, with the iconic Mickey Bourke's Koroit Hotel being a focal point for festivities. More info: [facebook.com/irishfestivalkoroit](https://www.facebook.com/irishfestivalkoroit)

BRISBANE QLD

Brisbane's Irish festivities run throughout March, with a highlight being Queensland Irish Association's 127th annual St Patrick's Eve Dinner at the spectacular main auditorium in Brisbane City Hall on Sunday, 16 March. The Association will also be hosting a fascinating Irish history tour of South Brisbane Cemetery on Sunday, 23 March. Queensland Irish Choir will hold their annual St Patrick's concert on Saturday, 8 March. More info: [brisbaneirishfestival.com.au](https://www.brisbaneirishfestival.com.au)



Irish wolfhounds with their human at St Patrick's Festival St Kilda in Victoria. Picture: [Facebook / St Patricks Festival St Kilda](https://www.facebook.com/StPatricksFestivalStKilda)

Quick march to bag Celtic Festival tickets

Time to drum up some excitement – tickets for the 2025 Australian Celtic Festival go on sale from Monday, 3 March! Don't be left marching to a different beat – secure yours before they're snared! This is your golden pass to four days of music, culture, and unforgettable experiences from May 1st to 4th at the Australian Standing Stones National Celtic Monument in Glen Innes, New South Wales.

Also available from March 3rd are tickets to special events, including the spectacular C ad M ile F ilte! 100,000 Welcomes Concert at the Glen Innes District Services Club and the ACF Eisteddfod at the Glen Innes Town Hall. That's the same day the full festival program drops, packed with performer line-ups, maps, and exciting fringe events!

This year, the festival shines a spotlight on Brittany, Cornwall, and Wales while celebrating the enduring traditions of Ireland, Scot-



land, and the Isle of Man. Expect a thrilling mix of live performances, competitions, and hands-on cultural experiences. Across three stages, music and dance will set the festival alight, alongside Highland Games and Strongman events, Celtic Backhold Wrestling, jousting, re-enactment villages, and the crowd-favourite Celtic fashion parade.

Brand new for 2025, the

Celtic Cauldron marquee will be a hub of activity all weekend, hosting instrumental and vocal workshops, language classes, storytelling, poetry, food talks, and spontaneous music sessions. Meanwhile, festival-goers can raise a glass at the Boar and Drum bar, sample gin, mead, and whiskey, or explore food trucks and market stalls.

Families won't miss out either – the Celtic Kids

DATES & DEETS

01 - 04 MAY
Glen Innes NSW

www.australiancelticfestival.com

Marquee will bring Arthurian and Celtic mythology to life through magical activities.

Promising a weekend of great craic, this festival is not to be missed!

Make it your goal to join Westside Paddies' party

Get ready for a lively night of Irish music, dancing, and good craic as Westside Paddies & Friends bring the spirit of Ireland to The Gap Football Club, in the Brisbane suburb of The Gap, on Saturday, 8 March. With free entry and a family-friendly atmosphere, it's set to be a night to remember.

The festivities kick off at 5pm with entertainment for the kids, before the evening ramps up at 7pm with music, a mix of crowd favourites and fresh new acts. Expect singing, pipes, and plenty of dancing to keep the energy high. Lucky door prizes will be up for grabs throughout the night, adding to the fun.



Guinness and Kilkenny will be flowing, alongside snacks and hot food available for purchase.

Thanks to the generosity of The Gap Football Club, entry is free. Seating is first-come, first-served, but large groups

(6+) can reserve a table by contacting the organisers.

Want to get involved? Whether you'd like to help organise or take to the stage, the team at Westside Paddies would love to hear from you.

Westside Paddies & Friends

DATES & DEETS

08 MAR
The Gap QLD
[WEBSITE](http://www.westsidepaddies.com)

is a community-led group who love getting together and celebrating the best of Irish culture. While they are primarily based in the west side of Brisbane, they encourage any similar-minded folk to join their group.

The St Patrick's Day Celebrations will take place at The Gap Football Club, Glen Affric Street, The Gap. For more info, contact: westsidepaddies@gmail.com.

Brisbane's premier Irish gala to light up City Hall

Brisbane, prepare to be swept off your feet as the Queensland Irish Association proudly presents the 127th annual St Patrick's Eve Dinner, a night destined to dazzle and delight!

On Sunday, 16 March at 6pm, the grand Main Auditorium of Brisbane City Hall will once again transform into a vibrant tapestry of Irish culture and celebration. While outside, the grand City Hall will be lit up in the green, white and orange colours of the Irish flag.

Following the resounding success of last year's sold-out event, this year's gala promises to be even more spectacular. The esteemed Governor of Queensland has confirmed her attendance, underscoring the event's significance in our community.

Guests will be treated to an enchanting evening filled with traditional Irish music, dance, and camaraderie. Queensland Irish Association Pipe Band will fill the room with sound, and QIA Dancers will amaze you with their world-class dancing skills.

Queensland Irish Association are delighted to announce that author Hugh Lunn will propose the toast to 'Australia Our Nation' at the Dinner.

Hugh Lunn is a journalist and author, best known for his memoirs capturing the essence of post-war Queensland life. Born in Brisbane in 1941, he began his career as a journalist and gained recognition as a war correspondent in Vietnam during the late 1960s.

His book *Vietnam: A Reporter's War* (1985) provides a gripping account of his experiences covering the conflict, offering a first-hand perspective on the realities of war.

Hugh Lunn became widely celebrated for his nostalgic



and humorous memoirs, beginning with *Over the Top with Jim* (1989), a best-selling account of his childhood in suburban Brisbane. Its sequel, *Head Over Heels* (1992), continues his personal story into adulthood. He has also written about Australian language in *Words Fail Me* (2005) and *Lost for Words* (2006), as well as a biography of tennis player Ken Fletcher in *The Great Fletch* (2011). His writing is known for its warmth, wit, and keen observation of Australian life.

Other special guests at QIA's Saint Patrick's Eve Dinner will include the Governor of Queensland, Her Excellency the Honourable Dr Jeannette Young AC PSM, and Minister Steven Minnikin MP representing The Premier of Queensland, the Honourable David Crisafulli MP.

The Toast to 'The Day We Celebrate' will be proposed by Emer Higgins TD, the Minister of State for Public Procurement, Digitalisation and eGovernment in the Irish government.

The cost is \$160 per person. This is good value, for

what will be a great night:

- Five-hour drinks package for beer, Guinness, red and white wine and soft drinks, from 6pm to 11pm.
- A three-course dinner catered by Epicure at Brisbane City Hall.
- Entertainment by the QIA Dancers and the QIA Pipe Band.
- Distinguished Irish and Australian guests, including the Governor of Queensland.
- Community singing of Irish Favourites.

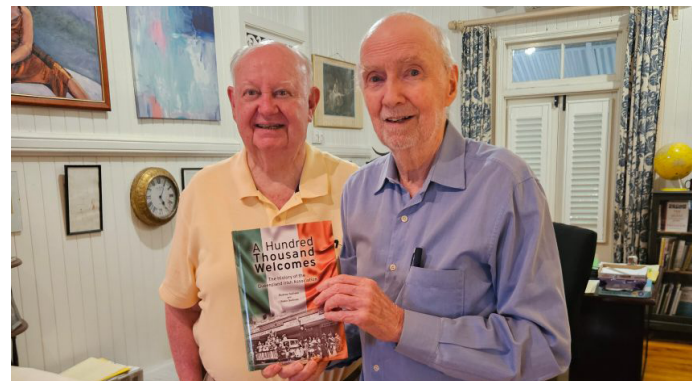
You can download the booking form at [www.queenslandirish.com/news/book-your-spot-for-st-patricks-](http://www.queenslandirish.com/news/book-your-spot-for-st-patricks)

DATES & DEETS

16 MAR
Brisbane QLD
www.queenslandirish.com

[eve-dinner-2025](#). Gather your loved ones and join in an unforgettable night of elegance, entertainment, and Irish charm.

This month, the Association is also holding a Saint Patrick's Day lunch, hosting an Irish history tour of South Brisbane Cemetery and leading out the Brisbane parade with Saint Patrick himself.



QIA President Jeff Spender presenting author Hugh Lunn with a copy of *A Hundred Thousand Welcomes - The History of Queensland Irish Association*.

Koroit ambassador Billy is all that and a bag of chips!

The Koroit Irish Festival is back for another cracking weekend from 25 to 27 April, bringing all the music, dancing, and good times that make it one of Australia's best Irish celebrations. Every year, this little town in Victoria, famous for its strong Irish heritage, turns into a lively hub of craic, and 2025 will be no different!

This year's festival ambassador is local legend Billy Dwyer from Crossley. Billy's family came from County Limerick in the 1850s, and he's been a proud part of the community ever since. He was one of the fastest spud-pickers around, filling over 100 bags a day, and a top-notch footy player, winning best and fairest in the Warrnambool and District League aged just 19. On top of that, he's a Vietnam War veteran, making his role as ambassador even more special, especially with the festival kicking off on Anzac Day.

Among the quirky and unique events are the much-loved spud-picking, peeling, and eating championships, where festival-goers can test their speed and skill with the humble potato in a nod to Koroit's farming past. Those with a sweet voice (or just a lot of enthusiasm) can try



The Koroit Irish Festival has announced Billy Dwyer as its Ambassador in 2025. Picture: koroitirishfestival.com.au

their luck in the Australian Danny Boy Championships, while those with striking emerald eyes might find themselves part of the 'Gathering of Green Eyes' – a fun celebration of a rare trait. There's also the Flaming Folk Parade, where the streets light up with fire displays and music, creating an unforgettable spectacle. Fashion lovers can strut their stuff at the Irish Fashions on the Field

contest, showcasing their best Celtic-inspired attire.

Home-brewers get a chance to shine in the Stout Home Brewing Championship, while bakers put their traditional skills to the test in the Soda Bread Competition. Even the games have an Irish twist, with skittles, table tennis, and cornhole giving people of all ages a chance to join in. It's a festival that embraces all things Irish, with

DATES & DEETS

25 - 27 APR

Koroit VIC

koroitirishfestival.com.au

surprises along the way.

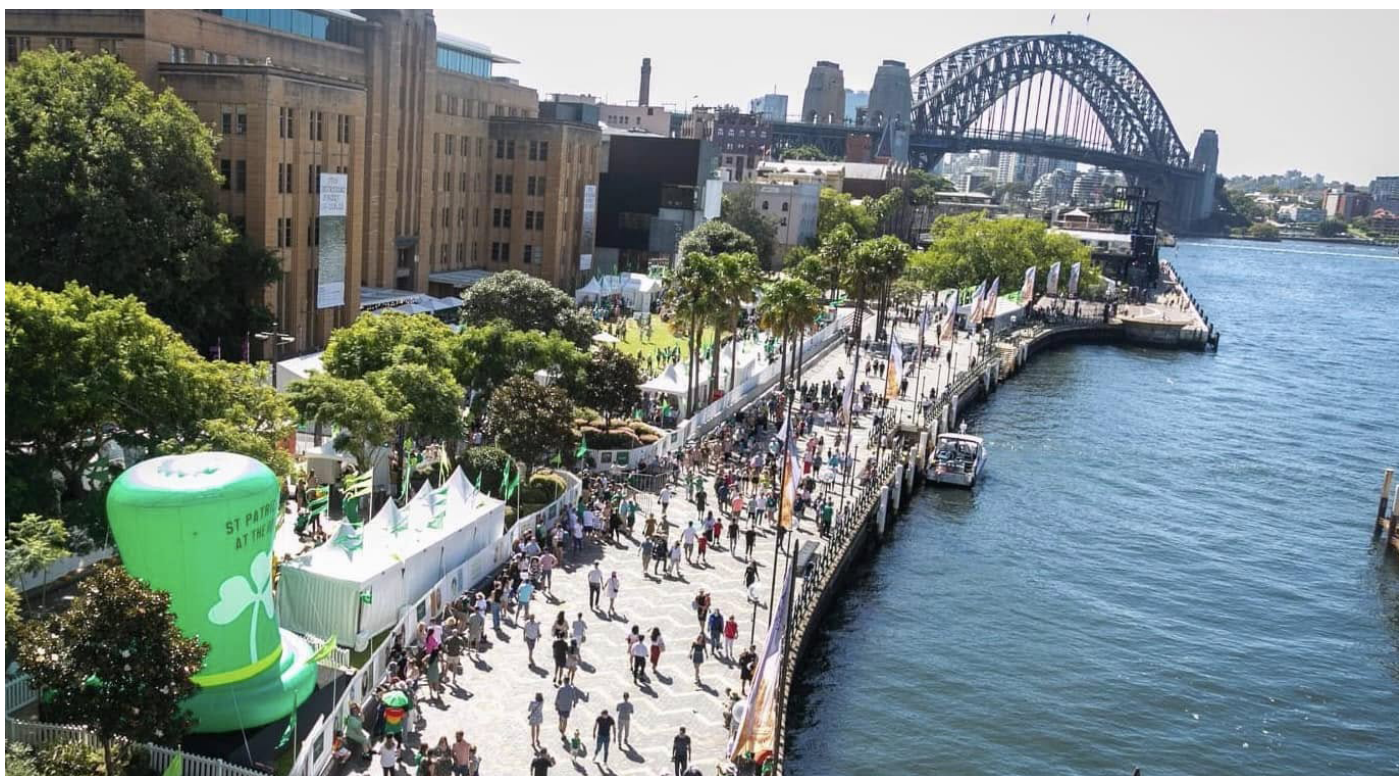
Tickets can be grabbed online on the festival website. With the event getting bigger every year, book your spot at koroitirishfestival.com.au.



**SATURDAY
12TH APRIL
2025**



**HAY OVAL,
NSW**



The Coathanger meets giant hat as Sydney sham-rocks!

Sydney Harbour Bridge has strong Irish connections. During its construction, a significant portion of the workforce was Irish. Fitting then that the iconic bridge, nicknamed The Coathanger, should be the backdrop to Sydney's annual St Patrick's Day celebrations around the harbour and in The Rocks.

Sydney's St Patrick's Day celebrations are again set to dazzle the city from Saturday, 15 March to Monday, 17 March, with a vibrant array of events.

The festivities kick off on Saturday evening with a free live music event at First Fleet Park, starting at 6pm. This gathering will feature performances by local bands, offering a taste of Sydney's musical talent. Attendees can enjoy a variety of genres, from traditional Irish tunes to contemporary hits, all while soaking in the scenic views.

The highlight of the weekend is the St Patrick's Day Parade, commencing at 11am on Sunday, March 16. The procession will begin



This page and front page show Sydney St Patrick's Day parade and celebrations in 2024. Pictures: [facebook.com/SydneyStPatricksDay](https://www.facebook.com/SydneyStPatricksDay)

at Martin Place (Pitt Street) and make its way to Circular Quay, showcasing a kaleidoscope of colour, music, dance, and a host of other surprises. Participants and spectators alike can look forward to marching bands, traditional Irish dancers, and a variety of floats that

celebrate Irish heritage and culture.

Following the parade, the festivities continue with live music and dancing throughout the day at First Fleet Park and the MCA Lawn. Attendees can enjoy performances by local bands, Irish dancing, and traditional Irish music ses-

DATES & DEETS

15 - 17 MAR
Sydney NSW

[sydneystpatricksday.com](https://www.sydneystpatricksday.com)

sions, creating an immersive cultural experience.

For the younger attendees, Bligh and Barney Reserve will host a variety of fun activities, including arts and crafts, Irish dancing, face painting, and opportunities to practice a few words in Irish.

Throughout the weekend, visitors can explore a diverse range of food, local businesses, and craft stalls. Festival markets will offer a variety of tasty treats, gifts, and Sydney St Patrick's Day merchandise, providing a perfect opportunity to find souvenirs and Irish-inspired cuisine.

The festival also offers the chance to have your family name and county be part of the celebration by sponsoring a shamrock. Your shamrock will be displayed at the festival. Prices start at \$25 at the festival website.

Catalpa Festival honours a daring prison escape

The Catalpa Festival, a tribute to one of Australia's most daring prison escapes, will return in March 2025, bringing history to life in Rockingham and Fremantle, Western Australia.

This festival commemorates the 1876 escape and rescue of six Irish Fenian political prisoners from Fremantle Prison, an event that remains one of the most successful prison breaks in history.

The heart of the story lies in the American whaling ship Catalpa, which smuggled the escapees to freedom after a daring operation on Rockingham Beach. The escape evaded British pursuit, weaving together a tale of ingenuity, courage, and international intrigue. The escapees received a heroes' welcome from the Irish community on arrival to America.

This historical event, involving four nations, has grown into an iconic Western Australian celebration thanks to the dedication of the Rockingham community.

The Catalpa Festival, launched in 2023, has expanded each year, and 2025 promises to be its most immersive iteration yet. The festival will act as a dress rehearsal for the grand sesquicentennial celebrations in 2026, marking 150 years since the escape. Visitors in 2025 can expect a packed two-day program of history, music, and community engagement from 28 to 30 March.

On Saturday, the Village Green will host Gaelic football matches, hurling displays, and ongoing family-friendly activities. Food and drink vendors will add to the lively atmosphere, while the evening will feature a free screening of *The Catalpa Rescue* and a performance by the Australian Navy Band at Churchill Park.

Sunday will dive deeper into history, starting with a Fremantle Prison "breakout" breakfast. Cyclists will participate in the Catalpa Cycling Dash to Rockingham, where Rockingham Beach will transform into a living historical display.



Festival takes you back in time



Perfect escape for the weekend



The Fenians escaped to America

DATES & DEETS

29 - 30 MAR
Rockingham WA

facebook.com/thecatalpafestival

Highlights include a live reenactment of the Catalpa Rescue, complete with actors, ships, and cannons, alongside performances of traditional Irish music and dance.

The festival's mission is to raise awareness of this fascinating chapter in colonial history while fostering pride in Rockingham and delivering economic and tourism benefits to the region. Storyboards, historical artifacts, and a staged retelling of the escape will create an authentic, immersive experience for visitors.

Ships like the *Leeuwin* and *Lissa* will represent the Catalpa and its British pursuer, the *Georgette*, tying the history back to its maritime roots.

As the community gears up for 2025, preparations are already underway for the landmark 2026 event.

The sesquicentennial celebrations will involve multi-city events in Rockingham, Fremantle, and Bunbury. These will include partnerships with tourism groups in the USA and Ireland, attracting international visitors keen to experience this dramatic tale of freedom firsthand.

The Catalpa Festival is more than just a tribute to the past; it's a vibrant celebration of culture, resilience, and the enduring ties between nations. With its mix of historical storytelling, community activities, and live performances, the festival promises to captivate attendees and bring a remarkable piece of Western Australian history into the spotlight once more.

Mark your calendars for March 2025 and be part of the adventure that's shaping up to be a cornerstone of Australia's cultural calendar.

Catalpa Festival honours daring prison escape



Catalpa Festival 2024. Pictures: [Facebook.com/thecatalpafestival](https://www.facebook.com/thecatalpafestival)



Clans gather for bonny day out in Bundanoon

The Bundanoon Highland Gathering, affectionately known as Brigadoon, is set to return on 5 April, marking its 44th annual celebration. This cherished event transforms the tranquil village of Bundanoon in the Southern Highlands of New South Wales into a vibrant hub of Scottish culture and tradition.

The day's festivities will commence at 9am with a lively street parade, featuring over 25 pipe bands, clans, and Scottish societies. Following the parade, the official opening ceremony will take place at 10am on the Bundanoon Oval, led by the Chieftain of the Day.

Attendees can look forward to a spectacular massed pipes and drums display. Organisers said: "The sheer pageantry of the display has to be seen to be appreciated; the magic of the occasion leaves one breathless."

Throughout the day, the festival will offer a variety of traditional Scottish activities and entertainment. Highland dancing competitions will captivate audiences with their grace and precision, while the Australian Highland Heavyweight Championships will showcase feats of strength in events such as caber tossing and stone putting. The Bundanoon Stones are



Bundanoon Highland Gathering features massed bands, clan reunions and heavy games, during a day packed with events. Pictures: [Facebook.com/Brigadoon1978](https://www.facebook.com/Brigadoon1978)

always a highlight of the day.

At the Oval, there will be more than 80 specialist stalls selling everything Scottish, from pies and shortbread to clan memorabilia and souvenirs.

For those interested in exploring their Scottish heritage, the Clan Village will provide insights into various clans and their histories.

Children can enjoy the Bonnie Bairns competition, storytelling sessions, and a range of games designed

especially for them.

A diverse selection of food stalls will offer both traditional Scottish fare, including haggis, and international cuisines to satisfy all palates.

The day will culminate in a massed pipes and drums finale at 4pm.

Tickets for Brigadoon 2025 are now available for purchase online. Prices are as follows: Adults \$25, Concession \$20, Children (5 to 17 years) \$10, and Family (two adults and two children) \$60.

DATES & DEETS

05 APR
Bundanoon NSW

www.brigadoon.org.au

Group pricing is also available for groups of 20 to 50 people at \$20 per person.

For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit the official Brigadoon [website](http://www.brigadoon.org.au).

First female drum major to lead the massed bands

The Bundanoon Highland Gathering proudly welcomes its first female Drum Major, Chloe Cusack from Manly Warringah Pipe Band, to lead the Massed Pipes and Drums at Brigadoon.

Chloe's musical journey began in 2002 at age 13, and she eventually became Drum Major of Swan Regiment Drums and Pipes in WA, before moving to Sydney in 2014.

She has performed at major international tattoos, including Edinburgh,

Melbourne, and Basel. Highlights include leading the Sydney ANZAC Day massed pipes and drums.

Known for her passion and humour, she's even played down a Bunnings toilet aisle!

She loves seeing the emotion on people's faces when they hear a tune special to them.

Outside the band, she's a program manager with Transport for NSW and lives in Sydney with her husband and young daughter.



Kernewek Lowender unveils 2025 line-up



The first details of the 2025 Kernewek Lowender have been unveiled, giving festival-goers a taste of what's in store when South Australia's Copper Coast transforms into a Cornish cultural hub from 12 to 18 May. As the world's largest Cornish festival, Kernewek Lowender is a beloved tradition, bringing the historic towns of Moonta, Kadina, and Wallaroo to life with music, dance, food, and heritage events. While the full program won't be released until 3 March, anticipation is already building for what promises to be another unforgettable celebration. More details can be found at www.kernewek.org.

One of the stand-out events is Stret Fer, taking place on Friday, 16 May, in George Street and Queen Square, Moonta. This bustling street fair marks the official opening of the festival and sets the scene for a day filled with traditional Cornish entertainment, market stalls, and, of course, pasties. The Drakes Supermarkets Pasty Bake-Off will see VIPs and special guests racing against the clock to create the perfect



Cornish pasty from scratch – expect plenty of flour, laughter, and good-natured competition!

Adding to the atmosphere, festival-goers will be treated to the Maypole and Furry Dances, two of Cornwall's most cherished traditional performances, accompanied by music that will have spectators tapping their feet. Meanwhile, the Swanky Garden in Queen Square will provide a space to relax and enjoy live entertainment well into the evening, ensuring the festivities don't slow down.

The excitement continues with the Grand Procession, which will weave through

George Street to William Street, finishing in Queen Square. A highlight of the festival, this parade will feature local groups, businesses, and visiting organisations proudly demonstrating their Cornish and local heritage, creating a spectacle of colour, music, and community spirit.

With more events yet to be revealed, Kernewek Lowender 2025 is shaping up to be a must-visit festival for anyone with a love of Cornish culture, history, and a good old-fashioned knees-up. Keep an eye out for the full program when it drops on 3 March – this is one event you won't want to miss!

DATES & DEETS

12 MAY
Cemetery Tour

14 MAY
Cornish Language Lesson

15 MAY
Cornish History Seminar
Art Prize & Exhibition Opens

16 MAY
Stret Fer, Moonta
Drakes Supermarkets Procession,
Moonta
Sup N Sing with the Cornish

17 MAY
Newbery Chemists/Apex Wallaroo Street
Party
Rotary Village Fair, Kadina
Cousin Jack & Jenny Competition
Gathering of the Bards
Heritage Football & Netball Game

18 MAY
RAA Classic Cavalcade of Cars
RAA Fun Fair, Kadina
Blessing the Waters, Wallaroo

MULTI-DAY EVENTS
Dressing the Graves
Art Prize & Exhibition
May Queen

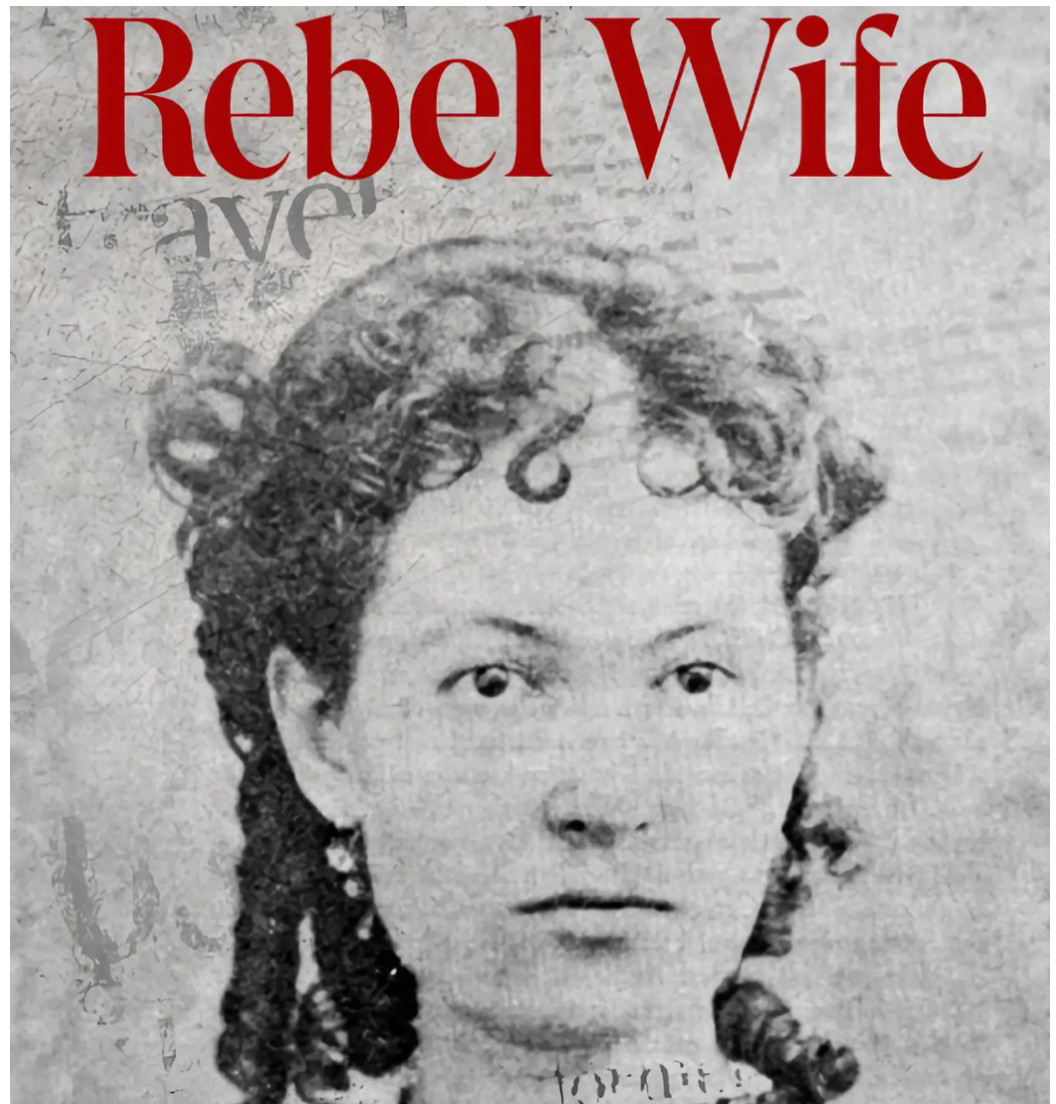
New doc shines light on a forgotten Irish Rebel

A powerful new documentary, *Rebel Wife*, is set to captivate audiences with the remarkable story of Mary Jane O'Donovan Rossa, an often-overlooked figure in Irish revolutionary history. Directed by her great-grandson, Williams Rossa Cole, the film offers a deeply personal and compelling portrait of a woman who played a crucial role in Ireland's struggle for independence.

Following its well-received premiere at the IndieCork Film Festival in December 2023 and a national broadcast on RTÉ One, *Rebel Wife* is now available for worldwide streaming, giving history enthusiasts and supporters of Irish heritage a rare opportunity to engage with this extraordinary story. The virtual screening event, an exclusive chance to see *Rebel Wife* outside of the Republic of Ireland, begins on 8 March, allowing ticket holders a 10-day window to view the film.

Mary Jane O'Donovan Rossa was much more than just the wife of the Fenian leader Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa. She was a force in her own right – an eloquent writer, poet, and public speaker who tirelessly raised funds and awareness for the Irish cause while her husband was imprisoned. Her unwavering commitment helped shape the narrative of Ireland's fight for freedom, yet her contributions have often been overshadowed by those of her male counterparts. *Rebel Wife* seeks to change that.

Director Williams Rossa Cole, a NYC-based great grandson of Fenian Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa and his wife Mary Jane, told *Anglo&Celtic*: "I made the film *Rebel* in 2016 that was broadcast on RTE and is still on Amazon. Last year, I completed *Rebel Wife*, a film



Mary Jane O'Donovan Rossa. Picture: Supplied

about Mary Jane O'Donovan Rossa – a largely unknown story of a woman in Irish history who was pivotal in the road towards Irish freedom. The film is on RTE One but outside of Ireland I am organising a virtual screening event from 8 to 31 March. The film will be available everywhere outside of Ireland in this window. It not only highlights an important woman in Irish history but also outlines many events leading up to the Easter Rising."

In addition to the documentary screening, audiences will have access to exclusive bonus content, including a live

Q&A session on 30 March, featuring director Williams Rossa Cole and historians who will discuss Mary Jane's impact and legacy.

Tickets for the virtual event are priced at US\$15, with proceeds supporting independent film-making and historical storytelling. This screening provides a chance not only to witness the incredible journey of a fearless woman but also to engage with the broader conversation about the role of women in revolutionary movements.

Don't miss this opportunity to experience the untold story of a woman who helped

DATES & DEETS

08 - 31 MAR

Online

[WATCH HERE](https://watch.eventive.org/rebelwife/play/678fb9f-063d83ab6f1b7c85a)

shape Ireland's history. More information and ticket purchases are available via the official event platform at <https://watch.eventive.org/rebelwife/play/678fb9f-063d83ab6f1b7c85a>

We are pleased to offer a 20% DISCOUNT CODE for our readers: V5XZ9NVPE-JL2P2C

Queensland's hidden library gem gets UNESCO spotlight

The Queensland Parliamentary Library's O'Donovan Catalogue Origins Collection has been officially included in the UNESCO Australian Memory of the World Register, recognising its historical significance. The Queensland Irish Association (QIA) strongly supported the nomination, championing the work of Denis O'Donovan, the former Parliamentary Librarian behind the collection.

QIA President Jeffrey Spender expressed pride in backing the application: "The O'Donovan Catalogue Origins Collection beautifully demonstrates the rigour that Mr O'Donovan brought to his appointment, resulting in a world-leading library catalogue."

Born in County Cork, Ireland, in 1836, O'Donovan was a scholar whose work earned recognition across Europe before he moved to Australia in 1867. As Queensland's Parliamentary Librarian, he created a meticulous catalogue, advocating for Irish language works and preserving rare historical documents, including early



O'Donovan Library and, inset, Denis O'Donovan. Credit: Parliament.qld.gov.au

Australian explorers' journals. His efforts ensured the inclusion of Irish history within the library's holdings, with handwritten book suggestions from Queensland parliamentarians, many of Irish descent, including Sir Maurice O'Connell, a relative of Daniel O'Connell.

Madeleine Midgley, former member of the Queensland Parliamentary Library team, shared the news of the successful nomination: "This has been the highlight of my working life, and I am proud of our collective effort to preserve this important piece of history."

The Queensland Parliamentary Library received confirmation in December, with a ceremony for new inscriptions to be held in Canberra on 27 March. The inclusion of the Catalogue Origins Collection ensures O'Donovan's work is preserved for generations to come.

Monte-Corklo as Cónal takes up residence in Monaco

Irish writer Cónal Creedon has been awarded the 2025 Ireland Funds Monaco - Princess Grace Library Bursary. As the library's resident writer, Creedon is working on his next novel and delivering a series of lectures, beginning with *A Sense of Place*, inspired by his book *Spaghetti Bowl*.

The Princess Grace Library honours Grace Kelly, an Oscar-winning actress who became Princess of Monaco. Her legacy in the arts continues through the Princess Grace Foundation and Awards.

Creedon's work, deeply rooted in Cork City, spans novels, plays, documentaries, and spoken-word collabo-

rations. Recognised by the World Cultural Council, his writing explores the universal human experience.

His international career includes presentations at universities and literary festivals worldwide, as well as the prestigious 2024 Beatty Lecture at McGill University. His books have earned awards such as the Eric Hoffer Award and the Gold IP Award, and his plays have won accolades in Shanghai and New York.

In recognition of his contributions to the arts, Creedon has received the Leonardo da Vinci Award, the IBAM Award for Literature, and the Cork Lord Mayor's Culture Award.



Cork writer Cónal Creedon with his book *Spaghetti Bowl*. Picture: Fiona O'Toole / Supplied

Festivals



MELBOURNE HIGHLAND GAMES & CELTIC FESTIVAL

International Heavy Games Championships and Celtic festival

Croydon VIC

23 MAR



MELBOURNE CELTIC FESTIVAL

Skerrymore, Austral, Apolline, Chloe Matharu and a stacked line-up of performers

Melbourne VIC

17 MAR



PORT FAIRY FOLK FESTIVAL

Huge line-up includes Bess Atwell, Clare Sands, Dean Owens & The Sinners, Katie Spencer and more.

Port Fairy VIC

07 - 10 MAR



BRISBANE IRISH FESTIVAL

Highlights include parade and Queensland Irish Association St Patrick's Eve Dinner.

Brisbane QLD

02 - 17 MAR



ST PATRICK'S FESTIVAL, ST KILDA

Two-day festival held annually in celebration of Irish culture. Day one is a free family festival, day two is a ticketed live music event

St Kilda VIC

15 - 16 MAR

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

ANGLO&CELTIC

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

ST PATRICK'S FESTIVAL WA

City of Vincent WA

Vibrant parade on Beaufort Street, lively festival with fun for the whole family at Birdwood Square, toe-tapping Irish music, food, and free kids activities from 10am to 6pm.

15 MAR



Picture: facebook.com/cityofvincent

01 MAR
Seventh Wonder (Fleetwood Mac tribute)
Devonport SA
The Songs of Elton John and George Michael
Geelong VIC
Voxneon
Melbourne VIC
The Kooks
Brisbane QLD
St David's Day 2025 at The Fox & Hounds
Wongawallan QLD
Cymru Gold Coast Wales St David's Day Celebrations
Nerang QLD
Gymnafia Ganu - St David's Day, St Paul's Cathedral
Melbourne VIC
Sydney Welsh Choir St David's Day Concert
West Ryde NSW
St David's Day Flag Lowering Ceremony
Glen Innes NSW
Finnegans Wake
Clifton QLD
Camille O'Sullivan
Perth WA

02 MAR
Sarah Millican
Canberra ACT
3 Bucks Left
Perth WA
The Kooks
Wollongong NSW
Brisbane Irish Festival (to 17 MAR)
Brisbane QLD
Victoria Welsh Choir St David's Day Annual Concert, 2.30pm at Alexander Theatre
Clayton VIC

04 MAR
Sarah Millican
Hobart TAS
PJ Harvey
Perth WA
3 Bucks Left
Melbourne VIC
The Kooks
Adelaide SA
British Chamber International Women's Day business breakfast
Sydney NSW
Camille O'Sullivan
Adelaide SA

05 MAR
New Order
Perth WA
Sarah Millican
Adelaide SA
3 Bucks Left
Brisbane QLD
British Chamber International Women's Day business breakfast
Melbourne VIC

CASA (Cornish Assoc. of South Australia) St Piran's Day lunch
Adelaide SA
Camille O'Sullivan
Adelaide SA

06 MAR
3 Bucks Left
Sydney NSW
The Kooks
Perth WA
British Chamber International Women's Day business breakfast
Brisbane QLD
Bess Atwell
Sydney NSW

07 MAR
Sarah Millican
Melbourne VIC
PJ Harvey
Adelaide SA
The Songs of Elton John and George Michael
Cairns VIC
Roisin Murphy
Melbourne VIC
Bess Atwell
WOMAD Adelaide SA
Camille O'Sullivan
Brisbane QLD

08 MAR
New Order
Melbourne VIC
Sarah Millican
Geelong VIC
Danny Bhoj
Hobart TAS
Cornish Association of New South Wales 50 Years/Jubilee Celebration & AGM & St Piran's Celebration
West Ryde NSW
Seventh Wonder (Fleetwood Mac tribute)
Perth WA

The Songs of Elton John and George Michael
Townsville QLD
Queensland Irish Choir St Patrick's Day Concert
Everton Hills QLD
Redcliffe Scottish Pipe Band Ceilidh
Kippa Ring QLD
Roisin Murphy
Adelaide SA
Gary Og
Sydney NSW
Damien Leith
Dandenong VIC
Groove Armada (DJ set)
Sydney NSW

Tricelctric! at The Great Central Hotel
Glen Innes NSW
Camille O'Sullivan
Brunswick Heads NSW
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Children's art & craft workshop at Irish Language School Sydney
Surry Hills NSW

09 MAR
Graham Norton (2 shows)
Adelaide SA
PJ Harvey
Meredith VIC
Bess Atwell
Port Fairy Folk Festival VIC
Groove Armada (DJ set)
Melbourne VIC
Camille O'Sullivan
Brunswick Heads NSW

10 MAR
Bess Atwell
Port Fairy Folk Festival VIC

11 MAR
New Order
Brisbane QLD
Kasabian
Melbourne VIC
Graham Norton
Perth WA
Roisin Murphy
Brisbane QLD

12 MAR
Max Fosh
Perth WA
Kasabian
Melbourne VIC
Kneecap
Brisbane QLD
Graham Norton
Perth WA
Bess Atwell
Melbourne VIC

13 MAR
Graham Norton
Brisbane QLD
PJ Harvey
Sydney NSW
Ben Elton
Perth WA
Roisin Murphy
Sydney NSW
Irish Outdoor Cinema - In Bruges
The Rocks, Sydney NSW
Melbourne Celtic Festival on tour
Wollongong NSW

14 MAR
New Order
Sydney NSW
Graham Norton
Brisbane QLD
Sarah Millican
Perth WA
Kneecap
Melbourne VIC

The Tumbling Paddies
Brisbane QLD
Irish Australian Chamber of Commerce St Patrick's Day 2025 corporate events
Brisbane QLD, Melbourne VIC, Sydney NSW and Perth WA
Celtic Club / The Ireland Funds Australia
St Patrick's Breakfast at Zinc @ Federation Square
Melbourne VIC
An Evening With Murphy's Pigs
Redlands QLD
Paint the Town Green 2025 at Fitzy's Fibber Maggees
Toowoomba QLD
Seventh Wonder (Fleetwood Mac tribute)
Mandurah WA
Max Fosh
Melbourne VIC
Fatboy Slim
Perth WA
The Songs of Elton John and George Michael
Bendigo VIC
Black Vinyl - UK tribute band
Butler WA
Gary Og
Brisbane QLD
Bess Atwell
Brisbane QLD
Camille O'Sullivan
Sydney NSW

15 MAR
New Order
Sydney NSW
Kasabian
Sydney NSW
Max Fosh
Melbourne VIC
Kneecap
Sydney NSW
St Kilda Irish Festival (to 16 MAR)
St Kilda VIC
The Tumbling Paddies
St Kilda VIC
St Patrick's Festival WA
Perth WA
Brisbane St Patrick's Day Parade
Brisbane QLD
St Patrick's Parade After Party at Finn McCool's
Fortitude Valley QLD
Westbury St Patrick's Festival
Westbury TAS
St Patrick's With The Bloody Marys & Friends
Parap NT
Fatboy Slim
Bowral NSW
PJ Harvey
Brisbane QLD
The Songs of Elton John and George Michael
Ballarat VIC

GIGS & REELS

English Scottish Irish Welsh Celtic Other events



QUEENSLAND IRISH ASSOCIATION SAINT PATRICK'S EVE DINNER

Brisbane QLD

Queensland Irish Association celebrates its 127th St Patrick's Eve Dinner with dignitaries and esteemed guests at the spectacular Main Auditorium of Brisbane City Hall.

16 MAR

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16 MAR
Bob Geldof
 Sydney NSW
Ben Elton
 Melbourne VIC
Voxneon
 Adelaide SA
 Melbourne Celtic Festival on tour
 Coolangatta QLD
Gary Og
 Perth WA
 The U2 Show Achtung Baby - St Patrick's Day Celebrations - U2's Greatest Hits
 Woodend VIC
 PaddyFest with Cadman Cruises
 Sydney Harbour NSW
 Camille O'Sullivan
 Gundaroo NSW
 Celtic! St Patrick's Day Special
 Gold Coast QLD

16 MAR
Kasabian
 Sydney NSW
Graham Norton (2 shows)
 Melbourne VIC
Bob Geldof
 Newcastle NSW
 Misneach
 Sydney NSW
 Darling Downs Irish Club St Patrick's Day Parade
 Toowoomba QLD
 Sydney St Patrick's Day Parade & Festival
 Sydney NSW
 Melbourne Irish Festival
 Fitzroy VIC
 Cliffords
 Sydney NSW
 Camille O'Sullivan
 Melbourne VIC

17 MAR
Sarah Millican
 Newcastle NSW
Kneecap
 Fremantle WA
 The Tumbling Paddies
 Perth WA
 St Patrick's Day at Finn McCool's
 Fortitude Valley QLD
 Streams of Whiskey
 Brunswick VIC
 The Central Victorian Irish Association St Patrick's Day Concert
 Bendigo VIC
 Melbourne Celtic Festival
 Mission to Seafarers, Docklands VIC
 Melbourne Celtic Festival on tour
 Melbourne VIC

18 MAR
Kasabian
 Brisbane QLD
Sarah Millican
 Sydney NSW
Max Fosh
 Brisbane QLD
Ben Elton
 Adelaide SA
80s Mania
 Perth WA
Graham Norton
 Melbourne VIC
Danny Bhoys
 Adelaide SA
 David Fumme (to 23 MAR)
 Adelaide SA
Fatboy Slim
 Sydney NSW

19 MAR
Max Fosh
 Brisbane QLD
Graham Norton
 Sydney NSW
Bob Geldof
 Melbourne VIC
 Damien Leith Performs the Greatest Irish Classics
 Redland QLD
Danny Bhoys
 Adelaide SA
 Melbourne Celtic Festival on tour
 Shepparton VIC
 Cliffords
 Melbourne VIC

20 MAR
Graham Norton
 Sydney NSW
Bob Geldof
 Hobart TAS
Danny Bhoys
 Adelaide SA
80s Mania
 Hindmarsh SA
 Melbourne Celtic Festival on tour
 Warragul VIC

21 MAR
Max Fosh
 Sydney NSW
Fatboy Slim
 Barossa Valley SA
 The Songs of Elton John and George
 Michael
 Adelaide SA
Killer Queen Experience
 Ipswich QLD
Ben Elton
 Sydney NSW
 Danny Bhoys

Adelaide SA
80s Mania
 Melbourne VIC
 Melbourne Celtic Festival on tour
 Narre Warren VIC
 Melbourne Celtic Festival on tour
 Sale VIC
Camille O'Sullivan
 Hobart TAS
Jimeoin
 Wyndham VIC
 Aisling Society St Patrick's Day Dinner
 Comperdown NSW

22 MAR
 Australian Celtic Women Spellbound concert at Sandgate Town Hall, Sandgate QLD. **Tickets**
Graham Norton
 Sydney NSW
Jimeoin
 Dandenong VIC
Fatboy Slim
 Geelong VIC
 The Songs of Elton John and George
 Michael
 Barossa SA
Bob Geldof
 Canberra ACT
Danny Bhoys
 Adelaide SA
80s Mania
 Sydney NSW
 Melbourne Celtic Festival on tour
 Bairnsdale VIC
Jimeoin
 Dandenong VIC
 Darling Downs Irish Club March Members Night
 Toowoomba QLD

23 MAR
Sarah Millican
 Brisbane QLD
 Melbourne Highland Games & Celtic Festival
 Croydon VIC
Fatboy Slim
 Mt Cotton QLD
Danny Bhoys
 Adelaide SA
80s Mania
 Dee Why NSW
 Free Morris dancing try-out with Marlee Morris
 Nedlands WA
 Melbourne Celtic Festival on tour
 Bendigo VIC
 Queensland Irish Association Irish History tour of South Brisbane Cemetery
 South Brisbane QLD

25 MAR
Bob Geldof
 Adelaide SA
Danny Bhoys
 Perth WA

26 MAR
Ben Elton
 Canberra ACT
Danny Bhoys
 Perth WA
 British Chamber Budget Breakfast
 Parliament of NSW, Sydney NSW
 Melbourne Celtic Festival on tour
 Hamilton VIC

27 MAR
 Melbourne Celtic Festival on tour
 Casteron VIC

28 MAR
 Seventh Wonder (Fleetwood Mac tribute)
 Harsham VIC
Ben Elton
 Thirroul NSW
Voxneon
 Chatswood NSW
 Melbourne Celtic Festival on tour
 Warrnambool VIC
Jimeoin
 Moonee Ponds VIC

29 MAR
 Seventh Wonder (Fleetwood Mac tribute)
 Mildura VIC
 Canberra ACT
Ben Elton
 Newcastle NSW
80s Mania
 Brisbane QLD
Voxneon
 Belmore NSW
 The U2 Show Achtung Baby - THE DESIRE TOUR - U2's Greatest Hits
 St Kilda VIC
Jimeoin
 Ringwood VIC
 Wynnum Highland Gathering
 Wynnum QLD

30 MAR
80s Mania
 Tweed Heads NSW
 Melbourne Celtic Festival on tour
 Ringwood VIC
Jimeoin
 Narre Warren VIC

ROISIN MURPHY

07 MAR Melbourne VIC
 08 MAR Adelaide SA
 11 MAR Brisbane QLD
 13 MAR Sydney NSW



NEW ORDER

05 MAR Perth WA
 08 MAR Melbourne VIC
 11 MAR Brisbane QLD
 14 MAR Sydney NSW
 15 MAR Sydney NSW



FATBOY SLIM

14 MAR Perth WA
 15 MAR Bowral NSW
 18 MAR Sydney NSW
 21 MAR Barossa SA
 22 MAR Geelong VIC
 23 MAR Mt Cotton QLD



SARAH MILLICAN

02 MAR Canberra ACT
 04 MAR Hobart TAS
 07 MAR Melbourne VIC
 08 MAR Geelong VIC
 09 - 12 MAR Melbourne VIC
 20 MAR Sydney NSW
 23 - 24 MAR Brisbane QLD
 26 MAR Cairns QLD



GRAHAM NORTON

09 MAR Adelaide SA
 10 - 11 MAR Perth WA
 13 - 14 MAR Brisbane QLD
 16 & 18 MAR Melbourne VIC
 19, 20 & 22 MAR Sydney NSW



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GIGS & REELS

UPCOMING TOURS & FESTIVALS



Queensland Irish Association Pipe Band at the Maclean Highland Gathering street parade in 2024. The 120th Maclean Highland Gathering will take place in Maclean, New South Wales, on April 18th and 19th. Picture: facebook.com/lowerdarencescottishassociation

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 Bhoj
Daoiri Farrell
In Conversation With Jameela Jamil
Tom Allen
Ed Gamble

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
Daoiri Farrell
Myles Smith
The Blow Monkeys
The Longest Johns
Roachford
Letz Zep
Alison Moyet
The Songs of Elton John and George Michael
Ed Gamble
Jimeoin
Dan McCabe

Festivals:
Australian Celtic Festival NSW
Copper Coast Cornish Festival SA
Berry Celtic Festival NSW
Bonnie Wingham Scottish Festival NSW
SA Medieval Fair Paracombe SA
Gumeracha Medieval and Rare Trades Festival SA
Southern Samhain Ball QLD
The Great Trentham Spudfest VIC
Victorian Pipe Band Championship
Caledonian Debutante Ball, Warwick QLD
The Australian Welsh Male Choir
MCAA Festival, Adelaide SA

JUNE

Tours:
Alison Moyet
Jimeoin
Inhaler
Supergrass
Foil Arms and Hog
Torvill & Dean

Festivals:
Tasmanian Highlands Gathering
Queensland State Pipe Band Championships
Barossa Winter Flame Festival SA

JULY

Tours:
Jimeoin
Ben Portsmouth This Is Elvis
Absolute Bowie
10cc
Herman's Hermits
EMF

Festivals:
Winterfest Sydney Medieval Fair NSW
Aberdeen Highland Games NSW
Medieval Festival at The Abbey, Caboolture QLD
Mackay Bluewater Fling QLD

AUGUST

Tours:
10cc
EMF
The Mersey Beatles
Antarctic Monkeys
Herman's Hermits

Festivals:

SEPTEMBER

Tours:
Herman's Hermits
The High Kings
Smokie

Festivals:
Belfast International Tattoo

OCTOBER

Tours:
Smokie
Rob Beckett
James Blunt
Oasis

Festivals:
CelticFest Warwick

Camille O'Sullivan sings Loveletter to Irish friends

In Camille O'Sullivan's new show *Loveletter* she pays respects, and love, to dear departed friends Shane McGowan and Sinéad O'Connor. Camille toured many years with The Pogues, both were much loved and missed.

The Irish-French singer, actress, and performer is known for her dramatic and theatrical interpretations of songs. She is especially renowned for her unique renditions of works by artists such as Jacques Brel, Nick Cave, Tom Waits, David Bowie, and Leonard Cohen.

Born in London to an Irish father and a French mother, she was raised in Cork, Ireland. Before pursuing a career in music and theatre, she studied architecture and worked in the field. However, her passion for performance led her to the stage, where she developed a reputation for her emotionally intense and cabaret-style performances.

O'Sullivan has been a regular performer at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe and has toured internationally, captivating audiences with her ability to shift between vulnerability and fiery passion within a single song. Her work blends music, storytelling, and theatre, making her one of Ireland's most distinctive live performers.

She has also acted in films and theatre productions, including appearances in Irish drama series and stage adaptations of Shakespeare. Her performances often evoke comparisons to legendary figures such as Édith Piaf and Marlene Dietrich, thanks to her evocative voice and expressive stage presence.

Chameleon-like on stage, Camille will perform songs and stories about loss, love, joy, light and darkness. Some are hymnal and at other moments she will rock out,



choosing music from some of her favourite writers. Expect a one-off intimate evening accompanied by long-time collaborator and music director Feargal Murray on piano.

"Queen of the Edinburgh Festival" (BBC) and original star of Olivier Award-winning *LaClique*, Camille O'Sullivan enjoys a formidable reputation for her intensely dramatic interpretations of songs. The multi-award-winning

singer has stunned audiences around the world with her five-star sell-out performances, including at the Sydney Opera House, Royal Festival Hall and Royal Albert Hall. She also won the Herald Angel Award for her Royal Shakespeare Company solo performance of *The Rape of Lucrece* at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

Tickets are now on sale from camilleosullivan.com.

TOUR DATES

01 MAR Perth WA
 04 MAR Adelaide SA
 05 MAR Adelaide SA
 07 MAR Brisbane QLD
 08 & 09 MAR Brunswick Heads NSW
 14 MAR Sydney NSW
 15 MAR Gundaroo NSW
 16 MAR Melbourne VIC
 21 MAR Hobart TAS

Cork's Cliffords announce debut Oz headline shows

Heralded by Under The Radar as "Ireland's next great band," electrifying Cork five-piece Cliffords today announce their first-ever Australian headline shows, with two performances in Sydney and Melbourne this March as part of their upcoming Síos Faoi Tour.

Led by the captivating vocals of Iona Lynch, joined by band-mates Daniel Ryan (drums), Harry Menton (guitar), Brisbane-born Locon O'Toole (keys), and Gavin Dawkins (multi-instrumentalist), these special headline shows by Cliffords mark the first time the dynamic Irish group bring their signature blend of love, heartbreak, and cathartic indie pop to fans down under.

The band is already confirmed to perform at Sydney's inaugural MISNEACH Festival, curated by Irish superstar Dermot Kennedy and taking place in The Domain on Sunday, 16 March, the band joining the line-up alongside The Frames, Kneecap, and more. Now, Cliffords will take the stage at two intimate headline shows: Monday, 17 March at The Lansdowne in Sydney, and



Wednesday, 19 March at The Gasometer in Melbourne, showcasing their heartfelt, guitar-driven tales of youth, adolescence, and young adulthood.

Since the self-release of their 2024 breakout EP Strawberry Scented, Cliffords have become an unstoppable force in the Irish indie scene. The EP sparked a fierce bidding war among London record labels and catapulted the band to national success

at home. Packed with themes of love, heartbreak, and self-reflection, Strawberry Scented delivers superb guitar pop anthems like the punchy opener Second Skin and fan-favourite If The Shoe Fits.

The band's success has also crossed the Irish Sea, with Cliffords achieving their first UK sell-out show at London's Seabright Arms in November.

With an electrifying stage presence, heartfelt lyrics, and

TOUR DATES

16 MAR Misneach Festival Sydney NSW
17 MAR Sydney NSW
19 MAR Melbourne VIC

an irresistible sound that has captured hearts across Ireland and the UK, don't miss Cliffords this month.

Tickets are now on sale via www.frontiertouring.com/cliffords.

Inhaler delivers a breath of fresh Irish flair

Inhaler are a bunch of lads writing their own songs, and their own script; being true to their friendship and shared future; telling a story of young love and band lore, both of which feed into the vivid songs on Cuts & Bruises.

Cuts & Bruises is the follow-up to Inhaler's debut album It Won't Always Be Like This which debuted at no.1 in both the UK and Irish Official Charts. Released in July 2021, It Won't Always Be Like This became the fastest-selling debut album on vinyl by any band this centu-

TOUR DATES

03 JUN Perth WA
05 JUN Brisbane QLD
06 JUN Sydney NSW
09 JUN Melbourne VIC

ry and saw Inhaler become the first Irish group to top the album charts with a debut in 13 years.

The sophomore album is the sound of a terrific young guitar band firing on all cylinders and purposefully alchemising the magical



momentum of a staggering breakthrough into an 11-track belter that smartly, confi-

dently builds on everything they've already achieved.

Tickets from Live Nation.

James Blunt is inviting fans Back to Bedlam

After a sold-out national tour in 2024 and fulfilling his promise to return to Australia, James Blunt has confirmed dates for his Back to Bedlam 2025 Australian tour. In October, James Blunt will perform the entirety of his multi-platinum album Back To Bedlam, along with his greatest hits and fan-favourites.

He shared: "New Zealand and Australia... I'm coming to get you! Following last year's incredible tour of Oz, I knew I had to bring my Back To Bedlam 20th Anniversary Tour to you guys Down Under, and this time we're sneaking in New Zealand, and I can't wait to see all of you! I promise to deliver an unforgettable show!"

Released in October 2004, Back to Bedlam marked the debut of singer-songwriter James Blunt. The album includes the globally acclaimed number one singles You're Beautiful and Goodbye My Lover, along with other notable tracks such as High and Wisemen. It achieved sig-



nificant commercial success, reaching number one on the ARIA album charts and earning number eight on the ARIA Top 100 Albums of the 2000s. Certified 8x Platinum in Australia, it was also the highest-selling album in the UK for 2005, with over 2.4

million copies sold that year. To date, Back to Bedlam has sold more than 12 million copies worldwide.

Since then, James Blunt has established a highly successful career both creatively and commercially, producing a series of acclaimed albums

TOUR DATES

23 OCT Brisbane QLD
25 OCT Sydney NSW
26 OCT Melbourne VIC
28 OCT Adelaide SA
30 OCT Perth WA

and singles. His subsequent works, including All The Lost Souls (2007), Some Kind of Trouble (2010), Moon Landing (2013), The Afterlove (2017), and Once Upon A Mind (2019), have consistently secured positions within the Top 10 of the ARIA Album Charts.

His most recent album Who We Used To Be was released in 2023. His recent greatest hits collection, The Stars Beneath My Feet, went Gold selling more than 100,000 copies.

Don't miss the return of chart-topping superstar James Blunt, performing his debut album and all his greatest hits from across his stellar career.

Tickets from [Ticketek](https://www.ticketek.com.au).

Red Richardson revs Bugatti Live up in Australia

Red Richardson is one of the UK's fastest rising stand-up comedians.

His online Stay Toxic sketches have more than 100 million views on Instagram alone, and he has recently taken his show Bugatti Live all over the US and the UK on a 60+ date sold-out tour.

A regular on British TV, he has appeared on The Stand Up Sketch Show, is a regular joke writer for 8 out of Ten Cats and Live at The Comedy Store on Comedy Central, and has written on Mock The Week.

Red's 2018 Edinburgh debut, Seeing Red, played to packed houses. Since

TOUR DATES

27 MAR - 20 APR Melbourne VIC
22 APR Sydney NSW
25 APR Brisbane QLD
29 APR Perth WA

then, he has co-created and co-hosted the global smash hit comedy podcast Laughable, which has charted around the world. A live performance of this podcast continues to grow as one of the UK's top comedy podcasts. Join him for his first visit to Australia for an hour of hard-hitting stand-up comedy.

Tickets from [Bohm Presents](https://www.bohm.com.au).



Ketchup with Ed Gamble's tasty new comedy show

Following his extended and biggest UK and Ireland stand-up tour to date, which included five consecutive nights at London's Hackney Empire plus a sold-out London Palladium show, award-winning comedian Ed Gamble is bringing his latest show *Hot Diggity Dog* to Australia in April.

Ed will perform across major cities, including six consecutive nights in Melbourne, plus stops in Sydney, Perth, and Brisbane. This marks Ed's second tour down under, following the sell-out success of *Electric* in 2023. The *Hot Diggity Dog* tour kicks off on 15 April in Melbourne.

Ed has minced a load of meat (thoughts), piped it into a casing (show), and it's coming to a bun (venue) near you. Expect classic Gamble ranting, raving, and spluttering – but he's doing fine. Promise.

Ed said, "I'm delighted to be packing all my underwear into my little satchel and re-



turning to Australia and New Zealand. Last time I was over, a woman was late because a chicken pecked her in the

eye. That'll be hard to top, but we'll try."

In a busy period, Ed brought his multi-award-win-

TOUR DATES

15 - 20 APR Melbourne VIC
23 APR Perth WA
26 APR Sydney NSW
29 APR - 01 MAY Brisbane QLD

ning *Off Menu* podcast with James Acaster to the live stage, released his book *Glutton: The Multi-Course Life of a Very Greedy Boy*, and hosted BBC2's *The Traitors: Uncloaked* podcast. Crowned champion of *Taskmaster* series nine, he appeared in the *Champion of Champions* episode and hosts the *Taskmaster Podcast*.

Ed's credits include *Mock the Week*, *Great British Menu*, *Live at the Apollo*, and *Almost Royal*. His previous tours, *Electric* and *Blizzard*, were hugely successful, with *Blood Sugar* released as an Amazon Prime special.

Tickets are now on sale from [Bohm Presents](#).

Absolute Bowie bringing a Starman spectacle

TOUR DATES

11 JUL Sydney NSW
12 JUL Melbourne VIC
17 JUL Brisbane QLD
18 JUL Adelaide SA
25 JUL Perth WA
26 JUL Fremantle WA

Absolute Bowie were Voted the UK's Best Tribute Band and Best Bowie act. They return July 2025 for the Best of Bowie Australian Tour

Experience a lovingly crafted tribute to David Bowie with Absolute Bowie – a one-of-a-kind concert extravaganza. Featuring an acclaimed five-piece band, the show takes you on a journey through Bowie's career. With



an array of costume changes, the performance is enough to please hardened Bowie fans and entertaining enough to convert others to the music of

Bowie. Absolute Bowie bring Bowie's songs to life as they perform the Best of Bowie including *Life on Mars?*, *Starman*, *China Girl*, *Heroes*,

Jean Genie, *Ashes to Ashes*, *Let's Dance*, *Ziggy Stardust*, *Space Oddity* and More

Buy your [tickets](#) now to the man who thrilled the world!

The Mersey Beatles lead a Sgt Pepper's spectacular



TOUR DATES

01 AUG Perth WA
 03 AUG Adelaide SA
 07 AUG Melbourne VIC
 08 AUG Melbourne VIC
 09 AUG Bankstown NSW
 10 AUG Ettalong NSW
 13 AUG Wyong NSW
 14 AUG Newcastle NSW
 15 AUG Cammeray NSW
 16 AUG Tweed Heads NSW
 17 AUG Toowoomba QLD
 22 AUG Queanbeyan NSW
 23 AUG Campbelltown NSW
 24 AUG Kingsford NSW

"The Mersey Beatles absolutely nail the sound of The Beatles. They have that brilliant ability to get people up on their feet dancing... and John would have loved that!" (John Lennon's Sister, Julia Baird).

The Mersey Beatles are the world's favourite Liverpool-born tribute to the Fab Four according to the hundreds of thousands of fans who have seen them over the

last 20-plus years!

The Mersey Beatles are four musically-gifted lads from Liverpool – Mark Bloor (John), Steven Howard (Paul), Brian Ambrose (Ringo) and Craig McGown (George). Their passion for the Fab Four shines brightly at every show.

The Mersey Beatles were the resident Beatles' tribute at the world-famous Cavern Club for more than a decade

between 2002 and 2012, clocking up more than 600 performances!

From the beautifully designed costumes, replica instruments and, of course, that brilliant era-defining Mersey sound, The Mersey Beatles stunning live stage show is a gloriously presented hit-packed celebration of The Beatles. For two unforgettable hours they take the audience on a fabulous ride

through the 'mop top' hits of Beatlemania, to the psychedelic creativity of Sgt Pepper and the melodic wonder and energy of the Fab Four's later work.

Get on board for an amazing concert experience with The Mersey Beatles as they present The Beatles in the most authentic way, honouring both the music and memory of The Beatles. Tickets now on sale from [Total Touring](#).

Antarctic Monkeys bring the Arctic sound down under



The Antarctic Monkeys are the UK's premier tribute band to the Arctic Monkeys, known for their incredible attention to detail and energetic performances. As the first and most experienced tribute act in their field, they perfectly capture the essence of Alex Turner, Matt Helders, Jamie Cook, and Nick O'Malley, delivering an authentic experience that transports fans straight into the world of the Arctic Monkeys' music.

Their set-list is packed with fan favourites, including I Wanna Be Yours, 505, No.1 Party Anthem, Do I Wanna Know?, Why'd You Only Call Me When You're High?, R U

TOUR DATES

24 JUL Brisbane QLD
 25 JUL Melbourne VIC
 26 JUL Sydney NSW
 01 AUG Adelaide SA
 02 AUG Fremantle WA
 03 AUG Perth WA

Mine?, Fluorescent Adolescent, and I Bet You Look Good on the Dancefloor. With each performance, the Antarctic Monkeys bring the energy, style, and raw talent that have made the Arctic Monkeys one of the most influential British bands. Tickets from [Total Touring](#).

Unbelievable excitement as EMF announces tour

TOUR DATES

30 JUL Perth WA
01 AUG Sydney NSW
02 AUG Adelaide SA
03 AUG Brisbane QLD
07 AUG Melbourne VIC

For the first time in 34 years, dance rockers EMF will tour Australia in July and August this year. "EMF are really looking forward to being back in Australia in July/August - it's been way too long," the band shared.

EMF formed in Cinderford, England in October 1989. All five original members were veterans of the local music scene before founding EMF, whose name supposedly stood for Epsom Mad Funkers (although it was widely speculated that the initials instead represented Ecstasy Mother F***ers).

Within two months of formation, the group played its first gig; after unearthing a Casio sampler and sequencer in a local thrift shop, a light techno element was added to their rock-oriented sound.

Their debut album, *Schubert Dip*, was released in May 1991. It was certified platinum (over a million copies sold) in the US in September 1991. It had reached a peak chart position of number three in the UK and number 12 in the US, as well as finishing the year at number 57 overall. By the end of 1991, their infectious debut single *Unbelievable* had conquered the charts on both sides of the Atlantic, hitting number one on the Billboard Hot 100 and number three in the UK. The single was certified gold (over 500,000 copies sold) in the US in May 1991. The song was in such heavy rotation for most of the year in America that it fin-



ished as the number six single overall for the year.

Further hit singles that succeeded *Unbelievable* included *I Believe*, *Children and Lies*.

In 1992, EMF returned with the *Unexplained* EP and the much darker full-length effort *Stigma*; *Stigma* peaked at number 19 on the UK charts, and the band toured extensively to promote it. It produced hit singles and EMF live set favourites, *They're Here* and *It's You*.

The band released their final full-length album of new material in 1995 with *Cha Cha Cha*. After a successful European tour, they teamed up with comics *Vic Reeves*

and *Bob Mortimer* on a cover of the Monkees' *I'm a Believer*, which reached number two on the UK charts.

The band reunited in the summer of 2001 and released a *Greatest Hits* CD that coincided with a mini European festival and UK tour. The *Greatest Hits* CD, called *The Best of EMF: Epsom Mad Funkers*, featured two discs: the first had a collection of singles and fan favourite album tracks, along with two new tracks: *Incredible* and *Let's Go*. The second disc had popular remixes.

The band were primed to write new material and tour more extensively, but the sudden passing of bassist

Zac Foley on 2 January, 2002 shocked the band into silence. The remaining four original members spent several years focusing their time on personal projects and their families.

The band reunited in 2007 and have been steadily doing festivals and live shows in the years since. In 2020, the band released a career-spanning vinyl box set and spent most of 2020 and 2021 celebrating 30 years of EMF.

The band surprised fans by telling them that profits from the merchandise sold were being used to record a new album, *Go Go Sapiens*, which was released in 2022.

[Tickets](#) are on sale now.

Stephen Rea's Beckett is a must-see at Adelaide Festival

The Adelaide Festival, running from 28 February to 16 March, promises a rich tapestry of performances, notably featuring esteemed Irish actor Stephen Rea and the innovative UK theatre company Forced Entertainment. These artists, among other British and Irish talents, will bring a diverse array of theatrical experiences to the festival.

Renowned for his roles in *The Crying Game* and *V for Vendetta*, Stephen Rea takes the stage in Samuel Beckett's classic, *Krapp's Last Tape*. This one-man play delves into themes of memory, aging, and regret. Rea portrays Krapp, a man who annually records reflections on his life. On his 69th birthday, he listens to a tape from three decades prior, confronting the chasm between his past aspirations and present reality. Rea's performance has been lauded as "hauntingly good" by *The Guardian* and "a triumph" by *The Irish Times*. The production runs from 27 February to 8 March at the Dunstan Playhouse, Adelaide Festival Centre.

England's avant-garde theatre ensemble, Forced Entertainment, presents *Complete Works: Table Top Shakespeare*, a unique rendition of Shakespeare's plays. Condensed into 36



Stephen Rea in *Krapp's Last Tape*. Picture: [Landmark Productions](#)

intimate performances, each play is enacted on a one-meter tabletop using everyday objects as stand-ins for characters. This minimalist approach distils the essence of each narrative, offering audiences a fresh perspective on the Bard's classics. The performances are scheduled throughout the festival, providing multiple opportunities to engage with this inventive

series.

The festival also features English actor Samuel Barnett in *Feeling Afraid As If Something Terrible Is Going To Happen*, a no-holds-barred exploration of the human condition.

Additionally, Irish singer Camille O'Sullivan presents *Loveletter*, a deeply personal tribute to Shane McGowan of The Pogues and Sinéad

DATES & DEETS

TO 16 MAR
Adelaide SA
adelaidefestival.com.au

O'Connor.

For more details, visit the Adelaide Festival's official website at www.adelaidefestival.com.au.

Tom Allen storms Australia with sharp suits and wit



English comedy favourite Tom Allen is heading to Australia with his latest stand-up tour, packed with his signature razor-sharp humour, impeccable storytelling, and hilarious life updates—including his new-found independence after finally moving out of his parents' house.

Whether he's navigating the quirks of home ownership, seeking advice on his vegetable patch, or tackling the delicate etiquette of invit-

ing friends with children over for dinner, Tom's latest show promises a night of laughter you won't want to miss.

With a career spanning hit TV shows such as *The Apprentice: You're Fired*, *Cooking With The Stars*, and *Bake Off: An Extra Slice*, Tom has cemented himself as one of the UK's most beloved comedic voices. His last tour saw him play to over 50,000 fans, including a sold-out night at the London Palladium.

TOUR DATES

15 - 20 APR Melbourne VIC
22 APR Perth WA
24 APR Brisbane QLD
25 APR Sydney NSW

um. Now, it's Australia's turn to experience his quick-fire wit live on stage.

Tickets now on sale from [Bohm Presents](#).

British Chamber hosts Women's Day events

The Australian British Chamber of Commerce (ABCC) is set to host its annual International Women's Day Breakfasts across multiple Australian cities in early March 2025. These events aim to celebrate women's achievements and foster discussions on gender equality in various professional sectors.

In Sydney, the breakfast is scheduled for Tuesday, March 4th, from 7am to 9.15am at the Art Gallery of NSW. The event will feature Her Excellency Vicki Treadell CMG, MVO, the British High Commissioner to Australia, as the keynote speaker. Tickets are currently sold out, but interested individuals can join the wait-list by emailing events@britishchamber.com.

Melbourne's breakfast is set for Wednesday, March 5th, at the RACV City Club, Level 17, 501 Bourke Street, from 7am to 9.15am. Lucy Nation, Country President Australia and Vice President Hydrogen, Australia and Asia Pacific at bp Australia, will deliver the keynote address. Tickets are available for both members and non-members, with individual tickets priced at \$145 and \$195, respectively. A table of 10 can be purchased for \$1,400 for members and \$1,900 for



The Australian British Chamber of Commerce annual International Women's Day Breakfast. Picture: [facebook.com/BritishChamber](https://www.facebook.com/BritishChamber)

non-members.

Brisbane's event is scheduled for Thursday, March 6th, from 7am to 9.15am at Blackbird, Riverview Room, 123 Eagle Street. This breakfast will feature inspiring keynotes from women in leadership, thought-provoking panel discussions, and networking opportunities with Chamber members and guests. Tickets are available for both members and non-members, with individual tickets priced at

\$135 and \$184, respectively. A group of 10 can attend for \$1,300 for members and \$1,800 for non-members.

These breakfasts are a staple of the Chamber's event calendar, offering a platform for professionals to engage in meaningful conversations about gender equality and women's contributions across various industries. Attendees can expect to hear from influential women leaders, participate in panel discussions,

DATES & DEETS

04 MAR Sydney NSW
05 MAR Melbourne VIC
06 MAR Brisbane QLD
www.britishchamber.com

and network with like-minded professionals.

For more information, visit the Australian British Chamber of Commerce's official [website](http://www.britishchamber.com).

High-profile panel headlines Sydney Women's Day lunch

The Ireland Funds Australia will host its annual Women in Leadership & Philanthropy Luncheon on Wednesday, 5 March, at the Strangers' Room, Parliament House, Sydney. Celebrating St Brigid's Day and International Women's Day, the event brings together influential women to share their experiences and support the No Mind Left Behind Scholarship Program.

This year's panel features Irish Consul General Rosie Keane and Beverley McGarvey, President of Network 10, pictured, and Head of Streaming at Paramount ANZ, with Forbes Australia Editor-in-Chief Sarah O'Carroll moderating. The discussion will highlight leadership, philanthropy, and the challenges faced by women in their fields.

Proceeds from the luncheon



will go towards scholarships helping young women overcome financial barriers to higher education. Tickets are

DATES & DEETS

05 MAR Sydney NSW
www.irelandfunds.org

available now, with individuals and companies encouraged to attend.

For reservations, contact Lauren Fisher, Events and Office Manager, at lfisher@irelandfunds.org.

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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ANGLO&CELTIC

Issue 21

We are based in The Gap, Queensland, Australia.

Email for postal address.

Email: editor@angloandceltic.com

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Publisher/editor/designer: Mary Allen
Proofreader: Isla Corbett

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- keep up to date with Celtic music, dance, art and language events around the state
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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)

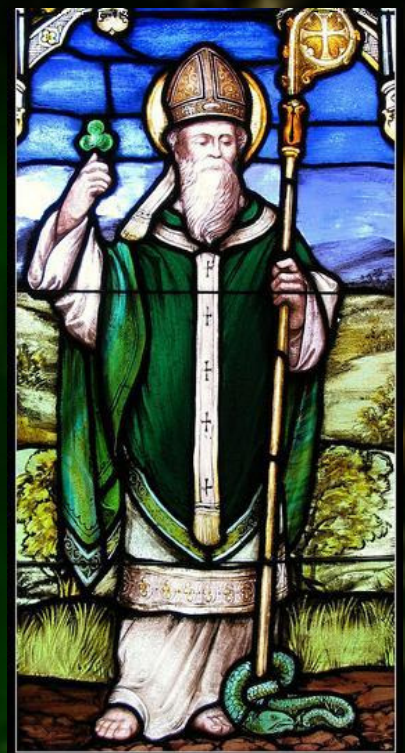
Bookings close **5/3/2025**

(unless sold out prior)

Booking enquiries to:

stpatricksevedinner@hotmail.com

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.