

# Cumann Gaeilge na hAstráile

2002-2003

Nuachtlitir  
Eagrán a dó  
Meán Fómhair 2002

Newsletter  
Issue two  
September 2002

## New Ambassador

*Fran Bader*

Some eighty executive committees of Victoria-Ireland focused organizations recently attended a formal reception, at the Celtic Club, Melbourne, for the newly appointed Irish Ambassador to Australia, **Mr Declan Kelly**,

Our President, **Kate Moody** spoke briefly on the Cumann's behalf. She welcomed the ambassador and outlined the main aims and aspirations of the Cumann both in Irish and in English.

Many guests were impressed by Kate's ability to speak in two languages and several people commented on her skill and her *blas*. Her brief statement may be read on P3.

*By the way, people were also impressed by the Ambassador who hails from Dublin!*

## Cumann Business

Dates for the Summer School are Mon 06 to Sun 12 Jan 2003. Enquiries to **Kate** or **Mark**. Cumann subscriptions and changes to details now go to **Kathleen Murphy**, our new Membership Secretary.

We welcome **Paula Kehoe** aboard the Editorial Team. Paddy McCorry's letter and *Smaointí ón Meán Rang* are on P2. Turn to P3 for *Fógraí* and recent additions to the Library.  
*Bain suilt as/enjoy.*

## Deireadh Seachtaine

*Paula Kehoe*

Bhí am iontach ag chuile dhuine a d'fhreastal ar an Daonscoil Gheimhridh in Adelaide thar an deireadh seachtaine fada — lá breithe na Banríona a bhain leis, ach cén dochar!

Is iad **Dymphna Lonergan** agus **Marc O'Conaill** a d'eagraidh cúrsaí na deireadh seachtaine.

Bhí ranganna Gaeilge ar siúl agus imeachtaí éagsúla eile le teanga agus cultúr na hÉireann a chéiliúradh.

Rinne **Paula Kehoe** taifeadadh ar an rí rá's an rúille búille ar an mbus ar an mbealach ar ais on gcéilidh.

Ba mhór an spórt é agus cinnte dearfa nach raibh braon óil i gceist!. Bhí aghaidheanna dearg leis an dream a chuaigh ann — Siún Uí Mhaoldomhnaigh, Criostóir Ó Maonaigh, Muiris Ó Scanláin, agus Veronica Langberg in a measc—ón ngríar, tuigeann tu!

*Míle buíochas le Dymphna, Marc, agus muintir Adelaide as deireadh seachtaine iontach, spleadrach, spreagúil a chur ar siúl. Rinne said an-obair. Beidh muid uilig ag súil le dul ar ais an bhliain so chugainn.*

## Adelaide Weekend

*Paula Kehoe & Fran Bader*

Cumann members had a wonderful time at the Adelaide Winter Language School. The fact that the weekend coincided with the Queen's birthday celebrations didn't bother anyone very much!

**Dymphna Lonergan & Mark O'Connell** coordinated the weekend's activities in Adelaide. There were various language classes/workshops and several events celebrating Irish language and culture.

**Paula Kehoe**—Cumann teacher and occasional presenter of the Irish Language program, SBS Radio, 1224AM every second Wed, 10.00pm—taped members' responses on the bus returning from the Céilidh, and broadcast them recently on SBS.

There's absolutely no evidence that the *comments* (as below) were influenced in any way by intakes of South Australian herbal infusions, even though there were several red faces among those present on the bus — including Christopher Mooney, Joan Moloney, Morris Scanlon and Veronica Langberg — from the sun you understand!

*Many thanks to Mark and Dymphna, and all the Adelaide group who put in so much effort. It was wonderful, exuberant, exhilarating, and encouraging, and we're all looking forward to returning next year.*

contact information for  
summer school 2003  
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Email: [saoirse181@hotmail.com](mailto:saoirse181@hotmail.com)  
Mark: a/h 03 9391 6661  
Email: [yaraandu@majestic.net.au](mailto:yaraandu@majestic.net.au)



## Queensland Irish

Paddy McCorry

When I was a child in the 1950s probably the majority of the local townspeople, graziers and farmers where I grew up in Southern Queensland were of Irish descent, and my father certainly made sure we knew we were Irish.

My mother was of Scottish and German descent and she made sure we knew we were Scottish and German! She used to teach us the Gaelic words for red, black, brown, white, lake and so on, and tell us stories and sing songs, as did my father.

So I grew up knowing that there was a Gaelic heritage, and from quite early on I decided I would learn Gaelic. Over the years I looked at courses at the CAE and other organisations but it was never the right time.

However, two years ago I went to Ireland for the first time and when I came back I embarked on Irish Studies at Melbourne University. I saw a copy of *Táin* in the bookshop at Trades Hall, bought it, and found the information about the Irish classes at East Melbourne.

So I enrolled, as an absolute beginner. My teacher was Chris Mooney and we began to learn the basics with the occasional venture into a bit of history or local culture and customs.

The language is not easy, as, for an English speaker, the pronunciation can be a bit hard to relate to the spelling at the beginning! The grammatical aspects didn't worry me as we weren't learning that way anyway, and because I had grammar drummed into me as a kid, and have learnt other languages, the framework of Irish made sense to me.

But just as I was starting to get into it, university second semester started and I had to give Irish up - timetable clash!

However, I will be back next year. Go raibh maith agat to everyone at *Cumann Gaeilge na hAstráile*.

sochar imeallacha  
fringe benefits

4<sup>th</sup> term classes  
resume  
08 October 2003

Daonscoil  
06-12 Eanáir 2003

## Thoughts From the Middle Level

Cáit Ní Mhúdaigh

A couple of weeks ago, some of the students in the Middle Level were talking about how they came to be interested in learning the Irish language. Here's what they said:

### Stuart

*I was listening to the music of Clannad and I thought to myself 'What is that language?' Then I realised that it was my native tongue and I wanted to learn it.*

### Muiris

*I was envious of speakers and wanted to learn the language. I love it!*

### Harry

*I heard and read about the Daonscoil last year.*

### Cait

*I went to Ireland and wanted to teach there but at the time I did not have the language and so was not able to get a job. I came back to Australia and started to learn the language.*

### Nelius

*My teacher was a fluent speaker and a great storyteller. He would address school meetings in the hall in English and Irish and I could hear the clarity and the magic in the language.*

## Smaointí ón Mhéan Rang

Kate Moody

Cúpla seachtain ó shin bhí na daltaí sa Mhéan Rang ag caint faoi na fáthanna go raibh suim acu sa teanga Ghaeilge. Bhí seo le rá acu:

### Stuart

*Bhíos ag éisteacht le ceol Clannad agus smaoiníos dom féin – cad é an teanga sin? Ansin rith sé liom gur mo theanga dhúchais féin a bhí ann agus gur mhaith liom é a fhoghlaim*

### Muiris

*Bhí éad orm faoi na cainteoirí dúchais agus theastaigh uaim é a fhoghlaim. Tá dúil mhór agam ann!*

### Harry

*Chualas agus léigheas faoin Daonscoil anuraidh.*

### Cáit

*Chuaigh mé go hÉirinn agus theastaigh uaim múineadh ann.*

*Ag an am ó tharla ná raibh Gaeilge agam ní raibh mé in ann post a fháil.*

*Ar fhilleadh abhaile go dtí an Astráil thosnaigh mé ag foghlaim Gaeilge.*

### Nelius

*Cainteoir dúchais ab ea mo mhúinteoir agus seanchaí thar cionn chomh maith.*

*Labhródh sé ag cruinnithe san halla as Béarla agus as Gaeilge agus cloisfeadh mé soiléireacht agus draíocht na teanga.*

sochar an amhrais a thabhairt  
giving the benefit of the doubt



## ILAA Statement

delivered by Kate Moody during a recent reception, hosted by the Celtic Club, Melbourne, to welcome the new Irish Ambassador to Australia, Mr Declan Kelly.

**Mr Ambassador,** my name is Kate Moody from the Irish Language Association of Australia.

The aim of the Association is to bring the language and culture of Ireland to people in Australia, especially to people with an Irish background like myself.

We hold Irish language and singing classes every Tuesday night and conversations every Thursday.

Every January, Irish speakers from all over the country come together at a Summer School to improve our language and celebrate our culture.

A newsletter is published each term and our website is almost ready.

On behalf of the Irish Language Association of Australia, I would like to welcome you and your family to Australia.

## Ainm an Nuachtlitir Newsletter Name

(suggestions in alphabetical order)

Anam: Spirit

Ceangail Gaeilge: Gaelic Links

Cúlchaint; Gossip

Deisfocail: Southwords

Ogham: Ancient Script

Sruthanna: Currents/Streams

## An Fhoireann Eagarthóireacht

*Táimid an-buíoch do gach duine as cuidiú linn an eagrán seo a chur le chéile. Má tá sáraíocht ag éinne i gcás sliocht ar bith, nó botún déanta againn sa litriú agus graiméar, is trí dhearmad é, agus beidh áthas orainn é a chur ina cheart san eagrán in a dhiaidh seo.*

**Beir leat do scéala nua chun na scoile no seól do bader@iprimus.com.au**

## CGA Ráiteas

Cáit Ni Mhúdaigh

**A Ambasadóir,** is mise Cáit Ní Mhúdaigh ó Chumann Gaeilge na hAstráile

Sé aidhm an Chumainn ná, an teanga Gaeilge agus cultúir na hÉireann a chur ar aghaidh i measc na hAstráiligh, go mór mhór i measc na ndaoine go bhfuil ceangal dúchais acu le Éireann-cosúil liom féin.

Bíonn ranganna Gaeilge agus amhránaíochta ar siúl againn gach Máirt agus bíonn comhrá ar súil gach Déardaoin.

Gach Eanáir tagann Gaeilgeoirí ó gach áit sa tír le chéile i **Scoil Samhraidh** chun feabhas a chur ar ár dteanga agus ar gcultúr a cheilúradh.

Cuirtear nuachtlitir amach gach téarma agus faoi láthair tá ár suíomh ghréasáin beagnach réidh againn.

Ar son Chumann Gaeilge na hAstráile ba mhaith liom fáilte a chur romhat féin agus do chlann go dtí an Astráil.

## Leabhair Nua New Books

*Siun & Eibhlín*

*Short Stories of Pádraig Pearse*  
dual-language and tape; Meán rang +  
*Mná as an nGnáth*

x Áine Ní Ghlinn

Short biogs of famous women

Meán rang+

*Bun Gaeilge do Thuismitheoirí*

Téip agus leabhar; Bun rang +

## Editorial Team

*Joan Moloney, Fran Bader, Paula Kehoe*

*We're grateful to everyone who contributed to and helped put the Spring issue together. If we've made any mistakes it was unintentional. Please let us know and we'll happily correct it/them in the next issue.*

*All opinions expressed in the newsletter are those of individual writer(s)*

**Do bring your news items to class or email to bader@iprimus.com.au**

## Fógraí/Notices

Ranganna Gaeilge  
Irish Language Classes  
Cumann Gaeilge na  
hAstráile Teo  
school terms Tues 8.00pm  
St John's School E.Melb

Amhránaíocht/Singing  
Cumann Gaeilge na  
hAstráile Teo  
school terms Tues 7.00pm  
St John's Sch E Melb

Cómhrá/Conversation  
Irish Welfare Bureau  
High Street, Northcote  
Thurs 7.30pm

Filíocht na gCeilteacht  
Poetry of Celticia  
filíocht a léigh os ard/a  
aithris-Readings/recitals  
school terms, 7.30pm  
every second Tuesday  
St John's Sch East Melb

Clár na Gaeilge  
Gaelic Language Program  
SBS radio AM1224.  
Every second Wed 10.00pm

Glór na nGael  
Voice of the Irish  
Gaelic Language Program  
3222 FM92.3, 1st Sunday  
ea month 6.00pm  
Radiothon coming up

Irish History Circle  
1<sup>st</sup> Flr Celtic Club,  
Queen St, City  
3rd Mon ea month 7.30pm

Comhaltas Ceolteoirí na  
hÉireann & Rince Tuaithe  
Irish Musicians' Assoc  
and Irish Set-Dancing  
St Phillip's Hall  
Hoddle Street Collingwood  
Wednesdays 8.00pm

Australian Irish  
Welfare Bureau  
440A High Street,  
Northcote

Celtic Club  
Cnr Queen & Latrobe Sts  
Melbourne

TÁIN  
The Australian-Irish  
Monthly Magazine  
Newsagent or Subscription  
Phone 03 9670 5066



## Gaelic Links

Welcome to the *Gaelic Links* segment. This column space is to be reserved for items focusing on the various extant Gaelic speaking areas around the world.

It is hoped to cover one of the main Gaeltacht areas in Ireland, in each quarterly Newsletter, and afterwards, if possible, those further afield in Scotland, the Isle of Man, Brittany, Wales, and Britain.

Then maybe we'll contact other national as well as international Cumanns, Comhaltais, Conradhs, and Study Groups around the world.

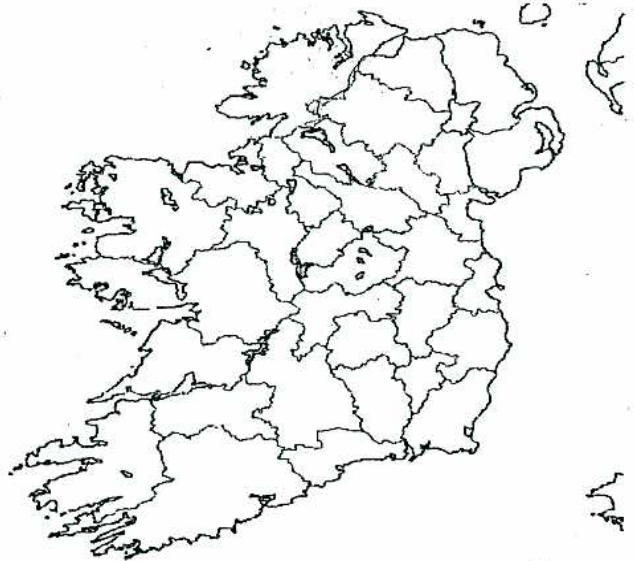
Melbourne Cumann members from Gaeltacht areas or with affiliations or an interest in a particular Gaeltacht are asked to contribute thumbnail descriptions to the Newsletter in Gaelic with an English translation. Write a few paragraphs describing the location, the scenery, the people, or tell us about the geology, archaeology, or history. Send a poem. Highlight a tradition, a local character, or an ancestor. Share a personal Gaeltacht experience with us.

Over to you. Sketch in the details for us.

We're looking Forward to hearing from you.

*The Editorial Team*

## Ceangail Gaeilge



Tír na hÉireann

**IF UNDELIVERED PLEASE RETURN TO  
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