

# Cumann Gaeilge Na hAstráile

Nuachtlitir Mí na Nollag 2002  
Newsletter Month of December 2002



## End of Year "School Report"

2002 has indeed been a successful and interesting year for everyone in *Cumann Gaeilge na hAstráile*. We are continuing to develop in line with our aim of learning and promoting the Irish language and culture. Membership has increased and our profile within the Irish-Australian community is growing. Library resources are expanding as well, and we have recently purchased a TV/Video unit.

Sincere thanks go to our many volunteers:- our dedicated language teachers and conversation facilitators, singers and singing director, enthusiastic committee, editorial team, members who provide administrative, operational, and catering assistance, and of course to all our committed students. Acknowledgement, also, must be given to our public broadcasters on 3ZZZ and SBS Radio (times on back page).

As we move towards 2003, *Cumann Gaeilge na hAstráile* hopes to see progress in a range of projects such as:- creating further links with other Gaelic language, cultural, and heritage groups, and William Hollier & Chris Mooney's pioneering efforts to introduce Irish Language Studies into Victorian schools..

*Nollag fé mhaise agus athbliain iontach do gach duine sa Cumann Gaeilge na hAstráile agus le gach Gaeilgeóir atá in a chónaí idir-stáit agus timpeall an domhain.*

*Happy Christmas and a wonderful New Year to each member of the Irish Language Association of Australia and to all Gaelic speakers living interstate and around the world.*

## Daonscoil 06-12 January 2003

gach eolas/information

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## Imeachtaí Events

Cóisir

Deireadh-na-Bliana

End-Year Function

(and fund-raising raffle)

Tráthnóna Dé Domhnaigh

Sunday Arvo 08.12.02

Am/Time 12.00pm onwards-

Leinster Arms Hotel

Cnr Gold & Hotham Sts

Collingwood

drinks and food at bar prices

**DETF SIAMSA**

**DIY ENTERTAINMENT**

Bookings 95329187

fáilte roimh gach duine  
Members, Potential & Non-Members  
everyone is welcome

## First Term

2003

Dea-Rúin

*New Year's Resolution*

Tar linn go  
"Ceacht a hAon"  
Dé Máirt 7.30pm  
04 Feabhra 2003  
Scoil Naomh Eoin

Come along to the  
first Irish Class  
for 2003

Tuesday 7.30pm  
04 February 2003  
St John's School  
Hoddle & Victoria Sts  
East Melbourne

Contact

Kate:a/h 0403 777 181  
Veronica:a/h 9530 4227

## Gasra na Gaeilge Adelaide

### Siamsa na bPáistí

I mí Mheán Fómhair, i rith na laethanta saoire, chuir *Gasra na Gaeilge*, Adelaide, lá siamsa ar bun do pháistí agus a dtuismitheoirí. Bhí triúr páiste is fiche i láthair agus timpeall ochtar duine fásta is fiche, idir tuismitheoirí is cabhróirí.

Bhí baint ag an Ghaeilge nó ag an cultúr ag gach ceann do na gníomhaíochtaí i rith an lae. Den chuid is mó bhí buileóg le líonadh isteach ag na páistí. Nuair a bheadh sin déanta acu, le cabhair ó na daoine fásta, chuirfeadh siad i bhfillteoirí iad le tabhairt abhaile.

Seo chuid de na gníomhaíochtaí a bhí ar siúl ann. Bhí ar na páistí an áit ina rugadh a mhuintir a aimsiú ar léarscáil mhór na hÉireann. Ansin, chuir siad dath ar an chontae úd. D'fhoghlaim siad dánta, agus bhí spraoi iontach acu le téad léimní go dtí a deich a' chlog.

Ba mhaith linn uilig míle buíochas a ghébháil do *Jo*, a mhúin *lonsaí na hInse*, d'ainneoin cos tinn a bheith ag cur isteach uirthi.

Bhain óg agus aosta lán taitneamh as an damhsaíocht sin. Sa deireadh, bhí taispeáint puipéid le *Judy* ó na *Ceoltóirí Cheilteacha*.

Chuir sé áthas an chroí orainn a cloisint go raibh na páistí ag baint lán-úsáid as an méad Gaeilge a bhí foghlaimithe acu, cé nach raibh an oiread sin suim acu sa Ghaeilge roimhe sin.

Tá súil ag *Garsa na Gaeilge* a leithéad a chur ar bun arís eile. Tá muid fíor buíoch as an tacaíocht a thug coiste an Irish Australian Association dúinn.

### Le Cáit de Bhailís *Gasra na Gaeilge* Adelaide

### Children's Games

In September, during the holidays, *Gasra na Gaeilge*, Adelaide, put on a day for children and their parents. There were twenty three children there and about twenty eight adults, parents and helpers included.

The day's activities involved the Irish language or culture. For the most part the children had to fill in a leaflet. When that would be done, with the help of the adults, they would put them in folders to take home.

Here are some of the activities. The children had to find the place in which their people were born on a large map of Ireland. Then, they coloured in that county. They learned poems, and had great fun with skipping ropes 'til about ten.

We'd like to thank *Jo*, who taught *The Siege of Ennis*, despite the fact that her injured leg was causing her pain. Young and old really enjoyed this dancing. In the end, there was a puppet show by *Judy* from the *Celtic Musicians*.

It gladdened us to hear that the children were fully using the Irish they learned, even though they didn't have that much interest in it before then.

*Gasra na Gaeilge* hopes to run this again. We are really grateful to the (Melbourne) Irish Australian Association for the support they gave us. **Cáit de Bhailís**

## Cuairteoirí Visitors

### Sydney

Ba cúis áthais dúinn ag na ranganna anseo i Melbourne nuair a thug *Michele* agus *Máirtín* cuairt orainn le déanaí. Freastalaíonn siad ar na ranganna Gaeilge i Sydney, agus bhí siad ar thuras ó dheas.

### Éire

Beirt eile a tháinig isteach ná *Gráinne* agus *Rachel* a bhí díreach tar éis teacht go dtí an Astráil.

Múinteoirí iad in Éirinn agus tá sé in intinn acu bliain a chaitheamh sa tír seo. Tá súil againn go mbeidh seans acu filleadh chugainn arís. Tá Gaeilge bhreá acu

### Sydney

Melbourne Gaelic language students were delighted when holidaymakers, *Michelle* and *Martin* from the Sydney School paid us a visit recently during their trip south.

### Ireland

Two others who came in to see us also were *Rachel* and *Gráinne* — newly arrived educators and musicians from *Éireland*. They intend spending a year or so exploring *Celtralia* and we hope they'll come back and visit us again.

## Expressions

*Paula Kehoe*

Brúigh anseo      click here

Aicearra      shortcut

Tá dithneas orainn  
We're in a hurry

Ag obair ó dubh go dubh  
Working from dawn till dusk

Fan réidh go leor      take it easy

Gioraíonn beirt bóthar  
Two shorten the road

Seoladh baile      home address

Go raibh maith agat a **Cháit** i gcomhair do litir suimiúil agus  
Nollaig faoi mhaise dár gcáirde in **Adelaide**

# Nollaig Noel Nadolig Natale

## Oíche Chiúin

*Sámhach an Oidhch*  
*Silent Night Stille Nacht*  
Melody Franz Gruber 1818  
Words Josef Mohr

Oíche chiúin, oíche Mhic Dé  
Cách 'na suan, dis aron  
Dís is dílse 'faire le spéis  
Naíon beag gnaoigheal  
ceannan-tais caomh  
Críost, 'na chodhladh go séimh  
Críost, 'na chodhladh go séimh

Oíche chiúin, oíche Mhic Dé  
Aoirí ar dtús chuala 'n scéal  
Allélúia aingil ag glaoch  
Cantain suairc i ngar is i gcéin  
Críost ár Slánaitheóir Féin  
Críost ár Slánaitheóir Féin

Oíche chiúin, oíche Mhic Dé  
Mac Dé Bhí, gháir a bhéal,  
Tuar dá rá is dá lánchur  
i gcéill  
Ann gur tháinig trá chun an tséin  
Críost, 'sa theacht ar an saol  
Críost, 'sa theacht ar an saol

## Páistí

*Fran Bader*

Tá an Nollaig buailte linn.  
Beidh Daidí na Nollag ag teacht chugainn anocht agus táimid ag feitheamh air. Tá ár stocáí cois an similéar nó an crann. Brostaigh ort a Dhaidí na Nollag agus go raibh maith agat le n'ár bhfeiríní.

*Christmas is here. Father Xmas is coming tonight and we're waiting for him. Our stockings are near the chimney or under the tree. Don't delay O Father Christmas and thank you for our gifts.*

## Beannachtaí úsáideacha

### le scríobh nó le rá

useful Xmas greetings to write or say  
*Siún Moloney*

Gach dea-ghuí i gcóir na Nollag agus na hAthbhliana  
Best wishes for Xmas & NYr

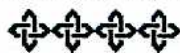
Nollaig shona duit / daoibh  
A pleasant Xmas to you/ye

Nollaig faoi shéan agus faoi mhaise duit  
A prosperous and happy Xmas to you

Athbhliain shona duit  
A pleasant New Year to you

Grá, sonas agus síocháin  
Love, joy and peace

**Freagra: Answer**  
Gurab amhlaidh duit  
The same to you



## Nollag na mBan

### Women's Christmas

6ú d' Eanáir  
12<sup>th</sup> day of Christmas  
Feast of the Epiphany  
*Siún Moloney*

Tugadh *Nollaig na mBan* ar an lá seo in Éirinn mar bhí seans ag na mná ar an lá sin, sos a bheith acu ó bheith ag cócaireacht agus gnóthach roimh agus i rith na Nollag!!!  
The 6<sup>th</sup> of January is also called *Women's Christmas* in Ireland. This is to honor all the women who are so busy cooking over the twelve days of Christmas and they are supposed to rest on that day!!!

## Oíche Nollag

*Maire Mhac an tSaoi*  
*Rugadh Maire Mhac an tSaoi i mBaile Átha Cliath i 1922. Chuaigh sí ar scoil in nDún Chaoin i gGiarraí agus i mBaile Átha Cliath. Chaith sí tréimhsí dá saol thar lear agus d'fhoilsigh sí dhá chnuasach filiochta.*

Le coinnle na n-aingeal tá an spéir amuigh breactha,  
Tá fiacail an tseaca sa ghaoith ón gcnoc,  
Adaigh an tine is téir chun na leapan  
Luífidh Mac Dé ins an tigh seo anocht.

Fágaidh an doras ar leathadh ina coinne,  
An mhhaighdean a thiocfaidh is a naí ar a hucht,  
Deonaigh do shuaimhneas a ligint, a Mhuire,  
Luíodh Mac Dé ins an tigh seo anocht.

Bhí soilse ar lasadh i dtigh sin na haíochta,  
Cóiriu gan caoile, bia agus deoch,  
Do cheannaithe olla, do cheannaithe síoda,  
Ach luífidh Mac Dé ins an tigh seo anocht.



### Bag-Pipers Píobairí

Labhair *Cáit Ní Mhúdaigh* as Gaeilge ar son ár gCumann ar an 06.11.02 ag lánseáil clár an *Chumann Oidhreacht agus Cultúrtha* de chuid an *Club Cheilteach*.

I rith an trathnóna ghlac an tUasal *Deaglán Ó Ceallaigh*, an t-Ambasadóir, le bailiúchán i dtaobh an *Banna Píob Victoria* a bhí curtha le chéile ag seanphíobaire *Tom Convey* thar na blianta.

Thug eagarthóir *Táin*, *Val Noone*, agus ball den Mhéan Rang, óráid ghearr freisin. Tá sé chun *Stair na bPíobairí* a fhoilsiú san iris *Táin* amach anseo.

Our President, *Kate Moody*, spoke briefly as Gaeilge on behalf of Cumann Gaeilge na hAstráile Teo at the 06.11.02 launch of the "Celtic Club Heritage and Cultural Program".

During the evening, his Excellency, Mr *Declan Kelly*, the current Irish Ambassador to Australia, accepted Irish-Victorian Pipe Band memorabilia from veteran piper, *Tom Convey*.

Ard-Rang Cumann member, and editor *Táin* magazine, *Val Noone* also told guests at the launch, of *Táin's* intentions to publish a history of the pipe-bands in instalments over future issues.

### Nuacht

Toghadh *Stuart Traill* mar Deputy Convenor, IBG, 3ZZZ agus deir *Stuart* go bhfuil sé mar príomh cuspóir aige go labhartar níos mó Gaeilge ar na cláracha.

Ghlac *Muiris Ó Scanláin* páirt san *Maldon Folk Festival* ar na mallaibh. Chomh maith le amhránaíocht, chuir é ceardlann ar siúl faoi amhránaíocht as Gaeilge sa *Sean-Nós*.

### Wayfarers' Column

Ard-Rang member, *Carol Kelly*, recently returned from a trip to Ireland during which she spent a week at the Irish School in Gweedore, Co Donegal. *Madge Maygar* also spent some time in Donegal and we're glad they're both safely back in Melbourne.

The Cumann also welcomes *Michael Dollard* back from his year long sojourn in the homelands and we're waiting for a "report" from *Annie Adams* who's currently participating in a class reunion at her old school.

At the June 2002 conference on *Irish Australian Affairs*, at Galway University, Melbourne Cumann teacher, *David Lucey*, discussed the history of the Irish language. *Val Noone*, Cumann member and editor of *Táin* Magazine, presented a paper on (Co. Limerick-born) *Thomas Culhane's* writings for the *Melbourne Catholic Advocate* 1940-1969; and *Ted Ryan*, 3ZZZ Melbourne Irish Language broadcaster (92..3FM) spoke of his research into the collection and remembrance of Aboriginal beliefs in NW Victoria and the Riverina. *Michael Dollard* attended this conference also. Poet and academic, *Louis de Paor* — whom some of us may have met during his stay in Melbourne—coordinated this international event.

\*\*\*\*\*  
We also welcome *Gavan Duffy* back to the Bun Rang after an "absence" of two years. (NB *Other adventurers and "truants" out there will also be most welcome.*)

### News

*Stuart Traill* was recently elected Deputy Convenor of the Irish Broadcasting Group (IBG) at 3ZZZ. He stated that his main priority is to increase the amount of Irish language content on the radio program.

Language teacher and singing director, *Morris Scanlan* participated in the recent Maldon Folk festival. As well as singing, he also organised a very successful *Sean-Nós* workshop.

### Fáilte Roimh na bhFánaithe

Le linn do *Carol Kelly*, ball den Ard Rang, a bheith in Éirinn le deanaí, d'fhreastail sí ar cúrsa Gaeilge i Gweedore, Dún na nGall. Chaith *Madge Maygar* tamaill i nDún na nGall freisin.

Cuirimid fáilte ar ais roimh *Micheál Dollard*, a chaith bliain ina thír dhúchais agus táimid ag feitheamh ar tuarisc ó *Annie Adams* atá ag athaontú ina sean scoil i mBaile Áth Cliath faoi láthair.

Ag an gComhdháil Éireannach-Astráileach i nGaillimh sa Mheitheamh 2002, phléigh *Dáithí Ó Luasaigh* (múinteoir den Chumann) stair na teanga Gaeilge. Chuir *Val Noone*, (ball den Mhéan Rang agus eagarthóir *Táin*) páipéar mar gheall ar scríbhinní *Thomas Culhane* san *Melbourne Catholic Advocate* 1940-1969, ós comhair na comhdhála, agus labhair *Éamon Ó Riain* (craoltóir ar Glór na nGael, 3ZZZ) faoin taighde atá déanta aige mar gheall ar na mBundúchasaigh in iarthar-thuaidh Victoria. Bhí *Micheál Dollard* i láthair ag an gComhdháil freisin. 'Sé *Louis de Paor*, file a bhfuil aithne ag a lán daoine air san Astráil a d'egraigh an Chomhdháil.  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Bhí áthas orainn *Gavan Duffy* a fheiscint arís ag an mBun Rang tar éis bheith as láthair ar feadh cúpla bliain.

**Go mbeidh biseach ort**  
Cuirimid ár mbeannacht chuig *Doireann* atá ag teacht chuici féin tar éis obráid. **Everybody sends their best wishes to *Dorothy White* for a speedy recovery from her recent operation.**

## BUN RANG +

Bíonn seisear sa rang gach seachtain agus is é *Daithí O'Luasaigh* an múinteoir. Fear éirimiúil is ea é.

I rith na bliana rinneamar staidéar ar an leabhar *Lasracha*.

Is é atá ann ná gearr scealta agus dánta.

Is féider linn dán a aithris de glan mheabhair agus cabhraíonn sé sin len ár gcomhrá.

Gach seachtain buaileann Marc an clog ar a ceathrú chun a naoi i gcomhair cupán tae.

Oibríonn an rang go maith le chéile.

## First Level +

There are six people in the class each week and *David Lucy* is the teacher. He is a very intelligent person. During the year we have been studying and translating the book *'Lasracha'*. This contains short stories and poems. We can recite poetry by heart and this helps conversation. Each week, Marc rings the bell at 8:45pm for tea break. The class members get on well together.

2003

our annual  
SUBSCRIPTIONS  
are due

first class  
04 02.03

PT0 to back page  
and fill out  
subscription form

## The Ring and Old Parish Gaeltacht

If you take the N25 from Waterford city to Cork city through Dungarvan, you will see a side-road turning left 2-3 kms beyond the town. This is the road to the Ring and Old Parish Gaeltacht.

Up until WWII, most of the people were farmers or fishermen and the signs of those times are still to be seen on all sides. Emigration hit the area hard in the fifties and sixties and the population fell; the Irish itself almost died, the 'Gaolainn' that was spoken there from the original coming of the Gael far, far back in pre-Christian times.

From the seventies on however, a great improvement has come upon the lives of the people. Now there are a good few small companies operating in the private sector among them *Nemeton*, the TV production company.

Undoubtedly the Irish is under fierce pressure from the media, the tourists and especially from the 'new people' who are settling in the area over the past few years. They are Irish, English and Germans and few of them have the slightest interest in the Irish language.

But some of the old Gaeltacht people are working together with the *Gaeltacht Authority*, the *Gaelic League* and the local schools to preserve the language and culture. As well as that, *Daonscoil na Mumhan* runs for a week every summer at Ring College and is attended by people from far and near (Americans and Australians among them). Anyway, the Irish still lives there despite the reports of its death in every generation since the 'fifties.

*I was born and raised in Ardmore, about seven kms from this Gaeltacht district, but I'm very fond of the place because my people were originally from Old Parish.*

**Chris Mooney**

## Gealtacht na Rinne agus an tSean

### Phobal *Criostoir O Maonaigh*

Ag gabháil duit siar an N25 ó chathair Phortláirge go dtí cathair Chorcaí, tar éis dul trí Dhúngarbhán, chífidh tú cúl-bhóthar ag casadh ar chlé cúpla chiliméadar nó trí taobh thall den bhaile mhór. Sé seo an bóthar go dtí Gaeltacht na Rinne agus An tSeana Phobail.

Suas go dtí an Dara Chogadh Domhanda ba feirmeoirí agus iascairí iad formhór na daoine, agus ta rianta an tsaol sin le feiscint ar gach taobh go fóill. Bhuail an imirce go dona ar an áit sna caogadai agus sna seascadai agus thit líon na ndaoine; dóbair don Gaeilge féin bás a fháil, an *Gaolainn* a labharadh anseo ó theacht na nGael ar dtús, i bhfad siar san aimsir réamh Chriostaíochta.

Ó na seachtodai anuas áfach, tá feabhas an-mhór tar éis teacht ar saol mhuintir na háite. Anois tá roinnt mhaith comhlachtaí beaga ag feidhmiú san earnáil phríobháideach ann, mar shampla *Nemeton*, ag soláthair cláir theilifíse do TG4.

Tá an Ghaeilge faoi bhrú fhíochmhar anois ag na meáin chomarsáide, ag na turasóirí agus na *Daoine Nua* atá ag lonntrú sa cheantar le blianta beaga anuas. Éireannaigh, Sasanaigh agus Gearmáinigh iad, agus gan suim dá laghad sa Gaeilge ag an bhformhór acu.

Ach tá daoine ó sheandream na Gaeltacht ag obair i bhfochair *Udarás na Gaeltachta*, *Conradh na Gaeilge* agus na scoileanna áitiúla, chun na teanga agus an cultúir a chosaint. Mar bharr ar sin bíonn *Daonscoil na Mumhan* ar siúl i gCholáiste Na Rinne ar feadh seachtaine gach samhradh agus bíonn Gaeilgeoirí ó chian is ó chongar (Meiriceánaigh agus Astrálaigh ina measc) ag freastail air. Pé scéal é, tá an Ghaeilge beo fós ann, d'ainneoin go bhfógraítí bás na teanga sa thaobh seo tíre i ngach ghlúin ó na caogadai amach.

*Rugadh agus tógadh mise san Ard Mhór, timpeall seacht giliméadar ón gceantar Gaeltachta seo, ach tá an-chion agamsa ar an áit mar ba le sean-dream an tSean Phobail mo mhuintir go fada siar.*

is fearr rith maith ná droch seasamh  
better a good run than a bad stand

# Fógraí Notices

Ranganna Gaeilge  
Irish Language Classes  
School terms Tues 8.00pm  
St John's School E.Melb  
Kate: a/h 0403 777 181  
E:saoirse181@hotmail.com

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

Cómhrá/Conversation  
Irish Welfare Bureau  
440A High St Northcote  
Thurs 7.30pm

Glór na nGael  
Voice of the Irish  
Gaelic Language Program  
3ZZZ 92.3Fm,  
1st Sun ea mth 6.00pm

Filfocht na gCeilteacht  
Filfocht a léamh ós ard/a  
aithrís readings, recitings  
school terms, 7.30pm  
every sec Tuesday  
St John's School E Melb

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

Fáinne Stair na hEireann  
Irish History Circle  
1st Flr Celtic Club,  
Queen St, City  
3rd Mon ea month 7.30pm  
Celtic Folk Show  
3CR 855kHz Tues 1.00pm  
Connolly Assoc  
3CR 855kHz Sat 9.30am.  
Celtic Club  
Cnr Queen & Latrobe Sts  
Melbourne  
TÁIN  
The Australian-Irish  
Network Bi-Monthly Mag.  
Newsagent or Subscription  
Phone 03 9670 5066

IF UNDELIVERED PLEASE RETURN TO  
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## 2003 MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION 2003 February 2003 – December 2003

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