



# Celtic Chronicle



Bimonthly newsletter of the Celtic Council of Australia (Qld) Vol 4, No 6 May-June 2008

## John R Agnew CyC

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Celtic Council of Australia National President Margaret Sharpe presents Queensland President John R. Agnew with insignia of the Celtic Honour of CyC (*Cyfaill y Celtaidd* – “Friend of the Celt” in Welsh) while CCA Queensland Patron Bill Hanley OAM CyC supervises proceedings.

### CCAQ Annual General Meeting 2008 Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2008 – 11.30 am

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the  
Celtic Council of Australia (Queensland)  
Will be held at the Queensland Irish Association,  
Tara House, 175 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane  
**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2008 at 11.30 am**

## ***Queensland President Honoured at Pan-Celtic Dinner***



National President Margaret Sharpe CyC was Guest of Honour at the 2008 Pan-Celtic Dinner. She delighted those attending by announcing that the CCAQ President John R Agnew had been awarded the Celtic Honour of CyC.

Presenting John with his award, Margaret said:

*"John Agnew is a hereditary Scottish Armiger and senior representative of Clan Agnew in Australia. He is a member and past President of the Congress of Scottish Clans of Queensland and a member with over 25 years service in the Society of St Andrew of Scotland, Queensland where he has contributed greatly."*

*"John had Queensland tartan designed and did all the work to steer it through to approval by Queensland Parliament; he then took it for recognition to the court of the Lord Lyon King of Arms who granted its recognition."*

*"John Agnew is the foundation President of CCA- Queensland State Branch being voted into the position by the inaugural committee. John has been very supportive of matters Celtic in Queensland and Australia."*



## ***Special Award***

### ***Blackstone , Ipswich Welsh Church Community***

National President Margaret Sharpe CyC made a presentation of a Special Celtic Award approved by CCA to the Blackstone, Ipswich Welsh Church Community.

In presenting this award, Margaret said:

*"The nomination was discussed as to the merit and accepted as a very worthy example of partnership between a continuing Celtic group association to maintain its language and cultural integrity in a new land and the building, which became and continues to be their meeting place."*

*"The Standing Committee accept CCAQ's nomination of the Church as a vessel to represent the many generations of Welsh and Australian families which have so ably maintained the Welsh language and its rich heritage throughout this area of our great land".*

The United (non-denominational) Welsh Church at Blackstone, Ipswich has, since its establishment in 1883, served as an important focal point for a range of activities in the region relevant to Welsh culture and history.

In its early days, the church played a very active role in the life of what was then a bustling mining community, with two services, both conducted in the Welsh language, every Sunday.

In more recent years, services in Welsh have been reserved for special occasions, but the church continues to provide many important services greatly valued by those interested in preserving Welsh traditions like the Gymanfa Ganu (Welsh hymn-singing festival), eisteddfodau (Music and Literature competitions) and many social gatherings.



## ***Margaret Witherington D Ua***

*Past President of the Queensland Manx Society, Margaret Witherington received the Celtic Honour of Duan Usail ("Gentle Person") from CCAQ Patron Bill Hanley OAM CyC at the annual Pan-Celtic Dinner.*



Margaret Witherington was born and lived in Douglas, Isle of Man before emigrating to Australia.

She joined the Queensland Manx Society in 1984 and became a regular attender of Manx meetings and the Australian Celtic Festival.

Margaret served as Vice-President of the Queensland Manx Society from 1999 until 2001 when she was elected President.

Her enthusiastic support of Manx activities was particularly evident during her term as President. Her skills and drive in regard to the development and activities of the society were greatly appreciated by members.

Margaret takes pride in the development of the Queensland Manx Society, especially increased membership and increased involvement of the members during her term as President. Her communication, sensitivity and hospitality to members strengthened the fabric of the QMS, enabling it to face the future with confidence.



## ***Colin "Buzz" Ennis D Ua***

Colin "Buzz" Ennis is an amiable and well-known character in pipe band circles, both Irish and Scottish. He has been involved in band activities for more than thirty years.

He is passionate about drumming and this consumes his leisure hours. As well as being an active performer in competitions and displays, he has been tutoring and passing on his knowledge for much of that time, ensuring the continuation of this musical aspect of Celtic culture.

This has enabled him to provide services to both Scottish and Irish communities and a range of pipe bands, even though he is highly regarded as a stalwart of the Queensland Irish Association Pipe Band.

Drummer "Buzz" Ennis was an essential part of the QIA pipe band in 1978 when it first travelled overseas to the World Championships at Cowal, Scotland. He has made several overseas band trips, most recently when the QIA pipe band returned after 21 years to the Festival InterCeltique Lorient in Brittany for the "Year of Australia" in 2006.



*CCAQ Patron Bill Hanley OAM CyC (above) presents Colin "Buzz" Ennis with the Celtic Honour of Duan Usail ("Gentleman" in Irish) at the 2008 annual Pan-Celtic Dinner held at the Queensland Irish Association.*





## 2008 Tour de France starts in Brittany

This year's Tour de France will be the sixth to start in Brittany and the first since 1995.

The tour will start on Saturday 5 July with the Grand Départ from Brest in the west of Brittany. Towns visited in the Breton stages include Brest, Cancale, Chateaulin, Concarneau, Dinan, Dinard, Fougères, La Guerche, Lamballe, Lanester, Lannion, Lorient, Morlaix, Perros-Guirec, Plouay, Plumelec, Quimper, Rennes, Roscoff, Saint-Brieuc, Saint-Gregoire, saint-Malo, Saint-Meen le Grand, Saint-Pol de Leon, Vannes and Vitre.

In total, more than 120 towns in the Finistère, the Côtes-d'Armor, the Morbihan and the Ille-et-Vilaine counties will see the passage of the 2008 Tour de France..



Brittany claims to be the origin of cycling in France and has been home to many champion cyclists, including the legendary Bernard Hinault.

**See TV coverage on SBS at 6.00pm daily**



## Cornwall at Glen Innes Celtic Festival

**Cornwall** was the Celtic nation to be featured at the Australasian Celtic Festival, held at Glen Innes from 1-4 May, 2008.

Glen Innes Mayor Steve Toms extended a welcome to the festival and noted the Australian Standing Stones were unique in the Southern hemisphere.

Howard Curnow, from St Hilary a town near Penzance, flew out from Cornwall to help lead the celebrations. Mr Curnow is a Cornish bard and former schoolteacher who is involved with Cornish organizations throughout the world.

At the Friday opening Mr Curnow spoke of the "brotherhood of Celtic people", declared "I'm a Celt and I come from a Celtic nation" and "I recognize the tremendous work done by Glen Innes with the stone circle (the Australian Standing Stones)". CCAQ was represented by Grace Roberts D Urr. The day ended with a Cornish Troyl (concert) at the town hall.

Grace reports that it was a chilly -2 degrees for the Saturday Dawn Ceremony, but it did warm up as the sun rose. The dawn service was very eerie as the Lone Piper played in the distance barely visible in the morning mist surrounding the Australian Standing Stones



The Celtic Festival parade this year was the largest in many years. It attracted clans and national groups from across Australia and culminated in a massed bands spectacular.

During the course of the day, festivities continued at the Standing Stones including song and dance, flag raising ceremonies, parading and kirling of tartans.

Grace highly commended the Cornish for their participation in the Year of the Cornish. She says "They certainly did their country proud. I can only hope that the Welsh community will do likewise next year for the Year of the Welsh."





# Notice Board



## CCAQ Annual General Meeting

will be held at the Queensland Irish Association,  
Tara House, 175 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane on

**Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> July 2008**  
**at 11.30 am**

**All Welcome**

Lunch available after the AGM at QIA Bistro



## Contributions to this Newsletter

Are called for and welcomed. Please forward to:

John R Agnew  
PO Box 1  
Salisbury Qld 4107

Email: [agnewesq@tpg.com.au](mailto:agnewesq@tpg.com.au) or [email@wardco.com.au](mailto:email@wardco.com.au)



## HELP !!!

As a result of transfers away from Brisbane and illness, vacancies have arisen on the Committee of Celtic Council of Australia (Qld).

The Committee meets bi-monthly on a Monday evening and duties are not onerous. It is also thought desirable to maintain diversity of Celtic national groups on the Committee.

Please contact President John Agnew (3392 1891) or any member of the Committee if you are able to assist your council.



## CCAQ Committee 2007-2008

Executive~

President:	John R Agnew	3392-1891
Vice President:	Robert Ward	3397-5887
Hon. Secretary:	Val Ashworth	3273-1782
Hon. Treasurer:	Grahame Jardine-Vidgen	3345-9506
Members~	Dilwyn Griffiths	3846-5603
	Trevor Campbell	3359-6662
	Grace Roberts	5433-1817
	Sean Fitzpatrick	3803-4884

## **Celtic Events Calendar May – October 2008**

### **May**

**Thu 1 - Sun 4 17<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL AUSTRALIAN CELTIC FESTIVAL**  
Australian Standing Stones Glen Innes - NSW  
Details from Glen Innes Tourism

### **June**

**Sat 14** St David's Welsh Society Member Presentations – 2.30 pm St Alban's Church,  
Auchenflower (Welsh)

**Sun 22** Boat Cruise (Cornish)

### **July**

**Sat 5** Tynwald Day Luncheon – 11.00 am Queensland Irish Association (Manx)

**Sat 26 CCAQ ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 11.30 am**  
Queensland Irish Association 175 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane

### **August**

**Sun 3** Pasty Picnic – Orleigh Park, West End (Cornish)

**Sat 9** Presentations by Members – 2.30pm St Alban's Church, Auchenflower (Welsh)

**Sat 30** Manx Society AGM and Luncheon – 11.00 am Queensland Irish Association (Manx)

### **September**

**Sat 20** Foundation Luncheon (Cornish)

### **October**

**Sun 12** Y Gymanfa Ganu (Festival of Hymn Singing) – 2.00pm Holy Trinity Church, Fortitude  
Valley (Welsh)

**Sat 18** Manx Society Gathering – 11.00 am Queensland Irish Association (Manx)

### **December**

**Sat 6 PAN CELTIC CHRISTMAS FUNCTION – 7.00 pm Queensland Irish Association**

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#### **For information on:**

**IRISH** events, visit website [www.queenslandirish.com](http://www.queenslandirish.com) or phone 3221-5699

**WELSH** events, please phone the Secretary on 3375-3626

**MANX** events, please phone the Secretary on 3273-1782

**CORNISH** events, please phone 3284-7790

**SCOTTISH** Clans Congress, please phone 3200-9536

**SUNSHINE COAST WELSH** events, please phone the President 5433-1817