



IRISH AUSTRALIAN WELFARE BUREAU & RESOURCE CENTRE NSW INC

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NEWSLETTER

April 2006

Dear Members & Friends

March has been a very busy month for us here at the IAWB.

We hope you enjoyed a busy month also and particularly the wonderful St Patrick's Day Parade and the family day in Hyde Park following the Parade.

What tremendous work Anne McFadden and her committee did to put on such a great day for us all to enjoy. Congratulations!

Due to the very generous sponsorship of A O'Hare Funeral Directors the IAWB were able to participate in the Parade and provide refreshments to everybody who visited our tea tent. For this we are very grateful.

We appreciate the generosity of the St Patrick's Day Committee for providing our tents free of charge.

We thank those people who very generously gave up their time on the day to walk with us in the Parade and assist us with our work in the tents. We appreciate the support we received from you, the public, at both our tents.

MINISTER'S VISIT

The IAWB were honoured to be the first people visited by Brian Cowan, Minister for Finance, when he came to Australia for St Patrick's Day. Ambassador Declan Kelly, Consul General Pat Scullion and Vice Consul General Louise Kelly accompanied him on his visit on 13th March. Minister Cowan congratulated the IAWB on the work they are doing and presented a cheque for \$65,000 to assist with administration costs. The Minister was delighted to meet some of our volunteers who also attended the meeting.



THE TYRONE ASSOCIATION



Andrew McCabe, President, Tyrone Association presented Michael O'Sullivan, President, IAWB with a cheque at a function held in the Westin Hotel recently. This money was raised at the Tyrone Association annual ball.

THE AUSTRALIAN IRISH SOCIETY

We are very grateful to the Australian Irish Society for considering the IAWB to be the recipient of funds raised at the St Patrick's Day Ball which was held in the Four Season's Hotel on Saturday, 18 March 2006.

SENIORS MEETING IN PADDINGTON

Our centre is open every second Wednesday at the E J Ward Community Centre, 189 Underwood Street, Paddington between 11 am and 3.30pm for seniors.

We invite all seniors to come along and join in a game of cards, chess, rings, or just have a chat and a cup of tea with fellow country people.

Take Bus numbers 387, 380 or L82 along Oxford Street and alight from the bus near St Frances Catholic Church and walk down George Street.

Any queries regarding the Drop In Centre please call **02 9300 8019**.

All are welcome!

BEREAVEMENTS

Since our last newsletter we had the untimely death of 22 year old John Furey when he was involved in a train accident at Revesby on 21 February 2006. His body was repatriated to his family in Omagh for burial. Our thanks to the Tyrone Association and Kathleen and Kevin McGrath for their assistance.

We also dealt with the sudden death of Martin O'Hare. Martin died on 25 March and his body was repatriated to his native Belfast for burial.

We express our deepest sympathy to the families and friends of both Christopher Furey and Martin O'Hare.

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of the late Noel Murphy from Kerry. Noel's body was cremated on 5th April 2006.

We also extend our deepest sympathy to June & Peter Flaherty and their family on the tragic death of their grandson, Adam Norris.

Father Tom Devereux

Congratulations to Father Tom who has had his contract extended for at least 6 months. This means that Father Tom will be here with us in Bondi until after Christmas.

This is wonderful news for the Irish Community.

Father Tom works tirelessly among the people in our community.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

17 June 2006

The draw for the 200 Club will take place at a fund raising function which will be held at Penrith

Gaels Club on 17 June 2006. Music will be provided by George & the Unicorns. Admission \$20.

Tickets for the 200 Club Raffle cost \$50 each and can be purchased by contacting the IAWB on 9300 8019 or email iawb@bigpond.net.au.

5 November 2006

Our Annual Mass for the deceased will be held in the Sacred Heart Chapel, Rookwood on 5th November 2006 at 2pm.

1 December 2006

Our major fund raising function will be held at Harold Park on Friday, 1 December 2006. Admission \$70 which includes a wonderful buffet meal.

For bookings please phone 9300 8019 or email: iawb@bigpond.net.au

A message from the President

Dear Members

I am delighted to announce that we have now signed a lease with St Patrick's Church for the use of two large rooms within this church complex for our exclusive use. Our first 'home of our own'.

Our thanks to Father Tom for his ongoing support and faith in us.

We will be busy over the next two months renovating and fitting out the premises as our Drop-In and Resource Centre located on the ground floor with office, reception area and meeting room upstairs.

We aim to be open by the end of June but lots have to be done and any assistance with time or furnishing is most welcome.

So you see we are 'getting there'.

A question for you!

What does being a member of the IAWB mean to you?

Mission Statement

Our aim is to provide confidential, sympathetic, caring support and service to needy individuals and groups within the extended Irish community.

Just a thought for you! Of course if you wish to tell us we would be delighted to hear from you on that or any other subject.

We are also fairly advanced with our website and it will be coming up page by page shortly.

Our thanks to Tom O'Keeffe for his assistance with this.

Michael O'Sullivan

**PLEASE NOTE: Our phone number is
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