

IRISH AUSTRALIAN WELFARE BUREAU & RESOURCE CENTRE NSW INC

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LINK CONFERENCE

Representatives of the IAWB attended the Link Conference which was held recently in Wollongong. Among the attendees were members of the Wollongong, Melbourne, Brisbane and Perth Irish Welfares. Representatives of the Irish Embassy and Siobhan Kelly, Vice Consul General of Ireland to Sydney also attended. It was a very informative weekend where we all shared information and experiences in a bid to enhance our services for our local communities.

Many thanks to the Australian Irish Welfare Bureau & Resource Centre (Illawarra) Inc for hosting the conference.

Special points of interest:

- > Fund Raising function
- > Mid-Year Lunch for Seniors
- > Link Conference
- > Irish Echo
- > Ethnic Business Awards

Dear Members & Friends

Greetings, we hope this newsletter finds you in good health and enjoying this wonderful weather which is supposed to be winter!

It was with much regret that Brendan Keaveney resigned from his position as president of the IAWB last week. Brendan had back surgery in July and unfortunately his recovery is not progressing as well as his doctor expected. Brendan has resigned from his position as President at the IAWB to enable him to concentrate on his recovery and health in general. We are delighted to report that Brendan will remain on the committee of the IAWB and wish him a speedy recovery. Terence McCaughan who is the Vice President has taken on the role of Acting President.

We are experiencing a very busy time here at the centre. The number of backpackers coming to visit and explore this great country 'downunder' has increased dramatically. Many of them are experiencing difficulties in getting work. If any of you have or know of any positions vacant that would suit our backpackers please let us know. These young Irish people are very willing and able to do any kind of work.



MID YEAR LUNCH FOR SENIORS

60 seniors travelled from all parts of Sydney and the Central Coast to join us on Wednesday, 15 July 2009 for our Seniors Mid Year lunch. The day began at 11 am when our guests arrived and shared morning tea while meeting and greeting fellow country people.

A scrumptious 3 course lunch was served at 12.30pm. Our guests enjoyed a very relaxing afternoon while being entertained by Eileen McCann whose crystal clear voice has been described as 'the voice of an angel'.

A very enjoyable day was had by all.

We thank Patricia & John Sheary and Irene & Margaret Casey for their kind donations of prizes for the raffle.

We appreciate all our volunteers who helped on the day.

DROP IN CENTRE

A number of seniors join us every fortnight at our Drop In Centre in Bondi. These people enjoy a variety of activities, i.e., playing cards, chequer, bingo, jig saw puzzles, knitting and sharing lunch and a chat with fellow country people.

Our drop in centre is open **every second Wednesday** at 2 Wellington St, Bondi. All seniors are welcome to come along for fun, friendship, a cuppa and a chat. It is an opportunity to catch up with old friends and make new friends.

Future dates for the Drop In Centre are: **2, 16 & 30 Sept and 14 & 28 October 2009.**

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

All are welcome

We're on the web!
www.iawb.org.au



HOLIDAYS

We wish Father Tom Devereux who has gone to Ireland for his annual vacation a very happy holiday. Father Tom enjoy your well earned holiday and have a very safe journey.

BEREAVEMENTS

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of the late Tim O'Shea who passed away recently.

We also extend our deepest sympathy to the family of the late Marie Brockhurst who passed away recently. Marie originally came from Drogheda, and lived in Roselands. Marie's remains are laid to rest in the IAWB burial plots at Rookwood Cemetery.

Sean Tuttle passed away on Sunday 23 August. Sean originally came from Co Clare and lived in Beverly Hills. Funeral arrangements will be announced later this week. We extend our deepest sympathy to Sean's family.

ETHNIC BUSINESS AWARDS

We are delighted to report that the IAWB has been nominated for the 2009 Ethnic Business Awards.

These awards will be presented to the finalists at the Four Seasons Hotel Sydney, on 30 November 2009.

FUNDRAISING FUNCTION

Once again we enjoyed a very successful evening at Penrith Gaels Club on Saturday 13 June 2009 where we held our annual fund raising function and 200 Club Draw.

Our guests enjoyed a very relaxing evening while they were entertained by Celtic Country band and the Sutton Irish Dancers in very pleasant surroundings and were attended by the very courteous and helpful management and staff of the Club.

We were privileged that Hannah Bradley, 2008 Sydney Rose of Tralee took time out from her busy schedule to join us on the evening.

The evening would not have been a success without the support of our wonderful sponsors who were:

Penrith Gaels Club

Celtic Country

Sutton Irish Dancers

The Irish Butcher

Harrigan's Irish Pub & Accommodation

P J O'Brien's

Irish Consulate

Sydney Aquarium

Tastelreland

Shamrock Bistro

The highlight of the evening was the drawing of our 200 Club Raffle. Many thanks to Hannah Bradley who drew the winning tickets.



to winners of our 200 CLUB RAFFLE who were:

1st Prize Ticket no 140 Noel Ryan

2nd Prize Ticket no 47 Margaret Boothby

3rd Prize Ticket no 149 Pat Bogue

Many thanks to all who supported this raffle.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE IRISH ECHO

Congratulations to Billy Cantwell and all the Team at the Irish Echo on 20 years in print. The Irish Echo is a very valuable publication which keeps the Irish Community informed of news and events in both Ireland and Australia.

The Irish Echo is always very supportive of the Irish Community. We at the IAWB recognize the tremendous support given to the IAWB by the Irish Echo team. We are very appreciative of their support and encouragement.

A message from the Acting President

Dear Members & friends

As Acting President I would firstly like to say how sorry I am to see Brendan resign his post as President and I wish to thank him for all his hard work over the last 10 months, he has worked tirelessly for the IAWB and I think I speak for everyone when I wish him a very speedy recovery. We are of course delighted that he has agreed to remain on the committee as he is such a valued member.

Our AGM is coming up on 13 October 2009, where we will be selecting a new committee, you will all receive information about this in the coming weeks. I hope to see as many of our members there as possible.

Terence McCaughan

NEED INFORMATION?

NEED HELP?

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO NEEDS HELP?

Call Margaret or Heather on 02 9300 8019