



# The Ryan Rag

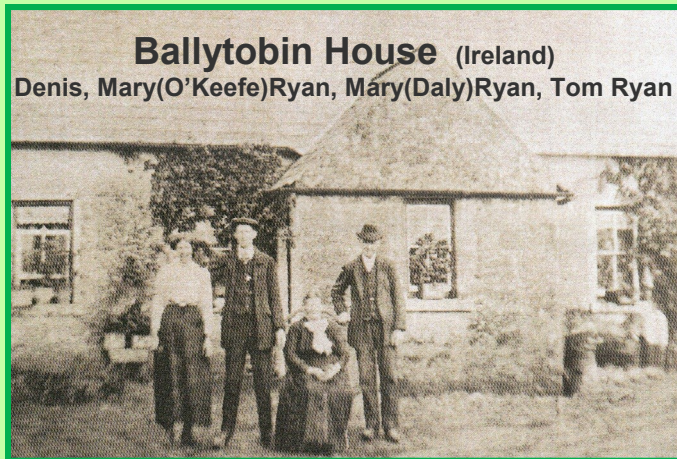
March 2012  
Volume 18 : Issue 1



Clan  
Ryan  
(Victoria)

## Family Links Reconnected

**John Ryan  
of Ballytobin Ireland and Mackay Qld  
1841-1926**



**Ballytobin House** (Ireland)

Denis, Mary(O'Keefe)Ryan, Mary(Daly)Ryan, Tom Ryan

Margaret Taylor 's family, the descendants of John Ryan and Mary-Anne Martin will be holding a family reunion to honour family from Ireland Eddie Ryan and his wife Carmel when they to come to Australia.

A previous trip failed when Carmel had to have surgery and wasn't well

enough to travel. ' We are hoping it will be a case of third time lucky. ', said Margaret. The two branches of the family had lost touch after Katy (Devereaux) Walters' death in 1955, and the letters to Eddie's father, Denis, stopped coming from Australia.

## You Just Have To Keep Looking

**A Magazine devoted solely to the interests of the Great Ryan Family, and the providing of information to them on a diversity of subjects. It also provides a Forum for the expression of the Opinions, the Hopes, Ideas, and the Ideals and Aspirations of this large Family.**

## Baby Jane Thompson

Jane Florence Thomson , first child of Jeremy and Rebecca of Moggill arrived safely on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2011.

She is the first grandchild of Narelle (Ryan) and Bill Thompson and great grand child of Fay Ryan and the



late Bernie Ryan and grand niece of our current president, Greg Ryan.

She was baptized on the 20<sup>th</sup> November 2011 at St Mary's Church, Ipswich, the church in which her parents and her great grandparents were married.

Jane is pictured above with her parents at her Baptism and to the left

Fay Ryan is pictured with her two great grand daughters, Georgia Ryan and Jane Thompson





**Advance Australia Fair**  
**Eireann go Brach**



### Contact Addresses

Any Member wishing to contact Officers of the Clan at any time and for any purpose are free to contact the following Officers at the address phone or email as shown:—

#### President

**Gregory J. Ryan,**  
15 Vince Hine Dve  
**WORONGARY 4213**  
Phone: (07)55591773: Mob:0409626385  
Email: gjryan@bigpond.net.au

#### Vice-President:

**Neil Ryan**  
1 Coulsell St  
**WOMINA 4370**

Phone: (07)46613589 Mob:0431045438  
Email: : neil.ryan11@bigpond.com

#### Secretary/Treasurer

**Daniel Ryan**  
15 Vince Hine Dve  
**WORONGARY 4213**  
Phone: (07)55591773: Mob:04  
Email: gjryan@bigpond.net.au

#### Web Site Address:-

<http://www.clanryanaustralia.org>

### Membership Fees

**Fees:- (Due on or before 31 Dec. each year).**  
Any person whose Fees are in arrears for 12 months or more is deemed to have relinquished Membership and Membership privileges are discontinued and the person will have to make reapplication to regain Membership.

Ordinary Member: (Voting)\$15.00 per annum.  
Family Member (2votes):\$15.00 per annum.  
Family Membership confers Membership on the Member, Spouse and all children under 16 years of age, and allows a vote for each parent.

### Editor "Ryan Rag":

**Berniece Ryan-Charles**  
19 Wacal Rd  
**MOTHAR MOUNTAIN 4570**  
Phone: (07) 54835116  
Mob: 0400524338  
Email: sarbearb22@spiderweb.com.au



### CLAN RYAN QLD OBJECTIVES

In the constitution, the objects for which the "Clan" is established are:-

- \*To bring all the descendants of the Clan Ryan together in friendship and foster good relations and fellowship among Members
- \*To create and maintain a comprehensive Register of all Clan Descendants, and make information available to Members on request.
- \*To seek affiliation with and maintain links with the Clan Headquarters in Tipperary, Ireland, and any other Organisation which fosters the Clan System of Ireland.
- \*To seek information both general and specific relative to the Ryan family and the Clan as a whole, and to make such information available to Members on request.
- \*To assist Members in every way possible in their search for information relative to their Family?
- \*To establish a Family Data-base for the RYAN Family, and provide a State-wide information centre for the distribution of family information to Members of the Clan.
- \*To foster closer ties between Members of the Ryan Clan, and imbue the Members with a pride in the Family, by a greater appreciation and wider knowledge of the Family Name and the History of the Clan.
- \*To establish contacts with the other States of Australia, and encourage and assist in the establishment of Branches of the Clan Ryan in those States.

Please note your name and membership number with deposit. New members will be given a membership number which appears on Ryan Rag envelope.

#### Direct Credit Facility

**BANK OF QLD BSB124023**

**A/c:Clan Ryan Qld :A/c#: 10354987**

## From the President's Desk

**Dia dhuit (hello)**

**Greg Ryan** In my last address I mentioned in some depth the tenuous situation in which Clan Ryan finds itself. Its very existence as we know it is now squarely in you the member's hands. The two main reasons it has come to this point. **Firstly**, the executive will

not be able to continue unless all members are prepared to nominate and make themselves available do a little bit of time in various executive roles. If we all did some time no one would need to do more than a year or two every decade, so not much when you think of it really, fresh people fresh ideas. **Secondly** we need current members to commit to paying their memberships at least on time so that executive follow-up is not necessary.

Why are these things so important? Simply put without your fees the Rag will stop and the website will cease to exist as we will not be able to afford to do the print runs or maintain the website. Unless we find another better way to share and keep people connected **NO RAG → NO CLAN RYAN.** In relation to the website **NO WEB SITE no way of finding new members** apart from word of mouth, eventually the same result **NO CLAN** due to falling membership. This problem has been an issue for the executive for some time we just chose to deal with members directly. The same persons keep putting in for the executive to keep our Clan alive because we believe in the value of kinship. However, it has come to the point where we need to bite the bullet so to speak. To this end at the last AGM the executive gave the undertaking to review the Clan situation and report back (on the feasibility of it continuing or folding), at the Luncheon/Mini AGM on the 5/5/2012. **I am imploring all members to respond to me or any of the executive members in writing by phone and/or email/text (if possible) (numbers addresses etc all of which are available on page three of the RAG) with your opinion as to two (2) questions.**

1. Do you wish the clan to continue as it is at present?

Are you willing to be involved in helping us stay afloat and if so, in what way can help?

Yes I know and I have said before the trend in this day and age is one of falling volunteer support. People are either too busy or unwilling to give of their scarce free time to keep many organizations afloat and this applies across the board not just to Clan Ryan. I wish to at the risk of repeating myself say I can no longer ignore the reality of the clan's situation. I have lost good executive members I cannot run the clan on my own nor have I the personal expertise to work on and better the Website. It would appear a lack of willingness of members with the skills, to put their hand up to help means we cannot improve our information and web presence.

It is sincerely my wish for the clan to continue somehow, to grow and become a strong organization supporting its members in various ways. Achieving this requires people with vision and enthusiasm to joint me and work toward a better future. I hope you all feel the same and are willing to fight for it. Think long and hard and ***please please*** reply with your thoughts on the matter.

**Slan agus beannacht leat (Goodbye and blessings on you).....Greg**

# CLAN RYAN AUSTRALIA

Formed in late 1998 Clan Ryan Australia provides automatic membership to all members of a branch clan at no extra membership fee.

With the advent of our national website it was resolved to promote this Clan in the future. The Qld executive will manage this development pending growth of other State branches.

The Rag will become Ryan Rag Australia, and be our National Newsletter. It will continue to be run in its present form but will be developed to accommodate content from all current and future State Septs.

## Membership Fee \$15

Due to increasing running costs it was voted at the AGM to increase the Membership Fee to \$15. as of 2010.

Any prepayments paid before end of October 2009 will not increase until due again.

## Printing Deadlines

1. All Copy to Editor by 8th of month prior to publication
2. Editor sends final format to Printer by 22nd of that month.
3. Printer sends magazines to editor by 8th of next month for

**PLEASE NOTE:** It is important to advise the Sec/Treas of any changes in Contact Details

- ◆ Residential Address
- ◆ Email address
- ◆ Telephone Numbers
- ◆ New family members

### Clan Ryan (Q'land) Lapel

#### Badges

We now have for distribution, to any Members who wish to purchase them, supplies of the abovementioned badges.

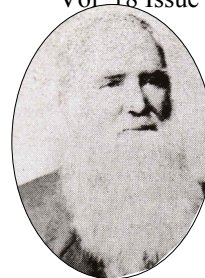
They are a quality production in Green with a gold edging and are inscribed around the edge with the words "Clan Ryan (Queensland).

The cost is \$5.50 each including postage, such cost to accompany your request, and may be obtained by contacting:—Mr.Gil Neilan, Sec/Tres, ClanRyan (Queensland)

## A Reminder

Please take note that all membership fees are to be forwarded to our new Sec/Treas

Daniel Ryan  
15 Vince Hine Dve  
WORONGARY 4213  
Phone: (07)55591773: Mob:04  
Email: gjryan@bigpond.net.au



By Margaret Taylor

## John Ryan 1841-1926 of Ballytobin and Mackay

My great-grandfather, John was born, according to his death and marriage certificates, in Kilkenny, Ireland around June 1841. His father's occupation is given as farmer. It would be most likely that his parents, Denis Ryan and Catherine (Nee) Farrell were tenant farmers who would have been badly affected by the potato blight and subsequent famine years in the 1840s. I tried to have John's parents' marriage dates and siblings etc checked by the current parish priest at Callan, the Kilkenny village listed as his birthplace on John's death certificate. He wrote to say the records did not show any Ryans married or born in the parish in that period. I could only suppose the family moved there from another parish in Kilkenny, perhaps during the famine.

I believe John arrived in Brisbane on November 2, 1862 aboard the *Prince Consort*. There was a John Ryan aged 22 on that ship (the right age for "my" John) as well as a Denis Ryan, aged 24 and a Mary Ryan aged 18. My guess is that they were all

from the one family. However, I have not been able to find any trace of that Mary or that Denis despite a fairly thorough search, so this remains conjecture.

John was certainly in Mackay by 1866, as he is noted in the *Mercury* in that year as donating 5 pounds to the Catholic Church building fund. He first came to the notice of Queensland officialdom by marrying Mary-Anne Martin on Jan 17<sup>th</sup>, 1867 in the Catholic Church, Mackay. Father Thomas Lonergan officiated, and Michael Hickey and Elizabeth McCall witnessed the marriage. Both John & Mary-Anne were literate, which presupposes some education. Mary-Anne came from Loughrea in Galway, and her father, James Martin was listed as a hardware merchant. I have found no trace of her parents or any siblings in Australia, though her death certificate states that she had come to Australia at the age of sixteen, nor have I succeeded in finding her on any of the ships' passenger lists at the archives. John's occupation at the time of their marriage is listed as settler, and Mary-Anne's as domestic servant.

By the time the electoral roll of 1869/70 was completed John had become a freeholder, and on his children's birth certificates he is listed as contractor or carpenter. By 1901 John was living in MacAlister Street according to the Post Office Directory of that year.

Mary-Anne and John wasted no time in starting their family and between November 1867 and May 1883 produced nine children. Sadly, only five were to reach maturity, and only two of these were to live past middle age. Mary-Anne herself died in 1884, according to her death certificate, from Phthisis (tuberculosis to us today). However her certificate also stated that she had only been ill for three weeks. TB does not usually kill people so fast, but kidney failure can, and many members of the Ryan family of two generations are known to have died from an hereditary form of kidney failure. My guess is that Mary-Anne died from it too, and some of her children and grandchildren inherited it from her.

The children who reached adulthood were Mary Catherine, Edwin James (my grandfather), Anastasia Veronica, Thomas Denis & Annie Cecilia Frances. Mary Catherine never married, and died at 54 from kidney failure. Anastasia Veronica married Robert Anderson, had four children and died at the age of 38 from the same cause (all four of her children

also died, as far as I know, from kidney failure, only one leaving any offspring. They are both fortunately free of the disease). Thomas Denis was a saddler. He traded in Mackay as Ryan & Rosier Saddlery in Sydney Street (Post Office directory, 1911). Great-Uncle Tom lived till he was about eighty-six, spending his last few years retired in Brisbane. He never married and I remember him as a tall, very softly-spoken, old gentleman, always impeccably dressed in a three piece suit, but possessed of an amiable twinkle in his still bright blue eyes.

Annie Cecilia Frances was reputed to have been beautiful in her youth (I met her only once, and my memory is of a "little old white-haired lady"), and was engaged to a wealthy businessman from Sydney when her sister Anastasia died. She cancelled her wedding plans and took charge of the four children, devoting her life to them and to her father in his old age (sounds too saintly for words, doesn't it, but I've been told it is true – she was really a lovely person). She is still remembered with great affection by Anastasia's grandchildren. Annie died in Mackay in 1962.



**Edwin James & Mary Ellen Ryan**

Edwin James (or Teddy as he was universally known) was an engine driver at Mount Morgan when he met my grandmother, Nellie Manuel. Nellie, who was also from Mackay, was visiting her mother's family in Rockhampton where they had settled. She and Teddy married in December 1901, at St Joseph's Cathedral, but returned to Mackay almost immediately, living with John in MacAlister Street for the first few years. My mother, Edna Kathleen, was born there in September 1902. Her sister, Thelma Mary, followed a few years later. I don't know how long Teddy remained with the railways, but by 1905 he had moved to Albert Street, and by 1913 was the licensee of "The School of Arts Hotel" (Qld Gov. Gazette). They were making a success of the business, judging by their lifestyle (the girls were boarding at All Hallows school in Brisbane, and lacked nothing), and by 1916 he and Nellie were running Ryan's Australian Hotel. However, by March 1917 Teddy had died at the age of 45. His death certificate states he died from "gastritis and exhaustion".

Nellie continued to run the hotel for a few years, but was no businesswoman, (too lenient with debtors, by all accounts). The hotel was badly damaged by the 1918 cyclone and eventually she lost it to the bank, she and the girls leaving Mackay for the South soon afterwards.



**MACKAYH CONVENT CIRCA 1916**

John himself lived till 1926 in the home he built in Shakespeare Street.

Until a couple of years ago that was all of the story that I knew, but when I found John's parents' marriage and many of the family births in the townland of Monassa I used the Irish White Pages online to see if there were Ryans re-

maining in the area. As there were a couple, I picked one at random to whom to write, and as fortune would have it, it was my distant cousin, Edmond (Eddie) Ryan. I received a very prompt and delighted email reply from his daughter Edwina in Dublin who said the family had long wondered what happened to their Australian cousins.



AUSTRALIAN HOTEL AFTER CYCLONE

Denis Ryan who may well have been their brother.

Mary landed in Queensland with John from the "Prince Consort" in November 1862; however, sometime in the next few years she travelled to Victoria where she met and married Thomas Gaynor in 1869 at St Kilda. Mary and Tom had seven children all born in Victoria. Sometime between 1881 and 1897 the Gaynor family moved to Mackay; perhaps it was when Mary's widowed sister Anastasia and her children migrated to Australia in the "Chyebassa" and settled in Rockhampton in 1885. I had known of the Gaynor family (which has now died out) in Mackay and had once, in the 1950s, met two very elderly unmarried ladies, Mary and Kate Gaynor, when introduced to them by my mother on a visit to Mackay. However, I hadn't realised then that they were related to us (being a teenager at the time, and therefore knowing everything, I probably didn't listen too closely to my mother's explanation).

Anastasia had married a farmer, Patrick Devereaux in June 1865 in Monassa. They went to live in Laughtbrack, Kilmoganny, Co Kilkenny, where they had five children. However Anastasia's husband Patrick died in 1874 and it must have been a terrible struggle for her to support the children on her own. Anastasia died in Rockhampton in 1921. Her eldest daughter Catherine married James John Walters in 1902 and had two children. Her second daughter Annie married John Maxwell Smith in 1890 and they had 8 children. Anastasia's son, Richard Walter married Sarah Mulholland and they had four children. The youngest, Charles Eugene, went to Rome in the 1930s to study for the priesthood; I am fortunate enough to have a copy of a letter from his aunt, Katy (Devereaux) Walters to her cousin Denis Ryan in

10	Vol 18 Issue 1	Ryan Rag	March 2012
Monassa telling him about Charles and saying that Charles hoped to visit Ireland after his ordination. I know that Father Charles was in Charters Towers during WW II, and afterwards spent time in Hughenden and Richmond. He died in 1974 in Hughenden and was buried in Ayr, his birthplace. Patrick James Devereaux did not marry and I've not yet traced any children of his remaining sibling Denis Vincent.			(1876-1948) m 1901 Rockhampton
Generation 4			Edna Kathleen Ryan (1902-1972) Thelma Mary Ryan (1907-1992)
Generation 4			Edna Kathleen Ryan (1902-1972)+Francis McCoy (1894-1975) m 1937 Brisbane
Generation 1	Denis Ryan + Catherine Farrell married 1831 in Dunamaggin Catholic Church.		Generation 5 Isabella Margaret Mary (1939)+James Ross Taylor (1934)
Generation 2	Michael (1833) Ellen (1836) Mary (1838) John (1841) Anastasia (1844) Thomas (1847) Kitty (1850)		Generation 6 Janet Ann Taylor (1965-1965) Alan James Taylor (1966)
Generation 2	John Ryan (1841-1926) + Mary-Ann Martin (1849-1884) married Mackay 1867		Generation 6 Alan James Taylor (1966) +Theresa-Lee Bevan (1968)
Generation 3	Mary Catherine (1867-1921) (all born Mackay) Edwin James (1871-1917) Anastasia Veronica (1873-1911) John (1876-1878) Thomas Denis (1878-1964) <a href="#">Agnes Ellen (1879-1879)</a> Annie Cecilia Frances (1880-1962) William Augustus (1881-1882) Patrick John (1883-1883)		Generation 7 Shayna Janet-Lee Taylor (1994)
Generation 3	Edwin James Ryan (1871-1917)+ Mary Ellen (Nellie) Ryan		Generation 3 Anastasia Veronica Ryan (1873-1911) +Robert Anderson (1871-1957) m 1899
Generation 4			Veronica Mary (1902-1969) Stella Elizabeth (1904-1931) Robert Outram (1906-1940) Iris Veronica (1909-1957)

11	Vol 18 Issue 1	Ryan Rag	March 2013
Generation 4	Veronica Mary Anderson (1902-1969) +Thomas Casey m 1946. No Children	Patrick James (1874-1918)	
Generation 4	Iris Doreen Anderson (1909-1957) +Robert Archibald Sealey (1908-1993) m 1935	Generation 3 Catherine Mary Devereaux (1866-1955) + James John Walters ( -1938)	
Generation 5	Annette Marie (1936) Noel John (1939)	Generation 4 Eveline Mary (1902-1982)	James Kevin (1908 -?)
Both Annette and Noel have numerous descendents		Generation 3 Annie Devereaux (1868-1956) + John Maxwell Smith (1867-1955)	
Generation 2	Mary Ryan (1838-1906) + Thomas Gaynor (c1837-1926) married Vic. 1869	Generation 4 Maxwell Cecil (1891-1937)	
Generation 3	John (1870-1870) (all born Melbourne)	Rosanna (1893-1979)	
	Anastasia (1870-1870) Bridget (1871 - 1881) Mary (1872 - 1960) Thomas (1875 - 1897)	Devereaux (1896-1959) Leslie John Eileen Mary (1899-1980)	
	James Paul (1874-1945)	Generation 4 (cont) Patrick Clarence (1901-1086)	
	Catherine (1878-1968) Anastasia (?dates)	Vivian George (1906-1981)	
Generation 2	Anastasia Ryan (1844-1921) + Patrick Devereaux (1841-1874) m 1865 Monassa	Kelvin Ivis Sydney (1910-1999)	Valerie Dorothy (1912-?)
Generation 3	Catherine Mary (1866-1955) (all born Laughtbrack, Co Kilkenny)	Generation 3 Richard Walter Devereaux (1869-1940)+Sarah Mulholland (?-bef 1965)	
	Annie (1868-1956) Richard Walter (1869-1940)	Generation 4 Dorothy Amy (1896-?)	
	Denis Vincent (1873-1938)	(1898 -?)	Marjorie Ethel

Richard Walter (1900 – bef Jan 1962)  
Charles Eugene (1911 1974)

in 1872. I don't know how long John and Mary-Anne lived at the farm.

Generation 3 Denis Vincent Devereaux (1873-1938)  
+Margaret Ann Grieve (?-1940) m 1922  
No children yet known

Best of all, I've found the current Ryans at Monassa. We were to meet both last year and this year but the luck of the Irish has not been with us. Last year when on our way to Ireland my husband, Jim, was taken ill and we had to return home for urgent surgery (from which, thank God, he has made a very good recovery) and this year when Eddie Ryan and his wife Carmel were to come to Australia, Carmel had to have surgery and wasn't well enough to travel. We are hoping it will be a case of third time lucky. The two branches of the family had lost touch after Katy (Devereaux) Walters' death in 1955, and the letters to Eddie's father, Denis, stopped coming from Australia.

MARGARET TAYLOR  
Great Granddaughter of  
JOHN RYAN—  
Ballytobin Ireland



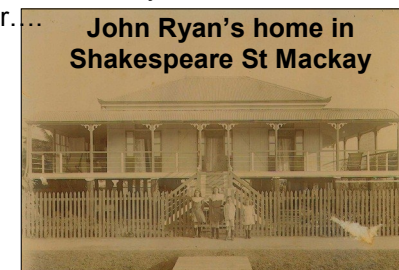
I've also found out more about John Ryan's life in Mackay. His occupation was listed as a carpenter or contractor on various certificates, but I believe that he mostly contracted to the council to build timber bridges etc including the first

bridge across the Pioneer River, and before that he was briefly a publican until the pub "The Bushman's Hotel" on the banks of the river, was washed away in a flood. He also worked as a chainman for the first surveyor for Mackay, T Henry Fitzgerald, and again for T Henry Fitzgerald he planted the first sugar cane in the Mackay area. In addition I've found that his wife, Mary-Anne Martin was accompanied to Australia by her mother, Catherine (Kenny) Martin and that Catherine was living with John & Mary-Anne at Ballyfeasan Farm at Mackay when she died there

The Griffiths Valuation has helpfully informed me that the original Denis Ryan leased his farm at Ballytobin from Michael Farrell. I wonder if this was his wife, Catherine's, brother or father-in-law? As Ballytobin is a small civil parish I'm inclined to believe this is very likely. The original Ballytobin House is still in the Ryan family, now being owned by Eddie's brother.

At last, many of the mysteries of the origins of "my" Ryans have been discovered. It is one of the great rewards of researching family history to put many of the jig-saw pieces into their correct places, but there is always so much more to discover. ...

**John Ryan's home in  
Shakespeare St Mackay**



Membership Number & Type		Surname & Initials
--------------------------	---	--------------------

## Clan Ryan (Queensland)

(Official Branch of the Clan Ryan, Tipperary, Ireland)

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

**SURNAME** (Block Capitals): .....

Given Names: .....

Address:.....

..... Post Code.....

Telephone - Home: (    ).....Mobile:.....

Email Address: .....

Born: ..... Where:..... Occupation.....

**Applicant's Parents:**

**FATHER:**

**MOTHER:**

**SURNAME**.....

**MAIDEN SURNAME:** .....

Given Names: .....

Given Names: .....

Date of Birth: .....

Date of Birth: .....

Place of Birth: .....

Place of Birth: .....

Date Married: .....

Place Married: .....

Occupation: .....

**Spouse**

**SURNAME:**.....

Given Names: .....

Date of Birth: ..... Place of Birth: .....

Date Married: ..... Where: .....

### Parents of Spouse

Father:..... Mother:.....

Born ..... at .....      Born ..... at .....

**NOTE: Please enter details of any Children on the back of this form in the space provided.**

## Children

[illegible]

Dated this ..... day of ..... 19.....

Signed: .....

**ADD MY NAME AND MEMBERSHIP NUMBER TO CLAN RYAN WEBSITE**

☐ YES☐ NO

## MEMBERSHIP FEES

Ordinary Member: \_\_\_\_\_ \$15.00 per annum

Family Membership (2 voting Members )	\$15.00 per annum
---------------------------------------	-------------------

Postal Levy for the Quarterly "Ryan Rag" has been discontinued. It is included in the Fees

**NOTE: Family Membership** includes two (2) adults plus ALL children under the age of 16 years of age. These Fees operate from the 1st January 2007. For back Fees the amount will be calculate at the rate ruling at the time of the arrears were incurred.

For Information on the Development, History and Aims of the Clan Ryan please go to the Clan Ryan Australia Website  
<http://www.clanryanaustralia.org>

# The Irish Radio Program

Every Saturday from 12:30 PM to 1:30 PM on Radio 4EB, 98.1 FM.

- Up to the hour News Items from Ireland
- A rich variety of good Irish Music.
- local S E Queensland doings,
- Become a member for \$25 per year and keep the Irish Group 'on the air'.

## NEW MEMBERS

People will not look forward to posterity who never look backward to their ancestors."  
-Edmund Burke

**"Ceàd mille failte romhat!"**  
(A hundred Thousand Welcomes)

# Please Recruit New Members

Lorraine & Stewart Boyd

Please recruit new members!  
Invite your friends and family and any Ryan you know or meet, to join us.

Queensland Branch  
As Logo



The Management Committee wish you all

A very happy  
Saint Patrick's Day



## Culinary Corner



Conrad Bladey (Peasant)

Professor of Irish Culture, Expert in Irish Cookery, Crafts, Stories and Traditions of celebration. Tin Whistle Player and Storyteller

Recently on a visit to my Daughter in the Brisbane suburb of the Grange, we decided we needed some supplies so made our way to the Stafford shopping centre, accompanied by my little granddaughter. My daughter took a shortcut to the centre's carpark and in doing so passed a little shop which was selling all things IRISH.

My granddaughter became very excited and begged her mother to stop in on the shop, something that the little one had been wanting to do for a long time. I backed her up saying that I thought it would be very interesting and could we do that on the way home. Of course we won the day and a promise to take us there.

My daughter dropped me and the little one off as she was taking the perishables home and left with the promise to return to pick us up;

Well it was such a lovely little shop. All manner of Irish goods were for sale, even holy pictures, medals, souvenirs clothing, jewellery, Irish music, Waterford crystal and on and on. Enough to occupy us for ages. There was even a stand with hurling sticks and other sporting paraphernalia.

Best of all, from a door at the back of the shop a beautiful young Irish Colleen emerged and when she spoke she had a thick Irish brogue... which set the scene off beautifully. Later an older lady joined her, she had a shock of red hair. It all lent a very authentic air to this little shop which was called the 'Irish Shack.'

What does all this have to do with the Culinary Corner?

Well, on the counter was some lovingly wrapped and labled "Mother's Potato Bread". It was too much to resist, especially when it was guaranteed that it was made by a little old Irish lady, - I had to try some.!

Instructions to fry it and lather it with butter was followed and ..... what a gourmet delight! It was light and fluffy in texture and the flavour was very subtle but the potato flavour was evident. I was very satisfied and pleased to have tried an authentic Irish bread.....and.....

I have to bring you a recipe so you can try it too! I hope you enjoy it as much as I did.

## Irish Potato Bread - A Recipe

If you ask an Irish person living abroad what food they miss most from back home, potato bread will probably be one of the top answers. A thin unleavened bread, it is a delicious addition to a fried breakfast, or simply toasted and slathered in butter. Being a lot denser than many types of bread it is particularly suited to frying, as it doesn't tend to soak up oil or fat the way a common sliced loaf might. It's also known as fadge or potato cakes, although a lot more like bread in form and served in much the same way as bread.

The good news is there's really no reason for the expat to miss out on it, or for the newcomer not to give it a whirl, as it is so simple to make.

### Ingredients

- 450g (1lb) potatoes
  - 30g (1oz) butter
  - 1 level tsp salt
- 100g (3.5oz) plain flour

### Method

1. Peel the potatoes, cut them into small pieces, and put them in a pan of boiling water. After about twenty minutes, or as soon as they are soft, drain them and mash them up so no big lumps remain.

While still warm<sup>2</sup>, mix in the butter and salt.

Start working the flour in. You may not need it all, depending on the texture of the potatoes. Just add enough to make a good, stiff dough.

Roll the dough out to form a circle about 1cm thick, and cut into triangular quarters.

Cook on a hot, dry frying pan<sup>3</sup> which has been sprinkled with flour to prevent sticking. No oil or fat is needed; the purpose is just to cook the dough, not to fry.

Turn the bread occasionally; it is ready when both sides are golden brown

### Serving Suggestions

Fry the bread for breakfast along with bacon, sausage and egg, or toast and butter it for a quick snack with a mug of tea.

- 1 Although there is a type of sliced white loaf referred to as potato bread, it should not be confused with this variety.
- 2 Mixing will be easier if the potatoes are still warm. It isn't vital, however, and leftover mashed potatoes which have gone cold can be used too.
- 3 In days gone by, a griddle over the fire in the hearth was the norm.

## GreenEDGE

To follow the performance of this team—Google search  
“GreenEdge wins”



<http://www.theroar.com.au/cycling-news/greenedge/>

**GreenEDGE cycling** is an Australian professional cycling team formed in 2011 who will compete on the UCI World Tour professional cycling circuit after being granted a licence by the UCI for the 2012 and 2013 UCI World Tour seasons.

The GreenEDGE team was founded by Australian businessman Gerry Ryan and will be managed by Andrew Ryan and Shayne Bannan, with Matt White and Neil Stephens race directors.

GreenEDGE's current focus is on its mens road and track racing team but have stated their intention to expand into women's cycling competition in the future.

In January 2012 GreenEDGE announced a full 30-man roster, with 17 of the 30 riders being Australian. Simon Gerrans, Baden Cooke, Matt Goss and Cameron Meyer head the list of prominent Australian riders who will be competing for GreenEDGE in 2012, while veterans Stuart O'Grady and Robbie McEwen will also ride for the team.

GreenEDGE made their racing debut in January 2012 at the Bay Classic Series in Victoria with Allan Davis winning the men's classification, while Simon Gerrans (road race) and Cameron Meyer (time trial) picked up national honours at the Australian National Championships a week later.

Later in January Simon Gerrans won the 2012 Tour Down Under in GreenEDGE's first UCI World Tour event. World champion track cyclists Leigh Howard and Cameron Meyer led GreenEDGE to victory in the 2012 edition of the Berlin Six Days track race, highlighting the team's versatility in a variety of cycling disciplines.

Indifferent team performances at the Tour of Qatar and Tour Med in February highlight the difficulties the fledgling team will face on the international stage.

GreenEDGE will be competing in the pinnacle events of the 2012 UCI World Tour including the Giro d'Italia, Tour de France and Vuelta Espana, as well as a host of other tour events.

# Keep On Smiling!

From Internet source <http://www.abitoblarney.com/irishjokes.htm>

Murphy told Quinn that his wife was driving him to drink. Quinn thinks he's very lucky because his own wife makes him walk.

*An Aussie lawyer asked, Paddy, why is it that whenever you ask an Irishman a question, he answers with another question? Who told you that?"asked Paddy.*

Reilly went to trial for armed robbery. The jury foreman came out and announced, "Not guilty." "That's grand!" shouted Reilly. "Does that mean I can keep the money?"

*Irish lass customer: Could I be trying on that dress in the window?"Shopkeeper: I'd prefer that you use the dressing room."*

Mrs. Feeney shouted from the kitchen, "Is that you I hear spittin' in the vase on the mantle piece?" "No," said himself, "but I'm gettin' closer all the time."

*Finnegan: My wife has a terrible habit of staying up 'til two o'clock in the morning. I can't break her of it. Keenan: What on earth is she doin' at that time? Finnegan: Waitin' for me to come home.*

"O'Ryan," asked the druggist, "did that mudpack I gave you improve your wife's appearance?" "It did surely," replied O'Ryan, "but it keeps fallin' off!"

*A Kerryman went to London and found himself in the Underground late one night. Seeing a notice DOGS MUST BE CARRIED ON THE ESCALATOR,"he moaned to himself, And where am I going to find a dog at this hour of the night?"*

"A Kerryman rang Aer Lingus and asked how long it took to fly from Dublin to London. "Just a minute sir," said the girl on the desk. "Thank you," said the Kerryman and hung up.

*Tell me, Patrick, how did you manage to get so very drunk last night?"asked the parish priest.*

*Well you see, Father, it was like this. I got into very bad company after winning a bottle of whiskey at a raffle."*

*"But you were with Mick Mulligan, Sean O'Toole, and Peter Ryan and they don't drink."*

*Dat's what I mean, Father..."*



## Kids Kubby



### Fair Brown and Trembling - An Irish Fairystory

*Continued from issue 174*

They all said: "You didn't win her just by taking the shoe off her foot; you'll have to win her by the point of the sword; you'll have to fight for her with us before you can call her your own."

"Well," said the son of the king of Emania, "when I find the lady that shoe will fit, I'll fight for her, never fear, before I leave her to any of you."

Then all the kings' sons were uneasy, and anxious to know who was she that lost the shoe; and they began to travel all over Erin to know could they find her. The prince of Emania and all the others went in a great company together, and made the round of Erin; they went everywhere, - north, south, east, and west. They visited every place where a woman was to be found, and left not a house in the kingdom they did not search, to know could they find the woman the shoe would fit, not caring whether she was rich or poor, of high or low degree.

The prince of Emania always kept the shoe; and when the young women saw it, they had great hopes, for it was of proper size, neither large nor small, and it would beat any man to know of what material it was made. One thought it would fit her if she cut a little from her great toe; and another, with too short a foot, put something in the tip of her stocking. But no use; they only spoiled their feet, and were curing them for months afterwards.

The two sisters, Fair and Brown, heard that the princes of the world were looking all over Erin for the woman that could wear the shoe, and every day they were talking of trying it on; and one day Trembling spoke up and said: "Maybe it's my foot that the shoe will fit."

"Oh, the breaking of the dog's foot on you! Why say so when you were at home every Sunday?"

They were that way waiting, and scolding the younger sister, till the princes were near the place. The day they were to come, the sisters put Trembling in a closet, and locked the door on her. When the company came to the house, the prince of Emania gave the shoe to the sisters. But though they tried and tried, it would fit neither of them.

"Is there any other young woman in the house?" asked the prince.

"There is," said Trembling, speaking up in the closet; "I'm here."

"Oh! we have her for nothing but to put out the ashes," said the sisters.

But the prince and the others wouldn't leave the house till they had seen her; so the two sisters had to open the door. When Trembling came out, the shoe was given to her, and it fitted exactly.

*Continued next issue.....*

ryan Rag will pay  
\$5 incentive for any published  
Art works, poems or stories  
sent by our children.

## Inaugural Brisbane Irish Festival

**CLEAR A SPACE IN YOUR DIARY**, the very first Brisbane Irish Festival is scheduled to take place next month, running from the **9 to 17 March**.

The festival, which coincides with St Patrick's Day (17th March), has been **set up to celebrate Irish culture and heritage and to recognise the strong links between Brisbane and Ireland**.

**TIPPED TO BE A WEEK TO REMEMBER, THE BRISBANE IRISH FESTIVAL** is a must for anyone with or without an ounce of Irish Blood. Festival goers will be treated to a packed schedule of events featuring culture, dancing, sport, film, food and music.

**Highlights from the Brisbane Irish Festival will include THE ST PATRICK'S DAY PARADE THROUGH THE CITY, A GAELIC SPORTS FESTIVAL, AN IRISH FILM NIGHT, A FOOD FAIR, THE SAINT PATRICK'S EVE DINNER and plenty of music and dancing in venues across Brisbane.**

The Brisbane Irish Festival is organised by the Queensland Irish Association in association with a number of the city's Irish community groups and organisations. The Festival is proudly supported by the Queensland Government as well as Brisbane City Council.



**WHAT:** Inaugural Brisbane Irish Festival

**WHERE:** Throughout Brisbane

**WHEN:** 9 to 17 March, 2012



Why: To celebrate the links between Brisbane and Ireland and to showcase Irish culture and heritage

Festival Highlights:

- Irish Ball on Friday 9 March
- St Patrick's Day Parade on Saturday 10 March
- St Patrick's Irish Festival - Family Sports Day on Sunday 11 March
- Irish Trivia Night on Monday 12 March
- Rose of Tralee Fashion Parade Tuesday 13 March
- Irish Film Night on Wednesday 14 March
- Traditional Irish Music Concert on Thursday 15 March
- The 114th Annual St Patrick's Eve Dinner on Friday 16 March
- St Patrick's Day Celebrations at QPAC featuring Damien Leith Saturday 17 March
- and much more...

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE BRISBANE IRISH FESTIVAL PLEASE VISIT [WWW.QUEENSLANDIRISH.COM](http://WWW.QUEENSLANDIRISH.COM) OR THE BRISBANE IRISH FESTIVAL 2012 FACEBOOK PAGE**

## Annual Clan Gathering 5th May 2012

*2ld Irish Club  
- Brisbane -  
11.00am Saturday*

**Contact Pres: Gregory J. Ryan,  
15 Vince Hine Dve  
WORONGARY 4213**

**Phone: (07)55591773: Mob:0409626385 Email: [gjryan@bigpond.net.au](mailto:gjryan@bigpond.net.au)**

*re bookings/enquiries.*



*Due to falling membership numbers  
An extraordinary AGM*

*To discuss the future of the clan has been convened  
To take place at this gathering.  
It is important so please come along.*



Drew Phillip Farry 11 Months September 3rd 2011 Grand-son of Donna & Philip Farry. (Tas)

### Cooper's Christening Revisited .

Ashley and Alex Shuttlewood organized their son's christening on Saturday evening the 19th of November 2011, by FR Nick de Groot S.V.D. The God parents are (Trent Shuttlewood) and Angela Johnston (Alex's sister).

This photograph was sent in too late for inclusion in the last issue.

As it is a beautiful picture I am including it in this issue.



From L to R. Fr deGroot, Alex Shuttlewood, Cooper, Trent Shuttlewood and Angela Johnston.

## All you need is LOVE! :)

I thought you might like this pic of the girls just because it's such a beautiful picture. My youngest had fallen over on a hike of a local Mt, Mt Piper. I was carrying a weight vest and Daniel was carrying Xavier, and so we were not much help. And in discussion with hubby on the walk back, I caught a glimpse of Jaimie helping Alyssia back to the car, and was lucky enough to grab a quick snapshot of them. Sisterly Love :)

Thankyou, Melissa :)

**MELISSA RYAN (Vic)**

