

Cairns Scottish & Irish Dance Academy

www.cairnshighlandandirishdance.com.au



City of Cairns
Highland & Irish Dancers

18th April 2010

Highland & Irish Happenings

Overview of our Year so far

The most difficult thing about Term 1 2010 was the dreadful hot weather that we had to endure in the un-airconditioned halls at Aeroglen and Freshwater. It is very hard to expect perfect work, commitment and behaviour from students when there is such oppressive weather and the students are caked with flying ants as was the case one Monday evening at the Aeroglen Hall.

Hopefully, Term II will be much more comfortable and enjoyable for all concerned.

Despite their discomfort, our students did work hard and their achievements need to be recognized.

Our first term ended in quite a traumatic way for the Wilson family with the passing of my mother, Edna Ellen O'Gorman.

Mum's determination to stay in her own home has been a constant worry for me for a very long time and this last 6 months in particular has become more and more difficult but only on the Friday before she was taken to hospital she made it very clear to Kevin and I that she was not moving.

Unfortunately, ultimately she did not have a say in the matter and her departure from our family home of 56 years was far from dignified and if only she had the choice, I am sure

she would not have chosen that.

With our family being the only ones living here in Cairns, it meant that in her advancing years, Mum relied on our family more and more. All I can say is, that Mum is now at peace and has been spared the trials of loneliness and fear, which we are sure that she was experiencing in living by herself, a frail body and failing health.

We have had wall to wall family with us for the past three weeks. They have now all gone and Kevin and I, Catherine, Alison and James can now start to come to the realization that we don't have Grandma anymore. I am sure that there will be an emptiness at times. However there is still much to do to get matters finalized as we have a house property and contents to sort and dispose of.

I am looking forward to our Term II. It is going to be very busy, as there is a lot to prepare for and attend to.

I am also looking forward to seeing our dancers in their new studio dance wear.

Yes the new Studio Dance Wear has arrived and will be distributed to those who have ordered it during the course of our first week back at dancing.

Classes for Public Holidays
Monday 26th April
No classes 2nd May

I am sorry that our Term I ended so abruptly, however it was unavoidable and totally out of my control.

We had intended that classes commence on Monday 19th of April anyway.

Even though we did not go to Caloundra for the Champion of Champions, we have been very busy attending to family matters ever since Easter.

Term II accounts will be amended to refund the classes that were cancelled at the end of Term 1.

Due to the large workload for Term II and also to make up for the classes cancelled, classes will be held on Monday 26th April following the advertised timetable.

I will be in Sydney attending the Australian Board of Highland Dancing Meeting on May Day weekend. No classes 2nd May.

Classes will not be held on Monday 14th June - Queen's Birthday Long Weekend.

The NQ Irish Premierships are being held in Home Hill on Sunday 13th June and I would expect that most families will be traveling back to Cairns on the Monday.

Scheduled classes will finish for Term II on Wednesday 23rd June. There will be holiday classes for students who intend going to the Grand Australasian Highland Dancing Championships in Sydney.

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Burdekin Competition Success

The Lower Burdekin Celtic Dancing Association competition was held on Sunday 7th March.

Four of our dancers, Ciara O'Mara, Niamh O'Shea, Jessica Moyer and Siobhan Mulcahy attended and were all rewarded for their hard work.

Ciara O'Mara

2nd Beginners Light Jig

1st Beginners Reel

2nd Beginners Slip Jig

3rd Beginners Single Jig

4th Beginners Hornpipe

Niamh O'Shea

4th Beginners Light Jig

2nd Beginners Reel

4th Beginners Single Jig

Jessica Moyer

1st Primary Reel

2nd Intermediate Slip Jig

1st Primary Slip Jig

1st Primary Treble Jig

Siobhan Mulcahy

2nd Beginner Light Jig

3rd Beginner Single Jig

2nd Primary Treble Jig

2nd Beginner Hornpipe

4th Primary St. Patrick's

Day.



St. Patrick's Day

St. Patrick's Day 2010 was once again jam packed with hard work, excitement and excellent presentations from all of our dancers.

The displays commenced on the Tuesday Evening, when Ciara O'Mara, Niamh O'Shea, Rachel Evans and Archie Irwin performing at Mondo's at the Hilton with the Doyle Family Show.

Ciara Sullivan entertained her peers at St. Andrew's Catholic College, Redlynch at lunchtime on March 17.



Brother's Leagues Club, our usual venue saw the entire Irish Class perform two half hour shows. This was exciting for our younger students as for

many this was their first St. Patrick's Day performance. The Senior class then moved onto the Reef Hotel Casino for two more half hour shows and of course

brought the house down. The audience was very animated and the dancer's performances were second to none.

A very big thank to all the parents for your support, particularly during the rehearsal time on the weekend before.

Thank you also to Brother's Leagues Club and to the Reef Hotel Casino for giving our dancers the opportunity to perform.

While the displays are demanding they are an excellent confidence boosting experience and they give the dancers a sense of commitment and expectation.

Highland Dancing Workshop

Thirteen of our Highland Dancing students enjoyed a two day workshop with Marion Clow from Edinburgh, Scotland on the 7th and 8th March.

Marion is the representative on the Scottish Official Board of Highland Dancing representing Australia.

Marion judges throughout

the World and prepares students for Competition when they are visiting Scotland in preparation for the Scottish Championship circuit.

Marion covered all levels and standards from Beginners to Premier and our students were very attentive and worked hard to work with Marion to im-

prove their standard of dancing.

Our students were very successful at the NQ Highland Gathering in Townsville on the 27th March and also at the Champion of Champions Championships and supporting events in Caloundra at Easter.

A very big thank you to

Turning Point Dance Studio and Brother's Leagues club for the use of their facilities.

Thankyou also to the parents who provided the wonderful morning/afternoon tea for the students and teachers and especially to Mrs Helen Watson who provided a wonderful lunch for Marion and our Academy teachers.

NQ Highland Gathering - Townsville 27th March



The inaugural NQ Highland Gathering, conducted by the Far North Queensland Regional Committee in conjunction with NQ Scots Pipe Band was a huge success.

The open air gathering with the Pipe Bands and Dancing together with the Market stalls made for a very enjoyable day.

Our students from Cairns did very well. Dancers who attended were Hannah Jarvis, Gemma Purvis, Angela Nucifora, Tara McGregor-Sutton, Holly Henson, Brook Henson, Rachel Evans and India McCulloch.

This competition proved to be a good practice run for the dancers who travelled to Caloundra for the Champion of Champions Championship of Australia.

Results were as follows:

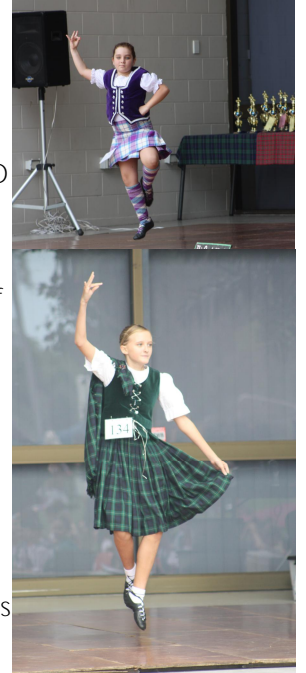
Holly Henson
 1st Beg Highland Fling 9 & 10
 1st Beg Scottish Lilt 9 & 10
 1st Beg Flora 9 & 10
 1st Beg Seann Truibhas
 1st Beg Sword Dance
 Brooke Henson
 3rd Beg Highland Fling 11 & O
 1st Beg Flora 11 & O
 Angela Nucifora
 1st Int Heilan Laddie
 3rd Int Barracks Johnnie
 1st Int S/Spey & 1/2 Tulloch
 1st Int Seann Truibhas
 Hannah Jarvis
 1st Premier Village Maid
 3rd Premier Seann Truibhas
 1st Premier Scottish Lilt
 Gemma Purvis
 3rd Res Prem Blue Bonnets
 1st Res Prem Heilan Laddie
 2nd Res Prem Barracks Johnnie
 3rd Res Prem Scottish Lilt

Tara McGregor-Sutton

1st Novice Scottish Lilt
 3rd Novice Flora
 2nd Novice Seann Truibhas
 Rachel Evans
 3rd Beg Seann Truibhas 11 & O
 3rd Beg Sword Dance

We would like to sincerely thank our Patron of the City of Cairns Festival of Highland and Irish Dancing Association Inc, Mrs Deirdre Ford who travelled to Townsville to support our dancers.

Following the Gathering, a Ceilidh was held at the South Townsville Bowls Club. Thank you to the parents and students who supported this function.



Festival of Tartans - Caloundra - Easter 2010

Over 500 dancers from throughout Australia, New Zealand and Overseas competed in the 2010 Champion of Champions Championship, the Queensland Highland Dancing Championship and supporting events that made up the Festival of Tartans. Cairns dancers Belinda Worthy, Kate Ryan, Gemma Purvis, Angela

Nucifora, Tara McGregor-Sutton, Archie Irwin and Hallie Farquharson all travelled to Caloundra to compete.

We can be very proud of our students as there were a number of placing including 1st placings and placings in the top three of two titles.

Congratulations to Archie Irwin who was placed 2nd in the Beginners Queensland Highland Dancing Titles and also to Angela Nucifora who was placed 2nd in the Intermediate Queensland Highland Dancing Titles. Well done everyone. To hear news of your success certainly lifted my spirits when I needed it.



NQ Irish Premierships - Home Hill - Sunday 13th June 2010

The NQ Irish Premierships for 2010 are being held at the Memorial Hall at Home Hill on Sunday 13th June.

The NQ Irish Premierships are hosted by the Australian Irish Dancing Association NQ Sub Committee. This committee comprises a membership of the teachers of North Queensland stretching from Mackay in the south, Cairns in the north and west to Mount Isa.

Each dancing school is expected to contribute to the Premierships by way of Trophy Donations, manpower to run the canteen, marshalling etc.

Our dancing school parents will be on the roster to assist in the canteen and also on the marshalling roster.

The Premierships this year will be held only on the Sunday which will include the Ceili sections. Usually

the Ceili is held on the Saturday evening, however there is a wedding in the hall on the Saturday.

I am encouraging all our dancers to attend - Beginners to Open. I will need to know ASAP whether you intend going as I will have to arrange the Ceili groups.

The groups are always determined by age so it is important that these can be arranged so that the

students are confident with their dances and also confident with dancing in teams.

Heather Nucifora has already investigated accommodation in the Burdekin and it appears that there is not very much available.

My suggestion is that if you intend going, that you stay in Townsville and drive to Home Hill, a little over one hour's drive south on the Sunday Morning. The competition will be starting at 9.00 a.m.

Townsville Highland Dancing Association Northern Heather Highland Dancing Titles & Competition

The Townsville Highland Dancing Association is conducting the Northern Heather Highland Dancing Titles and Competition on Saturday 12th June. This is the competition that was held on 31st October last year. Cairns and Townsville swapped their dates in 2009 as the NQ Irish Premierships were held in

Cairns on the June long weekend. I strongly recommend that all our Highland students consider entering this competition. We look for strong support from Townsville competitors to make up the numbers when we conduct our "City of Cairns" Highland Competition so it is only fair that we reciprocate. It

is quite convenient that the Irish Premierships are in Home Hill. This will allow our dancers who compete in both Highland and Irish to attend both competitions. Schedules are not out for this Highland Competition yet, but parents will receive an email to advise you that the schedule and entry forms have been

posted on our website www.cairnshighlandandirishdance.com.au when they are avail-



Highland Dancing Examinations

Our Highland Dancing students did not sit for Highland Examinations with the National Dancing Association of Australia in 2009 as I was overseas when the examinations were due to be held.

I am keen for our students to sit their examinations this year and where possible, have our students sit for two examinations to catch up.

Students will be issued with their Theory for their examination work within the next week so that they can start practicing and learning their work.

Examinations will be held on Saturday 7th August. Examination Entry Fees will be due by the end of May. Examination List.

Pregrade
Brooke Arnold, Brianna Dunnigan, Yasman Marczak, Aleerah Zammit.
Grade 1
Archie Irwin, Ciara Sullivan, Brooke Henson, Hallie Farquharson, India McCulloch, Alyssa Neil.
Grade 2
Holly Henson, Tara McGregor-Sutton, Rachel Evans, Archie Irwin, Ciara Sullivan, Brooke Henson
Grade 3

Holly Henson, Hannah Jarvis, Brooke Henson, Archie Irwin, Tara McGregor-Sutton, Rachel Evans.
Grade 4
Tara McGregor-Sutton, Hannah Jarvis
Grade 5
Angela Nucifora, Gemma Purvis
Advanced
Kate Ryan.
More info for parents very shortly.

New Academy Dance Wear

The new Academy Dance Wear has arrived.

A few students put orders in but have still not paid for their orders. The dance wear will not be handed out until payment has been made.

Similar dance wear has been worn by our Highland Students who purchased garments as part of the fund raising for Champion of Champions. It proved popular hence our

decision to go ahead with a new Academy uniform.

I am encouraging all students who have not yet purchased the dance wear to consider doing so.

We have extra stock so I am confident that we will have enough for everyone. I would like to add that the new dance wear is not compulsory and the Academy Uniform - Polo/Singlet Top and Royal Blue Shorts may also be worn.

Prices are as follows:

Singlet Top	
Children Sizes 4-12	\$23
Adult 14/XS—M	\$24
Fitted T-Shirt	
Children Sizes 4-12	\$25
Adult 14/XS—M	\$26
Kick Shorts	
Children Sizes 4-12	\$19
Adult 14/XS—M	\$21
3/4 Loose Leg Pants	
Children 4-12	\$30
Adult 14/XS - M	\$35

Track Suits
It is recommended that

students wear Track Suits in the cooler months to prevent rapid cool down after a dancing class.

The Track Suits are also recommended if students travel to competitions where they need to stay warm until they are ready to dance.

Track Suit Tops	\$50
Track Suit Pants	\$30

Congratulations Catherine and Sarah

Two of our Senior Girls were among the list of Graduates at the James Cook University Graduation Ceremony held at the Cairns Convention Centre on Saturday Afternoon, 17th April.

Catherine Wilson graduated with a Bachelor of Law with Honors and Sarah Gayton graduated

with a Bachelor of Physiology with Honors.

Both Catherine and Sarah deserve hearty congratulations.

University study is never an easy road and takes a lot of hard work and commitment to complete.

Well done girls!



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Highland and Irish Dancers are
"Reel" Dancers

Sincere Thanks

Kevin, Jackie, Catherine, Alison and James would like to express our sincere personal thanks to all our very special parents, students and friends of our dancing school who attended the funeral, sent floral tributes, sympathy cards and messages of condolence on the passing of my mother, Edna Ellen O'Gorman.

I would also like to extend the appreciation of our extended family, my sisters Elaine and Judy and their families.

Many of you have met them on different occasions and your support and love in this past month has been very much appreciated by us all.

Thank you one and all - Jackie.

Congratulations Isabella



Isabella Nucifora has been doing much more than just dancing these past few months.

Isabella from a little girl has always told me that she want to become a Fashion Designer and it seems that she is well on her way.

During the Easter Holidays, Isabella was awarded "Best Secondary School Student Designer" at the City of Townsville International Design Awards.

TOWNSVILLE EISTEDDFOD - ENTRIES CLOSE WED 9TH JUNE

The Townsville Eisteddfod Schedule is posted on our website - www.cairnshighlandandirishdance.com.au. Entries close on Wednesday 9th June. NO LATE ENTRIES ARE ACCEPTED. If students wish to enter the Townsville Eisteddfod, parents must download the schedule which includes the entry form. Parents must complete the entry form - a list of dances for Irish students will be published, the entry form must be signed by the teacher and then forwarded to the Townsville Eisteddfod. The process for entering this competition is different than for other competitions and it is the parent's responsibility to ensure that the entry forms are completed and sent away so that they are RECEIVED by the Townsville Eisteddfod prior to 9th June. They are very strict and will not accept late entries.

Term 2 Timetable

Monday - Aeroglen Hall

4.15—5.15 Beginner/Primary
Irish

Rachel, Archie, Ciara, Niamh, Ciara

5.15—6.15 Intermediate Irish
Kate B, Zoe, Jessica, Siobhan, Angela, Gemma, Molly, Poppy, Iona

6.15 — 7.15 Pre-Premier/
Premier Highland
Hannah, Tara, Angela, Gemma, Kate R, Archie, Holly, Ciara, Rachel

7.15—8.15 Open Irish
Katia, Kendalle, Sarah, Tara, Isabella, Nadine, Kate R.

Tuesday - Freshwater Hall

4.30—5.15 Beginners Irish
Brianna, Claire, Hallie, Megan, India

5.15—6.15 Grade 1/ 2/ 3
Highland Exam Work
Archie, Holly, Brooke, Ciara, Rachel, Tara, Hannah

6,15—7.00 Pregrade Highland
Exam Work
Brianna, Brooke, Yasman

7.00—8.00 Advanced Highland
Exam Work
Kate R.

Wednesday - Freshwater Hall

4.30—5.30 Grade 4/5 Highland
Hannah, Tara, Angela, Gemma

5.30—6.15 Beginners Highland
Competition Highland Class
Hallie, Alyssa, India, Aleerah

6.15—7.00 Beginners/Primary Irish
Hallie, Megan, India, Alyssa, Aleerah, Ciara, Rachel, Archie, Ciara, Niamh

7.00—8.00 Senior Ceili Class
Kate B, Zoe, Jessica, Siobhan, Angela, Gemma, Molly, Poppy, Iona, Katia, Kendalle, Sarah, Tara, Isabella, Nadine, Kate R.