



Dysert O'Dea Clan (Aust)

DYSERT O'DEA CLAN ASSOCIATION (AUST)

PO Box 429 North Adelaide SA Australia 5006



O DEAGHAIDH

Your Australian O'Dea Contingent

Announces its

2nd Australian O'Dea Clan Gathering

to be held

on 19th – 22nd February 2010

in Adelaide, South Australia , Australia ,

The main event is to take place at the Fitzroy Community Clubrooms,
Swan Court, Renown Park. SA, Australia

For Further information contact:

Secretary Maureen Carey Email: maureencarey@netspace.net.au; OR roncarey@netspace.net.au

PO Box 429 North Adelaide SA Australia 5006

or President Sue Poole Email: pooled@ozemail.com.au



Committee members not in photo (Mary O'Dea, Kay Carmody, Judith Chapman, Anne Morahan, Jasmine and Kathleen Stansbury)

Our friendly 2010 Organising Committee at the likely venue

Invite you to attend

Leave your name with one of the committee if you are interested in visiting us.

Keep an eye on the O'Dea website for more details as we continue to formulate our programme in 2010

Who knows you might just enjoy yourselves

The 2010 Australian O'Dea Clan Gathering

19th-22nd February 2010

Adelaide. South Australia, Australia

The Preliminary Program

Day 1 - Friday, 19th February 2010

Optional

Social Get together for those who would like to attend

6.00pm – 11.00 pm Location: Wellington Hotel, 36 Wellington Square, North Adelaide for Evening Meal and Registration : Distribution of Registration packs available

Day 2 - Saturday, 20th February 2010

The Main Day

10:00 am to 12:00 noon Registration – Distribution of Registration packs at Fitzroy Community Clubrooms, Renown Park. Introductions, getting to know one another, and face painting for children & adults (family crest), Chocolate Wheel, Video tape of Dysert O'Dea Castle in County Clare, Ireland

Family line specialists available to help with Family trees during this session

10.30am Irish dancing demonstrations

11.00am Welcome - MC John O'Dea, Sue Poole Australian President, Acknowledgments (sponsors, speakers etc)

James O'Dea Irish President of Clan (special DVD appearance)

11.30 am Gathering and family group photo sessions

12.15pm - BBQ Luncheon (included in registration - Bar Facility available at own cost)

1.00 pm – Australian Family Line Histories. Brief overview of the family histories of the main ancestors that came from Ireland by recognised specialists of the lines represented at the reunion.

2.00pm – Our Ireland Roots and the Irish Reunion

**Master of Ceremonies – John O'Dea
A brief History of the Dysert O'Dea Clan (Ireland)
ex Clan Chieftain and Australian President - Sue Poole**

**International guests impressions on the 2008 Ireland REUNION ([watch this space](#))
Mary O'Dea, Ron Carey, Max Pahl, Ann Morahan (includes some of the funnier sides their experience in Ireland and the reunion)**

Travel to Ireland –costs associated with reunion/travel insurance –ASK the Travel AGENT

A brief talk about Dysert O'Dea Clan membership. Membership of Clan

3.00pm - O'Dea Family Histories – How to get started – Sue Poole workshop

4.00pm - Afternoon Tea

4.30pm - The O'Dea Website. How to get the most out of it.

Tom and Ruth O'Dea subject to availability (clan website managers)

5.30 pm Nibbles – Appetiser/Platters/finger food and Gaelic Football Exhibition

6.45 pm Smorgasbord Tea catered by Fitzroy Community Social club

Chocolate wheel to be interspersed during evening

7.30pm – Entertainment

Irish Dancing

John O'Dea lead sing a long recital and more

12.00 pm - Closing time for the 2nd Day

▶ Register by Mail Now

\$75 per person (\$AUD)

Day 3 - 21st Sunday, February 2010

Optional

9.30am-11.00am – Celebration of Mass

St Mary's Church Lower North Adelaide (originally known as little Irish Town in 1860's). See attachment at end of this flyer.

11.15 am - After the mass – all aboard for the trip to Mount Loft Summit for a view of Adelaide, It is brilliant. Special group Photo and morning tea.

12.30 – its off to Cleland Wildlife Park for Lunch



Just twenty minutes from the Adelaide city centre, you can explore some of South Australia's diverse landscapes and meet some of their inhabitants. Visitors can feed and wander at their leisure among kangaroos, wallabies, Emus and waterfowl. Displays of Dingoes, reptiles, Tasmanian Devils and Koalas allow easy viewing access, or stroll through the aviaries and marvel at the diversity of South Australian wildlife. The park has been a major tourist attraction in South Australia since 1967. Nestled within the natural bush setting of [Cleland Conservation Park](#) and adjacent to [Mount Lofty Summit](#), the park provides 35 ha of open bushland habitat where visitors can interact with Australian wildlife.

6.00pm Join us for tea at the

Social Get together only for those who would like to attend

6.30pm – 8.30 pm Location: Excelsior Hotel, Cnr. Coglin and Hawker Streets, Brompton. SA. For a quiet and relaxed Evening Meal

Day 4 – 22nd Monday, February 2010

Optional

Based on demand. **Travel to Barossa Valley to Whispering Wall, Maggie Beers and many other sites. It will be a day trip.**

St Mary's Church. The 3rd oldest Church in the State. Site of Worship of the first Irish Free Settlers in SA

The INTRODUCTION

Welcome to St Mary's Church, Lower North Adelaide, part of the Adelaide Cathedral Parish. This brochure has been prepared for History Week 2009.

HISTORY

Foundation



Philip LeCornu, a carpenter, transferred a vacant lot (191x50 feet) in town Acre 1019 to the Reverend Patrick Thomas Rummell in August 1876. His Lordship Bishop Christopher Reynolds laid the foundation stone for St. Mary's Church on **11 February 1877**. The building was originally constructed to serve as both a **church and school**. In the late 1800's this part of Lower North Adelaide was known as Irishtown and the church and parochial school served the Catholic community that resided in the area. After their founding by **Blessed Mary McKillop** in 1866 this was a period of rapid expansion of the Sisters of St. Joseph school system and by 1890 the school enrolment had grown to 167. The property ceased to operate as a school in 1973.



Considering its original joint use it is not surprising that the external appearance is more like a humble, solidly constructed school than a highly detailed church building.



The name of the church is derived from St. Mary Help of Christians, the patron of the Catholic Church in Australia. It later became known as Our Lady Help of Christians and it has now reverted to the original name of **St. Mary's**.



The Building

The existing building was constructed in three phases. The **nave, built in 1877**, was the first and largest component. The **vestibule was added in 1899** and the

sanctuary in 1905. In 2001 major exterior restoration and interior restoration was undertaken. At that time these three building phases were recognised with the stonework, mortar and pointing each reflecting the work practices and technology of the time.

Little is known of the original interior. In the early 1960's the interior of the church was modernised. Later, following the Second Vatican Council, the altar was moved forward towards the congregation. The present interior was restored and constructed in early 2001.

A point of interest lies in the chalice that has been part of the church since the 1920's. Around its base is the inscription;

"Pray for the boys of St Mary's Lower North Adelaide who fell in the war 1914 – 1918"

The property is listed on the City of Adelaide Local Heritage Register. It was the 67th Catholic Church to be built in South Australia, and the 15th in the Adelaide area. It is currently the 26th oldest surviving Catholic Church in the state and the 3rd oldest surviving Catholic building in the City of Adelaide.

The Changing Church Community

The predominantly Irish Catholic settlers in the early days of the Colony of South Australia came as a form of cheap labour under the Wakefield Settlement Scheme, being predominantly female orphans of the Great Famine, as labourers and as domestic servants. The area of Lower North Adelaide centred around Sussex Street with its simple cottages became known as Irishtown. These settlers had no local church in North Adelaide as the community was generally poor and at the bottom of the socio-economic scale, and lacked the capital resources to establish their own place of worship in North Adelaide. Finally in 1867 the Church of St Lawrence was commenced in Buxton Street. Meanwhile the Josephite sisters had opened a school in Walter Street to meet the educational needs of the community, and a further school at an unknown location in Irishtown. They withdrew from both schools in 1871 during the time of Blessed Mary Mackillop's excommunication, but had returned by 1873. Finally in 1877 the current school and church was established in Stanley Street. The school in Walter Street continued until some time after 1880. When Blessed Mary MacKillop examined the school at Irishtown in 1871 there were 50 children present, and 150 when she returned in 1897 or 1899 to the present site.

