

Dear Old Boy,

Greetings from Sydney,

As you are no doubt aware, the tentacles of the Glenstal Old Boys society have an incredibly long international reach. For such a small school, it is incredible to think that it is very hard to turn a corner, kick over a rock or order pint anywhere in the world without accidentally coming face to face with a Glenstallion at some point.

You are a member of an even more rarified group within the group because you have had the good sense to get as far away from the dark clouds and cutting winds as possible to make your home in the much warmer climes of Australia.

As Glenstal Boys are wont to do, a few of the Sydney and Brisbane based contingent have stumbled into each other over the years and either reestablished connections with old classmates or formed new ones with boys of other generations. It has proven to be a very pleasant turn of events particularly for those of us who are relatively new to life Down Under. Anything to help the settling-in process is always most welcome.

Collectively, we feel it is high time to take the accidental aspect out of these meetings and organise some sort of official function to match the annual events in Dublin and London.

With that in mind, the Irish Rugby team are touring the southern hemisphere this year. Their schedule includes a test against the Wallabies on **Saturday the 26th of June** at Suncorp Stadium in Brisbane (Kick off 8:00 p.m.). This presents an opportunity too good to be missed.

We have booked a number of tables in the "Munster Bar" of the Irish Club in Brisbane for a pre match dinner. The match kicks off at 8:00 p.m. We will be meeting at the club at 3:30 to sit down to eat at 4:00 p.m. when the bistro opens. The address of the club is 175, Elizabeth Street Brisbane QLD 4000, Phone: (07) 3221 5699. It will be an informal, relaxed affair and the bar has a very tasty looking menu with a nice mix of Aussie (prawns and steak) and Irish (sausage and stew) fare.

For those wishing attend the match, **tickets can be purchased now through ticketek and the A.R.U. website.** See the links below. Suncorp Stadium is about a 25 minute walk from the club. See the google maps link below for directions.

After the match, we will retire to the friendly surroundings of **Gilhooley's Pub on 124, Albert Street** to round off the evening. See the google maps link below for directions. Who knows, perhaps Declan Kidney and his charges might drop in for an end of season session.

The list of VIP attendees will include Rugby Coach, House Master, Former Head Master, Legend in his own mind and all round good guy, Br. Denis Hooper who has agreed to waive his usual exorbitant appearance fee and act as entertainment director.

So whether you have spent 50 years under the blazing Australian sun or whether the

scorching temperatures are new to you, book your place and make your way to Brisbane for what promises to be a very enjoyable evening. You can reminisce with old friends or swap horror stories about our mutual alma mater with a new one.

Please give me your confirmation so that I may finalise the Irish Club booking by Friday the 18th of June 2010. I can be contacted by return email or at the following numbers: 02 9453 4764 (Home) 0405 948124 (Mobile).

Bring the wife along, bring the girlfriend, or bring both. Friends and partners are of course most welcome to join us. Just be sure to let me know how many will be attending with you so I have the numbers right for the Irish Club.

Please, please, please be sure to forward this message on to any other Old Boys you may know who are not included in this email so that the net is spread as wide as possible.

I am also aware that Father Andrew is dilligently working on a new edition of Ubique and would therefore urge you to visit the Old Boys website to update your details. It only takes a minute. <http://www.myubique.com/>

I hope to see you there.

PAX,

James "Jimbo" Blake (1989-1995).