

Cumann Gaeilge na hAstráile, the story so far.

	President	Daonscoil venue	Events during the year	Interstate events
1992	-	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irish Language Association founded by a small group of supporters • Evening classes for learners held weekly, initially in North Melbourne Library 	-
1993	Muiris Ó Scanláin	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Association is legally registered in Victoria on Friday 7th May 1993 • Constitution provides for President, VP, Treasurer, Secretary and other committee members as well as an AGM and an annual membership fee 	-
1994	Muiris Ó Scanláin	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St John's school chosen as a suitable venue, has car parking and good facilities • Weekly classes moved to St John's School at start of 2nd term 	-
1995	Muiris Ó Scanláin	Willaura	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inaugural Cumann summer camp held at Willaura, Western District in Victoria from Sat 18th – Sat 25th November 1995 • About 20 members attend including Louis de Paor, Irish poet and academic 	-
1996	Éamon Ó Neachtain	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly classes split into bun-rang (beginners), meán-rang (intermediate), and ard-rang (advanced) • Small group from Victoria attend summer school in NSW in January 1996 	1st summer school at Nannangroe, NSW
1997	Éamon Ó Neachtain	Forest Lodge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summer camp dates moved to January and venue changed to Gippsland • Date and venue changes bring significantly more attendees • Nightly news sessions introduced at camp, and becomes a regular camp feature 	2nd summer school at Nannangroe
1998	Éamon Ó Neachtain	Forest Lodge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Donation of old books received from Department of Education in Ireland after visit there by Cumann president • Grant received from Bord na Gaeilge to assist with summer school 	1 st summer school at Carcoar, NSW

1999	Siún Uí Mhaoldomhnaigh	Forest Lodge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussions with interstate groups about common ideals and resources • Annual summer camp is renamed "Daonscoil" • President's newsletter commences and is circulated to members 	2 nd summer school at Carcoar
2000	Siún Uí Mhaoldomhnaigh	Forest Lodge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Tráth na gCeist (quiz nite) held between teams representing the four provinces, Ulster comes first • Library opened using the donated books and other materials in an upstairs area provided by the Irish Welfare Bureau in Northcote • First contact established with the Cultural Relations Committee of the Irish Dept. of Foreign Affairs, and funding received for a visiting language teacher • Grant received from Foras na Gaeilge 	3 rd summer school at Carcoar
2001	Siún Uí Mhaoldomhnaigh	Baanya Biarni	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Numbers attending Daonscoil increase after closing of Carcoar • New and larger venue is needed for our camp, and closer to airport • First debate between two teams (Should grog be allowed at camp?) result is an overwhelming "yes" • Library re-located to St. John's School and more books are donated by members • Committee votes for donation to Adelaide to help start a winter school there 	1 st winter school in Adelaide
2002	Cáit Ní Mhúdaigh	Lake Burren Brae	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cumann's 10th birthday celebrated with a dinner dance at the Yarraville Club • New newsletter launched in August, later entitled <i>An Fhuinneog Ghaelach</i> • Official logo adopted in December for use on all documents and merchandise. Did you know the design is from a hinge on a very old door at St John's ? 	2 nd winter school in Adelaide
2003	Cáit Ní Mhúdaigh	Lady Northcote Camp	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daonscoil activities extended to include a choice of "elective" subjects in the afternoons • Committee votes for donation to Sydney to help start winter school there after withdrawal of Adelaide • Negotiations opened with Celtic Club about leasing of the downstairs area • Cumann website launched on 1st June www.gaeilgesanastrail.com 	1 st winter school in Sydney

2004	Gabhán Ó Dubhthaigh	Lady Northcote Camp	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly classes moved to the Celtic club at start of year • New facilities now include office, computer and library space as well as separate classrooms for each level • Website is awarded five stars in online survey of Irish sites abroad • Newsletter editor retires after nine issues and hands over to a new team 	2 nd winter school in Sydney
2005	Cáit Ní Mhúdaigh	Lady Northcote Camp	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irish president becomes our official Patron, and total membership passes 100 • 10th annual Daonscoil celebrations, and four founding members are awarded life membership at AGM • Cumann takes part in special Irish day at Melbourne Immigration Museum 	3 rd winter school in Sydney
2006	Cáit Ní Mhúdaigh	Lady Northcote Camp	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cumann wins third place in international section of Glór na nGael competition and is awarded two trips to Oideas Gael in Donegal for language studies • Two more students awarded places to attend a course at Ballyferriter in Kerry • Decision to commence each school-term in Victoria with a teacher meeting 	4 th winter school in Sydney
2007	Deirdre Uí Ghiolla Easpaig	Lady Northcote Camp	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invitation to take part in Cultural day organised by C.C.E. during March • First Lá na bPáistí (Childrens day) held on Sunday 13th May at the Celtic Club • Website statistics show that our Cumann newsletter is now being read in Japan and France as well as the USA, Ireland, Britain and Australia 	5 th winter school in Sydney
2008	Deirdre Uí Ghiolla Easpaig	Lady Northcote Camp	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Largest ever attendance at Daonscoil, with over 80 people, and Irish Ambassador performs official opening • Seachtain na Gaeilge events in March include Irish Language Mass and an evening of Gníomhaíochtaí as Gaeilge (Cór, Gearrscannán, Agallamh, Biongó) • Riverside BBQ held on 30th March to celebrate Cumann's 15 years 	6 th winter school in Sydney

2009	Karolyne Paron	Lady Northcote Camp	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Series of interviews recorded at camp for later broadcast in Ireland • Cumann again comes third in Global Gaeilge competition and two students awarded places at Summer school in Kerry • Two Cumann members complete 10 years as volunteers at Radio 3ZZZ • In March, the Irish Ambassador visits our Melbourne clubrooms • Survey conducted to find ways to improve classes and other services to members • Video clips from summer camps start appearing on YouTube 	7 th winter school in Sydney
2010	Karolyne Paron	Lady Northcote Camp	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fifteenth annual Daonscoil, and 8th at this particular venue • Cumann wins first prize in Global Gaeilge and sends 3 people to awards night in Belfast. • Two students are awarded places at summer school in Donegal • Organised group of 15 visits Donegal Gaeltacht in August 	8 th winter school in Sydney
2011		Lake Dewar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daonscoil returns to Lake Dewar, formerly known as lake Burren Brae • Irish Ambassador performs official opening at 16th Daonscoil • Camp timetable is adjusted by popular demand to allow for two electives in the afternoon session • New editor appointed for our newsletter 	