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## 2025 Australian Celtic Festival Wrap Up

The 2025 Australian Celtic Festival was a great success, and particularly so for the Celtic Council of Australia. As usual, the CCA supported a number of the cultural ceremonies that are an integral part of the Festival. The CCA also had an information marquee, and answered a variety of queries, many of them about family history.

The CCA sponsored the inaugural ACF Eisteddfod, which saw prizes awarded for some very fine performances across a range of dance and choral categories. Our sincere thanks to organisers and judges of the eisteddfod, Jessica and Peter Grulovic, and hearty congratulations to all the competitors. CCA representatives were honoured to present the prizes, and our President, Dr Pamela O'Neill, gave an opening address. We hope that the eisteddfod will be bigger and better next year, and that there will be entrants in some Celtic-language categories - as it will be the ACF Year of Scotland, perhaps there will be some Scottish Gaelic?

We were delighted to award the honour of Duine Uasal to two very deserving recipients during the Guardians' Ceremony: Mr Ray Ellington of Coffs Harbour, and Mr Chris McEwan, Clan McEwan Commissioner for Oceania. We also congratulate CCA Standing Committee members Malcolm Buchanan, who was made a Guardian of the Australian Standing Stones in his own right (being already the Scottish Guardian by virtue of office) and Grace Roberts, who was made Welsh Guardian (being already a Guardian in her own right).

As it was the Year of Brittany, Cornwall and Wales, it was delightful to see an exceptionally strong representation from Bretons in Australia, including CCA Standing Committee member Tiffany Udo-Dean of Breton cultural group BZH Sydney. The Cornish, including CCA Standing Committee members Joy and Chris Dunkerley and Pamela O'Neill, celebrated 50 years of the Cornish Association of NSW with their usual strong showing, including music by DALLA Duo all the way from Cornwall. The Welsh were led by CCA Standing Committee member Grace Roberts and the red dragon was a very strong presence.

All in all, a wonderful festival. We are looking forward to the ACF in 2026: the Year of Scotland!





photos by Natalie O'Neill and Australian Scottish Heritage Council

Visit our [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#) to see more coverage from the weekend.

Best wishes,  
Pamela, Celtic Council of Australia President



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