

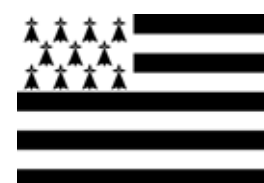
Wales, St. David's Day  
March 1 at 5pm



Cornwall, St. Piran's Day  
March 5 at 5pm



Ireland, St. Patrick's Day  
March 17 at 5pm



Brittany, St. Yve's Day  
May 19 at 4pm



Isle of Man, Tynwald Day  
July 5 at 4pm



Scotland, St. Andrew's Day  
Nov 30 at 5pm

Check the Glen Innes Highlands website for confirmation of times.

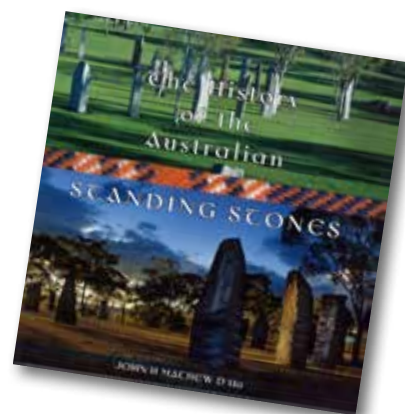
## THINGS TO DO AT THE AUSTRALIAN STANDING STONES

- Walk among the stones to the central plaque
- Study the solar noon shadow markers
- Check the time on the human sundial
- Play a game of brandubh
- Try to lift Excalibur
- Explore the Celtic Family Wall
- Climb the steps from Tynwald Hill to the Stones' viewpoint
- Refresh yourself at The Croft
- Drive or walk to Martin's Lookout (400m south) for a view of the town and Beardy Valley
- Visit the Hill of Tara - ancient site of Irish Kings
- Flag lowering ceremonies are held on Celtic national days (dates & times as indicated at left)
- Attend winter (21 June) and summer (21 December) solstice and equinox ceremonies. Check the website for confirmation and time.

## CROFTER'S COTTAGE



Crofter's Cottage is in the style of a dwelling house found on a typical small mixed farm in Scotland since the 18th century, known as a croft. The cottage honours the traditional Celtic lifestyle lived in similar cottages in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland and the west of Ireland.



### The story of the Australian Standing Stones

Available for sale at the Glen Innes Visitor Information Centre and at the Crofter's Cottage.

The Op Shop is a longstanding supporter of the Australian Standing Stones.

**AUSTRALIAN CELTIC FESTIVAL**  
at the Australian Standing Stones  
[australiancelticfestival.com](http://australiancelticfestival.com)  
E: [eventsofficer@gisc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:eventsofficer@gisc.nsw.gov.au) P: 02 6730 2400

**LAND OF THE BEARDIES HISTORY HOUSE MUSEUM & RESEARCH CENTRE**  
  
Cnr West Ave & Ferguson Street  
Ph: (02) 6732 1035 [www.beardieshistoryhouse.info](http://www.beardieshistoryhouse.info)

**Australian School of Celtic Learning**  
[www.celticlearning.com.au](http://www.celticlearning.com.au)

- webinars
- language classes
- retreats
- study tours
- history
- law
- pop culture
- all things Celtic!

**PO BOX 529 GLEN INNES NSW 2370**

Contact us now for:

- Lessons
- Festivals
- Private Functions

*KEEPING WITH TRADITION*  
Email: [gleninnespipeband@gmail.com](mailto:gleninnespipeband@gmail.com)

**GLEN INNES HIGHLANDS SHOP**  
LOCAL HANDMADE LOCAL ARTISTS LOCAL TARTAN LOCAL GIFTS  
SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESS  
152 Church Street  
[gleninneshighlands.com/shop](http://gleninneshighlands.com/shop)

**The Croft Glen Innes**  
Located at the Australian Standing Stones  
open most days from 9am

Brewing Walcha  
Roasted Coffee  
Freshly baked goods  
Hot meals

**Peter Grimes Celtic Art**  
**Peter Grimes Celtic artist**

The Alder Grove,  
9921 New England Highway,  
Glen Innes, 2370, NSW.  
[www.petegrimescelticart.com](http://www.petegrimescelticart.com)  
[www.petegrimescelticart@gmail.com](mailto:www.petegrimescelticart@gmail.com)  
0424521287

**Caer Australis**  
Welcome to the Castle of the South  
Exploring Celtic Traditions, Myths & History since 1995

**For more information contact:**  
**Glen Innes Visitor Information Centre**  
52 Church Street  
Phone: (02) 6730 2400



[www.gleninneshighlands.com/australian-standing-stones/](http://www.gleninneshighlands.com/australian-standing-stones/)

[facebook.com/australianstandingstones/](https://facebook.com/australianstandingstones/)



GLEN INNES • NSW

# the AUSTRALIAN STANDING STONES



HOME OF THE AUSTRALIAN CELTIC FESTIVAL

HELD ANNUALLY ON THE FIRST WEEKEND IN MAY



## THE AUSTRALIAN STANDING STONES

The **Stones** celebrate the Celtic nations whose descendants contributed to Australian life. They reflect the movement of the Earth around the sun, an important feature for the Celts.

### CELTIC ORIGINS

The **ancient Celts** were farming people who lived across Europe and the British Isles from around 2600 years ago. The Celts lived among stones which marked the seasons and indicated when they should sow and when to harvest.

The **early Celts** developed distinctive music, art and literature including festivals at key times of the year. Invasion and occupation of England resulted in Celtic people retreating to Scotland, Ireland, Wales, Cornwall, Isle of Man and Brittany. Their descendants have since spread across the world.

The **Celtic Council of Australia** initiated the idea of a national monument to honour all Celtic peoples who helped pioneer Australia. **Glen Innes** responded with this proposal for the Australian Standing Stones. They are inspired by the Ring of Brodgar in Scotland's Orkneys and the Callanish Stones on the Isle of Lewis.

The **Australian Standing Stones** was an ambitious project completed by a small, dedicated group of citizens who wanted to mark Glen Innes' Celtic heritage after the first white settlers arrived in 1838. Those from Scotland and Ireland developed grazing, dairy and mixed farming enterprises, while those from Wales and Cornwall were often gold or tin miners. The Australian Standing Stones was officially dedicated on 1st February 1992.

**Mystery and legend** surround stones throughout the world – feel the powerful, spiritual influence as you walk amidst the **Australian Standing Stones**.

### YOUR TOUR BEGINS

The array of **38 standing stones** includes a circle of **24 stones**, representing the **24 hours of the day**.

**Three central stones** are the connecting feature for all Celts. The central stone, the **Australis Stone** (31) is for all Australians and symbolises the link between the old and new worlds. The **Gaelic Stone** (35) to the north, is for Scotland, Ireland and the Isle of Man. The **Brythonic Stone** (28) to the south, is for Wales, Cornwall and Brittany.

**From the Australis Stone**, look through the avenue of 6 stones to the north east. The sun rises through this avenue at the **winter solstice** with its beams shining at dawn on the Australis Stone. The sun's last rays on this day shine on the inner stone to the North West (34).

The **inner stone** (17) to the south east of the Australis Stone, receives the sun's first rays at dawn on the **summer solstice**. Sunset on this day occurs towards the inner stone in the south west (27).

The **solar noon shadow stone** (18) in the south east hosts 7 ground level plaques marking the annual movement of the earth around the sun by depicting the **sun's shadow at solar noon** through the year.

The **four cardinal point stones**, together with stone 17, mirror the 5 stars of the **Southern Cross**, a welcoming constellation in the Australian sky.

**Looking south** outside the array, is the distinctive flat stone – the **Gorsedd Stone**. When Welsh and Cornish communities held Bardic festivals, winners or 'bards' were installed on a stone stage symbolised by this stone.

**To the east** of the Gorsedd Stone is the tall, squarish **Ogham Stone** sponsored by the Irish. The Ogham Stone is one of the largest stones at around 15 tonnes. The inscription on the square edges consists of short, long and sloping lines in the Ogham language – one of the first written languages. The inscription translates in Gaelic as: Gleann Maqi Aongusa, "the Glen Of the Sons of Angus" – Glen Innes.

**Tynwald Hill** on the hill to the south, acknowledges the Manx Parliament, "Tynwald" – reputedly the longest continually serving Parliament in the world.

**To the north** of the Stones is **The Hill of Tara**, a purpose built tribute to the Irish which represents the ancient seat of the high kings on the Hill of Tara in Ireland.

(The Stones are numbered at their base.)

