

DURROW PARISH NEWSLETTER

COMPILED BY THE DURROW SCOUTS

Fr. Jackie Robinson's OUTLOOK

PRIORITIES

A few evenings ago as I was preparing one of my sermons a knock came to the door. It was a friend of mine who happened to be passing and decided to call. Reluctantly, I let him in. As far as I was concerned he couldn't have picked a worse time to call. Afterall I was very busy - up to my neck trying to put something together for my sermon.

I offered my friend a cup of tea, half hoping he would refuse. He didn't. It was during his second cup that he leaned over and quietly told me about a family problem that was causing him serious worry. He didn't ask for advice - didn't seek my opinion - he simply wanted to share this burden which was weighing heavily on him at the time.

I could have kicked myself for being so smug and selfish and preoccupied with my own doings. I can tell you this much I was annoyed with myself that night.

This time, however, I was lucky. My friend could just as easily have guessed my thoughts and refused the offer of a cup of tea and those few moments of sharing would have been lost forever.

How many opportunities like that, I wonder, do we squander in life? How many times have we cut people off - friends, wives, husbands, even children - because of so-called "important" issues?

The parent preoccupied with the evening news dismissing his child's interruption with "Not now, I'm busy". Very often "later" never comes and a possible opportunity for sharing something with their child goes a begging.

We can be so foolish - so blind at times. Far too often we put the cart before the horse. What we think is important is not important at all.

If I have learned anything from my friend's visit that night it is this: I try to keep a sharper look out now for those moments, when someone is trying to reach out, anxious to talk a little, and needing to share a worry or a problem.

DURROW & DISTRICT ANGLERS

Sunday March 3rd sees the start of the Fishing Competitions for the Fisherman of the Year trophy which will be decided over the twelve Senior Competitions. A huge croud of anglers are expected to turne out for the first Trout Competition of the season with anglers travelling from Dublin, Ballinasloe, Kildare, Tipperary and Kilkenny, but they will find the going tough if they expect to beat the local contingent.

The Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank all land owners for the generous use of their lands for those competitions. Without their help those competitions would be impossible to run on such a scale. Land owners on the river who need stiles or fencing repaired should contact the secretary Michael Walsh or any committee member. Tight lines for 1991 season.

VIDEO TAPES: Anyone wishing to order a copy of either the Senior Citizens Party or the School Play contact John Flynn, St. Fintan's Tce.,

HARPS G.A.A. CLUB

Hurling training for both senior and junior grades will re-commence on Friday 11th March at 8.00 p.m. sharp in the Durrrow G.A.A. Pitch. Billy Martin will be the trainer for both Senior and Junior Grades for the early part of the season. There will then be a trainer appointed solely for the Junior teams in the latter part of the season. Billy Martin has requested a good attendance of players so that he can discuss the approach to be taken for the forthcoming year.

The Harps G.A.A. Club would like to thank those who represented the club in the recent Scor competition which was held in Timahoe. Although the team was defeated they gave a good competitive account for themselves. The team was:-

Quiz S. Conroy J. Dunphy J. Shortall
Solo Singing D. Walsh P. Begadon
Ballad Group N. Lalor A. Lalor E. Walsh V. Walsh
Recitation Mrs. Morrissey

IRISH NIGHT

The Harps G.A.A. Club is holding a gala Irish Night in the West End lounge, Ballyragget on St. Patrick's night, Sunday 17th March. Music is by the Errill Ceili Band and also Jackie McCracken. Admission is £2. and a good night is assured.

There will be a finance meeting in Cullohill Community Centre on Monday 11th March at 8.00 p.m. sharp, followed by a Committee meeting at 9.00 p.m. Those people connected to the various committee's are requested to attend.

MUSINGS ON JOY

Happiness is more easily attained when one is busy. The body must toil, the mind must be occupied, and the heart must be satisfied. Those who are busy doing good as opportunity offers are sowing seed all the time, and they need not doubt the harvest of joy they will reap.

"Joy temperance and repose
Slam the door on the doctor's nose"

You grow up the day you have the first real laugh - at yourself. To be without some of the things you want is an indispensable part of happiness. One of the best things a man can have up his sleeve is a funny bone. And the unfailing mark of a blockhead is the chip on his/her shoulder.

"How many smiles from day to day
I've missed along my narrow way
How many kindly words I've lost
What joy has my indifference cost?
This glorious friend that now I know
Would have been friendly long ago".

SYMPATHY is extended to the Gilbert family and friends on the death of Joe Gilbert late of Patrick Street.

LAOISE HOSPICE presents GALA CONCERT featuring Fr. Michael Clery and others on 24th March in the Killeshin Hotel. Further details later.

FOR SALE: Man's Racing Bicycle and girls Bicycle suitable for 10-13 year old.
Phone: 0502-36419

SCOUT NEWS

The Troop held their first outdoor activity of 1991 in Dunmore Wood recently. The day was a great success and was attended by a large number of Scouts. Credit for organising the event goes to David Kenna, Seamus Clancy and Vincent Walsh.

The Troop hope to go on a hostelling weekend to Foulksrath Castle over the 22nd, 23rd and 24th March. The mode of transport will be bicycle, with a number of cars in close attendance in case of emergencies - punctures etc., The full itinerary has not yet been completed but parents will be given all information as soon as it comes to hand.

The District Quiz will be held in Mountrath this Thursday 7th March. The Troop will have a number of teams taking part. The format of the quiz will be as last year, four Scouts to a table.

A Map & Compass Course which is being run by the Slieve Bloom District for the benefit of Cub and Scout Leaders will be held in Clonaslee over the weekend 13th and 14th April. Would all Leaders - Cub and Scout - who are interested in attending the course give their names to Martin Walsh as soon as possible.

DENTURE REPAIR SERVICE: One Hour Denture Repair Service, also dentures remodelled, cleaned and polished.
Tel: Imelda on 0502 - 36423/36259.

CONGRATULATIONS to Geraldine (Bergin) and Paddy Armitage on the birth of a son.

HEYWOOD COMMUNITY SCHOOL

U-16 Soccer

We made an exit from the Leinster Cup against St. Killian's of Bray recently. Now for the excuses. We were missing two talented players. A spectacular goal scored by Sean Delahunty after five minutes was disallowed for no reason. This goal was later the subject of an enquiry by the ruling board of the competition. It was declared a goal retrospectively but the only satisfaction received was that the away school was fined. We missed a penalty to go under by one goal to nil. Bray have since been beaten. Terence Brophy made a few miraculous saves. We will have better news later in the year.

OUR LADY'S MEADOW PRIMARY SCHOOL

The results of the February school draw are as follows:-

£100	Brendan Sheppard, Barn Hill
£50	Lanham Family, Ballyfin
£10	Eileen Sheppard, St. Fintan's Tce.
£10	Tina Bergin, Fermoyle
£10	Michael Butler c/o Helen Kelly
£10	Eamon Hutchinson, Moyne
£10	Christopher Sheppard Jnr. Mill Road.

FOKER NITE RESULTS

Results for Tuesday 19th February; Results for Tuesday 26th February;

1st. Patrick Dempsey
2nd. Margo McKenzie
Kieran Soames
Noel Meade
Peter Monnelly
Fr. J. Robinson

1st. Martin Meade
2nd. Mary Cashin
Ger Alley
Declan Phelan
Liz Clancy
Sean Aylward

NORTH OSSARY PIONEERS

The final of the North Ossary Pioneer Talent Competition will take place in the Hall, Ballyragget on Sunday night March 3rd.

Centres taking part are Durrow, Johnstown, Freshford and Rathdowney. A great night's entertainment is assured.

DURROW COMMUNITY COUNCIL

At the monthly meeting of Durrow Community Council a vote of sympathy was extended to the following families;

Barry, Dunmore,	Delahunty, Raheenleigh,
Kenny, Ballykealy,	O'Brien, Cork Road,
Farrell, Swan Road,	Walsh, Mary Street,
Fitzpatrick, Ballycondra,	Lalor, Cork Road,
Mooney, Derry Road.	

From communications with the Laois County Council we have been advised that the provision of lights for outside the Chapel and Erkindale Drive have been included for consideration in the 1991 Public Lighting Programme.

The latest information that we have from the Department of Justice is that the entire plan of closing Garda Stations has been put on hold indefinitely.

From previous representation to the Laois County Council work has been completed at Erkindale Drive, the manhole on the Derry Road has been locked, drain at Paddy Scott's Corner has been cleaned, directional sign for Mount-rath at Swan Cross has now been replaced.

DURROW C.Y.M.S. NEWS

Snooker and Billiards results;

Over the past couple of months members of the C.Y.M.S. have been very active, both Senior and Junior. House tournaments have been finished. In the Junior Snooker Tournament 1st. was Raymond Campion, 2nd. Pat Walsh. In the Senior Snooker Tournament 1st. Kieran Soames, 2nd. Vincent Cooney. In the Senior Billiards Tournament 1st. Tom Woods, 2nd. Morgan Kelly. Those tournaments were a great success and were enjoyed by all.

At present the club is running a doubles tournament, where a Senior and a Junior play with each other. Some very good games are expected with some very good couples taking part.
