

Durrow Parish Newsletter

Compiled by the Durrow Scouts

Fr. Jackie Robinson's OUTLOOK

COMPETING FOR LIFE

Almost eight hundred years BEFORE Christ was born - the Olympic Games began. Originally the games lasted for just one day and they consisted of two events - a race the length of the stadium and some wrestling.

Later, other events were added and the one day stretched to seven days. Winners became national heroes. Poets, musicians, praised them in word and song - artists captured their achievements in paint and stone.

Things haven't changed much in 2,700 years. Today's Olympic winners still become national heroes. Newspapers, magazines, praise them in print, while photographers and cameramen capture their success for posterity.

We LOVE competition! We like nothing better than to pit ourselves against each other - or against nature - even the unknown. Life itself, whether we like it or not, is fiercely competitive. We compete for jobs - for partners - for power. We compete for just about everything.

At it's best this competition is healthy and necessary - insuring that we get the best results from ourselves and that we survive as a species. At it's worst, however, it can develop into a RAT RACE, where the weak are trampled on and the slow are left behind and forgotten. But, it might be no harm to spare a thought for those, who - through no fault of their own - are unfit or incapable of competing in the race that is life.

By all means, let us honour the victor, but let us never forget those who are not so strong of limb and fleet of foot.

When the disciples argued among themselves as to which of them was the greatest, Jesus replied "He who is least among you all is the greatest".

CLEANERS WANTED

Application for cleaners for Haywood Community School, Ballinakill are invited. Please send applications to The Principal, Haywood Community School, Ballinakill, Co. Laois, before Wednesday, August 8th.

CONGRATULATIONS to James and Mary Monahan on the birth of a son.

For your Instant Driving Licence or Passport photo.

Contact:-
M. Conroy, Patrick St.

Phone: 36227 or 37265. Appointments can be made for your home or place of work.

The little street connecting Chapel Street with Mary Street, "Tae Lane" played its part in introducing tea to our country.

Since time began milk of course was the only drink with our meals but the clever tea growers had only to buy time before Irish people acquired a taste for drinking tea.

Every month, eight men would arrive in Durrow and they would lodge at the late May McEvoy's, Patrick Street. One man was in charge who was known as the 'Tae Man'. Their company was called Liptons.

Each morning for a week they would gather at "Tae Lane". They had boxes hanging on their backs, holding, I think 24 lbs. of tea. The head man would check them out and off they would go returning to McEvoy's very late.

They must have been top salesmen to introduce a product nobody wanted. As a result nobody would let them into their homes or speak to them, so they left a 1 lb. of tea on the window sill and went on their way, returning again in a month. They done this over and over and after 2 years Irish people had acquired a taste for tea making. As the 'tae men' were seen coming near the house it is said the woman of the house would shout "come in quick and shut the door the tae men are coming". Thus 'Tae Lane' holds the story to this day of the first 'tea time' in Ireland.

Beaver Notes

19 Beavers and 3 Leaders had a very enjoyable outing to the Butterfly Farm in Straffan.

The farm consists of an exhibit hall with hundreds of beautiful butterflies on display in glass cases. Big black tarantulas are also displayed in this area in their own little pens. Some of these spiders are 20 years old! Outside in the garden is a big plastic house where the live butterflies are kept. There are over 100 species of butterfly, feeding, breeding and flying about hiding among the tropical plants. These butterflies are a joy to behold but the heat in the house was a little bit too much for the beavers.

Before we left, Sean (the owner) treated us to a display of one of the big hairy tarantulas crawling up his arm. We were terrified as this spider can leap 6 ft. when desired. Sean quickly put the spider away when he started getting uneasy, probably due to the squalls of the little beavers.

We had our picnic in the field beside the Butterfly Farm and the Beavers really enjoyed playing with their kites which were purchases at the farm. On the way home the Beavers were treated to an icecream cone. A very enjoyable day was had by all.

Two Beavers received a prize for full attendance for the year - Joyce Donohue and Karen Flynn. Congratulations girls! Both received Book tokens.

Beavers have the Summer off but are back to norman in October. New Beavers are welcome then.

SYMPATHY is extended to the Holland family, Fernoye on their recent bereavement.

Durrow & District Camera Club

The annual outing took place on July 22nd to Wicklow with stops at Hollywood, Glendalough, Wicklow Gap, Poulaphuca, Sally Gap, Blessington and other places of interest. As it was an ideal day for photography a high standard of photographs is expected at our next meeting.

The 2nd Photographic Competition of the year was held at our last meeting. Winners were:

- 1st Eugene Meegan,
- 2nd Sean Healy
- 3rd Pat Farréll
- 4th Clair Meegan

The next meeting will be held on September 10th at 9.00 p.m. in the Club premises.

Durrow Pipe Band
Competition

The winners of the Durrow Pipe Band Competition which took place on Sunday last 29th July were:-

Grade 4

- 1st 66½ Dr. O'Hurley
- 2nd 66 Dunraven
- 3rd 64 St. Colmcills
- 4th 62½ James Stevens
- 5th 58 Kilkenny City

Drums 18 pts.
Dunraven

Grade 2

- 1st 85½ St. Josephs Clondalkin
- 2nd 72½ Fintan Lalor Dublin
- 3rd 69½ Carragour, Limerick

Drums 22½ pts. St. Josephs

Drum Majors

- Joint First Stephen Russell
Damian Russell

Best Bands on Parade: 1st Black Raven
2nd Dunraven

Grade 3

- 1st 74½ Black Raven Lusk
- 2nd 68½ St. Lawrence Howth
- 3rd 68 Fintan Lalor Dublin

Drums 19½
Black Raven

Open Grade

- 1st 82 St. Josephs
- 2nd 76½ Black Raven Lusk

Drums 23 pts. St. Josephs

Junior Drum Major

- J. Mordaunt

Durrow Cemetery Mass

The annual Cemetery Mass will be held in Durrow graveyard on Tuesday night 7th August at 8.00 p.m. All graves are asked to be cleaned and if a grave is not clean beside your plot, you are asked to clean it.

Erkindale Drive,
Residents Association

Erkindale Drive, Residents Association are holding their annual cabaret in the Durrow Inn on Sunday 5th August. Music will be provided by Barley Wine. Tickets are on sale from all committee members. Several spot prizes will be given out during the night. A great night is assured.

Dunrow & District Anglers

The club held a Fly Fishing Competition on Wednesday night, 25th July and the winners were:-

1st John Mealy, Kilkenny
2nd Joe Hargrove, Portliffington
3rd Pat Noonan, Portliffington

The Trophies for this competition were sponsored by Jack and Kathleen Daly, Ossory Service Station, Dunrow.

On Sunday, 12th August a trout competition will be held for the Pat Gaughan Cup. Usual rules apply.

Scout News

Crimea '90 U.S.S.R. has come and gone and what promised to be an unforgettable trip turned out to be just that - unforgettable. The trip started out on the wrong foot, our flight to Moscow which was due to leave at 5.30 a.m. was delayed until 8.00 a.m. We had left Dunrow at 1.00 a.m. so as you can imagine by the time we touched down in Moscow we were very tired. We stayed overnight in the city, went for a stroll around Red Square, saw the very impressive changing of the guard at Lenin's Tomb, which happens every hour and finally went for a walk around Arbat Street where every kind of artist and musician perform, an early night was had in bed because in the morning we had to catch a flight to Simferopol and from there a 2 hour bus trip to our base camp in the Crimea - Camp Artek.

When we landed in the Crimea the first thing we noticed was the heat. During our stay there it ranged from 35° - 41° extremely hot and humid. The camp itself was beautifully situated under Bear Mountain, a small town of dormitories each holding 400 out of the 8,000 people present. Virtually every country of the world was represented, ranging from Afghanistan to Zaire. In our site we had the Czechoslovakia, British, Mexican and American delegations as well as over 350 Soviet Pioneers.

By the end of the trip firm friendships were made between peoples of all races and religion. The camp was totally different from what we would have at one of our Scout Camps, the main theme of the month was peace, friendship and relaxation. Activities consisted mainly of visits to the beach, disco's and games and above all getting to know each other.

The food on some of our camps is often not up the standard of Ashford Castle but after this trip there will never be another complaint, fortunately our motto is "be prepared" and after some intelligence work we located a hotel in Yalta where we could get a fantastic 4 course meal for less the £2 per head, needless to say we visited this hotel fairly often. Unfortunately this meant a 20 minute bus trip plus a ferry across the Black Sea for a further 45 minutes. While in Yalta we visited some lovely Russian Orthodox Churches and also the Castle where in 1945 Stalin, Churchill and Roosevelt signed the Yalta Treaty. Even delegation was obliged too told a National day where they had to represent their country of origin. We held ours on the same day as the English (15th July). As they had a Leader from Northern Ireland this brought about some good natured slugging. The National Day might not have been the best of Artek but the party that night definately was.

More next issue

SYMPATHY is extended to the Loheny family Attanagh on their recent bereavement.