

7th/8th July, 1990

Durrow Parish Newsletter

Compiled by the Durrow Scouts

Fr. Jackie Robinson's OUTLOOK

NEIGHBOURS - A DYING SPECIES?

"Good fences make good neighbours" - so wrote the poet Robert Frost. Whether he's right or wrong I'm not too sure. What I am sure about however is that: sugar shortages make excellent neighbours.

Some of my fondest childhood memories are of borrowing cups of sugar from our neighbours - and vice versa. There seemed to be a constant stream of borrowing and bartering between ourselves and the folks nextdoor. And if it wasn't sugar - it was milk or tea. Or it might be hammers, or hatchets or hacksaws.

And there were times, you can be sure, when all this borrowing led to friction - as in my father asking if that so-and-so nextdoor had his good hatchet again. However the friction was minimal compared to the bonds of trust, closeness and friendship that built up between us.

The idea of borrowing a cup of sugar from the neighbours nowadays seems almost outrageous. It's just not done. Or if it is - certainly not on the same scale as years ago. Perhaps people don't run out of sugar anymore - or if they run out of it - they don't run to the neighbours looking for some.

Of course sugar isn't held in the same high esteem as years ago. I'm thinking perhaps that neighbours aren't either.

Recently I bumped into an old school friend whom I hadn't seen in years. For the past seven years he has been living in an estate in a typical midlands town. When I asked him how he got on with his neighbours he fairly shocked me by saying that he really didn't know any of them.

I personally found this difficult to relate to due to my own background where our neighbours and ourselves practically lived in each others ears.

What's happening at all I wonder? Is it possible that we're working so hard that we haven't the time to get to know our neighbours? Or have we become so hardened, so insular, so impersonal that we don't actually WANT to get to know them?

I also find it somewhat ironic that one of our most popular T.V. shows should be called "Neighbours" while, round about us, the true meaning of neighbourliness, "neighbours are just good friends" - is rapidly vanishing.

Neighbours, I'm beginning to think, should be a preserved species. Because if we're not careful, like the poor old Dodo, they'll be extinct.

DURROW BRIDGE CLUB

Winners for 20th June: 1st W/S J. Dowling, M. Brophy
 2nd N/S M. Woods, S. Walshe
 E/W tie - E. Connolly, R. Lalor
 B. Duggan, R. Dempsey

SYMPATHY is extended to the Mahony family, Derry Road, on their recent bereavement.

Historical Snippet by John Conroy

Many stories are told of the man who robbed the rich to help the poor. He was known by name as James Grant. He operated a lot in the Timahoe area and the late Miss Helena Fogerty had many wonderful tales about him, since she was born there.

One of her tales comes to mind. She gave me names of those concerned but alas they have left my mind. It goes like this - one fine sunny May morning a servant girl went out to collect her eggs and to her amazement the hens had scratched out lots of gold coins from the ditch. She ran in to tell the woman of the house whom Helena said was a very quick thinking woman, saying to the servant girl, "could I not have that much without you finding out", she just gave the girl a couple of gold coins that paid her passage to America.

Helena added that great improvements were made on the farm afterwards and the servant girl never returned.

I remember being told one time that Grant before robbing Staples of Dunmore, drank in an Ale House called The Swan and I'm almost sure it was located where Jimmy Ryan's residence is now.

Scout News

All arrangements have now been made for the Scout Summer camp which this year takes place in Sheelbaggan Outdoor Education Centre, Wexford. This week long camp takes place from 28th July - 3rd August. The balance of £40 must be paid to Maura Rafferty by Friday 20th July.

CUB NEWS

The Cub Scouts leave for their weekend in Kilkenny on Friday 13th July and return on Sunday 15th. All parents who have volunteered to transport the Cubs to Kilkenny are asked to be in the Church car park at 7.30 p.m. on the Friday evening. All monies for this trip - £5 per Cub should be paid to Maura Rafferty.

BEAVER NEWS

We are having an outing for the Beavers on Wednesday 11th July to Straffan Butterfly farm in Co. Kildare. The bus will leave the Church car park at 11.30 a.m. returning at 5.00 p.m.

Uniforms must be worn by all Beavers and please bring a packed lunch. Names and £2 per child should now have been given in.

INSTANT PHOTOS

The Driving Licence, Passport, I.D. etc.
Contact Ml. Conroy, Patrick Street. Telephone: 36227 and 37265

SYMPATHY is extended to the Woods family, Carrigan Street, on their recent bereavement.

SYMPATHY is extended to the Caslin family, Arkindale Drive on their recent bereavement.

DURROW SUMMER CAMP

Durrow Summer Camp will take place from 16th - 20th July in the Convent Hall, Durrow. Time will be from 10.00 a.m. - 3.00 p.m. each day and all children from ages 4-12 years are welcome.

Activities will include:- Basketball, Soccer, Olympic Handball, Rounders, Arts and Crafts, Swimming, Face Painting, Forest Treasure Hunt, French and lots more.

Enquiries to:- Angela Eustace Phone: 0502-31319 After 5.00 p.m.
Mary Brennan 0502-31082 After 5.00 p.m.

OUR LADY'S MEADOW P.S.

Results of the final draw:-

- 1st Mrs. Teresa Brophy, St. Fintan's Tee.
- 2nd Mrs. Maura Brophy, St. Fintan's Tee.
- 3rd Blath Dunleavy, Patrick St.
- 4th Mrs. Mgt. Cooney, Tinweir
- 5th Sean Kavanagh, Cork Road.
- 6th Richard McGree, Carrigan St.
- 7th Sandra and David Walsh, Erkindale Drive.

HARPS G.A.A.

The Harps were beaten in the Championship on Saturday night in a very close game. One point is all that separated the teams in the final. It was a great game and we had enough chances to win but did not convert them. So the best of luck to Portlaois in the rest of their games, and we will be back next year to take the Championship from them.

Two of our Minors will be in Croke Park on Sunday. It is a big day for them and for the club. Best of luck Ende Murphy and Tom, Tucker Kenna. Give it your best shot!

The Under 16's play in the final on Friday night so hopefully by the time you read this they will be County Champions.

NOTICE

Please note there will be no Newsletter the weekend of 21st/22nd July. The Newsletter will resume on 4th/5th August.

Happy Summer holidays to all our readers.

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