

Durrow Parish Newsletter

Compiled by the Durrow Scouts

Fr. Jackie Robinson's OUTLOOK

BEATITUDES OF AN ELDERLY PERSON

Blessed are you who understand that my feet falter and my hand is unsteady.
Blessed are you who understand that my ears are dull and so I don't always
catch what you say.

Blessed are you who understand that my eyes are dim and my thoughts confused.
Blessed are you who understand the meaning of a friendly smile and the joy
of a little chat.

Blessed are you who never say, "You've told me that twice to-day!"
Blessed are you who understand how precious to me are certain memories.

Blessed, Blessed are you who understand my loneliness and come to keep me
company.

Blessed are you who are good to me and make happy those few days remaining
in my journey towards eternity.

I'M FINE THANK YOU

There is nothing the matter with me, I'm as healthy as I can be, I have
Arthritis in both my knees, And when I talk, I talk with a wheeze, My pulse
is weak, and my blood is thin, But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

Arch-supports I have for my feet, Or I wouldn'd be able to be on the street,
Sleep is denied me night after night, But every morning I find I'm all right.
My memory is failing, my head's in a spin, But I'm awfully well for the shape
I'm in.

The moral is this as my tale I unfold That for you and me who are growing old,
It's better to say "I'm fine", with a grin, Than to let folks know the shape we
are in.

How do I know that my youth is all spent? Well, my "get up and go" has got up
and went. But I really don't mind when I think with a grin, of all the
grand places my "Get up" has bin.

"Old age is golden", I've heard it say, But sometimes I wonder, as I get
into bed, With my ears in the drawer, my teeth in a cup, My eyes on the
table until I wake up, Ere sleep overtakes me, I say to myself "Is there
anything else I can lay on the shelf?"

When I was young my slippers were red, I could kick my heels over my head,
When I was older my slippers were blue, but still I could dance the whole
night through. Now I am old my slippers are black, I walk to the store
and puff my way back.

I get up each morning and dust off my wits, and pick up the paper and read
the "Obits". If my name is still missing, I know I'm not dead - So I
have a good breakfast and go back to bed.

BEST WISHES to Pat and Winnie Rock in their new home on the Swan Road.

HARPS G.A.A.

The Harps U/16 Hurling team play the county final replay on Friday, 17th August in O'Moore Park, Portlaoise at 7.00 p.m. The Harps G.A.A. Club and the players would like to thank most sincerely Jack and Kathleen Daly, Ossory Service Station, Durrow for presenting all the team with kit bags.

The Harps U/16 Football team are in the 'B' County final as a result of their victory over St. John's by 6-10 to 1-7 in the semi-final recently.

LIONS SOCCER

The Lions Soccer club are planning to hold a Juvenile Soccer Blitz in the last week of August. The blitz will consist of teams from age groups U/10, U/12, U/14, U/16 with five on each team. Each team in each group will play each other and the top two teams in each group will contest the final. Anyone interested in participating in the blitz should be up in the Soccer field on Tuesday, 21st August at 7.30 p.m. to register.

DURROW & DISTRICT ANGLERS

The Durrow and District Anglers Club are holding a draw for valuable cash prizes of £150, £100 and £50. Tickets are £1 and are on sale from all Committee members. The club will hold a pike fishing Marathon on Sept. 9th from 10.00 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. and the draw will take place in the Durrow Inn that night during the Cabaret.

FOR SALE: Two cross-bred pups, English Pointer X Labrador, 3 months old.
Contact:- John Shortall, Mill Road.

Abbeyleix Craft Centre

Complete Bridal and Debs hire now available at Abbeyleix Craft Centre, Main Street, Abbeyleix. Open Monday to Saturday 10.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m.
Phone: 31311 or 31257 for enquiries.

CONGRATULATIONS to Fidelma Kenny, Newtown on finishing "joint first place" in a National Competition for the most promising student in the National Gallery. Fidelma's ambition is to one day pursue a career in animation. She would love to become a cartoonist.

DURROW CREDIT UNION

Durrow Credit Union held their monthly meeting recently to which Mr. Tony Burke attended. Mr. Burke is the Field Officer for our area and he was on his annual rounds. All books and accounts were checked by him and found to be in order and he was very pleased with the growth of the Credit Union in Durrow. The Credit Union Office is open for business every Friday evening 7.30 p.m. - 9.00 p.m.

SCOUT NEWS

Ukraine/Artek 1990 continued;

The weeks that passed at Artek were very interesting, while the activities were mostly centered around the Beach, Games and Discos we seen a side of the U.S.S.R. ordinary Tourists never see. We had unrestricted travel to towns and cities. The travel to those centres, Yalta and Gorzuz was mainly by public transport which was cheap and efficient, we also travelled a lot by Taxi which was also very inexpensive. The stocks in the shops were very limited by our standards. The main criticisms we heard from the Soviets were of the lack of consumer goods and the supply and distribution of basic food stuffs, for example bananas had not been in stock for over 3 months. Against that they were amazed that we had to pay dearly for glasses and contact lenses while theirs are supplied free of charge. Gorbachev was very unpopular as was his wife Raisa, our contacts said that even under the now discredited Brezhnev Government items were never in such short supply. Most of the people we met had a pessimistic view on the future of their society they reckoned that it would end up messy and worse of all, bloody, While we were there the Ukraine actually declared independence, most people seemed disinterested though. The Durrow contingent ~~contingent~~ seemed to be a very popular group. A lot of people remarked to me that they were the friendliest group there as they always seemed to have a smile on their faces-maybe there is a story behind the smiles? We also had our fair share of successes at Artek, during the first week there a singing contest was arranged and true to form we beat the Americans, British, Soviets, Czechslovaks and Mexicans with a spirited rendition of "Molly Malone" and a hilarious version of "It's a Long Way to Tipperary" during which most of us were falling around in spasms of laughter. Seemingly it impressed the judges as we were awarded the first place medals at the end of the night, incidently there were over thirty entries in the competition. We also scored on the Soccer Field, our sub-camp won the inter-Artek Football Championship and on that team were David O'Flanagan and Ray O'Sullivan. Both of them had excellent games in the final with David being the 'man of the match' with two well taken goals in a 3 - 1 win. One of the goals was a beauty from a free kick - more medals to the Irish.

On a more serious note, after our National Day which we started with Flag-break, renewed our Scout Promise and said a short prayer. The sub-camp Chief Victor told me that 3 years ago he would have lost his job if the same opening ceremony had taken place, so changing times indeed in the Soviet Union. We arranged to have Mass said on the Camp with the aid of a Maltese Priest who was Ordained in Ireland. I had met him at a meeting of leaders of the foreign delegations early the first week. At Mass the congregation was mainly Irish, Maltese, Polish, English and American but we were amazed at the numbers of young Soviets who said that they were Christian or else intended to become Christian. I also met a Russian Orthodox Priest who said that they were going to request the opening of an official Church on the Camp.

More next issue.

HEYWOOD COMMUNITY SCHOOL? BAELINAKILL wish to inform parents of First year Students that a meeting has been arranged at the school on Tuesday night August 21st at 8.00p.m. sharp. First Year students are welcome to attend also.

CONGRATULATIONS to Michelle Delaney and Howard Ferguson on their recent marriage.

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