

DURROW PARISH NEWSLETTER

COMPILED BY THE DURROW SCOUTS

Fr. Jackie Robinson's OUTLOOK

Have you ever found yourself wishing that you didn't have to listen to the news - it can be so sad and depressing.

What with the murders and robberies - the earthquakes and starvation, and the never-ending troubles in the North.

People are inclined to raise their hands to Heaven and say "What's the use."

"Bad news is good news for the media" they say, but people fed on bad news all the time cannot but have a negative attitude to life, and probably be overcome by it.

"Tell me what you read, and I'll tell you what kind of mind you have".

There's an old proverb which says, "The devil finds work for idle hands" and a lot of people today say that the devil doesn't exist, and that's his greatest asset - he gets the people to do the work for him. The kind of people he works on are people who feel they are no good, with plenty of time on their hands. How often do you read in the newspapers of people who commit crime - they are usually described as being idle - and they generally feel they are worthless.

But St. Paul tells us that our interests should not be in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, and that means you must not dwell on your mistakes and failings, but on the nice things you do every day of your life, no matter how small.

And it doesn't matter what your vocation in life is, you still have a lot to contribute.

You may think that you are not able to do anything extraordinary - that your life is a humdrum existence - but remember the words of St. Teresa "Sanctity consists not in doing extraordinary things - but in doing ordinary things extraordinarily well.

The real Saints are the sinners who keep on trying. So, in a moment of depression, of weakness or anxiety in your life, it is of overwhelming importance that you come across a good person, someone with understanding, who doesn't lecture you, or pass judgement on you, but consoles you and supports and uplifts you.

We all need understanding, sympathy, and forgiveness, just as Doubting Thomas and Mary Magdalene needed it, and these are some of the greatest gifts of the Holy Spirit that we can offer each other.

So, whether you are sick in your bed, or a busy housewife, or in the cab of your lorry, you have a lot of good to give, and the good that you do is the spirit of God working through you.

"Better to light one candle, than curse the darkness"

YOUNG DURROW SINGERS

On the night of 24th June the Community Games Choir competition was held in the Presentation Convent, Portlaois. The Young Durrow Singers entered the competition conducted by Sr. Mairin Bengin. The three songs sung were (1) Pie Jesu, (2) When I'm Sixty Four, (3) Speed your Journey.

The Durrow Choir came first and are heading to Mosney at the beginning of Sept. to take part in the National Final.

The Choir members would like to thank Sr. Mairin for getting them this far and they hope they will be as successful as they were two years ago.

SNOOKER

The final of the Quinn Cup open billiards between Tom Woods (Dunow) 200 and Eugene Ryan (Johnstown) 150 was played recently in Kilkenny.

The big attendance, including supporters from Dunow and Johnstown, was treated to some fine billiards from both players.

Tom, who was the leading player in diocesan billiards over the last 20 years, showed that he had lost none of his artistry.

He started off in sensational fashion compiling fine breaks of 27, 21 and a beautifully compiled one of 48 to go into a lead of 165-67 in the early stages.

Further breaks of 21 and 27 put him 206-67. Ryan rallied briefly to reduce the arrears to 246-129. However, further breaks of 29 and 25 to Tom saw him lead 335-196.

Ryan coming more into the games reduced the arrears to 335-208.

However, with the luck continuing to run with Tom he came out a good winner by 200-78.

The Quinn Cup and Waterford Crystal prizes were presented by Ollie Quinn on behalf of the Quinn family.

HEYWOOD COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Building Programme:

We are glad to report that work has commenced on the provision of the Home Economics, Dress Design and Arts & Crafts Rooms. This is scheduled to be completed and ready for use in September. Plans for the final phase of the development work are at an advanced stage and every effort is being made to bring the adaptations to a speedy conclusion.

In the meantime provision will be made for Metalwork and Engineering in the school from September next, thus eliminating the need to use the workshops in the Vocational School in Abbeyleix.

Booklists:

Pupils are required to have all necessary books for the opening of the school in September. Books are available from Laois Educational Supplies, Portlaois and will be on sale in Heywood on Thursday 15th August, from 9.30a.m. to 6.00p.m.

Uniforms:

All students are expected to wear full school uniforms from September. Since many firms take holidays during August it is essential that our suppliers of the uniform have their orders submitted by the end of June.

Transport:

New pupils should make sure that they have completed the appropriate transport form, otherwise transport passes will not be issued in time for September.

SYMPATHY is extended to the Clooney family, Swan Road, on their recent bereavement.

SCOUT NEWS

The Scouts have been very active recently. On the 19th June we visited the cinema in Portlaois to watch "Dances with Wolves", an excellent film which recently won 7 Oscars including Best Film and Best Director. A party of 21 people went from the Troop to what proved to be a great nights entertainment.

On the weekend 21st/22nd June the Troop held a Dusk to Dawn Hike in Dunmore Wood area of Durrow. The event consisted of assembling bivouacs out of poles, plastic and natural materials in which the Scouts would spend part of the night. After this was completed a campfire was held during which Nicola and Moira gained their Campfire Leader's Badge. Well done girls.

After the campfire the Scouts set out on their Dusk to Dawn hike. They were given a set of instructions and compass bearings which guided them to various areas through the Forest. During the course of the hike they done various activities i.e., Morse code etc., They returned to their bivis just as dawn was breaking. After a couple of hours sleep the bivis were taken down and the site tidied. We returned to Durrow early on Saturday morning tired, hungry but reasonably happy. Most of the senior Scouts achieved part of their Chief Scouts Award. Twenty three people took part.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the following for their assistance on our recent Chief Scouts overnight camp from Durrow to Cullohill;
Mrs Charlotte Walsh, Lallykealy and Gay Lawlor, Durrow for permission to camp on their land, Mary Walsh, Sean Healy and John O'Regan for organising transport.

OUR LADY'S MEADOW P. S.

Congratulations to Kathleen Fowe 6th class who won first prize in the 'Springtime' colouring competition recently. Kathleen received her prize of a stereo from Mary Harney T.D. at a presentation ceremony held in the E.N.F.O. Centre, Dublin on Monday last. She also received other smaller prizes including an autographed copy of Don Cenroy's book 'On Silent Wings'. Part of Kathleen's prize was 1,000 litres of oil for Our Lady's Meadow P.S. for which we are extremely grateful.

Our sincere thanks to John Alley and his staff for hosting a really terrific Sports Day.

We wish every blessing to 6th class girls and 1st class boys as they leave us.

Thank you all so much for your support with the draw.

We wish all our children, staff and families a good rest and a sunny!!! holiday.

The following are the results of school draw on 29th May;

1st. Ella Walshe, Dishopswood.	2nd. Mark Flynn, St. Fintan's Tee.,
3rd. Breda Cooney, Tinvier.	4th. Sheila Kavanagh, Carrigan St.,
5th. Angela Donchue, Patrick St.,	6th. Elna Walshe, Dishopswood.
7th. P.J. Bowden, Cullohill.	

FOR SALE: 1978 Toyota Corolla, £2,000 o.n.o. Phone 36448.
Bendix Auto. Washing Machine, Bedroom Unit, Kitchen Unit and Wall Press. Double Bed as new. Round drop leaf table.
3 in 1 Stereo Hi Fi.
All above items in perfect condition. Phone 36448.

FOR SALE: @EH Year School Books for Heywood Community School, in good condition. Contact Collette Newman, Swan Road.

HARPS G.A.A. CLUB

It is once again that the under age division of the club takes pride of place, with the club's U/14 team representing Club and County in Feile na nGael '91 in Tipperary, and didn't they do us proud. Friday 21st the team travelled to Borriscleigh to play the home town where they were narrowly defeated by a point in what everybody agreed was a nail biting match. Saturday 22nd the young Harps really got in tune with two performances which made mentors and parents proud. Their first opponents were Kildangan (Tipp.) at 11.30a.m. and then had to race to Templemore to play Templemore at 2.30p.m. It was sad that they didn't reach the final stages after such performances. But never the less these chaps have done the club proud and the chairman and officials would like to thank each and everyone of the U/14 panel, our sincere thanks for a job well done. The panel is as follows;

T. Foley, J. Dollard, P. Phelan, B. Ryan, L. Mahony, J. Shortall, A. Kavanagh, S. Woods, C. Lawlor, F. Brophy, R. Campion, T. Dowe, P. Shortall, R. O'Connell, M. Donohue, Subs; D. Phelan, L. Dunne, P. Walsh, S. Dunphy, J. Holland.

The club would like to thank the mentors who gave of their free time to help and support the team over the weekend.

The Harps Senior team defeated St. Patrick's on Sunday June 23rd in Portlaois. They now face Portlaois in the quarter finals. Much improvement is needed before this game.

HOLY FAMILY BOY'S N. S.

The Annual Sports day was held on June 19th and enjoyed fine weather. The girls joined the boys for the day and a very successful and competitive sports was held. The red team in both the boys and girls sections were overall winners and the captains Paul Shortall and Roisin Collins were presented with the team awards by Canon Marnell. Each member of the winning teams were also presented with a medal.

On Tuesday 25th June Canon Marnell celebrated the end of the school year Mass in the G.P. room. This was his last official function of the Board of Management. A large gathering of parents and friends attended to watch the boys present him with gifts in appreciation of all the marvellous work he has done in the parish, particularly in this school. Michael Grogan read an address to him which he concluded by wishing him a long, healthy and enjoyable retirement.

Brian Scott and Seamus Stapleton represented the school at the final concert of the National Children's Choir in the National Concert Hall on Saturday 15th June. This was a marvellous occasion and a great privilege for both boys.

DURROW & DISTRICT CAMERA CLUB

This Sunday the Club go on their Annual Outing - this year the venue is the Durren.

The bus leaves the Square at 8.00a.m. sharp.

Cabaret ticket money to be returned to Martin Walsh or any member of the committee by Saturday 5th July. Please respond to this request as we need to know our financial position re Cabaret as soon as possible. Thank you.

SYMPATHY is extended to the McGree family on their recent bereavement.