

Durrow Parish Newsletter

Compiled by the Durrow Scouts

Fr. Jackie Robinson's OUTLOOK

Happiness A Fact of Life

The American writer Donald Stewart had a son at boarding school. When the boy reached the age of 11, Stewart wrote him the following letter:-

"Dear Son, now that you have reached the magic age of 11, the time has come to tell you about the Bees and Flowers. There is a male bee and a female bee, although I haven't the slightest idea which is which. As for the flowers - we get ours from the nearest florist. Well, that takes care of THAT. Write soon. Affectionately, Father".

That's one way of dealing with the Birds and Bees, says you. Explaining the Facts of Life to children can cause great consternation for some parents. For one reason or another they find the task difficult, awkward and some times downright impossible.

I want to talk to you not so much about the Birds and the Bees but about a fact of life which I think all children should be made aware of. How many parents, I wonder, ever take their children aside and explain to them the importance of POSITIVE THINKING - the importance of having a wholesome, healthy attitude towards - themselves, their friends, and to life in general?

For me, the ability to think positively about things is a very important fact of life which can spell the difference between a lifetime of happiness and a lifetime of disgruntled dissatisfaction.

Of course in a world of unemployment, violence and constant news of wars it's not easy to be positive - yet surely this is all the more reason why our children - and ourselves - should see the good in other people and themselves.

The world is full of pessimists. Prophets of doom and gloom are ten a penny - you'll meet them everywhere - at work, in the pub. These are folk who can see no good in anyone and who haven't a good word to say about anything whether it be the government, the farmers, the clergy or even the weather. And it's sad because these are invariably not happy individuals.

Happiness, I like to think, is a fact of life and one which we can communicate to our children quite easily - more easily than the so called facts of life.

With just a little encouragement, a little patience and a lot of praise we can enhance our children's lives and society as a whole for years to come.

Rory O'Moore Pipe Band

Instructions for beginners will commence on Friday night October 7th at 8.00 p.m. in the Bandroom. Any person, boy or girl, interested in becoming a member of the band should attend.

Durrow Macra na Feirme

The Durrow Macra na Feirme will hold a Cabaret in The Durrow Inn on Sunday 9th October. Admission £1.

Any tickets sold for the previous Cabaret - Sunday July 17th - which was cancelled are still valid.

SYMPATHY is extended to the Carter family, St. Fintans Terrace on their recent bereavement.

Harps G.A.A.

The Senior hurlers gained some consolation from a dismal Championship season when they scored a thrilling one point victory over the Fenians, Johnstown in the final of the Galway tournament on Sunday last. This was a very determined and skilful display by the Harps and full marks to both teams who served up a great game of hurling.

The U-13 Hurlers took part in a 7 a side tournament in Lisdowney recently against teams from Kilkenny. While not bringing home any trophies, they certainly gained valuable experience for next years U-14 Hurling Championships. Great credit is due to Martin Brophy who gave up his free time on Saturdays to look after this team.

The Harps send best wishes to Liam Phelan who tied the knot last weekend.

The Harps send best wishes and get well soon to very promising young hurler, Derek Walsh, who received a serious leg injury playing a soccer game recently.

The second annual Harps Golf Outing will take place on Saturday October 1st in Rathdowney golf club. With a large entry and a great array of prizes, this years event promises to be a great day indeed. The golf will be followed that night with a Cabaret and crack in Rathdowney Golf Club. Music by Largo. Admission £1. All are welcome.

Durrow & District Anglers

The Winner of the Victor Bowell Trophy for pike fishing were joint first Jim Dwyer and Michael Monaghan 13-6, second Gerry Dann 10-2 and third Sean McEvoy 9-2.

U-16 1st Michael Monaghan, Jr. 2nd Brendan Dollard.

The Durrow and District Anglers would like to thank everyone who made their annual barbeque so successful.

The next competition for the Christy Finnegan Memorial Cup for pike fishing will be held on 16th October.

French Classes

Introductory French Classes for beginners will start in Cullohill Hall on October 27th - 29th, for children up to the age of 13 years.

For further information please contact Una O'Connell Phone 37222.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Why not have that special occasion recorded for posterity. For weddings, Christenings, Anniversaries, 21st Parties, Portraits, Coping, Framing etc. Contact:-

Rowan Studios,
Ba'lyroan Road,
Abbeyleix. Telephone 31227

Cleaning Graves or relettering and cleaning Tombstones

Contact:-

John Fennelly,
14, Balladine Heights,
Abbeyleix.

Poker

The C.Y.M.S. Have resumed their Poker Nite with up to 30 playing each night so far.

Winners for 20th September: 1st J. Shortall 2nd R. Grogan
27th September: 1st I. Drennan 2nd L. Clancy

The Catholic Church was built in 1839 ten years after Catholic Emancipation. Outsiders who come here for weddings or funerals always compliment us on the internal painting of the Church and if in Winter time on the wonderful heating system. The graveyard attached is also in spick and span condition. At the moment we are very well served with Canon Marnell P.P. and our two Curates Fr. Robinson and Fr. Purcell, who is in Cullohill.

Five years after the Church was erected there was a steeple built. There was a man from Kilkenny named O'Brien working on it. He fell and his throat was cut by an eve gutter on his way down but the fall would have been fatal anyway.

On coming away from the Church we see on the wall of a house on our left "Sraid Ui Charragain" called after that great man Canon Carrigan about whom I shall write later. Walking down the street we pass a street on our right which is Sraid Mhuire.

When I came to Durrow I saw where we had two streets one called George's Street and the other Queen Street. I thought it was high time that those names should be changed. They were all right while the Ashbrooks reigned as their loyalties were across the water. After some years I was very lucky that a great friend of mine the late Fr. Dan Collier, Beannacht De ar a anam uasal, was Curate here. I consulted him and he agreed with me. He wisely suggested that we should have a plebiscite of all the people. This was done and there was only one who objected.

George's Street became Sraid Ui Charragain and Queen Street became Sraid Mhuire - Our true Queen.

By the way I think our beautiful national language is the only one that has a distinct name for Mary the Mother of God - Muire the name for the ordinary Mary - Maire.

Passing by Sraid Mhuire on our right we come to a building on our right This is used by the F.C.A. It was formerly a Court House and previously for 108 years 1731 - 1839 a Catholic Church.

Durrow Gun Club

The Durrow Gun Club held their annual clay pigeon shoot recently and a great days shoot was had by all who competed.

The Club would like to thank the following for their generous sponsorship to the shoot:

More Nets, Donal Carroll, Durrow Inn, Noel Keenan, Lennox, Castle Arms, W.B. Lawlor, J. Doyle, the Stores, L. Dunne, A. Newman, P. Murphy, B. Doyle and C. Finnegan.

C.Y.M.S.

The Billiards sections of the C.Y.M.S. is being renovated at present so it will not be open for use for a few more weeks.

At the moment tickets are on sale in aid of the Renovation Fund. The draw will take place at the end of October. Tickets £1 each and the prizes are:- 1st £150 2nd £50 and 3 prizes of £10 each.

FOR SALE: Electric Sewing Machine (Singer) in perfect condition
Contact A. Drennan, Erkindale Drive.

WANTED: Second hand Typewriter for the Durrow Scouts
Contact M. Rafferty.

Durrow I.C.A.

Last week was "I.C.A. Awareness Week". The week got off to a great start with an exhibition and show in Portlaois. There were lots of beautiful items in the show. Eleven of our members entered their wares for the various competitions. Kitty Deasy received two prizes, one for her beautiful crochet and the other for a cuddly toy. Margaret Flynn did very well in her section and won a prize for her tea brack. Kathleen Flynn also won a prize for a skirt in the sewing sections.

On Monday night we had Jimmy Holland, Michael Donohue and Willie Dunne all from Durrow Community Alert. They gave us a lot of advice on alarms and "awareness". Be aware at all times of people's needs especially our old folk. Try and look after them, a little help is always appreciated. Smoke alarms were purchased by almost everyone at the meeting at the very special price of £8. Thank you lads for a very informative evening.

We also held an open night on Wednesday to show off our crafts which are really beautiful but Betty Walsh stole the show with her cookery demonstration. Betty showed us how to bone a chicken and a shoulder of lamb. The recipe for Chicken Maryland, Stuffed Breast of Chicken, Chicken with Mushrooms, Chicken Curry and Rolled Stuffed Shoulder of Lamb were greeted with great interest. Thank you Betty for sharing your cooking expertise with all of us.

We will finish off our "Awareness Week" on Friday night with a free Whist Drive for all.

Tuesday night next we hold our monthly Whist Drive. Come along and enjoy a very good night out plus supper all for £1.50.

We are holding a raffle at the moment for the restoration of our hall and also for St. Vincent's Hospital Mountmellick. As you are all aware this hospital offers great facilities and it is also the Laoise I.C.A. Federation's Charity of the Year for 1988. A cheque will be presented to the Matron at the next meeting of the Laoise I.C.A. Federation in December by Mrs. Lil Sheeran President of Laoise I.C.A.

Just a reminder that membership for a year is £8. New members always welcome.

CONGRATULATIONS: To Billy Phelan and Breda Mulhare who were married last weekend.