

Durrow Parish Newsletter

Compiled by the Durrow Scouts

Fr. Jackie Robinson's OUTLOOK

ANOTHER TIME, ANOTHER PLACE

I am genuinely fascinated by the number of people who have "made it" in life because they happened to be in the right place at the right time.

Very often, singers, actors and writers, when being interviewed account for their success because they were in the right place at the right time. Which is not to deny that they're talented and creative. Of course they are. However, they themselves will be the first to admit that there are thousands who are every bit as talented but, for some reason or other, do not achieve the same fame.

Some of these non-runners may well have been in the right place but unfortunately at the wrong time. Or they may have had their timing right but the place was all wrong.

I can't help wondering if the Beatles would be the phenomenon they are today if they had come on the scene in the seventies instead of the sixties or if they had hailed from Los Angeles instead of Liverpool

I mention this "right place, right time" business because lately I've been wondering if the reverse doesn't also hold true. In other words how many people achieve notoriety and infamy because they happened to be in the wrong place at the wrong time. How many murders and crimes, for example, have been committed due to the fact that someone was in the wrong place at the wrong time.

And what about ourselves? How many of us have escaped misfortune - although in the wrong place but at a time that saved our necks.

Some, of course, will put all this success and bad luck down to Fortune or Fate. Others will term it Free Will or God's Will or a combination of both. Whatever the answer - this much I know - the hand of Fate is fickle and God's ways are strange betimes. I also know that a little tolerance and understanding of those misfortunates who do happen to be in the wrong place at the wrong time wouldn't go astray.

Because, I need hardly remind you, there but for the grace of God go you or I.

Durrow & District Anglers

The next Competition for the Christy Finnegan Memorial Cup is on Sunday 16th October. Usual rules apply. The last Competition of the season is for the John Dwyer Memorial Cup. It has been arranged for Sunday 30th October, followed that night by a Cabaret and presentation of prizes in the Durrow Inn. Admission £1.

Michael Monaghan is in the lead for the Fisherman of the Year by three points going in to the last two competitions and is in a good position to win it out. Breathing down his neck are Michael Walsh and Pat Bowden.

The Committee would like to thank all their supporters who attended their recent Barb-A-Cue in the Durrow Inn, and the people who donated spot prizes, Tommy Walsh, Tom Woods, Pious Hennessy, Mrs. Joyce, Marty Keenan, Jack Murphy, Jimmy Ryan, Joseph Murphy, Mrs. Lennon, Ger Alley, Billy Lawlor, and Michael and Patricia Gaughan for their generous use of their premises. Michael and Betty Walsh and Thomas Gilligan and all that served and sold tickets. A great night was had by all. Hoping to see you all back at our Cabaret on 30th October.

CONGRATULATIONS to Joan Donoghue and Michael Joyce on their recent marriage.

Cub Scout Section

The Cub section of the Scouts will resume their weekly meetings on Tuesday 25th October in the C.Y.M.S. Hall at 7.00 p.m. Please note the change of venue.

PLEASE NOTE

New and partly used Uniforms and accessories available from the Scout Distribution Centre, Bennetsbridge Road, Kilkenny, from 20th October.

Times of opening Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 7.00 - 9.00 p.m.
Saturday 10.00 - 12.00 a.m.

Harps G.A.A.

The Harps will hold an Irish night and presentation of Player of the Year Awards in O'Connollys Lounge, Cullohill on Friday 28th October. The proceeds are in aid of players injury fund. Tickets are now on sale at £1 each. A few players in the club have been rather unlucky with regard to injuries this year, and the Club is anxious to ensure that they are 'looked after' in every possible way.

This years Golf outing, which was held in Rathdowney recently, was adjudged by one and all to be a resounding success. With over fifty people taking part in the "golf" and a big crowd attending the Cabaret to round off the night. The overall winner of the golf was Liam Kelly who received a set of glasses and decanter. There were numerous other prize-winners on the day. The Club would like to thank the many local traders who came up trumps once again with sponsorship, and Club members would do well to remember the continued support given to the Club by the traders when making their next purchase.

The Club would also like to thank the band Largo who contributed immensely to a very enjoyable night.

Christmas Cake

1 lb Flour	4 ozs Cherries
12 ozs Marg.	4 ozs Whole Almonds
12 ozs Brown Sugar	4 ozs Ground Almonds
1 lb Raisins	8 Eggs
1 lb Sultanas	1 teaspoon Mixed Spice
2 lb Currants	Pinch of Salt
4 ozs Mixed Peel	1 Apple, grated
Grated Rind of one Lemon	$\frac{1}{2}$ glass Whiskey or Brandy

METHOD

1. Sieve together flour, salt, spice, ground almonds and lemon rind.
2. Chred whole almonds, quarter the cherries.
3. Clean the fruit, chop the peel and combine with shredded almonds, cherries and grated apple.
4. Beat the eggs and add them to the spirits.
5. Cream butter and sugar.
6. Add the eggs, a little at a time, and beat thoroughly and lightly into the creamed mixture. Care must be taken in adding the last of the eggs, or the mixture may curdly. To prevent curdling add a little of the flour mixture before adding the last of the eggs.
7. Now fold in very lightly the flour mixture.
8. Lastly stir in the fruit.

Prepare a 10" round tin by lining the bottom and sides with two thicknesses of greaseproof paper. Put the mixture into the prepared tin and bake $5\frac{1}{4}$ hours in a Mod. Slow oven (300° - 325° - Reg. 2) N.B. Set tin in the middle of the oven. Allow cake to cool in tin before removing it.

Store in a cool, dry place until about two weeks before Christmas when the Almond Icing may be put on. If an extra rich cake is desired, now and again during the storing period, make a few holes in the top of the cake with a skewer or knitting needle and trickle in a teaspoonful of whiskey or brandy.

Happy baking. This recipe has been tried and tested by numerous people.

Historical Snippet by J.J. Conroy

The GAZABO gate is situated beside the Band Room, the gate leads into the land of John Cashin, The Bridge Bar. Well an interesting story my late father told me about this gate was as follows. John Fletcher was a great athlete famous throughout the country. He had a shop in Ballacolla where the present Finnermore residence is, and he was brother of the late P.J. Fletcher who's shop was where the "Nore-Nets" are now; John was also Uncle of the late Thomas Fletcher, Clonageera. Well on a Sunday evening crowds of people would gather at the GAZABO gate to see the great athlete John Fletcher jump from pier to pier, a great fete indeed since the gate was topped with sharp spikes.

Durrow Scout News

Review of year November 1987 - August 1988

During the year, the Scout Troop held 18 Friday night Troop meetings (duration 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours) which consisted of instruction in First Aid, Pioneering, Map and Compass, Morse Code, Knotting, Survival Techniques and other Scout related activities plus plenty of fun and games. The major activities the Troop took part in during the year were as follows:

November 1987 Orienteering Hike in Dunmore Wood
Attendance - 18 Scouts and 4 Leaders

Activities Included - First Aid, How to stop and treat serious bleeding.

Make and throw a rescue line

Set and align a Map

How to set and recognise tracking signs.

December 1987 Slieve Bloom District Quiz in Durrow
Winners Mountmellick.

January 1988 Pantomime in Portlaoise for younger Scouts
Attendance - 16 Scouts and 3 Leaders

Activity Day in Bishop's Wood

Attendance - 13 Scouts and 4 Leaders

Activities Included - Hand Axe care. How to light a fire from natural materials.

Knots and lashings used in Pioneering.

February 1988 Orienteering Course (Tintraslatty Forest Co. Kilkenny)
Attendance 15 Scouts and 4 Leaders

Activities included - Orienteering course through forest

Explanation and demonstration of Morse Code

First Aid - How to deal with unconscious casualty and uses of triangular bandages

Rescue knots and uses

Survival techniques - how to construct emergency shelter.

March 1988 Hostelling Weekend in Foulkesrath Castle plus visit to Kilkenny for cityscope (History of 16th and 17th Centure Kilkenny - scale model) and free time.
All travelled by bike.
Attendance 20 Scouts and 4 Leaders.

National Patrol Leaders Conference held in Dublin
24th - 26th March.

A young persons Forum of how Scouting should be run, and the 3rd Laoise representatives were, Evelyn Kelly and Vicky Walsh.

The activities from April to August will be continued in our next Newsletter.

All kinds of furniture made, W ardrobes, Dressing Tables, Hall Tables, Sitting Room Units. All made to measure. Please contact:-

Denis Lynch, Derry Road. Telephone 0502 3637-

You may remember that the first Protestant Church was built in 1731 and from that date a building was erected here to serve as a Catholic Church. It probably had a thatched roof. It was later replaced by the present building. It has a peculiar filling between the stones instead of mortar. It is a mixture of "colm". This came from the Castlecomer colleries and is the slack of anthracite. When the sun shines on it there is a glistening effect.

There is a cross on the gate and the street is Sraid an tSeipeil. While digging in this area some years ago bones were found. Probably there was a cemetery there. The building has a Preservation Order on it.

Leaving this building we proceed down to Patrick Street on the main Dublin Cork road. Turning right we come to what was the P.P.'s house and is now the Curates. The Curate's house was across the road but there is not a stone of that building left. That wonderful man Canon Carrigan for periods lived in both houses. I was sorry I had not the pleasure of knowing him. We would have had some common interests.

Canon Carrigan was born in Rothestown, Mucklee, Co. Kilkenny. He was the youngest of thirteen - eleven boys and two girls. His parents were native speakers and he was proud his grandmother spoke only Irish.

He went to the local school and then to St. Kierans. He was ordained by Dr. Moran in the Presentation Convent, Kilkenny in 1884. After two years as Professor in St. Kierans he was appointed C.C. in Ballyragget where he remained for 5 years. Then Conahy 2 years, Templeorum 2 years and finally Durrow in 1897 where he remained for the rest of his life, 12 years as Curate and 15 years as P.P.

From the time of his ordination he took an active interest in history and archæology. While still in Ballyragget Bishop Brownrigg asked him to write a history of the Diocese of Ossory.

He started writing his history of Ossory in 1897 and finished it in 1903. He wrote it all in the then P.P.'s house in Durrow by the light of two candles and no fire in the room Winter or Summer. It consists of four volumes and is considered one of the best of any diocesan history in Ireland.

Volleyball Club

Volleyball training continues every Saturday from 2.00 p.m. to 3.00 p.m. in the C.Y.M.S. Hall. New members are welcome. The Club wishes Lulu Carroll (trainer) and the Laois Ladies Football team every success in their match on Sunday.

St. Fintan's College

During the month of September the school's Senior Soccer Team played Abbeyleix Vocational School. The hard fought but enjoyable game was held in Abbeyleix, with a 3-2 victory to St. Fintans.

Wednesday the 5th of October the Senior and Junior Camogie teams from both St. Fintan's College and Castlecomer, competed against each other on the school grounds. The four teams enjoyed two exciting games but on both occasions the victory went to Castlecomer.

The School wishes Lulu Carroll and the Laois Ladies Football team the best of luck when they play Kerry this Sunday in the All-Ireland Final.

Lions Soccer

The Lion's Soccer Club are endeavouring to promote soccer with three under age teams under 15 (managed by Michael Lannigan and Philip Monnelly). Under 13 managed by Martin Lawlor and Youths managed by Robbie Dempsey & Kevin Kelly.

The Under 13 team were narrowly defeated last Sunday making their debut against Thomastown 5-3. The Youths are in the quarter final of the Shield.

The Junior team managed by Ger Woods had a topsy turvy start but seem to be getting it right now with a great draw with East End last week. They are playing Dean Celtic in Castlecomer this Sunday morning in the Leinster Junior Cup at 11.00 a.m.
