

Durrow Parish Newsletter  
Compiled by the Durrow Scouts

Fr. Jackie Robinson's OUTLOOK

CHRISTIAN LIVING

"Be doers of the word, not hearers only"

There is an old children's rhyme which goes something like this:

"Mr. Business went to Mass and never missed a Sunday,  
but Mr. Business went to hell for what he did on Monday."

Childish, a bit extreme? Perhaps, but at the same time - is there not a message there for all of us and not just Mr. Business.

Lets think about it. It isn't too difficult to be a Sunday Christian. A clean shirt! The good suit! The hair combed! The shoes polished and three quarters of an hour in Church at most.

But Christian living goes beyond Sunday. There are six other days of the week. Do we really live the gospel that we listen to on a Sunday?

There are many Christian principles that we could talk about this evening - lets look at one -

HONESTY:

More and more people are not paying their debts - it may be the recession, or the recession may be the excuse. But daily we see small hard working shopkeepers and builders going to the wall. If they keep surviving they have to spend much of their time trying to collect the money they are owed.

Mind you, its not all one sided. Sometimes the goods sold are shoddy and out-priced. Houses are found to be badly finished requiring repairs in an unjustifiably short time. The reasons may be a business man or contractor trying to make a fast pound. A worker not being adequately paid. An employee who just doesn't care.

If we had all good employers, all honest business people and all conscientious workers everything would be fine. But none of us is really perfect. We are all flawed.

And success is not important with God, but trying is and the real saints are the sinners who keep on trying.

And talking about Mr. Business going to hell for what he did on Monday - I firmly believe that when it comes to our turn the Lord will ask us only one question - DID YOU TRY?

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Durrow Tidy Towns

This years Tidy Town Campaign is now drawing to a close. In a few weeks time the results will be known - but we the residents of Durrow can see the results for ourselves - a town transformed - who in their wildest dreams could imagine that so much could be accomplished in just four months. The Committee wish to take this opportunity to thank all the voluntary workers who did such tremendous work during the past four months and appeal to all to keep up the good work until the results are announced.

The people of Durrow will have a golden opportunity to show their appreciation of all the work and effort that has gone into this campaign when we hold our Tidy Town Annual Collection on 10th/11th September. We appeal to all to give generously to this collection so that we will not be hampered by lack of funds to continue this wonderful work.

Note: Date of Tidy Town Collection 10th/11th September.

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Congratulations to Sheila and Tony Rafter on the birth of a son.

Congratulations to Ethel Lawlor, Mill Road, on finishing 3rd in the Moyne 10K race on 21st August in Thurles.

Durrow Tour by Liam O'Banain

From 1761-'86 a very famous Rector lived in the Globe House. He was the Rev. Mervyn Archdale. It was there he wrote his great work Monasticon Hibernicum or a History of the Abbies, Priories and other Religious Houses in Ireland. Bishop Pococke helped him and used to stay in the Globe in a room which was always called "The Bishop's Room". Rev. Mervyn was M.R.I.A. and he also published a revised edition of Lodge's Peccage in 7 Volumes. He left Attanagh in 1786 for Slane where he died in 1791.

Both Canon Wills and Mrs. Wills were very charitable. They distributed food daily to the poor of Durrow and this was chiefly to those who were not his parishioners. The Canons mode of transport was a bicycle. He mounted this by putting his foot on a step on the back wheel. Lately I was talking to an elderly attanagh resident and his opinion of Canon Wills was that he fed half of Durrow. I still keep in touch with his daughter who is in a 'home' in Dublin. She actually was born in our house. Her grandfather Dr. Dudley was G.P. in Durrow and lived in our house "Dun Naoise". Mrs. Wills was his daughter.

Since coming to Durrow I started collecting rare books and museum material. I intended that both should be housed in a Library cum Museum building here in Durrow but it was not to be.

Knowing my interests, Canon Wills presented me with a copy of a very valuable manuscript. It was Leabhar na hUidhri. It is the oldest manuscript in the Irish language before 1106. I donated this book and many other valuable books to the County Library. These included, Archdales Monasticon Hibernicum, Ossory Clergy and Parishes of the Church of Ireland by Rev. J. Leslie, Mrs. Halls and Arthur Youngs Tours of Ireland and Annals of the Four Masters in 7 Volumes. They are chiefly reference books and cannot be taken out.

If anybody wants to view my books or take notes from them they are welcome to do so. Inside each book is a slip which reads Cnuasach Ui Bhanain, ni ceaduitear an leabhar do thogail amach. In thanking me for the books the County Manager honoured me by presenting me with a badge with the Laois coat of arms on it and a brooch of the same to my wife.

For those interested in calligraphy I would highly recommend "The Irish Hand" by Brother T. O'Neill. I will quote a piece in it from the Book of Fermoy 1450.

O nurse of the Virgin's son  
From my youth I have chosen you  
O Mary Mother of Jesus  
May my help come from you.  
O gate of brightest heaven  
O face of fairest lustre  
Mother of the worlds King  
Protect me Mary in my difficulty.

How beautiful!

Recently I added very valuable material to the Cnuasach. This was a fairly large collection of maps, rent books and other documents relating to the Miltown estate.

It gave me great pleasure when in one of the rent books I saw an account of the annual rent a maternal grandfather of mine paved.

There was also a good map of Tinskill the home of that famous Laois family, the Lalors of Tinskill.

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In the last Newsletter an error was made in the Durrow Tour which we would like to correct.

The Cearnog was surrounded by fine houses and not five houses as printed.

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## Harros G.A.A.

Pride of place this week must go to the U.11 Footballers, who created a bit of history when they won the Championship final on Monday last. Five points down with four minutes remaining, they scored two late goals, one with the last kick of the game, to forge a great win - the first football title at this grade for the club. Congratulations to all concerned.

The Senior Hurlers had two good wins over the weekend. On Friday night they beat a strong Tipperary team, Boherlahan by 3-15 to 3-6 in the semi-final of the Galway Tournament, and on Saturday they defeated Clonad by 5-15 to 1-11 in the O'Brady cup. They now play Errill in the quarter final of this competition.

Success, in terms of trophies for the club, now rests with the U.21 hurlers, and their fate will be decided on Sunday next August 28th when they take on Portlaois in the County semi-final at Rathdowney, throw in 5.00 p.m.

The majority of this team have tasted success at minor level over the past couple of years, and in fact have been virtually undefeated at Championship level since their U.11 days. So lets ensure we turn out in great numbers on Sunday next and give them the support they deserve.

## Scout News

20 Scouts and 4 Leaders returned to Durrrow on Saturday 20th August after spending a full week camping at Curragh Chase Co. Limerick.

Even though the weather didn't favour us, a very enjoyable 7 days were spend under canvas.

As well as the usual Scout activities some of the highlights were:-

1. A boat trip up the River Deel and out onto the Shannon.
2. A full day tour which included The Cragganowen Project - this consists of Cragganowen Castle which was built in 1550, a reconstructed Craanog - Lake dwellings which were inhabited from early Bronze Age up to the 1600's and a ringfort. After this we visited Knappogue Castle and then on to Shannon Airport for a brief stop.
3. The camp Banquet.

This event was the Scouts favourite meal solely because it was prepared and served to them by the Leaders and Senior Scouts! Guests of honour at this banquet were the District Commissioner for the Lucha District, Michael McCarthy and his wife Betty who is Secretary of Curragh Chase Scout Centre. They enjoyed a starter of, Chicken Soup followed by Roast Chicken, Carrots, Brussel Sprouts, Roast and Boiled Potatoes and topped off with Ice cream and Fruit Cocktail.

On the last night of the camp the Male Scouts foolishly decided to keep the Leaders awake from dawn onwards - but they hadn't reckoned on the revenge of Debo. In future lads, don't try any more tricks like that because that is just a taste of what is in store for you.

All in all a very enjoyable Summer Camp '88.

This Sunday Senior Scouts will be helping out the Camera Club with their 10K race. Every success is wished to the Camera Club with this event.

## Camera Club

### FUN RUN

The 5th Annual 10K fun run organised by Durrrow and District Camera Club will be held on Sunday 23th starting at 3.00 p.m. at the C.Y.M.S. Hall with valuable prizes for all categories. It is hoped that the event will attract a huge field. Entries can be made on the day.

### PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

Judging of the photographic competition will take place in the C.Y.M.S. Hall at 6.00 p.m. on Sunday evening after the Road Race. The photographs will be on display in the Hall from 2.00 - 6.00 p.m. Anyone wishing to view them are welcome.

### Foroige

A public meeting will be held in the C.Y.M.S. on Wednesday 31st August at 8.00 p.m. with a view to starting a Foroige Club. Anybody interested, in particular boys and girls between the ages of 12-18 years are invited to attend. If the response is good a Foroige Club will be formed in Durrow.

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### Durrow I.C.A.

On Wednesday evening last the ladies and friends of Durrow I.C.A. took off to Clontarf Castle on their annual outing. The night got off to a great start with a delicious dinner served promptly at 7.30 p.m. This was followed by the gorgeous singer Tina. She treated us to some nice melodies. Next on stage came the hilarious comedian Al Banim. He had us in "stitches" for approx. half an hour. The highlight of the evening was Paddy Reilly. He is a top class artist and he entertained us for an hour and a half with his vast repertoire. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the outing.

The next I.C.A. Whist Drive will be held on Tuesday September 6th at 8.30 p.m. All are welcome. Price £1.50 including tea, sandwiches and cakes.

The next I.C.A. Monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday September 13th at 8.30 p.m. New members always welcome. Membership for one year £8 payable in September.

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### Durrow Community Alert Association

Please note the above Committee have now acquired Smoke Alarms and Fire Blankets for sale to the public at a subsidized price.

Smoke Alarms can be had for £8.00 and Fire Blankets for £10.00

As this is an unbeatable price, we urge people to take this opportunity to safeguard their homes in the event of fire.

Alerters are also available.

Further information can be had from Michael Donohue, Cork Road, Durrow or Michael Kells, Culloughill or any committee member.

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### Photography

For Weddings, Christenings, Anniversaries, 21st Parties, Portraits, Copying, Framing etc. contact

Rowan Studios,  
Ballyroan Road, Abbeyleix. Telephone 31227

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Congratulations to Bridie Phelan and Pat Dowling on their recent wedding.

Congratulations to Imelda O'Brien and Walter Foyle on their wedding this weekend.

Congratulations to Heather Martyn and Derek Bailey on their recent wedding.

Congratulations to Audrey Hesting and James ~~Hensberry~~ <sup>Parkinson</sup> on their wedding.

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Sympathy is extended to the Cashin Family, The Bridge on their recent bereavement.

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