



DURROW PARISH NEWSLETTER

Compiled by the Durrow Scouts

Web: www.durrow.ie

Email: info@durrow.ie

Price: 50c

Printed: Friday December 2nd 2016

Newsletter also on sale in:

Tomas Kenna Butchers,

The Square, Durrow.

(057) 8736134.

Thoughts for the Day - The Month of The Shortest Day...

The month of the longest night is the month of the shortest day. Dreary December wrapped in ragged cloak of somber grey. Though unlovely, even welcome for she comes to bring the greatest gift of God to man, the birthday of the King. From her frozen hand we take this thing most wonderful that crowns the ending of the year: the Christmas Miracle.

LOCAL NEWS:

THIRD LAOIS DURROW SCOUTS: Ventures: Our Venture section will travel to Portlaoise this weekend for an overnight activity following an invitation from Portlaoise - thank you for the invitation! Our Reps travelled to Carne, Co. Wexford last weekend though none of our Reps were running for election, but job well done to last year's Rep Lorna Campion. The Slievebloom County did very well with all who were running for positions getting elected - well done to all.

AGM: The Annual General Meeting of Third Laois Durrow scouts took place on 19th November last in The Den, with each section recalling the good times had through the year and the plans for the next year.

Awards: Some of our leaders got awards for their service to our group and we are so grateful to have them. Our group started in 1981 and since then both Angela Drennan and Mary Walsh have been actively involved. They both received their Golden Merit Award for 35 years of service. Maureen Walsh received a Silver Merit Award for 25 years and Teresa Townsend a 5 year Chief Scout Commendation. More awards were also delivered by County Commissioner Paddy Lynch.

Join Us! We are always looking for leaders and if you'd like to join us, please contact Delphine Lawlor on (086) 3655178 - don't be afraid, they say it is only an hour a week...

VOCEM DARU CHOIR: The newly formed "Vocem Daru Choir" made their first public appearance on Sunday at the Downtown Festival in Portlaoise. Singing a mixture of Christmas favourites and some popular songs the choir received a tremendous reception from all who heard them sing. Only formed seven week ago the choir sounded beautiful and great credit is due their leader and choir master Ann Moylan and to all the singers who gave of their best. Well done and we look forward to you singing at a venue in Durrow soon.

DURROW'S REAL-LIFE FAIRYTALE - HOW A FISHERGIRL BECAME LADY ASKBROOK:

Exhibition Launch and Talk - What better way to mark the start of the festive season than learning of a real-life fairytale? Exactly 250 years ago this year, William Flower, The Second Viscount Ashbrook and Third Baron Castle Durrow married Betty Ridge - the daughter of a humble Thames fisherman. Their story is one of class tensions and political unrest moving from the banks of the Thames to Castle Durrow and even Blenheim Palace.

To celebrate this remarkable story, Laois County Libraries will launch an exhibition curated especially for Durrow by the Oxford historian and author Julie Ann Godson. Based on her own research, Julie has published a book called "The Water Gypsy" which traces the story of the Ridge and Flower families and she will be present on the night to give an illustrated talk on this extraordinary couple.

The event will begin at 7.30pm on this Tuesday the 6th of December in Durrow Library. Light refreshments will be served after the talk and all are most welcome to attend. Laois County Libraries would like to acknowledge the support of Castle Durrow and Sheppard's Auction House for this event.