

Laragh & Glendalough News

Issue 205 – October 2014

Sponsored by a Laragh Pensioner

St. John's Church

Institution of New Rector

On Monday 25th August, St. Saviour's church in Rathdrum was full to capacity for the service of institution of the Reverend Brian O'Reilly. The service was led by the Archbishop, the Most Reverend Dr. Michael Jackson, who was joined by a large number of clergy from all corners of the united diocese. The preacher was Canon Horace McKinley from Whitechurch where Rev. Brian lived for some years before his ordination.

After the service, the congregation made their way to the nearby RDA hall for refreshments and a number of presentations. On behalf of all of the parishioners, Lin Ryan made Rev. Brian, Karen and their son Cillian welcome. Fr. Oliver Crotty from Glendalough welcomed Rev. Brian on behalf of the wider community and said he was confident that the present very good ecumenical relations would continue under Rev. Brian's tenure in the parish.

Autumn Sale

The annual parish autumn sale will be held in the RDA hall on Saturday 11th October. There will be a bric-a-brac stall, a cake stall and a plant stall – if you have any ideas for a stall or activity we could introduce to the fete, please let us know.

Services

Services continue at 9.15 am on Sundays in St. John's. All are very welcome.

Citizens Information Centre

The Citizens Information Centre at the Brockagh Resource Centre is open for information relating to your rights and entitlements from 10 am until noon on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. The next clinics will take place on Tuesdays 7th and 21st October. No appointment is necessary for this free and confidential service.

Laragh Glendalough Active Retirement

Our next monthly lunch takes place in the Wicklow Heather at 12.45 pm on 7th October.

To mark Positive Ageing Week (1st to 9th October), Co. Wicklow Network of Older People will hold its annual 'Brains of Wicklow' quiz in the Glendalough Hotel at 2 pm on Friday 3rd (the

perpetual trophy is sponsored by the Hotel and there are also cash prizes). A table of 4 costs €40 and refreshments will be served. For further information contact Mai Quail on 086-3824343, Pat Brennan on 086-0429458 or Bernadette in the Brockagh Centre on 0404-45600.

Annamoe Centre

Tennis Court Open Day We are delighted to announce that the long-awaited, outdoor, hardcore tennis court will be opened on 11th October. You are invited to visit the Centre to meet with our coaches from the Jamie Stafford Tennis Academy. Children and adults, whether beginners or advanced, who are interested in tennis coaching should come along on the day. For more information please check out www.jsta.ie or follow Annamoe Centre on Facebook.

Bowls Games continue on Tuesday nights at 8 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Historical Evening Our historical evenings take place on the third Monday of the month. The next date for your diary is 20th October.

Tidy Towns

Laragh/Glendalough scored 259 marks in the 2014 National Tidy Towns competition. This was an increase of 2 marks on last year – congratulations to all involved. The results sheet can be viewed in the Post Office or the Brockagh Centre.

We continue to try to improve our area and so will meet again at 11 am on Saturday 4th October opposite Lynhams. More helpers, even on an occasional basis, would be much appreciated.

Community Alert Text Alert

We are still awaiting finalisation by An Garda Síochána. Participants will be sent a text as soon as the scheme is up and running.

Death

We offer our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Florrie Cullen who died suddenly on 1st September. May she rest in eternal peace.

Sponsor an issue – please contact Nuala at 45167.

The Brockagh Resource Centre

Information on all our regular classes and events can be obtained by calling us on 0404-45600 or visiting our website www.brockaghresourcecentre.ie

Car Boot Sale

The next Car Boot Sale will take place as usual on Sunday 5th October, the first Sunday of the month. Car Boot Sales are a great place to find a bargain with many items new or nearly new. Or just take the opportunity to get rid of your clutter! We also have wonderful food stalls selling home-baking, jams, plants and crafts. Vans must be booked in, please contact 0404-45600.

Christmas Gift Fair

Our Christmas Gift Fair this year will be held on Saturday and Sunday 6th and 7th December. Santa will be making his usual trip to the Centre and there will be lots of hand-made and unique Christmas gifts for you to choose from (some costing as little as €5). You will find home baking, jams and chutneys, Christmas puddings and cakes, jewellery, novelty bird-tables, hand-knits, fairy doors, aloe vera, candles, Christmas wreaths, glass and pottery, plants and much, much more. This fair is usually booked-out very quickly so please call as soon as possible to secure your place. Phone Michelle on 0404-45600 for further information or email laraghit@eircom.net

Yogatree Yoga

Yogatree Yoga with Viva returns on Wednesday 1st October at the new time of 7 to 8.30 pm. If you've always wondered about yoga, try out this class – it is suitable for all ages and abilities from beginners to more advanced. Yoga can assist with relaxation, de-stressing, flexibility and improved health. Enjoy your body and its abilities in the friendly social atmosphere of our Yogatree classes. Contact Yogatree on 0404-40000 for more details.

Tuesday Night – Dance Night

Social dancing continues every Tuesday night from 9.30 pm until late.

“Masters of Running” Workshop

Don't just run, train to be a runner. A workshop in the Brockagh Centre on 27th and 28th September will teach the proven principles of the world's leading athletics and movement coaches – packaged to suit runners of all ages, levels and abilities. Learn all the skills you need for a lifetime of strong, injury-free and enjoyable running in a fun and relaxed atmosphere with our team. For less than the price of two pairs of running shoes, you will receive skills that can improve your health

and performance for life. Workshop numbers are strictly limited. The next workshop will take place on 29th and 30th November (an early-bird price applies to bookings made 4 weeks in advance). For further details call Jason Kehoe on 085-1414141 or book online at www.championseverywhere.com

Glendalough Trail Race

The Glendalough Trail race takes place on Saturday 1st November with registration at the Brockagh Centre. This is a fantastic running experience over a 15 km route that is scenic, challenging and safe. Not only will it be a fun, enjoyable day but we hope to raise much needed funds for *Fighting Blindness*.

For more information about the Glendalough Trail check out www.glendaloughtrail.com, contact Paul at info@glendaloughtrail.com or phone 086-3503994. To find out more about the work of *Fighting Blindness* contact Clodagh at 01-6789004 or fundraising@fightingblindness.ie

Mobile Library

The mobile library visits Laragh every second Thursday from 12 noon to 12.50 pm. The first ten minutes are spent outside the Brockagh Centre and the rest of the time is spent outside Lynhams. The next visits will be on Thursday 25th September and Thursdays 9th and 23rd October.

Nutritional and Educational Kinesiology

Rosaleen Durkin's kinesiology clinics for children and adults use muscle bio-feedback to test for common food sensitivities (dairy, gluten, wheat, sugar, eggs, tomatoes, etc.) and to detect and correct mineral and nutritional imbalances in the body. Kinesiology can provide help with tiredness, skin conditions and sleeping, anxiety, digestive and concentration problems. Many more conditions in children and adults with learning difficulties (AD/HD, dyslexia, Asperger's Syndrome) can also be treated. The next clinics take place at the Brockagh Centre on Thursdays 25th September, 23rd October and 27th November. Booking is essential – call Rosaleen on 087-2195931 or visit www.rosaleendurkin.com

Comhaltas Irish Music & Dance Classes

Learn traditional Irish music and dance with the award-winning Roundwood Comhaltas branch (guitar, fiddle, flute, tin whistle and grúpa ceoil. For more information phone 087-2841604 or email roundwoodcce@gmail.com

Laragh GFC

Junior As

Well done to our Junior As on a great win over St. Pats in the quarterfinal of the championship. We started slowly but by half time the score was Laragh 1-04, St. Pats 0-06. In the second half, some great defending and winning a lot of loose ball around the midfield resulted in a final score of Laragh 1-10, St. Pats 0-11. This was an excellent team performance all round but a special word must go to goal keeper Peter Merrigan who saved two certain goals early in the first half. Please keep up this effort for our semi-final clash against Blessington at 1.30 pm on Sunday 28th in Aughrim.

In our league game at home against Enniskerry we just managed to get a draw. We will have to win our next league game (against Bray Emmets) as we are down near the bottom of the league.

Juvenile News

Well done to our U12s who won their final against a very good Kiltegan team in the new county training grounds in Ballinakill on 20th September. This team and its mentors deserved their success for the effort they put in throughout the year. Afterwards the club brought the players to bowling in Wicklow to celebrate. Thanks to the organisers and all those who supported the team in any way.

We hosted the last blitz of the year recently and, with over 90 children playing ball, it was wonderful to see the support from all clubs involved. The club would like to thank all that helped out on the night, especially the referees.

The kids in our nursery trained every Wednesday over the season and enjoyed every minute of it. We hope to see more players of this age next year.

Our juvenile programme is ended for the year. Many thanks to all parents, guardians, mentors and the players themselves. Hopefully we will see you all back again next season. Remember that new members are always welcome as is any new help.

Some of our underage hurlers are playing with Avondale and we hear they are doing really well.

Our lads playing U14 football with Avondale lost their last 'A' championship match against a very strong Bray Emmets team. They will now play Blessington in the 'A' shield semi-final.

We also have a few lads playing U16 with An Tochar. They have been meeting strong opposition in the championship but are holding their own.

Wicklow GAA Yearbook

Mentors of all juvenile teams should forward information and photographs for inclusion in the Wicklow GAA yearbook to Fergal Olohan now.

Textile Recycling Fundraiser

Our club fundraiser this year will be a clothing and textile recycling collection on Saturday 18th October. Club members will call to each house in the village to ask for donations of bags of clothes.

Friends of Merlin

Friends of Merlin are holding a sponsored walk in aid of *Dogs Trust* on the beautiful Wicklow Way on Sunday September 28th. Come along to the Brockagh Centre at 2 pm if you wish to take part – with or without your four-legged friends! You can walk at your own pace while enjoying gorgeous scenery and autumn colours and avail of refreshments and a social gathering afterwards. Minimum entry on the day is €10. Sponsorship cards are available from fundogshow@gmail.com or see Facebook.com/friendsofmerlin

Wicklow Mountains National Park

Wicklow's wild deer are particularly impressive in autumn when they 'rut'. National Park staff will have telescopes set up on the Spinc walking trail (3 hours long) between 11 am and 4 pm on Sunday 12th October and will be available to discuss the Park's wild deer and their ecology with anyone who wishes. Directions to the telescopes should be obtained from the Information Office before setting out. All are welcome but dogs must be kept on leads. Hiking boots and rain gear are recommended. Bring binoculars if you have them.

The event is free to attend but the Upper Lake car park (Wicklow Co. Co.) has a €4 charge. For more information, phone 0404-45656 (weekdays) or 0404-45425 (weekends).

Equal Skills Computing Course

Why not try the *Equal Skills* course in Laragh IT and get yourself ready to do the ECDL. This course is a fun, informal, non-threatening and uncomplicated introduction to computing. It is designed to build confidence in those with no experience whatsoever of computers and encourage further exploration and development of computer and internet skills. The cost is €200 for 10 weeks (2 hours per week). Funding may be available for social welfare recipients. Call Laragh IT on 0404-45600 for more information.

Baptism

Welcome to Molly Mai Merrigan Langan, daughter of Maria and Steven, who was baptised in St. Kevin's Church on 14th September.

Scoil Chaoimhín Naofa

New Faces in School

We are delighted this year to have the largest enrolment ever at 124 pupils. We have nineteen new faces in Junior Infants and one in Rang 2. We welcome Aaron Duffy, Thomas Dunne, Oisín Fegan, Finn Healy, Eoin Healy, Clark Kelly, Fionn Kennedy, Connor Malone, Conor Merrigan, Luke Murphy, Finn Stakem, Joshua Turner Ward, Rachel Conroy, Grace Cullen, Christianna Delamere, Taria Driver, Eve Hanlon, Molly Lynch and Hannah McGraynor into Junior Infants and Thomas Fegan into Rang 2. We also have Lucas Guillen Ripa and Gonzalo Calatayud Aleman from Spain with us for a few weeks. They are in Rang 6.

There are also a number of additions to the staff. We welcome Hayley Bunn as the new teacher in Senior Infants and Rang 1, Lisa Woods as a SNA and Margaret Holden who joins us for a short time (also as a SNA). This week, Sarah Nic Craith joins the team to cover for Rebecca Dunne who is due a baby soon. We wish Rebecca well with everything.

Music in School

We are continuing with the Music Generation Programme this year – Eamon Sweeney is teaching a foundation music course to the junior classes. He is also teaching ukulele to Rang 3 who will be performing in the Mermaid Arts Centre in Bray on 30th November. An original piece has been composed especially for them. Each Wednesday we have guitar and piano lessons with Redmond O'Toole and Anthony Norton respectively.

Rang 5 and 6 will participate in the National Children's choir this year. Múinteoir Siobhan and Múinteoir Rosemary will be preparing them.

We are excited about the skills and expertise that all these teachers bring to the school and the new opportunities they are opening up to the pupils.

GAA

Paul O'Brien will coach children from Rang 3 to Rang 6 in football for eight weeks.

Congratulations to Laragh U12 footballers who beat Kiltegan to win their cup recently. Special thanks to the great backroom team of John Merrigan, Marie Cranley and Paul Carter.

Visitor to the School

Des Smyth visited the school on 15th September. This was a wonderful experience for all involved. Coincidentally, Des began school on 17th September 1934, exactly 80 years ago and the year the school opened on this site. He could identify easily with so many of the children in Rang 5 and 6

as he remembered their grandparents – from Nolans to Stakems to Byrnes to Gaffneys and many more. He recounted stories of his time in school and recalled a time when a teacher, Miss Douglas, was cycling home to Rathdrum and 3 bombs were dropped from a German plane near Ballygannon Wood. Her father was a tailor in Rathdrum. It was a privilege and an honour to have Des with us.

Team Hope Christmas Shoe Box Appeal

The pupils from Rang 5 are organising a shoe box collection for Team Hope again this year. We fill shoeboxes with toys and surprises to make gifts for children in need in Africa and Eastern Europe. Surprises can include school items, toys and/or a treat but no food. Please give generously.

Adult Career Guidance Service

The Adult Career Guidance Service is still available at the Brockagh Centre. This careers/education service is free, friendly, confidential, supportive and available to all adults over 18 years of age. For more details or to book an appointment contact Irene on 086-8061569.

Sympathy

We extend our condolences to the relatives and friends of Claire O'Connor who died suddenly on 11th September. Claire was originally from Australia and lived in Derrybawn for some years.

Get Yourself On-Line

Get Yourself on Line is a new step-by-step, four-week course, which helps those with little or no experience of the internet. It introduces email attachments, search engines, on-line transactions such as paying motor tax, podcasts, playbacks, on-line safety and security, Skype, on-line banking and buying on-line. It is free to those over 65 and costs €20 if you are younger. A daytime course will take place from 11 am to 1 pm on Wednesdays while an evening course (for the slightly more advanced) will take place on Tuesdays from 7 to 9 pm. Call Laragh IT on 0404-45600 to book your place.

Mass of Remembrance

A Mass of Remembrance for those who died in the past year will be celebrated in St. Kevin's Church at 7 pm on Saturday 8th November.

Please leave articles for the next issue into W. McCoy's by **20th October**; alternatively email them to laragh_glendalough_news@hotmail.com

This Newsletter is produced by the Parish Development & Renewal Group