The Knocklyon News

ST. COLMCILLE'S PARISH NEWSLETTER - NOVEMBER 1984

KNOCKLYON PAST

Knocklyon was known as "Yellow Lane" derived from magnificent laburnum trees which grew across Knocklyon Road. As the road climbed towards Scholarstown these trees alternated with Lilac trees. The mind's eye boggles!!

The 'Natives' who still live in their family homes can tell many tales of developers trying to "buy them out" for vast sums of money but underneath, the longing for easy money never came to the fore - their love for Knock-

lyon won through.

Electricity arrived in Knocklyon in 1954. Before that all houses were lit with paraffin lamps. Paraffin was purchased in 'Mick Kavanagh's Hardware' for 1/5 d a gallon.

Webbs Hardware now occupy this shop. Speaking to Tom Behan and Micheal Brennan the rows of modern houses fade away and Knocklyon is once again the pastoral idyll that now lives only in their memory. A landscape of small granite cottages, the big house on the hill, of turloughs and marshes, of cold winter mornings with the cattle and summer evenings with the hay. There was a community where everyone knew everyone else, and a time when you didn't lock your door.

"We went to school in Rathfarnham and we walked from Knocklyon Road to the Yellow House without crossing a road, without seeing a house. It was all fields. The golf course was there, even then, and some lads got knocked on the head with a golfball on the way to school." Their schoolhouse is now Rathfarnham Court-

There were only three cars in the whole area. One was driven by a malicious chaffeur and was a holy terror. There was a blacksmith who had his forge near Mortons, (Hugh Kelly, who still

lives there).

At the end of a hard day on the land, with the countryside dark and silent, everyone gathered in Mick Delany's for a chat. On special occasions it was back to somebody's house, out with the melodeon, sprinkle some Lux's Flakes on the concrete floor, and dance till dawn.

De Valera's dream!

More stories of Knocklyon Past in next

by Colm Keena.

Michael Brennan

Day: Friday 9th November, 1984.

Venue: St. Colmcille's Senior school, Knock-

lyon.

Project: Toy and Book sale.

Beneficiary: Ethiopia. Target: £1,000.00.

Result: Target exceeded - £1,020.00

E - Eating nothing all day.

T - Thirst H - Hunger

I - Insuperable O - Oblivion

P - Pain

I - Immense

A - Anticipation - will aid arrive?

What more can we say -?

Church Collection, Sunday November 11th realised a magnificent £7.700.

Members of the Irish soccer team presented the school with an autographed ball for their raffle.

Seen here with members of the school senior football panel.

Back row:

L to R. Derek Marconi, John Lawlor, Thor O'Brien. Front Row:

L to R. Edmond Comerford, Mark Byrne.



"PREPARE YE THE WAY OF THE LORD"

Literally, it means an arrival, a coming.

It has come to stand for the period of preparation for the greatest arrival of all, that of God the Son in human form.

Every great event needs preparation. God himself chose a period of some 1500 years to herald the coming of the Messiah (John the Baptist was but at the end of a long line of

patriarchs and prophets.)
The commercial world screams out incessantly

the coming of a commerical Christmas.

The church quietly invites us to prepare to relive the great event whereby 'the Word was made flesh and dwelt amongst us' - And to prepare in proven ways - hearkening again to the words of John the Baptist, pondering anew the mystery of Mary.

The recipe is tried and true! Prayers and reflection. Sacrifice and service. Daily mass sometimes, at least! Advent begins Sunday

December 2nd.

"LIFT UP YOUR HEARTS" ...

My 'inspiration' ebbs and flows — more of the ebbing than the flowing, because life is like that, isn't it? Today would not seem to be the mostlikely day for inspiration. It is just after 3 on an already darkening November evening, murky and steadily raining.

One clutches at straws, so I tried our 'beloved' editor more in hope than any real expectation. "Any chance you might be postpoing 'Knocklyon News' for a week? My inspiration is not good at the moment", I added weakly. No joy, of course, and to rub it in, he added wickedly, "about the only thing left to find on a day like this would be inspiration."

So here I am in my room gazing out at the heavily overcast sky. The electric light is reflected on the window pane, giving the impression of a moon in the otherwise expressionless sky — a ray of hope! What did I tell you, there's always hope, even on a day like this? Our same editor would seem to be lacking in inspiration just now too, more in tune with the overcast weather. I overhear the opening remarks, as he engages a caller to the Presbytery. "It's a bad old day", sez he. The response is even on a lower tone. "It's miserable".

Interesting, how we use the word 'old' when we are not in a complimentary mood. We never say: "It's a beautiful old day!" Why should it be so when age can be and indeed is honourable! Then again I think of my postman friend, when I was sympathising with him on having to be out and about on a particularly shocking morning, weatherwise. "There is no such thing as a bad morning Father. It's just that he makes some of them better than others".

And indeed, in spite of occasional and even frequent gloom, the good and inspiring is there for us aplenty. I think of the mother and child whom I met at the Church door this morning - the little fellow with his colourful woolen cap and its alternate "I love mammy, I love daddy" interwoven on the rim. Unconscious beauty speaking volumes: surely, too, irresistable joy and consolation to a no doubt oft beleaguered same mam and dad. Then later this morning the elderly lady, I met casually in a shop, who had recently lost a good daughter, leaving behind a little family. The bereaved mother was still numb and bewildered. but somehow one could sense the Hand of God was not far away in the situation. And yet again another casual meeting with a lady who wished to speak about an unusual experience - Poltergeist activity. I was satisfied

from the circumstances, it was no flight of fancy (to avoid using a more forceful expression of scepticism). Naturally there was fear at the beginning, but her faith and trust in God was soon proving stronger than that fear.

God is never far away in the various circumstances of life, be they good or bad, "What need I fear, when Thou art near, O King of night and day".

Patrick Fitz



Our Marathon team — lining up in St. Stephen's Green. Missing are Tom Cooper and Brendam O'Murchu.

PRIOR GENERAL OF CARMELITES VISITS KNOCKLYON

Fr. John O'Malley, O. Carm., celebrated the 12 o'clock Mass on Sunday, November 11th. Fr. Malley, an Irish American, has responsibility for almost 400 Carmelite communities which are spread throughout 29 countries of the world. He and his assistant, Fr. Alfie Brennan, spent the day with the Knocklyon Community before continuing their three week visit to Ireland.





Leslie Carroll joined our team for the first time and his first marathon, this year. Seen here with his pretty daughters.

COMMUNITY GAMES

The Knocklyon Community Games Annual General Meeting will take place on THURSDAY 22nd November at 8.00 p.m. in the Church Meeting Room. It is hoped to have a very big turn out for this meeting, especially after the tremendous successes achieved this year by the young people of Knocklyon. There are still a number of events which we have not been able to enter for i.e. BADMINTON, CYCLING, HURLING, VOLLEYBALL, GIRLS SOCCER, GIRLS BASKETBALL etc. We have the young people and we have adult expertise in the area so why not come along to the AGM and lend a hand. We are sure the parents of the boys and girls who were involved in our successes this year will also attend.

Swimming

The gala to choose the Knocklyon representatives for the Dublin Community Games Swimming Finals was held in Terenure Swimming Pool and was a very exciting occasion. Finally we had the team for the finals which were held in Coolmine Swimming Pool. The team was made up of children from Glenvara, Knocklyon Woods, Delaford, Knockcullen, Knockaire, The Rookery, and Coolamber.

The Finals in Coolmine was a very tense and competitive occasion with all the Knocklyon representatives doing their utmost for Knocklyon. Special congratulations to Lisa Halliday

from Glenvara who won a Gold Medal in the under 8 years free style. Lisa went on to represent Dublin in the National Finals in Mosney and won her heat but was just pipped

Lisa Halliday but was just pipped after a gallant fight in the next round — well done Lisa!

Many thanks to all the parents who looked after the swimmers throughout, and our special thanks to Anne O'Donoghue, Deirdre O'Dulaing and the Knocklyon Swimming Association for their hard work.



Winners at the Superquinn — Knocklyon Fancy Dress — Prizes were presented by members of the Indians Showband, who looked like "the real thing". Well done Superquinn, well done all the entrants.

YOUTH NEWS

Catherine Bates is our October quiz winner with her ten correct answers to our quiz — Well done, your prize will arrive soon.

Our October award for the best book review has been given to Kevin Smyth of Knocklyon Green. Read on and you will see why.

BOOK REVIEW COMPETITION

Robbers in the house by Carolyn Swift

In the heart of Old Dublin, six children discover a thrilling new place to play; the old fruit and vegetable market; this sets the scene for the story, with a true background — Old Dublin. Her writing is superb, she describes things as children think of them, like this piece — "They continued exploring the market, a couple of minutes later, they came across two men searching the area with something that looked like a vacuum cleaner" — it was of course a metal detector!

In the book there is an exciting escape that leads two boys all over the place, as far as the walls. I remember them being "mugged" put in a van and being brought to an old mill to be made prisoners. "Inside the old mill it was quite dark. The only light was the reflection of the surface of the river as it tumbled past before being sucked into the foaming waters that plunged down over the weir". The six children and their dog (Patchie) have the most exciting adventures. Carolyn hasn't forgotten anything, even their Dublin accent! In the end—a big reward, and the start of a new book! Robbers in the Hills. (I haven't read it yet).

Reviewed by Kevin Smyth

Editor's apology



to Niamh Wynne of Ashton — I overlooked Niamh's entry to our Wordsearch (September Competition) and she had all fourteen correct. So Niamh — Sorry and

a prize will follow shortly!



Elaine and Lorna White and Georgina Reid. One of the many groups of children who ran functions in their homes to raise funds for Ethiopia.

10 YEARS A'GROWING

It came as something of a shock when I realised it was 10 years since we came to live in Knocklyon. Looking back it seems only like yesterday. Our area was known as Firhouse then — a bit of a wilderness really — no street lights, no shops, a few phones for the privileged few and a transport system that seemed non-existent.

I remember the long trek to Rathfarnham for the shopping — or even the shorter trek to the Rowan Tree for the forgotten box of matches. In some ways, life was quite exciting — the favourite game being "Hunt the McInerney Man" be it plumber, carpenter or the harassed manager of the Showhouse. Once you found him (which was nigh possible) you led him back in triumph, much to the envy of your neighbours and the missing tap would be replaced, the cupboard door repaired or a problem solved. The highlight of any day would be the arrival of a Removal Van — which would disgorge furniture and new residents. We all peered at them from behind the curtains — looking, ckecking, assessing, before we sallied forth with the welcoming pot of tea.

Nobody seemed too bothered with big problems. Or rather THE Big Problem was when would the piped TV be installed? It was the main source of conversation and at the first Resident's meeting it was the main and ONLY topic. The next big landmark was the arrival of Fr. Staunton and Fr. Dunne. They moved into a McInerney house just like our own - our very own priests - in fact our very own neighbours. We used to attend Mass in their house on Holydays and weekdays. This was my first experience of celebrating the Eucharist in a private house and it made a deep impression on me. It was so peaceful, warm and intimate. It was at these masses that we first got to know our neighbours. Sunday mass was in McInerney's canteen, a rough wooden building, completely airless. If you were early you could sit on a canteen bench all squashed up together. The latecomers had to stand. It was hot, stuffy and uncomfortable, yet somehow we all seemed to enjoy it. Outside the canteen there was an open space which was used during the week as a car park and on fine Sundays we would have open air mass under the shade of a big tree which has long since gone. The news of the forthcoming erection of a prefab Church was received with mixed feelings, happy and in some ways sad. Sad, because this was the beginning of change - familiar things would disappear. Happy because we were starting to grow and share with an ever expanding community.

The opening of the pre-fab Church was an eventful day for all of us. I remember thinking that we were acting out a scene from the current TV series "The Little House on the Prairie". It looked just like the



Newly ordained priest Fr. Frank Harris, who was ordained here in Knocklyon on the 19th of August last. His parents and family would like to thank all those who made his great day a memorable one, the holy sacrifice of Mass will be offered for their intentions. Fr. Harris has now returned to Rome for further studies.

Church on telly. Wooden steps led up to the main door and there at the top of the steps, were the priests, welcoming us as we went in to Mass. They always did that, and knew us all by name and we felt very special as they made sure that all their family was safely inside.

The pre-fab Church served us well, doubling for every activity in the Parish. Sometimes, when the partitions were put up, there would be three things going on at once.

We were fairly settled now with a Church, school and a splendid new innovation — a PHONE BOX! It was installed in Firhouse Avenue opposite the Park. There was always a long queue outside and it was quite a social event to join it. We chatted away for ages while some people hogged the phone for what seemed hours. Sometimes the situation became a little nasty with someone banging on the window to hurry them up. Sometimes we even had fist shaking. Most of us have phones now and one bit of socialising has disappeared forever.

We have come a long way since those days. Our little cul-de-sac started out with 32 people including children — now we have 60. Multiply this by the inhabitants of every road in every estate within the Parish and you have some idea how big we are. We can boast of a beautiful Church, schools, a shopping centre and many amenities that help to make life comfortable and most of all the ever present spiritual guidance and practical help of our Carmelite priests who have supported us through the years.

10 Years! Yes. They had their ups and they had their downs — but they were good years. May the next 10 be as rewarding — as caring — and as good.

FIRST PARISH COLLECTOR

We introduce Mrs. Nelly Kirwan of 2 Knocklyon Cottages, who actually collected for our Parish church long before there was a church! She collected from the mid-sixties (Ballyroan Church Debt) to the blizzard of 1982, untill illness caused her to retire from her 30

house collection; but she looks after 5 weekly envelopes. She is a regular at the Collector's Christmas Party. "It wouldn't be the same without her". Fr. Staunger

without her". Fr. Staunton said the first house mass in her house, fifteen people attended.



10 a.m. Mass Drama Group — Rehearsing

From left: Aoife Boylan, Suzanne Malone, Ciara Bates, Antoinette Breslin, Kevina Ryan, Elaine White, Fiona O'Toole, Aileen Wynne, Anita Byrne, Niamh Wynne, Tara Byrne.



EDITORIAL

It's a great life these days for the oul' Editor! There he sits, snug and smug, with stuff pouring in from all angles. It's a far cry from the early days of the Knocklyon News; there he was, frantic for material, beseeching, cajoling, arm-twisting, threatening, even. And mostly to no avail! Now he can pick and choose: postpone this, cut out that, cut down the other. He even finds it hard to get a word in on his own behalf.

Keep the info pouring in folks. A surfeit of material is any Editor's dream. Please, don't let me wake up from this one!



PARISH SOCIAL; BELGARD, THURSDAY NOVEMBER 8TH. As you can see - a hilarious time was had by all!





SCOUTS - REVIEW OF THE PAST YEAR

The year 1983/84 turned out to be a most successful one for Scouting in Knocklyon. With the forming in September of a new Wednesday night Cub Pack, the Unit was at its largest to date – 2 Cub Packs; 2 Scout Troops; 1 Venturer Group. Because of the memories of a very rewarding 82/83 Season, during which the Scouts brought back the St. Colmcille's Regional Shield to Knocklyon for the first time, and the Venturers completed their first year of existence, no-one could have expected the 83/84 Season to match it's predecessor, let alone top it.

The cold months between September and December were dominated by many A.P.L. and P.L. Bowling trips and other less demanding (i.e. warmer!) activities. Of course, the "men" in the Venturer Group remained undeterred by the cold and rain and took on the rigours of the Wicklow Mountains — by night. There are not many people can claim to have slept rough on the side of a mountain in the icy cold and driving rain of an October night! The Scouts and Cubs also went on a few hikes in this period.

As usual, the first opportunity for a weekend activity was the Christmas holidays, when the Scouts went hostelling in Glendalough and the Venturers rented a cottage in Kerry.

After Christmas, the Scouts got down to the business of training in defence of the Regional Shield. Training for the Shield comprises of numerous weekend camps on which the necessary skills are taught, practiced and perfected.

The first ever Unit Camp was held in Larch Hill from Good Friday to Easter Monday. Both the Scout Troops and the Venturer Group attended. The highlight of this camp was a fantastic campfire on Easter Sunday night led by Unit Leader, Noel Geoghegan.

The months of May and June are arguably the busiest for any Scouting Group. In Knocklyon the Scout Troops were making eleventh-hour preparations for the Shield competition, whilst the Venturers finalised the arrangements for the '84 expedition to Belgium and Germany.

The Regional Shield camp (held this year in late June) is much more than a Scouting Competition — it is a battle of skills, wits and abilities to cope under stressful situations. The theme of this year's Camp was "A Plane Crash" and Scouts from all over the Ballyroan/Templeogue/Terenure area fought for survival in the wilds of Tibradden (under the watchful eyes of the Knights of Malta).

In recent years, the Competition has been dominated by Knocklyon and Terenure College. 1984 proved to be no exception. To the great joy of all concerned, all the training and effort

paid off and resulted in a Knocklyon victory for the second consecutive year. Not only did we win by a margin of some 300 points (out of a total of 3,000) we also took home the coveted pioneering challenge trophy and came first in the log-book section — a remarkable achievement by any standards.

Oblivious to all the excitement, the two Cub Packs set off for Mt. Mellary Abbey in Waterford for their Summer Camp. By all acounts, they had a fantastic time. Activities included swimming, camp fires, treasure hunts and sports

competitions.

What better way to end a brilliant year than by a brilliant, first-ever joint Scout and Venturer Summer Camp! In early August, 19 Scouts and

Summer Camp! In early August, 19 Scouts and 11 Venturers set off on an expedition which was to take them to London, Calais, Brussels, Koln and Kapellan. The two-week camp was a marvellous experience, particularly for the Scouts who got their first taste of International Scouting. We look forward to 1984/85 with confidence that we will have yet another outstanding year.

Derek Handley.

NEWSLETTER DELIVERS: Featuring Cremorne/Ashton

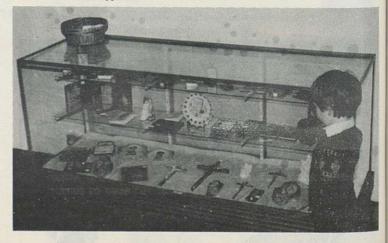
L. to R.: Back Row: Gavin Reynolds, Conor O'Hara, Walter Herring, Mark Byrne.

Front Row: Alan Price, David Helion, David McNamara, Caroline Coyne.



CHRISTMAS SHOPPING?

Remember our church shop for a wide variety of appropriate gifts. One look at the prices in our display cabinet, and you'll know what good value we offer.









In the old books the word venison was used to describe any wild ground animal that man hunted to eat. Wild boar, hare and deer being the most common. 'Game' writes Brillant Savarin, an eighteenth century gastronome, 'is a healthy, warming and savoury food, fit for the most delicate palate and easy to digest. In the hands of an experienced cook game can provide dishes of the highest quality which raises the culinary art to the level of a science'.

Nowadays however, when one talks of venison it usually refers only to deer. Great attempts are being made in Ireland to increase the deer population, especially in Wicklow and Kerry. While there is still some wild deer about the vast majority of our herds are semi-domesticated. I would imagine if this project is successful there will be a great demand for the meat as it is of superb quality, reasonably priced and has very low fat content. As with any other meat, the shoulder, neck and lap are suitable for stews, pot roasts and braising, while the legs and back of the animal are suitable for roasting and small elegant entrees.

In next month's issue I will give an alternative menu to turkey and ham using venison, which you may like to use over the Christmas and New Year.



Paddy the Chef

Have you seen the 'Peanuts' mini-posters now on sale in local newsagents? I'm not attempting a sales promotion for the mini-posters, but they do raise interest: they may be 'Good, 'Stupid' or 'Alright for kids', at least they attract attention and are a light relief from the ghoulish and horror posters, real and imaginary. that are often displayed. There is at least one 'Peanuts' mini-poster which would not be out of place in church; the caption reads: "If you love somebody, show it". How do you show that love at the sign of peace in the Sunday Mass? Does your handshake mean anything: is it given to your neighbour like a cold fish or regarded as a "new-fangled idea ..? What a missed opportunity for 'making-up' with your family and friends. Do you hug your children or embarrass your teenage son or daughter by a sign that all is forgiven for being

The coloured people in Cape Town were less conservative and at the sign of peace at the Sunday Mass a visitor or new resident was singled out and greeted by the celebrant and those nearest, and so too a newly-engaged couple, or one celebrating a birthday were likewise greeted.

out late or pranging the car? What a

chance for Mum and Dad to resolve that

tiff in the old-fashioned way. "But what

will the neighbours say?" They should

say, "See how they love each other".

Give it a try for Advent; what greater moment than at the Sunday Mass for letting the neighbours know you care.

Peace be with you.

Joe Clinch

NEW PARISHIONERS

Conor Donal Hannigan
Clara Maria Nevin
Marie Louise Abigail Nagle
Ruth Geraldine Mulholland
Brendan Francis Healy
Derek Sean Morris
Edwina Caroline Maria Coffey
Jonathan Timothy Russell
Claran Matthew Moloney
Gary William White
Daniel Thomas Vincent Kennedy
Jonathan David Brennan
Keith Joseph Douglas
Lisa Maria Cunningham
Aisling Brid Malone
Ronan Francis McAuley
Clodagh Marion Galloway
Claire Anne Butterly

12 Knocklyon Court
37 Knockcullen Lawns
102 Coolamber Park
22 Knockcullen Rise
20 Coolamber Park
102 Dargle Wood
26 Coolamber Park
103 Dargle Wood
26 Coolamber Park
104 Dargle Wood
26 Coolamber Park
27 Knocklyon Close

Sarah Louise Laley
Kate Murray
James Simon Kenny
Craig Brian Spain
Sonja Maria Campbell
Dara Oisin Beirne
John Russell Morgan
Paul Geeleher
Viicola Ann McCaffrey
Alan Michael O'Donnell
Stephen John McNamee
Ruth Jean Farnan
Dara Gerard Fee
Ciaran Desmond George Clifford

3 Woodbrook Park
3 Woodbrook Park
9 Woodlawn Park Avenue
29 Knocklyon Heights
3 The Rookery
147 Dargle Wood
24 Delaford Lawn
35 Beverly Heights
85 Idrone Park

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Sunday 2nd December

10.30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

2 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Knocklyon Junior School

FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY

We are holding our Annual Xmas Raffle to help pay off the Parish Debt. We hope that you will help us by selling the enclosed book of tickets and returning the counterfoil to the Presbytery before Sunday 25 November, 1984.

GARDEN CORNER - CHRISTMAS FAIR

Hey greenfingers! Why not donate some plants, shrubs etc. for our Garden Corner in the Christmas Fair. Last year was our first effort and proved a great success. Please help us to improve the stall this year. All donations gratefully received on Friday 30/11/84 and Saturday 1/12/84 at the Presbytery, or school. Make it a point to visit our garden corner and surprise somebody with a plant, shrub or flowers.

112th Knocklyon Scout Unit, October Winners: £100 — Convery, 15 Ashton Close; £50 — Dowling, 5 Knocklyon Park; £25 — Masterson, 23 Delaford Park.

Are you aware that a prayer meeting takes place every Friday at 8 p.m. in the Parish Centre? All are welcome to join in the hymn singing, scripture sharing or just to pray silently in our midst. We finish off the evening with coffee at 9.30 p.m.

I.C.A. NEWS

The talent of the newly formed drama section of the local guild showed itself to be top class, when, with their first effort, on the occasion of the celebration of 20 years of the Naomh Eanna trophy, the I.C.A.'s very own talent show. The Knocklyon girls not only stole the show but took the trophy also, well done girls — actresses and backroom helpers all, but a special thanks must be recorded to Bridie Maher for all her help, time and especially patience in preparing the girls for their baptism of fire, which they all handled so well. Next stop the Abbey?

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THORNTON TYRES, S.C.R. Kilmainham – £50

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