



KNOCKLYON NEWS

ST. COLMCILLE'S PARISH, KNOCKLYON, DUBLIN 16

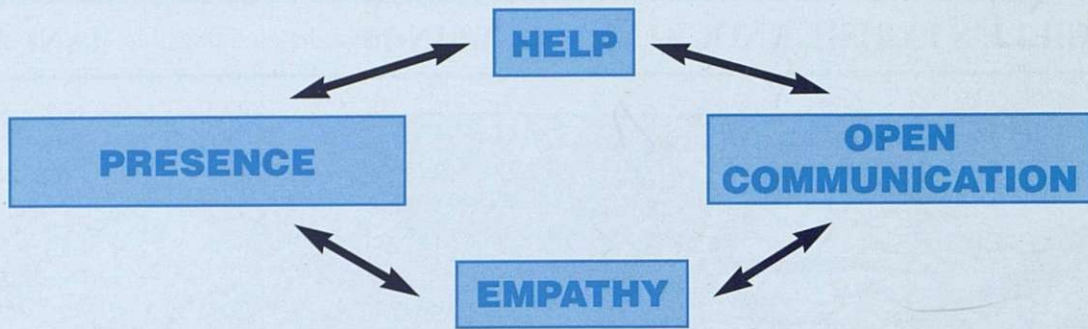
JANUARY 1999



A. BRIOSCU

Introducing the H.O.P.E. Group

The New Year sees the launch of a new voluntary group in the Parish. As its name suggests the group aims to provide practical and personal support to people of any age in need of such care. Please read on.



Concern is the most profound act of hope and without concern there is no cure or comfort.

The above statement reflects the ethos of a new group of volunteers formed within the Knocklyon Parish to be available as a resource to people in need. The passage through life for many of us can be fraught with difficulties associated with illness or loss. Our response may manifest itself by a feeling of isolation, helplessness, hopelessness or powerlessness. Every one of us have various roles i.e. mother, father, brother, sister, grandparent, aunt, friend, or carer. Within each role self esteem is very important. However, when we feel isolated, lonely or helpless our self esteem may be the first casualty.

Some people who have suffered loss associated with perhaps lack of mobility or independence may have excellent support from family, friends and or carers. Others may not have such support, while others still may not wish to relinquish their independence. It takes enormous courage to seek and receive help. However, even in our lowest or loneliest moments hope could set up a world of meaning and provide motivation and direction for the person. Having hope is essential to enable people to cope during difficult or stressful times.

Through receiving help, having an open channel of communication and the presence of others, the isolated, lonely or vulnerable person may become empowered. The word "empowerment" is a buzz word. In fact, bringing someone to Mass, going to the supermarket, a trip to town, being with someone and showing genuine concern and respect may enable that person to feel a sense of control and well being, which is what empowerment is all about.

This new volunteer group aims to make contact and help people recover hope. Hope may not cure or abolish pain, but it can help people manage the experiences which appear difficult at the time. Each letter in the word hope suggests that help is available within the volunteer group to enable anyone young or old within the parish to seek and receive assistance, and gain some control over the isolation, weariness and pain. **HOPE**, according to this new volunteer group is the candle that will light the dark when difficulties are met with a caring intent.

Any person can contact the group at **4935663** (see below) if they would like to know more about **HOPE**.

Contact Number: 4935663 (Carmel).

Day: Monday to Friday (inclusive).

Time: 10.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

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Congratulations to the members of Encore on presenting their first Christmas Concert – which displayed their talents in Music, Drama and Dance. Encore was launched in Knocklyon last September as a new concept in music and drama for primary school children with emphasis on performance.

The concert took place in the Tallaght Youth Theatre on 19th and 20th December. The juniors kicked off the afternoon with very strong performances of a number of songs and a mime which featured the theme of toys.

The 6 - 8 year olds entertained us with a delightful performance of "A Visit to Nursery Rhyme Land". We were also treated to a Toyshop song in which many of the children sang solo.

The seniors captured the audience's imagination with some excerpts from "Annie" and "Oliver" and finished with a version of the story of "Icarus and Daedalus" which they mimed to music.

The audience thoroughly enjoyed themselves, so congrats to all involved!

(See ad. on page 2 for details.)



INTERIOR DESIGN

THE COMFORT ZONE

This winter you may have noticed that many of the glossy magazines have devoted pages to what is known as the "comfort zone" or "luxury living". This new appetite for pampering ourselves and our living space may have its roots in our increasing understanding and sophistication towards interior design. The presence of the so called Celtic Tiger has also prompted many of us to spend that little extra on furniture and interior accessories. If you want to explore the comfort zone then look no further, below are some handy tips that might set you on your way.

- Indulge in at least one luxury item that could set off your interior scheme. A sofa in leather or suede will make an instant impact and will give your room a classic modern feel.
- Mixing the old with the new can sometimes create an interesting look. For example one or two pieces of antique furniture will work well in a soft modern setting. The look here is relaxed, refined elegance.
- Remember also the bedroom can act as the comfort zone. Select lots of soft natural fabrics and contrast with warm white walls. Muslin or voile if used as a window dressing will help diffuse the often harsh winter light.
- Jewel colours are very much in vogue and if set against the more neutral tones they can certainly add a touch of glamour to your living space. An example here would be to choose a sofa in deep red or dark purple fabric and set this off against soft cream or pale mushroom walls.
- Footstools are also making a comeback and are now available in a soft and modern cube style. These fabric covered boxes are perfect for that occasion when additional seating is required.
- Cushions are always a great way to dress a bed or sofa. Why not opt for the more unusual options like blue silk, orange velvet or natural suede.

Finally, the ultimate luxury in any house has to be space and light, so it is always worth letting in lots of natural daylight and creating good storage systems. As for the ultimate interior, it would no doubt combine comfort, practicality and great looks!

David Dempsey

For interior design advice and consultation contact David on tel: 01-4938425.

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Bros. Pearse A. C.



LEINSTER CROSS COUNTRY GOLD MEDAL TEAM
 (L.-R.) R. Tyson (Coolamber), L. Kelly (Greenacre),
 N. Hyland (Templeroan), J. Nolan (Greenacre),
 L. Barnwell (Greenacre)

All our athletes did us proud at both the Cross Country Championships – the Leinster on 22nd November, and All Ireland on 6th December.

A special mention goes to Colin Hyland (Templeroan Close) who took a Silver Medal in the Boys U.9 in the Leinster and finished 5th out of 118 boys in the All Ireland.

Training has resumed on Tuesdays and Thursdays in Sancta Maria College from 7 - 8 p.m. and on Sunday mornings at Cherryfield from 11 to 12 noon.

Enquiries to Áine at 4931764.

Paul Cummins,
 P.R.O.

KNOCKLYON YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE

10th Anniversary Dinner Dance

Saturday 30th January 1999 8.30 p.m. – 2 a.m.

Live Music by "Kick the Can"

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4 Course Sit-down Meal (Bring your own Drink)

£15 per Head

Enquiries 4943991 - Community Centre or Contact Liam at 4942091

Knocklyon Variety Group



"Oh, yes you did"!

By the time you read this piece Christmas will have faded into distant memory. However, some events leave lasting memories, and one such event was the performance of the Panto "Jack and the Beanstalk" by Knocklyon Variety Group from 11 - 13th December last. The Panto was co-produced by Maggie Cadwell and Colin Sloan, with choreography by Maggie, and musical direction by Colin. From start to finish this show provided great entertainment. The costumes, staging, singing and dancing were all of a very high standard and the comedy from "Widow Tweaky" (Andrew Reddy) and "Dilly & Dally" (Sheila Giles and Alan Maher) was excellent. A large number of Knocklyon children participated in this production alongside local adults and all did so in great style. Well done to all the cast on very fine performances. We eagerly look forward to 1999's production.

The Knocklyon Variety Group would like to invite new members to the group for their next show for 1999. If you are interested in singing, dancing, acting, and are over 16 years of age, male or female, we would like to hear from you. Anyone interested in helping backstage will also be very welcome. The group meet every Thursday night from 8 - 10 p.m. in the Junior School Hall in Knocklyon. We look forward to seeing many new faces on Thursday 4th February. For further information please 'phone Teresa at 4941021 or Barbara at 087-2922373.

THANK YOU

USED POSTAGE STAMPS

There is still a great demand for used postage stamps. They can be used to raise a lot of money for the Missions in Zimbabwe. So please collect all you can in your office/ place of work/home, and give them to Fr Tony in the Presbytery.

MANY THANKS.

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~~ Helen McCluskey ~~
Knockaire
A Friend Remembered



The late Helen McCluskey pictured with husband Noel

16th of October 1998 was a sad day for all who knew and loved Helen. She died peacefully in the Hospice following her illness. Helen was a very caring person who loved every person she knew or met. She was a very good friend. Every single person who knew her will remember and love her always. She was a valued member of the parish, always ready to be involved and lend a hand. We all have our own memories of Helen, her charity was legendary. We would like to extend our deepest sympathy to her husband Noel, her son Paul and her daughters Orla and Niamh. All we ask is that you remember her at the altar of God.

Bridie and Friends

Christmas Celebrations at St Colmcille's

Once again, the careful preparation by the various groups involved in planning the liturgical celebration of Christmas for this community yielded great results. On behalf of all who attended these Services, we would like to convey sincere thanks to our Carmelite team, the various choirs, the readers, drama organisers, Eucharistic Ministers, Art and Environment group members, and ALL who contributed to making our community Christmas celebrations so meaningful, visually and in word and music.

WELCOMING A NEW YEAR

a new year stands on my doorstep
ready to enter my life's journey.

something in me welcomes this visitor:
the hope of bountiful blessings
the joy of a new beginning
the freshness of unclaimed surprises

something in me rebuffs this visitor:
the swiftness of the coming
the boldness of the entrance
the challenge of a year's good-bye

something in me fears this visitor:
the unnamed events of future days
the wisdom needed to walk love well
the demands of giving away and growing

a new year stands on my doorstep.
with fragile caution I move
to open the door for its entrance.

my heart leaps with surprise,
joy jumps in my eyes,
for there beside this brand-new year
stands my God with outstretched hand!
He smiles and gently asks of me:
can we walk this year together?

and I, so overwhelmed with
goodness,
can barely whisper my reply:
welcome in!

Joyce Rupp O.S.M.
from "Fresh Bread and Other Gifts of
Spiritual Nourishment"



COMPUTER TRAINING

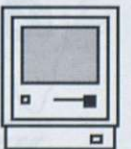


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*Drama na Nollag i nGaelscoil Chnoc Liamhna.
Bhain gach duine sult agus taitneamh as.*

Bhain na páistí (agus na tuismitheoirí) ó Ghaelscoil Chnoc Liamhna an-sult as Ceolchoirm na Nollag. Junior Infants performed the Nativity Play while other classes sang, played tin whistles or took part in dramas. All one hundred children sang Christmas carols "as Gaeilge" and nearly raised the roof with a resounding rendition of Bualadh Bos (Jingle Bells). A special word of thanks to Diarmaid Mac Seáin a chum amhrán nua don ócáid.

Beidh páistí na scoile ag glacadh páirt i Slógadh go luath. Beidh gach aon pháiste sa scoil páirteach san iarracht seo, go n-éirí go geal leo!

If you would like to enrol your child for the Gaelscoil, or for further information, phone: 493 9262.



Beirt sa rang Veidhlín i nGaelscoil Chnoc Liamhna.

Knocklyon Concert Band

Many congratulations to Robert Chester and the members of Knocklyon Concert Band on their hugely successful first public concert on December 11th last. The Band were joined for the occasion by Soprano Niamh Murray, Eamon Nolan on trumpet, and the Knocklyon Parish Choir.

The hall in Firhouse Community College held a capacity audience who gave rapturous applause for the Band's repertoire and guest performances. It was very difficult to believe that this Band had only been together for less than a year – their performances were so polished and confident.

The evening was overflowing with entertainment value, and Robert Chester's enthusiasm was totally infectious – he set a very relaxed, happy atmosphere which pervaded the programme from start to finish. Niamh Murray showed great versatility in her performance, even serenading a member of the Mr Johnston's recorder group (who made a guest appearance) with great good humour!

Eamon Nolan on trumpet made a huge impact as did the Knocklyon Choir under the baton of Eoin Garrett. We eagerly look forward to the next performance of Knocklyon Concert Band, and wish them continued success. (See photo on page 7.)

NEW PASTORAL CENTRE

At last, after many years of discussion and planning we lodged an application for planning permission just before Christmas. With the existing Centre (our pre-fab) on its last legs, and the demand for accommodation space in Knocklyon continuing to grow, the timing is just right for the building of this more permanent structure. A special thanks to the Community Centre committee you worked with us, giving us the benefit of their experience and helping us agree a suitable location for the new building. The application will take a number of months to process but hopefully all will go well and building can start soon. We will keep you fully informed of progress, and you will have an opportunity to view the plans at a public meeting in the near future, where you can put forward your views on the running, and uses of our new Centre. Remember, this is YOUR Centre.

Declan Cahill, Chairperson, Pastoral Centre Committee

CHRISTMAS FAIR '98

A few words of thanks again to all of you who helped organise, run or attended on the day. We not only raised more money than ever before (over £18,000) but the big success was in the record number of people who helped put the day together. The saying "many hands make light work" was never more true. Everybody from the very young, to our more mature residents enjoyed the occasion and Santa has already confirmed his availability for next year.

Thanks again. The Social Committee.

P.S. All suggestions to further improve the day are very welcome. Contact Declan Cahill at 4938810.



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£10.50

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TAKE HOME
MEALS
AVAILABLE

Knocklyon community council

The A.G.M. of the K.C.C. will take place on
Tuesday 23rd of February 1999
in the Community Centre at 8 p.m. sharp.

Motions to be discussed at the A.G.M. must be
given to the correspondence Secretary
14 days before the A.G.M.

The Constitution allows for eight independent
members to be elected to the executive each year.
Names must be proposed and seconded by people
living in Knocklyon. Notice of election must be
made in a local publication in advance of the
A.G.M., e.g. the Knocklyon news.

Nominations from groups and independent
members must be submitted to the
Correspondence Secretary at least seven days
before the A.G.M.

Nominees must be present at the A.G.M.

CORRESPONDENCE SECRETARY:

Kevin Geoghegan, 18 Templeoan Drive, Knocklyon, D. 16.

SPAWELL BRIDGE

The K.C.C. wishes the community a very happy and prosperous 1999. Readers will be aware that a majority of members of the South Dublin County Council at the Development Plan meeting held prior to Christmas, voted in favour of reinstating into the Development Plan the Spawell to Firhouse Bridge. Eighteen councillors voted in favour and eight voted against. The K.C.C.'s position is as follows and has been made known to the County Council.

- The bridge needs to be completed speedily.
- Funding must be put in place for the realignment of the Knocklyon Road so that traffic in Knocklyon can take full advantage of the proposed bridge.
- Such funding must include exits/entrances and perimeter protection acceptable to the residents of Lansdowne, Coolamber, Knockcullen/Ashton Estate and Cremorne which will be most affected by a realignment.

Firhouse Bridge will remain open during construction following pressure and representations from the Knocklyon Community Council. The K.C.C. is also responsible for applying pressure to maintain the Knocklyon/Ballycullen link road for as long as possible.

Damien Fee, Chairman

MAGIC MOMENTS



Some members of Joe Johnstons Recorder Class at the first public concert of Knocklyon Concert Band on December 11th
(See Report on page 6.)



CONNECT News

Our group consists of a small dedicated Committee who have been busily working away for over a year to raise awareness of drug and alcohol issues in our community. At present we are endeavouring to put together the programme for a Drug/Alcohol Awareness Week in the Parish, which will commence on **Sunday 21st February 1999.**

Readers who are interested in contributing to this project in any way are most welcome to contact any of the undernamed.

The next edition of the Knocklyon News (which will be published prior to the commencement of the Awareness Week) will contain a special supplement detailing the calendar of events for the week.

Don't forget to mark the date in your diary now!

For further information contact:

- Denise Dunne at 4935720
- Breda Fitzharris at 4946899
- Fr David at 4941204



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(Courtesy Cllr. Mary Muldoon)

● **SOUTHERN CROSS ROUTE - ORLAGH GROVE**

Orlagh Grove Residents Association have submitted a list of proposals regarding boundary treatment. These proposals have been transmitted to the Resident Engineer's Office and Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown County Council for comment. The motorway order defined the route and type of boundaries. Significant alterations cannot be considered at this point and will be completed as part of the scheme. Landscaping is a matter for Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown County Council, who are responsible for the construction of the road in consultation and agreement with officials of this council.

● **MEMORIAL ON SOUTHERN CROSS ROUTE**

A response is still awaited to the request (by S.D.C.C.) to have a memorial erected as part of the S.C.R.M. project to honour the memory of the late Oisín Kelly, Sculptor, who lived in Knocklyon.

● **GREEN ROUTE - PEDESTRIAN CROSSING NEAR BODEN PARK**

At the November meeting of the Council's Traffic Study Group it was recommended to provide a school warden in the vicinity of the entrance to Boden Park Estate. It was also agreed to have a traffic count carried out at this location to assess the need for a pedestrian crossing.

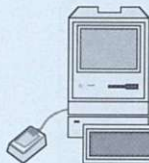
See page 13 for News on Development Plan and Re-alignment of Knocklyon Road.

RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION OF IDRONE

South Dublin County Council have placed double yellow lines on Idrone Avenue to improve traffic flow. People attending Mass and leaving children and collecting them from school, who park on both sides of the road, are causing serious obstruction. In the event of an emergency in the school or in Idrone Estate, the emergency services would not have access. We are appealing to all not to park on the double yellow lines.

**COLM DUGGAN, CHAIRMAN
RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION OF IDRONE**

KNOCKLYON ON THE INTERNET



A brand new website has been set up for the Knocklyon, Rathfarnham, Templeogue and Terenure areas. It can be found at www.rathfarnhamlive.com. Information about everything in the area can be found on the site including computers and the internet, historical monuments, local businesses, shops, pubs and restaurants, sports clubs and local walks. There's even a jobs page! The site is being added to every day, so there is always something new to read. The "Knocklyon News" will soon be available on this site which will immediately increase its distribution to a worldwide audience.

If you would like to add to the site, please contact Webtrade Limited in Rathfarnham Village at 4909020. (See advertisement below.)



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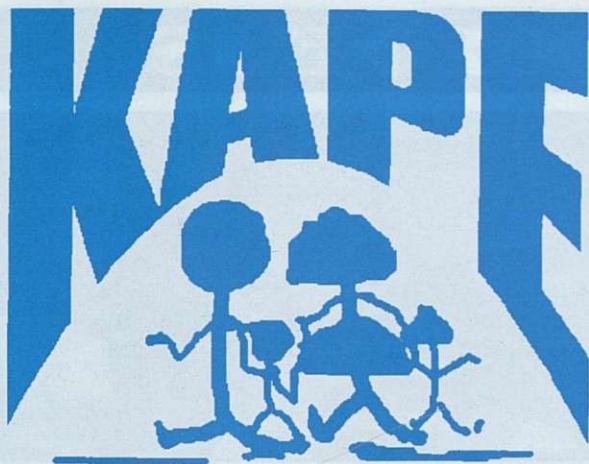
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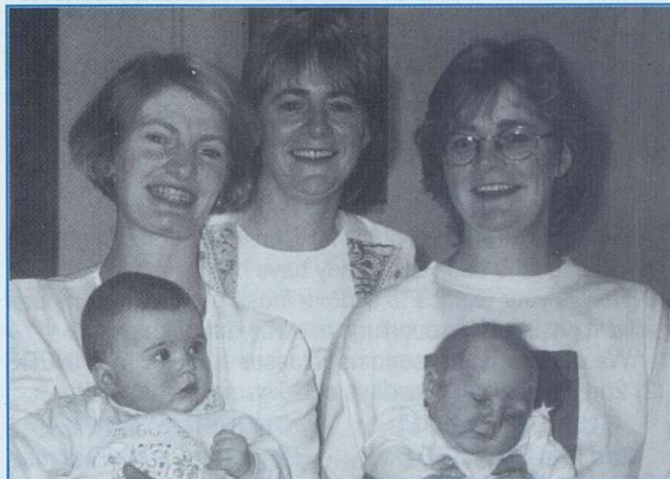
Have you seen our latest site, www.rathfarnhamlive.com, which tells you everything you need to know about Rathfarnham, Terenure, Templeogue and Knocklyon.

Contact **Jack Donaghy** through our own website, www.webtrade.ie, by e-mail at webtrade@webtrade.ie or by phone at 4909020.



How is it that Christmas always feels like a 100 years ago once you hit January? Even the photographs of K.A.P.E.'s Christmas get-together seem to come from the dim distant past. It's definitely a case of all eyes on the millennium, and the arrival on the Knocklyon landscape of our new Pastoral Centre. Even if K.A.P.E. has to squeeze into a small corner with the demolition of the pre-fab, we look forward to continuing our monthly open meetings on the first Wednesday of every month.

With a continuing waiting list for our 0-6 Parenting Course we have no doubt that 1999 will be a busy year. Look out for **WEDNESDAY 3rd FEBRUARY 1999** – The Toraigh Room will be open from **10 a.m. to 12 noon**. Drop in for a cup of tea, we'll be happy to answer any queries you have on our courses or meetings. We will continue to keep you posted on K.A.P.E. news through our monthly column in the Knocklyon News. Phone enquiries to Mary at 4942130 or Anne at 4939424.



Sisters Oonagh Meagher, Mary Byrne (Idrone), and Joan Conway, with baby Jennifer (left) and William at the Christmas "Mince Pie" K.A.P.E. Meeting on December 4th



KAPE Committee & Friends start Christmas Celebrations early

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JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

A peaceful and happy new year to all and we hope you had a pleasant Christmas.

We regret any inconvenience caused due to the enforced closure of the school. The new boiler has now been installed.

We offer our sympathies to the families bereaved over the Christmas period. Our prayers are with you and we hope that there are happier times head in '99.

N.B. APPLICATIONS FOR JUNIOR INFANTS SEPTEMBER '99

**Closing Date for all applications is
FRIDAY FEBRUARY 5th**

**Places will then be offered (strictly)
based on**

- (1) Residency in Knocklyon**
- (2) Chronological order**

It is essential that you clarify before that date that your child is in fact registered.

Tel: Secretary 4947422 or 4947084.



School Book Fair

Some children are waiting for books to arrive. We have been in touch with the distributors and they promised to send the books as soon as possible.

● INDOOR SOCCER REPORT ●

It's really close in the second class indoor soccer league this year and it looks like being a nail biting finish! At this point Liverpool are top of the tree with 9 points, followed closely by Dublin who have 8 points. After that we have 4 teams on 7 points – Man. Utd., Galway, Tigers and Switzerland, so they're all in with a shout! Well done to all the boys and girls taking part. Follow your team's progress on the soccer league chart in the top hall of the Junior School.



A scene from "TOPS OF THE TOTS" Christmas Concert

Congratulations to all the teachers and children on a very successful concert performance. Thanks also to the parents for all the co-operation.

Many thanks to Tom Heafey for being in attendance at all times and ensuring that all things ran smoothly.

— COMPUTER COURSES —

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If you are interested in any other Application e.g. Database/Spreadsheet/Internet/E-Mail/Desktop Publishing etc. please let us know a.s.a.p. and we will arrange same (numbers permitting) on Wednesday nights.

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SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

Freezing conditions make these school mornings a joy indeed! January is definitely the Senior School's favourite month ... There is one consolation, however, we enjoy the spectacle of our handsome male staff "sporting" their Christmas jumpers – an-dheas ar fad!!!

The annual Credit Union primary school Quiz took place in the Junior School Hall on Friday January 22nd. Congratulations to all the children selected. We hope to report on this event next month.

Room 4 enjoyed an educational field trip to the I.M.M.A. and Kilmainham Gaol in December.

David Lennon (Room 4) reviews his day:

OUR DECEMBER FIELD TRIP

Abruptly the coach halted outside The Irish Museum of Modern Art at around a quarter to ten. My class were very excited about the tour.

Our guide told us to pack our bags in the locker-room and eventually we tiptoed up the sparkling glass steps, in case of a disaster! For the next few minutes she pointed out numerous pictures of modern art. I particularly liked the colourful, glassy picture called "Soho". This struck me because you don't have to be able to draw a picture inch-perfectly. Instead the artists just drew what they felt comfortable with – themselves, burning buildings, cigarette butts, and even dogs' business! They created this picture because they are angry at pollution in our environment.

Next, on the list, was drawing freely. Teacher allowed us to study pictures with a partner. We attempted to sketch our favourite. Justin and I drew the yard of the Museum which took about ten minutes. I thought my work was brilliant but, unfortunately, our time was up.

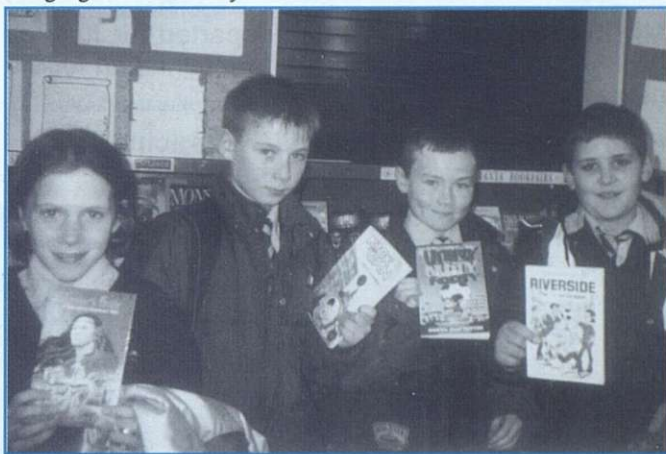
Quickly, we walked down the long path heading towards Kilmainham Gaol. We passed an ancient graveyard and read the plaque. Inside the damp building, our guide, Helen was telling us interesting facts about the jail. We peeked into some of the small cold cells before Helen announced that we should watch a video about life in prison. The video was shown in the church where Joseph Mary Plunkett was married. I thought this film was excellent and reminded me that I was well off compared to others. We saw the cell of Padraic Pearse. Finally, we set out into the yard where twelve famous 1916 leaders were executed. Our final activity was a worksheet.

Sadly, it was time to go. I enjoyed both places and would recommend them.

Mr Ruddy reports on our successful Book week:

The Senior School Hall was packed to capacity on December 9th last with parents and children eagerly awaiting the launch of Book Week '98. Mrs Broderick, in fine voice, was M.C. for the evening. Robert Dunbar, who is an authority on children's literature, and local author Kevin McDermott both gave interesting lectures on different aspects of the world of books. Children and parents then had an opportunity to browse and select books from the huge range which was supplied by Setanta Book Club.

Mile buíochas to all those who made the week such an outstanding success. As a result of their hard work the shelves of the classrooms in the school will soon be bulging with an array of new children's literature.



PUPILS SELECTING A BOOK AT THE BOOK FAIR

A FEW WORDS ABOUT OUR PRE-CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES ...

At this year's Carol Service on December 23rd the choir conducted by Mr Gearty gave a splendid performance. Ms McCann's class presented a moving and prayerful Nativity play, making the Carol Service particularly special. Well done to the choir and Ms McCann's class.

Thank you to the children and parents who participated in the Carol Service in The Blessed Sacrament Church on the Sunday before Christmas.

Unusual chanting and loud banging filled the school corridors on December 17th. A concert with a difference was taking place. The parents of rooms 9 and 10 were royally entertained.

Emma Wilson and Amy Molloy (Room 9) reveal all:



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The story of how our Concert came about began on the 17th of September when a man called Mr Douglas came into our class with lots of plumbing materials. He showed us how we could make instruments from bean cans, drain pipes, sewer pipes and dowel rods.

We changed them into bean can cowbells, boncas, didgeridoos, rasps and strikers. It cost us £170 to make 120 instruments. We have mastered the instruments and learned how to sing in several languages. We learned all of this in the time of twelve weeks.

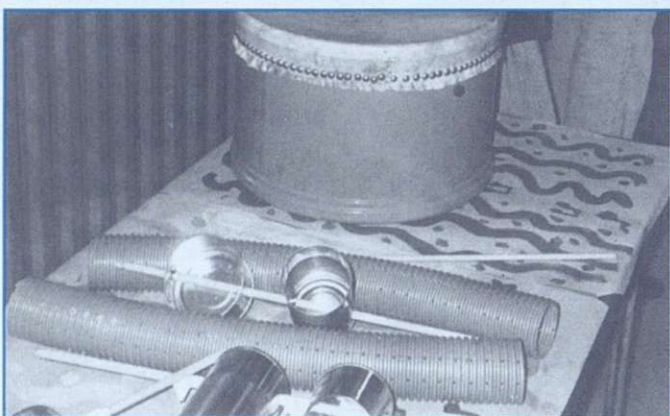
The audience found the Concert interesting and enjoyable.

We had a brilliant time, thank you Mr Gordon Douglas. (See photo below and opposite.)

The staff and pupils wish to extend our condolences to Ms McCann and her family on the recent death of her mother.

Mr. Kelly's school tour group departed for Italy on January 23rd. We look forward to a full report for the next issue.

Roll on the sight of daffodils. Práachta leis an bhfuacht, slán anois – Mrs O'Gara



Home-made Instruments



More eager readers survey what the Book Fair has to offer



PUPILS PERFORMING ON THEIR "HOME-MADE" INSTRUMENTS AT THE CONCERT ON DECEMBER 17th

Confirmation Faith Friends 1999

"Don't ask what your parish can do for you. Ask what YOU can do for your parish!"



I have decided to get in "ahead of the posse" to launch the annual appeal for Confirmation Faith Friends. We received a tremendous response to our appeal last year and we wish to sincerely thank all those who generously volunteered.

"What does it all entail",? I hear you ask. Well, the purpose of the Faith Friends Programme is to provide a community dimension to the preparation for Confirmation which the sixth class children are receiving in the school and in the home. In so doing, it offers the children a concrete experience of the interested and welcoming community into which they are being initiated.

Ideally a Faith Friend is aged between 18 and 30, is someone who feels comfortable sharing his/her faith experience with 11/12 year olds, and someone who is willing to meet with a group of about five or six children for one hour, once a week, for approximately five weeks between mid-February and mid-March. So if you are interested and would like more information, then please don't hesitate to contact me at 494 1204. I look forward to hearing from you!

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● 5 YEAR DEVELOPMENT PLAN

South Dublin County Council adopted the 1998 Development Plan on the 15th December last. Among the decisions relevant to Knocklyon are:

1. The provision of a new Dodder crossing from Firhouse Road to the Spawell roundabout.
2. The rezoning as residential of a further 202 acres of agricultural land at Ballycullen/Oldcourt, including the lands currently occupied by the Dublin Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (a potential 2,000 extra dwellings at traditional densities), with no development being permitted until the motorway is in place as far as the Scholarstown Interchange.
3. The rezoning as residential of Ballyboden St Enda's property and some adjoining lands, all located south of Oldcourt Cottages.
4. The objective of providing for a Credit Union to be sited in Knocklyon but not on residential or amenity lands, and
5. The objective of not permitting development of residential, commercial or industrial clusters above the 120 metre contour in the Dublin Mountains, except on lands already zoned for that purpose.

In regard to 1. above, a small number of constituents appear to have been unintentionally misled by literature circulated locally, into the mistaken belief that I opposed the principle of a Dodder crossing. For the record, I wish to state that this is completely untrue. Although I would have preferred one located adjacent to traffic emanating from Firhouse, preferably a motorway flyover, I abandoned the idea when I became convinced that the cost would be unacceptable to the National Roads Authority at the present time and voted for 1. above. I have been asked by Cllr. Gus O'Connell (Independent) and former Cllr. Maire Mullarney (Green Party) to express their thanks to the people of Knocklyon for contacting them, to explain that it would have been impossible for them to answer all the letters received and to assure them that their representations were taken on board by them.

As for 2. and 3. above, I voted against these proposals, mainly on environmental and prematurity grounds, but without success. I supported No. 4. and was the proposer of No. 5. which was also successful.

I include also an extract from the text of a recent letter from Mr. Denis Carter, Assistant Manager of South Dublin County Council, to the Roads Section, Department of the Environment and Local Government. It outlines the Council's hopes for the long-awaited realignment of Knocklyon Road, a vital element of the proposed Dodder crossing. I trust that it clarifies the current situation for the many local people who have contacted me about it. (Please address any further queries on these or other local issues to me at 4946601 or 086-8132529.

Mary Muldoon

● RE-ALIGNMENT OF KNOCKLYON ROAD

It is essential that the re-alignment of the Knocklyon Road to the Firhouse Road be undertaken in the interest of resolving traffic congestion and to maximise the benefits of the proposed connection from the Firhouse Road to the proposed Spawell Bridge which, as indicated above, is now included as an objective of the Council's Development Plan. The total length of road referred to (i.e. the provision of the connection from Firhouse Road to the Spawell roundabout including a permanent bridge over the River Dodder and the re-alignment of the Knocklyon Road to its junction with the Firhouse Road) is 1.5 kilometres and including the bridge is estimated to cost £5.2m. made up as follows:-

Road - Spawell roundabout to Firhouse Road	£1.6m.
Permanent Bridge	£0.8m.
Road - Knocklyon Road to Firhouse Road	£1.8m.
Land Acquisition	£1.0m.
Total	£5.2m.

Of the £5.2m. referred to above the National Roads Authority has indicated that it is prepared to fund the proposal in the sum of £1.9m. which includes the section of road included in the Development Plan, i.e. the section from the Firhouse Road to the Spawell Roundabout costing 1.6m., together with the provision of a "Bailey" bridge over the Dodder (instead of a permanent bridge) costing £0.3m. The remaining section of approach road, i.e. the re-alignment of the Knocklyon Road to its junction with the Firhouse Road, a distance of one kilometre, is estimated to cost £2.8m. including land acquisition. The estimated cost of a permanent bridge over the Dodder river is £0.8m.

The proposed re-alignment of the Knocklyon Road to its junction with the Firhouse Road and the provision of the connection from the Firhouse Road to the Spawell roundabout is an essential but missing part of the piannea roada network for this general area for a number of years. It will facilitate access to lands recently zoned for housing purposes in the Ballycullen and Scholarstown areas by providing access to the National Secondary N.81 Road and consequently to the National Primary N.7 Route as well as the M.50.

The Council's road levies are currently over committed to the tune of £4.0m. approx. and consequently it does not have any financial resources to meet any portion of the cost of this scheme. Accordingly, special funding in the sum of £3.6m. is hereby sought from your Department to cover the cost of the Knocklyon Road re-alignment scheme and the cost of a permanent bridge over the Dodder river i.e. land acquisition - £1.0m., road re-alignment works - £1.8m. together with the cost of a permanent bridge over the Dodder - £0.8m.

Denis Carter, Assistant Manager

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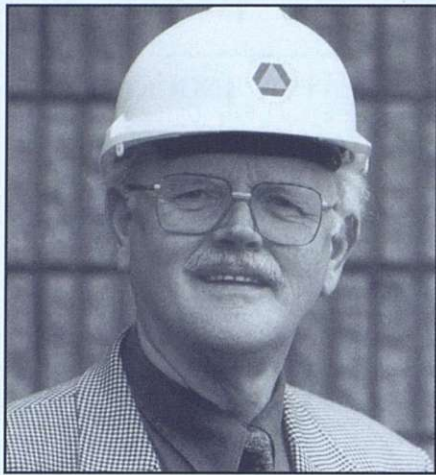
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Remembering JACK BEGLEY



Below we re-produce the text of a personal tribute paid to Jack Begley by a member of the Folk Group on the Sunday following his recent, sudden death.

"I would like to say a few words about our dear friend Jack Begley who sadly passed away, suddenly, on Sunday 20th December, 1998. For those of you who are regulars at the 12 o'clock Folk Mass here in Knocklyon you will know Jack, if not by name, then as the tall silver-haired man who introduced the Mass.

He was the mainstay of not just the male section but the whole of the Folk Group. He was a founder member over twenty-six years ago and was here singing not just throughout the Winter but also during the Summer – often as a soloist. But to the members of the group he was not just the "Elder Lemon" as we commonly referred to him, he was also a wonderful friend. He managed to touch the hearts of all age groups. He loved the Folk Group and would look for any excuse for a party or celebration and we were always happy to oblige. Practices will never be the same – we will do our best to get the work done – but the fun that was ever present in Jack will be gone.

If we have one wish, it would be that we hope Jack realised just how much we all loved him and *we really did*. He will be truly missed. Our deepest sympathies to his wife Anne, children, Mary, Denise, Alan and Paul, and grandchildren Ethan and Joshua.

"Ar deis Dé go raibh a anam dílis."

Ed. Note: It was not until his funeral Mass that many of us were aware of Jack's role as Chairman of "Focus Housing Association" the housing wing of "Focus Ireland" founded by Sister Stanislaus Kennedy.

The Housing Association was formed to build accommodation for some of the homeless people who roam our streets. To this work Jack gave his all. Completely committed he became involved in every aspect of the project from the early stages of planning to the ultimate joy of the finished buildings which now provide homes for 200 people.

This parish of Knocklyon was one of the causes to which Jack gave a commitment. Indeed it is only a few short weeks since his active involvement in our Parish Christmas Fair, as he had done for many, many years past. The community in Knocklyon remember him with sadness but also with pride and gratitude. May his soul rest in peace.

❄️ ❄️ Reflection ❄️ ❄️

Prayer – a need, not an extra!

The greatest need I have in my life is the need to pray. I hope you know that's not a pious utterance, just something you'd expect a priest to say. No! I'm not talking about a felt and very human need. I don't require a law to tell me I must pray. I have long ago absorbed the truth of what Jesus said to Satan in St Matthew's Gospel: "Man cannot live on bread alone, but needs every word that God speaks". Yes, I know that hunger of the spirit very well. Yet all too often I neglect to satisfy it. And to my detriment.

Prayer is not what I was told it was when I was a child. Indeed childhood notions presented the greatest obstacles to appreciating true prayer. Prayer, I now know, is the food of the spirit, and just as necessary as ordinary food for human living. Like bodily food, prayer comes in a multiplicity of kinds and varieties, and is variously suited to the needs and tastes of different people. Prayer can be silent or aloud; listening, speaking, reading, reflecting, wondering, questioning. It can be snack or solid meal; one course or many. It can comfort and reassure; equally it can challenge and disturb. Always, it nourishes the spirit, for it is the work of the Holy Spirit.

But like so many other healthy things in life – such as wholesome food, bodily exercise, serious reading – most of us seldom get round to doing it.

Fr. David

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The local Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society would like to thank most sincerely all who donated so generously to our Annual Christmas Appeal. We would also like to express our appreciation for the wonderful response to our Toy Appeal.

We take this opportunity to remind readers that donations of good quality clothes and furniture for needy families are always welcome.

For further information Phone Marie Lewis at 4941074.

● WOODSTOWN WELCOMES LOCAL SHOPPING

Residents of Woodstown Village, Glenvara, and Glenlyon are counting their blessings with the arrival on Thursday 14th January of the first of the stores in their local shopping centre at Ballycullen Road. The first two units to be occupied are a "Spar" supermarket and a Pharmacy. We wish both new enterprises every success and look forward to welcoming the remaining units in due course.

KNOCKLYON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Centenary Lecture – 10th February 1999

THE FOUNDING OF THE
COUNTY COUNCILS IN IRELAND 1899 – 1999

Guest Speaker: LIAM KENNY

Director, Council of County Councils

Chairperson: Cllr. MARY MULDOON

Venue: IONA ROOM, Pastoral Centre, Knocklyon

Time: 8.00 P.M. Admission £2 (Members £1)

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● SCOUT DRAW RESULTS

Dec. '98

£100 Chris P. Burke, 45 Idrone Park
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£25 V. & T. Kenny, 92 Glenvara Park

"ANNIE GET YOUR GUN"

The Transition Year students of Sancta Maria College, Ballyroan, present their annual Musical on Thursday 28th, Friday 29th, Saturday 30th January in the school hall at 8 p.m. Past performances have always been most entertaining and we would encourage readers to go along to this year's Production of "Annie Get Your Gun". We send best wishes to all the cast and organisers.

"Break a leg"!

Recent Baptisms

Karolyn Rachel Sisk, 28 Orlagh Grove
Tess Caitlín Orr, 8 Pine Grove
Jason Christopher Fenlon, 11 Beverly Lawns
Carys Marguerite O'Kelly-Lynch, 139 Woodfield
Robyn Marie Pender, 13 Glenlyon Grove
James Donal McGettigan, 15 Woodstown Dale
Keith Robert Keogh, 21 Templeroan Drive
Rhona Kathleen Brady, 78 Coolamber Park
Niamh Orla Devenney, 196 Woodfield
Shane Patrick Sharkey, 228 Scholarstown Road
Robert Henry Keegan, 53 Knockcullen Drive
Sam David Herbert, 31 Orlagh Wood
Andrea Carmel Cullinan, 2 Knocklyon Mews
Seamus Patrick O'Sullivan, 208 Woodfield
Alison Mary Dolan, 8 Templeroan Crescent
Claire Anne Kirwan, 94 Woodfield
Cathal Peter McCarron, 11 Orlagh Green
Aaron Patrick Neville, 12 Woodstown Park
Stacey Nicole Monahan, 15 Orlagh View
Sophie Lucia Orla Goulding, 193 Woodfield
Phoebe Kelly Jago, 1 Coolamber Park
Ross Joseph Foley, 3 Idrone Close
Lorcán Michael O'Brien, 122 Woodfield
Jolie Maria Naughton, 21 Knockfield Manor
Ross Maurice Sinclair, 107 Glenvara Park
Jennifer Eveline Bridget Ryder, 30 Beverly Downs
Mark Ronald Byrnes, 18 Glenlyon Grove
Daniel Paul Maguire, 12 Beverly Rise
Lydia Christina McGee, 10 Ashton Avenue
Keith Michael Sweeney, 11 Orlagh Avenue
Ryan Earl Ali Keogh, 20 Woodstown Park



NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS/CONTRIBUTORS (2 Weeks earlier than usual)

Items for inclusion in the next issue should be handed into the Presbytery by Sunday 31st January. The Newsletter will be circulated from 17th February. As advertising space has become so popular we are accepting adverts on a first come, first served basis only, with payment, so make sure to book your space in good time. Enquiries re advertising to June at 4941204 (10.00 a.m. – 12.00 noon) Monday to Friday. Fax 4942343

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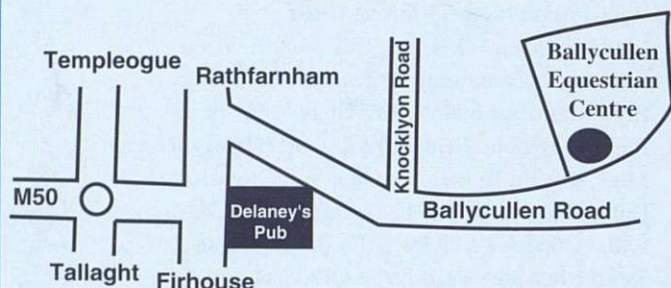
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