

The Knocklyon News



ST. COLMCILLE'S PARISH NEWSLETTER – FEBRUARY 1984

STOP PRESS! STOP PRESS! It's actually happened! At long, long last a group of parishioners have met to plan a "broadening out" of the Knocklyon News. "How come?" you ask with barely concealed excitement. "How did this miracle come about?" Well I'll tell you. Throughout the past year, when there was no response, despite repeated appeals for help, the Editor tried a new tack. He lay low, noted carefully even the tiniest expression of interest let slip by a parishioner in an unguarded moment, and then, just two weeks ago, out went a task force of St. Colmcille's Secret Police and rounded up the unfortunates, compelling them at gunpoint to a committee meeting.

Once arrived at the presbytery and with gags and handcuffs now removed, a very useful meeting took place. The following were seen as aspirations and targets for inclusion in our newsletter: a children's corner; a youth section; introducing groups, clubs and organisations in the parish and reporting on their current activities; baptisms; marriages; bereavements; up-dating the faith, perhaps through question/answers; a better photographic standard . . .

None of this will happen immediately. But we hope it will soon begin to happen. Have you a talent to share with the community in any of the above areas – or in other areas we haven't yet thought of? If you have, why not surrender now, offer your services freely and don't have us set our secret police on you! Remember, if you have a talent you owe it to the community to share it. Knocklyon Community Spongers beware. The squeeze is on – And it isn't nice . . .

ARCHBISHOP COMING TO KNOCKLYON FOR CONFIRMATION

Sunday March 4th. Archbishop Dermot Ryan will be celebrating the 12 O'Clock mass at which he will confirm over 70 boys and girls. The concelebrated mass and confirmation ceremony should take about one hour and a half. So, patrons of the Folk Mass take note. Perhaps you should make alternative arrangements for your Sunday Mass that day!?



HIS GRACE
THE ARCHBISHOP OF DUBLIN AND PRIMATE OF IRELAND
THE MOST REVEREND DERMOT RYAN, D.D.

LENT – SERVING NOTICE!

Ash Wednesday 7th March

Penance is not a matter of option for the Christian. The words of Jesus are stark and serious: "Unless you do penance you will perish. . ."

In no way is this a matter of God taking delight in our discomfort – perhaps the most prevalent heresy of the devout. Rather is it a loving, caring God pointing out to us that prone as we are to pamper ourselves we need to redress the balance periodically with a sort of anti-toxic self-denial.

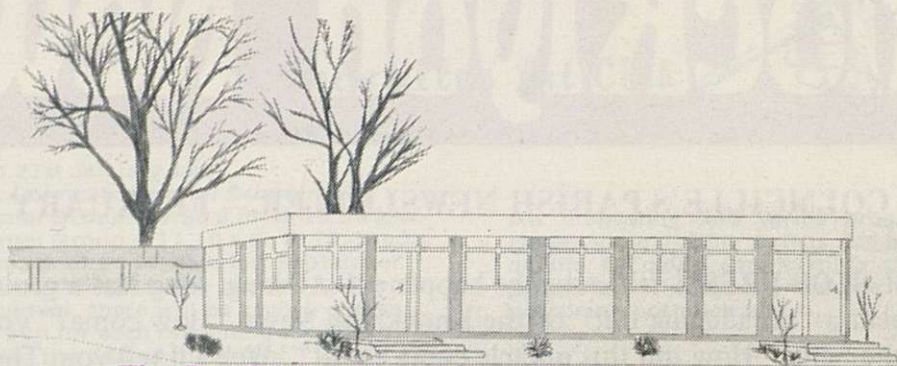
Very soon we will be circulating a special sheet listing our Lenten Programme of Church Services. In the meantime in order to strengthen your resolve to undertake appropriate penance for Lent, why not include a short aspiration in your daily prayer such as the following:

'Lord, show me what penance I should undertake for Lent and give me strength and courage to put it into practice.



Their god is their bodily desires (3.19)

KNOCKLYON PARISH CENTRE



The Pre-fab! – Knocklyon Parish Centre

Already functional and in operation, the final opening will have to wait until the weather improves and the external painting is completed. It will, we are confident, be a great boon to our community. The following are the available facilities: office, meeting room, kitchenette, toilets, and large general purpose room.

The pre-fab building itself cost £2,500. Thanks to the marvellous generosity (in time, materials and expertise) of some of our parishioners, the excellent services of AnCo and the committed, expert supervision of Fr. Fergus O'Loan, the dismantling, transfer and re-erection cost was a mere £2,600 (as against two professional quotations for the same work of £11,000 and £12,000).

Fitting, furnishing etc. is not yet complete, but is unlikely to cost much more than another £2,000 or so. Truly a wonderful community endeavour, and we hope in time, to express our thanks more personally to all concerned.

*"Better to light a
single candle than to
sit and curse the
darkness"*



Knocklyon Community Enterprise

The second general meeting was held as scheduled on February 7th with an equally large attendance as on the first occasion. The various sub-committees had met and worked in the interim, and there was much progress to report. Here is a brief account of the main developments and plans to date.

1. **Centre of Activities.** – will be in the pre-fab, already functional although not yet fully complete. (see report above). The office is equipped with a direct telephone line which should facilitate the operation considerably.
2. **Information and Advice Service** – Decision was taken to purchase the complete file of relevant information available from the National Social Services Bureau.
 - Committee members will visit comparable centres elsewhere with a view to learning from others experience.
 - A lecture will be arranged shortly to begin basic instructions of the volunteers who will run the service.
3. **Registers** – The group responsible for this aspect of the enterprise are ready to function as soon as the centre opens.
4. **Questionnaire/Survey** – The number of returns to the box in the church was excellent. House to house collection of forms is now under way and the response is mixed.

Of the first 80 replies analysed, 6 householders were stated to be unemployed.

The suggestions made were numerous and varied, but with many recurring ideas; they will be most useful to the Enterprise Committee.
5. **Main Enterprise Committee** – This group has met on two occasions to date. It has now divided itself into three sub-groups in order to concentrate on the following three aspects:
 - a) *The provision of long-term employment.*
 - b) *Shorter term employment with particular reference to suggested areas of local service.*
 - c) *Learning from local enterprise groups elsewhere.*

Overall, a most encouraging amount of work has already been done to lay the groundwork of this most vital and challenging undertaking and the meeting was satisfied with the plans for further programmes decided upon.

Another general meeting will be called, probably in 4 – 6 weeks time, as soon as the work of the various committees seems to warrant it.

So far so good!

N.B. This enterprise is in no way sectarian. People of all religions (or none) are most welcome to participate at any level.

C.B.S.I.

Investiture

Saturday February 4th saw the largest investiture to date for the 112th Knocklyon. The ceremony which took place in the church was well attended by parents and in all, some forty cubs, scouts and venturers were invested.

An 'Investiture' is the ceremony in which prospective cubs/scouts/venturers are officially accepted into the worldwide brotherhood of scouts by making a public commitment to keep the scout promise. Among the forty odd being invested was cub leader Eddie Dunne, new leader of the Wednesday night pack.

The investiture ceremony was followed by a series of presentations. For the first time in the history of the 112th, three venturers (J. Byrne, P. McGinn and D. Handley) attained the first stage of the Venturer Award Scheme. In recognition of eight years hard work on the Unit Council, Maurice and Noreen Byrne were presented with a cut-glass bowl as a token of appreciation. The highlight of the afternoon was the presentation of the Bronze Service Medal to Eamon Hanlon. This medal is a recognition at national level of the exemplary job done by Eamon in his capacity as Venturer Leader.

Many thanks to Frank Khan and sponsors in the Dublin City Marathon. Proceeds were a magnificent £816.

Many thanks, too, to John Donnelly and Paul Buckley. The Christmas Tree Sales Venture realised £441.

MONTHLY DRAW

December Winners

£100, M. Leonard, 142 Monalea Grove.
£50, F. Dolan, 19 Delaford Park
£25, M. Ganly, 21 Idrone Drive.

January Winners

£100, M. Kearney, 29 Knockaire
£50, C. O'Carroll, 31 Delaford Avenue
£25, C. Buckley, 36 Marian Road.



KNOCKLYON BRIDGE CLUB

1. Club Night.

The Bridge Club meets at 7.45 p.m. each Monday night (except Bank holidays) in the Senior School. Everybody welcome — you don't need a partner as a committee member is always available.

2. Attention Beginners/Novices

Have you completed a set of beginners classes? If so, a series of 5 discussion/play sessions will be held as follows:

- Monday 27th February: opening leads and signals*
- 5th March: trump management*
- 12th March: the finesse and when not to take it*
- 26th March: planning the play*
- 2nd April: ducking and unblocking*

Discussion 8.00 8.45: Play 8.45 — 10.30: £1 per night

A special game for novices will be organised each Monday at 7.45 commencing 9th April — everybody welcome.

DO IT NOW!

Have you ever turned to God for help when everything else has failed? Most of us have at some time in our lives. When He comes to our aid we are overwhelmed with gratitude. "Thank you God" we whisper fervently and make firm resolution to pray more often. We are full of good intentions at that particular moment, but alas, soon we are caught up in the noise and activity of everyday life — television — radio — telephones — motor cars — shopping — travelling — parties! Except for going to Mass on Sunday — there isn't time for having a word with God — until the next crisis.

It is two years now since the Knocklyon Prayer Group was formed. We have grown in numbers since that cold January day. We still meet at **10.30 a.m. every Wednesday morning at O'Connells, 11 Knocklyon Avenue.** Strangers have long since become friends and there is a wonderful feeling of community in our group. During our meeting, we offer prayers for the world, our parish, our friends and our families. We sing hymns together and some of us share our thoughts on a scripture reading — others just offer up a silent prayer. Sometimes we listen to talks given by our Spiritual Director and three or four times a year, we celebrate the Eucharist, prayerful, joyous occasions, which we find both moving and memorable.

We always have coffee, biscuits and a chat after our meetings and you'll still be in time to pick up the children from Playgroup or School. If you have babies or toddlers under school age — bring them with you — CRECHE facilities are available.

Do you feel you would like to join us? Then come along any Wednesday. Ring 510490 for more information, but,

DO IT NOW!

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

A local Conference for Knocklyon Parish is in process of being formed. Despite the already large number of parishioners dedicated to the Society through conferences outside the parish, the recruitment appeal on Sunday January 29th elicited a mammoth 48 volunteers! Two meetings have since been held under the guidance of Jerry Mulholland, Area President and Rory O'Connor. The volunteers have been temporarily assigned to outside Conferences; and early next month, following this experience, it is envisaged that some will elect to continue to work outside the parish while others will form the first local Conference.

UPDATING YOUR FAITH

What happened to 'Limbo'? Is there no such thing as a mortal sin any more? What is Hell? How should we pray? What is a 'bad confession'? How do we explain death to our children without introducing fear?

These are but a few random samples of the questions that arise in our minds from time to time. And all too often our education in the faith has not kept pace with our growth in secular experience and we do not have answers.

From next month onwards, we hope to feature a Question — Answer section in the Newsletter to deal with topics like those spelled out above.

If you have a question, please send it in — anonymously if you wish — to the Editor.

WEEKLY ENVELOPE COLLECTION

The results for 1983 are now complete and below are the amounts contributed during each quarter:—

1st quarter	2nd quarter	3rd quarter	4th quarter
£15,303	£14,174	£14,451	£14,389

Total for year £58,316

The target for the year, i.e. the amount required to meet all expenses, including repayment of Bank loans, was £67,600. To come within 14% of this figure is a worthy achievement.

An individual acknowledgement is being prepared which will show the household contribution for the year, and will be delivered during the current month.

If you wish to contribute, and have not yet received envelopes, or better still, you may prefer to use Bankers' Standing Order, please leave your name and address at the Presbytery.

NEW PARISHIONERS!

The parish welcomes its newest arrivals baptised since January 1st.

Kevin Francis Lillis
81 Glenbara Park

Gemma Davey
22 Knockcullen Park

Cathal Martin Rafferty
3 Mount Alton

Alan Michael Moran
21 Delaford Avenue

Shane Michael Gleeson
28 Knocklyon Park

Edel Mary Faherty
31 Knockaire

Catherine Jane Branigan
70 Lansdowne Park

Louise Celine Stevens
20 Mount Alton

John Michael Harkness
28 Knocklyon Heights

John David Cahalin
17 Idrone Drive

Simon John Morrissey
122 Monalea Grove



MADONNA AND CHILD-STATUE NEARS COMPLETION

Within the next month we hope to have the long awaited statue installed in the church. Fr. Paddy Staunton will be present to give the blessing.

Having investigated the work of several artists, Nuala Creagh was eventually commissioned and asked to prepare. . .

Sketches and a model of a statue which would inspire the devotion of both the young and the old and would bridge the gap between the new Art form of the Church and the ideals and expectations of a growing community.

Now after many months of hard work, the Madonna is complete and it is perhaps opportune to consider the pre-occupations of modern Artists which have given the Art of this century its special qualities and also to trace the origin of our devotion to the Virgin and Child.

It was only in the 12th century that the cult of the Virgin arose, with the completion of numerous Churches in her honour. The finest of this is the Cathedral at Chartres in France which contains the actual Tunic Our Lady wore at the time of the Annunciation? At that time, soldiers returning from the Crusades brought with them an admiration of the womanly virtues of gentleness and compassion. The Virgin was seen as the supreme protectress of civilisation. Later while remaining the Queen of Heaven, she also became the human Mother to whom everyone could recognise qualities of warmth and love and approachability. The popular image of the Madonna spread and numerous copies of the great works of the time were made and adorned Churches and Monasteries throughout the Christian World.

This renaissance view of the Madonna still survives today and many people feel uncomfortable with anything that does not approach this image.

In commissioning the new statue it would have been simple to revert to the Art of the past. Instead Nuala Creagh has recognised that history is a wonderful source through which to enrich and transform modern Art.

But what are these other influences on modern Artists? Perhaps the most important is their preference for the Art of the 13th, 14th and 15th centuries, which appear to be more honest and pious than the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries with its greater complexity and technical mastery.

Abstract Art has come about as the Artists strove to bring their work towards the condition of music i.e. paintings and sculptures that convey emotions and feelings as directly as music does.

In the past Artists have tried to use their materials to do precisely those things which the materials make most difficult e.g. giving marble the texture of skin or of lace. Many 20th century Artists believe that they ought to emphasise the inherent qualities of their materials — carving in wood ought to be some how different to carving in stone.

Yet a further influence which has directed modern Art was the invention of photography. Many Artists now found that a machine could do their job and so they rejected imitating appearances and concentrated on capturing the more abstract qualities of light, space, emotions etc.

And so we come to our own Madonna. How will it measure up to our expectations? Undoubtedly the more we know about its background the more time we spend trying to appreciate its sources and influences, the greater our enjoyment and appreciation will be. For some this will come easily; for most of us it will take longer. However, like everything else the more we put into it the more we will get back. We must be careful not to pass immediate judgement, for it is a truism that no new work of Art can be understood or fully accepted at first.

The theme of the statue is of a young mother and her son. The mother has an expression of compassion, concern and acceptances. She reaches down to the shoulders of her young son as if to protect a lively and active boy, she is proud of her son, but appears shy of the attention being shown to her. Her Robes are of the traditional blues, but here enriched with a simple gold braiding and a decorative halo enriches her head.

The child's hands are raised to meet his mother's. The form of the hands has been exaggerated to emphasise the link between the pair, yet they are not clasped — they are barely touching. There is something about this child — this is no ordinary boy. He is strongly built and well cared for, but there is a determination in his face not normally associated with one so young.

This Madonna & Child must arouse in us a new awareness of the Holy Family. Our Lady torn between the committment to being the mother of God and her concern for her young son, of whose destiny she is too well aware.

We can be justifiably proud of the statue which will shortly adorn our Church. It will be an inspiration to us and will inspire devotion for many generations to come.

Lorcan Lyons



English
15th century
alabaster
relief.



20th century,
by the American
artist Gerald
Bonnette.



Sculpture of
the mid-13th
century.

"THE THINGS NO EYE HAS SEEN"

Some things just refuse to bow to the march of progress and more power to their proverbial elbow. A few days ago we were travelling in the Old Bawn direction. There's a well-known hostelry up around there. I don't know what goes on inside, sez he, beating his self-righteous breast loudly, but, without for a moment suggesting anything amiss, it sure ain't a house of prayer!

Anyway, in business hours it's a centre of much activity, with cars parked in the vicinity etc. On the day in question that activity was much more intense and the number of cars greatly increased. Quickly the penny dropped. Some days earlier I had noticed a circus — yes, a good old-fashioned circus — had established itself near Bridget Burke's. (Of course you knew all the time!) For free advertisement, one might now expect drinks on the house if one were interested in drinks on the house!

Now for the Sunday afternoon matinee, the crowds were bearing down on the circus, the parents had merely to shepherd and direct the young, for once no need to urge them onwards. With one eye on traffic and people on the narrow roadway, I observed as best I could the eager young faces, as they converged on their destination. There was no mistaking that look, wide-eyed excitement and joyful anticipation.



What is the attraction; simply to the young mind everything about a circus is magic. Overnight open countryside, as if by a wave of a wand, is transformed into a wonderland — strange people living there, the reality of animals that up to now the young mind could only dream of and the breathless potential of acts effortlessly defying the normal laws of existence. And then always the clowns, crazy in the extreme, laugh a minute, too funny for words.

Of course we know about the sadness of the clown, the hard slog of circus life behind the glamour and tomorrow when the circus and the tent have pulled up roots, the field will be but a field again. But the kids, God bless them, only see the dream.

Perhaps we are too bowed down to the grind of life to look up to our dream, "the things no eye has seen, and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him". You know what I think, well, I'm going to tell anyway: as long as we have Santa Claus, teddy bears, fairy tales and kids dreaming, there's every hope for this old world.

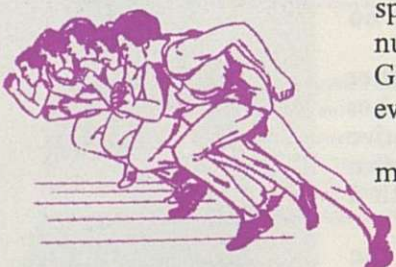
Pat Fitz.

COMMUNITY GAMES

It seems no length of time since the Knocklyon Community Games General Meeting in early November. The attendance at the meeting was very good with many new faces to be seen which is what is needed if the games are to continue into the future.

The Committee and all those who attended the meeting were very happy with the advice and encouragement they received from Joe Connolly, General Secretary, National Community Games and Mat Birmingham and Jim Arnold of the Dublin Community Games Committee. The visiting speakers complimented Knocklyon on the high standard and large number of individuals and teams entered for the 1983 Community Games. They stated that most areas entered only two or three team events in the early years of a districts participation in the Games.

The new Knocklyon Community Games Committee elected at the meeting are:— Chairman, Michael Coleman, (941628)
Secretary, Gerry Hoey, (941822)
Treasurer, Cormac Nagle, (945876)



COMMUNITY GAMES 1984

List of individual and team events together with organisers training sessions etc., will be available shortly and should be in the next issue of the Knocklyon News.

The events available last year were:— Athletics, Badminton, Chess, Draughts, Gaelic Football, Hockey, Rounders, Rugby, Soccer, Swimming, Table Tennis, Art and Gymnastics. So now boys and girls why not start preparing now?

Any one interested in helping with teams etc., can contact any member of the committee.

FINANCE

Please support the collection for Knocklyon Community Games which will be held shortly outside the Church.



WHAT ABOUT A COOKERY COURSE?

Now that the prefab is on line I think it is time that we made use of it. As it will probably become one of the focal points of Parish life, I think it would be useful to set about providing facilities for giving practical and useful demonstrations. What I had in mind was tables, overhead mirrors, presses, microphone etc and of course cooking facilities for cooking demonstration.

What I need of course is money, and in order to provide some of that I hope to run a series of funding raising cooking demonstrations. It is hoped that a trial run will take place during the month of March starting on Thursday the 8th and running for 4 weeks. The cost will be £12 per person for 4 lessons with the proceeds going towards the provision of demonstration facilities at the prefab.

The first series of demonstrations will be traditional style cooking, geared at reasonably priced hostess type, late evening suppers. I would vary the evenings by a French evening, a German evening, an Italian evening and to finish off, an evening with hot and cold savouries. In order to ensure that everybody gets a taste of the product the number of people attending the class will have to be restricted to about 18. Please apply to the Presbytery for a position.



BRANDY MERINGUE GATEAUX

8 Egg Whites
1 lb. Icing Sugar
1 pint Cream
1 oz. Icing Sugar
Brandy Snaps (optional)

1 glass Brandy
12 Red Cherries
12 Sticks Angelica
2 ozs. Roasted Almonds



Beat egg whites and icing sugar together until stiff. Draw 3 circles, 6" wide, on a sheet of grease-proof paper, and cut out. Pipe the meringue mixture on to each circle to cover completely. With remainder of mixture, pipe a straight line of meringue (to be divided into 3" sticks for decoration).

Now place the meringue circles and sticks on a baking sheet and bake in a slow oven (135C, 250F) until dry (about one hour) Switch off oven and leave meringue in oven overnight.

Beat 1 pint of cream and add 1 oz. icing sugar and a glass of brandy. Pipe a layer of cream onto two of the meringue rings, and place one on top of the other. Place the third ring on top, and pile the remaining cream on top of it. Decorate with cherries angelica, meringue sticks and roasted almonds (or alternatively, use brandy snaps instead of the meringue sticks).

Paddy the Chef.

Knocklyon Ladies Committee

Calling all ladies in Knocklyon to our A.G.M. We enjoy our work for the Committee. It's good to feel you are helping by what you're doing. Our Committee needs new members, new ideas, needs YOU! We are looking forward to meeting you all at our A.G.M. Note the date, time and place. 7th March at 8 p.m. in the church meeting hall.

I.C.A.

A meeting will be held on Thursday March 1st at 8 p.m. in the meeting room with the intention of setting up an I.C.A. Guild. The Dublin Federation President and National County Organiser will speak at the meeting. All are welcome and light refreshments will be served. If you require further information prior to the meeting, phone 941423 any time.

KNOCKLYON DRUGS CONCERN GROUP

The Group has now affiliated to the National Federation of Community Action on Drugs and is represented on the Executive of the Federation by Lucas O'Riain. We are at present in the process of organising an information meeting, due to be held towards the end of March, to which all key interest groups in Knocklyon e.g. Residents Associations, School Boards etc. will be invited to send representatives. Speakers from various preventative and treatment agencies will attend. Arising from this meeting it is hoped to establish parents monitoring groups in each estate within Knocklyon with a view to preventing drug abuse through a greater awareness of the dangers and through a continuing process of self-education in this sphere.

If interested in joining the Group, please contact JOHN HANNON Tel. 942045.

FASHION



FOOD FROM FRANCE

FOOD

Knocklyon

7.30 WED. 22 FEB

VENUE JUNIOR SCHOOL

PRESENTED BY SADE GREENE PROMOTIONS

ADMISSION £3.50

FASHION SHOW



Brú Éanna

SUMMER COURSES IN IRISH LANGUAGE

FOR- Boys and Girls 6 - 14 years of age.

WHERE AND WHEN:

- (1) Willow Park School, Blackrock 11 - 29 June
- (2) Blackrock College, Blackrock. (a) 2 - 20 July, (b) 23 July - 10 August.
- (3) Colaiste Choilm Swords 2 - 20 July.
- (4) St. Mark's Community School, Tallaght 2 - 20 July
- (5) Divine Word N.S., Marley Grange 23 July - 10 August.
- (6) Community School, Portmarnock 25 July - 10 August

TIME: 9.30 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.

Fun, organised outdoor recreational activities.

Classes, music and singing, ceili dancing

INFORMATION AND APPLICATION FORMS FROM:

Brendan O Murchu

8 Delaford Avenue, Knocklyon Woods, Templeogue, Dublin 16. Phone: 941423/402323/831376

Transport available to the course at St. Mark's Community School.

AUDIO CASSETTE TAPES (for 3 to 7 year olds)

1. "CHILDREN'S ACTION SONGS AND MORE" with singer, Joyce O'Hara - 22 Songs in English with spoken introductions.
2. "AN tAMHRANAÍ ÓG" with singer Treasa Ní Cheannaigh and Aidan O'Hara who introduces each song - 19 songs in Irish.

These songs help children develop vocabulary, listening powers and singing. They also give great pleasure . . . "Joyce O'Hara's songs speak directly to young children and will undoubtedly elicit a positive response from them. (Bill Meek, Irish Times)"

"Baineann n paistí an-taitneamh as an téip." (Niamhín Scolard, Naíonra an Phiarsaigh, Ráth Fheannáin). Each tape costs £4.50. Buy both tapes for just £7.00. To order, simply call 944510 and we will deliver to your house in the Knocklyon area.

Lecture and demonstration on Children and Music will be given at Mother-Toddler coffee morning. Wed. February 29th at 10.30 a.m.