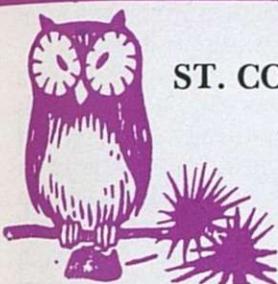




ST. COLMCILLE'S PARISH NEWSLETTER – NOVEMBER 1988



## Wisdom, patience . . .

There's a lot of wisdom in old sayings: What cannot be cured must be endured, which on reflection might be a variation on – "If you can't beat 'em, join 'em". Recently, an American confrere Carmelite gave us another gem, which I suspect is not lacking in wisdom: If it ain't broke, don't fix it!

The first two could well apply to us Irish – to us here in Knocklyon. There are exasperating things about us, of which more later, but more importantly there are many very good aspects, so we are thankful, and take it from there, and see what can be done about the things "that cannot be cured"!

### The Good

I'm not going to patronise you with a list of your virtues, but believe me they are real, and you can take a bow. There are material assets here such as our good schools, clubs, various organisations, but the greatest asset of any community, is its people, and, all in all, we are not a bad bunch.

One of my inspirations is the goodly number of ordinary decent people among us, young and old, well meaning, genuine, humble, generous caring folk. A friendly warm greeting from one of our youngsters, does me no end of good, and it is my good fortune to experience it, again and again.

Are we tapping that decency enough, in other ways are we endangering it? Some of our attitudes to Mass attendance, Church behaviour, is hardly edifying. If there are problems, here, it should be our concern, obviously we adults should have a large say in setting standards.

### The Bad

On a recent Sunday I had occasion to "usher" calmly but firmly, a number of youngsters, aged about 9 or 10, who were completely outside the front door of the church during the Mass. At another area outside the church on that same Sunday, were four teenagers, with no possible link with the Mass.

Are parents aware of this? Are we priests and adult laity too tolerant in such situations? – I think we are.

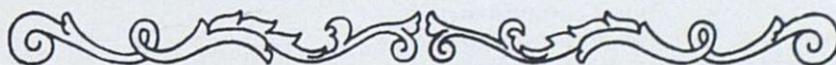
### The Dream

The pros and cons of rearing children, the difficulties, are endless, I assure you we are not without sympathy here. We can only try, we can only do our best, we can only support one another.

Teenagers want freedom and why not, but the other side of this coin is responsibility. Freedom without responsibility is an "ill wind that blows nobody no good"!

We began dispensing wisdom. An old priest had his own brand of wisdom. He used to say: "The only psychology I knew when growing up, was that me father wore size 12 boots!"

*Pat Alan Fitz*



Niall Toner is a very familiar figure in Knocklyon. Anyone who has ever been to the Folk Mass must surely be aware of the young man with the mop of bushy hair who played the guitar – the man who dedicated so much of his time over the years, to the formation and well-being of the Folk Group.

Born in Dublin and brought up in the Harold's Cross area, he was educated at St. Mary's, Rathmines and later, at St. Conleth's, Ballsbridge. A bright boy, he could have become a Biologist like his father, who was attached to the Inland Fisheries Trust, a forerunner of the Central Fisheries Board. However, a life devoted to the National Environment or the merits of Trout or Pike was thrust aside, because there never was any doubt in Niall's mind that a career in music, especially Country & Western music, was the pinnacle of his ambitions.



Niall with Mick Doherty, Idrone Park, a fellow member of Hank Halfhead.

At an early age, he mastered the art of the mandolin and the guitar and started out on the long hard road that is trodden by so many people in their search for recognition. He played in many bands but like many before him, he found that this occupation was not sufficient to keep himself and a wife and family. "In 20 years I had 140 different jobs", he admits. "I sold Lyons Tea, knocked on doors in an effort to flog Encyclopaedia Britannicas, I drove trucks, and manufactured leather jackets. You name it – I did it – but always, always, I played part-time in a band". His family have always been supportive, especially his wife Moira. "Our life in those days was hard, a sort of mixed bag of

extreme poverty and sudden wealth". Yet, for Niall, the dream never faded.

The first real break came when he was invited by Julian Vignoles to audition for the job of Presenter on Radio 2. That was six years ago and currently he presents two programmes – "Country Heartland" (Radio 1) – every Saturday from 10am – 11am. This is a delightful programme of records, local bands and a guide to what is happening in the world of country music. This programme attracts an audience of 300,000, a record in listenership for world wide country music. "Sunday Best" (Radio 1) goes out between 7pm and 8pm when he presents Irish music in the widest possible range, including pop, jazz, ballads and classical.

Niall also has his own band which rejoices in the unique name of "Hank Halfhead and the Rambling Turkeys". I didn't dare ask how this name came about, but they play every Wednesday night – Midnight to 2 am – at "Bad Bob's Backstage Bar" in East Essex St., at the back of the Olympia Theatre. The Band has also been seen on T.V. in Night Hawks, Action Stations and Cursai. Recently they appeared with Johnny Cash during his visit to Dublin and have just re-recorded two tracks for a "Live" album.

Wondering what to do on Sunday mornings – then pop in to the Harcourt Hotel, Harcourt St., 12.30 to 2pm, where you can see and hear Niall Toner and Friends. Admission is free, but you can buy breakfast.

So it's all happening at last. The future looks bright. Country & Western music is more popular than ever. The next big engagement for Niall is to present "The Session", the International T.V. Music Festival at Dublin's newest venue "Point Depot", on Friday/Saturday 25th, 26th November, which boasts a huge array of international stars.

Niall Toner is talented, determined, honest and unassuming. Success could not come to a nicer person. May it continue.



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*In the absence of a post-primary school in Knocklyon, we are sure parents are concerned about the future education of their children. Over the next few newsletters we intend to give brief details of the local secondary schools.*

**Sancta Maria College**

Sancta Maria College is run by the Mercy Sisters. In October or November prior to the year of entry all girls in the parish will receive an application form through St. Colmcille's which must be returned completed by the 31st December. No student from Knocklyon who applies in time will be refused entry. The school has always enjoyed excellent academic results. There is an optional 5 or 6 years in the school cycle. Uniform must be worn, details of which are available on request. There are a wide variety of facilities including: Hockey (new all weather pitch), Basketball, Badminton (National Winners U16 87/88), Table Tennis, Soccer, Chess, Photography, all video and audio visual facilities. Speech and drama has always been part of the school curriculum, evidence of which can be seen in the production of "Oklahoma" on December 1st, 2nd and 3rd. A new entrance via Templeroan makes the school more accessible for the children of Knocklyon.

**Colaiste Éanna**

Colaiste Éanna is run by the Christian Brothers. There is no entrance exam and application forms are available through the National Schools in the area. 122 places approximately are available for September 89 and parents will be informed no later than February. School uniform consists of grey jumper, slacks, shirt and black shoes. There are 5 years in the school cycle. Payment is by voluntary contribution. Colaiste Éanna is particularly famous for basketball and some of its pupils have gone on to join the Irish Team. Sports facilities include football, hurling and basketball. All subjects are catered for including woodwork and mechanical drawing. Over the years the school has had excellent examination results.

*WE REGRET THAT DUE TO LACK OF SPACE "WHAT'S COOKING" AND "BEAUTY CORNER" HAVE TO BE DEFERRED UNTIL NEXT MONTH.*

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Geraldine Connelly, from Dargle Wood, a 5th year student at Firhouse Community College, is one of three students from the school selected to represent Ireland at a conference of Young Europeans in Paris from November 6th to November 13th. The students will attend an international ceremony on November 9th to mark the centenary of the birth of Jean Monnet, one of the founder members of the E.C.

**FUTURE OLYMPIC HOPEFULS?**



*Gold Medallists Derek Saville and Colin Moynagh*

We congratulate Colin and Derek, both of Knockcullen, who won All Ireland titles at the Athletic Championships in Tullamore, organised by N.A.C.A.I. Colin is the All Ireland champion for the 60 and 80 metres under 9, while Derek took the gold for the 600 metres, under 11. Well done lads.

**KNOCKLYON BOYS' FOOTBALL CLUB DRAW WINNERS**

£100	no. 81	Moran
£ 50	no. 262	Jerry Byrne
£ 25	no. 324	McMorrow
£ 5	no. 386	P. Creighton
£ 5	no. 30	M. Bridgette
£ 5	no. 242	N. Westley
£ 5	no. 229	T. Mullane
£ 5	no. 342	C. Pidgeon

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## LOVE IS "ON THE AIR"

Heartbeat Radio came to Superquinn recently – with competitions, dancing and lots of fun.



Above: Sheila O'Donoghue from the Rookery won "The Best Dressed Lady" Prize of £100, seen here with Ciaran Collins, Manager.

Below: James Burke, Asst. Manager, Ann McCormack and other staff members.



## CHRISTMAS FAIR

The annual Christmas Fair takes place on Sunday 27th November. As this is one of our chief means of raising funds to help to pay off our parish debt, it is very important that it is successful. During the next few weeks collectors will be calling to your home for items for the Fair. We hope that you will be as generous as possible and that you will keep Sunday 27th free, and come along and support us. If the collector misses you please leave your items at the Presbytery.

## 505 CLUB GRAND DRAW

We would like to thank all those who joined our 505 Club. The first draw takes place on Saturday 19th November at St. Enda's G.A.A. Club at 9 p.m. All ticket holders are very welcome.

## 112TH SCOUT UNIT – OCTOBER DRAW RESULTS

£100 . . . . . Ryan, 3A Knocklyon Road  
 £ 50 . . . . . Murphy, 16 Knockaire  
 £ 25 . . . . . Dunne, 28 Idrone Close

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## KNOCKLYON YOUTH CLUB

Last May/June when the new Committee held its first meeting to make plans for the new season everyone was optimistic that our first night would be in the new Community Centre. As we all know, due to "cutbacks" the County Council did not release the Grant which is needed to complete the Centre and consequently we did not have our "opening night".

Despite this obstacle and notwithstanding the vast number of children who made application for membership in 1989, the Committee felt that the Club should "open" and in this regard Mr. Paul Dalton, Principal of the Junior School came to the rescue (at very short notice) and very generously turned over the Junior School on Friday and Saturday nights for our use.

With the large numbers and the restricted space and facilities at our disposal, it proved very difficult (on two separate weekends) to organise any structural or meaningful activities for the children and most importantly, there was the aspect of safety which the Committee felt would be compromised if the situation were to continue.

Therefore the Committee decided not to reopen the Club after the Bank Holiday Break and to suspend activities until such time as the new Community Centre is completed and hopefully this won't be too much longer. The opening date will be announced in due course.

Many thanks to Paul Dalton for his co-operation and generosity. A special thanks to those parents who assisted on the Club nights, hopefully we will see them again, when we re-open.

Knocklyon Youth Club Committee  
**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

The Templeogue College/Presentation Convent production of "The Mikado" will run nightly from 23rd to 27th November at 8pm at Presentation Primary School Hall.

## TALLAGHT CHORAL SOCIETY

Dominican Priory, Tallaght

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Students £2.50

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Hi All, 4 bidden.....

You may remember how a few weeks ago three whales got caught in the ice in Alaska. One of the whales died, but the Americans and Russians working together were able to free the other two whales. Nicola Carr was thinking about this and about what might happen the whales now they are free and so she wrote the "Parable of the Whale". I asked Joyce Kellett to draw a picture of a whale to go with what Nicola wrote. I am sorry I cannot show the picture in colour, but we can only print black and white. Thanks to both Nicola and Joyce for their lovely work.

Fr. Joe

In the light of the recent £1,000,000 rescue operation of the two whales, Crossbeak and Bonnet, off the North coast of Alaska, I began to think what would happen to the two whales after their rescue. The harsh reality was soon made clear to me. These whales, if they reach the warm Pacific Ocean waters will, like many others of their kind, probably be slaughtered.



Their blubber, a thick layer of fatty tissue underneath the skin is used as a cheap cooking oil, while their meat is used in catfood, and for human consumption. The whale is an endangered species and it is illegal to kill them, but if everybody obeyed the law, the world would indeed be a better place.

You may say "Whales in Alaska, what's it got to do with me?" But in Ireland animals are being treated cruelly also. Factory Farms are a classical example. In areas around Ireland

where the land is very fertile, farmers and businessmen looking for "big money" pack cows, pigs and hens into tiny cages; the animals are unable to move, and this helps to fatten them. The eggs laid by battery hens have surprisingly more iron in them; this is not because of chemicals in the hens' food, but because the hens, out of sheer frustration, eat at the iron cages, and swallow a small amount of iron filings. Free range eggs are the eggs laid by the hens which are allowed out on a free range. These are the healthiest eggs, but beware of egg cartons labelled "Farm Fresh" as these are probably "Factory Farm Fresh". Another example of cruelty is the testing of beauty products on animals. This involves vivisection and other inhumane acts. Animals are bred specially for this purpose. Look out for shampoos and cosmetic products which have been tested without cruelty to animals. And remember, IF YOU'RE NOT PART OF THE SOLUTION, YOU'RE PART OF THE PROBLEM.

Nicola Carr (age 13)

JUNIOR FLIGHTS OF FANCY



Isobel Duffy and Sarah O'Callaghan from Mrs. O'Reilly's class.



Ciaran Dolan Mrs. O'Reilly's class



Lynsey Boggan Miss Mulkerin's class

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Since 1983 Trinity College Dublin and An Foras Forbatha have collaborated to monitor air quality in different areas of the country. These surveys were carried out with the help of secondary school students.

In September/October 1987 the Greater Dublin area was surveyed – including Knocklyon. The results were published in April 1988.

The students mapped the distribution/abundance of two biological indicators of air pollution – lichens and leaf yeasts.

Lichens grow on walls, trees etc. and are very sensitive to Sulphur Dioxide concentrations. Their abundance reflects the condition of the air as a result of pollution. They are broadly divided into three groups – crusty, leafy and shrubby forms. The crusty forms are the *most* tolerant of pollution – the shrubby forms the least tolerant.

Examples of the crusty lichen only were found in the Knocklyon area. The two more sensitive forms were found only in large green spaces e.g. Marley Park, Rathfarnham Golf Course. Some of our neighbours are even worse off however.

The leaf yeasts were surveyed in the last week of September 1987. Knocklyon was in the area labelled “*poor*”.

The results of this survey confirm that the air quality in the Greater Dublin Area is extremely poor, particularly in areas of high density housing, due mainly to the burning of coal in open-fronted solid fuel back boiler systems. When there is little wind, smoke and sulphur dioxide are released at low altitudes and remain to form “*Smog*”.

**“BON VOYAGE”**



*Catherine King, left, making a presentation to Michael and Kathleen Buckley on behalf of the Bridge Club before their recent departure to Hong Kong.*

The McCarthy Cup, the All Ireland Hurling Trophy, made a flying visit to the Knocklyon area on Wednesday, October 26th. The occasion was the presentation of juvenile hurling and football medals to the Ballyboden St. Enda's U.10 and U.11 hurlers and footballers. Galway stars Tony Keady and Brendan Lynskey made the presentation. Among the successful team managers also honoured on the night were Pat Walsh, Knocklyon Green and Fergus Reid, Mount Alton. Ballyboden now field 45 teams from underage to adult level in hurling, football and camogie, in addition to the 150 under 10's coached each Saturday morning.



*The McCarthy Cup – proudly held by Kevin Walsh, Keith McCluskey and friends.*

**NEW PARISHIONERS**

- |                             |                          |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Rachel Marie Ruddy          | 191, Glenvara Pk.        |
| Kellie Deans                | 24, Delaford Gr.         |
| Aoife Elizabeth Twamley     | 36, Beverly Lawns        |
| Laoighse Catherine Styles   | 15, Ashton Lawn          |
| Karl Augustine Dunne        | 30, Beverly Heights      |
| Jonathan Anthony Curtis     | 22, Beverly Downs        |
| Louise Angela McCormack     | 195, Glenvara Pk.        |
| Graham Thomas Crane         | 4, Knocklyon Cottages    |
| Emma Claire Hogan           | 17, Knocklyon Heights    |
| Darragh Joseph Grant        | 19, Scholarstown         |
| Laura Bernadette Kane       | 75, Coolamber Pk.        |
| Wesley Christopher Griffin  | “St. Judes”, Knockl. Rd. |
| Kevin Dominic Boner         | 36, Westbourne Lodge     |
| Ronan William Davis         | 88, Ashton Ave.          |
| Aoife Clare Patricia Keenan | 29, Idrone Dr.           |
| Lisa Chloe Mary Keenan      | 26, Idrone Dr.           |



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## HOTLYON!

### Senior School News

The total proceeds from the cake sale, £750, will go towards the purchase of sports equipment for the school. Mr. Kelly and all the teachers wish to thank the parents for baking and supplying the cakes, and a special thank you to all the children for this exceptional effort.

Congratulations to Tara McGouran of Idrone Park and David Larkin, Knocklyon Park, who were the overall winners in the Handwriting Competition. They each received a lovely Cross pen for their excellent writing. Well done to all the runners up who were awarded Parker pens.

Congratulations to Mr. Anglim on his recent engagement. The pressure is really on Mr. McGabhann now to make a move! Mr. Anglim has also had success with the Junior Football team which has recently qualified for the semi final of the Dublin Schools Competition.

### More Sport

Forty hurlers from the 4th classes spent an enjoyable day in Navan recently. (Under the capable guidance of P. O'Neill — Knocklyon's answer to Christy Ring — sorry Mr. Murphy!) The children were playing in a series of games against St. Paul's School in Navan. Player of the day was Tony Cullen.

The 5th and 6th class hurling leagues are now nearing completion. Michael Ryan's team and Shane O'Donoghue's team really look likely to contest the final.

### Pat Kenny Show

Lovely to hear Mrs. Blount on radio recently — we'd like to hear more about educating for equality!!!

### Junior School Short Tennis

On Tuesday November 1st a short tennis inter-schools competition was held in Belvedere College. Many budding Edbergs from Knocklyon entered; some won their sections outright and some reached the final stages of the competition. Well done to all.

Before Christmas it is hoped to hold a small competition among the short tennis enthusiasts and parents will be cordially invited.

### Finian's Rainbow

Firhouse Community College will stage a production of "Finian's Rainbow" in the College Theatre for four nights from Thursday 1st December to Sunday 4th December. Tickets at £3 each are available at the school. Students and children £2. Phone: 525807.

### I.C.A.

Congratulations to Bridie Maher, Killakee for winning "Best Producer" and to Muireann Murtagh, Scholartown, who won the award for "Best supporting actress" at John Player Theatre during the recent I.C.A. Drama Festival.

### Another win!

We were delighted to hear of Maurice Mulvey's good fortune when he recently scopped £78,000 from the National Lottery's weekly Lotto game. We hope your present winning streak continues, Maurice!

### New Face

Welcome to Superquinn's new Manager, Ciaran Collins, and we hope he will enjoy his stay in Knocklyon.

### Thank you

Ann and Joe Gleeson wish to thank all their friends and neighbours in Idrone Close for their kindness and good wishes during their recent move to the country pastures of Kilmashogue Lane.

### Roundup

Apologies to Roy Willoughby, RTE Sports Presenter for the omission of his surname in last month's issue of the Newsletter. Thanks for your report from Seoul Roy, and sorry about the hiccup.

## CHURCH SHOP

For Mass Cards, Religious Objects, etc., call to our Church Shop which is open after all Masses on weekdays and Sundays. See our display cabinet for a sample of what is on offer. As the Christmas Season approaches, remember we stock a very good selection of Christmas cards and gifts at very reasonable prices.

## NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Items and advertisements for inclusion in the December issue of the newsletter should be handed into the Presbytery by Monday December 5th. The Newsletter will be circulated from December 16th. Over 2,000 copies are hand-delivered and further copies are available at Superquinn. To book advert space contact Pat at 947493 before December.

## EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Takes place in St. Colmcille's Church on the Thursday preceeding the 1st Friday of each month, from 7.30 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. All are welcome.



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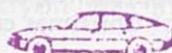
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