

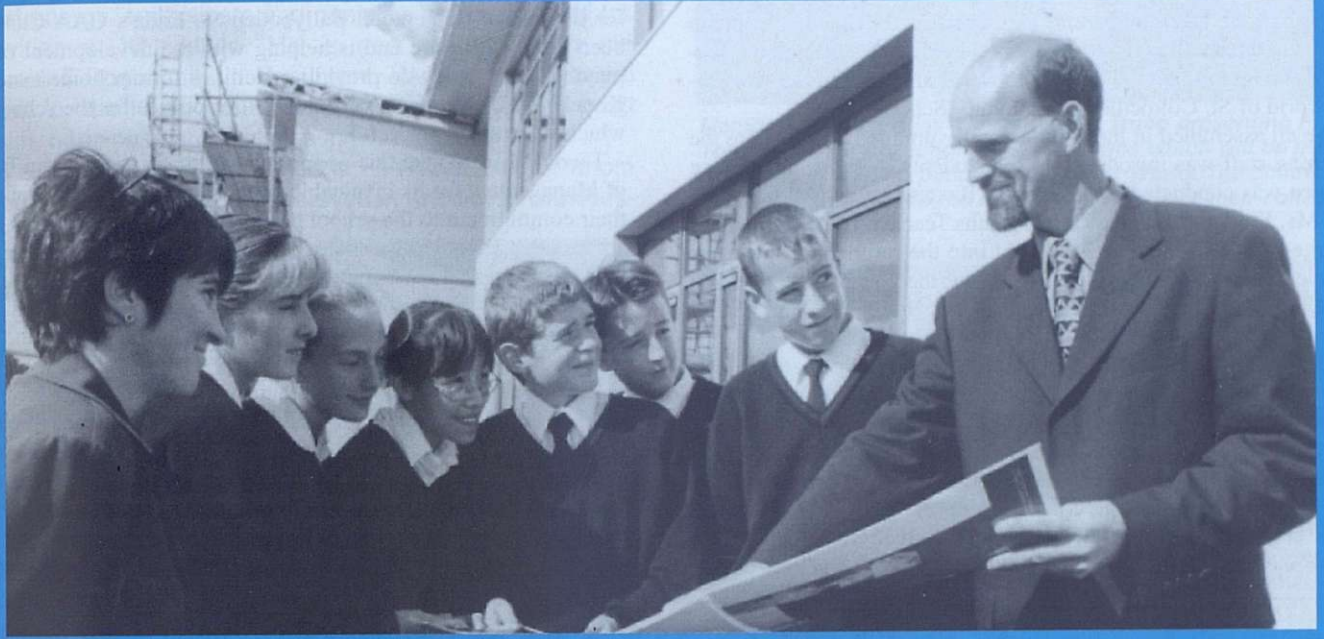


KNOCKLYON NEWS

ST. COLMCILLE'S PARISH, KNOCKLYON, DUBLIN 16

SEPT./OCT. 2000

ST. COLMCILLE'S COMMUNITY SCHOOL OPENS



Left to right: Deputy Principal Ger Hackett, with Aoife Dillon (Delaford); Laura Boggan (Delaford); Jenny Wong (Glenvara); Conor Rynne (Coolamber); Adnan Velic (Orlagh); John Cooney (Templeroan); John McKennedy (Principal) examining plans for the finished building.



FIRST YEARS SETTLE IN



As our front page photos indicate, our eagerly awaited Community School opened its doors for business on 4th September. Below Principal John McKennedy describes the atmosphere on that first momentous day in the life of the parish.

It was with great excitement that the first students of St. Colmcille's Community School assembled in front of the school together with parents and teachers on the morning of Monday, 4th September. The teaching staff had been working for the previous week preparing for the big day. After the video-recording and photographs were taken by parents and teachers, the time had come to cross the threshold and 120 students, 11 teaching staff and the secretary said good-bye to the outside world and entered the wonderful world of St. Colmcille's Community School.

We all assembled in the architecturally unique library where the teaching staff was introduced to the students. A short but moving service was conducted by Fr. Martin Baxter, the School Chaplain and Ms. Kelly our Music, RE and Maths Teacher. I, as Principal, lit a large candle representing the light into the future and four other candles were lit by the Tutors of each of the classes, Mr. O'Brien for Class 1B, Ms. Kerins for Class 1K, Mr. Smith for Class 1S and Ms. Kelly for Class 1Y.

The classes were formed on the basis of ensuring a gender balance and an average spread of abilities. Ms. Hackett, the Deputy Principal, then called out the class lists and each group in turn went with their tutor to their classrooms, to get their timetables, receive general instructions but most especially to begin friendships that will last for many years to come. During the past three weeks we have begun to get to know each other. Already a happy caring atmosphere has developed. The dedicated and energetic team of

teachers are delighted with the work-like response of all students to their lessons. Ms. Callaghan, the Languages Teacher, has already commented on her students' abilities to absorb both French and German so quickly. Home Economics students have already begun their first project with their teacher Ms. Barton on 'Healthy Diets', and Mr. Munnelly, our Technology teacher says the students are very enthusiastic and excited about their Technology class. Ms. Dinet, Our Art Teacher, is also a fluent French speaker, so who knows, Art through French is a real possibility!

The building programme is progressing well. Mr. David Duggan of Duggan Brothers has been extremely helpful and is working very hard to ensure the fully equipped Science Labs will be ready for the end of September. Ballyboden St. Enda's GAA Club has been very supportive and is helping with the development of the playing fields. It is also providing facilities for our home matches. Knocklyon United is also providing its facilities for the school for which we are most grateful.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Interim Board of Management for its invaluable support to me personally and for their commitment to the school particularly during these past busy six months. I would also like to commend the parents of our first students for their vision and confidence in this new school. All students have their full complement of books and their uniforms are a source of daily admiration, which is indeed great credit to the parents.

Finally, on behalf of the Community of Knocklyon, I welcome our highly qualified and professional team of teachers (pictured below) to St. Colmcille's Community School. They bring a wide range of experiences from a variety of educational backgrounds and I look forward to working with them, the pupils and parents in the years ahead.

- John McKennedy, Principal.

A DAY TO REMEMBER

Vincent Kenny, longtime campaigner for a Community School in Knocklyon, and Chairman of the Interim Board of Management shares his thoughts with us as he witnessed a dream come true.

September 4th, when our first 120 pupils dressed in their newly designed uniform, arrived for their first day at St. Colmcille's Community School, was a milestone. On a personal level, I had long decided to leave the full glory of the day to the new Principal, Vice Principal and teachers, however I couldn't resist the temptation of going up to view the scene which had sustained our dream for so long, i.e. the first pupils arriving. I watched as John McKennedy (Principal), with his teachers, greeted the first two pupils, who I have to say will never have a more welcoming first

day anywhere, ever again. After writing and campaigning for so long for this day, I was genuinely moved at the pleasant sight of so many of the local children walking to school with most of their classmates from St. Colmcille's National School. It looked so natural, and yet it will have such a positive impact on the social environment in Knocklyon.

Since that day I have had many people enquiring as to when the formal opening (and celebrations) will take place. I look forward with great anticipation for the opportunity to thank as many as possible of the hundreds, maybe thousands, who supported the campaign for this school throughout its twenty year history and I am confident that a community celebration will be discussed as soon as is feasible after the completion of the building. So watch this space!



Left to right: Ger Hackett, Gerard Munnelly, Greg Smith, Ruth Kelly, Fiona Kerins, Fr. Martin, Charlotte Callaghan, Clare Smyth (Sec.), Dervela Barton, John McKennedy (Principal), Shane O'Brien, missing from photo, Elizabeth Dinet.

PARISH CHANGES

The Carmelite Chapter, held in July, sadly resulted in the departure from Knocklyon of Fr. Philip Brennan. Fr. Philip was held in particular affection in the parish having spent the year prior to his ordination here, and indeed having been ordained in St. Colmcille's Church three years ago. He played a very active role in parish life throughout his stay, being heavily involved in chaplaincy work in our primary schools, as well as working with many groups including the Art and Environment Group, Children's Liturgy Group and the Baptism team.

Fr. Philip now occupies the post of Vocations Director for the Carmelite Order, a job to which he will no doubt bring great energy, enthusiasm and geniality, as he did to all his activities in Knocklyon. He is now resident with the Carmelite Community in Beaumont. We are sure that we speak for the Knocklyon Community in wishing him good health, happiness and success in his new role.

The new arrival to the parish is Fr. Martin Baxter, whom some readers will remember served in Knocklyon previously. Fr. Martin spent some time in Moate, Co. Westmeath and Whitefriar Street, after leaving Knocklyon, and comes to us from his previous post as Chaplain in Ballinteer Community School. He returns to Knocklyon as a member of the parish team, Chaplain to the new Community School and Prior to the Carmelite Community here. We extend him a warm welcome and wish him well in his new role among us.

- Newsletter Team



Fr. Martin Baxter who recently returned to Knocklyon.

A Hike with a Difference



Members of the 'Friday' Beaver Scout Troop presenting Fr. Tony with their collection of used stamps which will be put to good use in helping people of the Third World. The children hiked from the Den to the Presbytery to deliver their collection in June.

ST. COLMCILLE'S PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Another school year begins and we have already had our first meeting. We extend a hearty welcome to all our Junior Infants and new staff members and we wish the newly-appointed school principals, Mr. J. Boyle (Junior School) and Mr. P. O'Neill (Senior School), every success.

Our A.G.M. will take place on Tuesday, 10th October, at 8.30 p.m. in the Senior School Hall.

New members are most welcome, particularly this year, as a number of our current volunteers are moving on. If you are interested in being involved with the school, please contact the Chairperson, Elsie Keating (Tel: 493 9121) or come along to our A.G.M. on Tuesday, 10th October at 8.30 p.m. We look forward to seeing as many parents as possible on the night.

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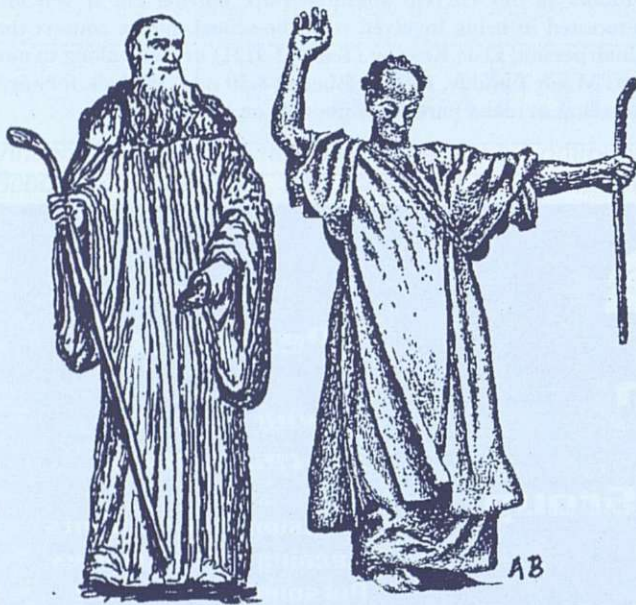
KNOCKLYON HISTORY SOCIETY

On September 13th a very interesting talk about Glenasmole was given by Michael Murphy. He then kindly guided the members on a walk through the valley on Saturday the 16th. It was a splendid outing. Thank you Michael.

Wednesday, 4th October

'In the Steps of Saint Columbanus and Saint Gall', an illustrated talk in the Iona Centre at 8 p.m. Admission £2 (members). Visitors £3.

The society welcomes new members. Membership fee is £10.00. It organises talks and outings from September to May each year and normally meets on the second Wednesday of each month.



Statues of St. Gall (left) in the Cathedral, St. Gallen, Switzerland and St. Columbanus (right) in Luxeuil, France.

South Dublin County Libraries

OROBREACHT

our heritage

The photographic exhibition featuring the heritage of South County Dublin in Ballyroan Library ends on September 30 but it will be circulated at Castletymon, Clondalkin and Tallaght libraries in the coming months. The photographs exhibited were selected from entries received for a competition organised by the South Dublin County Libraries.

In the photographic competition the striking nature study 'Waters Of The Wild' by Greg Colgan was awarded first prize. Joint second prize went to Thomas O'Neill for 'Bridge Of The Future' (M50 Motorway, Knocklyon) and third prize to 'At The Starting Point' by Josephine Lavin. 'Round Tower And Mill Chimney' (Clondalkin) by Thomas Keogh was highly commended. Prizes were also awarded in the Junior Section. As well as the M50 Pedestrian Bridge, Knocklyon Castle is also featured in the exhibition.

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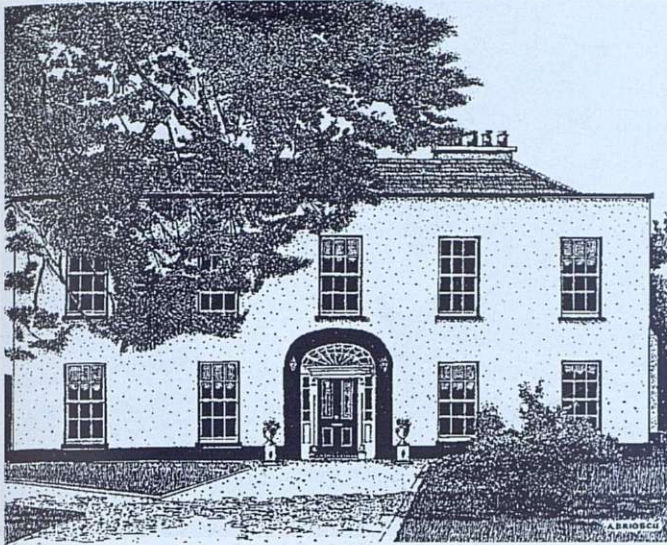
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Idrone House, a landmark opposite the entrance to Superquinn Shopping Centre, was put up for auction by Douglas Newman Good on September 21.

This impressive double-fronted residence has been a prominent feature of Knocklyon since the middle of the 19th Century. Two huge trees in the large front garden frame the wide two-storey facade. Inside the accommodation includes three reception rooms and five bedrooms. Many of the original architectural features have been preserved. It is a listed building and consequently alterations are restricted but full planning permission has already been obtained for the building of a new four-bedroomed house on part of the site.



David Larkin

Congratulations to David Larkin, Knocklyon Park, on his participation in the 2000 Siemens Feis Ceoil Prizewinners Concert in the John Field Room, National Concert Hall. He played Six Bagatelles Op. 126 by Beethoven, Etude Op. 25 No.7 and Ballade No. 1 in G Minor Op. 23. David will also give a solo recital as part of his Mabel Swainson Pianoforte Award in the John Field Room on October 31. We wish him success in his future career.



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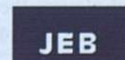
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JOINT EXAMINING BOARD



The U-10 team who represented Knocklyon United as ball-boys at the Ireland V Greece friendly International.

As the new football season approaches for Knocklyon United it is worthwhile reflecting on last year's success for the club and its players. We were represented by eighteen junior teams and one senior team in the Dublin leagues. We also ran a nursery school to cater for the Under 7. We were successful in winning 3 cups, 2 league titles and we also had a finalist in the cup and 4 runner-up positions. Our U-12 team featured in the June Newsletter and did the club proud by coming away with a cup and league double from last season. Our U-16 overcame a deficit of 2-1 at half time in the cup final to finish strongly by winning 4-2. The U-15 played in a terrific final only to be beaten towards the end of the game and the U-18 completed a great season in winning their cup. We also congratulate the U-10A team who finished second to Portmarnock in one of the toughest leagues in Dublin, DDSL Premier Sat. They also represented Knocklyon United as ball boys for last year's friendly International Ireland V Greece. The U8A and U-10B also had great success last season. For all the effort and time the managers put in, it is right to take this opportunity to thank them for their enthusiasm as without them there would be no teams involved.

List of achievements for last season:

Team	League	Achievements	Manager/Ass. Managers
8B	SDBFL	League Winners	Brian Doyle
10A	DDSL	League Runner-Up	Philip Young, Colm Massey
10B	SDBFL	League Runner-Up	Barry Jackson, Paul Massey
12A	SDBFL	League Winners Cup Winners	Paul Warren, AJ Jones, H McEvoy
15A	SDBFL	League Runner-Up Cup Runners-Up	John McNamee Seamus Doherty
16A	SDBFL	League Runner-Up Cup Winners	Tony Fitzpatrick, Gerry Benson
18	DDSL	Cup Winners	Thomas Masterson

The current season began in early September and this year the club will have twenty junior teams and one senior team in the Dublin leagues. Our playing facilities this year will be in Cherryfield and Delaford and we have also been allocated a new pitch in Ballycullen by South Dublin County Council. This new pitch gives the club great confidence for the future and we hope it will become the focal point for the club in years to come. On that note we would like to express our appreciation to the County Council, Ascon and the KCC for their help in this matter. We would also like to thank our sponsors for their contributions last season, as it is very important for the development of the club.

The one disappointing feature of last season has been the constant vandalism to the dressingrooms at Cherryfield, Delaford and Ballycullen. We have had to spend considerable time and money in fixing and cleaning these facilities and unfortunately this vandalism has continued right through the summer particularly in Delaford and Ballycullen. This vandalism has prevented some of our games being played at home and the people that suffer most are the young players.

We would like to thank Mick McSweeney who recently resigned from the committee after serving over 12 years. He also put in a lot of time refereeing some of the junior home games. It is through the efforts of Mick McSweeney and others that we are in a position to field 21 teams today. We wish him well in the future.

By the time of going to print our teams will be up and running and we wish all the managers and players the best of luck for the season. Any correspondence or issues should be addressed to me at the details below.

- Mick Kennedy, 21 Knockfield Manor. Tel: 494 6536



Last April we featured Claire McGonigle a 14-year-old parishioner who had been selected to swim for Ireland in the European Special Olympics. In our June issue, we told you of her wonderful success in winning two silver and a bronze medal at the Games held in Holland. Her parents Dymphna and Jim were so overwhelmed by their neighbours response to Claire's success that they've asked us to print their reaction.

THANK YOU!

We never thought the 'high' of Holland could be surpassed until we arrived back at Dublin Airport. Many of our neighbours in Knocklyon Park had come to the airport and had the Arrivals Hall festooned with 'Welcome Home' and 'Well Done' banners. We then proceeded by cavalcade down the M50 towards Knocklyon.

What met us on arrival in Knocklyon Park was truly astonishing. The outside of the house and all the trees were again awash with banners. All the neighbours (who had not made it to the airport) were at the gate and the welcome and good wishes were greatly appreciated.

The 'Last Supper' was then unveiled! Our neighbours had organised a huge feast of food (and drink) and we partied long into the night.

Since we arrived in Knocklyon Park in 1988 we have known we had the best neighbours in the world. This reality was brought home to us again on this wonderful occasion. We will never forget their kindness - their welcome home for Claire was unforgettable - a great big 'Thank You' to all.

- Dymphna and Jim

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KNOCKLYON COMMUNITY GAMES 2000

Congratulations to the children who qualified for the Dublin Community Games. The committee would like to thank all the parents who gave their time to help run the trials in Cherryfield. We would especially like to thank our sponsors Skelly Doors Ltd. and Architectural Aluminium Ltd. for their generosity and support.

In Santry this year we had the following results:
Ciaran Quigley, Under 8, 100m, 1st Place;
Rebecca Tyson, Under 10, Hurdles, 2nd Place;
Natalie Hyland, Under 10, Hurdles, 4th Place;
Stephen Ryan, Under 12, 100m, 2nd Place;
Aoife Dalton, Under 12, 100m, 2nd Place;
Colin Hyland, Under 12, 600m, 3rd Place;
Robert Coffey, Under 14, 100m, 4th Place.

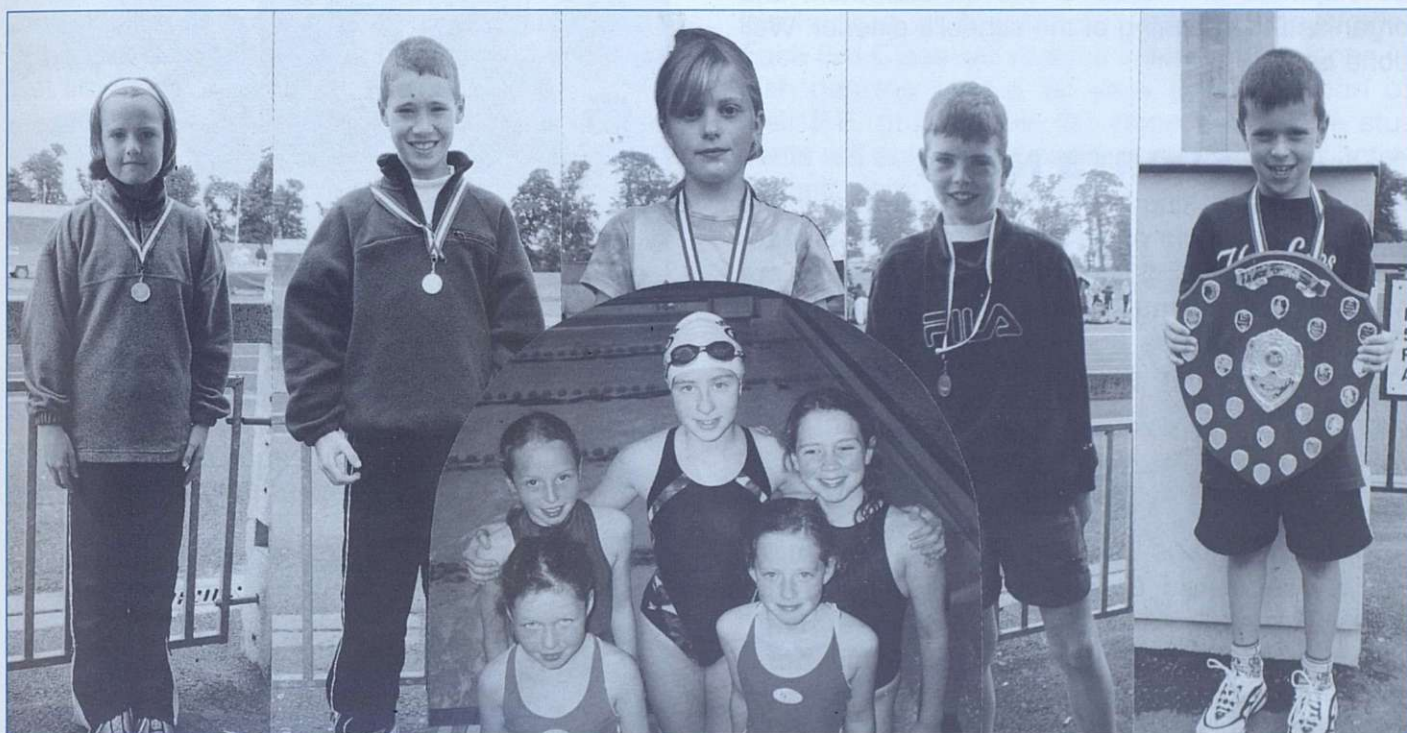
Well done to all the children who took part in the Athletics in Santry and the Swimming in Coolmine.

In the basketball competition the boys under thirteen won the Dublin Section for the third year. Well done to all. A special thank you to the mentor Allen Moody for a superb effort.

Finally without the hard work and effort of all the team managers, no participation in the Games would be possible, so a sincere thanks to all who helped manage the Knocklyon teams this year.



— Bernadette Ryan



Left to right: Aoife Dalton, Templeroan, Girls, 2nd, U12, 100m, Knocklyon North; Stephen Ryan, Orlagh Park, 2nd, Boys U12, 100m, Knocklyon North; Rebecca Tyson, 2nd, U10, 60m, Hurdles; Colin Hyland, Templeroan, 3rd, U12, 600m, Knocklyon North; Ciaran Quigley, Woodfield, Winner, U8, 80m, Knocklyon South. Inset: Amy Sherry, Sarah Walsh, Laura Keely. Front: Elaine and Paula McGrath, swimming competitors.

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JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

September heralded a new beginning for many in the school. Mr. John Boyle, our new Principal, joined the staff on Friday 1st, accompanied by four new teachers, two parishioners, Aisling Mathews and Pamela Rourke, Amanda Lawless from Templeogue, and Sive Quinlan from Donegal.

Monday 4th brought a gentle introduction to primary education for 175 Junior Infants and some new parents. Séamus Hannon returned after his recent marriage to Camilla, Áine Gallagher and Pdraig Carney announced news of their new arrival Aisling. Hazel and Paul Mulqueen welcomed their bundle of joy, Mark, into the world. Congratulations to all.

STAFF ROOM

Over the summer Gabriel Cuddy and Liam Cleere, on behalf of the Board of Management, oversaw the development of a state of the art staffroom, and organised the painting of the school's exterior. Well done lads.

SPORTS NEWS

Everything is getting busy on the sports front in the Junior School. Four of the 2nd Classes will be heading for the swimming pool. All of the 1st Classes are starting their gymnastics coaching at the end of September, and the hurling/camogie coaching for 2nd Classes after school is swinging into action immediately.

AUTUMN CLEAN-UP

For the first time in nearly twenty years parents are asked to assist with an autumn clean-up at the school. The big sweep will take place on Saturday, 28th October, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. If you can help please give your name to your child's teacher.

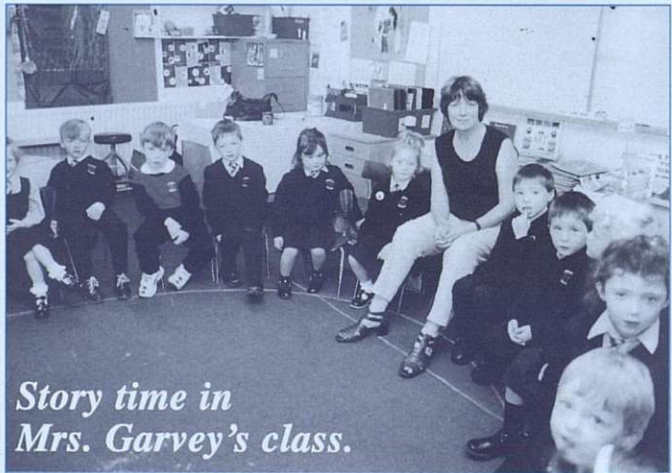
Everyone in the school is looking forward to a happy, safe and successful year of teaching and learning.



Mrs. Callaghan's class with their teacher and new Principal John Boyle.



Mrs. McDonald introduces her new pupils.



Story time in Mrs. Garvey's class.

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- Mary Basquille

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Mrs. Ebbs' class smiles for our camera.

SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

Fáilte romhaibh go léir ar ais.

We warmly congratulate Mr. P. O'Neill on his appointment as Principal of the senior school. The staff and pupils are very fortunate. Go néirí go geal leis.

Fáilte mhór roimh múinteoirí agus daltaí nua.

We are delighted with all our new pupils i rang a trí and all the children who have joined us for the first time.

Our new staff members are: R.7, Eithne O'Regan; R14, Joanna Smith; PF2, Deirdre Martin; PF4, Gráinne Murphy; PF6, Triona Ní Reachtabhra; Reading, Liz Drennan, Philip Ryan, Fiona Duffy.

We wish all our new pupils and teachers every success in St. Colmcilles.

ALL-IRELAND WINNER

Comhghairdeachas to Ms Sarah-Jane Woods (pictured right), a member of the teaching staff in St. Colmcille's Senior School on her great achievement in winning first place in the Senior Flute Competition at Fleadh Cheoil na hEiréann in Enniscorthy recently.



Well done to our ex-pupil Còlin Moran on his great performance with the Dublin Senior Football team over the summer months. Well done also to other ex-pupils of St. Colmcille's S.N.S., Conal Keaney and Stephen Fee who were members of the Dublin Minor Hurling team who did so well this summer.

Over the course of the summer a new suspended ceiling was installed in the school hall. This has greatly reduced the echo which previously existed and will enhance the 'quality of life' for pupils and teachers alike.

OUR PUPILS IN CROKE PARK

Congratulations to Conor O'Gara, Emer Lucy, Rachel Ruddy and Ann Griffin who represented the school in the I.N.T.O. Mini-7s Exhibition games in Croke Park during the summer holidays.

EXTRA ACTIVITIES

Our regular quota of after-school games are resuming and we welcome on board Mr. P. Ryan, Ms T. Ní Reachtabhra and Ms D. Martin as extra coaching help.

Within the curriculum we will be engaging specialist instruction in rugby, gymnastics, swimming, basketball and Irish dancing. Mrs. Brenda Bastible-Warren, the well-known Irish dancing teacher has started with our 3rd Class boys/girls. Each 3rd Class will receive a series of lessons in Irish dancing over a 10 week period as part of their P.E. programme. We hope that all the students will enjoy and benefit from whichever activity their class participates in.

FOOTBALL

The football scene has begun in earnest with lots of challenge matches on the first week back. Competitions will begin soon so we wish the Junior team, managed by Mr. Ruddy, the Senior team managed by Mr. McGowan and, of course, the girl's football team, managed by Mr. Carney, the best of luck in the coming weeks.

The Senior footballers begin their campaign with a game against Drimnagh Castle. Others in our group are Castleknock SFX and Bishop Galvin. Well done to all the boys who turned out for the trials during the first week. We also hope to have a number of Senior B games to cater for all those who are interested. Looking forward to a successful year on the sporting front.

We wish everyone – pupils, parents and staff a happy school year.

Slán go fóill.

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Chnoc Liamhna



Na seomraí nua ranga.

Dia daoibh ó Ghaelscoil Chnoc Liamhna. Tá tús curtha againn le scoilbhliain úr nua. Since the school was established four years ago it has grown from strength to strength. We now cater for children from Junior Infants to Fifth class. Parents and children were pleased to see the new classrooms on site at the start of September – and thrilled with the new school library and computer room, both of which will be up and running shortly. Bhi áthas an domhain ar na múinteoirí freisin mar cuireadh seomra foirne ar fáil dóibhsan.

Ba mhaith linn fáilte is fiche a chur roimh Mháire Ní Gheallchóir, múinteoir nua atá i bhfeighil Rang IV agus V i mbliana agus Siobhán-Áine de Brún atá i mbun Naíonáin Shinshir. Go n-éirí go geal libh anseo sa scoil i gcónaí!

All the children are enjoying violin lessons with Julie Ní Fhurnáin as well as their Irish dancing lessons. Strains of tin-whistle and recorder can already be heard outside the school walls. Beidh ranganna iomána nó peil ar siúl sa scoil go luath freisin agus táimid ag súil go mbeidh tús curtha le Francis sul i bhfad.



Leath na ndaltaí nua.

Óiche Shamhna is fast approaching so beware if you wander into the school grounds around this time! Children come to school in fancy dress agus glacann siad uilig páirt i gceol-choirm dá tuismitheoirí. Some of the múinteoirí have been known to wear costumes on the day.

Our first school event for parents and friends will be a Céilí sometime in the coming months. Put on your dancing shoes agus fáilte romhat! Gach eolas ó 493 9262.

Más mian leat do pháiste a chlárú don scoil, ring Gearóidin (secretary) or Treasa (príomhoide) at 493 9262 idir 9 a.m. agus 3 p.m.

The Naíonra (or playschool), which is on the school grounds, is run by Aisling. There are two sessions each day, one beginning at 8.50 a.m. and another at 11.30 a.m. Gach eolas ó Aisling ag 452 1444 nó 087 236 8457.

Má tá spéis agat i ngeith ar bith den scoil seo againne, buail isteach agus labhair linn faoi.

“Gaeilge agus fáilte”!



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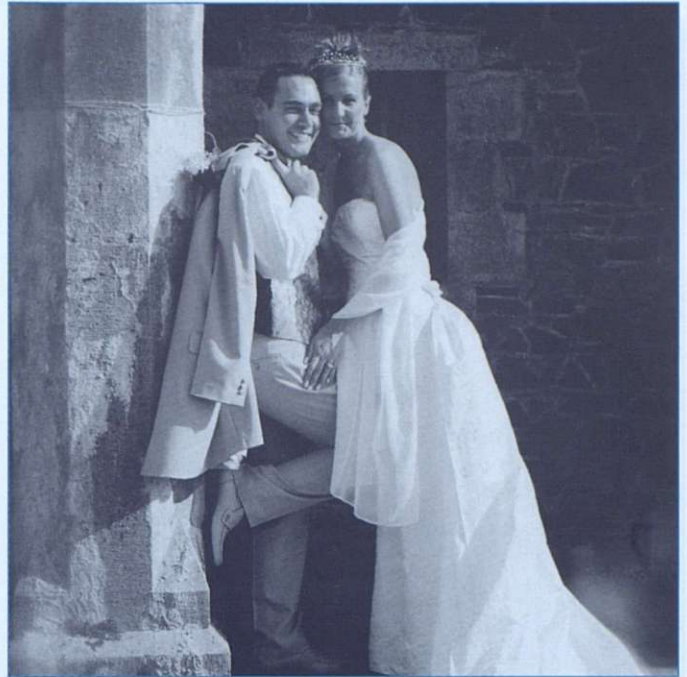
REGISTERED TEACHER, ROYAL ACADEMY OF DANCING (LONDON)



Children from the Geraldine Breen Academy of Irish Dancing Knocklyon who won three major championships and over 120 trophies and medals at the Irish Open Championships held in Arklow. This was the children's first time competing at an All-Ireland competition. Well done to all.

K.A.R.A.

K.A.R.A. has re-opened at our usual venue, the Knocklyon Community Centre. We expect a good attendance of members and prospective new members are guaranteed a hearty céad míle fáilte. Anyone over 55 years old is eligible to join and partake in our various activities. It is a great means of making new friends and keeping the mind and body active. Prior to the 'break-up' for the summer holidays we had two very enjoyable outings, one to the I.C.A. Centre in Co. Louth, and the other to the new Smithfield Village in Dublin 7 – the Irish Traditional Music Centre. All participants were loud in their praise of both events. During the summer, I am very sad to announce, we have had two irreplaceable losses due to the deaths of two of our long-term members – Eileen Campbell and Monica Doyle. Both were lovely ladies, gentle, kind and caring, both widows who were left to rear and care for large families who are a credit to both of them. To their bereaved families we extend our deepest heartfelt sympathy. We will always remember them in our prayers and have many happy memories of outings and holidays we have enjoyed with them over the years. Slán libh go fóil, ó Máire Carmel Uí Ghormáin.



Congratulations to Martina McDermott, Knocklyon Park, and Shane Hurley, Lucan, who were married in St. Colmille's Church in August.

Hi, we're back, hope you all had a lovely summer. Certainly there were lots of brown healthy faces trudging back to school on Sept. 1st. By now they should be recovering from the initial shock of returning to school, and hopefully you are emerging from the wrestle with the sticky plastic while covering the schoolbooks. Whatever happened to good old embossed wallpaper as book covers?



For those of you in need of support, we're starting a new parenting programme for the 4-11 age group on October 5th. It will take place in the Iona Centre on Thursday evenings at 7.30 p.m., for six weeks.

We have a waiting list, so there are only a few places left, but if you phone us and we can't fit you in, we'll put you on the list for the next course.

In the meantime, don't let those adorable kiddies get you down, take deep breaths and count to ten! And remember, you're not alone!

Ring Anne on 494 5743 or 493 9424.



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THE YVONNE DEATON SCHOOL OF DANCING

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PATRICK COMERFORD ORDAINED IN CHRIST CHURCH



On Sunday, the 25th June last, Patrick Comerford, a resident of Glenvara Park was ordained deacon in Christ Church Cathedral, by the Church of Ireland Archbishop of Dublin, Dr. Walton Empey. He is a journalist with The Irish Times and will continue in his secular job while serving in the Whitechurch Parish.

Patrick is a graduate in theology and is working on a Ph.D. in church history. Many people will be familiar with his very interesting articles in The Irish Times. Each month this year he is contributing articles on the History of Christianity.

He came to live in Glenvara with his wife Barbara and two sons, Joey and Jamie, about four years ago.

PARISH WEEK 2000

In our issue prior to the summer break, we advertised the programme of events lined up by our Social Events Committee to celebrate Parish Week 2000. Starting with Bingo on the Tuesday night, until the Mass on the following Sunday the programme had wide appeal and was very well supported.

The attendance of 200 who came along to the Community Centre on Bingo night to mark their cards for a line or full house, created a very good humoured

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atmosphere for the evenings proceedings. An enthusiastic capacity audience turned up on the Wednesday night to support the 25 acts registered for the Talent Competition, ably compered by Noleen Kelly and adjudicated by Seamus Moran of 'Fair City' fame. The audience was treated to a most entertaining evening of pop music and dancing, comedy, singing, Irish dancing, traditional music – we even had a saxophonist and a trambone player as part of the show. The enjoyment of participants and audience was very evident – and the high standard of the acts was commended by the adjudicator. The winning trophy went to Ruth Murray for her song 'Reflections'; second prize went to young comedian Trevor O'Connell (a young man with a natural comic talent), joint third prize was awarded to singer Feargal Curtis for his rendition of 'I Believe I Can Fly' and Sinéad McDermott for her own composition which she sang.

The Table Quiz on Friday attracted 160 approximately and a light-hearted banter pervaded the hall as question master Joe Kelly very skillfully and humorously posed the questions.

The winners were Patricia and Shane O'Doherty and friends who were presented with their prizes by Anne Begley (organiser) and Fr. David (P.P.).

The Pet Show and Pony Rides on Saturday looked as if they might be a washout if the morning rain persisted until afternoon. However, the elements were with the organisers and a very enjoyable afternoon unfolded with dogs of various sizes in evidence, and an assortment of other pets from rabbits to guinea-pigs, being carefully tended by their young owners. The ponies were a big hit and everyone went home happy.

The week was rounded off with a special celebratory Mass at 12 o'clock on Sunday 2nd July. A colourful display of flags carried by children at the entrance procession and during the Mass, added to the sense of celebration and thanksgiving.

I'm sure the community will join with us in conveying sincere thanks to Declan Cahill, Sylvia Doyle, Anne Walsh, Anne Shortt and Gerry Pouch (of the Social Events Group) for their work in putting together a terrific week for all to enjoy, and to the many helpers who assisted them.

– Newsletter Team

AND YET – MORE JUNIOR INFANTS!



Miss Meely with some of her new pupils.

WELCOME TO ALPHA

In many parts of the world, the Christian Church is experiencing remarkable growth. New shoots of life are springing up giving fresh dynamism, hope and vision.

Alpha is one of these shoots. More than 10,500 Alpha courses are now running across 75 countries.

Church leaders from all denominations report the astonishing impact the course has on non-churchgoers and existing Christians in their areas. And it's spreading fast to many secular locations – prisons, businesses and schools.

We ran our first Alpha course here in Spring this year, and the next course will begin on October 3rd at 8 p.m. at the Iona Centre. There will be coffee and cake followed by a talk on a subject central to the Christian faith. Then participants break into small groups to discuss the talk in an environment where each person should feel free to ask or express whatever they wish.

Fuller details of the course are provided at the Iona Centre or in the Church, or phone us – Victoria and Tony Whittam on 495 0097.

"Alpha makes Christianity relevant to modern life." – The Express, London.



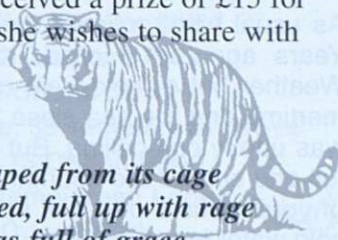
CELTIC CUB!

Well done to Shauna Byrne (aged 8) who had her poem published recently in *Woman's Way*. Shauna who lives in Castlefield received a prize of £15 for her 'ode' to a tiger which she wishes to share with our readers.

A Cute Cub

*A little cute tiger cub escaped from its cage
The whole zoo was terrified, full up with rage
The cub looked like he was full of grace
With a cute smile upon his face.*

*I walked very slowly over to him
He jumped up on top of me and I fell down
I got up and he chased me all the way to town.*



KNOCKLYON VARIETY GROUP

The Knocklyon Variety Group are recruiting new members for their production in the Civic Theatre next May. If you are over 16 years, male or female and enjoy singing, dancing, or acting, we would be delighted to hear from you. Our start back date is Thursday, 5th October at 8 p.m. in the Junior School Hall. We look forward to seeing you on that night. Any enquiries to: Teresa Hogan at 494 1021.

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So, too, with the whole of life...

As usual I find myself wondering is it really worth it! Years ago, as a child, I wouldn't have hesitated. Weather hot or cold, rain or shine, once it was summertime and the sea close by, the prospect of a swim was utterly compelling. But the years have taken their toll and curbed the spontaneity and ready enthusiasm of youth. The thought of sudden shock of impact with cold water is now enough to give me pause. I scan the clouds and make a quick calculation: will the sun still be shining when I emerge from the water in how many – five, ten, fifteen minutes time? Sure as hell that annoying coolish sea-breeze will still be blowing.

Eventually, and inevitably, I make the decision, impelled by memories of the past, not so much consciously pondered as woven into a kind of positive conviction. The hours of delight spent swimming and lazing in the sea! The uplift and exhilaration of spirit that always coloured the hours that followed!

And so I survive the sudden shock of cold water and the ensuing minute of bodily adjustment to temperature, to enjoy my encounter with the sea, which I now engage very much less skillfully, but if anything even more pleasurable than in years gone by. Then follows the refreshment of the aftermath, which an older phase of life enables me to really savour.

Why on earth did I even hesitate. . . ?!

– Fr. David

Forthcoming Events at Civic Theatre



- The Country Woman by Paul Smith, Tuesday 3rd-Saturday 14th October (an Upstate Theatre project presentation).
- Sweet Charity, performed by Harold's Cross/Tallaght Musical Society, Tuesday 17th-Saturday 21st October.
- Earwigs by Maeve Ingoldsby, presented by Barnstorm Theatre Company (a play for young people aged 10-14), Thursday 26th-Friday 27th October.
- Pat Fallon and Tanya (theatrical magic show), Saturday 28th October.
- A Dolls House by Henrik Ibsen, Monday 30th October-Saturday 4th November.
- 1900 – The Pianist On The Ocean, by Alessandro Baricco, Tuesday 7th-Saturday 11th November.

We print below an extract from recent literature produced by Ballyroan Library.

Library Services to the housebound

Ballyroan Library, located on Orchardstown Avenue, Rathfarnham, Dublin 14, is providing a service to those in the local community, who through illness, disability or old age cannot visit the library.

The library can come to you. All that is required is a telephone call to Ballyroan Library.

What if you aren't already a member?

A member of staff will contact you by telephone to make an appointment to visit you in your home. Any particular requests and reading interests will be noted. We will register you as a Library member so there is no need for you to visit the Library in person.

The service, at present, operates once a month and you may borrow as many items as you think you will need until the next visit. If you want to reserve books or have any special requests for books and non-book items our staff will make every effort to satisfy your requests.

The following services are available through the housebound service: fiction and non-fiction books; large print books; talking books, i.e. books on tape; music CD's and tapes; picture/print loans; Social Welfare Information and Community Information.

Interested?

If you are interested in availing of this service for yourself or if you wish to make enquiries on another's behalf, please contact Pamela Farrell, Ballyroan Library at Tel: 494 1900. This service is free of charge and strictly confidential.

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Knocklyon Social Badminton Club has resumed after the summer. New members are very welcome, from novice to professional. Come and have fun playing badminton every Wednesday 8-10 p.m. and Sunday 7-10 p.m. Annual fee only £65 per person or £120 for a couple. Contact; 494 6393; 494 1158; 493 7454; 493 5645; 494 2351.

KNOCKLYON I.C.A.

Girls if you want to have fun – come join Knocklyon I.C.A. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday night of each month.

Time: 8.30 p.m.

Venue: Knocklyon Community Centre.
New members welcome.
Peggy Lynch (P.R.O.)

SCOUTS DRAW RESULTS

JUNE 2000

£100: S. & T. McMenamin, 59 Cremorne
£50: B. Brighton, 217 Glenvara Park
£25: P. McRann, 55 Coolambre Park

JULY 2000

£100: John Gallagher, 'Idrone House'
£50: Chris Burke, 45 Idrone Drive
£25: O. & C. Bourke, 113 Coolambre Park

AUGUST 2000

£100: A. & A. Finucane, 22 Delaford Grove
£50: S. & J. Sheppard, 65 Coolamber Park
£25: P. J. Conroy, 15 Ashton Close

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RECENT BAPTISMS

Dearbhla Rose McLoughlin, 185 Woodfield
Margaret Rose Doran, 132 Glenvara Park
Eve Isabelle Courtney, 34 Orlagh Downs
Adam John Louis Browne, 38 Templeroan Grove
Aisling Siobhán Mooney, 16 Orlagh Park
John Michael Vincent, 7 Templeroan Lodge
Laura Mary Smithers, 41 Orlagh Park
Jack Basquel, 192 Glenvara Park
Luke Basquel, 192 Glenvara Park
Josh Aaron Richardson, 3 Woodstock Heath
Joanne Mary Munnely, 5 Castlefield Green
Aisling Elizabeth O'Grady, 17 Delaford Avenue
Katie Mary Farrell, 22 Templeroan Meadows
Niall John Darling, 4 Beverley Rise
Grace Ann Campbell, 25 Orlagh Avenue
Caoileann Áine Carton, 6 Taobh na Coille
Leah Elizabeth Hackett, 223 Woodfield
Áine Ellen Kane, 28 Woodfield
Conor Noel Kelly, 47 Castlefield Park
Katie Boland, 2 Woodstown Place
Ben Leonard, 2 Woodstown Court
Seán José Canning, 29 Orlagh Park
Dearbhla Clare Brennan, 91 Dargle Wood
Hilard Elliott, 5 Woodstown Road
Roisín Maura Horan, 5 Orlagh Avenue
Anna Kavanagh, 28 Scholarstown Park
Dylan Mark Jones, 11 Woodstown Heights
Kim Christine Áine O'Brien, 224 Woodfield
Darragh Seán Murphy, 102 Darglewood
Manus Pauric Prionsias Coughlan, 128 Darglewood
Harry Alan Edward Matthews, 13 Orlagh Court
The above list includes Baptisms up to end of August.



NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS/CONTRIBUTORS

Items for inclusion in the next issue should be handed into the Presbytery by Sunday 22nd October. The Newsletter will be circulated from 8th November. As advertising space has become so popular we are accepting adverts on a first come, first served basis only, with payment, so make sure you book your space in good time. Enquiries re advertising to June at 494 1204 (10.00 a.m.-12.00 noon) Monday to Friday. Fax 494 2343.

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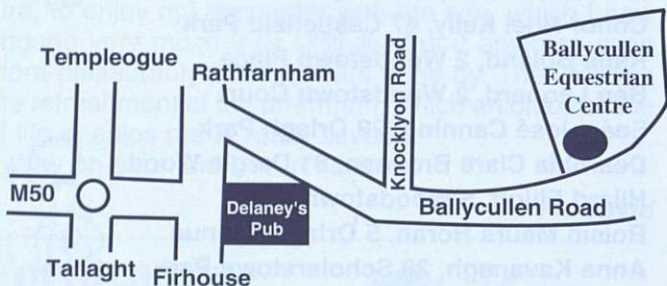


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