

Bagenalstown Credit Union reports a successful year

THE annual accounts of Bagenalstown Credit Union for the year ended 30 September 2009 show that despite the difficult economic conditions, the Credit Union continued to grow although at a slower pace than in recent years. Total members' savings increased to €37,362, 128 and on 30 September 2009 membership was 8,573 (9,425 in 2008). The fall principally is due to the closure of dormant accounts during the year. The total assets were valued at €43,789,644 at 30 September 2009 and the surplus of income over expenditure for the year was €345,214.

Founded in 1970, Bagenalstown Credit Union is an essential part of the economic lifeblood of the town and its environs. The credit union AGM will be held in its offices on Monday, 14 December at 8pm. Nominations for vacancies on the Board of Directors or Supervisory Committee should be made in writing to reach the secretary no later than the close on business this coming Friday, 11 December. Nomination forms are available at the office. During the evening the third car draw of the year will be held, with two runner-up prizes of €500 each. Members can still enter the draw for €12 up to 14 December. Entry for next year's series of draws costs €36 and will be deducted from members accounts in the new year.

BALLINKILLEN HURLING CLUB

A very well attended AGM of Ballinkillen Hurling Club was held on Friday 27 November in the club-house. The general consensus was that there had been much work done over the last year, but that there was a great need for more help and assistance. The following officers and committee were elected: chairperson - Pat English, vice chairperson - Tommy Kinsella, secretary - Caroline Wall, assistant secretary - Frank Murphy, treasurer - Kathleen Gaul, assistant treasurer - Patrick Minchin, PRO - Mick Kinsella, assistant PRO - Peter Minchin, players' reps - Andrew Gaul, Sean Minchin and Damien O'Neill, delegates to County Board - Caroline Wall and Eamon O'Neill, commit-

Bagenalstown

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tee - Teresa Freeman, Tommy Dowling, Olan Corcoran, Joey Nolan, John Minchin, P Minchin Snr, John Whelan, Lar Kinsella, Siobhan Dalton, Sean Dalton, Paddy Murphy, Pádraig Kinsella and David Wall, lotto development - Joey Nolan, John Whelan, Patrick Minchin, Sean Minchin and Catherine Kinsella. The sub committees and mentors will be announced later.

SCOUTS CALENDAR 2010

The 2nd Carlow Bagenalstown Scouts have just launched their 2010 calendar, based around local groups, clubs and organisations in the parish like the fire service, ICA, The Flower Club, The Beaver Section, local Civil Defence, country markets, Cub Section, Erin's Own hurling team, Scout Section, St Andrew's football team and Kilree Celtic. The calendar costs €6 and to purchase your copy please phone 059 9720588 or 086 3219066.

NIGHT OF STORYTELLING

The very popular Scéal eile will hold its next session of storytelling in the Family Resource Centre (beside the fire station) this coming Friday 11 December at 8pm. Look forward to seeing you there.

ST LAZERIAN'S FUNDRAISER

St. Lazerian's House will hold a coffee morning today Wednesday 9 December commencing at 10.30am. There will be some mouth-watering, freshly home baked scones, tarts, meringue nests, and cheesecakes served. The last coffee morning was a tremendous success, raising enough money for the purchase of a life saving defibrillator.

DE LA SALLE

Mr Garvey has begun preparations for two school tours next year. A two-day trip to England is planned for April which will take in a soccer match between Wigan and Arsenal as well as a full day in Alton Towers

theme park. A five to six day trip to Paris and London is being planned for the October mid-term allowing ample time for students to save! Full details are available from Mr Garvey in the school.

COMMUNITY GAMES

The AGM of Bagenalstown Community Games will be held in The Estoria tonight Wednesday 9 December at 8pm. A full attendance is requested.

FENAGH GFC

Congratulations to the winners of Fenagh GFC's November draw: 1st Prize €500 Har Butler, c/o promoter John Hickey, 2nd Prize €200 - Liam Kavanagh, Goresbridge, 3rd Prize €100 - Brenda Walsh, Cloengath, 4th Prize €100 - John Whelan, Ballyknocken, 5th Prize €50 - Edward Brown, Cloneen, 6th Prize €50 - Linda Kirwan, Ballaghaderneen, 7th Prize €50 - Maureen & Emma Dobbs c/o promoter Joe Murphy, 8th Prize €50 - Peter Hynes, Rotherham, 9th Prize €25 - Adrian Ryan, 44 Woodglade, 10th Prize €25 - Barry Coz, Clongath. The club would like to thank everyone for their support, and the next draw will take place in Tom Kearney's Pub on Tuesday, 22 December at 9.30pm.

CHRISTMAS CRAFT & FOOD FAIR

The Duckett's Grove Christmas Craft & Food Fair will be on Saturday 12 December from 2pm to 6pm and Sunday 13 from 12 noon to 6pm. Enjoy Christmas fun and entertainment in this magical setting which includes a large craft fair featuring Carlow producers, Christmas plants, wreaths and decorations and artisan food producers. Other activities include a Santa grotto and live nativity scene, children's face painting, Christmas stories and songs for children, Christmas cookery and wreath demonstrations, display of traditional crafts of butter making, basket making and blacksmith and musical entertainment through-

out the day, all of which are free. For further details please contact www.carlowtourism.com or 059-9130411. Please follow the signs to the car park, for which there is an entry fee of €5 per car.

SHOP LOCAL THIS CHRISTMAS

Shopping locally is more critical than ever this year. Supporting the local economy means sustaining jobs on the home front. This has been a crippling time for many businesses which have been put to the pin of their collar just to survive. Putting money into the local economy will reap massive dividends in the future. Shop local!

SPONSORED SWIM/WALK

The 17th sponsored swim and walk will take place on Christmas Day in aid of Carlow/Kilkenny Home Care Team. The walk starts at the picnic tables at 11.30am and will go around Green Road. The swim will start at 12 noon and for sponsorship cards please phone Mary on 085 1521232.

CHRISTMAS SALE

St Mary's Hall Christmas sale, in aid of the hall, will be held on Friday 11 December at 7pm.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

The church gate collection in aid of St Vincent De Paul Society will be held at all masses on Saturday and Sunday, 12 and 13 December. Your support is very necessary at this difficult time for many people.

CHRISTMAS DRAW

Tickets at €10 are on sale for St Andrew's GFC's Christmas draw. This is a very important fundraiser and your support would be very much appreciated. Tickets are available from Liam Barry, Aidan Coburn, Ken and Anne Hickey, Jimmy Mullins, Liam O'Brien, Mick Lillis, Nicky Gordan, Hamish Beaton and other committee members. The draw will take place on Monday, 28 December.

GLEANN NA BEARU NEWS

The Carlow Branch of Chernobyl Ireland will be holding a Monster Jumble Sale in the Gleann Na Bearu Community Building on Saturday 12 December from 10.30am to 4.30pm. Make a difference to the lives of children living in the Chernobyl region by coming along on the day. There is no entry charge, refreshments will be served and all are welcome to attend. There will be a €2 draw for a hamper in Coote's Bar later in the evening. There will also be a draw for prizes courtesy of the Bagenalstown Hardware Store. Hampers can be seen in Morrissey's Butchers. If you would like to donate items for the sale please contact Helen Dixon at 087 2628961.

TURKEY TROT

Come walk off all the turkey and trimmings on St Stephen's Day at noon, from the lower stream all around Dunleckney. The entry fee is €5 and all funds raised are in aid of Carlow/Kilkenny Home Care Team and the Dyslexia Association. For further details please phone Marjorie on 087 732407.

SHOEBOXES

The Queen of the Universe National School has thanked everyone who supported the Christmas shoebox appeal this year. A total of 225 boxes were collected and are now on their way to Albania. Tickets are on sale for this year's Parents' Council Christmas draw. There are some wonderful prizes to be won, and to be in with a chance you can purchase tickets from any member of the Parents' Council or from the school office on 059 9721075.

CARLOW HOSPICE

County Carlow Hospice is selling Christmas cards to raise finance. If you would like to volunteer to sell cards please phone Sheila on 059 9143798 or Email: sheilafennell@hotmail.com.

COUNTRY MARKET

Bagenalstown Country Market is open every Saturday from 9am to 12 noon at St Mary's Hall, Church Road, selling local produce including bread, cakes, jams, flowers and knitwear. They are now taking orders for

Christmas cakes and puddings. Your support is very much appreciated.

RED DEVILS

Bagenalstown Red Devils will hold the Christmas Party for their junior members on Sunday 20 December in the Red Lion from 5pm to 8pm. This is always a very enjoyable and entertaining event and Santa has promised to be there with plenty of gifts. There will be live music and finger food served during the party. Membership is still available and for further details please contact any committee member or phone the club secretary on 085 1152298. Alternatively, you can log onto the club website at www.bagenalstownreddevils.com or email: info@bagenalstownreddevils.com.

MUINEBHEAG KOPITES

The annual Christmas Party for the younger members of Muinebheag Kopites will be held on Saturday 19 December in the Kíree Arms starting at 3.30pm and continuing for the afternoon. Santa will drop in with a special present for the younger Kopites. There will be a disco dancing competition and a raffle, with plenty of prizes, later in the evening.

BAGENALSTOWN NUMBERS

Our Lady Queen of the Universe 059 9721075
St Brigid's Boys' 059 9721984
Ballinkillen National School 059 9775153
Newtown/Dunleckney National School 059 9727299
Nurney National School 059 9146297
Presentation De La Salle 059 9721860
Vocational School 059 9721355
Garryhill National School 059 9727355
Parish Centre 059 9721154
Fr Declan Foley P/P 087 6684299
Fr Paddy Byrne 059 9723886 or 0879948505
Fr Tommy Bambrick 059 9721154
Rev Charles McCollum (Church of Ireland) 087 2885019
Garda Station 059 9721212
Bagenalstown Library 059 97 22208
Bagenalstown Post Office 059 9721242
Bagenalstown Credit Union 059 9723240
Dr Brendan Coffey 059 9721650
Dr Pascal O'Dea 059 9721650
Dr Thomas Foley 059 9721502



Ranganna Gaelchultúr 2010

TÁ an-áthas ar Glór Cheatharlach a fhógairt go mbeidh sraith nua de Chursaí Gaeilge do dhaoine fásta i gomhar le Gaelchultúr ar fáil i gCeatharlach sa bhliain úr. Tá ag éirí thar barr leis na cursaí céanna le bliain go leith anuas. "Tá ranganna Gaelchultúir ar siúl anseo i gCeatharlach anois ó Mheán Fómhair 2008 agus baineann na foghlaimoír uile taitneamh agus tairbhe astu, le roinnt

daoine ag teacht ar ais arís is arís eile chun cursaí nua a dhéanamh", arsa Bride de Róiste, Cathaoirleach Glór Cheatharlach. Cuirfead tús leis an sraith nua de chursaí i Mí Feabhra agus rachaidh siad ar aghaidh ar feadh tréimhse 12 seachtain. Arís beidh cúig leibhéal ar fáil le Bunrang 1, Bunrang 2, Meánrang 1, Meánrang 2 agus Ardrang. Déanann na leibhéil freastal cuí ar foghlaimoír ó

fhíor thosaítheoirí go cruinneas gramadaí. Maireann na ranganna go léir ó 7:00 - 9:00n. oíche amháin sa tseachtain agus iad go léir ar siúl in oifigí Chomhairle Chontae Cheatharlach. Dúirt Emma Whitmore, Oifigeach Forbartha Gaeilge le Glór Cheatharlach: "Is iontach an rud é go bhfuil na cursaí Gaelchultúir agus na leibhéil éagsúla ar fáil i gCeatharlach chun freastal ar éileamh na

rannpháirtithe. Tá súil againn go mbeidh alán foghlaimoír nua ag glacadh páirte chomh maith le daoine ag teacht ar ais. Taispeánann sé arís cé chomh láidir is atá an tuisim agus an tacaíocht don Ghaeilge anseo. Tá an-chuid daoine ag iarraidh an teanga a fhoghlaim nó ag iarraidh cur leis an méad atá acu cheana féin". Chun an leibhéal atá oiriúnach d'fhoghlaimoír a chinntiú is

féidir scrúdú tastála a dhéanamh ar shuíomh Gaelchultúir www.gaelchultur.com. Cosnaíonn cursaí €240 san iomlán don 12 seachtain. Tá táille speisialta de €225 ar fáil ach clárú roimh Nollaig agus tá clárú oscailte anois ar líne nó trí ghlaoch a chur ar 1890 252 900. Gach eolas ar www.gaelchultur.com nó ó Glór Cheatharlach ar 059/ 9158105, 085/1340047.

Aonach na Nollag ag Duckett's Grove

CÉAD míle fáilte chuig Aonach na Nollag a bheidh ar siúl in Ionad Duckett's Grove, Ceatharlach an deireadh seachtaine seo chugainn. Ní bheidh a shárú de spraoi, spiorad agus siamsaíocht an tséasúir ar fáil is a bheidh sa teach ársa agus ins na gairdíní gleoite thar an dá lá. I measc na n-earraí a bheidh ar díol beidh plandaí, fleascanna agus maisiúcháin chomh maith le cistí agus maróga Nollag. Cuir leis sin taispeántais ceardaíochta agus fíodóireachta, obair láimhe thraidisiúnta agus beidh an gabha i mbun oibre freisin. Chomh maith le ceol den scoth i rith an ama beidh imeachtaí do pháistí ar nós smídiú aghaidheanna, seisiúin scéalaíochta agus amhránaíochta gan trácht ar an seans chun casadh le Daidí na Nollag féin. Le rogha de bhíanna agus togha de bhronntanas ar Dé Sathairn (2:00-6:00n.) agus ó mheánlae ar Dé Domhnaigh ní foláir a bheith ann in am chun teacht ar na margai is fearr an Nollaig seo. Níl táille isteach ach caithear €5 a íoc chun an carr a pháircéil. Bí ann agus Nollaig Shona!



Caladh Nua

IS iomaí leabhar, iris, dlúthdhiosca agus earra de gach saghas a lainséaltar gach bliain in am do mhargadh na Nollag agus ní haon eisceacht í an bhliain seo. Leis seo ráite, tá an-áthas ar Glór Cheatharlach fáilte a chur roimh an dlúthdhiosca dar teideal "Happy Days" atá díreach eisithe ag an mbanna áitiúil, Caladh Nua. Cúigeag ceoltóirí traidisiúnta den scoth atá sa ghrúpa agus is é seo an chéad thairfead phroifisiúnta dá gcuid. "Siad na bailí ná Eoin Ó Meachair, Lisa de Builéar, Paddy Tutty, Colm Ó Caoimh agus Derek Morrissey agus tagann siad ó Chontaetha Cheatharlach, Cill Chainnigh agus Port Láirge. Cóirthe go gleoite tá rogha iontach idir cheol damhsa, foinn agus amhráin ar an dlúthdhiosca áirithe seo agus is cinnte go ndéanfadh sé bronnantas gleoite don Nollaig d'éinne le suim sa cheol traidisiúnta acu. Ar díol i siopaí ceoil agus gach eolas ar www.caladhnuu.com

Gach eolas ar imeachtaí Gaeilge ó: Glór Cheatharlach Carlow Gateway Business Centre Bóthar Átha I, Ceatharlach (059) 9158105 / (085) 1340047 emma@glorcheatharlach.ie www.glorcheatharlach.ie

Leighlin Brass Band appeals for your support

Leighlinbridge

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EMAIL: DRUSCHITZKO@EIRCOM.NET



A Brass Band and Gospel Choir Christmas Concert, with St Patrick's Brass and Reed Band and the acclaimed Kilkenny Gospel Choir, will be held in St Lazerian's Church tomorrow night Thursday 10 December at 7.30pm. All funds raised are in aid of Leighlin Brass Band Instrument Appeal, and your support would be very much appreciated.

CHRISTMAS CRAFTS

Christmas crafts for boys and girls aged 6 to 12 will be held in Old Leighlin Hall on Saturday next 12 December from 2pm to 4pm. Booking is essential on 087 9015541.

SCOUT TROOP

Leighlin Scout Troop is looking for any old scout uniforms, badges, scarves or woggles. If you have any please give them to any of the scouts, or leave them on the box in the Parish Centre.

BILBOA STATION MASS

The annual Station Mass for the Bilbao area will be held on Saturday, 12 December in Ardough School at 8.30pm. All are welcome.

NEEDY COLLECTION

The annual collection for the needy of the parish will be held at all masses on Saturday and Sunday next, 12 and 13 December. Your usual generous support would be very much appreciated.

ACTIVE RETIRED NEWS

The annual Station Mass for the Bilbao area will be held on Saturday, 9 December the members of Leighlin Active Retired will travel to the Watershed, Kilkenny for a day full of activities from 10.30am to 4pm. All activities and lunch are free of charge and for further details please phone 056 7720870. A committee meeting will

be held on Monday, 14 December in the Parish Centre at 2.30pm, with a members meeting afterwards at 3.30pm. The Active Retired wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE

The 2010 Parish Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from 26 June for five nights, staying at the Hotel Jeanne D'arc. The cost is €769, which includes flights, accommodation on a full board basis, travel insurance and all taxes. A deposit of €200 is required when booking, and for further details please phone the Parish Centre on 059 972607 or Top Class Travel, Carlow.

SOCIAL GET TOGETHER

Everyone is invited to come along for tea/coffee and a chat in the Parish Centre on Sunday next, 13 December after 11am Mass. This is an ideal opportunity to meet up with neighbours and friends, and those new to the parish are especially welcome.

CRAFT CLUB

Leighlin Craft Club welcomes all new knitters, crafters and past members to the Parish Centre on Fridays from 7.30pm to 9.30pm. For further details please phone Jennifer on 059 9728549.

LEIGHLINBRIDGE NUMBERS

Leighlinbridge National School 059 9721796
Scoil Molaise, Old Leighlin 059 9722166
Ballinabranna National School 059 9146253
Little Orchard Community Childcare 059 9722933
Parish Centre 059 9722607
Fr. Tom Lawlor PP 059 9721463 or 087 2360355
Garda Station 059 9721122
Leighlinbridge Post Office 059 9721101
Leighlinbridge Credit Union 059 9721000
Dr Thomas Foley 059 9721240

Not forgetting the mature club members, music will be provided by DJ Doc from 9pm until late. For further details on the club please phone chairman, Mick Lillis on 086 0508237, honorary secretary Darren Thompson on 087 0553534, or email: info@muinebheagkopites.ie, or visit the website www.muinebheagkopites.ie.

THREE COUNTIES CYCLE

Instead of being a couch potato, why not get up and get rid of those Christmas calories by participating in the annual three counties cycle on Monday, 28 December, supporting Beam Services, Bagenalstown. The 50km and 100km cycles start at 9.30am (entry fee €30 and €40 respectively), and the 25km cycle will start at 10.30am (entry fee €20). For sponsorship cards and further details please phone Beam on 059 9723504 or Email: beamservices@eircom.net.

CHILDREN SING

The pupil of St Mary's national school will sing carols and play music in O'Reilly's SuperValu on Carrigduff on Friday 18 and Saturday 19 December.