

# More busy times ahead for Bagenalstown community games

BAGENALSTOWN Community Games has a long, proud and distinguished history in community games, at local, county and national level, and has enjoyed many successes over the years. Members are currently very busy training for upcoming events: U15 badminton on Friday 29 January in Ballinabranra GFC Clubhouse at 7pm; U10, U12 and U14 draughts on Friday 5 February in Hacketstown at 7pm; U12 and U16 chess in Rathoe Hall on Saturday 6 February at 7pm; U8, U10, U12, U14 and U16 boys and girls art competition in the Presentation College, Carlow on Saturday 13 February at 10am and 2pm; U13 boys and girls basketball in St Leo's College, Carlow on Sunday 14 February at 10am; U11 mixed basketball in St Leo's College, Carlow on Sunday, 21 February at 10am. For further details please phone Paula on 087 7516254.

**TABLE QUIZ**  
A table quiz in aid of BEAM will be held in the Estoria on Thursday 28 January at 8.30pm. Entry for a table of four, costs €40.

**GLEANN NA BEARU COMMUNITY BUILDING NEWS**  
The Gleann Na Bearu Residents' Association recently held a very successful Christmas Party in the community building. There was a large attendance and Santa Claus was kindly escorted to the event by Bagenalstown Fire Brigade. Sean Holden, chairperson of the residents' association, thanked all the volunteers, Santa Claus and the Fire Brigade who helped to make the night an enormous success. The Gleann Na Bearu Community Building Working Group recently secured a grant to develop a games and recreation room for children and adults to avail of on a daily basis. It is envisaged that there will be a fully-supervised recreational space for both adults and children to play pool, table tennis and board games. It is hoped that this

## Bagenalstown

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room will be ready to open by the end of January. A yoga and relaxation class is due to start on Thursday mornings from 10.30am to 12 noon and beginners are welcome. For queries and bookings please contact Mary on 086 8900191. An aerobics class is due to start on Tuesday evenings. There are still a few places left so please contact Philip O'Reilly at 087 6805762. There will be a four-week drug education and information programme starting shortly in the Community Building. John Leahy, Substance Misuse Officer, with the HSE will facilitate the programme, which will focus on all forms of substance misuse. If you are concerned that your child may be misusing drugs, alcohol or other substances, this programme will offer a lot of advice, support and guidance. Please contact Philip O'Reilly at 087 6805762 to book your place. The Gleann Na Bearu Community Building is available to rent for meetings, small conferences and community education classes. The facilities are suitable for groups of all sizes and there is free onsite parking adjacent to the building. For more information please contact Philip O'Reilly at 087 6805762.

**SPONSORED SWIM/WALK**  
The 17th Christmas Day sponsored swim/walk was a great success, raising much needed funds for the Carlow/Kilkenny Home Care Team. Congratulations to the 25 swimmers who braved the icy waters and very cold conditions and those who walked the icy roads. Thanks to Teresa Kearney for the hot drinks, Billy Power and John McNally, the lifeguards, the Civil Defence and everyone who helped out. Please return money and cards to Mary Foster, 2 Kilree Street as soon as possible.

**MASS TIME CHANGE**  
It is planned to change the Saturday evening mass

from the normal time of 7.30pm to 6pm, from 20 February or the first Sunday in Lent. In our deanery area there are seven Saturday evening masses beginning at 7.30pm. When a priest becomes ill or is away on holidays it is becoming more and more difficult to get cover for weekend masses, especially when so many masses start at the same time. By putting the Saturday mass back to 6pm it means that Fr Declan or Fr Paddy will be free to cover other parishes on Saturday evenings when the need arises. In recent times Carlow town have moved some of their mass times to 6pm, as have Graiguenamanagh. Our Parish Council supports this move, and it's hoped it will be a success.

**ICA CENTENARY YEAR**  
Founded in Bree, Co Wexford in 1910, the ICA celebrates its centenary this year, with a variety of events nationally and locally. Our local Bagenalstown ICA is the oldest surviving guild in Co Carlow, over 60 years old this year, and the celebrations in Co Carlow will commence with a dinner and social evening in The Seven Oaks Hotel, Carlow on Friday 22 January. Each guild is asked to provide a party piece towards the entertainment on the night and also a spot prize for the raffle. It is hoped all guild members will come along to what promises to be a great night out and bring ex-members, family and friends. Tickets at €25 are available from Annette Reddy on 059 9722541. Later in the year they hope to launch a photographic exhibition in the Carlow Visual Arts Centre of people and events, showcasing the achievements of ICA and their involvement in the life of the country during the past 100 years. If anyone has photos of historical interest please contact Annette Reddy on 059 9722541 or Imelda Byrne on

059 9721410.

**VOLUNTEER CENTRE**  
Carlow Volunteer Centre will have an information stand in Bagenalstown Family Resource Centre, Gleann Na Bearu Community Building on Tuesday 2 February from 9.30am to 1pm. Information will be available on the many different volunteering opportunities around the south of the county. For further details please phone 059 9137562, or e-mail: aising@volunteercarlo.w.ie, or visit the website www.volunteercarlo.w.ie.

**COUNTRY MARKET**  
Bagenalstown Country Market has congratulated Fiona Carbery, Anne Marie Hogan and Betty Finerty, the winners of

their Christmas raffle. The market is held in St Mary's Hall, Church Road every Saturday from 9am to 12 noon, selling local produce including bread, cakes, jams, flowers and knitwear. Your continued support is very much appreciated.

**IMPROVEMENT GROUP**  
Fenagh Improvement Group will hold their AGM in The Hunters' Rest on Friday 5 February at 8pm. There is a busy agenda and a full attendance is requested. The group continues its appeal for contributions to the new Fenagh village website. If you have any photos, articles or anything that may be of interest please phone 086 8831249, or e-mail: fenaghimprovementgroup@gmail.com.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**  
The following are the dates set for first holy communion and confirmation in the parish this year: First holy communion: Newtown National School in Newtown Church on Sunday 9 May at 11am. Queen of the Universe National School in St Andrew's Church on Sunday 16 May at 11.30am. St Brigid's Boys National School in St Andrews Church on Sunday 16 May at 11.30am. Ballinkillen National School in Ballinkillen Church on Sunday 23 May at 11am. Nurney National School in Newtown Church on Sunday 30 May at 11am. Confirmation in St Andrew's Church on Sunday 18 April at 2pm.

**COOKERY DEMONSTRATION**  
Graiguenamanagh chef, Edward Hayden, will give a cookery demonstration in Ionad Dara, Goresbridge on Thursday 28 January at 8pm. The theme of the evening will be *Great Family Food*. Edward Hayden writes a column on a national Sunday newspaper, works in the cookery school at Dunbrody House, Co Wexford and has a cookery book out which will be on sale at the demonstration. Tickets cost €15. This is a fundraising event for Goresbridge Rural Development so there will be a raffle too and proceeds go towards flower beds, hedge cutting, new seating and youth activities. Everyone will get a copy of the recipes to take home. For tickets contact 059 9775646 or 087 2601672 after 6pm or contact any member of the committee, Shane Dalton, Eamonn Barcoe, Mary Kelly, Sarah Kelly, John Quinn or Colette Murphy.

**DANCING CLASSES**  
Irish dancing classes are held in Bagenalstown Community Hall every Monday from 7.30pm. Please phone 085 7259865.

**ST. ANDREWS AGM**  
St Andrew's GFC will hold its AGM this coming Friday 22 January at 8pm in The Estoria. A full attendance is requested and new members are very welcome.

**BALLINKILLEN GAA HISTORY**  
Ballinkillen Hurling Club is working on putting together a history of GAA in the Ballinkillen area. If anyone has old photos, programmes or stories, the club would love to hear from you. The safe return of all material is assured. For further details please phone Mick Kinsella on 087 2037394 or Peter Minchin on 086 1961365.

**PITCH & PUTT**  
The AGM of Bagenalstown Pitch & Putt Club will take place on Thursday 21 January at 8pm in the clubhouse. The club would like to see as many members as possible attend this very important meeting, as your support and input is crucial for the ongoing success of the club.

**RED DEVILS NEWS**  
Bagenalstown Red Devils, official Manchester United Supporters Club, will accept deposits of €100 for the Liverpool game on Friday 22 January at 8pm in The Red Lion. Places, which are limited to 34, cannot be pre-booked and will be offered to those in attendance on the night. The balance of monies are payable on or before Friday 5 March. Please note that this trip is on offer only to those who were members as of 31 December 2009. The final date for acceptance of the outstanding balance for the Portsmouth game is also Friday, 22 January. New membership and membership renewal is still available, and for further details please phone the club secretary on 085 1152298, or e-mail: info@bagenalstownreddevils.com, or visit the website www.bagenalstownreddevils.com.

**ACTIVE RETIREMENT SHILLELAGH ACTIVE**  
Retirement Group is holding a theatre night in the Courthouse Shillelagh on Friday 29 January at 8pm. This promises to be a great night of music,

drama and comedy featuring Ellie Condon, The Quaid and Clare Families, *Letters of a Matchmaker* by J. B Keane and *A Galway Girl* by Geraldine Aaron. Tickets cost €6 and can be got by contacting 087 7634095.

**NO BINGO OR LOTTO**  
There was no bingo or lotto held in St Mary's Hall Ballyconnell on Sunday night 3 and 10 January, owing to the bad weather, slippery roads and lots of snow. All the bingo fans were so disappointed as there was no bingo in Hacketstown or Ballyglass either. Hopefully it will be on next weekend. Word has it that Ballyconnell lotto and bingo have only being cancelled a few times within the last 46 years.

**WHIST DRIVE**  
The Whist drive will be held in Ballyconnell Hall on Saturday night 16 January (weather permitting) at 9pm. Good support would be appreciated.



Flooding at Tullow Quarter on the Castledermot Road last Saturday morning  
Photo: John Courtney

# Nice cup of tea and a three course dinner

## Clonmore

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IF YOU are interested in attending Saint John's Day Care Centre in Hacketstown, every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10am to 4pm, please contact Ann O'Dwyer for further information on 059 6471417. A nice cup of tea is served at 10.30 p.m., a three-course dinner is served at 1pm, including soup, dinner and tea or coffee and biscuits. The day care provide a bus for people attending the centre and many other people have their own transport from areas such as Rathvilly, Ballybit, Clonmore, Kiltegan, and Hacketstown areas. Meals are also available for delivery or for collection.

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**CRISP AND BACK TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE**  
In association with CRISP they are offering a subsidised ECCL course at the centre in Hacketstown. You may be eligible for funding if you are on social welfare, hold a medical card or left school early. Get in touch to find out. For further information contact the CRISP centre on 0596471733

**CARLOVIANS**  
The 2009 Edition of the 'Carlovians' which contains an article on Hacketstown in 1880s, another on an eviction case in the town in 1890 and an article on St Patrick's Missionary Society is now available at Byrne's Supervalu for €10.

**CABARET**  
There will be a cabaret hosted by Knockananna Committee for Prevention of Cruelty to animals, in Murphy's Hotel in Tinahely on Saturday night 23 January (weather permitting). Good support is much appreciated.

# Pamela wins award Hacketstown

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THE Carlow GAA awards ceremony, brings more good news for Clonmore GFC - Pamela Dowling has now been chosen as the Adult Ladies Footballer of the Year for 2009. Pamela had an exceptional season for Carlow ladies team in 2009 and has been described as an "outstanding scoring midfielder who provides leadership on and off the field". Pamela is also a leading light in the Clonmore Ladies Club and was involved in setting up the U12 team in 2009, which reached the county final, and is working on organising an U14 team in 2010 as well. This award is a great boost to the Clonmore Ladies' Club which is only a couple of years in existence and shows that the efforts of the club, and Pamela in particular, have not gone unnoticed by the clubs of the county. Congratulations, Pam on this well deserved award.

**CLONMORE AGM**  
The annual general meeting of Clonmore GFC will be held in Hacketstown on Friday 29 January. The meeting is after 7.30 mass which will be celebrated for deceased members of the club. Visit our website for all club news, reports and a huge archive of photographs: www.clonmoregfc.com.

**CRISP**  
Hacketstown CRISP centre are taking enrolments for the EDCL course which begins Wednesday 20 January 2010 from 7 to 10pm. Computered for beginners, an eight-week course starts on 18 January, from 10.30am to 12.30pm and from 2 to 4pm. Intermediate computers is a six-week course

starting on Tuesday 19 January, from 10.30 to 12.30pm. An internet and e-mail course beginning Wednesday 13 January, from 10.30 to 12.30 and evening from 7pm to 9pm. A typing and photo coping service is also available at the centre, also fax, laminating facilities and CV preparation. For more information call in the CRISP centre on the Green, Hacketstown or phone 059 64 71733.

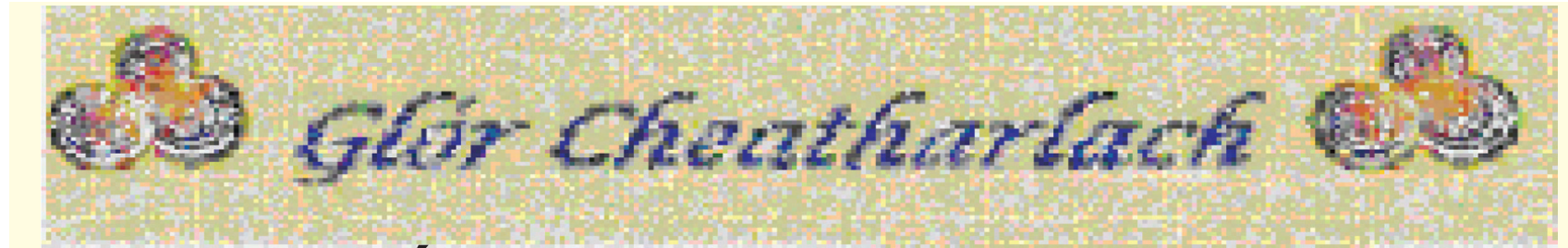
**LINE DANCING**  
There is line dancing in Knockananna hall every Tuesday evening from 7.30 to 9pm. This is a great way of getting fit and having fun for men and women only €6 per night, so come along everyone is welcome.

**JUVENILE FOOTBALL**  
Clonmore juvenile football club held its annual general meeting in St John's Hall on Friday 8 January, the following officers were elected chairperson James Whelan vice-chairperson MJ Doyle, secretary Colm Doyle, treasurer Ger Doyle PRO Brendan Ryan. The committee would like to thank everyone who supported the club through the year. Winner of the Christmas draw were, Hammer: Patricia Deay (Clonmore) Turkey: John Mitchell (Leitrim) Ham: Shona Tallon Lamb: Bridget Connolly, Whiskey: Adam O'Brien (Baltinaglas) Whiskey: Edel Keogh (Vodka): Ned Doyle (Vodka): Claire Whelan (Biscuits): Brendan Cullen (Chocolates): Anna Doyle (Des Kelly Voucher): Anna Doyle

**ENVIRONMENTAL GRANT SCHEME 2010**  
Applications are invited from community groups,

tidy towns/village committees, residents' associations, schools and other organisations which are involved in environmental works or anti-litter initiatives in their localities. Works should not be on private property and must be of benefit to the community. Proposals which have previously received grant-aid may not be considered for further funding. Schools must be registered and participating in Green Schools Programme or Carlow's Pride of Place 2010. Closing date for receipt of applications is Friday 26 February at 5pm.

**CALL FOR ARTISTS**  
Carlow Local Authorities Arts Office is seeking artists, art groups or schools based in Co Carlow who produce 2D work and are interested in exhibiting it in Tullow Civic Offices. This exhibition space provides a great opportunity to professional and non professional artists to show their work to the public. If you are interested please forward samples of your work by posting or e-mailing either photographs, CDs or slides, outlining size dimensions and the number of works you have available to exhibit. Please do not send originals. Please clearly label all material, with a brief statement of the type of works you propose to exhibit, ensuring to include your contact details stating your name, address, telephone number and e-mail address to The Arts Office, Carlow County Council, County Buildings, Athy Road Carlow. For further information contact Ann Scully by e-mail ascully@carlowcoco.ie or phone 059 9136204.



# Tugann an tAire Ó Cuív ardmholadh don Ghaeilge i gCeatharlach

TIONÓLADH ócáid cheiliúirthe faoi theanga agus chultúr na Gaeilge i gCeatharlach ar an Déardaoin, 14ú Eanáir. Bhí an tAire Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta Eamon Ó Cuív T.D. i láthair ag an searmanas in Oifigi an Chomhairle Chontae agus thug sé ardmholadh do staid na teanga i mBaile Cheatharlach go háirithe don chomhbríú idir na hudaíais áitiúla agus Glór Cheatharlach. Chuir Feargal de Brún, Leaschathaoirleach an Chomhairle Chontae fáilte chroíúil roimh an Aire. Deineadh ceiliúradh ach go háirithe ar an rath mór atá ar na Cúrsaí Gaeilge do dhaoine fásta atá eagraithe ag Glór Cheatharlach i gcomhar leis na Gaeilchultúir Teo ó Mhí Mheán Fómhair 2008. "Sé an bua atá leis na cúrsaí seo ná go bhfuil siad grádaithe chun feastal ar chaighdeán gach uile foghmaimeora ó fhuir tosaítheoirí go bun, meán agus ard leibhéal. Bhí Darren Ó Roidigh i láthair thar cheann Gaeilchultúir Teo agus dúirt sé go raibh Ceatharlach mar cheannródai agus mar dheasampla don tír uile sa tsáil ina bhfuil na cúrsaí á n-eagrú. Tá an t-éileamh ar Chúrsaí Ghaeilchultúir dochreidte i gCeatharlach. Tá 240 chúrsaí tógtha anseo aghaibh le bliain go leith anuas. Níl a leithéid ná a shárú i mbaile nó i gcathair ar bith eile", arsa Darren. Teastas agus Fáinne Bhronn an tAire teastas agus an fáinne Gaeilge ar ghruipa de 25 duine a chríochnaigh a gcúrsaí Gaeilchultúir roimh Nollaig. Mar chomhartha aitheantais don Chomhairle Chontae as seomraí agus áiseanna a sholáthar saor in aisce oíche i ndiaidh oíche do na ranganna bhronn an tAire agus Darren an Gradam Gaeilchultúir don Earnáil Phoiblí 2010 ar Thomas de Barra, Bainisteoir an Chontae agus ar Leaschathaoirleach an Chomhairle. Ba ghléite an píosa dealbhadóireachta a bronnadh. Píosa de dhairphortach dar teideal 'An Préachán' a léiríonn an gaiscíoch Setanta ar an dé deiridh ach é fós ag cur eagla ar a chuid naimhde go dtí gur thuirling an préachán nó fiach dubh ar a ghuailann le crúthú go raibh an laoch misniúil marbh. "Beidh áit shuntasach don Ghradam in Aras an Chontae i gcoinn, arsa an bainisteoir. Aitheasc an Aire Rinne an tAire ina aitheasc bríomhar mólach comhgháirdeachas ó chroí le Glór Cheatharlach, na hudaíais áitiúla agus chuile dhúine atá ag saothrúil bílanta agus i gcoinn ar son na Gaeilge i gCeatharlach. Dúirt sé go bhfuil an Ghaeilge fóir-thábhachtach dúinn mar



Daití Ó Dubhlagh, Róisín Ni Aogáin, Helena de Grandún agus Karen Ni Fhionngaltáin an-sásta leis na Teastais Gaeilchultúir a bhronn an tAire Ó Cuív orthu

phobal agus mar náisiún agus gur beag bealach atá ann, atá chomh bunúsach agus chomh tabhachtach lena chinntíú go maífidh sí, ná na hiarrachtaí a thagann ón bpobal féin. Agus é ag tagairt don Straitéis 20 Bliain don Ghaeilge a foilsíodh roimh Nollaig dúirt sé go bhfuil sé soiléir go bhfuil tromlach na ndaoine i dtír dhaoine a labhraíonn agus nach labhraíonn Gaeilge, dearfach i leith na teanga. Dúirt sé go bhfuil eolas eigin ar an teanga ag líon mór daoine agus gur cheann de phríomh aidhmeanna an straitéis ná daoine a bhogadh ó eolas go úsáid. "Is mian linn an líon sin daoine a labhráin Gaeilge go laethúil a ardú go 250,000 thar an 20 bliain atá romhainn. Is léir go bhfuil an chur chuige ceart ag bailte ar nós Ceatharlach chun cabhrú linn an aidhm sin a bhaint amach", arsa an tAire. Ionad Gaeilge do Cheatharlach? "Tá orainn timeallacht a chothú ina mbráitheann daoine sách muiníneach a gcuir Gaeilge, pé leibhéal atá acu, gan eagla orthu go gceartfaid iad nó go mbeidís mí-shuaimhneach. Tá sé rianachtach go n-úsáidfeadh daoine le Gaeilge an teanga nuair atá an deis acu í a chur ar aghaidh chuig a bpáistí agus tacú lena húsáid laistigh den phobal. Táim féin muiníneach go leanfaidh

an Ghaeilge ag déanamh go maith le hiarrachtaí dearfacha i measc an phobail agus tá sé i gceist agam cur leis an líon ionaid Gaeilge i mbaile ar fud na tíre, áiteanna go bhféadfadh daoine le Gaeilge bualadh isteach agus casadh lena gcairde agus réimse leathan seirbhísí pobal trí Ghaeilge a fháil," ar sé. Agus bhí gach éinne a bhí i láthair ar aon intinn go mbeadh Ionad Gaeilge dá leithéid go hiontach do Cheatharlach! Chun críoch a chur leis an oíche ghabh Tomás de Barr buíochas leis an Aire agus bhronn sé trí leabhar a foilsíodh i gCeatharlach le linn Féile an Fhómhair air. An Banana Bean Sí agus Scéalta Eile le Deirdre Brennan, Turas go Bun na Spéire le Rita Kelly agus Lucinda Sly le Maidhc Dainín Ó Sé. Bhí Deirdre agus Rita i láthair agus chas an tAire leo beirt. Oíche mhór Ghaeilge eile i gCeatharlach agus céim eile chun tosaigh ar an mbóthar chun Stádas Bhaile Dhátheangach a bhaint amach don bhaile. Agus ar ndóigh sraith nua de Chúrsaí Gaeilchultúir le tosú i Mí Feabhra. Cúig leibhéal á dtairiscint arís agus clárú ar líne ar siúl faoi láthair ar www.gaeilchultur.com. Gach eolas ó 1890 252 900 nó ó Glór Cheatharlach ar 085 1340047 nó 059 9158105.



Gradam Gaeilchultúir don Earnáil Phoiblí 2010 a bronnadh ar Chomhairle Chontae Cheatharlach.

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