

shed of the rivulets that run respectively towards the Boyne and the Barrow (and Lifey). It is semicircular and measures 3 1/4 miles in length from horn to horn. It adjoins Hodgestown, Ballinafagh, Beataghstown and Prosperous. It measures over 2,000 Irish acres. Its average depth in the middle of the 19th century was calculated at 30 ft. To reclaim this bog at that time was estimated at £8,867 18s 9d.

Fairs at Clane.

April 28th, July 25th, October 15th.

The area of the town of Clane was estimated at 25 acres. The population in 1831 was 216. In 1841 it was 335. There were 51 houses in the town in 1831.

Schools in the parish of Clane in 1831.

There were nine daily schools in the union, six of which were in Clane parish, one in Clongowes College in Mainham, with a total population of students of 629; 332 males and 297 females.

The Protestant parish of Clane.

The benefice of Clane consists of, Clane, Clonshamboe, Mainham, and Killibegs, measuring 6x4 miles. In 1831 the population was 4,450. A house in Mainham was used, in addition to the Church at Clane, as a place of worship. The Clane church consisted of a gallery, a vestry room, a school house, seating 300.

The Catholic parish of Clane.

The chapel has an attendance of 1,000 and is united to the chapels of Balrahan and Ballinafagh. Two other chapels are listed in the parish, namely that at Killybegs and at Mainham (Jesuits). Protestant population amounted to 98, Catholics 1,973.

The Barony of Clane.

It is bounded to the west by Carbury, on the north-east by Ikeathy and Oughterany, on the south-east by Naas and on the south-west by Connell. According to Rawson's statistical survey the barony measures 18,736 acres; 6,845 acres are bog; 11,891 are arable. Its real area according to the Ordnance Survey is

32,023 acres, 1 rood and 1 perch. Of this acreage 123 acres 2 roods are water. The Bog of Allen is described as "repulsive". Towns in the barony are listed as Clane, Prosperous; the parishes are Ballinafagh, Brideschurch, Clane, Caragh, Downings, Killybegs and Timahoe. The population in 1831 was 8,356; in 1841 was 8534. The other statistics were: Houses 1,421; Employed in agriculture 1,143 (families); Trade and manufacture 237; Other pursuits 127.

Le Chéile

Community Magazine



September 2015

No. 337

EDITORIAL

We are back after our usual two months summer break, and we welcome readers to another season of Le Chéile. Since going on the Internet we now target the first of each month as our publication date; previously it was the first Sunday. Our deadline will in future be the Monday which comes closest to giving us a week to prepare the issue. We welcome suggestions and new ideas from members of the public, letters of topical interest etc. Community interest is the qualifying requirement. As regards our Internet experience, it is encouraging to see the number of strikes being made by people in making access; the general comments are also encouraging, as are reports of people printing out their own hard copies, etc. Be aware that you can also access previous copies, starting with February 2014.

The Tidy Towns season comes to an end on the last day of August and the results are usually published in the first few days of September. As usual we will carry the official adjudication for Clane in our October issue. A very creditable effort was made once again.

CLANE COMMUNITY COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

Clane Community Council was founded in 1973 and will complete 21 terms, each of two years, or a total of 42, this December. The renewal process, which will take the Community Council forward for another two year term, commences in October and will take us up to 2017. Nomination Papers will be available in Clane Post Office, by kind permission.

We urge everyone, 18 years or over to nominate someone to carry forward the good work, how about yourself?

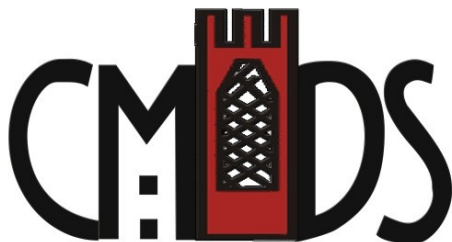
You will find a brief summary of the works undertaken by the Community Council in the past 42 years on page 3..

CALENDAR

Wednesday 2nd September
Clane Musical Society's OPEN NIGHT in the Abbey Community Centre. **See p. 3**

Wednesday 9th September
Clane Local History Group will present a talk 'Wolfe Tone the Family Man' by Larry Breen. The talk will take place in the G.A.A. Centre, Prosperous Road, Clane at 8 pm on Wednesday 9th September 2015. Admission is free and all are welcome.

Monday 28th September
September monthly meeting of Clane Community Council in the Abbey Community Centre at 8pm.



Clane Musical & Dramatic Society
Established 1983 – Affiliated to AIMS

Chairperson: Orla Reidy – 085 1494550
Vice-Chairperson: To be confirmed
Secretary Elaine O'Donohoe 087 – 2366585
Treasurer: Anne Noonan

EDITOR'S DEADLINE

The deadline for receipt of material for the **October** issue of Le Chéile is

Monday 21st September

To 142 Loughbollard please.

Tel. 045-868474.

E-mail: margaretmcevoy1@eircom.net

Get Le Chéile on www.clanecommunity.ie

On July 13th, some of our members and friends travelled with Prosperous guild to Johnstown Castle and Rosslare Strand Co. Wexford. Although we were greeted with a rainy Monday morning, the clouds rolled by later, and another lovely day emerged, Everyone agreed that it was a very pleasant relaxing time in the sunny South-East. On our return journey, we enjoyed a tasty evening meal in the Dolmen Hotel, followed by lively toe-tapping music, to complete the day. Congratulations Bernadine and fellow members. Looking forward to next trip!

Best of luck and happy days to students of all ages, starting on a new phase in their education. Our first meeting of the new term is on Thursday September 3rd at 8pm, KARE Centre, Dublin Rd.

Hon Sec Yvonne Winters 0860308779.
P.R.O- M. O'Connor

NATIONAL COMMUNITY GAMES FINALS IN SWIMMING AND TEAM SPORTS IN ATHLONE 15TH & 16TH AUGUST.

We are delighted to report that Matthew Hussey Walsh won Silver in his Boys U/12 swimming event. Also the Boys U/12 Soccer Team won Bronze. Congratulations to all concerned. Congratulations to all who Represented Clane and Rathcoffey, as well as their County, at National level in Athlone, either in the Swimming and Team Sports or in the Athletics which took place on the following weekend.

THE VILLAGE GREEN

The recent restorative work on the Village Green in Clane is very much to be welcomed. In former times three fairs were held throughout the year at this location. The dates were listed in the Irish Gazetteer as April 28th, July 25th and October 15th. In those days the Fair Green extended across the front of Cash's House as far as the Campbell's Tyre premises (formerly Aggi Weir's boarding house). It extended from the

Churchyard wall across the road to what is now the Corner House (formerly Geoghan's Pub) and along by the wall which bounds Aldi as far as the Millicent road junction. Cash's House was originally the house of the teacher attached to the Church of Ireland Parish School, which was to its rear backing up against the Churchyard wall.

The low wall in front of the Village Green was only built 40 years ago in the Spring of 1975, trimming back the sloping edge of the Green to accommodate the foot-path where the bus now stops. The triangle between the roads was also built in the same year, both were built by Clane Community Council.. See p. 4. Originally the entire Fair Green was under grass, save where it was traversed by the Naas and Millicent roads.

At present this general area is probably the most attractive area in town. It is the location of the Village Green, with the Fr. John Sullivan Memorial Garden, which the ladies of the Tidy Towns Committee plant so colourfully, and the thriving young oak tree and plaque which mark the foundation of the Community Council in 1973. Architecturally the whole area is overlooked by the 80 foot tower of the Abbey Community Centre. This is now floodlit at night and can be seen from all six approach roads which converge on Clane.

THE IRISH GAZETTEER From Le Chéile Feb. 1981

The reference to Clane in the Irish Gazetteer (3 vols.) is as follows

The 19th century mansions in the vicinity of Clane.

Blackhall: the property of P. Wolfe.
Millicent: the property of B. Molloy.
Sherlockstown: the property of Mr. Sherlock
Firmount: the property of R. Dease

The nearest bog to Clane.

The nearest bog to Clane lies to the north-west. It occupies a valley at the chief water-

CLANE TENNIS CLUB

Business House

The "Summer Months of June, July and August are always the most active in Tennis Clubs throughout the country and Clane Tennis Club is no exception with Business House Tournament, Summer Camps and Dublin Leagues along with daily interclub competitions and September sees the Annual Club Championships.

The Annual Business House Tournament commenced on Fri. 26th. June and ran over two weeks to Finals last Sat. 11th. July. Over twenty teams participated representing businesses and clubs from Naas, Rathangan, Celbridge, Mullingar, Kilcock and of course Clane. Over the two weeks 2000 games of tennis were played. The tournament has been a huge social success and also brings in new members to the club. Section A semi finalists saw Warner Kelly Construction which was a real family affair - Husband and wife Mark and Paula Warner with Mother and Son, Jo and Killian Patchell playing another Clane team "Serve a Double" Lauren O'Grady and Stephen Sherry, Sinead Dunne and Garreth Brogan and in the other Semi Final another family Naas team, "Ryle 4" with Susan and Ronan Ryle against Mullingar. Serve me a Double and Ryle 4 reached the final which was a very close match going to the final games and the Clane team just winning by 2 games 18-16.

Section B provided great entertainment with next door neighbours in Main Street, Jones's Bar up against Q&M Casuals in the earlier rounds but Q&M had the more experienced players and reached the semi finals against Veterans team "The Clane Legends" which included Mick Hennessey and Sean Lavin. Kapdoo Kids played the older but experienced "Dad's Army" with veterans Paddy Behan and Liam Burke but the younger Kapdoo Kids winning the two matches each going to the last game 18-16. Q&M Casuals won a thrilling final with Alan Mahony team just getting up to beat Kapdoo Kids.

Many thanks to Sponsors, Joe Mallon Motors, Supervalu Clane and Casey Courts and to organisers, Jo Patchell, Lauren O'Grady, Sinead Dunne, Stephen Sherry and Mick Hennessey.

The Summer Camp was a huge success with over fifty juniors members 7 - 18 yrs. participating and Junior Parents Group is planning further coaching throughout the year.

The Club Championship commenced on 26th. Aug and Finals will take on Sat. 12th. Sept with over 10 matches played each evening from 7.30p.m. and everyone welcome. Light Refreshments available.

We welcome back members of KARE Centre and the pupils from Scoil Mhuire and Heweston School

We have our annual Fundraising Raffle draw on Sat. 12th. Sept. with over €1,500 prizes. Tickets are only €5 each and 3 for €10, on sale in Clubhouse or from any club member and ask you to support us.

Half Year membership Special Offer now available to end March 2016 as follows: Adult €80, Secondary Students €30 and Primary Students €20. Contact clubhouse any Tues. evening from 7.30p.m. or any club member.

I.C.A

Welcome to autumn, and farewell to a rather disappointing summer. Hope everyone made the most of the sunny days and the best of the dull days. Our guild took a break from activities in mid-June, and started the holidays with an outing to Castletown House, on Tuesday 23rd. We were blessed with one of those rare, warm and sunny days, and enjoyed a delicious reception of tea and coffee and scones, on our arrival, followed by a very interesting and enlightening conducted tour of this historical building. Our day concluded at Celbridge Manor hotel with more generous hospitality.

087 - 6897376

PRO: Sadie O'Reilly 087 - 7916989

Committee Members: Catherine Gallagher, Grainne Jones, Sarah Houlihan, Fran Styles, Martin Fahy, Tommie Nolan

Contact us at any of the above numbers or by email to clanemusicalsociety@gmail.com

It's hard to believe that Summer is almost over but with September drawing closer Clane Musical & Dramatic Society is gearing up for a very busy time! The Society's **Open Night** on the 2nd. September will be an opportunity for all - new, current and past members - to come along to The Abbey in Clane to hear the exciting plans for the 2015/16 season. With plans in place for the Society's first pantomime **Cinderella** and next musical **Kiss me, Kate** there will be lots to chat about on the night. Production team members **Arthur McGauran, Michael Fay and Grainne Jones** will be on hand to share their expectations and there'll be a welcome cup of tea/coffee to enjoy while you renew or forge some new friendships.

Interested? Here's a taste of what's coming up in September, which is going to be really busy! First up after the Open Night will be two music rehearsal nights on the 9th and 16th September in preparation for **Kiss me, Kate** auditions, - times will be split between men and woman - 8 to 9 for men and 9 to 10 for women the first week and 8 to 9 for women and 9 to 10 for men the second week.

Then in preparation for Kiss me, Kate Auditions (and indeed for any audition) a **Workshop will be held in The Westgrove Hotel, Clane on Saturday 12th September.** The Workshop will run from 10.00am until 5.00pm and will include sessions on Stagecraft & Acting, Music for Soloists and Chorus, Choreography and Hair & Makeup. The final session is going to be really exciting - **Arthur McGauran, Michael Fay, Grainne Jones and Fran Styles** will be on hand to

encourage and coach and impart tips on how best to prepare and perform at that all important **Audition!** The workshop will be especially attractive for anyone intending to audition for the several musicals being produced in the coming months. Anyone interested should phone 087 7916989 or email clanemusicalsociety@gmail.com as soon as possible to book a place. Demand has been brisk and the limited places will go quickly. Thankfully, with the help of some generous sponsorship, the cost of the Workshop has been kept at a very reasonable €25 (€20 for students) for the day. Coffee breaks and lunch are available in The Westgrove - these are not included in the cost of the workshop. Further details of timetables and tutors are available on our Facebook page - check us out!

Next up are the Auditions for **Kiss me, Kate** on Saturday 19th September from 2.00 until 6.00. in The Abbey, Clane. If interested you should definitely come along to the Open Night, music rehearsals and Workshop! There is an audition fee of €20 - but for those who attend the Workshop on the 12th September, there is a €10 discount.

Call backs for **Kiss me, Kate** are at 8.00pm on Tuesday 22nd September in The Abbey, Clane.

Rehearsals for **Cinderella** start the next night **Wednesday 23rd September** at 8.00pm in The Abbey. Arthur McGauran, renowned for his comic streak, is bound to make rehearsals a real laugh and Grainne Jones will make sure that the cast will be putting their best foot forward! Grainne ran a successful Youth Workshop in July and the "juniors" are all looking forward to joining the "seniors" in rehearsal in a few weeks time.

Once again - phone 087 7916989 or email clanemusicalsociety@gmail.com if you have any queries.

Sadie O'Reilly
PRO - Clane Musical & Dramatic Society

WORKS UNDERTAKEN BY CLANE COMMUNITY COUNCIL IN THE PAST 42 YEARS

It is difficult now to imagine the degree of dereliction which existed on most of the six approaches to the village in 1973. There was a broken down and abandoned horsebox in the middle of the road where the triangle at the entrance to the Millicent Road is now located, with high weeds and grass growing up through it. There were stables in the paved area on the near side of the Stream. It is now of course part of the Stream Park and is surrounded by a low stone wall. A heap of horse manure came out to the road's edge on the near side of the Millicent Road Bridge. The Village Green sloped out to the very edge of the road where the bus to Naas now stops. One of our earliest undertakings was to trim this area back to make room for the present footpath and to surround the Green with the present low stone wall at soil level. This work was undertaken in the spring of '75 with the help of Johnny Connolly, who supplied a tradesman at cost. With the guidance of the Area Engineer, we inserted 70 odd kerbs and developed the Triangle with the help of Mick Maloney. The central raised bed was done in more recent years by Matt Hayes and the Tidy Towns Committee. It was only with the advent of the traffic lights that the slip road was closed off.

Over the years the laying of kerbs and planting of lawns were undertaken in similar abandoned areas on the Ballinagappa Road –past the front of the Health Centre and out the left hand side to where the road-side bank and hedge begins. Also on the right hand side of the College Road, in front of the bungalows, up the hill towards Byrne's garage. In the former case the grass was later overlaid by a footpath. In later years the lawned area extending out the Ballinagappa Road after the shops was likewise developed by the Community Council and involved the removal of stretches of old roadside hedge and a fallen stone wall. This was grant assisted by K.E.L.T.

Sixty tons of crushed stone were applied by way of emergency repairs to that section of the Capdoo Lane which is accessed off the College Road. This was followed up by an application to the Department of the Environment for a Rural Improvement Scheme. This was granted, enabling the lane to be tarred and taken in charge by the County Council.

Archdeacon Handy, who was an elected member of our first committee, informed us in March '74 that the Bell Tower had been condemned by the C. of I. architect and that it would have to be demolished if urgent works were not undertaken. He informed us that the Church Body favoured handing over the old ruins, which had been roofless since 1883, to the community for a very nominal fee, if these works could be organized, rather than accept an alternative offer to lower the tower to roof level and convert the building into stables. The transfer was made in August '74. Scaffolding was erected and with assistance from the late John O'Connell, who supplied skilled tradesmen at cost, the work was completed on the tower within about a week, costing £1,300 in all. With this secured, the gate was securely locked to exclude intrusion of animals which had already damaged and flattened the majority of its headstones. It was to remain like this for the next decade or so until an AnCo Scheme was established and the necessary finance secured, which was to enable us to reconstruct the old ruins as a Community Centre. A notice was placed in the national papers signifying the intention to remove the fallen headstones to the peripheral wall. There were no objections. The graveyard had been officially closed in 1915 when that on the Sallins Road was opened.

Repeated applications were made for Clane to be provided with its first Public Library but to no avail as no suitable premises was available. A premises was proposed on the College Road adjacent to the old Hall and was ready for the agreed date of April '74. It was September before the Library

Gross Sean Brilly (13) Last 9 78
47 Played CSS Sat 69 (35) RO Sun 66 (38)

Eamonn Howlin, Hon. Secretary.

CLANE SAINT PATRICK'S DAY FESTIVAL 2016

THEME: HEALTH AND FITNESS

It's Autumn again and time to continue our preparations for Clane's 2016 St. Patrick's Day Festival. The 2016 Festival will run from 11th to 18th March with lots of events throughout the week. If you have any ideas or opinions, please do let us have them. If you have a comment to make and would like it published on our website, please email to clanefestival@kildare.ie.

Clane Christmas Cards are in Printers at present and will be ready to go into the shops in the coming weeks.

We are looking for volunteers to join the Committee and help organise the Festival events. Please let us know if you are interested in helping out in any way.

Mary Dunne, Chairperson.

CLANE LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Clane Local History Group will present a talk 'Wolfe Tone the Family Man' by Larry Breen. The talk will take place in the G.A.A. Centre, Prosperous Road, Clane at 8 pm on Wednesday 19th September 2015. Admission is free and all are welcome.

CLANE TOASTMASTERS

Would you like to improve your self-confidence in public speaking and leadership skills?

If the answer is **YES**- why not come along to a Clane Toastmasters Meeting? You will be guaranteed a very warm welcome. You will experience what happens at a Toastmasters Meeting and enjoy a wonderful enter-

taining evening.

Toastmasters Programme provides a supportive environment to improve and develop confidence in communication and learn leadership skills. Club meetings are workshops where members 'learn by doing'. Members are supported and empowered by fellow members. All achievements are recognised at every club meeting.

There are two parts to the meeting:

1. There are normally 3- 4 speeches.

All speeches are evaluated individually which means the evaluator provides feedback, offers methods of improvement, builds and maintains self-esteem of the speaker.

There are other roles such as Timer, Grammarian, Word and Humourist. All members avail of the opportunity to undertake different roles at meetings. Consequently, these opportunities will enhance leadership skills.

2. The second half of the meeting consists of a Table Topics session whereby members and guests learn to practice the art of impromptu speaking on particular fun topics.

The meeting lasts two hours with a break for tea/coffee. Punctuality is vital. There are numerous fun-filled opportunities in Toastmasters. No matter how small or large your role may be, you are developing communication and leadership skills which in turn fosters self-confidence and personal growth. You can make a difference! Why not take that first step and come along to a Clane Toastmasters meeting?

Meetings take place on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 7.45pm in Clane G.A.A Club. For further details: Contact: Maureen 087 2258020; Fran: 087 6785261.

www.clanetoastmasters.com

Find us on Facebook and Meetup

**Results: Vice-Captain's (Michael Connolly)
Prize 18hole Stableford 14th June 2015.**

Winner:	Jim Craughwell (24)	43 pts
2nd	Ted Murray (20)	42 pts
Gross	Paul Connolly (12)	77
Class 1	1st Diarmuid F. Coonan (15)	41 pts
(0-15)	2nd Pdraig Rooney (12)	38 pts
Class 2	1st Michael Kelleher (18)	41 pts
(16-20)	2nd Aiden O'Neill (17)	40 pts
Class 3	1st Pat McNamee (21)	Last9 37 pts
(21-28)	2nd James Brady (28)	Last9 37 pts
	57 Played CSS 65 (39)	

**President's Prize (Daire O'Brein) Results
27 hole Stableford for Top 3 Prizes only
19th July 2015**

Winner:	Paul Connolly (12)	Last 9	61 pts
2nd	Jer Nevin (11)	Last 9	61 pts
3rd	Tim Morin (23)		61 pts
Gross	Pat McDonnell (12)	Last 9	77
Past Pres.	Declan Mahony (20)		42 pts
Class1	1st John McAndrew (14)		40 pts
(6-15)	2nd Eamonn Howlin (15)	Last 9	38 pts
Class 2	1st James Malone (20)		37 pts
(16-20)	2nd Lloyd Bracken (20)	Last 9	37 pts
Class 3	1st Paddy Murray (27)		41 pts
(21-28)	2nd Ben Mahony (28)		40 pts
Best 18	1st John Slevin (24)		39 pts
Front 9	1st Maurice Byrne (21)		21 pts
Back 9	1st Lar Blanchfield (17)		21 pts
	69 Played CSS 65 (39)		

**Captain's Prize - Dec. Mahony
16th August 2015 27 Holes (Top 3)**

Winner	Sean Byrne	(17)	93.5
2nd	Lorcan Wyer	(14)	94
3rd	Michael Cuddihy	(12)	95
Gross	Robbie Reilly	(6)	69
Past Cpts.	Christy Behan	(28)	65
Class1	1st John McAndrew	(14)	63 pts
(6-15)	2nd Niall Bryan (6)	Last 9	66
Class2	1st Michael O'Toole (16)	Last 9	63
(16-20)	2nd Michael Connolly (16)		63
Class3	1st John Duffy	(28)	62
(21-28)	2nd Ted Brennan	(23)	64
Best 18	1st Martin Meaney	(21)	65
Front 9	1st Jim Craughwell	(20)	Last 6 28
	2nd Con Blake	(26)	28

Back 9 1st Paul Morrissey (18) Last 6 30
Nearest-The-Pin: 67 Played CSS 65
Robbie Reilly (6) 2.4m

Golfer of the Year Top 10 after 25 Competitions with 8 to go

1	Lorcan	Wyer	85
2	John	Carew	63
3	Ger	Nevin	60
4	Pat	McDonnell	56
5	Aidan	Donovan	54
6	Paul	Connolly	52
7	Sean	Brilly	49
8	Bernard	Campbell	42
8	Jim	Craughwell	42
10	Michael	Cuddihy	41

**Weekend Competition Results for June on:
8th & 9th August 18-hole V Par**

Winner	Jim Craughwell (21)	7 up
2nd	Lorcan Wyer (14)	5 up
Gross	Robbie Reilly (6)	71
	41 Played CSS Sat 65 (3 up)	

1st—2nd August Autumn Medal

Winner	Eamonn Howlin (15)	64
2nd	Paul Morrissey (19)	Last 6 65
Gross	Robbie Reilly (6)	71

25th-26 July Tony Carew Shield

Winner	Fintan Connolly (17)	44 pts
2nd	Lorcan Wyer (15)	Last 6 42 pts
3rd	Aidan Donovan (11)	42 pts
Gross	Trevor Carew (9)	72
	44 Played CSS Sat 65 (39) Sun 65 (39)	

11th-12th July 18-hole V Par

Winner	Jer Nevin (13)	9 up
2nd	James Malone (21)	Last 9 6 up
3rd	Lorcan Wyer (16)	6 up
Gross	Ger Nevin (13)	72
	47 Played CSS Sat 65 (3 up) Sun (65) (3 up)	

26th-28th June 18-hole Stableford

Winner	Bernard Campbell (19)	43 pts
2nd	Paul Morrissey (20)	42 pts
Gross	Stephen Duffy (11)	74
	38 Played CSS Fri 66 (38) Sun 66 (38)	

6th-7th June Summer Medal

Winner	Anthony Dunne (18)	64
2nd	Sean Brilly (13)	65
3rd	Kevin Doyle (24)	66

Service was ready to move in. The concessionary rent was £7.50 per week. It was regarded as a great achievement locally. The library is still in Clane 41 years on, though in a different premises. Progress was being made on many fronts: In combination with Rathcoffey we made our first entry into Community Games in July '74, winning 3 gold, 7 silver and 1 bronze in Kildare. We entered the Tidy Towns Competition in '75. A number of the worst derelict areas had been sorted at this stage. Tree planting was carried out at a number of locations in March. Numerous dumping sites were cleaned up along country roads and a number of litter bins made from inverted metal barrels were located around the village. There were community clean-ups on Tuesday evenings and at 7.30 on Sunday mornings for 10 weeks in a row. The latter were led by Pat Larkin and Joe Lyons. On our first year we won Best New Entry in our population category of 501-1,500, coming 20th Nationally. We were awarded a Cert and a prize of £100. The village had grown a phenomenal 100% in just five years. In the autumn of '75 a survey was carried out to establish if there was interest in piped T.V. amongst the centrally located houses. 86% expressed an interest. We failed to gain the interest of any of the major providers. Our Secretary Joe Lyons managed to persuade the Dept. of Posts and Telegraphs to waive the requirement of our having to get a contractor to erect a temporary aerial and perform a signal test at a fee of £300. As a small community close to Dublin we were given a licence. Rafferty in Naas was then approached and offered a site for an aerial on Paddy Woods' ground beside the Hall. The system was set up to general satisfaction. It was sold on at least twice since but continues to the present day.

In Christmas week '75 Nancy's Lane was reopened, having been closed by dumping and totally overgrown for more than 20 years. The job cost £56 in lorry and machinery hire. The December Meeting approved the purchase of ¾ acre along the Stream at

the Naas Road entrance to the village from the owner Jim Cash for £2,900. It had been proposed as a site for warehouses but our intervention secured it as a public park. In the Tidy Towns report for '76 we were complemented for our actions in acquiring the Stream Park -it is now of course the Children's Playground- and for the improved appearance of the Bell Tower. We were advanced to 9th place Nationally!

In February 1983 Le Chéile (commenced in January 1974) announced the approval of a 2 year AnCo. project to re-roof the old C. of I. ruins (roofless since 1883), on the site of the early Christian Abbey, as a Community Centre. Work commenced in June '83 and was completed and officially opened on 31st March 1985. Three phase electricity and new seating were to be installed over a decade later. The 2 year period of the AnCo scheme was extended to take on other projects, including the building of the Evergreen Centre, the walling of the Stream and the development of the low stone wall which surrounds that section of the Stream Park on the near side of the Stream and the building of the original Fr. John Sullivan Memorial Fountain on the corner opposite Manzors' Car Park. There had been a block of stables on the last part of the Park to be purchased, bringing the total cost to just under £10,000

In January 1992 the Clane Rural Development Action Team was set up by the Community Council and an application was made to the Department of Agriculture for a Technical Assistance Grant. We were awarded £10,000. A plan was drawn up with assistance from NUI Maynooth and it was approved in December 1993 for £150,000. It was conditioned that £50,000 of this would be given as an economic stimulus to the Allenwood area, where ESB power generation had shut down and peat produced in the area no longer had an outlet. We were called upon to assist in setting up a community group in the N.W.K. area, extending out to Edenderry and back to Johnstown, Kilcock,

Clane and Robertstown.

Clane Local Development, a limited not-for-profit company was set up. Its first office was in the Old Convent School in The Main Street. It purchased a site in Clane Business Park and set up its offices there followed by Enterprise units, with on-going fund raising through Mayor of Clane and other projects.

At the Community Council A.G.M. in January 1991 Noel Corrigan (Chairman '90/'91/'92) reported that £11,942 had been made that year in the draw. In addition we had received an award of £1,000 sponsored by the Bank of Ireland and Farmers Journal and to top it all £5,000 in National Lottery funding. As a result our bank debt was reduced from £21,000 to £6,963. On other fronts we came 2nd in Ireland to Malahide in our Tidy Towns population category of 1,500 – 3,000 and 100 poplar trees had been planted inside the roadside wall of the Nuns' Field leading out the Prosperous Road opposite Liffey Lawns. This had been done to mark our twinning with Bremont in France.

At the A.G.M. in January 1996 it was reported that in 1995, to mark the 150th anniversary of the Great Famine an in-calf heifer at a cost of £150 was sponsored through Bothar for sending to Africa. The following year £1,500 was raised in a church gate collection for Bothar to send goats to Uganda.

The same year we received a grant of £5,000 from Clane Local Development Ltd. (C.L.D.) towards development of the Riverside Park, where we had already spent £6,000 in blasting and removing the mass concrete Sewage Plant. The area was cleared and planted with natural wood-land and is maturing nicely. It has subsequently been fitted out with signage highlighting the wildlife, plant and animal, which may be seen along the approximately one mile of river-side walk which it leads to.

Also in 1995 Clane Community Council applied for and received a Rural Improvement Scheme from the Dept. of the

Environment for £96,000, of which £18,000 had to be committed to by ourselves, to develop footpaths and parking areas on the west side of the Main Street. The footpath on the opposite side had been provided just a few years previously. There had previously been no footpaths on either side of the Street!

In brief, other works undertaken included: the re-sighting of the Fr. John Sullivan memorial from the Centra frontage (corner opposite Manzors') to the Village Green in 2000, the development of the Garden of Remembrance within the walls at the Abbey Community Centre, the Floodlighting of the Tower and the Heritage Signage Project.

Works undertaken by the Abbey Cemetery Committee include: Signage to commemorate the 750th Anniversary of the Franciscan Friary, New Gates to the Cemetery and Protective Screening for the Altar, -with much appreciated assistance from Joe Horan-. In 2014, under a grant from the Built Heritage Jobs Leverage Scheme, the Dept. of Arts Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Kildare County Council and the Abbey Graveyard Committee have contributed equally to works to stabilise the southern Friary wall, making it possible to remove the protective screening which had been there for so many years. We will continue to seek Leader Funding, when it again becomes available, to extend this effort to the entire structure.

We would strongly encourage people to get involved in the Community Council and its many sub-committees so as to give continuity into the future to undertakings such as those listed above. A successful community works together and provides for its many needs. Nominate someone come October. How about yourself?

COUNTY COMMUNITY GAMES

The following results indicate how Clane & Rathcoffey did in the County Games held at Clongoweswood on the evenings of Wed. and Thurs. 24th and 25th June. Our young people represented us very well and medals were won as follows:-

Girls U14 80m Hurdles

Silver: Susan Nestor (Clane/Rathcoffey)

Girls U16 1500M

Bronze: Lucy McCann (Clane/Rathcoffey)

Girls U16 7k Marathon

Silver: Lucy McCann (Clane/Rathcoffey)

Boys U10 200m

Silver: Tami Eko Davis (Clane/Rathcoffey)

See page 11 for report on National Finals in Athlone on 15th-16th August.

CLANE MEN'S SHED

Annual Collection 18/19th September 2015

Clane Men's Shed now in its fourth year provides an outlet for men with "a bit of time on their hands" and engages in a wide variety of activities including keeping fit, keeping sane, chat, tea drinking and all kinds of hobbies and half interests that they, with other men, never had the time to pursue before.

The current venture is a Polytunnel for organic growing. New men/interests always welcome.

CMS is located in Unit 16 Thompson Enterprise Centre, Clane Business Park. Hours Mon/Wed 10 am to 1 pm. Phone Ted 876876026

Any donation is gratefully appreciated

PARKVIEW RESIDENTS

Hello again friends and Neighbours. The year is pushing on. September and another month passed. Weather has not been great this summer. Excitement building now waiting for results of the Pride of place and the

CCC estates competition. Thanks to the efforts of the residents our Estate was again looking fresh and exciting. Loads of window boxes / hanging baskets / and well cultured gardens. Lots of work goes into maintaining the Estate. Money is raised by the weekly lotto which is well supported by the residents. Flowers have to be bought. Grass has to be cut, fences painted, weeds sprayed.

Thanks to our crews who look after the front and back green areas on a continual basis. Thanks to our Residents who keep their areas swept Their support is always welcome. Each year one resident receives a prize for best garden from the County Council. This year the committee decided to give out vouchers to 3 more gardens. The winners will be notified. We would like to wish speedy recoveries to two of our Residents who are unwell at present. Thank you all.

Matt

CLANE GOLF CLUB

With students on holidays, it has been a very busy Summer on the Golf Course. The three major competitions were the President's (Daire O' Broin) Prize, the Vice Captain's (Michael Connolly) and the Captain's (Declan Mahony) Prize Competitions which were held in June, July & August and the results with the other main competitions since the last Le Cheile edition in June, are listed below.

As Father Mike Bracken's Golf Classic is now being run every two years, our Captain, Declan, organised a Golf Classic in aid of the excellent Barretstown Children's Charity. We are delighted to say that so far we have raised around €12,000 with donations still being received.

We are indebted to the Men's Shed for a lovely crafted seat which they made & kindly donated to us. Thank you gentlemen!