

Le Chêile



December 2019 No 380

EDITORIAL

Nominations invited to C.C.C.

Clane Community Council is now 46 years in existence, having been set up in 1973. Every second year Nominations are invited to continue this voluntary community structure into the future. On page 8 you will find a brief summary of the works carried out over the past 46 years.

The concept of working together as a community to develop facilities which will improve the quality of life in one's area was developed by Canon Hayes, the founder of Muintir na Tíre, in the 1930's. Urban District Councils are a statutory equivalent which existed in towns like Naas, Newbridge and Athy. Such towns had State standing and funding but became highly politicised. Their Urban Councils were abolished during the downturn. Many of these towns are now attempting to set up structures based on the Muintir na Tíre model but are working against huge odds and are struggling in their efforts. The voluntary model is almost unique to Ireland and would not be possible in more impersonal societies or large cities and conurbations.

We in Clane should continue to value what we have and to work for its improvement. It is a case of men and women working with and for the community. The community needs your ideas, your talents and skills. There are as many ways to contribute as there are different personalities and talents. It is not just a matter of keeping what we have going -full stop. There are always new issues to be looked at and considered. Needs change with time and circumstances.

There is a saying in Irish. Níl neart gan chur le chéile (We have no strength 2

until we combine our efforts). Working together means also working with other community groups -in the Sports area, in the culture and arts area, with the I.C.A., with Residents Associations, with the Parade group, with the Wheelchair Association, etc. It means working with the authorities, such as the County Council, the Gardaí, the Schools and the various providers of grant funding.. There is nothing achieved in isolation, so let's all row in together.

Look around you & you will become aware of people in your own area who you think could contribute. Indeed, how about nominating yourself? A meeting once a month, with a break in July & August is something most people could manage & think of the benefits to the community -& to you in terms of satisfaction as a volunteer in your own community. See p.8 for benefits and achievements.

Nomination Papers will be available at the Post Office in Londis from 1st November to 6pm on 18th December. You can also Nominate on line at the Web Site www.clanecommunity.ie

CALENDAR

Saturday 30th November

Switching on of the Christmas Tree Lights on the Village Green will take place at 7.30pm

EDITOR'S DEADLINE

The deadline for receipt of material for the January issue of Le Chéile is

Monday 23rd December

To 142 Loughbollard please.

E-mail: mcevoyclane@gmail.com

Get Le Chéile on www.clanecommunity.ie

following the presentation of the Claonadh Award in the Abbey.

Monday 2nd December

Monthly Meeting of Clane Community Council at 8pm in the Nexus Office of Clane Project Centre on the Prosperous Road.

Wednesday 4th - Sunday 8th December

Clane Musical and Dramatic Society present

JACK AND THE BEANSTALK

in the Abbey at 7.30 on the evenings of Wed. to Sat. with matinees at 3pm on Sat. and Sun.

Sunday 8th December

The annual Senior Citizens' Christmas Party presented by Clane Guild I.C.A. will take place in Clane G.A.A. Hall at 1pm. Invitations will issue in advance.

CLANE GOLF CLUB

December 2019

The Turkey Competitions are in full swing and & the leading three teams after Week 7 are as follows:

1. 243 points - Brian Conlon/ Easmonn Howlin/ Martin Meaney
2. 239 points - John McAndrew/ Michael Kelleher/ Sean Lavin
3. 235 points - Padraic Rooney/ Pa Connolly/ Ted Murray.

Results of /October-November Competitions are as follows:

W/E 27 th October -9 Hole Stableford Turkey Competition:

1. Tommy O'Rourke (33) 23 pts.
2. John McAndrew (17) 22 pts. (last 6)
3. James Malone (19) 22 pts. (last 3)

W/E 3 rd November- 9 Hole Stableford Turkey Competition:

1. Ted Murray (26) 25 pts.
2. Daire O'Broin (24) 23 pts. (last 6).
3. Eamonn Howlin (20) 23 pts. (last 3)

W/E 10 th November- 9 Hole Stableford Turkey Competition Course closed.

W/E 17 th November- 9 Hole Stableford Turkey Competition:

1. Maurice Byrne (18) 23 pts.
2. Sean Lavin (27) 22 pts. (last 3)
3. Sean Byrne (15) 22 pts. (last 3).

W/E 24 th November- 9 Hole Stableford Turkey Competition:

1. Sean Lavin (24) 26 pts.
2. Tommy Carew (14) 23 pts. (last 6)
3. Padraig Rooney (17) 23 pts. (last 3).

News: Members of Clane Golf Club & Clane Ladies Golf Club volunteered for Alzheimer Memory Ribbon Day on Thursday 21 st November & a total of €2,278 was collected. Thanks to all of our members that volunteered & for their help on the day.

Forthcoming events:

- Our AGM will be held at the Village Inn on Monday 2 nd December at 8.00 p.m. sharp.
- We are now open for new members for 2020 at a first- year subscription of €360 for full membership. Juvenile Membership (9-16 years) €80, Junior

Membership (16 years+, in full time education €105). Please contact Eamonn Howlin at 087- 1215 396 if interested in joining. - A very happy Christmas to all!

Eamonn Howlin, P.R.O.

BIANNUAL RENEWAL OF CLANE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Membership of Clane Community Council is renewed every two years and we are now seeking nominations for membership 2020-2021. Would you, or someone you know, consider joining us?

Members attend a meeting held once a month. There they raise any matters of interest to the community. After open discussion, members then decide on any next steps that should be taken. In recent years the Community Council has organised Christmas Lights for the village, the Loughanure Area Text Alert scheme, and our local heritage signage. Clane Tidy Towns (bronze medal again this year!) and Clane and Rathcoffey Community Games are two of our most successful sub-committees.

Closing date for nominations is 6pm on Wednesday December 4th.

If you have any questions, please contact any of the current members of the Council - all the details are on our website.

To nominate yourself or someone else to join, please fill out the simple online form here:

<http://clanecommunity.ie/2019/11/nominations-open-for-community-council-2020-2021/>

Alternatively you can pick up printed copies of the Nomination Papers from the display counter in front of Clane Post Office at Londis. A map of the residential areas is included.

THE EVERGREENS

Well as 2019 winds towards the end it's time to reflect on the year gone by and look with hopeful hearts to the coming of the New Year ahead.

How time flies! Are you 'sick', like myself, of hearing that and the older you get the truer that saying becomes. Anyway we have the holy season of Advent with us and we are soon to celebrate the birth of Jesus- we do so with great joy and happiness because His life gives meaning, purpose and hope to our lives -a light in our darkness- He teaches us how to live, that we are all God's children and that we have an eternal destiny in Heaven. So Christmas is good news, it is the season of peace and goodwill.

Fr. Denis Harrington is about to celebrate holy Mass on Tuesday 10th December for deceased members of the Evergreens in the Evergreen room at 4pm.

On 12th December we are having our Annual Dinner and entertainment in the Westgrove Hotel. This promises to be a great night, so don't forget to shine up those shoes and get ready for dancing.

On behalf of the Evergreens I

would like to heartily congratulate those 10 boys and girls who have received the Pope John Paul Awards. Wonderful is the word for them; they are a credit to their families and the community, giving good example and all so caring and kind.

As its coming towards the year's end we Evergreens would like to thank everyone (wont mention names in case I'd leave out anyone) who has helped us in any way, both financially and otherwise, throughout the year. A special thank you too to Clongoweswood College for the dinners and entertainment every Tuesday and also to the boys there who are so caring and helpful in every way.

A happy, peaceful and safe Christmas to you all and may the Infant Jesus bless each and everyone. Beir bua agus beannacht I gcónaí agus fé choimirce Dé sibh.

Maureen Spain (P.R.O.)

PLACES

What's in a name?

"What's in a name?" The implication is "not very much". Our local place names belie the notion that place names can be uninteresting. Did you know, for example, that one of the longest place names in Ireland is Newtownmoneenluggagh, which lies to the north of Ballagh Cross. Moneenluggagh means "little bog of the hollow".

It has one letter more than Newtownmountkennedy. Compared to the longest name Walews, neither of them would stand a chance. It is, of course, Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwllllantysiliogogogoch, or The Church of Saint Mary in a hollow of whitehazel near ti a rapid whirlpool and to St. Tsilio's Church, near to a red cave".

It is of interest, though not unusual throughout the country that most places have their names in Irish. Place names are apparently the last part of a language to disappear. However, there is a great danger that place names which are not marked on the map will be lost before the present generation has passed. Three examples that come to mind in the immediate vicinity of Clane are, the Locán, about three hundred yards up the Ballinagappa Road, Coiseanna Hill, the site of Clane Hall and the hill known as the Crocán on Capdoo Commons Many of our readers will remember a local dance band known as the "Coiseanna Band" from the time when the order of the day was "Old-time and Irish". These names were commonly used by the boys when the writer of this article was at school. A name which disappeared much earlier, but which is recorded on a late eighteenth century map at Carton, is "Moneen Bán", the original name of the "Church Parks", which has now graduated to "Central Park".

The following is a list of interesting place names and their possible meanings. It is hoped to add to the list at a future date. We would welcome letters from readers offering names by which fields, hills, streams, etc., in their locality, may be known to them.

AGHAPAUDEEN: (near Digby Bridge) Pau-
deen's field.

BALLYNABOOLEY: The pasture district.

BALLYNAGAPPA: The district of the tillage
plots. The map of 1650 refers to 'Cappock'.

BETAGHSTOWN: Biateach -an alms house
Under the Brehon Laws alms houses were
placed at central cross roads and to each was
attached a tillage and a pasture district.

BOHERHOLE : Road of the hazel.

:BORABRIDE: Brigid's Road, an older
name (map of 1650) for Nancy's Lane -the
original road to Edenderry.

BUTTERSTREAM: (Bóthar an tSrutháin)
the road by the stream.

CAPDOO: The tillage area with the dark soil
-moory in places..

CARRIGEEN: The little rock. This towns-
land contained a group of ancient stones
known as St. Bridgid's Table, Chair and
Thimble. A further flat stone was said to bear
the imprints of her feet. These were known to
older residents as the Cárraigíns and were
situated beside an old disused quarry along-
side St. Bridgid's Well and the old road which
led from the Moat Commons Road to the weir
on the Liffey, presumably built on the site of
the ancient ford which existed before the
bridge.

CASTLESIZE: Casán na Soilse , the ford
where the light was hung.

CLANE: There are several suggested mean-
ings or origins of the word. The writer leans
strongly towards evidence coming from the
Annals of Mac Firbhis. Mac Firbhis was from
Co. Clare but by some great coincidence one
of the three ancient vellums which he tran-
scribed in 1643 makes mention of Clane in
the context of the Battle of Allen (722 A.D.)
He refers to the practice which the Leinster-
men had of meeting at the Cruachán Claonta
(Slanted Hill) to decide on tactics before go-
ing into battle. When they did so they be-
lieved they could not be defeated. There was a

well beside the hill which was credited with
magical powers because it never froze. It was-
n't until the 20th Century that this well was
identified as a thermal spring and that the
warm water it emitted would have melted out
the gravels overhead during the ice age form-
ing the "Slanted Hill" In the 12th century the
Normans built the Motte at Clane by piling
soil over the slanted hill which was now total-
ly enclosed apart from a projecting point on
the west side of the Motte.

CLONAUGH: The meadow of the horse.

CLONGOWES WOOD: Coill Cluana

Gabhann -The wood of the smith's meadow.
COISEANNA: Beside the marsh.

COISEANNA HILL: "Cnoc Coiseannaigh"
Hill beside the marsh. CROCÁN: a small
hill (on the Capdoo Road).

CÚIL NA MUCOS: The place of the rose
hips. The original name of "The Elms" estate
opposite St. Bridgid's Terrace.

DONADEA: Dómhach Déagh the church of
God.

GOLLAMOCHY: The river fork in the
plane. Gabhal i magh(i) It is interesting to
note that there is a parallel river channel
shown on the map of 1838 which starts at the
Gollamochoy Bridge and feeds into the present
course of the river. There is a strong sugges-
tion that the present course was dug out in a
straight line to capture the flow and increase
the size of the field. One would be surprised
though to find the naming and description
adopted was in Irish.

LOCÁN: A
roadside pond or turlough which disappeared
from the side of the Ballinagappa Road when
the drainage became altered with the laying
down of the public sewer in the early 1990s.

LOUGHANURE: The lake of the yew.

LOUGHBOLLARD: Lough Beallach Ard .
The Lake by the High Path (along the top of
the esker on the far side of the road.)

MAINHAM: Mainham has two possible origins: one is that it derives from the Irish word for a plain or open space; the other is that it might have derived its name from St. Maighnam of Kilmainham who is said to have settled there in the 6th century.

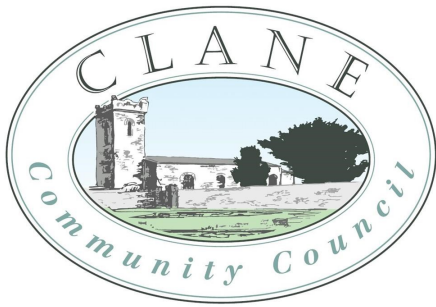
MONEEN BÂN: white bog or fen (the old name for Central Park). The dominant vegetation in fens is sedge (which withers white) rather than peat moss.

RATHCOFFEY: the fortified dwelling place of the Coffeys.

RATHMORE: the large rath or fortified dwelling place.

TOBERNAMONA: the marshy well (east of Butterstream).

approval. Joe has had many years of involvement in community activity. The standards set by Park View have been an inspiration to the whole of Clane. His assistance to the Community Council in maintaining the Abbey and Village Greens has been much appreciated. Clane now has one of the highest standards in Christmas Lighting in Kildare!



The switching on of the Lights in the Street and on the Christmas Tree on the Green took place on Saturday 30th November at 7.30pm. The Clane Parish Choir, following an introduction by our Chairman Paul Carroll, gave a brilliant on stage performance in the Abbey appropriate to the season.

The refreshments served by Marion Doolan and friends were very much enjoyed. In accordance with our established tradition the presentation of the Claonadh Award was next on the agenda.

The plaque was unveiled to disclose the name of this year's winner: - Joe Campbell. The thunderous clapping and enthusiasm of the crowd displayed their

CLANE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Established 1973

INVITATION TO NOMINATE MEMBERS FOR 2020-2021.

Nomination Papers will be available at Clane P.O. in **November**. Please nominate someone. How about yourself? It is important to keep up the voluntary community input of the past 44 yrs.

Some of our achievements:-

- Community Games commenced in 1974.
- Clane's first Public Library in 1974.
- Church ruin (roofless since 1883) acquired in 1974 and demolition of Tower averted
- Le Chéile community magazine started in January 1974. Now on clanecommunity.ie
- Village Green walled & Triangle built '75.
- Tidy Towns commenced in 1975.
- Piped TV first organized in 1975
- Stream Park (Playground) purchased '75
- Abbey Community Centre built 1983-85.



- The 2 year Funding Scheme was extended a further 2 years to build the Evergreen

Centre, to stone wall the banks of the Stream and to pave and wall the Park.

- Purchase of old stables, which had been on the near side of the Stream, brought the total purchase price for the Stream Park to £10,000
- In 1992 the old Sewage Plant at the Bridge

was acquired. (It was blasted and cleared to create the Riverside Park & Walk in 1996)

- In 1992 Clane Local Development was set up after a successful application for funds.
- The Green by the footpath up the B'nagappa Road was developed in the 90s removing old hedges and fallen walls.
- Extensive trees were planted in 80s/90s.
- In 1995 CCC, on subscribing £18,000, received £96,000 to develop footpaths and parking in the Main Street.
- In 1999 the Fr. John Sullivan Monument (designed by Anthony Linden) was built.
- In 2006 the Garden of Remembrance was developed in the Abbey Grounds.
- In 2013 the Abbey Tower was flood lit and a plaque was unveiled on the Green to mark the 40 Anniversary of CCC.
- In 2008 the Abbey Cemetery Committee erected signage to mark the Friary's 750 years. Other works include new gates, a canopy to protect the altar, repairs to boundary walls and ruins conservation with barrier removal.



protect the altar, repairs to boundary walls and ruins conservation with barrier removal.

- Tidy Towns won Bronze Medals in '14/'15/'16/'17/'18 and '19.
- Heritage Signs were erected in 2015.
- In 2016 the old Fair Green outside the Abbey was restored.
- In '16/'17: works to stage & Abbey interior.

KEEP THE GOOD WORK GOING!