

FREE MUSKERRY NEWS

May 2012

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Vol 10, Issue 6

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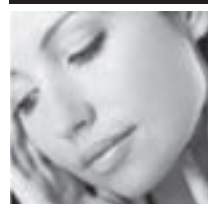
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Dara Murphy TD

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CLINIC TIMES
BLARNEY - upstairs @ The Muskerry Arms
2nd and 4th **Fridays** - 10.30 am to 11.30 am
GLANMIRE Shopping Centre
- upstairs @ Directors Cut
2nd and 4th **Mondays** - 11am to 12pm

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Like FIRSTSTOP

The June edition of The Muskerry News will be published on Friday June 8th and closing date for submissions is Friday June 1st.

THE MUSKERRY NEWS, CHURCH VIEW, BLARNEY, COUNTY CORK
PHONE 087 2330398 / 087 2513126 FAX 021 4385030
muskerrynews@eircom.net

Mrs Claire Forrest recently presented a cup in memory of the late John Forrest, to Blarney Bridge Club. The competition was played for by members of Blarney and Castle bridge clubs. 44 players competed and it was won by Mrs Eileen Hennessy and Mr. David Laughton. Picture shows Mrs Siobhan Maher, president Blarney Bridge, and Claire presenting the cup to the winners.



Congratulations to Aoife McCarthy, Brefany Sands, Emer Walsh, Ciara Kelleher, Emily Buckley, Candice Obi, Katelyn Lane and Tara Sands who competed in the recent Baton Twirling (BTSAI) National Championships in Dublin. The 8 girls returned home with 23 trophies & 3 medals between

them! The girls trained very hard and it certainly paid off! Baton Twirling is a recognised sport by the Irish Sports Council. New Recruits always welcome, check us on FACEBOOK, Grenagh Allstars Baton Twirlers.



Blarney Active Retirement Group pictured during a recent visit to Dail Eireann.

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A team from Griffins Garden Centre recently took part in transforming Blarney in an RTÉ TV series. They installed a magnificent new planted up area called 'Áit Álainn ar Fad' (very lovely place). Pictured are the team celebrating after two hard days working creating the garden in Blarney. For more see pages 19, 20 & 21..



Martina Kirwan, Rathcoole, Mallow celebrating her "Hen Night" with her friends and Dave Walsh, Ballincollig whose dog Hilight Scolari won their sponsored race at Curraheen Park.

Picture: Mike English.

Mother & Baby Day

Thursday 17th May from 10.30am - 1.30pm in Pharmacy First Plus Gortagh

Come along and enjoy 20% off all baby products!

Get first hand advice from expert professionals on products, nutrition, and general well being.

Every Mum will be entered into a draw to win a selection of baby products!

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As any new parent will readily testify, having a child can be a hugely expensive business. With that very much in mind the Baby Market is set to return to St Finbarr's GAA Club, Togher, on Sunday, May 27th between 2pm and 5pm. The fair will give parents a welcome opportunity to save money with a huge range of quality second hand goods on offer. It will also offer the parents of older children the chance to make a few bob by selling off their unwanted items. To book a stall, costing €20, or to arrange to sell off individual items, email thebabymarketireland@gmail.com. Early booking is advised, as space will be limited. There will be a €3 admission fee per family for buyers. To find out more about the event visit www.thebabymarketireland.com.

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Having a Spring Clean?

**20% off all skip hire for the
month of May**

Pupils, teachers and parents at Vicarstown National School gather to wish safe journey to Matt Murphy, Michael Jones and Vincent Dorney, members of Courtbrack Vintage Club, as they set off on their vintage tractors to take part in a Vintage and Steam Show in Rosslare. Funds raised on the trip will be donated to the School's Building Fund. Included are Marc Sheehan, Principal and Fr. Aidan Crowley.

Picture: Mike English



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FACTS

- Burglaries are up nearly 10% on last year
- 85% of burglaries take place while you are IN your home
- Cork is the most targeted area in Munster
- Burglars have taken €700 million from homes LIKE YOURS in the last ten years.
(Irish Examiner October 6th 2010)

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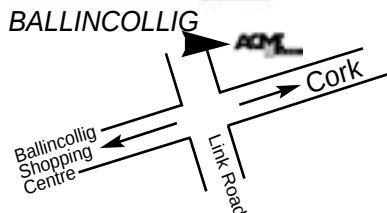


It was the end of an era in Blarney last week when popular Blarney couple Olive and Denis closed the doors of 'Olives' for the last time. They will be sorely missed in the village, and we wish them a long and happy retirement.



Matt Murphy, Michael Jones and Vincent Dorney members of Courtbrack Vintage Club, who drove their tractors from Vicarstown to Rosslare in aid of the Vicarstown National School Building Fund.

Picture: Mike English



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Sing, sing a song....

Do you like to sing? Well if you do the Blarney Choir, attached to Catholic Church in Blarney, are looking for new members. You do not have to be Pavorotti or the Andre Bocelli to join, so why not call to see them at their practice session on Monday nights at 7.30pm at the church or e-mail aidman@eircom.net

Play your part to help Blarney come first in litter challenge this year

Cork County Council officially launched the Anti-Litter Challenge competition 2012 on Monday May 14th. The objectives of the competition are to reduce litter pollution in the county as a whole, and to encourage community involvement in the solutions to litter pollution. Similar to last year, the competition will be run over a 6 week period; 21st May to 30th May, 4th June to 13th June, and 18th June to 27th June.

The following change has been made to the Competition for this year; one cigarette butts will count as 0.1 piece of litter, therefore ten cigarette butts equal one piece of litter. In contrast to previous years where a mark was lost for each 1-10 pieces of litter, every piece of litter will count as a lost mark, and results will be out of 1000 instead of 100. This is to address an anomaly that existed last year, where one cigarette butt would cost the same as 99 cigarette butts.

The judging period has changed from a fortnightly period to a 10 day period with a 4 day break in between judging to allow Communities to evaluate judging results and to clean up areas of concern.

2011 was a great year for Blarney in this competition, in that we jumped from last place in 2010 to 2nd. We are asking everybody to help Blarney keep up the great momentum of recent weeks by keeping the village clean and hopefully going one better in 2012. The Tidy Towns group and community employment people will be out in force over the coming months. Please help us in whatever way you can.

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OPENING HOURS

Morning Session 9am - 12noon

Afternoon Session 12.30 - 3.30pm

Little Hands, Eden Hall, is a registered centre with the HSE and caters for children who wish to avail of the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Scheme. This provides a free year of early childcare and education for children of pre-school age. In general, children are eligible for the scheme if they are aged between 3 years, 2 months and 4 years, 7 months on September 1st of the year that will be starting. The upper age limit can be extended in some cases.

Little Hands Eden Hall brings you a state of the art childcare facility in the unique setting of The Sports Village, and our qualified health and fitness instructors are

really looking forward to working with our youngest customers.

Here at Little Hands, Eden Hall, we are firmly focused on helping children become healthy and happy, by giving them the scope to try a wide range of sporting pursuits and activities that will plant seeds that will grow for the rest of their lives.

We will make fitness and physical activity fun, and give your child the values of participating and supporting. In our formative years we start to establish habits that stick with us for life so with healthy food options available children will also start to learn and appreciate sensible wholesome eating, and all our food is home cooked on the premises.

Little Hands Eden Hall brings with it 12 years experience from its sister facility, the widely respected Little Hands Childcare and Early Education Centre in Sunbeam Business Park, and is a participant in the Community Childcare Subvention Scheme and the free pre school year.

To find out more, and to look at what Little Hands Eden Hall can offer your child, please come to our **Open Evening** on **Wednesday May 30th from 7pm - 9pm.** Bookings are now being taken. To book your child's place please phone 021 6010522.



Ashdale House

FUN DAY

Saturday May 26th
2pm - 6pm



**All welcome to join in the fun
at Ashdale House**

On Saturday May 5th from 2pm - 6pm a fun day is scheduled in the Ashdale House car park, in front of the wonderful array of shops that are housed in this busy local complex. It promises to be an highly enjoyable day that will cater for all ages, with plenty for children and parents alike. All the businesses are really looking forward to the day and have some very special offers lined up for customers, both new and old. To tempt your taste buds, tea, coffee and some wonderful home baking will be on offer, in addition to a barbecue and tastings from the popular Tung Sing menu. O'Sullivan's Off Licence will be hosting a beer garden and have some fabulous wine tastings lined up instore on the day.

A DJ will be on hand to add some music to the proceedings and a face painter, ice cream van and traditional sweet van will be there for the little ones. You can enjoy our carousel and



we even have Jedward autographs for those who were not lucky enough to meet them during their recent visit to Blarney.

The businesses have some wonderful free gifts to give away on the day and just some of the treats on offer include a complimentary blood pressure check from McElligots Pharmacy, Margaret's Hair Salon will be braiding hair and putting in children's coloured

extensions, Ashdale acupuncture clinic will be giving relaxing Indian head massages, popular art teacher Deirdre O'Sullivan will be delighting the children with her fun brand of arts and crafts, and Blooming Marvellous will be adding the wow factor with a flower demonstration at 4pm. And that is just a taste of what you can expect to experience on the day. It will be a busy day and there will be plenty of parking available around the back of the complex in their overflow car park.

There are currently offices available to rent in this vibrant local complex and they can be viewed on the day or at any time by contacting David O'Sullivan on 021 4382662.

So, make a note in your diary and get along to Ashdale House, Blarney, on May 5th for what promises to be a wonderful day out for all the family, and a great support to local business also. What could be better?



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ASSEMBLING AT COURTBRAK COMMUNITY HALL AT 10.30AM

ENTRY FEE €20 (Friends will go towards Courtbrack Community Hall Renovation Fund)

James O'Donoghue Perpetual Trophy will be presented on the day

EVERYONE WELCOME!

Contact: Eddie Rice - 087 2581149 John Moloney - 087 3038112

Simon to benefit from 'Open Garden'

Cork Simon Community will be the beneficiary of an 'Open Garden Day' which will be held in Blarney Castle' on Sunday May 13th from 1pm to 5pm. The Head Gardener will be giving a guided tour of the gardens at 2pm. The entry fee is at your discretion, with all donations to the Simon Community. Volunteers from the Simon Community will be on hand to talk about their work.



On Friday 4th May Berrings Macra took part in the NTC All Ireland Semi-Final in the Brú Ború Centre, Cashes. This is a fantastic venue and was a great night for show-casing the many talents of Macra. Berrings were represented in 3 categories, Comedy, Modern Dancers & Ballad Group. They successfully reached the Final in each category & will be joined by fellow Muskerry clubs Aghinagh (Mastermind) & Donoughmore (Novelty Act). Best of Luck to all Cork teams taking part in the Final, which will be held in the Helix on Saturday 19th May @ 6.30pm. Tickets (20) are available from Mary Harrahill @ 087-2908494.



New solicitors office for Blackpool

Leo Murphy, Solicitor, is pleased to announce the opening of his solicitors practise at The Atrium, Blackpool, Cork (near the shopping centre)

A native of Ballincollig and now residing in Cloghroe, Leo has a background in Software Development and Information Technology before qualifying as a Solicitor.

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Times Past...

with Brian Gabriel, Blarney and District Historical Society

Blarney, that most interesting centre of Irish romance, with its magnificent groves and lake and castle and Stone, unquestionably possesses associations of the profoundest character – associations which for countless generations have afforded themes to the poet, the artist, and the descriptive writer, and which even today command the notice of rich and poor, peer and peasant, the most erudite, as well as he who is susceptible to the influence of superstition and romanticism. But the sylvan glories of Blarney's charming groves and the romance of its castle, Stone, and lake would have little or no claim to recognition in these historical annals of Industrial Hibernia had they not been in juxtaposition to a mighty factor in Irish commerce which, in its own unpretentious way, is teaching to Irishmen the magnificent lesson that "capital" can find – in capable hands – a profitable employment within the sea walls of the "Emerald Isle," and that "labour need not seek and advantageous market on foreign shores and among alien peoples, while industrial activities at home claim the enriching services of the artisan and labourer." This line of thought was strongly suggested to us on the occasion of a recent visit of inspection to the magnificent woollen manufacturing mills of Messrs. Martin Mahony and Brothers, of Blarney, a firm whose influence has been a thousand times more beneficial to the district in particular, and the kingdom at large, than the entire accumulation of romance and beauty with which the name of the locality is associated. The firm of Messrs. Martin Mahony and Brothers is of considerable antiquity. It dates back to the year 1751, since which date, in an unbroken sequence, the concern has passed down from father to son to the present day. Not that Messrs. Mahony's mills were always located at Blarney. They were originally founded at Rochestown, and were from that place transferred to Blackpool, thence to Glanmire, and, in 1824, to Blarney. By an unfortunate accident the Blarney Mills were, in the year 1869, totally destroyed by fire. But, phoenix-like, they speedily arose once more from amid the ashes, a grander, more substantial, and more thoroughly equipped establishment than before. We are assured that, to rebuild the factory, and to fit up all the new and expensive machinery, were gigantic under-takings; nevertheless they were carried out with conspicuous success. In 1862 the manufacture of tweeds was entered by the firm, and the high and world-wide reputation which the firm has earned is a sufficient testimonial to the value and excellence of the goods

A Review of Martin Mahony & Brothers in 1892

Taken by Stratten & Stratten, London.

manufactured. The Blarney tweeds are unsurpassed by the choicest productions of the Western Highlands of Scotland, and they find equal acceptance in the leading markets of the world, including London, Paris, and New York.

A peculiar feature of the Blarney Mills is the complete character of its manufacturing operations. In the great woollen districts of Yorkshire it is almost, if not quite, impossible to find a firm that manufactures the cloth, through all its varied stages, from the raw wool as imported to the finished tweed as sold to the tailor and merchant.. But that is just what Messrs. Mahony and Brothers most successfully accomplish. The wool is received from the home and colonial markets, three large machines are employed in washing it, two large steam-heated machines dry it, twelve sets of carding machines comb it, twenty-six "mules" – that is to say, nine thousand spindles – convert the wool into yarn, nineteen twisting frames twist the various colours of yarn, and two hundred looms weave the variegated threads or yarn into the elegant fabrics which subsequently grace the window of the fashionable sartorial establishments in New Bond Street (London) or Broadway (New York). The weaving shed alone covers half an acre, a small portion, however, of the entire space occupied by the firm. In continuation of the weaving shed is a large wing known as "Aberdeen Shed", it having been opened when Lord and Lady Aberdeen paid the factory a visit during the Vice-Royalty of the former. Here the picking and darning is done. Here also the tweeds are dried in a machine capable of holding 250 yards of cloth at a time, and are put through the four finishing machines and pressed by hydraulic machinery.

Had space permitted, it would have been interesting to offer a detailed account of the processes of dyeing, cleaning, and other essential operations; it must suffice, however, to state that every section of the factory is equipped with a view to the most perfect results, and the vast organisation moves in a methodical style that even clockwork cannot excel. The firm employs about 750 hands (male and female), and about £20,000 per annum is disbursed by the Messrs. Mahony and Brothers in wages

alone.

The factory is surrounded by the neat homes of the workers, and, for the comfort and convenience of the latter, a dining-hall, a reading-room, and a school have been provided by the generous bounty and consideration of the firm. The workers, too, have established a co-operative stores, in their midst, the very successful operations of which abundantly demonstrate the intelligence and administrative capacity of the Irish working man. Of the splendid warehouse and offices, situate at No. 3 Camden Quay, Cork, little need be said; they are in every respect thoroughly adapted to the requirements of the business, and themselves constitute an important and valuable addition to the commerce and industry of Cork City. The showrooms are noble, their space exceptional, and their arrangement remarkable for completeness even in such headquarters of order, system, and organization. The stock is large and comprehensive and embraces the best examples of the firm's manufacture. The foregoing enumeration, brief as it obviously and necessarily is, and quite inadequate as a resume of one of the largest manufactories in this portion of the British Empire, may nevertheless convey some slight indication of the magnitude and thoroughly representative character of the operations of the firm, whose market extends over the entire face of the civilized world. The directorate of this private firm at the present time is composed of Nicholas Mahony, Esq., Timothy Mahony Esq., and Edmond Roynane Mahony Esq. In public and private life, and both as manufacturers and Irish citizens, these gentlemen have earned by their deeds the respect of their fellow countrymen.

The status of the house of Messrs. Martin Mahony and Brothers offers Ireland's most striking illustration of the good fruit borne by native enterprise and business capacity that can and ought to flourish as well in Erin's mercantile system as in the systems of neighbouring nations; and the substantial success achieved by the firm is creditable alike to the honourable spirit governing its operations and to the great arm of the national commerce in which it is unquestionably a most potent and influential factor.

Please Note Re-scheduled Field Trip
The Field Trip for 7th June is to the Inchmay Bog, Nadd. The leader is Mr. Shane Lehane and we meet at 7.45 pm at the bog. All Welcome. We apologise for any inconvenience. For further details please ring Brian Gabriel 087 2153216.

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Niamh Lehane, Cork GAA Club Members' Draw CoOrdinator at Eire Og GAA Club, presenting EU 10,000 cheque to Mary and Noel Twomey, winners in the March Draw. Also included are Pearse Murphy, Treasurer Cork County Board, Seamus Coughlan, Draw Manager, Seamus Healy and Pat Malone, Eire Og GAA.
Picture: Mike English.



Myles Murray
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and Jim Maher
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New Members
Breakfast in the
Imperial Hotel
**picture by Gerard
McCarthy 087
8537228**

Naíonra ag Tosnú san Bhlárna

An Naíonra, at Tlc Unlimited, Woodfield, Blarney, will offer a play bases pre-school curriculum through the medium of Irish.

A Naíonra is a playgroup for children who come together daily in a pleasant cheerful and safe surrounding, under the guidance and supervision of a Naíonra leader. It is run solely through the medium of Irish. The staff structures the environment to ensure that all facets of the child's holistic development are catered for, while giving the child the opportunity to acquire Irish naturally through the medium of play, which is this particular method of learning. "I would be anxious that people do not see the naíonra as being exclusively for children who will go on to attend a Gaelscoil. Children will use Irish no matter what school they attend and this is the perfect opportunity to introduce them to the language" said Mary McShortall, from TLC Unlimited, who previously ran a community Naíonra in Tower from 2002 to 2005. There will be a limited number of places available in the naíonra which will open in September 2012. Children attending the Naíonra will be able to claim the free pre-school year subject to eligibility.

TLC Yoga and Wellness classes will resume at TLC Unlimited on Friday 20th April due to popular demand. We welcome back all our regulars and we hope to see some new faces too. Our yoga classes have proved very popular with parents and children alike and provides an opportunity to embrace peace and calmness after the busy week.

For more information call Mary at TLC Unlimited on 021 4383491.

Anne Roche making a presentation to Michael Spillane, Blarney following Elle Driver's win in the Co-Op Superstores 550 at the Mitchelstown GAA Benefit



Night at Curraheen Park. Included are Brian Roche, Niall Walsh and John Courtney. **Picture: Mike English**



Senator Colm Burke

ADVICE CENTRE

90 A, Shandon Street, Cork

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WALKING TRAILS SET TO PUT BALLINCOLLIG ON THE TOURIST MAP

THE National Trails Office has approved four new walking trails in Ballincollig which could be the first step in making the town a key tourist destination.

The trails are being developed by Ballincollig Trails Group which comprises representatives from Cork Orienteering Club, Ballincollig Business Association, Ballincollig Tidy Towns, Ballincollig Heritage Association, Ballincollig Community Forum and Café Chico.

The core route is a 7km loop starting in the town centre, continuing westwards before passing through the regional park and returning via the powdermills. This trail will be supplemented by

three shorter trails of varying lengths within the regional park, all clearly marked and colour-coded for easy interpretation. A permanent orienteering course is also due to be put in place this year.

Cork County Council Parks & Amenities section, which put exercise equipment into the park last year, is fully behind this initiative and the trails group is liaising closely with its officers in order to put in the most eco-friendly signage appropriate to a natural setting.

Information maps will be erected in the town and in the park so that locals and visitors alike can discover the many different walking routes available. It is hoped that further signage will fol-

low, highlighting the military history of Ballincollig and its gunpowder mills, giving information about the biodiversity of the park combined with a notice board allowing any event in the park to be advertised.

South East Cork Area Development (SECAD), which has assisted greatly in the planning of the routes, will be providing part of the funding required for signage, trail improvement and interpretative signs. The other part of the funding has to be provided by the community so the trails group will be running a series of fund-raising events in the coming months to progress the trails as quickly as possible.

Vincent Florish, Recreation and Amenities Engineer, Cork County Council, centre, pictured with members for the Ballincollig Trails Group, left to right, Pat Clarke, Ballincollig Tidy Towns; David O'Donovan, group leader; Margaret Long, Ballincollig Eateries Group; Jenny Webb, Ballincollig Heritage Society; Jim O'Leary, Ballincollig Business Association, and Gary Whyte, Ballincollig Community Forum and SECAD representative. (Picture: Tom Doherty)



Top honour for Mid-Cork Rotarian



Harry Golden, president of the Rotary Club of Cork, presents Chris Bresnahan, Cloughduv, with the Paul Harris Fellowship in recognition of his many years of service to the organisation, at a recent club meeting in the Gresham Metropole Hotel, Cork. Chris, who runs Expect Recruitment Ltd, is a past president, past district secretary and is currently an elected council member and chairman of the membership committee. The first Rotary Club was formed when attorney Paul P. Harris called together a meeting of three business acquaintances in downtown Chicago, at Harris' friend Sylvester Schiele's office in the Unity Building on Dearborn Street on February 23rd, 1905. (Picture: Tom Doherty)

Cirque, a Circus with a Twist

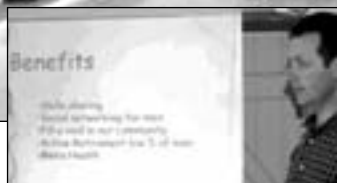


The clowns from Senior Infants of Scoil Mhuire, Ballincollig gave everyone a great laugh with their jokes and tricks in the school's recent show, 'Cirque, a Circus with a Twist'. Here are some of the tricksters - Saoirse McGuinness, Sarah Hartnett, Eppie Kelleher, and Niamh Fleming. (Picture: Tom Doherty)

25 YEARS AND GROWING



Kevin Muldoon, Owen, Noreen and Jerry Murphy, and Jonas Lacius of Jerry Murphy Road & Rally Tyre Services celebrating 25 years in business in Ballincollig. (Picture: Tom Doherty)



Blarney Men's Shed start up meeting was held in Blarney Community Hall last week to an appreciative crowd. For more information call/text Donal on 086 2347934 or email blarneymentshed@gmail.com. Kay Dennehy was there with her camera...

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Plus includes all our usual complimentary items

Total price for 200 guests is Just €8,500, or €42.50 per guest based on a minimum of 200

Pro-rata rates apply for smaller weddings



BLARNEY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Blarney Person of The Month Award 2012



www.blarneycommunity.net

The April Blarney Person of the Month is **Tom McGrath**

The person nominated for this month's award has received more nominations than any other person since Blarney Person of The Month started nearly three years ago.

This marks not only the personal respect that people have for this person but also the organisation that he represents. This month's winner is Tom McGrath, Chairman of Blarney Tidy Towns Association, a group who work quietly and without thanks throughout the year to keep Blarney the beautiful place to live in that is. Their work was quite rightly highlighted during the recently held weekend challenge in



Blarney, and it is hoped that some of the impetus gained that weekend will continue with increased volunteerism and awareness. To find out more about Tom McGrath we spoke to his five daughters and one son.

"Dad is from Dublin but has been adopted by Cork since he moved here in 1978, so much that he now supports Munster and has invested in a jersey and gone to a few matches! Our Mum, Sheila, is from

Meath. They have six children, the three 'oldest' were born in Dublin and three more then arrived after the move to Cork. The running joke for a long time was that the family would not move again in case three more came along. Dad worked in IBM from his late teens and retired at the age of 55. He took a few years off but was always on the go and he helped for a time in the Girls National School in Blarney with their 'odd jobs'. He returned to work in Induchem for a few more years and eventually 'retired', a term we use loosely as he hasn't stopped since! He can turn his hand to anything and is constantly in demand from all his five daughters. Dad has a very strong work ethic and any task he takes on he will complete. He's a tough cookie and

often bears the burden of tasks. For years he looked after cutting the green areas in our home area of Elmcourt and at home there was always a composter on the go, way before it was fashionable. He grows his four tomatoes plants every year and there is great demand for the produce. He loves the odd game of golf but we think his true love is for the game of bridge. Nothing, and I mean nothing, is cancelled for his Monday and Thursday bridge games. His long term work with Blarney Tidy Towns speaks for itself as you look around Blarney, and he really enjoys the commitment and comradery from the hardworking group of people who work with him and willingly give up their time.



Denis O'Donovan

Tom's name now goes forward with March winner Dylan Linehan, for his sporting achievements; Denis O'Donovan, for his unstinting charitable work; and Champion Greyhound Trainer Johnny Linehan our January winner, to the overall award of Blarney Person of The Year Award which will be announced at a ceremony in January 2013.



Dylan Linehan



Johnny Linehan

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO DESERVES A BLARNEY PERSON OF THE MONTH AWARD? THEN LET US KNOW...

The awards aim is to recognise achievement, leadership and altruism so that others may be inspired to follow. You can nominate anyone who's contribution has singled them out as deserving of recognition, be it in community, sport, business, arts, family or indeed from any sector or activity in our community.

Send your nomination with the name of your nominee and the reason you wish to nominate them (along with your name, address and contact details) to Blarney Person of The Month Awards, The Muskerry News, Church View, Blarney or by email to muskerrynews@eircom.net



Childrens Art Classes

Starting Saturday May 19th
in Ashdale House, Blarney.

Classes for 5-7yr olds:
10:00 - 11:30am
12:00 - 1:30pm

Classes for 8-10yr olds:
2:00 - 3:30pm

Weekday evening classes also starting soon.

Limited places, to book contact Deirdre on 0879618593
or email dmc-os@hotmail

Find us on Facebook



Kay Dennehy's photograph shows the big hearted 5th year students of LCVP at Scoil Mhuire gan Smal, Blarney, present a cheque for an incredible €1285 to the Children's Leukaemia Association. The students raised the funds through a fashion show held last month. The charity, which is particularly close to the hearts of those in the school, was delighted with the generous donation.

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Men's Shed club offers welcome to all

All men are welcome to 'Blarney Men's Shed' at Blarney Community Hall (by the Gully) on Wednesday May 9th from 11am to 12:30pm. Blarney Men's Shed will be open every Wednesday morning at 11am.

20 years and still growing!

RavensCourt Garden Centre, Kerry Pike is a local family run business celebrating its 20th Anniversary this year.

At RavensCourt they are committed in supporting Irish growers and businesses where possible. They have their own nursery where they produce all Winter/Spring and Summer bedding, and they specialise in hanging baskets, window boxes and containers. Over the years have built up a large customer base who return yearly for their splash of colour!

For all veggie lovers they produce the very best quality of vegetable plants and have a large selection of both veg plants and soft fruits in stock along with all fruit trees and herbs. Recently they were delighted to get 'down'n'dirty' for the RTE weekend challenge in Blarney when they planted up the troughs and hanging baskets outside the newly painted Church of Ireland.....a really enjoyable experience!

They provide an inhouse advisory service on garden design and no garden is too small or too big for them, so don't be afraid to ask. Their garden shop is stocked with fertilizers, composts and garden sundries and they have a large selection of Terracotta and glazed pots in stock now.

Because of the year that is in it, at RavensCourt they will be having lots of special offers running throughout the year. Their current offer is 25% off all Garden Ornaments and Fountains that are in stock.

Talking to the Muskerry News Ciara told us, "We believe the only way to compare prices today is to compare quality. That is the reason we always welcome customers to visit our garden centre, see our stock, and appreciate the effort we make to give you the finest quality that can be produced."

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Could you be the face of StarCamp 2012?

StarCamp 2012 is back. Ireland's singing, dancing, acting and all round fun summer camp is what all 4-13 year old boys and girls are waiting for. This rollercoaster week of performing, laughter and games successfully deals with self esteem and confidence and will run daily from 9.30am to 2.30pm.

StarCamp Summer camp is back at; Ballyvolane St Aidan's College July 2-6 Blarney Scoil Mhuire Gan Smal July 23-27 Glanmire Community College July 16-20 Ballincollig Community School July 2-6 to name but a few.

StarCamp 2011 was voted one of Ireland's Top 5 Nationwide Summer camps by Primary Times readers. This year they have fantastic giveaways for early bookers, including those who choose to pay by instalments, who can win one of 5 Trabolgan family holidays, one of 3 signed Jedward albums or a free place at the StarCamp summer camp of your choice for 2012.

JEDWARD are big StarCamp fans, and John Grimes (who put the J in Jedward!) said, "When we were young, we didn't have anything like this to go to, we spent our Summers swimming at our Grandad's house", with Edward (as usual finishing the sentence), "we would have been the first to sign up and go to Starcamp 'cos we always just loved singing and dancing and Starcamp sounds sooo amazing."

This year Starcamp summer camps have teamed up with Trabolgan Holiday Village and are giving away 5 fantastic 3 night breaks for your family. Simply put this is a family's paradise destination and a must for all Irish households.

This year they are also launching Starcamp's Face of 2012 competition. To enter your child must simply attend any Starcamp summer camp 2012. Then they would ask you to send them a funny, cute or dramatic photo of your child in their Starcamp T Shirt (this does not have to be taken at the camp). The Prize is a Trabolgan Family Break for up to 5 people, a free place in any Starcamp Summer camp 2013 and the winner will be the Starcamp face on all their fliers and posters for 2013. So just what is on offer this year? They will be acting out some of your movie



favourites for their Friday Finale show as well as vocal lessons, hip-hop dance, acting tips, interview and audition technique, social games that deal with self esteem and confidence and that's just the tip of the iceberg. As always children will then have

the opportunity to showcase their wonderful talents at the end of the week at the show for all to come and see. Qualified music teachers, choreographers and drama coaches are amongst the instructors who will be creating the fun-filled environment that your child will love to be part of. Starcamp T Shirts will be provided, and comfortable tracksuit pants, leggings and soft shoes or runners are recommended for comfort and dance. Children are required to bring a packed lunch and drink. Starcamp costs €90 for 1 child, €150 for 2 siblings and €220 for 3. Book online today at www.starcamp.ie or download your application form there. You can also call 021 4377900 to book directly. To find the Starcamp Summer camp nearest to you see www.starcamp.ie, phone 021 4377900 or email info@starcamp.ie



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90 for 1, 150 for 2 siblings, 220 for 3 siblings

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Ballincollig Community SchoolJuly 2-6

Ballyvolane- St Aidan's CollegeJuly 2-6

Blarney-Scoil Mhuire Gan Smal

Secondary SchoolJuly 23-27

Glanmire Community CollegeJuly 16-20

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Real local pub in the heart of the country

If you haven't been to The Old Mill Bar and Restaurant in Donoughmore then you are in for a treat.



A real pub in the heart of the country, yet only ten minutes from Blarney, The Old Mill is over 200 years old and is situated at a scenic crossroad heading for West Cork.

With a fabulous open fire, big screens for all major sporting events and the traditional warm country welcome that you only get from a family run pub, The Old Mill will surprise you with all it has to offer. The Old Mill is run by Tony Horgan and family who are always on hand to ensure your visit is the best it can be.



Function Room

The Old Mill has a fabulous function room,



complete with its own bar. The room caters for up to 200 people and is available to hire for all occasions such as weddings, 21st celebrations, engagements, retirements, christenings or any other family or friends get together. If there are going to be more than 70 people at your function then the Old Mill will give you the DJ, finger food, decorations, champagne and room hire at no charge.

Fabulous Food

Fabulous food is served from Friday to Sunday, and The Old Mill is renowned for their

Sunday lunch which has up to five choices and costs only €9.95

With five starters that include soup, wings, springrolls and mushrooms, three steak options, and an all day menu with thirteen choices including curries, duck, fish and grills,



The Old Mill has choices to please even the most discerning of diners. As you would expect children are extremely well looked after and the desert menu includes the infamous lumpy bumpy!

Food is served on Friday from 4pm until 9pm, Saturday from 12noon until 9pm and on Sunday from 10am until 9pm.

Games Room

Adjacent to the Old Mill is their well appointed games room which includes snooker and pool, jukebox,

darts and more. A great hang out for a quiet drink and a few games, you can even phone down your order to the bar and it will be delivered up to you!



The Old Mill Bar and Restaurant really is a venue for everyone, and they cater for all with their two heated smoking areas, baby changing facilities and wheelchair accessible toilets and, should the sun show its face this Summer, then there is nowhere nicer than The Old Mill as they have two relaxing beer gardens.

The Old Mill Bar & Restaurant

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Games Room

Snooker and pool, jukebox, darts and more.
Chill out and phone down to the bar for your drinks.

www.theoldmillpub.ie

Blarney Community Spirit shines through for Weekend challenge



Last weekend Blarney was transformed from sleepy village to hive of industry when RTE came to film a Weekend Challenge. The selection process was an onerous one, initially Blarney was one of 70 possible choices, before being whittled down to 10, then to 4 and then finally getting the nod.

At 8am on Saturday April 21st hundreds of people gathered at the gates of the Church of the Resurrection, Blarney, to begin the task and meet the RTE crew and presenter, Colm Hayes. The church became the main hub for the weekend and painting the exterior and tidying up the churchyard was a major operation of the project.

This followed just over one week of meetings and planning involving local community groups, among them, Blarney Chamber of Commerce, Tom MacGrath who heads the wonderful Blarney Tidy Towns and Blarney Community Council. Many groups played their part in making the weekend such a success and it was tireless work to coordinate the project with several radio appeals being made for sponsors and volunteers. The County Council did trojan work with grass cutting and made sure that the village looked sparkling, as did the Fas and Avondhu Blackwater guys who were hard at work from the word go. The village looked so well, we suspected that TV coverage might be cancelled as there was nothing to improve upon!

Sponsors were generous beyond belief; the paint was provided by Pat McDonnell Paints, scaffolding came from Maguires, cherry-pickers and paint sprayers came from Dan Lane Rylane; the list was endless (see page 21). Prior to the weekend, grass and ivy had been cleared away from the walls of the church, the scaffolding had been put up, a plaque with the name of the church had been erected, plans and schedules had been created, volunteers had been signed up and assigned roles. Many people from outside Blarney came to offer help for the challenge including Grenagh Tidy Towns. We do not know all of you personally, but we appreciate greatly all your efforts. Denis Murphy designed a memorial garden inside the entrance to the graveyard which commemorates all those buried in the graveyard in unnamed graves. The garden features a wooden bench and an innovative grass couch amid a blaze of planting and nesting boxes; a beautiful spot to sit and meditate on a sunny morning with a cup of coffee. Blarney Castle sent the services of their expert gardeners and marked the occasion by giving a beautiful yew tree for the graveyard.

In many areas around the village such as Inchancomain Park, Castleowen, and entrances to the village from the Cork and Tower sides, young and old worked to create installations: plants, seating, and the erection of flagpoles. Local people, restaurants and supermarkets provided food for the hungry workers. A woman named Denise arrived on Friday evening with hundreds of portions of dessert and two buckets of soup; even though she herself, had had to go away for the

weekend. People brought cakes, scones, brown bread, sandwiches. Hundreds of people passed through the doors of the Church of the Resurrection over the two days of the Challenge. It was a wonderful opportunity to make new friends, chatting about the church and its place in the community. For many it was the first time they had visited the church but hopefully it won't be their last. April Gunn entertained the children at the church and chatted with their parents. It was a joyous weekend watching everyone working together for the good of the community.

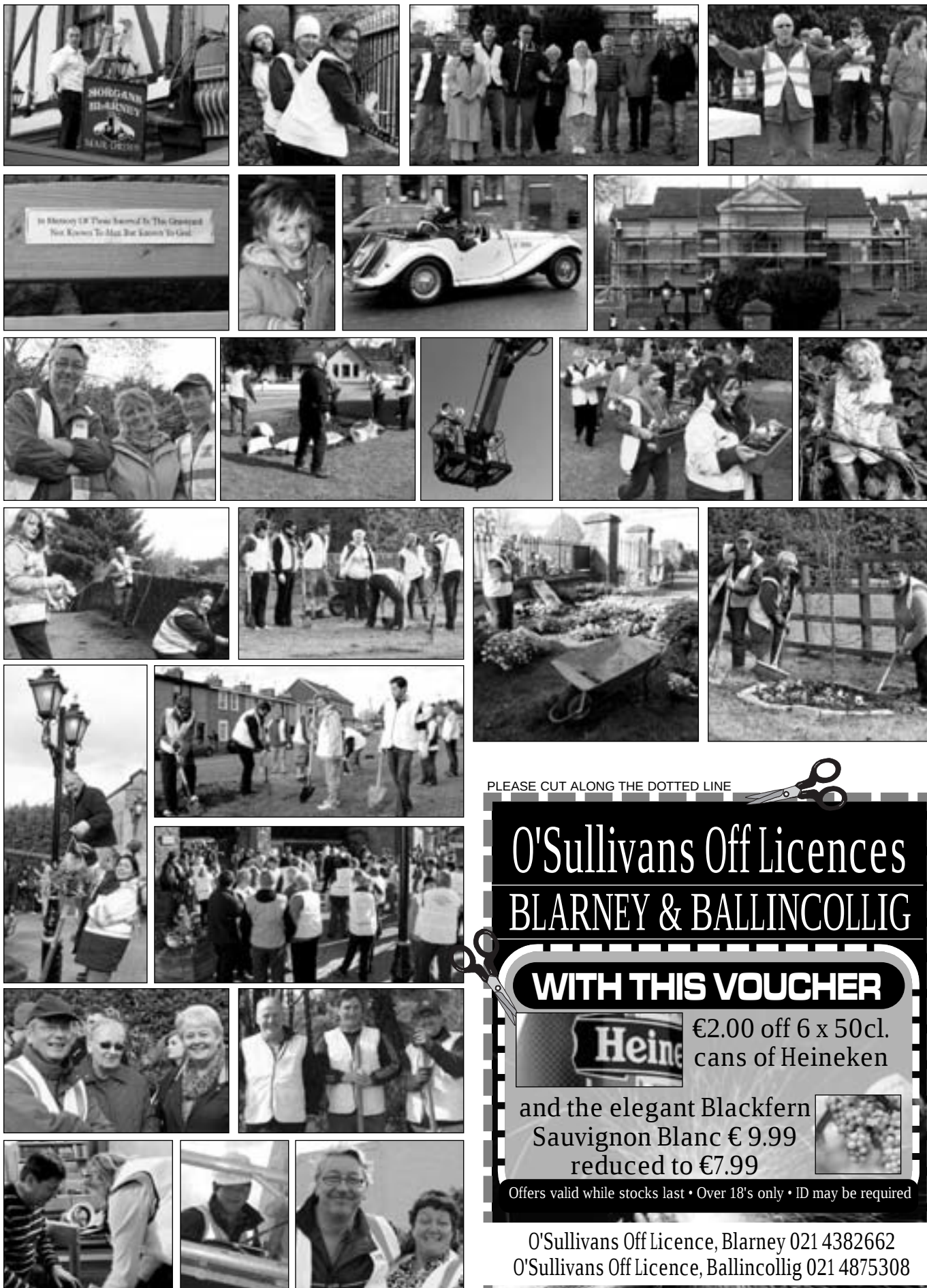
It was so inspiring, on Sunday morning, to see young people, in the cramped but dry spaces, under the scaffolding, painting away, despite the rain. Meanwhile, there was the strange site of grown men placing their hands against the walls of the church, and some wondered had the wailing wall come to Blarney! Happily, no, it was a case of the painters seeing if the walls were dry enough to paint. Having had such a huge turnout of people of Saturday, there was trepidation about whether anyone would come on Sunday but we needn't have worried, the phenomenal people of Blarney, again took up their spades and paintbrushes to complete the work. Meanwhile the filming continued at the church and in other areas around the village. Griffins, Ravenscourt, and Blarney Garden Centres as well as McCulloughs Nursery were involved in providing fabulous flowers and plants for hanging baskets, window boxes or creating installations. Griffins Garden Centre created an awesome display on the bypass, whilst Ravenscourt made the plaza in front of the church come alive with colour.

The Blarney Vintage committee dressed to impress, arriving to help in a range of costumes with Ed and Deirdre Healy drawing admiring glances and Doug and Olwen Venn parading as Marie Antoinette and Napoleon Bonaparte! Blarney GAA and Camogie clubs were strongly represented during the weekend and the tireless Hugh Finnerty gave generously of his time to act as Health and Safety officer and project manager for the weekend. Kay Dennehy buzzed around all weekend photographing the progress of the various events, amassing more than 1300 photographs!

An abbreviated church service was held at the usual time of 11am on Sunday morning and it was lovely to welcome some of the volunteers to join in the service, we hadn't anticipated the TV cameras joining us but they did. After the service, it was back to work and by late afternoon on Sunday, as the work neared completion, lots of visitors came to investigate the work and have a cuppa. There were so many positive comments about all the projects around the village, that it helped to make all the planning and hard work worthwhile. Blarney, you should all be proud of yourselves.

Many people and companies are owed a huge debt of gratitude for their hard work as well as their financial commitment. The Weekend Challenge was shown on RTE last Wednesday.

For more photographs of Blarney's Weekend Challenge see 19, 20, 21. Photographs courtesy of Kay Dennehy



Photographs courtesy Kay Dennehy

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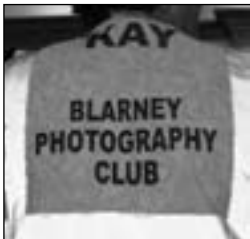


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 O'Learys Centra Tower, Paddy O'Leary
 Pat McDonnell Paint, Aidan McDonnell
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 Ravenscourt Garden Centre
 Steeltech Sheds / Sheds of The World, Mary
 T Sheehans, Whitechurch
 Tool Hire Services, Paul and Tim
 Tux R Us, Sean Dennehy
 Vaughan Skip Hire, Pat Vaughan
 West Cork Secret Nurseries
 If we have omitted anyone please accept our apolo-
 gies and our sincere thanks for your contribution
 Thank you to all the individual businesses in
 Blarney who gave money for
 flowers, window boxes and hanging baskets
 Thank you to Crena McPolin and Mary O'Regan,
 for being our nurses on duty for the weekend
 Thank you to Colm Hayes 2FM and Producer
 Joanne McGrath for making it happen
 And lastly thank you to all who gave up their
 weekend to help.

Photographs courtesy
 Kay Dennehy

Property Watch

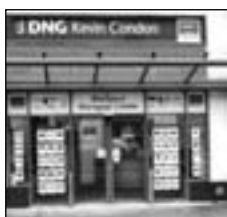
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Mdina, Lower Farran, County Cork

Guide price €247,000

This extended four bedroom bungalow has much to offer to the astute purchaser. Two reception rooms, four bedrooms, two bathrooms, games room, large attic room and many extras. This lovely family home is only seven miles from Ballincollig, and two and a half miles from Coachford.

93 Russell Heights, Cobh, County Cork

Spacious end of terrace four bedroom property within easy access of Cobh town centre. Bright and modern interior. Viewing is a must to appreciate the exceptional value on offer.



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Guide price €95,000

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West Cork Times and West Cork Television are looking for TV presenters.

If you think you have what it takes, send in a short video telling us about the area where you live. You can shoot the film on any digital video device or smart phone. The 10 best entries will each get the chance to present two professionally produced bulletins for West Cork Television shown on westcorktimes.com.

As well as your own professional demo to take away you will also receive expert tuition in TV presenting skills from a former RTÉ TV producer. Entrants must live in the West Cork or Mid Cork areas. Send your entry to editorial@westcorktelevision.com using wetransfer.com.



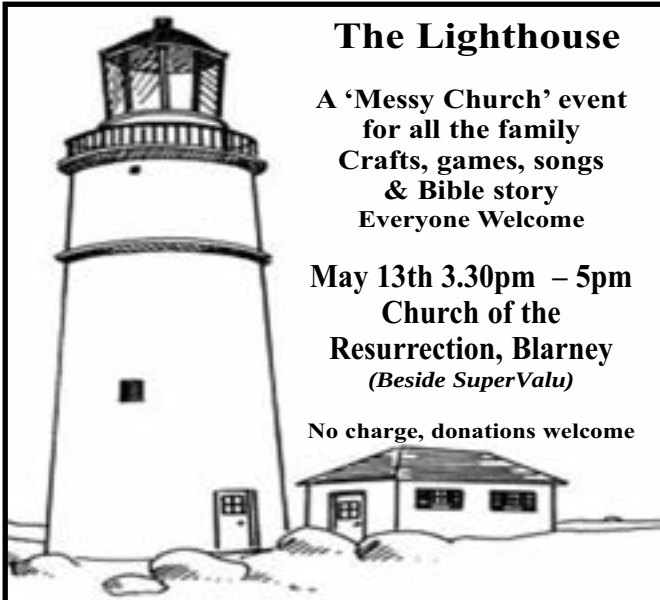
Allanah Twohig, Scoil Mhuire gan Smal student, pictured with her parents, sister, both sets of grandparents and Garda Sean Dwyer after she received the Garda community award in the Rochestown Park Hotel for her work in setting up the Mill Youth Cafe.

The Lighthouse

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Katherine O'Riordan, Clashes Lake, Ballincollig pictured at the launch of her Art Exhibition at Bishopstown Library and also her book 'Growing Up in Macroom'.

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Waterloo youngsters scooped a major award in ECO-UNESCO's Young Environmentalist Awards which are an all-Ireland environmental awards programme that recognises and rewards young people who raise environmental awareness and improve the environment.



The talented Waterloo Bird Boxers of Darragh

Hayes, Luke Conroy, Jamie O'Connor and Paul O'Mahony (missing from photograph are Eoin Sheehy and Connor Horgan), are pictured with Duncan Stewart as they received their prestigious award in the biodiversity senior category at the Young Environmentalist Awards held at Mansion House on Tuesday 8th May, 2012. Also pictured are 'The Waterloo Warriors' who also submitted a fabulous project.



If you haven't been into Christy's Bar at Blarney Woollen Mills lately then it's time you took a new look at an old favourite. This great Blarney

tradition has got a whole new look which is sure to please customers both new and old.

Still with the same great service, Christy's Pub offers soup and sandwiches from 11am and their popular lunch menu is available from 12noon to 5pm and includes a great range of fresh sandwiches, salads, savoury dishes and some wonderful deserts which you can enjoy with one of their speciality teas or coffees.

Sports lovers can now watch their favourite team on one of the three large screens on which they show all fixtures, this should make for some good viewing for the forthcoming European Championships.

Fancy a lively night out? Then make Christy's Pub your destination on Fridays as they have great live music every Friday night from 9pm until late.

And if you prefer the great outdoors as we head into the Summer months, you can relax and enjoy your drink under their covered plaza where you can sit and enjoy watching the world go by!



If you fancy owning a MG Midget, and let's be honest who doesn't, then maybe your time has come.

The Blarney Vintage and Classic Car Club are now selling tickets for the chance to win a wonderful MG Midget Car which will be raffled at The Blarney Vintage and Classic Car Festival held during the August Bank Holiday Weekend.

Tickets are only €20 each and you can purchase them from Deirdre @ 086-2227814 or Ed @ 086-2578807.

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Blarney business woman plays her cards right

Blarney Business woman, Antoinette O'Brien, has created the perfect business, a service that can only make you more popular with your family and friends! Antoinette has created a unique world wide business 'Cards Complete' from her Blarney base.

Speaking to The Muskerry News Antoinette told us, "I created Cards Complete for everyone who has forgotten to post the card they bought for their sister's birthday, lost the christening card they bought for their new baby nephew and had to buy another one on the way to the church, or found the birthday card they bought for their aunt behind the fruit bowl three months after her birthday (at least now you know why she never said thank you)."

Does this strike a chord with you? Well, this no longer needs to happen as Cards Complete has the Solution. Simply log on to www.cardscomplete.ie and you can choose to send just one card or many. You can also set up to ten free reminders and they will email you two weeks before the special occasion, giving you plenty of time to order your card. Cards Complete will then send your card, which will be handwritten and posted for you. Not only will the cards be handwritten but so will the envelope and where possible they will match the postage stamp with the occasion. You can also send a gift cheque or flowers with your card. As Antoinette reminded us, 'It doesn't cost a lot, but it means so much.'

Antoinette wanted all her cards to be handwritten because she did not want it to be like so many things these days, automated and computer created, she wanted it to be real.

Another very attractive feature of Cards Complete is that there are no unpleasant surprises. "I wanted all the cards to be the same price. It annoys me when you see prices such as 'from €3.99', but by the time you have picked out what you like it is more than double that. With Cards Complete you don't have to worry about the price, as all our cards are one price, all you need to concentrate on is getting the perfect card for the person you love."

Since she has started trading Antoinette has noticed that many men

seem to be delighted with her service, This has come as no surprise. "Let's be honest, we all need to earn brownie points to cash in on when needed, and men more than most for weekends with the boys, and going to matches. Putting out the bin and cutting the grass gets you points, but sending a card to that special someone on their birthday or maybe just to say 'I Love you' with a card now and then are real high achieving points! You can go for double points too as we also send flowers and these are no 'garage flowers'."

And while Cards Complete sorts the brownie points for the men, it can also make things easier for those multi-tasking woman. Cards Complete makes sending cards so easy, she can send her cards from her PC while she is making the dinner, putting on a wash and while explaining to her two year old 'dogs don't really wear lipstick' In conclusion Antoinette said, "We all know the saying 'It's the thought that counts' and that is so true. And now, we can make sure your thought becomes a reality. So log on to Cards Complete today and let us make the people in your life realise just how much they mean to you."



Greeting cards on line.

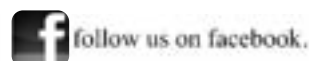
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Blarney and District Garden and Flower Club

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*A Garden Walk in
Blarney Castle Grounds
on Thursday 24th May at 6.30pm*

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Please join the
Mercy University Hospital Foundation
2012 Recycling Campaign
and help save lives in Cork!

The Mercy University Foundation has partnered with Kildarson Ltd., to raise much needed funds in aid of Mercy Hospital Cork

Local volunteer Denis O'Donovan collects print cartridges and items for recycling on behalf of the hospital throughout the county to raise funds for life saving equipment at The Mercy Hospital.

If you can help and would like to sign up to the recycling campaign contact Denis O'Donovan on 087 2690776 or by email to djodpc@gmail.com

Pupils at Coachford College raised over EU 4,000 for Trocaire as part of the Lenten Campaign. Photo shows a number of the students handing over the proceeds to Una Deasy, Trocaire representative, after she had outlined to them how their contributions would be put to good use in Uganda.

Picture: Mike English



National Volunteer Week puts spotlight on Volunteerism

Volunteering is an important aspect of Cork City and County. A huge proportion of people are volunteering and more and more non-profit organisations are seeking the help of volunteers.

Cork Volunteer Centre supports individuals to find volunteering roles and encourages non-profit organisations to register their volunteering opportunities with our service. So far in 2012, 530 volunteers have registered with our service. Many people volunteer 'to give something back to their community' but many people volunteer 'to gain news skill and to gain experience'. Cork Volunteer Centre urgently requires non-profit organisations to register their volunteering opportunities with our service.

All our volunteering opportunities can be viewed on our website HYPERLINK "<http://www.volunteercork.ie>" www.volunteercork.ie. A

sample of some interesting volunteering opportunities include:

Childcare Assistant at Cushing House, Community Child Centre
Public Relations Officer with Youth Work Ireland
Campaign team member of Amnesty International
An Assistant Organiser for the Charleville Cheese Queen Selection Evening

A Legacy and In-Memoriam Community Liaison volunteer with RNLi.

To celebrate National Volunteer Week Cork Volunteer Centre is organising a garden clean-up at Sunday's Well Boys National School on Tuesday 15th May starting at 10:00a.m and finishing at 4p.m. We would really appreciate volunteers giving a few hours to collecting rubbish and making the garden accessible for pupils.

For more information on all volunteering opportunities contact Cork Volunteer Centre, No. 70 Shandon St., Cork Tel: 021-4396510 or log on to HYPERLINK "<http://www.volunteercork.ie>" www.volunteercork.ie

Cork Volunteer Centre is supported and funded by The Dept of Environment, Community and Local Government, Cork City Partnership Ltd and Avondhu/Blackwater Partnership Ltd. CVC is a member of VI.



14 - 20 May
www.volunteer.ie

Cork Volunteer Centre is organising a Garden Clean-up on Tuesday 15th May starting at 10:00am in Sunday's Well Boy's School and we need volunteers to help.



To volunteer contact Cork Volunteer Centre on 0214396510.

This event takes place during National Volunteer Week 14th-20th May.

Any few hours that you can give would be great!

Cork Volunteer Centre provides information and advice to people interested in volunteering and supports organisations to recruit volunteers.

IT IS A FREE SERVICE FOR CORK CITY AND COUNTY.

For more information or to register as a volunteer or register your non-profit organisation visit our website www.volunteercork.ie or phone us on 021-4396510 or

Drop into our centre at No. 70 Shandon St., Cork

CVC is funded by Dept of Environment, Community and Local Government and Cork City Partnership Ltd. CVC is a member of VI.

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Song, tears and laughter during Summer line up at Cork Opera House

Paul Daniels – Hair Today, Gone

Tomorrow - Mon 7th May at 8pm

In the world of television magic, no one has enjoyed more success than Paul Daniels. From the moment he burst onto our screens, his magic shows have topped the ratings. He is undoubtedly the most successful TV magician of the 20th century! He promises not to dance! He will be joined by the lovely Debbie McGee and Kev Orkian.

Book now on 021 4270022

Ardal O'Hanlon

Thu 17th May at 8pm

Award winning comedian, actor, writer - and star of Father Ted (C4); My Hero (BBC 1), Val Falvey (RTE) and Leagues Apart (RTE), Ardal O'Hanlon brings his unique brand of stand-up comedy back to Ireland. A highly acclaimed stand up, Ardal has toured to sell out audiences internationally and has released two Top Ten stand up DVD's. Book now on 021 4270022



Kilfenora Céilí Band - Fri 18th May at 8pm

102 years and still on the road! From village parties in the early 1900's to bigger dances in the '30's, broadcasts in the '40's, commercial recordings in the '50's, foreign tours in the '60's right down to their current international profile, each new generation slots into the groove of their forebears.

For this performance they will be joined by special guests Don Stiffe (runner up in Ireland's Got Talent) and Michael Donnellan (lead dancer in Riverdance).

Book now on 021 4270022

Hauschka, Jóhann Jóhannsson & Dustin O'Halloran - Sat 19th May at 8pm

We are delighted to welcome these three stunning artists: Hauschka, Dustin O'Halloran & Jóhann Jóhannsson to Cork Opera House this May. Each artist here occupies their own unique out-crop of the broad-reaching 'post-classical' field.

The Transcendentalists tour will mark the first time the tour. A set of artists connected not only by complementary approaches to composition and performance but also by the philosophical ideals found in Transcendentalism: a sense of self-reliance in their respective dual roles as composer and performer, and a rejection of the rigidity of convention and institution, leaving purity, individualism, intuition, invention and community.

Book now on 021 4270022

Stewart Lee - Mon 21st May at 8pm

What can a sexless middle aged married man, whose life now consists mainly of watching Scooby Doo cartoons with a four year old boy, possibly find to write comedy about? Formerly stand-up's youthful iconoclast, Lee now gawks blankly at News 24 as Britain burns down around him, and blinks weirdly at the vast wayside retail outlets during endless journeys to and from increasingly indistinct provincial theatres. Once he lived on the pleasure planet. Now he is trapped in Carpet Remnant World.

And so are you. Book now on 021 4270022

The Hypochondriac -

Wed 23rd May at 8.30pm

Adapted from Moliere's original by Roger McGough

Directed by Belinda Wild.

Argan is a wealthy and healthy hypochondriac convinced he's at death's door. Greedy physicians, a sleazy lawyer and a fortune hunting wife are happy to indulge his fantasies of sickness.

Book now on 021 4270022



Theatre Ad Infinitum present

Translunar Paradise - Thurs 24th May 8.00pm

Translunar Paradise takes you on a journey of life, death, and enduring love. After his wife passes away, William escapes to a paradise of fantasy and past memories, a place far from the reality of his grief. Returning from beyond the grave, Rose revisits her widowed companion to perform one last act of love: to help him let go.

Book now on 021 4270022

'Breathin' Air' - Howard Marks & John

Sinclair - Wed 30th May at 8pm

For the first time in front of a live audience, living legends John Sinclair (American political activist, poet & former manager of MC5) and Howard Marks (best-selling author, former international drug trafficker and all round roguish charmer) will be teaming up to share their fascinating and, at times, truly incredible stories with each other.

Book now on 021 4270022

The Dubliners - 50th Anniversary Tour

Sun 3rd June 8.00pm

The Dubliners - 50th Anniversary Tour

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Linz Cranial and Physical Therapy Clinic, based in Glanmire Village, offers expert care for physical conditions and injuries with fully qualified and experienced therapists in clinic rooms that are spacious, warm and relaxing. Treatments are approximately a hour in duration, depending on the ailment, and fee for visit is €50. Treatments are available throughout the week and the therapists are recognised by the majority of health insurance companies. The Linz Clinic specialises in ailments such as pain issues throughout the body, for example in your back, neck, shoulders, arms, legs, hips, feet, etc. They also treat arthritis and sporting injuries.

Manipulations are available in the clinic for body ailments problems such as pelvic imbalances, short leg problems, scoliosis, joint locking in limbs or spinal area.

Repetitive strain injuries like tendonitis, golfers or Tennis elbow, carpal tunnel syndrome, muscle strains, tears, ligaments sprains, ie. ankles are also treated at this progressive clinic.

Cranial Therapy is available at Linz, a gentle non invasive treatment that reduces tensions throughout the body allowing the body to function more efficiently and helping to relieve any ongoing pains or dysfunctions. Cranial Therapy is most beneficial for babies with colic, reflux, constipation, excess crying, sleeping problems, and more. It is beneficial for concentration, and behavioural problems for older children and indeed all ages, for problems like stress and to help in the recovery after illness or injuries. It is most beneficial for whiplash and frozen shoulder, or any trauma type injuries.

Electrotherapy is available in the clinic, as is joint strapping. Advice on strengthening and stretching regimes for patients after injuries or general maintenance is also offered.

To find out more or make an appointment call therapists; Janette Towey. Cranial, Physical, Manipulative, Neuromuscular, Advanced Remedial Massage Therapist. 087 9142010

Marion Lynch. Physical, Manipulative, Advanced Remedial Massage Therapist. 086 8626596

Linz Cranial and Physical Therapy Clinic, Glanmire Village, Cork and Kilworth, Fermoy, County Cork.

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Ballincollig Fine Gael Branch Meeting

The White Horse Inn (upstairs), Ballincollig
Monday, May 14th at 8.30 p.m. New Members Welcome

Fiscal Stability Treaty Public Information Meeting

Coolcower House Hotel, Macroom Thurs May 17th at 8.00 p.m.
Chair Mr. Michael Creed T.D.

Speakers Lucinda Creighton T.D. (Minister for European Affairs)
Other speakers to be confirmed.

Fiscal Stability Treaty Public Information Meeting

Oriel House Hotel, Ballincollig Thursday May 24th at 8.30 p.m.
Chair Ms. Áine Collins T.D.

Speakers Mr. Michael Creed T.D.

Mr. Conor Healy (Cork Chamber of Commerce)

Dr. Séamus Coffey (Dept. of Economics, U.C.C.)



Aisling O'Brien,
eldest daughter of
Marie and David
O'Brien
Castlegardens,
Station Road,
Blarney, recently
conferred with a
Masters in Social
Psychology at the
University of Surrey.

Blarney Walking Group May Programme

All walks depart 8.30am on Sundays from McElligots Pharmacy, Ashdale House, Blarney.

Sunday 13th Clonee Lakes, Grade C Contact Gene 086 3649737

Sunday 20th Hungry Hill Grade B Contact Gene 086 3649737

Sunday 27th Coomloughra Horseshow, The Reeks Grade A

Contact Paddy 087 2180712

New people are always welcome. Normal fitness only is needed.

Contact walk leaders at any time to find out more. Come and enjoy the outdoor lowlands and uplands for a healthy day out in Cork and Kerry.

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Local soccer players trounce Gardai in Justice Cup



Tim O'Connor, Village Dry Cleaners Blarney, pictured presenting the Justice Cup to Whitechurch Foroige Youth Club. The Justice Cup was played between Blarney Gardai and local Foroige clubs on Saturday night last. After some great football Whitechurch beat Mourneabbey in the final. However, whilst Muorneabbey may have come second they were the only team to beat the Garda team.



Proud father Martin Ryan and instructor at Blarney Taekwon Do Club pictured with his son Patrick after recently passing his very first grading and was promoted to yellow tip. Mr. Ryan, 5th dan Patrick Ryan and senior instructor Mr. O'Keefe 6th dan. Blarney Taekwon Do train Monday and Wednesday in Scoil Mhuire Gan Smal, Blarney from 8pm - 9pm.



Taekwon Do is a great discipline for both adults and children. As well as learning a new self defence sport Taekwon Do also improves fitness, confidence and coordination. Beginners and new members welcome, juniors from age 6 up. Contact Niall O'Keefe, 6th Dan, @ 086 605841.



Blarney Taekwon Do Club students pictured with instructors from Blarney TKD Club after they all were successful at a recent Grading. Pictured are John Vaughan 5th dan, Martin Ryan 5th dan, Niall O'Keefe 6th dan (senior Instructor), Ella Hickey, Cathal McCarthy, Kamil Mandzuik and David Shine.



Blarney girls Katie Malone and Kellie Hackett, members of Carrignavar Basketball Club, who won Cork U16B Ladies final beating Brunell on a score of 50 points to 48. Kellie was given MVP award. Congratulations from all at the Mill Youth Cafe.

NEW U FITNESS

Need a little help shifting those pounds!!

CLASSES

Monday	Intermediate Bootcamp... 7-8pm... Blarney GAA
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Wed	Cardio Tone... 7-8pm... Rathduff Hall

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Sports Round Up...

Ballincollig Table Tennis Club have highest ranked junior boy and girl in Ireland

Following the last Junior ranking event of the domestic table tennis calendar, BTTC are proud to announce that the highest ranked boy and girl at U17 level in Ireland are long-standing members of our Club.

Edel O'Reilly and Declan O'Brien, both 5th year students at Colaiste Choilm, began their table tennis careers in Scoil Mhuire and Scoil Eoin respectively. They have excelled at every age group since the primary schools' leagues and for the first time share the

limelight of being 'No 1 Ranked Player, 2011/2012'.

BTTC are delighted with this achievement and look forward to many more of our very talented junior players coming through the ranks to attain this great award. Well done Edel and Declan.

BTTC AGM will take place on Wednesday 9th May at 8.30pm in the GAA Meeting Rooms. All senior members and parents of junior members are invited and, indeed, encouraged to attend. We always need a new voice on the Committee, but even if you don't wish to have an active role within the

Club, you are very welcome to come along and hear how we have done for the past year and our aspirations for the coming 12 months.

Training continues in Scoil Eoin on Mondays at 6pm with Declan McGrath, in Youth Reach with Dave Buckley on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 6pm and for senior training at 7.30pm. New members are always welcome to join us. Come and try out a session and see if you like it - table tennis is, after all, an all-weather sport for all age groups and it is great fun! All enquires to Noelle Buckley on 087 9417216.

The Carraig na bhFear Rebels who lost to Skibbereen in the Final of the Cork Ladies Basketball Championship at Neptune Stadium.

Picture:
Mike English



Cork Senior hurler Martin Coleman at Blarney Boys National School where he did a coaching session with the boys of 4th, 5th, and 6th classes assisted by Blarney GAA's two Club coaches Mark Cremin and Shane Spillane.

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Congratulations to all at Berrings National School for their wonderful entries into our Easter colouring competition. Here are just some of the talented winners...



Summer is coming and we would be delighted to talk to you about Sun Protection, Hay Fever, young children and the sun and much more. We stock all those holiday essentials such as toiletries and first aid kits, and don't forget our full photography service for those precious memories.



Emily O'Donovan Berrings, happy winner of our Easter raffle!



Blarney Hurling & Football Club



Junior A Football Championship 1st Round

Inniscarra 2-9 Blarney 0-9

Blarney were beaten by local rivals Inniscarra in the first round of the Junior A Football Championship in Donoughmore on Friday May 4th. The match was evenly balanced in the early stages with scores hard to come by, and Inniscarra led by one point to no score after 7 minutes. Inniscarra then began a period of dominance with their forwards causing problems for the Blarney defence, and they managed to score a further 2-4 without reply to build up a big lead after 25 minutes. Blarney showed good character to score two quick points before half time to give them a lif as they went into the break.

In the second half the Blarney lads began to dominate the game, with Paul and Mark O'Leary making good headway with some powerful runs from midfield but despite the pressure Blarney were finding it difficult to score due to some dogged defending by Inniscarra. Blarney brought it back to within 2 goals with 15 minutes to go, with Brian Hurley, Mark O'Leary and Conor Foley all getting on the scoresheet. Although they continued to press, Blarney couldn't find the opening they needed for a goal, and the sides exchanged points a number of times before the end to leave a final score of Inniscarra 2-09, Blarney 1-09. Blarney will now

move on to second round and hopefully get their campaign going with a win - keep an eye on the website for details of the next round when available.

Blarney team: Shane Jordan, Donal O'Neill, Eoghan Murphy, Brendan O'Sullivan, Mark O'Leary, Shane Spillane, Paul Hallissey, Paul O'Leary, Conor Foley, John Good, Brian Hurley, Mark Cremin, Evin Philpott, James O'Sullivan, Damien Hyde. Subs: Keith Costello, Daniel O'Donovan, Sean O'Sullivan, Aidan Murphy, Michael McNamara, Philip Moynihan, Robert White, Patrick O'Sullivan.

Intermediate Hurling

Blarney will take on Castlelyons in the first round of the Premier Intermediate Hurling Championship on June 1st coming. Please visit our website for details of upcoming league games and for further build up to the game in the weeks ahead.

Blarney/Rathpeacon GAA Schools Coaching

We are delighted to be continuing our schools coaching programme this year, which sees club coaches introducing young pupils in each of the local primary schools to the games of hurling and football. Last week we were delighted to have a visit from Cork Senior hurler Martin Coleman to Blarney Boys N.S, where he did a

coaching session with the boys of 4th, 5th, and 6th classes assisted by our own two Blarney Club coaches Mark Cremin and Shane Spillane. A highlight of the session was when Martin Coleman stood into goal and the boys tried to score a goal, two of the 4th class boys did actually beat him and scored a goal and they were rewarded by getting a new Sliotar which was signed by Martin Coleman.

Cork Minor Hurling

Congratulations to Barra O'Connell who represented Cork in the Munster Minor Hurling Championship in their narrow one-point defeat by Limerick on May 2nd. The lads went on to defeat Kerry in the back-door, and now face Clare in Ennis on May 10th where the winners will qualify to play Limerick in the Munster Semi-Final on Friday June 29th. Best of luck to Barra and the team.

Feile Skills Competition

Well done to Blarney's Conor McCarthy who won the Cork Féile Skills competition in Ballinure pitch on Friday. This competition is a tough test of many of the skills of hurling, and points are allocated for the players performance in ground striking, free-taking, jab-lift and Strike, ground cut, ball control and long-puck. Conor will now go on to represent Blarney and Cork in the National Feile Skills Competition in Dublin in July, and we wish him best of luck in the final!

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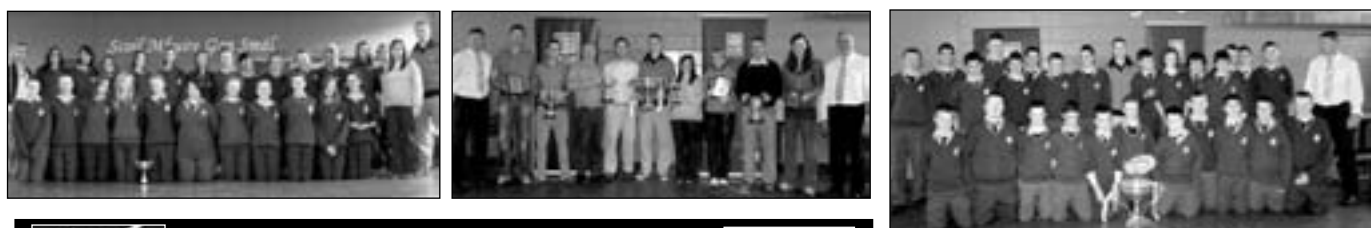
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Young Blarney sports stars receive an incredible eight championship trophies

Scoil Mhuire Gan Smál, Blarney, pupils excelled this year in all sporting disciplines when they won an incredible eight Championship Trophies. The first year girls won the Cork School Football Blitz and also the Cork Schools Basketball Championship, whilst the first year girls (B) won the Cork Colleges Camogie County Final. Not to be outdone the first year boys also won the Cork Schools Basketball Championship. The equally talented second year girls won the Cork Schools Basketball championship, whilst the U14 boys won Colleges Championship Cork, and the U16s won the B South Camogie final and the Cork Colleges Championship. *pics courtesy Kay Dennehy*





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Roger Russell, General Manager, presents the Gresham Metropole Hotel/John Buckley Sports Cork City and County Youth Sports Award for March to Aidan Moynihan, Canovee GAA, Cork Minor Football and member of Rockwell College Senior Schools Cup

winning team. Included are Cllr. Tony Fitzgerald, Deputy Lord Mayor, Cllr. Michael O'Connell, John Buckley, Aidan's parents, Kevin and Liz, brother, Kieran and sister, Caoimhe.

Picture: Mike English



Carraig na bhFear, winners of under 16 B final at the Cork Ladies Basketball Championships held at Neptune Stadium.

Picture: Mike English



Third Time Lucky, Down Syndrome Ireland announced as the Beneficiary of Tour de Munster 2012 for third year in a row, The Tour de Munster charity cycle takes place over four days in August, where amateur cyclists do 600km around Munster. Munster Players Ian Nagle, James Coughlan with Emily Coleman and Danni Coleman from Blarney pictured getting in training at the official announcement in Ballyseedy Home & Garden Centre, Carrigtwohill.

picture by Gerard McCarthy 087 8537228

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Brunell, Winners of the Under 12 A grade, at the Cork Ladies Basketball Board's Championship Finals at Neptune Stadium.



Champions. Brunell who defeated Glanmire in the Under 16 A Final at the Cork Ladies Basketball Board's Championship Finals

Picture: Mike English.



Andrew Drumm, President, presents the MVP Award to Orla Connolly, Brunell following their Under 16 A game v Glanmire.



Andrew Drumm, President, presents the MVP Award to Melanie Thompson, Brunell Under 12A team

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