

# Edenderry News

December 05

**FREE**

Published by Edenderry Community Development Association Page 1

## Christmas coffee morning Edenderry Community Development Association

are hosting a Christmas coffee morning on Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2005 at 11.00am **admission is free** and all are welcome, come along for coffee, tea, mince pies and shortbread, bring a friend, meet your neighbours and the committee of EDCA and the newly formed group Edenderry Business and Residents Association. Both groups will welcome your questions or suggestions.♦

## JOANNE RECEIVES THE MAYOR'S AWARD FOR SERVICES.

Congratulations to Joanne Branyan Chairperson of Edenderry Parent and Toddlers Group who was awarded the Mayor Award for services to the community. Joanne is a founder of the group and provides a very varied programme of art, craft and fun every week as group activities for the 0-4 year olds and their carers. She puts her all into every aspect of the running of what is now a very successful venture, always smiling and cheerful even though she is in constant pain and awaiting back surgery. We are delighted that she has been honoured for all her hard work leading community development with young families in the greater Edenderry area and raising the profile of Edenderry Community Development Association.



## New Group for Edenderry

A new residents group has been set up in the area. The group is called **Edenderry Business and Residents Association** and was formed at a meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> October in First Portadown Presbyterian Church Hall. **After** some discussion a committee was elected and it was decided to seek affiliation with Edenderry Community Development

Association. The new group hope to lobby various agencies and take a proactive role in safety, traffic, health and the environment. They hope to help promote and encourage the regeneration of the greater Edenderry area.

**In** order to ascertain needs the group will undertake a social audit of all dwellings and businesses in the near future. ▶ Page 2

# Edenderry News

December 05

Page 2

## New Group for Edenderry



The new committee of EBRA

The committee members are, Samuel Poots, James McKittrick, George Weir, James Ellis, William Gracey, Adrian Branyan (chair), Mark Proctor (treasurer); the secretary of the new group is Ms May Neill, 8 Watson Street, Portadown. Eileen Atkinson and Tracey Mullen

Edenderry Community Development Association were happy to affiliate with the new group and look forward to a useful and constructive association. We wish the Business and Residents Association every success and hope they will contribute to revitalising Edenderry.♦

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

63, Carrickblacker Road Portadown BT63 5AX

Dear Sir,

*On taking a short walk around Batchelors Walk I was appalled to see the amount of litter discarded along the footpath and hedgerows: carry-out cans, plastic bottles and bags, polystyrene cartons and papers. Surely we should have pride in our district and place the rubbish in the receptacles provided. Craigavon Borough Council should enforce the law and fine anyone caught throwing litter in the street.*

*Are people as untidy in their own homes? Most unlikely!!! \*\*\* KEEP BRITAIN TIDY \*\*\* was a slogan when I was growing up, surely we could all endeavour to keep Edenderry tidy, I hope your group will take this up with the relevant authorities.*

*Yours sincerely,*

*Litter Out.♦*

Dear Sir,

*Congratulations to your Newsletter keep up the good work, I'm an ex resident of Edenderry and in a residential home and enjoy reading the stories.*

*Many thanks,*

*Sally.♦*

## ART CLUB

The Edenderry Community Development Association art classes are continuing on Monday evenings at 7.30pm. The course is aimed at the complete novice and improver. We aim to provide the classes at a reasonable cost and all will be welcome, Joshua is the latest member of the club. He is 11 years of age & lives in Edenderry. For one so young he has a terrific flair for art & we wish him well and hope the club will improve his undoubtable talent.



## DRUMS AND BANNERS

The Group were very successful last year we restored and repaired three banners. We have received more enquires for this project and we will be restarting the restoration project early in 2006 anyone interested in joining either of these classes should contact **Cardwell McClure on 3833 3988.♦**



**Eden-Tots** held a very successful Table Quiz recently in J D Tipler's raising just over £500 for group funds. Our thanks go to everyone who supported us and to Kevin Patterson our quiz-master who travelled from Belfast to provided a very entertaining evening. Congratulations to "Kitty Shambles" aka Richard Leckey, Jamie Grant, Jeff Haire,

Shane McDonald and Johny Webber who gained top spot on the night. Congratulations boys!!

Eden-tots have been busy making Rudolf 's to bring home when this term finishes on Thursday 8th December. We hope Santa brings something special to Maxine, Beryl and all our members and we look forward to seeing everyone back for more fun in January 2006!! If you would like to drop in to our group you will be made very welcome on Thursdays mornings between 10.30 and 12.30.

*Everyone welcome, Dad's and Granda's too Thursdays 10.30-12.30 (or any time in between).◆*

## CLASSICAL BALLET DANCING

The Cultural & Historical Society are continuing to run their very successful Classical Ballet Dancing Classes for children from P1 to U6

the tutor is Mrs Caroline Robinson For information on the classes **Phone 9045 6005◆**

## First Portadown Presbyterian Church Edenderry

### CHRISTMAS MENU

We invite you to participate in the sumptuous selection of soul-satisfying spiritual food which is being prepared and served at our church this Christmas season.

#### APPETISERS

**Sunday 18 December at 11.30am**

An All-Age offering designed to get the juices flowing in anticipation of the Big Day. An attractive presentation of the well-known message of Christmas with the assistance of our youngest chefs, the Children's Christmas Choir.

**Sunday 18 December at 7pm**

A traditional feast of Christmas Readings and Music led by our Choir. This will be a heart-warming and rich reflection on the coming of Christ into the world which will be a tasty prelude to Christmas week. It will be followed by refreshments for the physical body in the Church Hall afterwards.

#### MAIN COURSE

**Sunday 25 December at 10.30am**

Our mouth-watering main course of worship on Christmas Day will suit all the family and all tastes. Come and share this time of carefully-prepared worship, spiced with all the flavours of Christmas, as families come together to celebrate the Incarnation.

**Sunday 25 December at 6.30pm**

A reflective time of worship as we slowly digest the message of Christmas and allow the Spirit of Christmas to fill our hearts.

#### DESSERT

**Saturday 31 December AT 7.30pm**

A time to work off all the extra calories consumed as we join with the whole family in an evening of games, fun and fellowship. This evening is open to everyone, but because of anticipated numbers, prior booking is essential.

**Please phone Jim on 38391830 or return your reply slip by 11th December.**

#### Edenderry Community Development Association

#### Coming Events

December Morning	Christmas Coffee
January 2006	Bob Guy Slide show Storey Tellers
February	F Cooper Film Show
March	W F Marshall Evening
May	36 <sup>th</sup> Ulster Div Lecture

#### Edenderry Community Development Association

#### NEW WEB SITE

We are presently developing a new Web Site which we hope to get up and running early in 2006,

The site will contain information on all our activities, contacts, a comments page, photographs, stories links to other useful sites and of course this newsletter and back copies.

The new website address will be

[WWW.EDENDERRY.CO.UK](http://WWW.EDENDERRY.CO.UK)

Edenderry Community Development Association wish all their readers a very

**HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A PEACEFUL AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR**

# Edenderry News

December 05

Page 5

## **SOME THOUGHTS ON EDENDERRY BY VERA SMITH**

The river Bann is the pivot around which the Borough of Portadown, now the Borough of Craigavon, was built. The first families to reside in the area saw the potential of such a waterway and their vision has brought to birth a town of which every citizen can be proud. From a few families, Portadown has emerged from a small community to a cosmopolitan Borough. The citizens of our borough should be proud of our history and seek to build into its development for future generations. There was not the confusion and build up of traffic we have today in Edenderry. The town was not more than a small village at this period in its history. By the year 1836 there were imports and exports by the River Bann - 18 boats belonging to the town, from 45 to 60 tons each. Iron 250; coal 600; slates 200; flour 50; oatmeal 110 tons a total of 1700 tons of imports. Three-quarters of the timber came from Newry; one-quarter from Belfast - The coal - 200 tons came from Coalisland and the rest from Newry. Groceries, hardware, drapery, etc., came by road from Belfast. Total exports from Portadown amounted to 5,000 tons. Wheat 2,250; oats 2,500; barley 250.

### **SEVERE WINTER SPELLS HARDSHIP**

To provide for the 156 families, totalling 745 residents of Portadown in 1837, the town's leaders met in a local church to discuss the devastating results of a severe winter among the poor and distressed families. Land owners of the town including Thomas Conn, James Halligan, Paul Irwin, James Money penny, Thomas Pepper, Thomas and John Shillington, and Joseph Woolsey, discussed measures of relief. Members of the committee were appointed to visit the poor in their respective town lands and ascertain the amount of distress and the number of the poor, both as to families and individuals. The men decided that 'a subscription list' be set up immediately and appointments were made to attend to this urgent matter - they were to 'select objects and determine mode and amount of relief'. At their next meeting, their report was negative, and the results revealed that 'the only one to contribute was Thomas Patterson from the small district of Ballyworkan, who produced £3:00.' It was decided that Thomas Patterson and James Monypenny, 'shall lay it out according to their own discretion.' The meeting was adjourned, and the committee was not heard of again! I conclude that the men who met at that meeting founded the old Portadown Borough Council, for succeeding mayor's carried the Woolsey /Wolsey name. The late Henry Wolsey, who together with a few other land owners founded the Portadown Times, traced his ancestry to the original Woolsey families.

### **A BRIGHT FUTURE FOR EDENDERRY**

Bridge Street and Edenderry are on the map again. With the redevelopment of the Newry Canal system and the resurfacing of the pedestrian area along the Bann from the Pleasure Gardens, it paves the way for a brighter future. When the new Bridge opens, this should become a major attraction and make the waterway a pleasure for walkers and a paradise for fishermen. Hopefully, we shall see the area welcoming more visitors from Europe and beyond to navigate our waterway heritage and enjoy the quietness and pleasure of the Ulster countryside.

Those residents who have lived in Edenderry for generations and businesses that have been affected by the disruption of the work on the new bridge are longing for the day when the area will be transformed. Many of our senior citizens want to live to see the day when the happiness of their childhood will be restored for all to enjoy. Those involved in business want to see a vibrant and thriving commercial Edenderry buzzing with activity and a pleasure for shoppers.

I think my ancestors, especially Benjamin Woolsey, on whose estate Edenderry was founded, would be proud of such development! The Christmas decorations have brightened the town and lifted the spirits of all. Our council have done an excellent job! CONGRATULATIONS!

The ongoing work on the bridge would tend to cast a shadow over Edenderry, but we will not weaken in our endeavour to rise beyond the disappointment and anticipate *THE BEST CHRISTMAS EVER* and the prospect of a face lift for the whole Bridge Street and Edenderry areas in the near future.

The people of Edenderry are resilient and will enjoy the pre-Christmas atmosphere of family friendliness, and Good Will.

**HAPPY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE!**

*Vera Smith. (c) 2005*



**Ian Milne & Sons**  
**FUNERAL DIRECTORS**

Headstone and Masonry work carried out at realistic prices

**Funeral Home**  
59, Seagoe Road, Portadown  
Tel: (028) 3833 8888



**Eden**  
**PHARMACY**

82 Bridge street, Portadown  
Phone 028 3835 3322

## WADE POTTERY FACTORY WATSON STREET PORTADOWN

The Wade address and lecture took place in Edenderry Orange Hall on Wednesday 26th October 2005 at 8.00pm.

Dr John Wright gave a brief outline of the progress regarding the publication of two books in 2007.

Cardwell McClure showed photos of rare and unique items he had come across as well as backstamps from 1947 to 1992 when the factory closed. Andrew Herron explained how he came to be in possession of so much old



newspaper cuttings going back to when the factory opened. He also has in his possession the original factory visitor's book. Harry Eakin had part of his collection on display and gave a very interesting talk on same. The meeting was well attended and due to popular demand it was agreed to repeat the address and lecture in the Millennium Court in the New Year.

Mr. McClure, Enid Lavery and Audrey Quinn will be in the Millennium Court each Wednesday from 10.00am to noon to interview ex-employees about interesting/serious stories. They also would be keen to photograph rare or unique items.

They would especially like to see any of the following items:-  
Fire Tankards, Sporting Tankards (Rugby, Soccer),  
Presentation Plaques (10, 15, and 25 year service).

**PLEASE CALL AND SEE THEM AT THE MILLENNIUM COURT WHERE YOU WILL BE MADE VERY WELCOME. ♦**

## ***HEROES OF EDENDERRY***

by James S. Kane  
Chairman Edenderry Historical and Cultural Society

*At this seasonal time our thoughts should dwell on those who are no longer with us, though moving letters and eyewitness accounts James Kane tells the story of Thomas Cordner of Joseph Street, Edenderry who was killed trying to save the life of his comrade.*

# Thomas Cordner

Thomas was born on 14 November 1895 the Son of Emily and stepson of Joseph McCrory of Foundry Street, Portadown. He served in 'A' Company, 1st Battalion, Royal Irish Fusiliers. Private Cordner had risked his life in helping one of his wounded colleagues as Private Edward Burns of Jackson's Row described.

You ask me to let you know how poor Thomas Cordner met his death. Well it was trying to save W. Hanvey. After Hanvey got wounded Thomas went out to try and bring him into the trenches, when he also met the same fate. Both died shortly after. He was my best chum. He and I used to lie awake at night and talk how we would spend Christmas in Portadown. Little did we think he was so near the end. A short while before his death Thomas had written a poignant letter to his mother.

*Just a few lines in answer to your loving letter. Glad to hear you are not too bad. We came back to Shorncliffe this morning from Minster to mobilise. We expect to be in touch with the enemy on the 14<sup>th</sup> of this month, but, mother, I will go out with a good heart. We are in one of the divisions that go out first. I am sending you these photos and prayerbook. You can do what you wish with them, but if ever I have the luck to come home I would like to get some of them. I send the children my best love. I would like to hear from you before I go out. From your loving son, to mother, til death.*

Private 11254, Thomas Cordner 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, Royal Irish Fusiliers was killed in action on 9 November 1914 in Belgium aged 18 years. He lies buried in Strand Military Cemetery Ploegsteert, Belgium.

**Eden**  
**CLEANERS**  
Expert dry cleaning  
60 Bridge street, Portadown  
Phone 028 3835 2472

**John C Hoy**  
Northern Ireland  
Institute of Meat  
Champion Steak burgers  
**2004 and 2005**  
Portadown's longest established butchers  
105 Bridge Street, Portadown  
Telephone 028 3833 2402

**JOSEPH POOTS  
& SONS**  
FUNERAL DIRECTORS  
AND  
MEMORIAL MASONS  
Pre-Arranged Funeral Plans

Our trained consultants will assist with organising your requirements.  
Secure our costs at to-days prices.  
Organise the future and ensure peace of mind for you and your family.

42 Bridge Street, Portadown  
Craigavon BT63 5AE  
Telephone (028) 3835 2154/3835

**T.R. McConnell**  
Wallpaper, Paints & Soft Furnishings



62-64 Bridge Street, Portadown, BT63 5AE  
Tel: 028 3833 5257

**CARLETON CREDIT UNION Ltd**  
REGISTERED OFFICE  
6, Carleton Street, Portadown BT62  
OPENING HOURS FRIDAY 4PM TO 7.40PM  
*Why not join Carleton Credit Union today  
and build a future for you and your family.*

# COFFEE MORNING

## EDENDERRY ORANGE HALL

### 11.00AM, FRIDAY, 9TH DECEMBER 2005

## Admission Free

ALL WELCOME MEET YOUR NEIGHBOURS AND FRIENDS

### **SPRINGS CHRISTIAN LITATURE**

**DAILY GEMS OF TRUTH**  
**BY VERA SMITH**

**MAKES AN IDEAL GIFT FOR CHRISTMAS**

**Price only £9.95 Get your copy now!!**

**NOW AVAILABLE at**

Agnes & Cecil, Cards and Gifts, Tandragee  
Alexanders, Markethill  
Faith Mission Bookshops, Armagh Lurgan Portadown  
ICM Books, 115 Dunkirk Rd, Lurgan  
P & G Family Stores, Portadown  
Scotch Street Filling Station  
Supervalu & T Junction Richhill

Or from **SPRINGS CHRISTIAN LITATURE**

93a Kilvergan Road, Lurgan  
Tel (028) 3839 2274 / 3834 2011  
Fax (028) 3839 2274

**GOAL LINE YOUTH  
CENTRE PROUDLY PRESENTS  
THE BIG CHRISTMAS  
FUNDRAISING**

## DISCO

**FOR YOUTH AID AFRICA  
WITH DJ "WEBBER"**

**SATURDAY  
10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2005**

**ADMISSION: £2.50**

**UNDER 14'S ONLY AND  
STRICTLY NO ALCOHOL**