

Edenderry News

FREE

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March 2011

Many Thanks to the Community Relations and the Big Lottery Awards for All

This newsletter, and the previous three, has been generously funded by the Community Relations Council. Without this help was would not have been as successful in letting you all know what our group has to offer. As a result of this publication we have welcomed more residents to our events and courses and got to meet a wide cross-section of those of you who live and work in Edenderry. We feel that we have enhanced community relations amongst residents and provided an open-door policy to improve the quality of neighbourly awareness in our vicinity.



Computer Class



Wood Craft Class



Art Class



Card Craft Class

Our programme this year would not have been as varied or rewarding but for the financial help of the Big Lottery Awards for All. We have added computer classes, art

classes, wood craft classes, a photography course and card craft tuition to our line-up and enjoyed lectures, demonstrations, film shows and coach tours. It has been a

very busy year but one which has reached out to with the aim of having something for everyone to participate in if they chose to do so. We have had very positive

feedback from both our newsletter and our programme and we aim to build on encouraging response. Thank you to everyone who has supported us this year.



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Sad Passing of Edenderry Cobbler - Obituary

Ivan Abraham was a well known character in Edenderry who always had time for a chat with those who came into his shop in Bridge Street. He expertly mended all sorts of footwear and many will have memories of having their school satchels repaired by him. Ivan Abraham began his career as a cobbler in Lurgan with Billy England and worked in Hobson's Shoes in Woodhouse Street before setting up in Edenderry in 1955. It was in

premises in Bridge Street that Ivan launched his business and his shop remained opened for business until 2004 when he retired at the age of 70.

He mended innumerable pairs of shoes in the traditional manner and was not afraid of criticising the substandard workmanship of hi-tech times! Ivan, a true craftsman, was a pleasure to visit. He knew all his customers by name having time to chat with them about their hobbies, families and friends. Many will have fond memories

of visiting the shop and will still remember the distinctive smell of the leather which met you as you opened the door.

Gospel music was always close to Ivan's heart although it wasn't until his 50's that he began to sing in public and became known as 'The Singing Cobbler'. Country and Western Gospel music was a particular favourite of Ivan's. He brought his daughters to concerts and, being outstanding singers, he encouraged them to sing in public and cut gospel music

records. When his daughters married at left home, Ivan decided to join the C&W gospel circuit and later he cut two LP's along with Tommy Gibson and Jim King. Many will recall Ivan introducing the Radio Gospel programme 'Showers of Blessing' and his famous closing line of 'May the Lord bless you real'.

We in Edenderry Community Development Association wish to pass on our heartfelt sympathies to Ivan's wife Lorna and his daughters Venita and Adele and their families.

UPDATES & REMINDERS - CHANGE OF DATE

Due to unforeseen circumstance the presentation on the History of Portadown Foundry Ltd has had to be postponed. This presentation will now take place on Monday 9th May at 8pm.

The Cultural and Historical Society are sorry to have to change the original date of this event but can assure everyone of a very interesting and informative evening on Monday 9th May. It has taken many hours of investigative study on behalf of all the research volunteers to uncover the amazing untold



history of Portadown Foundry Ltd. Many will remember its existence in Foundry Street and others,

new to Edenderry, may be inquisitive to read the street sign not be aware of the industrious work

carried out for almost 150 years.

During the prime time of its life the foundry employed

over 100 people at its site on the banks of the river Bann.

Two years after having started their investigations the team are full of enthusiasm with their subsequent findings and are extremely keen to present their results to the wider public. Edenderry has an exceedingly rich industrial history and was the nucleus of the development of Portadown.

There are many fine examples of the foundry's work throughout the town and indeed throughout Northern Ireland.



CONGRATULATIONS!!! To the lecture team of Edenderry Junior LOL 51.

You may remember that the boys of JLOL51 had made it through to the Junior Grand Orange Lodge Lecturing Competitions in Maghera. We are extremely proud

to report that the boys did exceptionally well coming second overall and finishing ahead of the team that beat them in the County finals. It takes a lot of commitment from the young boys and

their supervisors to enter such an event and it shows great discipline on behalf of the boys. It is a daunting task to enter a room in a building you are not familiar with and to face a panel of

people you do not know, with the knowledge that you are expected to remember passages which that same panel know word perfectly. Many.

Congratulations Boys.



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WE'RE LOOKING FOR 'FRIENDS'



website launched in February 2004 which now has more than 600 million active users.

It is an excellent tool for keeping like minded people informed and is an excellent advertising medium.

Facebook is a social networking

We have just setup our own page and are looking for 'friends'.

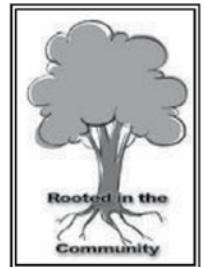
If you are registered with Facebook why not send us a friend request.

I promise we will confirm your request and 'add' you to our

'friends' list.

You can find us at facebook.com/edenderry.c.d.a

If you are not registered and are at least 13 years old you can become a registered user via the Facebook website.



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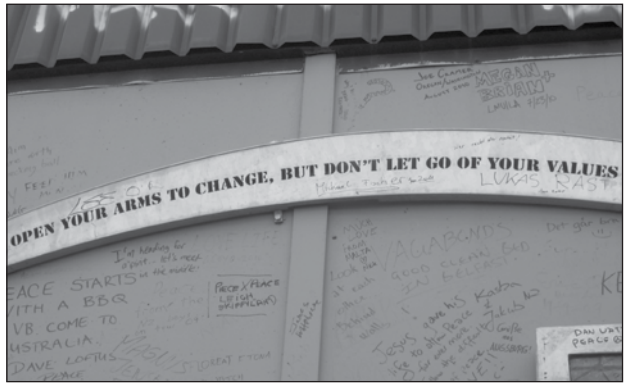
Community Relations Council
Equity Diversity Interdependence

From Carrickfergus to Belfast



The sun shone brightly on Saturday 19th March as a full coach left Edenderry en route to Carrickfergus. Our onboard tour guide was Mrs Barbara Ferguson of Armagh Guided Tours, Northern Ireland. Barbara is a Blue Badge and Failte Ireland Trained Guide, born and bred in County Armagh. Her knowledge of our country is second to none and as for

her craic – well if you’ve never been in her company you’re sure missing out. The journey to Carrickfergus took but a fleeting moment as she mixed history with humour and learning with laughter. Our tour of the castle was under the guidance of the castle staff who told of past times in the historic structure which is one of Northern Ireland’s most striking monuments. The



building is brought to life with marvellous visual aids and hands-on artefacts and is a truly enjoyable

experience for young and old alike.

After a short lunch break in Belfast city centre we

handed proceedings over to Barbara for our ‘Sights of Belfast’ tour. Most of those on the bus





had never crossed the city's divides. We had heard news reports on West Belfast, East Belfast, the Shankill and the Falls but never truly understood the geography of those areas. We knew of the difficulties faced by the ordinary working class people of the city but had never had first hand experience of their communities. Barbara pointed out the murals on the gable ends which revealed the beliefs of each area and we saw how those murals were being changed to portray a change in attitudes. The stop at the peace wall was a chance to see at first hand efforts being made to mark a new phase in our country. The waste land was being developed with new social housing and children's play areas as the residents try to build a better future and increase community relations. There are many encouraging messages written on the peace wall and we had a chance to add to those.

As we travelled on to the Titanic Quarter Barbara pointed out many landmarks

that many of us had passed before but never seen them for the magnificent splendour that they are.

The modern buildings and regeneration of the docklands seem almost 'space-age' as they sit shadowed by the cranes of Harland and Wolff. We were amazed to see down into the dry-docks where the famous ship Titanic was built.

We were given a general idea of the tourist facilities in the dock by Colin Cobb of Titanic Walking Tours. On leaving us Colin said "We built a magnificent ship and it was fine when it left here. We're proud of that. It took an English captain, a Scottish first officer and a Canadian iceberg to sink her."

At the end of a very informative day we arrived at the La Mon House Hotel for a gorgeous meal and a chance to chat about the highlights of our tour.

May we take this opportunity to thank Barbara, Don (our coach driver) and all of those who came along to make this a very enjoyable experience.



ROYAL WEDDING 'Street Party'

Whether or not you are a royal fan, the wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton on 29th April 2011 will be a great chance or excuse to get out with your neighbours and 'let your hair down'. But this date may be too chilly for a proper street party as the Met Office says the average top temperature for then is 16C. For this reason we will hold our party indoors! Whilst 'The Royal Wedding' may be a sensitive subject for some people, and there will be a range of views amongst our neighbours, the main aim of the day is so that we can share some fun together.

It may surprise you to know that an estimated 2 Million

people are expected to hold Street Parties because of the Royal Wedding (figures taken from www.streetparty.org.uk). That's a lot of fizzy drinks and yummy cake!

Street parties have a long history and are a British tradition that seems to have started in 1919. They were held in July of that year as 'Peace Teas' as a genuine celebration of the signing earlier in June of the Versailles peace treaty after the First World War.

At that time they centred round a special treat for the children who had lived through that time of hardship and were really quite formal sit down affairs. After then residents continued

to organise them on all major national days of celebration. We now see street parties as more relaxed and aimed at every resident in the street. They are a good way of building community spirit at local level through neighbours meeting each other. By 'street party' we mean a party organised by and for residents only as a private event and not a public affair with wider publicity and needing lots of money.

The organisation of our event is at an early stage and we would welcome ideas, input and help from anyone who feels they could add to this historic occasion. One young mother in the area has suggested we have a themed fancy dress party -



'Prince and Princess' - 'Kings and Queens'. We know that children love to dress-up and we would hope that the adults would also get into the spirit of the day. Let your imagination run free!

Could you be a King Kong?, the King of Rock n Roll? Prince Charming? or a Disney Princess? If you have any photographs of street parties in Edenderry over the 1900's we

would love to see them.

Please contact us via mail@edenderry.co.uk, by leaving a message on our answer machine 07769 737297 or by dropping us a line ECDA, c/o Edenderry Orange Hall, Bridge Street, Portadown BT63 5AP.

Look out for posters in the Edenderry shops for more information closer to the event!



- To meet your neighbours in a fun way where everyone can join in. With busy and more independent lives we normally have fewer chances to bump into people.
- To build a friendly community, rather than being strangers - you don't have to become friends, just neighbours.
- To keep the tradition of street parties alive.
- To create an atmosphere where all ages and backgrounds can mingle in a relaxed way with less fear of difference.
- So that our children can play safely and adults can join in too!

Newsletter funded by



Community Relations Council
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An Edenderry Street Party 1953 Coronation

FRONT ROW LEFT TO RIGHT

Albert Lyttle Vera McCann Dorothy Connelly Vivienne Bleak Margaret McDowell
Millicent Magee Trevor McAdam Trevor McClure Gordon Liggett

BACK ROW
LEFT TO RIGHT
Helen Magee
Anne McDowell
Grace Magee
Barbara Lyttle Annie
Connelly
Joan McCullough
Martin Loney
Jackie Gibson



Florence Court (Edenderry) - 1953 Coronation Party



A street party was held in Florence Court in 1953 to celebrate the Coronation of queen Elizabeth11. In this photo the children are being presented with Coronation medals & mugs. Our thanks to Harry McCullagh an ex-resident of the street for allowing us to use this photo. We would be pleased to hear from anyone who could identify the children in the photo or any of the residents. The gentleman presenting the mugs is Cllr R J Magowan.

Edenderry Community Development Association

7TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday 12th April ~ 8pm

EDENDERRY ORANGE HALL

Everyone Welcome

Light Supper will be served at the close of the meeting

It's hard to believe that we are now making arrangements for our 7th AGM. As I look back on the work we have undertaken since we began back in March 2004 I find it hard to believe how quickly time has past.

We started back then full of enthusiasm inspired by the late Jim Edgar and his desire to put a heart back into the community of Edenderry.

This has been an exceptionally busy year for us.

We have been fortunate to have had attracted funding from Craigavon Borough Council, the Big Lottery Awards for All, the Community Relations Council and the County Armagh Community Development team.

I would encourage to you all to come along to our AGM and listen to our end of year reports.

See at first hand how our outreach programme has connected with those living and working in our shared

environment. Find out how we have improved community relations in Edenderry and take the chance to give us your feedback on how we have performed this year.

Shirley Branan
Chair ECDA

EDENDERRY CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PRESENTATION OF

THE HISTORY OF PORTADOWN FOUNDRY LTD

MONDAY 9th MAY 2011 — 8.00pm

EDENDERRY ORANGE HALL

SPEAKERS: C. McClURE and W. STEEN

ADMISSION
£2
INCLUDES
SUPPER

EVERYONE
WELCOME



Supported by

The National Lottery
through the Heritage Lottery Fund



E.C.D.A. MEET IN EDENDERRY ORANGE HALL

www.edenderry.co.uk contact us: mail@edenderry.co.uk

answer service: **07769 737297**



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