

Edenderry News

FREE

June 2008

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Edenderry Arch Dedication Souvenir Edition 14th June 2008

Edenderry was without its famous arch in 2007 due to major health and safety concerns over the 60 year old structure. Indeed the "Twelfth" seemed incomplete without the famous arch spanning Edenderry Square. The committee have worked very hard to meet the deadline for the dedication of the new arch on 14th June. To date the committee have raised over £22K and are stepping up their efforts to raise the remaining money required to provide permanent covered storage for the new arch.

A public meeting was held in Edenderry Orange Hall on Monday 10 September. The meeting which was very well attended listened to the various proposals as to the future of the Arch. It was unanimously agreed that a new arch should be in place for July 2008. At the meeting Mr Trevor Bonis intimated that a new arch would cost in the region of £20K. and in order to have the arch designed, manufactured and the civil work completed in time for July 2008 we would require a substantial amount of the money by the end of October. The meeting decided that to achieve this we would seek donations or loans of £100 and fund raise over the next 5 years to pay off any outstanding loans.

SUPERB COMMUNITY EFFORT The people of Portadown and those further a field met the challenge and contributions for the new arch have flooded in from the residents of Edenderry as well as from well wishers throughout Northern Ireland. Several Edenderry families living abroad as far away as Canada, South Africa and, incredible as it may seem, Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia, have made significant contributions. Within six months of the New Arch Appeal launch £22,000 has been raised - a wonderful effort by any standards. The committee ably assisted by members of LOL 322 and RBP 80 organised a street collection in the greater Edenderry area which brought in the staggering total of £6,000. As yet NO fund raising events have taken place and we have been overwhelmed by the response of the general public to our Arch Appeal Fund. More financial aid is still required for storage and to maintain the arch as the premier one in the whole of Northern Ireland. You can help by purchasing the special souvenir medals and badges or by making a monetary contribution to the fund.

An important milestone was reached on St. Patrick's Day with the installation of the new foundations and bases. The arch will be dedicated to the Glory of God and in memory of all those who have laid down their lives for our country throughout history.

This event is a major historic community event in the life of Edenderry and opened to ALL regardless of race, political affiliation, nationality or religious persuasion.



Excavating the new foundations

Edenderry Arch Committee would like to record their sincere appreciation and thanks to all for the generous financial contributions received, 99% of the money by way of gifts. ♦

Edenderry Arch

One of the most historic structures in Edenderry is the magnificent arch that is erected every year as part of the 12 July celebrations, an arch has been erected in the Edenderry area for more than 100 years. The first arch was erected in Edenderry in 1900 and this was remodelled in 1907. In 1920 a third arch was constructed and erected by Bob Adair, Joe Pearson, Peter Kane, George Ramsey and Joe Robinson. Between the wars Harry Kane served as Chairman of Edenderry Arch Committee. After the war it was decided to erect a new arch in memory of Harry Kane who served as a signalman had been lost at sea during World War Two. The arch was designed and constructed in Portadown Foundry by voluntary labour. It comprised 1,372 separate pieces held together by 5,000 welds and 2,000 bolts. On 11 July 1951 Mrs Sarah Kane unveiled the new Edenderry Arch. The arch has been erected every year since 1951. Chairmen of the arch committee since then have included Samuel Roney, Adrian Branyan and Ronald Roney who is the current chairman.

In 2004 the arch underwent a major refurbishment scheme costing £4,000, which utilised modern computer design and the latest plastic cladding materials. The whole structure was stripped down to the original steel and sand blasted to remove 50 years of paint, rust and dirt. A dedicated team of volunteers, including women and children, spent most of June 2004 repainting and cladding the arch ready for its erection in time for the 1 July celebrations.



Unfortunately in 2007 the committee had to take the unenviable decision not to erect arch this year for health and safety reasons and the decision was taken to commence fund raising and have a completely new arch for 2008, the new arch is a completely different design which incorporates aspects of the old arch design and a memorial for all those who served in Her Majesty's Forces right up to the present day.

The main span of the arch is constructed from non corrosive lightweight aluminium, the crown and the ships from the old arch are reused and all the graphics have been computer generated. The arch can be lifted into place by 2 men using pulley blocks in as little as 30 minutes. ♦

SOUVENIR MEDAL AND BADGE

A superb new souvenir medal and badge have been issued to mark the dedication of the new arch in Edenderry. This highly detailed and attractive medal and badge have been specially designed by James Kane, the grandson of Signalman Harry Kane RN, who was chairman of the arch committee in the 1930s and who was lost at sea on 21 June 1940.

The limited edition medal is sure to become a collectors' item for the future. This is the first time in history that a medal has been produced to commemorate the dedication of an arch in Portadown.

The medal is suspended from a red, white and blue ribbon.

Atop the ribbon is a bar inscribed **PORTADOWN**.

The medal is inscribed with words from scripture familiar to many

FEAR GOD HONOUR THE KING LOVE THE BROTHERHOOD

Special Limited Edition Medal £15 each.

Special commemorative badges, featuring the same design as the medal, are also available in red and blue and blue and red editions.

Special Souvenir Badge - £2.50 each.

The medal (and badges) can be obtained on 14 June evening during the dedication ceremony when they will be on sale. Or contact any member of Edenderry Community Development Association or Edenderry Arch Committee at ????

ARCH MEDAL - SYMBOLS EXPLAINED

The symbols within the medal design all have a special meaning and have been chosen with great care and attention to detail

Crown – representing our allegiance to the Royal Family.

Union Flag - representing our country.

Orange Flag – representing the loyal orders and King William III, Prince of Orange who delivered us from tyranny and arbitrary power.

Cannon – representing those men and women from Edenderry who have served their King/Queen and Country in HM Forces. It also reminds us of the stout hearted defence of Londonderry during the siege of 1688-89.

Sailing Ship – representing the people of Edenderry who left their native soil for far off lands. It also reminds us of the ships that relieved Londonderry during the siege of 1688-89.

Holy Bible – representing our belief and trust in God.

Oak leaves & Acorn – representing the town land and people of Edenderry (hill of the oak wood). An industrious people many of whom made a significant contribution to the growth, wealth and development of the town of Portadown.

1900, 1907, 1921, and 1951 – These years represent the four previous arches erected in Edenderry. ♦



Hall Refurbishment



Supported by
The National Lottery[®]
through the Big Lottery Fund



Thanks to a grant from the Big Lottery Fund Improving Community Buildings refurbishment work has commenced on Edenderry Orange Hall, members of LOL 322 have completely gutted the interior of the hall in preparation for building work to commence in the middle of June.

Contractors have been appointed and when the work is complete at the end of August we will have modern facilities which will include an additional committee room, new kitchen and toilets.

The improvements will double the capacity of the hall for meetings and other activities.


Edenderry Community Development Association intend to arrange a series of new activities for the autumn. ♦

100 YEARS IN BUSINESS

CONGRATULATIONS to two Edenderry businesses Joseph Poots & Son and The Ulster Arms neighbouring business who together have clocked up 100 years in business!!

Sam Poots of Joseph Poots & Son has celebrated 70 years of business in Edenderry and during that time the Poots family and staff have touched many Portadown families with their kindness at difficult times as well as happy occasions. Sam is a gentleman in the true sense of the word and we wish him, his family and colleagues many more years in business.

Gary Adams has just celebrated 30 years in Portadown's oldest 'pub', the Ulster Arms, Edenderry. Gary and his late father, Billy, cheered many a heart in the family-run establishment. No matter when one crosses the threshold there's a family member on duty to warmly greet you. We wish Gary, June and their family many more happy years in business. ♦

DAVID
JAMESON
GROUP OF COMPANIES
ROOFING BUILDING DEVELOPMENTS PROPERTY SKIP HIRE 

CONGRATULATIONS TO EDENDERRY ON THEIR NEW ARCH

VICO DEVELOPMENT

Edenderry Business and Residents Association having recently had meetings with the VICO Group representatives invited our MP, MLA's and local councillors to a special committee meeting. The only item on the agenda was the regeneration of Edenderry within the town centre boundary. Eight of our elected representatives were invited and those who attended the meeting were Mr David Simpson MP, MLA, Cllr Ronnie Harkness, Cllr Kenneth Twyble and Cllr Philip Weir.

Chairperson, Mr Adrian Branyan outlined the history of the VICO proposals since their conception in 1995. He highlighted the red tape the project had gone through and noted that, although part of the proposals had been given outlining planning permission, everything hinged on the Town Centre Boundaries public inquiry appeal results. If Edenderry is to be regenerated then it must not be removed from its town centre status, after all Edenderry is where the town of Portadown was incubated.

The results of this appeal will shape our area and have important implications to the life of Edenderry. No right minded person wants a main arterial route into their town centre to remain in a state of dereliction and neglect.

The elected representative gave an insight into the red tape and assured the meeting that they would all do all in their power to promote Edenderry's regeneration. The result of the Appeal is to be announced by the Minister at the end of June and we look forward to a favourable outcome with Edenderry being given back the status we deserve. ♦

EDENDERRY'S PICTORIAL PAST

Edenderry Cultural and Historical Society have been researching the Edenderry area since December 2007. With the assistance of grant aid from Craigavon LSP and the European Fund the Society propose to launch a pictorial booklet on the history of the area. These books will be available later in the year. A special night will be arranged to launch the book and we hope that as many residents as possible (past and present) will attend. **The book will include articles and photos of schools, factories, churches, local sports teams, the famous arch and many more unique photographs.** Copies can be ordered via our website www.edenderry.co.uk or through the Community Group's Officers.

"Edenderry's Pictorial Past" is a tribute to those who made Edenderry "The Hub of Portadown" and has been made possible by the efforts of Cardwell McClure, Eric Dale, Roy Roney, Fred Woods, Adrian Branyan and George Weir.

It is intended to encourage former and current residents to take a renewed pride and interest in their area. ♦



Bulbs Galore in Edenderry Edenderry Sees the Light Free Bulbs for Edenderry from NIE Energy

NIE Energy has helped the people of Edenderry by giving away hundreds of free energy saving light bulbs.

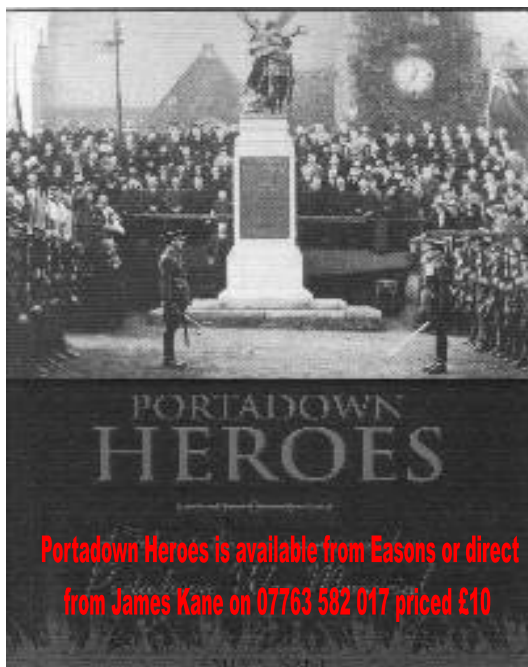
Edenderry Residents Group members recently received the free light bulbs, which will help them reduce the amount of electricity they use in their own homes. An energy saving bulb uses a fifth of the electricity of a normal bulb so each bulb, when put in a frequently used light, can save up to £10 a year off your electricity bill.

Mark Proctor from the Residents Group, said: "The energy saving light bulbs we received from NIE Energy have been given out to older people in our community group. We hope that through getting these light bulbs, residents will be more aware of energy efficiency and how easy it is to achieve. I also hope that by receiving these energy saving light bulbs, families will start taking further measures to be more energy efficient in the future."

Energy saving bulbs were once much larger than standard bulbs and either didn't fit or poked out the top of the lamp shade. That's no longer the case. You can now get energy saving bulb equivalents of nearly every shape of bulb you might need, and they start almost instantly and are brighter as well."

With rising energy prices and climate change, using energy as efficiently and effectively as we can in our homes is a major consideration for us all.

The schemes range from helping to pay to replace Economy 7 heating with a more energy efficient gas heating system, to giving free insulation or up to £300 cash back to householders to help with the cost of installing cavity wall and loft insulation. If you are interested in looking at how to reduce your energy bills, you can get free and impartial energy saving advice by calling the Energy Saving Trust advice centre on free phone 0800 512 012 or go to www.est.org.uk. ♦



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Historic Tour of 'Derry

On Saturday 10th May Edenderry Community Development Association added a very successful outing to historic 'Derry to their list of achievements to date. A full coach left the Fairgreen at 8.30 am and we had morning coffee in the Mid-Ulster garden centre on our way



Members and visitors viewing 'Roaring Meg' on the City Walls

to the Maiden City. The group was taken on a guided of the Apprentice Boys Memorial Hall, which included a talk on the Siege and its importance in world history, this was followed by a conducted tour and very informative address of Saint Columb's Cathedral the organized events culminated in and a walk on the famous Walls of Derry themselves. There was some free shopping and sightseeing time in the city before heading to the Corrick House Hotel, Clougher for a four course evening meal. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the

European Peace & Reconciliation Fund for grant-aiding this event. ♦

Belly Dance Project

We had great interest in our Belly Dance classes with 27 ladies coming along at least once and a core of 15 ladies attending most of the ten classes. The programme helped new friendships develop and the ladies were so keen we continued the classes for a further 8 weeks. Our instructor was so impressed with the enthusiasm of the pupils that she arranged for us to perform in Belfast at a Belly Dance fundraising event where almost £1000 was raised for charity. Our thanks go the **Southern Investing in Health Partnership** for the funding of the initial ten week course. Classes will resume in Edenderry Orange Hall in September and new members will be made very welcome. ♦



CONGRATULATIONS TO EDENDERRY ON THEIR NEW ARCH

JOHN C. HOY
105 BRIDGE STREET, PORTADOWN, CO. ARMAGH. BT63 5AA
TEL: 028 3833 2402

HOYS THE BUTCHER



FREE

ARCH DEDICATION

AND OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY

8.30PM SATURDAY 14TH JUNE

PROGRAMME

6.20pm : FLOWERS OF THE BANN DANCERS

6.40pm : SONS OF THE BANN DRUMMERS

7.00pm : PORTADOWN DISTRICT MINI 12TH PARADE

7.20pm : THE BREWERY BOYS ~ FOLK GROUP

8.30pm ARCH DEDICATION AND OFFICIAL OPENING
CEREMONY

9.15pm : THE BREWERY BOYS

10.15pm : **SPECTACULAR FINALE**

10.30pm : THE BREWERY BOYS

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN