

# Edenderry News

February 06

**FREE**

Published by Edenderry Community Development Association Page 1

## ECDA Grant

Edenderry Community Development Association have received an award from Awards for All for cataloguing The Bob Guy Slide Collection and recording the oral history of Edenderry

Bob Guy's wife Myrtle presented Edenderry with all Bob's equipment and over 2000 slides, of Loyal Order Demonstrations and events in and around Portadown taken over the past 30 years by her husband. Jim Kane has started to sort the slides and catalogue them we then intend to get the slides scanned and make them available on our web site [www.edenderry.co.uk](http://www.edenderry.co.uk) which is at present under construction.

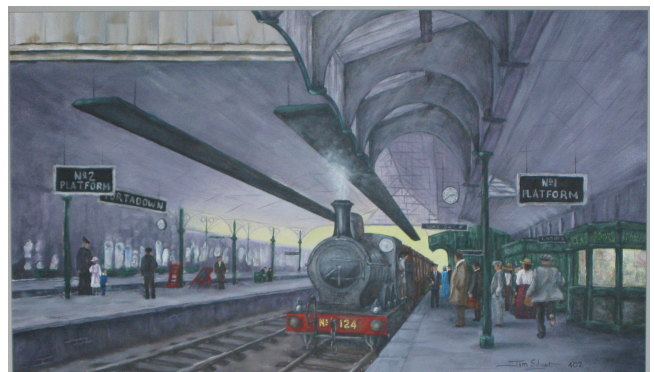
We will be interviewing and recording anyone with memories of the Edenderry area with a view to transcribing their memories and making them available on the web site. If you are willing to take part either by contributing material or as a volunteer contact Cardwell McClure in the Millennium Court William Street, Portadown from 10.00 am. to 1.00 pm. each Wednesday, phone him at 3833 3988 or e-mail [cardwell.mcclure@btopenworld.com](mailto:cardwell.mcclure@btopenworld.com)

## Slide Show

To launch the Bob Guy Slide collection project Edenderry Community Development Association are holding a SLIDE SHOW in Edenderry Orange Hall. The show will consist of slides Jim Kane has selected from the collection. The slides are a unique record of events in Portadown and have never before been shown publicly Jim will present the slides at 8.00pm Friday, 17th February in Edenderry Orange Hall Portadown. Admission is £1.00 including supper. ♦

## Railway Film Show

Following the success of Fred Coopers Film shows last year we again will be presenting another show on the GNR Railway. Fred will present the film show on Friday, 24th February at 8.00pm in Edenderry Orange Hall. The film show will contain rare archive film from the 1920's and 1930's, footage of the Cavan and Leitrim Railway and the arrival of Chipperfield's Circus in Portadown by rail in the 1960's. Admission is £3.00 including supper.



Portadown Station circa 1922

The first Portadown railway station was at Seagoe and opened on the 31<sup>st</sup> January 1842. Trains terminated at this temporary station for some eight months. Contractor Williams Dargan's men toiled with pick and shovel to build the mile long embankment across the bog to the Watson Street site of what was to be a more permanent station which was opened nine months later on 12<sup>th</sup> September 1842. ►

## ◀Railway Film Show

Ulster railway trains terminated at Portadown for a few years while a wooden bridge was built over the River Bann and the railway to Armagh was completed on 1<sup>st</sup> March 1848. At roughly the same time a new station opened at Woodhouse Street and the station at Watson Street closed. In the 1850's Portadown became a true junction when the Dublin line (1858) and the Dungannon line joined the Ulster railway at Woodhouse Street earning "Portadown it's Hub of the North" nickname.

With the increase in traffic it was decided to build a new station on the site of the old 1842 station at Watson Street, north of the Bann Bridge. This Grand station opened on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 1863 and the woodhouse Street station was converted to cater for the now considerable goods traffic.

Sadly in the fifties and sixties Portadown ceased to be a rail junction the Armagh-Clones line closing in 1957 and the 'Derry Road' in 1965, leaving only the Belfast-Dublin main line through the town. A new station opened at Woodhouse Street in 1970 and the old 1863 Watson Street station was demolished – a sad end to a proud Victorian station which served Portadown well for over a century. ♦

---

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

63, Carrickblacker Road Portadown BT63 5AX

Dear Sir,

*I feel I must make a comment about the railings on the new bridge they look totally out of place, they are very heavy and do not follow the curve of the road, I also wonder how long before some misguided youth decides to attempt to 'tight rope' walk across the top of the rail with fatal consequences.*

*B.R. Idge.♦*

---

## ART CLUB

The final class of the present session of Edenderry Community Development Association art classes takes place on Monday evening at 7.30pm. The course was thoroughly enjoyed by all who took part. In response to popular demand Edenderry Community Development Association will be running another session of classes in the near future. Johnny Bell puts the finishing touch to his picture.



## DRUMS AND BANNERS

The Group will be starting the restoration of a Junior Banner in early March anyone interested in joining should contact .

**Cardwell McClure on 3833 3988.♦**



Once again we can report on a very successful term with Eden-Tots. We are still growing in numbers due to the hard work of the committee. There's something different to enjoy every Thursday and our music corner will be rockin' and rollin' by March. And there's more to come... We are aiming to start our "Music and Movement" project in this spring term to complement our tiny tot's orchestra.

Art and craft is still a very important part of our activities and we are currently making a collage of the greater Edenderry area. Why not come along and add your house to our map!! With Mothering Sunday cards to make, St Patrick's Day to celebrate and Easter eggs to gobble, we're looking forward to lots of fun this Spring.

SIHP have offered us a grant for a new baby-only safe play corner and we are patiently awaiting the arrival of our new equipment. This will mean that the babies will be having fun in their own safe environment.

We are collecting the Sainsbury's **ACTIVE KIDS** vouchers. If anyone would like to donate them to us we will gladly accept them any Thursday morning at Edenderry Orange Hall or they can be left in **Hoy's Butchers, Bridge Street.**

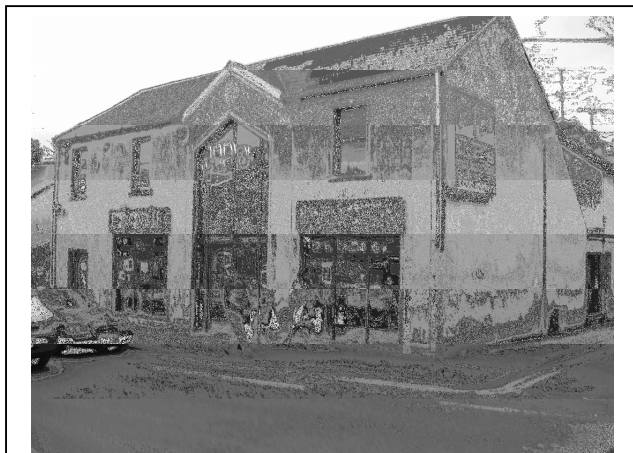
Don't forget - you're more than welcome to come along any Thursday morning 10.30-12.30. New members (grandparents/parents/carers and under 5's) are always greeted with a sea of happy faces!!

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

Edenderry Community Development Association

## COMING EVENTS

February 2006	Bob Guy Slide show F Cooper Film Show
April	W F Marshall Evening
May	36 <sup>th</sup> Ulster Div Lecture Story tellers
COMING SOON	Ballroom Dancing



### JP'S TASTY TAKEAWAY

Carrickblacker Road, Portadown  
Phone 028 3833 3330  
Mon- Sat 12 noon – 11 pm

# TAVERN

## BAR & LOUNGE

# Live Music


## EVERY WEEKEND

*Hot food*

served through the day

## JOE WEIR AUTOPARTS

123 Bridge Street, Portadown, Co. Armagh BT63 5AN



Tel: 028 3833 2353/4 Fax: 028 3833 2354

## Open Lambeg Drumming Match

The Tavern Bar and Lounge will be sponsoring the second Saint Patrick's Day Drumming Match in Edenderry Square on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2005 starting at 4.00 pm, there will be good prizes and the Drumming Match will be followed by an Ulster Scots Night and Auction. in the Tavern Bar.

**The proceeds are in aid of Edenderry Arch Committee Restoration Fund**  
**ALL ARE WELCOME**

### Edenderry Community Development Association **NEW WEB SITE**

We still developing our new Web Site which we hope to complete in the near future, 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)

## Victoria reigns in Edenderry

Queen Elizabeth II may be on the throne but Victoria reigns supremely in Edenderry. Victoria house has been part of the local scenery for so long townspeople could be forgiven for overlooking the 170 years of history behind its walls.

The builders moved in over 20 years ago and completely remodelled the interior to bring it up to modern day standards to provide 6 luxury flats. The old chimney pots were replaced and timber frame windows with uPVC, and other than this work the exterior is no different to when it was built in early Victorian days.

The earliest records of the House go back to Christmas Eve 1859 when Elizabeth, Cornelius and Thomas Carleton leased the property to Andrew James Lutton for 500 years.

Lutton was a linen manufacturer and the House was an appropriate residence for him as it overlooked his factory across the road in Watson Street. It later became the munitions factory during the Second World War and in 1946 was bought by the Wade Pottery Group.

Lutton died in January, 1870 and the property was transferred to his two sons, John and Thomas. In 1901 they transferred it to Andrew James Lutton and Son Limited and the company mortgaged it to Robert G. Glendinning to secure a loan. Apparently they could not meet the payments on this loan, and in December 1918, Robert Glendinning sold the House to David H. Warnock for £300.

Warnock died the following year and his daughter Martha Jane inherited the House and she sold it a year later to John Gilpin a coachbuilder of Bridge Street, Edenderry for £1,050.

John Gilpin died in January, 1929 and his widow and son sold the House to Robert Brown in 1935 for £1000. Robert Brown was the grandfather of the present owner Miss Maureen Brown. Her own father Sammy Brown, the well known Edenderry business man also lived in the House.

Over this past 170 years it has seen numerous changes in the Edenderry area. It has witnessed two World Wars, births, deaths, prosperity and recession



### Victoria House Edenderry Sq. Portadown

and Edenderry's significance to the growth of Portadown...

Let's hope that Victoria House reigns for another 170 years.

We understand that the garden to the rear of the House may have been used to take wedding photos, if so we would like to see the old photos or any others of the interior or exterior.

We would also like to hear from any one who knows anything about John Gilpin a coachbuilder operating from premises in Edenderry.

We can be contacted on our website [www.edenderry.co.uk](http://www.edenderry.co.uk) or Cardwell McClure 07789550738 or Merle Edgar

028 38 334602.◆

## Heroes of Edenderry

In this column James Kane will be focusing on the heroes of Edenderry who left all that was dear to fight for King and Country and the defence of freedom during the two world wars. In this issue we pay tribute to Private George McCann one of the youngest soldiers from Portadown to make the supreme sacrifice during World War Two.

### George McCann

**Private 14429060, 7/9<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment)  
Killed in Action 17 April 1945, Aged 18 years**

The McCann family lived at 1 Florence Court in Edenderry. George was the son of James and Minnie McCann. Like all Ulstermen George McCann volunteered for war service as there was no conscription in Northern Ireland. Again like many servicemen before him George lied about his age to enlist - he was two weeks short of his 17<sup>th</sup> birthday.

He enlisted in the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers in 1943 at Omagh. In August 1943 Fusilier McCann was transferred to the Royal Scots. He was on Home Service with that regiment until being posted to North West Europe in January 1945.

The 7/9<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Royal Scots formed part of the 155 Infantry Brigade of the 52<sup>nd</sup> (Lowland) Division during the advance into Germany. Although the war was nearing its end some German units still fought with a grim determination and it was during one such engagement near the town of Soltau that 18 year old Private McCann was killed in action on 17 April 1945. His platoon had captured 40 German prisoners when a soldier fired a panzerfaust from a building killing Private McCann and his comrade. He lies buried in Becklingen War Cemetery, Germany. Grave 15. B. 14.♦

## 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♦**

.....

## Edenderry Business and Residents Association

Edenderry B&RA is making progress in the first few months of its existence. You may have noticed that during heavy rainfalls the gullies are taking the rainwater and not the pedestrians. After a few phone calls to the DOE Roads Department, a specialist team was deployed to clear the silt and debris from the gullies.

Some of you will have noticed that a few young people had been adding to the litter problem in the Edenderry area. Letters were sent to the local high schools and students representing Portadown College called with our secretary to listen to our concerns with the view to redressing the situation. Things have improved slightly but we would ask everyone to use the litter bins provided.

In May we hope to have an open meeting at which the PSNI will give us information on home-security and the possibility of starting a Neighbourhood Watch scheme. Further information will be in our newssheet, flyers and the local press in the near future.

I'm sure you will agree that we are trying to make a visible difference in our community for the benefit of our community, businesses and residents alike.♦



### Edwin May

Part of the Roadside Motor Group  
128 Bridge Street  
Portadown Co. Armagh BT63 5AP  
Telephone 028 3833 2238  
Fax 028 3835 0181  
[info@edwinmay.co.uk](mailto:info@edwinmay.co.uk)  
[www.edwinmay.co.uk](http://www.edwinmay.co.uk)

**YOUR LOCAL VW DEALER**

## 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

## 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.*

**FREE**

# Slide Show

LOYAL ORDER PARADES  
EDENDERRY ORANGE HALL

8.00PM, FRIDAY, 17TH FEBRUARY 2006

*Admission £1.00*

ALL WELCOME SEE YOUR FRIENDS & NEIGHBOURS AS THEY ONCE WERE

Sponsored by the Ulster Scots Agency

# Film Show

ARCHIVE RAILWAY FILM

EDENDERRY ORANGE HALL

8.00PM, FRIDAY, 24TH FEBRUARY 2006

*Admission £3.00*

**Commentary by Charles Friel**

Railway Preservation Society of Ireland