

news at a glance

Ballintubber Tidy Towns

An important meeting of Ballintubber Tidy Towns will take place in the Old School on Wednesday, April 14th at 9 pm. All are welcome to attend.

Increase in new car sales

166 new cars were registered in County Roscommon in March 2010, an increase of almost 50 percent on the numbers of cars sold in March 2009.

In March 2009, 111 cars were sold, representing an increase of 55 cars or 49.55 percent. There number of vans sold in March 2010 was treble that of the previous year, from six in March 2009 to 18 last month. No heavy goods vehicles were sold in the county in March.

Castlerea cook-off

Roscommon Lamb Festival 2010 are running a Celebrity Cook Off competition with heats all round the county and on Monday, 12th April in Hester's Golden Eagle, Castlerea. Castlerea Musical Society and Castlerea Golf Club are up against each other in the first heat.

Mary Reilly for the Musical Society and Maureen Claffey for the Golf Club will compete against each other for a place in the final. A great night of fun with your friends with a three course meal and a glass of wine and entertainment for €30.

Community policing

Garda Sinead Higgins will hold a weekly office in Roscommon Women's Network, The Old Mill, Castlerea, commencing Tuesday 20th April from 1-3 pm. Any person who would like assistance filling out forms, Passport, Gun Licence, Motor tax etc. or who may have concerns and wishes to speak to a Garda for advice are welcome. Private and confidential. Contact: (094) 96 21690.

Disability support

County Roscommon Disability Support Group is holding an information morning on Friday, April 9th, from 11 am to 1 pm in the Community Forum office at Abbeytown, next door to Molloy's Bakery. Information on disability rights, entitlements and benefits will be available. No appointment is necessary, just drop in. For enquiries contact Chris on (090) 66 25852.

Divine Mercy Hour

The feast of Divine Mercy will be celebrated this Sunday, April 11th. To mark this special day, an hour of prayer will be held in the Sacred Heart Church, Roscommon, commencing at 3 pm.

The hour will consist of veneration of the Divine Mercy image, recitation of the chaplet, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction. You are invited to take part in what promises to be an uplifting hour of prayer on a grace-filled day.

Meanwhile the Divine Mercy novena continues at St. Coman's Club each evening from 7 pm to 7.30 pm until Saturday, April 10th. All are welcome.

GOAL Presentation Night

A total of €43,806.59 has been raised for the Ballintubber GOAL Walk for Haiti. The Cheque Presentation Night will take place on Tuesday 13th April at 8 pm in Kenny's Lounge, Ballintubber.

Guest speakers will include Ronan Scully, GOAL West of Ireland and Robert Burke, who has returned from Voluntary Work with GOAL in Haiti. All are welcome to attend.

Alzheimers Tea Day in Kilbride

Kilbride Alzheimers Tea Day will take place in Kilbride Community Centre on Friday 9th April from 9 am to 4 pm. Homemade Grange scones and spot prizes. Thank you for your support - from your host Mary Finnerty.

O'Beirne is new IFA Chairman

John O'Beirne, of Lisroyne, Strokestown, was elected as Chairman of Roscommon IFA last week.

The Fourmilehouse native has been involved in farming all his life. A son of the late Pádraig and Teresa O'Beirne, John is married to Patricia and the couple have three children. John Joe O'Neill from Drum was elected vice President at the recent AGM of County Roscommon IFA.

Large turnout at Strokestown Parade

54 floats and an estimated crowd of almost 1,000 people lined the streets of Strokestown for the town's 12th annual Easter Parade.

There was a huge community emphasis, with Strokestown

Show, Percy French Hotel, Ballaghaderreen Angling Club, Sliabh Bán Environmental Group, Strokestown Community Games, Frank's of Ballybeg, Percy French Hotel, Derrane Resource Centre, Strokestown

Golf Club the winners of the various categories.

The parade is ran under the auspices of Strokestown Community Development Association and is sponsored by local business people. The Devel-

opment Association wishes to thank all who participated and also want to thank all of the stewards who helped out on the day. A full list of prize winners will be published in the parish bulletin next week.



A scene from Roscommon Easter Parade. Pic: Marta Kaminska

Organisers 'thrilled' by quantity and quality of parade entries

Last Sunday's Easter Parade was possibly the biggest ever seen in Roscommon Town in recent memory.

Organisers were thrilled with both the quantity and quality of the entries on the day. Approximately 70 floats participated in the almost two hour parade which followed its traditional route from Abbeytown to Castle Street. A combination of fine weather and much creativity made for a very memorable event with schools, community groups and businesses all displaying their talents which featured some very colourful and entertaining floats.

The parade committee was delighted with the event itself and would like to thank everyone who supported and took part, those who acted as stewards, the judges and An Garda Síochána for their guidance and help on the day. Thanks also to J.J. Harlow's for sponsoring the

prizes, Anne Harlow of Signature Flowers for the colourful floral display and to Joe McNamara for the reviewing stand.

Parade Prize Winners

Community/Voluntary Category. Winner: Roxboro NS. Joint Runners Up: Roscommon Lamb Festival and Roscommon Show Committee.

Commercial Category. Winner: Service matters. Runner Up: Chaplin Barbers. Shop Window Display. Winner: John Finn Electrical. Runner Up: Molloy's Lifestyle Pharmacy.

Best Overall/Most Entertaining: Roscommon Town Youth Soccer.

Special Commendations: The Cluas Service, Gaelscoil de hÍde, Fuerty NS Parents Association, The Melting Pot, Roscommon Cinema Campaign, Co. Roscommon Disability Support Group Ltd., Molloy's Abbeytown, Kilbride Community Groups.

Death of Eamonn Curran widely mourned

The death took place last weekend of Eamonn Curran formerly of Roscommon Town who passed away after an illness at the Blackrock Clinic, Dublin.

Eamonn Curran was a prominent footballer and was a member of the Roscommon team that won the All Ireland minor football title in 1941. He also played club football for St Coman's in Roscommon Town.

After he moved to Dublin, Eamonn became a keen golfer

and gave almost his entire adult life to the game. He was an Irish team captain and was a Trustee and former president of the Golfing Union of Ireland in the year of 1996.

He officially opened the new clubhouse at Roscommon Golf Club in 1996 and remained a staunch Roscommon man all his life and he was regular visitor to see his old friends in Roscommon town over the years.

In his 80's, Eamonn Curran

is survived by daughters Anne, Mary, Geraldine and Catherine and he was predeceased by his wife Maura and son Martin. He is also survived by his sister Marie, sons-in-law, grandchildren, relatives and friends.

The huge crowds that attended his removal, funeral Mass and burial in Dublin on Monday and Tuesday were a mark of the esteem in which Mr Curran was held across the country. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.

Join the Spring Clean initiative

April is National Spring Clean Month and this provides the perfect opportunity for community groups from all over the county to organise clean ups in their own local area and take action against litter pollution.

National Spring Clean is organised by An Taisce in partnership with Roscommon County Council and is the biggest anti-litter campaign in the country.

Roscommon County Council is encouraging all community groups and schools to participate in National Spring Clean and be part of the country's biggest clean up campaign. Participation is easy, you simply register with An Taisce and also with Roscommon County Council. You will receive a Clean Up Kit along with ideas for clean up activities in your local area.

Contact Roscommon County Council, Environment Office,

at (090) 66 37265 or www.roscommoncoco.ie. Community groups and schools that take part will be provided with gloves, bags, high-visibility jackets, and the litter collected will be removed by Roscommon County Council.

The Spring Clean Campaign is aimed at communities who wish to clean up litter in their immediate areas, it is NOT intended for the disposal of household or commercial refuse. During Spring Clean month Roscommon County Council will also dedicate resources to cleaning amenity areas and litter black spots.

Roscommon County Council Litter Wardens will be active in patrolling the County during April. Litter fines will be issued to anybody observed littering and also those who illegally dispose of their waste. Litter offences and illegal dumping are punishable by an on-the-spot fine of €150 or a court fine up to a maximum of €3,000.

Kate's table quiz

Roscommon town girl Kate McManus is holding a fundraising table quiz in The Rooster pub this Friday, 9th of April to raise funds for her work on the SUAS project in Calcutta during the summer. Tables of four €40. Everyone welcome. Quizmaster Dermot Cox. DJ later. All welcome.

Ros Art '93 exhibition

Ros Art '93 Group are holding their 17th annual exhibition of new paintings and photography in The Fortfield Suite, Abbey Hotel, Roscommon commencing with the official opening by Michael Harding on Friday April 16th at 8 pm. The exhibition will continue on Saturday 17th April and Sunday 18th April. All welcome and admission is free.

Melting Pot thanks

Staff at the Melting Pot Café, Castlecourt, Roscommon, this week thanked everyone who worked on the Melting Pot float in Sunday's Easter Parade in Roscommon. Thanks were extended to Greg Clancy who provide the lorry and navigated the group around the town and also to RM Tool Hire who supplied a generator and Solarus were congratulated on rocking the town. The group is currently looking for a drummer. If you're interested, call (087) 1303738 for details. The winners of the two hampers where Marie Loftus and Bernadette Mongan, well done to you both and thanks to everyone who bought a ticket.