

people news



Maria Hoey, Roscommon Rose of Tralee 2009 congratulates our new Roscommon Rose of Tralee Deirdre Lenehan at the 2010 Roscommon Rose of Tralee Ball held in Kiltonan Castle on Friday night. Pic: www.hursonphotography.com.



Committee member Caroline Lecky presents The Charlie O'Brien Perpetual trophy to Deirdre Lenehan, the 2010 Roscommon Rose of Tralee. Pic: www.hursonphotography.com.



Roscommon Rose of Tralee judges Olivia O'Regan, Jim Donnellan and Aislinn Swanick, at the 2010 Roscommon Rose of Tralee Ball held in Kiltonan Castle on Friday night. Pic: www.hursonphotography.com.

Deirdre graduates in the morning – and wins Roscommon Rose of Tralee that night!

■ Seamus Duke

Deirdre Lenehan, a 27-year-old pharmacist from South Roscommon was crowned the 2010 Rose of Roscommon at a gala banquet which was held in Kiltonan Castle last Friday night.

Thirteen roses competed for the title and interviews were held all day on Friday prior to the banquet. Then, compare Ollie Turner of Galway Bay FM put the girls through their paces on stage and in front of over 330 people. It was a spectacular night's entertainment.

It was an eventful day for Deirdre as earlier on Friday she had graduated from Trinity College with a masters degree in pharmacy! Her father Brian then drove her to Kiltonan from the graduation ceremony in Dublin.

Deirdre is from Roscommon Road, Athlone and she is the daughter of Brian and the late Miriam Lenehan. She represented the Mater Hospital Pharmacy in the event. Deirdre is a former pupil of Summerhill College Athlone.

Deirdre was escorted on the night by her boyfriend Tony Diskin, who is also from the south Roscommon area. She will now go to compete in the regional finals in Portlaoise on the June bank holiday weekend.

This year there was also an escort competition and that was won by Donal Gill, who was escorting Sandra Burke.

The judges for the rose competition were Aislinn Swanick, James Donnellan and Olivia O'Regan. In his speech, chairperson of the Roscommon Rose Committee Mr. Tony Waldron

thanked his fellow committee members and main sponsor Peter Kirwan of the Halcyon Group. He also thanked all the other sponsors including John Ward Menswear who sponsored all the committee and escorts' tuxedos on the night.

Special guests included MD of the International Rose of Tralee, Scramogue native Anthony O'Gara and his wife Oonagh, Rose of Tralee national organising committee, Majella Hunt, Roscommon County Council, and Bridie Stevens of the Sacred Heart Home in Roscommon, who received a donation from the proceeds of this year's competition.

Well-known Ballyhaunis girl Olwyn Murray, who was a finalist in the recent All-Ireland Talent Show, sang three songs on the night at the interval and was also a special guest. MC was Seamus Duke and comper was Ollie Turner.



Anthony O'Gara (MD, Rose of Tralee) and his wife Oonagh, Martin Rattigan (Texas), Donal Gill, Escort of the Year, Roscommon Rose of Tralee Deirdre Lenehan, Main Sponsor Peter Kirwan (Halcyon Group Roscommon), John Ward (John Ward Menswear), Tony Waldron Chairperson Roscommon Rose of Tralee, at the 2010 Roscommon Rose of Tralee Ball held in Kiltonan Castle on Friday night. Pic: www.hursonphotography.com.



Ollie Lawlor (Escorts' Judge), Martin Rattigan (Texas), John Ward (John Ward Menswear), Main Sponsor Peter Kirwan (Halcyon Group Roscommon), Roscommon Rose of Tralee Deirdre Lenehan, Donal Gill, Escort of the Year, Anthony O'Gara (MD Rose of Tralee) and his wife Oonagh, Tony Waldron, Chairperson Roscommon Rose of Tralee pictured with all of this year's Escorts (back row) along with Ollie Turner (MC). Pic: www.hursonphotography.com.