

What's On

January 2nd, 3rd and 4th, Solstice Arts Group presents Cloughanover's First Pantomime - HANSEL & GRETEL

Music by The Honey Monsters. All local talent, original script and delightful set design gleefully nurtured by Niamh Langan.

Proceeds to Headford Playground.

Tickets on sale from Campbells Tavern on 09335454. Booking advised.

Headford District Association would like to thank all our sponsors and contributors in this edition of the Corrib Chronicle.

This publication is produced by volunteers and we rely on sponsorship to fund the printing. We are looking for additional sponsors to continue providing this newsletter to the people of Headford and its surrounds. If you would like to advertise in the newsletter please contact us via the email address below.

We are also looking for photos and articles. Any articles submitted should be kept to around 100 words and photos should be as high resolution as possible.

Email: corribchronicle@gmail.com

We would also like to wish all our readers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

We need your help!

This newsletter is produced on an entirely voluntary basis. We are looking for help from anyone with some time on their hands that could assist us.

Whether you are a roving reporter or an aspiring photographer please get in contact with us today.

Email: corribchronicle@gmail.com

The Editorial Team

Susan Anderson, Mary Gavin, Rosie Mohan and Frances O'Reilly

A Visit to Ross Errilly

We get a number of emails into the website requesting anything from foreign student accommodation, to Baptismal Certificates. In the early summer we got a request from an American Professor of History wanting to book a guided tour of Ross Errilly, for a number of students who were studying medieval monastic history.

We explained that there weren't any tours available but we – myself and Frances O'Reilly would gladly meet them and impart our knowledge. They were delighted.

We did our homework; we made a colourful compact leaflet (copies available on request!). We met the group of 40 students and their Professor in September, their ages ranged 30-80yrs. Frances was the Tour Guide I was the assistant rounding up the stragglers. It was very enjoyable, the students were delighted with the leaflet and Frances proved to be a mind of information. There were lots of questions and discussions regarding the various areas in Ross Errilly.

At the end of the tour they were rushing off to Cong, and then to Ballintubber. As they boarded the bus, they bid us farewell as though they were leaving long lost friends. They promised to return next year for the second instalment!

Rosie Mohan



Mark McGrath - Winner of Laptop in Playground Raffle

Fionnuala Deacy - Glór Tíre 2011 Contestant

Fionnuala Deacy, originally of the Joyce clan and a native of Cloughanover grew up listening to music in her family home. She recalls falling asleep to her father playing the accordion in the kitchen at night. Along with her siblings they shared many's a good night at sessions and parties which lent a great hand in moulding her musical future. Fionnuala was blessed with an inspirational teacher Mairead Berrill who nurtured her talent from an early age starting in primary school. She studied music for her Leaving Cert under Mairead's seminal influence and learned recorder, tin whistle, guitar and most importantly singing. Mairead was her vocal coach during the seven years she spent completing all eight grades in singing for Trinity College, London. Over the years she has had the privilege of recording and performing on the professional music scene along with corporate functions and church services and continues to add strings to her musical bow and is currently studying piano and taking grade exams with the Royal Irish Academy of Music. This year she was kindly asked to take part in TG4's Glór Tíre competition by accomplished musician and singer Patrick Feeney who is her mentor for the show. So far she has been successful in getting through the live shows. If you would like to vote and keep her in the competition please text GLOR9 to 53307 or phone 1513 415 109. We would like to take this opportunity to wish her well in the competition and her future career.

Good Luck Fionnuala!
www.fionnualadeacy.ie



Pick me up and take me home with you.

This is your local Newsletter!



Book Launch

Nineteenth century Headford - JP, Martin Francis O'Flaherty of Lisdonagh House, was the father of Achill Island's forgotten heroine, Eva O'Flaherty (1874-1963), the subject of a new biography by Biggera Beg author Mary J. Murphy.

Miss O'Flaherty led an extraordinary life, was seeped in literary and cultural pursuits, modelled headgear for motor cars in Paris in the early 1900s, was subsequently involved in a millinery establishment in London, was co-founder of Ireland's first summer school - Scoil ACla - in 1910 with Darrell Figgis, Anita McMahon and others, hosted the great and the good from the worlds of politics, the arts, society and literature in her island salon for decades and rescued the fledgling knitting industry in Achill, turning it into a successfully run high fashion enterprise for the best part of half a century.

It is intended that the book will be launched in July 2012 and interested parties may contact Mary J. Murphy at morma@eircom.net.

Mary J. Murphy is also the author of 'Viking Summer', the story of the filming by MGM of the spectacular epic ALFRED THE GREAT in Caherlistrane in 1968, which starred Sinead Cusack, Sir Ian McKellen, David Hemmings and Michael York, with Lord Killanin as Associate Producer.

The New Playground

There was great excitement in Headford on Sunday 27th of November, at the opening of our new playground. Scores of children rushed to be the first to the swings, roundabouts etc..

This was a long campaign which began in 2006 by the Happi Group. After a number of sites proved unsuitable the effort was abandoned for a time. Late in 2010 an approach was made to Shane O'Reilly a member of Moyne Villa soccer club to see if would be possible to locate the playground at the Presentation convent grounds. Shane and Tom Walshe had plans to build an amenity walkway around one of its pitches so it was decided to incorporate a playground in the plans.

Planning permission was granted in May 2011 and funding was secured from G. R. D. and Galway County Council. Local funding was also provided by Headford Development, the Happi group and Headford District Association, but there was a shortfall of €40,000. The soccer club organised a Raffle and in a matter of a few weeks had raised €39,000.

This is a huge tribute to the commitment by the soccer club, and the great support of the catchment area ranging from Corrandulla, Annaghdown, Claran and Caherlistrane. Tickets were also sold outside local businesses. All of the prizes were sponsored locally. P.J. Walshe of Moyne Villa said it was important to realise that this facility is a community facility to be used by the whole community.

Well done to all concerned.



Official Opening of the New Playground in Headford

L to R: Shane O'Reilly, Mary Hoade and PJ Walshe



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Twelve Days of Christmas Wordsearch

Partridge - Pear - Tree - Turtle - Doves - French Hens - Calling - Birds - Gold - Rings - Geese Laying - Swans - Swimming - Maids - Milking Ladies - Dancing - Lords - Leaping - Pipers Piping - Drummers - Drumming

Community Alert

A committee was formed in Headford on Nov. 15th. A large number attended the meeting and the committee was elected as follows:

Chairman: Joe O Donnell,
 Secretaries: John McGrath and Frances O'Reilly.
 Joint treasurers: Ann Kelly and Mary Fahy.
 P. R. O: John McHugh.

The following areas are represented at present:

Cloughanover- Willie Campbell,
 Liss-John Mc Grath,
 Crossaun-Deirdre King,
 Kiernaun-Tommie Bane & Ger Gipse,
 Rockhill Crosswood- Michael O'Brien & Jim Hannon,
 Windfort-Liam Mc Donagh & John Fahy,
 Mountross- Paddy O Toole & Maire Egan.
 Keekill-Damien Walshe & Simon Smith,
 Ballyconlough- Pat Mulroe & Christy Kilgarriff,
 Ballyhale- Tom Hughes,
 Castlevew-Anne Kelly, Mary Fahy & Chris Carroll,
 Galway Road- Eamon Walshe & Joe O Donnell,
 Meadow Hill- Marie Gately & Mossy Walshe,
 Cong Road Cordarra- Ailish Gleeson,
 Main St.- John Mc Hugh,
 Bridge St.-Peter Corbett,
 Church Road, Ellagh-Andrew Curran & Gabriel Monaghan.
 Deerpark Woods-Shane Creaven,
 Ashthorn Avenue-Frances Stephens, Paul Burton.
 Deerpark-Frances O'Reilly.
 Ellagh Estate-Eugene Kenny,
 Culleen- John Lee & Pat O'Brien.

If your area is not mentioned here and you wish to volunteer you can contact any committee member.

A newsletter with relevant information will be organised and delivered to households in the area.

History Corner

St Fursa is the patron saint of the Headford -Claran parish. He was born in Munster, son of Fintan and Gelges and was baptised by St Brendan the Traveller. Brendan was his father's uncle and managed a monastery in Inisquin in Lough Corrib, now known as Inchiquin. Fursa was educated by St Brendan's monks and when he became of age he was inducted into the monastery at Inchiquin. Under the abbot St Meldan he devoted himself to religious life. He built his own monastery at Ramath, just outside Headford, now called Cill Fhursa. He was a very saintly man and many cures are attributed to him. He had many visions while in a trance. He is reputed to have had visions of Heaven and Hell, it is said that these visions inspired Dante to write his 'Divine Comedy'. His brothers Foillan and Ultan joined him at Ramath Monastery. He went on mission to East Anglia and Normandy. He died around 650 A.D. He is reputedly buried in Peronne in France. St Fursa's feast day is celebrated on 16th of January.



Enjoying the New Playground



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We would like to wish all our customers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Liam Donoghue's Garage
 Bridge Street, Headford
 Mobile 087 6805121

Christmas Cheer

The word 'mulled' means heated and spiced. Various different drinks have traditionally been mulled: wine, cider and mead are common examples. Today mulled wine is the best known. Mulled wine is an ancient drink, there have been written recipes found dating back to Roman times. It is known in many countries. In France it is known as 'vin chaud' (hot wine), in Germany as 'Glühwein' (glowing wine) in Italy as 'vin brulé' (burnt wine) in Poland 'Grzane Wino' (heated wine), in Slovakia 'Varené vino' (boiled wine), in Hungary 'Forralt bor' (boiled wine). The international popularity and long history of this drink is due to it being enjoyable, with an alternative flavour to other drinks. Being a warm drink, it is particularly welcome at this time of year when it's cold outside. In olden days, if wine had gone off, it could still be made palatable by heating it with spices and honey. Today an inferior wine can still be used to make a fairly good mulled wine.

Here are 2 recipes for a warming seasonal drink, hope you enjoy them as much as we do!

Mulled Wine

- One bottle (750 mls) of red wine (suggestions: Cabernet Sauvignon, Zinfandel, Merlot)
- One peeled and sliced orange (keep peel to add zest to taste into cooking pot)
- ¼ cup (2fl oz/60mls) of brandy
- 8-10 cloves
- ¾ (5fl oz/160ml) cup honey or sugar
- 3 cinnamon sticks
- 1 tsp fresh or 2 tsp ground ginger (allspice can be substituted)

Serves 4-6

Preparation:

To make the perfect cup of mulled wine, combine all ingredients in either a large pot or a slow cooker. Gently warm the ingredients on low to medium heat (avoid boiling), for 20-25 minutes. Stir occasionally to make sure that the honey or sugar has completely dissolved. When the wine is steaming and the ingredients have been well blended it is ready to serve. Ladle the mulled wine into mugs (leave seasonings behind) and enjoy!

Spiced Fruity Punch (Non-alcoholic)

- 1 Pint Sweetened Orange Juice
- 1 Pint Apple Juice
- ¼ Pint Water
- ½ tsp Ground ginger
- ½ Mixed spice
- 1 Orange

Makes approximately 2 ½ pints

Preparation:

Place orange juice, apple juice, water, ginger and mixed spice in a saucepan. Bring mixture to the boil, then simmer gently over a low heat for about five minutes.

Pour the warm punch into warm glasses; add slices of orange and apple to serve. Enjoy!