

Edenderry News

FREE

December 06

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Grants for Edenderry

This week Edenderry Business and Residents Association and Edenderry Community Development Association received news that they have been awarded grants by the European Peace II Programme and Craigavon Arts in Motion.

The principle objectives of the Peace II grant is to carry out a community audit this will be carried out jointly by the two groups in order to ascertain the needs of our community and produce a booklet on the history of the area. If anyone has any stories, photographs or artefacts Cardwell McClure will be pleased to hear from you.

Part of the grant is also to be used to promote the groups through various forms of advertising and promote our history and culture by means of cross community trips to sites of historical interest.

The Craigavon Arts in Motion grant is for murals to be positioned in the Edenderry area, these will be painted on board and will be recoverable they will reflect the history and industry of Edenderry and Portadown. Edenderry Community Development Association will commission an artist to design the murals and the work will be carried out by local residents.♦

Wade Book Project

Harry Eakin and Cardwell McClure of Edenderry Cultural and Historical Society have completed their research Wades factory and products the information is now with Dr John Wright who is compiling the proof copy of the book and they hope to go to the publishers early next year.

The Wade website www.wadeireland.co.uk has had over 32,000 hits from all over the world and Cardwell and Harry are currently organising a major book launch for the autumn of 2007 and they expect many overseas visitors to attend the launch.♦

**Edenderry Community Development Association
and**

Edenderry Business and Residents Association

Wish all our readers a

HAPPY CHRISTMAS

AND A

PEACEFUL AND

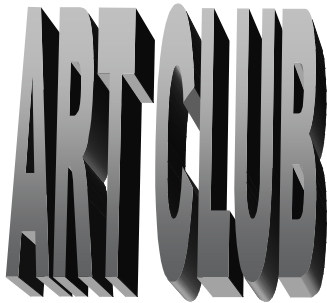
PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

The Edenderry Historical Group

The current series of Monday night meetings which finish on Monday the 11th December were very successful there were plenty of laughs and banter as memories and anecdotes were exchanged.

The group obtained copies of Seagoe Parish Magazines going back to the late nineteenth century and they copied much Edenderry material, they also searched the Bob Guy Slide Collection and much of the material is now available on our website www.edenderry.co.uk which has had over 15000 hits and is well worth a visit. If you have any old photos or stories please e-mail them to the website.

The Historical Group will resume again in the new year. For information contact Cardwell McClure on 07789 550 738♦



The Art Club complete their latest session of classes next Monday evening the 11th December they will be painting Santa and having a Christmas Party in other words they will be “painting the town red”!!!

This session was enjoyed by all who took part and we hope to utilize our newly acquired skills painting the new murals early in the new year. Any help or ideas will be greatly appreciated.

NEW SERVICE STATION OPENS IN EDENDERRY

Congratulations to Derek on opening the new Bridge Service Station which has certainly brightened the Edenderry area, we wish him every success on the new site. The Mums & Toddlers Group also take this opportunity to thank him for his generous support to them in the past.

KARL MCELROY
M.R.I.C.S., F.A.S.I., F.N.A.E.A., EurGeo., FCIOB

Chartered Surveyor
Architectural Consultant, Estate Agent

BAIRDS



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Irish Dancers at the Waterfront

The Portadown based Zephaniah Dancers currently based in Edenderry Orange Hall will be performing "Is There A Heaven For Me?" At Belfast Waterfront Hall on Monday 19th March 2007 starting time 7.30pm. Tickets £15 £10 Concession Box Office: 90334455 or Ticket Master.

The children will be on their toes once again to present the Gospel through dance and drama their chosen charities are R.V.H Cancer Ward for Sick Children in appreciation for the work that was done for one of the young dancers who was diagnosed with Hodgkin's Lymphoma a few years ago. The little girl is a real fighter and she is now in remission she started her first dance lesson in May and teacher Deborah Anderson says "She is showing potential of becoming a lovely dancer it is great to see her in the class and having a real interest in learning new steps every week hopefully she will be ready for the Portadown Festival in April 2007."

Cancer Research N. Ireland is the second charity chosen by Deborah as a tribute to Geraldine Curran one of the ladies who taught Deborah to dance.

Moyallon School held a non uniform day to help raise funds for the event and St Columba's held a big breakfast morning. The children went on a Sponsored walk a few weeks ago in Gosford Forest Park to raise money for the charity all had a great fun day ending with a barbeque. The parents of the school are very busy raising funds which is a great help and very much appreciated. This is a truly massive undertaking for the group and they will be grateful for any support, if you would like to have an event to raise money for the Zephaniah dancers we would greatly appreciate it.

The Zephaniah dancers are mainly children from Portadown and they hope that the people of the town will support them as they get ready to present the Gospel on the Waterfront Stage Belfast 19th March 2007.

It is coming up to Christmas why don't you buy your friends a ticket for this event and make the evening special for the children of Portadown.

The Zephaniah Dancers.♦

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Commitment

One of the many diseases that afflict our society today is commitment-phobia. Many people suffer from a variety of phobias: agoraphobia, claustrophobia, and arachnophobia. But the thing that frightens and scares many of us more than anything else is commitment. If we can possibly avoid it, we will not make any commitments at all. We are afraid of commitment. We don't want to be tied down, to be inhibited, or to commit to anything that might affect our personal freedom. We want to keep our options open, we say. So whether it's marriage, work, church, community or even parenting, we will do all we can to preserve our personal freedom and to avoid making commitments?

On Remembrance Day which has just passed we thought of people who, in the cause of peace, liberty and freedom, were prepared to make a huge commitment. And for many of them, that commitment cost them their lives. They signed up voluntarily in the cause of King and Country, not knowing where that commitment would lead them and not knowing what the outcome would be for them personally. While people in other parts of the United Kingdom were conscripted and had no choice, **the young men from this part of the world had an option. And many of them were ready and willing to make this big commitment.**

And it wasn't just here in Ulster and in Ireland. In many parts of the world, young men were prepared to set aside their personal interests and careers and to offer their services in defence of what they believed was freedom and democracy, and against the evil of fascism.

I read one story recently of five brothers called Sullivan from a town in Iowa in the US. In 1942, the news came to the town that two of its young men had been killed in action in the Pacific whilst serving in the US Navy. All five Sullivan brothers signed up for the US Navy on the condition that they would be allowed to serve together on the same ship. They served on the USS Juneau in the battle of Guadalcanal, and when the ship was destroyed in a huge explosion and there were almost 700 casualties, four of the five brothers died. Only one of the brothers, George, survived. But as the survivors drifted for a number of days in the Pacific, without food and water, they became weaker and weaker. Eventually George slipped off the life raft into the sea which was infested with sharks. Ever since that incident, the US Navy has refused to allow brothers to serve together on the same ship.

But what is it that causes five brothers to make that kind of commitment? If we were facing a similar situation today, what would the response be? Would the young men of our generation respond in a similar way?

What the philosophers and pundits tell us is that there has been a significant change of thinking in our society since the end of the Second World War, and particularly in the past 25 years. We are now living in what they call the post-modern age. It's an age when people are obsessed with their personal concerns and comforts, and where commitment to community and national issues is hard to create. Everything is relative; there is nothing which is absolutely right or absolutely wrong. What is right for you may be wrong for me. So long as you don't hurt anyone, you can live as you please. What other people do or how they live is up to them; it has nothing to do with me. Everything has become so personal and private. We have lost all sense of being accountable to one another, of belonging to one another, and of living in a way that benefits one another. ►

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And that is part of the sad and tragic story which lies behind the past years of violence in Northern Ireland. We have absorbed ourselves in our own interests, our own concerns, our own comfortable lifestyles, and we have let other people set the agenda and let them, literally, **call the shots**. Perhaps if some of us had been more committed to justice and righteousness and a sense of community, then we might have avoided so much of the suffering of these past years.

When we begin to look for examples of commitment and dedication in our community, where do we find it? Yes, we see it in members of our security forces who paid a heavy price in their injuries and their loss of life, but who remain undaunted. We remember all who serve us in our community and who seek to uphold the rule of law in the face of crime and terrorism. We celebrate their commitment.

But among civilians, are not the greatest examples of commitment today to be found among the terrorists in our world? All across our world the commitment comes from those who have nothing to offer us except hatred and murder and death and destruction. The suicide bombers of the Middle East, and the bombers in London and the US who continue to plan attacks, are committed. They are ready to lay down their lives for their cause. And it is the cause of evil and the kingdom of darkness which has enlisted those who are committed and ready to give everything in order to advance their influence in the world. And the cause of righteousness and justice fails because many of us just don't want to be bothered.

And yet here we are, believing in what is right and just and good, wanting to see our world and our community rid of evil and terrorism and sectarianism, and we are prepared to do so little. Many of us won't take the time to join with others in the elimination of evil. We haven't the time or the energy to involve ourselves in the community or to reach out a hand of friendship to our neighbours.

We can't be bothered to challenge the destructive forces that are so clearly evident in our own community. We want to live a risk-free, safe kind of lifestyle which annoys no one, and which doesn't challenge other people's warped and wrong thinking. Criminality and evil triumph and flourish when good men do nothing.

That's why I am calling on you to make a commitment today: a commitment to peace, a commitment to justice, a commitment to our community and see our world rid of the evil of hatred and bitterness and terrorism and sectarianism.

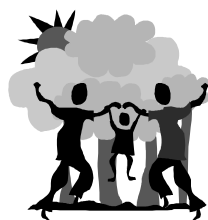
At Christmas we celebrate the birth of the most committed man this world has ever seen. Jesus Christ was committed to doing his Father's will and to bringing life and freedom to people who were his enemies. He voluntarily set aside his status and privileges and humbled himself by being born of a poor young woman in Bethlehem. More than that, he was willing to suffer and die so that we might have the hope of eternal life. He still calls on us to follow him. Being committed to Christ involves a cost. It means giving up our own selfish ambitions and self-centred plans and being committed to seeing His Kingdom advanced. Are you ready to be show that kind of commitment?

Rev Stafford Carson.

First Presbyterian Church.♦

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EDEN-TOTS.



Edenderry Parent & Toddlers Group

As we enter December our Christmas art programme has just started. In the next few weeks the tots will be making Santa's, Angels and Snowmen to take home to help in the seasonal decoration of their homes. Ofcourse everyone is looking forward to our Christmas party with plenty of goodies and a visit from Santa himself!!



During the past two weeks we have been lucky enough to have Ryan Montgomery (ryanmontgomery.com) come along to *Tots* and take professional photographs capturing the personality of the individual children. We hope that parents/grandparents will purchase these as Ryan is giving us a donation for our group funds. Ryan and Ruth have beautiful twin baby boys who have recently started to coming along to our sessions. You're never to young to join the fun!!

Our annual table quiz has been postponed until February when we hope Joanne will be fit and well again and able to enjoy our main annual fund-raising event. We wish Joanne a speedy recovery and pass on a great big thank-you to Beryl and especially to Maxine for keeping the group running successfully from week-to-week.

We still have a few weeks to run this term and would love to see new faces – young and not so young- so come along and join us Thursday mornings 10.30-12.30.

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

Flower Arranging

Edenderry Cultural and Historical Society flower arranging classes will start on Thursday, 18th January 2007 and run for six weeks the tutor for the course is Mrs Joan White. The cost will be £25.00 per person and unfortunately the classes are limited to a maximum of 12 people.

If you wish to book a place contact Shirley on 07900 558 992♦

History of Edenderry Jimmy Chambers

Portadown RFC ground Chambers Park was named after Jimmy Chambers who taught mathematics for many years in Portadown College, at that time the School was in Bann House, Edenderry. Jimmy's grandmother had been a Spence and he worked briefly in Spence Bryson's Linen Factory in Belfast before enlisting, during The First World War.

It was almost three years after the Armistice, at a meeting in the Young Men's Institute on the 25th November 1921 that Portadown Rugby Club was re-constituted and Jimmy's association with rugby in Portadown began. He was an over age selection on a Carleton Collegiate side, which played Dungannon Royal School on 10th of February 1923.

Jimmy Chambers served the Club for 50 years until his death in 1973, it was during these years that he exerted his most direct and personal influence. He was a rugby coach at the College and a player for most of the period. Those who remember know that Jimmy was no man's victim and feared no man. The present status of the club owes much to his enthusiasm between the wars.

His personal contribution to Rugby, between the Wars was total and unique, despite having a small playing panel, in a small School; Jimmy personally checked each player's availability for the Saturday match not by telephone, but on his bicycle!!

He was a lifelong teetotaler, always fit and played rugby until he was almost 50 years old. His playing days over, he and his wife Ruby involved themselves in every aspect of the club until the late 1960's.

Mrs. Branyan, whose small Grocery-Confectionery Shop, was at the top of James Street remembers Jimmy bringing dozen's of empty lemonade bottles which he had dug out of the Town Dump then in Edenderry into her shop in order to collect the 2d per bottle, for the Rugby Club funds.

Small wonder then, that when the Clubs own ground was opened Wednesday 4th September 1963 at Edenderry it was unanimously named Chambers Park.

Chambers Park is the Clubs Memorial to one of its Greatest Servants.

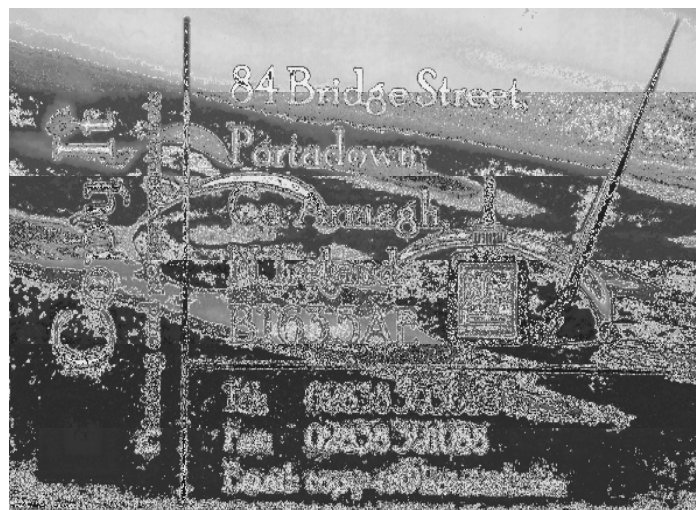
Reference D.J Gilpin.

Photo courtesy PRFC Yearbook 1989

Submitted By: Ellen A Roney. ♦



Jimmy Chambers



FREE

Zephaniah Dancers IS THERE A HEAVEN FOR ME?

IN THE

Waterfront Hall, Belfast
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