

Edenderry News

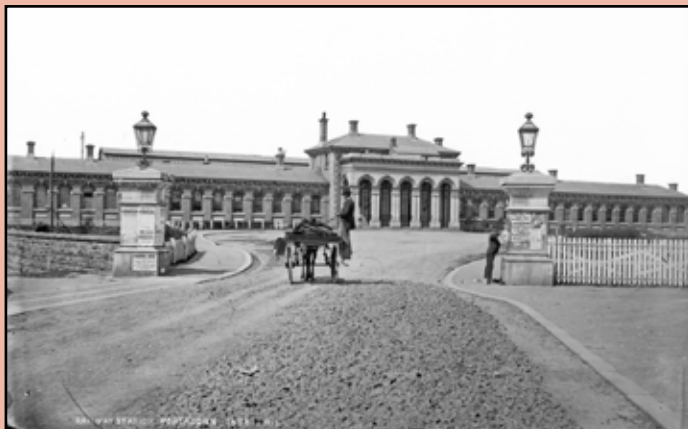
FREE

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March 2015

Hoys Meadows gets a makeover

The forgotten peaceful mini-park area of Hoy's Meadow and the bottom of Watson Street is getting a £20,000 make-over. Once a quiet angler's paradise it has become overgrown, very untidy and home to anti-social behaviour. Its entrance is being enhanced with the restoration of the old railway station gate posts, a general clean up of the meadow and art work portraying the rich history of Edenderry and its Victorian railway station.



The future's bright for Edenvilla

Our committee have taken part in the ongoing consultation on the way forward for Edenvilla Park over the coming years. The consultants are drawing up an improvement plan to fully utilise the Bachelors Walk and we were delighted to have the opportunity to put our ideas forward at these initial stages in an exciting project. We sincerely hope the new super council can secure funding to help Edenvilla reach its full potential.



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Craigavon Intercultural Project is based in Foundry Street, Edenderry. The group is committed to supporting people from different community and cultural backgrounds and seeks to be a catalyst in promoting innovation and opportunities for their community development.

They offer society regardless practical assistance of race/nationality. CIP was presented with 2 Pride of Craigavon awards from Craigavon Borough Council -

Highly commended Community Excellence Award and Good Relations Excellence Award. They have a dedicated team of workers and volunteers all of whom fully deserve this recognition for their hard work.

Our own group, Edenderry Community Development Association where

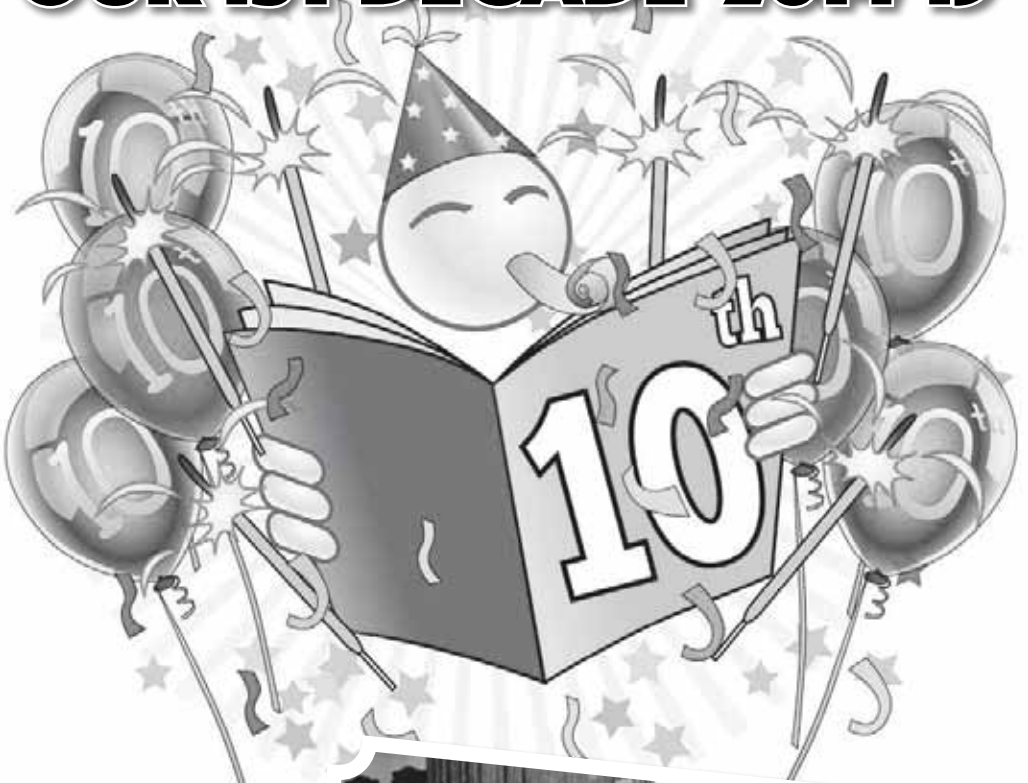
nominated in two categories and received a certificate of recognition for the work we do throughout the Edenderry area.

Congratulations also to our committee members who have successfully completed training and Open College Network courses (Level 2 & 3) during the past year. Three

of our members have also qualified as Southern Health Walk Leaders and their expertise will be put into practice after Easter when we will roll-out a Walk for Health program.

We are indebted to all our volunteers, none of whom are paid, who give endless of their time for the good of our community.

2004-05 HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR 1ST DECADE 2014-15



It is hard to believe that it is ten years since our first meeting of Edenderry Community Development Association. We came together to focus on the regeneration of Edenderry and to bring back the strong community spirit of our area.

We still have enthusiastic founder members taking active roles on our committee. With the passing of the years have come changes. Jim Edgar a founder member and secretary passed away in 2010 after a brief illness

March 2015



**Mums and Tots Art
Project 2005**



Our first Festival of Remembrance 2009

The Royal Wedding Party 2011



and Roy Brady a chairman of our group passed away in 2013. Jim and Roy are both sadly missed.

There have been major changes, one being the refurbishment of

Edenderry Orange Hall. This was made possible by receiving a grant from the National Lottery of £50,000 and by some voluntary labour. We are now able to book the hall to hold

various classes and community events. We have had wood carving classes, yoga courses, card making sessions, Irish dance for adults, Eden Tots group, belly dancing and Lambeg

drumming classes. We have held St Patrick's stew nights, multi-cultural evenings, WW1 lectures, quiz nights, Ulster-Scots ceilidh evenings and Royal event parties. Our Art Club are a

very dedicated group of folk who are fast becoming very competent artists and our Click and Chat Group (who do more chatting than knitting and crocheting) are a very friendly bunch



Pride of Craigavon 2013

Wade
Book
Launch
2007



Londonderry to Edenderry Culture for All Project 2013

Winners of the County Armagh Community
Development Team Building Event 2012



who meet on Monday evenings.

We are delighted that we had an input into Asda's decision to open here and we have a great

rapport with the management and staff

there. One of our sub groups, Edenderry Cultural and Historical Society, ensured that gates of the Gas Works were restored replaced in Asda's boundary to mark the importance

of the gas industry in Edenderry. The group continues to researching local industry having already produced books on the Wades factory and the Portadown Foundry.

Eric Dale, chairman of the society passed away just last year having lived all his life in Edenderry. Many will have known Eric through his business, Daleway, now managed by his son.

Five members have received Mayor's Award for Community Service. Joanne Branyan in 2005, Jim Edgar 2009, Shirley Branyan 2011, Trevor Bonis 2012 and



Wee night at the Mayor's Parlour to start or 10th Recognition for our volunteers – an amazing 5! Mayor's Awards for Community Service.

Pride of
Craigavon
2015



Maxine Chambers and Lurgan & Brownlow Branches for their support in organising what was a very successful event which was completely 'sold out'! Over the coming months we hope to research Edenderry Arrows football team 1914-1918 and if you have any information please contact us on 07769737297.

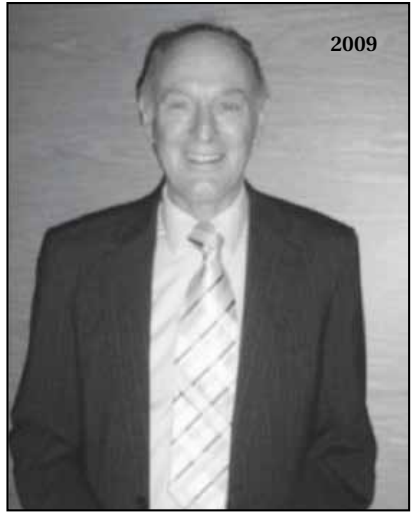
As this year marked the 100th anniversary of the beginning of the First World War we decided to move the Festival of Remembrance, which we organise jointly with the Royal British Legion Portadown Branch, to Craigavon Civic Centre. We also asked Donacloney

and Lurgan & Brownlow Branches for their support in organising what was a very successful event which was completely 'sold out'! Over the coming months we hope to research Edenderry Arrows football team 1914-1918 and if you have any information please contact us on 07769737297.

To mark our first decade we will be holding celebrations in the next few months. Please keep an eye on our notice board, the local press, Facebook page and our website www.edenderry.co.uk for event details.



2005



2009



2013



2011



2012

**FIVE OF OUR VOLUNTEERS
HAVE BEEN AWARDED
THE MAYOR'S AWARD
FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE!**

Great News for Goal Line Youth Centre



Maxine Chambers, one of our committee members, is a Goal Line Youth Leader with special interest in a fantastic project for the Youth Centre based in Chambers Park. She says, "Our team are happy to announce that we have received over £10,000 from ASDA Foundation for our new Multi-Sensory Discovery Room.

The Asda Discovery Room will provide a quiet and relaxing haven for children and young people who find it hard to cope with sensory overload. It will include bubble lights, a projector to enable the children

to enjoy stargazing etc, bean bags with tube lighting, and ultra-violet, multi-sensory equipment. Other funding has helped make this room an amazing feature in our centre and we are so grateful to Big Lottery, SELB, Portadown Cares, PHA Clear Project, P&G Foods, Daniel O'Hara, our parents and the local community. As far as we are aware, Goal Line has become the first youth club in Northern Ireland to have a designated sensory room. We would like to thank Asda Foundation for their generous donation and for sharing our vision and helping change young

people's lives.

"We will this year again be running our very popular Inclusion Summer Programme, if interested please contact Goal Line on 02838361663.. dates are 20th July-7th August Monday -Friday 10am -4pm."

Goal Line activities are in the annex at the Rugby Club. It has come back 'from the brink' thanks to parent power, fundraising and lobbying from local politicians. The organisation had been close to closure due to lack of funding, and had to temporarily halt some of its activities.

Portadown Panthers Learning Disability Tag Rugby Club

Portadown Panthers play a non contact form of rugby, using Tags, and is for males and females, aged 6+ who have a Learning Disability.

The club which was founded in September 2013 with 6 members now has 27 registered players aged between 6 and 30. Training takes place on Saturday mornings 09.30-10.30 in the Edenderry area in Chambers Park, Portadown.

Training for the Panthers runs alongside the very popular and successful Mini Rugby section. Following training players, parents & friends are welcome to come into the Goal Line Youth club, which is open until 11.30, where they will meet & socialise with the Mini Rugby players, officials & parents.

Portadown Panthers was established to:

- promote healthy recreation through the provision of facilities for the playing of Tag Rugby and other recreational or leisure-time occupations in the interests of social welfare for the benefit of people with learning disabilities

- help improve health and fitness.
- provide and make arrangements for tag rugby training, tournaments and competitions which should help growth in self esteem and the development of social interaction with others who are involved.
- improve the conditions of life for those involved in the activities.

Each year the Panthers also take part in a number of Learning Disability Tag Rugby Festivals throughout the province. This enables players to test their skills against players from other teams and also to meet with other players from different towns/clubs.

The Panthers will be travelling to England in June to take part in an International Tag Rugby Festival. Last year they played in this Festival when it was held at the Kingspan Stadium, the home of Ulster Rugby. They also played at the official opening of the stadium in front of a crowd of 18000 spectators-what a memorable experience that was!

Is This The Cycling Revolution?

By Dave Wiggins



Let me prefix this article by declaring that I do own a car and use it slightly more than I use my bicycle. I have never worn luminous brightly coloured lycra and have never cycled more than 20 miles at one time. I mostly cycle during family leisure time, to get places and for work.

For anyone who likes to get out on their bicycle, for whatever reason, Edenderry is a great place to be based. Living a short distance to the extensive Craigavon off road cycle network

(with access at the Seagoie Hotel) and an even shorter distance to the twenty mile Newry to Portadown canal tow path (with access at the Bann Bridge), we are spoiled for choice when it comes to quiet, beautiful, relaxing places to enjoy on two wheels.

For those of us who are primarily commuter and leisure cyclists, quiet greenways without the worry of vehicles with their engines revving up

close behind us is the ultimate dream. In European countries such as Denmark and



Holland this is already the norm in most towns and cities.

So, imagine

my delight when I discovered that Craigavon Borough Council had developed a plan for a new community greenway linking Lurgan and

Portadown railway stations and running right past my front door on Bridge Street. I was over the moon.

I ran my eye over the plans, made some phone calls and watched on as the line painters moved along the roads.

Fast forward six

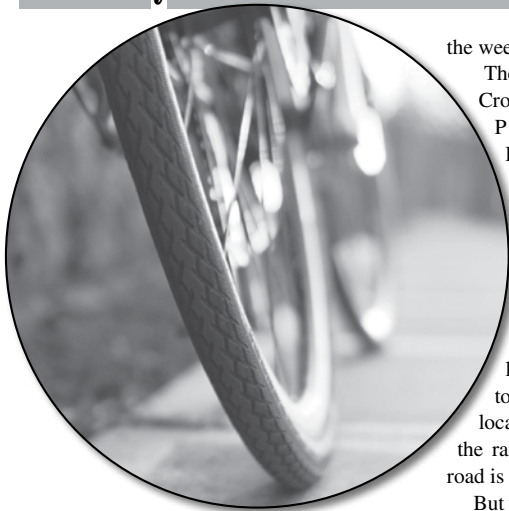
months and with most of the work completed, what have we got for our rate paying pounds?

Well, a lot of it is really pleasing and some of it is not.

Many of the main black paths in Central Craigavon have been resurfaced and repainted and this leads to a smoother, faster and more enjoyable journey.

The revamp of the underpass beside the Seagoie Hotel is really smart and the hill leading into it is now more gradual with the new lighting a good addition.

The new shared



the week.

The Toucan Crossing at Portadown Rugby club is great for young pedestrians and cyclists to cross the main road safely, linking them to the various local schools and the ramp up off the road is a nice idea.

But when we come into Edenderry, if I'm honest, the dashed white lines can be a little confusing and in some places even unnecessary. I was hoping for some well

signed shared paths, keeping bicycles free from the busy engine powered traffic but instead we have some white dashed lines which many residents and their visitors mistake for narrow parking bays, leading them to park with two wheels on the footpath and the other two inside the dashed white lines (guilty).

Of course due to them having dashed white lines, cars are entitled to enter the advisory cycle lanes and

thank goodness for that because as the road narrows between Asda and the traffic island at the bottom of James Street we'd all be breaking the law driving our cars through.

Generally speaking, one metre wide cycle lanes indicated by dashed white lines painted on the road are not the ideal solution. As you travel on in towards Portadown town centre they become disjointed and disappear

path for pedestrians and cyclists along the front of Craigavon Senior High School leading running through Batchelor's

Walk with its new tarmac surface and clearly painted lanes is brilliant and being used by a lot of people every day of

For anyone who likes to get out on their bicycle, for whatever reason, Edenderry is a great place to be based.



at busy junctions and side streets meaning cyclists have to join the main volume of traffic anyway or flirt with the law by continuing their journey on the footpath, much to the frustration of local residents.

One thing I am enjoying about the new cycling infrastructure in Edenderry are the green boxes with the advanced stop lines as seen at Edwin Mays. These are areas where cyclists can filter into when the traffic is queued back, increasing visibility for trucks and HGVs and as cyclists are faster than cars over the first ten metres, gives them a chance to get on up the road without weaving in and out of traffic. If a car is found to be stopped in this green box when the light goes red they are leaving themselves open to a fixed penalty and 3 points on their licence ... you have been warned!

Overall, the Craigavon Community Greenway Scheme has really improved the local network and cycling is definitely increasing in the borough. This will lead to better health for residents and improve the local environment.

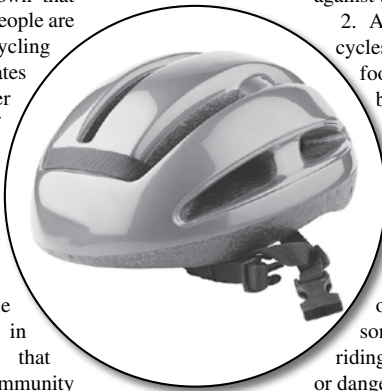
March 2015



Cars do not have any more of a right to be on the road than a bicycle and it has been shown that when more people are walking or cycling it creates a deeper sense of community and isn't that what we are all striving towards?

One big factor in encouraging that sense of community is all of us learning to share the footpaths, streets and roads in a respectful and patient manner. Whether we are driving a

car, walking on the footpath or cycling on a shared path we are all responsible for the



safety and enjoyment of each other.

Cycling Facts:

1. It is legal to

cycle without a helmet in the UK and there many good arguments for and against this.

2. An adult who cycles on the footpath may be served a fixed penalty notice but this is at the discretion of the police and is usually only given to someone who is riding in a reckless or dangerous manner.

3. Children who walk or cycle to school have healthier lives, arrive at school more alert and achieve more.

4. Children under 16 years cannot be prosecuted for cycling on the footpath.

5. If you cycle regularly in the middle years of your life you will have a longer life expectancy.

6. Cycling is more enjoyable than driving your car.

For me, this great quote from journalist Malachi O'Doherty just about sums it up – 'I never get on a bike without the feeling that I am going out to play'.

Follow @cycle craigavon on Twitter to keep up to date on cycling in Craigavon.



Edenderry Community Development Association

Friday 27th March 7.30pm



CeleBRATE

FREE: Entertainment & Supper

Ulster-Scots Dancers - ACCORDION SOUNDS - Irish Dancers

Join with us in celebrating Craigavon's legacy and our own 10th Anniversary.

Funded by:  **CRAIGAVON**
Borough Council **EVERYONE WELCOME!**