



## Building Bridges



Coachford Bridge Club is inviting Bridge Players in the Coachford area to join them every Monday night in Breathnach's Bar Coachford at 7.45pm for a very friendly game of cards. The club is also offering to give Bridge lessons to those interesting in taking up the game for the first time. Why not get a few friends together and take the first step to having a wonderful gift of playing one of the greatest card games ever invented and countless hours of fun and companionship for life. For further information contact Ann on (021) 7334473 or Ber on (021) 7334284

## Parish Quiz raises €1,500

The Inter Village Table Quiz raised €1,500 for the coffers of the Community Council last weekend. The winning teams from Coachford and Aghabullogue went head to head in a tie breaker to see who was the most intelligent team of the parish. Coachford were crowned Champions after Aghabullogue failed to answer the final question. O'Callaghan's Bar hosted the Coachford quiz and Eileen and Patrick put on a wonderful show, sponsored the prizes for first place and fed all who turned up. Kathleen's Shop presented a beautiful hamper as first prize in the raffle

## Mayor to Launch Plans for Coachford's Future



The County Mayor, Cllr. Noel O'Connor will launch the Coachford, Aghabullogue and Rylane Village Design Statements on Tuesday March 4<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm in the Community Hall Aghabullogue. Also in attendance will be Aine Collins TD, representatives from West Cork Development Partnership, who funded the project and representatives from Cork County Council. *See page 3 for more*

## Artists raise funds for Marymount

Aghinagh Comhaltas and Coachford Atelier Art Group presented the proceeds of their very popular 2014 Calendar to Marymount Hospice recently. Sales of the beautiful calendar raised the amazing sum of €2,750. Many of the artists, family and friends enjoyed a night of chat, music, song and storytelling with Aghinagh Comhaltas & Friends. Both groups would like to thank all who bought the calendars and all the local business people and individuals who stocked and sold them.



Some of the local artists with Marymount representatives, Anne O'Mahony and Marie Barry.

## BUNS for BANGKOK

A cake sale and coffee morning in aid of the Good Shepherd Sisters of Bangkok will take place on Sunday March 2nd in the GAA Community Hall Coachford after 10.00am mass. A



local nun, Sr. Annie Louise Horgan, has worked in Thailand since 1965, where she runs a Centre catering for over a thousand under-privileged people. The Centre provides Day Care for children from the slums and also cares for immigrant women and those who have been affected by



human trafficking. Your support would be greatly appreciated. All money raised at the Cake Sale will go directly with Sr. Annie Louise back to her Centre in Thailand. For more Information contact Helena at 086 3748941

## Walking made safer for Coachford residents

Cork County Council has announced the development of a footpath from Beechville and Fr. Patrick Sheehan Place to join with the one from the national school and on to the village. The cost of the development is estimated at €22,000 and will be over 130 meters in length. Chairperson of the Community Council, Deirdre O'Donovan welcomed the announcement and said, "This new footpath is a great addition and will certainly help in making the roads safer for the residents and those who use the sporting facilities and schools. The recent footpath repairs near Dairygold have made a huge difference but there remains a lot of work to be carried out by the council on footpaths in other areas of the village. The footpath by the GAA pitch is in a terrible condition and is now at the same level as the road in many areas and is very unsafe for walkers and impassable when the road is flooded."



## A Good Hair Day



Well done to Loretto O' Riordan of O'Riordan's Bar who shaved off all her hair as part of the Shave or Dye campaign for the Irish Cancer Society's cancer programmes. Loretto has raised over €2,000 so far and is still accepting donations.

## Improvements for Community House

Coachford Community House has been allocated an amenity grant of €6,000 towards updating internal doors, signage, wiring and windows. The exterior of the Community House, which had badly needed a repaint for some time was repainted free of charge by Mr. Kevin Daly with paint kindly donated by Lynch's Hardware. The painting was completed just in time for the visit of TV cameras to Breathnach's Bar and although it didn't feature on the show it was very timely to have it looking well for the visit of the Brennan Brothers. **Rooms on the ground floor of the Community House continue to be available for rental at very reasonable rates. Bookings can be made by ringing the secretary on 085 15 94 26**

## In celebration of Sir



The retirement party for Mr. Pat O'Leary, recently retired Principal of Aghabullogue National School will take place in Breathnach's Bar,

Coachford on Saturday March 1<sup>st</sup> at 8.30pm. All welcome, particularly past pupils.

## Foróige Returns to Coachford

It was a collective effort, but finally, we have a Foróige youth club in Coachford once more. Talks began last year in the Community House in Coachford, with the intention of setting up a club for the young people of the community. Now up and running, the club has eight leaders and over forty members, a number that is expected to grow over the coming weeks and months. After only three meetings, we have created our club charter, which sets out the rules of the club, and we have elected our committee of eight young people.

The Foróige Club is a fantastic addition to the community as it provides a safe and friendly environment, outside of school, for us young people to get together, form friendships and enjoy ourselves. It provides a social outlet and would appeal to every young person, regardless of their interests. Furthermore, the club is run by young people, with the guidance of the adult leaders, so our opinions and wishes are heard. It is our club, we make decisions as a group on what events we'd like to organise, what we do each week in the hall, and how we will raise the funds for outings.



Aaron Doherty, Laura Barrett, Tadgh Bradley, Jack Murphy and Marc Dineen at the recent soccer tournament at Riverstick Foróige Club

The younger members like to play table tennis or twister, and some prefer to listen to music, while the older members play cards or just have a

chat over a cup of tea. In the next few weeks we hope to enter a 5-a-side soccer tournament with other local Foróige clubs. We are also planning fundraisers to earn money so we can go on trips. Everybody's thoughts and opinions are considered, and we have lots of ideas for what we'll do over the coming months.

Anyone aged between 12 and 18 years old is welcome to join the club. The club runs between 7:30 and 9:00 each Wednesday evening at the GAA Hall in Coachford. So come along and try it out for one evening, and if you'd like to join the club you can fill out a form and bring along €20 for registration..

*Leah Buckley, Public Relations Officer.*

## Bright Sparks

Congratulations to Elaine O'Mahony Moneragh Coachford and Shane Forde Beechville Coachford who recently graduated from UCC. Elaine received a degree in Arts and Shane received a Masters degree in English.







# News from The Bog of the Foxy Woman

February 2014

## Festival Time 2014



The dates for the fifth Annual Coachford Autumn Festival have been announced. The organisers, Broomhill Vintage Club will hold the festival from Friday, August 15th to Sunday August 17th. "We are looking forward to another great weekend of fun and craic this year however we need more people from the community to get involved in helping to organise the event and to offer up some new ideas to keep the festival fresh and relevant to everyone. We are hugely indebted to Aghabullogue GAA for their help and support for the festival since its inception in 2010", said Tadgh Murphy Chairman. Anyone wishing to get involved please contact the secretary on 086 8030086.



## Panic Stations!!!!

Coachford Players will perform the hilarious play 'Panic Stations' On March 29th, 30th and 31st in the GAA hall Coachford. The play is a very funny farce set in a cottage in the English Country side. The 10 members of the cast are busy rehearsing their parts under the direction of Eugene O'Sullivan. This is the first farce the group has done in a few years and we are all looking forward to it. The cast is made up of some of the more experienced members of the group and some newcomers to Coachford Players but not to the stage. Come along and enjoy a very light hearted comedy of guns, dynamite and dodgy characters.

## Mayor to launch future plans for three villages

The County Mayor, Cllr. Noel O'Connor will launch the Coachford, Aghabullogue and Rylane Village Design Statements on Tuesday March 4<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm in the Community Hall Aghabullogue. Also in attendance will be Aine Collins TD, representatives from

West Cork Development Partnership, who funded the project and representatives from Cork County Council.



Village Design Statements (VDS) are used to empower local communities throughout the island of Ireland to become involved in shaping their local environments. It is also hoped that the VDS will become a useful tool for the community in planning and shaping their local community.

In preparation of the VDS for Coachford, Aghabullogue and Rylane, local schools, organisations, businesses and the wider community were invited to complete questionnaires and to take part in open workshops in each village. The Community Council in partnership with Consultants URS, West Cork Development Partnership, and other various project Partners worked on drawing up the plans over the next number of months.

This is a unique venture in mid-Cork, where a blueprint has been set out for a community, its three villages and environs, intended to last well into the future, and coinciding with the upcoming Cork County Development Plan. It will also assist the Community Council in the furtherance of its many aims as;

- It describes what is special about the area and sets out visions for its future
- Highlights opportunities for business creation and enhancement, recreation, tourism, heritage and the improvement of rural services
- Identifies short, medium and long term projects and proposals

Chairperson of the Community Council Deirdre O'Donovan said, "Village Design Statements are an ideal vehicle for communities to determine what is needed in their area and to plan for the future. We were delighted that so many people got involved in drawing up the plans. Over €20,000 was invested in these blueprints and we are looking forward to unveiling them at the launch."

The Village Design Statements for each village will be available for public viewing on **Tuesday 4 March 2014, at 7.30pm, in Aghabullogue Hall.** Please come along and all are welcome.





# News from *The Bog of the Foxy Woman*

February 2014

## Good Luck and Thanks

After almost 16 years John and Siobhan Hogan finally called time at their pub in Coachford on the last night in January. The very popular couple took over the pub in 1998 and ran a very successful business at the Village Inn for years. The pub was very much loved by the community and visitors. John and Siobhan held a farewell party with many of the pub's regulars down through the years calling in to say farewell to their local. A lot of those who served inside the counter were also in attendance. John and Siobhan ran a good business and offered something more than just a pub to the community. Hogan's was not just a pub. The building was a pub for many years before John and Siobhan took it over. Any place could be a pub. But Hogans was special. Hogan's not only served drink, it served the community. It served as a theatre, a church, an auction room, a museum, a lecture theatre, a changing room, a dance hall, a games room, a meeting room for many organisations and groups. It was the scene of wild celebrations and countless parties. It was the venue for christenings and wakes. It fed flower groups, footballers and farmers. It was the home of race nights for Horses and even mice. It was the venue for performers, players and late night poker. It was the pub for the sing song, the session and the set.

This pub was the focal point for so many things. The pub was the village's unofficial tourist office for many years. It was often the first place strangers would come to when arriving in the village. Fishermen used it as their Irish head quarters and many new people who set up home in the area quickly considered Hogans as their local and John and Siobhan as friends. Hogans was also an unofficial FÁS training centre. There was many a young person received a crash course in the art of Bar Work before heading out to the states or Australia so they would have something on the CV to carry them through a summer away from home.

Hogans was the first place in Cork county to serve black and white pudding along with sausages and wedges in baskets. It was the first and probably still is the only pub to have a FIFA Soccer tournament every St. Stephen's Day. It is the pub that holds a Poker tournament in honour of a dear customer who never drank alcohol.







# News from *The Bog of the Foxy Woman*

[www.coachfordnews.wordpress.com](http://www.coachfordnews.wordpress.com)

February 2014



To serve the community drink would have done. It's what most pubs just do. But Hogans supported the community. They have sponsored the GAA, Soccer and Camogie Clubs. They organised and supported a sponsored mountain walk for ten years and raised over €100,000 in aid of Cystic Fibrosis from 1999 to 2009. Spot prizes were doled out on a daily basis for various lost and worthy causes. If there was something to be done around the village then John Hogan would be asked to do it and he rarely refused. He was, and still is involved in so many things, training teams, parents association, soccer club, GAA, Community council and even fishing. There were many nights when he should have been behind the counter but was stuck on some committee or at some pitch and Siobhan had to hold the fort. They are a unique partnership. They ran a unique pub and a unique business.

It is now hard to believe that it's gone, this haven for drinkers and friends, for people of all ages and backgrounds who would meet at Hogan's and share friendship over a pint. This pub who had different customers at different times of the day. There was the early evening gang, the night gang and the late gang. But all knew Hogans as their local. All of them when they said they were going to the pub meant Hogans. That pub which witnessed so much, that bar which saw old friends pass away and new customers come forth..

So on behalf of the community, the organisations who called Hogans home, the card players, the musicians, the storytellers, the lovers of sport, the chancers, the characters, the customers who loved being there, but most of all, on behalf of all your friends, we wish John and Siobhan the very best in whatever new challenge they take up and to thank you for all that you've done for the community down over the years.

To quote a famous American President "It's easy to make a buck, It's a lot tougher to make a difference"

The village had four pubs for over 100 years and the loss of Hogans will be felt right throughout our community. Coachford, like every other community has felt the effects of the economic downturn and the loss of many of our young people overseas has affected pubs more than any other business. However it is now the responsibility of everyone to support our local businesses and to try and make sure that we do not lose any more of our precious pubs, shops and other services.







# Sports News from The Bog of the Foxy Woman

www.coachfordnews.wordpress.com

February 2014



## Schoolboys Soccer

Fresh from their comprehensive 6-0 win over Tramore in the league last weekend. The Killanardish/Coachford under 13s entertain the Cobh side, Springfield in Local Cup tie in Carrigadrohid on Saturday at 3.30pm. The under 14s take on Tramore in the league on Sunday at 10.30am also in Carrigadrohid.

## Adult Soccer

Coachford Premier team play Greenwood in the league on Saturday at home at 3.00pm while the B team travel to Ballinhassig to take on the home side also at 3.00pm.



## Lotto

There was no winner of the

Coachford AFC lotto last week. The numbers drawn were 4, 18 and 24. The Lucky dip winners were D.T.D (€40), Neillie Callaghan, Noreen Walsh, Tom Looney and John O Riordan (€20 each) The jackpot for next week's draw stands at €3,400. The numbers will be drawn in Breathnach's Bar on Monday night.

## St. Patrick's Weekend

O'Riordan's Bar will feature Live Music on Sunday March 16th from 10.00pm and the brilliant Aoife Cremin will entertain on St. Patrick's Day from 7.00pm to 9.00pm.



Pictured is Club Chairman John Barry-Murphy making a presentation to the boys prior to their trip to the finals.

## Fountains of Knowledge

The very best of luck to Aodhán Healy, Niall Barry-Murphy, Tom Long and Paul Ring who will be representing Aghabullogue, Cork and Munster in this weekends All-Ireland Scór Quiz na nÓg in Castlebar, Co. Mayo. Lets hope that they bring the All Ireland title back home.

## Dancers reach Muskerry Final

Aghabullogue GAA set dancers will take part in the Muskerry Scór na nÓg on Sunday at the Eire Óg GAA pavilion in ovens.

## Soccer Legends!

