

Christmas in Clonown

We wish to thank everybody who helped to make Christmas in Clonown special — Pat and Michael who erected the crib and Christmas tree, Mary who decorated them, those who cleaned the church and donated flowers, Sean Crehan and the choir, the altar servers and Cathal who did the readings. A special word of thanks to Canon Devine and Fr Eamonn Kelly. Of course we cannot forget Santa who made an appearance and entertained the children at the party which was prepared by the Community Centre committee.

Flower Arranging

The flower arranging demonstration was so successful that people have requested further classes. It is hoped to have four classes in late February/early March. This time those attending will have the opportunity of doing the arrangements themselves. It is only possible to have a maximum of twelve people in the classes so places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. There will be further information in the February newsletter.

Rural Transport

The bus which travels to and from Athlone each Friday has been very welcome in the Clonown area. Besides being so convenient for people it has also been looked on as an opportunity to meet and chat. Early in December twenty-six people from the area went to Galway for some Christmas shopping. This was part of the service offered by South Westmeath RTI. We wish to thank all involved and especially Willie Moore who provides the bus.

Keep Fit

After the excesses of Christmas many are anxious to get back to the keep fit classes. It is hoped that these will resume shortly.

Community Centre

Due to unforeseen circumstances the community centre has not yet been painted but it is hoped to have painting completed, the kitchen fully fitted and the meeting room finished very shortly.

School Play

Shortly before Christmas, the children in Clonown school performed a nativity play for parents and friends. Congratulations to all those who took part and to their teachers.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Denis and Fiona Gavin on the birth of a baby girl, Ava.

Oliver Craughwell RIP

Our deepest sympathy to PJ Craughwell on the recent death of his brother, Oliver.

Kitty Cunningham RIP

Our sincere sympathy also to the relatives of Kitty Cunningham, Ardrae, who died recently.

Go ndéana Dia trócaire ar a nanamacha

Clonown Book

There are some copies of the Clonown book *A Sense of Place* available. If you are thinking of buying a copy for yourself or for a friend please contact Ann Dunning, Pdraig Harney, Kathy Hardiman or Rosaleen Fallon. The price is €15