

ALL THE NEWS FROM BELFORD HOUSE AND BRENDAN CORISH GARDENS

We would like to take this opportunity to wish a speedy recovery to all the staff and residents who have been ill and who are ill at the present time. xxxx.

We would also like to mention our chef Jean who has had a recent visit to Lourdes. We hope she had a great time and didn't forget to pray for us all back here. Can't wait to have you back, some of the cooking has been a bit scary since you left.

Great news arrived this week. Mamie Mc Cormack is off to Lourdes, it's a dream come true. No doubt you will find lots of new ideas for your paintings, when you are not praying. Have a fantastic time.

Brendan Corish Gardens has two new Social Care Leaders Elaine O'Neill and Veronica Brooks. We would like to give them a big welcome and wish you many years happiness in your new post. We would also like to send our best wishes to Tracy Kelly who has moved to the Adult Day-room. Good luck in the future Tracy.

Well done to the students who were on work placement with us over the past few months we wish them much success in the future.

The smoking ban came into effect on Monday March 29th. All the non smokers are delighted but the smokers are not so pleased. In case you need to be reminded don't forget your warm winter woollies for outside.

Here in Belford House we are always trying to expand our activities and now with our new p.c. trackball, everyone will be able to participate in computer activities. Soon everybody will be a computer wizard, Bill Gates eat your heart out.

Congratulations to Tracy and Lee on their marriage in November all the best for the future to you and the boys.

Congratulations to Margaret O'Connor who got a beautiful new car. We will be fund-raising in the near future to pay for the driving lessons! So watch out those of you on the roads and especially on the footpaths.

Belford House is looking forward to having better parking facilities in the near future, which will no doubt be a great weight off Tommy's Shoulders.

We had a great night at the St. Patrick's eve Irish night. Music dancing and drink galore everyone had a most enjoyable night.

Watch out on the roads for the Belford House fund-raising bed push from Wexford to Enniscorthy. Date to be confirmed. The only question is who will be in the bed!!!!!!!

Congratulations to Ann Carroll-Kennedy who completed a course in sign language. Well done Ann! Also well done to

John Power who won third prize in the recent Credit Union Art Competition.

We would like to congratulate and send best wishes to Catherine Redmond and family on the birth of baby Abby from everyone in Belford House and especially all your friends in Brendan Corish Gardens.

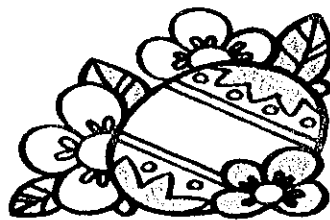
Good Luck to all the staff who have returned to college to further their education. Best wishes in your exams and assignments, we're all thinking of you.

Anyone in need of a good tip on a horse? Contact Patricia Keating, we hear she is a dab hand at it.

Everyone in Belford House and Brendan Corish Gardens would like to wish all their family and friends a happy and peaceful Easter.

News items from Brendan Corish Gardens submitted by Mamie, Mary, Sharon, Claire, Ann and John.

News items from Belford House submitted by Dermot with a little help from his friends.



ARD AOIBHINN OBSERVER SPRING 2004



ARTS ABILITY PROJECT LAUNCHED— TYPED BY LESLEY O'LEARY

• A big thank you to all our fund-raisers:

ABS Pumps donation – 1,003 euro

Tony Roche Car Sales donation – 1,000 euro

Valda Choir – 400 euro

Wrens Nest table quiz – 225 euro

Advance Cleaners donation 500 euro

Carlow IT Wexford campus "Rag Day" – 1,650 euro

Oylegate/Glenbrien GAA club – 500 euro

Sam Mc Cauley – 1,470 euro

Wexford Borough Council – 155 euro

Wexford Golf club – 109 euro.

A group from Activation recently attended the launch of the Arts Ability Project at The Heritage Centre at Ferrycarrig.

Arts ability is an initiative, which focuses on celebrating the artistic and creative imagination of people who experience mental health problems and or disabilities.

The project aims to extend opportunities to promote access to and participation in the arts among such people. Participants in the project are recognised as artists in their own right.

Arts ability involves a team of professional artists working collaboratively with people of all ages from a number of centres and schools around the



Winners of the Credit Union Art Competition 2002/03
Lesley O'Leary, Glen Connick and John Power

county.

Ard Aoibhinn has been lucky enough to be given a place on the programme for this term. We are having drama classes once a week under the tuition of Gemma Gallagher. Gemma attends the Ard Aoibhinn every Tuesday afternoon and we have great fun participating in a two hour drama workshop.

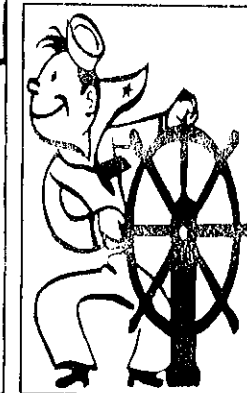
We are half way through the course now and it is going very well everyone is learning a lot and enjoying the experience.

The group participating in the drama course are; Shane O'Brien, John Power, Glen Connick, Paul Houlihan, Carol Browne, Eleanor O'Dowd, Lesley O'Leary and Bridget Keane.

ARD AOIBHINN SETS SAIL WITH THE "H.M.S. PINAFORE"

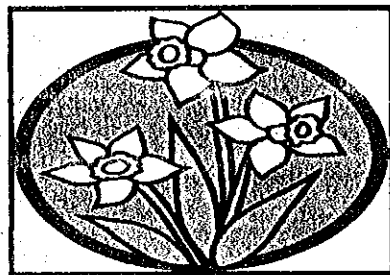
Wexford Light Opera Society have been kind enough to offer Ard Aoibhinn the takings from their gala night production of this years show, which is the comical musical "H.M.S. Pinafore". This fun and high action show promises to be another hit from the society who won the musical all-Ireland two years ago.

Now it is up to Ard Aoibhinn to make sure this gala event is well attended. Tickets are on sale now from the Ard Aoibhinn Centre, the Theatre Royal box office, The Book Centre and Whites Electric. They are a snap at only twenty euro which includes a function afterwards with music and finger-food in the Talbot Hotel. We look forward to seeing you all there shipmates!



NEWS FROM THE RAINBOW CLASSES TYPED BY ELEANOR O'DOWD

Happy Easter to every one from the Rainbow classes We hope you are all well and looking forward to Easter.



We have been busy making cards, baskets for sweets that we will making and blossoms for our display in the day room .

We have two birthdays since Christmas, Siobhian and Peter celebrated their birthdays in February and we all made big cards for them.

Best wishes to Peter and Derek

who are sick at the moment and we wish them a speedy recovery.

Our best wishes also go out to Catherine and Pamela who both had babies since we last wrote and would like to welcome Katherine to Ard Aoibhinn .

Special praside goes to Niall who has been working hard communicating his needs and telling us what he wants .Siobhan, Jason, Suzanne and Adam are all using the Big Macks well. Jimmy has been kicking the football excellently and Andy often eutertains us in the afternoon with a song .

Happy Easter to you all and looking forward to seeing you next term when the sun will hopefully be out . Hope also that you are getting into training for the sports day.

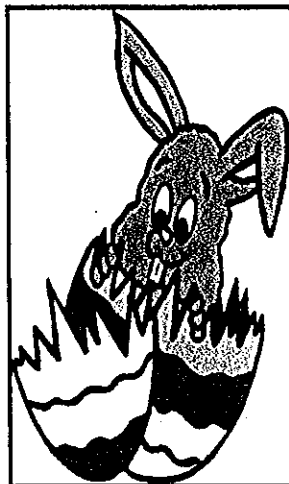
ADULT DAY-ROOM NEWS TYPED BY JOHN POWER

We are all delighted to welcome Tracy back to the a Adult-day room and hope you will be happy with your new career move.

Every good wish to Carmel as she goes back to the books to study for her Nursing Diploma lots of luck and success.

We would all like to extend our deepest sympathy to Carol Kelly and her family on the recent loss of her father and friend.
R.I.P.

Finally we hope you all have a great Easter and enjoy your holidays.



Aaron Kavanagh receives a gift from Santa when the man in red visited us before Christmas.

PRE-SCHOOL NEWS

Easter is nearly upon us and we look forward to the break. We had a busy term, welcome back to Pearlle and we still see Kay every Friday. But we miss Pearlle for our Friday lunch. It hasn't been the same without Johnny either.

Johnny is now working in Belford House.

We are looking forward to next term so we can get out in the sunshine and fresh air.

ACTION FROM ACTIVATION TYPED BY - CAROL BROWNE

—This as always has been a very busy term in Activation and we have been expressing our creative sides a lot this term.

—We are partaking in drama classes as part of the Arts Ability Programme through Wexford County Council. Gemma Gallagher is our drama teacher and she comes to the centre every Tuesday afternoon.

—We are also working with Deirdre Grant and the Pulse Dance Group again this term and really enjoy our dance classes every Thursday in Image Health Studios.

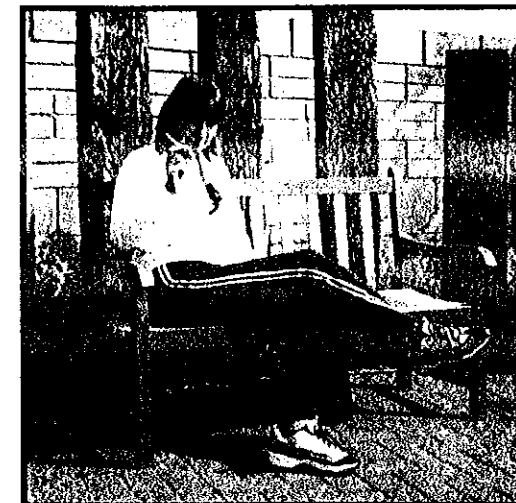
—We are also keeping busy in the sports field as well with

our weekly visits to the Vocational College for indoor soccer and basketball. We attended a soccer workshop in Kilkenny in February and really got on well. Jimmy, Shane, and Carol participated in a recent swimming gala in Enniscorthy and did very well.

—We are looking forward to next term when we can go on plenty of days out on the fine Spring days and start up our lawn bowls in the garden. We are also looking forward to the sports day.

—We wish Jennifer the very best as she heads off on maternity leave. We shall all miss her.

—We're delighted to hear that our Mamie is heading off to Lourdes soon and wish her a



Kathleen enjoying the new smokers facilities in Ard Aoibhinn. Non smokers welcome too. (nice footwear)

safe and enjoyable trip.

—Finally congratulations to our artists John P., Lesley and Glen who did so well in the Credit Union art competition. Lesley went on to win the county wide competition.

NEWS FROM THE CHILDREN'S DAY-ROOM TYPED BY-STEPHEN HAYDEN

Hello and happy Easter to all our friends.

We have had an exciting first three months, in February we celebrated Peter and Siobhinn's birthdays.

Jason's Mammy and Daddy got a new people carrier and have promised us loads of trips out!!!

Andy and Jimmy are uncles to a new baby girl congratulations to the happy grandparents and proud parents.

Suzanne's Mammy cerebrated a big birthday recently, doesn't she look well for 50!!!!

Niall has become a real water baby and loves the pool.

It has been a busy month with students coming and going our Adam was a big hit with all the girls!

We are looking forward to the holidays and plenty of Easter eggs and chocolate. Diets start next term!



IRISH NIGHT A GREAT SUCCESS TYPED BY JIMMY KELLY



A recent Irish night held on the eve of St. Patrick's day was a tremendous success and raised nearly 2,500 euros for Ard Aoibhinn. The night which was organised by Attracta and Tom went off without a hitch and the large crowd really enjoyed a smashing nights entertainment the main attraction on the night was The Northfield Caledonian Pipe and Drum Band all the way from Birmingham who were visiting Wexford for the St. Patrick's day parade and agreed to fit this charity event into their busy schedules.

While the band headlined the concert the entertain-

ment that followed them was wonderful also and included the singing talents of Tony Carthy, Anthony and Caroline Jones Fr. Marken, Fr. Fegan, Roger Maguire and John Stuart. Plus The Drinagh Mummies, The Gurtrude Walsh Irish Dancing School and The Tusker Group. The master of ceremonies on the night was South east radio's Alan Corcoran and we would like to thank him and all the performers once more for what was a great night also a special thank you to the Talbot Hotel ,The Art's Office and anyone who came and supported us on the night.