



Ardmore

ARDMORE NS COMMUNION CLASS

Ardmore and Grange National School children celebrated the Holy sacrament of Communion over the weekend. Ardmore School had theirs on Saturday while Grange School celebrated theirs on Sunday. Thankfully the weather was fine for both events.

WEDDING BELLS

Local Ardmore girl Cliona McCarthy returned to the village over the weekend for her wedding. Cliona who is an air hostess got married in St. Declan's Church on Thursday to Paul Lee who is an airline captain. Cliona is daughter of Ann and Paul McCarthy Ardmore while Paul is from Loughrea in Galway. The reception was held in Athenaeum House in Waterford.

WORK IN PROGRESS

The GAA club are currently erecting permanent netting behind both goals and when completed it will be a big help to stop the hurling balls from going out onto the road and into the adjoining fields. It is a work in progress at present but will be a fine job when completed.

GOOD WIN IN FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Speaking of the GAA the football side had a welcome return to winning ways when they defeated Rathgormack in the opening round of the Senior Football championship winning by four points 1-9 to 0-8. A fine goal from Clinton Hennessy and a great Shane Leahy point clinched victory for Ardmore. Having lost their opening two hurling games this win was a good boost to the club.

WARM WEATHER TRAINING

Championship action at senior level is now on hold as Waterford prepare for their championship match with Clare on June 8th. The squad that includes Ardmore players Declan Prendergast,

Clinton Hennessy and Seamus Prendergast played Cork on Sunday night to officially open the Mallow GAA complex and on Monday jetted out to Portugal for a warm weather training camp. On Sunday they will face Kilkenny as they build up to their championship clash with Clare.

RIVERDEEP BOSS INVESTS €20M IN BOUTIQUE HOTEL

Entrepreneur Barry O'Callaghan has invested more than €20 million in a boutique hotel in Co. Waterford, which will open its doors this week.

O'Callaghan, who built up publishing firm Riverdeep through a series of multibillion-euro deals, owns the new Cliff House Hotel in Ardmore. Adrian Bartels, former general manager of the five-star Sheen Falls Lodge Hotel in Kenmare, will manage the hotel.

The hotel is "of five-star standard", with a spa, swimming pool, and a private pontoon for access to the sea and a range of water sports. Room rates will start at about €200 a night, according to a spokeswoman.

She said that the hotel would employ 64 full time staff in high season, dropping back to 55 people in the low season.

All 39 bedrooms at the hotel have private terraces overlooking the sea. The restaurant will be headed by Dutchman Martijn Kajuter, who previously worked with Marco Pierre White in London. O'Callaghan and his family have holidayed in Ardmore for many years.

The entrepreneur bought the hotel in 2004 to prevent another development at the site going ahead.

The architects on the refurbishment were Coughlan Dekayser Associates, and the interior design was executed by Garry Cohn from Douglas Wallace.

The Cliff House Hotel is run

by Stein Hotels and Resorts, which also runs Brownes Brasserie, the upmarket Dublin restaurant where O'Callaghan is also an investor.

HISTORY OF ARDMORE GAA

Ardmore's reign as County Senior Football Champions was one of the shortest on record. They had captured the 1965 County Title after Mount Sion in a delayed County Final played in early 1966.

Well just 11 weeks later they crashed out of the 1966 County SFC when they lost out to Brickey Rangers in a 1-5 to 1-3 scoreline. That defeat saw their fine side go into decline to such an extent that a few years later they were battling it out back in the Junior Grade in the Western Board Championship.

On a brighter note the Ardmore Minor Footballers proved to be the team of the year in 1966, although they almost came a cropper against An Rinn in the Western Semi-Final winning by 2-3 to 1-4.

The Western Final saw them powering their way past a very youthful Tallow outfit on an amazing scoreline of 7-8 to 0-2.

Their opponents in the County MFC final were a side called Kevin Barry's who qualified arising from a Board Room decision, as Gaultier had defeated them on the field of play.

Ardmore duly won the County Final which was played at the Tramore venue with such fine footballers as Tony Carlton, Harry O'Donnell, Liam Lincoln, Tommy O'Reilly, Noel Rooney, Donal Murphy and the Hennessy brothers, being the backbone of the team.

Interestingly, we also had the assistance of four players from Dungarvan, i.e. Michael Donnolly, Michael Norris, Sean Murphy and Timmy Healy.