



Annual Spring Fair - Sunday 23rd April

St. Joseph's Foundation will hold its Annual Spring Fair on Sunday, April 23rd at its campus, Baker's Road, Charleville at 1.30p.m. Stalls on the day will include, Books, Toys, Bottles, Wheel of Fortune, Home Produce, White Elephant, €Stall, Arts & Crafts etc.

Sideshows and attractions on the day will include Bobby Bonehead, Pongo, Basketball, Magic Show, Kiddies Disco, Vintage Car Display, Bouncing Castle, Super Slide, Obstacle Course, Pony Rides, Goal Kicking, Guess the Glugger, Golf Putting, Face Painting etc. Charleville Brass and Reed Band will provide the music for the official opening.

Glen Bridge Garden Centre will be open on the day. Barbecue with tasty burgers and sausages will be on sale throughout the day. Raffle prizes: 1st €1,000, 2nd €500 and 3rd €250 will be held on the day of the Spring Fair. Tickets are on sale at only €2 each and to be in with a chance to win contact Mary Biggane.

Donations or items for any of the stalls would be greatly appreciated. The Spring Fair is always a very enjoyable day and we hope to see you all on the 23rd April. For further



EXCELLENCE THROUGH PEOPLE PRESENTATION AWARD

Rody Molloy, Director General of FÁS, Kathleen O'Callaghan H.R. Manager, Conor Counihan C.E.O. and Sexton Cahill, Chairman of Excellence Through People Approval Board at the presentation of the award to St. Joseph's

T.E.S.S. TRAINING CENTRE

T.E.S.S. trainees have been busy on work experience for the last few months. Well done to everyone!

A special word of thanks to the following employers for their time and support with the work placements. Dillon's Flower Shop; Kerry Agri Food Store; Charleville Library; Super Valu, Kilmallock; Attractions Hair Salon Charleville; I.R.D. Duhallow Food Centre Charleville; John Griffin Valeting Service; Fitzgerald's Restaurant, Kilmallock; Brudairs, Dromcollogher; Forge Coffee Shop; St.



Elizabeth Curtin at work in Super Valu, Kilmallock



How to Flip a Pancake!

T.E.S.S. Home Management Class demonstrates the art!



T.E.S.S. trainees and staff are busy at the moment getting ready for the FETAC External Assessor due in May. Best of luck to all concerned.

A special thank you to Kilfinane Education Centre for their help and support facilitating us during our stay, which has helped deliver the FETAC outdoor pursuits module. Best wishes to Claire Galvin



Congratulations to Patrick O'Sullivan and Daniel Kelleher who celebrated their 21st Birthdays.





David Hickey, James Farrell and Stephen Hickey

St. Joseph's Foundation will be well represented at this year's Special Olympics Ireland Games which will be held in Belfast from June 21st to June 25th with athletes from all over Ireland competing. A large number of our service users will participate in Athletics, Aquatics, Basketball, Equestrian, Football, Soccer, Golf, Table Tennis and also the Atlas programme (where athletes work as volunteers at events during the games). This will be the largest Ireland games to date with 2,000 athletes, 500 coaches, 4,000 family members, 5,500 volunteers and a budget of £1.7m sterling. The athletes are training hard at the moment both at their clubs and in their squad sessions.

If you would like more information, visit: www.specialolympics.ie

Pupils from Holy Family School taking part in Special Olympics:

- **LIAM HAMMOND**, Soft Ball Throwing, is a member of Doneraile Rockets Club.
- **BRÍD SLATTERY**, 10 Metre Assisted Swim, is a member of Mallow Marlins Swimming Club.

MUNSTER REPRESENTATIVES IN THE NATIONAL GAMES

Carmel Hynes and Catherine O'Flynn who live in Ardfern are part of the group who have been chosen to represent Munster in the National Games which will start in Belfast on 21st of June 2006. Carmel will be competing in the 100 metre race and also in the shot putt competition. Catherine will be competing in the walking race and also taking part in the standing long jump. Carmel and Catherine are both training every Monday night in Hospital with Patricia Hickey and Geraldine O'Sullivan. Both girls are looking forward to going to Belfast and taking part in the competition, meeting new people and having a bit

SUCCESSFUL COFFEE MORNING

Well done to everyone who supported the coffee morning that was organised by T.E.S.S. The total raised for the Special Olympics was €670. Thanks to everybody who helped out in any way.



Visitors to the Holy Family School

Some of the firemen from Charleville fire station came to visit Holy Family School in February. They brought the fire engine and the rescue van. They wore special fire proof jackets and pants, strong boots, helmets and gloves.

Two guards also visited our school. Owen works in Charleville and he drove the squad car. Hugh works in Mallow. He came on the Garda motorbike. They told us to always wear seatbelts. They said if we ever got lost we should go into a



Sarah O'Shea, Sammi Lo, Ann Marie Kelleher, and Charlotte O'Brien pictured during a visit to the school by Charleville Fire Station staff.



Pupils from ASD III enjoying the visit by some staff of Charleville Fire Station, Paul Kelly, Caroline Doyle, Alice Chawke, and Brid Slattery.

Some musicians from the local Brass and Reed band came to play for us recently. They wore their uniforms and “buzz bees” on their heads. They played marching music and we all marched around the gym. Joe and Robbie carried the big flags. They played dance music and we all got up and danced. We had great fun.

Adrian Brennan marching to the music during a visit to the school from Charleville



Peter Byrnes enjoying the slide on a visit to Doneraile Park.

Adult Education Programme

BALLYHOURA JOBS CLUB

Many thanks to Catherine Fitzgerald from Ballyhoura Jobs Club who attended St. Joseph's Foundation and worked with ten of the service users doing "Interview Skills". During these three sessions the service users learned all the "Do's and Don'ts for successful job interview". They also had an opportunity to record their mock interview and then review it with Catherine.

DVD ON "BULLYING"

A number of service users have worked with Ann O'Regan our drama teacher to produce a DVD of our policy on "Bullying".

This production will be included with policies produced by five other organisations, St. Ann's Roscrea, SOS Kilkenny, Co-Action West Cork, Order of Malta Drogheda, and Aras Attracta Swinford. The DVD will then be used by service users, their families and staff so they can have the service user's view and understanding of

Visit to National Botanic Gardens - New Sensory Garden

We were delighted to hear that NALA (National Adult Literacy Agency) has agreed to fund a trip to the Botanic Gardens from their Student Development Fund. The Student Development fund supports Adult Education programmes to carry out work with learners that encourages confidence building and empowerment.

The New Sensory Garden in the National botanic Gardens will include special elements - a pool and fountain, granite stone features and sculpture. The planting emphasises the different sensory experiences through colour, shape, texture, sounds from the rustle of the plants such as bamboo and grasses, fragrances from lavender, honeysuckle, rosemary, thyme and mint. We hope to make this trip in late July or August when the garden is at its loveliest. As the number of seats are limited we will have to draw to decide who

PADRE PIO PRE-SCHOOL

Padre Pio Pre-school held a pancake party on Shrove Tuesday. We all loved making, tossing and of course tasting the pancakes. Last Friday we enjoyed a visit to "Little Rascals" in Mallow. Many thanks to our transition students Claire & Denise for all the help on the day.

STUDENT PERSPECTIVE

My name is Edel Hayes and I am a student at the Waterford Institute of Technology. I am currently in my second year of the Bachelor of Arts Degree Course in Applied Social Studies in Social Care. I have just completed an eight week work placement in St. Joseph's Foundation.

During my placement in St. Joseph's, I spent time in each Department in the workshop and also in Assisi House in Charleville. I spent the majority of my time in the Crafts Department under the supervision of Marie McClean. I thoroughly enjoyed my time in the Crafts where I spent time with each of the service users. I was also given the opportunity on two occasions to take a service user to the beauticians to have a manicure done.

I am very grateful for the opportunity to gain experience in the area of disabilities and to witness the fantastic work being done by the staff and service users in St. Joseph's. I would definitely recommend St. Joseph's Foundation to any student looking for experience in this area.



A Reference Library has now been set up and is located just beside reception in the Administration building. We are in the process of purchasing additional books for the library. The key for the library is held in reception as well as a list of books presently available. Persons wishing to borrow books are requested to sign for same in reception.

PERSON CENTRED PLANNING

Person Centred planning was introduced to service users, staff and families at St. Joseph's Foundation last year. Thirty five service users are currently on a pilot programme and they have selected keyworkers to work with them. Keyworkers and service users have spent some time together to identify areas of the service user's life they would like to improve or change. A family member attends a PCP meeting with the service user and staff, this is an informal relaxed meeting where everyone works together, towards creating as good a quality of life as possible for the service user.

SOCIAL NIGHT OUT



The dynamic duo, Rita and John, put all their knowledge together and decided we should be treated like ladies and lords for a night. Our carriage awaited us at 6 p.m. sharp and took us to our destination Bunratty Castle. Through the mist and the rain we walked along the cobble stones till we reached shelter in Mac's Bar. We were greeted with the warmth of the fire and a few hot ones. Then to the tune of the piper, no not Martina, we all danced step by step to our meal.

The refreshments were plentiful, unlike the forks, but we wined and dined with the live entertainment of lords and ladies, with the support of St. Joseph's spoon band.

To all the ladies and lords it was a most delightful experience, a pleasure to get to know everyone even better. A huge thank you to all who made it possible. The dynamic duo, Rita and John, the driver of our carriage Jackie Moloney, all who sang and danced and played the spoons and especially to Lord John O'Shea who was the taster and confirmed our food was safe to consume.





Congratulations to Simon Browne on his 21st birthday which was celebrated at The Arches in Mallow on Friday March 10th. An enjoyable night was had by all. Our sincerest sympathies are extended to Peter Sexton and family on their recent bereavement. Congratulations and best wishes to Jacqueline Edwards on her recent marriage to Gerald on Saturday March 4th. Congratulations to Mark Walsh on

Hello from the HAVEN . . .

WATCH THIS SPACE – Our organic tunnel and sensory garden will be starting shortly and we hope all in St. Joseph's Foundation will enjoy them when the project is up and running. We would like to welcome our new litter wardens, Angela Hynes and Maurice Burns.

A special thanks to Martina in sewing for the repair work on our Green Flag. And REMEMBER always Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.

We would like to thank all units in the workshop for all their help.

Our Lamh and Anam sessions are up and running and going well and our PCP's are ongoing.

Laurence Hanly recently went to Shannon Airport and was well received there by Aer Rianta staff, one of whom was from Kilmallock. We would like to extend a warm welcome to Joe Power, a student from CIT, who will be placed here three days a week for the next six

Day out at Shannon Fun World



REGISTER OF FRIENDS

The Foundation's Register of Friends appeal is currently taking place. This fundraiser has been in place for many years and is a very reliable source of income.

Each year, approximately 1,500 letters are sent to people who are on the database for the Register of Friends requesting that they renew their subscription of €15.00. Subscribers who pay on or before March 31st are included in a draw for €1,500. Anyone wishing to join the register can do so by contacting Maura Twomey email: mtwomey@stjosephsfoundation.ie

MRS EILEEN WALSH, R.I.P.

Mrs Eileen Walsh, Rathainey, Hospital, Co. Limerick, died on Wednesday, 25th January 2006. She had a long association with St. Joseph's Foundation, going back to its beginning in 1968. In the early years she worked very hard as a voluntary helper and helped with transport and fund raising. Her son, Pat, attended the Holy Family School for many years and later the adult services and is still very much part of the Foundation.

Eileen served as a member of the Board for many years and also served on the Board of the Holy Family School. She had a great knowledge of special education and during her time on the various boards she was involved in the designing and building of the Holy Family School and St. Joseph's Community Workshop. This involved a lot of work at the time and especially a lot of fund raising. She was always to the fore in any fund raising campaign.

Eileen was a highly intelligent and hard working person. What we remember most was her deep commitment to the services in Charleville. She had a very positive outlook on life and always gave great encouragement to the Board of Directors and staff, especially during the early years of development. She will be very much missed by her family of whom she was very proud and everybody in St. Joseph's Foundation who knew her will remember her with great affection. We offer our deepest sympathies to her son, Pat, and all her family in their sad loss. May she rest in peace.

Mother and daughter win top Irish Welcome Award



Minister John O'Donoghue, TD, accompanied by the Chairman of Fálte Ireland, Gillian Bowler (right), presents the *Fálte Ireland Irish Welcome Award* to Michelle and Bernadette Ryan.

COMMINGS & GOINGS:

Welcome to :

Aisling Feerick
Anne Murphy
Annette O'Shea
Celine Dennehy
Christina Ensor
Eda Casey Gorman
Helen Power
Hillary Burns
Juliet Twomey
Marie O'Connor
Marie Tierney
Mary O'Donovan
Noreen Cunningham
Olivia Kelly
Sarah Boyle

Goodbye to.....

Caroline Griffin
Caroline O'Brien
Derek Cromwell
Eloise Sritheran
Joan O'Sullivan
Kathleen Murphy
Marguerite Byard
Gleeson

GLEN BRIDGE GARDEN CENTRE

St. Joseph's Foundation, Baker's Road, Charleville

Telephone: 063-21684



ne and visit our shop for a wide selection of Containers, some of which are hand made in our department.

Plants, Shrubs, Trees and Compost for all your garden nee
Strawberries will be available from June onwards.

HANGING BASKETS AVAILABLE IN MAY

Looking forward to seeing you over the Summer.

WE WILL BE OPEN DURING OUR COMING SPRING FAIR



ENERGY SAVING

The T.E.S.S. Energy Saving Project Committee have compiled an information booklet and energy audit questionnaire which will soon be circulated to all units. Areas of research include: Savings on Electricity Bills, Savings on Heating Bills and Energy Savings in New Houses and Buildings in the Association.