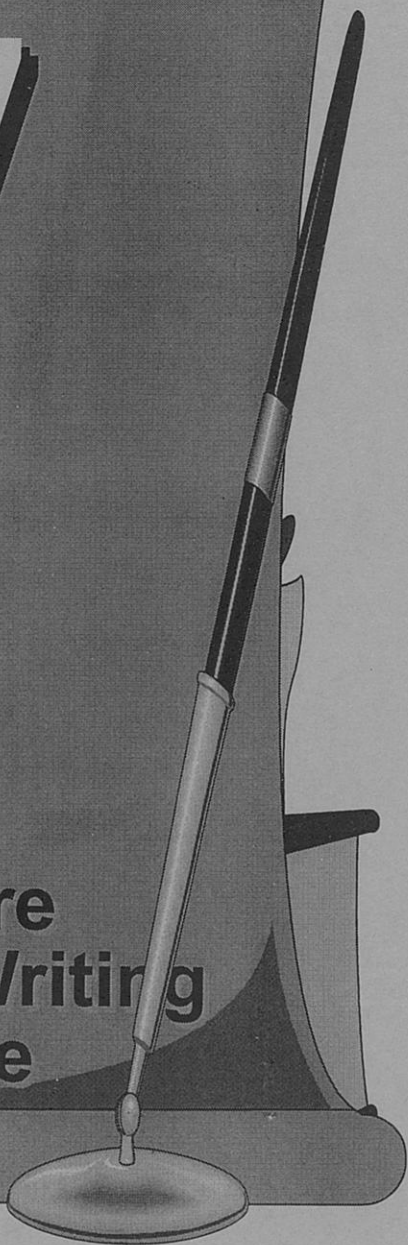


Simply Said '97

Issue 9

June 1997

**Co. Clare
Reading & Writing
Scheme**



A Collection of Writings

by Students

of the

*Co. Clare Reading &
Writing Scheme*



Foreword

Welcome to the 9th issue of
'Simply Said'. We are pleased to
have more than
50 writings in this issue reflecting
the imagination, experience and
much hard work of our students.

Congratulations to the writers
contributing to this years
magazine. A special word of
thanks also to everyone who
helped with this publication and
in other ways throughout the
year.

We hope you enjoy your reading!



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My Birthday

I got the 5.30 p.m. bus to Cork on Friday evening. Amanda met me at the bus stop and we went straight to the Parnell pub.

I had 4 half pints of Heineken but I didn't get drunk. We stayed in the same pub until the last bus to Mayfield at 11.15 p.m.

On Saturday morning I went to see my Mum. In the afternoon I went to see my friend, Anthony, and we watched television.

I stayed for a few hours and then I went back to the hostel.

I stayed in bed late on Sunday morning. I got up then to catch the train to Limerick at 2.15pm.

When I arrived in Limerick I got the 4.30 p.m. bus to Shannon. I had a great weekend in Cork.

By Paul

Talking

I like talking to family and friends
about children and music
and weather .

Most of all I like to talk to Pat,
my fiancé, when we
are together.

We talk about things like
diamond rings
or wedding bands.

As he takes my hand, to the
wavey sands.

By Lisa

Dublin

My Mum and Dad and I went to Dublin last Friday. We stayed with my brother in his house.

On Friday night my brother brought my father and I down to see Intel and showed us all the big machines in his office.

On Saturday morning we went to see all the shopping centres.

We had a lovely time.

By Helen

About Myself

My name is Sean, I am married five years and have one lovely son. I think the world of him.

My hobbies are walking, swimming, reading and DIY. During the past two years on a FAS scheme I attended the following courses, first aid, health and safety, horticulture, furniture restoration and HGV lessons, through which I learned a lot.

My supervisor recommended the Reading & Writing Scheme to me. I started with them in November 1996 and I am doing very well.

My goal in life is to start my own business.

By Sean

What I like to do

I like playing football.

I like working on the farm.

I like driving the tractor.

I like doing work with timber
and making things.

I also like to draw at times.

By Joseph

The Kilmihil GAA Club

Kilmihil's links with the GAA go back to the end of the last century. In 1902 we had players such as Jim and Jack O'Shea, Lack, Thomas and Jack Donohue.

Kilmihil has not won many games over the years but had great participation in the game. It had some great players in the 20s and 30s but had not enough to make a strong team. Tommy Mangan and Tommy Galvin were great players at the time.

1968 is thought to be one of the best years in the club. They were in the semi-finals.

In 1980 Kilmihil won their very first county senior football championship title, when they

beat Doonbeg in Doonbeg's home ground. The score was Doonbeg 0 - 5 to Kilmihil 1 - 8.

In 1980 Kilmihil also won the under 21 title.

At the moment Kilmihil have a young hopeful team for the future. I hope that this team can bring rewards to the parish of Kilmihil.

By James

Easter Eggs

At Easter I went to see the Burren
and the caves.

There was a big Easter egg hunt
on and it was great crack.

I was looking for eggs
everywhere and found nothing.

By Paddy

My Work

I live in Limerick. I come to work in a bus every morning.

When I get to work I go into the canteen to have a smoke. I go to the cloakroom and hang up my jacket, then I put on my overalls, then the hooter goes and I have to start work.

I am able to go out for a smoke every hour. We have two tea breaks and a lunch break.

Every Tuesday we go to the Health Centre for our reading and writing classes. I wish we had more classes.

By Paul

My Class

I like going to my class every Tuesday morning. I go every second week at 11 o'clock. My teachers' names are Mary and Sinead. We do reading and writing. We also do word games.

We made St. Patrick's day cards for St. Patrick's day, and for Easter as well. I like coming to the class because I love to learn and it's interesting. It also kills an hour from work.

By Christopher

My Niece Natasha

I love her. She is very good to me and always writes. She is my favourite niece, and I am her favourite aunt. She lives in England and works as a waitress.

She is engaged to a lovely boy called Martin. They plan to come to Ireland to get married and I will be first to come to the wedding.

I am looking forward to seeing Natasha again when she comes home on holidays , and she has three lovely brothers.

By Phil

Walking

I love walking and every day I go
out into the garden to see the
lovely flowers.

I like to smell the flowers and see
all the different colours.

Sometimes I walk down town and
I like meeting people and talking.

By Bernadette

The Weather

It is very cold all over the world. People put on fires to keep the house warm. Sometimes there is thunder and lightning. We have snow. Children wear boots when it is wet.

Old people stay in from the cold. Small babies wrap up from the cold. The weatherman on T.V. tells that it is wet and cold. Someone comes in to look after the old people.

I like the summer. Sometimes it is warm. People sit out in deck chairs. Young children wear sundresses.

By Marie

My Weekend

I like to go to bingo every Friday evening. I get the bus from Newport to Limerick at 7.30. Sometimes I go shopping to Dooradoyle with my mother and my neighbour. On Saturday, I clean my room and I Hoover the house. I like to watch a film in the evening.

I go to 12 o'clock Mass on Sunday morning. After my dinner I like to go for a walk down the street. I like to watch T.V. in the evening. That's my weekend.

By Irene

Pottery: Gaelic Mugs and Tankards

I work in the factory shop. I start work at 8 o'clock in the morning and finish at 4.30 p.m. and get the bus home at 4.30 p.m. I go to bed at 9 o'clock and get up at 5 o'clock and get the bus at 7.15 a.m. at the top of the road, and get into work at 7.50 a.m.

There is a break at 10 o'clock, dinner at 12.15 p.m. and tea break at 3 o'clock. I sponge the mugs. I am doing Gaelic mugs at the moment, and I do the tankards.

Every Tuesday we get an hour off to go to the Health Centre for reading and writing classes. I like these classes.

By Charlie

Feeling Good About Myself

As I sit and stare at this blank piece of paper I wonder what to write. I have so much to say. I am lucky now, but not so long ago I was not so lucky. I could not think straight or know what I was feeling, but I do now.

I have come out of my black hole learning, looking, and searching for anything that will give me joy, excitement , and purpose. The Clare Reading and Writing Centre has given me so much. I now know that I am not stupid, and that I have a good brain.

I have to find my way, and a purpose, know what I want, and where I want to go from here.

I have to find my goals and set my sights and go for it.

I know now not to be afraid, and not to worry about silly things, it will always turn out right in the end. I know also if I try something it might not turn out the way I want it to. The fun was from trying and learning from the experience.

We all have to try and live our lives the best we can, and if we fail we have to try and pick ourselves up and try again. I was lucky because I had people to love and support me along the rocky road.

A lot of people have not got the knowledge, or know where to turn to when life lets them down. But believe me there are people who can help. Find someone and ask for help, and if they cannot help ask someone else. Keep knocking

on doors and don't be afraid to do it. Life can be cruel unkind and nasty, awful things can happen, but you are not alone.

We can feel sorry for ourselves or we can try and do something about it.

Clare Reading and Writing has helped me so much, and I will be forever in their debt. Without them I would have never had the courage to get out of this abyss.

At last I am pleased I did it.

By Eileen

My County

I go to the seaside in the summer.
I see other people at the beach,
campers and caravaners.

I like sandy beaches, sometimes I
visit when it is calm. I have gone
there in rough weather when the
waves are huge.

Doolin is a village that is known for
its pubs and music.

Lahinch is famous for hotels, guest
houses and bed and breakfast
houses. You can also see caravans
and tents in the parks. Lahinch has
a new attraction this year. Visitors
can experience the underwater
life of the Atlantic at Seaworld.

By Frank

A Trip to The Dentist

Two years ago I had my lower teeth extracted. My natural front teeth were badly decayed.

I thought false dentures would help me to chew my food better. I made an appointment with the dentist.

He took all my teeth out. He took an impression for a new set of teeth. I had two fittings and then got my new teeth.

I thought I'd have great comfort. But it did not turn out like that. The new teeth hurt me a lot and I could not wear them. That was two years ago and I'm still suffering agony every time I

try to wear the damn teeth.

Anyone who has even middling
teeth take my advice and
keep your own teeth.

By Rita

A Day Out

My husband's friend invited us to his daughter's first Holy Communion. We got up early that morning. It was Saturday. We were excited about the day and after breakfast we got ready to go on the journey. It was a cold morning with little sunshine. We went to the church, but it was very crowded. The children looked lovely in their white dresses.

After we went to the hotel with our friends. The children were running around chasing each other. We had a meal, it was very enjoyable. We stayed in the hotel for a few hours chatting and having a few drinks. We came home when everyone left.

By Kay

What I do every Tuesday

I go to my class every Tuesday afternoon from two to three o'clock. My tutor's name is Sinead. I can read and write, but I would like to improve so I can read a newspaper or book by myself.

I am glad that I decided to come because it makes me feel better. I feel I have got better in my reading and writing. Now I try to read the newspaper headlines. I enjoy coming to the class as it helps me to get out as well.

By Breda

My Trip to Paris

In March of this year myself, my sister and my mother decided to go to Paris for three days. It was a whole new experience for me, to go to an non - English speaking country. In a lot of ways it is very different from Ireland. The French people seemed to be very friendly towards us.

The first day we went on a bus tour around the city and saw the Eiffel tower and 'The Mona Lisa', a famous picture. The name of the place where we saw the painting was the Louvre.

We stayed in a hotel in Notre Dame. Everyday we got the metro, it was very useful to us at night when we went out to dinner.

The last two days we went shopping at a place called Optiap. That is all I have to say about Paris.

By Annemarie

Linford Christie

Linford was born in Jamaica in April 1960. He came to London when he was seven. He did not train at all until he was twenty.

In Gateshead in July 1993 Linford beat Carl Lewis. He has been voted "Athlete of the Year", "Sportsman of the Year" and "Man of the Year" in 1992.

Now he has won gold in all the big races in the Commonwealth games, the European games, the Olympic games and now the World Championships. After the race, Linford said "I think I've gone beyond being just the greatest British athlete".

By Tony

Our Trip to Longford

We went on a trip to Longford. It was a nice day to travel. We went on Wednesday the 14th of May 1997. We visited the centre first. We saw some of the trainees and the teachers. We travelled in a mini bus. There were eight of our trainees on the bus and two members of staff, also our director Helen O'Sullivan.

We left St Joseph's Training Centre at 9.30 am. We arrived in Longford at 12.00 o'clock. We had a game of soccer with the boys from the centre. We were playing in their sports field. Then we went in to the centre and had our lunch. After lunch we went home. We got back to Ennis at 5.00 pm.

By John & Pat

My New Job

My new job is in Teach Boru at St. Joseph's. I start at 9.00 a.m. and I finish at 4.00 p.m. everyday except on Friday's when I finish at 3.00 p.m. I do a lot of different jobs.

My favourite job is counting the snippets into bundles of 52. The job I dislike the most is the mix as it is very slow. it takes a full day to do one box.

This job lasted for 10 weeks. I liked my new job, but I'm glad to be going back to the Dulick Centre.

By Jamie

My Two Dogs

I have two dogs. One is a Labrador and the other is a mixed breed.

The Labrador's name is Daisy, and the other dog is called Jacko. Daisy loves socks. She likes to play with her teddy. Jacko likes bones. He buries them in the garden.

I bring them for a walk on the beach. They like to run up and down the sand hills. I love my dogs.

By Leah

My Holiday in Windsor

Last September 1996, I decided to go over to England for a holiday. It was my first time flying, and I was so excited. On Wednesday I went to collect my tickets. Friday came and by now I was really excited. I went home to finish packing, then we headed straight for Shannon. I checked my luggage in at the counter, then we went up to the Duty Free to buy some presents for my cousins in England.

Eleven o'clock came and I said goodbye to my parents. I boarded the plane and found my seat which was near the window, so that was good. It was a lovely journey and I arrived in Heathrow Airport at 12 p.m. I met my aunt there, it was so good to see her again.

I went home with her, when I arrived home I met Rachel there, (my cousin's wife).

That weekend I was minding my cousin's children. On Sunday I met all my cousins for the first time. It was so good to see them. On Monday my aunt took me to see London. We first went to see Trafalgar Square, where the pigeons are. I took a few photos of them and then my aunt took a photo of me with them as I was feeding them. We went to a castle where we saw the guards changing.

After that I went to see the biggest shopping Centre called 'Harrods'. It is so big everything is in it. I bought a lot of souvenirs in some of the stores. At 5 p.m. we met my cousin, Sharon, outside Harrods.

She brought us to a 'Hard Rock Cafe' for our dinner, it was lovely. When we were coming out Sharon bought me a T-shirt that says 'Hard Rock Cafe' on it. That day we decided to go and see 'Big Ben' (the clock) and 'Westminster Cathedral'. That evening I said goodbye to Sharon and we went home.

On Tuesday and Wednesday I went over to my cousins to mind their children. On Thursday I went to visit Windsor Castle, it is lovely. I bought a few things and saw the guards changing. Also I went to see Legoland, it was so expensive, but it is worth the money, everything there moves in 'Lego'.

When we came home there was a bunch of flowers from Interflora.

I thought they were for Eileen, but they weren't they were for me. My cousin Mark and his wife Rachel sent them to me. I was so happy.

Because I was coming to the final days of my holidays on Saturday night, I was really upset.

On Sunday I arrived at Heathrow Airport to board my plane home, I said Goodbye to my aunt and I thanked her. It was the best holiday ever.

By Roisin

Getting Married

I am getting married on Tuesday August 12th at 1. 00 p.m. at the Cathedral Chapel.

I am going to wear a long, full skirted white dress with a long train at the back and a long white veil.

My sister is going to be my bridesmaid and my fiancé's sister will be the Matron of Honour. The best man will be my brother and my fiancé's brother will be a groomsman. We will have 8 flower girls and 8 page boys. My father will give me away and our reception will be in a nice hotel.

I am looking forward to it and I can't wait to put on my dress and my make up.

I am going to the church in a horse and carriage and we will go to the hotel in a limousine. The flowers in the church will be purple and white to match the bridesmaids dresses.

I hope it will be a nice day and the weather will be good. We are going to hire a photographer to make a video.

I hope it will be the start of a nice life together for us.

By Kathleen

Friends For Ever

I remember the night that we first
met.

We talked for hours and hours.

In finding you then I found a true
friend

With whom I've spent many an
hour.

As we walked Fanore beach and
we sang through the streets

We laughed for hours and hours.

As we talked of our children and
walked on the sand

Our friendship between us did
grow.

So when you are lonely , sad, or
blue,

I am your friend and I will be
there for you.

By Tracy

My First Fishing Rod

I got my first fishing rod when I was 18 years old. It was a golden colour.

The first time I went to the river I caught a fish. It was a perch.

I got a fright because I didn't know what to do with it.

By Kevin

Ploughing Championships 1996

The ploughing championships were in Carlow last year. I am very interested in farm machinery, so I decided to go.

It was my fourth visit to the ploughing championships.

I went with my cousin, we went by car. We left at 6.30 a.m. because it was a three hour drive.

It was nice in the morning, but it rained in the afternoon.

There were one hundred thousand people there over the three days.

I liked looking at all the new tractors. I had no interest in the old machinery. I had a great day.

I arrived back home at 10.30 p.m.
I hope to go to Offaly next year for another great day.

By Michae

My Visit

At Easter I went to Carmel's house. I saw a young kid goat.

We have a sheep dog, we have some cows and a donkey. We have two hens and a cock, some cats and greyhounds. We love animals.

I went in the car to town. I went to Spanish Point to see the sea.

By Mary

Buried Alive

Dear John,

You will be surprised to hear from me. I'm writing to ask you to call for me on Sunday next.

Sean was in last night, he told me the sad news, that I can't go home anymore.

I'm having therapy for my knee, I can walk with a stick now. I have to go back to Croom in July but that's a long way off.

I did not think the day would come when I would be locked up in the County Home at the age of sixty seven for the rest of my life.

My father died in December 1975.

He begged me to stay with him until he died. He had told me to go to England when he died and not to stay with Frank, as he would lock me up in a home. I didn't believe him. I was a fool.

I stayed with Frank, he began to draw the dole which was two pounds a week. I got the disability pension in 1977 starting at eight pounds a week.

Frank said he had no money so I got the groceries, and had Masses said for my mother and father at three pounds a time for nine years.

I carpeted my room and got a new dressing table with the money left to me in my father's will.

Everything I had all my life has been taken away from me, and now I'm sitting on a chair, by a bed, a small table, and a locker.

I don't even have a room of my own. My clothes aren't even my own. My hair is a mess. I will just sit here and wait to die because the day I die is the day I will be born.

I am looking at my life, and do you know something, "Thanks to all of you I am buried alive."

Your sister,

Mary Ann

First Time

I am going to Lourdes in June.

We are flying in an aeroplane.

This will be my first time going to Lourdes.

It will be a good break for me.

By Brendan

My Sister's Party

Angela had a party last month. We went to the Ark for the party. All the family were there. The band played music. We had lots of sandwiches to eat. I had a snowball to drink. Angela had a nice white cake. I got her wine glasses as a present. We went home at 3 o'clock. It was a great day.

By Chrissie

My Nephew's Confirmation

My nephew, David, made his confirmation on Thursday April 10th. The Mass was at 11.30 a.m. and then we went for a meal to a hotel in Thurles. Cathy took photos of us all.

That evening Cathy had a meal at home for the crowd that couldn't come for the day. The day was lovely and fine. David had a great day, he got lots of cards and money.

Myself and Marion enjoyed the day.

By Anna

My Work

I live in Newport. I come to work in a bus.

I work in Shannon in a pottery factory. I make mugs.

I finish work at half past four, I get home around six in the evening.

By Michael

The President of Ireland

Mary Burke was her name before she got married and then she became Mrs. Robinson. She has a son and a daughter.

The President's office is at Aras an Uachtaran in Dublin Ireland. She was sworn in, in 1990.

The President met many leaders while in Ireland, but the greatest of all was John Paul the 2nd. She also visited the royal family in London, England.

The saddest story of her time was her visit to Somalia.

Everywhere the President went Mr. Nick Robinson was always welcome.

The President's term in office is almost over and Mary is hoping to be a candidate for a U.N. post.

By Paddy

Mountshannon

Last year I went to
Mountshannon.

We went by bus.

There is a big lake there.
It is a lovely place.

We met some nice people from
Wicklow.

By John

The Best Team

I support Manchester United.
They are the best team in England.
They won the double three years in
a row.

When Cantona came back last
year, he played the biggest part in
helping them to win. They are in
the Champions league for 1997.

By Daniel

My Favourite Relative

My favourite relative was my Aunt Susan when she was alive. I was in boarding school in Dublin at the time and she was my only connection with home, until my older sister, Teresa, came to Dublin to begin her nursing training.

Susan used to come to visit me every Thursday and bring with her an assortment of sweets such as Jelly Tots and Jelly Babies, which I used to eat hungrily the moment she had gone. She also brought me Cadbury's Chocolate. This was my favourite bar of all as it used to melt slowly in my mouth the minute I ate it.

Susan was like a second mother to me as her house was always open to me each time I visited with my sister.

I can only remember her scolding me twice.

The first occasion was in her house when I took off my glasses with the glass instead of catching them by the frames and taking them off slowly.

The second occasion happened when she came to take me out for the day and for some reason I was not quite ready for her. When I asked her to fasten my shoelaces she replied angrily that I should have got someone to fasten them for me before she came. I was extremely hurt by this reaction because I felt that it was another step towards rejection of me without doing anything to deserve it.

My Job

I work in Shannon. I start work at
8 o' clock.

I number the mugs , jugs, big
bowls, plates, and saucers.

I like my job in the factory.

By Paddy

My Home Town

My home town is Kilkee. It is situated in west Clare, thirty miles from Ennis. It has a lovely safe sandy beach.

Thousands of tourists flock there every year. There are many attractions in Kilkee such as the Water World, the golf-course, and the Pollack Holes for fishing. There are many hotels and night-clubs there. There are also many pubs which provide good food and traditional music every night.

I love my home town as my family are there, also my friends are there as well. So when you visit Kilkee don't forget to call to Ketts. There is good food, drink and a welcome awaits you.

By Adrienne

The Gallery

I work at the restaurant. I start work at 9 a.m. in the morning. We are very busy in the Gallery getting the dinners, lunches, and breakfasts ready for the public.

The Gallery is on the Gort road in Ennis. I like working in the Gallery because I like cooking.

I am working in the kitchen now. I wear a uniform which is a white jacket with a black and white pants.

There are 90 people in the Centre. My supervisors are Catherine and Sinead.

My manager is Joe Sweeney and he is very nice and kind to us.

The Gallery belongs to the Mid-Western Health Board.

I have completed two years. I have three years left to do. Then I hope to get a job.

By Annemarie

A Visit to Dublin

At Easter I went to my daughter's house in Dublin.

I went to the market to buy some presents. I bought cigars for myself and a school bag for Orla my grandchild.

I would like to live in Dublin, but it is too dangerous.

By Kathleen

The Music I Like

My favourite music is Country & Western. The singers I like are Philomena Begley and Susan McCann.

I think they are fabulous singers. I like this music because it is great to dance to. My sister Anna has their tapes and when she plays them I love to sing along.

I hope to see my favourite singers in concert some day.

By Marian

Ennis

It comes from the Irish word 'Inis' which means island and is situated on the river Fergus. It developed around the Franciscan Abbey dating back to 1240.

It is the gateway to County Clare and the rest of Ireland for visitors coming through Shannon Airport.

It is one of the most picturesque towns in Ireland with quaint narrow streets.

It is an historic market town and still has an open air market every Saturday where you can buy anything from a calf to a shirt.

Ennis has two shopping centres Dunnes and Quinsworth, several

boutiques, shoe shops and craft shops.

There are many fine hotels with leisure facilities, restaurants, golf clubs and traditional pubs in the town.

Ennis is well known as the traditional music capital of Ireland where music can be heard seven nights a week.

I love living in Ennis.

By Breeda

My Own Story

My name is Noel. I am going to adult literacy classes in the Adult Education Centre at Clonroad in Ennis. I go to class 2 mornings every week, Monday's and Wednesday's from 9.30 to 10.45 in the mornings.

When I started first, I met a woman called Moira who put me in touch with my teacher who is called Mary. I find the classes very good. I need a lot more learning but I like going to the classes. Tom Mack is the man who got me started.

I went to school in St. Anne's before I started work with FAS. I will be kept on at FAS for another year. I like working with FAS. We have done a lot of work in the graveyard and a lot of nice

stone walls have been built too.

I worked in the Ennis Youth Centre for 6 months where I did a lot of cooking and cleaning. I also did metalwork. I like going to the adult literacy classes and I hope they continue.

By Noel

Fishing

I started fishing when I was about fourteen. It was hard at first but I soon learned. I usually fish on the river Fergus, and catch trout and salmon if I'm lucky.

Sometimes I go to Kilkee, and fish for mackerel and pollock from the rocks. When the fish are biting it's very good, but when they're not, you need a lot of patience.

I go fishing alone most of the time, but sometimes I bring my twelve year old son.

It is a relaxing hobby and I enjoy it very much.

By Christy

The Pet I Longed to Own

The pet I would like to own would have to be a horse. All my life I have longed to have one but they are a very costly thing to own. When you live in a housing estate it is not possible to keep a horse in a small area. A horse needs plenty of space.

I have seven sisters and five brothers and the funny thing about it is that we all share the same love for horses, but we were not brought up with them. My mother always says it comes from our grandfather.

I live near the showgrounds and every year in August there would be a show held there. I would get up early in the morning and spend the whole day up there looking at

the horses, admiring them and wishing I had one of my own.

I would have loved to ride on one, but the owners would not let you, these horses were too valuable.

I did the next best thing to owning my own horse. When I started working and had my own money, I went to a riding school. They gave you the use of a horse for the lesson. The lesson lasted one hour. I loved it. After a while I started to jump, this was a great achievement for me.

One day we had a jumping competition and I came fourth.

I was thrilled with myself. You would think to look at people riding horses that there is nothing to it, but it is hard work.

Today, ten years down the line, I still have that love for horses.

I think they are the most beautiful animals I have ever seen.

I still don't own one, maybe someday I will win the Lotto and I will set up a ranch.

My children feel the same way about horses as I do. I have a nephew in Kildare nearly trained as a jockey. I don't know where we all got such feelings for horses but I often felt cheated that we were not a rich family. If we were, the pet I would like to own would have been a horse.

I would have looked after it very well.

By Gilligan

My weekend in Newport

When I finished work on Friday evening I went to stay at my friend Martin's house in Newport.

On Saturday morning I helped Martin to clean up the house. Well, I really cleaned it. Then we went out for a drink at Gleasons pub. I had a 7 up and Martin had a pint of Guinness.

In the evening we stayed in and watched television. I like to watch Winning Streak.

I went to Mass at 9 o'clock on Sunday morning. After that I was in the garden and I waved to my friend Irene across the road.

I stayed in Sunday evening and watched Fair City, Coronation

Street, and Glenroe, after that I went to bed.

Then it's back to work on Monday morning.

By Phil

My Important Job

I get up every morning at six o'clock. I get the bus at twenty past seven to my job in Shannon. I start work at eight o'clock. My job is very important because I do the casting. This is the first stage in pottery. I like to do the large jugs because they are the easiest to make. I like to make the shamrock pots. I do this job all the time. I finish work at half past four.

By Gerard

My Story

Hi! My name is Julie-Ann. I would like to tell you my story about the Adult Education Centre and how it has helped me

I needed some help with my English and so I had my first class with Shelagh in Springfield House in 1995.

We got on well together and within a year my English had improved. Later that year we moved to a new building on Clonroad.

In 1996 Shelagh moved to Cork and so Tina became my new tutor. I feel more confident with my English now and so I have decided to work towards the Junior Cert.

I would like to thank the staff at the Adult Education Centre for giving me this opportunity.

By Julie-Ann

A Shock

Three months ago, as I sat at the table for our Sunday lunch.

My daughter decided to tell me some news. "Mam", she said, "I'm four and a half months pregnant".

I was so shocked with her news, but I told her not to worry, that everything would be just fine and I would always be by her side.

Now with only a few weeks left in her pregnancy, I am really looking forward to the birth of my first grandchild.

Please God everything will go well for her.

By Mary

The Day I will always Remember

It was about four years ago in a village called Ruan. This is where I started boxing. It was a Friday night and there was a tournament on. There were boxers from Galway, Limerick, Mayo, Wicklow and Cork as well as the boxers from the different clubs in Clare.

I was fighting a fellow from Limerick. He weighed in at 71 Kg. I weighed in at 71Kg. All the heavyweight fights were left till last and I was third last. It was a long wait but finally my time was up.

My coach and I went to the ring. I remember the hall was very full. My mother and father were there as well as friends and relations.

I was in the red corner and he was in the blue corner. The first round went okay . The second round went very well. I knocked his head shield off and he got a count, which was three points to me.

The third round was even better, after two minutes he hit the canvas and the fight was stopped. Not alone had I won the fight, I won the best boxer prize. That was the night I will always remember.

By Michael J.



This Publication was produced by :

Clare Reading & Writing
Scheme
Adult Education Centre
Clonroad,
Ennis.

In association with Clare V E C
& F A S Community Employment

Your comments and suggestions
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