

SISTERS OF
LE BON SAUVEUR
(SISTERS OF THE GOOD SAVIOUR)



CARRIGLEA



Celebrating 100 Years

1904 - 2004



CONGREGAVIT NOS
IN UNUM CHRISTI AMOR

"The love of Christ has gathered us together"



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FOREWORD BISHOP WILLIAM LEE

It is a source of great joy for me, as Bishop of the Diocese of Waterford and Lismore, to join with the Sisters of the Bon Sauveur in celebrating the 100th year of their foundation at Carriglea and in recalling the occasion of their coming to Ireland and to this Diocese from their mother house at Caen in Normandy, France, in the year 1904.

“As long as you did it to one of the least of these, my brothers and sisters you did it to me” are the words of Christ that express a central element of Christian faith. They are words that echo those found in the book of Genesis that every human person reflects the image and likeness of God.

In the sight of God there is no distinction. All are equal before Him and all are one in Christ Jesus. The living out of this truth has been a mission for many religious congregations over the centuries especially manifested in the care given to those with special needs.

The arrival of the Sisters of the Bon Sauveur in Carriglea was a most welcome development for our diocese. At the time resources available for their work were very limited. This demanded of the Sisters a total investment of their time, commitment, expertise and resources. Over the past 100 years, the level of support and services for this apostolate has greatly improved and Carriglea can be very proud of its achievements.

I warmly congratulate the Sisters on having given 100 years of devoted service to the mentally ill until 1970, and to people with special needs to this present time. Their work has been and truly is the mission of the Good Saviour Himself. Today we celebrate 100 years of immense dedication and care. The Sisters and all who have worked with them over the years deserve our deepest thanks and appreciation.

+ William Lee



Community in 2004.

Front row L to R: Sr. Nora, Sr Mary, Sr Mary Teresa.

Back L to R: Sr Johanne, Sr Teresa, Sr Margaret (Phelan), Sr Margaret (Mortell)

Tá mór-gháilte romhat dheith in ár dteannta
ar churas fionnachtana - nó chun athchuairt a
thabhairt - ar an tsean-shaol sa Charrigaí Liath.

A Chara,

You are most welcome to join with us on our voyage of discovery
and rediscovery of times past in Carriglea.

These selection of memories and images open doors to
cherished memories and special times. Brought together
in this anthology, we celebrate the successes of Carriglea
which have been achieved through the dedication
and combined efforts of so many over
the past one hundred years.

*May the Light of God surround you
May the Love of God enfold you,
May the Power of God protect you,
May the Presence of God strengthen you
Until we meet again.*



DEDICATION

*This Centenary Publication is dedicated to all the Sisters,
co-workers, neighbours, friends and service users and all
that have lived or were associated with Carriglea
over the past one hundred years.*

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

*Sincere thanks to everyone who contributed, in any way,
to this Centenary Publication. It is impossible to thank
everyone individually but this publication is a
culmination of the contribution of many people.
Thanks to those who entrusted precious photographs of
many years gone by, and those who gave oral or
written information that opened the door
to many cherished memories.*

*A special word of thanks to those who gave their
precious time to gather this information, but
two people deserve special recognition;
John Hanlon who roamed the locality gathering
information and photographs of the past -
especially of the Odell family.
Deirdre Tobin, who, in an unbelievably short space of time,
collated all this material into its present form.*

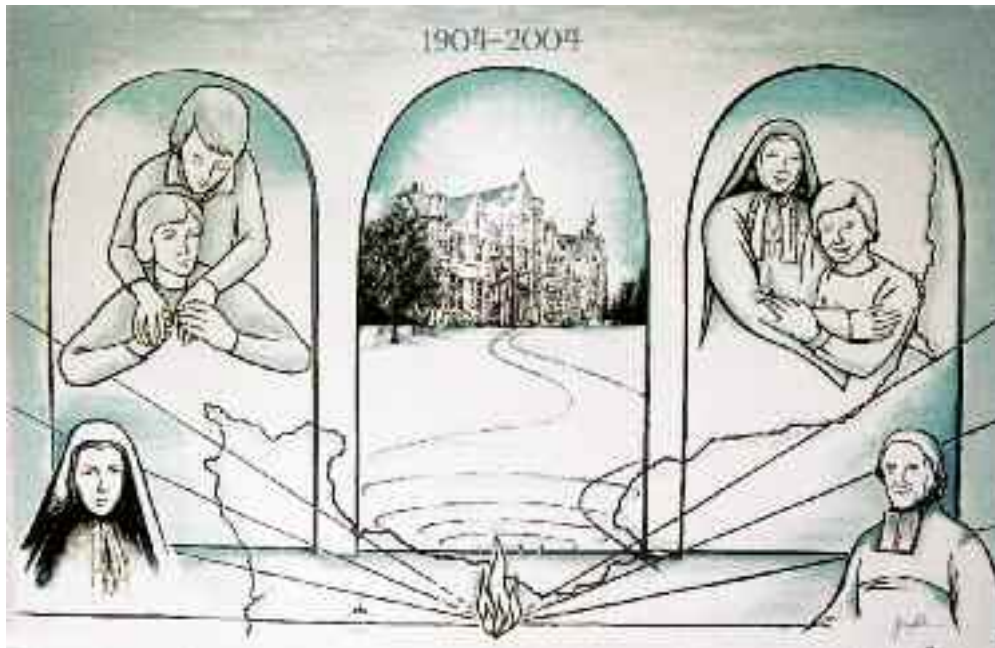
*Without the support of all of you,
this book and history of Carriglea
would never have been written.*

Thank You

*CARRIGLEA
JULY 2004*



THE SYMBOLISM OF THE MURAL



The Triple Arch Way at the centre of the composition is central to the story that the mural depicts. It was here that the Congregation was established in Ireland 100 years ago.

The Shimmering Sun symbolises the Transfiguration. (This mystery of Christ is especially venerated by the Bon Sauveur Sisters and is the particular feast of the Congregation). The sun represents the warmth, brightness and happiness that the Sisters and Staff at Carriglea bring to the lives of the people they work with and serve at the centre. It also represents the dawning of a new day - a new era.

The Map Towards the end of the composition the Normandy coast in France is depicted. The towns of St. Lo and Caen are represented on the map (these are important locations in the early development of the Congregation). St. Lo is marked by a miniature steeple - Anne Le Roy stayed there at the beginning of her spiritual journey.

The Flame The position of Caen on the map is represented by the flame. Caen was where the Congregation originated. This flame symbol is placed at the end of the middle section - being central to the development of the Congregation. The flame represents the original 'spark' or concept of the Sisters in France and also stands for the turbulent times of the French Revolution - the era from which the Bon Sauveur movement grew.

Ripples Can be seen in the middle panel - suggesting the spreading of the Word - the Congregation expanding.

The Roadway represents the Christian journey with the twists and turns of life as we journey to greater things. The roadway also connects Caen to Carriglea (Sisters travelled from France to establish their Irish base here).

The Rays of Light (from the flame) suggests 'The Word, the Light, the Message' reaching further afield.

Right-hand panel depicts a Bon Sauveur sister in the traditional habit of the congregation - comforting, helping and empowering a young adult. This represents people with various needs.

Left-hand panel depicts two figures in a gesture of love, support and caring. This representation is interesting in so far as either figure could be the carer!

Portraits (Lower foreground - left and right) are of the founders of the Congregation - Mother Anne Le Roy (1692-1781) and Father Pierre Francois Jamet (1762-1845).



PRE 1904

Humble Beginnings - Visionary Future

The Congregation of the Sisters of the Bon Sauveur (Good Saviour) was founded over 270 years ago in Caen, France. Anne Le Roy joined the Ursuline which was an enclosed Order in those days. As portress she would welcome visitors. Some wealthy people took time, at the convent, to pray and discuss how they could help the poor of the town. She was impressed by the good they achieved and, as she felt drawn to a more active involvement, in working with the deprived people of Caen, she left the convent.

Anne entered the newly-founded Order of the Bon Sauveur in Saint Lo. She and her friend Margaret Lecouvreur left Saint Lo to return to their native town of Caen some time later.



Anne Le Roy

In 1732 she and Margaret Lecouvreur, bought a small house in a poor part of the town. They began by visiting the sick in their homes and by teaching small groups of poor children. Slowly, others joined them and the small group became an officially recognised religious community.

"Daughters of Mary" was the title chosen by Anne Le Roy for her new Congregation. Gradually, the selfless devotion of a few humble and valiant women made itself felt. Abuse and criticism soon turned to admiration for the care, love and compassion given by the Sisters to the poor and sick. The local people began murmuring that this was truly the "Bon Sauveur". By popular acclaim, from then on, the Congregation became known as "Le Bon Sauveur". (The Good Saviour).

They had to acquire larger premises and their works gradually included education, a residence for elderly ladies, care of the mentally ill and even more boldly for their time, care of prostitutes. Rehabilitation and psychiatric care became two important areas of the work of the Congregation. After a full life, Anne Le Roy died in 1781 at the age of ninety years.



Mother House at Caen

During the 1789 French Revolution, the Church and religious congregations were suppressed. The Sisters had to disband, but their chaplain, Father Francois Jamet kept contact with them, despite a price being 'on his head' because he refused to swear an oath to the new civil constitution. He kept in constant contact with the Sisters, so that, as soon as the revolution ended in 1805, he reunited the Sisters. He purchased an old capuchin monastery, where the Sisters were to remain until they vacated it in 1999.

In the 19th century the congregation expanded. Several houses were established in France. They opened hospitals for male patients, as well as female and they also undertook the education of the deaf. It is interesting to note that it was Fr. Jamet's teaching methods that were later adopted by the Dominican Sisters in Cabra, Dublin. In 1987, when Fr. Peter Jamet was beatified, a group from Carriglea attended his beatification in Rome.



Fr. Jamet

From Caen to Carriglea

In 1889 two Sisters, from the Mother House, Caen in Normandy, France, one of whom was Irish, came to Ireland to seek a premises to start a Foundation. Bishop Sheehan, the Bishop of Waterford and Lismore visited the Mother House in Caen in 1902, on his way to Rome, and invited the Sisters to come to the Diocese. The following year in 1903, Bishop Sheehan, prompted by the charity and care towards the mentally ill that he had witnessed while visiting with the Sisters in Caen, wrote officially, requesting the Sisters to open a Community in his Diocese.

The extract from the Annals of 1903, which appears on the next page, was written by the Sisters. It gives an interesting account of the search for suitable properties, before Carriglea was purchased, and is translated as follows:

1903

Doctor Sheehan, Bishop of Waterford and Lismore, who had already visited the Bon Sauveur Convent, Caen, and greatly admired the wonderful work being done there, pleaded with the authorities of the Mother House to

found a branch of the congregation in his diocese. The future looked promising, so he was given a favourable response.

In December, as requested, His Lordship named several properties that were for sale and which he deemed suitable for a religious establishment.

1904

On the first days of January, Mother Poirier, the then Superior General, together with her assistant, delegated Canon Lelievre and Reverend Fr. Le Prince (both chaplains to the Mother House) to visit different properties and become aware of their prices.

In Paris, these gentlemen donned secular clothes so as to comply with Irish customs. In the hotels and houses where they were guests, they were treated with utmost dignity and kindness. Such was the dignity and impeccable nature of their attire, that they were given the honour and courtesy shown to the highest noblemen.



Richard A. Sheehan, Bishop from 1891 to 1915



Année 1903.

Le D^r Sheehan, Evêque de Waterford et Limerick, qui était déjà venu visiter le Bon Sauveur, dont il appréciait les œuvres, sollicita de la Maison Mère la fondation d'une succursale dans son diocèse. L'avenir offrant un sombre horizon, une réponse favorable lui fut donnée.

En Décembre, sur la demande qui lui fut faite, sa Grandeur indiqua plusieurs domaines qui étaient à vendre et lui semblaient convenir à ses Establishments religieux.

Année 1904

Les premiers jours de janvier, Mère Poivre, Supérieure générale, de concert avec son assistante, déléguée en Irlande M^l le Chanoine Lelièvre et M^l l'Abbé Leprince, chapelains de la communauté pour visiter les différentes propriétés et se connaître les conditions d'achat.

À Paris, ces Messieurs revêtirent l'habit ecclésiastique, afin de répondre aux usages irlandais. Dans les hôtels et les différentes maisons où ils furent reçus, on leur rendait les honneurs dus aux Maitres, tellement leur tenue était soignée et digne.

Monsieur les accueillit tout paternellement, leur



In 1904 several premises were looked at, but on the advice of Bishop Sheehan and the legal aid of Mr. Keane, solicitor in Dungarvan, 'Mount Odell Demesne' was purchased. It was found suitable for both a convent and a small psychiatric hospital.

Carriglea

Carriglea is best described by De Breffney:

A seven bay two-story Tudor-gothic style house of veined red sandstone ashlar. It has a single bay three story gabled and turreted centrepiece. The windows have transom and mullions and drip moulds. Mark Bence Jones suggests that the architect may have been Daniel Robertson of Kilkenny. The interior has a good-cantilevered staircase with brass balusters; underneath it is an interesting gothic-style cast iron stove with the Odell crest by Bailey's of London.

At the time of its purchase by the Sisters of the Bon Sauveur, Carriglea was owned by the Odell family.

The Odells

The Odells were extensive Landowners in County Waterford with over 3,000 acres of land. Most of their land stretched from Carriglea to Ardmore. The Odell family vault is under the aisle of the ruined cathedral in Ardmore cemetery and some of the family members are buried in the cemeteries open ground there.

The Odell family was well established in the Dungarvan area around Ballintaylor and Carriglea. The Odell family who subsequently lived in Carriglea originally lived in Odell Lodge in Ardmore in what is now known as the Stella Maris (convent) overlooking the bay. The Odells found Ardmore too cold, especially in the winter months, and moved further inland to Mount Odell House (now the home of Bobby Walsh)

John Odell sought to have a house of immense elegance and decided to build a house at Carriglea (now the Bon Sauveur Convent) shortly after his wedding in 1827. Loads of sand and gravel came from Ardmore to Carriglea at a reported 11/2d a load.

The house was built in a style known as "New English". Its propagandists aimed at the Elizabethan touch without any castle effect. The stone, sourced locally from Gee's quarry has a pinkish hue and the ashlar is set to show off the variations of colour so that it resembles the polychrome effect that became so popular for brick later in the century.

John died in 1847 aged forty-six and the house was passed on to his brother Edward (1807 – 1869). Edward travelled extensively but later returned to live in Carriglea

with his wife Harriett Ricarda, and he was appointed as a magistrate in Dungarvan. Edward appeared to be of a lively disposition as his entertaining diary extracts reveal :



Edward Odell at Oxford circa 1830

January 6th 1834 "the Dungarvan Quarter Sessions began today so I went in the jaunting car – picked up Murphy on the road and took him in. It rained but I did not mind as I had my leather coat on. Rained hard going back. Caroline's (sister in law) dignity was offended at my taking Murphy in her car – va bene – I will not trouble her vehicle again for, I would rather walk to Dungarvan with peas in my shoes than give occasion to such nonsense".

On the death of Edward Odell in 1869 his son, Edward George Herbert Odell took over the running of the estate. He was relatively young when he married Lady Selina Elizabeth Hastings, daughter of the Earl of Huntington, in Cappagh, which is now known in modern terms as Whitechurch House Hotel. Edward met Selina when she was thrown from her horse during a riding accident around Carriglea. She was carried on a gate to the main house and such were her injuries that she recuperated in Carriglea for a number of weeks. Edward carried her up and down the stairs during her



recovery and soon afterwards they were married, even through Selina was barely 17 years of age. Selina's health was poor and she died in her mid twenties. They had two children during their marriage: Herbert Francis Edward (Bertie) and a daughter Mabel.

Edward later married his childhood sweetheart Elizabeth Nugent Humble better known, as "Pidgie". However, Edward died in 1879, ten years after inheriting Carriglea. He was buried in the grounds of Carriglea (the present Bon Sauveur Convent). Such was his devotion to his beloved horse "Little Harry" that he is buried with his horse.



Edward Odell grave at Carriglea



In these days there was no Family Home Bill and family homes were not given to the wife on the death of a husband, and on Edward's death Elizabeth returned to her family home Cloncoskraine House (located outside Dungarvan on the main Dungarvan to Waterford road the present home of William and Catherine Connors).

Edward's son Herbert Francis Edward was just nine years old when the estate was put up for sale in 1893. The estate remained empty until it was purchased as an Irish base for the Sisters of Bon Sauveur. Countess de Frenay is the one living direct descendant of Edward and she now lives in Ardmore, Co. Waterford and Dublin. She has a number of Edward Senior's diaries and other artefacts. She remembers spending time with many of the Odell family in her young years.



Edward Senior's Diaries



1904 - 1914

Carriglea Purchased

On February 24th 1904 the deal to purchase the Carriglea estate was signed and sealed.

On May 26th 1904, Mother Delaitre and Sr. Spillane arrived in Waterford by boat. On June 9th, their luggage and supplies arrived from Le Havre directly into the quay at Dungarvan.

At 6 am on the morning of June 23rd, five more Sisters arrived in Waterford from the Mother House in Caen. Mother Delaitre and Sr. Spillane were there to greet their arrival. They were given a great welcome and they had breakfast with the Good Shepherd Sisters in Waterford that day.



Waterford Quay, 1904



Original Foundresses 1904

*Poirier, Armandine
Obriot, Adèle Alphonsine
Spillane, Anna Marie
Aglé, Marie Françoise*

*Carmels, Philomène
Constance, Constance-léonce
Barry, Johanna
Delaitre, Madeleine*

All travelled by train to Dungarvan and were brought by horse and coach to Carriglea.

Because the buildings were dilapidated and cold, the Sisters stayed in the Presentation Convent each night and travelled to and from Carriglea every day with local woman Mary O'Brien who was the proud owner of a pony and trap. This continued until they had made the house habitable.

The Sisters who were nominated to be local Superioresses

1904	<i>Sr. Mere Obriot</i>
1907	<i>Sr. P. Cros</i>
1912	<i>Sr. Patry</i>
1919	<i>Sr. Anne Spillane</i>
1946	<i>Sr. Antonette Tichit</i>
1952	<i>Sr. Aurélie Huc</i>
1964	<i>Sr. Yvonne Le Rolland</i>
1970	<i>Sr. Celine Blejean</i>
1977	<i>Sr. Rita Higginbotham</i>
1986	<i>Sr. Nora Leonard</i>
1992	<i>Sr. Miranda Richards</i>
2001	<i>Sr. Mary Fitzgerald</i>

The 'visitors' dining room' was used as their first little chapel. The Altar was given by the Presentation Sisters and is still to be seen in the mortuary chapel in the cemetery.



Mortuary Chapel



September of that busy year saw the official opening of the "Maison de Sante (psychiatric hospital) located in, what is now, St. Mary's and the administration block. There were twenty places available under the medical supervision of local doctor, Dr. Morrissey. On September 7th, the first admission was received and by the end of the first year, all twenty places were filled. Patients came from all over Ireland which clearly indicated the need that existed for such a service.

Information from the Annals

The source of much of the information in the earlier years of the Congregation's presence in Carriglea are the beautifully kept Annals, written in French, by the Sisters. In December of 1904, the annals are filled with reference to the generosity of the local people in bringing turkeys, pies, cakes and greeting cards for Christmas; a custom that continues today!

Patrick Walsh Snr. was a local man who lived in Mount Odell. He was a very important voluntary benefactor to Carriglea for many years. The photo below shows 'Pad' Gee, of Gee's Quarry, on the far left, with Mick Gee and Patrick Walsh and other members of the Gee family. Gee's Quarry was the source for the stone used in the construction of Carriglea.



1905 saw the construction of the Farm buildings and in 1906 the stables and the old farm buildings were then renovated into the 'Sacred Heart Unit' (later demolished in the 1980's), offering a further thirty places for admission.



Farm Building



Donkey and Cart leaving the main entrance of Carriglea.

Mary (Molly) nee Fraher (mother) R.I.P.

Paddy (The Hack) 3 yrs (now 74 years)

Michael (grandfather) Healy R.I.P.

Michael used to bring the Sisters to town and wore a bowler hat for the occasion. He worked as a general maintenance man.



Photograph taken outside main gate 72-73 years ago.

Molly (mother) R.I.P., Paddy (baby), Kitty and Michael R.I.P.

Peggy Cottor nee Hackett R.I.P.

Michael (grandfather) lived in the lodge for many years - it seems he was caretaker to the property before the arrival of the Sisters. In fact, oral tradition has it that many of his family were born in the Lodge including Paddy's Father 99 years ago or so.



Michael Healy taken at the back of Carriglea farm.

Does anyone know who the little girl is?

In 1907, the Presbytery, now the Community House, was completed. The Laundry was built in 1908. By 1909, all fifty places at Carriglea were filled.



Community House at Carriglea

In 1907, the Congregation established a Community in Spain and in Holyhead in North Wales. Both of these Foundations were mostly involved in the education of youth.



The Convent House, Holyhead 1907

The photograph below was taken in 1908 and shows an unidentified lady feeding hens on the farm at Carriglea.



In 1910, the first heating system was installed, which was a really modern invention at the time. Also, in 1910, a pony and cart was purchased to take patients on outings and to the seaside.

1912 saw the establishment of the Cemetery in Carriglea. The lands were blessed and a mortuary chapel was built and was enclosed by a brick wall.

In 1913, plans for the new Chapel were drawn up by Ashlin and Colman Architects and the first stone was blessed by Bishop Sheehan on August 13th. The cornerstone was inscribed with the following detail:



Placed inside the cornerstone was a scroll, bearing the names of the Bishop, the priests who participated in the ceremony and those of the Sisters who were present. The document was then placed in a bottle that the Bishop sealed with his ring. All was then placed within a hollow stone directly under the engraved cornerstone, along with a series of current coins and a newspaper of the day.

Hearns & Sons Building Contractors from Waterford got to work immediately after that.

In 1914, the first Irish girl entered the Congregation in Carriglea: Sr. Sara McElroy from Co. Meath.

The belfry was completed also in this year and the bell was blessed and engraved: "Mathilda Maria". On October 15th 1914, the bells of Carriglea rang out across the Brickey Valley and over the slopes of Knockaun to herald the call to pray.



It is wonderful to think that ninety years on, it still continues to do so.



1915 - 1924

1915 was a significant year as the new Chapel was blessed. Also, in 1915, the rooms over the old dairy, (now the vegetable house) and kitchen were completed.

Carriglea's desire to always be at the forefront of new advances was clearly displayed in 1916 when it had its own electrical generator installed. This greatly enhanced the lives of everyone. Also, in this year, admission figures had reached sixty.

Carriglea has a fine history of affiliation with the local community and a very strong link was formed with local woman, Mary O'Brien, who ran a shop in Luskanagrid, Kilrush. This shop opened in 1916 and was still operational in the 1960's, when the school girls from Carriglea went for Sunday walks, they would stop for their supply of 'goodies'! This tradition continued for many, many years.



This is the same lady who provided transport for the Sisters in 1904.

Mary O'Brien

Of course, during this time, the world was in the grip of World War One and this proved to be an extremely difficult time for the Sisters as they had little or no communication with their loved ones in France. Their resilience knew no bounds and they coped with this and other difficulties, one being 'rationing'. The Sisters were very self sufficient and the annals of 1918 depict the preservation of three thousand eggs to last them over the Winter months. The annals also document local political news and one entry states that "300,000 Irish men have been recruited by the British army for war".

The same annals recorded in delight that the German retreat on November 11th 1918 which heralded the end of War and reopened opportunities for communication with France and the rest of Europe.

On February 24th 1919, Mrs. Keegan, a patient died. She was the first person to be buried in the cemetery in Carriglea.

On May 11th 1919, Mother Spillane who had been professed in France, was appointed as the first Irish Mother Superior.



Mother Anne Spillane and Sr. Herbert Spillane

1920 saw further political unrest in Ireland and this was witnessed locally as the following story tells us:

On May 25th 1921, while the military were passing the wood in a Crossley tender, they saw a figure moving among the brambles. The "Halt!" was given, but with no effect. Another "Halt!" was cried out. Still, the moving went on. The military fired, and a poor elderly woman was shot dead. She was Mary Foley, nee Moloney, and was aged seventy-five years. She was collecting dried timber for her fire. As she was deaf, she did not hear the shouts of the military. Paddy Whelan, her small grandchild, was with her at the time and witnessed the event. His brother, David "Daw" Whelan still resides locally to-day. Oral tradition has it, that the Black and Tans came across the woods to call the



Sisters for assistance but when the Sisters arrived, it was too late. A monument was later erected to her memory.

Monument to Mary Foley

A month previously, the first profession of three French Sisters took place in Carriglea.

The annals record with delight the news that on 6th July 1921 an Amnesty had been declared between Ireland and England, followed by the Treaty in December of the same year.

In 1922, the veranda and houses outside the kitchen were built.



1922 was a very important year for the Congregation in Carriglea in that the first Irish Sister, Sr. Sara McElroy was professed.

*New Chapel
consecrated
Aug 19th 1924*



On August 19th 1924, the new Chapel was consecrated by Bishop Hackett, eleven years after the blessing of the Foundation Stone. It was built by John Hearn & Sons of Waterford and the architect was Mr. Coleman in Dublin. This was recorded in the local newspaper.

However, the event was tinged with sadness as Bishop Sheehan, who was responsible for bringing the Sisters to Ireland and who had blessed the first stone in 1913, passed away on this day and did not get the opportunity to witness this momentous event.

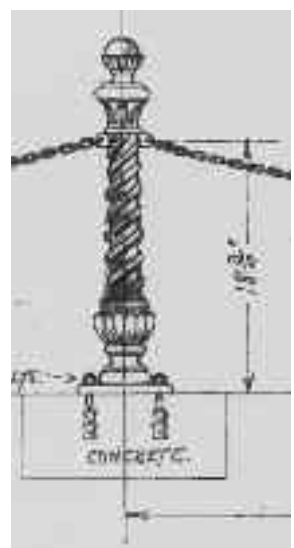
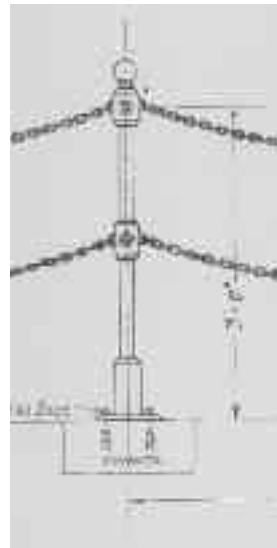
*Newspaper article
from 1924*

Consecration of Carriglea Convent Chapel.—On Wednesday, 19th inst., the Most Rev. Dr. Hackett, Bishop of Waterford, consecrated the beautiful chapel of the Sisters of Carriglea, Dublin. He was assisted in the ceremony by the following clergy: Very Rev. P. Burke, P.P.; Rev. J. Gibson, P.P.; Rev. M. Dowley, A.M.; Rev. T. Coghlan, C.C.; Rev. John Quinn, Chaplain Carriglea Convent; Rev. J. O'Connor, C.C.; Rev. M. Heary, C.C.; and Rev. P. E. McGrath, C.C.

The Sisters, Du Bon Sauveur, came to Carriglea from Caen, France, on the invitation of the late Bishop, Most Rev. Dr. Sheehan, in 1904. The property acquired was formerly a private mansion belonging to the O'Dell family, the building being of superb Elizabethan architecture, and the demesne, consisting of some three hundred acres, being beautifully wooded and situated in a convenient and healthy locality. Since the arrival of the Sisters they have made considerable improvements and additions. The foundation of the present beautiful church was laid by the late Bishop, Dr. Sheehan, on August 13th, 1913, and completed in 1922. The builder was Mr. J. Hearn, Waterford, and the architect was Mr. Coleman, Dublin.

The Institute of the Sisters, Du Bon Sauveur, was established at Caen, France, in 1728 by Made. Anne Lamy. When the French revolution came the Sisters were scattered throughout Europe, but in 1805 the good nuns were able to re-establish their religious organisation and recommence their works of benevolence. They have five houses in France, viz.—Caen, Pont l'Abbe, Bégard, Albiac, Chateaux, and one in Ireland, Carriglea. The Sisters keep a large boarding-school in Holyhead and one in San Felix, Spain. Their Irish Convent is situated about three miles from Dungarvan. The chapel interior is most beautifully decorated, a circular stained glass window being over the altar, and a subdued religious light throughout the church. The roof is supported by pillars with

Also, in this year, the railings, that are such a beautiful feature at the front of the Main House, were designed. The craftsmanship and details are clearly conveyed in the plans:



*The iron railings designed by Mackenzie & Moncur Ltd.
Edinburgh foundry*



Photo of Group with K Williams Truck circa 1922



1925 - 1934

1925 saw the arrival of Mr. Heyden and his wife. Mr. Heyden was the new gardener and he lived in the gardener's house (what is now the Cookery Class House). He was an excellent head gardener. As an ex-English Army man, it was said that his favourite phrase was: "You, with that red shirt there, boy"! The grounds were immaculate during his tenure.



*Cookery Class House
formerly gardener's house*

1926 was truly momentous with the installation of a telephone. In the annals, the Sisters describe its arrival: "What a wonder!"

Also, in 1926, Sr. Mary Wallace arrived to join the Congregation.

In 1928, the Congregation opened a House in Rome. To this day, the Convent is famous for its welcoming of international pilgrims who wish to experience the religious and historical wonders of Rome and the Vatican.

Sr. Mary Prendergast from Mount Mellery joined the Community. After many years of dedication, she died in 1980 and is buried in Carriglea.



Jubilee Photo of Sr. Mary Prendergast

In 1929, the beautiful wooden crucifix in the Chapel was presented to Carriglea by the Sisters of Pont l'Abbe to mark the 25th anniversary of its foundation.

On the 25th April, the celebration of the Silver Jubilee took place with a Mass said by Bishop Hackett and members of the local Clergy. On the following page is a photo and extract from the Annals recording the event:





In 1930, Sr. Mary Wallace died and was the first Sister to be buried in Carriglea Cemetery.

In 1932, another Irish Sister entered the Congregation; Sr. Mary Lynch from Co. Kerry.

Once again, technological advancement came to Carriglea and in 1933, the first electrical refrigerator arrived and was placed in the corridor outside the kitchen. It cost £150 which was an enormous amount of money at that time.

In 1934, Sr. Kathleen Leonard entered the Congregation. Sr. Kathleen went to France for her religious formation. She loved to tell the story that, as she left Cobh for Le Havre in the Manhattan Liner and, wanting to have the last glimpse of her beloved Ireland, she went up on deck. Her hat was blown off and another passenger remarked that "It's gone back to Ireland!". Sr. Kathleen



Sr. Kathleen

remained young at heart and was greatly loved and respected in her Community, by her neighbours and by all who came to know her over her sixty years in Carriglea. Sr. Kathleen died in 1994.

As previously mentioned, Patrick Walsh of Mount Odell was a voluntary advisor to the Sisters. This lovely photograph of his family was taken in 1933.





1935 - 1944

The 1930's saw the Complex and Hospital develop and expand at Carriglea.

We were unable to identify the people in this photograph. If anyone recognises this lovely boy and the people in the background, please let us know!



*Photo album and postcard produced by
Bon Sauveur Convent in 1930s*

1939 saw the outbreak of World War Two. Sr. Eileen McCarthy and Sr. Margaret Phelan, who had entered the Congregation in 1938, found themselves caught in France as novices. They made their first profession in Caen in 1942 and only returned in 1945.

In 1940, news of the war advancing was received with great sadness by all in Carriglea, but especially by the French Sisters. Their sadness is clearly conveyed in the annals as they write of the absence of contact with loved ones back in France.

In June 1941 Sr. Mary Lynch celebrated her Final Profession.

The first Corpus Christi Procession was held in 1941.

Fr. Dwane was curate at the time. The Procession was followed by tea in the Big Parlour with home baking. It was the only event, at the time, when the local community gathered in the private grounds of Carriglea. Many local children were involved in the Procession. Local boys served Mass. To ensure maximum privacy for the inpatients of Carriglea, local peoples' attendance at Mass was restricted to the chapel gallery. At this time also, still in pre Vatican II times, the Sisters, after receiving Holy Communion, would cover their faces with their veils as a mark of respect and devotion.

During this time, John Ryan was Farm Steward and he and his wife lived in the Gate Lodge. They had one daughter, Nancy.

It was in 1941 that an extensive sewerage system was installed. A job well done! This same system is used to remove surface water to this day.

Mrs. Spratt, of Coolcormack, was the first local woman to attend Mass in the main Chapel. The Spratt family have been very supportive and loyal to Carriglea over the years, from serving Mass as young boys, to fundraising. Bernie Twomey (nee Spratt) served as Chairperson of the Fundraising Committee for twenty two years.



*Maura Spratt with
grandson 1976*

Around this time, Johnny Holmes arrived to work in Carriglea. He initially came with Hearn's Building Contractors but stayed on as painter and maintenance man for the Centre.

1944 witnessed one of the largest Corpus Christi Procession in Carriglea. This was attended by a very large crowd.





The summer of 1944 began with D-Day, June 6th, and had a dramatic finale in the bombardment of two of the Congregation's Convents at Pont L'Abbe and St. Lo. The important role played by the Bon Sauveur Sisters in evacuation was documented in the Irish Independent:

Safe From Desolation Of War



Refugees from Caen and surrounding districts sought shelter in quarries, and in this quarry kitchen at Flour-sir-Orne food was cooked for the aged and sick. At one period 5,000 people sheltered in the quarries from bombardment.

Irish Independent
TUES., AUGUST 1, 1944.

Oil Centres Hit HEAVY RAIDS ON GERMANY

(Reuter and Press Association.)

WHILE oil installations at Ploesti and Bucharest were bombed yesterday by Italy-based aircraft, targets at Munich and Ludwigshafen were attacked by more than 1,350 heavy bombers of the 8th U.S. Air Force.

Some bombing over Germany was visible, states the American communication, but most of the targets were shrouded through clouds by means of instruments. Intense smoke was visible after the bombers in the very strong daylight hours.

The fighters reported 12 German aircraft destroyed on the ground and trucks and railway cars damaged. Sixteen bombers and four fighters were lost.

The Bucharest targets were a refinery and a fuel depot, and three at Ploesti were a refinery and an oil tank. A third target was destroyed by a smoke-screen, however, and 100 bombers went on.

In daylight yesterday evening three separate forces of R.A.F. attacked the railway junction at La Roche, 70 miles south-east of

The Irish
The Irish People's Paper
Vol. XIV, No. 104. Section II. THURSDAY

ALLIES

BY A ROADSIDE IN NORMANDY



Shown in charge of the construction of medical patients with the remains after Pont L'Abbe.

Irish Independent
FRIDAY, AUGUST 5, 1944

A Battle Centre In Normandy



A street scene in St. Lo, Normandy.—Associated Press Photo.



The contribution made by the Bon Sauveur Sisters in France and their sacrifice during the war years was clearly indicated in a letter written by Brigadier H Price Williams to the Reverend Mother in Holyhead:

Supreme Headquarters
Allied Expeditionary Force
G-5 Division
Displaced Persons Branch

SHAEF G-5, DP/2722

5 September 1944

Reverend Mother,
Le Bon Sauveur,
Holyhead.

Mother Superior:

With reference to your inquiry of 2 August 1944 regarding the condition of Le Bon Sauveur, Caen, Le Bon Sauveur Pont l'Abbe and Le Bon Sauveur, St. Lo the following report has been received concerning Le Bon Sauveur, Caen:

The Bon Sauveur in Caen was used during the early days of the invasion as a hospital for wounded civilians. On 6 June 1944 approximately 1,800 wounded were cared for in this institution. A cemetery of 250 graves was established in the courtyard of the hospital. Since 6 June 1944 the buildings and grounds received no less than sixteen direct hits by shells, mortar or aerial bombs. Three wings of the building group were demolished, three fires of rather severe intensity were put out. Three sisters and two doctors in the hospital were killed during the performance of their duties. Two operating rooms were hit at a time when operations were in progress. By 15 July 1944 the wounded in the hospital numbered 800 and since that date has decreased. For the past week there have been no wounded cared for here. At present emergency treatments are given and patients then transferred to the general hospital in Caen.

The Staff of Le Bon Sauveur have done a magnificent piece of work, have shown great courage in the face of indescribable danger, and in spite of these harrowing experiences throughout the early days of the invasion, they have carried on in a truly splendid manner.

A further report will follow."

Report on Le Bon Sauveur at Pont l'Abbe and St. Lo will be forwarded as soon as received.

Yours sincerely

H. Price Williams
Brigadier,
Executive, G-5.

monna p. 40 de la page de l'Annuaire des religieuses de la France



1945 - 1954

Calm was restored and in November 1945, Sr. Eileen McCarthy returned to Carriglea.

On June 27th 1946, Sr. Eileen made her final profession and local lady Maureen O'Donoghue remembers the day well as she was her candle bearer.

The following month Sr. Barry, one of the foundresses died, aged 90.



Also, in 1946, St. Bridget's Unit (now our Elderly Care Unit) was built.



Back Row L to R: Sr. Pilet, Sr. Gumbo, Sr. Pyrlesses, Sr. Prendergast, Sr. McCarthy, Sr. K. Leonard, Sr. Dwyer, ?. Front Row L to R: Sr. Lynch, Sr. Paugam, Dr. McCarthy, Mother Tichet, Sr. Meyer, ?.

It was a very significant year in progress terms in Ireland as, in February 1947, electricity from Ardnacrusha was installed.

In October the first tractor was bought for the farm. Jimmy Murphy also arrived in Carriglea in 1947 and he worked for some time on the farm before being appointed steward in 1953. It is often recounted of how he cycled from Kilkenny for his interview. He was to serve faithfully as an employee until his retirement in 1987. Jimmy married a local lady, Biddy Murphy, nee Whelan, and had two daughters Mary and Rose, who were reared in the Gate Lodge.

Another clear indication of the progressive and innovative actions of the Sisters of Bon Sauveur was Sr. Eileen McCarthy's departure in May of that year to go to Dublin and train as a psychiatric nurse at St. Vincent's Hospital.



1947 was a momentous year for Sr. Nativite, who was in charge of the farm, as it was her first visit home to see her family in France after a lapse of fourteen years. The photograph shows Sr. Nativite ably assisted by Nellie Dooley.

By December 1947 all buildings in Carriglea had the luxury of electricity.

Around this time, Mr. and Mrs. Carter arrived to live at the Lodge following the departure of John Ryan. Mr. and Mrs. Carter came from Kildare to join the staff at Carriglea.

Martin Collins, of Knockateemore, worked as herdsman in Carriglea from 1948-1955.

Catering received a tremendous boost in 1948 with the installation of the first electric oven which greatly enhanced cooking methods in Carriglea!



In April 1948, the Sisters held their first Garden Fête. The proceeds were earmarked to fund the erection of the Lourdes Grotto which was completed for the Holy Year of 1950. The hand embroidered crafts, lucky dip, wheel of fortune, with all kinds of prizes, provided enormous entertainment for all who attended. Ice cream, a real rarity of the time, was also available at the Fête. The Fête was a tremendous success and the Annals devoted a full page to the wonderful memories this day bestowed. Locals recount of the wonders of the day, the starched white socks and shoes of those children in the procession, the smell of polish in the main building, the voice of Fr. Murphy that echoed across the fields, the baskets of flowers the children wore around their necks, and the highlight of the day in the minds of those who were children at the time, was the flavoured milk given to them by the Sisters!



The photograph below was taken on the day of the Fête and shows local man Mick Gee, Biddy Gee, Kathleen and Martin Collins and an unknown girl at the front of Carriglea.



In 1949, Sr. Margaret Tuohy entered the Congregation in Carriglea.

The first motor car for Carriglea use was purchased in 1949 and facilitated regular outings for patients, a tradition which continues to this present day for the service users. The first driver, pictured below, was the faithful and reliable Tom Walsh. The Walsh family have a long tradition of faithful service in Carriglea, with John, a nephew of the said Tom, continuing this dedication as head maintenance man to the Carriglea Complex today. John replaced his father Sean RIP and uncle Ned.



1950 was Holy Year and was marked with the erection of the Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes.



Major work was completed on the avenue at this time from the Lodge to the Farm with the assistance of the County Council. Trees were planted along the avenue, their beauty visible today.

On November 1st, Pope Pius XII transmitted to the world, via radio that the Assumption of Mary was a Dogma of Faith and the annals state that the Bishops of Ireland requested a special day to be devoted to the Assumption and requested that everyone pray for world peace on November 5th.

In 1951, the annals refer to the use of a new machine for cleaning; we presume the arrival of the vacuum cleaner!

Also, in 1951, Carriglea was saddened by the departure of Sr. Le Maout, after twenty four years and Sr. Nativite, after forty years, to return to their native France. Sr. Laot took charge of the farm in this year. Locals recount how they crossed the fields in the morning to 6.45 am Mass, in Carriglea, and on seeing them approach, Sr. Laot would change her boots and accompany them the rest of the way.



In 1952, Mother Huc was nominated as Superior. Her arrival was marked with many good wishes. The mass bouquet on the left was presented to her from the farm staff that Christmas.

Around this time, an important poultry farm was set up. Ms. Mullins, poultry instructress, came on a regular basis. The poultry farm incubated its own eggs, reared chickens and greatly assisted in the self sufficient ethos of Carriglea.

In 1953, Liam O'Donnell, the farm steward left Carriglea and was replaced by Jimmy Murphy.

In 1953 the Sisters availed of air travel between Ireland and France for the first time. Sr. Eileen McCarthy was the first to avail of this.

In 1954, as part of the development of Carriglea, suggestions were made about the possible commencement of a school and Juniorate in Carriglea.

In July 1954, Fr. Peyton, popularly known as the 'Rosary Priest' went all over Ireland spreading devotion to the Rosary. When he visited Waterford, a group from Carriglea gathered to listen to him.



The photograph on the left is taken from a souvenir supplement of the 'Irish Independent' which clearly shows the popularity of Fr. Peyton.



Local farmers came to help out at the threshing, a real example of community teamwork. Their help was always appreciated.

Oral tradition has it that there would be a dance in the farm kitchen afterwards!

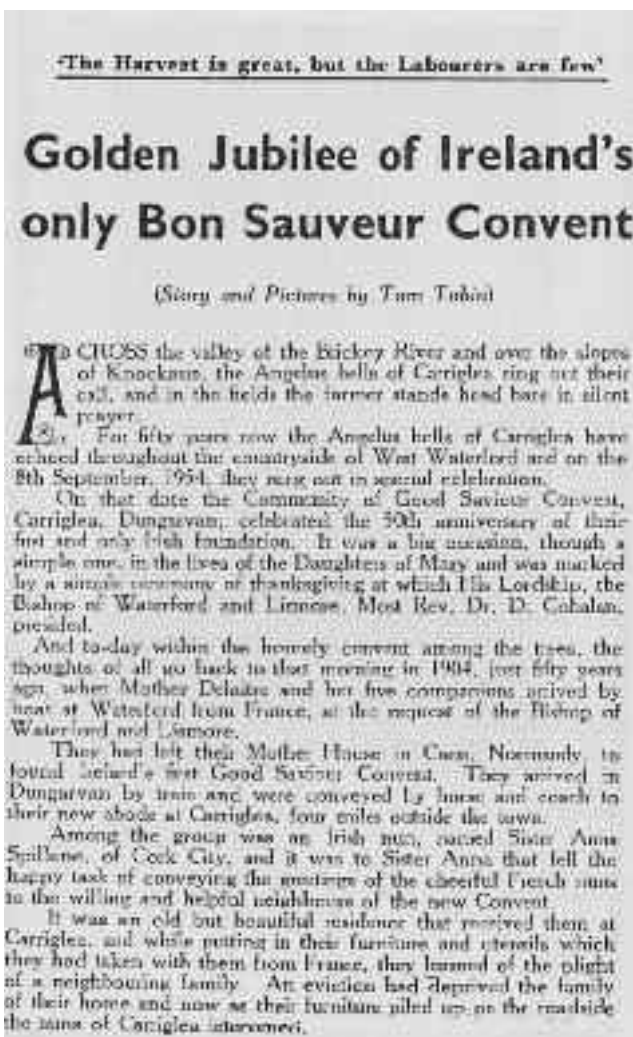
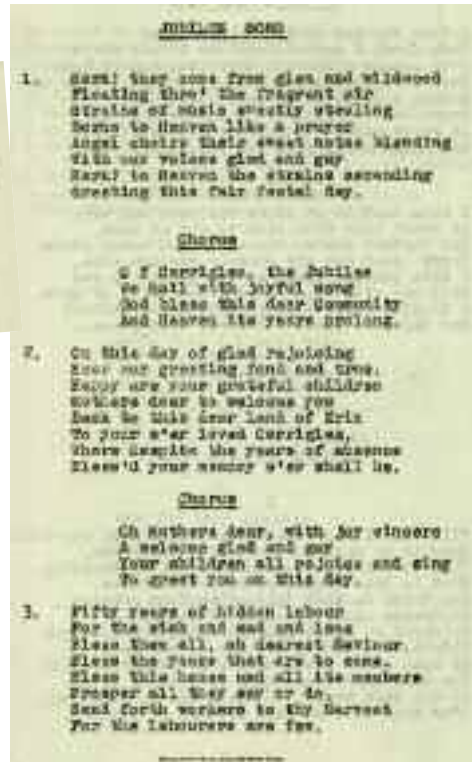
Workers on the farm in this era included Paddy Glavin, Willie Power and Toddy Lennon.





September 8th 1954 was a historic day in Carriglea. It marked the official Celebrations of the Golden Jubilee. This was an important milestone in the history of Carriglea and was even mentioned in the national newspaper.

Bishop Cohalan celebrated the Jubilee Mass with many local clergy and members of the Community. In his opening address, the Bishop complimented the Sisters and described their valuable work as "hidden work" and "truly the work of the Good Saviour"



Aerial view of Carriglea 1954

A local girl Mary Walsh, who was fourteen years of age at the time, was asked to greet the visiting French Sisters for the occasion. Mary was to join the Congregation, at a later date but sadly, died in France in 1993, at the relatively young age of fifty-two.



The annals tell us that a car was hired to take the visiting Sisters to Glencairn, Lismore and over the scenic route of the Vee to Mount Melleray. After the Celebrations, the French sisters flew back from Collinstown, now Dublin Airport, to France.

The following November, the County Council asked if a monument could be erected in memory of Mrs. Foley who was shot and killed by the Black and Tans in 1921, as the plot of land was owned by Carriglea.



1955 - 1964

In May 1955, Patrick Walsh, who lived in Mount Odell House, died. He was a very important voluntary benefactor and contributor to the farm in Carriglea. His passing was felt deeply by the Sisters and staff and his importance clearly conveyed in the annals, which are translated below:

"May 19th 1955

Today, we record, with deep sadness and regret, the passing of Mr. Patrick Walsh of Mount Odell. He gave many years of devoted service to Carriglea and would often leave work on his own farm to assist and advise Mother Spillane, Mother Brochard and Sr. Mottin on matters concerning life and business on the farm.

For threshing days, he and his sons were always present to ensure that everything was carried out properly. At all times, and most especially when times were hard, he never failed to help and look after convent business as if it were his own. Never would he accept any payments. The community should always regard him as one of their chief benefactors and always remember him in their prayers."

In 1955 a new car was purchased for the Services.

In October 1956, the gardener's house was renovated and decorated. There was great excitement at the impending marriage of the then gardener Francis Aherne. The annals state: "This wonderful worker is to be married in January 1957".

In 1956, the luxury of running water was afforded to the Presbytery.

1957 commenced with the wedding of Francis Ahearn to Julia Tobin and at the end of the year, their first child, Bridget, was born - a Carriglea baby.

In 1957, Jimmy Murphy, the farm steward took over the Gate Lodge where he and his family lived until his retirement in 1987, when John Hanlon assumed this position.

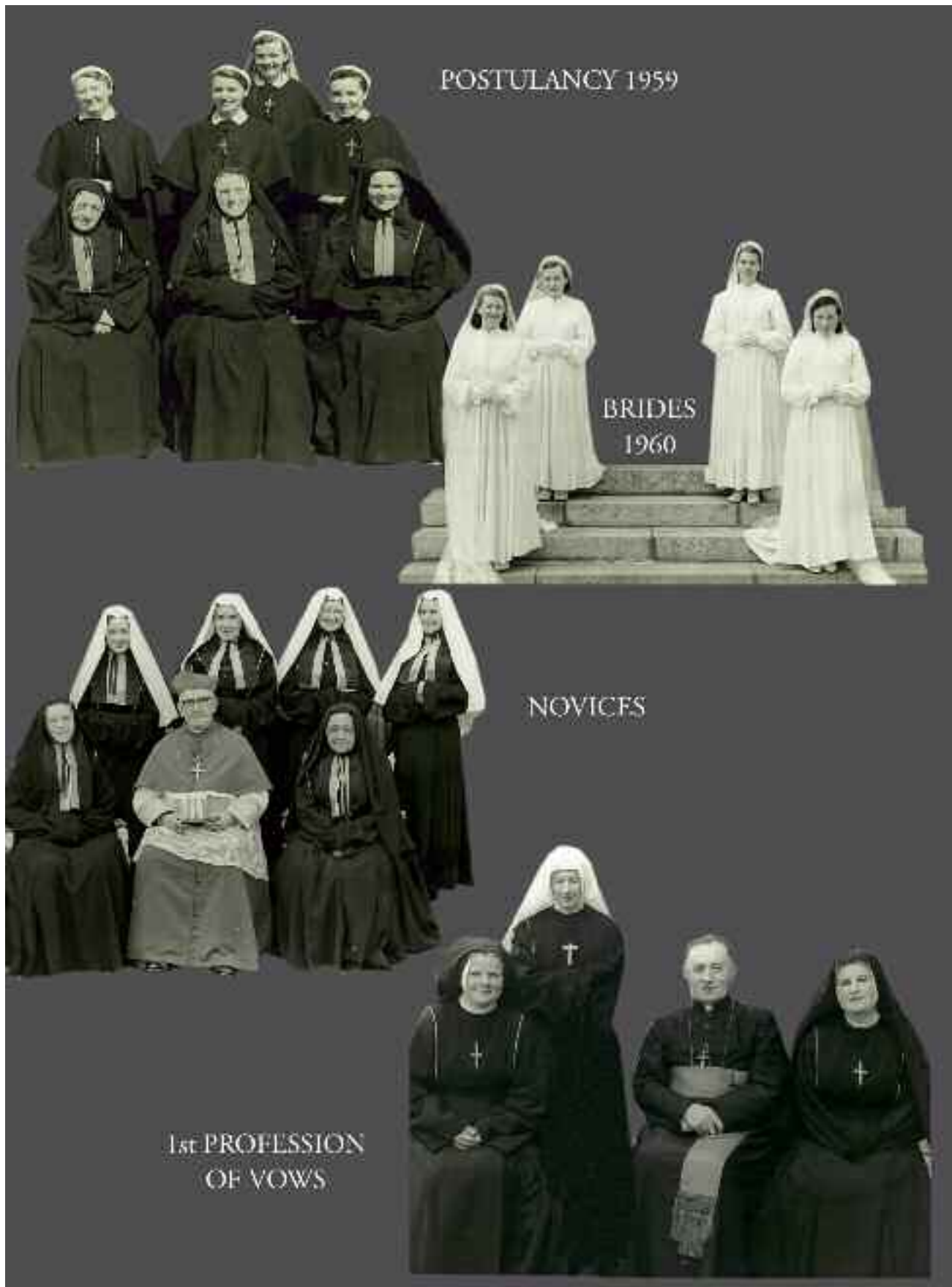
1957 was a momentous year for Carriglea as it was in that year the Congregation opened a secondary school. It was located in, what is now, St. Mary's. The students completed their public exams in the Presentation School in Dungarvan. It was closed in 1966 due to the reducing numbers of students as boarding schools were less fashionable.

In February 1958, the Congregation had an offer to establish a foundation in Derrynane, Co. Kerry, (which was the birthplace of Daniel O Connell), but it never materialised.

On March 11th 1958, Carriglea was saddened to hear of the death of John Power, a long and faithful friend of the Odell family.

In 1959 a Formation House for Religious for the Bon Sauveur was opened in Ireland, which meant that novices no longer needed to undertake their religious training abroad. Sr. Maureen McCarthy was nominated first Mistress of Novices. Seven young ladies, dressed as brides, received the habit of the Bon Sauveur Order. Among these Sisters are some very familiar names to us today – Sr. Mary Theresa Lyons, Sr. Teresa Jennings, Sr. Johanna Walsh and Sr. Nora Leonard.







The event also received national notice and the following article appeared in one of the national newspapers of the time:



1959-1960 saw the upgrading of what is now St. Mary's to meet the need of the developing school which was then known as the 'Immaculate'.

The hardworking men in the gardens, maintenance and farm over the years are too many in number to name but were all loyal employees of Carriglea. The photograph below taken in the late fifties shows a hard working group. Many familiar faces!



From L. Tommy Kiely, Jimmy Murphy, Maurice Ganbon, Tom Walsh, Ned Glavin, Jimmy Power, Jimmy Moroney, Francie Ahearn.

In 1960, the first Bon Sauveur missionaries went to Madagascar. Five Sisters were sent to open this mission.

Today, Madagascar is a developing missionary field with a growing number of young Malagasy Sisters.

One of the houses "Ilaka" in Madagascar was co-founded by Irish Sister, Sr. Margaret Touhy. This year sees the opening of a Centre for people with psychiatric difficulties.



1960 Madagascar



1998 Madagascar

In 1960, the first washing machine arrived and was gratefully received by the Laundry staff!

In 1962, the first seven Irish Sisters, having completed their formation in Carriglea, made their First Profession.



The construction of Windy Arbour began in 1962

In 1963, a French summer course was established for the month of July. Students from all around the country availed of this great educational opportunity. This was to continue until 1967.



In 1964, Mother Yvonne le Rolland was nominated Superior. She was a woman of tremendous vision and saw the need for the development of Carriglea from a private psychiatric hospital to a centre which catered for people with a learning disability. Permission to do this was received from France in 1970 and was sanctioned by the Department of Health in 1970.



Group of Sisters in 1965 with some Presentation Sisters who were participating in the French Course in Carriglea.



1965 - 1974

The photo below was taken during a "Clothing and Profession Ceremony" in Carriglea in 1965. The third young lady from the front, on the left, is our own Sr. Mary and the second is Sr. Margaret.



On June 17th 1967, a historic triple ceremony took place at Carriglea Convent. Sr. Elizabeth Dwyer celebrated her Golden Jubilee, three Novices made their first profession and two Postulants were received into the Noviciate of the Congregation. The event was marked in local media and was a great source of delight for the Congregation.

**50 Years in Religion**

Sister Dwyer, Bon Sauveur Convent, Carriglea, Dungarvan, is congratulated by Most Rev. Dr. Michael Russell, Bishop of Waterford and Lismore, and Mother Roumecoux, Mother General of the Bon Sauveur Order, on celebrating the Golden Jubilee of her religious life.

Impressive Ceremonies at Carriglea Convent

On Thursday last, a very impressive triple ceremony took place at Carriglea Convent: a Golden Jubilarian, Sr. Elizabeth Dwyer, renewed her religious vows; three Novices made their first Profession, and two Postulants were received into the Noviciate of the Congregation.

Even the weather smiled on the happy occasion, as, towards the Convent, usually so quiet and peaceful in its green woods, a long stream of cars made their way.

At 11 a.m., His Lordship, Most Rev. Dr. M. Russell, Bishop of the Diocese, accompanied by an imposing cortege of 16 priests, proceeded in procession to the chapel, where a large congregation of friends and relatives of the Sisters had already assembled.

The ceremony began with the blessing of the candles, followed by Holy Mass, which His Lordship concelebrated with six priests: they were—Rev. P. J. Flavin, P.P., Ring; Rev. D. O'Byrne, C.C., and Rev. J. Murphy, C.C., Dungarvan; Rev. Fr. Long, O.M.I.; Rev. Fr. Butler, O.S.A., Dungarvan, and Rev. M. Walsh, C.C., Abbeyside.

The sermon was preached by Rev. Fr. Long, O.M.I., who had conducted the preparatory Retreat, and Rev. M. J. Curran, C.C., Chaplain, was Master of Ceremonies. At the Offertory, the Novices, Sr. Mary Fitzgerald (Modeligo), Sr. Margaret Moriell (Charleville), and Sr. Mary Gavin (Westport) pronounced their first vows.

Immediately after Mass took place the Reception Ceremony during which two postulants, Sr. Bernadette O'Sullivan and Sr. Margaret Kelly, received the Holy Habit of the Congregation.

Then followed a jubilant Te Deum of thanksgiving and to the happy strains of the Ecce Quam Bonum, His Lordship and the clergy, followed by the Community and the whole congregation, left the chapel in procession.

Also present in the choir were: Rev. J. F. Morrissey, C.C., Aghish; Rev. W. Callahan; Rev. J. Bayler; Rev. J. Curran, Waterford; Rev. W. Carey, C.C., Ballinameela, and Rev. Fr. Kennedy, C.C., Ring.



In 1968, two Sisters were sent to train in St. Vincent's Hospital as RNMH nurses. (registered nurses in mental handicap).

In 1970, the status of Carriglea changed from psychiatric hospital to a Centre for adult females with a learning disability.

Jim Burke was a prominent employee of the farm at this time. He served as a loyal member of staff for over ten years.

1972 witnessed the formation of the Carriglea Fundraising Committee. Its purpose was to raise money for people with special needs, in particular, to give them the optional extras not provided for by the Health Board. The first chairperson was Fr. Brendan O'Sullivan, chaplain in Carriglea at the time. He held the post for six months. The position was then taken on by Bernie Twomey.

Bernie accepted the post for several years and, together with a hardworking group, raised money by holding concerts, flag days and local events.

The people of the locality gave them tremendous support. Nuala Murphy, one of our longest serving employees, served as Secretary on the Committee on a voluntary basis for about eighteen years.



Fund raising committee Christmas 1972

By 1990, the Sisters and Committee felt that these methods of fundraising were outmoded and set up a second-hand clothes shop in Dungarvan town. This has gone from strength to strength with some eighty volunteers giving of their time on a rota basis.

The monies raised by the shop help enormously to furnish community based houses for people with special needs. The shop has moved location over the years but now it is located in Mitchell Street.

A thousand thanks to all those people who work quietly in

the background to help improve the quality of life of others! Staff, Residents and Sisters often enjoyed day trips and the photo below, taken in 1974, is of one such happy group.



*Front row L to R: Sr. Margaret Tuohy, Sr. Kathleen,
Back row L to R: Jimmy Murphy, Tom Donoghue, Francis Ahearn
and Paddy McCarthy (John's father)*

The photo below was taken of Jimmy and Francis taking a well earned break in the meadow!





1975 - 1984

Shepherd's Wood Lodge, our Workshop was built in 1976. It was officially opened by Taoiseach Charles Haughey, the following year. It was initially built as a Sports Hall but was later used to provide a workshop setting for residents and day trainees. It was subsequently refurbished in 1992 and in 1995.



Some members of the Community of 1976 are pictured below.



In June 1977, an American Tea Party was held. This was a huge success and enjoyed by everyone. Also, in this year, the 'Singing Priests' visited Dungarvan and these two fundraising events greatly assisted the efforts in Carriglea.

In 1977, Sr. Rita Higginbotham was nominated Superior. She was a woman of vision and, not being acquainted with the development of Services in Ireland, she enlisted the expertise of John O'Gorman, who had many years experience in this field.



John worked on a sessional basis as consultant administrator and has worked tirelessly with both Sr. Rita and Sr. Nora, giving advice and direction in the ongoing development of services for people with special needs.

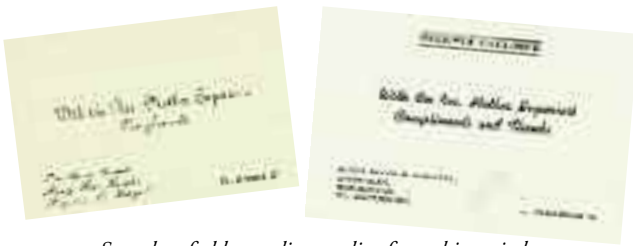
The photo below shows John and his wife, Mary, pictured with Sr. Nora, Sr. Kathleen (RIP) and Sr. Rita.



In 1978, Mary McGrath (nee Murphy) joined the Service and was the first lay person in the Administration Department. Mary is the daughter of Jimmy Murphy (RIP) who gave many, many years service to Carriglea. Mary continues to give untiring service in her role as Assistant Administrator.

The photo below shows Mary, in red, on the left, with her sister Rose, pedalling it out! Together with Jimmy, their father, Sr. Nora and Sr. Mary Teresa.





Samples of old compliment slips from this period

In 1978, a major fundraising event was held. The infamous Mike Murphy came to Carriglea and acted as Auctioneer for the evening. Many items of value were auctioned off and a mini bus was purchased for the Service with the proceeds. Also, in this year, the renowned Eugene Lambert held a puppet show in Carriglea.

1979 was a unique year in Ireland with the visit of Pope John Paul II. The Sisters, staff and service users went to the various venues around the country.



In 1981, the Congregation purchased their holiday house in Ardmore as it was the 'Year of the Handicapped' and it was a very significant acquisition in that it afforded the girls the opportunity to have a holiday by the sea. The Sisters paid a visit to the house shortly after the girls went there for a holiday and Nellie, while looking out to sea, turned to Sr. Rita and exclaimed: "Rita, I just can't believe it!"



View of Ardmore Bay

In March 1982, Sr. Rita wrote to Mr. White in Dungarvan Urban District Council requesting that the Council supply two adjoining houses for the provision of our first Community House in Kyne Park.

The Rainbow Club was formed in 1982. The aim of this club was to incorporate people with special needs into the local community.

In July 1982 Sr. Scanlon celebrated her Golden Jubilee.



In September 1982, Sr. Eileen McCarthy retired, having worked faithfully for over forty years as Matron, firstly in the psychiatric hospital and later in the Centre for people with special needs. She was a generous, talented lady, excelling in crafts, especially embroidery. Sr. Eileen died in 1996.



In 1983, a Fashion Show was held in Kilsheelan Castle. It was hosted by 'Twiba' of Carrick on Suir.

The Sports Hall was completed in this year and the 'All Priests Show' was the first event to be held there. The building of this Hall was greatly assisted by the efforts of the Fundraising Committee.

The building of St. Anne's and St. Francis' began this year also.

In April of 1984, Sr. Mary and a number of girls went to Lourdes. This was to become a frequent event as they were to join the Waterford Diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes for many years to come.



In early 1984, a sub committee from the local GAA Club, Brickey Rangers, approached the Sisters about purchasing land to develop their own GAA grounds, something that had, up to this time, proven unsuccessful for the Club. On May 14th 1984, six roadside acres were sold to the Brickeys.

A considerable amount of work had to be undertaken by the Club before the pitch was playable and the Club also ensured that the entrance and gateway into Bushy Park would be in harmony with the existing walled demesne.

The Sisters were delighted to be involved in the provision of local amenities to the locality that they have always shared a great relationship with. It is wonderful on a Summer's evening to hear children laughing and shouting as they play on their very own pitch.

This song was found in the Brickey Ranger's Centenary Publication of 1986. It was penned by local man, Mr. Murray.

The Beautiful Woods Around Sweet Carriglea

There's a dear spot in Ireland you all know right well,
Ballyduff and Coolcormack and dear Mount Odell,
I ne'er will forget you 'till the close of my day,
Near those beautiful woods around sweet Carriglea.

It's many the evening at Kilmurray Cross,
The boys would assemble and play pitch and toss,
The girls would keep dancing 'till the clear break of day,
Near the beautiful woods around sweet Carriglea.

And many's the reel and fine Irish gig,
was danced at the time of Tom Slattery's fat pig,
The boys played a joke and the pig walked away,
Near the beautiful woods around sweet Carriglea.

And the men in the convent start their work about eight,
The steward Paddy Walsh would rush in the white gate,
Some to the chapel, some more making hay,
Near those beautiful woods around sweet Carriglea.

Now we'll drink a toast to our friend Paddy Ryan,
And big Martin Tobin as strong as a lion,
Dave Moore, Paddy Hickey, Mick and Pad Gee,
The fine men in the quarry around sweet Carriglea.

There's lots of changes in Kilmurray to-day,
A lot of the old friends have now passed away,
But still in my memory their faces I see,
Near those beautiful woods around sweet Carriglea.

Now God bless you Kilmurray I love you right well,
The Murrays, the Murphys around sweet Mount Odell,
I never will forget you 'till the close of my day,
Near those beautiful woods around sweet Carriglea.





1985 - 1994

February 1985 was a huge milestone for the Bon Sauveur Services in that it marked the opening of its first Community House in Kyne Park. Ann Navin, Teresa Houlihan, Teresa O'Leary, Mary McNally, Bridget O'Brien and Eilis O'Gorman were the first residents of this house.

The house in Kyne Park was purposely built and was a significant departure for the Organisation. It signalled the importance of Community integration and inclusion. It heralded the beginning of other house purchases in the area.



In 1985, the European Special Olympic Games were held in Dublin. This was a week-long event and our own veteran Special Olympic athlete, Mossy Donovan won a silver medal in the 800m walk. Eight athletes represented Carriglea at these Games which was a wonderful achievement.



In 1986, the Hall was extended to accommodate the construction of a twelve metre swimming pool.



Also, in 1986, 44 Pinewood Lawn was purchased and another group of ladies took up residence there.

Frank Patterson and Des Keogh entertained at Carriglea in 1986 to assist in two successful fundraising events.

Concerts were the feature of the day and talent was never short in Carriglea as this photograph shows.



In 1986, Sr. Nora Leonard was nominated Superior. Sr. Nora continued what Sr. Rita had begun and has worked tirelessly to develop the Bon Sauveur Services into the successful, multi-faceted Service that it is today, providing invaluable service and support to people with an intellectual disability.

On May 10th 1987, a group from Carriglea travelled to Rome to attend the beatification ceremony of Fr. Peter Francis Jamet, the Congregation's Chaplain who had been such a wonderful support to them in the time of the French Revolution. The event was reported in the local Dungarvan Observer:



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DUNGA

Carriglea Sisters Honour French Priest



LADIES AND SISTERS of Le Bon Sauveur, Carriglea, who travelled to the Vatican City, Rome, to attend the ceremony in honour of Fr. Peter Francis Jamet.

FOR THE girls and Sisters of Le Bon Sauveur, Carriglea, May 10th, 1987, will long remain a cherished memory — especially for the seven girls and five Sisters who were present in St. Peter's Square, Vatican City to attend the beatification ceremony of Fr. Peter Francis Jamet. The small Irish contingent had gathered there to join the hundreds of pilgrims from France, Spain, Italy, Wales, Madagascars, who had travelled to Rome to honour the great occasion and to pay their thanks to the humble French priest who had been a tower of strength to the Sisters of Le Bon Sauveur during and in the

years following the French Revolution.

Peter Francis Jamet was a native of Normandy and became chaplain to the Sisters of Le Bon Sauveur in 1790. The French Revolution had just begun and though a time of great trial of the Catholic Church, it also unleashed for Blessed Jamet a providential opportunity to give proof of his mettle as a zealous and fearless priest. He energetically refused to take the oath required by the Revolutionaries and so he was arrested and threatened with death.

When the Revolution was over, he dedicated himself with enthusiasm to the restoration and growth of

the Institute of Le Bon Sauveur. Thanks to him, the assistance and education of young deaf-mutes was undertaken, and he himself studied for that purpose, creating a new method of education for the benefit of those handicapped brothers and sisters. He also exerted himself to have the Institute care for outcasts and other unfortunates, so much so, that someone compared him to his Italian contemporary, St. Joseph Benedict Cottolengo.

As Rector of the University of Caen from 1822 to 1830 and a prolific author of theological and ascetical works, Blessed Jamet brought back a re-

newed atmosphere of Christian faith among lecturers and students there. He died on January 12th, 1845, and was proclaimed Blessed by our Holy Father John Paul II on May 10th, 1987.

Today, the Institute of Le Bon Sauveur, carries out its works of charity among the little ones, the poor and the handicapped of the entire world. Blessed Peter Francis Jamet is still alive in the works of charity of his Daughters and inspires everyone to love and serve the most needy, discovering in their poverty the joyous presence of the "Good Saviour".



*The Sisters had an audience with His Holiness, Pope John Paul II during their visit to Rome.
This photo shows Pope John Paul greeting Sr. Nora*

In July 1987, history was made, once again, when Ann Byrne was chosen to be on the Irish Special Olympic Team. The World Special Olympics Games were held in Southbend, Indiana, USA and Ann was accompanied by her coach, Tom Scanlan. There were sixty participants on the Irish team and Ann was competing in the 100m, 400m and 4 x 100m relay. Ann and Tom were in the States for two weeks. Ann was successful and was the only World Special Olympic Gold Medal Winner from Carriglea in its history ... until 2003 !



Ann was an extremely talented athlete, running the 100m race in under 14 seconds. Our photos show Ann and Tom heading off and also of Ann receiving her Gold Medal.





In August 1987, Sr. Margaret Tuohy went to Madagascar for ten years to undertake missionary work.



In 1988/1989, the old Sacred Heart Building was demolished and was replaced by, what is now, Oaklands and Beechview bungalows. This was a very symbolic demolition and marked the end of the more institutional type buildings in favour of more homely bungalows. Luckily, Ardmore was available for some of the girls to stay there during the building time.



In December 1987, Jimmy Murphy retired from his position as Farm Steward after thirty-four years loyal service. His retirement was marked at a special gathering in his honour. He was replaced by John Hanlon.

Photo below shows evening to mark Jimmy Murphy's retirement December, 1987.

Front row: Sr. Mary Fitzgerald, Sr. Rita Higginbotham, Mother General, ?, Jimmy Murphy (RIP), Biddy Murphy (RIP), Sr. Nora Leonard, Mary McGrath, (Aisling McGrath on knee), Sr. E Bennet (RIP), Sr. Eileen McCarthy (RIP).

Middle Row: Rose McCarthy, Sr. Teresa Jennings, Sr. Mgt Phelan, Sr. Mary-Teresa Lyons, Sr. Johanna Walsh, Sr. Margaret Mortell, Johnny Cummins, Sean McCarthy, Christy Kilkenny, Jim McGrath.

Back Row: Laurence McCarthy, Pat Morrissey, Francie Ahearne (RIP), Fr. Dan Fitzgerald, John Walsh, Sr. Kathleen Leonard (RIP), John Hanlon.





1990

Silverprings House was purchased in 1990 and added greatly to inclusion with the Dungarvan community.



In 1990, the Sisters had a meeting with the County Manager and bought the site on which the Anne Le Roy Centre now stands in Kilrush. The site was blessed and the first sod was turned on a very cold and windy day! Frank Patterson entertained everyone, once again, in 1990 and another successful fundraising event took place with the 'Mary Lee' Fashion Show.

On June 22nd 1990, Francis Ahearn retired from his post as Head gardener. He had commenced work with Carriglea on February 4th 1954 and so, was an intrinsic part of the place and a valued employee.



In September of 1990, the Carriglea community was saddened by the passing of Dr. Ann Casey who had been a loyal and faithful G.P. who was on call day and night for Carriglea for many years..



Pictured at the sod turning ceremony were — Sr. Johanna, Sr. Mary Theresa, Sr. Nora, Fr. Hickey, O.S.A., Fr. Power, P.P., Mr. D. Hurley, Co. Manager, Mr. D. Fitzpatrick, Builder, Sr. Mary, Sr. Teresa, Paul Walsh, Workshop Manager, Sr. Margaret, Mr. P. Murphy, Architect, Mr. B. O'Meara, Structural Engineer, Mrs. D. Hurley. —(Photo: Pat Crowley).

**New Dungarvan Training
Centre For Bon Sauveur Sisters**



1991 - New Departures

1991 was a historic year for the Bon Sauveur Services in that Mount Odell (now called Anne Le Roy) Training Centre was opened at Kilrush, Dungarvan. The Centre opened in May with five trainees. Paul Walsh and Joan Williams were the first staff members.

The first trainees to attend Mount Odell were those who wished to train in catering. There were five trainees in the first group.

There are various day service programmes offered in the Ann Le Roy Centre.

Rehabilitative Training:

This is a programme for new service users, who come to us straight from school.

It is a three-year training programme, funded by the S.E.H.B.

Basically it is an 'Independent – Living-Skills-Training-Programme', where trainees also take part in pre-employment training and have opportunities to take part in 'Real-Life' work experiences. Training modules of numeracy, literacy, computer skills, personal development skills, domestic skills, use of public transport, as well as social and cultural experiences, are all part of the programme.

Euroroute Cuisine:

This is the name of our Restaurant, where trainees can take part in 'real-life' work experiences in the catering industry. The restaurant seats approximately 100 people. It is open five days a week from 9.00am to 3.30pm. We serve breakfasts, teas, coffees, cakes, and sandwiches in the morning. At lunchtime, we serve lunches, which are all prepared in our own kitchen. Usually there are a number of hot choices and various salads available, together with home made desserts and teas and various coffees. This restaurant is open to the public and is very popular locally.

Trainees here gain a vast range of experiences both in the kitchen and restaurant, which enables them to prepare for similar type work outside of the centre.





Woodwork Department:

We make furniture to measure, for any customer. We will go to a customer's home, measure up where furniture is to be fitted, go back to the workshop and make up the order. When it has been completed, we will go to the customer's home and fit the furniture. Our woodwork trainees enjoy all of these exercises, as it gives them very many different experiences, both social and work related, for each project.

Picture Framing:

Our trainees here will advise customers, on what mouldings and mounts might be suitable for each individual picture. Also they will give a quotation for the job, and a date when it is to be collected. We provide a very professional and reliable service in this regard.



Woodwork room

Today, the Ann Le Roy Centre has grown to twelve staff and offers many services. There are ten people on the rehabilitative training programme. Seventeen trainees work in the restaurant and kitchen which is always a very busy place and very popular with the locals who are excellent patrons.

In the Woodwork section, there are five full-time trainees and two part-time. They make a selection of woodwork products to order.

The picture framing gallery is well known in the area for the quality of the work provided by Patrick and Anthony.

The Transition to Work Office also runs under the auspices of the Anne Le Roy Centre and there are currently forty trainees enrolled there.



Holistic room





Also, in 1991, the interior of the Church was renovated and decorated. The old Altar was removed and the central heating system and electrical system was changed and a sound system installed.



Old altar

Three great fund-raising events took place in 1991. The Bards gave a most enjoyable evening in the Park Hotel. There was a Race Night for the men. Not the usual horse race but plenty of "backing" being done. In the Autumn, a Mary Lee Fashion Show for the women, presenting a display of beautiful Winter fashion arrangements. Olivia O'Leary was compere.

In 1992, Sr. Miranda Richards was nominated as Superior in the Community. Sr. Nora was asked to continue her role in the development and administration of the Centre as Director of Services.

Wandering Again

In April 1993 a group headed off to Tunisia. Denise, Kathleen, Doreen, Julia, Esther, Sr. Nora, Josie (since deceased), Sr. Margaret and Deirdre. All really enjoyed this wonderful breathtaking holiday.



On June 23rd 1993, a Day Seminar was held in the Park Hotel entitled "Ageing and Mental Handicap" organised by the Bon Sauveur Services. It was a very innovative and enlightening day. It was well attended as it was the first of its kind in Ireland.

On October 21st 1993, the Congregation celebrated the 300th anniversary of their foundress, Anne Le Roy. This was celebrated, in Carriglea, by a special Mass and a festive meal in Lawlor's Hotel.

In April 1994, Brigid Lynch and Sr. Nora joined a local group on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, the homeland of Jesus.



Boat trip on the Sea of Galilee

In November 1994, the new staff canteen was opened. Previously, the staff canteen was in St. Bridget's and the present location was used as the Sisters' dining room.

Also, in November, Sr. Nora attended the World Congress on Intellectual Disability in India.

Again, in 1994, a site was purchased in Abbesside for the proposed construction of another community house - "Avondale"



Sr. Nora, Frances Fletcher and others



1995 - 2004

1995

In 1995, 'Shalom', the first residential unit for people with high support needs was opened. This, subsequently, moved to a purpose-built building in 2001.

In May 1995 another group joined the diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes.

Avondale House in Friar's Walk, Abbeyside was opened in 1995.



Avondale House

1996

To comply with health and safety regulations, lighting was installed around the long avenue and around the various buildings in the Centre.

In July 1996, another very loyal and faithful employee, Bridget Kearns, retired after forty years in Carriglea. Her retirement party was held in Lawlor's Hotel. Bridget died in December 2003.



*Photo of Bridget taken with Sr. Mary Theresa,
Sr. Nora, Avis and Esther*

1997

Geal Gua House, in Kiltrush, was built in 1997.

To meet local community demand for a residential house for men, a site was purchased in Boherard in 1997. The house was subsequently built in 2001.

A group went to Spain on holidays that year. Jane, Mary, Bridget, Joan, Sr. Nora and Sr. Margaret. A wonderful time was had by all.



In 1997 construction began on Sunrise House. This purpose-built building was to cater for people with high-dependency needs and provided a much needed 'day service' to local young people.



Sunrise House

1998

Sunrise House opened its doors in November 1998. It is a wonderful facility for the local area.

On July 13th 1998, the Tour De France passed through Dungarvan. The Service had a site at Boherard on the Youghal Road. A marquee was set up and refreshments were available to enable everyone to watch this historic event as it quickly passed by.





In 1998, Sr. Phelan celebrated her Golden Jubilee.



Sr. Phelan

1999

1999 was a busy year prior to the Millennium year preparations. A Millennium Committee was formed to plan for the various events.

In October, John O'Gorman, Sr. Nora and Siobhan Goggin visited Pazardizick Centre in Bulgaria. Carriglea is affiliated with this Centre where seventeen young men and women with intellectual disability attend. Facilities were very poor and there was no heating. Carriglea undertook fundraising to assist this Centre.

Following their visit, the group had meetings with the New Regional Director and made representations for things to improve. John makes regular visits to Bulgaria to monitor developments, which he happily reports are very positive of late. The Centre now has improved living facilities, clothing, education and a glass house where vegetables are grown. Most importantly, John reports that the morale of



staff and clients is excellent as they now experience some light at the end of, what was previously before Carriglea intervention, a dark tunnel.

The Group also visited a home for women with severe/profound intellectual disability. Fifty women attend this Centre and, in his report, John O'Gorman describes the appalling conditions:

"There are insufficient beds, no showers, no indoor toilets; there were no chairs visible, even in the dining area; we saw approximately fifteen women, semi-naked, heads shaven, sitting on the floor; it could only be described as a human atrocity".

Hopefully it will be possible at some point in the near future for these people to move to better accommodation.

In October 1999, the Sisters of Bon Sauveur Services received an award from the *Waterford News and Star*. Sr. Teresa, Sr. Nora, Gretta and Kathleen accepted the award on behalf of everybody in Carriglea.

2000

Photo shows the Bon Sauveur Sisters in Carriglea in the year 2000.

*Back row L to R:
Sr. M. Teresa Lyons,
Sr. Teresa Jennings,
Sr. Margaret Touhy. (RIP)*

*Front row L to R:
Sr. Margaret Mortell,
Sr. Miranda Richards,
Sr. Nora Leonard.*





In March 2000, a group went on pilgrimage to Lourdes as part of the Service's Millennium Celebrations.

The belfry in the Chapel no longer required manual assistance to ring out to the Brickey Valley. It was modernised and automated.

SPRED – Special Religious Education Programme was initiated in 2000 by Sr. Margaret and continues to be a very important part of the Service. Volunteers meet a group of service users on a regular basis. The pastoral statement of SPRED states that:

Together the Volunteer member, and the person with a learning disability reflect on the mystery of their life experience in the 'Light of the Gospel' by following a programme designed and arranged to meet with needs of special friends.



SPRED in action



In 2000, St. Anne's Unit was refurbished and an Activation Room was added on to improve the daily activity opportunities for the residents. St. Francis chalet was also upgraded and a new bathroom and shower rooms were added on.

On May 25th 2000, Disney arrived in Carriglea! Geraldine Canning, with Bill (R.I.P.), her supportive husband, was chief organiser of the parade where staff and service users dressed up in Disney themed costumes. Trucks and floats assisted the parade as it made its way up the avenue. Inclement weather conditions didn't dampen any spirits and a great day was had by all. Carriglea school children also joined in the festivities and all parents were invited. Minnie and Mickey put on a show after the parade and, in true Carriglea style, a fine spread of tempting food was given to all present.



On May 29th and 30th 2000, a Day's Retreat was organised for staff in Grace Dieu, Waterford. Staff were given the opportunity to attend over the two days. There was a huge uptake of interest and all reported that it was very worthwhile and enjoyable. A Sister from Liverpool facilitated the retreat.

In August, a group headed off to Majorca for a week's holiday. Kathleen McGrath, Nora O'Boyle, Joan O'Sullivan and Kathleen Walsh enjoyed their holiday immensely.

The beautifully laid out Millennium Walkway Wood was officially opened by Tom Keith on Friday 15th December. It was blessed by Fr. O'Mahony and followed by celebrations in the Hall.





2001

In March 2001, the first Community House in Kyne Park was closed and all the residents moved to a new location "An Cluain".

On Monday June 30th, the new Shalom Unit was opened. This Unit provides high levels of support to people with high dependency needs. The previous week, staff had introduced the girls to their new bedrooms and home. Included in the fantastic facilities in Shalom were the Rhapsody therapeutic bath, hoist and booster pump which was installed. Everyone was deeply grateful for the efforts and hard work of the Fundraising Committee who funded this facility.



In September, Sr. Miranda returned to her native Wales and Sr. Mary Fitzgerald was asked to return to assume the role of Superior. Sr. Mary was no stranger to Carriglea, having spent more of her life there and had worked for many years in the Centre.

On November 12th 2001, Boherard Community House was opened. This was a very significant event in that it was the first House for men. Six service users and two staff took up residence in their beautifully, purpose built bungalow on the Youghal road. It was an emotional evening but all settled in very quickly and Boherard is now a very happy and busy home!



On Sunday 18th November 2001, the Host Towns for the 2003 Special Olympics were announced and Dungarvan was chosen to host the Bahamas delegation. This was considered a great honour.

2002

On 17th March, Carriglea service users, in conjunction with the UDC, entered a very original and grandly dressed float in the St. Patrick's Day parade in Dungarvan. The purpose was to increase awareness of the Host Town Programme for the Special Olympics. Sixteen service users took part and their efforts were rewarded in their winning of a category prize: "Best Public Body Float".

The Special Olympic National Games took place in Dublin from 19th–25th June. Carriglea had twenty-nine athletes participating. In late April, Carriglea hosted a Munster Motor Activities Training Day. The Centre had one of the highest number of athletes selected from any centre/club for the Irish team.

On August 28th, a group of sixteen set out on a pilgrimage to Normandy to follow the footsteps of the Congregation's founders, Anne Le Roy, and Blessed Fr. Jamet. The group spent six days in the Mother House in Brettville, Normandy and then moved on to Paris. A wonderful time was had by the staff and service users and Sisters who travelled to France.



Waiting for our bus



Enjoying a meal in Normandy



In August 2002, the official name of the Mount Odell Training Centre, at Kilrush, was changed to the 'Anne Le Roy Centre'.

2nd September 2002 saw a new departure in Programme Development on campus in Carriglea with the creation of a new post: Programme Developer. This role was assumed by Regina and consisted of reviewing the level of involvement for service users. A number of new ventures have taken place since the inception of this role – classes in town, links with community groups, and of course, the big hit (literally), the very popular weekly African Drumming sessions attended by a large group every Wednesday morning.



The Anne Le Roy Centre embarked upon a project with the local CBS school in Autumn 2002. Interaction and inclusion were the main aims and it was a tremendous success and has continued to be a valued part of the weekly programme for Anne Le Roy trainees and also serves as an awareness exercise for groups of students from the local CBS and other schools in the area.

2003

March 11th saw ninety-six staff gather in the Hall for the introductory overview to Personal Outcome Measures. This Overview was given by Margaret Dominguez from the USA-based Council on Quality and Leadership.

This system has been implemented by the Service and involved all staff being trained in this new, challenging person-centred approach to quality and service provision. A new post was created. This post was assumed by Deirdre and the first of many training sessions began that week.





WORLD SPECIAL OLYMPICS 2003



The World Special Olympics was the most poignant and successful event held this year. At Carriglea, we were proud to 'share the feeling' with a sense of wonder and awe. Our seventeen athletes did us proud and the support of Service Users, Coaches, Volunteers, Sisters and Staff was overwhelming. This special event will go down in history thanks to the generosity of all involved who gave freely of their energy and time.

Preparations for the World Special Olympics 2003 began in 1999 when under the leadership of its Chief Executive Officer, Mary Davis, the World Special Olympics Organisation began the mammoth task of organising the games. This was the first time that the world games were held outside America. The World Special Olympics was not only the biggest sporting event in 2003, it was also the largest sporting event ever held in Ireland.

With over 7,000 athletes from 160 countries, 2,000 coaches and 28,000 family members and media, the Organising Committee had to find and train 30,000 volunteers. The response of our small nation to this huge challenge was amazing.

Thirty-one athletes were selected for the Munster team for the 2002 National Games. These were residential games held over five days at different venues in Dublin. All our athletes enjoyed the experience. They participated in five sports, namely Athletics, Aquatics, Basketball, Motor Activities and Table Tennis. Prior to the 2002 National Games on July 8th, our thirty-one athletes and their coaches were given a civic reception by Dungarvan Town Council.

In July 2002, the Irish team of 438 athletes was selected and announced at the City West Hotel in Dublin. To our amazement, seventeen Carriglea athletes were selected which represented almost 4% of the Irish team. These were selected in five different sports; athletics, basketball, tennis,

table tennis and motor activities. All athletes, with the exception of motor activities would be away from home for two full weeks, (16th June to 30th June), while participating in the games.

One of the great successes of The World Games was the Education Programme organised jointly by Carriglea and the Dungarvan Host Town Committee. This involved the participating athletes and some coaches visiting and talking to children at twenty-five primary and secondary schools throughout West Waterford. Not only did this help to increase the profile and public awareness of people with an intellectual disability, but it also increased the athletes self-esteem, confidence and social skills. The highlights of the Education Programme were two hugely successful information days held in Carriglea at the end of May. The first day was attended by over three hundred secondary school children, their teachers and our own services users.

Guests included were John Tracey, former double cross-country champion, Don Givens, former international footballer and manager of Republic of Ireland Under 21 football team and Jamie Costin who represented Ireland in 50km walk in Sydney 2000 and has been selected to represent Ireland in the 2004 Olympics in Greece. Our own athletes included Nicola Carroll, Richard Lennon, Hannah Guina, Martina O'Neill, Kieran Coleman, and Anne Byrne.

A Special Olympics awareness afternoon was held in Carriglea which was attended by in excess of three hundred national school children which was also attended by members of the Waterford senior hurling team. Team selector Seamus Hannon and five team players: Dan Shanahan, James Murray, Seamus and Declan Prendergast and Pat Fitzgerald wished our athletes all the best in the games.

The response of the Irish people to the World Games was outstanding. Here in Carriglea, the support given both financially and otherwise was amazing.

The games started in earnest in Carriglea on Thursday, June 12th with a huge send-off dinner and disco in support of the athletes for all service users, Sisters and staff in the Park Hotel, Dungarvan. In all, over two hundred and seventy people attended. This was the first event to be attended by all service users (day and residential) at an outside venue. The function room and tables were beautifully bedecked, the atmosphere was wonderful and the day characterised by smiling faces. The whole day was an overwhelming success.

On Tuesday afternoon, June 17th, the athletes, coaches and family members from the Bahamas plus the Host Town Committee members and volunteers visited our centre in Carriglea.



On Wednesday evening, Abbesside GAA introduced a cultural aspect by organising a hurling match and barbecue at their club grounds. Once again a huge number of our service users attended.

On Thursday, the highlight of the Host Town Programme was held: "The Torch Run". This began in Carriglea and travelled to Grattan Square, Dungarvan. A crowd of about five hundred, comprising of school children from the local neighbouring National Schools, Glenbeg and Carriglea, our own service users, Sisters and staff plus invited guests gathered in Carriglea to send the Garda Torch Run party on their way. By the time runners and the Special Olympics Torch reached Grattan Square the crowd had swelled to in excess of four thousand, including a thousand national school children.

On Saturday evening, June 21st, the opening ceremony for the World Games was held in Croke Park, Dublin in front of a full house of sixty-five thousand people.

Thursday, June 26th was a day that will never be forgotten by our ten Motor Activities athletes. As well as the athletes and their coaches, a huge number of family members and friends travelled to Dublin to offer their full support.

On Monday, June 30th our athletes and coaches returned from Dublin. Part one of the homecoming began in the Anne Le Roy Centre at 3:30pm where service users and staff welcomed home the athletes. After some light refreshments, the entourage were given a Garda escort to Carriglea. Here again with the sunshine still blazing, the athletes were given another great reception. At 7:30pm that evening, Dungarvan Town Council accorded a Special Homecoming to the seventeen athletes and their coaches. A crowd in excess of six hundred turned up at short notice to show their appreciation and to honour the remarkable achievements of the local Carriglea athletes. A number of presentations were made on stage, the highlight being the presentation made to Kieran Coleman on his deserved selection as "athlete of the year".

Wednesday, July 2nd 2003 was the official homecoming party for the athletes which was attended by nearly three hundred guests. This was held in Clonea Strand Hotel. All our service users in Carriglea were in attendance with the exception of two. This was fantastic to see. Parents and family members of the athletes were also in attendance. Many other special guests attended; their presence was sincerely appreciated.

Special Olympics is all about the athlete, at all times offering them respect and dignity. It is important that they are consulted and given the choice of what sports they wish to participate in. Here in Carriglea we have been very fortunate that the Sisters have always been great supporters and promoters of Special Olympics.



The Special Olympics Torch arrives in Carriglea

The success of the World Special Olympics exceeded all expectations. The enormity of the task undertaken was unreal, with the entire country supporting the games from the outset. Everybody who had any involvement with the games, big or small, either athletes, families, coaches, Sisters, volunteers, Host Town Organising Committees or the general public have had their lives enhanced and enriched like never before. The theme of the games "share the feeling" was evident from the beginning and continued right through, just to prove the importance of co-ordinated teamwork.

Each person will have their own special precious memories of the games, which they will cherish and carry with them for the rest of their lives. This was history in the making; something we will never forget and appreciate more as time moves on. Roll on Shanghai, China!!

Thank you to Tom Scanlan, Recreation Supervisor, who contributed this article and who also played a major part in the success of the Carriglea Special Olympics. Tom was ably assisted and supported by Ailish and Jim.

Let us not forget the Special Olympics motto.

**"Let me win,
but if I cannot win, let me be brave
in the attempt"**



In July, the new Transition to Work Office opened in Davitt's Quay. Previously, the Supported Work Service was run from one office in the Anne Le Roy Centre. However, the service moved into its new premises in the town centre. The aim was to provide increased integration and work referral opportunities to service users in a centrally located community setting.



September 2003 saw the commencement of an Integrated Art Project with the Ardscoil.



On September 10th 2003, the Carriglea Companionship Programme was launched in the Hall. There was a good attendance and a presentation was given as to how voluntary, reciprocal interaction with members of the local community on a regular one to one basis, could really enhance a person's life. Companions are asked to commit three hours per month. This continues to be a great success.

To encourage integration in the community, a group of girls from Carriglea attended weekly sessions with the Community Development Project in town with Teresa Wright and Eleanor McGrath. One of the most popular events were the beauty sessions, facilitated by Oliverie Lannen. This photo shows a very happy Julie being beautified with Oliverie!



In September, the South Eastern Health Board requested that we provide a once off respite service to five of our men. For this purpose, a villa was rented in the Gold Coast Complex for one week.

A group from the Anne Le Roy Centre went to Manchester for a weekend and had a great time. Included in their visit, of course, was a trip to Old Trafford!





ANAM training also commenced in the Autumn of 2003. Twenty staff were trained in this multi sensory stimulation session approach which is designed for people with intellectual disabilities as they get older.

On October 27th 2003, as part of the Companionship Programme, a group from Carriglea were the guests of the Waterford Manchester United Supporters Club Victory Dinner Dance in Lawlor's Hotel where some of our own 'Red Devils' got to meet their heroes, John O'Shea and Rio Ferdinand!



Christmas play 2003 under the guidance of Fiona, our drama teacher



Our Red Devils pictured with their heroes John O'Shea and Rio Ferdinand at the Waterford Manchester United Supporters Club Gala Dinner.





DUNGARVAN LEADER, FRIDAY, MAY 7, 2004

Group of Carriglea Service Users and students from Ard Scoil na nÓile who participated in an integrated and Awareness Day recently.



NEWS FROM CARRIGLEA TRAINING CENTRE

CARRIGLEA SPECIAL OLYMPICS

While the world Special Olympic games have come and gone and all with an overwhelming success that was history in the making, the Carriglea Special Olympics programme in Ireland continues to grow and expand. People are now aware that Special Olympics is an ongoing sports training programme for children and adults with an intellectual disability.

The past few months have been very busy for Special Olympics in Munster. Carriglea is one of nearly 20 clubs across Ireland and all are involved. There have been numerous games, training days, workshops and clinics conducted in the province.

TEN PIN BOWLING

On March 19th eight of our affiliates participated in a ten pin bowling day at Doss in Youghal. Other centres who took part were Waterford, Niall Connors - Cahel, and the hosts St. Raphael's, Youghal. The following athletes took part: Maide Furlan, Peggy Ke-

vough, Nuala Burke, Kaitleen McGrath, Christina Carey, Mary McDonnell, Maide Theresa Fleming, Peggy Keavough, Nuala Burke and Niall Connors. Three weeks later on March 24th a main competition day was held in the new ten pin bowling complex in Waterford. Here our men's team performed brilliantly to win the silver medal. The team consisted of: John Keavough, Liam Mahony, John Paul O'Shea and David John. Our men's bowling athletes train regularly in Carriglea Leisure Centre.

TABLE TENNIS

Carriglea hosted a table tennis training day on Tuesday March 23rd. Maide Theresa Fleming and coach Owen Kelly provided expert coaching, training and advice to all able table tennis. Future athletes from Carriglea, Waterford, and Carriglees took part. The local athletes were Maide Theresa, Esther Power, Mary McNally, Maide Theresa and Nuala Burke.

MOTOR ACTIVITIES

On Saturday April 24th, new athletes: Bernice Gains, Mary

Kelly, Isabel Finnigan, Sonia O'Brien, Bobby Power, Maide Theresa Fleming, Peggy Keavough, Nuala Burke and Niall Connors. They will be participating in the Munster Maide Theresa Fleming. All performed admirably and were presented with their challenge medals at the award ceremony. Other centres who took part were: Youghal, Carriglees, and Waterford Clubs. A very enjoyable day was had by all.

ARD SCOIL VISITORS

On Wednesday 24th March over thirty students from the Ard Scoil na nÓile, Carriglees, a strong association and relationship has built up between the Ard Scoil and the service users in Carriglea from the past year or two. Through Special Olympics and numerous youth workers and community development workers. The day began with a group of Carriglees bowling athletes and the students in the Broomfield room. There were various sports and activities. The day was very enjoyable and the students were very happy to be in Carriglea. The emphasis was on awareness and integration.

The students freely mingled with the service users and visited the swimming pool, took part in a ten pin bowling session in the hall and were given a guided tour of the excellent facilities and grounds. In the afternoon social activities were planned by the students to honour their visit. After tea everyone returned to the hall for refreshments. A great time was had by all. The day was coordinated by Mrs. Vera O'Shea (teacher) and her team.

GAL-GREEN AWARDS

On Friday April 23rd the 2003 award Gal-Green Achievement Awards took place in the Waterford Crystal Gallery. These are prestigious awards for the achievements of individuals or groups in sport, social and cultural areas countrywide. They are run by Waterford Crystal and are based on the previous year's achievements. The main award went to Special Olympics Ireland. Once again highlighting the phenomenal success of the World Special Olympic Games in 2003. Special presentation of awards to Waterford Crystal, special awards were presented to Carriglea and Waterford Clubs.

Recognition of the huge skill they played in the success of the games. Thirty-seven athletes from the county represented their country. Other special awards were made to the Tintern School Football team, the parents of Emma McGonigle and two athletes who were awarded medals of "The Friends of St Patrick's Hospital".

UP-COMING EVENTS

On Saturday May 15th the Munster Table Tennis event will be held in the John Burt Archway Complex, Carriglees.

A Maide Theresa Fleming training day will be held in Carriglees on Monday, May 24th. This is a training day for all athletes who have been selected to compete.





2004 - TODAY - LOOKING AHEAD

2004 is the Centenary Year of the Congregation and in looking back on the achievements of the last one hundred years, one can be justifiably proud to be associated with the Sisters of Bon Sauveur Services.

The vision of Anne Le Roy and Blessed P.F. Jamet lives on today in the dedication of the Sisters and their associated staff to the enhancement of service provision to the people we provide support and services to.

EVENTS 2004

On April 23rd 2004, our Special Olympic athletes and Coaches were awarded the Gal-Greine Award by Waterford Crystal. This award is given in recognition of outstanding achievement in sport, social and cultural areas nationwide.

The new Community House in Geal Gua opened in June.

The new extension to the Hall has been completed.

Many of our service users are being afforded the opportunity to work in the greater Dungarvan area through the Transition to Work Service.

Many others are undertaking valuable work experience in the area as part of their rehabilitative training and development.

Community links continue to be fostered through a wide range of initiatives with local schools, organisations and enthusiastic, interested volunteers.

We hope to continue the vision of Anne Le Roy and Fr. Jamet and hope that the next one hundred years will be as inspirational as the last.

MISSION STATEMENT



The mission of Carriglea Services is to continue the work of the Bon Sauveur Congregation and to provide a comprehensive quality service for persons with special needs in accordance with Christian values, and the principles of the Congregation.

Carriglea Services aim:

- *To enable and empower persons with special needs to integrate into society and to reach their full potential in a just and caring environment.*
- *To ensure that each person is granted as full a life as possible, including healthcare, education, training, housing, work and leisure.*



DAILY LIFE IN CARRIGLEA



Sr. Mary Theresa and her dedicated staff in the Laundry



*The 'Hob' of Carriglea - the kitchen
The Catering Staff*



*Sr. Teresa and Bridget taking a break from their duties
in the dining room.*



*Sr. Margaret, pictured sharing a mug of
coffee with Margaret*



*The beautiful chapel in Carriglea where neighbours, friends and the
Carriglea Community come together to celebrate Mass and where all
join in giving praise to God in song*



*The hairdressing salon is a very lively spot in Carriglea.
This photo shows Trish with her assistant Ellen,
giving Marion the full treatment!*





CENTENARY COMMITTEE

*To our Centenary Committee, we say
'thank you' for your ideas, your
enthusiasm, support and hard work.
Without you, this Celebration
would not be possible.*

Sincere thanks.



Front row L to R: Avice White, Mary McGrath, Sr. Mary, Sr. Nora, Jeradine O'Connell.

Back row L to R: Tom Scanlan, John Riordan, John Hanlon, Deirdre Tobin, Pat Morrissey, Regina Deegan, Jim Fleming, Elaine Clancy.

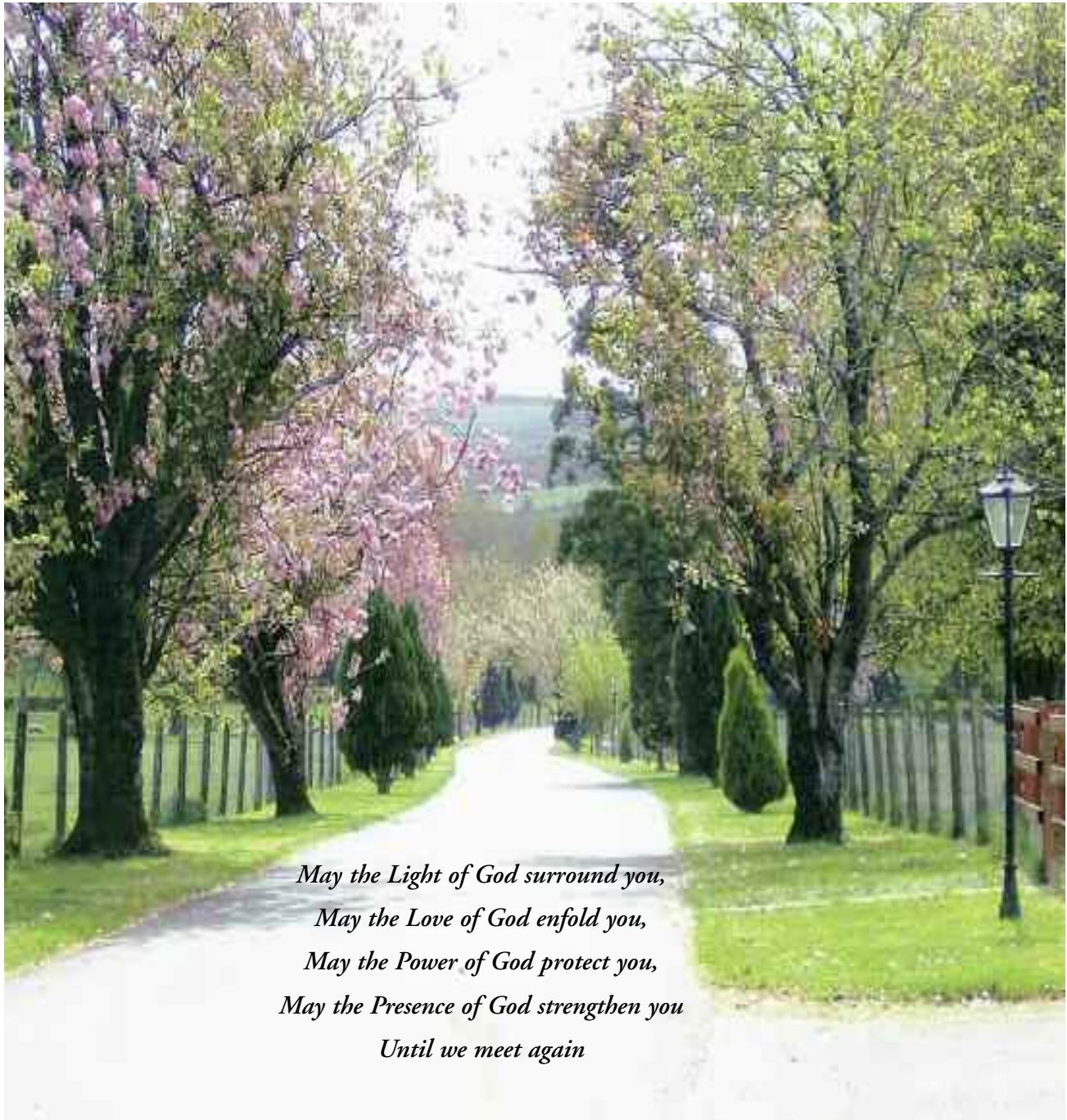
Missing from photograph: Nuala Murphy, Pat Cotter.



Carriglea 2004



Bíodh ár dTiarna linn sa tsí



*May the Light of God surround you,
May the Love of God enfold you,
May the Power of God protect you,
May the Presence of God strengthen you
Until we meet again*



