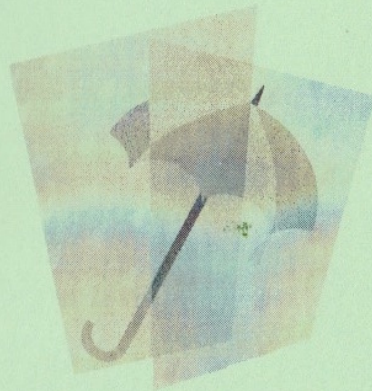


# *Community News*



*A Parish Magazine for the Catholic  
Community of Melton Mowbray.  
Spring 2011* *Issue 52*

# Community News Spring 2011

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### MASS TIMES

Sat: 6pm Convent; 7pm Polish Church  
 Sun: 9am St John's; 10.30 St Peter's (Children's liturgy in term time)  
 11am Polish Church

Articles/letters to 1, College Avenue, Melton Mowbray, LE13 0AB  
 or email: [dolores.harvey@ntlworld.com](mailto:dolores.harvey@ntlworld.com). Thanks.

Articles sent in to the magazine are sometimes written by parishioners & sometimes articles that parishioners have read in other publications. If there are too many it is the second type that are kept back for future issues.

### FROM THE EDITOR,

Sister Ignatius who has recently celebrated her Golden Jubilee as a nun, let me interview her about her life and thoughts. Her strong faith and her good nature shone through everything she said. It was a real pleasure. I hope you enjoy reading the article.  
*Ed*

Please continue to remember  
 Madelaine McCann and her family  
 in your prayers.



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## Sister Ignatius' Golden Jubilee

Sister Ignatius has just had her Golden Jubilee. I interviewed her at the Convent on February 24<sup>th</sup> 2011. I asked her about her early life, the decision to become a nun, life at the convent and some questions about her faith. These are her answers, in her own words.

I was called Lizzie Cairns. I was born the 8<sup>th</sup> child out of 12 in a little mining village called Croy, near Glasgow. I had 6 brothers and 5 sisters. It wasn't easy but I had exceptionally good parents. Its only when you grow up that you appreciate this.

I Contracted polio when I was 2 years old. My mother said it affected both my legs but the strength came back in one. It never kept me back. I did what any normal child did.

I went to the primary school in the village then the secondary school in Kirkintilloch, and I left school at 15. I worked for 6 years in a café in the little town a mile away. I was at Mass every morning before I caught the bus to go to work. I had that kind of background. The boys were altar boys so they went to Mass and whoever else could go also went.

I started having piano lessons when I was 8 and I hated it. My father especially was very keen I should be a music teacher. He appreciated good music. My 4 brothers played in a brass band and a teacher taught the 4 of us girls the piano. I loved my father but he just kept me at this piano. The trouble was I didn't have a good teacher. He didn't realise this at the time. My parents must have had a talk and decided to move my younger sister and myself to the Omer School of Music in Glasgow 14 miles away. It was run by a family of musicians and we had a young teacher and everything went sailing after that. I was asked to play the piano for the youth club and I thought to myself "The priest asked me to do it and I'm getting paid so I'd better do it right". I stayed at the Omer School till I entered the convent.



Everybody went to church, we didn't have much else. We did a lot around the church and the Curate, Father Hanrahan and Canon Ryan kept us busy. They looked after us. That's all gone now and I feel sorry for the young ones today. It's a different life, its much harder for them than it was for us. They've got money and they've got cars. We didn't have that. Life was much more simple.

My cousin entered a missionary order in Ireland and my friend and I kept thinking about it and we finally made the decision 4 years later. The Curate at home was a real one for vocations and when we went, 14 girls left Croy to enter various convents. It was really in us. I came here, to Melton, as the Father Hanrahan had an aunt, a cousin and a second cousin in the order, so I thought "Well at least I'll know someone". He said "Leave it to me and I'll sort it out", so he made all the arrangements. So I really didn't know where I was going to. I was 21. I arrived in the evening. My brother and my brother in law brought me down and then left. I felt rotten. It was heartbreaking leaving my family. I missed them. They were allowed to visit, but not often. But that's life isn't it. Life's not easy. You get your sorrows and you get your joys. I offered myself to God and Our Lady of Lourdes and remembered that I must be prepared to do things I did not want to do. From then on I would be led, and prayed for my faith to be strengthened.

My friend, a lovely girl, was the only girl in her family, though she had brothers. She was going to the Carmelites, a much quieter order. It suited her but when she told her father, he took to his bed because she was leaving home, so she decided to drop out. She later got married and had a daughter of her own.

We were in the Novitiate House on Dalby Road, a house similar to this. It's been demolished now. There were 13 in the Novitiate so it was a home from home as far numbers went. We had fun and got on well together. It was a 6 month trial period, the Postulancy, and we wore a veil and a black dress.

After 6 months we were "Clothed". We were dressed as brides. I had my sister's wedding dress and we had train bearers. One of my train bearers lives in Australia now and the other in South Africa. These were girls chosen from the First Communicants and they wore their Communion dresses. We were given the habit then. It was full length and brown with a white veil, to show you were a novice.

Then we had a Novitiate, which was a training period for 2 years in Spiritual Studies. So the first vows (First Profession) were after two and a half years. Then there were 5 more years till your Final Profession so that's almost 8 years. After Final Profession we moved to the present Convent House, next to the school. The day of the Final Profession was very nice. My family were present (though my father had died 3 years after my First Profession) and all the Sisters were there.

I never had a doubt about staying in the convent. I was committed from day one. I was going to stay unless something happened. I have never doubted that God exists and I don't think I could live this life if I did. You just talk to

God as you would talk to your father. I used to say "Daddy I don't think I can do that" and he'd say "Yes you can". He reassured me all the time and that gave me confidence. And that's what I do with Jesus. I came to give my life to him, didn't I?

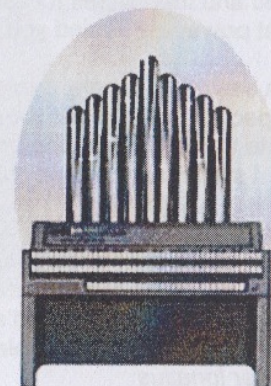
We were allowed to go back home on holiday every 5 years on holiday. After First Profession, Sister Helena, who started one year after me, had a cousin in Govan, who was a nun and we were excited because the Superior said we could go up to Govan for our holidays and I was nearly at home, so I got out to see my family then. The next time I went home was at Final Profession. We didn't get out in the parish much then. It was kind of semi enclosed. Like the olden days. I went twice to the dentist in the Novitiate! I had never had any money so that wasn't a problem. A lot of the day was dedicated to prayer.

I was directed into teaching. I used to go over and play the piano for the choir so I was involved in the school, though I wasn't a trained teacher at that time. Sister Helena and I went to Southampton to do teacher training for 3 years after First Profession. There were 40 student nuns and about 500 other girls at the Sancta Union College. Its now joined with the university. It was run by the last Sancta Union Sisters. It was a lovely college and we were happy there.

St Francis School opened the very first day I entered the Convent. It was private at first. It became a state school the year we finished college. I really enjoyed my time in school. It was busy and we got to work more in the parish. I loved the teaching, I loved the age group, 7 to 8 year olds in Year 3, they weren't infants but they weren't juniors, so they used to get joy out of doing subjects like geography and history. I taught the same year all the way through and in the same classroom! I used to go on school trips. I took children to Rome and Assisi and it was lovely.

When I came back from college Father Newsham asked me if I would take on the music in the parish and that's been me ever since. The pipe organ was down in St Johns but the floor boards there were so old that they thought it was going to fall through the floor, so they transferred it to St Peters. St Peters Church was opened in 1964 and the Convent Chapel opened in the same month. Its interesting when you look back and I always thank God that I had the strength to do it.

Prayer is a very important part of our lives. We pray throughout the day with daily Mass, daily office 4 times a day, the Rosary and Holy Hour with exposition on Thursdays. During the day things come



## Sister Ignatius and Sister Helena Golden Jubilee Celebration

to your mind and you're either praying for someone that's ill or you pray that God will get you over this hurdle. You know its just life. But I think at the back of your mind you've always got prayer there and I don't think you could do with out it. You have this faith in the Lord and it is wonderful really. I always say I got it because I did pray for it. With things I was frightened to try I'd say "Well Lord I'm here for you and it's up to you to help me".

I'm not really afraid of dying. I keep asking God to keep me as I need to do a lot more praying and things to be ready for Heaven or purgatory. I never really think of death.

We'll see purgatory as a place of waiting. It's like here having hope. I always pray for the gift of hope. There's always hope, its very important. We'll be happy in that we'll say "We'll not be here for ever". It's a waiting place, not scary, as we'll know because God says you're not ready for Heaven yet and we will accept it and feel a certain amount of joy that we're only there for a time.

Heaven is a mystery; I know we'll be perfectly happy in Heaven when we get there. But as far as that goes no one has ever come back to tell us what its like. We can't imagine what it is like. Whether its up there or here. The more I think of it the more I don't have an image of it. We will be changed. One thing I do know is that we will be happy. For ever. But as long as we have this mortal body on us we'll have complaints and problems and likes and dislikes.

I always look on the bright side. I am an optimist. I don't think I could say I found anything very difficult really. I was occupied so much really and it suited me to be busy. I think I've been truly blessed by God and the Sisters and I have never been moved from Melton. When they were having moves I was always prepared but it never happened and I was happy to stay. As in any community there are people you like immediately and we are all here to serve God and that makes it easier. God was very good to me. You have to have that prayer life behind you and faith and our prayer life helps us.

I'm easy with people, men as well as women. I've made lots of friends especially some of the parents and I've made lots of friends at church. I still write to friends I went to primary school with and when I go home I meet them all. I still know lots of people in the village I grew up.

I've to thank God as I have been lucky. I've been blessed by being in Melton and in school for so long. My work was just across the road. I didn't have to get a bus or walk far to work. I wouldn't have been a teacher if I hadn't entered the convent. God's worked it out for you so if you give yourself to Him everything just falls into place.

Sister Ignatius



# The Train Bearers

Aged about 11, Hilary Parfitt (nee Symonds) and Carolyn Seville (nee Croasdell) were the train bearers for Sister Ignatius on the day of her First Profession. This is Hilary's recollection of the day.

My memory of the day is still quite clear, mostly because of the shock I got. Let me explain, being the third child in the family of daughters, my mother was not too keen to have yet another set of plaits to cope with in the mornings before school, so I always had to have my hair quite short, something I felt very sad about as I would love to have had flowing locks. So when I saw Sister Ignatius in her bridal gown and her beautiful long wavy brown hair I was in awe. She had the hair of my dreams. What I wasn't expecting was the shocking way her hair was suddenly cut off, my eyes welled up with tears of great sadness, everything I dreamed of was now in a pile on the floor. Her sister in real life saw my tears and thought the emotion was because of the commitment she was making and I think she was sad to be saying goodbye to her and all the family times they would no longer share.



After the ceremony, Sister Ignatius's sister gave me a box of weatabix. I said thank you and wondered why she had given me some breakfast cereal? When I got home still feeling very sad, I opened the box and discovered it contained a beautiful statue of the Virgin Mary. It was such a lovely surprise and very treasured. My prayers that night were not for Sister Ignatius because even at my tender years, I knew she was happy with her choice, but I do remember saying a prayer for her sister who was grieving for the gap now left in her life. I remember saying a prayer to the Virgin Mary and asking for long wavy hair!

Well this is about all I can remember. I hope you won't think too badly of me for my childish vanity. I would like to offer my love and congratulations to Sister Ignatius for a lifetime commitment.

Hilary

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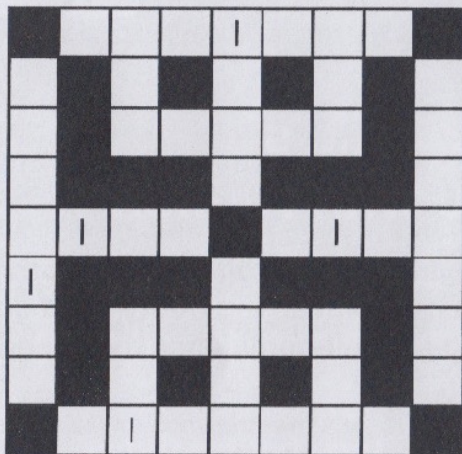
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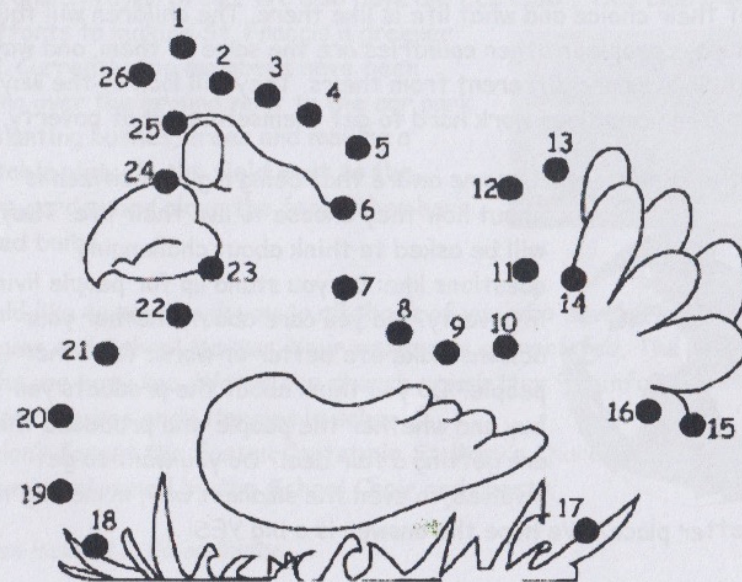
# Children's Page

This is a crossword with a difference! There are no clue numbers in the grid. Use your powers of deduction to put the right words in the correct positions in the grid. All the I's have already been filled in.



1. One of the two horizontal 7-letter words is a large ape and the other is young cats.
2. One of the two vertical 7-letter words is before noon and the other is a fruit garden.
3. One of the 5-letter words is the opposite of back and the other is a woolly animal.
4. The 4-letter words are kind of metal; opposite of low; opposite direction of east; number between eight and ten.
5. The two 3-letter words on the left are the opposite of on and snow runner.
6. The two 3-letter words on the right are allow and writing implement.

Join the dots in number order then colour in the picture



## JOKES

Q: Why don't chickens like humans?

A: Because they beat eggs!

Q: What looks like half a cat?

A: The other half!

Q: Why do bears have fur coats?

A: Because they'd look stupid in anoraks!

## St Francis R.C. Primary School News

School is as busy as ever. The next big event is the Global Citizen Week which starts on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March. During this week the children will be finding out about global citizenship! Each class will learn more about a country of their choice and what life is like there. The children will think about the ways people in other countries are the same as them, and ways in which their lives are different from theirs. They will look at the ways people in poorer countries work hard to get themselves out of poverty.

We hope the children will become aware that being a global citizen is about how they choose to live their life. They will be asked to think about challenging questions like: Do you stand up for people living in poverty? Do you care about whether your actions make life better or worse for other people? Do you think about the products you buy and whether the people who produced them are getting a fair deal? Do you want to get involved, in even the smallest way, in making the world a better place? We hope the answer is a big YES!



We will be holding special assemblies with speakers telling them about Fairtrade, The Work Of CAFOD, Life In Nigeria, and How Can We Make The World A Better Place? During this week the children will be holding a Charity Day where they will host stalls to raise money for the Namibian orphanage that DeLisle Catholic Science College supports. Students from DeLisle will give an assembly telling the children all about the orphanage and the work they have done there. Later we will also have a sharing assembly to share with each other what we have found out during the week.

The P.T.A. continues to thrive. Funds raised so far this academic year have, amongst other things, provided a contribution to the purchase of the school's new piano, paid for the Christmas Travelling Theatre and increased the volume of books in the school lending library. The Quiz

Night due to be held on 26 February 2011 has been rescheduled for Saturday 2 April 2011 [doors open at 7.p.m. for 7.30.p.m. start].

At School various clubs have been thriving. We have a new Gym Club run by Tracy Duncan and Jess. There are Netball, Football and Touch Typing Clubs and a Prayer Group. We also have an "Eco Club". This club devotes its efforts to making St. Francis a greener place. Currently the members have been turning over the ground next to the car park and planting bushes, trees and making a vegetable plot. On the field next to the nature garden and along the fence they have planted bulbs.



I would like to say thank you to all those of you who have attended our Liturgies and School Masses. Your support is appreciated. The next two months are busy too. Watch the church newsletter for information about our next Masses and Liturgies in school. And don't forget the Easter Cantata in St Mary's Church on 13<sup>th</sup> April 7:30p.m. performed by the School Choir and guests.

Mrs. Jan Hickey R.E. Co-ordinator.



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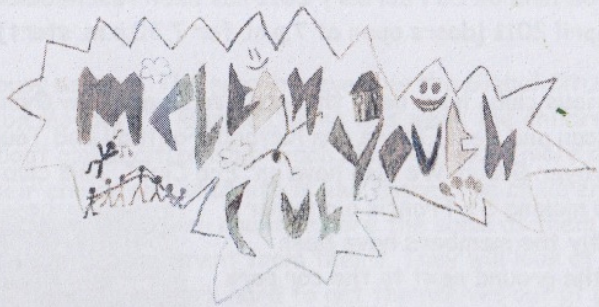


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## Melton Youth Club:

Melton Youth Club has between 15 and 20 young people attend each week. Since January we have had 3 fabulous nights.

There was a **Wakeboarding Competition**, in which Rory and Louis came joint first. They had to do tricks on a board that trails behind a boat. This competition was run using Wii.

We had an **Insect Night**. Brian Taylor brought his big tub of insects. There was a giant snail, lots of stick insects, huge millipedes, tarantula, giant cockroach and a few more.

'I loved the bugs' said Sarah.

'I liked holding the snail and it weed on me' said Rory.

'The creepy crawlies were scary!!!' said Roisin.

Most of the young people held something, which was a fantastic experience.



We also had a **Mexican Night**. There was salsa music, Mexican food which the young people brought in. They had made a Piñata & then played it. They had made 'The Eye of God' decorations. Our young leader James, led Cinco - a mexican form of bingo.

'I loved doing the limbo!!!' said Helena.

'The Mexican night was amazing, would love something else like it.' said Beth.

'I wanna do it again!' said Lydia.

*Kristi Newton*



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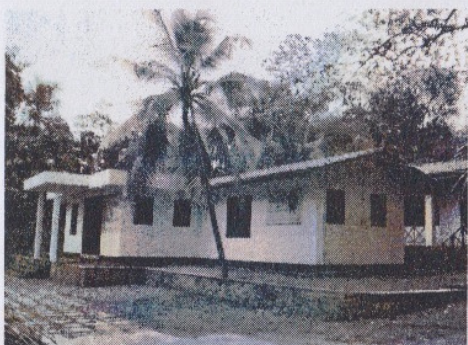
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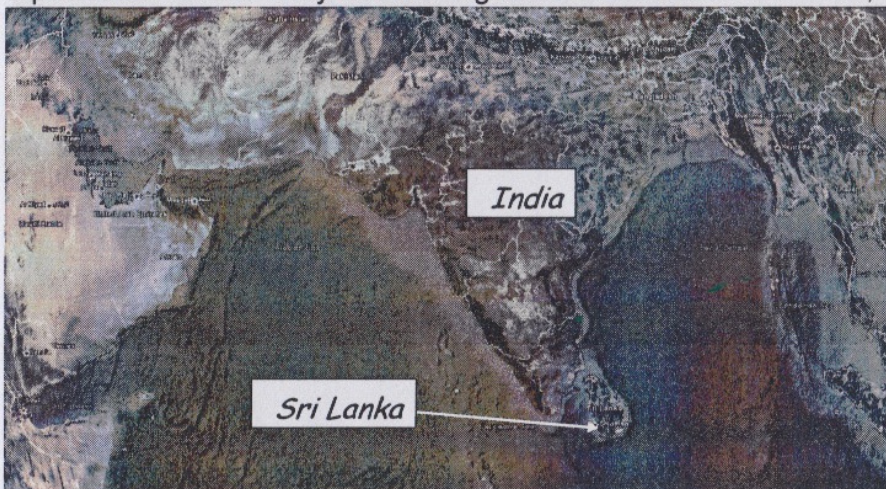
Rosie May  
😊

## ROSIE MAY ORPHANAGE SRI LANKA



With my husband, Clive, I'm planning to spend a month at this orphanage at the end of the year. A 10 year old girl, Rosie May Storrie, lived locally and was murdered in 2003. The news was reported in the local and national papers and TV at the time so you are probably aware of the tragedy. The home was started

by her family a year later when they witnessed first hand the devastation wrought by the tsunami and discovered so many orphaned children. They wanted to give them a decent start in life,



whilst, at the same time, remembering the little girl they'd lost and wanting to do something positive in her memory.

We met Mary and Graham Storrie recently and were so impressed with their project that we volunteered to go out and help in any way we could. We will be paying our own expenses and, to demonstrate our commitment, have promised to try and raise £800 towards the running of the home which relies solely on charity. Some parishioners already sponsor a child there. Every penny raised goes directly to the home; there are no administration costs.

*Rosie May Home at Boosa*



We'll be holding several fund raising events before setting off and have a garage full of 'car booty' ready for the first challenge! With Comic Relief just around the corner and many other demands on your much stretched purse strings, we're only too aware of 'compassion fatigue/good cause overload'. We don't go until November, though, so would ask that you bear us in mind at some time between now and then.

To find out more or to donate, we can be contacted on:  
Melton Mowbray 854124  
For those with a computer:  
[gfrieland@ntlworld.com](mailto:gfrieland@ntlworld.com) or  
[www.justgiving.com/Clive-Frieland](http://www.justgiving.com/Clive-Frieland)  
[www.rosie-may.com](http://www.rosie-may.com)

We hope to report back at intervals and, of course, on our return from the orphanage in December when we should be able to account for how any monies raised have been spent. In the meantime, a big thank you.

*Geraldine and Clive Frieland*

**OPENING**  
**10am Friday April 1<sup>st</sup>**

The Fairtrading Post is moving next door, to 10 Market Place, the old Thompson's Butchers shop. We are very pleased and excited about the move as it will enable us to improve and increase our range and hopefully our turnover and more work will be carried out at the shop instead of at home. Do come and see the new stock of Fairly Traded cards, gifts, homewares, jewellery and food.

The Fairtrading Post is a limited company and NOT a charity. Everyone involved is a volunteer. Every sale results in a producer in the developing world receiving a fair wage for their work, and frequently, a social premium to help pay for extra services in their community such as schools, roads and healthcare. When we discount an item in our sales, the producer has already been paid a fair price. We goods which carry the Fairtrade Mark and from companies which are BAFTS (British Association of Fair Trade Shops) or WFTO (World Fair Trade Organisation) registered so that we know everyone in the supply chain has been paid and treated fairly. We will publish our current year's accounts on the shop website [www.thefairtradingpost.co.uk](http://www.thefairtradingpost.co.uk). Our accounts are audited by Osborne Accountants on Park Road, Melton Mowbray and then filed at Companies' House. The business is run on a not-for-profit basis, so profits are either put back into the business, or given to related good causes. We also supply Fair Trade goods to 2 village shops, a weekly stall on Loughborough Market, Fairtrade events and parties and we support the Melton Mowbray Fairtrade Town Steering Group. When the shop ceases trading (when all trade is fair!), then after expenses, all the money left over will be given to related charities and good causes.

We have been trading for 6 years and wish to thank our wonderful team of volunteers and all the customers.

**Thank you very much!**

Dolores Harvey (01664 568023) & Lynn Marriott (07949 647910) Directors

## Father Con Moynihan

Reading the obituaries in the 2011 Diocesan Year Book, brought back some memories of the time of Fr. Con Moynihan at Melton Mowbray.

My first contact with him was when I was working at the presbytery. The then parish priest, Fr. John Newsham, had asked me to install a power point in the spare room of the non-centrally heated presbytery, which was to be occupied by the new parish curate. While I was working there I was introduced to Fr. Moynihan who later said that I was the first parishioner that he had met. Fr. Newsham set up the Youth Club based at St. Francis School and I was assistant youth leader. Following the departure of Simon John, the youth leader, Fr. Moynihan took over the post and I continued as his assistant.

During this time I was involved with the parish Folk Group, 'The Brackburds', later 'Unifolk', and Fr. Moynihan always accompanied us at our gatherings. These were held at different member's houses every three weeks and there was always an abundance of beer and wine. However, Fr. Moynihan didn't drink alcohol and would limit himself to a soft drink, generally a grape juice.

Following his 'posting' to Alfreton in 1971, a collection was made in the parish, and myself and Fred Draper, who had served on the Youth Club Management Committee, made our way up<sup>to</sup> the A6 to Alfreton to present it to him.

We arrived at the presbytery and shortly afterwards he suggested that we go down to the local pub. At the pub we were surprised when, instead of asking for a soft drink, Fr. Moynihan ordered a pint of bitter. We later questioned him about this, in view of his previous tee-total habits and he said that he had found that his new parishioners felt inhibited if he was drinking non-alcoholic drinks and communication was much improved as a result of the change. Reading his obituary and seeing his photo it certainly seems that his health had improved.

During his stay in Melton Mowbray Fr. Moynihan made history by being the first catholic priest to preach in St. Mary's since the Reformation.

*Brian McNeill*



# SPUC

Between 10% and 20% of women who have abortions experience severe psychological problems. Men suffer, too, when their babies die. Sometimes the problems persist for many years.



Singer Nicole Appleton has spoken about her own shock and suffering after an abortion four years ago, while she was engaged to Robbie Williams. She described it as "the worst day of my life". Initially they were both delighted about the pregnancy, with Robbie feeling that the baby was giving him a reason to go on living. However, Nicole claims her record company pressurised her into the

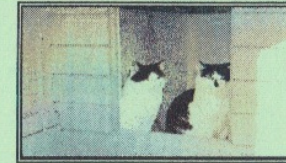
abortion. "The fight went out of me and I just gave in," she said. "After having my abortion I was in shock. I couldn't believe what I had done. I wanted to kill myself. What happened still lingers in my life. I want people to know what I went through."

Soon after the abortion Robbie and Nicole's relationship ended. He, too, has suffered after his baby's death. He says, "It made me question what that all means, what God thinks about that, what my role in it was: what I have to accept and what I have to make amends for."

One in five pregnancies ends in abortion. You will almost certainly know someone who has experienced one, who may be suffering silently, perhaps feeling that God could not possibly forgive them. You can assure them that help is available from ARCH, Abortion Recovery Care Helpline, every evening between 7pm and 10pm.

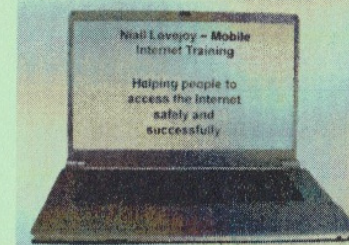
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