



# THE GALWAY LION

(CONFIDENTIAL BULLETIN OF GALWAY LIONS CLUB)

**We Serve**

**DECEMBER EDITION 1992**

## **OLIVIA ROONEY, R.I.P.**

Olivia Rooney slipped out of this world without any fuss, typical of her, as she never welcomed attention.

The qualities which won the admiration of anyone who knew her could be summed up by steadfastness and cheerfulness. Olivia and Billy suffered the tragedy of the loss of their dear son, Mark, they rejoiced that his life had not been in vain, as Mark's organs were donated to save other lives. This attitude of unselfishness and generosity is not attained lightly, most of us could easily succumb to a feeling of justified depression, but they resolutely faced the future with hope.

A great team, they had other mountains to climb, the worrying time when their daughter, Maeve was nursing in Iraq, and nobody was allowed to leave that country. Billy allowed no grass to grow under his feet, fully supported by Olivia and other parents they managed to persuade the slow machinery of Government and its Civil Service, who could see all the reasons why no haste was possible, to successfully repatriate Maeve and all the other nursing staff who wished to return home. Again no big fuss, the job was done and everyone was happy.

When news of Olivia's operation came, the first reaction was one of shock, followed by the typical reaction of both of them "we are going to fight this together". They were cheered by the great number of get-well cards and the prayers offered for the success of the battle before them. Courage in the face of adversity, grace under pressure, an inspiration to the rest of us, who realised that we were witnessing a most gallant team.

Olivia rang her friends to ensure that all contacts would be maintained, it would be full steam ahead, and no point in feeling sorry for oneself.

Well the good Lord had other ideas, there are not many Olivia's around this world, and she was badly needed in Heaven. Although time was short, Olivia had the blessing of her family around her, she had her instructions to each one, and her sense of humour right to the end. Olivia was spared unnecessary pain, we thank the Lord for that, she has set an example that will be difficult, if not impossible, for the rest of us to follow. "Nonsense" I can hear her say, well it will be some consolation to us to know we will have an important person speaking and pushing on our behalf.

## **December Edition 1992**

Olivia has left a big gap in Billy's and in the family's life, it is a sore one to overcome, the wound will be raw, the one true balsam to ease the loss is the inspiration and the memories of a life that always thought of others and carried on without making a fuss.

We also sympathise with Olivia's brothers and sister, not forgetting her dear friends. They will have their particular memories of her, all of us celebrate the good fortune of having known her.

**MAY SHE REST IN PEACE**

### **NOVEMBER MEETING**

President Tom had the usual busy November Agenda in front of us, just looking at it could make you weary!!

Sheets of paper detailing teams for food and money collections over two weekends, roster for assembling food parcels for upwards 600 families, another roster for deliveries of same, and oh don't forget the roster for the **LIONS DAY** on Galway Bay FM , when we have the **GIANT AUCTION**.

President Tom is never happier than with a full agenda, as his Project Chairman sing out their preparations for the busiest time of the year.

### **WINE TASTING**

Project Chairman, Ger O Maille, reported a surplus of over £500, it set the ball off on the fundraising activity for the year. President Tom was most pleased, and so were all the Lions, and do you know what? - the meeting burst out in spontaneous ---- you got it ----

**THUNDEROUS APPLAUSE ---- THUNDEROUS APPLAUSE ---- THUNDEROUS APPLAUSE**

### **+ 55 TALENT SHOW**

Yes, its official, Eamon Tobin will represent the Galway Lions on R.T.E. early in the New Year. Both Michael O'Regan and Jim Kelly brought a full bus load of supporters to Loughrea for the Regional Final. A most enjoyable time was had by all, they did not arrive back to Galway until the bell in St. Nicholas rang out three times and it wasn't in the afternoon!!

Well done lads!!

**THUNDEROUS APPLAUSE ---- THUNDEROUS APPLAUSE ---- THUNDEROUS APPLAUSE**

## **TWINNING**

Our International Relations Officer, Frank Conlan, following on from the enquiry from our friends in Sicily, has had further communications from the Lions Club in Siracusa. Frank wrote to them giving them the usual briefing on how we are the best Club in 105-I, that we were under 40 in numbers. A reply has been received informing Frank that their Club has a membership of 120, but seeing as we have only 40 members they are only bringing over 40 on their visit to Galway!!! End of March, which according to my calender is the week before Easter, and we will be all present and correct, won't we everyone!!!! And to put your minds at rest, Frank has been told that none of them are members of Cosa Nostra ---- all the same, like, no holiday plans please!!!

## **YOUTH AWARD**

Congratulations to Regina Tobin, who has been selected to represent the Club at the Regional Finals early in December.

Project Chairman, Colm Feeney, along with Kevin Watters, John Duggan, Kieran O'Mahony, attracted 14 candidates, thanks to the help of last year's winner, Paul Shaughnessy.

Five judges: Jane Hogan, Margaret McDonagh, Gerry Hansberry, Bernard Farrell and Rita Hodgins.

The interviews took place in the Sacre Coeur Hotel. President Tom presented certificates to all the participants, congratulated them all in the work they were doing in their local communities, thanked the judges for their support and two special thanks to Colm Feeney, on successful completion of the project and for obtaining sponsorship from his company, Northern Telecom.

The CITATION reads:     **ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YOUTH AWARD - WILL COLM FEENEY  
AND HIS TEAM BE UPSTANDING**

**THUNDEROUS APPLAUSE ---- THUNDEROUS APPLAUSE ---- THUNDEROUS APPLAUSE**

## **REMEMBRANCE MASS**

A lovely ceremony in St. Enda's with Fr. Connaughton, when Lions and members of deceased Lions gathered together to celebrate and remember them. A nice cup of tea with biscuits followed, it was pleasant to meet the widows, who appreciate that their loved ones are not forgotten. Well done Brendan Guerin

**THUNDEROUS APPLAUSE ---- THUNDEROUS APPLAUSE ---- THUNDEROUS APPLAUSE**

**December Edition 1992**

### **FOOD APPEAL**

Project Chairman, John Miller, has completed one weekend of the double, with the enthusiasm of Lions who braved the cold weather, and the public were generous with their contributions.

The help of the R.T.C. students who will bring in the sum of £4,000 + will ensure that we will bring the badly needed food parcels to the families in need. Seamus Dunne will also be looking for assistance in completing and delivering the food parcels, so all hands to the wheel.

### **CHRISTMAS GREETINGS**



**ROSEMARY AND TOM HOGAN  
WISH ALL LIONS AND THEIR FAMILIES  
A HAPPY AND JOYFUL CHRISTMAS**

### **DECEMBER MEETING**

**DATE: MONDAY, 7th DECEMBER**

**VENUE: ARDILAUN HOTEL**

**DIRECTORS: 7.30 P.M.**

**ALL LIONS: 8.30 P.M.**

# Youth Award

Project Chairman: Colm Feeney



*Colm and President Tom.*



*John Connolly, John Duggan - Project Chairman, Colm Feeney, Enda Coleran and Grellan Kelly.*



*Part of the large attendance.*



*Project Chairman - Colm and president Tom with our judges to whom we owe so much.*



*Last years District Youth Award Winner - Paul Shaughnessy with President - Tom, John Kelleher and Kevin Waters.*



*Our Youth Award Winner - Regina Tobin with President Tom and Project Chairman - Colm.*