

Charmaine's Diary

29th March 2010

Monday

Record a radio ad in the RTÉ Radio Centre that is to be broadcast on RTÉ One and 2FM – calling on people to nominate both Roses and Escorts for the local selection nights of this year's Rose of Tralee International Festival. It could be you, your daughter, your sister, your friend, your colleague...

Tuesday

Photoshoot for "Happy Faces Day", a fundraising event for The Cystic Fibrosis Association of Ireland. Inspired by Lauren, my fellow model for the day, who suffers from Cystic Fibrosis but who keeps us in fits of giggles for the shoot.

Wednesday

As directed I wear a "lovely summer dress" for a photoshoot on Grafton Street despite the temperature on my lovely Volvo C30 indicating that it's 2 degrees outside. With a soapbox and loudspeaker I make the last call for Roses and Escorts for the 2010 Festival. Do some newspaper interviews in person and on the phone about my magical year as Rose. Race to a recording studio to lend my support to the Global Campaign for Education with whom two of my charities, Voluntary Services Overseas (VSO) and Suas Educational Development, are involved. Seek refuge in the Dublin Airport Carlton Hotel to catch up on diary organisation and article writing.

Thursday

Disappointed to hear the announcement that my fellow Kildare-ite ,Ray D'Arcy, will no longer be hosting the TV selection nights in the Dome. Am intrigued as everybody else as to who the next presenter of the Rose of Tralee will be and stunned to discover that the bookies are already taking bets.

Friday

Travelling home from Dublin I notice that I have clocked 12,000km on my lovely Volvo C30. A welcome quiet night in and watch The Late Late Show with my parents at home in Athy.

Saturday

A day of beautifying in my Mum's beauty salon in Athy before a week of selection events right across the country. Indulge in a pre-Easter chocolate feast.

Sunday

Delicious Easter lunch with my parents. There really is nothing like mother's cooking. Attend the first 2010 Irish county selection night in Meath. Ratoath's Sarah McCann is selected as the 2010 Meath Rose of Tralee and will now act as an ambassador to the other thirteen girls who participated on the night. Sarah will now represent Meath in the Regional Finals in Portlaoise in June. Gearoid Rennicks, a 6 foot 6 ½ inch tall gentleman, was selected as the Meath Escort and will participate in the Festival in Tralee this year but not before he is put through his paces at Escort bootcamp!