

DEEL VIEWS



RATHKEALE COMMUNITY COUNCIL ~ Price 50p

Christmas 1994



*Christmas
Greetings*

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• Editorial •

It was expected on the completion of the Road By-Pass and the sewerage scheme and of course the follow on improvements to the latter, streets, footpaths, removal of utility poles etc., that a new impetus would be provided for the social and commercial advancement of the town.

This is slow in developing and the main obstacle seems to be the totally indiscriminate parking along the Main Street. Whereas before, parking on one side was the norm., and necessarily so because of the need for large trucks to pass through nowadays both sides of the street are regularly occupied by vehicles for most of the business day. Many of these vehicles appear to be by way of "all day parking" and this seriously inhibits any casual or passing traffic stopping in the town. It behoves all, who can reasonably do so, to utilize the rear park just off the street where plenty secure space is readily available and this is vitally important coming up to the Christmas shopping period.

It would also be desirable that agreement is reached as soon as possible on one-side only parking - at least for the stretch between The Square and Thomas Street.

RATHKEALE SHELTERED HOUSING ASSOCIATION LTD.

The building of Rathkeale Sheltered Housing commenced in August of this year and the work has progressed very well since that time. It is expected that the project will be completed during the summer of 1995.

The complex consists of 9 single units and 4 double units. there will also be a communal centre on the site where the residents can meet etc.

Rathkeale Sheltered housing is sponsored by Rathkeale Community Council and Rathkeale Social Services and in order to qualify for grants a limited company was formed. The members of this company are as follows:-

Rev. Canon McNamee, Brid Guinane (Secretary), John Griffin, Joe Dunleavy, Patrick Johnson, Brid Guinane and John Dinnage. The total grant received from the Dept. of the Environment was £298,000 and a further grant of £26,000 was received from the Lotto in connection with the building of the communal centre, making the total £324,000. This amount represents 90% of the total cost of the project and the other 10% to be raised locally. This will require alot of fund raising and already a number of proposals have been made as to how this can be achieved. It is expected that most people in the local community will contribute in some way towards the fundraising.

The site where the houses are been erected was generously donated by Patrick Johnson of Courtmatrix, Rathkeale. It is a prime site situated alongside the new Fire Station and within easy reach of shops, church etc.

The contractor is local man Michael Dillon and the architect is Peter O'Farrelly of Adare. A number of local people are employed on the site at present.

Applications are invited from persons who are interested in residing on the premises and application forms can be got from John Dinnage of Main Street, Rathkeale.

It is necessary that applicants applying for a house will have already applied to Limerick County Council and are on the Co. Council Housing list. It is expected that the houses when completed will be given to elderly people, but at this stage all who are interested can apply.

It has not been decided to date what name the buildings will be known as. If anybody has any suggestions please pass on to Deel Views.



Sheltered Housing At An Advantaged Stage

THE RENEWAL OF RATHKEALE MUST BE AN ONGOING PROGRAMME

By Senator Dan Neville MCC

The recently announced and welcome finance to assist Rathkeale town to improve facilities must not be confused with the long time proposal to designate Rathkeale for Urban Renewal Grants.

In this contribution I wish to first outline and welcome the investment to improve Rathkeale under the local Development Programme of the National Development Plan and secondly to express my disappointment that Rathkeale was not included in the new Urban Renewal Scheme which was launched by the Minister for the Environment on 21st July of this year.

Rathkeale will benefit under the Local Development Programme of the National Development Plan which supports Urban Renewal sub-programmes. This finances a range of measures designed to rejuvenate the social and economic life of inner urban areas by rehabilitating the built environment and restore and conserve important elements of Irish urban architecture and heritage under the programme, Limerick County Council successfully put forward to the Department of the Environment a proposal to renew and conserve the town of Rathkeale. The total cost of the plan is £30,000 and the work to be carried out is as follows:-

New Victorian Litter Bins:	£10,000
New Urban Signposting:	£3,000
New Seating:	£2,000
Renew footpaths from town to Palatine Museum:	£15,000

The work will be funded as follows:-

Local Development Programme:	£15,000
Balance from Fund of Old Town Commissioners:	£8,000
Co. Council Development Fund:	£7,000

I wish to congratulate Limerick County Council for its co-operation in establishing the above programme.

URBAN RENEWAL DESIGNATION

In July of this year, the Minister for the Environment announced an extension to the Urban Renewal Scheme which has been in operation since 1986. This has been very successful and has rejuvenated Limerick City, Tralee, Ennis and other towns. County Limerick is one of the very few local authority areas which has not benefitted under this scheme. I am disappointed that Rathkeale town has not been included in the list of new towns. These new towns are Ballinasloe, Dungarvan, Enniscorthy, Killarney, Mallow, Monaghan, Mullingar, Navan, Nenagh, Newbridge, Roscommon and Wicklow.

The special incentives under this scheme makes it attractive for investors to develop commercial and residential areas of designated towns. Among the incentives are:-

1. Remission of rates for 10 years on a sliding scale in relation to new buildings and on the increase in the valuation of buildings which are enlarged or improved.
2. Allowances of 50% write off of for commercial development and 100% for refurbishment work.
3. Special Allowances (Section 27 allowance) for the provision of private rented accommodation.
4. Capital allowance for commercial development at 50%.
5. A new initiative under this scheme is a new accelerated Capital allowance which will be provided for industrial units - 50% for owner-occupiers and 25% for lessors in the first year. This will encourage the development of small enterprise units. Separate incentives apply to the "Living over the Business" scheme and the Enterprise Scheme.

The inclusion of Rathkeale in this Urban Renewal scheme would make the centre of town very attractive for commercial and residential development. Rathkeale has a special case for inclusion. The change of many premises for commercial use to use as stores would be reversed. Under the scheme it would be attractive to do so. The values of the properties in the town would increase substantially which would encourage their sale and development for commercial use. This would improve the business activity of the town and make what is now a very attractive town a growing centre for commercial activity. It would enhance and help to market what is already a good product. We must ensure that in any future extension to the scheme that Rathkeale is included.



I wish all the readers of Deel Views a very happy and holy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Due to the temporary closure of Rathkeale House Hotel, I am now available on each Monday evening at 7.00p.m. at Mann's Hotel.

I may be also contacted at my home at Croagh.

Telephone: (061) 396351

You will be welcome when you call



TIDY TOWN

N. Naughton

Rathkeale Tidy Towns Association has had a very busy and successful year in 1994. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of this committee which began at the end of 1993 without funds or experience, Rathkeale has had a phenomenal face lift which has received favourable comment from everybody near and far.

The children's involvement in their own area and environment is considered vital to the success of any Tidy Towns effort and the poster competition for the three Primary Schools was a great success with almost every child in all three schools taking part. A very nice reception for the children and their parents was held in the Convent hall on June 21st. Prizes were sponsored by O'Donovan and Associates Auctioneers and Insurance Agents. The lucky winners were John Sellman, Alex Blodeau, Noel O'Brien, Alan Bradshaw, Amy Wilmott, Michelle Frawley and Thomas Frawley. County Arts Officer John McKernan came to present the prizes and was very impressed with the standard of their work.

Over the summer months seven energetic young third level students were provided with their summer jobs by the Tidy Towns Association. Their efforts were mainly concentrated at the Roundabout Shrubbery where they did wonderful work. They also took care of grass cutting in the open areas of the town. Sharon Hourigan, Clionadh Wilmott, Declan O'Kelly, Declan Casey, Mitchel Wilmot, Karl Cullotty and P.J. Hogan deserve most of the credit for Rathkeale win-

ning the Limerick County Council award for the best entrance to a town, which was awarded for the Roundabout area. Rathkeale won four categories in the Limerick County Council Awards this year, another achievement which was most encouraging to the Tidy Towns Association.

Rathkeale and District Credit Union generously sponsored the local Tidy Towns Decorative competitions. Six lucky winners were presented with lovely cut crystal bowls at a delightful traditional Rambling House session at Manns Hotel on September 30th. The winners were Brid Hough for best Town Garden, Michael Cronin for best Rural Garden, Betty Daly for best Hanging Basket display. Ciss Meade for best Window Box display, John Brennan for best Presented Business Premises and Very Rev. Canon McNamee for best Public Building St. Mary's Church.

The flower tubs on the streets looked beautiful all summer long and they will bloom again in Spring. Great efforts were made by the committee, the students and the children to rid the town of litter. The river bank is neat and presentable. Bushes, briars and weeds have been removed in many places. Stone walls have been cleaned and improved. The Ballingarry approach to the town has been developed and will be further improved. Residents and business people have painted and decorated. Limerick County Council have played a major part in improving the town and have been most helpful and co-operative.

Much however remains to be done. The Tidy Towns Association have many plans and ideas for the coming year. The help and support of the local community is very much needed and would as always be greatly appreciated.



Farewell to Fr. O'Connor

1994 TIDY TOWNS COMPETITION

PROGRESS REPORT

Centre: Rathkeale
County: Limerick

Category: D
1994 Mark: 164

	MAX	1993	1994		MAX	1993	1994
Efforts	45	36	38	Presentation of Natural Amenities	50	25	26
Tidiness	40	23	23	Appearance of Approach Roads	45	30	33
Presentation of Buildings	40	28	28	Presentation of Residential Areas	30	15	16

EFFORT:

Thank you for completed questionnaire and area map; these were useful on adjudication day. The adjudicators got your comments and have great sympathy with the problems you are confronted with but also admire your commitment and dedication despite your problems. Excellent individual effort throughout the town. Also noted is that you have a new committee.

TIDINESS:

On adjudication day, the town was almost free of litter. Open areas need to be monitored.

PRESENTATION OF BUILDINGS:

Commercial and public buildings were maintained to a reasonable standard. The Palatine museum is a fine stone building. Church railing is rusting. Church and schools were in a reasonable condition. The concrete post and rail fence across the road from the Palatine museum was not in keeping with the stonework. There were a few shops on the main street which would need immediate attention and maybe more colour when painting. Another building in the square takes from the appearance.

PRESENTATION OF NATURAL AMENITIES:

The grotto and graveyard were to a good standard. It is important that all natural amenities are maintained to a high standard. Work was in progress near the river bank. Shrub beds in good condition.

APPEARANCE OF APPROACH ROADS:

Approach roads from all sides were well maintained this includes the main street which had a very nice surface. The removal of the poles from the street and placing the cable underground made the town more attractive. The lighting system now mounted on the buildings and the new footpath has changed the appearance of the town completely. All stone walls should be restored especially on the new link road.

PRESENTATION OF RESIDENTIAL AREAS:

Some estates are well kept, where others would appear somewhat untidy.

ABRAHAM'S GOLF SOCIETY - RESULTS OF RECENT OUTINGS

FERMOY

Gents: 1. Billy Neville
2. Patsy O'Sullivan
3. Michael Cregan
4. John O'Connor
Ladies: 1. Geraldine Horgan
2. Nora Dwane
3. Irene Donovan

4. Pat Keating
5. Neally Duggan
6. Aidan Supple
Best Gross: Vincent O'Kelly

3. Jack O'Dwyer
4. Michael Cregan
5. Ml. Noonan
Ladies: 1. Phil O'Connor
2. Mary Hutch
3. Pat O'Kelly

NEWCASTLE WEST (CAPTAIN'S PRIZE)

Winner: Liam Woulfe

Gents: 1. Sean Harnett
2. Billy Neville
3. Gerry O'Connell

Ladies: 1. Mary O'Sullivan B/W.
2. Laura Keating
3. Phil O'Connor
4. Pat O'Kelly
Best Gross: Mary O'Sullivan B/G.

BALLYNEETY

Gents: 1. Pat Ahern
2. Maurice Noonan

The next and final outing of 1994 will take place in Newcastle West (Rathgonan) on December 10th at 10.00a.m. This is the usual Christmas event and each member is expected to bring a prize.

REMEMBERING PAST EVENTS

By P. J. Madigan

In 1966 it was proposed at a meeting of the Rathkeale Guild of Muintir na Tíre, as it was then called - that I should submit information on local events, on a weekly basis to the "Limerick Leader". Over the next issues of the "Deel Views", I shall endeavour to relate some of the happenings in Rathkeale from then until the present time.

On November 12th, 1966, my first news column appeared. It revealed that Physical Training classes were being conducted in the Deel Hall under the direction of Sergeant Pat Murray, from Sarsfield Barracks. The appointment of Miss Mary Nestor, N. T., as assistant teacher in the Boys' National School, Rathkeale, where she filled the vacancy created by the departure of Mr. John Hynes, N. T., who left to take up a similar position in Avoca, Co. Wicklow.

At the Annual General Meeting of Rathkeale Muintir na Tíre on 3rd November, it was stated that a caravan site was in progress of being built at Fair Hill. The committee at that time were:- President, Very Rev. T. Canon Costello, P.P., Vice-President, Rev Mr. McCrae; Chairman, Maurice F. Cowhey; Vice-Chairman, Rev Fr. Wall, C.C., Secretary, Miss J. Lyons; Joint Treasurers, Mr J. Shier and Mrs J. Sparling.

The Marian Shrine was awarded first place in its' own region (Limerick, Clare and Tipperary) in the National Roadside Gardens Competition, with 92 marks. This was an improvement of five marks over the previous year.

Members of the Rathkeale Choral Society went to Dublin where they joined with the Limerick Choral Union in a performance of Kodaly's "Le Deum" with the Radio Eireann Symphony Orchestra. The recording was made in the St. Francis Xavier Hall on 11th November.

A presentation was made to Sergeant and Mrs Kirk to mark the Sergeants' retirement from the Force. The Kirks had been in Rathkeale for 21 years.

On December 9th, a concert in aid of St. Mary's Brass Band was held in the Deel Hall. Topping the bill, and making their first appearance as professionals, were the Limerick comedy duo, Tom and Paschal. Also taking part were the Dalton School of Dancing; the local "Legionnaires" Showband; Jerry O'Brien, All-Ireland Champion accordionist; Mrs Lyons, traditional singer; the Lartigue Four from Lisselton; and P. J. Madigan, violin.

At the same concert a Road Safety Question Time was held between a team from the Board of Works and a team from the Tennis Club. The latter were the winners, and trophies were awarded to Estelle Fennell, Patrick Johnson, Gerard Fennell and Tom Lynch.

Garda Sergeant Michael Dunleavy took up duty in Rathkeale at this time. Transferred from Laherdane, Co. Mayo, he replaced ex-Sgt. Kirk.

The A.G.M. of Rathkeale C.Y.M.S. was held, and the following were elected:- Spiritual Director, Rev Fr. Wall, C.C., President and Chairman, P. Donovan; Vice-Chairman: J. O'Dwyer; Secretary: J. Griffin; Treasurer: S. Sheehan; Committee: Malachy Hanley, C. Lynch, J. Young, Youth Resps., Ml. White and A. Supple.

Two new Peace Commissioners were appointed in Rathkeale, namely Miss M. Finn, M.C.C., and Mr Sean Hayes, Postmaster. Both from Lr. Main Street.

1967

It was announced in January that an extra prefabricated room would be required at the Boys' National School in order to accommodate an expected increase in pupils.

The failure of efforts to start a Secondary School for boys in the town resulted last year in the acceptance of boys in the Seat of Wisdom School. This venture had been very successful, and very much appreciated by parents in the town and surrounding area.

At this time also, Rathkeale man Sean Giltenane who had emigrated to America some fifteen years earlier was elected unopposed as President of the New York G.A.A. Board.

The annual parish social was held on 1st February 1967. The evenings entertainment commenced with community singing led by Mrs J. Quinn and Miss Estelle Enright, and accompanied by Mrs B. Crowley, piano, and P. J. Madigan violin. Members of the Rathkeale Youth Club staged a short sketch, "The Belle of Boolavogue". The cast included Mrs J. O'Connor, Miss Alma Brennan, Mr T. Shiels, Mr M. Glenny, Mr Ml. Hanley, Miss P. Maskham. A short duologue then followed between Mrs O'Gorman and Mrs J. Brennan. Solo items were sung by Mrs Allott and Mr J. O'Dwyer. The concert programme concluded with two songs from the Rathkeale Choral Society.

Around this time it was reported that Tom Lynch, Main St., had commenced work in the College Green branch of the National Bank. He received his education in Rathkeale; Christian Brothers, Adare; and St. Munchins College, Limerick.

Work on the Deel drainage was proceeding at full pressure, with twenty excavators operating along the river. It was expected that the entire scheme would be completed in 15 months.

On Saturday, 18th February, some thirty children - pupils of

the Dalton School of Dancing - travelled to Limerick to participate in the Feile Luimn  dancing competitions. Successful dancers were Thomas Wilmott, Gerard Geaney, Maura Markham, and Siobhan Cahillane, who came second in the Under 10 Reel.

Another Bank appointment was made at the beginning of March. Miss Laura J. O'Brien, of Riverview, Rathkeale, was successful in the examination for clerks in the National Bank. She was to commence duty on 10th March, in the National Bank, Roscrea. Miss O'Brien was educated at the Convent School, Rathkeale, and the High School of Commerce, Limerick.

A Committee was formed with a view to erecting a memorial to the late Archdeacon Carroll, former P.P. of Rathkeale until 1964. As the deceased Archdeacon was an ardent supporter of handball, it was decided to erect a ball-alley as a memorial, on a site to be decided upon. The committee members were:- President: Very Rev J. Cannon Costello, P.P.; Chairman: Peter Donovan; Vice Chairman: Jack O'Dwyer; Secretary: John Griffin; Treasurer: Ml. O'Shea. Other members were John Young; Jerry Fitzgerald; Patk. Markham; Christopher Lynch; Jas. Langan; Noel Fitzgerald; John Daly.

On Monday, 20th March, during the debate on the estimates for the coming financial year, it was disclosed that plans were in hand for the reconstruction of the Carnegie Library. The upper portion would consist of a courtroom; judge's room; and barrister's room. The library would be on the ground floor.

On 28th March at Coolcappa Church, Eileen Balfe, Coolcappa and Ml. Kelly, Roches Road, were married by Very Rev. W. O'Connell, P.P. The reception was held at the Royal George Hotel, Limerick.

On the same day, at Cappagh Church, Very Rev. Fr. Crowley, P.P., officiated at the marriage between Mary Healy, N.T. Cappagh, and Ml. Counihan, Tarbert. The reception was held at Cruise's Hotel, Limerick.

The marriage took place at Rathkeale Church on 3rd April, between Madge Hourigan, Rathkeale, and Bernard Smith, Naas. The ceremony was performed by Fr. Hourigan, uncle of the bride, assisted by Very Rev. T. Canon Costelloe, P.P., Very Rev G. Cannon Enright, P.P., Janesboro; and Very Rev. M. Kelly, P.P., Bulgaden. Hymns were sung by Mr. Tom Henn, Limerick, with organ accompaniment by Miss E. Madigan. The reception was held at the Intercontinental Hotel, Limerick.

A general meeting was held with a view to re-forming the local Boxing Club. Officers elected were: President. Mr John Mooney; Chairman, Dick Woodruffe; Vice-Chairman, Wm. Steele; Treasurer, C. Jones; Secretary, John Daly. Committee:- Messrs. Pat Jones, Jr., Ml. Lynch; Ml. Smith; John Shiels, Snr., F. Markham; Wm. Madden; Jeremiah Jones; Ml. Roche; Gerard Reidy.

Miss Regina O'Gorman, of Holycross, Rathkeale, was one

of mine children presented with book tokens by Mr D. O'Malley, Minister for Education, at the County Library Headquarters, Limerick. The prizes were awarded to the Mine best entries in a general knowledge competition for which there were 3,500 entrants from Primary Schools in the county.

Miss Eda O'Kelly, daughter of Mr James O'Kelly, ex N.T., and Mrs O'Kelly, N.T., was successful in a recent bank examination, and commenced her duties on 1st May in the National Bank, Clonmel. she was educated at Croagh National School; Mount Trenchard; and the High School of Commerce, Limerick.

Maps showing the details of future development in the town area were on view to the public in the library. Any plan to relieve traffic congestion met with approval, but the general trend of opinion was against any proposal to by-pass the town.

In June two local girls qualified as pharmaceutical assistants. They were Maura Mangan, Clough, Croagh, and Nora Hartnett, Kilcoleman East, Rathkeale. Both were educated at the Seat of Wisdom Secondary School, Rathkeale, and served their apprenticeships with Mrs D. Donovan, chemist, Rathkeale.

A fire occurred in the spire of St. Mary's Church, Rathkeale during the second week in June. Canon Costello paid tribute to the untiring efforts of the members of the Rathkeale Fire Brigade who worked for a full day in hazardous and confined conditions to extinguish the fire. Damage was not as extensive as was first feared. Steel girders were placed in position to secure the bell, as it had slipped out of alignment during the fire.

On Saturday, 17th June, the wedding took place in St. Mary's Church between Bidy Steele, Church St., and Daniel Brosnan, Ballingarry. Miss Netta Steel, sister of the bride, was bridesmaid, and Charles Brosnan, brother of the "groom, was best man. Bernie Steel was flower girls, and Anthony Steele was page boy. The ceremony was performed by Rev. D. Wall, C.C. The reception was held in Geary's Hotel, Rathkeale.

The wedding took place on Saturday, 24th June, between John Dinnage, Church St., Rathkeale, and Josephine Mulcahy, Newcastle West. Best man was Tony Hayes. The Misses Mulcahy, sisters of the bride, were bridesmaids. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Fr. Houlihan, C.C., Newcastle West, assisted by Rev. Fr. Wall, C.C., Rathkeale. The reception was held at the Hotel Cecil, Limerick.

Two new teachers were appointed to Rathkeale Boy's National School, namely Mr. Noel Liston, Knockaderry, and Mr. Pat McElligott, Ballyagran. Meanwhile, Miss Florence Hoffman, who had been assistant teacher at Rathkeale No. 2 School for three years, had left to take up a principalship in Douglas, Co. Cork. Her successor at No. 2 School was Miss Rae Graham, from Donegal.

An indoor Feis was held in the library in early July, and

some 200 children from the Dalton School of Dancing participated. The following were the Rathkeale winners:-

Reel (Under 6 Years):

1. Cormac Cahillane;
2. Gearoid Cahillane;
3. SeamusDoherty.

Reel (Under 8 Years):

1. Catherine Carroll;
2. Celestine Hogan;
3. Marcella Curtin.

Reel (Under 8-10 Years):

1. Siobhán Cahillane;
2. Gerard Geaney;
- 3, Richard Mooney.

Reel (Under 12-14 Years):

1. Tie between Patsy Carroll and Regina O'Gorman;
2. Marian Moroney;
3. Lilian Markham.

Hornpipe:

Regina O'Gorman (Cup).

Four-hand Reel (Beginners 6-8 Years):

1. Catherine Carroll and Class;
2. Marie Madigan and Class;
3. Brian Carroll and Class.

Four-hand Reel (Under-10 Years):

1. Thomas Wilmott and Class;
2. Sean Cahillane and Class;
3. Elva McCarthy and Class.

Four-hand Reel (Under 12-14 Years):

1. Regina O'Gorman and Class;
2. Marian Sheehan and Class;
3. Mary Aherne and Class.

A swimming Gala was held on 19th August. The Gala was for boys and girls living in Rathkeale Parish. Results were as follows:-

Boy's Breast Stroke (Under 12 years):

1. Ger McNamara, Upper Main Street.,
2. Declan Madden, do.:
3. Vic Bradshaw, Abbeylands.

Boys Breat Stroke (U-15 Years):

1. John White, Roches Rd,;
2. John Lyons, Church St.;
3. Richard Hogan, Main Street.

Boy's Free Style (U-12 Years):

1. Ger McNamara;
2. Delcan Madden;
3. Vic Bradshaw.

Boy's Free Style (U/15 Years):

1. John White;
2. Jas. Reidy, Lr. Main Street.

Girl's Breast-Stroke (U-10 Years):

1. Gina Casey, Uppr. Main Street.;
2. Finola Fennell, Church St.;
3. Pat Madden, The Square.

Girl's Breast-Stroke (U-12 Years):

1. Marian White, Roches Rd.;
2. May Walshe, Main St.;
3. Marie Noonan, Roches Rd.

Girl's Breast-Stroke (U-15 Years):

1. Catherine Lynch;
2. Vera White;
3. Joan Goodwin.

Girls-Back Crawl (U-15 Years):

1. Catherine Lynch;
2. Vera White;
3. Joan Goodwin.

Diving:

1. Tony Hayes, Lr. Main St.;
2. John White, Roches Rd.;
3. Jim Reidy, Lr. Main St.

On Saturday 9th September '67, the wedding took place in St. Mary's Church between William O'Malley, son of Mrs C. O'Malley and the late J. O'Malley, Drombanna, and Martha O'Connor, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. O'Connor, The Commons, Blossomhill. The ceremony was performed by Very Rev. T. Canon Costello, P.P., assisted by Rev. F. Wall. C.C., Rev. Fr. Fitzgerald, C.C., Very Rev. Fr. Kirby, P.P., Knockea; Rev Fr. Ryan; and Rev. Fr. O'Connor (cousin of the bride). The reception was held in Bunratty Castle Hotel.

On the same day, also in St. Mary's Church, the wedding took place between Ian Lewis, only son of Mr and Mrs Lewis, Surrey, and Mary Morrissey, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Morrissey, Abbeylands. The ceremony was performed by Very Rev. G. Enright, P.P., Janesboro, assisted by Very Rev. T. Canon Costello, P.P. The reception was held in Cruise's Hotel, Limerick.

On Saturday 23rd September, the wedding took place between Denis Hayes, son of Mr and Mrs Jas. Hayes, Courtmatrix, and Anne Noonan, daughter of Mr and Mrs Ml. Noonan, Roches Rd., Rathkeale. The ceremony was performed by Rev. P. Noonan, uncle of the bride, assisted by Rev. Fr. Wall, C.C. The reception was held at the Intercontinental Hotel, Limerick.

The A.G.M. of Rathkeale Youth Club was held in the library on 3rd October, and the following committee members were elected:-

Chairman:	Michael Hanley;
Vice Chairman:	Alma Brennan;
Treasurer:	Mrs O'Connor;
Secretary:	Ann McKnight.

The annual General meeting of the Cappagh Guild of Muintir na Tíre was held on 26th October. The guest speaker was Dan Doyle, County Librarian, who outlined the general aims of Muintir na Tíre. The following offices and

committee were elected:

President: Very Rev. Fr. Crowley, P.P.
Vice-President: Rev. Mr. McCrae and Rev. Mr. Buchanan;
Chairman: Walter Ruttle
Vice-Chairman: D. Culhane and J. Shorten.
Hon. Secretary: Mrs J. Culloty
Asst. Secretary: P. Culhane
Treasurer: Ernie Ruttle.
Co. Exe. Reps. Eoin O'Sullivan; Tom Barry; D Hawkes, D. Culhane.
Farmer's Sections: Ml. Moloney, Sean Stokes, V. Hayes, P. Lowe; H. Donovan, Ml. Sheehan.
Worker's Section: Ed. Prenderville, Pat Doupe, P. Enright, Pat O'Shea, Mossie Hennessy, Tom Hogan.
Youth's Section: J. Culloty, L. O'Connor, Christy Maume, Geo. Shorten, M. O'Connell, Jack Moloney.
Ladies Section: P. Hennessy, Mrs Hogan, Mrs O'Shea, Mrs Burke, Mrs Ruttle, Mrs Conmy, Mrs Roche, Mrs Prenderville, Eileen Madigan, Bridget Hurley, Mrs Hennessy, Mrs Shorten.

NOVEMBER

The parish social organised by the local Guild of Muintir na Tíre attracted an attendance of over 500 people. The programme commenced with community singing led by Mary Moody, accordion, and P. J. Madigan, piano, and was followed with solo items by Mrs Dorothy Teskey, Jack Roche, Mrs J Ruttle and Mary Hennessy.

Members of the local I.B.A. Guild and Youth Club staged a sketch by local artist/playwright Russell Collinge. In the cast were, Mrs J. McCarthy, Mrs R. Collinge, Mrs J. Roche, Mrs K. Enright, Mrs L. O'Connor, Misses C. and D. Robinson, Miss Alma Brennan.

Members of a local pop group, Kevin Neville, Maurice Foster, Michael Hanley, Pat Brennan; together with St. James' Ceile Band, Cappagh; and local showband, The Legionnaires, rounded off the nights entertainment.

Due to the efforts of the local Guild of Muintir na Tíre, from 16th December the street lights will be on all night. This will last until January.

To be continued:



• Church Choir 1950 •



RATHKEALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Colaiste Aine Naofa or Rathkeale Community College is due to open its doors to the students of Rathkeale and surrounding district on the 1st September 1995. For a long time the people of Rathkeale have been waiting patiently for a new college for the town, and now finally it is becoming a reality.

The building programme is on target and should be completed by April.

Colaiste Aine Naofa which is an amalgamation of Rathkeale Vocational school and Rathkeale Secondary school will offer an impressive array of subjects both practical and academic to Junior and Senior cycle students and the facilities available will be top class. There will be three fully equipped science laboratories catering for Physics, Chemistry, Biology and General Science. The college will also contain a Language Laboratory with the most up-to-date facilities, a spacious well equipped Art room, a modern Home Economics room, a well stocked school Library to facilitate research and private study, plus a wide range of general classrooms.

The fully equipped gymnasium coupled with a sports field and three outdoor courts at the rear of the college will ensure that the physical as well as the academic needs of the students are well catered for. There will be an elevated stage area adjoining the gym to cater for school concerts and such like events and knowing the strong commitment which the secondary school has to the teaching of music and training of school choirs that area of the college will no doubt be much used.

The practical subjects will be well catered for through the new Construction studies room, the Engineering room and Technical Graphics

room. All these facilities should combine to ensure that the students will have access to a "balanced education" as they progress through the college.

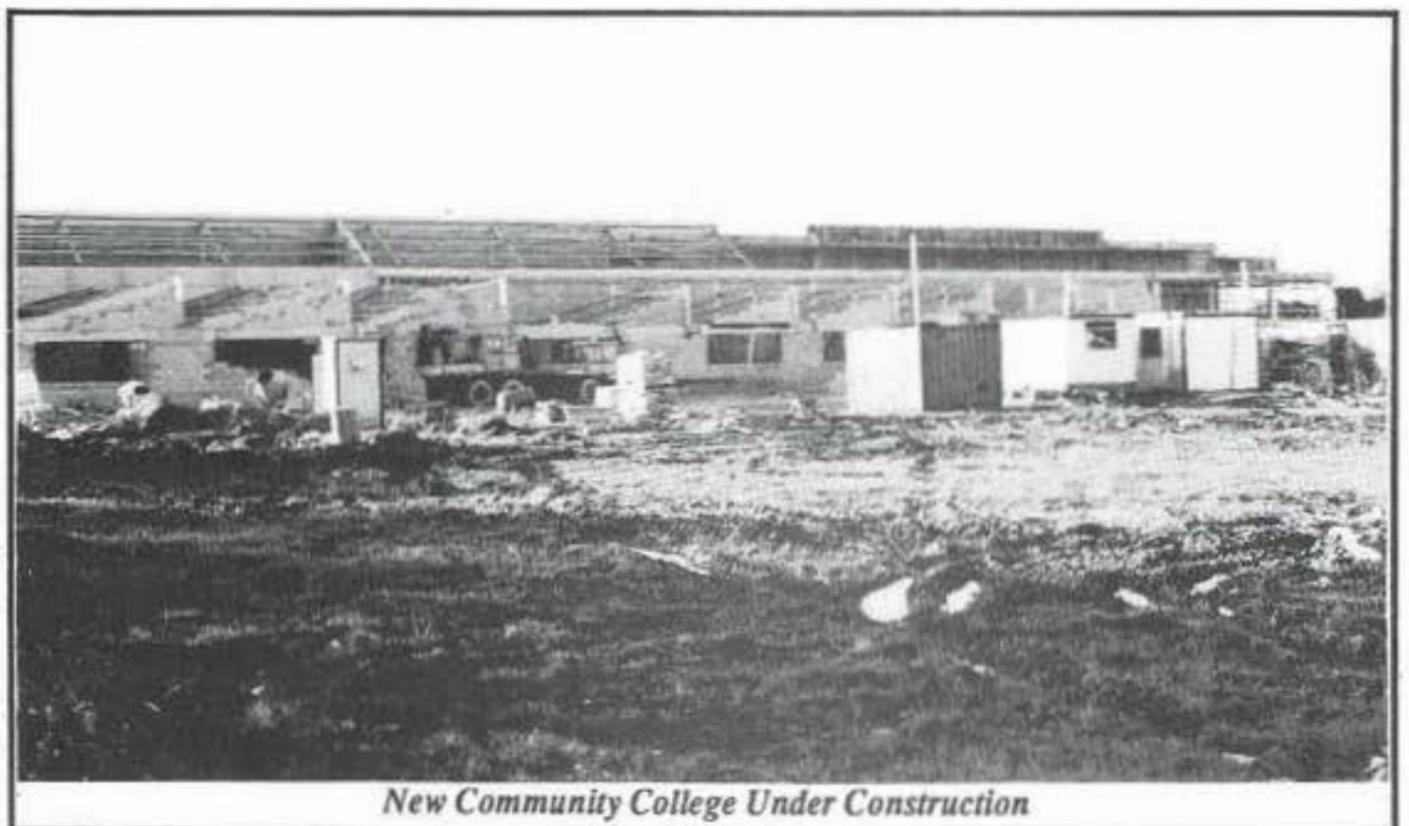
The college will be managed through a local Board of Management comprising of:-

- 3 Representatives from the Mercy Order
- 3 Representatives from the V.E.C.
- 2 Parent Representatives
- 2 Teacher Representatives
- 1 Agreed Representative from the minority churches

The Board will be allocated an annual budget from which the day to day running costs will be paid.

A working group consisting of the chief executive officer Mr. Sean Burke, the principal and a staff representative from each of the post primary schools has been set-up to address matters of immediate concern in relation to the new college. The procedures to be followed in relation to enrolment of new entrants will shortly be agreed and it is also intended to produce a college factsheet setting out all the relevant information required for students wishing to transfer into the new college.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆



New Community College Under Construction

Excerpts from the Irish Palatine News Sheet

NEWSLETTER/JOURNAL

A committee decision has been made to move the publication date of our Newsletter (now to be named a 'Journal') to February as last year there was a better response to our mid January mailing. Plans are now in progress for the next issue. To date Lester Hartrick one of our U.S. members has forwarded part II of his trilogy on the Hartrick Clan of Wexford. Roy Doube a Canadian member has submitted a poem and photographs on the Canadian Palatinate visit and an article on the North Kerry Palatines is being prepared by Tom O'Donovan of Kildimo. We have also had a generous offer from a Canadian publisher, a visitor to our museum, to print our "Journal" free of charge and this possibility is presently being looked at.

TRIP TO PALATINATE

1994 will be a memorable year for the fifty descendants of Irish Palatines who visited the Palatinate (Die Pfalz) at the end of April. We received a wonderful welcome in the beautiful country of our ancestors. It is a country of contrasts - rolling vineyards surrounded by towering mountains, rural unspoilt villages, and cities of impressive buildings and ancient churches. As mentioned a detailed article with photographs has been prepared by Ken McDonald, one of our very supportive members, for our "Journal".

A slide illustrated talk on the trip has been given by Miss Lily Baker and Miss Lurna Shier to the Methodist Womens' Association. Another evening is being planned to display gifts, show slides and video of the trip to the local community. Possibly over the Christmas season.

IRELAND HOLIDAY (21st - 30th September 1995)

We have pleasure in announcing preliminary details for our Palatines in Ireland holiday, to take place September 21st to 30th 1995 when we hope to welcome visitors from near and far, including Canada, USA, Germany and the UK. The 10 day programme will include receptions, banquets, tours, concerts and leisure activities with a distinctive Palatine dimension. The Irish Palatine Museum will be used as the holiday headquarters. As well as attending special functions and tours in the immediate area we will be setting out to Palatine locations in Counties Limerick and Kerry where the local Communities will invite those attend-

ing to participate in a number of specially prepared events. These will be opportunity to meet Irish Palatines and other local communities, participate in official functions, local activities and to enjoy traditional Irish entertainment. Locations being visited include Rathkeale, Adare, Limerick, Tralee, Killarney, Bunratty and Ballyhoura. In January we will be sending out the outline programme including price and booking form. It is envisaged that there will be a party of 50 at most and early booking will be essential.

GERMAN GROUP VISIT

On the 5th of November we welcomed a youth orchestra from Hohenlohekreis, Germany to our Museum. Hohenlohekreis is about 100 miles from the Pfalz (Palatinate) and the group was part of ongoing exchanges between County Limerick and its twin (Hohenlohe) in Germany.

GIFT SHOP

In addition to selling books of Palatine interest our Museum now plans to stock a range of souvenir items to help raise funds. As far as possible we will try to have unique products that will enhance the Irish Palatine story. Some initial ideas include pressed flower presentations from a Palatine garden, clothing items with a specially designed motif (to incorporate Ireland and the Palatinate) plus Methodist, Irish and European Community memorabilia.

MEMBERSHIP

The committee has launched a drive to increase membership, as with a bigger membership base we can offer a better service. After a lot of preparatory work we now have all our members past and present on database which will make corresponding a little easier. We have already sent out letters to lapsed members at home and abroad and the response is very encouraging. The committee is also seeking new members. It is envisaged as part of an improved service that we will be issuing two news sheets and other items of Palatine interest in addition to our "Journal". It has also been decided that Members will have free admission to the Museum.

Membership commencement/renewal date is the 1st January 1995. Irish £10.00; Sterling £10.00; USA \$18.00; Canada \$21.00; Australia \$22.00; New Zealand \$30.00.

CHRISTMAS GREETING

The committee of the Irish Palatine Association wish all their Members, Patrons and Friends a peaceful joyous Christmas and a prosperous and healthy New Year. Thank you for your support.

YOU CAN HELP THE IRISH PALATINE HERITAGE PROJECT BY:

1. Organise a group and arrange with the Association to visit the Museum.
2. Become a member for £10.00 per annum.
3. Become a Patron for £100 (or more).
4. Donate an artefact.
5. Make a cash donation.

6. Request and distribute promotional literature to people with an interest.
7. Become involved in Association activities.
8. Purchase of Irish Palatine Association Newsletters.
9. Sell Irish Palatine Newsletters on behalf of the Association.
10. Encourage others to undertake any of the above.

If you wish to help in any way, receive information, or purchase any publications please contact the Irish Palatine Association, Irish Palatine Museum, Rathkeale, Co. Limerick, Ireland. Tel: 069-64397 Fax: 069-64220.



Former burgermeister Werner Scharhag who gave us a guided tour of the town showing us many interesting sights such as the house of Landau's most famous person, cartoonist Thomas Nast, who designed the animal insignias for the United States Republican and Democratic parties.



Some of our group being interviewed for South West Television as we cruise on the river Rhine.

HERITAGE

By M. Cowhey

When in January of 1994 Rathkeale Community Council awarded "Rathkeale Man of the Year 1993" to that very successful Racehorse Trainer Michael Hourigan, it conjured up thoughts of the long tradition in the locality of all things connected with horses and horsemen. While this goes back quite a long time the latter part of the last century and the early part of the present one were exceptionally busy in the horse business of this area.

The Slattery family of Riddlestown were dominant in the old North Munster racing circuit. There were the stables of Michael Sheehy, The Square, of Joe Murphy/Mrs Marshall, Beechmount, of Pat & Ned Power, Thomas Street, of Mick & John Fennell, Main Street and a number of smaller establishments. Up to two hundred horses were stabled at this time and had to be bedded and fed. There were the ancillary activities, manufacturing and repairing, by skilled saddlers and farriers. All added up to being quite an industry which gave large employment and created a lot of economic activity.

There were the well known professional jockeys, Jack and Tom Slattery, Denny Burns, Bill Balfe, Mick Ward who became champion jockey of Ceylon for a number of years and died following a bad accident on the race-course in 1934 aged thirty seven. He was a brother of Dinny and uncle of Liam. There was the international reputation of Johnny Fennell on how to show a hunter, the marvelous all round

skills and athleticism of Ned Power apart from his horsemanship, the Mulcair family's connection with the famous chaser Jerry M, the large number of prizes won each year at the R.D.S. Rathkeale was known at this time by horse-lovers as the 'College' its rival for such a title being Fethard Co. Tipperary. These and many other items give a wide field for research. Hopefully some people will be found to do it and tell the many rich and interesting stories which will result.

This article is aimed primarily at highlighting the careers of four professional jockeys who reached the very top of their profession.

James J Hogan Jnr. better known as Jimmy Hogan born in Rathkeale in 1887. Served his apprenticeship with Paddy Hartigan at Ogbourne. His career was delayed and interrupted by the first world war. Won all the important chases during the 1920's including the Cheltenham Gold Cup. Injuries deprived him of topping the list of English National Hunt Jockeys in which he finished second three times. When he had retired (cica 1931) he appeared on the B.B.C. programme IN TOWN TO NIGHT on 20th March 1937. The commentator Ralph Truman and the interviewer Captain George Ventris introduced him as the greatest horseman who had ridden the Aintree course. They also stated that he had ridden in nine Grand Nationals. Racing records and particularly records concerning jockeys are very scarce



Liam Ward, winning the Irish Sweeps Derby at the Curragh on Nifinsky

and almost non-existent during the early part of the century but I did discover his rides in seven Grand Nationals. 1921 - Fell on Cupid's Dart; 1922 - Fell on Dunadry; 1923 - 4th on Max; 1923 - 3rd on Sergeant Murphy; on whom he was winning easily when badly interfered by loose horses; 1925 - 8th on Max; 1928 - did not finish on Coyote; 1929 - brought down on Ardoons Pride.

Denis Ward known as Dinny born Rathkeale 1890 apprenticed to Sam Darling at Beckhampton. Spent a time with Paddy Hartigan at Ogbourne and also with Sir Charles Nugent at Granborne before joining Maxwell Arnott's Greenmount stable at Clonsilla, Co Dublin where he spent over twenty years until his life was tragically ended.

He rode hurdles, flats and Steeplechases. He won every steeplechase of consequence in Ireland. As well as being stable jockey he acted as assistant to Mr Arnott and was very much involved in all the activities of the stable. He was in the first four of the jockey's list from 1924 to 1929 second in 1929 and leading well in 1930 when his life was cut short. He was riding a horse named Teaboy in a chase at Limerick Junction. The horse fell and Dinny fractured a leg. gangrene set in and he died a few days later in the Mater Hospital Dublin.

Bryan Marshall born in 1916. When a child, came to live at Beechmount Rathkeale with his mother and sister. His mother Mrs Marshall was an internationally famous horsewoman. Went to primary school in Rathkeale. Apprenticed to well known English racehorse trainer Atty Persse. He rode his first winner at the age of thirteen. He rode over five hundred winners under National Hunt rules including two Grand Nationals and two King George VI Chases.

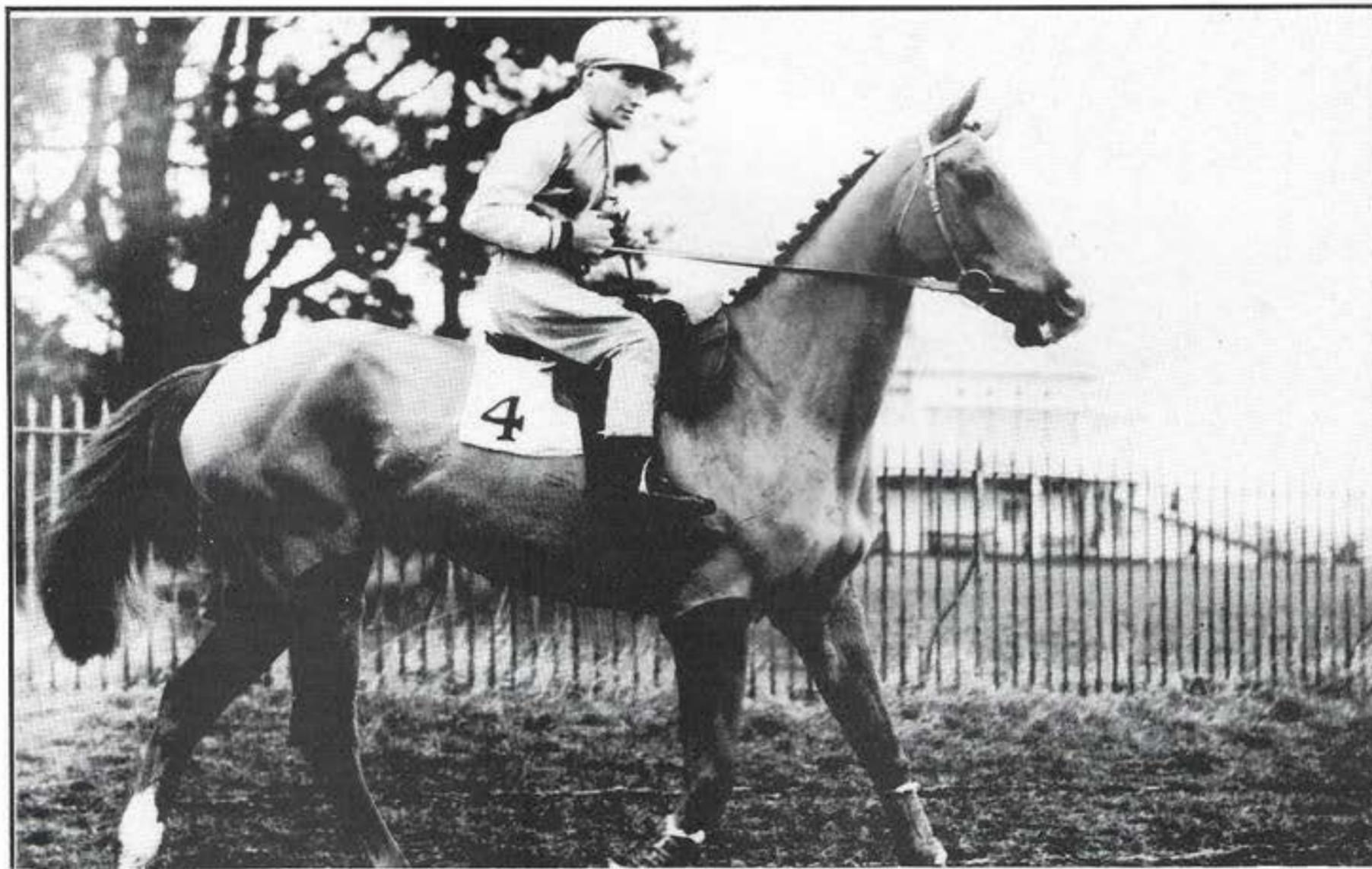
The National winners were Early Mist (1953) and Royal Tan (1954) both for Mr Vincent O'Brien who also trained the 1955 winner Quare Times setting up an unprecedented consecutive three timer. Bryan Marshall won the English National Hunt Championship for Jockeys in 1947/48 and was runner up three times.

In a note to the writer Mr Vincent O'Brien says of him "he was one of the great riders in the history of National Hunt racing in England wonderful style and most courageous". Also in a note to the writer Mr Peter O'Sullivan of the B.B.C. says "he was a very nice man and an outstanding horseman".

Liam Ward born in Rathkeale. Two of his uncles were professional jockeys. He was apprenticed to Roderick More O'Ferrall at Kildangan in 1945 where he spent two years until Mr More O'Ferrall retired. He completed the last three years of his apprenticeship with Martin Quirke at Mountjoy Lodge on the Curragh.

He rode the winners of eleven classic races viz. 1951 Irish St. Leger for Morny Wing. 1952 Irish 200 Guineas for M Rogers, 1958 Irish Derby for M. Dawson and 1958 Irish Oaks for A head, 1960 Irish 100 Guineas for T Show 1962 Prix Royal Oak (French St. Leger), 1965 Irish Oaks for M.V. O'Brien, 1966 Irish St. Leger for M.V. O'Brien, 1969 Irish Oaks and Irish St. Leger for M.V. O'Brien, 1970 Irish Derby on Nijinsky for M.V. O'Brien.

He rode the winners of all the important Irish races and he rode for all the leading trainers at one time or another. He headed the Irish Jockey's List (championship) six times between 1953 and 1961.



Bryan Marshall on Early Mist



WORKERS IN SHANNON MEAT LTD. IN THE EARLY 50'S.

Included: Tim Finnucane, Bernard Tansey, Sean Lynch, Coffey Farrell, Tommie White, John Royce, Joe Cregan, Eugene O'Sullivan, Tom Glancy, Sean Guirey, Paddy Jones, Paddy Sheehy, Bat Lynch, John Lynch, Paddy Royce, Ml. Meehan, Bernard Daly, Ml. Hogan, Paddy Reddin, Ml. Tierney, Jim Hennessy, Mario & Carlo Zoncada.



*Above: Kyletaun Tennis Club
Summer Tournament Winners U.14 Mixed Doubles
Killian Fitzgerald (Askeaton), Pat O'Doherty, Organiser &
Ruth O'Doherty Rathkeale.*



*Above: Four Generations
At the christening of baby Jason Jones, Brendan (Father),
Grandmother Margaret (nee Balfie) Great-Grandfather,
Jimmy Balfie, Kilbrathern, Shanagolden.*

REMEMBERING THE FAMINE

I missed John Waters recent appearance on "The Late Late Show" in which he spoke on how the Irish people should remember the Famine. Some days after this particular show John Waters did write an article for The Irish Times in which he appears to have outlined his viewpoint. In this article Waters argues that the famine has to be commemorated and that in doing so we should confront our past. While I have a number of problems with John Waters article, which I propose to deal with in the course of this essay. I too feel that the famine should be remembered. I propose to outline why and how I feel we should remember the Famine. If plans are already afoot within Rathkeale at Community Council or at any other level, I apologies in advance should I prompt them.

The question may well be asked, why should Irish people remember the Great Famine? After all its all of 150 years ago. I would propose two reasons for this, (1) the horror of what was the Great Famine, (2) That it may remind us, not just for the present but into the future, that Famine continues in the world in which we live. I have to say at this point, that I do not blame the English people for the Famine. As a people they showed great generosity in contributing money to alleviate the problem of the Hunger. As such I would not welcome a commemoration that was essentially a "Brit-bashing" exercise. Similarly, not all British politicians can be blamed. The Tory Party, who were in power during the first year of the Famine, did act to prevent the hunger and indeed very few people died that year, because they were successful in getting food to most areas. Who then would I blame? I blame the Government of Lord John Russell & his wing (or Liberal party). I attribute blame to this government because of their Laissez Faire represented the economic buzz words of the time. Put at their simplest they favoured no government intervention in the economy, so that the fittest would survive. Intervention in the Irish economy would have been viewed by these people as being counter-productive in that it would have forced up the price of labour, thus making the economy even less efficient.

Three points need to be made about this policy and its application in Ireland. Firstly, over one million Irish people died and another million were forced to flee this Island because of what was at best a dubious economic policy. I view the treatment of Jewish and Gypsy peoples by the Nazis as the holocaust of the 20th Century. I view the treatment of black slaves as the holocaust of the 18th Century. I believe the holocaust of the 19th Century to have been the Great Famine. Having said this, the heroes (if such they were) of the age were not always who we thought they were. While much research has to be done, it would appear that those who were most vulnerable to die from hunger, were the labouring population and those farmers who had holdings of less than 5 acres. Both these groups constituted a large proportion of the Irish population at the time.

Traditionally, the plight of these people, has been blamed by Irish people on landlords. At this point in time, no research exists as to what the attitude of landlords such as Southwell, Dunraven or Courtenay among others from Rathkeale and its hinterland was. We do know from Cecil Woodham-Smith's book "The Great Hunger", that Lord Monteagle of Mount Trenchard was very active in trying to bring home to the British Government the disastrous nature of their policies. Lord Monteagle, had served as the British Chancellor of the Exchequer from 1835-9. Despite his efforts to have Government policies changed, his correspondence appears to have been largely ignored. On the home front, Monteagle supported an Assisted Passage policy, whereby tenants had their initial fares to Australia provided plus starting up costs for once they arrived their. The De Vere's of Curragh Chase had a similar policy established for their tenants though they favoured Canada as a destination. These costs would have had to be repaid to allow other tenants to avail of the scheme. Indeed, a member of this family travelled steerage rate to Canada, to see the conditions aboard the ships. He kept a diary of his experiences. On his return to Ireland, the diary was made public, causing a scandal which resulted in a debate in the English Parliament. This resulted in laws relating to the means by which people were being transported on ships being reformed. Similarly, Aubrey De Vere has chronicled in his memoirs how he assisted and was assisted by Mr Foley of Stonehall, in getting food to those who were most vulnerable at this time.

Against this, other landlords appear to have been extremely nasty in their treatment of tenants. In a recent edition of The Knockfiema Journal, the evidence given by Archdeacon Fitzgerald was at that time Parish Priest of Ballingarry. He singles out the Cox family who held land in that Parish as being barbaric in their treatment of tenants. De Vere in his memoirs, comments on the behaviour of a member of the O'Grady family of Small County, who was an agent for Lord Guillamore in the West Limerick area. This man was so insensitive in his treatment of tenants, that an attempt was made on his life in Rathkeale. It is unclear from De Vere's description of events, whether this agent was acting with Lord Guillamore's knowledge and support.

While the Cox family and Lord Guillamore's agent (and possibly the Lord himself) conform to a traditional viewpoint with regards Landlord behaviour at the time of the Famine, one should also be aware of the fact that Irish farmers could be equally insensitive in their treatment of their fellow countrymen. In an article on servants in Co. Limerick, Pat Feeley quotes Fr. Jeremiah Halpin of Castle-mahon as saying to the Devon Commission, an English inquiry into the levels of poverty that existed in Ireland: "Labourers would be better off under the protection of the landlords who could let the land to them at the same rate as they did to the large farmers." This evidence dates from the

late 1830's when a new type of middleman was emerging. This middleman was from the farmer population and he frequently sublet land at an exorbitant rate, for his own personal gain. These are the people that Fr. Halpin is denouncing. Both John Waters and Sinéad O'Connor have commented on the extent that food was leaving the country at the time of the famine. Roy Foster, in a follow up article in the Irish Times observed that had the British Government interfered with these food exports, that the farming population would have been up in arms. Whatever the truth of this statement, it is evident from Aubrey De Vere's memoirs, that many of those who came before the Relief Committee on which he set with Fr. Foley were reasonable well off. This would suggest that many medium sized farmers and possibly some larger sized ones were only too willing to feed themselves on what little food was intended for the genuinely needy. I use these examples to illustrate how a traditional interpretation of the Famine fails in this modern age. We need to learn much more about the Great Hunger. This as I've already stated calls for more studies many of them of a local nature. Indeed it is through such studies that the History Department in U.C.C., under Senator Joe Lee have chosen to commemorate the Famine. Many undergraduates in that department will as part of their project work in the coming year have to study the Famine period in their local area.

To my mind, John Waters in his article omits two sets of people who can make a contribution to our understanding of the Famine. The first of these are historians. I hope I've already illustrated the role historians can play. The second group are ordinary people. Very few people are likely to read academic studies of the Famine. Yet a local history written by an individual or a group of individuals may well elicit a lot more interest. Local newspapers from the period can be consulted at the Limerick City library. The National Archive Centre in Bishops Street in Dublin contain the Police Records of the period. These are accessible and the staff are extremely helpful and approachable. They will provide assistance with the research and are also likely to point out other sources that may be available at the centre. I merely suggest these in case any individual or group of individuals would be interested in such a project. For my own part, while I would not currently be in a position to participate, I would gladly lend any assistance I could.

Such a book if it were to be produced, would probably be dependant on the dedication of either one person or a small group of people. If such a group were formed in Rathkeale and were to attempt such a publication, then I feel that the Community Council should assist in the costs. A second means of commemorating the Famine would be the clearing up of the Paupers Graveyard and the possible placing of a plaque their in memory not alone of those who died in the Great Famine of 1845-9, but also for the victims of the Irish Famine of 1743. It is some time since I've been out to the Swimming Pool, where the Paupers Graveyard is located. It is possible that the Community Council Committee responsible for the upkeep of the Pool have tidied up this area. If this is so, they are to be complemented. If not, then it may well be an idea to have a major clean up of this area during the coming year. It is also likely that famine victims were buried locally in the vicinity of old church sites at Rathnasare, Ballyallinan and Kilcolman. If these graveyards sur-

vive, it may well be an idea to have them tidied up as well. My one concern about placing the plaque at the Paupers Graveyard, is that its at some remove from the town and away from the publics gaze. A better site may well be the Town Park in Abbeylands. This park is well maintained and the area adjoining the Abbey, appears to have served as the towns cemetery down to the 17th Century. If the community decides to erect such a plaque, I would suggest that its unveiling be in conjunction with a multi-denominational prayer service and that it should take place sometime next August.

These are merely my suggestions as to why and how the people of Rathkeale should commemorate The Great Famine. As I suggested at the start of this article, people independently or in conjunction with the Community Council may be talking and laying plans for the coming year. If such a group exists and I have said anything that stimulates their interest, I would be only too welcome to meet with and talk to them. If no such group exists, I would hope that this article might encourage the establishment of such a group. I would urge strongly, that some event be planned for the coming year, even if the Community Council have to plan and finance such an event themselves.

Rathkeale & District

— Credit Union —

The Annual General Meeting was held at Manns Hotel Rathkeale on November 28th. The Chairman, Christy Murray, spoke of another very successful year with an increase of over four hundred new members bring the total to 3350 in all.

At present there is just over £2000,000 on loan to members under various headings e.g. house repairs and extensions, holidays, car purchase and insurance etc. The total nett assets of the Union are £2,590,0000 and the agreed dividend to be paid this year amounts to £85,300 representing approx 3.6% on members shares.

Very satisfactory reports were presented by the Credit Control Committee (Ml. Stacpoole) Loans Committee (Richard Naughton) Education and Publicity (Pat Hayes) and Supervisory (Pat Clancy).

The outgoing Secretary - Margaret Heffernan - produced a very comprehensive account of last years A.G.M. while Treasurer, Kitty Guinane presented the Credit Union Financial Statement for the year.

Bord na nÓg

Two years ago Joe Williams, Noel White and Mossie Woulfe decided to revive Bord na nÓg in the Parish. They set up a meeting and formed a club. Joe Williams as Chairman Mossie Woulfe as Vice Chairman Noel White as Treasurer and Jack Daly as Secretary. Then Pat Donovan, Richard Naughton and Pat Veraker came forward to look after the U/12 & U/14 Hurling teams and Sean Harnett looked after the U/12 & U/14 Football teams. Pat Nolan and Joe Williams looked after the U/16 and U/18 Football and Hurling teams, and the club started to progress. In 1993 we won the U/12 & U/14 West Titles in Hurling and we won the U/16 County in Football this was the first time a county title under age came to Rathkeale in the history of the club. We also took part in Scór na nÓg, and brought home four West Titles.

So 1993 was a great year. Then came 1994 and we saw a few changes in the Committee, Mossie Woulfe became more committed to the Athletic Club and Pat Nolan went training the teams with the main Club. Pat Naughton came to the club and has worked very hard over the year. The U/12 and U/14 Hurling team were looked after by the same managers and the U/12 and U/14 Football team by Sean Harnett and Pat Nolan. U/16 & U/18 Hurling and Football by Pat Naughton and Joe Williams. The U/12 Hurling team again won the West Title and our U/12 Football team reached the West Semi-final. Our U/16 Hurling team reached the County Final and our U/18 Football team won the County Title, Scór na nÓg is on-going at the moment. So as you can see great success has come to the Bord na nÓg Committee over the last two years. Now that the foundation has been laid lets hope in the future Rathkeale can put forward the top teams that were there in the past. Joe Williams would like to take this opportunity to thank all his committee and coaches for the hard work they have put in to the club over the last two years and also a special word of thanks to our sponsors and supporters.

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Annie & Walter Ruttle who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary recently. Annie (nee Mooney) married Walter in Cloughjordan Methodist Church on the 19th Oct. 1944. They have three sons and one daughter and nine grandchildren. A celebration Party was held in the Woodlands House Hotel. We wish them many more years of happiness and good health.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR!

195 Whites Road, Mt. Duneed,
Victoria 3216, Australia.

The Editor, "Deel Views,"
Community Council, Rathkeale,
Co. Limerick, Ireland.

Dear Sir/Madam,
Through our local family history magazine "The Genealogist," I have recently become aware of your magazine "Deel Views". I am not certain how much you are involved in others' family history problems and thus not sure if you can help me. Briefly my story is as follows:-

Gr.Gr.Grandparents

Thomas Jess (1799-1887)	Married 1822	Sarah Mullane (1801-1899)
At Rathkeale		

They had 7 children all born in/near Rathkeale (I believe). They came to Australia in the following order:

1. 2nd daughter Bridget on "Calpurnie" arrived 23.03.1852 - Geelong.
2. 1st daughter Mary on "Runnymede" arrived 03.06.1852 - Geelong.
3. Mother with 3 children - Margaret, *John and Sarah on "Salem" arrived 15.05.1855.
5. Father with 2 children - Thomas and Elizabeth on "Phoenix" arrived 19.01.1856.

Great Grandfather *John J. married Mary Liston at Geelong (Victoria, Aust.) in 1860.
Grandfather Frank Jess Married Kitty Kelly Kata Jess (my mother).

Other Gr.Gr. G-Parents included Liston, Ahern, Buddie all of whom I believe lived in County Limerick, either in Rathkeale or nearby Ardagh? Studdech?.

I would very much like to contact any descendants of the above with a view to exchanging information to increase our knowledge of our ancestors. All correspondence to me will be answered promptly.

I am very interested in the origins of "Jess". It does not seem like an "Irish" name. could it be German e.g. Jesse, Hess, Hesse, etc?

Did they come to Rathkeale with the Palatines?
Perhaps they settled in England with the Palatines and came across to farm in Limerick (Rathkeale) at a later date. I am not certain of my great great grandfather Thomas Jess's, birthplace - a relative has suggested to me it was England? I would be pleased to learn more of the origins of "Jess". Could you please send me a copy of "Deel Views"? I may subscribe to it if it looks to be of interest to me.

Thanking you.

Yours faithfully
Kevin Murray

(p.s. The "Murray" is a great grandfather from Scotland-to Aust. 1840s. The other 7 great grandparents were all from Ireland!)

N.B. Gr = Great / Gp = Grand parent / Gf = Grand father.

• FUNERALS •

Ellen Clifford
 Michael Ahern
 John Solley
 Kitty Harnett
 Geraldine & Ailish Horgan
 Daniel O'Riordan
 Birdie Hourigan
 Michael Jinks
 Margo Seery Guinane
 Maureen Hogan
 Madge Dowling
 Nora Hegarty
 Kieran Teskey



• BAPTISMS •

Twins Maelisa Marian Woulfe
 & Wilma Angela Woulfe
 Breda Lavina Flynn
 Shauna Louise Dowling
 Heather Mary Ann Sheehy
 Ethan Conor Barry
 Nora Chan Delaney
 Natasha Laura O'Shea
 Conor Michael Lyons
 Aishling Ann O'Connor
 David Sheridan
 Laura Jean Meade
 Shauna Kate O'Connor
 Nadia Fiona O'Keeffe.
 Seán Joseph Stackpoole.
 Erica Jean Dundon McNamara
 Paul Martin White
 Lisa Bríd Fitzgerald
 Danny Sheridan

• MARRIAGES •

Cornelius O'Donoghue & Bridget Ryan
 David Maurice Lynch & Patricia Mary Casey
 Michael Brendan Coughlan & Rita Ann Daly
 Nicholas Hogg & Rosaleen Reidy
 Francis Gerard Pierce & Ann Marie McEnery
 James Quilligan & Tracey O'Brien
 James Quilligan & Bridget Culligan

Community Council Election

The triennial election took place during October. Unfortunately the nominees in a number of areas were elected without a contest but nevertheless there was a fine turn-out both of candidates and voters.

The following are the elected members of the area Community Council:-

President: Canon McNamee
 Vice President: Sr. Jerome
 Chairman: P. Donovan
 Vice Chairman: Ml. Brosnan
 Secretary: B. Guinane
 Assit. Secretary: M. Blachi
 Joint Treasurers: J. Dinnage & P. Johnson
 P.R.O.: M. Hanley
 Committee: Mce. Foster, Eithne Neville, Breda Morrissey, K. Neville, Pat Shanahan, Frank Lynch, N. White, T. Shiels, M. Smith, M. Noonan, S. Hogan, N Lawlor, M. Quilligan, M. Gammell, Joe Dunleavy, A. Bovenizer, M. Wilmoth, C. Horan, D. Hourigan, J. O'Connell, G. Andringa, B. McEnery, C. Wilmoth, J. O'Dwyer, L. Kelly, P. O'Sullivan, S. O'Doherty, B. Chawks, M. Gilbourne.

The Limerick Pilgrims who went to Rome in October '94 would like to say Thank You to Monsignor Fleming and his colleagues in the Irish College for their hospitality and Kindness to them. They would also like to say "Thank You" to Fr. O'Keeffe. We wish you all a very Holy Christmas and every happiness for the New Year.

SCHOOL CLASS IN THE 1920s



USEFUL INFORMATION

Deel Views: Jack O'Dwyer. Tel: 069-64210

Banks: Late opening Tuesday

Credit Union:

Monday: 2-4 p.m.

Tuesday & Wednesday: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Thursday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Friday: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. & 7.30 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m. - 12 noon

Library Opening Hours:

Monday and Wednesday: 3 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Tuesday: 10.00-12.30; 5.00-8.00p.m.

Thursday: 10.00-5.00 p.m.; Friday: 5.00-8.00 p.m.

Mart: Tuesday - Cattle. Wednesday - Calf & Pig.

Post Office:

Monday-Saturday 9.30-5.30 p.m.

Thursday 9.30-1.30 p.m.

Doctors:

Dr. Lynch: Half day Thursday

Dr. Curtin: Half day Wednesday

Dr. Teahan: Half day Thursday

Church/Mass Times

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH (Sun. 8.30 a.m./10.00 a.m./11.30 a.m. (Mon.-Sat. 9.30 a.m.) Sat 8.00 p.m. (summer) 7.30 p.m. (winter).

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH of IRELAND (1st, 2nd, 3rd, & 5th Sundays 10.30 a.m. (4th Sunday 11 a.m., alternating with Askeaton and Castletown.)

EMBURY & HECK MEMORIAL METHODIST CHURCH (Sundays: May & July 11.30 a.m.)

(Sundays: June & August 10.00 a.m.)

(Sundays: Jan. Mar. Sept. Nov. 12.00 p.m.)

(Sunday: Feb. April. Oct. Dec. 10.30am.)

Piano Lessons: Louise Muckell, Roche's Road.

Festival Show: Mrs Ann O'Connell.

Community Council Monthly Meeting:

First Monday 8.30 p.m. Secretary: Brid Guinane

Social Services: Secretary - Breda Morrissey

Red Cross: Secretary - Mrs Mary Sheahan

St. Vincent de Paul: J. Dunleavy.
Meeting alternate Mondays.

I.C.A.: Secretary - Mrs. Maura Mooney.
2nd Thursday.

G.A.A.: Pat Sheehan, Hon. Secretary.

Soccer: Juvenile - Sean Harnett

Abrahams Golf Society:
N. Harnett, Hon. Secretary.

Scout Cubs: Thursday. Youth Centre

Community Hall: Tel. 64908

THINGS TO DO AND SEE:

Tourist Information Centre
Irish Palatine Centre.

Open June-Sept. 7 days 2.00-5.00 p.m.

Castle Matrix - Tours:

10.30 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. 7 days.

Lunches & Banquets by appointment. Tel 069-64284

Irish Palatine Heritage Centre

Open June-September. 7 days. 2.00-5.00 p.m.

Dohyle Lough:

Contact Ronald Sparling. Tel. 069-64170

Sports Complex:

Squash, Racket Ball, Hand Ball, Snooker, Pool,
Tennis Courts. Tel. 069-64622

Farm Walks:

Contact Diarmuid Dillon. Tel. 069-64178

Kyletaun Tennis Club:

Contact Pat O'Doherty. Tel. 069-64086

(affiliated to Tennis Ireland. Flood Lit International
Size. Open 7 days.)

Library: (Mon. & Wed. 3 p.m. - 7 p.m.) Tues. 10 a.m.
- 12.30 p.m. & 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.) (Thur. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.)
(Fri. 5 p.m. - 8p.m.)

Bridge Club: Every Tuesday Night Sept.-June.

Contact Pam McNamara. Tel. 069-64785.

Phil Ruttle. Tel. 069-64557.