



Last farewell: Dr Mainchin Seoighe is brought from his sister Mary Herlihy's house by James Finn and William McCarthy of William McCarthy Undertakers.

## Limerick and Ireland honour the late Dr Mainchin Seoighe

By DONAL O'REGAN

TALES from days of yore were Dr Mainchin Seoighe's passion and now he will join fellow respected Limerickmen in the annals of history after he was laid to rest this Wednesday.

Dr Seoighe (Mannix Joyce) of Bruree wrote 10 books in Irish and English and wrote for the Limerick Leader from 1944 until recently. He worked full time as an Information Officer with the County Council, where he was a member of staff for 44 years.

Due to the volume and

quality of his work, Dr Seoighe was awarded an Honorary Doctorate by the National University of Ireland in Galway in 1990.

He was regarded both in Limerick and Ireland as a fine scholar, historian and most importantly of all—a gentleman.

Minister for Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs Eamon Ó Cuív—grandson of Dr Seoighe's great friend Eamon de Valera—spoke warmly of Mainchin at the graveside oration in the old cemetery in Bruree.

"It was a great privilege to be asked to do this because I know that my grandfather Eamon de

Valera was the first to ring Dr Seoighe after his mother died," he said.

"I knew this was a cause of great pleasure for Mainchin and his wife Frances and I am honoured to speak here today," added Minister Ó Cuív, who spoke as gaeilge.

He said there was a friendship between the de Valeras and the Seoighes which has spanned generations.

"He was a very kindly person, softly spoken and somebody we will always remember for his warmth, openness and as a fountain of knowledge," said Minister Ó Cuív. He

concluded by calling Dr Seoighe a scholar in the truest sense of the word.

Fr Padraig O Finnachta, P P, Dingle and an old friend of Dr Seoighe's, said the funeral Mass at a packed St Peter and Paul's Church in Kilmallock.

In his homily Fr O Finnachta said he was a very kind and a real gentleman. "I never saw him frown or show any signs of displeasure," said Fr O Finnachta.

He went on to mention the help Dr Seoighe gave to hundreds of students during his lifetime.

"He taught, inspired and guided them," said Fr O Finnachta.

The worlds of poetry, literature, history, media and politics were well represented with Donncha O Dalaigh, Frank Prendergast, the new Cathaoirleach of Limerick County Council Eddie Creighton, Cllrs Niall Collins and Jim Houlihan, many colleagues from the media and artistic world as well as hundreds of friends.

The Limerick Leader was represented by Eugene Phelan, deputy editor.

Dr Seoighe is survived by his wife Frances, sisters Mary and Nelly, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, relatives, neighbours and friends.

## It's everyone's Demesne

By MARTIN BYRNES

A PROPOSAL to further sub-divide the county's largest town park has run

into strong opposition—and the GAA may not get its requested expansion in Newcastle West at all.

The community council and the local committee

which advises on the Castle Demesne have each come out against a suggestion that the GAA be given a lease of an open area and car park beside their existing property. The open area is currently used for camogie and general training.

The GAA committee meets this Thursday to discuss the new situation, said secretary John O'Connor, and will not be commenting until after that.

The matter came to light when Cllr Michael Collins, at the request of the GAA club, tabled a question at the area meeting of councillors asking whether the club would also be allowed to lease the adjacent car park in

addition to the open area. He was told by senior council engineer Jimmy Condon that the Council "would be slow" to grant any more sports leases in the park, and that the GAA did not already have a lease to the open area referred to.

Now, the community council and the Demesne committee are to make a written submission in advance of this month's area council meeting.

Vicky Nash of the community council told the Limerick Leader that Mr Condon had contacted both voluntary groups to inform them that a proposal was to be put on behalf of Newcastle West GAA regarding the lease of further lands in the

Demesne.

"This came as a major surprise to us and we responded to Mr Condon that we felt that the Demesne was left to the people of the town as a whole and, as such, a consultation process should be undergone in advance of any decision," she said. "We requested that a hold be placed on the matter until full consultation could be carried out."

The two groups indicated their total opposition to leasing further areas for the exclusive use by any organisation.

"We have serious concerns about further erosion of open space within this unique town facility," she said.

ball panel; Jonathon Deere, a member of the senior hurling panel, and Lorcan O'Dwyer, an U21 player.

The team started at 5am in Pallasgreen where Denis Holmes, chairman of Limerick County Board, and Denis Lawton, chairman of the local club, were on hand to witness the first phase of the challenge.

The team went on to receive wonderful receptions in clubs all over the county and city, and, particularly welcome was a huge feast prepared by members of Glenroe GAA club.

The team were also invited to score a goal in Bruff Rugby grounds, where Christy McMahon kicked the ball between the posts



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