

One of young Paula's happiest memories was her first meeting with her two penfriends in Singapore — Tricia Tan and Justine Teng.

"They have a different life to ours," said Paula enviously. "They're on the beach nearly every day of the week". She started writing to them a couple of years ago when she got their addresses in school in Foynes, but hadn't expected to meet them so soon.

But Paula, who had her own swimming pool in the back garden of their luxury home in Sydney is glad to be back in Foynes, where she is now enjoying immensely increased status among her friends. And in spite of all the exotic experiences, her parents believe that they have cured themselves of wanderlust.

"The reason why we went away," said Theresa, "was to decide whether

In Brisbane for the World Exposition, they met former Foynes doctor, Dr Joe Costelloe, of Ballinagarry, Foynes, who has been 11 years in Australia, and runs a very successful medical centre in Brisbane.

Not many Irish people who go to Australia find a home in the exclusive Vauluse suburb of Sydney, but that is where the Fitzsimons ensconced themselves, and paid for it by keeping foreign students from Japan, Korea, Singapore and Switzerland, who were learning English and wanted to stay with an Australian family.

"They realised that we weren't Australian the night we took them to an Irish pub and the Swiss girl had to show us the way," recalls Michael ruefully.

The children were booked into the

modation is expensive and rented apartments and flats are usually unfurnished. "We had to buy the contents of a house to furnish our own home," he said.

And some Co Limerick people they met who had gone out to work on the buildings found it too hot and are now working in department stores.

Before they left sunny Bondi beach just before Christmas to return for good to their hotel in Foynes, three other men from Foynes, John Brennan, Michael Fitzsimons (cousin) and Oliver Hanly arrived on their doorstep just in time to continue the lease the family had on the house in Vauluse.

Arriving back in Foynes on a damp December day, the whole family agreed on one thing: "It was good to be home again."

He took the Green. Other would burst into a Richard Tauber song or one could hear Paddy Hanrahan wax lyrically a tune composed by himself about his favourite team. On occasions it was not unusual for John Joe 'Bowler' Brohan to give his rendition of 'The Bard of Thomond' while the bould Jackie 'Tulla' Tynne would row in with a couple of verses of 'Dangerous

musical circles. This is one of the man's best offerings, identified singing style augmented by talents of Denis All Meehan. The 'B' suitably titled *M. Souvenirs*, which on lights the immens Tadhg, whose first re gia caused quite a st musical circles.

CITY INTO DENY THE ARE ANTI GAEL SCO

By LEADER REPORTER

THE LIMERICK city branch of the Irish National Teachers Organisation have hit back at suggestions that they are against the setting up of Gael Scoileanna.

"The I.N.T.O., however, always opposed and will continue to oppose any breaking of agreements by the Minister for Education or by her Department simply to satisfy local pressure groups," says their P.R.O., Mr. Ted Motherway.

In last weekend's *Limerick Leader* Mr. Cyril O'Ceirín, speaking on the difficulties at the Southill Gael Scoil, stated that he was aware of opposition to the Gael Scoil from school principals and the I.N.T.O.

However, Mr. pointed out that he was given to the ope Gael Scoil, the D Education had a specified requirement. First was the need for such a school that suitable accomm be available to the sers, and finally that 20 infant pupils previously attended must be enrolled.

"Gael Scoil Sheoi Southill has failed Department of Educ conditions have bet Motherway claimed.

And he added: "C poaching of pupil forbidden by the rules for National S

Limerickman Kevin's encores in England

By JOHN O'SHAUGHNESSY

WINNING RAVE notices in the English national media for his acting abilities is young Limerickman, Kevin Wallace, from the North Circular Road.

The theatre critics in "The Times", "Guardian" and "Independent" have had reason to extol his virtues, and the latter described his recent performance in "Translations" as vibrant and committed.

A former pupil of the Crescent College, Kevin recalls having an interest in the theatre from a very early age — "my mother was deeply involved with Feile Luimni and used to bring me along with her".

Another big influence in his career was his sister Gabrielle, founder member of Group Six, and who introduced him to the stage in Joseph and His Technicolour Dreamcoat at the Crescent Theatre at the age of 12.

Shortly after completing his Leaving Certificate, Kevin decided that his future was in professional theatre. "At different stages in my life I wanted to be a priest, auctioneer or lawyer but theatre was in my blood and I needed no encouragement to try my luck at it". After two years at an acting college in Kent, he was invited to join the Greenfields and Far Away Company.

His first professional part was that of Christy Mahon in "The Playboy of the Western World", a role which he described as akin to an Irish Hamlet.

Kevin gained invaluable experience with them, and returned to Ireland with Greenfields for "The Honey Spike", in Cork.

Since then his career has zoomed. It was while with Contact at Manchester University that he made his mark in Shakespearean plays.

His next stop was the Royal Shakespeare Company in London, where he worked under the direction of the internationally renowned Trevor Nunn, who has since left the



Kevin Wallace at the Bristol Old Vic.

R.S.C. to go into commercial theatre.

Another highlight for Kevin was in 1986 when he played at the famous Bristol Old Vic, a treasure house of memories for fans of the theatre.

That led to an engagement in Singapore.

Though he has performed a multiplicity of roles in some of Britain's most famous theatres, Kevin's fondest memories are of the Abbey Theatre in Dublin, where he played in "Translations" last year.

"The Abbey epitomises everything that is good in theatre — it is after all the home of Synge, Yeats and Lady Gregory, and to have performed there is something I will always treasure", said Kevin, who, as a freelance actor, finds that work is never too far away.

Now well established as an actor in England, his services are sought by most of the leading companies.

But one has to maintain a high standard to remain in the spotlight. Back to Kevin: "It is not unusual to have 400 applications for a part. There are many young actors and actresses coming through the system and the real difficulty is in making the breakthrough".

Television has never really appealed to him and his only appearance on the small screen was in the series on "How We Used To Live".

His is a demanding profession. He returned home over Christmas to "wind down", but it will be all systems go on his return this week.

His greatest supporters are his family.

It is not unusual for his parents, Nancy and Michael Wallace, to be in the audience on opening night, whether it be in Liverpool or Oxford.

His brother, Michael, prominent in local rugby circles, and sister Gabrielle, have also lent him encouragement.

Now residing in Islington, Kevin likes to keep in touch with home and has a special affinity for the Limerick soccer team, of which his father was a former director.

Imeac

Le SEÁN Ó MORÓNAIGH

An tAthair Mac Con Midhe: Ba bhuille tubaisteach do mhuintir Luimnigh ar fad bás gan choinne an Athar Mhic Con Midhe. Ar ndóigh chaoin lucht na Gaeilge é go speisialta. Fear croíúil cáirdiúil cneasta a bhí ann agus an dea-fhocal ina bhéal i gcónaí. Bhí dlúth-bhaint aige ar feadh na mblianta le gluaiseachtaí cultúrtha i Luimneach. Bhí sé ana ghníomhach i bhFéile Luimnigh agus bhí an suim go deo aige sna h-imeachtaí éagsúla a bhí faoi scáth an eagrais sin, go h-áirithe roinn na rince. Tuigtear go forleathan an dlúth-bhaint a bhí aige leis an gCumann Luthchleas Gael. Ach cuimhneoidh go leor i Luimneach air mar cheannaire ar Chumann Gaelach Mhuire i gCeard Scoil Naomh Áine sna seascaidí. Comhlúadar seachtainiúil le céilí agus amhránaíocht a bhí i gCumann Gaelach Mhuire agus bhí na sluaite ag triall air. Bhíodh Feadh na Nollag ag chumainn sin lán go doras. Bhí pearsantacht an Athar Mhic Con Midhe mar inspioráid agus mar spreagadh ag na h-oícheanta breátha sin agus beidh a lucht leanúna faoi bhrón ina dhiadh. Níl imithe ach cúpla mí ó dhein an tAthair Mac Con Midhe an tAifreann a cheiliúradh i Halla Íde ar son Áine Broiméil, Rita Nic Fhlanncaidh, Bean Mhic Dhonncha, Con Foley agus Pádraig Ó Moráin. Má bhí cáirde aige i Luimneach níl amhras ach go raibh cáirde ag feitheamh leis. Sonas agus Sólas na bhFlaitheas orthu go léir.

An Rinn: Tá Michéal Ó Domhnaill, Bainisteoir Choláiste na Rinne eirithe as a phost ó 31 Nollaig. Thosaigh sé ag obair sa choláiste mar chléríreach sa bhliain 1932 agus ceapadh é ina bhainisteoir i ndiaidh bháis an Fhíor Mhóir, Séamus Ó hEochá, bainisteoir tosaigh an Choláiste. Ba é Michéal Ó Domhnaill a scríobh Ollscoil na Mumhan — Gearrstairs, a foilsíodh aru anuraidh. 'Sé Liam Súipéil atá ceapaithe ina bhainisteoir nua ar Choláiste na Rinne. Duine cáirdiúil cumasach é Liam agus guimíd gach rath air.

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