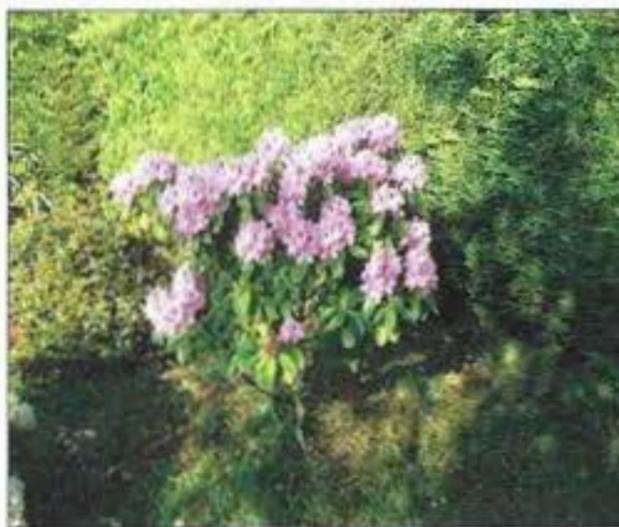


gréan

December 2015



A Garden Paradise in Pallasgreen



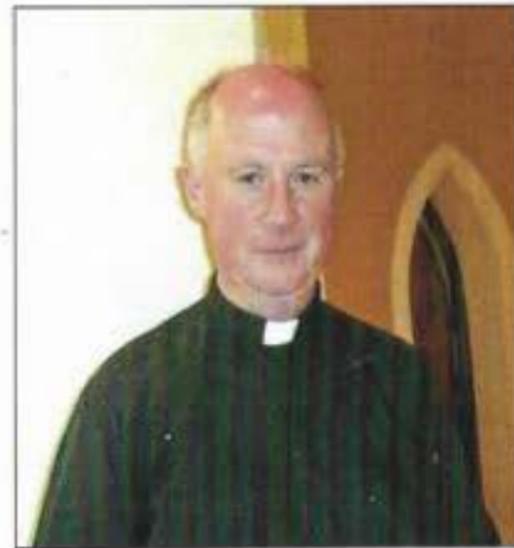
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Foreword

Fr. Pat Burns

It is that time of year again when most people are busy leading up to the Christmas period. As Christmas approaches we invariably ask where has time gone and comment on how quickly another year has almost past. As with every year it has created its own memories, witnessed changes here and there and left people with mixed emotions and blessings. For many of us it has been a year like any other year, for others it has been marked in significant ways, the birth of a new child, success in exams, leaving home to follow a particular path in life, the celebration of marriage, the loss of a loved family member. As with individuals and families much has happened at a parish/community level, within various groups, organisations and committees. Once again Gréan has, in its own exacting way, tried to capture these changes, events and happenings. They are recorded in the pages of this publication for our enjoyment and pleasure. On your behalf I salute and thank all involved with Gréan 2015, all who have contributed articles, the hardworking committee, involved in gathering together so much information and a huge variety of pictures, and especially to this year's editor, Ken Bergin. To one and all I say "Míle Buíochas" and to you the reader, enjoy!



Editorial

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the 2015 edition of Gréan; the 21st edition of this magazine for the Pallasgreen – Templebraden area. I am honoured to be this year's editor of Gréan but this is due to the temporary absence of our regular editor Ger O'Connell. Ger was unable to take on the role of editor this year due to his commitment to the Strictly Care to Dance project which is happening on 28th November 2015. I want to take this opportunity to record our gratitude for all of Ger O'Connell's commitment and drive to produce the Gréan magazine in recent years. It would not have happened without him and we look forward to his return as editor in 2016.

This magazine is built on its contributors and I want to thank all of those who submitted articles, photographs and maps for this year. We are indebted to all our advertisers without whose support it would be impossible to publish and print our 500 copies. Once again we would encourage you to support our local business community. I would like to thank Mossy Kirby of Mulcair Print for his professionalism and expertise in the design and production of this year's magazine. The Gréan is produced each year under the careful auspices of the Pallasgreen Templebraden Historical Society. I want to thank the members of the society for all their work on the magazine and in particular its officers, Siobhan English, Breda O'Dwyer and Jill McCormack.

This year's Gréan once again reflects all the sporting, cultural and historic events of the parish and surrounding areas. There are reports and photographs of all of the activities of all the sporting organisations. We have made the decision to print as many of the photographs in colour in 2015 which I think you will agree improves the look of the magazine. There is a very extensive history section this year where our regular contributors continue to document the people and heritage of the area. There are some very interesting articles on the renovation of St Brigid's Church, Templebraden and the destruction by fire of the Oyster Ballroom in Dromkeen. The mayoral campaign is also well represented.

On behalf of the historical society I want to thank you all for your continued support of the Gréan. We

would encourage you to come forward with your memories, photographs and articles which make up the history of Pallasgreen – Templebraden.

Ken Bergin
Editor

Pallasgreen-Templebraden Historical Society

Siobhan English (Chairperson), Breda O'Dwyer (Secretary), Jill McCormack (Treasurer)
Pat Kelly, Nora Stokes, Gillian Hickie, Carmel O'Keeffe, Tom Kennedy, Fr Burns, Kathleen Shanahan, Tom Ryan (W), Margaret Ryan, Mary Hayes, Ken Bergin, Mary Kennedy, Harry Kennedy, Mary Slattery, Margaret Hayes, Dolores Redpath, David Thompson, Ciaran Shanahan, Ger O'Connell, John O'Dwyer, Ned Ryan, Anne Garvey.

Photographs featured on the front cover:

Thoor Ballylee Castle Co. Galway,
Colin Ryan with the U21 Trophy
Green Drama Group – The Little Prince
Knockane Football Team
Pallasgreen Ladies Club
Official Opening of the Pallas Soccer Field
Strictly Care to Dance
Church of Ireland Graveyard in Pallasgreen
St Brigid's Church Templebraden
Garrydoolis Gals Under 14 Singing Group

Every effort has been made to ensure that all details names, dates etc in this publication are correct. Omissions and errors are sincerely regrettable and not intentional, we apologise for any inconvenience caused.

Published by kind permission of the Trustees of Pallasgreen Community Council.

St. Brigid's Church, Templebraden, 2015

By Riah Hogan

After much discussion, planning, consultation and tenders, work was begun on the church in Templebraden in June 2015. Mr Pat McSweeney, of Gleeson McSweeney architects in Limerick, is overseeing the project being carried out by the main contractor Pat Fanning of Caplan Construction.

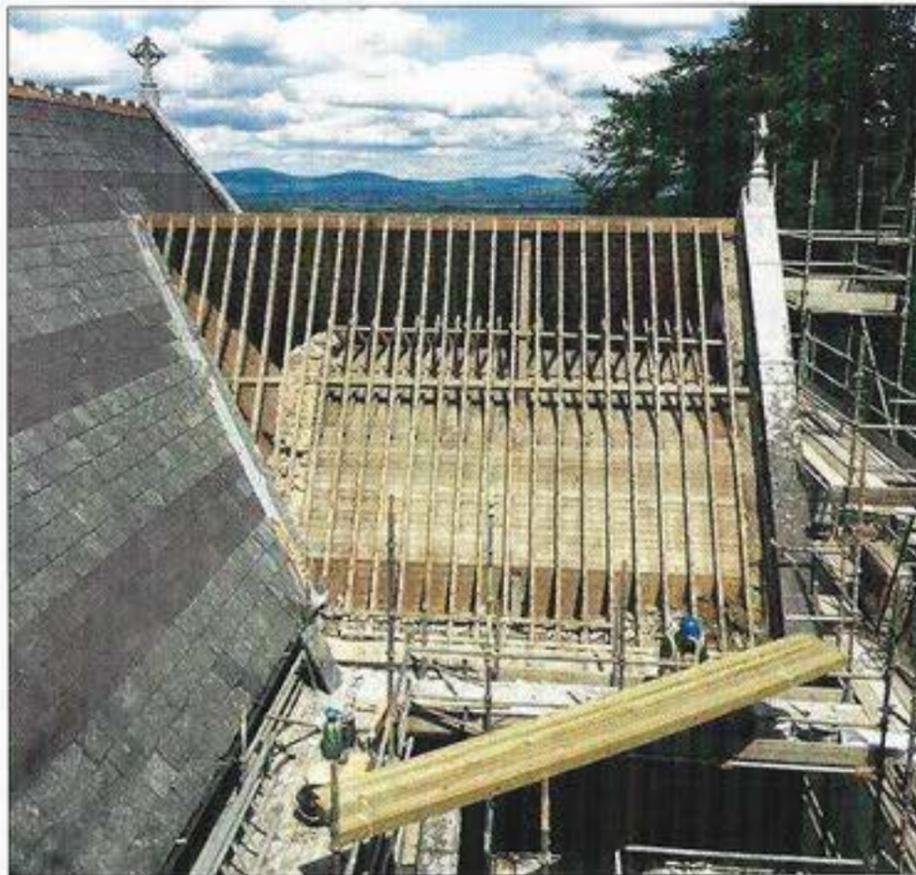
Our last Mass took place on June 21st.

The scaffolding arrived on June 23rd and work quickly commenced.

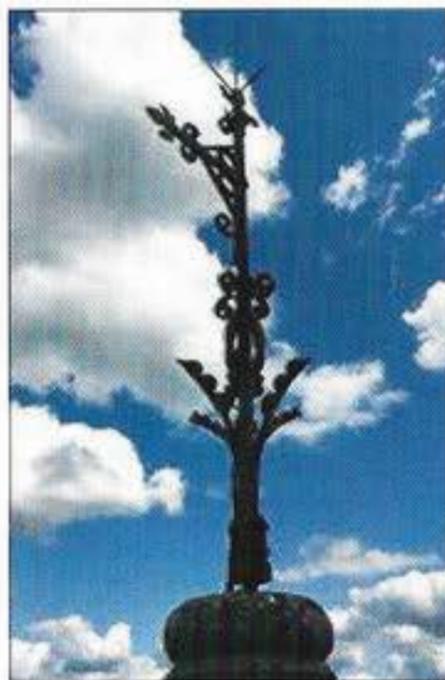
The lime repointing was undertaken immediately. Removal of the cement pointing showed the extent of the moisture trapped within the wall.



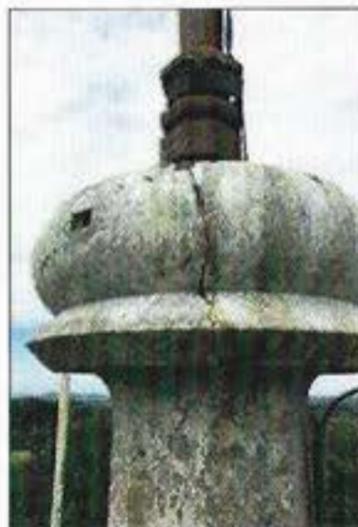
This is an example of why the re-pointing of the church with a breathable lime mortar is necessary. This photograph demonstrates the extent of the moisture that has been trapped within the core of the wall.



Stripped down transept



Cross before and after restoration



Damage to the pinnacle stone is evident.



Repaired pinnacle stone, prior to re-instatement of stone and cross.



Fr. Burns with broken Cross



Cross restored using crane on October 12th



Steeple awaiting repointing



One of the window heads after repointing and cleaning.



A rare view of the bell

Much of the work to the exterior fabric is now nearing completion, with the scaffolding expected to be removed by mid-November. This will expose the re-roofing works, refurbished belfry cross, repairing and repointing of stonework, new cast iron gutters and refurbished downpipes. The new louvres to the belfry and refurbished leaded glass windows will also be clearly visible. Other works remaining externally include new external illumination to the building and a gently sloped concrete level access route to the east porch entrance. Land drainage works and repainting or entrance railings and gates will also be completed.

The work on the interior continues, with some changes to be made including the removal of one of the confession boxes and enlargement of the other, the relocation of the baptismal font to the side aisle, internal redecoration including repainting of the stencil work to the sanctuary area, re-tiling of the main aisle, a new draft entrance lobby, new internal lighting, new emergency lighting and fire

alarm system, installation of new heating system, provision of new steel ladder to belfry and upgrading of beam supporting bell framework.

Many thanks to Mrs Shelley Carroll, Ballyneety and Pat McSweeney for sharing their photographs

Architects Gleeson McSweeney, 99 O'Connell Street, Limerick
Quantity Surveyor; John F Flynn, Shelbourne Court, Shelbourne Road, Limerick.

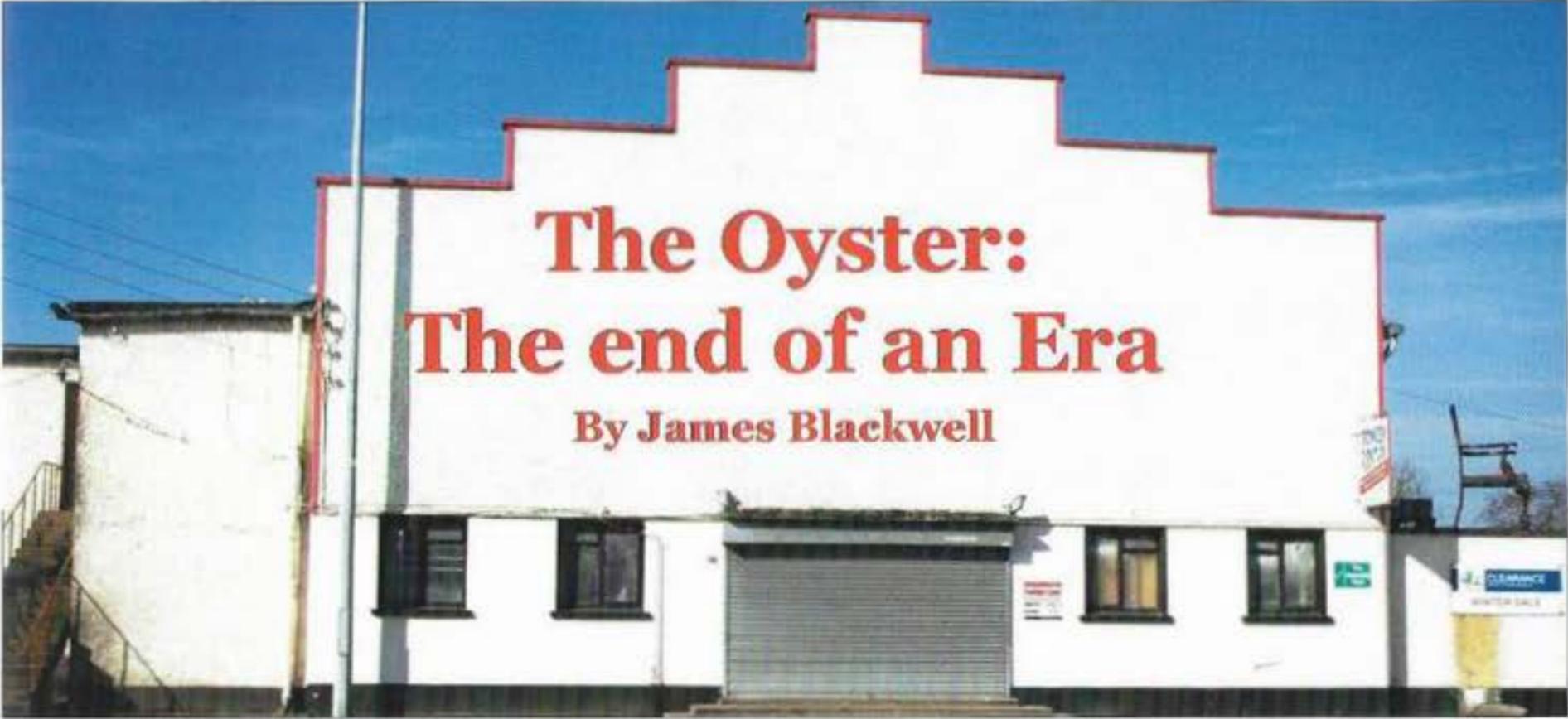
Services Consultants; Moloney Fox Consultants, 46 O'Connell Street, Limerick.

Project Supervisor Design Process; Aegis Safety Management, Greenpark Avenue, S.C.R. Limerick

Consultant Engineers; McMahon Hardiman Consulting Engineers Ltd., 91 Henry Street, Limerick.

Main Contractor; Caplan Construction Ltd., Bansha, Co. Tipperary

Limework Sub contractor, Mid West Lime, Newmarket-on-Fergus, Co. Clare



The Oyster: The end of an Era

By James Blackwell

August 16th of this year brought an end to an era that many from all across Ireland will remember with great fondness. The Oyster Ballroom will be remembered by many and accredited by more as the place where couples found love for the first time. A hugely significant building, it was built thanks to the foresight of entrepreneur Pakie Hayes. It brought crowds from all over as they flocked to see the likes of Brendan Bowyer, Jim Reeves and Dickie Rock in action.

I recently had the opportunity to complete an oral history project on the Oyster Ballroom and the role it played in the locality. I interviewed members of Pakie Hayes' family, past employees of the hall, and those who both preformed and danced there. Using this information, I was able to compile some unique insights into the Hall and managed to preserve what is quite clearly only a fraction of the stories that surround the hall.

What follows is an adapted extract from this project; *'The Oyster Ballroom; An Oral History.'*

It is natural for a person to link their own personal history with a place. A person can link social experiences, cultural influences, economic prosperity and indeed entire eras to one specific building. The Ballroom Era which took Ireland by storm in the 1950s and continued right through to the end of the 1970s was one which would alter the path of the country's development both culturally and socially and has left many with fond memories of dance halls throughout the country. It was the forerunner to the age of Rock and Roll and Disco and, although rarely acknowledged as such, provided the catalyst for an irreversible change in the manner in which Irish people socialised.

The showband story is rooted in the dark days of the 1950s. In a time when the average increase in national income in Europe resided at 40 per cent, Ireland's was a mere 8 per cent. While the rest of Europe enjoyed a post-war economic boom, Ireland was going through an economic crisis. With an alarming number of people emigrating in search of work, the wheels of a social

transformation were slowly beginning to turn. The ballroom era, which emerged due to a combination of factors during this period was to have a profound and lasting effect on Irish society. As the 1950s progressed, business entrepreneurs throughout the country recognised a demand for a new social outlet. These men were more than willing to capitalise on the droves of followers that showbands had drummed up for themselves overnight.

Ballrooms began to spring up around the country, and while showbands came and went, these structures lived on. Still in our midst today, although mostly dilapidated or used for an entirely different purpose, these halls are repositories of vivid, almost palpable memories of a bygone era. The Oyster Ballroom came to prominence as the biggest dance hall of its kind in Munster. Built by the Hayes family in 1957 and opened for business in 1958, it was situated twelve miles east of Limerick City and drew crowds from all over to the tiny country crossroads in Dromkeen. Typical of the many dance halls that sprung up at crossroads throughout the country at this time, it therefore provided, in terms of the effect it had on its own locality, an excellent example of the social transformation that the dancehall era wrought.

Businessman Pakie Hayes was running a thriving farm machinery and farm supplies business alongside a busy grocery shop, petrol station and public house. Against the wishes of his family and the advice of his friends, Hayes saw an opportunity to expand his business portfolio. This dancehall would go on to become part of the social fabric that made up of whole communities from north Cork, Tipperary, Clare and Limerick. 'His relatives came to him and said please stop – that he was making fools of the family. He kept on anyway despite their protestations.'

Using his existing business contacts as well as some local financial investment, building began in early 1957. Despite the financial gains of his businesses, Hayes did not have sufficient capital to get the project off the ground single-handedly.

The main building contractor, reputed to be one of the main investors, was Robert Parkes from Elm Park in Limerick. He was also a close friend of Hayes. The initial build cost £16,000 and was 'an eye opener even by present day standards of dance hall construction.' The dance floor was 6,000 square feet 'and established it as a colossus among rural dance halls.'

'No, bigger ... No, push it back, push it back ... they all thought he was cracked.'

In order for the Oyster Ballroom to succeed, it was clear to Hayes that it would have to be more impressive than any existing hall or ballroom that might be built in the future.

Certain aspects of the hall mirror Hayes' foresight. The hall featured air conditioning – warm air in winter, cool air in summer which was a new departure for Irish ballrooms. The floor was of Canadian maple and 'cost a fortune ... it would probably have been the dearest part of the hall.' The floor was a vital component of any dance hall and 'the whole floor would have to be polished so that it was slippery for dancing.' The floor also set Hayes' ballroom apart from its local competition. The quality is remembered by those who danced there; 'The floor in Dromkeen would be always very good ... whereas if you went into Cappamore or you could see 'em throwing Lux flakes or something like that.' The floor's construction was intricate and deliberate. It was only revealed in later years when improvements were made, that the floor's detailed construction was really acknowledged. A nine inch cavity lay between the foundation and dance floor which rested on thin wooden beams. These beams were separated with thin strips of rubber, and added to both the quality and strength of the floor. This set Dromkeen apart from other dance halls. Hayes understood the importance of a quality dance floor and invested heavily in its installation.

The sheer dimensions of the hall led Hayes to later install a moveable stage which was unique to Dromkeen. Brendan Bowyer, lead singer of 'The Royal Showband' and later 'The Big 8' remembered this change having taken place. 'At that time Hayes had enlarged the ballroom at the

back and he could bring the stage forward if there was a lesser crowd or put it back.' The moveable stage ensured that the size of the hall could be altered to accommodate varying crowd sizes. 'The stage then that they had in Dromkeen, if there was a big crowd, the stage was on wheels and they could move it back and if the, if the crowd was small then they used move it forward.' This was just one of the techniques used by Hayes in an attempt to get dancers out on the floor and combat the inhibitions felt by patrons at the start of any night. It also allowed Hayes to make the hall appear full on a smaller night. Pat Cosgrave, who worked as a bouncer at the hall described how the moveable stage worked.

'If we thought the crowd was getting bigger, bigger, bigger, bigger you'd go back and you'd pull it back seven or eight feet which left an awful lot of room ... there was seven or eight wheels under it and 'twas worked with a chain and handles, a couple of fellows would go in behind and work it like that and 'twould pull back. I don't know who had the brains to do that but 'twas a good one.'

WELCOME — WELCOME — WELCOME
TO
THE GALA OPENING DANCE
ON NOVEMBER 19th
AT
THE OYSTER BALLROOM
DROMKEEN, CO. LIMERICK
HALL FULLY LICENSED
EVERY DANCE A SPOT
PROPRIETOR, P. J. HAYES
DON'T MISS THIS GREAT NIGHT IN THE
SOUTH'S LARGEST BALLROOM



The men who worked on the building of the Oyster Ballroom pictured with Pakie Hayes.

Hayes provoked much reaction to his plans to build the hall in Dromkeen. He encountered opposition from many sides. Local, Tony Touhy remembered his mother being particularly worried about raising a family so close to a dance hall of this size. The local Parish Priest, Fr. Lee, tried to reassure her. On a visit to the house he proclaimed to her, *'For God sake woman, there'll be crows flying in and out of that place before any of them will be going dancing.'*

The Oyster Ballroom played a central role in the development of the area's social scene. People from a greater area could now meet and interact with one another in a completely new setting and dance to popular hits by different bands on a weekly basis. With an increase in the number of cars and greater access to transport, people were no longer confined to their own locality to socialise but travelled the length and breadth of the country to follow the biggest bands on the circuit at the time. The economic boom Ireland experienced in the sixties gave people more disposable income than they had previously. Work was available once more in the country due to an employment focused Government led by Seán Lemass. Dance halls such as the Oyster Ballroom slowly established themselves as the social outlet of a generation of young adults irrespective of class or location. They were universal, appealing to both those in towns and rural areas.

Not alone did the hall affect the social life of the locality but it also offered valuable supplementary night-time work that helped many families enjoy a higher standard of living. The hall also created and supported enterprise elsewhere in the region. The success of the Oyster Ballroom impacted greatly on other smaller halls and forms of entertainment in the area. Smaller dance halls were seen as old fashioned and grew surplus to requirement, some being forced to take on a new life in order to stay relevant, others closing down completely. Publicans were forced to adapt their businesses to meet the needs of the changing social trends or face the same fate as the smaller parochial halls. Their adaption saw the creation of the lounge bar as cultural shifts in the country saw the taboo of women in pubs extinguished. Slackening crowds, the result of increased competition from these new lounge-bars and the diminishing appeal of showbands with the arrival of Disco, put halls such as the Oyster under increased pressure to remain financially viable as a business. This, coupled with new stringent health and safety regulations, saw many proprietors exit the business that they had monopolised for decades.

While many people placed great emphasis on the individual traits of Hayes, one must also recognise the economic and social change Ireland was undergoing at the time. Hayes' dance hall was not the first of its kind nor the last. However, he understood the dynamics of the change in social trends. What he provided for the community was pioneering, both in size and condition. Therefore its

THE OYSTER BALLROOM DROMKEEN

Sunday Night, July 10—DOC CARROLL and the

Royal Blues

Dancing 9—1.
Admission 7/6 (including Tax)
Usual Bus Service

influence was long lasting on both the locality and its surroundings.

The hall has left in its wake a legacy that is carried on in the memories of those who attended and danced there. Many couples in their fifties, sixties and seventies first met in dance halls throughout the country and subsequently married. Establishments such as the Oyster are sources of rich oral evidence from an era that is defined in Ireland as one of social and cultural change.

Leaving aside for a moment the sweeping social and cultural change that was about during the lifetime of the Oyster I will leave the final word with Pakie Hayes' daughter Christina:

'One of my memories of it closing was of my father. He was fairly sentimentally attached to it and on a Sunday night for five or six Sundays after it closed, he used to sit out looking across the road from the house counting the number of cars that came from Limerick, out for the dance and coming and seeing no lights on and turning around and going back into Limerick. So I'd say he was fairly lonesome after it for a while.'

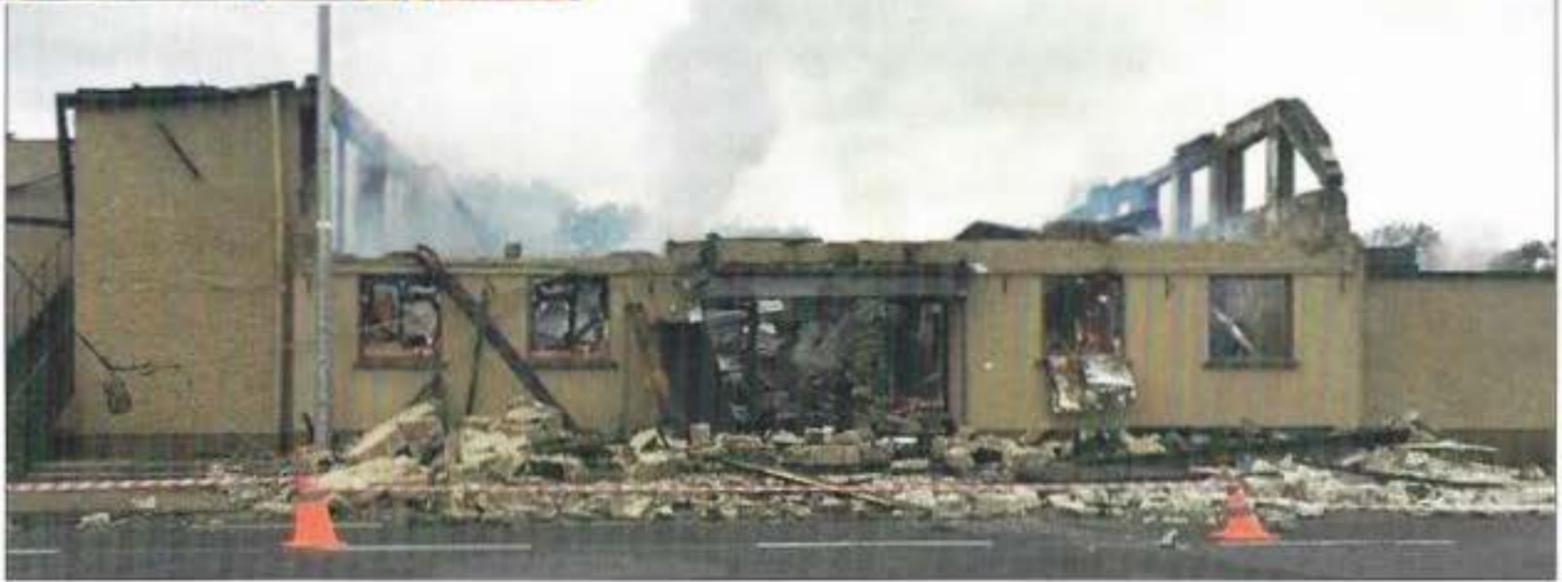
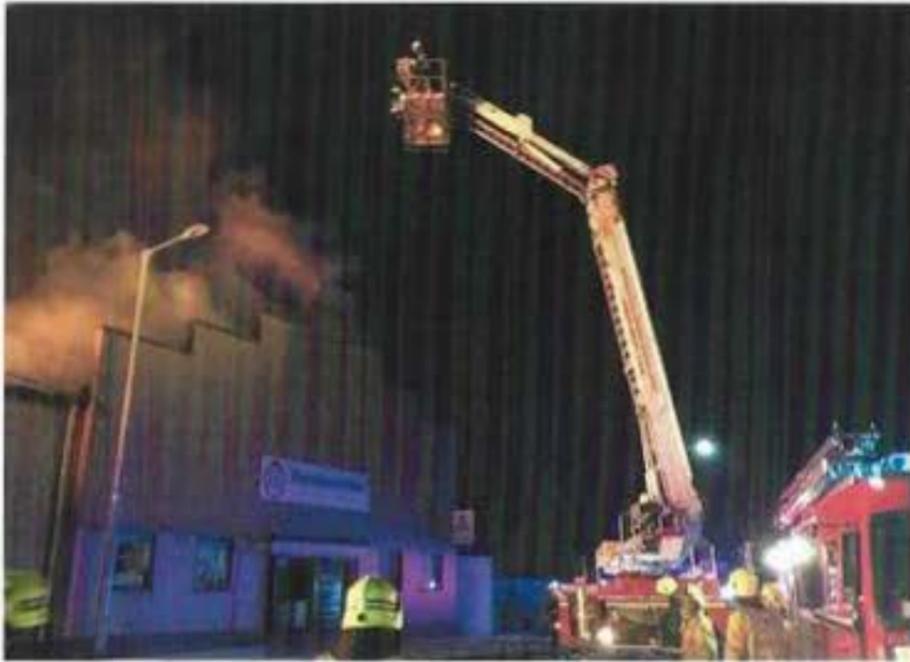
For Hayes, it was a way of life and when it ended there is no doubt that its absence left a void in his life which was never really filled again.

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Photos taken by James Blackwell who was at the scene of the fire.

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Strictly Care To Dance - Launch Night

Nineteen couples to take part in Strictly Care to Dance charity night.

IF THE launch of Strictly Care to Dance is anything to go by the main event on November 28th 2015 in the South Court Hotel will have the audience giving tens all round.

Based on the BBC1 show, 38 men and women got a taste of their surroundings on Saturday evening. The pairs - including well known faces like GAA stars Shane Dowling and Katie Campbell - were matched up for the first time. As the crowd clapped to the beat of the music the males strode across the room, roses in hand, for their dancing partners. They will be judged by an all-star line-up of TJ Ryan, Celia Holman Lee, Leanne Moore and Richard Lynch.

The night is the brainchild of Pallasgreen's Ger O'Connell. It was inspired by his late brother Matt who lost his life to cancer in November 2014.

"We saw first-hand the hard work and dedication of each member of staff in Milford Care Centre when they looked after Matt. Strictly Care to Dance is to give something back to these special people as a thank you to them for all they did for Matt in the final weeks of his life," said Ger.

As Matt was a superb dancer and teacher the "Strictly" event was the perfect fit. All the dances will be based on songs from well-known movies. It will be a brave couple who take on the famous scene from Dirty Dancing!

All the proceeds will be divided between Milford Care Centre, Cliona's Foundation and the baby Michael Butler Trust Fund.

"Representatives from the three beneficiaries will be dancing which is fantastic. There will be all sorts of twists, tangos, slow/fast waltzes, quick steps and maybe a side-step from Shane Dowling! Liam Aherne from Limerick's Live 95Fm will hope his feet to do the talking.

"Former IFA president John Dillon, famous for the tractorcade during his presidency, will hope his slogan of Dillon Delivers" will work on the night. Bingo caller Larry Ryan, from Oola, will be hoping the judges call out the right numbers for him. There are a lot of local and county personalities taking part, teachers, nurses, shop owners, farmers, publicans and even an undertaker," said Ger.

Over the next ten weeks the contestants will be put through their paces by choreographers Richie Harty, Joe Hayes, Patricia McNamara and Mary O'Neill. The experience of the dancers ranges from beginners to a good standard.

Their first two-hour session took place on Monday night in Pallasgreen and this will be repeated twice weekly.

The event is being run in association with St Ailbes Credit Union. John O'Connor said great

credit must go to Ger and his eight-strong committee.

"They are working voluntarily on our behalf and we are delighted to be associated with these very, very worthy causes. It is going to be a very successful event and I wish the participants the very best of luck in their endeavours," said John.

Suzie O'Kelly, one of the committee members, said when they were approached by Ger last March they said yes straight away.

"We looked at Matt's life, what he loved and it was quite easy - dancing. He taught so many to dance so this is a tribute to him," said Susie, who thanked the 38 for kindly giving up their time.

Gerald Mitchell, deputy mayor, asked people to come out in large numbers to support these three charities.

"I'm sure it will be a night to behold," said Cllr Mitchell.

Fittingly, the last song at the launch played by Martin Cosgrave, MC, was *Shut up and Dance With Me*.

Strutting their sStuff on the dance floor are; Paddy Kennedy & Mary Cosgrave, Joan McCarthy & Larry Ryan, Ger O'Connell & Siobhan O'Kelly, Shane Dowling & Katie Campbell, Liam Aherne & Tracy Barron, Michael Butler & Christine Ronan, Ciara Morgan & Ollie Ryan, John Dillon & Audrey Horan, Darragh Fanning & Eadaoin O'Connell, Martin Hartnett & Rachel Leahy, John Butler & Annette Stokes, Ian Horgan & Bridget Lambert, Michael Ryan & Jennifer Platt, Bill O'Connell & Teresa Harding, Dermot O'Dwyer & Sinead Ryan, Phil Regan & Grainne Hayes, Michael O'Donoghue & Majella Diggins, John Greene & Breda McGuinness, Joe Franklin & Geraldine McNamara.

Donal O'Regan
Limerick Leader



Pictured at the launch of Strictly Care to Dance: L-R: Deputy Mayor Ger Mitchell, Dara Fraher, Pat O'Toole, Susie O'Kelly, Ger O'Connell, Marie Keating, John O'Connor and Catherine Power.



Strictly Care To Dance Committee from L/R: Martin Cosgrave, Mike O'Riordan, Mary Cosgrave, Dara Fraher, Sinead Ryan, Susie O'Kelly, Ger O'Connell.
Missing from photo: Bernie O'Sullivan, Grainne O'Sullivan.

Below left: All in a Tango; Richie Harty and Mary O'Neill displaying their talents.

Below right: Choreographers of Strictly Care To Dance; from Left; Mary O'Neill, Richie Harty, Patsy McNamara Mann.



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Picture Parade



John Dillon and Samantha Walsh



Liam McMahon (Pallasgreen) and Dolores Taaffe (Murroe).



Karen and Ger Ryan, Shandangain, Pallasgreen



Tony O'Brien (Kilduff) and Julianne Ryan (Clonteen, Cappamore).



The 'Garrydoolis Gals' U14 singing group that represented County Limerick in the HSE Community Games National Finals in Athlone in August 2015.



Christmas Fair: Santa on his way to Pallasgreen Community Centre.



Santa arrives.



2015 Daffodil Day raised €3,100.00
Mairéad Corbett, Saoirse Corbett and Mike O'Donoghue.



Tea Ladies at Christmas Fair.
L/R Mary Weatherhead, Mary Dillon, Breda Deere, Breda O'Dwyer and Margaret Ryan.



The 2015 "Tour de Pallas"



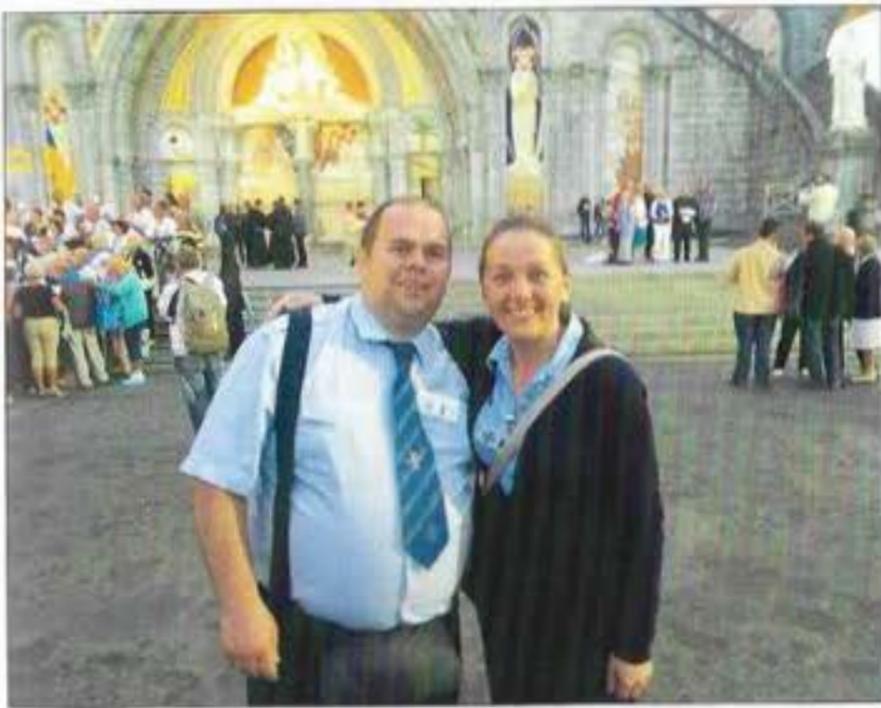
Bree O'Dwyer (Barna N.S.)
1st Prize in St Ailbes Credit Union Art Competition.
The theme this year was "Happiness Is"



Launch of the Gréan in Power's Pub - December 2014
Left to Right: John O'Connor, Liam Irwin, Siobhan English, Ger O'Connell.



Mona O'Brien receiving the Bene Merenti Medal from Canon McNamara and Fr. Kennedy. This is the highest honour awarded by the Pope to lay people in recognition of their long and exceptional service to the church. It was awarded to Mona for her faithful and loyal service to the Catholic Church through the Legion of Mary, Pioneer Association, Choir, Liturgy, work with St. Josephs Young Priests Society and her inspiring work with young people.



Lourdes 2015: Seán & Mairead O'Connor in front of rosary basilica



Paddy O'Connor at candle light procession.



Jane Deere, Mary Cosgrave and Mary Moore enjoying the hot day.



Mary McMahon carrying one of the Cashel & Emly Flags.



Seán O'Connor reading at penitential service



Mary & John O'Connor Moymore, pictured with Brendan Bowyer at Reeling back the Showband years in Cappamore.



Limerick's All-Ireland U21 Hurling Star Darragh O'Donovan with supporters from Pallas and Oola in Semple Stadium after winning the final - 12th September 2015.



PP O'Sullivan, Pat Cronin and Joanne Beary at the Christmas Fair in Pallasgreen on Sunday 7th December 2014.



FÁS Workers in New Pallas pose for photograph - September 2015. Mattie Ryan (Oola) and Damien Wallace.

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The Pallas U21 Football Team after winning the 2014 East Limerick Championship final against Cappamore on Saturday 29th November 2014 in Boher

Back row – L to R: Darren Roche, Shane Murphy, Mark FitzGerald, Philip Roche, Darren Cosgrave, Christian O'Dwyer, John Ryan, Kevin McMahon, Dion Wallace, Ryan Deere

Front row – L to R: Ciaran Ryan, Alan Cosgrave, Colin Ryan, Mickey Gammell (Capt.), Brian McCarthy, Joe Keogh, Denis O'Dea, Luke O'Dwyer, Pa Roche.



Mickey Gammell captain of the Pallasgreen U21 Football team is presented with the East Cup by East Board Chairman Mr. Louis Quirke. In the background is Ned Breen.



Tony Browne (Historian) and Siobhan English (N.T.) lecturing to a group on Sarsfields Rock Ballyneety on the day the Limerick City of Culture Mobile Pub visited Ballyneety on 6th August 2014.



Tony Greene presenting a trophy to Willie Shanahan Pallasgreen at the 2009 East Limerick GAA Sports Star Awards ceremony.

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Clubs and Organisations

Pallasgreen GAA Senior Club

by Brian Shanahan (PRO)

Senior Football:

Pallasgreen's third season in the Senior Football championship saw them draw in Group 1 against champions Ballylanders, St. Patricks, Dromcollogher Broadford, Monaleen and Sean Finn's. The team got off to a great start, beating champions Ballylanders in Bruff on a score of 3-6 to 1-6 back in April. However that good start wasn't followed up on and losses to Rathkeale (by 2-11 to 0-11), Monaleen (1-13 to 1-5) and Dromcollogher Broadford (3-19 to 1-7) meant that Pallas needed a win in the final match against St. Patrick's. With the referee abandoning that match in the dying moments, the county board awarded the game to Pallasgreen based on his report, ensuring that Pallasgreen stayed up this year without having to face a relegation play-off.

In the All-County league Pallasgreen had two wins against Oola (1-11 to 1-5) and Galbally (1-10 to 0-5), and three losses against Ballysteen (0-11 to 1-4), Adare (2-16 to 2-13) and St Senan's (5-13 to 0-7), with the matches against Castlemahon and Mountcollins as yet unplayed to leave the team sitting in seventh place out of eight teams. As all games have not been completed, the position of the team has not been finalised as of time of writing.

In the East championship Pallasgreen exited the championship at the preliminary round stage by giving a walkover to Oola.

Premier Intermediate Hurling:

After winning last years Intermediate championship, Pallasgreen played in the Premier Intermediate grade for 2015, with all eight teams competing in one group. Similar to the football, the team had a great start beating

Garryspillane by (2-14 to 0-18). In the second round against Knockainey Pallasgreen lost by a single point (1-12 to 2-8) by on a very bad night in Kilbreedy. This game was followed by a loss to Granagh Ballingarry (0-13 to 0-10), and a draw with Bruree (Pallas 0-19 to Bruree's 1-16). A single point loss to Monaleen (0-16 to 0-15) meant that Pallas needed to win their last two games to guarantee safety, but despite some good battling the team lost narrowly to Blackrock by (2-16 to 2-14) and with results in the other games going against them both Dromin Athlaca and Pallas were down before their final round match against each other, which Dromin Athlaca won by 6-9 to 1-9.

In the All County league Pallasgreen won against St Kierans (3-18 to 3-11), drew with Dromin Athlaca (2-15 to Pallas against 3-12 to Dromin Athlaca) and lost to Mungret (2-15 to 1-20), Glenroe (1-14 to 1-11), Bruree (3-16 to 1-6) and Knockaderry (1-17 to 1-16).

For 2015 Pallasgreen entered the East Senior Hurling Championship. The first round saw Pallas play South Liberties, who won in a well contested game by 2-13 to 1-13. This left Pallas play in the cup semi-final against Ahane, where an under strength Pallas team lost by a single point on a score of 1-16 to 2-12.

Junior A football:

In the Junior A football league Pallasgreen had wins against Kiltely Dromkeen (1-6 to 0-6), Knockane (2-14 to 3-2), Cappamore (3-13 to 1-3), Fedamore (1-7 to 1-2) and Ahane (4-17 to 0-5), and losing to South Liberties by 3-12 to 1-3 and Ballybricken Bohermore (2-7 to 1-7). The final was against South Liberties, where Pallas won by a score of 5-10 to 1-10, recapturing the league title the team had surrendered in 2014 at the same stage. In the county semi final Pallas faced Kildimo Pallaskenry, who won eventually on a score of 0-14 to 1-

8.

In the championship Pallasgreen lost to Kiltely Dromkeen (1-15 to 1-5) and Ahane (1-9 to 0-6), before wins against South liberties (walkover) and Murroe Boher (1-10 to 0-7) saw them advance to a semi-final against Ahane. Unlike the league match Pallasgreen were more than able to contest the game with their opponents and won on a score of 3-10 to 3-7 setting up an East final match against Kiltely Dromkeen, which has yet to be played. Due to the delay in playing the East final, Pallasgreen faced City champions Kildimo Pallaskenry in the County quarter final, and their interest in the championship was ended on a score of 2-14 to 0-6.

Junior B Hurling:

Pallasgreen stepped up to Junior A ranks for the hurling league, which was played jointly with the South division. Pallas won against Bruff (1-17 to 1-7), drew with Kilmallock (Pallas 2-8 Kilmallock 1-11) and lost to Ahane (1-18 to 2-7), Doon (0-18 to 1-6) and Staker Wallace (3-15 to 1-10), leaving them out of the running for League final spots.

In the championship, Pallasgreen topped their group with a win against South Liberties (4-17 to 2-7), a walkover from Knockane and a draw with Murroe Boher (Pallas 1-8 to Murroe's 0-11). In the semi-final they faced Cappamore where a 1-13 to 1-8 victory saw the team progress to the final where they again faced Doon, their opponents of the last few years at this stage. Pallas ended up the victors by a score of 1-13 to 0-14, capturing the title in strong style. In the county quarter final Pallasgreen faced Monaleen, where they lost on a score of (2-10 to 1-7).

Pallasgreen also competed in the East Intermediate championship, with a team drawn from a mixture of Junior and Intermediate players. In the round robin they lost to Caherline

(0-19 to 1-14) and Cappamore (2-15 to 1-14) and won by walkover against Killeely Dromkeen.

The Brian Butler Cup saw Pallasgreen knocked out in the quarter final against Doon by a single point on a score of 1-8 to 1-7.

Under 21:

In the U-21 hurling we played in the East championship. Pallas won against Cappamore (3-11 to 1-13) and lost to St Kevins (2-17 to 2-14) and Murroe Boher (2-14 to 0-9). Due to scheduling issues the East B final against Cappamore has not yet been played. In the County championship Pallas faced Kildimo Pallaskenry in the semi final, winning by 3-16 to 1-11. And on 21st April last Pallas faced Kilacolla Gaels in the County B final, winning magnificently on a score of 6-16 to 0-12 to bring home the club's first county silverware of the year.

As of the time of writing there have been no games played in the U-21 football championship.

Minors:

Pallasgreen played in the Minor Premier Hurling championship for 2015. What turned out to be a very young team for the year were not able to win any of their games, losing to Doon, Adare, Mungret and Na Piarisigh in the Round Robin stages. In the East Minor Football, Pallasgreen had wins against Ballybricken Bohermore (0-11 to 2-4), Cappamore and Murroe Boher (both walkovers) and didn't complete their last game against Oola as both teams

had qualified for the A final. In the A final Oola won on a score of 5-8 to 1-9, meaning Pallasgreen dropped down to the B final where they faced Ballybricken Bohermore losing to their opponents by 2-9 to 1-7.

Congratulations to all our players who represented county teams during the year: Colin Ryan Malachy, who won an All Ireland Hurling medal at corner forward for the Limerick U-21 team, and also represented Limerick at Intermediate grade, Robert O'Donnell who also represented Limerick in Intermediate hurling, Kevin Barry, Tony McMahon Jr and Brian Fanning who represented Limerick in Junior Football, with Brian Fanning also being part of the Limerick Senior Football Panel. At Juvenile level Aaron Greene, Aidan McNamara and Conor Linnane represented Limerick at u-13 hurling, Kyran O'Donnell at u-14 and Colm Cosgrave at u-15.

Congratulations to our Juvenile club and the three local schools for the success they have had over the year. Thanks to all the coaches and teachers who worked very hard over the year with the youth to nurture our games in the parish.

A special thanks is extended to Laura Heelan from all members of Pallasgreen GAA club for the effort she made in raising over €17,000 for the

club during her successful Mayoral election campaign in July and August. The funds she raised have been very helpful in aiding the clubs ongoing development of its playing facilities.

The club would also like to thank G&D Tyres and Whelan's Chaser Bar and Restaurant two local businesses who generously sponsored a set of jerseys each for use by the senior club.

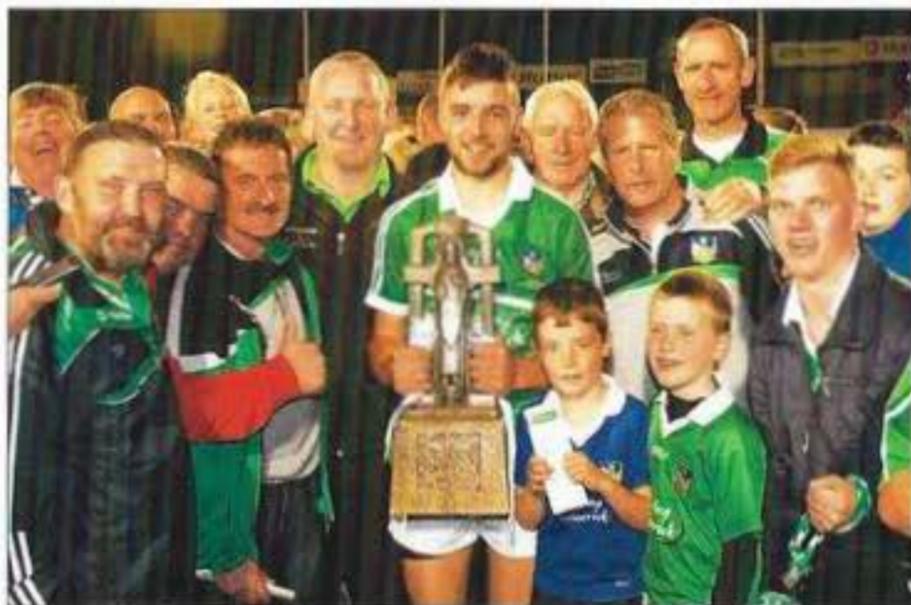
Our club lotto remains the most important source of income, and is vital to the continued running of the club. Any help with the continued success of the lotto would be greatly appreciated.

I would like to thank our sponsors for their continued support of the club and would encourage all members to support them whenever possible.

The club extends its condolences to all who suffered bereavements over the year.

Finally I would like to thank all who helped out the club during the year, volunteers, club members, trainers, sponsors and those who supported the teams at all our games.

We wish everybody a happy and peaceful Christmas and a prosperous 2016.



Colin Ryan (M) pictured holding the All-Ireland U21 Trophy after Limerick's win over Wexford in September 2015, with Pallasgreen GAA supporters.

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Pallasgreen Juvenile G.A.A. Club

2015 was yet another very busy year for Pallasgreen Juvenile G.A.A. Club. We have 148 registered Juvenile members. This year the coaches at various levels worked to develop players' hurling and football skills and team work.

The Juvenile club continues to make a valuable contribution to the local community. We have growing numbers of both boys and girls from particularly at the younger age levels. Children can become members as young as 4 or 5. New members are always welcome. For the last 2 years, we have organised an 'Open-day session' so that new members can get a sense of what the training involves. While the season has ended, we will resume training early in the new year and would welcome new members, coaches, committee members and help of any kind.

Under 6 - 10

Our Under 10, Under 8 and Under 6 teams of both girls and boys played a total of 35 hurling and football Blitzes in the 2015 season. As well as participating in Regional blitzes, we worked with local clubs such as Doon, Oola, Caherline, Kiltelly-Dromkeen, Hospital, Cappawhite, Murroe-Boher and Bruff to organise additional blitzes. Throughout the year, we have had consistently big numbers at the training sessions from February to the end of October, every Wednesday evening (Hurling) and Sunday morning (Football). The results of this weekly dedication was evident in the blitzes, where our players were

competitive and demonstrated high levels of skill as well as good sportsmanship.

Under 12 - 16

All in all we competed in 59 underage matches between the ages of Under 12 and Under 16 in both hurling and football.

Our Under 12 team had a very busy year and played a total of 18 hurling and football matches. These games culminated in us qualifying for the finals day in Rathkeale and UL. These players made great strides over the season and demonstrated a strong commitment to training. This resulted in skill levels improving dramatically over the season.

As a small club, our Under 14 team this year played 10 hurling matches and 10 football matches. While extremely young, these players showed good commitment, discipline and spirit in each of their matches.

This year after 2 years of success, the numbers for our Under 16 panel were extremely tight and generally relied on our Under 14 players to field a team. This made competing against teams on the age extremely challenging. All players who partook showed dedication on the field of play.

County Representation

A number of Pallasgreen Juvenile GAA players have represented the club at various age groups and competitions over the season. We would like to congratulate Kyran O'Donnell who captained the Limerick U14 Hurling Team in the Tony Forristal Tournament in Waterford. We would also like to congratulate Callum Cosgrave for

representing his club on the Limerick U15 Hurling Team. While Sarah Phelan, Sarah Dillon, Fiona Keogh, Ciara McNamara & Caoimhe Butler represented their club on the Limerick U11 Football Team, Conor Linnane, Timmy Dillon, Aine Looby, Sophie Roche & Cliodhna Ryan represented their Schools on the County and divisional Primary School Teams.

Girls Gaelic Football

This year Pallasgreen Juvenile GAA Club hosted a very successful LGFA gaelic4girls programme. The programme attracted 45 girls aged 8-12 from Pallasgreen and the surrounding area and focused on fun and participation in Ladies Gaelic Football in a non-competitive environment. In June at the end of the programme the girls were presented with a gaelic4girls jersey and certificate.

Pallasgreen U12 girls gaelic football team registered this year with the LGFA. The girls registered for the team are Leah Butler, Cliodhna Ryan, Caoimhe Butler, Ciara McNamara, Sarah Dillon, Aoife Fealy, Shauna Kelly, Ellie Phelan, Sophie Roche, Melanie O'Sullivan, Aine Looby, Lisa McGuinness, Shauna Kelly, Fiona Keogh, Sarah Phelan and Aoife Purcell, including U10 players Sinead McGuinness, Grace Leaden, Bree O'Dwyer and Jessica Gleeson. The team participated in the U12 LGFA Spring and Autumn Leagues. Congratulations to the team and their coaches on their well deserved and well earned win in Division 2 Cup Final match on 17 October at the Gaelic Grounds. The win brought the year of girls football to a fantastic end.



*Pallas Sarsfields U-12 Div 2
County Champions 2015*

For 2016 the Club looks forward to a successful future for ladies gaelic football with registration of girls teams for U10, U12 and U14. Any girls from Pallasgreen and the surrounding areas who are interested in ladies gaelic football are welcome to join. Many thanks to the parents and supporters and in particular to coaches who availed of coaching courses and completed First Aid training prior to the gaelic4girls programme.

Sincere Thanks

Like any voluntary organisation, it would not be possible for the club to function without the goodwill of so many people. Each age group has at least 3-4 coaches involved. We would like to thank all our coaches. We would also like to invite any new coaches to help in the coming year. We would also like to thank committee members, parents, players, parishioners and senior club members who helped in so many ways

over the season.

With limited opportunities for fundraising, we would like to thank those who sponsored the club at various stages over the season. Thanks also to all who supported our other fundraisers.

We look forward to the coming season and the on-going support of both juvenile and senior club members, parents, businesses and parishioners.



U10 Boys Hurling



U8 2015



U6 2015



Girls U12 County Final



G4G Presentation



Cul Camp 2015

Sarsfields Pallasgreen Ladies Football Club

The Sarsfields team was set up in 2012 as there was no team in any of the parishes of Pallasgreen, Killeely, Knockane and Dromkeen. The setting up of the team was a great initiative to get ladies from all areas to form a team and rediscover the talented footballers in the area. It is also great to meet new people from surrounding areas and bring together parishes to support one team.

After having a great season last year, when our team reached the Limerick County Novice Final, expectations were high for the coming season. All the players trained extremely hard and during each game our panel of players grew in skill levels and indeed confidence, beating Groody Gaels and Galtee Gaels, while putting in great displays against St. Bridget's and Adare. All these results led to Sarsfields Pallasgreen reaching the Junior B county final. Sarsfields Pallasgreen is an up and coming team and next year we hope to build yet again on all the great work that has been done to date. Well done to all the players, committee members and of course managers (Mary Lonergan and Ger O'Connell) on all the hard work and dedication that goes into training and developing our ladies football team. A special mention must be given to our fantastic mayoral candidate, Eimear Laffan, who raised much needed funds for our club and in doing so

made our team a closer network of members through her infectious enthusiasm while planning such great events as our 'Fittest Family' event.

Congratulations to the juvenile girls for winning their county cup final. With both our junior team and u-12 girls both making county finals our club footballing future is bright.

We really did have a great season this year and are not only looking forward to the return of our current members but are also anticipating seeing lots more new faces from all parishes involved next season. Training will start again early next year so get your boots on ladies.



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Pallasgreen Community Council

A Message from the Trustees

The Trustees of Pallasgreen Community Council intend to resign their positions in the near future. The absence of trustees would have serious implications for all activities under the aegis of the Community Council. The Trustees wish to avoid any disruption to those activities. Towards this end, the Trustees intend to arrange an E.G.M. as soon as is convenient and it will be advertised in due course.

It was never envisaged or intended that the Trustees would be burdened with the running of the business of the Community Council without a standing committee, over the past two decades. This happened because no person was willing to take officer and committee positions when existing personnel were stepping down, despite repeated attempts to fill those positions. As a result there has been no fundraising to supplement the running of the community centre over this period causing a deficit. Since then, the shortfall between income and expenditure has been met by the proceeds from the sale of the credit union site.

It is well past time that the local community would take ownership and responsibility for the Community Centre and the several assets which the trustees hold in trust for the community. It is encouraging to note that we have had discussions recently with people interested in taking up the challenge and perhaps forming a different organisation. From the Trustees and legal point of view the smoothest transition to a new regime is the election of a new Community Council which would then appoint new Trustees. A democratically elected Council with its Trustees would be best positioned to decide what form of organisation is best suited to further the development of a rural community. It is evident that the Community Council is the only local organisation, which qualifies to

draw down loans or development funds available for development projects. The Community Council also has impressive track record in local development.

In the view of the Trustees we need a democratically elected, broadly based and broadly focused organisation constituted and equipped to benefit from the financial support available. There are significant liquid assets on hand, some of which is insurance money for roof repairs to the Community Centre. The other money on deposit should be largely ring fenced for the upkeep of the community centre until sustainability has been achieved. While excluding the genuine people we have had discussions with, and not implying ulterior motives to them, we would sound a note of caution.

In an open meeting where elections take place you do not always end up with the best outcome. It is in the hands of the local community and organisations, which should be represented in any Community Council to ensure that the liquid assets involved do not fall into irresponsible hands. Whatever committee or organisation is formed must have the upkeep of the community centre as a priority. While it is obviously a matter for a new regime there is a need for a management subcommittee with a degree of autonomy to manage the centre in a manner which utilizes the resources to become self-financing. This would free up the main organisation for the important work of local development. A financial statement will be available at the E.G.M.

Signed:
Cornelius O'Dwyer
Harry Kennedy
John O'Connor

O
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Knockane GAA Club

In a rapidly changing Age, where many People's lives are now directed by digital stimulus and individual's interests are driven by instant gratification requirements, Sporting & Social Clubs up and down the Country are fighting greater and greater challenges to attract Members and Volunteers who are happy to give up their recreation time, to join with others for a common Goal. This Club Goal which seeks to place all Members with an equal share of value, is a goal built in the 'real World' that puts the greatest importance on developing Your region and Your local skills base. No matter what activity Your Club promotes, it should be focused on bettering Your People and Place. We in Knockane GAA Club are very content that our aims and motivations are honorable, uncomplicated goals, that will benefit all our Members and supporters through sporting achievement, a healthier lifestyle and possibly even more important, by building a human network, where everybody can feel a greater sense of community and a stronger bond of partnership.

But, for this to happen and for our Club to thrive and grow, we need a Yearly transfusion of new People into our Organisation. We require individuals who just by their presence or through their actions will generate ideas towards our future development, we want them to empower our Sports Teams, we wish for them to reinforce our Volunteer team or often we find that by their moral support alone, they add much to our sense of being part of a movement that is making a difference in the Community, that is achieving . New Members with positive motives, reinvigorate all Organisations and ours is no different.

This Year, we are satisfied that we have had an injection of enthusiastic People and support that has propelled us forward. We have got a lot of good People involved who have assisted us in many ways. But unfortunately, we don't feel that this progress is as fast as we would like, we are more ambitious than that. We want to see faster development of our training pitches and community facilities, we want greater success for our Teams, we have an appetite for greatness. So, for next Year, we are hoping to recruit many new People. We have always welcomed new Members, but now we are extending a stronger invite. We want You to be part of our family ethos, we want to develop all our resources, so that the Club stands out in the community as an icon of significance. That what we do, has meaning and importance. We want to make a greater contribution on every level.

To see the direction we are going in, I would like to address this Year's milestones, I would like to highlight our Team's and Committee's achievements this Year, as well as those of our Supporters, especially our generous financial supporters.

We are very fortunate to have put together an experienced and enthusiastic group of Players, who are willing to work really hard on behalf of the Club. Certainly, this Year the Panel came together and put in a phenomenal effort, from February to September they met on countless occasions with the single aim of improving their own and the team's performance, they were very professional in both their

Work ethic and communication. And under Trainer Tommy Flynn and his selector Peter Commons their training and challenge matches were always innovative, modern and designed to get the best out of Players. And this work was so nearly rewarded when the Team reached and narrowly lost the League Final to eventual County Champions Ballybricken. On the Night, the team, (short of a few regulars) put in a performance of commitment, skill and belief that had them playing above the sum of their parts. Had they just been more assured with their kicking, they would easily have overturned the two point losing margin.

In the Championship, they never reached this high level, as the problem of recurring injuries in a small Panel, took its toll and therein lies our biggest need, the need for volume! Due to the unwillingness of many, many larger Clubs to compete at a higher level, Junior B football in Limerick is finding a large increase in teams dropping down the ranks and with this comes an increase in the quality of opposition. So, without a large Panel in a Club , filled with Youth, no matter how determined Your Players are ,it requires extraordinary commitment and a large portion of luck to progress. That is not to fault any player or Mentor on our Panel, but we need to increase the number of Players, we have registered and playing, to help provide stiffer competition in training and more cover for every team position. It is a hope and a determination that we will bring with us into 2016.

The Executive of the Club, were also busy with fundraising proposals, as well as longer term strategies to improve our new facilities. And under the leadership of Chairman Denis O'Sullivan these goals, particularly in fundraising were successfully worked on. As well as, our participation in the Limerick Development Draw and our Weekly Lotto, (which is so kindly assisted by Sales to 'Supporters'), we had a group Fundraiser again this Year, in the form of a Hike to Galtee Mor.

Congratulations and thanks to the volunteers who climbed the famous Galtee mountain back in August on behalf of Knockane GAA club. Many men and women took part in this sponsored hike and with some doing it for the first time, there was a great sense of achievement for them on completion. Thanks also to Stephen Ryan and his family for graciously hosting us at their great facilities in King's Yard, everyone enjoyed their generous hospitality and wish them continued success.

Another one of our aims at the beginning of the Year, is progressing well and this is our ambitious field development plans. Way back in March we held a Cake Sale and information morning, where we invited all the community to come along and see our plans or offer ideas on what they would like to see in the development. We were seeking assistance to help plan the next steps and how we can best manage the scope of this programme and we got some valuable input from local stakeholders. We hope to see more progress on this before the end of the Year.

Related to this, is our rural development programme, where we are hoping to utilise some of our lands for natural community amenities and also for sustainable

horticultural projects. Very ably managed by Jack Ryan, we have already had a beautiful pathway and gardens created and now we are also seeing many areas planted with beautiful trees and shrubs. Overall, the improvements that are on display are adding an appeal, that will draw People, who can walk through its wide expanse or just spend time enjoying the landscaping. The Club has also just hosted a poignant tribute Night for our President Michael Breen, when we proudly made a presentation to him in recognition of his long Year's of service. It was a small gesture to acknowledge his lifetime of Work and was suitably chosen to mark his relocation from the Parish. The Night itself was a very enjoyable occasion, with many of his peers as well as a great number of our current members attending. We wish him and his Wife, many Years of health and happiness in their new Home. Finally, our Club was bitterly disappointed to see the needless vandalism perpetrated on our Football pitch back in May. Although malicious in intent, it ultimately resulted in many positives for the Club. As, the outpouring of goodwill in the following days and the amount of help offered and delivered was breath taking. So

many good people appeared at the Pitch, eager to help or offer moral support. This backing was very heartening for all concerned, with the Club. To be able to feel, how highly respected we are, and how offended so many from outside our Club, were, on our behalf, was remarkably encouraging.

For the help that people offered then and for all the assistance that so many people offer us daily, weekly and yearly, the Executive of the Club are truly appreciative. So our sincere thanks for Your kindness in the past and we look forward to Your continued enjoyment of our Club in the future. Wishing a happy New Year to all !

Míle buíochas daoibh go léir!
Cumann Cnocán C.L.G.



Knockane Football Team after winning the Houlihan Cup-2015



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Pallas United Soccer Club

Compiled by Nora Stokes
Secretary

2015 has been a fantastic year for Pallas United Soccer Club as it saw the erecting of business signs on the new pitch, and the official opening of the new pitch.

Business Signs

In November 2014 the club gave the opportunity to local businesses to erect business signs on the new pitch and it was agreed that they would be erected for the official opening. Twenty seven businesses came on board and the signs were ordered and delivered and were erected the end of February. These were a magnificent sight to see and people from far and near came to see them. We thank all those businesses for availing of this opportunity.

The Official Opening of the Field

The official opening of the new developed soccer pitch was set for 7th March 2015. Activities were to start at 10.30am with an Under 10 League match against our neighbours Cappamore Celtic, following this match at 12.30pm the Pallas United Junior Team was playing Fairview Rangers in a friendly. The official opening was to be performed by John Delaney the FAI Chief Executive at 2pm. Fr. Pat Burns will bless the pitch prior to this opening and the school children were to sing the National Anthem. There were activities for younger children in the training pitch i.e. bouncy castle, face painting and more this should be a fun day for all the family. There was also refreshments to be served in the community centre. This was a day a lot of people had been waiting for, some almost thirty years. Work started on the pitch early that morning with bouncy castles arriving and finishing touches put to the pitch, there was great enthusiasm by everyone and there was a sea of blue and white flags and bunting blowing in the wind showing of the Club colours.

At 10.30am the crowds started arriving for the under 10 league match

between Pallas United and our neighbours Cappamore Celtic. This match kicked off at 10.30am and drew a great crowd, Pallas United won the match and when it was over the children made their way to the activities in the train pitch, during the match Giggles entertainment had arrived and were entertaining the younger children.

Time move swiftly and at 12pm the Fairview Rangers Team arrived in their gear ready to take on the mighty men from Pallas in a friendly. Then the men from Pallas toggled off and the junior match began and the crowd got bigger, representations were there from the LDMC, the school boy's league and Munster League as well as Managers, referee's and team members from other clubs, founder members, and dignitaries. The MC for the day was Pat Cronin and he was awaiting to swing into his role., then the man everybody was waiting for arrived and began to mingle with the crowd. Fans young and old were rushing to have photos taken and autographs signed by this great man who had taken time out from his busy schedule to come to a in rural village in Co. Limerick to perform the official opening. Fr. Burns had arrived promptly in coat and cap and Martin Cosgrave was setting up the amplification. The junior match concluded and Fairview Rangers were winners.

The blue and white satin ribbon was attached to either side of the gate bit a big bow in the centre ready for John Delaney to cut. The public gathered around and Fr. Burns preformed the blessing of the field, the children sang the National Anthem under leadership of their teachers, then the soccer committee gathered in front of the ribbon beside John Delaney for the moment everyone had waited for the cutting of the ribbon to officially declare the field opened. After this event the children were presented with goody bags that were kindly sponsored by Phil O'Regan of Centra. Then Pat Cronin invited everybody to attend the Community Centre for refreshments, the sight in the community centre was phenomenal as it was awash with jerseys hanging from the balcony from 1986 to present day jerseys. The committee

took their place at the top table and proceedings began each person gave a few words and presentations were made on behalf of the club by John Delaney to Denny O'Connor and Mike Kelly for starting the club in 1986. Follow this and all speeches tea and sandwiches were enjoyed by all. So over all the official opening went well and was a credit to all involved. It was a fantastic day for young and you at heart and a great day for soccer in Pallasgreen. This was because of dedicated people to a dedicated sport. As always we would like to thank all our sponsors and anyone that helped in any way in making the field what it is today. This was a very nostalgic day for some of the parents of the under 10's as some of them were the players from 1986 upwards. As a Club our aim is to have present club members, players and parents working together and by working together we can achieve our objectives.

Junior Team

Our Junior team got up and running again in 2014 after a four year absence from junior soccer, with players old and new eager to show their skills on the new pitch the Season got off to a great start and it continued through the year, when it came to the squeaky bum time of the season in the league and cup the big squad we had paid off, we went on to win the league and cup double not an easy feat by any means, the cup final in Jackman Park was a memorable night for our club and the big support we had in there was greatly appreciated, new season has kicked off just as good as last year with us sitting on top of the league again hopefully we will be bringing more silverware back to Pallas come May! ... Thanks to everybody that has come out to support us each weekend. The Junior Team are striving under the management of Damien Wallace and Gavin O'Carroll. Compiled by Eoin O'Connor

Under Age Teams

The games are drawing big crowds to our home venue. We have teams from under 6's and Under 8's, U10's, U11's - boys and girls, competing in The Limerick County Schoolboy's League. Denny O'Connor and Denis O'Connor manage the U10's & Eoin O'Connor manages the U11's Team.

Congratulations to Zach Murphy Ryan and Tadhg Hourigan on making the county U11 panel. Wishing them both all the best from the Club.

Presentation of Awards:

On the 17th July 2015 at an awards night in Sligo the FAI presented Denny O'Connor (present Chairman) and Mike Kelly (Founder) with the

"John Sherlock Service Football Award" for 2015. These were presented by John Delaney. The Club want to wish both men the best for the future.



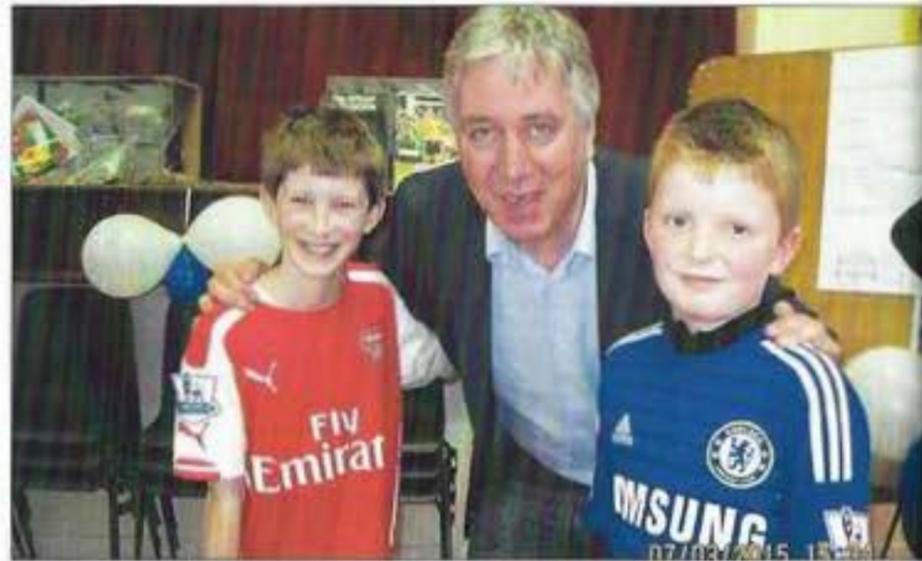
Mike Kelly and Denny O'Connor with their life long awards presented to them by John Delaney on behalf of the club for their life long dedication to the Club since 1986.



Cutting the tape at the official opening! Ann O'Connor, John Delaney, Denny O'Connor, Nora Stokes.



Mary Stokes and Jeanie Deere with John Delaney.



Young boys Patrick and Fergal Bailey with John Delaney.



Cappamore and Pallas United Under 10's who played before official opening of field.



The Under 10 team that played Cappamore before the official opening on March 7th 2015 with their managers Denis and Eoin O'Connor.



Left: Picture of Denny O'Connor and Mike Kelly with Martin O'Neill and John Delaney and Ann O'Connor taken at a function in Sligo on Saturday 11th July 2015 where both men were awarded the "John Sherlock service to football award" for their dedication to the club since 1986.



Under 6 and Under 8 Soccer Teams 2015 with Declan O'Connor (Manager), 22 October 2015.

Under 10's, 11's and 12's 2015 taken with Eoin O'Connor.

For results- see a Solicitor

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Pallasgreen Youth Club

The Pallasgreen Youth Club started its 2014 /2015 year on October 9th last year. This was the Club's fifth consecutive year in existence and is affiliated with TRYS (Tipperary Regional Youth Service) who operate under the umbrella of Youth Work Ireland. The Club had thirty-one registered members and ten leaders.

The club is open to secondary school going teenagers of the locality and is held on Saturday nights from 7.30 to 9.00 in the Community Center. On Club nights members can enjoy various activities such as darts, pool, indoor hockey, badminton. The role of the club is to provide a safe environment to enjoy these activities, to meet and socialise with their friends and sometimes learn new skills along the way.

This last year was as busy a year as previous years. On the third week of the club's restart we headed to the cinema. As always the members get a choice in what they want to see and some watched Annabelle, some Maze runner and one unfortunate leader had to go to Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles.

November 1st saw the Youth Club hold its annual Halloween Disco for the young children of the parish. This is a popular event with the children and great credit goes to all the members who organise this. Well done to all children who dress up and really get into the spirit of the night. The Youth club would also like to thank both Thomas O'Connor and Brian O'Neill for the use of their equipment for this event.

The annual Christmas trip saw the Club head to Corbally Go-Karting. This is a firm favourite with our members especially as this is one of the longest indoor go karting facilities in the country. It doesn't take our guys long to get to grips with this track and the racing is fast and furious. Thankfully the marshals weren't called out too often. We then followed the go-karting with ice-skating at Arthur's Quay. We finished off our Xmas trip with a meal at the Z-We-Ton.

After the Christmas break the Youth club held a table quiz in O'Dwyers. Thank you to all who attended on the night and a massive thanks to those who sponsored spot prizes on the night. A special thanks to Dermot and Cora for their continued support of the Youth Club.

On the 21st of February the Youth Club went to the dogs!! The members were taken on a surprise trip into the Greyhound track. Some of the members were quite lucky at picking winners while some of the dogs the leaders picked are still running.

In April the Club took part in the TRYS soccer tournament in Tipp town. This competition involves youth clubs from Tipperary and East Limerick and one in which the Club has been successful before. Unfortunately this time round we were beaten 1-0 in the final by Clonmore.

During May the Club held its biggest fundraiser of the year. Initially scheduled to be held on the 10th but postponed due to the river flooding eventually 500 hundred ducks raced down the Mulcair river on the 24th of May. This event took a massive effort from the club members to organise and great credit is due to all those

members who rose to the task. Well done to the leaders who braved the cold river to round up the ducks. Thanks also to the Dillon family for their help on the day. All at the Youth club would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who supported us in not only this fundraiser but in all fundraising that the Youth club does. The Youth club could not exist without your continued support. Thank you.

In July the Club went on its annual end of year trip. In the past few years the club has tended to go to Oakwood in Wales or Alton Towers in England. This year for a change we decided to stay in Ireland and headed for Ballyhass Lakes Activity Center in Mallow. This trip was a huge success and went down well with all members. On the first day all members took part in kayaking. Followed by some members taking to the longest zip-line in the country while the others did the Leap of Faith. After a very quiet night camping and breakfast, those that did zip-lining then did the Leap of Faith and vice versa. This was followed by members being taught how to abseil down a quarry face. Finally the members went on the lake again for a spot of Ringo rides. The members had to hang on like mad as they lay flat on an inflated raft as an overhead cable zipped them across the water. They enjoyed this immensely and cajoled the operators to go faster and try to and tip them off the rafts. All in all, this trip went down very well with the club and is one that we will consider doing again.

Youth club restarted on the 26th of October this year. We hope that the coming year will be as entertaining and successful as previous years. I would like to thank all the leaders for their continued hard work over the years. The Youth Club would also like to thank Anne O'Connor, though not a leader, she is there every Saturday night to help us out.

Finally if you want any information on getting involved, contact the Youth mobile phone on 086 1215984.



By Stephen O'Neill



Grean Churchyard Pallasgreen

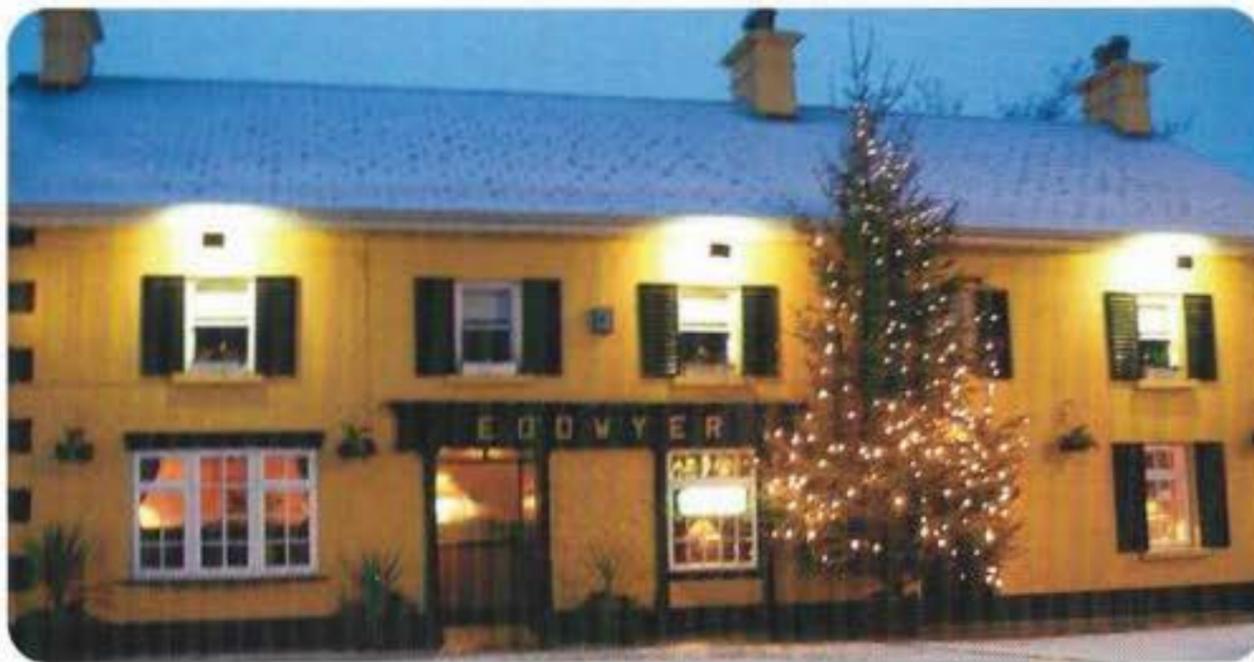
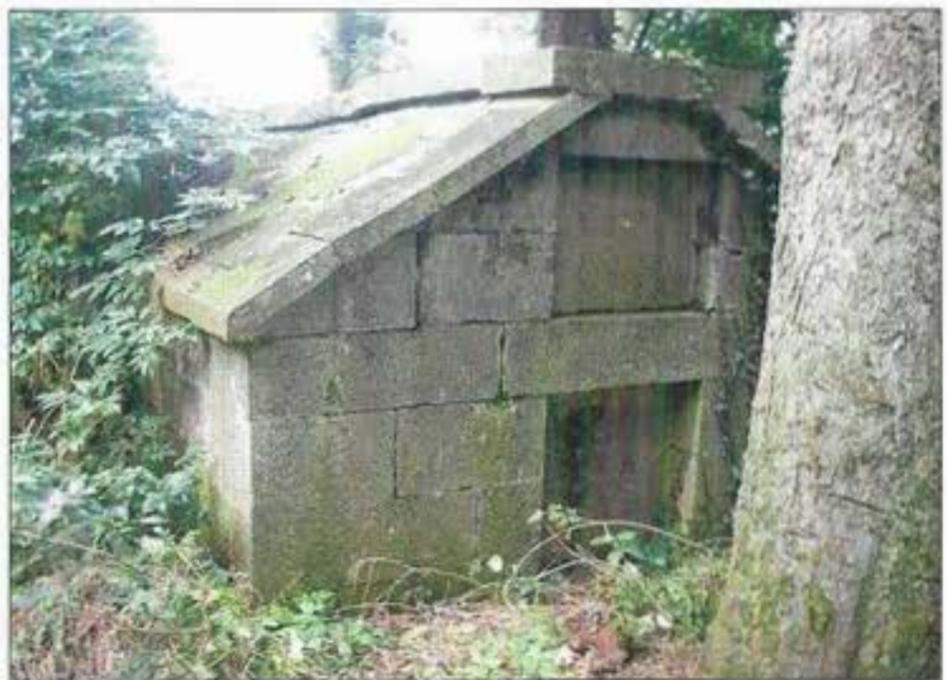
By the Combined Residents Association

In September 2015 work began on the clean up the Church of Ireland graveyard in Pallasgreen; located directly behind Topaz Service Station and Centra shop, and parallel along side St Columba's graveyard. Combined members of the Resident's Association and with the help of local volunteers began the task of tackling the overgrowth.

The last burial took place in the 1980s and the old church was demolished in the 1960s. Now that the heavy clearing has been done, the work carries on and the graveyard can now be maintained to the immaculate standards of the other graveyards in the parish.

Unique architectural gems have been unearthed during the clean up including a number of blocks from the church building and its boundary wall. The church was located where the rear of the shop now stands. The clean up has revealed the remains of a number standing headstones, most are in good condition. Plus, a number of small children's and infant's graves offering a stark reminder of the high infant mortality rates of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. A large stone mausoleum belonging to the Scott family dominates the centre of the graveyard and is in excellent condition. Luckily you can read the inscriptions on most of the gravestones.

Now that Phase 1 (the heavy clearing and cleaning) of the project has been completed, Phase 2 can begin. This phase will see the commencement of conservation work and historical research.



*Dermot and Cora wish you all a very Happy Christmas
and Best Wishes for The New Year*

Legion of Mary Story

by Brigid O'Driscoll, Marian O'Donnell and Colman O'Driscoll for Grean Magazine

The PPC Pergrenation Pro Christo or Traveller for Christ movement started back in the 1920's a few years after the founding of the Legion of Mary in Dublin. From this time on each year Legionaries from different parts of Ireland, volunteer to give up a week of their holidays to venture to different parts of the world to evangelise outside of our own country. Some travel to the British Isles and some further afield to Germany and Finland. Christ's command is to preach the Gospel to every creature. Therefore, the PPC movement is a wonderful opportunity to respond to this call. The Legion of Mary is, therefore a Catholic lay organisation that promotes the spiritual and social welfare of the individual through active apostleship. The Legion is now present in nearly every country in the world. It is as relevant today as it was back in the 20's and with the Canonisation of Frank Duff imminent; it is a great cause of celebration for Ireland and the Catholic Church and an honour for the Legion of Mary.

While on PPC we meet people at their doorstep, in parks, streets, hospitals, nursing homes, cafes, bus stops, schools and generally places where people gather.

It is a speaking apostolate and the people we meet we ask them to consider the Catholic Church as the vehicle of bringing them to the best understanding of God's plan for mankind's salvation, our Church being

the only church which Our Lord Jesus founded on Earth. We talk about the sacrifice of the Mass, the "Real Presence" of Jesus in the Holy Communion and the other Sacraments and especially Confession. We speak about Our Blessed Lady and her special role in being the mother of all men and the place She played in the story of man's salvation.

Catholics who have Lapsed for one reason or another we encourage to return to the practice of their Faith and try and leave behind what is keeping them away. It could be something that happened several years previous and they remember the hurt and the pain.

Our team were picked to go to Longridge in Lancashire because the Parish Priest invited the Legionaries to help him for the week by visiting the homes, flats, farms etc in his area, as it would not be possible for him to get around to visiting over 3,000 homes. For the week, the team shared our meals together, prayed together, shared many stories and jokes, evangelized the people of Longridge and celebrated the Eucharist.

As many priests will admit that the Legion of Mary has a "model that works". They are very keen to have the Legionaries visit their parishes and the fruits of that week become evident when many return to the practise of the faith and seeds are sown which may bear fruit later. One person put it aptly when he said, "the soil is prepared for further development". The welcome we received was good. We met a mix of Catholic, lapsed Catholic, Protestant, Church of England, Anglican, Jehovah witnesses, Pentecostal, Humanists, Atheists, Agnostic, Muslim and Judaism.

Special case

One special case involved Margaret returning to the practise of her Faith, which she lost while mourning the death of her daughter earlier in the year, who died from an illness that was not detected. As a Midwife, she could not continue with her work due to her grief. When the Legionaries turned up at her door, they were able to comfort and console her. The following morning she came to Mass and Fr. Robert Coffey our Spiritual Director from Caherdavin was on hand to hear her confession as she felt she needed confession first. She now attends Mass and has joined the Legion of Mary in the parish, which was set up by the visiting Legionaries from Ireland before they left. Therefore, she now has the comfort of a family of friends who can continue to support and help her. She said that "I don't know what I would have done if the Legion of Mary didn't turn up at my doorstep that morning".

The Team

There was a mix of age profiles with the youngest member Colman O'Driscoll age 20 from Pallasgreen who represented the UCD Legion of Mary for students. We also had 2 other Legionaries from Pallasgreen Marian O'Donnell and Brigid O'Driscoll. Brigid was the team Leader for the project and Fr. Robert Coffey from Caherdavin was the Spiritual Director. However, Our Lady was the wind in our sails for the week while we acted as her foot soldiers and with her Motherly protection, we all returned to Ireland much in the better for our week away. Interested in joining the Legion of Mary? Check out a Legion of Mary Praesidium in the Parish. A young people's Praesidium also exists. Ask any member of the Legion of Mary



Queen of Angels Praesidium, Pallasgreen
Standing - Eileen Mc Cormack, Mary Dillon, Marian O'Donnell,
Seated - Brigid Harding, Margaret O'Dea, Mona O'Brien, Cathy O'Dwyer.



Legion of Mary PPC to Longridge in Lancashire.
Group photo showing team members from different parts of Ireland who went on the PPC project to Lancashire including our 3 local people from Pallasgreen Brigid O'Driscoll Team Leader, Marian O'Donnell and Colman O'Driscoll.

PALLASGREEN TEMPLEBRADEN DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

The PTDA had a busy year. We held our Christmas Fair which proved to be a lively event enjoyed by all. Stall holders came from near and far. Santa Claus arrived to a great welcome and then went to his grotto to meet the children from Pallasgreen and beyond. A cup of tea was available and it was nice to watch people chatting and enjoying the Fair. Grace Savage had her annual stall of wonderful treasures. P.P. O'Sullivan and Pat Cronin kept the wheel of fortune spinning to the delight of those who were winning. During the year the PTDA acquired a site and planning permission for the development of a playground in Pallasgreen. We are now preparing to apply for funding from Ballyhoura. Ballyhoura funding is due mid-2016.

Pallasgreen Active Retirement Group

Pallasgreen Active Retirement is still going strong after 22 years "in action." We meet each Wednesday in the Community Centre, from September to June.

Painting classes are taught by Robert Ryan R.H.A., of Lough Gur. We have very accomplished artists in the group as well as the eager learners.

Go For Life Exercise is conducted by qualified tutors and these exercises are both beneficial and fun.

Then, there's always the cuppa and the chat. A coffee morning is held each May in conjunction with the Bealtaine festival. This is well supported by the local community and all money is given to the Alzheimers Society of Ireland.

Active Retirement Social occasions are arranged at Christmas, with dinner and a musical. Last year we went to Grease in the Lime Tree Theatre.

We have 22 members and always welcome more new members.

Chairpersons	Judy O'Grady, Nell O'Neill
Treasurer	Bernie Flynn
Secretary	Teresa Ryan
P.R.O.	Josie Ryan

By Judy O'Grady



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The Combined Residents Association – A Busy Year – Looking Back and Looking Forward

- interview with Bernie O' Sullivan

At the end of a very busy year, Bernie O'Sullivan, Mayoral Candidate for the Combined Residents' Association of New Pallas, Nicker and Old Pallas, can look back with satisfaction on so many great events.

When Bernie was first nominated by the Combined Residents' Association, she felt she was undertaking a daunting task, but, as always, set to work with a will to organise a wonderful variety of events which turned out to be lovely social occasions for the community and raised much-needed funds for the Association. All events organised were well-supported and all raised money, which will be spent on developing the area to the benefit of everyone in the community.

Bernie's campaign got off to a flying start with a Coffee Morning, at O'Dwyers in New Pallas, where the variety of treats on offer was only rivalled by the fun and the conversation. Powers' in Old Pallas was the next stop on the campaign trail, for a summer BBQ with live, and very lively, music by Michael Ryan, Brian O'Neill and Eddie Harty. Having danced the night away, it was time to contemplate the staging of a Mock Wedding in Caherconlish.

The wedding party turned out in style; Leanne Platt, the beautiful bride and her groom, William Hourigan, father and mother of the bride, Gerard O'Grady and Mary Holmes, father and mother of the groom, Denis Hourigan and Teresa Ryan, bridesmaids, Jenny Platt, Clara Hayes and Susan O'Sullivan, groomsmen, Gary and Eddie Fraher. Once Pat Foley had brought the bride to her wedding on a donkey and cart, and John O'Donnell had made his presence felt, on the great occasion, it was time for priest, Brian O'Neill to perform his ceremonial duties and marry the happy couple! The beautiful attire of the wedding guests would have done credit to the cover of Vogue magazine!

The whirlwind of fundraising activities continued with a Pub Quiz at Powers', a raffle hosted by Knockane Golf Society, at The Idler Bar, a raffle at Pallasgrean Bingo, a very successful garden competition, organised by Teresa Harding and won by Chrissie Ronan, a Car Boot Sale, a guided walk along the Mass Paths on Nicker Hill, and an Irish night in O'Dwyers' with local trio Michael Ryan, Brian O'Neill and Eddie Harty. The local stars shone bright at the Red Deer, for See the Stars with a constellation of talented performers impersonating well known singers, and in many cases, outshining them! A wonderful evening's entertainment was had by all involved.

As well as the many events within the Pallasgrean area, Bernie also had the support of a number of neighbouring parishes. Following the Mock Wedding at the Millennium

Centre, Caherconlish, an Irish Night was held in Killeely, with music by John Mc Carthy, as well as a Music Night at Hayes' in Cappamore. Irish Nights were also held at Uncle Tom's, with music by Eileen Leonard, Marty Mannering and friends, Martin O'Shaughnessy, Eddie Harty and other talented musicians while, at Powers' of Abington Pat O'Neill and his group as well as Eddie Harty, Mrs Power and a host of others ensured that "ceol agus craic" was the order of the evening. Bernie was delighted with and wishes to acknowledge the wonderful support received from parishioners and from neighbouring communities. A special word of thanks to Mossy Kirby of Mulcair Print who kept everybody well-informed of campaign events with posters always promptly and perfectly presented.

The fantastic social events, while worthwhile, on that basis alone, have yielded funding which will be used by the Combined Residents' Association to enhance the local area. The Combined Residents' Association has been active over the past couple of years and has done much to improve the general appearance of the community. Beautiful floral displays graced the three villages again this year. Last Christmas, a wonderful Christmas tree added a very festive spirit to Old Pallas and plans are afoot to make this even better in the coming year. Members of the Combined Residents' Association took part in the county-wide clean up on Good Friday, sponsored by J.P. MacManus, and had their valiant efforts and hard work broadcast on TG4. In recent months they have successfully undertaken a much-needed clean up of the Church of Ireland Graveyard in New Pallas.

Projects which are currently under way include removing the old ditch in the village of Nicker and replacing it with a beautiful wall, faced with stone. TÚS workers are uncovering a wall near Moymore and, in the future, it is hoped to have a Goldern Mile between Nicker and Old Pallas. In Old Pallas, itself it is hoped to further enhance the flower beds and old house, in the village. Another very important project is the continuation of the footpath from new Pallas to Nicker N.S. which will be of immense benefit to the local community. In the not too distant future, it is also hoped to have a footpath between Nicker Village and Nicker N.S.

A further development will be the continuation of the footpath from Old Pallas to the graveyard.

These projects cannot be undertaken without the help and support of the community, in the traditional spirit of the meitheal, support which was admirably demonstrated throughout Bernie's mayoral campaign. New members are always welcomed to the Combined Residents' Association. Ní neart go cur le chéile.

Scarteen Hounds Part Of Our Heritage

Knockcarron is home to the Scarteen Hunt, Ireland's most famous pack of hounds. The "Black and Tans" as they are frequently referred to, are recognised the world over, not only in hunting circles.

The Kerry Beagles that form this great pack of hunting hounds have a distinctive voice and have been passed down through generations of the Ryan family since the late 18th century. Farmer Chris Ryan, a formidable horseman and one of the most respected huntsmen in Ireland, follows in the footsteps of his late father, the legendary Thady Ryan who was a master for 40 years.

Chris has been carrying the horn since 1986 when he became master and although hounds are now regularly hunted by huntsman Mark Ollard, Chris remains heavily involved in the organisation of the hunt which covers country in Co Tipperary and Co Limerick. Chris has a particular interest in hound breeding, finding suitable outcrosses to preserve the character and hunting abilities of this unique pack.

Over the years, the Scarteen Hunt has become one of the packs that visitors from England, America and further afield want to hunt with. Aside from the desire to see the "Black & Tans" with their low-scenting abilities in action, the drains and banks in the hunt country are a challenge visitor's wish to experience.

None of this would be possible without the great help and support of the local farming community; we cannot thank them enough for their help and support. One of the things that people often say when we are out meeting farmers, that it is great to see some of the local traditions carrying on.

The Hunt raises a certain amount of money for charity every year through charity rides and fundraisers, having

just presented a cheque for E 22,000 through the sale of pictures to a local Hospice in Limerick.

We do a mock hunt the first Sunday after every Christmas to give the younger members on lead rein ponies their first taste of hunting and a young sportsman meet the following week for the slightly older children. This is so we can educate the younger members on hunting etiquette and how to behave whether riding down the road or crossing the land we have kindly been given permission to cross.

We start exercising the hounds in June on bicycles to condition them and start hunting on are feet in the beginning of august. This leads us on to the opening meet on horses on the first Tuesday of November on Knocklong hill which anyone is more than welcome to attend.

We finish Hunting towards the end of February when the cows start coming back out and the grass starts growing, and we are soon getting ready for another season. The summer is spent breeding and rearing the next generation of hounds, and exercising the hounds daily walking the local lanes of Knockarron with to 50 hounds at a time.

By Mark Ollard (Master)



Mark Ollard calling up the hounds at Castlegarde in September 2015

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Nicker National School

The Opening of Our New School

The opening of Nicker National School on June 6th 2015 was a very important event in the lives of the children and the school community. Having returned to our new school after our time in the Community centre, we felt that a year on we were ready to officially open. We decided to embark on a history project about school life in the past, where children in 3rd and 4th class questioned their parents and grandparents. Sarah Dillon told us that her uncle Joe, helped to paint St. Patrick on the shed wall during Mr. Hennessy's time as principal. Adam O'Riordan informed us that his great, great granduncle, James Meehan was the first person to ever register in Nicker NS. Kyle's mother remembers playing márla and playdough, as well as lots of knitting and sewing. Others remember great soccer games during lunch time which were refereed by the principal, as well preparation for St. Patrick's Day Mass in Irish. To this day many can rattle off the prayers in Irish, perhaps rote learning was not such a bad thing after all.

We enjoyed the last term preparing for this momentous occasion. We had rehearsed a lot during the year in preparation for our monthly masses, so when it came to the official opening mass with Archbishop Kieran O'Reilly, who had also visited on April 14th for our confirmation, we felt more than ready! The choir was prepared by Ms. Franklin. Madeline Meehan accompanied, as did Orla McEvoy and Ms. English. Parents and children read the readings and prayers, while second class sang the psalm. After mass we headed back to the school for speeches and light refreshments. Ms Franklin and Fr. Burns spoke about all involved in the building project. Liam Gleeson, project leader (Gleeson McSweeney Architects), Pinnacle Homes (Paul Henry), Dillon Bros (Pallasgreen) The Board of Management of Nicker N.S, The Steering Committee, Staff of Nicker NS, Nicker National School Parents' Association. Previous Boards of Management, Parents' Associations and staff of the school were also thanked for their hard work in the past. Mary Harty (RIP) was especially remembered and thanked. A plaque with the inscription 'To live in hearts we leave behind, is not to die' – Thomas Campbell, along with many photographic memorabilia of all who worked with Mary was placed in the foyer of the school. The school was delighted when the Harty family kindly gifted to the school a painting which the staff had originally presented to Mary on her retirement in Oct 2013. Ms. Franklin, the Principal was presented with beautiful flowers, as was Emer Shanahan and Teresa Gammell. Johnny Gammell presented the school with a framed scroll from the Local GAA as Gaeilge, highlighting important links which the school and GAA have always shared and continue to cherish. Ms English spoke about schooling and education in Pallasgreen in the past, referring to the children's projects on display in the school's corridors, as well as bringing to mind some more recent memories from the school's history. Conor Linnane, the oldest child in the school, and Danielle Gammell, the youngest child in the school, cut the official

ribbon with the help of Fr. Burns. Ms Franklin thanked the staff for their hard work and commitment to the school during the building project and highlighted the school's vision for the future, to instil in children a love of learning, a positive attitude to education and life. Tasty refreshments were provided by Creamy Delicious Foods (Ann McCarthy and Kay Hayes) while children were treated to sausages, nuggets, chips and party bags. We thank most sincerely Regan's Centra in Pallasgreen for these wonderful party bags kindly donated to the school and for all parents who helped in the organisation of same. Many parents took a trip down memory lane, sitting in the classroom which they had spent many days in their youth, others caught up with old friends and neighbours. It was lovely to see so many friends of Nicker NS from the past, especially Eva Hennessy, who travelled from Dingle. Eva very kindly presented Ms Franklin with a collection of old photographs depicting children from the fifties, sixties and seventies. Without doubt these photographs were a huge hit on the night. Many traced and talked and recalled interesting events and happenings. We hope to put these pictures on display again shortly and invite members of the community to view same at their leisure. The Parents' Association, (Chairperson Noreen Kennedy) ensured all were catered for including the children, who enjoyed music, dancing, fun and games provided by Lee Dillon in our Marquee on the grounds. A special thank you to artist Neil O'Dwyer from Tipperary who created marvellous murals on our walls, depicting Oisín in Tír na nÓg, Cúculainn, the Children of Lir, as well as flora, fauna and wildlife from the hill of Nicker. This work was funded by the Parents' Association. Our active Parents' Association also fund many educational activities and events throughout the year, including the Book Scheme. We thank them most sincerely for their work. Their work also funded the painting of the school's crest on the exterior front wall. The writing on our crest 'Bródúil Asainn Féin', (Proud of Ourselves) is apt at this time.

History in the Making

Following many interesting talks and lessons about Nicker NS and education in the past we felt ready to embark on a trip to King John's Castle.

King John's castle is well worth a visit. Our trip there on October 14th was interesting, informative and worthwhile. Third to sixth class travelled by bus to Limerick early morning. Mary Immaculate College was running maths workshops for 3rd and 4th class as part of Maths Week. We were delighted that Tadhg's mum Mairéad could organise this event for us. Meanwhile, not to be left out, 5th and 6th class visited the castle where they met with the education officer Linda Hall to tour the castle and learn all about life in Norman times.

King John's Castle was built around 1210 on the site of an earlier castle. It is thought that the earliest version of Limerick Castle was built around 1175, to show the power of the Norman settlers in Limerick and prevent Dónal Mór O'Brien from regaining power. When John became King,

the earlier castle was gradually enlarged and strengthened. This castle was built to defend an important fording point on the Shannon, so comfort and luxury were less important than defending the castle against its enemies. During the reign of King John, there was a mint in the castle, as coins were used in Limerick at that time. Later, during the Williamite Sieges, soldiers were paid with 'gun money', coins made from melted down metal. King John's Castle found itself at the heart of the Siege of Limerick in 1690. The Siege was part of an international war between William of Orange and his uncle and father-in-law James 2nd who was a cousin of King Louis XIV of France. Irish Catholics hoped that James would help them restore their land, enable them to enjoy greater religious freedom and gain political influence. Having suffered defeat in at the Battle of the Boyne, and after his return to France, James hopes were kept alive at Limerick. The Jacobite General, Patrick Sarsfield made a daring ride from Limerick to Ballyneety to intercept the Seige train coming from Dublin to breach the city walls. Guided by the rapparee, Galloping Hogan, Sarsfield reached Ballyneety, sneaked into the camp, overran its defenders and blew up the big gun, Sile Bhuí. Local people tell of his ploy to find out the password to the Williamite camp, befriending the wife of one of William's men at a nearby stream. This woman defiantly boasted that the password was 'Sarsfield'.

*'Sarsfield is the word and Sarsfield is the man,
And here I am!' our general cried, as down on them we
ran.*

*Then God he cleared the firmament, the moon and stars
shone bright,*

*And for the battle of the Boyne, we had revenge that
night.*

The Winter of 1690 brought a temporary respite for the defenders of Limerick, but fighting began again in August 1691, with the Williamite forces now under the leadership of General Ginkel. Many soldiers died on Thomond Bridge when the drawbridge of King John's castle was raised, cutting off their retreat. The French officer responsible for the order, died of wounds he received. Finally, Sarsfield and the Jacobite generals agreed terms and the Treaty of Limerick was signed. The promises of the Treaty were soon broken, leading to the bitter cry, 'Cuimhnigh ar Luimneach', or Remember Limerick. These Jacobite soldiers, the 'Wild Geese', left Ireland to fight in the army of France.

Without doubt Limerick has had an interesting past. It's wonderful to be able to relive some of these events in the castle's visitors' centre which has recently been renovated. It's bright, colourful and interesting for young and old alike and offers a great deal of knowledge for anyone keen to learn more. We hope to return to King John's soon and to listen with new ears and new eyes to more tales of battle, loyalty, friendship and woe. In the meantime however, it's back to the grinding stone, ar aghaidh leis an obair!

Our 100 Year History Project

Over the last year, many pupils of Nicker N.S., guided by their teachers, have been busy finding out about life in our

local area, 100 years ago, from 1912 to 1923. We are taking part in a very interesting cross-border project, as part of the Decade of Centenaries. Six schools from the Republic of Ireland are taking part, as well as six schools from Northern Ireland. We are very excited at finding people in our families with interesting stories. In some cases we have detailed stories and photos of the people involved and in other cases the outline of a story. In the coming year, we will continue our research with different classes and create a display in school, in preparation for the centenary of the 1916 Rising.

Many of our families lived and worked on the land or owned shops. Others emigrated, hoping to find a better life in another country.

Billy O'Brien's great granddad, Patrick O'Brien, was from Cahir in Co. Tipperary. He died in 1976. He would have been about 24 years of age when the Easter Rising was in progress. He would have lived through World War 1. Patrick owned a small farm of about 40 acres, about five miles from Cahir. He grew all his own potatoes and vegetables. Life was hard back in those days. Most of the big estates were owned by the British. Farmers with small holdings found it very hard to survive.

Dylan Morrissey's great granny was a house wife who had one child. Her name was Mary Burke and her husband's name was Martin Delaney, who was Dylan's grandad's dad. She was born and raised in Mayo. Dylan's great granny's daughter was a nurse. Dylan's great great granny never missed Mass and liked to go there.

Alex Harty's great grand aunt, Sr. Emmanuel became a member of the Presentation order. She lived a very long and good life. She was born in 1913 and was a small child at the time of the Great war and the 1916 Rising. Hhe lived in Garranemore, in a house just up the road from Nicker N.S. Sr. Emmanuel became a nun at the age of 18 and lived a long and happy life until she was 99.

Robert Corbett's great grandparents, John and Mary Danaher had a shoe shop at Carnahalla, Doon, Co. Limerick, the next parish to Pallasgrean. The shoe shop was passed on to his Uncle John and it only closed in the late 1980's. Robert's Uncle John died on July 1st 2013. Robert is still gathering photographs of the family and the shoe shop. It is a little unusual to have had a shoe shop in the locality, in such a rural area.

Thomas and Hannah O'Brien from Bunavie were emigrating to America, in 1912. They boarded the Titanic at Cobh. Thomas was lost when the Titanic sank, but Hannah survived and their daughter was born in America. Sarah Dillon, Timmy, Sarah and Áine Dillon's great grand aunt lived at Killuragh, Pallasgrean, next door to where Timmy, Sarah and Áine live today. Sarah was the only one of her family not to emigrate to America. She married Denis Bowman, a well-known teacher in Nicker N.S.

Fiona and Ciara Keogh found out about their great grandfather, on their dad's side of the family; Thomas Ryan. Thomas lived on a farm with his parents. He was an only child. In 1914, his mother died when Thomas was 24. His father took part in the Rising and he got shot in his leg twice and died, afterwards. After the Rising, Thomas had no relations living nearby because all of his aunts, uncles and cousins lived in Northern Ireland and England. He

had to grow food and take care of the farm by himself. When he was 36 years old, he married a girl called Milly Keogh. They had 10 children, 6 girls and 4 boys. On their mother's side of the family, Johnny Mulvihill is their great grandfather's name. He lived in Athea and married a girl called Judy.

Paddy Ryan is Fergal and Patrick Bailey's great grandfather on their mum's side. He was raised near Nicker Hill. He worked for a light company in New York, where he signed up for World I. Luckily he didn't get killed, as he was to have an amazing career as an athlete. He is famous for breaking the world record in hammer throwing. He also broke the record for the longest winning margin. Then he came back to Ireland, built the house the Bailey family is living in now, got married and was happy. His monument can be seen in New Pallas near St. Ailbe's Credit Union.

Patrick and Fergal also found some interesting information about their father's side of the family, at this time. The Borrowes Boys, (Charles Edward Borrowes, Thomas Arthur Borrowes and Benjamin Borrowes), on their dad's side were three brothers who had one sister. They are Patrick and Fergal's great great granduncles. They lived at 196 Winsover Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire. All three of them were killed in action during the Great War. Private Charles Edward Borrowes fought with the Canadian Infantry, and was killed in action on 6th October 1918, aged 29 years. He is buried at Duisans British Cemetery, Etrun, Pas de Calais, France. His 23 year old brother, Private Thomas Arthur Borrowes, had been killed a few months earlier on 15th April 1918. There is no known grave for him, but he is commemorated on the Ploegsteert Memorial, Comines-Warneton, Hainaut, Belgium. The youngest of the brothers, 22 year old Corporal Benjamin Borrowes, of the Lincolnshire Regiment, was killed on the 22nd August 1918 was killed a few months before the war ended. Their sister was very sad and only had her husband (Edward Wilson) left. He was a miller's waggoner working at Tindall's Mill and they lived at Albert Street, Holbeach, Lincolnshire. He enlisted in the Royal Artillery Regiment on 3rd February 1915. He held the rank of driver and was sent to France on 12th July 1915 as part of the British Expeditionary Force and was gassed. He went missing for a while and his family didn't know where he was. He spent some time at the Military Hospital Hemel Hempstead and thankfully, survived. After the war, he returned to his home and to his work at Tindall's Mill.

Dan Mc Mahon, a great grand uncle of Aaron O'Connor Mc Namara and Josh Mac Mahon also fought in World War I. Dan was originally from Clare, but came to Pallasgrean to work at Linfield quarry, where he had a good job. When he was in the army, he knew Josh's other great grandfather, James Lennon.

Ernest Garbacz, Emilia and Nikodem Hildebrandt have family members in Poland. One hundred years ago, the Great War was in progress. Ernest's great grandad was called Jan Orzel and fought in World War I. He was fighting in No Man's Land when he and his colleagues ran out of ammunition, so they had to use bayonets. Jan's uncle was killed by a German soldier. After the war, Jan was given a piece of land in America. He wanted to

emigrate, with his family, but his wife did not wish to go. Jan's aunt was also involved in the Great War. She was accused of informing on Poland to the Germans and was shot, but this was later found out to be untrue. Emilia and Nikodem Hildebrandt's great grandfather Franciszek Dobzanski came to England from Poland and had a small shop in England. Emilia's great grandfather lived in Poland. When he was 25, he moved to England and lived alone. He worked on a farm, but was still poor. When he found out about World War I, he enlisted, but was killed in action on July 3rd 1917.

Many of our family members were involved in the events of their time, in Ireland, in politics, in the 1916 Rising, War of Independence and Civil War, as well as in the Great War, in Europe.

Holly, Hannah and Cian Cosgrave's great grandfather's name was James Cosgrave. James was born in Cappamore. He helped to construct the Grotto at Nicker Church. He was a member of the Old IRA and also fought in World War 2.

Evan and Shane Pearse's great grandad, Fergie Pearse lived on a farm in Co. Cork with his mother and father. He fought in the 1916 Rising. Before he joined the I.R.A. he worked in a factory in Co. Cork. His dad didn't like him working there and wanted him to join the army but because of his age, his mother didn't really want him to. Army life was difficult but he kept going. It took him five and a half years of training. At the time of the 1916 Rising, Fergie was 45. He went to the 1916 Rising sad because he was leaving his family. Fergie got there as the rising was in progress. He survived until the age of 70. His wife died about a year later.

Zach and Aaron Murphy Ryan, Jake Ryan, Darragh Ryan Gammell and Scott Ryan Coleman are related to Thomas Ryan, who was born in 1893 in Tubrid County Tipperary. Thomas was a part of the Tipperary hurling team who played in the All Ireland Final in Croke Park on November 21st in 1920. During the match, the British Army invaded the field of Croke Park for the reprisal of the assassination of the Cairo Gang. After the final, Thomas went on the run and joined Seán Hogan's No.1 Flying Column. After the Anglo Irish treaty, he sided with the Government forces and rose to the rank of Lt. Colonel in the Irish defence forces. On his death, in 1980, he was buried, with full military honours, at the churchyard of his native village of Ballylooby.

Timothy Collins, great grandfather of Jimmy Stokes, married Mary Lewis from Crecora. They had five daughters. They all lived in Doon. They owned Martins' shop in the village. Timothy was also a teacher in Foilleclera school. The Collins always had an involvement in the I.R.A. of the time. Mary and their daughters carried I.R.A. letters and messages around the area. One night, when Timothy was in bed, the Black and Tans came in and put a gun at either side of his head and threatened to blow his head off if he didn't inform them about the I.R.A. He refused so he and his family were kicked out of their house. The Black and Tans then burnt the house to the ground. After that they rented a house in Doon village. Another lady who was very involved in the War of Independence was Margaret Goold. She carried messages

in those troubled times. This was a very dangerous activity for any man or woman. When she died, her coffin was draped with the tricolour and she was buried with military honours and had a 21 gun salute at her graveside.

Jessica Gleeson's great grand aunt, Bridget Harding, was born in Pallasgrea, on 8th August 1917. Her name, before she married, was Bridget Ryan. She was from a family of fourteen. Brigid moved to London for work and she used to cycle to Mass. She has lots of wonderful memories of life in this area when she was young. Bridget's dad worked for the railway and Bridget's mother often took the train from Pallas station to Limerick, to do some shopping. Bridget and some of her brothers and sisters would go to the station to collect their mother. They would be sliding down the bannisters in the Station house, while they were waiting. The station master would be going mad and chasing them!

Our area was very active during the War of Independence. Hugh O'Donnell, great granduncle of Aoife Purcell and Tadgh Hourigan, was killed in action in Kilfinane during the War of Independence. Hugh lived in a thatched house on the Tipperary side of Oola, just beyond the bridge. He was a very young man when he died. There is a monument in his memory, in the village of Oola, not far from where he lived. The inscription reads;

"In loving memory of Hugh O'Donnell, Oola Company 1st Battalion, east Limerick Brigade I.R.A. Killed in action in defence of the Irish republic at Ballintubber, kilfinane, 7th December, 1922. May he rest in peace."

Donal Murphy, great grand uncle of Emily, Adam and Evan O'Riordan was also involved in the old I.R.A. He was shot dead in an ambush in Kilmallock.

Liam and Pat Fraher, relatives of Chloe Fraher, lived through troubled and difficult times in Ireland. They were from Galbally and Liam was involved in the War of Independence, as his name is mentioned on the monument in the centre of Galbally village.

Danny Fealy's research turned up a booklet commemorating the unveiling of a monument to Richard Leonard, a relative of his, on 10th May 2009. He was an active member of the I.R.A. who was shot and killed by crown forces on 31st December 1920. Major Gray, Lieutenant Loup and Captain Davis entered Hannan's public house at Ballybrood after midnight. The owner, Michael Hannan and his wife, Molly, were terrorised while their two small children, Thomas and Hannie were upstairs, crying. They found a copy of an t-Óglach belonging to Richard or Dick Leonard, Molly's brother. He was arrested and was to be taken to Bruff. Fearing that he would be shot, he tried to escape, but was shot twice by Davis.

Jake Ryan's great grand uncle, Seán Clifford was heavily involved in organising the Dromkeen Ambush. He was Captain of the Fedamore company, O/C 4th Battalion of the Mid-Limerick Brigade and made a long statement to the Bureau of Military History, which Jake researched. On 3rd February, Sean Clifford was one of those preparing to take part in the Dromkeen Ambush. At one o'clock in the morning, they got together in an old house, near where the ambush would take place. That afternoon, they took up ambush positions and waited for two lorries with the

District Inspector, Sanson, as well as 12 R.I.C and Black and Tans on board. The I.R.A. had rifles and some shotguns. O'Hannigan, who was in charge, gave the order to fire. Eleven R.I.C. or Black and Tans had been killed. Two of the R.I.C., in civilian clothes had escaped, while one of the I.R.A. men, Liam Hayes, had been injured and the top of his finger shot off.

Dick O'Connell, great grand uncle of Danny Fealy and Dennis O'Connell was a leading figure of the Old I.R.A. In East Limerick. Dick O'Connell grew up in Dromkeen. His house was burnt and bombed by the Black and Tans, on 4th February 1921, shortly after the Dromkeen Ambush. Danny found an account of the burning, given to Ernie O'Malley, in the 1950's by Alice O'Connell, wife of Paddy Mc Cormack of Caherconlish.

They gave us five minutes to leave the house. We were to take nothing with us, they said. My father remonstrated with them. These are our orders and we're giving them to you, he was told. The proclamation said that the destruction was as a reprisal for the Dromkeen Ambush....It was the following Friday, after the Dromkeen Ambush that they came to us.... They broke all the windows with the butt of their rifles, and with spades which they took out of the shop. They tried to bring out my piano but it was stuck on the turn of the stairs and they smashed the legs off it with the spades. My doll was in a glass shade, a large one it was; and they pitched the doll and the glass shade into the fire. I was crying at this and the villagers were consoling me. I was about sixteen then. At this smash up, there were Auxillaries, Military and Tans. The doll was a present which was given by my aunt and I had kept it since I was a child. There was a big jar of holy water, a gallon jug of it up in the room, but when they threw it to the road, it stood up straight. They put about three bombs into the house. They stayed there for hours and they forced the whole village to look on at the destruction. They robbed our till and they robbed all the liquor inside. We were twenty yards away and when the three bombs went off, the explosion was heard in the city of Limerick.....

This is just a short summary of our research to date and we look forward to completing it as the year goes on.



Andrea Culhane - Winner of the W.B. Yeats "Among Schoolchildren" poetry competition



Pupils of Third to Sixth Class at the Limerick Education Centre Science Fair in LIT.



Nicker N.S. Confirmation Class with Archbishop Kieran O'Reilly, Fr. Burns and Ms. Karen Franklin, Principal.



First Holy Communion Class Nicker NS with Ms. Bernie Farrell and Fr. Burns.



*Steering Committee of Nicker NS
l./R - Liam Gleeson, Brian O'Neill,
Mairéad Hourigan, Karen
Franklin, Siobhán English, Tony
O'Mahony and Fr. Pat Burns*



*Scor Novelty Act Group County
Champions and Munster Finalists.*



*Cumann na mBunscoil Girls 7 a side football
team.*



*Cumann
na
mBunscoil
Boys 9 a
side
football
team*



*Ms. Farrell's Class walk to the Church as part of
our Green School initiative, to meet with Fr.
Burns, in preparation for their First Holy
Communion.*



Ms Hourigan's Class ready for their traffic survey!



Staff of Nicker NS - standing L/R Maria Stevens, Bernie Farrell, Joanne Beary, Marianne Blackwell, Breda O'Dwyer, Emer Shanahan, Rebecca Murphy. Seated L/R Madeline Hourigan, Siobhan English, Karen Franklin, Maire O'Dea.



Nicker NS Parents' Association Committee - Standing L/R Tracy Hourigan, Noreen Fealy, Joanna Bailey, Siobhán Kiely Seated L/R Cora Blackwell, Mairéad Hourigan, Margaret Dillon.



Ms. Blackwell's Junior and Senior Infants recite their Hallowe'en poems.

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Nicker N.S. Board of Management
Back L/R: Tom Ryan, Gary Fraher, Brian O'Neill, Fr. Pat Burns
Front: Joanna Bailey, Siobhán English, Karen Franklin (Principal) and Breda Deere.

LOURDES 2015

By Caoimhe Ryan, John W. Ryan & John O'Driscoll

In March 2015 we were each chosen to go to Lourdes as Youth Helpers. Caoimhe and John William were chosen to represent the parish of Pallasgreen & Templebraden & John O'Driscoll to represent The Abbey CBS in Tipperary. We attended our first meeting in Drombane where we were introduced to the Lourdes Youth Group. Here we placed group activities to get to know the group better. We had our second meeting in St. Patrick's College in Thurles. We celebrated Mass and collected our uniforms. Eddie Golden our Leader went through the rules and procedures and timetable.

On the 16th June we met at Centra, Pallasgreen where got on board our bus to Shannon Airport and boarded a plane to Lourdes. We arrived later that day at our accommodation Hotel Mediterann. Here we got our dinner and then allocated our rooms and whom we would share with for the next 5 days.

The next day we were divided into different groups. Each group was assigned a different leader. We then attended the Opening Ceremony and were welcomed to Lourdes. From there we went to the hospital where we were introduced to the Assisted Invalids and got to know them.

Our daily routine was to bring the Assisted Invalids to the ceremonies using wheelchairs and chariots.

During our time in Lourdes we attended various ceremonies. One day we attended the Baths, whereby we were dipped into the baths of ice cold water, they are well known for there miraculous healing powers. Another night we visited the Grotto. Here Fr. Vincent Stapleton spoke about Bernadette and the history of the Grotto. While there Fr. Pat Coffey told us to remain silent while walking through the Grotto as a mark of respect. And to appreciate the Holy atmosphere of the place. Before we went to Lourdes many neighbours, relatives and friends gave us petitions and asked us to pray for them. We placed these petitions in a box at the Grotto. We also lit candles for those who asked us to do so.

During our time in Lourdes we attended many masses including the Anointing of the Sick; we got our hands blessed at this ceremony.

At the start of the week as we gathered in our hotel, all our names were put in a bag; we would all pick a name from the bag and would then have to get a gift for that person by the end of the week. This is called Kris Kendall. Fr. Coffey said we were to do this and think about that person for the week. We performed at a concert in the hospital for the Assisted Pilgrims. We performed many lively genetic songs such as Mamma Mia and Riptide. We danced with the Assisted Pilgrims who were grateful for our performance and thoroughly enjoyed the night.

We also had the privilege and experience of meeting our new Bishop, Archbishop Kieran O'Reilly. We then went on a hike through roads and fields to go to the town of Bartres. Here we visited an old church, the Bishop spoke about Bernadette and we were blessed and a shrine. During our hike we visited the field where Bernadette used to work when she was young.

The last night we had great craic in the hotel where we sang

and danced with all the helpers. We sang songs such as 'Wagon Wheel'.

Our last day in Lourdes we lit a special candle along with all the Pallasgreen & Templebraden people who were in Lourdes with us for the intentions of all those in our parish.

Our Experience

We interacted with the youth group and got to know each other well. It was a very memorable and worthwhile experience because we made long lasting friendships. The one thing that struck us most was the atmosphere, people were very happy, fulfilled, religious, even the Assisted Pilgrims who had their many problems never failed to give a smile each day. We would love to return to Lourdes in the future as it was a very memorable experience.



Caoimhe Ryan, John W. Ryan & John O'Driscoll

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Grean Drama Group - The Little Prince

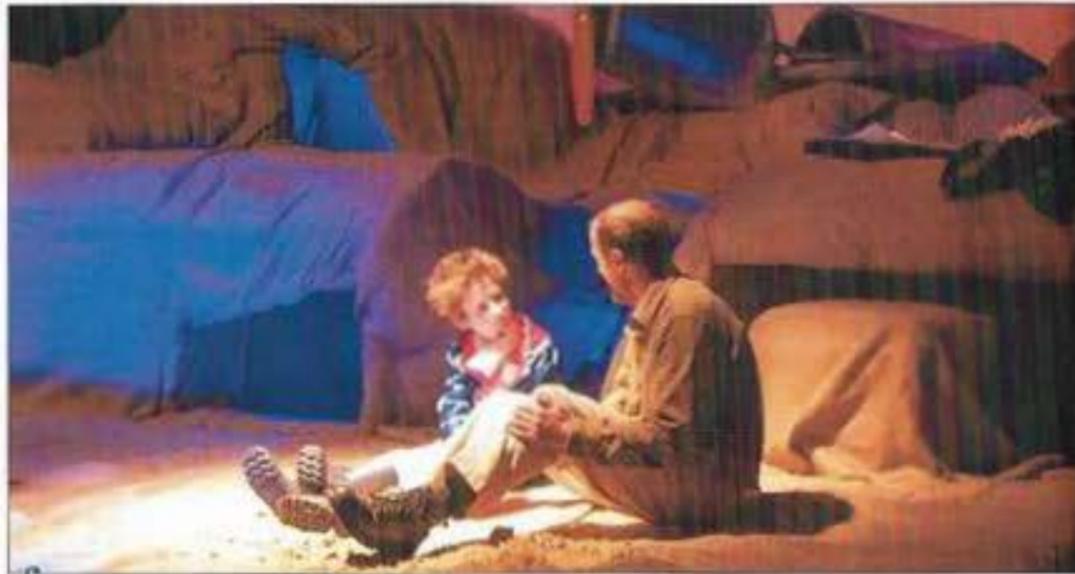
By Dara Fraher

The story of The Little Prince is based on the book by Antoine de Saint - Exupery. Our stage adaptation of this wonderful story was a first for Ireland & was directed & produced by Paolo Tresoldi. The show took place over 3 nights, Oct 24th to 26th 2015, wowing audience's both young & old with the bright colours & the amazing theatrics of the whole production.

All of the cast shone brightly each night but one in particular stole the show & that of course was 11 year old Patrick Bailey who was the lead character playing the Little Prince. To say he did an amazing job is an understatement & we are all very proud of him.

The Little Prince is a story about how life makes us "grown-ups" completely change how we see things from when we were children & how we seem to complicate everything which, to children, is completely baffling! A beautiful quote from the book explains "The most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or touched, they are felt with the heart."

We hope our audience took this away with them, life is short - it is not about possessions or how big your house is, it's about the people you share it with, they are what will bring you happiness!



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Best wishes to Grean from

Tír na nÓg Montessori School

Corelish, Pallasgreen, Co. Limerick.

Directress: Mary O'Connell,
B.A., A.M.I. Dip. Mont.

061-384048/085-7130036

email: germoconnell@gmail.com



Knockane Golf Society

As 2015 is drawing to a close, it has been another great year for Knockane Golf Society. Great weather and great turnout for all outings, we would like to thank our captain for 2015 P.P. O'Sullivan who entertained us with a fantastic day on the captain's day in Ballyneety Golf course. Congratulations to Pat Cronin who took home the captain's prize on the day. We would like to thank all our sponsors, members and our visitors throughout the year and looking forward to a great year for 2016.

Yours sincerely,
Brian Earls.



Members of Knockane Golf Society at Tulfarris House G.C.

Pallagreen's Answer to Rory McIlroy

Interviewed by Michael O'Donogue

My name is Iestyn Winn. I was born on the 12th March 2004 in Clonmel Co. Tipperary. My family moved to Garrydoolis in 2007 where I am now in 6th Class in Garrydoolis National School.

My family consist of my father, mother and sister Caoimhe. My hobbies include Golf and Rugby which I play with Bruff RFC.

I started playing golf at the age of 7. I am a member of the Ballyneety Golf Club. I have a handicap of 13. Some of my achievements to date are:

Achievements:

- European Junior Golf U11 Champion – 17th July 2015 in Ballina, Co. Mayo.
- Circle of Friends Tournament winner in Ballykisteen Golf Club.
- Don Patterson U11 Champion – 6th August 2015 in Warrenpoint, Co. Down.
- Junior Golf Tour of Ireland winner in Castlemartyr, Co. Cork & Dromland Castle, Co. Clare.
- 2nd place in Underage Golf Tournament in Cheshire, England.

- Winner of Wee Wonders Tournament 2013 in Belfast.
- 9th in Wee Wonders Tournament in St. Andrews, Scotland.
- Has represented Limerick in U13s Golf.

Courses played on:

- St. Andrew's, Scotland.
- Dromland Castle
- Portmarnock
- Killarney
- Ross's Point, Sligo
- Adare Manor
- Hollywood, Co. Down
- Blackwood, Co. Down
- Warrenpoint, Co. Down
- Pwelheli Golf Course, Wales.

Famous Players met

- Rory McIlroy
- Darren Clarke
- Shane Lowry
- Luke McDonald
- Lee Westwood
- Miguel Angel Jimenez
- Padraig Harrington
- Graham McDowell
- Martin Kaymer
- Paul McGinley
- Sergio Garcia
- Richie Fowler

My one ambition is to turn Pro.

We hope to see Iestyn continue with his success and look forward to seeing him in the US Masters representing his parish and his country.



2015 at Garrydoolis N.S.

We are delighted to announce that 2015 has been another busy happy year at Garrydoolis N.S. We currently boast an enrolment of thirty eight pupils and we were delighted to welcome five new junior infants at the start of the current academic year.

Garrydoolis N.S. has enjoyed many successes during 2015. Aoife Lee, fourth class, reached the quarter finals of the Doodle4Google competition. Leah and Caoimhe Butler were both winners in St. Anthony's Nursing Home Art Competition and attended the associated prize-giving. Success was also tasted in extra-curricular activities as three of our pupils, Lisa McGuinness, Sinéad McGuinness and Claire Wolfe represented the local community in the national finals of the Community Games Under 14 Group Singing Competition. Additionally, Iestyn Winn, competed in the Adidas /Taylormade Wee Wonders Grand Final at the home of golf, St. Andrew's in Scotland. In both rounds, Iestyn shot better than his handicap and scored best of the Irish group. What an achievement! Sincere congratulations also go to our representatives on the Pallasgreen U12 footballer team, namely Lisa and Sinéad McGuinness, Leah and Caoimhe Butler and Grace Leaden, who recently won the cup final.

This year, pupils in the senior classroom engaged in the Junior Entrepreneur Programme; a 10 week entrepreneurial education programme for primary school pupils. This innovative programme opened the minds of our pupils to the joy of entrepreneurship at a time in their lives when they are full of imagination and open to new possibilities. The result of ten weeks of brainstorming, group work, presentation of ideas, fulfilment of roles in varied aspects of the financial, market research, design, production and advertising teams was "Garrydoolis N.S.- Then and Now"; a photo book detailing the history of our school. Our production stirred much interest and following an extremely successful launch in March, our book was a sell-out after a third reprint! Pupils travelled to the County Showcase Day in The Woodlands Hotel in April in order to showcase their product and see those of other participating schools. Here the pupils of Garrydoolis N.S. were presented with their certificates of achievement and

the Junior Entrepreneur Flag. Pupils also enjoyed a trip to the cinema and lunch as a result of profits made, while they very generously decided to donate the remainder of their profits to the Irish Motor Neuron Association in memory of the late Ms. Mary Harty who worked in the shared resource post in our school some years ago.



Mr. John Delaney raises our Active Flag.

This year saw continued focus on our Active Schools Flag and we were delighted to be deemed an Active School following our assessment day in February. During assessment, children took pride in showing off our new PE equipment, in talking through all the activities we completed in an effort to become more active and in displaying our evidence as filed in our active folder. We then celebrated in April when the C.E.O. of the F.A.I., Mr. John Delaney made the special trip from Dublin to raise our active flag. With a large crowd of family and neighbours in attendance, pupils welcomed Mr. Delaney with a rousing rendition of "Put 'Em Under Pressure" before talking about their journey towards the active flag. Mr. Delaney then spoke to the children about the importance of sport and being active and how this interest, coupled with hard work and determination shaped his career. A most memorable morning was enjoyed by all.

We partook in monthly family masses throughout the year and sincerely thank Fr. Burns for his hard work in organising these special occasions for our children. On April 14th, ten of our fifth and sixth class pupils received the gift of the Holy Spirit during the Sacrament of Confirmation which was celebrated in Nicker Church. Pupil confirmed were as follows; Seán Ryan, Iestyn Winn, Lisa McGuinness, Leah Butler, Marianna Looby, Catherine Beary, James Wolfe, Jeremy-John Looby, Sophie Houlihan and Róisín Ryan. On May 31st, our second class pupil Stephen Lee received First Holy Communion in Templebraden Church. Senior pupils were part of the choir during these sacramental celebrations and all involved represented the school in an excellent manner. We also welcomed members of the Ladies Legion of Mary Group during May and learned about Our Lady of Fatima before being gifted blessed miraculous medals and prayer cards.



Junior Entrepreneur- "Garrydoolis N.S.- Then and Now"



Confirmation 2015

Senior pupils enjoyed participation in the seven-a-side football and hurling tournaments and we took part in National C.O.W. (Cycle on Wednesday) Day in June in line with our green schools programme. We celebrated our second Active week in June. During Active Week, we welcomed the Tipp Wheelers and took part in a cycling workshop, we enjoyed Irish dancing lessons with Brigid Whelan and got some tips on soccer skills from members of St. Michael's Soccer Club. The summer term also saw whole school participation in "Strawberry Days", a project which taught us about the honey bee and allowed us to closely observe pollination in strawberry plants. This project led to a very informative trip to Jack Ryan's Honey Bee Farm and we thank the Ryan's for their hospitality. All pupils were surprised and excited to hear the jingle of the ice-cream van on the day of the summer holidays. They ensured that the gates were promptly opened and ice-cream was enjoyed by all!



Ice-creams all round to celebrate the holidays!

Our school garden kept us busy during the year as each class group chose a vegetable to grow. As a result, lovely potatoes and carrots were harvested this autumn. These were boiled and pupils had the opportunity to taste their own produce. Each pupil also received a pumpkin seed in the spring time which they were asked to take home and grow. Successful pumpkins were accompanied back to school by proud growers on Tree Day during October and



Communion 2015

there was much excitement as Aisling O'Connor's pumpkin was winner in the junior room and Grace Leaden's pumpkin was deemed most successful in the senior room. On tree day, pupils also planted an apple and pear tree and bug boxes were hung in the school garden in order that we may investigate some of the bug life in our field.

2015 saw buses depart from our gates on a number of

occasions as junior pupils set off on a cinema trip while the senior pupils travelled to Hospital to enjoy a performance of "Disco Inferno". Our summer excursion brought us to Adventure World in U.L. where pupils enjoyed a range of challenging and exciting activities before a visit to McDonald's on the return trip. Already during the current academic year, we have travelled to the Learning Hub where senior pupils engaged in the Science and Story Hubs and junior pupils enjoyed fitness and non-contact kick boxing lessons, as well as a science magic show. We eagerly anticipate our trip to the University Concert Hall in December where we will no doubt thoroughly enjoy a performance of "Sleeping Beauty".



Tree Day 2015 and Prize-Winning Pumpkin Growers!

At Garrydoolis N.S., we are "working together - ag obair le chéile"... keep up with our latest news at www.garrydoolisns.com

FROM TEE TO GREEN - O'Dwyer's Bar Golfing Society

Tom O'Dea

2015 was a good year for our society all of our 6 outings were played in good weather which meant there was a good attendance at all outings. Our outings for 2015 were to the following Golf Clubs, Charleville, Ballyneety, Tipperary, East Clare, Portumna, Ballykisteen.

Our three Major outings this year were Philip Cosgrave's Captain's prize, Mike Barry Vice Captain's prize and Dermot O'Dwyers President's prize. There was in excess of twenty players for each of those outings. Philip's Captain's Prize was played at East Clare Golf



L/R: Mike Barry, Jack O'Dwyer, Joe Heelan and Tom O'Dea at Tipperary Golf Club.

Club, the winner was Paul O'Connell. Mike's Vice Captain's prize took place at Tipperary Golf Club, the winner was Mossy Kirby.

Dermot's President's prize was held at Portumna Golf Club the winner here was Mary Lonergan. The Prize for Golfer of the Year after close competition with several other society members this year's winner was Paul O'Connell. Our society has a healthy membership, but new members are always welcome.

The Society would like to wish all groups and clubs within our community continued success for 2016. On behalf of the Society I

would like to wish our incoming Captain Mike Barry and Vice Captain and President continued success for 2016. To all we wish you a Holy and Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.



L/R: Mary Lonergan, Cora O'Dwyer and Bernadette Heelan at Tipperary Golf Club.

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Pallasgreen Templebraden Friends of Lourdes - Celebrating 30 years in 2016

By Michael O'Donoghue

In 1987 Pallasgreen Youth Club started sending 5th Year students to Lourdes. We became the first parish to do so as all the rest were sent from schools. The leaders of the Club at that time were Brian & Neill O'Neill, John Ryan, Grainne O'Sullivan, Seamus O'Dwyer and Mike O'Donoghue.

To raise funds we would set out all over East Limerick selling tickets for a portable T.V. as 1st prize. This continued for a good number of years until the Youth Club ceased. After that we formed Pallasgreen Templebraden Friend of Lourdes. The members of this group were Eddie Harty, Mary Cosgrave, Margaret Blackwell, Michael English and Mike O'Donoghue.

We now raise our funds by means of a church gate collection in March each year. In 2013 we printed and sold calendars to help with funds. So far we have sent 60 Assisted Pilgrims from the parish and 12 from the Nursing Home. We have also send 70 youth helpers and in that time 32 people have gone as senior helpers from the parish. We have also become the first parish in the diocese to hold the positions of Chief Brancardier which is held by Mike Donoghue 2003, 2004 & 2005. The position is now held by Margaret Blackwell and the position of Chief Handmaid is held by Mairead O'Connor. Also Team Leader positions held by Maurice Barrett and Sean O'Connor.

Our present committee consists of Eddie Harty, Maurice Barrett, Sean O'Connor, James Lonergan, Lisa Ryan, Mary Cosgrave and Mike Donoghue.

We would like to thank everybody that has supported us down the years and continues to do so.



Pallasgreen Group with parish candle

Back Row Standing L/R: Ann O'Dwyer, Phil Regan, Austin White, Maurice Barrett, Eddie Harty, John William Ryan, Caoimhe Ryan, John O'Driscoll, Paddy O'Connor, Johnny Kirby, Trish McGoruthy, Mike O'Donoghue, Bridget Houlihan, James Lonergan, Ina Kirby, Maidie and Tom O'Halloran, Mairead O'Connor.

Front Row L/R: Terry Fennessy, Margaret Blackwell, Cathy O'Dwyer, Janie Deere, Michael Hayes, Celia O'Brien and Seanie O'Connor.



Above: L/R Sean O'Connor, Maurice Barrett, Lisa Ryan, Mike O'Donoghue, Eddie Harty, Mary Cosgrave, James Lonergan.



Left: L/R: Mairead O'Connor, Mike O'Donoghue, Margaret Blackwell



Pallasgreen GAA Club

Would like to thank all our Patrons for their ongoing support throughout the year.

Lotto every Monday - Bingo every Wednesday

I.F.A. PALLASGREEN BRANCH 2014-2015

By David Thompson

The Pallasgreen branch of the I.F.A. held its AGM on November 10th, 2014 in the Community Hall Pallasgreen. Mark Fennessy was elected chairman and John Leonard secretary. Mark told members that we had a bad spring weather-wise in 2014 but a good summer. IFA had a protest in Dublin over the beef price as it was €350 per animal less than the price in the UK and no reduction in the consumers' price here! The factories said they lost €21million due to the one day strike which shows the massive profit they must make over a whole year! The milk price was 32-34cent/litre on average. David Thompson, representing the executive discussed the budget, Tams, and the Water Quango and pointed out that Teagasc had suddenly put a disclaimer on the back of their invoices which exempted them from any claim for wrong advice. He urged all farmers to join the "Text Alert" scheme to try and combat rural crime.

Jack Cahill of Dairygold said the Co-op was 9% over quota this year against 2.6% last year. He pointed out the great improvement in milk quality supplier both in the protein, fat, lactose and somatic cell count. He said Dairygold were sorting out the Bord Bia Quality Assurance problems and discussed Dry Cow treatments and said 10% of suppliers had not signed the Co-op contract.

2015 has been a dramatic year for dairy farmers with the ending of the Milk Quota restrictions, a high super-levy charge and the milk price plummeting from a high last year of about 37/38cent / litre to October's 24c/litre. A 13cent drop with no drop in the consumer price! This is well below the true cost of production aided by Teagasc's insistence on promoting production costs which do not include a charge for the farmer's own labour, depreciation or borrowing! It is hoped that milk price will be more realistic next year.

IFA negotiated a new Charter of Farmers' Rights which is a help but still leaves a long way to go. They produced a budget proposal document and a post budget report which shows the country is still run to produce a negative balance of 1.2% of GDP (the EU Fiscal Treaty agreement sets a target of debt:GDP ratio of 60%!!). Despite the €1.5million give-away political budget, middle income families are still worse off than in 2007. Agriculture positives included a self employment tax credit as a first step to align self employed tax credits with PAYE workers (at last) and a tax credit to encourage farm family transfers. More places in the agri-environmental scheme GLAS were announced but the conditions make the scheme of doubtful benefit for many. Reducing the VSC is welcome as is the abolition of the tax-free limit on forestry income.

The horrendous level of rural crime continues which now includes arson. The issue was raised by our member David Thompson on the Vincent Brown TV Show in Rathkeale in April, the "To-day" RTE1 show, the TV3 News and continually on radio and in the press. We must make maximum use of the "Text Alert" scheme and highlight our

plight with all public representatives who want our vote. We need more and better equipped Gardai, a change in the law concerning bail, free legal aid, tagging and sentencing. We must not have to live in fear that is wrecking rural Ireland, which now has to have a "Lock Out" policy forced on us by bad Government – we are the only country worldwide to stop police recruitment and we are suffering for it.

We had only one National Demonstration this year on the "Farm Income Crisis" outside the EU Office. The photo shows the Limerick representatives with our signs, led by the Limerick County Chairman, Aiden Gleeson, supported by members including, from Pallasgreen, John Fennessy and David Thompson (who made up the dairy cow placard, the cow being drawn by John O'Dwyer of Garrison). Over 5,000 attended.

The Mulcair Life project ended and is supposed to carry on to a lesser extent for the next 5 years. The County Council Environmental Section led by Anne Goggin, took a number of people representing agriculture, angling, and environment, together with some councillors to Tyrone in June on a study tour to investigate how the UK Rivers Trust is improving river management with the help of involving stakeholders (instead of waving a red card!). This was followed by a course on "River Fly Monitoring" in October in Ardpatrick. Both were extremely interesting and informative and we hope it will be the start of us all working together on environmental issues to the advantage of all. Our member David Thompson attended both.

The autumn weather has been kind with great growth, cows milking well and with good quality milk, it will help to cut costs of production. - Maybe as a result of this year's total eclipse of the sun on March 20th? Here is hoping the Winter will be kind too. We have plenty of fodder ready for feeding. We wish you all Good Farming for the future.



Pallasgreen Ladies Club

Chairperson Mary Dillon
 Secretary Marie Greene
 Treasurer Lou Ryan

Our club is in existence 3 years. We currently have 25 members. We meet on the 3rd Monday night of each month in the community centre. It is a social evening with a chat and a cup of tea. Some months we have a guest speaker or a demonstration. So far this year we had Lorraine from "Le Maison De Curio" speaking on all aspects of accessorizing and styling for that special occasion. Siobhan Delaney, Nutritionist and life coach from Tipperary attended our meeting and spoke about healthy lifestyles. Mary Kiely, a beautician performed her

magic on two of our ladies!!

We got involved in numerous fundraising events. We helped with a coffee morning to raise funds for Life in the Spirit seminar and we also collected items for Adapt House. Each member filled a shoe box for the Christmas Team Hope Shoe Box Appeal.

Last June we had an amazing day out in Waterford. We visited Waterford Crystal Factory and after a spot of shopping we enjoyed a leisurely stroll around the gardens of Mount Congreve House in Kilmeaden. We finished our day with a beautiful meal in Hotel Minella in Clonmel.

For our Christmas night out we had a party in the hall in the church grounds. Over all we had a very enjoyable year. New members, always welcome.



L/R: Mary Weatherhead, Annette Delaney, Breda O'Dwyer, Mary Kennedy, Kitty Franklin, Phil Kennedy, Breda Deere, Marie Greene, Breda O'Dwyer, Breda O'Connor, Mary Dillon, Cathleen Fitzgerald, Kay Kennedy, Mary Breen, Joan McCarthy, Helen Gleeson, Lou Ryan, Mary Hayes, Margaret Ryan, Carmel O'Keeffe.



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Barna N.S - 2015

It has been a very busy and happy year at Barna NS with many great memories and achievements. Barna school were the 2014 East Limerick Schools 7-a-side Cumann na mBunscol winners for a second year running and worthy finalists this October 2015 in the Gaelic Grounds, Limerick. Over 20 pupils from 3rd – 6th class train every week after school from 3-4pm and their dedication and commitment has seen Barna NS as strong contestants in both the football and hurling finals these past few years. October also saw the pupils busy in the school garden planting an array of spring flowers including daffodils, tulips, crocuses, snowdrops and hyacinths. It was nicely completed with a lovely sign made by 6th class pupil Killian Lee- Barrett bearing the inscription “ School Garden”.

After returning from the Halloween midterm break, our attention soon turned to preparing for the Christmas Concert. Such was its popularity this year that the children took to the stage for two nights! The Junior classes performed “The bossy King” and the Senior classes performed “Angels Up High”. And, Christmas wouldn't be Christmas without the Panto! This year again, the pupils went to the Christmas Panto “Jack and the Beanstalk”, in the University Concert Hall, Limerick, which was great fun.

As part of Catholic schools week in January, we celebrated Grandparents' Day. The pupils invited their grandparents to join them for an afternoon in school. With the help of Fr Burns, our Grandparents' Day began with a prayer service which gave the pupils an opportunity to thank God for the gift of grandparents and for the gift of faith they in turn pass on to their grandchildren. The pupils made tea for their grandparents accompanied with some homemade scones, cake and buns. The pupils gave a display of some Irish dancing, The walls of Limerick and Shoe the Donkey. Fr Burns called out the numbers for bingo with lots of fun prizes including a nice pair of cosy slippers!! Grandparents' Day has become a very special tradition in Barna NS and one Grandparents and pupils look forward to every year.

We bid farewell to Mrs Margaret Maher who retired from teaching in February 2015. Margaret came to Barna School in 2005 and taught Junior Infants her first year and went into resource teaching the following year, where she remained until her retirement. Margaret was a valued member of staff and loved by pupils, staff and school community and we wish her every health and happiness on her retirement.

The 5th and 6th class pupils made their Confirmation on April 14th 2015 in St John the Baptist's Church, Nicker, celebrated by the new bishop of Cashel and Emly Diocese, Keiran O' Reilly. Thanks to Fr Burns for all his wonderful help in preparing the pupils for their special day. 21 pupils from Barna NS made their confirmation. They are Melanie O' Sullivan, Leah Kelly, Áine Looby, Luke Ryan, John Egan, Jack Ryan, Jamie Kennedy, Stephen Power, James Nihill, Cormac O' Grady, Kara Hayes, Megan O' Sullivan, Elizabeth O' Grady, Mark Ryan, David Curtin, Cian Lewis,

Jerry looby, Killian Lee-Barrett, Tommy Finucane, Conor Fitzgerald and Michael Franklin.

School's Active week was one of great sport and activity. Each morning kicked off with “Wake Up-Shake Up”, a five minute warm up before class with some very young and energetic instructors putting the teachers through their paces! The week included Golf, Swimming, Hurling, Soccer Tournament, Zumba, 2km walk and cycle and Sports Day. The week was rounded off with a visit from James Ryan, Limerick Hurler, who presented the pupils with their Active School Week certificates.

The 2nd class children made their First Holy Communion on Sunday 2nd May in Templebraden Church, celebrated by Fr Burns. It was a special day for Ellie Ryan, Niall McNamara, Edward Franklin, Jamie O' Sullivan, Paul O' Kane, Mark Looby and all their families.

The 5th and 6th class pupils entered the “Decade of Centenaries” History competition. They chose two projects, local man Tom Brean (Bonuvee) and his Titanic story and Paddy Ryan, Hammer Throwing Olympian Medalist. The children worked very hard on their research and presented the project with lots of photographs, articles, interviews etc. It was a very interesting and informative exercise and the children were intrigued with the local history and historical facts they came across.

The end of the year brought the excitement of the school tours. The junior room spent a very enjoyable day in Bunratty Castle, Folk Park and Jumplanes (Delta) Limerick. The Senior Tour spent the day in Trabolgan Activity Centre, Cork, where they enjoyed swimming, go-carting, zip-line and laser tag.

The month of June also brought fantastic news for our Building! We had finally received funding from the Dept of Education and Skills for a new school extension to replace old leaky prefabs which were in very bad condition. We also were delighted to get funding to renovate and update the original 1929 school building. The month of June saw everything cleaned out. Books, desks, chairs, shelves, presses, computers, resources... everything was emptied out from the school and put into storage. It was a very strange feeling when the doors closed for the summer holidays on 19th June, and not as much as a pencil or a piece of paper left behind! Thanks to the many parents who came along with trailers, horseboxes and vans to transport the furniture and to the parents who have stored furniture in their sheds and garages until we return to our new school next year.

This September was a busy one as we settled into the Pallasgreen Community Hall which is home now for Barna NS until our school extension is completed. It is challenging in many ways but we are very grateful to have a space to call “school” for a couple of months. The children love the change of scenery and they especially love going to the GAA field every day which we are thrilled to have the use of. We have been so lucky with the fine autumn this year, the pupils played in the field every day since we have returned to school!

On a beautiful October sunny morning we closed up the hall for the day and went to the bog, to the Ballyhoura Outdoor Classroom. Griston Bog, outside Ballylanders, is a raised bogland habitat with facilities especially designed to cater for outdoor activities in Science and Maths. We had a fabulous day outdoors learning about the how bogs were formed as a result of the Ice-Age. The pupils used a sléan and they tested the depth of the bog with scopes. Various insect life was investigated under microscopes. They also learned about percentages and length while gathering data from the bog. Pupils learned about sphagnum moss, heather and other plants and animals which live in the bog. The younger classes particularly enjoyed the bird

watching. It was a very enjoyable learning experience in Griston Bog with lots of fresh air.

We said farewell to Mary O'Dwyer in September. Mary was our school secretary and the friendly voice at the end of the phone for 15 years and we wish her the very best of luck in her new job. We welcomed our new secretary Jane Ryan, in October.

Pupils are very excited about the 1916 commemoration events taking place throughout the school year. Pupils are already busy with history projects, songs, stories, drama and Art to celebrate this important historical event.

We look forward to another exciting school year at Barna NS.



Barna NS Football Team



Barna NS pupils at the Ballyhoura Outdoor Classroom.



Barna NS pupils



Barna NS pupils practise their golf swings!



James Ryan presenting certificates to the pupils of Barna NS.



Barna NS pupils at Griston Bog.

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Historical Society Tour

23 members and friends of the Historical Society set off on their annual Summer tour on 11/7/15. The first stop was Clonmacnoise in Co. Offaly. After a quick visit to the café we joined our young, entertaining guide who pointed out the relevant details of most features on the site. In contrast to other Summer outings we were glad of our jackets and coats as a cold wind blew up from the Shannon! We had a little time to explore after the tour and some of us ventured down to the Nun's chapel and found the ruins of a church with yet again beautifully carved details. The history of Clonmacnoise is very detailed and one could stray off in many different directions. Thus, the following is just a summary of what we saw.

This monastery was founded in 548 by St. Ciaran the son of a master craftsman. Sadly he did not live long after the foundation but his work attracts visitors from all over the world today. The location of Clonmacnoise at the crossroads of the river Shannon (flowing North South) and the Eiscir Riada (flowing East West) helped it to become an important centre of religion, learning, craftsmanship and trade. It is difficult to imagine what Clonmacnoise was once like when one arrives at this serene spot and sees the stone ruins from different stages in the life of the monastery. Many of the buildings have not survived as they were made of wood. The stone buildings which have survived were built at different times. However the monastery was a very busy place which not only supported the monks but also the lay people who worked in the monastery. The sources of information about the history of Clonmacnoise come from:

- The Annals
- The ancient books about the lives of Ciaran,
- The ruins of the monastery and
- The objects that were made in the monastery.

The site includes the ruins of a cathedral, seven churches (10th - 13th century), two round towers, three high crosses and the largest collection of Early Christian grave slabs in Western Europe. The original high crosses and a selection of grave slabs are on display in the visitor centre. Some of the most famous features are:

Temple Ciaran

Radiocarbon dating of the mortar suggests it may date to the 8th/9th century. This is one of only six extant examples of the unique architectural type of the early Irish Shrine chapel. It is believed to be built over the burial place of St. Ciaran.

Cross of the Scriptures

In front of the cathedral is the famous High Cross known as "Flann's Cross" or Cross of the Scriptures which is dated to the first half of the 10th century. The distinctive ringed shape of the Clonmacnoise crosses is typical of Irish work. Functionally it supports the stability of the arms. Carvings on the cross depicting biblical scenes were typical of Ireland and this cross displays scenes of the arrest and

crucifixion of Jesus. The original cross is in the visitor centre.

The Cathedral

The Cathedral was built by Abbot Colman and the High King Flann mac Maeleachlainn and is recorded in the Annals in 909. The cathedral is the resting place of Toirdelbach Ua Conchobair, King of Connacht (buried in 1156) and Ruaidhri Ua Conchobair last High King of Ireland who was interred in the sacristy in 1198.

The West doorway is also known as the Whispering Arch. It is believed that monk would stand on one side of the doorway and the penitent on the other side. The penitent would whisper his confession into the archway and only the monk would hear him.

The cathedral was altered in the twelfth, thirteenth and fifteenth century. In the mid 15th century the North Doorway was added. Above it from left to right one can clearly see the figures of St. Dominic, St. Patrick and St. Francis. This is indicative of the spread of the Franciscans and Dominicans to Ireland although neither order was present at Clonmacnoise itself.

An inscription reads:

DNS ODO DECANUS CLUAN ME FIERI FECIT

indicating that a dean named Odo who died in 1461, commissioned the work. The cathedral is the largest extant pre-Romanesque church in Ireland having a firm documentary date and patron. It is a fine example of royal patronage at an ecclesiastical site through stone architecture.

O'Rourke's Round Tower

This is dated by annalistic evidence to 1124. The Annals tell us that lightning struck it in 1135 and knocked its head off. The three top windows were added after the lightning strike

The Nun's Church

This is not on the grounds of Clonmacnoise but down the road from the site. The path leading to the Nun's Church was the start of a Pilgrim's road. The standing Romanesque church was built around the year 1167. It was a place of retreat for several royal widows and daughters and of burial also, which is evident from the slabs here. The doorway into the nave and the archway into the chancel are beautifully carved.

During his visit to Ireland in 1979, Pope John Paul II visited Clonmacnoise. On returning to Rome he said; "I will never forget that place... the ruins of the monastery and churches speak of the life that once pulsed there. Whole generations of Europe owe to them the light of the Gospel. These ruins are still charged with a great mission. They still constitute a challenge."

Some of us had visited Clonmacnoise before but it is a place to which we would return again as there is so much to learn and appreciate in this very special place.

Leaving Clonmacnoise we headed to Dartfield Horse Museum and Heritage Centre near Loughrea, Co. Galway, a venue suggested to us by Mike Kelly, Kelly Travel. Here we had lunch in the café, visited the horse museum, browsed in the gift and saddlery shop, and saw a demonstration of blacksmithing in the fully working forge by artist and blacksmith Stephen Quinn, an activity really enjoyed by the group.

Dartfield is set on 350 acres of Co. Galway parkland and activities available include horse riding, walking trails, carriage rides, sheep dog trials, clay pigeon shooting and falconry displays. It has the only museum in the world dedicated to Irish horses, Connemara ponies and Irish dogs. The museum also features aspects of Irish Country Life from 1800 – 1900. The museum is a purpose built facility and the vision of Irish horseman Willie Leahy who leads the Connemara Coast Trails and he is the largest breeder of Connemara ponies in the world. Willie happily chatted to the group and posed for photographs.

June 2015 was the 150th anniversary of the birth of William Butler Yeats and as the historical society were in east Galway a visit to Thoor Ballylee was a must. It was open for the first time in many years to celebrate the

anniversary of his birth. Thoor Ballylee was once the home of Nobel Prize winner William Butler Yeats, he lived there from 1921-1929 with his family. He was inspired to write some of his finest poetry here making the tower his permanent symbol – “to go elsewhere is to leave beauty behind”. Members of the society climbed the “winding stair” to the rooftop which offered stunning views of East Galway. Unfortunately time was against us and a planned visit to Coole Park, once the home of Lady Gregory who co-founded the Abbey Theatre with W B Yeats and Edward Martyn was a rushed affair. Some of the members managed a quick dash to the Autograph Tree, while others had a quick browse in the museum. W B Yeats, Sean O’Casey, John Millington Synge, George Bernard Shaw and many other literary greats carved their initials on the Autograph Tree, still standing today.

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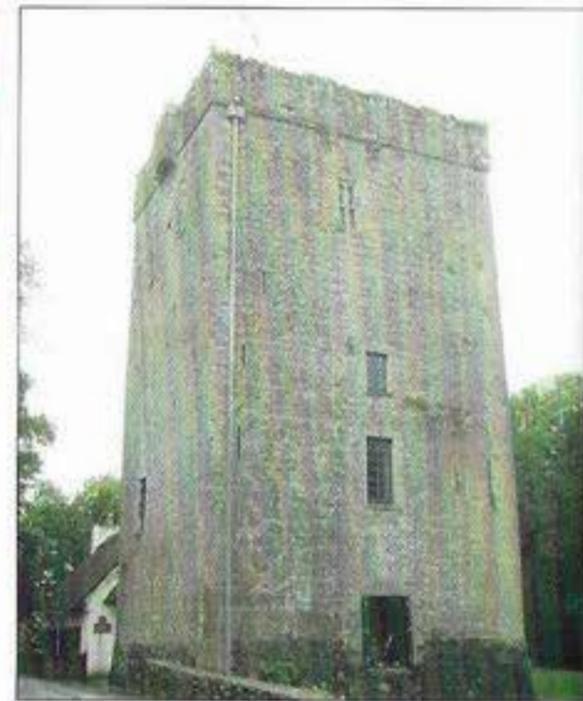
Exploring History 2 1985 Michael Ryan.



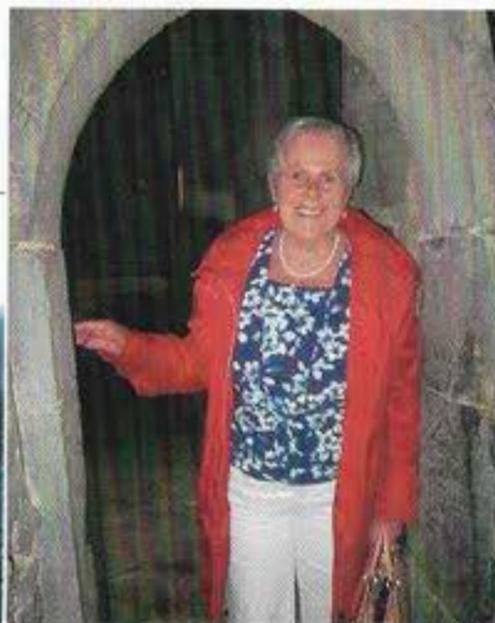
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Rena O’Gorman & Dolores Redpath.



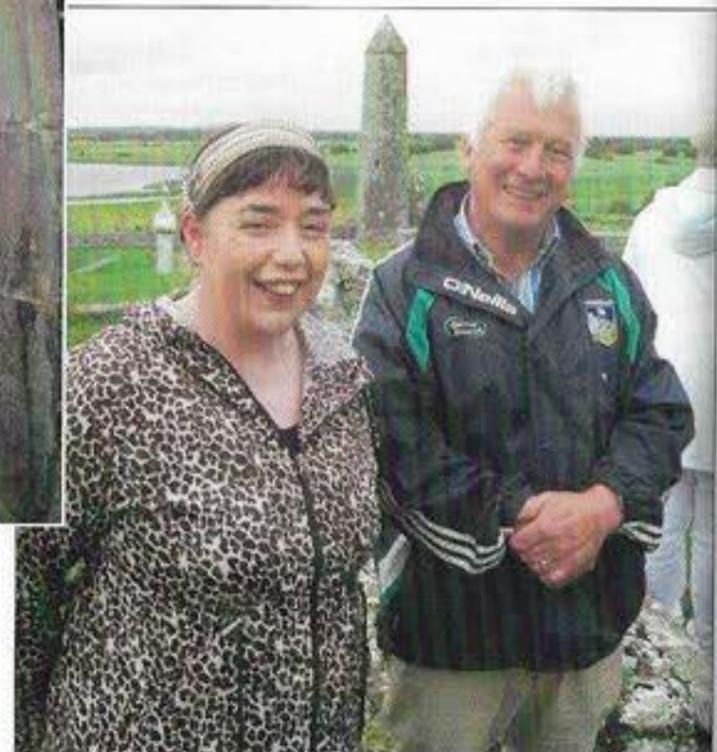
Thoor Ballylee Castle



Margaret Ryan



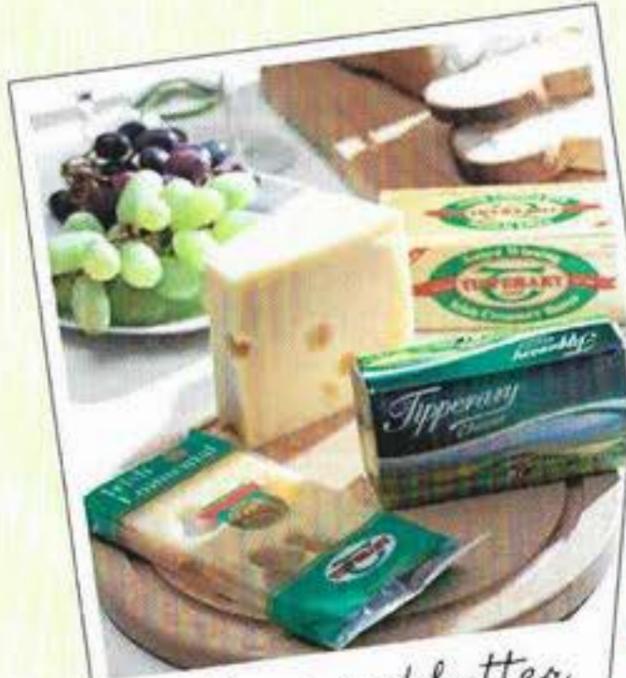
L/R: David Thompson, John O’Dwyer, Nora Stokes, Joe Hand.



Siobhán English & Tom Ryan (W)



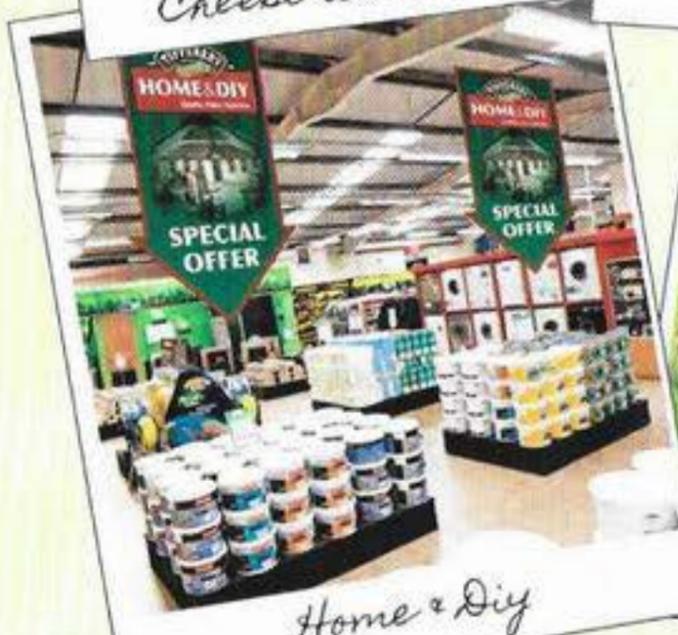
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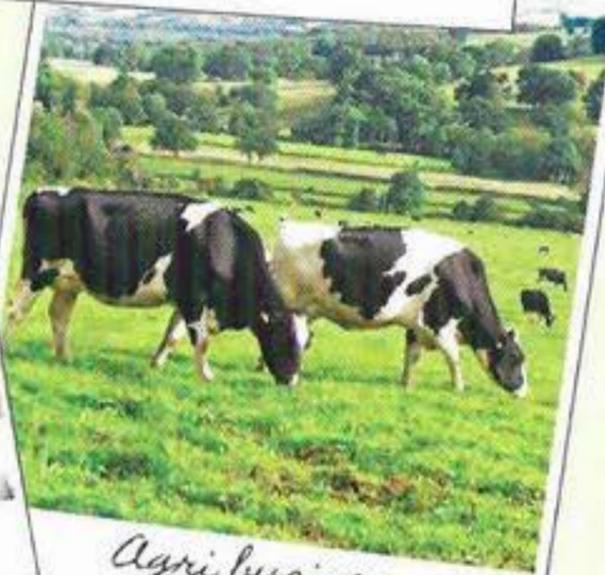
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Best wishes to Pallasgreen/Templebraden Historical Society

History Section

A report of a hurling and football tournament at New Pallas in *The Celtic Times* Newspaper 1887

This long lost newspaper was the first periodical devoted to Gaelic Games and ran from the 1st January 1887 to January 1888. It was co-edited by Michael Cusack, Founder of the G.A.A. and A. Morrison a prominent Scots. businessman. *The Celtic Times* was used by Michael Cusack to support and encourage the playing of Ireland's "native pastimes" and athletics, and to promulgate his views on the organisation and politics of the burgeoning G.A.A. Detailed reports of matches, athletic competitions and committee meetings at all levels are given in every issue. *The Celtic Times* also provides a fascinating portrayal of the various Nationalist Movements, which flourished in Ireland during the closing decades of the nineteenth century. Weekly coverage is given to means of developing indigenous resources, establishing new industries and fostering good labour relations. Cusack also wrote passionately about Irish literature, music and history, and the Irish language.

The pages of *The Celtic Times* reflect the pride and energy of an emerging nation rediscovering its own cultural history.

REPORT BY THE CELTIC TIMES

CORRESPONDENT 15TH OCTOBER 1887

Thursday was a gala day in the annals of Gaelic Athletics in this little town and its environs, owing to a splendid football and hurling tournament got up by the managing committee of the New Pallas club, in which ten clubs from the surrounding districts competed. The weather was most inviting, and, with the exception of a brisk North-Easterly breeze, which in turn militated against one or other of the teams engaged, was all that could be desired. The field, kindly placed at the disposal of the committee by Mr. Dillon, was admirably adapted to the requirements of the occasion and the very best order was preserved by the stewards, Messrs. T. Maher, M. Ryan, T. Ryan, M. Hourigan, J. Hogan, T. Raleigh and others.

The patriotic Priests of the Parish, Rev. M. Ryan and Rev. J. O'Sullivan, whose names are synonymous with everything that is good in the cause of religion and country, lent their presence to the meeting, and imparted to it a tone of good temper and harmony which characterised its every proceeding, from the first toss of the ball until the last contingent left the field. Mr. Lundon, of Killeely, so long and so well known in nationalist circles, acted as referee, and, needless to say, gave his decisions with characteristic honesty and firmness. The thronging multitudes from the counties of Limerick and Tipperary,

with a good sprinkling of the fair sex in their midst, some genuine lovers of sport, some mere sight-seers, and others actuated by various motives, but all, I dare say, honourable ones, filled the grounds from 11.00 to 11.30am., and at 12.00o'clock the two first teams toed the line, with clasped hands, presenting splendid specimens of our race in the persons of the.

NEW PALLAS NO. 2. FOOTBALL CLUB V. THE CAPPAMORE FOOTBALL CLUB.

Messrs. Cunningham, Gibbons, and Ryan acted as field and goal umpires for the home team and Messrs. W. Ryan, L. McGrath, and J. Ryan for the Cappamores.

The Cappamore men won the toss and on the ball being thrown up worked with great determination, driving it close on the goal of their opponents. The New Pallas men defended the goal with tact and cleverness, and soon forced the ball into the Cappamore quarters; some close play then followed in favour of the Pallas men, when Master Harty scored the first point, followed up by another point for Pallas from the toe of Richard Ryan. At change of play the Cappamores, nothing daunted, struck out with a will, when Master T. McGrath drove the ball flying between the New Pallas point posts. The play again inclined in favour of the home club, when Casey skilfully scored a point, followed up quickly by another from the same man. Thenceforward the fortune of the Cappamores was in the ascendant, they scoring two more points against the New Pallas men. At call of time scores stood close enough - 4 points New Pallas; 3 points Cappamore.

NEWTOWN RANGERS V. CASTLETOWN DEFENDERS.

The Rangers won the toss. Both teams when dashing out from the centre would remind a spectator of those heroes whose deeds have been chronicled by Ossian; for symmetry, activity and strength they could defy any two and two score men in this Island. The Rangers, playing with a brisk breeze, soon forced the ball into the Castletown Ground. The biggest part of the play for the first half hour kept close to the Castletown goal, the Rangers working with determination and the Castletowns defending with that courage and tenacity of purpose which they so profusely displayed at the siege of Tim Quinlan's Castle.

Master Corby scored 2 points for the Rangers, followed by a 3rd from the hand of his brother; a Mr. Murphy, of the Defenders, by an unlucky hit scoring a forfeit. Jer

Quinlan, after his own active fashion, scored another point, and in two additional scrummages 2 points for the Rangers ended the first half hour. At change of play the Defenders soon drove the ball into the Newtown territory, and soon one of their men, young Anderson, drove it flying over the Rangers' pointman's head. The game for a quarter of an hour was gallantly contested, when one of the Defenders, through being pushed from the rere by a rush of both parties, could not balance himself satisfactorily to kick the ball taken on the hop without running four steps towards opposite goal, when he gave it the toe to his heart's content. Some of his opponents cried out that it was foul, but, before the attention of the players could be concentrated on it, after a few kicks, a Castletown man put out a goal. The Referee found himself in a position that tested his judgment, and one likely not to give satisfaction to both parties. After the decision was announced, the time was running late, and three other matches to be contested, so that both teams left the field, but with no unpleasantness, apparently disposed to meet one another on a future day. Before the contretemps, score stood - For Rangers, 6 points 1 forfeit; for Defenders, 1 point.

OOLA'67's V. KNOCKANE REPUBLICANS.

In the twinkling of an eye, both the dashing teams stood forth, brimful of life and element and rejoicing in their Nationalist appellations. Messrs. O'Donnell, Ryan and Londregan did the field and goal umpiring for Oola; Messrs. W. Ryan, T. Ryan and D. Torpey, for the Knockane men, who, it may be remarked, are a young but very promising Club. The Republicans won the toss, and the first score to their credit was a forfeit from the toe of a '67, followed up by another of a similar nature. The ball was played a good deal in the vicinity of the Oola goal, but was almost invariably driven back with a vengeance by Mr. Daly, the '67 goalkeeper. The Republicans made some splendid dashes, particularly O'Neill and Torpey, and, in the end, made 2 other points. At change of play the '67's forced the ball into the Knockane ground, and soon scored a forfeit. Phil Ryan, of the Oola's, soon scored a point, and another to the credit of the '67's closed the contest.

BLACKBOY HURLERS V. PALLASGREAN PLUCKY-MEN

The gem of the whole performance was the hurling match next fought out, with the best of humour and greatest determination, between the Blackboy hurlers and the Pallasgreaan plucky-men. The annals of athletic sports would fail to record a sweeter contest without a single accident, the Blackboys scoring 4 points to the plucky-men's 1 point 1 forfeit - Messrs J. Conway, J. Grady and P. Kearney acting as umpires for Blackboys; Messrs. J. Ryan, T. Raleigh and J. O'Brien for Pallas.

DOON WEANLINGS V. NEW PALLAS NO. 1'S.

Messrs. M. Doherty, J. Hayes, J. Moloney, being umpires for Weanlings; Messrs. J. Byrne, T. Ryan and T. McGrath for the No. 1'S. The Weanlings do not by any means look as having much in common with their appellation, but are a splendid party, full of life and vigour, and appearing fresh as daisies, from the exhilarating effects of their pure mountain air. They have up to this made excellent record. The New Pallas No. 1 club are a youthful accession to the athletic ranks, and agile as the wild deer on the hillside. It was delightful to see the tumbling on both sides. Sometimes a New Pallas man would be made bite the dust, and the next moment a Doon man was hurled in the air with his legs flying after the fashion of an acrobat. The evening was getting cold and both parties put on a spurt, yet not a single expression indicative of ill-temper crossed their lips. Two bully Weanlings came at both sides of Master Hourigan and turned him up, but in an instant Hourigan had a big Doon six-footer on his flat. The rings around in peals of encouragement, now shouted "bravo Doon", now, "well done New Pallas", so that, although the best order prevailed, it might be said that those outside the ropes were in spirit at least engaged in the contest. It was considered that at change of play the New Pallas men would be more fortunate, but it seemed otherwise to the fates. Nothing would penetrate through the discipline of the Doons, although their goal was on dozens of times assailed by the Pallas men, but to no purpose. The Doons scored 1 goal 3 points (1 forfeit) to nil on the side of the New Pallasers.

Compiled by Tom Ryan



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A History of Castlegarde

1588 to 1700

Part 4

In Part 3 we posed the question of who got Castlegarde after 1588.

Following the failure of the Desmond Rebellion and its crushing defeat in 1583 the lands owned by the former Earl of Desmond and his supporters were attained by the crown. The process of their distribution thereafter seems to have been slow and elongated as the records show that the estate at Castlegarde was not distributed until 1589.

We cannot tell for certain if at this time Castlegarde was attained from the Earl of Desmond or from their supporter Brian "Bouy" O'Brien. What is certain is that Brian "Bouy" O'Brien was at least the main tenent in charge of Castlegarde up to 1588, but that at this stage whatever part he had played in the rebellion (perhaps from what we can ascertain he just sat on the fence)

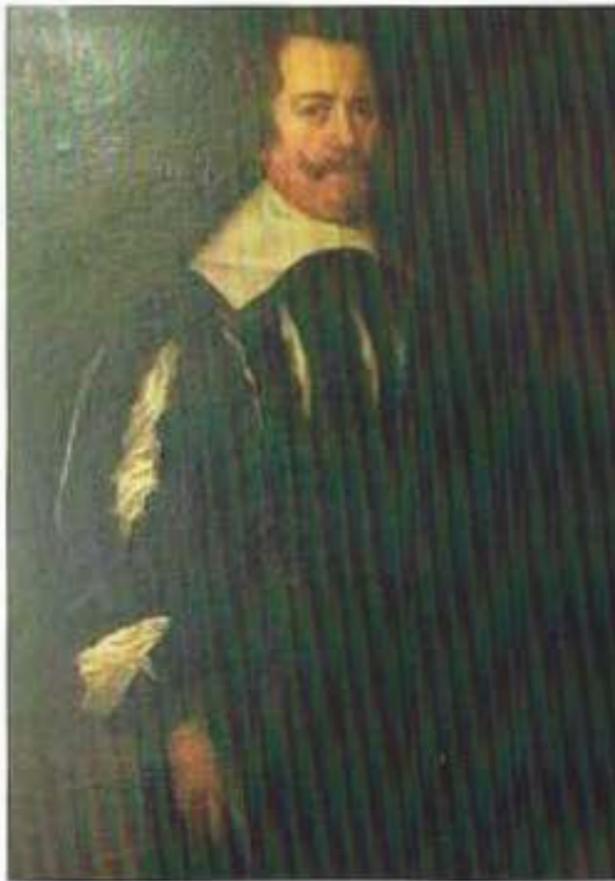
the lands were attained from him and the Desmond estates in Co. Limerick.

Sir Henry Sydney is mistakenly mentioned in some sources as being the "owner" of Castlegarde, however there is little to indicate that that he never owned the estate. He might have had some say over it on behalf of the crown prior to the peace following the first Desmond Rebellion (1573).

We believe that it is most likely that as former Lord Deputy of Ireland and a member of the Queens Privy Council he did have some responsibility for oversight of John Perrott the Lord Deputy up to 1588 who was then replaced by Sir William FitzWilliam as Lord Deputy in 1588.

In the meantime Perrott through a series of intrigues found himself imprisoned in the Tower of London (where he later died). Following his imprisonment his Irish appointees to positions of power were replaced with hard line anti-gaelic crown representatives who were staunchly Edwardian protestant, and hence we believe the reason for Brian "Bouy" O'Brien (who appears to have sat on the fence during the rebellion) being evicted from Castlegarde at the end of the attainment in 1589.

It is difficult to blame Brian "Bouy" O'Brien for taking little action either way during the Desmond Wars. On one side he owed his family loyalty to the Earl of Thomond who was the successor to the O'Brien Kingship of Thomond. The Earl of Thomond in 1581 was Donogh O'Brien a staunch supporter of Elizabeth the 1st at whose court he was fostered at in England. On the other side his "masters" and overlords of Castlegarde were the Earls of Desmond, a



Henry Bouchier 5th Earl of Bath

force to be reckoned with as the annals record their mustering of armies up to 20,000 men, a feat not matched by several countries at the time, let alone one noble family.

Furthermore to add to Brian "Bouy" O'Briens concerns the previous one hundred years had been ones of turmoil for any crown subject, the Wars of the Roses were followed by the reformation under Henry, the counter reformation under his daughter Queen Mary, and the reversal of Mary's policy under Queen Elizabeth. It was a time where even Kings and Queens feared strongly for the security of their thrones, and given the level of rebellion in both England and Ireland these fears were not unfounded.

Additionally politics was filled with rebellion and intrigue, such as the Pilgrimage of Grace in the North of

England, Lady Jane Grey's rebellion and the plotting of Mary Queen of Scots just to mention the major ones. There were many other plots and rebellious activities afoot that were so numerous they are merely mentions in the footnotes of history. So with all this going on, it was difficult for Brian "Bouy" O'Brien to align himself with any one side for fear of his own life.

During both the first and second Desmond rebellions a young English captain had distinguished himself in duty, mostly in the West of Ireland, at one stage even being captured by James FitzMaurice FitzGerald in 1573 and handed back when Essex met the Earl of Desmond near Waterford to make a truce.

This captain Sir George Bouchier (knighted for his part in putting down the first rebellion) continued in Ireland after the rebellions ended and was elected to the old Irish Parliament in 1585. Having again fought with valour against the second Desmond Rebellion he was then granted the lands of both Castlegarde and Lough Gur, and surrounding areas totalling in all 12,800 acres in Co. Limerick in 1589 following the appointment of Sir William FitzWilliam as Lord Deputy of Ireland.

Bouchier was in a good position to gain this land grant as he was of good English stock, the third son of 2nd Earl of Bath, and had additionally proven his loyalty in the field of battle. His profile would fit well with the type of Estate owner desired by those pushing the Elizabethian plantations in Munster as he would have had no connections with the Irish tenants and therefore little empathy in replacing them.

Sir George Bouchier made a good marriage for himself with Martha Howard the granddaughter of the Duke of Norfolk. She had five sons three of whom died young, however Sir John Bouchier survived to inherit Castlegarde and other Limerick lands on the death of his father in 1605.

Sir John Bouchier was knighted in 1610 and also seems to have come into the Manor of Clare in Co. Antrim which added 7,000 acres to his estates. We are not certain if these lands were acquired by his father or by himself by means of reward from the crown.

Sir John Bouchier died a young man in 1614 leaving his estates in both Antrim and Co. Limerick (which included Castlegarde) to his younger brother Henry Bouchier (the last surviving of five sons of George Bouchier and Martha Howard).

In 1637 Henry left Ireland and became one of the wealthiest and most powerful men in England as he inherited the Earldom of Bath from an heirless cousin. However he still held ownership of his Irish estates which were heavily involved in the Royalist cause during the turmoil of the years to come.

Henry Bouchier's departure for England meant the beginning of absenteeism of both him and his heirs from their Irish estates. Therefore we know he would have appointed his senior agents as warders over their management and defences (in times of war).

We know that Henry Bailey (Bally, Baylee or Baillee in some documents) was the main tenant in charge and Bouchier agent over both Castlegarde and Lough Gur castles in 1659. An old document states "Henry Bally (Bayly or Bailey) and his son John Bally were the chief gentlement administrators at 'Castle ne Guard'" We are

not sure if this Henry Bailey is one and the same or a son of Henry Bailey who defended Lough Gur castle as Warder against the Irish confederacy during the siege of 1641 when he was also responsible for holding Castlegarde for Royalist forces.

Henry Bouchier himself was a staunch Royalist supporter and during the English Civil War was captured and imprisoned in 1642 by Parliamentarian forces for attempting to raise troops for the king. He was released a year later but immediately took up the royalist cause again and was appointed Lord Privy Seal by Charles the first.

In 1638 he married Rachel Fane with whom he had no family. He died in 1654, out of favour with the Cromwellian government of the day. However he managed to hold his estates despite his royalist credentials but he was heavily taxed as a penalty for his loyalties to the King. The Earldom of Bath was left without an heir while his wife Rachel Fane remained countess dowdger of Bath.

The historian James Green Barry (Cromwellian Settlement of Limerick) noted that Henry Earl of Thomond held "Castle Garde" during the late Cromwellian/Restoration period and its lands were not sequestered. Our research would indicate that this is not the case. Firstly we know that the land was still held within the Bouchier estates in 1668 and furthermore we can trace the ownership from then up to the present day.

We believe that James Green Barry mistakenly took what was possibly a much wider administrative mandate held by the Earl of Thomond for ownership over these lands. Henry the 7th Earl of Thomond was a brother in law of Henry Cromwell and was entrusted with the governship of Clare. Historically O'Brian control would have extended across the Shannon into much of Co. Limerick, and given



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his trusted family relationship with the defacto ruler of Ireland Henry Cromwell it is possible his administrative mandate in Clare extended much further. Many of the old nobles would have been out of favour due to their staunch Royalist and or Confederate credentials, and it is possible that as a trusted governor of Clare the Earl of Thomond was given a protective mandate over this area including Castlegarde.

Rachel Fane on coming into her husbands estates became a great patron to her family. One of the major beneficiaries was her nephew Sir Henry Fane to whom she gifted her Irish estates including Castlegarde on his marriage to Elizabeth in 1668. We know he kept Baileys on as tenants in charge and most likely as agents for his wider Irish estates in the area.

In our next article we will deal with some of the history of the Fanes and their sale of Castlegarde to whom we will reveal in Part 5.

By David Thompson and Dan Grace – with help from Joseph Lennon

***Footnote**

I, David Thompson, was born and reared in this the oldest inhabited castle in Ireland. My wife Hazel and I wish to share as custodians this unique heritage castle with local historical and school groups by organising visits for a donation to continue restoration work, to prevent Castlegarde joining the many ruins of such structures and allow it to be passed on to our son Peter and kept as a viable local heritage focus point.

The Tineteriffe National School 4th class and part of 5th class visited Castlegarde in October 2015.

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A Century of Changes in Pallasgreen

Part 3 By Nora Stokes

A Trip Back In Time – 1911:

I am back again this year with more fascinating information on townlands from An Grean and their occupants taken from 1911 census. If you enjoyed my trip last year from Garranmore through Sunville, Dromlara, BallyLuddy and Brackyle all around to Knockballyfookeen taking in Mount Catherine on the way to Kilduff and back in to New Pallas then you will enjoy this trip even more as this year I have gone from Nicker all around to New Pallas

so please come with me on a trip back in time around some townlands in lovely Pallasgreen, where I travel from taking in Nicker to Bunavie and I continue on to Corelish East on one side and and Corelish West on the other side then on to Linfield taking in Ballyvoneen and Lisheen also taking in Dromeenboy and this brings me back to New Pallas, I hope you will enjoy tracing all these people and places in this piece as much as I did writing and researching it.

Century changes in Nicker (Grean Limerick)

In the table below is the list of houses in the Nicker returns taken from the 1911 census, there were 8 houses holds there at the time.

Surname	First Name(s)	Others In House at Time
O' Donnell	Michael (Steward & Co Worker) Catherine	Thomas (Son) Timothy (Son) James (Son)
	Religion - Roman Catholic	
Blackmore	John (Groom) Margaret	Thomas (Son) Peter John (Son)
Ryan	Martin (Railway Labourer) Bridget	Cornelius (Son) Mary (Daughter)
Dwyer	Edmond (Carpenter Master) (Widower)	Edmond (Son-Carpenter) Thomas (Son-Carpenter) John (Son-General Labourer) Annie (Daughter) Mary (Daughter) John Brien (Relative)
	Religion - Roman Catholic	
Ryan	Bridget (Farmer) (Widow)	Patrick (Son) James (Son) Annie (Daughter) Margaret (Daughter) Peter (Son)
	Religion - Roman Catholic	
Ryan	Cornelius (Labourer) Ellen	Jeremiah (Son)
	Religion - Roman Catholic	
Hayes	Hugh (Farmer) Mary	Hugh (Son) Laurence (Son) James (Son) John (Son) Michael (Son) Margaret Hayes (Mother) Hanna Harty (Sister-in-Law)
	Religion - Roman Catholic	
O' Dwyer	Patrick (Farmer) Ellen	Rodger (Son) Mary (Daughter) Winifred O' Dwyer (Mother) Michael Mulcahy (Servant) Michael Morrissy (Servant) Katie Carr (Servant)
	Religion - Roman Catholic	

Century changes in Nicker Town (Grean Limerick)

In the table below is the list of houses in the Nicker Town returns taken from the 1911 census, there were 24 houses holds there at the time.

Surname	First Name(s)	Others In House at Time
O' Brien	Margaret (Widow - Dressmaker - Age 50)	Ellen Dwyer (Daughter - Domestic Servant - Age 25) John Dwyer (Son - Scholar - Age 15)
	<i>3 children born to this family but 1 was not at home on the night</i>	
	Religion - Roman Catholic	
Buckley	Mary (Single - Shopkeeper - Age 42)	Bridget Buckley (Niece - Scholar - Age 17)
	Religion - Roman Catholic	
Murphy	John (Labourer - Age 68) Frances (Age 68)	Timothy Hynan (Son-in-Law - Labourer - Age 29) Kate Hynan (Daughter - Age 28) Frances Hynan (Grand-Daughter - Age 3) John Hynan (Grand -Son - Age 2) Bridget Hynan (Grand-Daughter - Age 1 Month)
	<i>4 children born to this family but only 3 living</i>	
	Religion - Roman Catholic	

Buckley	James (Commission Agent - Age 42) Bridget (Age 42)	James (Son - Scholar - Age 18) Michael (Son - Scholar - Age 14) John (Son - Scholar - Age 12) Patrick (Son - Scholar - Age 6) Thomas (Son - Age 2) Mary (Daughter - Age 1 Month)
	<i>10 children born to this family but only 8 alive</i>	
	Religion - Roman Catholic	
Mc Mahon	Daniel (General Labourer - Age 54) Jane (Age 52)	James (Son - General Labourer - Age 23) Michael (Son - General Labourer - Age 20) Daniel (Son - Scholar - Age 14) Mary Gorman (Cousin - Age 8)
	<i>Five children born to this family, 1 not at home on the night and 1 died</i>	
	Religion - Roman Catholic	
Murphy	Mary (Widow - Old Age Pensioner Age 80) (Blind Lady)	Johanna Hayes (Widow - Lodger - Age 50)
	<i>This lady had no children</i>	<i>This lady had 4 children and all were living somewhere</i>
	Religion - Roman Catholic	
Mulcahy	William (Labourer - Age 24) Hanora (Age 23)	
	<i>This couple married less than a year</i>	
	Religion - Roman Catholic	
Buckley	Michael (Labourer - Age 49) Margaret (Age 47)	
	<i>Married 9 years but no children</i>	
	Religion - Roman Catholic	
Mc Elligott	Mary (Shopkeeper - Age 62) (Widow)	William (Son - Theology Student - Studying to be a priest - Age 26)
	<i>This lady had 3 children only 1 living</i>	
	Religion - Roman Catholic	
Condon	Thomas (Labourer - Age 31) Ellen (Age 31)	Michael (Scholar - Son - Age 5) Michael McElligott (Brother-in-Law - Scholar - Age 14)
	Religion - Roman Catholic	
Corboy	Michael (Labourer - Age 50) Johannah (Age 35)	Margaret (Daughter - Scholar - Age 7) Patrick (Son - Scholar - Age 6) John (Son - Scholar - Age 5) Johanna (Daughter - Scholar - Age 4) David (Son - Age 1)
	Religion - Roman Catholic	
Connors	John (Labouring Man - Age 38) Mary (Age 28)	William (Son - Age 2) Patrick (Son - Age 4 Months)
Danaher	John (Labourer - Age 32) Bridget (Age 30)	Mary (Daughter - Scholar - Age 9) John (Son - Scholar - Age 8) William (Son - Scholar - Age 7) Katie (Daughter - Scholar - Age 5) Bridget (Daughter - Scholar - Age 3) James (Son - Age 2) Johanna (Daughter - Age 8 Months)
	<i>This couple had 8 children but only 7 are living</i>	
	Religion - Roman Catholic	

Gleeson	Margaret (Widow – Age 70) <i>This lady came from Co. Cork</i> Religion - Roman Catholic	
O' Connell	William (Tailor – Age 74) Catherina (Age 68) Religion - Roman Catholic	Mary O Connell (Grand-Daughter – Age 22)
Cordon	John (Labourer – Age 45) Johanna (Age 44) Religion - Roman Catholic	Catherine (Daughter – Farmers Servant-Age 21) John (Son – Servant - Age 19) Patrick (Son – Servant – Age 16) Cornelius (Son – Servant – Age 14) Hanora (Daughter – Scholar – Age 12) Ellen (Daughter – Scholar – Age 8) Bridget (Daughter – Age 2)
Hayes	Margaret (Widow- Old Age Pensioner – Age 76) <i>This lady had 5 children born alive but at time census there are none living.</i> Religion - Roman Catholic	Alice Maher (Sister- Old Age Pensioner – Age 74)
Corboy	Annie (Publican & Farmer – Age 50) <i>This lady had 10 children but only 6 are living</i> Religion - Roman Catholic	Michael (Son – Engaged at Farming – Age 21) Mary (Daughter – Engaged at Farming – Age 20) Lena (Daughter – scholar – Age 12) James (Son – Scholar – Age 13) Angela (Daughter – Scholar - 10) Annie (Daughter – Scholar – Age 8) Michael (Brother – in- Law – Manager of Business – Age 41)
Mulcahy	Daniel (General Labourer Age 36) Hanora (Age 21) Religion - Roman Catholic	Johanna (Daughter - Age 2) John (Son – Age 1)
Ryan	Michael (Widower –Labourer Age 55) Religion - Roman Catholic	Sara (Daughter – House Keeper- Age 21) David (Son –Scholar - Age 11) Josie (Daughter – Scholar - Age 8) Mary (Daughter – Age 7)
Dunne	John (Labourer – Age 40) Bridget (Age 40) <i>12 children born to this couple but only 9 living</i> Religion - Roman Catholic	Thomas (Son – Labourer – Age 18) William (Son – Labourer – Age 16) Bridget (Daughter – Scholar – Age 12) Katie (Daughter – Scholar – Age 10) John (Son – Scholar – Age 8) Paul (Son – Scholar – Age 6) Eliza (Daughter – Age 4) Alice (Daughter - Age 3) Mary (Daughter – Age 2)
Ryan	Sarah (Widow - Old Age Pensioner – Age 77) Religion - Roman Catholic	Mary (Daughter – Charwoman – Age 50 – Widow)
Lyons	Mary (Domestic – Age 52) Religion - Roman Catholic	John (Son – Labourer - Age 22)
Gleeson	Daniel (Publican & Farmer – Age 48) Margaret (Age 51) <i>Two children born to this family but none at home on census night</i> Religion - Roman Catholic	

Century changes in Bunavie (Grean Limerick)

In the table below is the list of houses in Bunavie Town returns taken from the 1911 census, there were 11 households there at the time.

Surname	First Name(s)	Others In House at Time
Tracey	John (Farmer – Age 70) Ellen (Age 55) Religion - Roman Catholic	Joseph (Son – Scholar – Age 17) Jerry (Son – Scholar – Age 15) Darby (Brother- Farms Servant – Age 68)
Ryan	Thomas (Farmer- Age 59) Annie (Age 59) Religion - Roman Catholic	Katie (Daughter – Farmers Daughter – Age 22) Thomas (Son – Farmers Son – Age 21) Annie (Daughter – Scholar – Age 16)
Ryan	William (Farmer – Age 40) Hanora (Age 36) Religion - Roman Catholic	Mary (Daughter – Scholar - Age 7) Bridget (Daughter – Scholar - Age 6) Ellen (Daughter – Scholar- Age 4½) James (Son – Age 1½) William (Son – Age 5 months)
Moloney	Mary (Widow – Age 53) <i>6 children born to this family but 2 not at home on census night</i> Religion – Church of Ireland	Edward (Son – Farm Servant – Age 21) John (Son – Age 15) Mary (Daughter – Age 19) Norah (Daughter – Age 18)

Donovan	William (Farmer – Age 65) Alice (Age 60) <i>2 children born to this couple only 1 at home on census night</i> Religion - Roman Catholic	John (Farmers Son – Age 15) Mollie Ryan (Servant – Age 21)
Ryan	Patrick (Farmer - Widower – Age 73) Religion - Roman Catholic	Bridget (Daughter – Age 30) Ellen (Daughter – Age 29) John (Son – Age 27) Michael (Son – 25)
O' Brien	Patrick (Farmer – Age 30) Religion - Roman Catholic	Barney O' Brien (Brother – Servant - Age 21)
Harty	Denis (Farmer – Age 77) Sarah (Age 34) <i>8 children born to this couple but only 2 at home on census night</i> Religion - Roman Catholic	Bridget (Daughter – Age 27) Denis (Son – Age 22)
Harty	John (Farmer – Age 54) Ellen (Age 32) Religion - Roman Catholic	Kate Harty (Sister – Age 64) Lena (Daughter – Age 2) Kate (Daughter – 3 Months) Denis (Son – Age 1)
O' Brien	Michael (Single - Caretaker - Age 40) Religion - Roman Catholic	Michael O' Brien (Cousin – Scholar - Age 16) Daniel O' Brien - Cousin – Scholar - Age 15)
Harty	Denis (Married – Labourer - Age 67) Religion - Roman Catholic	Denis is the only name on the census form

Century changes in Corelish East (Grean Limerick)

In the table below is the list of houses in the Corelish East Town returns taken from the 1911 census, there were 6 households there at the time.

Surname	First Name(s)	Others In House at Time
Houirigan	Richard (Farmer – Age 40) Margaret (Age 38) <i>This couple married less than one year</i> Religion - Roman Catholic	Mary Ryan (Sister – Farm Servant - Age 40) <i>It looks like Richard and Mary are twins</i>
Ryan	Martin (Farmer – Age 47) Mary (Age 26) <i>This couple are married six years</i> <i>5 children born to this couple but only 4 living</i> Religion - Roman Catholic	Pakie (Son – Age 5) Margaret M (Daughter – Age 4) Rebecca (Daughter – Age 3) Johanna (Daughter – Age 1½) Thomas Ryan (Nephew – Scholar – Age 12)
O' Dwyer	John (Farmer – Age 48) Annie (Age 44) Religion - Roman Catholic	Edmond (Son – Scholar -Age 12) Thomas (Son – Scholar - Age 8) Gretta (Daughter – Scholar - Age 6) Willie (Son – Scholar - Age 4) Nellie (Daughter – Age 1) Daniel O' Leany (Farm Servant – Age 24) Sarah Ryan (Domestic Servant – Age 16)
Harty	Timothy (Labourer – Age 58) Hannah (Age 60) <i>11 children born to this couple only 9 living</i> Religion - Roman Catholic	Maggie (Daughter – Age 25) Timothy (Son – Age 17) Hannah – (Daughter – Age 14)
Dwyer	Catherine (Farmer – Widow - Age 71) <i>There were no job descriptions down for the children</i> Religion - Roman Catholic	John (Son – Age 30) Margaret (Daughter – Age 28) Thomas (Son – Age 26) Johanna – (Daughter – Age 24)
Garvin	James (Farmer – Widower - Age 69) <i>No Job descriptions down for the children</i> Religion - Roman Catholic	Bridget (Daughter – Age 33) John – (Son – Age 28)

Century changes in Corelish West (Grean Limerick)

In the table below is the list of houses in the Corelish West Town returns taken from the 1911 census, there were 7 households there at the time.

Surname	First Name(s)	Others In House at Time
Ryan	Michael (Farmer - Age 52) Hanoria (Age 50) <i>8 children born to this couple but only 4 living</i>	Catherine (Daughter - Age 19) Mary (Daughter - Scholar - Age 16) Dan (Son - Scholar - Age 12)
	Religion - Roman Catholic	
O'Brien	Patrick (Farmer - Age 60) Bridget (Age 60)	Patrick (Son - Scholar - Age 18) Katie (Daughter - Scholar - Age 15)
	Religion - Roman Catholic	
Hayes	Catherine (Farmer - Widow - Age 62) <i>8 children born to this lady but only 4 living</i>	Joseph (Son - Farmer - Age 35) Bernard (Son - Farmer - Age 27) Angela (Daughter - Age 23) John Mc Carthy (Relative - Scholar - Age 10) Thomas Ryan (Servant - Age 22) Kate Neville (servant - Age 22)
	Religion - Roman Catholic	
Franklin	George (Farmer - Age 40) Maryanne (Age 30) <i>This couple married under 1 year</i>	Annie Franklin (Sister - Age 25) Sarah Mullane (Servant - Age 22) John Ryan (Visitor - Farmer - Age 25)
	Religion - Roman Catholic	
Franklin	Catherine (Widow - Age 50)	George (Son - Age 17) Mary (Daughter - Age 16)
	Religion - Roman Catholic	
Gammell	Edmond (Labourer - Age 50) Johanna (Domestic - Age 52) <i>7 children born to this couple but only 4 living</i>	James (Son - Labourer - Age 21) John (Son - Labourer - Age 24) Muggie (Daughter - in - Law - Age 25 - married less than 1 year) Hannie (Grand-Daughter - Age 12)
	Religion - Roman Catholic	
Meehan	Patrick (Labourer - Age 30) Johanna (Age 29) <i>3 children born to this couple but only 2 living</i>	Mary (Daughter - Age 2) Michael (Son - Age 8 Months)
	Religion - Roman Catholic	

Century changes in Linfield (Grean Limerick)

In the table below is the list of houses in the Linfield Town returns taken from the 1911 census, there were 10 households there at the time.

Surname	First Name(s)	Others In House at Time
Goodbody	Henry (Labourer - Age 38) Margaret 34 <i>7 children born to this couple but only 3 living</i>	Mollie (Daughter - Age 5) Henry (Son - Age 4) Paddy (Son - Age 2)
	Religion - Roman Catholic	
Wixted	Timothy (General Servant - Age 37) Anne (Age 38)	Ellen (Daughter - Scholar - Age 15) James (Son - Scholar - Age 12) William (Son - Scholar - Age 10) Timothy (Son - Scholar - Age 8) Thomas (Son - Scholar - Age 5) Margaret (Daughter - Age 3) Annie (Daughter - Age 1)
	Religion - Roman Catholic	
Gleeson	Philip (Farmer - Age 68) Johanna (Age 55)	Michael (Son - Farmers Son - Age 33) Bridget (Daughter - Age 28) John (Son - Farmers Son - Age 24)
	Religion - Roman Catholic	
Kirby	Maurice (Farmer - Age 50) Julia (Age 33)	Maurice (Son - Age 2) Mary (Daughter - Age 1) Maurice Kirby Sr (Farmer - Widower - Age 77) John Kirby (Brother - Farmer - Age 40) Annie Kirby (Sister - Servant - Age 35)
	Religion - Roman Catholic	
Berkery	Michael (Milesman - Age 34) Lizzie (Age 31)	Catherine (Daughter - Age 2) Michael (Son - Age 1)
	Religion - Roman Catholic	
Hourigan	Timothy (Labourer - Age 34)	Daniel (Brother - Labourer - Age 50) David (Brother - Labourer - Age 28) Kate (Sister - Age 34)
	Religion - Roman Catholic	
Cronin	John (Farmer - Farm Servant - Age 36) Annie (Farm Servant - Age 25)	Ellen (Daughter - Farm Servant - Age 16) Katie (Daughter - Scholar - Age 12) James (Son - Age 7) John (Son - Age 5) Thomas (Son - Age 3) Timothy (Son - Age 2)
	Religion - Roman Catholic	

Ryan	Margaret (Domest Servant - Age 60) <i>This lady was single</i>	
	Religion - Roman Catholic	
O'Brien	Thomas (Labourer - Widower - Age 73)	Patrick (Son - Labourer - Age 38) William (Son - Labourer - Age 37)
	Religion - Roman Catholic	
Flynn	James (Farmer - Age 43) Mary (Age 34)	Helena (Daughter - Scholar - Age 6) Margaret (Daughter - Scholar - Age 4) Cornelius (Son - Age 3) James (Son - Age 2) Johanna (Son - Age 6 Months) John Flynn (Father - Age 73) Johanna Harty (Servant - Age 20)
	Roman Catholic	

Century changes in Ballyvoneen (Grean Limerick)

In the table below is the list of houses in the Ballyvoneen Town returns taken from the 1911 census, there were 8 households there at the time.

Surname	First Name(s)	Others In House at Time
Harty	William (Labourer - Age 65) Annie (Age 51) <i>10 children born to this couple but only 8 living</i>	Ellen (Daughter - Age 25) Bridget (Daughter - Dressmaker - Age 18) Jessie (Daughter - Scholar - Age 16) William (Son - Scholar - Age 14) Annie (Daughter - Scholar - Age 10)
	Religion - Roman Catholic	
Ryan	Patrick (Farmer - Head of the House - Age 36)	John (Brother - Age 26) Katie (Sister - Age 37) Annie (Sister - Age 32) Mary (Mother - Widow - Age 71) John Ryan (Uncle - Age 73) John Kennedy (Farm Servant - Age 20)
	Religion - Roman Catholic	
Dwyer	Michael (Farmer - Age 65) Margaret (Age 40)	Madge (Daughter - Scholar - Age 15) Tom Dunne (General Servant - Age 17)
	Religion - Roman Catholic	
Wheeler	Susan (Farmer - Single - Age 48)	Louise (Age 43) Anne (Age 41) Jennie Mason (Age 35) Sarah E (Age 33) <i>No information given on these ladies, it looks like they are all sisters of Susan</i>
	Religion - Church of Ireland	
Ryan	Patrick (Boot Maker - Age 53) Mary (Age 49) <i>11 children born to this couple but only 7 living</i>	John (Son - Labourer - Age 22) Michael (Son - Scholar - Age 14) Mary (Daughter - Scholar - Age 10)
	Religion - Roman Catholic	
Kennedy	Michael (Labourer - Age 49)	Michael (Son - Scholar - Age 13)
	Bridget (Age 50) <i>10 children born to this couple but only 3 living</i>	
	Religion - Roman Catholic	
O'Brien	Christopher (Farmer - Widower - Age 43)	Timothy (Brother - Farmer - Age 29)
	Religion - Roman Catholic	
Helferman	Patrick (Labourer - Age 46) Mary (Age 48) <i>This couple were married 30 years and had 9 children but only 8 were living</i>	Michael (Son - Teacher - Age 24) Mary (Daughter - Scholar - Age 19) Patrick (Son - Scholar - Age 18) Daniel (Son - Scholar - Age 16) Stephen (Son - Scholar - Age 15) Martin (Son - Scholar - Age 13) Willie (Son - Scholar - Age 9)
	Religion - Roman Catholic	

Century changes in Lisheen (Grean Limerick)

In the table below is the list of houses in the Lisheen Town returns taken from the 1911 census, there were 2 households there at the time.

Surname	First Name(s)	Others In House at Time
Wheeler	John (Farmer - Age 25) Mary (Age 27) <i>This couple married less than one year</i>	James Lane (Father - In - Law - Age 64 - Retired Farmer) Mary Lane (Mother - In - Law - Age 67) <i>This couple had 7 born but only 3 were living</i>
	Religion - Church of Ireland	

Ryan	Thomas (Labourer - Age 50) Bridget (Age 50) <i>This couple had 13 children and 10 are living with only 4 at home on census night</i> Religion - Roman Catholic	Patrick (Son - Labourer - Age 22) Joseph (Son - Scholar - Age 14) James (Son - Scholar - Age 12) Thomas (Son - Scholar - Age 4)
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Century changes in DromeenBoy (Grean Limerick)

In the table below is the list of houses in the DromeenBoy Town returns taken from the 1911 census, there were 1 household there at the time.

Surname	First Name(s)	Others In House at Time
Dwyer	John (Farmer - Age 39) Mary (Age 36) <i>This couple had 10 children 9 of whom are living at time of census.</i> Religion - Roman Catholic	Patrick (Son - Age 2) Hugh (Son - Age 8 Months) Kate Sweeney (Domestic Servant - Age 16) Timothy O' Brien (Farm Servant - Age 20) Patrick Bourke (Farm Servant - Age 25)

Century changes in New Pallas (Grean Limerick)

In the table below is the list of houses in the New Pallas Town returns taken from the 1911 census, there were 26 households there at the time.

Surname	First Name(s)	Others In House at Time
Farrell	Michael (Signalman - Age 39) Ellen (Age 35) <i>This couple both born in Borrisleigh Co. Tipperary</i> Religion - Roman Catholic	Bridget (Daughter - Born in Dublin - Age 9) Mary Ellen (Daughter - Born in Dublin - Age 7) James (Son - Born in Pallas - Age 3) Daniel (Son - Born in Pallas - Age 1½)
Condon	John (Labourer - Age 69) Katherine (Age 67) <i>13 children born to this couple but only 10 living</i> Religion - Roman Catholic	Stephen (Son-Dairy Employee - Age 24) Mary (Daughter - Age 20)
O' Dwyer	Michael (Postman - Single - Age 65) Religion - Roman Catholic	Sarah O' Dwyer (Sister - Age 68) James O' Dwyer (Nephew-N Teacher - Age 25)
Bourke	Timothy (Retired Farmer - Age 73) Catherine (Age 83) <i>6 children born to this couple but only 4 living</i> Religion - Roman Catholic	Michael (Son-Railway Signalman - Age 46) Margaret (Daughter - Age 36)
Kean	Thomas (Spirit Merchant - Age 47) Bridget (Age 35) <i>4 children born to this couple but only 2 living</i> Religion - Roman Catholic	Margaret (Daughter - Age 3) Thomas (Son - Age 2) Maggie Morris from Tipperary (Domestic Servant - Age 19)
Leaney	Daniel (Carpenter - Age 61) Catherine (Age 54) <i>13 children born to this couple but only 8 living</i> Religion - Roman Catholic	Jeremiah (Son-Carpenter - Age 26) Maria (Daughter - Age - 19) Thomas (Son-Carpenter - Age 16) Margaret (Daughter - Scholar - Age 14) Catherine (Daughter - Scholar - Age 10) Catherine (Grand-Daughter - Scholar - Age 5)
O'Brien	William (Publican - Age 48) Johanna (Age 40) Religion - Roman Catholic	John J (Son - Scholar - Age 11) May (Daughter - Scholar - Age 9) Kathleen (Daughter - Scholar - Age 5) Michael (Son - Scholar - Age 8) Josephine (Daughter - Age 3) Ellen Ryan (Servant - Age 20) Patrick Horgan Co. Kerry (Servant - Age 21) Edmond O' Brien (Relative - Cattle Dealer - Age 40) Thomas Griffin Co Kerry (Boarder - Scholar - Age 18)
Godfrey	Michael (Farmer - Age 50) Mary (Age - 49) Religion - Roman Catholic	Margaret (Daughter - Age 20) Michael (Son - Age 18) Bridget (Daughter - Scholar - Age 14) Annie (Daughter - Scholar - Age 13) Annie O' Brien (Visitor - Age 25) Bridget O' Brien (Visitor-Milliner - Age 24)
Ryan	William (Blacksmith - Age 30) Kathleen (Nurse - Age 35) Religion - Roman Catholic	Mary (Daughter - Scholar - Age 7) John (Son - Scholar - Age 5) Tim (Son - Scholar - Age 4) Willie (Son - Age 2½) Hanora (Daughter - Age 9 Months) Johanna Connell (Servant - Age 16)
Ua Duibhir	Pádraig (Railway Employee - Age 40) Máire Ní Fhloinn (Age - 30) Religion - Roman Catholic	N.B: This was the only form filled out in full Irish. Originally from Queens County

Vigors	Charles (Asst Superintendent Insurance - Age 57) Hannah Marion (School Teacher - Age) Came from Co. Carlow. <i>Children born to this couple 4 still living</i> Religion - Church of Ireland	Charles Henry (Son - Student - Age 20 - born in Co. Kildare)
Horgan	John (Station Master- came from Co. Cork - Age 40) Mary Anne- came from Co. Kildare - Age 30) Religion - Roman Catholic	Mary Horgan (Daughter - Scholar - Age 8) John Horgan (Son - Scholar - Age 6) Hannah (Daughter - Scholar - Age 5) Josephine (Daughter - Scholar - Age 3) Laurance (Son - Age 1)
McNamara	Thomas (Sub Postmaster - Age 55) Catherine (Post Office Assistant - Age 39) Religion - Roman Catholic	Margaret (Daughter - Scholar - Age 10) Teresa Mary (Daughter - Scholar - Age 8) Cathleen (Daughter - Scholar - Age 5) Patrick (Son - Scholar - Age 3) John (Son- Scholar - Age 1) John McNamara (Nephew - Age 20)
O' Donnell	Bryan (Labourer Age 37 - Single Man) Religion - Roman Catholic	
Bourke	Ellen (Dressmaker-Age 81) Religion - Roman Catholic	Catherine Bourke (Sister - Dressmaker Age 78) Mary Bourke (Sister - Dressmaker - Age 74)
Cleary	Mary (Dressmaker Age 57 - Single) Religion - Roman Catholic	Hanora (Sister - Dressmaker - Age 51- Single)
Mulcahy	James (Blacksmith - Age 34) Hanna (Age 35) <i>7 children born to this couple but only 3 living</i> Religion - Roman Catholic	John (Son - Scholar - Age 8) Thomas (Son - Scholar - Age 7) Edmond (Son - Scholar - Age 5) Annie Mulcahy (Mother- Widow - Age 71)
Hayes	Patrick (Publican - Age 60) Emily (Age 33) <i>10 children born to this couple but only 9 living</i> Religion - Roman Catholic	Timothy (Daughter - Scholar - Age 16) Mary (Daughter - Scholar - Age 10) Nora (Daughter - Scholar - Age 9) Thomas (Son - Scholar - Age 6) Edmond (Son - Scholar - Age 5) Chrissie (Daughter - Scholar - Age 4) Kathleen (Daughter - Scholar - Age 3) Patrick (Son - Age 2) Josephine (Daughter - Age 1) Denis English (Relative - Grocers Assistant - Age 25) Johanna O' Dwyer (Relative - Age 37) Patrick Evers (Servant - Horse Trainer - Age 45 from Co. Tipperary) William Molloy (Servant - Age 52) Patrick Hage (Head of Family - No Age) Mary O' Donoghue (Servant - Age 31) Joanna Coleman (Servant - Age 13) John Canny (Servant - Age 50)
Mackey	John (Blacksmith - Age 28) Mollie (Age 26) Religion - Roman Catholic	Winifred (Daughter - Age 5 Months) Christina Mackey (Relative - Age 24)
Slattery	John J (Shopkeeper & Farmer - Age 45) Maude (Age 30) Religion - Roman Catholic	William (Son - Scholar - Age 5) John Joseph (Son - Scholar - Age 4) Malachy (Son - Age 3) Thomas Francis (Son - Age 2 Months) Garett Hayes (Shop Assistant - Age 29) Mary Heffernan (Servant - Age 21)
Callanan	Malachy (Labourer - Age 62) Mary (Age 60) <i>6 children born to this couple but none living</i> Religion - Roman Catholic	Thomas Ryan (Lodger-Labourer - Age 36) Bridget Mulcahy (Lodger-Age 74)
Casey	Ellen (Old Age Pensioner - Widow - Age 79) <i>7 children born to this lady but only 3 living</i> Religion - Roman Catholic	Matt (Tailor - Age 41 - Single) Annie (Daughter-Housekeeper - Age 31- Single) Michael Hannan (Apprentice Tailor- Age 18)
Mullins	Mary (Shopkeeper - Age 65 - Widow) <i>This lady had no children</i> Religion - Roman Catholic	Patrick Hickey (Boarder-Post Office Runner - Age 39) William Real (Lodger-Agri Labourer - Age 35) James Barlow (Lodger-Baker- Age 24)
Kennedy	Michael (Shopkeeper - Age 36) Johannah (Age 35) Religion - Roman Catholic	John Kennedy (Brother - Shopkeeper - Age 44) Catherine Nicholas (Relative-Farmette - Age 17)
Harty	Cornelius (Creamery Labourer - Age 45) Religion - Roman Catholic	Mary Harty (Sister - Dressmaker - Age 32)

Military R. I. Constabulary Barracks	Head Constable (Age 51 – Married – From Galway – Roman Catholic)	Sergeant (Age 50 – Married – From Roscommon – Roman Catholic) Constable (Age 36 – Married – From Queen's County – Church of Ireland) Constable (Age 35 – Single – From Tyrone – Church of Ireland) Constable (Age 30 – Single – From Cork – Roman Catholic) Constable (Age 30 – Single – From Kerry – Roman Catholic) Constable (Age 21 – Single – From Cork – Roman Catholic)
Sinney	Alfred (District Inspector R.I.C. – Age 35) Hilda (Age 35) <i>Living in the Barracks</i> Religion - Church of England	Alymer (Son – Age 5 – Born Co. Tipperary) Dorothy (Daughter – Age Under 1 Month) Louisa Edwards (Visitor – Age 43) Ellen Lane (Cook/Domestic Servant – Age 33) Kate Burns (Servant- Age 15)
Griffin	Andrew (Head Constable R.I.C. Age 54) Margaret (Age 46) <i>Living in the Barracks</i> Religion - Roman Catholic	James (Son – Scholar – Age 17.3) Andrew (Son – Scholar - Age 14.7) William (Son – Scholar – Age 11.10) David (Son – Scholar - Age 10.7) Maryard (Daughter – Scholar - Age 9.1) Anthony (Son – Scholar - Age 6.9) Julia A (Daughter - Age 4.4)

Resources

Directions to 1911 Census

1. <http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie>
2. Click on Browse census
3. Go to Limerick from the list and click
4. Go to Grean and click
5. Find your desired townland and click
6. Then click on the family name and the details will show up



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The Apjohn Families of Limerick

(Part 2B)

In the first of three articles on the Apjohn family in Limerick,¹ we identified Thomas Apjohn who, after the Confederate War (1641-1651), acquired a piece of land named Gortalyne in the Parish of Greane near the village of Old Pallas. He had at least two sons, William and Michael, who married sisters, Catherine and Christian Lysaght. In our second article (2014), we traced much of the family of Thomas' first son, William. In this article we will complete this line of the family focusing on William of Sunglen's second son William Apjohn Jr.

William Apjohn Jr. (second son of William of Sunglen)

The second son of William of Sunglen, William Apjohn Jr. was born in 1712 and raised at Gortalyne, but after 1734 he divided his time between Sunglen in County Limerick and Kilestry in County Clare. He leased a dwelling or a few acres of land in Kilestry and it seems that it is there that he raised his family.

In 1736, the following advertisement appeared in Pue's Occurrences:²

Whereas William Apjohn, Junr. of Sunglen in the County of Limerick, Gent. and William Apjohn of the City of Limerick, Saddler, stand charged with the Murder of Charles Hurley. Now these are to give Notice, to all Persons it may Concern, that we William Apjohn, Junr. and William Apjohn of Limerick, aforesaid Saddler, will stand our Trial for the said Offense, at the next General Assizes and General Gaol Delivery, to be held in St. Francis Abbey and for the said County of Limerick. Dated this 28th of February 1736, William Apjohn, Junr., William Apjohn.

Although nothing more is known of this "murder" or the subsequent trial, the advertisement most certainly was placed by William Apjohn Jr., the son of William, and his 2nd cousin from Limerick, the grandson of Michael and Christian Lysaght Apjohn.³ The following is one possible explanation.

Although William's grandfather's name had been associated with Kilduff from at least 1709, there is no mention of Kilduff per se in the lands that William's father, William of Sunglen, possessed and passed on to his sons in 1734. We know that the elder Apjohn of Sunglen bequeathed Knocknacroy and Spittle to his son William Jr. and we will see below that Knocknacroy and Spittle are older names for Sunglen. In the Memorial of 1734, the elder William was living in Sunglen with his son William Jr. and he seems to have passed the rest of his life there.

In the Memorials of 1714 and 1734 in which are listed the lands which William of Kilduff purchased, a townland is mentioned by the name of Knockardanagh or Knockardamma. In a later Memorial between Michael Marshal Apjohn and Michael Smithwick dated 1798,⁴ the "lands of Knockardamia containing 27 acres" are

mentioned again. Knockardamma was an older name for the townland of Mount Catherine.⁵ Mount Catherine, which is partly in the Parish of Greane and partly in the Parish of Ballynaclogh, sits in the middle of and is entirely surrounded by the townland of Kilduff. Knockardamma was at one time a part of Kilduff and it is likely that when the elder William is denoted "William of Kilduff" it means that he was living at Knockardamma.

It may be that the trial of William Apjohn Jr. and William Apjohn Sadler was the result of a duel in which Charles Hurley was killed, the cause of which may have been a dispute over Knockardamma or perhaps the size of Knockardamma. Originally, Kilduff was occupied by Sir Maurice Hurly before the Williamite War. He was removed from it in 1653, but regained property there in 1688. The Civil Survey of 1656 states that Kilduff was in the possession of Sir Maurice Hurley before the Confederate War—"twelve acres excepted where Morrogh oge Mc Bryne of Pallice is morgadgee for five pounds ster."⁶ Note that Morrogh oge Mc Bryne of Pallice was the same man Thomas Apjohn had mortgaged Gortalyne to before the war and was the source of his claim to Gortalyne after the war. In his will, Maurice Hurly left his estate in Kilduff to his son William. Charles Hurley may have been a son or close relative of William. Twelve Irish acres in the Civil Survey are the equivalent to 19 English acres and Mount Catherine is listed as 27 English acres in later Memorials. We suspect there was a disagreement about Knockardamma or its size involving William Apjohn's family and the family of William Hurly that resulted in this duel and murder trial.⁷

Nonetheless, the advertisement confirms that William Apjohn Sr. and William Apjohn Jr. were both living in Sunglen in 1736, and that a third William Apjohn, a saddler, was living in Limerick City. Sixteen years later in 1752, we find a Memorial documenting that William Apjohn of Pallas granted to William Apjohn, Sadler, of Limerick "the lands of Raheeney containing twenty three acres."⁸ William Apjohn Sadler is the son of Michael and Margaret Widenham Apjohn (see further third article) and was born in 1723, was listed as a Freeman of Limerick City in 1747, and died in 1759.

In the 18th century, homicide was a crime punishable by death. In the case of dueling in which one party was killed, the charge against the survivor was always murder; however, several distinctions were made in law. Dueling "has always been treated according to circumstances, upon the principles applicable to fighting, wounding, or homicide generally. The result has been this:- If two persons quarreled, and one challenged the other verbally or otherwise to fight, the challenger committed the offense of inciting to the commission of a crime.... If the duel was on a sudden falling out, if the parties fought in hot blood and on the spot and one was killed, the offense was only

manslaughter.... If the fatal duel took place when the parties were in cool blood, it was held to be murder... though juries not unfrequently acquitted in such cases if they sympathized with the prisoner."⁹

The advertisement that appears in Pue's seems to be of the sort that seeks witnesses to the fight between the Apjohns and Charles Hurley, and this strongly suggests that the charge of murder there mentioned was based on a duel in which Hurley was killed in "hot blood." If the encounter was in "hot blood," one would expect the verdict of the subsequent trial to be manslaughter and in such cases, the prisoner was simply released or sometimes fined. In the case of the Apjohns and Hurley, either party may have instigated the duel but, because Hurley was killed, the Apjohns would have been charged. Because we hear nothing subsequent to the advertisement, we conclude that the Apjohns were exonerated.

In this case, note that William Apjohn Sadler would have been about 13 years old at the time of the incident. "The only difference made by law between dueling and other cases of homicide is that the law is, if anything, more strict as to accessories in dueling than in other cases. Not only is the second of the person who kills the other guilty of murder, but it has been held in modern times that the second of the man killed is also guilty of murder." This suggests that William Apjohn Sadler, even though he was only 13, may have been viewed as a second to the duel—even if he was only a bystander—and would therefore also have been charged with murder.¹⁰

In a Memorial dated Apr 16, 1743, we learn of the upcoming marriage between William Apjohn and Elizabeth Lloyd, the sister of Thomas Lloyd and aunt of Rickard Lloyd mentioned above.¹¹ The Apjohns, William's father William of Sunglen and his brother Michael, provided a marriage portion of £400 and "Right Title and Interest in or to the towns and lands of Spittle [namely, Sunglen], Knochnacrohy, Knockanacoolnagreen."

William Apjohn Jr. voted in the election of 1768 and is listed there as a Freeholder in Sunglen and residing in Kilestry just outside the village of Killaloe in County Clare.¹² He voted in the election of 1776 and is listed there as a Freeholder in Sunglen and residing in Drumbane.¹³ William and Elizabeth Lloyd Apjohn had at one son, William the Younger¹⁴ (named after William's father) and a daughter Deborah (named after William's mother).

Deborah Apjohn O'Brien (daughter of William Apjohn Jr.)

In a Memorial dated Apr 1, 1769,¹⁵ William Apjohn of Kilestry in the County of Clare enters into an agreement with Timothy O'Brien of Boskill, just outside Caherconlish, in the County of Limerick for the marriage of Deborah Apjohn, his daughter, to Bryan O'Brien. As a marriage portion, Timothy O'Brien provides "right title and interest in the lands of Cappenekedy in the Barony of Owey and the said county of Tipperary." However, "Tim O'Brien did covenant...that there then was and now is a suit depending...with respect to the said land of Cappenekedy."¹⁶ The rest of the Memorial deals with the two possibilities of Timothy O'Brien winning or losing his suit.

We will see below in a Memorial dated 1773 that Timothy and Deborah O'Brien acquired a lease from Deborah's father William Jr. for "part of Sunglen with the orchard thereon lying to the southwest of Pallace bounding Corelougheariddy containing by estimation forty six acres plantation measure." This lease becomes a part of the marriage agreement between William Apjohn the Younger, Deborah's brother, and his intended wife Joanna O'Brien, the sister of Bryan O'Brien, and confirms that the lands of Knochnacrohy and Spittle, namely Sunglen, passed from William of Sunglen to his son William Jr.

William Apjohn the Younger (son of William Apjohn Jr.)

William Apjohn the Younger, son of William Apjohn Jr., entered Trinity College on Jul 8, 1767 (he would have been born ca. 1750 in Kilestry near Killaloe) and graduated in 1770.¹⁷ He arrived at Trinity just three weeks after John Philpot Curran (1750-1817) who matriculated on Jun 16, 1767 and also graduated 1770. The two young men became great friends and were admitted to Middle Temple in 1773 (Curran) and 1774 (Apjohn).¹⁸

John Curran's son wrote a biography of his father and in it William Apjohn is mentioned several times. "During a temporary absence of [William] Apjohn from college, a report reached his companions that he had died suddenly at his native Killaloe. It was soon discovered to have been unfounded, upon which occasion, while the others congratulated him in prose, his more ambitious friend [Curran] addressed him in...versos" and there follows a long panegyric, part of which follows.¹⁹

The doleful tale around was spread:

"Hast heard the news? Poor Apjohn's dead!"—

"Impossible!"—"Indeed it's true—

He's dead—and so is Casey too—

In Limerick this, and that Killaloe.

As St. Paul says, 'we all must die!'

I'm sorry for 't."—"Faith so 'm I—

Extremely so—But tell me, pray,

If you were on the ice to-day?

There was great skating there, they say—"

"I couldn't go for want of shoes—

In truth I'm sorry for the news—

And yet I knew and always said,

When he got into his head

That strange abstemious resolution,

"Twould quite destroy his constitution."

...

When Rumor, lo! with deafning sound,

More gladsome tidings blows around,

And bids her thousand tongues to tell,

That Apjohn is alive and well!

Although Curran treats the ice-skating accident lightly, there is a strong possibility that the effects of the accident on William were serious and long-term.

Curran's son relates three additional episodes concerning William. The first involves Apjohn telling Curran, after Curran's first faltering attempt at public speaking, that while he will someday become a great barrister, oratory will never be his forte.²⁰ The second relates to Curran's

on-going “melancholy” and describes a time after returning from a vacation in 1774 when he and Apjohn visited a coffee house in Temple Bar. The third episode concerns a visit to London in which the two young men arranged a private tour of Hampton Court.

We find a Memorial of an intended wedding dated Nov 7, 1772,²¹ between William Apjohn of “Ballyna [Ballina] in the County of Tipperary” and Joanna O’Brien’s father Timothy of Caherconlish. William is identified as “William Apjohn the younger” and his father as “the said William Apjohn the elder [who] was then seized and possessed for the term of his natural life of...the Town and Lands of Knocknacroggy and Spittle otherwise Sunglen.” Subsequently in the Memorial we learn that “William Apjohn late of Knicker in said County of Limerick Esquire deceased father of the said William Apjohn the elder and likewise reciting the said lands of Knocknacroggy and Spittle will on the death of the said William Apjohn the elder descend to and be invested in the said William Apjohn the younger.” Referenced here are William Apjohn of Nicker, the grandfather, his son William Apjohn Jr. the elder who inherited Knocknacroggy and Spittle, and William Apjohn the younger who is to marry Joanna O’Brien after receiving a marriage portion of £800 and who stands to inherit the lands of Knocknacroggy and Spittle from his father. Importantly, it tells us that William was living in Ballina, a village just across the Shannon from Killaloe.

In a Memorial dated the following year on Sep 18, 1773,²² we find that William Apjohn Jr., now of Caherconlish, leased to Bryan O’Brien, his brother-in-law, “part of Sunglen with the orchard thereon lying to the southwest of Pallace bounding Corelougheariddy containing by estimation forty six acres plantation measure” for eighty years, the same land mentioned in the Memorial of the marriage of William’s sister Deborah above. We learn also that Bryan O’Brien is the son of Timothy O’Brien and that his wife’s name is “Deborah O’Brien otherwise Apjohn.” Bryan O’Brien, husband of Deborah Apjohn, and Joanna O’Brien, wife of William Apjohn Jr., were siblings, as were their spouses Deborah Apjohn and William Apjohn Jr.

In a Memorial dated Jan 26, 1775,²³ William Apjohn of Middle Temple agrees to lease to Joshua Minnitt “all that piece of ground known by the name of Knocknacroggy” for a term of three lives. This lease became the matter of a law suit in 1797 when the Minnitt family sued William’s son, William, and Michael Marshall Apjohn, his 1st cousin. (See below.)

In a Memorial dated Jan 15, 1777,²⁴ four years after their marriage, we find that all has not gone well with William and his wife Joanna. In this document we learn that William Apjohn the Younger of Farnane (Doon Parish) and Joanna Apjohn O’Brien, daughter of Timothy O’Brien, “did for the reasons therein particularly mentioned [no reasons are actually listed in the document] by and with the consent of their friends mutually agree to live separate and apart from each other.” The agreement stipulates that Joanna is to “receive out of that part of the lands of Sunglen otherwise Spittleland in the tenure and occupation of Bryan O’Brien [see previous paragraph] Gentleman and the said land of Knocknacroggy for and

during the term of the natural life of William Apjohn the elder, father of the said William Apjohn the younger” an income and that after the death of William the Elder, she is to receive additionally £40 per year for eight years. Lastly, we learn that there was a child and that if “William Apjohn the younger shall die before the said William Apjohn the infant shall attain said age” of 21, then the child is to receive £300 per year until he reaches his majority.

William the Younger died in 1784²⁵ in his early thirties, perhaps as the result of the on-going effects of the ice-skating accident while he was in school. His son was still a child and he is listed as “William Apjohn, Gentleman, Middle Temple,” in the Index of Prerogative Wills for the year 1791.²⁶ Although he entered Middle Temple with his friend Curran in 1775, unlike Curran he is never listed as having passed the bar.²⁷

William Apjohn the Younger and Joanna O’Brien had the one child—William.

William Apjohn (son of William Apjohn the Younger)

William Apjohn, referred to as “the infant” above, was born between ca. 1772, probably at Kilestry or at Ballina. He attended Trinity ca. 1790 and while there became close friends with William Brady, son of William Brady of Williamstadt (County Clare) and his wife Harriet nee Furnell. The elder William Brady died Sep 14, 1790 (his will was dated Apr 15, 1788 and was proved in Prerogative Court Jul 13, 1791). The date of death of the elder Brady is important because his widow, Harriett Furnell Brady, married William Apjohn, the son of William Apjohn the Younger and a classmate of her son William Brady Jr., on Jan 11, 1792, within fourteen months of her husband’s death.²⁸

The marriage of the young William Apjohn to a woman at least twice his age attracted, as one would expect, a certain amount of attention. The Ennis Chronicle observed that “William Apjohn esq of Pallace [was married] to the agreeable widow Brady of Williamstadt in the county of Galway, possessed of a large jointure and a very considerable personal property.”²⁹ While we do not know the reaction of the Widow Brady’s two sons to her marriage to a man and classmate their own age, we have considerable evidence that her daughter-in-law, Margaret, the wife of William’s school-chum William Brady Jr., took a dim view (see below).

Meanwhile, the lease of Knocknacroggy to Joshua Minnitt by William’s father in 1775 became the matter of a law suit in 1797 in which William and Michael Marshall Apjohn are named as defendants sued by members of the Minnitt family. We are not sure what the cause of the suit was, but the result was that on Dec 14, 1797, Thomas Burroughs declared he will “at the Hour of Two o’Clock in the Afternoon, in the Chancery Chambers, set up and sell by public Cant, to the highest and fairest Bidder, all the Defendants Right, Title and Interest of, in and to all that and those the Towns and Lands of Sunglin, otherwise Spittle-Lands, and Knocknacroggy; and also the Lands of Raheeney.”³⁰

William Brady Jr. took possession of Williamstadt after his father's death, married Margaret Power Nov 16, 1806,³¹ and died in Aug 1817. The couple had an only daughter, Mary, who was born ca. 1808. The marriage may have been a troubled one for, sometime before his death, William re-wrote his will to exclude his wife Margaret and to leave his considerable fortune and holdings at Williamstadt exclusively to his daughter Mary, then a minor. His brother Henry had predeceased him in 1808 and his mother had re-married (to William Apjohn), and it seems William's sole aim was to protect his estate from coming into the control of his wife.³² The estate consisted of 1400 acres of property in County Galway and an additional 400 acres in County Clare. After the death of her father, Mary Brady received £150 jointure (a lien on about 40 acres) against the estate until she reach her majority when she would inherit the estate entire.

Thereafter over the next four years we can trace a somewhat sordid family squabble over Mary's Guardianship and the interim control of her fortune until she marry. It culminated in a Court case in 1821 that pitted Mary's mother, Margaret, and her grandmother, Harriett Brady Apjohn, against one another in a flurry of charges and counter-charges, attacks, lies and deception.³³

Before the case came to trial, a number of affidavits were filed with the Court.

- John Beauchamp Brady, the uncle of William Brady Jr., brought suit for the Brady family to recover the property in County Galway which had been part of the estate inherited by the child Mary Brady. His case stated that "the Minor, who had been from infancy, a girl of delicate health, died some time since intestate and unmarried, as he heard and believes, and that thereupon, he became entitled, as Heir at Law to the Estates." He goes on to indicate that the child's death was purposely concealed from him by the mother, Margaret Brady, and that in proof of the child's death, he notes that the mother never sought any maintenance for the child from the Court appointed Guardian, the child's grandmother, Harriett Brady Apjohn. He is interested in acquiring the property in Galway as a "remainder" to his brother.
- In another affidavit, Harriett Brady Apjohn, grandmother and Guardian of Mary Brady, indicates that Margaret Brady, the child's mother, had "cohabited with a person who was her solicitor and made away with much of the Minor's property." She refers to an order in March 1820 regarding whether Margaret Brady, the mother, should continue as Guardian of the child, and if not, the child should be sent to school. A subsequent report on May 6, 1820, found that Margaret Brady was unfit to be Guardian of her daughter and that Harriett Apjohn should be appointed Guardian instead. She goes on to indicate that Margaret Brady put her daughter in Miss Langston's school on Jan 27, 1820, and then withdrew her on Mar 4, 1820, and that since that time no account had been had of the child. Harriett indicates that she made a trip to Kerry in order to determine the

whereabouts of the child and was frustrated in the attempt when she found Margaret Brady living in adultery with her solicitor and the house under guard.

- Margaret Brady, in reply to Harriett Apjohn's accusation, totally and generally denies the allegations of an inappropriate relationship with her solicitor and insists that the child is alive and in good health. She indicates that she last saw the child on Jun 22, 1820, and that she is in debt for £400 for the child's maintenance. Margaret Brady's solicitor also filed an affidavit denying all charges.

Thereafter followed the case introduced as "Brady, v. Brady and in the Matter of Mary Brady, a Minor" on Jul 11, 1821, and is titled in the record: "CATHOLIC GUARDIANS OF PROTESTANT MINORS. A FEMALE WARD OF THE COURT, CONCEALED FOR SEVEN YEARS BY HER MOTHER FROM THE COURT AND HER RELATIONS."

Margaret Brady's solicitor, Mr. Saurin, begins by indicating to the court that he does not represent the child Mary Brady, but rather her mother Margaret Brady, and that "he had been the most intimate friend" of William Brady, Margaret's husband and Mary's father. The Lord Chancellor, with a none too subtle reference to Margaret's reputation, replies "Probably, Sir, that was a most unfortunate thing for him."

The Lord Chancellor proceeds to order that the child must be produced in court within a week. Mr. Saurin makes a motion to set aside Mrs. Apjohn as Guardian of the child because Mary Brady is a Protestant, as was her father, and that Mrs. Apjohn is a Catholic. The Lord Chancellor replies: "I don't trouble myself with the religion of parties—any one of good religious feelings would be sufficient for me."³⁴ Mr. Saurin continues to make his case that the Penal Laws forbid Catholics from being Guardians for Protestants. Once again the Lord Chancellor replies: "Her religion is no object of favor, or the contrary to me. But if I am bound to choose a place for the Minor, I would certainly trust her with any one sooner than allow her to remain in a house little short of a brothel according to some of those affidavits." Stating that he sees "much of the evil here has arisen from a Master [Margaret] having been appointed Guardian of the fortune of a Minor," he states that he shall consider for a few days the order he will make.

Jul 15, 1821: The Lord Chancellor, in rendering his decision, notes that Margaret Brady had in the last few days appealed to an unnamed person, a friend of his, to influence him in his decision. He notes that Margaret complained that she "may be kept in Gaol for life" because of the debts she has accrued supporting the child. The Lord Chancellor, warning her "not to trifle with the Court," instructs her to produce the child forthwith or to send her to Miss Langton's school within two or three days.

Jul 22, 1821: Appearing in Court were Margaret Brady, her solicitor, and the child Mary Brady. Mr. Saurin began: "Allow me, my Lord, to commit to your noble patronage the person of the Minor, and I am sorry circumstances prevented me bringing her before. I implore your Lordship's powerful protection for her, to save her from

Mrs. Apjohn." At this point, Mary Brady made an appeal to the Court: "My Lord, I implore your Lordship's protection to save me from Mrs. Apjohn, or from being obliged to live with her. I would prefer any fate, or suffering any punishment, to living with her or her husband; as my poor mother is under difficulties, I wish to live with Miss Langton, who treated me with much kindness and affection when I was with her." This was followed by some discussion regarding the appropriateness of the child appearing in Court at all and the Lord Chancellor decided to retire to his chambers where he heard further testimony from Mr. Saurin, Mary and Margaret Brady. As a result, he ordered that Mary should immediately be returned to Miss Langston's school.

Aug 5, 1821: The session began with the solicitor for Mrs. Apjohn, now that the child has been returned to school, stating that Harriett should receive compensation for her costs. This raises the issue of the inheritance of the Brady estate and who controls it. The Lord Chancellor continues: "I much regret the feuds that have been in this family; I can, however, only look at the interest of the minor, but I will give my opinion to Mrs. [Margaret] Brady. She should give up these title deeds, and if she continues to act as she has done lately, in conformity to the wishes of the Court, I shall not forget her relationship to the minor, and I will act forbearingly to her, but I must now get in those title deeds." Mr. Saurin then indicates that aspersions have been made against his client's character, that she has incurred debts, and that he himself borrowed £1100 against the estate. Nonetheless, the Lord Chancellor indicates that Mrs. Apjohn should get her costs.

A number of interesting facts appear in this record. First is that Harriet Brady Apjohn was a Catholic and was assumed, therefore, to be disqualified from the role of Guardianship for her granddaughter. It is likely that Harriett was a Catholic from birth and that her marriage to William Brady was a mixed one. Her religion seems to have been a major stumbling block for her daughter-in-law, Margaret, and may have been the source of some of the vituperation among the two.

Second, we read the accusation that Margaret Brady was cohabitating with Mr. Saurin somewhere in County Kerry, that she had kidnapped her daughter, and that she was indicating to the public that Mary had died. It was this claim and Margaret's attempt to get her hands on her daughter's inheritance, the Williamstadt estate, that occasioned the Court case in the first place. In additional notes from *A history of Tuamgraney and Scariff Since Earliest Times*, Gerard Madden notes that relatives of Mary eventually found her "on a backward mountain farm in Kerry feeding hens."³⁵

In the end, neither Margaret nor Harriett gained control of the Mary's inheritance. On Nov 30, 1833, at an age of 25, Mary Brady married Dr. Francis Cornelius Samson and the Williamstadt Estate became part of his inheritance to his sons.³⁶

At the time of her marriage to William Apjohn, Harriett was in possession "a large jointure and a very considerable personal property"; however, as a result of the decision

regarding her Guardianship, she probably lost everything. She and William were left to fend for themselves. Harriett died sometime before 1828.

William, still a Protestant, entered a mixed marriage with a Mary Ryan ca. 1829 and had four children:³⁷ 1) Margaret in 1830, 2) William in 1832,³⁸ 3) Michael in 1834, and 4) Sarah in 1836.

All four children were baptized Catholic—Margaret at St. John's in Limerick and the remaining three in Toomaline in the Parish of Doon. It appears they all immigrated to Brisbane Australia before 1860. Michael and William were members of the Royal Irish Constabulary and William was promoted to the rank of Chief Inspector of Police for Brisbane in 1869. He married Mary Elizabeth O'Brien from Ennis Co. Clare. Descendants of these families continue to reside in the Brisbane area of Australia.



*William Apjohn born 13/7/1832, RIP
Brisbane 01/11/1886*

After William married the mother of his classmate from Trinity, there is no evidence that he ever completed his education. However, there are notices in *Australian newspapers* that refer to him as "Justice of the Peace." William's father had attended Middle Temple and it certainly was from him that William acquired his interest, and perhaps some training, in law. In Ireland as in England, "law enforcement authority was divided into a magistracy consisting of justices of the peace, sheriffs, constables and watchmen."³⁹ The role of the JP was first to assist the trial judge and then to act locally "in apprehending criminals, carrying out court orders, preventing riots, and generally trying to preserve the peace."⁴⁰ The JP was usually a local man and he held a great deal of authority over his neighbors. Such men were required to be "freeholders," that is, men who "owned property worth at least ten pounds or, if Protestant, leaseholders of a minimum income of fifteen pounds per annum and fifteen years of continuous tenure" (p. 235). In William's day, this stipulation insured that JPs would have been Protestant. Although Catholics were in essence barred from the practice of the law, those married to Catholics were not.

William is mentioned in the Doon Vestry Book as a Church Warden for the years 1797 and 1801 in Kilmoylan while he was married to Harriett (it's probable they moved their after their marriage) and 1830 in Firgrove while he was married to Mary Ryan.⁴¹ He is listed in the Tithe Applotment Survey of 1826 as living in Dark Island (Toomaline).⁴² William died Jan 18, 1839: "At Firgrove,

county Limerick, William Apjohn, Esq., formerly a magistrate for Limerick, Clare and Tipperary."⁴³ William's father had had a residence at Kilestry near Killaloe in Clare and he himself a residence in Drumbane near Ballina in Tipperary. However, it has been difficult to determine the location of Firgrove in County Limerick. At the time of his father's divorce in 1777, William was living in Farnane in Doon, "a place abounding in alders." Perhaps Firgrove is another name for Farnane. It is apparent from the death notification that William performed his JP duties in all three of the places he lived—Kilestry in Clare, Drumbane in Tipperary and Firgrove/Farnane in Limerick.

Conclusion

In this article, we've completed the family line of William and Catherine Lysaght Apjohn, primarily through their son William Apjohn of Sunglen and his two sons, Michael and William Apjohn Jr. We saw in our 2014 article that it was to his first son Michael that William of Sunglen left the majority of his estate, including Linfield, and saw how that estate passed down through the generations ending with Michael Marshall Lloyd Apjohn in the 19th Century. In the line of William's second son, William Jr., we saw the family grow in and around Sunglen (Pallas Grean) and how that branch of the family eventually came to have ties in Clare and Tipperary.

In the next and last article in this series, we will look at Thomas Apjohn's second son, Michael. Unlike his brother William, he did not inherit any land from his father. Because he received no inheritance, Michael had to find his way in the world and he moved to Limerick and took up the saddler trade there.

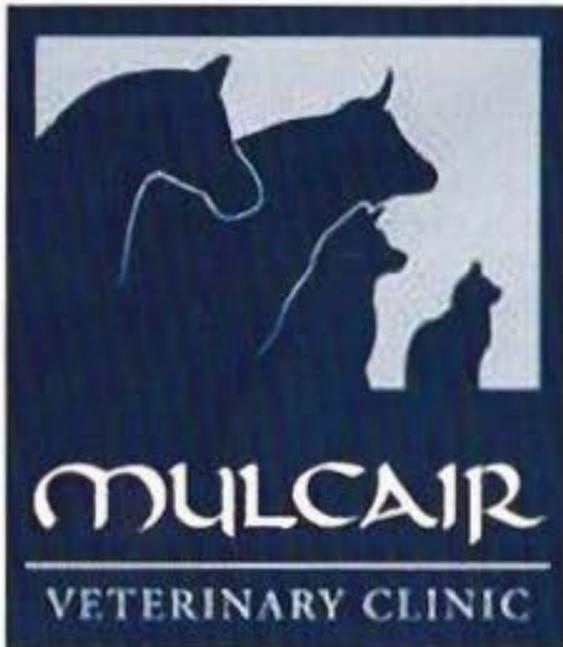
Footnotes

- 1 Dennis Day and Edmond O'Dea, "The Apjohn Families of Limerick," *Gréan* (2013), pp. 44-47.
- 2 *Pue's Occurrences or Impartial Occurrence -- 1703-1770* (Sat. March 12th to Tues. March 15th 1736-7).
- 3 See the third article in this series for more information about William Apjohn Sadler.
- 4 *Ireland Registry of Deeds*, "Apjohn to Smithwick. 1798." #337975. Vol. 515-516. 1797-1799. LDS Film 536057.
- 5 The Tithe Applotment book for Kilduff in the Parish of Greane lists Henry Smithwick occupying Mount Catherine and just a little over 24 acres of land.
- 6 *The Civil Survey A. D. 1654-56 County Limerick*, Robert C. Simington (Dublin: 1938), Vol. IV.
- 7 "Kilduff," *Pallasgrean in the 1920's*, Michael O'Dwyer, pp. 72-3.
- 8 *Ireland Registry of Deeds*, "Apjohn to Apjohn. 1752." #110367. Vol. 164-165. 1753-1755. LDS Film 461368. Calling him "William Apjohn of Pallace" may have been a way to distinguish him from his father "William Apjohn of Sunglen." This Memorial is witnessed by James Apjohn of Dublin and Robert Apjohn of Trienmana, both uncles of William Apjohn Sadler.
- 9 *A History of Criminal Law of England*, Sir James Fitzjames Stephens (London: 1883), chapter 26.
- 10 Stephens goes on to cite two examples, one from 1694 and the other from 1765, in which individuals were charged with murder in "hot blood," but which were acquitted or had their charges reduced to manslaughter.
- 11 *Ireland Registry of Deeds*, "Apjohn to Lloyd. 1743." #99372. Vols. 145-146. 1750-1754. LDS Film 461354.
- 12 *Index to printed voter lists of 1768 and 1776*, John Ferrar

- (http://members.iinet.net.au/~nickred/limerick/limerick_voters.html).
- 13 *Index to printed voter lists of 1768 and 1776*, John Ferrar (http://members.iinet.net.au/~nickred/limerick/limerick_voters.html). Drumbane is located very near Kilestry, not in County Clare, but just across the river a little north of the village of Ballina in Tipperary.
- 14 *Probate of will and Codicils of Mk M I. Apjohn granted by court of prorogation 7th March 1817*, "Landed Estates Court ... 1 July 1873."
- 15 *Ireland Registry of Deeds*, "Apjohn to O'Brien. 1769." #226680. Vol. 338. 1780-1781. LDS Film 531709.
- 16 Cappenekedy is located in the Parish of Kilmastulla in the Barony of Owey not far from Kilestry.
- 17 *Alumni dublinenses: a register of the students, graduates, professors and provosts of Trinity college in the University of Dublin (1593-1860)*, George Dames Burtchaell and Thomas Ulick Sadleir (Trinity College Dublin: A. Thom & Co.: 1924), p. 15.
- 18 *Register of Admissions to the Honourable Society of the Middle Temple (from the Fifteenth Century to 1944)* (H.A.C. Sturgess. Butterworth & Co.: 1949), pp. 317, 378.
- 19 *The life of the Right Honorable John Philpot Curran, late master of the rolls in Ireland*, William Henry Curran (New York: 1855), p. 13.
- 20 After overcoming his stage fright, Curran went on to become known as a great orator.
- 21 *Ireland Registry of Deeds*, "Apjohn to O'Brien. 1772." #194047. Vol. 284. 1770-1772. LDS Film 531657.
- 22 *Ireland Registry of Deeds*, "Apjohn to O'Brien. 1773." #200782. Vol. 304. 1774-1777. LDS Film 531677.
- 23 *Ireland Registry of Deeds*, "Apjohn to Minnitt. 1775." #207115. Vol. 309. 1775-1776. LDS Film 531682.
- 24 *Ireland Registry of Deeds*, "Apjohn to O'Brien. 1777." #210012. Vol. 312. 1775-1777. LDS Film 531685.
- 25 *The Limerick Chronicle, Monday, January 7, 1784*. O'Kief, Coshe Mang, Slieve Lougher and Upper Backwater in Ireland, *Historical and Genealogical Items Relating to North Cork and East Kerry*, A. C. Casey (Birmingham, Alabama: Published privately for the Amite and Knocknagree Historical Fund, 1964), Vol. VIII, #2390, copied by Linda Suffridge Feb 2013. One is tempted to speculate that the ice-skating accident may have had long-term effects on William's health.
- 26 *Index to the Prerogative Wills of Ireland 1536-1810*, Sir Arthur Vicars (Dublin: 1897), p. 18. The Limerick Chronicle lists the death of a William Apjohn, Esq., on Jan 7, 1784. See O'Kief, Coshe Mang, Slieve Lougher and Upper Backwater in Ireland, *Historical and Genealogical Items Relating to North Cork and East Kerry*, A. C. Casey (Birmingham, Alabama: Published privately for the Amite and Knocknagree Historical Fund, 1964), Vol. VIII, #2390, copied by Linda Suffridge Feb 2013.
- 27 Although Michael Marshal Apjohn and John Philpott Curran are mentioned in the list of Judges and Barristers in 1778, William's name is noticeably absent. *Wilson's Dublin directory, for the year 1778*, William Wilson (Dublin: 1778), pp. 92, 94.
- 28 *The Star* (London, England), Monday, January 30, 1792. O'Kief, Coshe Mang, Slieve Lougher and Upper Backwater in Ireland, *Historical and Genealogical Items Relating to North Cork and East Kerry*, A. C. Casey (Birmingham, Alabama: Published privately for the Amite and Knocknagree Historical Fund, 1964), Vol. VIII, #2390, copied by Linda Suffridge Feb 2013. See also *The Limerick Chronicle*, January 11, 1792.
- 29 The word "agreeable" and the reference to the Widow's considerable income and property may not have appeared in print had the groom not been so young. Additionally, we know that William Apjohn's family lived in Kilestry and had ties to Sunglen, situated immediately next to Pallis, in County Limerick.
- 30 *Dublin Gazette* (Dublin, Ireland), December 16, 1797 - December 19, 1797.
- 31 *Ennis Chronical and Clare Advertiser*, Nov 2, 1806: "On Sunday last William Brady of Williamstead Galway, to Miss Power daughter of the late Edmond Power of Waterpark in the County Esq."

- 32 We will see below that Margaret's reputation was not exactly pristine and William, aware of her proclivities, may have opted to remove her from his will because of that reputation.
- 33 The following information is taken from *The Law Recorder, Containing Reports of Cases and Proceedings in the Courts of Law and Equity at Dublin* (Dublin: 1828), Vol. 1, pp. 472ff. The case was widely reported in the press—see *Freemans Journal*, Wednesday, August 06, 1828.
- 34 The Chancellor in the case was Sir Antony Hart. In a piece appearing in *The Standard* (London, England), Saturday, August 30, 1828, Sir Anthony is roundly criticized and condemned for his tolerance of Catholicism when he stated during the proceedings regarding the Brady child "Mr. Saurin, sitting here as an Equity Judge, I cannot administer justice in reference to the religion of Parties!!!"
- 35 *A History of Tuamgraney & Scariff Since Earliest Times*, Ger Maddon (Tuamgraney: East Clare Heritage: 2000), p. 70.
- 36 "Previously the residence of the Brady family, Williamstadt passed to Dr. Francis Sampson through marriage in 1833. At the time of Griffith's Valuation it was valued at £10 and Sampson was leasing it from James Egan. Up to 1898 this house would have been in county Galway. The house is still extant and occupied." *Connacht and Munster Landed Estate Database*, NUI Galway: "Family—Sampson (Williamstadt)."
- 37 *RootsIreland.com*, Baptisms and Birth Records: Apjohn.
- 38 "He was the son of the late William Apjohn, J.P., of Toomlamine, Limerick, Ireland, and arrived in Brisbane a few months before separation in 1859." *Toowoomba Chronicle and Darling Downs General Advertiser*, Tuesday, November 2, 1886.
- 39 "Judge, Jury, Magistrate and Soldier: Rethinking Law and Authority in Late Eighteenth-Century Ireland," Kathleen S. Murphy, *The American Journal of Legal History* (Vol. XLIV: 2000), p. 233.
- 40 Stephens, p. 240. This is the role that Michael Lloyd Apjohn filled during the Rebellion of 1798 and thereafter.
- 41 *Vestry Meeting Books of Doon for 1790 to 1831*, Parish of Doon, County Limerick.
- 42 *Tithe Applotment Books, 1823-37*. The National Archives of Ireland (Linfield: 1834). William appears to be leasing land from Laurence Marshall, probably the grandson of the father of Margaret Marshall who married Michael Apjohn of Sunglen.
- 43 *Freemans Journal 1763-1924*, Fri Jan 18 1839.

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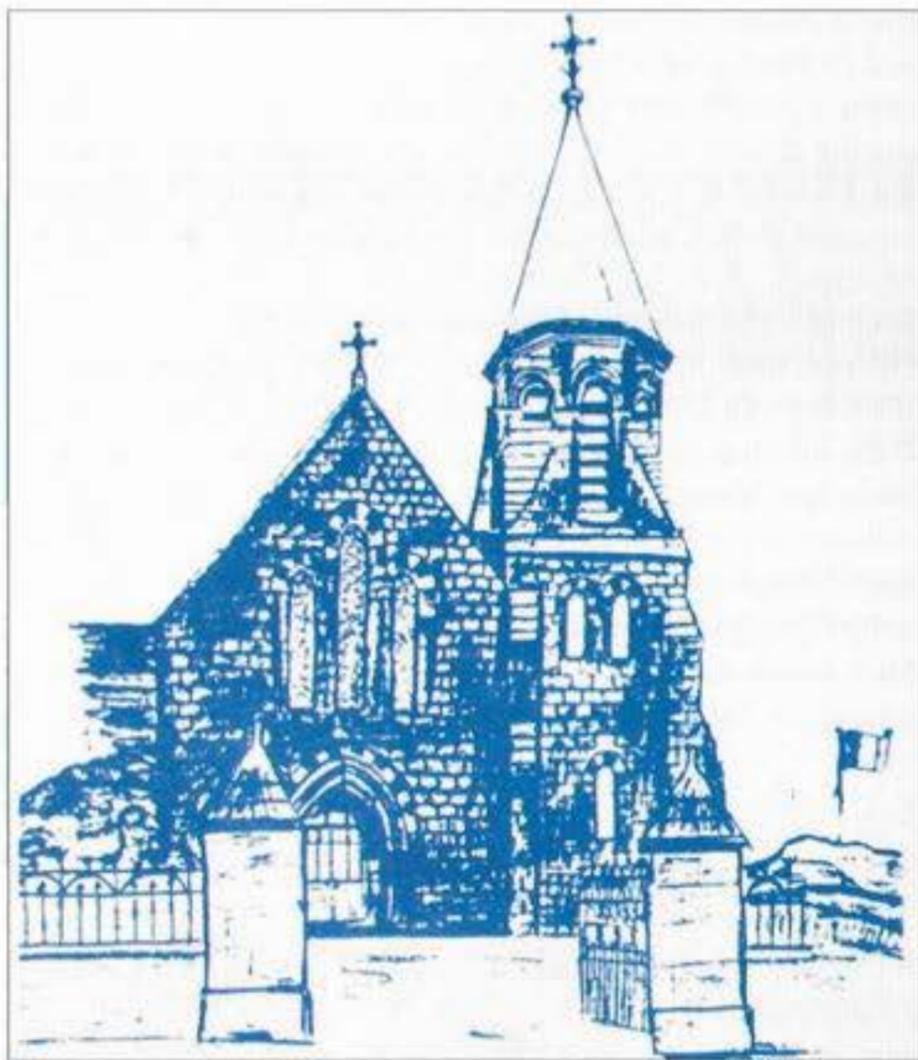
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St. Brigid's Church, Templebraden – the 1916 Connection

The historic connection of Ballyneety with Patrick Sarsfield is widely acknowledged and celebrated in poetry, prose, song and on stage with regular commemorative events centered on Sarsfield's Rock. The most recent of these occurred in 2013 – the Sarsfield 320 Festival when St. Brigid's church, beside Sarsfield's Rock in Ballyneety, hosted a Prayer and Reflective Service on 28th July 2013. The historic link with Sarsfield was exploited for fundraising purposes when the church was being built between 1881 and 1884 and the Sarsfield link endures. It is also worth noting the significant link between St. Brigid's Church and one of the main names involved in the 1916 Rising. With the years of remembrance and commemoration upon us - new and further information about the events of Easter 1916 are coming to light. The refurbishment of St. Brigid's church coincides with this and efforts to record its history and acknowledge the outstanding work undertaken in the 1880's (and later) are well advanced – the 1916 link became apparent as a result.



St. Brigid's Church, Templebraden.

The high altar at Templebraden, of Caen stone, was carved and erected by the Pearse and Sharp company of Brunswick Street in Dublin. James Pearse was father of Patrick and William Pearse – who were executed for their part in the Easter Rising of 1916. It is not known whether either Pearse or Sharp visited Ballyneety to supervise the erection of the altar – their company employed up to 50 workmen at the time but we can be assured that James

Pearse was involved in its design and carving. The Pearse brothers were certainly too young to have visited Ballyneety – Patrick Pearse was born on 10 November, 1879; William was born on 15th November 1881. Brunswick Street is now called Pearse Street after the two brothers.



High Altar

The altar, which cost about £300, is the work of Messrs. Pearse and Sharp, of Brunswick St. Dublin. Its width is about eight feet, while from the base to the top of the little spire is about fifteen feet. The whole thing is beautifully carved. The table is of white marble, carefully polished, and at either side of the tabernacle, but some distance from it, are cut representations of the Marriage Ceremony of Joseph and Mary, presided over by a Jewish Rabbi and the Flight into Egypt with the baby Jesus, and to the right and left and outside there again are figures of St. Patrick and St. Brigid standing out in bold relief. St. Joseph, who is also depicted in a stained glass window, behind the altar, is identifiable as he holds a white lily – a symbol associated with him. St. Joseph is recognised in the Universal Church as Protector.

The front of the structure is supported by two pillars of coloured marble, while the rest is of Caen stone, which being cut into clear and distinct designs of a tasteful character, makes a very pretty whole.

Between the representations of the Marriage Ceremony and the Flight to Egypt are the figures of two angels gracefully posed, bending with looks of adoration to the crucifix which surmounts the tabernacle. The cutting of the figures in the centre of the altar, showing the Saviour being laid in the tomb, with his blessed Mother leaning over him is finely executed.

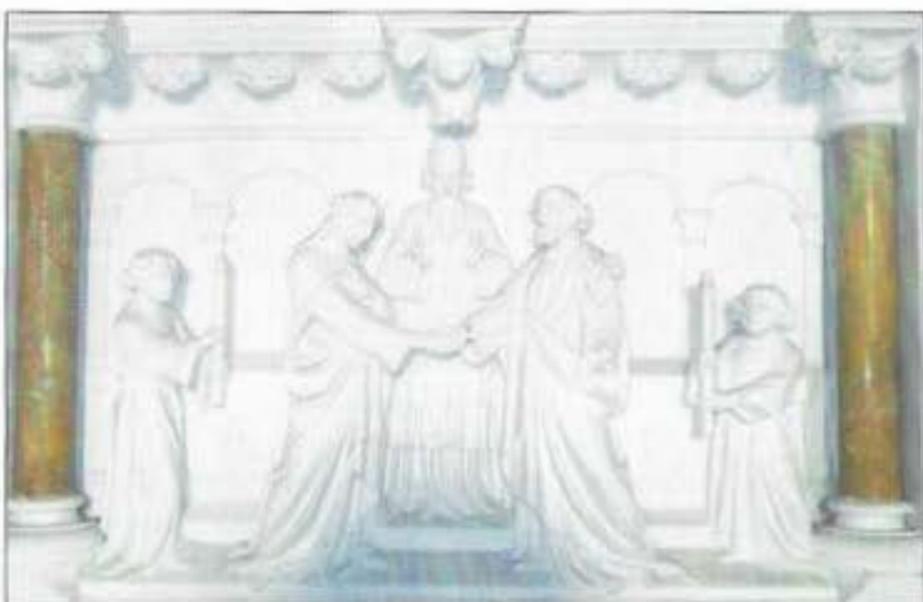
High Altar

Taken as a whole, the altar, with its furnishings, adds considerably to the many adornments of the church.

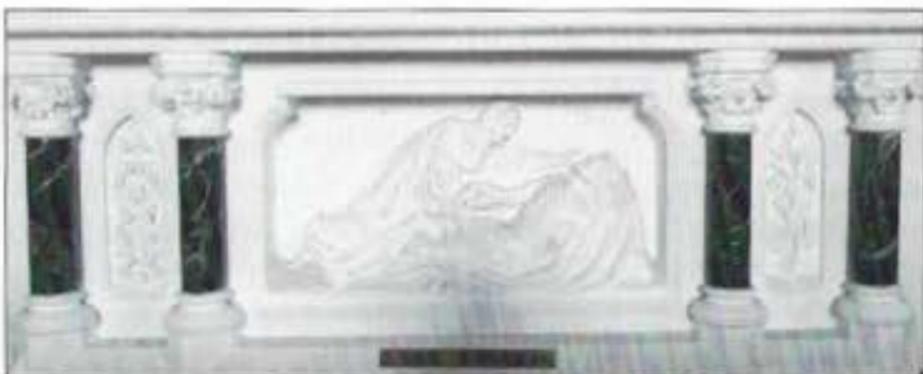
Scrapbook, Rev. Michael Ryan; Project Report, Miriam O'Dwyer



Flight into Egypt



Marriage Ceremony



Altar - Saviour

James Pearse

James Pearse was born on 8 December 1839 in Bloomsbury, Middlesex, Greater London. When he was

between the ages of seven and eight, the family moved to Birmingham and he is reputed up to his death to have spoken with a midlands or Lancashire accent. He had limited formal education and passed through a series of unsatisfactory jobs until he eventually found his niche as a sculptor's apprentice.

James Pearse was brought to Dublin from Birmingham by Charles William Harrison, circa 1860 to be foreman of his monumental sculpture workshop at 178 Great Brunswick Street. He would have had to be most discreet about his atheist views when he finally settled in Ireland in the 1860s with his English wife, Emily Suzanna Fox. They both converted to Catholicism, probably for business reasons. Emily died in 1876, leaving him a widower with two young children, Mary Emily and James Vincent. He married his second wife, Margaret Brady, the following year and set up home over his premises in 27 Great Brunswick (now Pearse) Street. They had four children: Patrick, Margaret Mary, Mary Brigid and William.

In the early 1870s he formed a partnership with Patrick J. O'Neill. The partnership of O'Neill & Pearse, which had its workshop at 182 Great Brunswick Street, was dissolved around 1875. Pearse moved to new premises and, in about 1878, took his foreman, Edmund Sharpe into partnership. This second partnership was dissolved in 1888, after which Pearse worked on his own.

James Pearse, conducted his business from the basement, ground floor, and yard of 27 Great Brunswick Street. During the Pearse family's few years living there, some of the rooms in the three-storey-over-basement Georgian terraced brick house (dated circa 1820) were let to other tenants.

Such was the success of the business that the Pearse family did not remain living in Pearse Street for long, moving after five years to a modest house in Sandymount in 1884. With his business expanding, James Pearse had to lease other properties at the back of No. 27 to facilitate the volume of work being done. By the time of his death in 1900, his firm was employing the largest staff of stone carvers, cutters, polishers and rubbers in Ireland.

After his death, the business was carried on for a few years under the name JAMES PEARSE & SONS by his younger son, the sculptor William Pearse (1881-1916), with some help from his more famous elder son, Patrick Pearse (1879-1916). Both Patrick and William were executed for their part in the Easter Rising of 1916.



*James Pearse
(1839 - 1900)*

James Pearse died suddenly on the 2nd September 1900 in Birmingham while on a visit to his brother and is buried in Glasnevin cemetery. He left an estate valued at £1,470-17s-6d. Pearse and Sons was wound up in 1910 and the capital was used to fund Patrick's school, St Enda's, which had recently moved to new premises in Rathfarnham. James Pearse's legacy to the school was not simply financial. His books formed the nucleus of the library, while his engravings and sculptures joined the school's art collection, and there are echoes of his father's educational experience in Pearse's insistence that, in his school, boys would develop independent minds and a genuine love of learning. He completely rejected the exam-focused rote learning that characterised his own educational experience, despite the fact that he himself was a successful product of that system.

On his death, William and Patrick Pearse took over the running of the business. William was nineteen and studying at the Metropolitan School of Art and was later to travel to London and Paris for further training. Patrick was at this stage using the title 'Patrick H. Pearse, Sculptor' and the company's name had become 'Pearse and Sons.'



27 Pearse Street, birthplace of Patrick and Willie Pearse.

In its first few years under their stewardship, the company continued to prosper and to win major orders. However, despite Patrick's attention to the business, his workload for Conradh na Gaeilge, combined with Willie's studies and a depression in the building trade, saw the business go into decline. By 1910 Pearse and Sons was no more, being worth only £500 on dissolution. Much of this went to fund the Pearse's Irish language

school, firstly in Cullenswood House and later in St. Enda's, Rathfarnham, County Dublin.

Note: Efforts to record the history of the beautiful structure and the wonderful people who ensured the construction, maintenance and operation of St. Brigid's Church over the years since 1881 are well advanced: St. Brigid's Church, 1881 – 2016 – for completion in early 2016. Any further information or insights would still be most welcome!

Chris Ryan

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On a Foreign Shore

- The Story of Trooper Pat Mullins

In a year which has seen our Naval Service involved in humanitarian missions in the Mediterranean sea, and the Irish Army deployed to the Lebanon on peacekeeping duties, with the UN, it is, perhaps fitting to remember a young soldier, with strong family connections to Pallasgrean, who lost his life in the course of a United Nations humanitarian mission to the Congo, in 1961.

Trooper Patrick Mullins was the son of Catherine Mullins, née Connolly. Catherine spent her early years living in Templebraden, in the shadow of Sarsfield's Rock, before marrying Ned Mullins and moving to Kilbehenny, where her children grew up. As a young lad, Pat would have visited his cousins, in this parish, and today, his immediate family in Kilbehenny and his relatives, in this area, the extended Rahilly and Connolly families, still cherish his memory.

His father, Ned, had a farm in Boher, Kilbehenny, where he kept cows, some sheep, a few pigs and tilled a few fields of potatoes and turnips. Pat's brother, Denis, worked the farm with his father and, on leaving National School, Pat found work with a neighbouring farmer, Jack O'Brien. Born in November 1942, during the Emergency, Pat grew up in difficult economic times, in Ireland. Work was hard, even though he was well looked after by his employer and treated like one of the family.

However, Pat was a fine singer and loved music, dancing, hurling, football and the cinema and enjoyed every opportunity to engage in his favourite pastimes. Often a stage would be set up in Kilbehenny village, and if Pat and his family and friends weren't singing and dancing there, they could hear the music from their own house, in Boher, a short distance away.

Having seen his older brother, Tom, leave farm labouring behind, to take up work in the local creamery, Pat started to think about improving his career prospects. Many of his generation were emigrating, at the time, but Pat turned his sights towards the army, which he felt would offer him better pay, better prospects and a better lifestyle. He would have relished the idea that army life would bring a little excitement.

Without telling his father, Pat set off for Collins' Barracks, Cork on 9th May, 1960, to enlist in the army. On realising that Pat was some months short of his eighteenth birthday, the recruiting staff contacted his family. Pat's father, Ned, decided to allow Pat his choice, believing that if he was thwarted, he would go to England and join the army there instead.



Trooper Pat Mullins

Army life suited Pat and he soon befriended John O'Mahony, who would later co-write, with Ralph Riegel, a book on Pat's life: "Missing in Action." Their training regime was undoubtedly tough, under platoon sergeant Sgt. John Cusack and Corporals Bill Sisk, Joe Hunt and John St John, but it seemed to suit these two country lads. Initial training involved drills and parade ground exercises, followed by weapons training, with the Lee-Enfield Mk IV rifle, which had served the defence forces well for half a century.

John O'Mahony described Pat's attitude to army life; "... Pat was probably the most natural soldier amongst us. He always seemed to be

happy, it was impossible to faze and he took to army life like a duck to water..."

Having finished their initial six months' training, Pat and John were delighted to be assigned to Fitzgerald Camp, Fermoy with the 1st Motor Squadron. Pat's family lived close by and periods of leave allowed him the opportunity to visit. This would have been particularly important when his father, Ned, died, in November 1960. There was, of course, the added attraction of training as dispatch riders, with Sgt Paddy Fraher, to handle some of the more exciting vehicles which the army possessed; armoured cars and motorbikes, which would certainly have appealed to the sense of adventure of two young lads. John O'Mahony recalled; "We were having the time of our lives and being paid for it."

In November 1960, news reached Ireland of the deaths of nine Irish soldiers, who had been killed in the Niamba ambush, in the Congo and it is likely that the possibility of being posted there, on peace-keeping duties, occurred to Pat. In the meantime, however, he continued to enjoy, in the army, some of the pastimes of his earlier years. He played hurling for army teams and for Fermoy, showing considerable talent and was always ready to entertain his fellow-soldiers with a bar of a song. Off duty he frequented the cinema and the dancehalls.

In February 1961, the anticipated call came, for volunteers for the next U.N. Mission to the Congo. Pat, his friend John O'Mahony and many others responded with alacrity and enthusiasm. However, in the midst of the excitement, it is interesting to contemplate Pat's comment, remembered by John, "It is all right to go out, but will we come back?"

Pat was one of the twenty five volunteers selected for the mission, with John being selected at a slightly later stage

in the process. From February, four months of intensive training followed, preparing these young soldiers for the challenges which they would face in a completely different physical and political environment.

The Belgian Congo had been granted independence from Belgium the previous year and tensions had run high from the handover. The colony's record of human rights had been abysmal and reforms had come too slowly and too late. Belgium had tried to hold on, for as long as possible, to the colony whose reserves of rubber, diamonds, copper, uranium, timber and ivory greatly enriched her economy. The province of Katanga, was a particularly desirable possession, as rich deposits of minerals had been found there. While other colonial powers were making some preparations, in the twentieth century, to ease the transition to independence, Belgium completely disregarded the tribal rivalries and anomalous borders which could cause tension and strife, when power would transfer to the native Congolese. Even when independence was promised to the Congo, it was presumed that little would change and that wealth and power would remain in Belgian hands. Needless to say, this provoked resentment and resistance among the Congolese, frightening Belgium into dramatically speeding up the process of transferring power.

At the ceremony formalising the handover of power, King Baudouin of Belgium had lauded the achievements of the colonial regime, totally ignoring the abuses of power which had taken place. This had provoked a furious response from newly elected Prime Minister, Patrice Lumumba, which ignited the political situation in the Congo, alienating Belgium from the Congolese. Having alienated Belgian business interests, Lumumba went on to alarm the U.S. by accepting assistance from the Soviet Union and named Mobutu, a cunning and ambitious rival, as chief of staff of the Congolese Army. Lumumba was blamed for the wave of violence and revenge attacks on Europeans by Congolese. Within six months, he had been assassinated and Katanga, supported by an influx of Belgian troops, and under the leadership of Tshombe, had separated from the rest of the Congo, threatening the economic viability of that newly independent country. Unrest in the Congo threatened to spill over into neighbouring countries. Prior to his death Lumumba had sought the help of the UN to help keep the peace.

The first UN peacekeeping mission cost the lives of nine Irish soldiers, in the Niemba Ambush, carried out by the Baluba tribe. Valuable lessons had been learnt from the ambush, where Irish troops had to leave their vehicle when they encountered a roadblock near the Luweyeye River, only to be surrounded, outnumbered and attacked by the Balubas. Before leaving for the Congo, Pat Mullins and his comrades received intensive training on removing such roadblocks.

The troops left with great ceremony. Initially, there was a parade and blessing, at Collins' Barracks, and, after a stop off in Fermoy and an overnight stay at the Curragh, a further parade at Mc Kee Barracks, reviewed by Seán Lemass, Taoiseach, Frank Aiken, Minister for Foreign/External Affairs and Kevin Boland, Minister for Defence.

As soon as the formalities were completed, this enthusiastic and proud group of the 35th Battalion, The Armoured Car Group, felt equal to the challenges of the complex and potentially dangerous mission ahead.

A long and difficult flight lay ahead for the 634 men of the 35th Battalion, most of whom suffered badly from air sickness, but their exuberance and *joi de vivre* comes across from John O'Mahony's description of their stopover at Wheelus Air Base, outside of Tripoli. Their enjoyment of unaccustomed luxuries such as air conditioning, a self-service canteen, foods such as hamburgers and french fries, as well as the ready availability of second helpings was a far cry from army life in Ireland, at the time. There was a sense of hope and freedom, excitement and anticipation, as these young men, set off with great idealism, on the adventure of their lives. O'Mahony's account makes poignant reading, in the knowledge that not all of these lads would live to see the journey home.

Arriving in Kinshasa, the UN troops were taken by the exotic culture and the heat, but even though the area seemed quiet, and the Battalion whom they were replacing had had a relatively peaceful tour of duty, they noted the tension and the number of armed groups. Deployed to Elizabethville, in the contentious province of Katanga, the 35th Battalion engaged in a gruelling routine of drills, exercises, patrols and guard duty. When off duty, they could spend a few hours in Elizabethville, enjoy a good meal, a few drinks or a trip to the cinema, or the swimming pool at the Lido Hotel. Tensions sometimes flared up, with different armed groups roaming the streets, however, and Irish troops were advised to go out in groups of four or more, for safety.

Meanwhile, UN negotiations with the warring factions were dragging on, with little prospect of a resolution. It became policy to disarm, arrest and deport foreign mercenaries who were supporting the breakaway Katangan government. It was hoped that this would put an end to the secession of the Katangan province and the threat of Civil War in the Congo.

Trooper Pat Mullins as part of the Armoured Car Division, played a part in these operations, most notably moving against Katangan forces who were trying to disrupt UN flights at Elizabethville Airport. UN troops, supported by two Ford armoured vehicles, surrounded and disarmed the Katangans, capturing a variety of weapons. On this occasion, Pat was manning the Vickers machine gun in one of the two armoured cars which drove out onto the runway to prevent a plane taking off.

The complex political situation was increasingly making the Katangan soldiers view the Irish UN peacekeepers as a hostile force. Katangan propaganda suggested that the UN soldiers wished to oust Katangan forces and replace them with forces loyal to the Congolese government, who would exact vengeance on the Katangan state. Anti UN riots took place in Elizabethville, with 500 young people, "The Katanga Youth" protesting outside the UN hospital and headquarters. Anti UN propaganda was constantly aired on Katangan radio and the UN now operated in a very uncomfortable situation, berated by all sides, in Elizabethville. Tensions escalated, with Irish soldiers

being stoned, roadblocks being set up to disrupt UN patrols as well as UN buildings and vehicles being burnt. A UN detachment at Jadotville was surrounded and cut off. Many businesses in the area refused to supply UN soldiers with fresh food.

Against this background, the UN put in place Operation Morthor, to seize control of the centre of Katangan power and pressurise Tshombe into re-integrating the province of Katanga with the rest of the Congo.

As tensions rose, Pat Mullins and the Armoured Car Group of the 35th Battalion would be heavily involved in escorting troop movements in the area around Elizabethville and in ensuring that supplies or reinforcements reached outposts such as Jadotville, which were in becoming cut off from Elizabethville and were beginning to come under severe pressure.

In anticipation of the action to come, Irish soldiers would have known that, if attacked, they would be at a disadvantage, both in terms of numbers and equipment. The Ford AFV was designed for use in the Congo, as the other armoured vehicles at the disposal of the Irish Defence Forces were not considered suitable for the conditions. The Ford AFV was based on the chassis of Ford trucks and used the Ford V8 engine. It had a specially constructed armoured body placed on top. The armoured body was constructed using boiler plate from the Liffey Docklands and its ability to protect the occupants was suspect. Even rounds from a Lee Enfield rifle could take pieces from the outside surface or dislodge pieces from the inside. If fired on by heavier artillery, the armour plating was highly unlikely to protect the occupants of the vehicle. The AFV was fitted with a turret which could rotate through 360 degrees, but had to be turned using both hands. This meant that the Vickers gun on board, a good weapon in itself, and one with which most Irish soldiers of the time were extremely familiar, could not be fired while the turret was being rotated. The Vickers gun, capable of prolonged use, if cooled properly, could not be cooled inside the AFV, so the gunner had to use short targeted bursts of fire, or the gun would be disabled. Pat Mullins would have been keenly aware of the shortcomings of his armoured vehicle. His official title was gunner-driver. His main task would have been to man the Vickers gun, while he would also have been capable of handling the Ford AFV. Handling the vehicle would have required a degree of skill, as it was top heavy and had a high centre of gravity, making it slightly unstable, in certain conditions. It was a rear wheel drive vehicle, based on the truck chassis, which meant that it struggled off-road. Its V8 engine meant that it had a reasonable agility for such a heavy vehicle, with a maximum speed of 40mph. Eleven of these vehicles were in use in the Congo at the time. Among the vehicles available to Katangan forces, growing increasingly more hostile to the UN soldiers, were Staghound armoured cars, with a stronger 8mm of frontal armour and far greater fire power.

On 13th September, Operation Morthor was initiated by UN forces. One incident of the operation caused even greater hostility towards the UN. Indian troops had been tasked with dislodging Katangan forces from the Radio Katanga building and holding it for the UN, to deny

Tshombe's regime access to the airwaves. The Indian soldiers, in carrying out their orders, allegedly caused the deaths of twenty five soldiers holding the building. This caused many to hate UN troops, regardless of their nationality.

By the following evening, 14th September, concerns were growing, among Irish UN troops for the fate of their colleagues at two outposts, Jadotville and the Radio College. The 35th Battalion urgently needed information as to the status of their men and had two armoured vehicles at their disposal, to send on a reconnaissance mission. One was a Ford AFV, with Vickers machine gun and another was an open topped Scout vehicle with a Browning gun. Any action undertaken by these two vehicles would be further threatened by the Katangans' use of an anti-tank gun. These vehicles had been in continuous use throughout the day and their crew were relieved by Pat Mullins and his colleagues. A convoy was dispatched to find out the fate of the Irish at the Radio College, as rumours were circulating that the outpost had been attacked and the Irish troops captured. The convoy included a Ford AFV, an open-topped Scout car, a jeep and a bus carrying armed troops.

Initially, Pat had been in the second car of the convoy, the open-topped Scout car, but was transferred to the Ford AFV, on the orders of Cmdt. Cahalane, who decided that having an experienced gunner for the Ford was essential, as it would be the first vehicle to encounter any hostile activity. Nearing the Radio College, the area was silent. There was no sign of any recent fighting, but it was a matter of concern that there were no locals in this residential area. As the Irish troops were taking stock of the situation, trying to get some sense of what had become of their comrades, based there, an explosion lit up the sky. Those inside the Ford AFV did not even see the flash or have any warning of the anti-tank missile which had hit the Ford. The convoy had been ambushed by Katangan forces, led by Denard, who had anticipated that a patrol would come to assist Irish troops posted at the Radio College. An almighty attack ensued on the convoy. The UN troops in the bus and jeep struggled out of their vehicles, to find some shelter. Inside the Ford AFV, Sgt Cahalane was not fully conscious having been concussed in the attack. Sgt Carey noted that Tpr Pat Mullins and Corporal Nolan were lying on the floor, seeming to be seriously injured or dead. Attempting to leave the armoured vehicle, Sgt Carey was struck in the leg, but still tried to help his fallen comrades. He succeeded in helping Commandant Cahalane to the shelter of some nearby buildings. They were later captured and taken prisoner.

The events of the next few hours were only pieced together more than a week after the horrific night of the ambush. The Ford AFV in which Pat Mullins had been travelling had not been recovered from the ambush site, nor had his body or that of Corporal Nolan. Local intelligence reported that an armoured vehicle had been found abandoned and partially stuck in a ditch, on a road leading into the African sector of Elizabethville. This was a very unlikely route for the vehicle to have taken, moving away from safety. Empty 9mm cases littering the scene showed that fierce fighting had occurred and it was determined

that this could not have come from the Vickers gun as the Ford AFV was in the ditch. A set of keys was found nearby, which John O'Mahony later identified as belonging to Pat Mullins. As the armoured car was removed from the scene, it was still unclear where the bodies of the two men lay and an exhaustive search of the area revealed nothing. From the evidence of the scene, it became clear that one of the men had survived the missile strike at the ambush site and driven the Ford from the scene, in an attempt to save his comrade's life.

A week later, after further investigation, intelligence sources revealed that one or possibly two white UN troops had been buried in the grounds of a convent. The grim task of exhuming the remains revealed that this was the body of Corporal Nolan, but no trace could be found of Pat Mullins. It had been suggested that his body may have been taken by local tribesmen. No further information was unearthed at this time.

Later in September 1961, the Mullins family learned the sad news that Pat had been killed in an ambush, in the course of his duty and that his body was missing. For years, no further information was available to the family and it seemed that some media sources had forgotten that his body had never been recovered or returned to Ireland. However, in the 1990's there were some signs that Pat's story might yet come to light. On 8th November 1998, at a special ceremony at Collins' Barracks, Dublin, one month before her death, Catherine was presented with Pat's Military Star Medal. This was the third medal awarded to Pat, in addition to the Congo Medal and the UN Peace Medal. Some years later, Pat had a room at the Curragh Camp named in his honour. In 2009, a special memorial plaque was unveiled outside the old Fitzgerald Camp chapel, in Fermoy, commemorating all UN members who had lost their lives on UN peacekeeping duties as well as those from Fitzgerald Camp, Fermoy, who had died while in service.

In February 2010, following four years of further investigation by the Defence Forces, the family finally gained some further insight into what may have taken place on that fateful night when Pat was killed. The armoured vehicle which had been found a week after Pat's death and that of Cpl Nolan, allowed a number of deductions to be made. It was likely that the vehicle had been driven away from the ambush site by either Pat Mullins or Cpl Mick Nolan. It is thought most likely that it was Pat who drove, as Mick Nolan's injuries were such that would have made it virtually impossible for him to have done so. Furthermore, as Pat had not been briefed on the routes around Elizabethville, it would appear that he was unable to find his way back to camp in such dire conditions and strayed into unfriendly territory. There, the damage sustained by the Ford and the 9mm casings found at the scene, suggest that a prolonged exchange of fire took place, as Pat tried to defend his gravely injured comrade.

Sadly, there is little likelihood of Pat's remains ever being located, or returned to Ireland for burial. Fifty years after the day his patrol was ambushed, on 15th September 2011, a memorial was unveiled to Pat's memory in the grounds of Kilbehenny Church, where he had attended Mass as a boy.

Here will be remembered the young lad of tender years who showed such courage and humanity and made the ultimate sacrifice, in the service of others. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.

Sources

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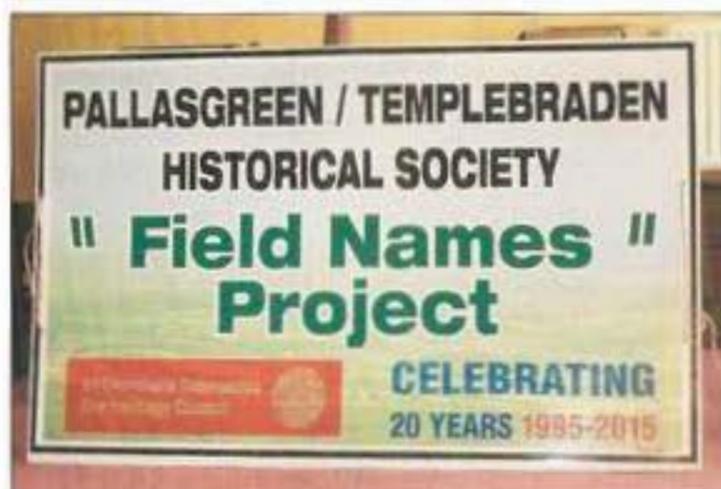
Soldiers and Chiefs Exhibition – Collins' Barracks Museum

Family recollections

Siobhán English



Trooper Pat Mullins Memorial in the grounds of Kilbehenny Church.



The Field Names Heritage Project:

By David Thompson, Chairman

In last year's Gréan magazine we set out our aims and objectives. A lot of exciting work has been done since then and a lot of experience gained. Firstly we found the 3000 fields I had mapped, numbered and coded had to be scrapped as the satellite maps from which we drew the fields were not the same as those provided by the Department of Agriculture to farmers for their single farm payment and it was found by some to be difficult to match the fields. We were offered help from Tús but the insurance prevents us from taking up the offer.

In a February meeting of our Historical Society it was decided to go ahead with the pilot scheme, seek support both financial and in kind. Unfortunately unlike the experience in County Meath their main source of funding "The Leader Group" had no funding FBD and many other supporters failed us. However the Heritage Council gave us a subscription towards our paper and printing costs, providing we submit a report by mid November and the Limerick City and County Council gave us the maps from which Jill McCormack drew out the townlands and David Thompson mapped, numbered and coded each field in each townland in each of the nine parishes which consisted of almost 8,000 fields and produced a wallet with an area map, the map of the numbered fields in the townlands, a letter of authority with Heritage Council support and a survey form for each field. Mike O'Dwyer of "Fine Signs" made a wonderful sign for the launch meeting. Nora Stokes made drafts of all survey forms and designed the booklet to explain all the features; she also did all the typing for the project.

We held several meetings to encourage volunteers to help with the survey work – these proved disappointing so we attended the Doon Vintage Show, put articles into the local newspapers, went to our local Radio and Limerick 95fm all with some success. We then had a launch in the Community Centre on the 16th June by John Walsh past chairman of Ballyhoura Leader Group. As promised in our article in the Heritage Council Brochure we held a PowerPoint presentation (created by Nora Stokes) in the Community Centre on the 27th of August, all this helped to get volunteers. Siobhán English put it up on Facebook.

Now as I write this article all wallets must be returned by the weekend from all the volunteers, some who did tremendous work and special thanks must go to Pat Kelly who topped the list by surveying 18 townlands followed by Siobhán English, Jill McCormack, John Moloney, John O'Dwyer, Eddie O'Dea, Pat Blackwell and David Thompson who all surveyed over 5 townlands, others too numerous to name have completed 29 surveys to date.

Due to their hard work and commitment we have managed through volunteer work to record the names of about 55% of today's fields and preserve many exciting interesting and imaginative stories and folklore and folklore which are been lost annually as those that know leave us. We have now preserved this part of our heritage – a wonderful achievement.

In our report we will be showing under each civil parish and townland the number of fields mapped off the ordinance survey 6 inch map, numbered and coded, the number of fields surveyed (many fields had been enlarged to form one out of two or three). The number recorded, the number of field names obtained and the number of fields with no name, the number of landowners in the townland and the number of folklore stories, and features such as trees, wells ect. Anyone who knows of any information that we may not have should let us know and we can add it to our collection.

This pilot project has succeeded in all its aims, firstly to raise awareness of our heritage throughout the area the area and in schools (Tineteriffe School completing one of the townland surveys). It has greatly enhanced the heritage points in our landscape and resources recorded and documented what is left of knowledge of the past 6,000 years of land activity in the area, starting with forest then going to the small individual fields (high population) and now enlarging again.

One Folklore Story Reported



Hoof print of horse on Nicker Hill.

We are told that that Fionn leaped his from horse in Nicker Hill cleared Garrison and landed on a rock in Kilduff with the footprint remaining on the rock to this day. John O'Dwyer and David Thompson spent considerable time with a chainsaw and patience looking for the rock and lo and behold they found it and took a photograph as proof in field Lk24GR18GS, Kilduff Boundary ditch.

Another Interesting Story – The Furry Hill Field

This field was code LK14/24DN13CG and it was named as it grew a great crop of furze bushes from which the women picked the yellow flowers, put them in water and brought it to the boil and left it overnight they then added salt to retain the colour and then they put sheep's wool in it to soak overnight, from the resultant coloured wool they spun it and knitted bright coloured clothes which greatly enhanced their attraction to the male population!

We found a number of Mass Rocks - a custom since 1695 during the repression where people gathered for prayers. There were many lime Kilns.



Lime Kiln

The Future

The tremendous success of this project is due to trogan work by a few and support from many others in the area. We would like to extend this project to cover County Limerick as they did in County Meath and now County Louth and produce a book for our County Limerick.

To do this we need help both financially and voluntary helpers to do the survey work, for this we look to our Farm Organisations, Historical Societies, schools and all that are interested. We have put in an application for Leader Group Support for this in the hope that we could gather all the heritage information from rural County Limerick and challenge other counties in having the most interesting rural history in our County in Ireland. We will look for Heritage Council, Limerick City and County Council and business support as well as from the media. There was great support shown at the Doon Vintage Show from people outside the pilot area.

Please contact us if you are interested and if we get enough support we can proceed and complete our objective. You will find it extremely rewarding and a wonderful way of preserving this part of our unique heritage. We owe it to our ancestors.



Launch of Field Names Project – L/R David Thompson, John Walsh, Nora Stokes, Siobhán English.

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Launch of schools collection in Co. Limerick

By Kathleen Shanahan

Approximately 740,000 pages (288,000 pages in the pupils' original exercise books; 451,000 pages in bound volumes) of folklore and local tradition were compiled by pupils from 5,000 primary schools in the Irish Free State between 1937 and 1939.

This collecting scheme was initiated by the Irish Folklore Commission, under the direction of Séamus Ó Duilearga and Séan Ó Súilleabháin, Honorary Director and Registrar of the Commission respectively, and was heavily dependent on the cooperation of the Department of Education and the Irish National Teachers' Organization. It was originally to run from 1937 to 1938 but was extended to 1939 in specific cases. For the duration of the project, more than 50,000 schoolchildren from 5,000 schools in the 26 counties of the Irish Free State were enlisted to collect folklore in their home districts. This included oral history, topographical information, folktales and legends, riddles and proverbs, games and pastimes, trades and crafts. The children recorded this material from

their parents, grandparents, and neighbours.

The scheme resulted in the creation of over half a million manuscript pages, generally referred to as 'Bailiúchán na Scol' or 'The Schools' Collection'.

There are 1,128 volumes, numbered and bound, in the Collection. A title page prefaces each school, giving the name of the school, the parish, the barony, the county and the teacher. A further collection of approximately 40,000 of the children's original copybooks are stored at the NFC. Over 160 schools in County Limerick took part in the scheme and 50 large volumes of material were compiled. Limerick material from the Schools' Collection was launched at an event in Limerick City on 30 October 2015 by Jan O'Sullivan TD, Minister for Education and Skills, in the Council Chamber, Merchants Quay, Limerick.

Material from Nicker and Brackile schools are included in this collection.

This material can be assessed on www.duchas.ie/

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What Book are you in?

God Bless all here! Dip in the dip and leave the herring for your father! Don't cast a clout 'till May is out! He'd skin a flea for a halpenny! Three sheets to the wind! Bad cess to you! Are you buy'n Mam?

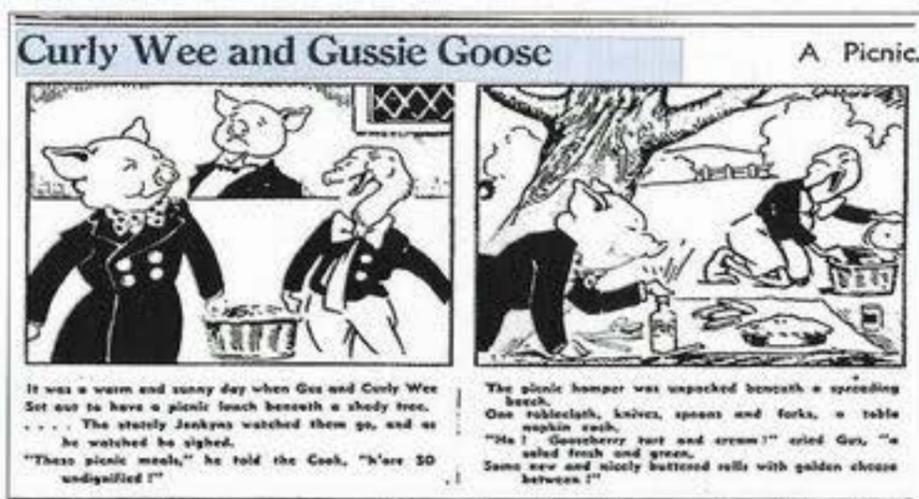
All around, shards of a lost tradition ...
The whole landscape a manuscript
We had lost the skill to read
A part of our past disinherited...

John Montague, 'A Lost Tradition', 1972

These are only some of the sayings, phrases and words once in regular use but now almost completely vanished from common usage. Words like thrawnheen, gwall, skidadle, crathur, amadawn and many others have almost disappeared. A question which I can recall being asked in my younger days is 'What Book are you in?' This caused a certain amount of amusement and puzzlement as it related to former times when it was clear as to its meaning. In our usage the Book was replaced with Class but the Book referred to was a yearly book once in universal usage in the National Education system. The First Book of Lessons was usually completed in first year but Books Two to Five may have taken longer to complete and the book number was a clear indication of one's progress. A variation of this system was in usage until after independence with the last edition of The First Book of Lessons issued in 1921.

'When I was ten years of age I was in the second book', wrote Patrick Gallagher of his schooling in County Donegal during the 1870s, 'but until I passed into the third book I would not be looked upon as a scholar'.¹

Whilst many of the generation who attended National School in the early Twentieth Century may not have progressed to secondary level, the impact of their national school experience was such that they could repeat phrases and poems which imprinted themselves in a way that later generations did not experience. Interest in words and often poetry continued and I can recall relatives, friends and neighbours discussing the adventures and poetry of Count Curly Wee and Gussie Goose – heroes of Fur and Feather Land!



The National School system in Ireland was initiated in October 1831 with a letter² from Edward Stanley³, First Secretary for Ireland, to the 3rd Duke of Leinster, Augustus Fitzgerald⁴, who was invited to become President of the Board of Commissioners of National Education in Ireland 'and I have it further in command to lay before your Grace the motives of the Government in constituting this Board, the powers which it is intended to confer upon it, and the objects which it is expected that it will bear in view, and carry into effect.'

In particular, Mr. Stanley outlined his requirements in relation to textbooks:

The Board will exercise the most entire control over all books to be used in the schools, whether in the combined moral and literary, or separate religious instruction; none to be employed in the first except under the sanction of the Board, nor in the latter but with the appointment of those members of the Board who are of the same religious persuasion with those for whose use they are intended: Although it is not designed to exclude from the list of Books for the combined instruction, such portions of sacred history, or of religious or moral teaching as may be approved by the board, it is to be understood that this is by no means intended to convey a perfect and sufficient religious education, or to supersede the necessity of separate religious instruction on the day set apart for the purpose.

The Board will be intrusted with the absolute control over the funds which may be annually voted by Parliament, which shall apply to the following purposes:

5th Editing and printing such books of moral and literary education as may be approved of for the use of the schools, and supplying them and school necessaries at not lower than half price.

The Board will invariably require, as a condition not to be departed from, that local funds shall be raised, upon which any aid from the public will be dependent. They will refuse all applications in which the following objects are not locally provided for:

3rd A sum sufficient to purchase books and school requisites at half price.

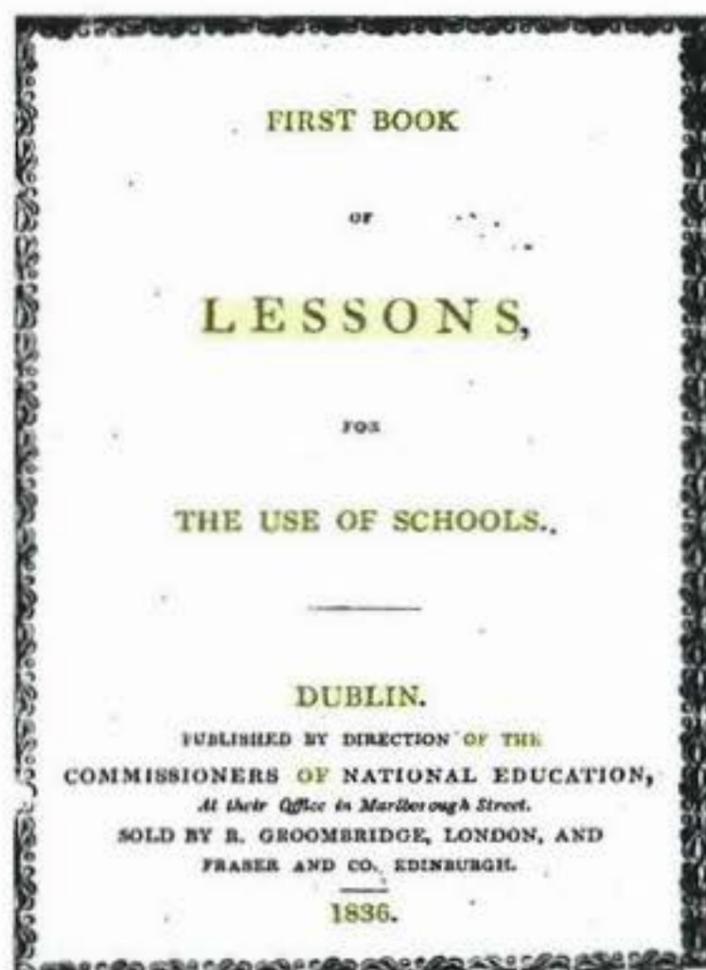
Three of the Commissioners responsible for this task were Dr. Daniel Murray, the Catholic Archbishop of Dublin, Dr. Richard Whately, Church of Ireland Archbishop of Dublin, and the Rev. James Carlile, an ex-moderator of the Presbyterian Synod of Ulster. It could be argued that the

breadth and intellectual force of such a group gave unprecedented strength to the books. Pending the preparation of its own books, text books, school slates and tablets of the Kildare Place Society⁵ and of the Catholic Book Society were made available to schools from February 1832.

By April 1833, the first three reading books had been prepared. Books Four and Five followed in 1834 and 1835. By 1834 the Board had also produced a book on arithmetic, book-keeping, a translation of a geometry book and two selections of scripture readings. Before 1841, the Board had produced further books on grammar, the art of reading, a girls reading book, a book on mensuration and one on needlework. It produced school slates, maps, stationery and such requisites.⁶

According to the Book-Class system there were five classes which corresponded to the five lesson books published by the board. Advancement within the system was not necessarily a function of age, rather, it was accomplished by mastering the material of a certain Book. A specific age group in the student body did not correspond to a particular class. In addition the second Book was really two books. When it became evident that most students struggled when placed in the Third Book of Lessons, a sequel was added to the Second Book by the commissioners to ease the abrupt transition. The sequel was an unofficial Sixth Book.⁷

The Commissioners accomplished a difficult and daunting task, particularly since the books had to be acceptable "in a moral and religious point of view to all classes and denominations" and were also expected to meet "the essential requisites of cheapness and merit".⁸ The commissioners printed their own school-books, distributed them gratis to schools, promoted their use by a general system of inspection and examination, taught the masters to employ them, and finally succeeded in introducing them everywhere into the national schools.



James Carlile, full-time resident commissioner from 1831 to 1839, had overall responsibility for producing the school books, and he corresponded with eminent educationalists and churchmen about the content and style of each. All seven Commissioners read and approved each manuscript before it went to print, in "a process of meticulous preparation, revision and rewriting".⁹ James Carlile, Richard Whately, William McCreedy and Alexander McArthur were responsible for writing the early editions of the Books and Sequels.¹⁰

The books were sufficiently religious to be adaptable to denominational purposes while being sufficiently neutral dogmatically to offend almost no one. In addition to teaching religious belief, the national school texts also taught elementary lessons in social behaviour. In the First Book of Lessons were such sentences as 'You must not vaunt or boast of your skill', 'A good boy will not tell a lie' and 'When we are on the road, or in the street, we should take care that no harm comes to us'. The 'Duty of Children to their Parents' is taken from the Second Book of Lessons.

LESSON IV.

DUTY OF CHILDREN TO THEIR PARENTS.

Let children who would fear the Lord,
Hear what their teachers say ;
With rev'ence meet their parent's word,
And with delight obey.

Have you not heard what dreadful plagues
Are threaten'd by the Lord,
To him that breaks his father's law,
Or mocks his mother's word ?

70

But those who worship God, and give
Their parents honor due,
Here, on this earth, they long shall live,
And live hereafter too.

The books were used in almost all national schools during the hours of combined instruction. One major reason why the commissioner's books were employed was that they were cheap. A stock of books were granted, free of charge to each school after 1833. This free stock was renewed every four years, and after 1848, every three years. This free grant of books was terminated in 1863.

The Board did not compel schools to use its texts, although it retained the right to sanction any books being used. The Board organised its own publication unit, distinct from the Stationery Office. In November 1832, it appointed an official bookseller (Alexander Thom & Co.) and book depositor. It also organised distribution through regional book depots and teachers benefited from a discount on the sale of text books and school materials.

The prices below are those charged in 1846 for the most popular of the commissioner's books:¹¹

Short title	Prices to National Schools		Prices to poor schools not in National System		Prices to Public	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
First Book	0	0 1/2	0	1	0	2
Second Book	0	2	0	4	0	7
Third Book	0	4	0	8	1	2
Fourth Book	0	5	0	10	1	4

The books were usually passed on from older members of a family to the younger and even from parent to child – a practice which continued well into the twentieth century.¹²

The books were re-edited from time to time; and from the beginning they were well thought of, even if they were difficult. They contained much valuable literary material in prose and poetry, selected with care and discrimination. The teachers were tested for their classification by their acquaintance with the Board's Books.

That the Irish Lesson Books were popular is unquestionable. The Commissioners were right in maintaining that their books "supplied a want long since felt, namely good books, at a moderate price".¹³

The commissioners supplied books to schools of more than a dozen countries including India, Malta, Canada, Australia, Scotland and England. A London agent (R. Groombridge) for the books was appointed in January 1836 and an Edinburgh agent (Fraser & Co.) in May 1836. In 1851 the commissioners sold nearly 300,000 books to Irish schools and gave away almost 100,000 more. In the same year almost 100,000 books were sold in the English market and according to one estimate 300,000 Irish national school books were sold to English buyers in 1859 and approximately one million Irish school books were being used in England in that year. Many of the books remained in print from the 1830s to the 1860s and some were still being re-issued in revised editions early in the twentieth century.¹⁴ The final edition of The First Book of Lessons was issued in 1921.

In December 1849, Longman and Company, commercial textbook publishers, complained to Prime Minister Lord John Russell protesting against the publication of school books by the Commissioners of National Education in Ireland. In November 1852 the privilege of publishing their own books was withdrawn from the commissioners but they could still provide books to the national schools at reduced prices. The government also insisted that schools outside Ireland had to buy the Lesson Books directly from the publisher at full price.¹⁵

Under the provision of 'moral' instruction, books of scriptural extracts, avoiding any denominational disputation, were unanimously approved by the Board. These could be used during combined instruction, but were not compulsory. Up to 1837, religious instruction could only be given on the day set apart or in the period before or after ordinary school hours. In 1837, a change was made which permitted religious instruction during the ordinary school day provided advance notice was given so that parents with conscientious objections could have

their children withdrawn.

The Books portrayed Ireland as an integral part of the British empire and not an outlying colony. The books contained reference to Ireland as a geographical entity but little else. The Second reading book informed students that 'on the East of Ireland is England, where the queen lives, many people who live in Ireland were born in England, and we speak the same language and are called one nation ...'. The Fourth reading book, published in 1861, described the Irish as 'a clever, lively people; formerly very much given to drink, and very ignorant, but now it is believed that they are one of the soberest nations of Europe: and it will be their own fault if they are not also one of the best educated'.¹⁶

Every care seems to have been taken to omit anything that might tend to provoke a spirit of nationality. The government's fear of anything that might stimulate Irish nationalism is clear but it was hardly justifiable for Irish children to go through school without ever hearing of the history or culture of their own country. English was the language of the National Education System and the Books. Prior to the National System, most of the Irish population schools were independent and usually pay (hedge) schools, with the curriculum and textbooks in use a decision for the individual teacher.

Douglas Hyde, founder of the Gaelic League, commented to the effect that Irish people were dropping their Irish Christian names, and becoming ashamed of the patrons saints of their own people: 'This is the direct result of the system pursued by the National Board, which refuses to teach the children anything about Patrick and Brigit, but which is never tired of putting second-hand English models before them'.¹⁷ Pupils were required to memorise and repeat phrases and poetry not immediately applicable to an Irish child's experience:

*I thank the goodness and the grace
Which on my birth have smiled,
And made me in these Christian days,
A happy English child!*

As early as 1855, however, Patrick J. Keenan, then Head Inspector and later Resident Commissioner attacked the language policy of his employers. He noted that almost one-quarter of the population spoke Irish in 1851, although the national school system was 'every year diminishing this number'. With an appreciation of bilingualism perhaps rare in his day, Keenan claimed that 'The shrewdest people in the world are those who are bilingual; borderers have always been remarkable in this respect.' 'It is hard', he wrote, 'to conceive any more difficult school exercise than to begin our first alphabet, and first syllabication, and first attempt at reading, in a language of which we know nothing, and all this without means of reference to, or comparison with, a word of our mother tongue'.¹⁸

Yet this was the ordeal Irish speaking children had to pass through, and the natural result was that the English that they learned was very imperfect and good English certainly was the goal of Patrick Keenan.

Dr. W.J.M. Starkie, then Resident Commissioner, admitted in 1900: 'I fancy few educationalists will deny that the National Board were guilty of a disastrous blunder in thrusting upon a Gaelic speaking race a system of education produced after a foreign model, and utterly alien to their sympathies and antecedent.'¹⁹

Not until 1898 did the commissioners reluctantly sanction the teaching of approved works on Irish history. Pressure for the inclusion of the Irish language and Irish culture in the classroom generally came from national revival groups such as the Gaelic League rather than local agitation; Irish became an optional subject after 1879. In many places the 'Bata Scor' was in use – a good thick stick in which parents put a notch each time the child spoke Irish at home – the teacher would reward this with a slap the next day.

Writer Frank O'Connor told how Daniel Corkery, then an assistant at his Cork school, subtly subverted the official line. He wrote a motto in Irish on the blackboard and then explained it to the curious English-speaking pupil:²⁰ 'Waken up your courage, Ireland'; later he lent O'Connor Irish books; and he taught the famous words of Walter Scott:

*Breathes there a man with soul so dead
Who never to himself has said
'This is my own, my native land?'*

Dan Breen, guerrilla leader in the War of Independence and the Civil War, similarly remembered how a substitute teacher at his Garryshane school in Donohill around 1902 'did not confine his history lesson to the official textbook'. A member of the Gaelic League, he gave them 'the naked facts about the English conquest of Ireland and the manner in which our country was held in bondage'. When they emerged from his class they were 'no longer content to grow up the "happy English children", as envisaged by the Board of Education.'²¹

Patrick Pearse had strong view about the national education system, which he labelled 'The Murder Machine'. 'The English thing that is called education in Ireland is founded on a denial of the Irish nation. No education can start with a Nego, any more than a religion can. Everything that even pretends to be true begins with its Credo. Now, to teach a child to deny is the greatest crime a man or a State can commit. Certain schools in Ireland teach children to deny their religion; nearly all the schools in Ireland teach children to deny their nation. I deny the spirituality of my nation; I deny the lineage of my blood; I deny my rights and responsibilities. This Nego is their Credo, this evil their good.'²²

Following the introduction of the payment by results system in 1870, students were to be examined annually on reading, writing, spelling and arithmetic, with grammar and geography included for the older grades and examinations in needlework for girls and agriculture for boys. School grants and teachers' salaries depended on the results of the students. This system existed between 1872 and 1900, and while it was rigid and took no account of students' different abilities, it did set out a minimum

standard for each student to achieve.

In 1898, third-class students had to show proficiency in the following areas:²³

1. Reading: (a) To read with ease, correctness and intelligence the lessons of the Third Book ... and to answer simple questions on the words and phrases of the lessons read.
(b) To repeat correctly about 120 lines of poetry.
2. Spelling: To write from dictation, on slate or paper, an easy sentence from the Reading Book.
3. Writing: To exhibit in copy-books, as a rule, at least one hundred pages in round hand or elementary small hand, written on one hundred different days since the preceding annual inspection.
4. Arithmetic: (a) To read and set down any number up to, and including, six places of figures. (b) To know the Multiplication and Pence Tables.
5. Grammar: To be well acquainted with the definitions of the Parts of Speech, and to distinguish the Parts of Speech in an ordinary sentence.
6. Geography: To know the outlines and leading features of the map of the world.

Obligatory subjects were reading, writing, spelling and arithmetic for all grades with grammar, geography, needlework (girls) and agriculture (boys) for third grade and upwards. Provided success was achieved in the 3 R's, two extra optional subjects could be taken in the senior classes from a long optional list. Irish was accepted as one of the extra subjects for which fees could be paid from 1879.²⁴

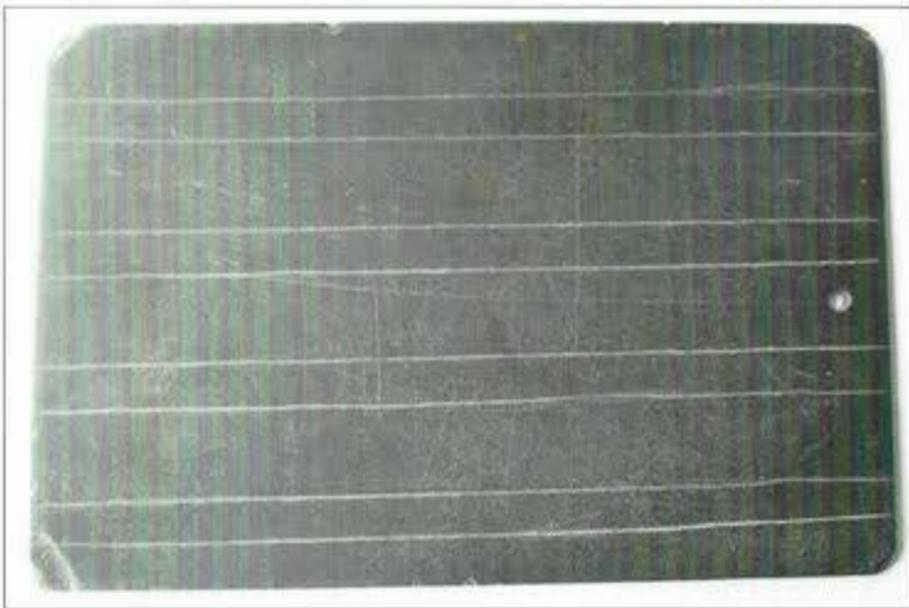
With independence, the teaching of the Irish language became compulsory for all schools in March 1922. The educational philosophy of the new state was concerned with 'strengthening the national fibre by giving the language, history, music and tradition of Ireland their natural place in Irish Schools'. The language was made compulsory for both state examinations, the Intermediate Certificate and the Leaving Certificate in 1928 and 1934 respectively.

In Templebraden, the national system commenced in 1855 with a school in Knockane which continued until 1870 when it was 'struck off'. In 1873, the present school was opened in Garrydoolis under the National System. Prior to this, three pay or hedge schools were recorded in Templebraden in 1834.²⁵ Cornelious Hanly, with an address at Garrydoolis, operated a school for 65 males and 30 females teaching reading, writing and arithmetic with small payments from parents.²⁶ Cornelious Mara, Garrydoolis, operated a school for 40 males and 20 females. Mrs Drew, Templebraden, taught spelling, reading and needlework to 5 males and 24 females. The curriculum and books used were at the discretion of the teacher. In contrast with the national system, with its rigid structure and required textbooks, there was a great variation in the nature and character of the hedge schools.²⁷

*My eyelids red and heavy are
With bending o'er the smold'ring peat
I know my Aenid now by heart
My Virgil read in cold and heat.*

Padraic Colum (1882 – 1972)

Colum went on to talk about the teaching of 'Greek verbs and Latin nouns' – a common practice in the old hedge schools which was often continued in the National system where the Latin roots of the words were taught separately from the official Book. Whilst the education system, commenced in 1831, had many faults and limitations, it was one of the earliest national primary education systems being 40 years ahead of the English system and 50 years ahead of France. For some who did not continue through the system 'at least they met the scholars on the way home'. The Books were an undoubted success in Ireland and many other countries. Success in moving up the Book system engendered a sense of achievement and pride.



Slate (9½ x 6½ inches) owned by Patrick Thornton, born 6 April 1933, Kilkenny, Co Louth. In 1846, Slates were sold for 1s 6d per dozen and Slate Pencils cost 1s 7½d per 1000. Slates were still in use in Mrs. Ryan's infant class in Garrydoolis National School in the late 1950s. Madge Ryan, Knockane, was particularly noted for her expertise with the slate and she was used to demonstrate its use.

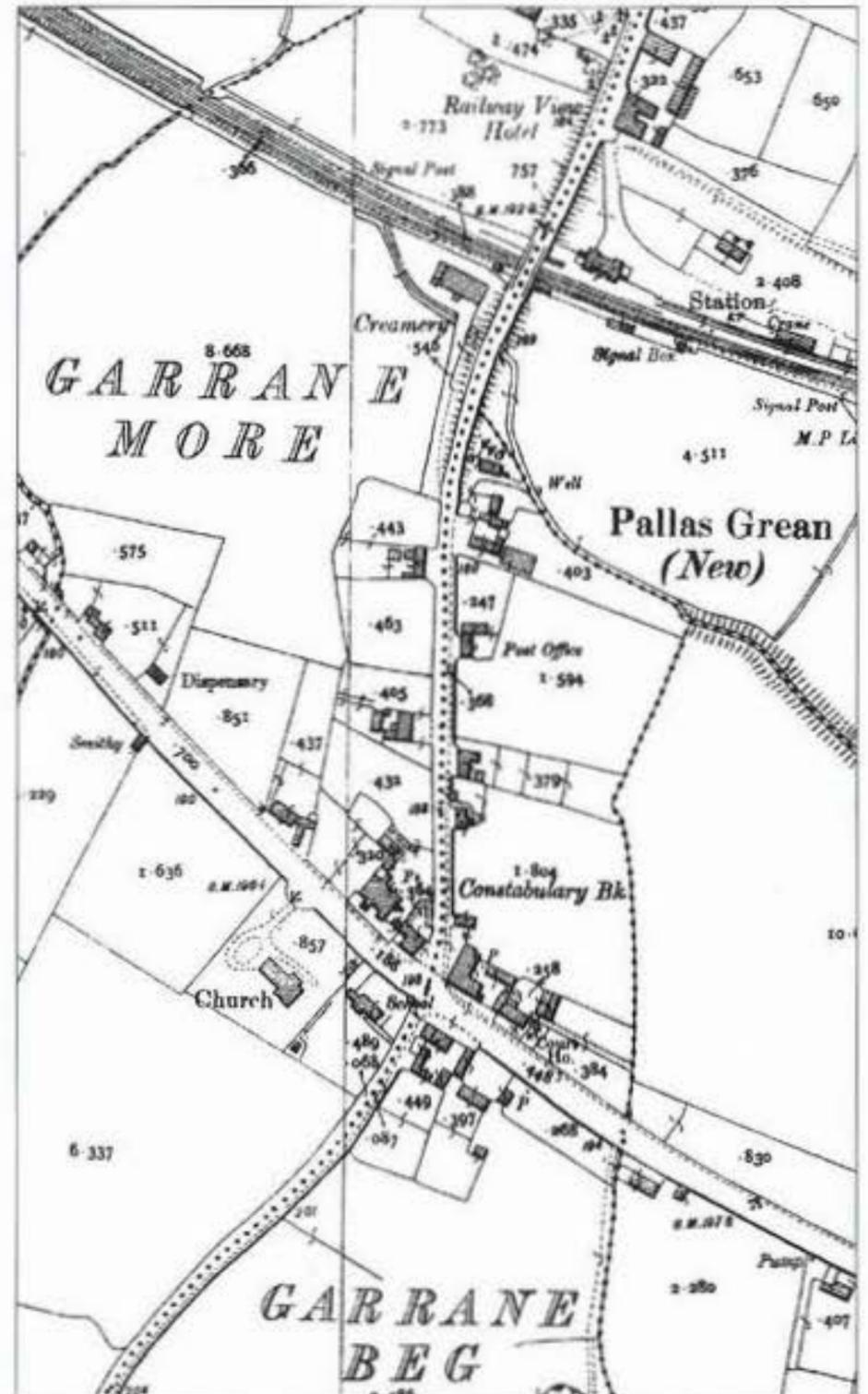
Possession of a copperplate writing hand was much admired and valued with words, phrases and poems staying long in the memory. The Books of Lessons were central to the national schooling system and it can be no surprise then that the question 'What Book are you in?' was one still heard in Ballyneety in the 1960s.

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Map of Pallas Green - 1840



Map of Pallas Green - 1901

Ordnance Survey Maps of New Pallas By Patrick Creed

These historic maps of New Pallas village date from 1840 and 1901. Readers will be aware of the recent 'celtic tiger' building boom that added a lot of new homes to the local landscape. However, many of us may not be fully aware that the recent building boom was not the only one.

We can see immediately from the maps that quite a lot of development was carried out spanning the 60 years from 1840 - 1901. The most notable addition to the village in the late 1840's was the local railway and station house. Other prominent buildings followed on fairly quickly such as the Garda barracks (or RIC barracks as it was then) and the Railway hotel (Mulcair Inn) both built in the 1860/70 era.

It can also be seen that two of our prominent public houses had other uses in 1840. O'Dwyer's bar served as the local Post Office while the Red Deer functioned as the RIC barracks and courthouse. Also worth noting that the former dwelling house of the late historian Michael O'Dwyer was already in existence. It served as a school

house under the management of the board of Erasmus Smith.

You can view the historic ordnance survey maps of Ireland at <http://maps.osi.ie/publicviewer>

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Pictorial Past



This photograph was taken in Dromlara c. 1955
L/R: Willie Ryan (G), Dan McCarthy (Cross), Annie O'Dwyer (H) and her mother Mrs. Cathy O'Dwyer (nee Keating), Dromlara. The young boy in front is Kevin Moore from London - a cousin of the O'Dwyers.



Ryan Malachy Family – Lough Pallasgrean
Back Row L/R: Tom Ryan, Laurence Ryan, Mary Ryan, Jim Ryan, Alice Ryan, Gretta Ryan
Front Row L/R: Denis Ryan, Pat Ryan, Malachy Ryan. Jim Ryan wrote "Where Mulcair River Flows".



Oyster Ballroom
L/R: Helen Breen, Bridie Power, Mary Breen, Mike O'Donoghue and Tommy O'Connell - August 1972.



Above: County Novice Cross Country Winners 1977
Back Row – L/R: Donie Morrissey (Doon), John O'Brien (Doon), Paddy O'Dwyer (Pallas), Liam Long (Pallas), Mike O'Donoghue (Pallas)
Front Row – L/R: Mike Thompson (Doon), John Cummins (Doon), Pat O'Dwyer (Pallas), Eamon Ryan (Pallas).



Left: Soccer Club Photograph from 1985
Denny O'Connor, Ned Fraher, Dick Ryan and others.



Back row: Kathleen Greene, Mary Weatherhead, Breda Deere, Dolores Redpath, Ann O'Connor, Marie Harty, Yvonne Dillon, Breda O'Connor

Middle row: Marie Greene, Nancy McGrath (R.I.P.), Breda O'Dwyer, Breda O'Dwyer, Lou Ryan

Front row: Nora Bourke, Phil Kennedy, Mary Hayes, Kitty Franklin, Mary Dillon & Breda O'Dwyer.



Back row: Helen Gleeson, Kitty Franklin, Mary Dillon, Dolores Redpath, Noreen O'Dwyer, Mary Kennedy, Eileen McCormack, Lou Ryan, Kathleen Molloy, Mary Kennedy, Kay Shanahan, Carmel O'Keeffe.

Front row: Catherine McNamara, Nancy McGrath (R.I.P.), Mary O'Connor, Josie Ryan, Mary Weatherhead, Bidy Lonergan, Jane Greene (R.I.P).



Breda O'Dwyer, Breda Deere, Carmel O'Keeffe, Kitty Franklin, Mary Hayes and Mary Dillon with Nancy McGrath (R.I.P) & Mary Kennedy who received certificates for 30 years in the I.C.A.



Mary O'Connor, Margaret Hennessy (R.I.P.), Jane Reidy (R.I.P.), Jane Greene (R.I.P.), Maureen O'Connor, Pauline Finnan (McMahon), Bidy Lonergan, Kitty McMahon (R.I.P.), Margaret O'Connor (R.I.P.), Josie Ryan, Kathy O'Dwyer, Carmel O'Keeffe, Judy O'Grady, Mary Kennedy, Marie Greene & Nancy McGrath (R.I.P.)



Nora Mai Ryan (R.I.P), Judy O'Grady, Bidy Lonergan, Kathleen Molloy, Jane Greene (R.I.P.), Marie Greene, Jane Reidy (R.I.P.), Josie Ryan.



Back row: Nora Bourke, Kathleen Molloy, Margaret O'Malley, Breda O'Dwyer, Noreen O'Dwyer, Kay O'Dwyer (R.I.P.), Mary Kennedy & Mary Hayes.

Middle row: Lou Ryan, Carmel O'Keeffe, Helen Gleeson, Nancy McGrath (R.I.P.), Mary Dillon, Kitty Franklin.

Front row: Mary O'Connor & Catherine McNamara.



Lou Ryan, Dolores Redpath, Breda O'Dwyer, Kitty Franklin, Carmel O'Keeffe, Helen Gleeson, Breda O'Dwyer, Noreen O'Dwyer, Phil Kennedy, Mary Hayes, Mary Dillon, Marie Greene, Kathleen Greene, Nancy McGrath (R.I.P).

IRISH LAND COMMISSION
 Land Purchase Account
 RECEIVABLE ORDER
 Number 90 4905
 LIMERICK
 No. 2
 4 10 2

Bunavie
 Leconfield
 Mary Moloney

PAID stamps:
 (B) PAID APR 10 1913
 (A) PAID APR 15 1913
 (J) PAID DEC 21 1912
 (M) PAID JUN 18 1911
 (O) PAID JAN 3 1901
 (F) PAID

General Account of
 Near House
 7th June 1912

Block No. Grange of Linnach Rental No. 10

Received from Mrs Mary Moloney
 the sum of £10 12
 being half year's rent
 due to **THE RIGHT HON. CHARLES HENRY BARON LECONFIELD,**
 out of a holding in Bunavie
 ended the twenty-fifth day of March, 1906

Cash £10 12
 Poor Rate @ made
 Income Tax @ 176 176
 Total £12 96

Dated this 1st day of April 1906
W. C. Bell

Year 1911 Steps
 Agreed with P. Daly to quarry stone at in Park
 commenced quarrying stone on 22/11/11

paid P. Daly Nov 23	paid P. - 4 - 8
" " Dec 14	paid P. - 7 -
" " " - 7	paid P. - 13 - 10
" " " - 15	paid P. - 6 - 10
" " " - 22	paid P. - 2 - 2
" " " - 29	paid P. - 2 - 2
1913	
Jan 4 th	paid P. - 6 - 10
" 11	paid P. - 9 - 2
" 18	paid P. - 1 - 2
" 26	paid P. - 3 - 4

Records and Account Books supplied by Pat Kelly

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GENERAL BUILDING ■

ELECTRICAL ■

ROOF POWERWASHING ■

Brackile School Junior Classes - 1958



This is a photograph of the junior classes in Brackile N.S. It was taken in 1958 by Fr. Eddie O'Dwyer who was home on holiday to his native Brackile from the USA.

By Tom Ryan (W)

- 1 Francie Murnane
- 2 Paddy Murnane
- 3 Paddy McCarthy
- 4 Dermot O'Sullivan
- 5 Joan Harding
- 6 Linda Ryan (G)
- 7 Annie Mai Harding
- 8 Mike Harding
- 9 Patrick Harding
- 10 Rita O'Connor
- 11 Majella Ryan (W)
- 12 Marie Ryan (G)
- 13 Willie Dillon
- 14 Lizzie Mulvihil
- 15 Angela Bowles
- 16 P.P. O'Sullivan
- 17 Alice English
- 18 Peggy Gleeson
- 19 Maureen Hayes

- 20 Richard Ryan (R)
- 21 Patrick Ryan (B)
- 22 Margaret Quinlan
- 23 Tadgh Ryan (L)
- 24
- 25 Patti Ryan (L)
- 26 Paddy Barry
- 27
- 28 Noel O'Donoghue
- 29
- 30
- 31 John Quinlivan
- 32 Martin Dillon
- 33 Mike O'Donoghue
- 34 Jack O'Dwyer
- 35 Bernadette Harding
- 36 Mike Ryan (W)
- 37 Helen Ryan (R)
- 38 Tom Ryan (W)
- 39 Shelia McCarthy
- 40
- 41 Sadie McCarthy
- 42
- 43
- 44 Miss Mary Harty N.T.
later Mrs Dwane



Fr. Eddie O'Dwyer, Brackile, c. 1945

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Veterinary Embrocation
For Horses, Cattle, Dogs, etc.

This Embrocation should never be kept in the bottle. It is useful for Rheumatism, Sprains, Swellings, Wound Joints, Cramps, Bone Throes, Strained Ligaments, and Tendons.

"A rub is better than a hit"

It can also be applied to fresh wounds, to keep them moist and prevent the edges from drying.

Emby's Embrocation is available in two sizes at 1/3 and 2/6.

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Cleansing Drench

Given to Cows after calving, if the afterbirth is not expelled. These cows should not be regarded as the best as they are likely to get blood poisoning, from which they quickly succumb, or if they recover, seldom thrive again.

This drench, in the form of a powder, is given in a quart of warm gruel to cows who calving in pasture.

Price 1/3 each (Postage 6d.)

Keep a tin of drench on hand always during the calving season.

To be obtained only from—
M. B. WIDDESS, M.P.S.I.,
Limerick Chemist,
55, Roche's Street & 126, O'Connell Street,
Limerick.

EMBY'S
Condition Powders
FOR HORSES.

This powder will be found beneficial for removing dandruff from the head and other parts. It is especially useful for the face, head, neck, and the parts of the body which are exposed to the sun. It is also beneficial for the legs, and the feet.

It should be given to the horse every second day for a week or two of use, and then once a week, and the second given as above.

Sold in Large Tins at 1/3 and 2/6 each.

Prepared from a well-known and reliable formula as used in the Foreign and is adapted for every year.

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MAGGOT! MAGGOT! LICE!
MANGOT! TICKS!

There is no danger in using this in the mouth of a pig, and no danger in giving it to other animals. They should all be treated by using

EMBY'S
Fly & Maggot Oil

Nothing is so effective for destroying Lice in Cattle as EMBY'S Fly & Maggot Oil. It is used with water and washed into the folds of the skin. It is also useful for removing Lice, chafing of the legs, or heat, and it keeps the sheep, as well as keeping off the Fly in horses.

EMBY'S IS A RELIABLE BRAND.

1/3 and 2/6 per Bottle, each.

M. B. WIDDESS, M.P.S.I.,
Limerick Chemist,
55, Roche's Street & 126, O'Connell Street, LIMERICK.

Old advertisements for Widdess Chemist, Limerick. Supplied by Mary Slattery



Eddie O'Dwyer, Rev Fr. James Keogh C.C., Maureen O'Dwyer (Healy), Thady O'Dwyer (Healy) Taken in front of O'Dwyer's home in New Pallas.



Tom FitzGerald (brother of the late Noreen Hayes), Timmy Ryan (Bob) and Tim Ryan (M) celebrating the County Junior Hurling Championship victory by Pallas in 1988.

Talking to Danny Beary

Kathleen Shanahan

Danny Beary was born in 1950 at the start of a decade of severe economic depression and decline in Ireland. Farming exports were static and as there were no alternative exports Ireland was economically stagnant. In 1957 there were 78,000 people unemployed; state benefits were minimal and ceased after six months. Consequently, there was a high level of emigration and in the years between 1951 and 1961, which was known as the 'decade of the vanishing Irish', 408,000 people emigrated. Many children finished their schooling at primary school level because they could not avail of secondary education due to financial constraints. However, under the leadership of Sean Lemass, Ireland's economy expanded and the prospect of a brighter and more affluent future gradually emerged during the 1960s. Housing schemes were initiated in order to clear the large city tenements; the Industrial Development Authority concentrated on high technology firms and encouraged foreign direct investment. Education was reformed and from 1969 under the direction of Donogh O'Malley all Secondary School education up to Intermediate level was free. School buses which were also free of charge were provided to bring the students from rural areas to their nearest school. It was the beginning of a new and prosperous age in Ireland.

The following memories of Danny Beary provide an insight into the interesting and varied life of an ordinary boy living in rural Ireland during this period of change. His childhood years were not constrained by the economic depression of the country and his memories are in fact the happy recollections of a young lad living in the village of Barna. They are evocative of a less mechanical age when the majority of the population used public transport, 'shanks mare' or bicycles for travel and as Danny remembers 'very few people had cars when I was growing up, for instance around here in Barna there were only two or three people who had cars'. His father got his first car in 1957 or 1958 and it was one of the two cars that were in the village of Barna at that time. Danny's story of his childhood is a portrayal of a vastly different world from the technological, computerised and fast moving age of the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries which had scarcely begun in his childhood years. It is a story of a world of self-sufficiency where families harvested their own vegetables, most of them provided meat for their families by rearing and killing their own pigs and fowl, housewives baked their own bread and the hens they reared provided eggs for the household. It was a world where there was little, if any, processed food and as Danny states 'there was no such thing as tins of corned beef or any sort of tinned food or anything like that then'.

The children had freedom to roam around the countryside to pursue various outdoor activities such as fishing, hurling and football, to socialise and intermingle with their childhood friends and 'we could be gone all day

playing with the other lads in the village and our parents never stopped us'.

As is usual for many a child growing up in rural Ireland the G.A.A. was Danny's chief interest when he was young and it continued to be a large part of his life as he reached adulthood and it continues to be of great importance and enjoyment to him today.

Danny comes from a family with a tradition of military service encompassing three generations. His grandfather, his three granduncles, his father and his brother all served in the armed forces of either Great Britain or Ireland. As Danny describes it 'the army was in our blood'. Following the family custom he enlisted in the Irish Army in 1978 where he served thirty one years as a soldier. During that time he served six months on overseas duty with UNIFIL in the Lebanon. He was promoted to corporal during his tenure in the army and he retired on 12th October 2009.

Danny's story spans over six decades of cultural change and technological advances in Ireland and the country of his childhood no longer exists except in people's memories. Yet the spirit that is in the Irish psyche is still in evidence; while the former repressed culture of Ireland has given way to a multicultural pluralist society, the majority of the people are ready and prepared to accept this phenomenon. As Danny says 'Life is changed, things cannot stay the same always. It has changed from my times and it will change for the youngsters that are here today, it will change for them as well'.

This is Danny's story:

Childhood

My mother, Maggie Brazil was born in 1928, she came from Crumil, Kiltteely and she came to work for Matt Kennedy, in Derk. She met my father Daniel Beary from Barna and married him in that year on 16 October 1946. Her granduncle Tom Brazil was on the Limerick hurling team and played in the First All Ireland final in 1897. I was born in September 1950; I was the second person to be born in this house in Barna. My father was the first person to be born here. My two oldest sisters were born in Derk, where my family was living before we moved to Barna. I am not exactly sure when we moved to this house, but I would say that my parents came down here in 1949 or 1950. There are ten of us in the family, six girls and four boys and I am the eldest of the boys. There was a tradition at the time I was born that the children were always called after members of their families. I was named after my father and grandfather, Jim was called after my mother's father and William was called after my father's uncle Bill. I remember my mother had a brother Michael, who died when he was only twenty months old. I often asked her why she didn't call one of the boys 'Michael'. She felt it would be unlucky because as she said 'my own father had a brother who was called Michael and he also died when he was young'. None of the children knew Michael because

he was dead before we were born. He died in 1947 I'd say. The weather was very bad that year and Dr. Clery couldn't come to the house that night because of the frost and snow. When he got to the house the following morning it was too late, I think Michael died from pneumonia. That is the way life goes. The way it is, you are going to live a long life or you are not. There is only one certainty in life and that is that there is no guarantee whether or not you will be around tomorrow. All my brothers and sisters are still alive, thank God.

We had great freedom when we were young. We were always out and about playing. We would come in from school and get something to eat, then we would leave our schoolbags in the corner and we'd be off out again. I remember that at times, if there was something important going on, we would throw our schoolbag in the door and we were gone without eating. At that time lessons were secondary to our plans. We were always away somewhere, very seldom would we be at home; we would be gone off down to Malloy's bridge fishing, or we'd be up around Derk or somewhere else. We were all very active and we gave hours and hours up at Daly's field, kicking football, or hurling. We might not be playing matches but we would be pucking the ball up and down the field. And although I was never a great man for hunting, I would go up to see the Scarteens if they were in the locality, or I would follow the beagles when they came around. We could be gone all day playing with the other lads in the village and our parents never stopped us from enjoying ourselves. They talk about children being overweight now, but I think that it is because they are not mobile anymore. Now it is all about play stations and computers and it seems to me that children lead a more solitary life now.

People in general were very different long ago. They were always out in the open air; they were never stuck inside in houses. I remember my grandmother when I was a youngster; she was a very strong woman. When she was feeding the pigs she'd go off down the yard with two big buckets of feeding stuff for them. Now, for a man that weight would be nothing, but for a woman it was a big load to carry. We used to kill the pigs for our own food, a neighbour, Mattie O'Dwyer came to kill them. We would kill pigs twice a year sometimes. And often we'd kill two at a time - that was four of them in the year depending on the way things were going. And you see they were our own meat. There were crooks up overhead the fireplace where the range used to be and the meat would be hung off these until they were smoked and the fletches of bacon turned to pure yellow. I often saw my two granduncles eating meat that, if youngsters today saw it they would run away from it. It would tell you the strength of the hooks that, when they stopped killing pigs here and we tried to take down the hooks, we could not do so, we had to cut the hooks and beat back the nails because they would not come out of the wall. They were made of pure steel. The meat would be salted with saltpetre and put in a wooden barrel for six or seven weeks. Then it would be hung up on the steel hooks over where the range was, and it would be cut down as you wanted it.

When we killed the pigs, we would be here with my mother

at twelve o'clock at night, filling puddings. She had a big pot of boiling water and she would put the puddings into the hot water and when the time was up she would take them out with the handle of a brush which she kept especially for this job. Johnny Byrane, our next door neighbour, would not go to bed that night until he got one of the puddings. No matter what hour of the night or morning it was he would wait up for his ring of black pudding. She would make small puddings for all the youngsters around here on the road.

We kept hens, geese and ducks but my brother drowned all the ducklings when he was young. There was a big barrel of rainwater at the side of the house and he put the ducklings into the barrel thinking they could swim. But they were too young to swim and they all drowned but one. He was always into mischief. My grandmother was sitting down one day and her black cat came into in the kitchen. My brother emptied a bag of flour over the cat so the cat came into the kitchen black but she ran out white.

My mother and my father's mother had very strong hands. You see, they both worked for farmers at a time when the work was hard and everything was done by hand. There were no tractors, just horses and ploughs or carts. She used to milk cows, and she gave a hand with the horses, she tilled a garden and did other outside work as well, such as feeding calves. She used to till the garden here at home with my help.

My mother had a massive energy. She was a great baker, I often saw her making apple and rhubarb tarts on the open fire in a bastable and when they were cooked she would put the bastable out in the yard and all us children would be waiting with spoons and we would eat all the tart and juice, until everything was gone. She could put her hands to anything, and was very good at papering and decorating, knitting and sewing and all that. She used to make all our jumpers and socks when we were young; one time she knitted a complete suit for Tom, my brother, it was a jumper and pants.

Besides rearing her children she would often do pieces of work for neighbours who used to ask her to do a bit of painting and papering. She was lucky that she had my grandmother living here to mind us; when we came home from school our grandmother would have the dinner on the table for all of us if our mother was out working. Neighbours used to call my mother when somebody died and she would help lay out the corpse. The people I remember her laying out were Billy Sweeney who was the local postman here and Carmel O' Keeffe's mother. I was away in Cork for a good while and she could have been helping out at several other funerals. I can't be sure but I believe the undertaker or the relatives would ask her to help in the laying out of a corpse and by all accounts she was very good at it. The women of that generation were marvellous; they saw hard times and tough times but they came through them.

I remember where the back kitchen is now and all down the back, that area was all ours and the plot next to us was owned by McInerneys. But we swopped the front half of our plot for the back half of theirs so that they could build a house. And I remember Bill Cuscoir, which I think was

the Irish for Cosgrove, tilling all of our plot right down there at the back, all the way down to the road, every bit of it, and there would be spuds and cabbage and carrots and turnips there every year, and that is how people were so healthy. What they were eating they were growing themselves, and they knew what they ate and where it came from. There was no such thing as tins of corned beef or any sort of tinned food or anything like that then.

Now I remember when Dermot Byrane's family had the creamery in Garrison. During the winter I used to go up there every day for milk for the house. We used to have a goat here and when the goat went dry in the winter I used to go for the milk before I went to school. My job was to feed the goat and milk her, not every morning but maybe three mornings in the week and as a concession I would not have to go to school until ten o'clock on those days. We had just the one goat and she had a kid every year. Goat's milk was supposed to be very good for you so maybe that is another reason why we were so healthy.

As I said my father was the first to be born in this house. He went to the national school here in Barna which was called Derk School then. He might have spent a year or two in the new school here when it was first built. After leaving the national school he went into the secondary school in Tipperary for another few years. Because he was the son of a British Army soldier, the British Government paid for all his education. He trained as a mechanic but, although he was fully qualified, he never worked at his trade because he was more into driving. He got a job driving for James McMahon's sawmills in Limerick before he enlisted in the army from 1940 to 1946. During the emergency anyone who had jobs when they joined up were promised that their jobs would be kept for them when they came out. So his job was there for him when he came out of the army. He left there in, I think, 1962 and he joined the County Council. He worked for the County Council from 1962 to 1975.

Very few people had cars when I was growing up, for instance around here in Barna there were only two or three who had cars. My father got his first car in 1957 or 1958, and we used to travel to all matches in it. I remember that Billy McSweeney had a car too and they were the only two people that I can think of, who had cars. Then Johnny Byrane got a car, he got a van because he was doing building work and all that. And some time after that everyone started to get cars.

G.A.A.

I remember the first match I went to; I think it was about 1958. I am not sure whether it was an East hurling final, or semi-final. Pallas and Boher were the two teams, but I have not a lot of memories on it because I was too young. My first memory of attending an - inter county match was in 1961 and it was between Limerick and Waterford. My father went to a lot of matches, I was always asking to go with him but at the time I was growing up I was very small and he was a bit anxious about taking a small fellow into a big crowd. But eventually I persuaded him to take me, and we went to a lot of matches after that. Again, later on, when I was working in various jobs I couldn't get off to go

to matches, and I missed out for a few years. I started going again in 1971 because as the saying goes, I had time to myself. I was working at day work, and my father started going with me. We had great old days out together and we'd go in for a pint on the way home. The usual thing was to go into the pub and have post mortems on the game which had been played, and it would be trashed out and argued about, every puck of the ball would be analysed. But this was all part of the game and it added greatly to the enjoyment of the day.

Because my father had a car it made it easy for us to go off to the Gaelic grounds and up to Bruff, Kilmallock and all those other places where the matches were held. I remember, when I was very young going off to Kilmallock with Johnny Byrane, our next door neighbour; Cappamore were playing. I remember going to another match, I think it was between Cappamore and Claughan because those teams used to meet fairly regularly around 1957 or 1958. I remember the green and gold jerseys; Cappamore were the only team around here with the green and gold outside of Knockane and Knockane had no hurling team. They were very enjoyable times going away to matches, going off to places like Cork which at that time was the very same as going to Mars, the journey was so long. Now you can go to Cork in an hour but that time it would take at least two hours. Cars weren't as fast that time and the roads weren't as good but on the other hand because very few people had cars there was very little traffic.

I used to go down training to Pallas every night during the summer, there was a couple years when I was in C.I. E. when I couldn't hurl because of the shift work duty I was on. I played minor hurling with Pallas in 1969, but I didn't play again until 1973 because it wasn't easy to train or play when I was working odd hours. I started hurling again in 1973 and I hurled away then until 1986; that was my last year with Pallas. It was a great time in my life; it was lovely to go away to matches on Sundays. There were great crowds following the game at that time, I remember going down to Cahirconlish to see Pallas and Kiltelly playing and travelling to see other teams playing elsewhere and the grounds would be full of people. There would be a gate of at least two or three thousand, nowadays there wouldn't be two or three hundred at a match, and sometimes there wouldn't be even a hundred. I remember a time when we were going to Cahirconlish, there would be so many people at the match that we'd have to park in the village and walk out to the field. It is hard to believe that the support has gone down so badly. It seems that the hurling structure in Limerick has changed; at that time you had the East division, and if you won your division you went forward, but now it is all in groups and the different championships have suffered. It is unfortunate because the East Championship was a great championship. You were going to matches and you were watching the cream of the east. I remember the Clohessys and Johnny and Willie Dooley and all the good hurlers in all the other teams. But unfortunately that is all gone. That time you would know weeks ahead what teams would be playing, nowadays you would not know when there is an east hurling match on. I like watching rugby but I wouldn't dream of going to a

rugby match. I got tickets in Cork one day for a rugby match in Thomond Park but I wouldn't even go. I couldn't be bothered; I just haven't the interest in going. If there was a rugby match in Thomond Park or a hurling match above in Ballycastle I would be going to the hurling match however faraway it was. That is the way I am orientated. We travel all over the country to matches, to Mullingar, Newry, Sligo, Roscommon, Galway, Dublin, Tullamore, you name it we have been there. We just decide we are going to a match and that's it, we are gone.

Those are the good old times and I always enjoyed life anyway. Life is changed; things cannot stay the same always. It has changed from my times and it will change for the youngsters that are here today, it will change for them as well.

I collect a lot of stuff about the G.A.A. now and some people have said that I am mad to be collecting it but that is a hobby I have. I have a big collection of memorabilia and I have been collecting that since I was about nine years old. Unfortunately Ireland was in a bad way economically in the 60's and in 1966, when I was 16 years old I emigrated to England. I spent twelve months or thereabouts over there, living in London and on Stoke on Trent but I didn't like it, I couldn't settle down. I returned home for Christmas 1967 and I didn't go back. Of course a lot of the stuff I had collected was gone by the time I returned home. So, in 1968 or 1969 I started collecting again and I have been collecting since.

Army Life

I enlisted as a soldier in the Irish Army in Limerick on Friday 13th October 1978. Friday the 13th is supposed to be an unlucky day but, for me it was the luckiest day I ever had. After joining up on the 13th I started my army career on 16th October (my parents wedding anniversary). I went to Clonmel on that day to join the 1st battalion and when I finished my recruitment training early in 1979 I started in Cork and I stayed there until the 13th October, 2009 when I retired. I spent thirty great years in Cork and I made a lot of friends there.

I would say I was a bit more mature than the usual recruits when I enlisted. I was twenty eight years old, and there is a big difference between twenty eight and eighteen, which is the age when most soldiers join up. All the young fellows who were with us found army life hard to handle but I handled it well enough and as I said before because I was older I did not find army life particularly hard. And again it was in the blood. I liked the life, it could be very regimented at times, but army life has to be strict because it has to test whether you are fit to cope with the many nerve-racking circumstances you could meet. It tests you for your ability to obey orders without question, to remain calm in traumatic conditions and for your skill in handling guns in peaceful and combat situations. When you are in the army you have to have discipline or otherwise you would not be able to keep it together. Army life is what you make of it and to succeed you have to adapt yourself to it. You can make it a good life or you can make it a bad life, it is up to yourself. I think that it would be a great experience and training for any young fellow to go into the army. I

must say I had a good time myself, everyday was different and although there were ups and downs you had to be prepared to take that. As with life you have to take everyday as it comes.

Once I had my recruitment training over I moved to the southern Command at Cork Barracks and I made a couple of great friends there. One of them was a Tipp man and the other was a Cork man, they encouraged me to do a N.C.O.'s course and they looked after me while I was doing it. I am to be very grateful to those people because they were great friends and a great help to me during my entire career. I got a job in the army command service, it is called barrack service, and I had to keep track of all the furniture, all the cooking utensils, all the gear and equipment of the whole area especially of our own company, and everything had to be recorded. I was in the command depot for seven and half years, from 1979 to 1986. I then moved to the fourth battalion and I spent from November 1986 to October 2009 in this position, and for the remaining years of my army career I was the assistant manager of the private mess. I enjoyed that job too because you would meet all the different people from different areas. I had to be there to keep an eye on things, to see that everything was going ok and that there were no problems.

It was a happy time for me; I always lived in the barracks. The living quarters were mostly for single men, the married quarters that had been there were phased out and in my time there were very few of them left and eventually they were knocked down completely. There was plenty to occupy me on my time off; there was pool, darts and other indoor sports and television. But I was never much into indoor sports; hurling and football were always my main interest.

I remember that when I joined the army I met a man from the Nenagh direction who told me to go home whenever I possibly could and he told me that when I was not on duty at the barracks over the weekend to go away home on a Friday. 'The day will come when you have to go back home,' he said, 'if you lose contact' he said 'you have no contact'. So I used always come home, the one time I could not go was when I was on duty, when I was overseas or when I was doing border duty

I was on border duty during the troubles in Northern Ireland; I could be on duty for monthly or weekly stints of duty. It was mostly for a week's duration at a time. The patrol duty consisted of patrolling the area that was assigned to our battalion and keeping a watching brief for any activity that could be classed as suspect. We could be sent to any area on the border, Monahan, Dundalk and any of the other border towns. Our platoon was based mostly on the Monahan and Cavan borders. I always wanted to go to Donegal on the patrol but our company were never assigned to Donegal. We were billeted in the barracks in Monaghan and Cavan, but in Donegal there were only army huts and it was similar to the Knockalisheen camp in Limerick. There was a certain amount of danger attached to this duty but we learned to live with it.

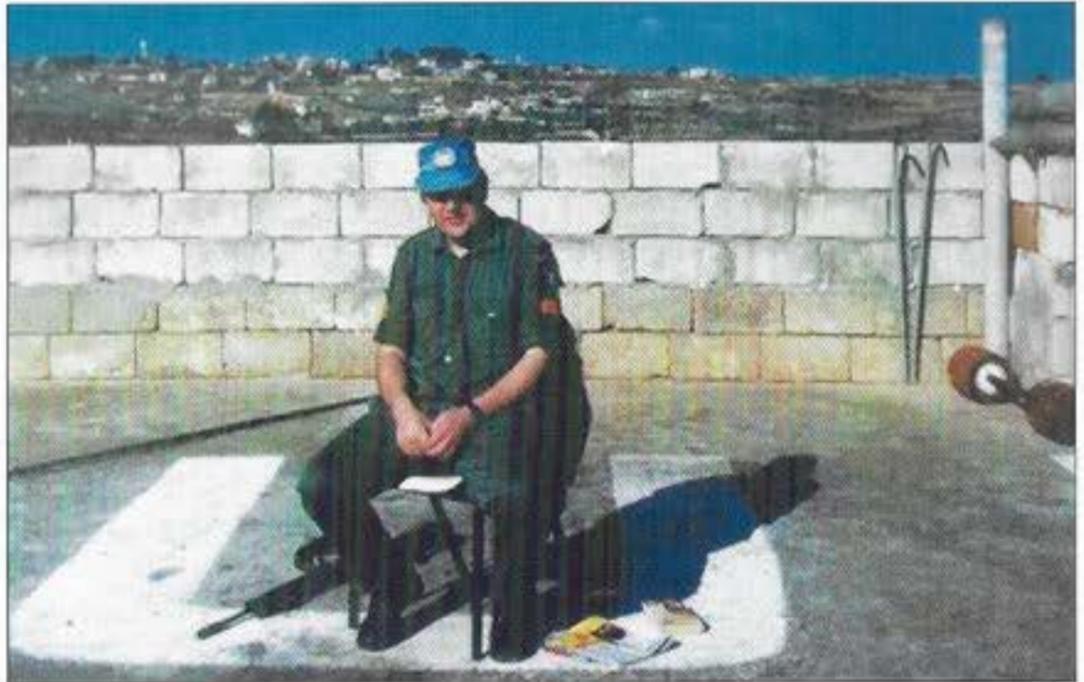
The one thing I wanted to do when I joined the army and had my training done was to go on a tour of duty overseas. I served in the Lebanon for six months from November

or working in the barracks there was always a possibility of being ambushed, attacked or blown up by landmines. The country itself was very different to Ireland, once you came to the end of February the weather got warmer and it got hotter from then on. The land was poor agriculturally and the farmers there did a lot of tilling and growing fruit and vegetables and so on. Maybe we were in the quietest area but the people we met, in the time we were there, were very friendly and looked after us, they never hassled us nor caused us any trouble, and we were accepted as being in their country as a protection for them.

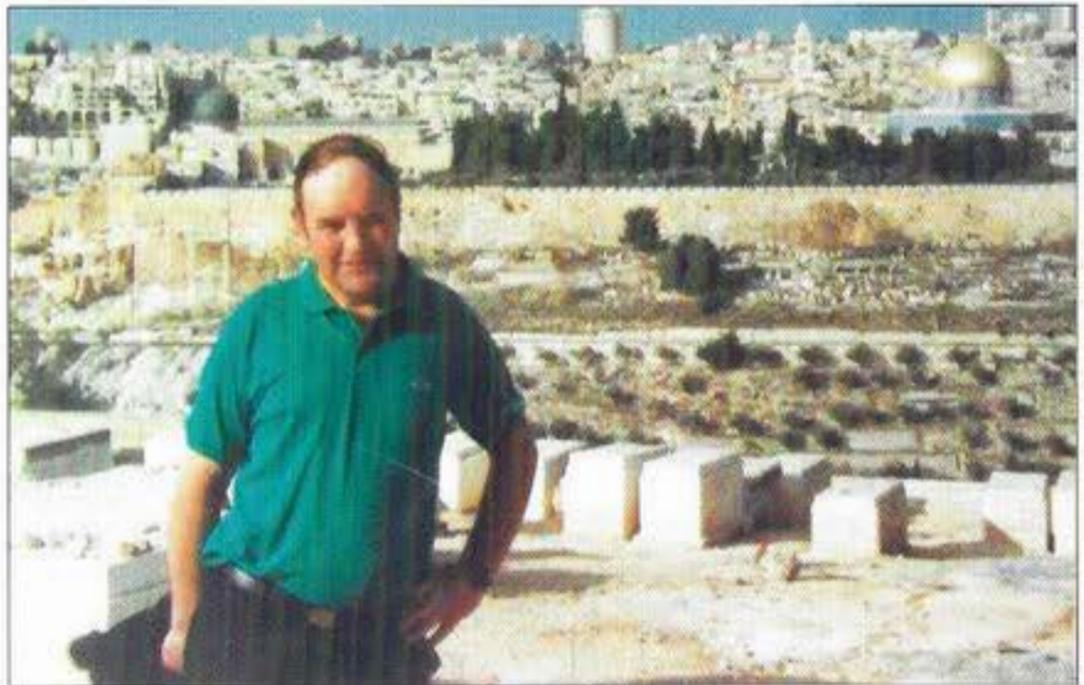
There was one failing in the army; it was that when you retired you were forgotten about. Times have changed now and it is no harm, it was tough when you left before because you had no contact. Nowadays it has changed, I was back in Cork last week, and the army has a place where they are starting an organisation for the retired army personnel. There will be a meeting every month and it is for anyone who wants to attend. It is marvellous now because if there is anything going on in Cork they will always contact me and all my ex army friends, and invite us back to whatever event is happening.

I was very happy in the army, every day was different, I could have good days and bad days, and I would have days when I would think that I was going nowhere and days then when everything went the finest. I met great friends, not just in the army but outside of the army as well. I met some fine people from other barracks especially when I was overseas, but unfortunately you'd be with them for six months and then you might never meet them again. It takes a bit of time to adjust to army life, but all the fellows that you would have under you and that you would be working with, they would all help out and they would never let you down. It is a case of when it comes to it, you would not let them down either, and you treat them the same way as they treat you. That is life, both in the army and outside of it.

This is a small glimpse into the varied and interesting life of Danny Beary. Life in the army provided him with many diverse and unsafe experiences, especially during his time in the Lebanon and on border patrol in Ireland during the troubles. He is a G.A.A. man first and last, playing the game since boyhood, attending every match he could and he is now collecting many artefacts and memorabilia of the association. A quiet unassuming man he is the epitome of all that is good in an Irish person. To put it in a nutshell he is a true Gael. It was a wonderful experience and a pleasure to talk to him about his life and I want to thank him for this opportunity.



Danny on duty in the Lebanon



Danny in the Lebanon



Portrait of Mick Mackey in Danny's Museum.



Danny's father and mother.

My Pilgrimage to Medjugorje

L/R: Patricia Ryan, Gabrielle Bowman, Tom Heffernan, Mary Dillon, Fr. Pat Burns, Judy O'Grady, Pauline Quinn, Breda O'Dwyer, Noreen O'Dwyer and Kitty Franklin.



Medjugorje is a beautiful and very peaceful town in the mountains of Bosnia and Herzegovina. It was just a little hamlet until it became famous for the Apparitions of Our Lady in 1981.

I made my first pilgrimage to Medjugorje in July of 2013. It was a wonderful experience. I travelled with my friends from our local prayer group which has been going strong for the past six years. We returned in 2014 and it seemed like the natural thing to do again this year, so we organised our pilgrimage for the later time of September when the temperatures are a little bit cooler.

My friend Breda and I decided to contact Marian Pilgrimages to get all the information available on organising our own pilgrimage. We advertised and kept our fingers crossed and hoped we would get some interest, we were thrilled with the response. We got eight brave people who were prepared to put their trust in us! We were also delighted when Fr Burns offered to join us as our spiritual director.

The day of our trip finally dawned. On a lovely morning in September we left for the airport where we met with the other pilgrims all on our way to meet Our Lady!

We arrived in Dubrovnik at 7.30pm and I could feel the very pleasant heat of the evening and looked forward to a wonderful week in Medjugorje! There were several coaches waiting to take us on the three hour journey to our destination. Each coach had its own tour guide. These wonderful girls are deeply inspired by the presence of Our Lady in their country. As it was late when we arrived in Dubrovnik, the journey to Medjugorje was done in the dark, but we looked forward to seeing the beautiful sights of the amazing Adriatic coastline on our return journey.

Our first morning in Medjugorje started with the English mass and then on to the adjoining hall where we were introduced to our guides and to the other priests who had travelled with their parishioners from all parts of Ireland.

Medjugorje can be as busy or as still as you want it to be. The most amazing aspect of this beautiful place is the tangible peace found there which is not to be found anywhere else in the world.

There are three Apparition sites in Medjugorje. The Blue Cross, Apparition Hill and Cross Mountain or locally called Krizevac. These sites may be reached by walking through the fields on paths of red earth which are well trodden by the millions of pilgrims passing through since 1981. These paths lead to the little village of Bijakovici where the climb starts to the various Apparition sites.

Breakfast starts at 6am for those who brave the mountain. Walks start at 6.30am and back for mass at 10am. This may sound busy but let me assure you that it is exhilarating while at the same time also very peaceful! For those who prefer to stay in the grounds of St. James's Church the guides organise other events.

What is most striking in Medjugorje is the outdoor Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. This takes place each Wednesday and Saturday from 10-11pm in the stillness of the heat of the night. It is attended by the thousands of pilgrims both young and old from every corner of the world. It is truly a sight to behold.

We took time out to visit Cenacolo a refuge centre for recovering addicts. Here we listened to some amazing testimonies from several young men who had suffered gravely from all kinds of addiction. We also took a short drive to the Franciscan Monastery of St. Anthony of Padua in Humac just a few miles from Medjugorje where we attended Mass and were blessed with the relic of the saint.

We were also blessed with the wonderful group of people that travelled with us. We mixed prayer with fun and had an amazing pilgrimage. I think we all brought home a little piece of Medjugorje in our hearts. It is truly a place where Heaven meets earth and I am already looking forward to my pilgrimage next year!

YOUTH CONFERENCE ALL HALLOWS COLLEGE, DUBLIN

REPORT FROM PADRAIG RYAN, COLMAN O'DRISCOLL, SEAN LOOBY AND JOHN O'DRISCOLL

THREE LOCAL YOUTHS FROM TEMPLEBRADEN SEAN LOOBY, PADRAIG RYAN AND OLIVER, COLMAN AND JOHN O'DRISCOLL ATTENDED THE NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE HELD IN AUGUST IN ALL HALLOWS COLLEGE, DUBLIN.

On arriving in Dublin on Sat 29th August, we took the Luas to Abbey St and walked the 2 miles to All Hallows College in Dromcondra. On arrival, we checked into our rooms and then made our way to the Hall for Opening prayers. The theme for the Conference was "Mary went in Haste" and many of the talks were based around this theme. On the Sat. night, we had a social with live music and entertainment. Meals were provided for us on both days, which were lovely. Sunday morning began with breakfast and Opening prayers followed by a talk from Archbishop Eamon Martin on the role of Youth in the continuation of the Catholic Church. This was very interesting, as he felt very positive about the future of the Church. His talk was based on the Challenges and Opportunities for young people in the Church today. His basic message was to try to spread the faith on a one to one basis and spread it with love and people will then respond to that. He told us that there a 'hunger to understand our faith' and that the answer to that must begin on the ground by groups of people such as the Legion of Mary. We listened to talks from various speakers who had come back to God after many years in the wilderness. Now that they

had found God, again in their lives they were much happier and fulfilled. Over the course of the weekend, we also met many other young people from around the country committed to their faith. Many of these young people were fellow members of the Legion of Mary. Some gave testimonies highlighting the work they carry out such as prison visitation, visitation of the elderly, work with those on the margins of society etc. We were inspired by these testimonies and highly impressed by the remarkable work the Legion of Mary quietly undertakes around the country. On the Saturday night, the Sisters of the Franciscan Renewal from Drogheda played guitar and sang as adoration

took place in the college chapel. There was a real sense of a prayerfulness and tranquillity amongst the group during this hour.

We found the workshops interesting as we could participate and give our opinions on the different topics e.g. sharing your faith, computer use and prayer life, what is a soul and why should we bother saving one? Mass was celebrated on the Sunday by the Papal Nuncio to Ireland, Archbishop Charles Brown. In his homily, the Archbishop encouraged us to prioritise prayer and study of the Catechism to be able to give the light of Christ to a world in urgent need of God. After the Mass, the Papal Nuncio spoke to us about our work in the Legion and what we were studying in college. We also had a picture taken with him, which appeared in the 'Irish Catholic'

Fr. John Harris OP concluded the conference with a call to action to us young people to bring Christ to those around us and help write the future of the Irish Church. Overall, the weekend was highly enjoyable and inspiring for us as young people to meet others committed to continuing the work started by Frank Duff and Edel Quinn.

Overall, there was a lovely relaxed atmosphere and we are looking forward to going again next year. We would especially like to thank the Legion of Mary for sponsoring us and would encourage other young people to try it next year, as it is open to all young people between the ages of 18 - 30.



Front row: L/R: Sean Looby, John O'Driscoll, Papal Nuncio Archbishop Charles Brown
Back row: Oliver O'Driscoll, Padraig Ryan and Colman O'Driscoll

Active Residents in St. Anthony's Nursing Home

Another year has passed in St. Anthony's and what a great year it has been, having expanded to our full capacity of 60 residents.

There is a full-time activities co-ordinator employed at the nursing home, working Monday to Friday and ensuring that all of our residents are engaged in different types of activities, on a daily basis, and depending on their interests and abilities. There is also a part-time activities co-ordinator on Mondays and Fridays, specialising in Arts and Crafts. A wheelchair friendly mini-van recently purchased has proven to be a great asset to St. Anthony's. It is currently being used to take residents to day care centres, shopping in Limerick, to medical appointments and also to any other outings and day trips e.g. the Cappamore Show at which a number of residents attend annually.

The activities in the nursing home vary from day to day and season to season. During the summer months, we avail of the fresh air as much as possible. Light therapeutic activities such as jigsaws, knitting, listening to music and also just simply chatting with visitors and other residents are enjoyed on our patio at the front of the building. Our four little hens are visited regularly by the residents, who also love to check how our vegetable patch is coming along, if the hens are fed and watered and if the eggs are collected. Our on-site mini golf is in great demand when the weather is favourable. It is amazing to see some of the residents who had never picked up a golf club, enjoy the game so much and improve each time they play.

All the racing festivals create great interest, in particular Cheltenham and the Galway Races in August, when we brought ladies day at the races to St. Anthony's, with everyone getting a fancy hat to wear and drawing their own horse, and cheering them on. An enjoyable evening was had by all.

As the summer drew to a close, more emphasis was focused on indoor activities for the enjoyment of the residents. Music is a favourite for the majority of residents and in the last few months we have had a number of groups performing for us. These included a travelling professional drama group, The Butterfly Company, and Terri Mai, all who specialise in performing songs and dances in Nursing homes. Students from Nicker National School and Doon Secondary school Transition Year also came to entertain the Residents. Our local radio stations, 'East Limerick Radio' and Tipperary Mid West Radio are regular visitors to our home. East Limerick Radio played all of the old favourite songs to round up a fantastic 'Positive Ageing Week' at the start of October. Both stations also aired live programmes from St. Anthony's during the year when many of the residents were interviewed. The Ramblers' continue to be regular visitors of ours to perform their music and song; the residents continue to look forward to their visits.



Our group activities here in St. Anthony's include art and craft, knitting and crochet, newspaper discussion group, potting plants and flowers, baking demonstrations (with help from the residents), bingo and regular seated exercise groups.

As well as the exercise groups, a physiotherapist visits the nursing home weekly and is doing fantastic work with everyone who is referred to him. A hairdresser and a chiropodist also attend regularly for the wellbeing of our residents.

A strong emphasis is being put on positive mental health by the activities co-ordinator and all the staff. We like to ensure that residents get the one-to-one attention they need by being able to chat, reminisce on their past and be pampered by having their nails manicured or hair styled in our new hair salon. Residents are encouraged to take part in as many activities as possible. Being able to request what activities they like to do is very important, even if it is as simple as going for a walk around the building or the grounds.

Religious activities such as weekly Mass, prayer groups, fortnightly visits from the Legion of Mary and also our annual Mass for our dearly departed residents continue to hold importance in St. Anthony's. All religious denominations are catered for.

Our annual Halloween Fancy Dress Party was held on Saturday the 31st with treats for all of the residents children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and even great-great grandchildren who joined us to celebrate halloween with their loved ones. It was a great success and many of the staff and residents dressed up to add to the atmosphere.

Our next big event is our residents Christmas party. It is attended annually by all families and is always a great event. Our thanks to Brian, Michael and Noreen who have never failed to make Christmas a joyous occasion over the years.

The activities co-ordinator aims to continue to add variety

to the programme and further strengthen the quality of this full-time service in the nursing home.

All the staff in St. Anthony's, under the management and guidance of Sean and Terry strive to make St. Anthony's a caring and positive environment for both residents and their families.

A special word of thanks to everyone who calls to visit/entertain our residents. Visitors are always welcome to St. Anthony's.

Best Wishes to all for Christmas and 2016.

St. Anthony's Nursing Home



Kilduff Castle, Pallasgreen, Co. Limerick

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A Profile of Laura Heelan - Mayor of Pallasgreen 2015-2016

Brian Shanahan

On 30th August last, the whole of Pallasgreen appeared to be crammed into the Red Deer bar in the village, awaiting breathlessly for the news of who was going to be elected Mayor of Pallasgreen this year. Most nervous of all were the three candidates who had spent the previous two months working hard to raise money for their chosen local organisations, Eimear Laffan running for Pallasgreen Sarsfields LGFA, Bernie O'Sullivan for the Combined Residents Association, and Laura Heelan for Pallasgreen GAA. Shortly after 10p.m. John Hickie the independent adjudicator arrived with the results of the election, and announcing them to the assembled crowd, he deemed that Laura Heelan, after collecting in excess of €17,000 was deemed elected Mayor of Pallasgreen.

Born in 1992 to Billy and Geraldine Heelan (nee Gammell), Laura is a Pallasgreen woman through and through. Her involvement with the GAA club started as a young age, playing with the club at juvenile level, and being strongly involved with the Sarsfield's Ladies Football club from its founding until this year. Laura attended the local national school in Nicker with her friends and neighbours, before going to secondary school in Cappamore. After finishing her Leaving Certificate Laura enrolled in Business and Event Management in LIT, where she has picked up a number of skills which have stood her well over the last few years.

It was during a work placement from LIT at Castle Oliver, and later working in Whelan's Chasers Bar and Restaurant in Pallasgreen that Laura discovered her passion for fundraising and event management. Being involved with wedding and other major events gave her a feeling for organising entertainments and managing all the complications and occasional mishaps that come with large and complex events. In 2011, she took her first steps in fundraising helping to organise a Walk for Cancer locally which raised €2,600 in order to help fund research into

understanding and finding a cure for cancer. Her involvement with Sarsfields Ladies also saw her organise fundraising events locally which generated a much needed €1,500 for the fledgling club.

But it was with Pallasgreen GAA club that Laura's fundraising abilities blossomed. Two years ago she was approached by her uncle John Gammell, a long time member and then vice-chairman of the club and was persuaded to run for Mayor of Pallasgreen against Colin Ryan Malachy and Aoife Fanning, all three candidates fundraising for Pallasgreen GAA. Over the course of six weeks Laura managed to raise €6,640 for the club and was only pipped at the post by Colin Malachy who raised €7,050. While there was no mayoral race in 2014, Laura was again persuaded by her uncle, now chairman of the club to run again in 2015.

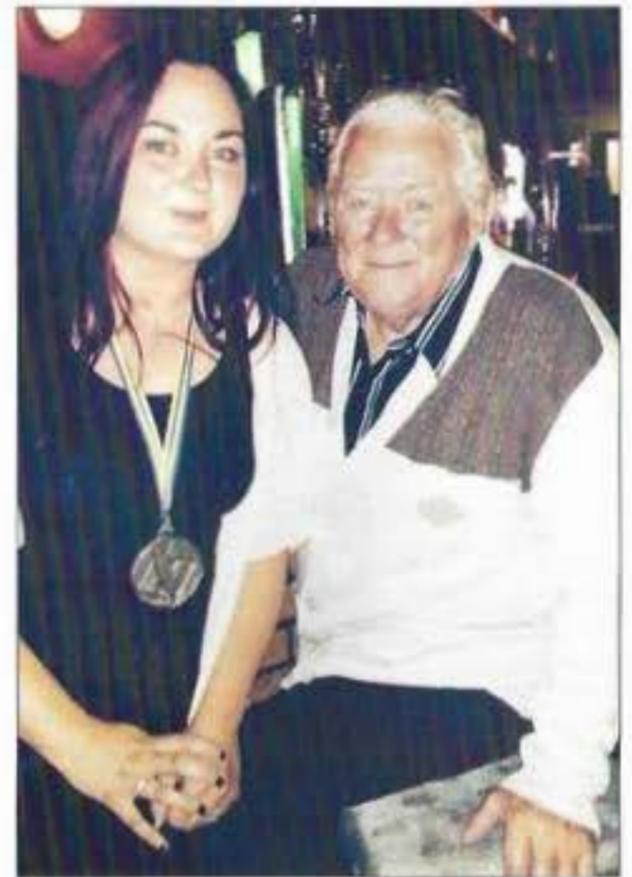
Given a two month run in Laura was able to arrange a number of events both big and small, from running a kids camp on Sunday afternoons over the summer and film nights in the community hall which were big hits with the children of the parish, to an elaborate mock wedding, in which a number of relatives and friends took part as the celebrant, the couple and their families and guests. Laura was also able to organise a number of quizzes, pool and darts tournaments in the local pubs and ran a very enjoyable and well supported soccer tournament in the village to raise funds for the club and her Mayoral campaign. Laura was also able to use her powers of persuasion to get local businesses involved with the fundraising efforts, receiving both raffle prizes and sponsorship through the course of her campaign.

The tension built up over the months, but on the night of the 30th August, when Laura was announced as mayor after having raised the unbelievable amount of €17,550 through her hard work and dedication, it all paid off magnificently. The fruits of her labour are becoming increasingly evident

over the last few months, with the money raised going a long way towards the development of an all weather training pitch on the GAA club field in the village, which will allow all teams both juvenile and adults to train throughout the year and also give an opportunity to local groups to exercise and play sports through the winter months.

Talking to Laura during these months and helping her out, it was clear that she was putting her heart and soul into the work, and at times she was so busy it was almost like she was in ten places or more at once. But as Laura will freely admit, it was only with the help of her family, especially her mother Geraldine, her cousin Gerry and her aunt Teresa and the encouragement and prodding her uncle John gave her earlier on in the year to run again, that she put herself forward for Mayor.

Congratulations to our new Mayor Laura Heelan, and a big thanks goes to her from all who are involved with Pallasgreen GAA club, players, trainers, officials and supporters alike. We wish her well in her year as First Lady, and the best of luck for her future career, where she will be an undoubted asset wherever she goes.



Mayoress Laura Heelan with her grandfather Bill Gammell

Bees and Beekeeping

Ciaran Shanahan

Bees are one of the major types of pollinator and they play an important role in the pollination of flowering plants. About one third of the human food supply depends on such pollination. Honey bees are the most commonly used as they are easily managed and can pollinate a wide variety of crops. When a bee collects nectar from a flower, pollen from its anther sticks to her body. The pollen will rub off onto the next plant the bee visits, thus causing pollination. Pollination can be accomplished through artificial means also. One method is to use a fine brush to collect pollen from the male part of the plant which is then deposited on the female part to complete the process.

The Honey Bee is far older than Mankind and has evolved a symbiotic relationship with Nature. Unfortunately, man has failed to do this which does not bode well for our future! The honey bee is a vital part of the cycle of life and its disappearance would be disastrous for worldwide food production. Many of the bee diseases are enhanced by our disruption of their natural life cycle, as in their use for commercial pollination. In times past beekeepers could make a living from beekeeping but this is becoming increasingly difficult due to the factors mentioned in the following interview with a local beekeeper. Given the nature and scope of the problems facing the bee population of the world and their environmental implications it is imperative that Governments worldwide increase funding and research into all possible methods of combating this impending catastrophe.

Transcript of an Interview conducted with an East Limerick Beekeeper.

It is Friday 26/02/2010 and I am conducting an interview with a local beekeeper of longstanding.

Interviewer: Can you tell me how long you have been keeping bees and how many hives you now have?

Beekeeper: Well Ciaran, I started beekeeping in 1950, that was the first swarm of bees that I had and I am beekeeping since then. I was in it in a bigger way some years ago, but now I have retained it only as a hobby and I have hopefully about twenty hives at the moment. I won't know for sure what my winter losses are until next April, and then I'll know exactly how many stocks of bees I have.

Interviewer: How suitable is this part of East Limerick for beekeeping and what kind of honey yield per hive would be usual here?

Beekeeper: I remember it being said years ago, that if you draw a line from Cork to Drogheda or Dundalk and if you really wanted good honey production you'd live east of that line. To a certain extent, it is true that the better arable land would be on the east side of that line, and generally speaking, East Limerick would be regarded as

marginal. However, I happen to know from Geologists who visit here, that the most volcanic area in the whole of the British Isles and Ireland is between Pallasgreen and Caherconlish. They say it is roughly like a rugby ball about eleven miles by seven. The explorations that are going on at the moment with the Canadian mining company are all based in that area and they are finding Zinc and Lead. It is always the rock formation that determines the flora on the surface.

So, living in that area and over a number of years producing honey, I have found it quite interesting how the honey yield can vary even in a half mile of the road. What will be produced in one area can be completely different in the space of a half a mile. The yield and variety of honey can vary greatly in areas within a half mile of each other. It varies so greatly that you'd never suspect it. So this makes this area very interesting and I remember reading that one of the earliest English explorers wrote, that in his opinion he thought that the finest grazing land in the world was on the slopes of Pallasgreen, that would be between Pallasgreen and Doon, the hills of Doon.

Now I do know that there is an area halfway down there that is very often flooded, but again I would say that to a certain extent, he is right but that is because of the past volcanic activity in the Pallasgreen area. So all of that has had its direct influence on honey production and for the most part my experience over a number of years would be that this area is quite good.

Interviewer: Would you have an average figure?

Beekeeper: It depends on who you meet on how much a hive of bees would produce, but over a number of years I have said that if I average; now I mean average, 30 lbs of honey per hive annually I am happy. Other beekeepers will say "oh! don't mind that man, you can get a 100lbs of honey". I know you can sometimes get 100lbs of honey and maybe I did get 100 lbs of honey at times but I am saying that, if over a period of time you average 30 lbs of honey you will be doing quite well, at least I feel I would be doing quite well. However, the average means that you count the lost hives; you count your stocks before the winter comes, how many hives of bees you have put aside for the winter. You have to count the ones that did not survive to get a genuine average.

Interviewer: What are the benefits to plants and to the environment from bees?

Beekeeper: It is very important and it is becoming more and more so. There are certain flowers that depend on almost completely on the honeybee. Let's say the foxglove, that flower is completely dependant on the bumblebee, if there isn't a bumblebee, that flower will not be pollinated and will disappear. So it is vital because bees are the best pollinators in nature and roughly one third of everything that we eat is present because of bees pollinating it. If bees

disappeared in the morning, one third of our food would go with them. Even Einstein apparently said that we would only survive six years if all the bees died. There is an extreme case at the moment in China where a province, a huge area, apparently, has wiped out all the pollinators by the wrong use of pesticides. At the moment Chinese people are up in the branches of fruit trees pollinating the blossoms manually. There might be ten, twenty Chinese at one apple tree or one fruit tree and they are all doing the work of the bee trying to pollinate them. But I say, that's okay in China where you blow a whistle and maybe you could get 50 Chinese to help you, but if we had to go up on our fruit trees here with little cotton buds!! Yes, that's what you would be using. If we were going around with our cotton buds, then we would appreciate the work of the bee, but roughly, one third of what we eat is completely dependent upon the bee, so to that extent they are right.

Interviewer: Can you tell me something about the beekeepers year and what kind of work it entails.

Beekeeper: A lot depends on the individual beekeeper but over a period of years one gets very practical and will fix on a few occasions for inspecting the hive. St. Patrick's day is a good one, the bees break up the cluster they formed during the winter which is roughly in the middle of March. I would say anytime after the middle of March they have left the cluster. Now they have done a bit of work before that, they come out and go back into the cluster again and you will notice in February a few workers will come out and bring in their little pollen sacks. This is a good sign that they are breeding and that the queen hopefully is laying eggs and that there are young bees being produced. The cluster breaks up completely about the middle of March and then they all work as normal for the rest of the summer.

That would be the first visit, after that it would be towards the end of May before you would inspect them again. They can build up to be very strong colonies and if they get too strong the next problem is that they tend to swarm. A swarm is the natural way of reproduction for colonies like ants and bees and other social insects. If a hive swarms the young active bees go away with the old queen for the most part and you can say goodbye to your surplus, to your harvest, because they are the type of bees you need to produce the harvest for you. These young active bees, are gone off to find a new home and that is their way of propagating their species. That is a problem and that is something that you should try to avoid or prevent, but it is not easy.

There are several ways, some very complex ways, but if you feel that the colony is about to swarm or that you are going to lose nearly half of them one of the wisest things to do is to anticipate it. Instead of trying to prevent it, help it. However hold on to the queen and a frame of eggs and food and let them rear their own young queen but you must go back to inspect the hive because they will rear several queens so you have to go back and remove all of the queen cells except one. If you don't go back and they rear a couple of queens you could have a second and a third swarm. Now that is the simplest way, there are more

complicated ways of doing it but it means going back and forth to the bee hive and for me the simplest way is prevent it by anticipating the swarm and doing the division yourself. Take the queen and a frame of worker bees with eggs and brood and food plus an extra frame of food and put them into a separate hive and let that build up for the summer, usually they do not produce a harvest except maybe a small one. The main hive will produce the harvest and they won't swarm on you. I have found that to be the simplest way of doing it.

Interviewer: How do you see the future of beekeeping?

Beekeeper: Not great, there have been very great changes since I started beekeeping. The disappearance of such a high percentage of the native flowers, because of modern agricultural practices, is the biggest one. In years gone by farmers kept a horse for the winter in a paddock and they ate all the grass that was there and they kept eating it until about April and after that the paddock suddenly became white with clover and that is a great source for the bees. Nowadays the horse has disappeared, the paddock has disappeared and in many, many cases so has the clover. The new types of clover, which are planted by farmers, not for the flower but for bulk in silage, some of them are of no benefit whatever to the bees. Probably the biggest change that I have noticed would be many years ago when bees left the hive they went into the fields and they took what was available from the grasses and the flowers on the ground. Nowadays I am afraid the bees are looking up because there are no wildflowers left in most of the fields and they are looking up at the trees and the shrubs and the main source of honey in some areas now is tree honey or shrub honey. The confirmation of this is a story that I heard about a family with two boys, one of them became a civil servant and was living in the suburbs of the city and his brother stayed at home on the farm. Paddy stayed on the farm and Mikey was the civil servant living in the suburbs. Every spring Mikey would ask if he could bring his hive of bees out to the farm and Paddy would say "of course bring them out to the wild flowers". Nowadays Paddy goes to visit Mikey in the suburbs and asks Mikey "is it all right if I bring my hive of bees into the suburbs for the summer". This is because the yield in the suburbs and even in the middle of London city is now higher than it is outside the city. They have all the Parklands with the shrubs and trees in the city and a higher temperature by a couple of degrees so that many beekeepers in the middle of London can produce more honey than is produced in the countryside. These are massive changes that have taken place which makes it more and more difficult for a beekeeper to live from honey production today.

Ciaran Shanahan

Eimear Laffan's Mayoral Campaign

As the club required much needed funding, we decided to enter the Mayor Campaign to raise money for our little club. I was the front for a fantastic supporting club.

To kick-start the Mayor Campaign, a Movie night was held in the Community Centre. This brought children and parents alike and all enjoyed the movie! A week later a table quiz was held in Power's Pub, Old Pallas, with each round having a different theme, it proved very difficult to all the teams. Our fantastic quizmaster on the night was Elaine O'Dwyer. A huge thank you to Shane O'Keefe for providing food on the night and allowing us to host the table quiz in his pub.

On the third week of the Mayor Campaign, a terrific traditional night was enjoyed in O'Dwyer's Bar. Music was provided by Eileen Leonard, Martin O'Shaughnessy, Tom Ryan and myself. All the members of the Junior team sold tickets for our Monster raffle which was also held on the night. We were kindly donated many prizes for this and it proved a very successful night for us. The Pool tournament was the next event held in the Red Deer. There was twenty four contenders for the prize of €50 which was sponsored by Dick Doherty. The night was so competitive that it had to be extended to the week after as well as the matches were not all finished on the night. Congratulations to Darren Ryan on winning.

A completely new event 'Pallasgreen's Fittest Family and Fun Day' proved to be a fantastic day out, with something to enjoy for every age group. We were lucky to receive a lot of advertising for this event, with both the Limerick Leader and Limerick's Live 95fm promoting our day. On the day the weather was on our side and with many different amusements at the field on the day, there was an endless supply of fun. A massive thank you to Super Bounce for donating a magnificent Obstacle Course Bouncing Castle for the day and to Emma O'Dea, Catherine Flynn and Sharyn Cavanagh who helped out on the day. The main highlight of the day was the question of which family was going to be crowned Pallasgreen's fittest family. Each family required one female to compete. The course tested every aspect of fitness and proved that numerous simple tasks in quick succession can be extremely difficult to complete. A huge thank you to Aidan Shanahan and Ciara Morgan for designing and running the course. The presentations were held in The Chaser Bar & Restaurant that evening which revealed that only by a split second did the Roche Family of Ballyvoren become Pallasgreen's fittest family. Other mock awards and prizes were presented on the night which were devised and sponsored by Ann & Jimmy Fanning.

A week later a U12 and U10 blitz was held in Pallasgreen GAA field which brought teams from Oola, Arvale Rovers and St. Ailbes. This was greatly enjoyed by all the girls taking part with much football talent to be

seen. Thank you to Frankie Roche for setting out the field, and to Eadaoin O'Connell, Brian Fanning and Alan Cosgrave who were our referees on the day. Thank you also to Pallasgreen GAA club for letting us use their facilities on the day. After the blitz a disco was held in the Community centre. There ecstatic atmosphere in the hall with everyone dancing, including parents. Musical statues was played, however we did not predict the proficiency of the children in this game so this continued for quite some time. Thank you to Anne O'Connor for all her help with the hall and numerous other events. Thank you to Breda McGuinness and Margo Greene making teas and coffees on the night also.

The final event was Dancing at the Crossroads held in the Idler Bar, Knockane. Some of our juvenile girls showed that they have more talent than just on the field with exquisite sets of Irish dancing. Old style games such as skittles were also played. There was delicious food was cooked by Denis Fitzgerald, Ciara Morgan and Peter Laffan who demonstrated their excellent cooking skills. Reverse the Hearse performed amazingly on the night and even though it started to drizzle, it didn't dampen the spirits as people continued to dance throughout. Thank you to Tom O'Donnell and Roger Butler for helping to set up on the day and to my dad for building the dancefloor.

The whole campaign was thoroughly enjoyable and team bonded greatly as we were meeting each other off the field nearly every week. It was also very enjoyable to get to know our juvenile team as these are our players for the future. Thank you to my family especially my parents who did so much work to help me with all the events. Thank you to all the members of the Junior team who helped out with every event held. A massive thank you to everyone who sponsored prizes, supported us and helped us throughout! The generosity of people is truly appreciated.

Eimear Laffan



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Obituaries



It is with great sadness that we record the passing of beloved members of community since our last edition.

November 2014

Catherine Murnane nee Ryan of Lough. Interred in Ballinacloough Cemetery.

Matthew (Matt) O'Connell of 1 Marian Terrace. Interred in St Columba's cemetery.

Hanora (Annie) Harty nee O'Brien of Garranemore Interred in Old Pallas cemetery.

December 2014

Nora Murnane nee Walsh of Knockderk, Hospital. Interred in Ballinlough Cemetery.

Tommy O'Connell of Reading, London and formerly of Canon Lee Park. Interred in St Columbas Cemetery

Mary Lonergan nee (Ryan Leahy) of Cross. Interred in Old Pallas cemetery

January 2015

Thomas (Tom) O'Donnell of Avalon, Garranemore. Interred home in St Columba's Cemetery..

John (Johnny) Murphy of Canon Lee Park. Interred in St Columba's cemetery.

Maureen Barrett (née Moloney) of Castle-Erkin. Interred in Inch St. Lawrence Cemetery.

February 2015

Richard (Dick) Rafferty late of Garrison and formerly of Longstone, Cullen, Co. Tipperary. Interred St. Michael's Cemetery, Tipperary Town.

March 2015

Patrick (Paddy) Hynan of no 5 Nicker. Interred in Old Pallas Cemetery.

Ann O'Dwyer (Healy) 41 John'sgate Village, formerly of London & Dromlara. Interred in Old Pallas cemetery.

Sr. Joseph Mary O'Brien late of Swansea and formerly of Ballytrasna.

Julia O'Doherty (née Hogan) of Pennywell Road, Pennywell, Limerick and late of Deerpark, Pallasgreen. Interred in Mount Saint Oliver Cemetery.

April 2015

Josephine (Josie) Christian, nee Kennedy of Navan Road, Dublin and formerly of Barna. Interred in Mulhuddart Cemetery.

Peggie O'Donovan Raheny, Dublin and formerly of Dromlara and Cullen, Tipperary. Interred in Cullen Cemetery,

Lance Ryan of San Francisco USA and late of Kilduff.

Pat O'Brien, Mountphillips, Newport, Co. Tipperary and formerly of Old Pallas. Interred in Rockvale Cemetery, Newport.

May 2015

Daniel O'Dwyer, Santry, Dublin 9 and formerly of Newtown Ellard, Pallasgreen. Interred in Old Pallas cemetery.

Joan Galvin née O'Leary of Ballyegan, Lisselton, Co Kerry and Formerly of Harlesden, London and late of Old Pallas. interred in St. John's Cemetery, Ballybunion.

June 2015

Josie Quane nee Gleeson of Main Street Oola and formerly of Linfield. internment took place in St Michaels Cemetery Tipperary.

August 2015

Bridget (Biddie) O'Regan of Coologue, Old Pallas. Interred in Old Pallas Cemetery.

September 2015

Wayne McMahon of the Grove, Pallasgreen and formerly of Castlequarter, Fedamore, interred in Mount St. Lawrence Cemetery.

October 2015

Thomas O'Dwyer, Farranafina, Pallasgreen. Interred in Old Pallas Cemetery.

Denis Murphy, of Knockballyfookeen. Interred in Old Pallas Cemetery.

Matt O'Connell

Matt O'Connell 11th Feb 1952 – 17th November 2014



Matt succumbed to a short illness on 18th November last and fought with great dignity and courage. It was the end of a 14-month struggle that included major surgery and treatment. He may have lost his voice but not his Spirit. He lived every day as though his illness could not beat him. He made plans and lived his life as if he were immune to the

illness. He stayed loving and caring until the end. It taught us first that we should never quit. His death has given us a greater appreciation of each other and also life. Matt had a gift that he always knew how to make people feel better about themselves. Matt was beloved by legions of friends and family. He was caring and extremely kind. He led a colourful life and will be remembered for many things. He was well known in the dancing circles and had taught so many to dance. Michael Flatley may have made millions but Matt gladdened a million hearts. In Set Dancing he was very competitive, so many Co. Finals were won in Senior Scor and also he trained many juvenile teams to Scor success. The Set was the signature act of the Scor Competition, the music was fast and lively and the dust rising from the stage, it was his moment, with the adrenalin kicking in, When either the Polka, Caledonian, Sliabh gCua or the Clare Set or begun to the roars of the encouraging audience. He seem to relish in the occasion and put his heart and soul into it. He was also very fussy about the uniforms and always had the groups in great style. He was very bubbly but also a very engaging person. He was creative, he could just about do anything and had this wonderful vision. Despite his illness the last few weeks of his life he was planning, there was so much work done in the last no of weeks, he had people running around doing odd jobs they might having being giving out in their own mind, but we knew what he was planning. So many things were important to him and he some fantastic friends who were so good him. Matt took the odd drink, but there was a reason for that, the pub was a place for him to socialise and meet people but also he had with him his reading book and crossword from the paper. This was his way of interacting and if stuck for a clue he would send out an SOS and then the debate would start. Probably his flair for fashion he would be best remembered for. He worked in a number of well established Mens boutiques in Limerick and then opened his own shop Ulysses Man Shop in Catherine Street for about six years. He was always, as the term says "Dressed to the Nines" he loved clothes and as someone remarked around the time of his funeral, he was the best dressed man in Pallasgreen. He had bought a beautiful suit for his nieces' wedding but didn't get a chance to wear it due illness the day before the wedding,

but he made up for it later on with an appointment with to see Sr Carmel in the Regional Hospital. After the clothing industry Matt was employed as a Chef with GPA in Shannon and continued with them up to a few years ago. With Christmas just gone, it was the time of the year he loved most, busy decorating etc. Christmas morning was the occasion he treasured most, with some friends calling. He had a number houses to visit and to him they were special but in return they were so very good to him. He simply loved that morning.

Funeral was from Ryan's funeral home to his residence. Pallasgreen GAA Club formed a guard of honour and accompanied the hearse through the village to his home. As the hearse paused outside, his former friends and set dancers danced a few steps of a Set. Requiem Mass the following day was concelebrated in Nicker Church by Fr Pat Burns and Canon Liam McNamara. Music and singing was by Michael Ryan and Anna Jayne Ryan who enriched the ceremony. Poignantly the communion reflection music was the violin tune of the Ballycommon set by Anna Jayne. The journey to St Columba's cemetery was met with a guard of honour by Pallasgreen GAA Club outside his home to his final resting place.

Tommy O'Connell

11th December 1956 - 8th Dec 2014

The untimely passing of Tommy O'Connell of Reading, London and late of Canon Lee Park was a very sad and poignant time for the O'Connell family. Just short of his 59th birthday Tommy O'Connell's untimely passing became the second O'Connell brother to be called his maker.



He had made the sad journey home on November 18th for his brother Matt's funeral only to go to his own eternal reward three weeks later on December 8th in London. He was the fourth eldest in the O'Connell family.

Anyone who knew him, knew him as a competitor in his younger days, he was always very competitive and very skillful with plenty of speed. And Speed was his major asset. He was a fine skilful footballer and soccer player, but it was his running athletics that he was well known for. He took on the best of them and beat them, either in cross country or track or road running, A light frame, of a lad there wasn't a pick in him and was always leading from the front. He won countless medals for running. He spent a lot of time running for Reenavanna Harriers Club in Doon. Although he received no dedicated coaching he was a natural and would run all day. He was considered one of the best runners of his era, he had a great attitude, he enjoyed the competition and the people around him and the group locally who always ran together created a great camaraderie.

Another sport he excelled in was Darts, he was an exceptional Darts Player. He had a tremendous eye for the board. He was one of those guys you didn't want to play against in a match. He left Ireland for England over twenty years ago, and settled in Reading London. He fitted in very well and his kind nature saw him being very well got with his neighbours. He always kept in touch with the happenings in Pallasgreen and like most emigrants would always receive the Grean Magazine every Christmas.

Tommy always loved coming home, and would do so as often as he could, Pallasgreen meant so much to him, and coming back to his family. His last visit home was in a different capacity, for Matt's funeral and found it very hard, even though in good form after a being taken ill a month previously, he found it very difficult. He got time to catch up with friends and neighbours etc, This time he was very lonesome going back to London.

Funeral was from Ryan's Funeral Home to Nicker Church. Following requiem Mass Internment took place in St Columba's Cemetery.

Gerard O'Connell

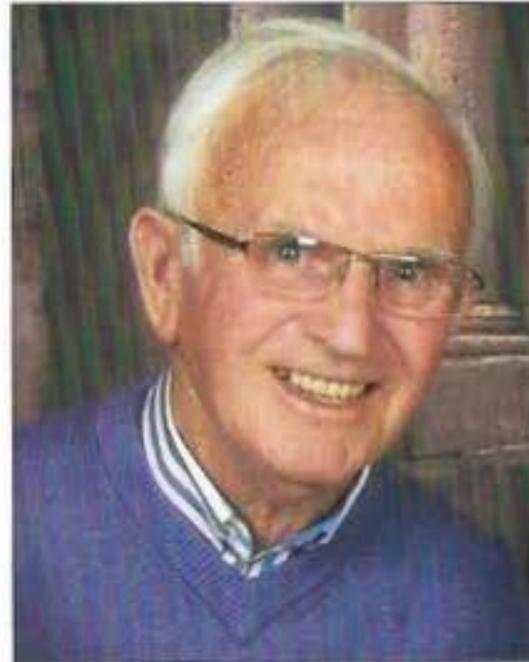
Thomas (Tom) O'Donnell

The passing of Thomas (Tom) O'Donnell of Avalon, Garrane-more has occasioned great sadness throughout Pallas-green and beyond and among his beloved family and friends. Tom is Survived by his wife Nora daughters Kerrie and Shirley and son Robert. Tom lost his battle after a short illness at the age of 61. A large crowd attended his removal and requiem Mass at St John The Baptist Church Nicker. A guard of honour was provided by the Motor Bike Community to which Tom was an enthusiast. Tom was predeceased by his Mother Mary and father Dan who was well known in the Insurance Business, trading as D. F. O'Donnell Insurance Brokers, Pallasgreen. He took over the successful Insurance broker business from his late father at Greanmore House, Pallasgreen before retiring. During his retirement he channelled his motoring skills and took up bus driving for a no of companies and of course he had time for his true passion of Motor Cycling. He passed away at Milford Care Centre and is greatly missed by all who knew him. A large crowd attended his removal at Ryan's funeral Home and the following day at his requiem Mass in Nicker Church. Following requiem Mass internment took place across from his home in St Columba's Cemetery.

Gerard O'Connell

John (Johnny) Murphy

19 March 1936 - 12 January 2015



Pallasgreen said goodbye to a great gael and a true gentleman at the funeral of the well-known John (Johnny) Murphy of Canon Lee Park. Johnny died at the University Hospital Limerick after suffering an illness before Christmas.

His unexpected death was greeted with shock and sadness throughout the

community and especially among the GAA fraternity whom he gave sterling service. A native of nearby Emly, Co Tipperary where he donned the club colours for many years and also a proud Tipperary man. A cornerback position he nailed down in the famous black and amber colours, Johnny often recalled some happy memories. One which stood out was when he marked the legend Tipperary hurler John Doyle and Johnny bate him up and down the field, a feat he was very proud to tell. Johnny met Nellie Ryan of Linfield over 50 years ago and settled down in Pallasgreen and reared three children, two daughters Mary, Margaret and son Timmy. His occupation was with Limerick County Council where he worked for almost twenty five years until his retirement in 1995. He was a very meticulous person and this was no more reflected in gardening duties he carried out for a number of neighbours. Everything was attention to detail and the place spick and span. A talented dancer with great feet, Johnny enjoyed dancing and especially ballroom dancing. With time in his hands the local club availed of his services and were very grateful as Johnny spent over thirteen years as caretaker to the field. His commitment and responsibility was outstanding, he served his duties with great diligence and to detail and was always courteous and very helpful to all teams preparing to play and to train on the field. Hundreds of people turned up to pay their last respects to a talented man who quietly touched the hearts of many through his modesty and kindness. The genuine affection in which he was held, was reflected in the tributes paid to him by friends and the wider community. The local GAA club formed a guard of honour along with members of the Emly GAA club. The coffin was draped in the club colours, Johnny would have been chuffed as the colours reflected both Pallasgreen and Tipperary. His Funeral was from his daughter Margaret's house in Moymore. Requiem Mass took place in Nicker Church and internment was in St Columbas cemetery.

Gerard O'Connell

Mary Lonergan (nee Ryan Leahy)

18 June 1929-19 December 2014



Mary Lonergan was one of the most respected citizens who was held in high esteem within the community. She lived to a great age of 85. Born and reared in Brackile Mary was a Pallasgreen woman to the core. She met and married the late Michael Lonergan of Barna and together the couple reared their ten children, seven boys and three girls in the townland of Cross. Having reared a large family she suffered the loss of her beloved husband over sixteen years ago. An outgoing woman Mary was always on the go, she loved the outdoor life and her garden was very special to her. Her car made her very independent so she was able to travel to her family, friends and to bingo. The weekly bingo sessions meant a lot to her as this brought her to interact and engage with people. A woman of very strong faith Mary was a regular mass goer and would sit always to the front of the church. Her family was very important to her. She loved the Saturday afternoons when they would converge on her home, and this she cherished very much. The late Mary suffered another major setback two years ago when her son Sean passed away in the home at the young age of 53. His tragic passing was something she never really recovered from and impacted greatly on her health. She spent some time in hospital where her family were at her bedside every day. Mary finally succumbed to her illness and passed away on 19th December 2014 surrounded by her family. Her funeral was from Ryan's funeral home to Nicker Church. Following requiem Mass internment took place in Old Pallas cemetery.

Gerard O'Connell

Denis Murphy

By Martina Murphy

The untimely death on Friday October 16th of Denis Murphy, Knockballyfookeen caused widespread sadness in the community and also in his native parish of Bruree. Denis died unexpectedly at his residence and was predeceased by his wife Mary in 2003. Denis came to live in Knockballyfookeen in 1977 with his wife Mary where he settled down but was always a Bruree man at heart and kept in contact with his many friends there whom he left devastated by his death. He was a great family man to his 5 children, and also to his adoring grandchildren and looked forward to their visits every weekend. Denis was a very hard working man, conscientious, willing and always was there when called on and ready to give a hand. He made time for everyone. Denis worked on many building projects down through the years. He also had a love for rearing calves and on the morning of his death had planned to go to Mart in Tipperary Town selling calves unfortunately this was not to be as he had passed to his eternal reward. His love for the farming independent each week and always had great knowledge about cattle prices, weights etc and then he had many hours chatting with his many friends and neighbours about what he had read. The one consolation to us his family is how well liked our dad was with all the people who called to our house from near and far, and offered their condolences and support to us and later in Ryan's funeral home and funeral mass. Denis will be sadly missed by his heartbroken daughters Martina, Elizabeth, Jennifer, sons Dan and Denis his adoring grandchildren, sons in law, his sister Elizabeth and her family, his relatives and many friends. May Denis rest in peace and be reunited again with his wife Mary.

Patrick (Paddy) Hynan



The village of Nicker is all the poorer following the untimely passing of Paddy Patrick Hynan of no 5 Nicker. Paddy who died peacefully at his home was one of the great characters and respected citizens in the community. Well known for his wonderful sense of humour and wit. He was a very engaging person and of genial nature. His passing expressed a great sense of shock at the age of seventy three. He was a great family man and reared a family of four boys and two girls with his wife Bridget nee Hennessy. His funeral was from his home to Templebraden Church. Following requiem Mass internment took place in Old Pallas Cemetery.

Gerard O'Connell

Catherine Murnane (née Ryan)

1922-2014

By her Daughter Mary Ann Murnane



On 5th November 2014 the passing of Catherine 'Kitty' Murnane was met with deep sadness throughout Pallasgrean among her relatives, great neighbours and friends. Kitty was a very hard working woman. She was multi-talented, she excelled at baking, jam making and keeping a good home. Kitty grew up in hard times in Co.

Tipperary and her early transport was the donkey and cart. Mother often told me, one would be lucky to own a bicycle and after that a good pair of boots and you walked it.

Kitty got married at 7 am on 11th February 1941 to Ned Murnane at St. Michael's Church Tipperary by Archdeacon Ryan. I often asked her if she was ever sorry that she did not sleep it out but I never got an answer. Ned and Kitty raised 5 sons and 2 daughters and in later years a granddaughter Maureen. During their married life, Kitty and Ned continued to lead busy lives. Farming took up most of their time. They would rent land and buy stock. They were great animal lovers. They raised pigs, hens, chickens, greyhounds and Jack Russells.

They were well known as the post-man and post-lady. The mail bags were collected from Doon P.O., Cappamore P.O. and Pallasgrean P.O. That was twice a day. Later in life it became a bigger route and the post was collected once a day. They stuck with it for over 30 years. They were very obliging people helping everyone in every way they could. In the early years of the post route they brought medicine to people from the chemist in Doon. They also brought out mended boots or shoes from Buckleys. You only had to ask and they would also give people a lift.

Kitty loved reading her newspapers and books. In later years she loved the radio and television. Mother was very in tune with everything. She was good to rise early especially on a Sunday morning. Mother would be up cleaned and dressed for her 10.30 am mass on Tipp FM. She would always come out for a drive with me. That would give her the time to meet people and she would tell me about days gone by. We would have a great old banter on the Sundays when Tipperary would play Limerick in hurling. Her son Francie would put on a bet on who was most likely to win. He nearly always got it right!

Like a lot of people Kitty was not without her ups and downs. Ned pre-deceased her in April 1993. Her eldest son Timmy died on 17th July 1993. Her second son Davy died in April 2012. Kitty out lived her immediate family of 6

brothers and 3 sisters. She was a woman of great faith. Her religious duties were carried out to the highest of standards; if only we could follow in her footsteps. She always attended mass, first Fridays, missions, confession and visits to Knock and said her rosary daily. I always joined in with her. Mother looked forward to her visits from the local clergy on first Fridays and other times during the year. I would bring home holy communion to her from any mass that I attended. She would always thank me by saying where would I be without you. How nice.

Mother did all her final rounds in the months before her death. In April 2014 we both attended Divine Mercy Sunday at St. Michael's in Tipperary where she got married in 1941. In May she went out to cast her vote in Pallas. On 7th June she attended 6.30 pm Mass in Nicker and met up with a lot of her friends. She felt like the Queen Mother with all who came over and shook her hand. In September 2014 Mother attended the anointing of the sick ceremonies at Holy Cross Abbey. After that her daughter Tessie came home for a visit from Texas. Mother enjoyed having us all around. When all her rounds were completed her final wish was to pass away in her own home. Her medical were well taken care of by the doctors at St. Michael's Street Tipperary and especially Dr Browne who visited so often.

Thank God I was able to grant my mother her wish. At 5 am on Wednesday 5th November 2014 Kitty was taken up to heaven as she lay in my arms. The genuine affection in which she was held was reflected by the large turn out to pay their respects on such a wet and cold November night. On the feast of All Saints of Ireland her funeral was from Ryan's funeral home to Nicker church following requiem mass at 11.30 on the first Friday of November. Internment took place at Ballinaclough cemetery where Kitty was laid to rest. As I am nearing the first anniversary of her passing and with all of the ups and downs; I give thanks to God for her long and full life. I also want to say a big thank you to all for your kind words during our sad loss.

God bless you all from Mary & Francie Murnane.

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John O'Connor, Bernie Flanagan, Pat O'Toole at the St. Ailbe's Stand at the Cappamore Show.



Sponsoring Strictly Care to Dance: Dara Fraher, Pat O'Toole, Deputy Mayor Ger Mitchell, Marie Keating, John O'Connor, Suzie O'Kelly.



Winner of draw for Launch of new Loan Product:- Anita Gleeson pictured with her daughters



Art competition winners: Barna NS. Siobhan Ryan, Bree O'Dwyer, Niall McNamara, Stephen Bramley and John O'Connor



Winner of Credit Union Day Hamper Liam Fraher with Ann Moloney



Santa Visits St. Ailbe's Pallasgreen



Cloverfield NS, Winners in the St. Ailbe's Credit Union U/11 Schools Quiz L-R Robyn O'Shea, Clara O'Dwyer, Aislinn O'Dea, Seán O'Dwyer. Back Row Noreen O'Dea and John O'Connor



Sponsoring the Dog show at Cappamore Show

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