

L.B.C. Tub Trials

Fifteen-year-old John Quilligan displayed a veteran's skill at the rudder lines last week-end when he steered Des O'Brien and Bryan Copley to victory in the Limerick Boat Club tub trials. John was only a week in the club and had only three trial trips in a tub, but after tuition from Frank McNamara (son of Union Cup stroke, Enda) and champion L.B.C. cox, Phil O'Doherty, he quickly mastered some of the essential skills.

John has been playing rugby with Crescent College for the past three years, and another sport in which he is very interested is soccer. His father, Mr. Kevin Quilligan, is a well-known sportsman and holds two Munster Senior Cup medals.

John's brother, 11-year-old Niall, plays rugby with Crescent College. His sisters are Paula (13) and Jane (6).

Rowing

The race gave Des O'Brien his third success in his four years at Limerick Boat Club. Last season he was a member of the cadet eights and fours crews at Lee Schools Regatta. Des is at present rowing in the junior schools eight. He is a pupil of Ard Scoll Ris and is aged 16.

Bryan Copley took up rowing last year with L.B.C. He won with the cadet eights and fours at Lee Schools Regatta and with the cadet four at Athlunkard sprint regatta and at St. Michael's "At Home." His father, Mr. James Copley, won a maiden Union Cup with A.B.C. in 1946.

Bryan, who is aged 15, is studying at Ard Scoll Ris. Limerick Boat Club tub trials were first held in 1924 and the winners that year were Mr. W. F. Treacy and the late Mr. M. W. McGuire. Mr. Treacy was present at the club last week to congratulate this season's winners.

Madam Mayor of Dummoyne



"Madame Mayor," Mrs. Armitage, Limerick-born, head of Dummoyne Council, Sydney, Australia.

Limerick-born Mrs. Margaret Armitage (formerly of Reeves'

A Limerickman's Diary

By OBSERVER

Homage to Garryowen's great Uilleann Pipers

Tadhg Smalle, the doyen of Limerick's traditional musicians, will recall the art, repertoires and the personalities of the late Bill and Andy Keane, two great uilleann pipers from Garryowen, at next Wednesday night's session of the Saint Patrick's Parish Storytelling Group at Saint Patrick's Boys' School, Dublin Road.

Tadhg Smalle will illustrate this talk with some rare melodies which Bill Keane thought him. Among them will be the haunting "Lament for Aughrim," which Bill Keane heard from Martin Reilly, the famous East Galway uilleann piper, while Bill Keane — a stone craftsman — was on a working visit to East Galway in the early 1900s.

This will be the last of the current series of sessions of the St. Patrick's Parish Storytelling Group. During previous gatherings between guest speakers and the people of the parish, much of the history and folklore of the Park, Rhebog, Pennywell and Singland district, has been tape recorded.

Book

As a happy result, this parish history and folklore — which otherwise would have been irretrievably lost, will be published in book form next year, says Gearóid Ó Tiarnaigh, Principal of St. Patrick's Boys' School.

It was Gearóid Ó Tiarnaigh who proposed and put the Storytelling Group successfully on the launching pad in the early spring of 1971. In the fields of recordings — both on tape and in shorthand — the Storytelling Group has been helped by Tadhg Ó Liatháin (a teaching colleague of Gearóid Ó Tiarnaigh's) and by Mrs. Anne Noonan, of the Limerick I.T.G.W.U. secretarial staff.

Others who have helped with the organisation of these sessions include Nora Bean Uí Cheallaigh (Principal Girls School), Bean Uí Creagáin (another teacher at St. Patrick's), who heads the nightly tea-room staff, and Séamus Ó Cinnéide, who, as chairman, has guided the local people in their search for what is valuable as local history and folklore.

At last month's session, Mr. Tom Lawlor (ex-City Councillor), gave an informative talk on the agricultural history and folklore of the district.

Tributes

Tadhg Smalle's talk on these two great Garryowen uilleann pipers will not be the only tribute to their great work for this ancient idiom of Irish music.

Later this year, a commemorative plaque to Bill and Andy Keane will be erected at St. Patrick's Graveyard (on Singland Hill), the last resting

place of Bill Keane. This plaque is being erected at the suggestion of Bill Keane's former pupil, Tadhg Smalle, and Séamus Ó Cinnéide, with the generous help of the Storytelling Group.

A distinguished gathering of traditional musicians and traditional music personalities will attend the unveiling ceremony on Singland's historic hill.

At last weekend's Féile na Máighe, Clárán Mac Mathúna (producer of RTE's trad music programme), who frequently played recordings of Andy Keane's uilleann-pipe tunes on RTE, accepted an invitation from Gearóid Ó Tiarnaigh and Séamus Ó Cinnéide to perform the unveiling ceremony.

Clárán — despite the fact that he lived in John's Avenue, Mulgrave Street during his Limerick boyhood — proudly considers himself an adopted St. Patrick's parishioner.

His father, the late Séamus Mac Mathúna, great teacher and one of Limerick's pioneers of Conradh na Gaellge, was for many years the Principal of St. Patrick's School, and his many ex-pupils remember him affectionately.

Kilkee Weather Service

Limerick daytrippers to Kilkee need not be beset by doubts about the seaside weather.

Kilkee sub-aqua personality, Manuel Di Lucia, has thought up — and put into operation with the co-operation of Shannonside Tourism's Kilkee office — a bright idea, which will be a great help to Limerick holiday commuters to the resort.

Manuel explains: "They will be able to phone the Tourist Office in Kilkee for the latest weather report — which will include times of tides, temperatures, wind directions, like rough for surfing, or calm for swimming or diving.

Manuel will supply the information daily to the Kilkee Tourist Office from where it will be given to telephone callers from Limerick.

He adds: "I feel it's a badly needed service, Limerick people often come here, only to find that the weather is unpleasant or, on the other hand, they remain at home looking out at the rain when the sun is shining in Kilkee.

This is the first weather report service by phone to be introduced by an Irish holiday resort — and, in congratulating Manuel Di Lucia for providing it, we are certain that our fellow citizens will make use of it. The telephone number for your weather at Kilkee report is: Kilkee 112.

THREE MONTHS ON A CARIBBEAN REEF

Back in his native Limerick after an adventurous experience on a Caribbean reef is Mr. Mick Hayes. Early in the morning of January 27 last his ship, the s.s. "Irish Spruce," went aground on the Quita Suena Bank, 100 miles from St. Andrew's Island, in the mid-Caribbean. The Bank is a fifteen-mile long coral reef with a history of wrecks going back to the days of the old Spanish Main.

A few days after the grounding on January 30, an American salvage tug commenced salvage operations. In the meantime, distress calls had been answered by the Liberian registered "Eastern Venture." A lifeboat was lowered in heavy seas and twenty of the ship's complement of forty were taken aboard. The remainder — with the exception of a skeleton crew — left by fishing boat a fortnight later.

On April 5, when in a semi-light condition, the ship broke in two in a severe storm and the six on board — the captain, chief officer, second engineer, chief steward and Mick (the ship's radio officer) and a superintendent of Irish Shipping, Captain Rafferty of Galway, who joined the vessel shortly after she had gone aground — were taken on board the tug Cable.

The tug brought the group to their base, Quay West. From there they were flown to Miami and New York, and back to Ireland on the Irish jumbo jet flagship to Shannon or Dublin.

The Irish Spruce, which had a gross tonnage of 7875, was on charter to the Peruvian Government and was on a voyage from Lima (Callao port) to New Orleans when she grounded.

During the period January 27 to April 8, Mick remained aboard the grounded vessel. An improvised swimming pool was constructed and spare time was spent in shark fishing and coral reef diving. The weather was, apart from an occasional storm or rain squall, gloriously sunny, with the temperature in the 80's.

Mick, who is a member of a well-known Limerick family, is son of Mrs. Bridget and the late Mr. Thomas Hayes, Sunville, O'Connell Avenue. He was educated at Crescent College and later studied at the Limerick Marine Radio College, where he qualified as a radio officer.

He came to Limerick Boat Club in the mid-1950s with a Crescent College crew and in the following decade won some 20 trophies as an oarsman. He succeeded Tony Tynne as Cap-



MR. MICHAEL HAYES

tain of the Club in 1970 — the L.B.C. centenary year. Mick has two brothers, William, who is teaching in New Zealand, and Joseph, who is an hotel manager in Edinburgh. A third brother, Rev. Father Henry Hayes, died while ministering in San Antonio, Texas. His sister, Mrs. Mary Cullen, is living in Co. Meath.

Mick is now on a three months' vacation after his thrilling Caribbean cruise.

Woodcuts

"The compelling force behind Grieshaber's work cannot fail to impress its viewers, and though I lay no claim to be an authority on any art form, the sense of freedom and liberty portrayed in this exhibition is clearly evident to me." This was stated by the Mayor, Councillor Gus O'Driscoll, on Tuesday night last when he opened an exhibition of colour woodcuts by the gifted German artist Hap Grieshaber, in the City Art Gallery.

Dr. Karl-Gustav Gerold, cultural attache to the German Embassy, gave a very interesting talk on the life and work of Hap Grieshaber.

Mr. J. G. Lyons, solr., German Consul in Limerick, and Miss Maura Lanigan, Librarian and Curator, also spoke. Councillor Frank Glasgow, of the Art Advisory Committee, presided. There was an overflow attendance of the public.

We thoroughly recommend a visit to this exhibition. It will continue to Thursday, May 18,