



## AVOIR ALBERT



My name is Albert Servant. I came from France for my training. I make my study in a Food Technological College (E.N.I.T.I.A.A.).

First, I would like to say thank you to Shannon Meat for allowing me to make this Training Course possible. I was made welcome by all the Factory and by all the people who live in Rathkeale.

My training has been very interesting because the workers and the management have helped me immensely in my progress in knowledge of meat processing. The training has been comprehensive particularly with James O'Grady who has been a good teacher when I learned how to trim the meat. This Meat Factory is different than those I have seen in France. In fact, we have many killing plants, some boning plants with just a few processing plants.

Maybe I will come back to Ireland again because the people are very friendly and I like Guinness very much.

French people are grateful for the excellent quality of the meat which you export.

## PRESENTATION



Mr. Tom Steele [above] was recently presented with a Silver Tray by St. Mary's Park Residents Association, Rathkeale. This presentation was in recognition for the unselfish work in making their inaugural "Sports Day" a marvellous occasion.

Slaughter Line Operator, Tom is a very active member of the hard working St. Mary's Park Residents Committee. As well as organising a "Sports Day" they have run a successful 5 - A - Side Soccer Tournament, and other functions.

Under the auspices of Chairman Noel White, Secretary Jack Lyons and interested people like Stephen McDonnell, Mike White, Roger Kenihan, and Christy Jones to name but a few, they are readily aware of the needs of their community. It is people like Tom Steel and his comrades that enable people and children specifically, to live in an enriched and fulfilling environment. Three Cheers Boys.

## LIVESTOCK TOPICS

# BEEF PRODUCERS GET A HEARING

from Donie Donovan, Livestock Procurement Manager

The short sighted fast-buck policy of seeking Export Markets for young calves came in for strong criticism recently from Mr. James Gibbons, Minister for Agriculture.

This is borne out by the fact that of late we hear the people who are finishing cattle all their lives complaining about the poor quality of the Stores been offered at present. Seeing that we have been trying for the past one hundred years to eliminate the Scrub Bull and failed, it was time something was done about them. Only very recently did that distinguished gentleman from Listowel Mr. John B. Keane make great mileage out of that same subject.

Maybe there was enough noise made about the Scrub Bull and not a word said about the dam. The Beef Classification Scheme might do more for the quality of our Beef in five years than the licensing of bulls did in the past hundred years. It's amazing how easy one can grasp the Grades in the New Classification Scheme. The decimalisation of our currencies came a lot easier than people thought. It's only a matter of time when the L3s, E4s will become household words just as common as the butter fat test, which a lot of the time sounded slightly better than it was on paper.

### LIVE EXPORTS

In the February edition of the "Gazette" we highlighted the damage that Live Exports did to the Beef Industry. Little if anything is said of the effect it has on the Beef Producer. The Beef man may be in the minority in these parts but he deserves a hearing. The farmer purchasing a forward store is not in competition with the Factory at any stage. Unfortunately due to movement restrictions since last October the pool of forward stores has been greatly reduced as a result of herd owners selling directly to third countries as an easy way out of testing. Those of us who thought the regulations stated that every herd in the country, was locked up from the 18th of October 1978, unless it had a thirty day test, failed to see the small print, if it were ever there. This is one area where regulations have caused a disruption of trade and rather than admit that he gave too much for Store cattle this Spring the feeder will take the easy way out and blame the factories if he has a poor margin. The winter man that purchased his store last Autumn for finishing off silage had a big disappointment as the 1979 Price Review did not come into effect until the end of June. There are talks already about freezing the 1980

prices. If there is to be a bargaining situation in Brussels it would seem grossly unfair to lump all agricultural produce together. It's difficult to understand why some produce should be penalized at the expense of others if it's not creating a surplus.

### CAMPAIGN

The present campaign to encourage farmers to breed more stock is a healthy one. To support the move Intervention prices should at least be adjusted quarterly to encourage winter production. With the present Intervention System there's no incentive to produce beef in the winter months. The trend which developed towards winter finishing over the past ten years will lose face rapidly, unless something is done quickly for those prepared to make the investment which is necessary to produce winter beef. So far this year the total National Slaughterings are down by 81,965 when compared with the same period in 1978. This again could be taken as an indication of a swing away from winter fattening. Live exports are also down by 163,432 over the same period. Due to the extremely late Spring this year it could mean that there are greater numbers around than people thought.

### U.S. CENSUS

In the United States where there is almost 120 million head of Livestock, their July Census was available here in this country at the end of the same month. When it was available in the U.S. is anyone's guess. They are certainly fast with their home work plus the fact that it was a most informative document.

### NEW WASHING BAY

The New Washing Bay for Cattle Lorries and trailers which was completed last February is considered to be very satisfactory. Little consideration is ever given to the expense incurred in providing these facilities. It may not be any harm to mention that a little more care could be shown by those using the area.

In connection with this washing bay, the following points should be strictly adhered to-

1. Any solid material such as straw or bedding to be placed over the end wall ONLY.
2. Lorries to be reversed in as far as possible.
3. Re-wind water hose after use.
4. Before leaving make sure to switch off the water pump.

## THE NEW COMPUTER

For some years now the question of purchasing a computer has been a consideration. However, before the introduction of the mini, the cost alone, ensured that it remained a consideration only. The dramatic developments in computer technology in the late 60's and early 70's have not alone increased the range and flexibility of the mini, but have enormously reduced its cost. Computers are now one of our fastest developing industries. Prior to this, it had been a large expensive and inflexible piece of equipment. There were many instances of computers lying under-utilized, or idle. It was no wonder that management became apprehensive and computer shy. The introduction of the mini has largely dispelled these fears for the medium sized user.

Needless to say, there are many makes and models on the market. Choosing one to suit our particular needs required an assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of most of the popular models. The one eventually chosen was an I.C.L. System 10 and this was delivered late in June. The intervention of holidays has meant a short delay in getting things underway, but now the stage is set and ready to go. The proposed schedule of events is, as follows:-

1. October, '79 Payroll live.  
Livestock creditors test.  
Ledgers and sales analysis systems finalisation.
2. November, '79 Livestock creditors live.  
Ledgers and sales analysis test.
3. December, '79 Sales ledger and sales analysis live.  
Costing and stock system systems finalisation.
4. January, '80 Purchase ledger live.  
Nominal ledger live.
- February, '80 Costing and stock system program - ming.
- March, '80 Costing and stock system test.
5. April, '80 Costing and stock system live.

While it is agreed that this timetable is a very demanding one, undertaken as it is during our busy season, it is nonetheless proposed to pursue it to a conclusion. Mr. Paul Farrelly has carriage of affairs on behalf of I.C.L., while Mr. Bill Chawke will guide events on behalf of the Company. In this he will be aided and abetted, initially, by Geraldine Nolan and later, also by Kathleen Burke. Their task is a formidable one and in this endeavour we wish them well.

## CONGRATULATIONS

Heartiest congratulations to Patrick McCarthy of Rathkeale who took the Silver Medal at the Community Games under 16 marathon (6 miles) held in Butlins recently. The winner of the even was the experienced Paul O'Donovan, who represented Ireland in the Junior World Cross-Country Championships in Limerick in March of this year. This is a rewarding experience for Patrick who trained diligently for the event as he does for every event.

# KILLULTA AND KILLEEN two churches at Kilcornan.

## PROFILE - TOM O'KEEFFE



**KILLEEN:** General View of Church from the south, showing pointed doorway, ogival headed window, gutter outlets along top of wall, roof seating in gables and battered wall base.  
All Photos by Author.

**KILLULTA:** Co. Limerick's earliest church:

Though lacking the antae or projecting stone supports for the roof trusses along the sides of the outside of the gable and the trabeate or large stone lintelled and battered west doorway which are often characteristics of the earliest Irish stone churches, the little oratory or church at Killulta (at Glenameade on the Foynes-Limerick road two miles West of Kildimo) is regarded as being very early and almost certainly pre-12th century.

John O'Donovan of the Ordnance Survey visited it in 1840 and considered it to be the oldest church in Co. Limerick. According to Westropp it is mentioned as Kiltuly in a deed of 1228. Bishop Pococke visited it in 1752 and called it Killallatring, Lewis called it Killenalotar in 1834 and Fitzgerald referred to it as Kilenaluter. Westropp agreed that it was "an exceptionally ancient oratory". It is built on a large rock outcrop and measures 16' 9" x 9' 10", the walls being about 2' 8" thick. It is rectangular in plan is built of large stones in keeping with many early Irish Churches. It has an unusual angular headed window in the east gable. The West gable and the doorway appear to be a reconstruction and are, therefore, of little help in providing clues to the date of the church. The lowermost course of the wall projects outwards beyond the others to form a kind of platform or plinth. It has a lintelled aubry or piscine in the south wall.

Leask, who accepts it as possibly being the oldest in the county, groups this oratory with his "examples of Early Churches without antae", of which there are ten of which all except one are in the west or South-west, four being on the Aran Islands, two in the Burren in Clare/Galway, one in Kerry and one in Cork. The east gable and south wall of Killulta could be very easily fitted into the Aran series. The angular headed window sets Killulta apart from the more usually rounded window tops found elsewhere in early stone churches. It seems to have been this which prompted the compiler of the now loose Bord Failte sign at the oratory to opt rather bravely for a 7th to 9th century date for its erection. An 11th century date might be nearer

the mark though a scientific archaeological excavation is really the only way of investigating this. The rather rocky nature of the terrain on which the oratory is erected and the absence of recognisable structures in the surrounding fields might mean that the results of such an excavation could be less fruitful than they might otherwise be.

The oratory was probably used like similar structures in our early christian monasteries like Glendalough, Clonmacnoise and Ennismurray as a sacristy cum altar from where the celebrant would operate, his congregation being gathered around the west door. There would be little question of the congregation squeezing into such a tiny space!

**KILLEEN (Cowpark)** - a 15th century Parish Church.

Here are the excellently preserved remains of a small 15th century rural parish church "remarkable in being completely of the period" (i.e. the 15th century). the building is rectangular in plan measuring 40ft. by 19ft. (Leask) or 45ft. x 24ft. (Westropp) the former probably being an internal and the latter an external measurement. All that's missing is the roof and the roof parapet. It has three ogival headed narrow window openings, two in the side walls where they oppose one another near the east end and one in the east gable. The church seems originally to have had two rather wide door openings - one opposite the other - towards the west end. That on the north wall having been almost completely filled in antiquity except for a half-circular depression on the outer surface and that on the south wall having been partly filled in around a small pointed arched doorway which has more recently been converted to a stile to regulate access.



**KILLULTA:** East gable and south wall showing rock outcrop on which oratory was built.

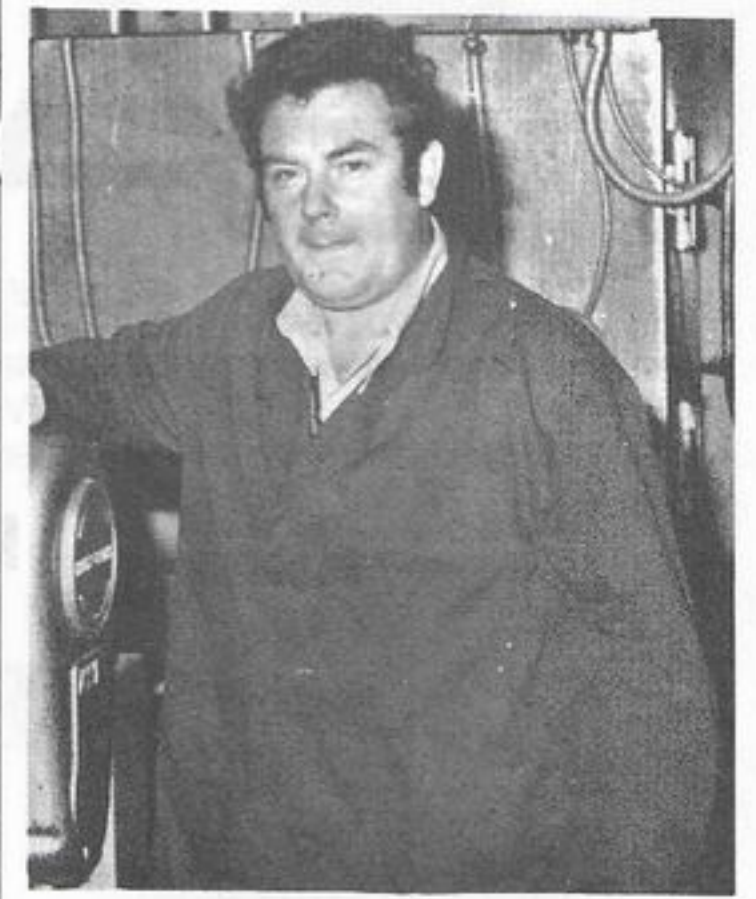
The gables which are complete are steep and high and the lower parts of all the walls have a pronounced batter or outward slope for a height of about five feet and being more typical of a military structure than an ecclesiastical building. Indeed the whole church has a military type appearance. There is an austere though very symmetrical corbel course - almost approaching a blind arcade in concept - along the tops of the side walls on the inside, the corbels faceted and pointed and dying into the walls. This course would have supported a heavy wooden wall-plates which bore the roof trusses, timber and slates.

Apart from the corbel course on the inside which is fairly rare, the bell niche or ope which is supported on long pointed corbels which are faded into the wall which projects high from outer face of the west gable is very rare and excellently preserved. There is a pointed arch to the niche which is corbel roofed the top of the "roof" merging with the top of the gable. There is an 'L' shaped aperture in the gable wall behind the niche. This would have enabled the bell to be rung from inside the church, a vertical depression worn on the inside of the west gable testifying to this practice. A faceted frustum shaped stone with a rectangular socket on its smaller or top surface in a field to the west of the church may originally have surmounted the flat tip of the west gable where the socket may have featured a wooden cross. The lower sections of the parapets which crowned the side walls above the roof still remain as, also, do the numerous stone outlets to the gutters which look like a continuous string course. There is a shallow double ambry for a vestment (?) cupboard in the east gable and to the right in the south wall a piscina niche with a fluted depression in the base with a hole for draining off holy water. An even more interesting font inside the doorway in the south wall and east of the doorway has been cut into two large dressed limestones. It has an incipient plain ogival top and drains to a plughole on the bottom outside lip or rim. The window embrasures widely splay in the inside.

Fr. O'Hanlon in the first volume of his *Lives of the Irish Saints* published in 1875 wrongly thought that Killleen church marked the site of an early monastic foundation of St. Curnan after whom Kilcornan is called. He had got this information from Aubrey de Vere who also gave him the dimensions of the church and a sketch made by Taylor of Hollypark. The drawing though artistic and romantic in the best traditions of the time is highly inaccurate and misleading.



**KILLEEN:** West gable with pronounced wall batter and turret-like belfry on corbels.



A most popular member of the staff of Shannon Meat Ltd., is Thomas O'Keeffe. Tom is employed in the Maintenance Section as a Boiler House Operator. Along with Michael Glenny, Tom is responsible for our heat and steam supplies.

As Adolph Hitler was shouting his intentions around Germany and preparing to advance his thoroughly drilled troops on Poland and the rest of Europe, Tom was also shouting, through it be in the lingo of an infant. Tom's birth co-incides with the outbreak of World War II. He was born in remote Lisgorden in the parish of Ardagh. Tom was the third eldest in a family of five boys and two girls. His late father of the same name was a County Council employee. David one of his brothers was for many years a member of the Maintenance Section of the firm

### CONTEMPORARIES

Tom was educated at Kilcolman National School and he also received a Technical education at Newcastle West Vocational School.

Like many of his contemporaries at that time, Tom O'Keeffe set sail for England in 1958. He joined the famous Texaco Oil Company and there remained for eleven long years (not that Tom says they were long). He was initially employed as an "installation hand". He then spent some time in the Blending Section. Finally, he applied successfully for a position in the Boiler House. In this capacity he received a comprehensive training and his stay in this Section lasted approximately six years.

In 1970 Tom returned home to Ireland and on the 4th March 1971 he commenced his association with Shannon Meat Ltd. During his stay with the Company he has seen the area of his responsibility develop from what we may term a 'Pokeen' to a prominent structure at the rear of the Plant.

### MET.

Not all of Tom's stay in England was taken up with keeping his fellow employees "warm and steamed". While working with Texaco in Dagenham he met and married Lixnaw lady Margaret Leen in 1968. Margaret was then a nurse in Oldchurch, Ramford, Essex. The O'Keeffe family reside in Rosemount, Rathkeale. Tom and Margaret have three delightful children - Declan (7), Kathleen (5), and Fiona (1½).

Tom has a keen interest in Hurling and Football and has a deep knowledge of both codes. In conclusion we would like to wish Tom continued success in the future.

**PICTURE PARADE**



Aztecs winner's of the 5 - A - Side Tournament in Rathkeale: Back Row (L to R): John O'Sullivan, Noel Harnett, Edmund Dollery, Ned Lawlor (Manager), Front Row: P. Harnett (Not drunk), Denis Harnett, Mario Zoncado.

**PICTURE PARADE**



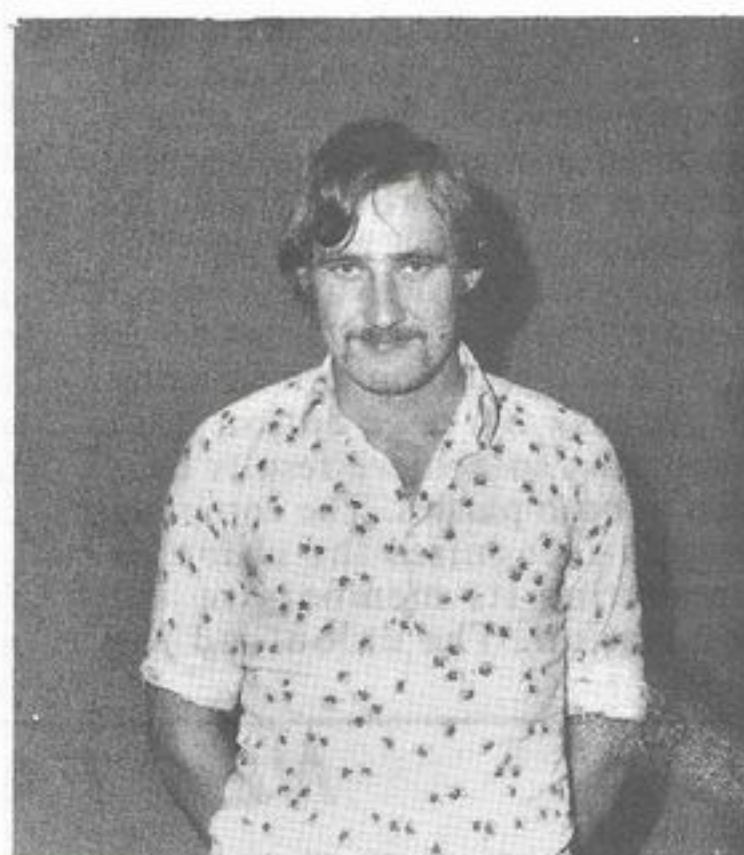
New to the canning staff are sisters Patricia and Noreen Linnane of Athea.



Mr. & Mrs. Pa Sheahan pose for our camera with the trophy which Pat received as Manager of the successful Shannon Utd.



Also new to the Canning Staff is John Condon for Dohile, Rathkeale.



Abbeyfeale man Michael O'Donoghue has just completed a course in Bonning with Shannon Meat Ltd.



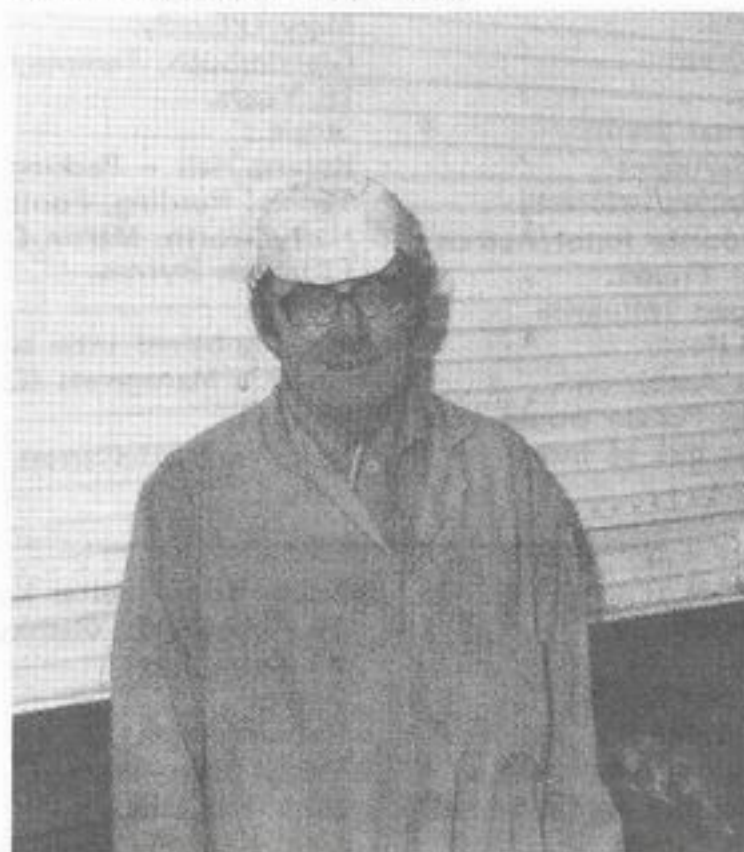
With the Company for his second season is Michael McElligott of Mohernagh, Ballyhahill.



Caught by our camera. Lucky for Dan Cagney it was not a second or two earlier. Jimmy Glenny applauds the awaiting crowd. Prior to this game in the 5 - A - Side



Bonning Hall Staff, above are Donal Markham from Rathkeale and Toss Donovan from Ballingarry.



Donal Cahill from Shanagolden is a Member of the Dispatch Staff of Shannon Meat Ltd.



Two Rathkeale men who joined the Staff for their first time in August are Francis Markham, Ballywilliam Liam Kennedy of Abbeylands.



1979 Heavy Gang in the Dispatch area are Gerry Griffin, Athea, Pat Bennett, Ardagh. Pat O'Sullivan, Ballingarry and Michael Buckley, Dromcollogher.



Mary, daughter of Pat Costelloe, Bonning Hall, was adjudged the bonniest baby at the Ten Knights Festival in Newcastle West. She is photographed with her mother Kitty, and the Lady of Desmond, Ann Fitzgerald. Also in the photograph are Festival Committee Members Mrs. M. Murphy and Mr. Ned O'Dwyer.

## E.S.B. INCREASES

The increase in E.S. B. rates announced in July will increase the company's electricity bill by more than 20%. This, in hard figures, amounts to an estimated £13,400 for a twelve month period. In 1977, the company's electricity charges amounted to £67,865. The estimate for this year, 1979 is £76,200.

Control of such indirect costs is an aspect of the company's activities that we all should have as a priority. Unnecessarily usage of electricity is wasteful and adds to the already very high burden of E.S.B. charges. Let us all be alert to this fact and switch off power and lighting when not required.

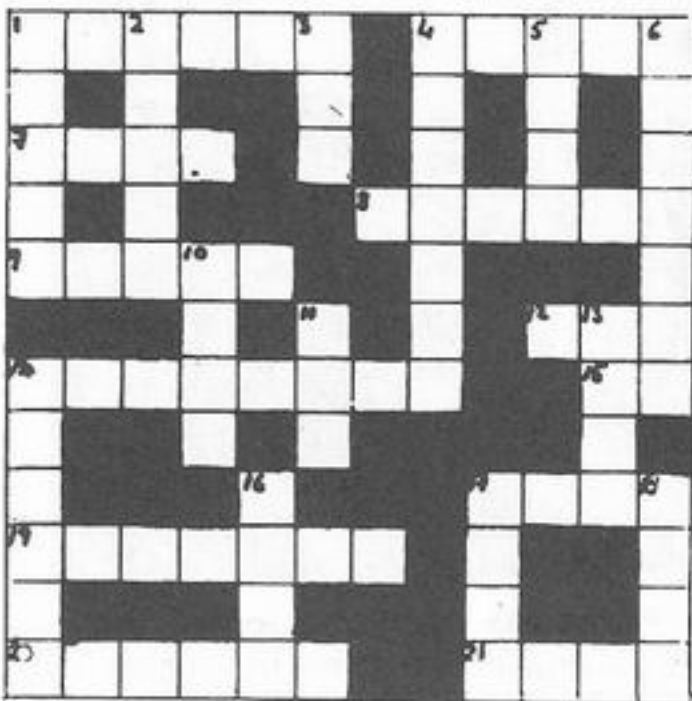
# CROSS - WORD

By: Fred O'Brien  
Cost Accountant.

### CLUES:

#### Across

1. Projectile
4. Explosive
7. This will Definitely go up in smoke.
8. ....Down.
9. A simple rest
12. Revolutionary Leader
14. Army Brass
5. Either.....
17. A way for the Pedestrian
19. Imitate Zealously
20. Taken hold of abruptly
21. Be off target



#### Down

1. Firearm
2. Musical strings
3. Means of identification
4. Direct result from 7 across and 1 down.
5. Eating House for 6 down
6. Recruit for the front
10. Let out
11. .... Lag
13. A sound
14. Decrees from the top
16. Without cover
17. "I think that I shall never see a ..... lovely as a tree"
18. Beats the Target

Solution on back Page.

# PROCEDURAL AGREEMENT

By Dan Neville

In early September of this year, Shannon Meat Limited and the Irish Transport and General Workers Union signed a Procedural Agreement which formally regulated the procedures to be adopted in all discussions between the Management of the Company and The Irish Transport and General Workers Union.

In industrial relations terms there are two types of agreements which union and management enter into. The first of these is referred to as substantive agreements.

Substantive agreements are made on a regular basis. These cover all such areas as basic pay, hours of work, holidays and all such conditions of employment.

Procedural Agreements on the other hand regulate the way substantive agreements are made. A procedure is an established way of carrying out some piece of business. The aim of a procedural agreement is to ensure that the business conducted between management and union is carried out in an orderly, consistent and generally accepted manner. It is a method of exercising joint regulation over matters that affect the interests of both the company and its employees. Through a procedural agreement, the company and the union have a common aim in using the process of negotiation and consultation to achieve results beneficial to both parties. The company formally recognises the union as representing its members in the organisation. The union and the

company agree to process grievances through procedures as laid out in the agreement. An agreement is made by both sides not to take industrial action until the agreed procedures are exhausted. This recognises that mutually satisfactory conditions are best achieved through the process of negotiation.

The role of the shop steward is formally outlined. Grievance and Disciplinary procedures, etc. are set out in such agreements.

Good industrial relations have existed within the company since its foundation. The signing of this procedural agreement and the operation of its terms will re-inforce this position. Management, Shop Stewards and other union members have an agreed written framework to conduct their relationships. Nobody is in doubt about how problems and grievances should be approached. The approach is consistent, therefore, and equitable throughout all departments. If a disagreement concerning an issue arises, everybody is aware of the procedure to be adopted to solve the problem.

In the past, custom and practice in the plant decided how consultation and negotiating should be conducted. This worked well, but could be subject to different interpretation and was not clearly defined. The new agreement formalises and clarifies this situation. It will lead to greater satisfaction in negotiation for both management and union and as such will strengthen the present good relationship.

## STAFF SOCIAL COMMITTEE A.G.M.

The Annual General Meeting of the Shannon Meat Limited Staff Social Committee took place on Thursday, 13th September. The following officers were elected:-

**Life President:** P. Lynch.  
**Chairman:** L. Ahern.  
**Vice-Chairman:** P. Sheehan.  
**Secretary:** D. Neville.  
**Joint Treasurers:** S. Guiry.  
D. McEnery:  
**Committee:** C. Jones, B. Collins, P. Guinane, J. Lenihan, P. Dunne, P. Curtin, M. Dunne, J. Cavanagh.

The 11th Annual Social will again take place at the Devon Inn, on November 17th. The Maurice Mulcahy orchestra has been engaged to render the dance Music. As usual, the amount of tickets available will be limited to 400. Tickets will be available from mid October.

## I.T.G.W.U. NEWS

The officers of the Irish Transport and General Workers Union would like to take this opportunity to give a sincere welcome to the new staff who have joined the ranks of Shannon Meat Limited. We wish them every success in their new positions and hope they find working in Shannon Meat Limited satisfactory. Some of our members in Shannon Meat Limited "took the plunge" recently. We wish them every happiness in their married state.

One of our Shop-Stewards, Seamus Cawley, of the cannery recently passed his driving test. We would like to congratulate him on this achievement.



Secretary of the Shannon Meat Section of the I.T.G.W.U. is Denis Noonan.

## DIM WIT

- \* Anytime he gets an idea into his head, he has the whole thing in a nutshell.
- \* He has a chip on his shoulder. It's a splinter from the Wood above it.
- \* He's recovering from an unusual accident - a thought recently struck him
- \* No one can drive him out of his mind. At most it would be only a putt.
- \* The only way she can make up her mind is to powder her forehead.
- \* They've named a Chinese restaurant after him - Low 1 Queue.
- \* He was in a fight once and was knocked conscious.
- \* He's hard at work on an invention - 'colour radi

## NEW FACES

It is customary at this point of time to introduce some of our new additions to Shannon Meat Ltd.,

**Name:** Mary O'Grady.  
**Address:** Glendarough, Templeglantine.  
**Age:** 16 Years.  
**Marital Status:** Single.  
**Department:** Boning Hall - Packing Section.  
**Hobbies/Interests:** Tennis, Reading, Football.  
**Favourite Actor/Actress:** Harry Worth, Martin Dillon.  
**Best Friend:** Elizabeth Byrnes.  
**Biggest Influence in Life:** The fair-haired little boy in the Refining Plant.  
**Life Ambition:** To be a Manageress (Doesn't state of who!).  
**What Person would you most like to meet?** Jack Lord (McGarrett, Hawai 50) "Book him Mary O' "



**Name:** Denis Reidy (better known as Denny).  
**Address:** 16 Abbeylands, Rathkeale.  
**Age:** 18 Years.  
**Marital Status:** Single.  
**Department:** Refining Plant.  
**Hobbies/Interests:** Motor Bikes, Women.  
**Favourite Actor/Actress:** Mork and Mindy.  
**Best Friend:** Liam Kennedy. (hope he doesn't get offended).  
**Biggest Influence in Life:** Mick.  
**Life Ambition:** To drive a lorry.  
**What Person would you most like to meet?** Cassius Clay (he may give me a few tips).



**Name:** Jackie Sheehan.  
**Address:** Courtmatrix, Rathkeale.  
**Age:** 21 Years.  
**Marital Status:** Single.  
**Department:** Slaughter Line.  
**Hobbies/Interests:** Reading, Motor Cycles, Travelling.  
**Favourite Actor/Actress:** Lee Van Cleefe.  
**Best Friend:** I wouldn't like to embarrass them.  
**Biggest Influence in Life:** My parents and John O'Connell.  
**What Person would you most like to meet?** Kenny Roberts - world champion motor cyclist.



**Name:** Brendan O'Connor.  
**Address:** Mountmahon, Abbeyfeale.  
**Age:** 18 Years.  
**Marital Status:** Single.  
**Department:** Boning Hall.  
**Hobbies/Interests:** Cushion fighting, making cushions, sitting on cushions.  
**Favourite Actor/Actress:** Glen Forde, Bridget Bardot.  
**Best Friend:** Mr. Pat Lyons.  
**Biggest Influence in Life:** My trimming knife, soft seats.  
**Life Ambitions:** To stay single (sorry girls).  
**What Person would you most like to meet?** Rose of Tralee (not the one in the garden).



# SOCCER SCENE



Saturday 28th July, marked the climax of the 1978-79 Soccer Season for Shannon United. On this date, players, officials, and supporters celebrated the events of the season just past. The near misses, the ones that just got away were discussed and relived again and again. A great night was had by one and all at Sheils' Arms. Trophies were presented to the players of Shannon United as - Cup Champions, Runners-Up in the League and Runners-Up in the Minors. The Club themselves presented trophies of the following:-

**Player of the Year** Frank Lynch  
**Clubman of the Year** John White  
**Leading Goalscorer** Sean Harnett

Mr. Pa. Sheahan for his services as Manager was also presented with a trophy.

## 5 - A - Side

Our second annual 5 - a - side tournament was once again a major success. The format was similar to the previous year. Sixteen teams participated and were divided into two groups of eight. The top two from each qualified for the semi-finals. The semi-finalists were: Weetabix, Flying Tigers, Aztecs and Halfway House. As it transpired the latter two qualified for the Final, thus making it a repeat of the previous year. The Aztes team of the '78, showing two changes - John O'Sullivan and Mario Zoncado in for the indisposed Tom O'Shaughnessy and Sean Harnett. This time Aztecs reversed the result and were convincing winners. For the record these are the line-outs:-

### Aztecs:-

Denis Harnett, John O'Sullivan, Edward Dollery, Mario Zoncado, Noel Harnett, Res. P. Harnett.

### Halfway House:-

MI. Gallagher, John Jones, John Lyons, Nial Hogan, Tommy Butler, Res. Don Gallagher.

## SCHOOL BOYS

Our under 15 school boys are County Champions. On Sunday, August 19th they defeated Kilmallock in an entertaining final by a solitary goal. The side lined out as follows:

Q. Harnett, N. Kennedy, J. Conmy, V. Conmy, MI. O'

Shaughnessy, D. O'Brien, G. O'Connor, B. Dillon (capt). S. Muckle, R. Zoncado, T. Meehan, Res. R. O'Doherty.

On the same day our 12s were drawing with Askeaton. The following Sunday Askeaton proved the masters after a great tussle. The Rathkeale line-out was:-

J. Muckle, P. O'Connor, M. Fox, G. O'Rourke, B. Daly, T. Hogan, P. Reidy, N. Tierney, Wm. Daly, MI. Duggan, M. Meehan.

## A.G.M.

The next major event on the club's calendar was the Annual General Meeting. Officials elected were as follows:-

**Chairman:** John White  
**V/Chairman:** Tim Mullane.  
**Hon. Secretary:** Tim Shiels.  
**Treasurer:** MI. Walsh  
**Committee:**  
 Noel Harnett, Jim Dollery, Ed. Dollery, John Burke, Sean Hennessy, Pa Sheahan, Sean O'Shea.

### Selection Committee:

John White, Sean Hennessy, Edward Dollery,  
**Captain:** Edward Dollery  
**V/Captain:** Noel Harnett

Our prospects for the coming season must be viewed apprehensively at this stage. We have lost Sean and Denis Harnett to Newcastle. Don Gallagher is poised to leave the club, and a few more are in doubt as to their future intentions. All is not gloom, for a number of years we have been one of the dominant forces in youth football. This forthcoming season should see the likes of Sean O'Shea, Speedy Meade and P. Harnett to name but three break into junior football. These lads along with the more seasoned campaigners will ensure that the renamed Club Rathkeale Utd., will uphold the football image which has been associated with Shannon Utd.

I conclude this article of Soccer Scene on a rather glum note. The A.G.M. this year saw the resignations of Miko Dunne and Noel White from their respective positions in the Committee. Both Miko and Noel have been loyal servants for many years to the game of soccer in this Parish. It would be true to say their work has never received the credit which it richly deserved.



Runners-Up to Aztecs were THE HALFWAY HOUSE:  
 Back Row (L to R) Don Gallagher (still thinks he won), Niall Hogan, John Lyons  
 Front Row: Johnny Jones, Mike Gallagher and Tommy Butler.

# RATHKEALE ATHLETIC CLUB

## OPEN SPORTS

I am glad to report that the "Rathkeale Open Sports" held on Monday, August 6th were once again a major success. This is in no small measure due to the following:-

- An exceptionally well organised Committee
- A hard working group of Stewards [may I mention MI. Kearns]
- Co-operative Club Officials
- Well behaved Athletes
- The ladies who make lovely sandwiches
- Followers of the sport who appreciate the efforts of the above-mentioned.



Mr. Michael Hanley,

The main item of news at the time of going to Press, concerns that man who is never out of the news, Club Secretary Michael Hanley. On Sunday 9th September, Michael (brother of our very own Liam) was elected National P.R.O. of B.L.O.E. This indeed is a great honour for Mike and is a true reflection on his successful endeavours to promote the code of athletics amongst the youth of the Community. Mike's involvement with B.L.O.E. reads like an addressed envelope:-

- Secretary Rathkeale Athletic Club
- Chairman County Limerick Board
- Munster Track and Field Secretary
- National Public Relation's Officer

In his spare time, Mike holds a responsible position with the Board of Public Works.

The best overall Club were Cuculainn of Dublin. Local athletes featured prominently against the galaxy of young stars. Patrick Mulcahy won the 100 metres under 14, even to the surprise of local contingent. The promising Barry Dillon notched a few trophies, as usual. However, I must not forget the gallant Jimmy Muckle who finished second in his long jump. The Sports were held in brilliant sunshine, before a very large crowd for which the first three places received worthwhile statuettes or plaque.

Preparations are presently being made for the commencement of the Cross-Country Season.

# G. A. A. CLUB NEWS

By Michael O'Neill Secretary.

The Inter-Firm Season has been one of the quietest for some years. The main reasons seem to have been an overall lack of interest by certain Clubs who previously had been very stong in the Inter-Firm ranks. Shannon Meat Ltd., is one of the teams who fulfilled its fixtures. In fact I am very glad to report that once again we have qualified for the County Hurling Semi-Final. Our opponents for this game will be St. Joseph's Hospital, Limerick. It promises to be a very good game of hurling. St. Joseph's can call on the services of such well known players as Sean Foley, Eugene Touhy and Tommy Marsh all of Limerick fame. If our lads play as well as they have done in the past, then we can look forward to another County Final against the Co. Council, new arrivals to the Inter-Firm Ranks.

## COUNTY QUARTER FINAL

On Saturday 25th August we had a very good win against Eurofabs of Limerick in the County Quarter-Final in Adare. While we were short some of our regular players the performance and the turnout was very encouraging for the future of

the Club. We introduced five new players to Inter-Firm for the first time and they can be very proud of their performance.

The first half of this game was very quiet as far as fast open hurling is concerned. We were trailing by two points at half-time and certainly knew that we had a battle on our hands. Our lads raised their game and we ran out very easy winners in the end - 2.9 - 2.4.

It is only fair that I name some of the newcomers who performed very admirably - Wm. Donegan, Tom Kennedy, Tom Donovan, Brendan Mescall.

Others who performed well were Matty Williams in goal, Denis Duggan, James Cavanagh and Bill Lynch in defence. Noel Harnett, Gerry Molyneaux and D. O'Keefe in the forwards. We are all now looking forward to the Semi-Final when we hope to be at full strength.

## LIMERICK COUNTY FINAL

I would like to congratulate two of our players Pat Sheehan and Danny "Boy O'Connor from Tournafulla on reaching the County Final.

## NEW STAFF

We would like to extend our very best wishes to the following people who joined the Staff of Shannon Meat Ltd., recently.

Anthony Steele, Church St., Rathkeale. Seamus Collins Devon Rd., Templeglantine. Frank Markham, 13 Ballywilliam, Rathkeale. Patrick Lyons, The Square, Abbeyfeale. Brendan O'Connor, Mountmahon, Abbeyfeale. Michael O'Donoghue, Ballaugh, Abbeyfeale. Bertie Aherne, Coole East, Athea. Tim Barry, Hollycross, Rathkeale. Noreen Linnane, Coole West, Athea. Patricia Linnane, Coole West, Athea. Ann Keaneally, Hollycross, Rathkeale. Kathleen O'Grady, Danesfort, Rathkeale. Gerry Linnane, Coole West Athea. Michael Ambrose, Dungaville, Ardagh. John Condon, Dohile, Rathkeale. John Geoghegan, Dalton Street, Athea. Patrick O'Connor, Donmoylan, Shanragolden. Patrick Brooder, Knocknalouga, Carrickerry. Donie Hourigan, Hollycross, Rathkeale. Denis Reidy, 16 Abbeylands, Rathkeale. Liam Kennedy, 4 Abbeylands, Rathkeale. William Donegan, Cappaghane, Ballyagran. John Sheehan, Courtmatrix, Rathkeale. Con Baggott, Danesfort, Rathkeale. Mary O'Grady, Glendarough, Templeglantine. Mary Ahern, Coole East Athea. Patrick Alfred, Graigue, Adare. Teresa Lynch, 14 Abbeylands, Rathkeale. Martin Smith, Ballingrane, Askeaton. Patrick O'Sullivan, 6 Clontemple, Ballingarry. John Dundon, Barnaryle, Patrickswell. Elizabeth Byrnes, Kilsanell, Ardagh. Gerard Griffin, Athea. Sean Enright, New Street, Abbeyfeale. Thomas O'Regan, Monleen House, Newcastle West. Ned Ahern, Skehanagh, Ardagh. Patrick Bennett, Farron, Ardagh. Michael Buckley, Woodfield Dromcollogher. Joan Greaney, Templeathea, Athea. William O'Brien, Barnagh, Templeglantine, Seamus Quinn, Carrickerry, Ardagh. Patrick McNamara, Castleroberts, Adare. Christopher O'Mahony, Carrickerry, Ardagh, Michael Stackpoole, Tallyho, Rathkeale. Brendan Mescall, Ballysteen, Askeaton. Brendan McNamara, Ardfinnan, Clonmel.

# SHANNON MEAT CHAT

By The Scribe



- \* Willie John O'Donnell is now Father Willie, or if you would prefer Papa Willie.
- \* On the same day as Willie John was qualifying for the "Allowance", Patsy (his brother) was qualifying for increased tax relief, when marrying.
- \* Did you hear that Willie Crowley earned a handy few bob (nothing new about that) when he went to hear the Indians Showband, lately. It's true he held their horses for them.
- \* An efficient Seamer in the Cannery, we are reliably informed is Hotlips.
- \* In the days of the million pound transfer. I am sure a certain Fair Hair centre half could be asked to "don" a jersey for somewhere less than a million (notice I am not stating how much somewhere is; or whose jersey he'll put on).
- \* A speedy recovery is extended to Murt Dillon, especially from Denis, who has to travel with Mike O'Neill now.
- \* How many of you have test driven a Toyota? It's much nicer than an Austin. In fact, you could TIE yourself to this little car.
- \* Double celebration for Ned Lawlor! His favourites Aztecs won the 5-A-Side, while his wife Kathleen presented him with a son, Augustine John.
- \* Denny Reidy of the Refining Plant (no connection, just coincidental) maintains not alone do Beef eaters make good lovers, but beef packers make better ones.
- \* Gerry Geaney busy in the Despatch asks "What did I do with my pencil?". Seanie Mahoney replies "It's behind your ear". "Come now, Seanie, you know I'm busy, which ear?".
- \* A certain Supervisor has already come to live his second youth. He was recently seen in the Majestic Ballroom, but it was a dead "loss"
- \* Seamus Cawley took no turn for the worst when passing his driving test, lately.
- \* Liam Kennedy's favourite two songs are "Bang Bang" and Sine Fine Fail" so Jack Lyons says.
- \* Ned Ahern is seeking a transfer to the cannery. By the way Ned is forever singing "When I first said I loved only you Nora" and "Noreen Bawn".
- \* How many of you are awake for Dawn? Well! Charlie Power is awoken by Dawn (the new arrival) long before any light appears. By the way; congratulations.
- \* How do you make two week's wages in an afternoon? Trust in the Moon (e) my friends.
- \* Congratulations to Frank and Paula Dalton on the recent birth of their first child.

## MICROBIOLOGY EXPLAINED

Microbiology and Micro-organisms are some of the words referred to by those responsible for Hygiene within our Factory. Such words are often off-putting to those of us who do not fully understand their meaning. In his In-Plant Hygiene Course which took place for all Shannon Meat Staff in June and July, Dick Griffith of the Institute for Industrial Research and Standards gave a very interesting talk entitled "Introduction to Microbiology".

In this talk Mr. Griffith pointed out that Micro-organisms are widely distributed in nature. They occur in soil, water and on man and animals and even on the air we breathe.

The fact that certain micro-organisms occur in and on man and animals is of particular importance from the point of view of food poisoning. For example, if certain bacteria which are contained in the bowles come in contact with food-stuffs, they can cause food poisoning, leading to illness or perhaps even death. This is why it is vital that toilet hygiene rules must be strictly observed. Washing ones hands after using the toilet is a rule which must be obeyed.

Similarly, certain bacteria which originate in the nose, the throat, in septic wounds and in boils, can also cause food poisoning. Septic wounds must be properly bandaged and ideally, a food processor with such a complaint should not be allowed to handle foodstuffs. People suffering from heavy colds should also take care, as should people suffering from sore throats. Remember the warning: **Coughs and Sneezes Spread Diseases**". In the food processing context, coughing and sneezing over the food product can set in train a chain of events which, given the proper conditions of time and temperature, will lead to an outbreak of food poisoning.

However, it would be wrong to assume that all micro-organisms are harmful. Some are of considerable industrial and medicinal importance. To obtain a wider understanding of microbiology we will look at a number of common types of micro-organism.

### BACILLI

The Latin word "Bacillus" simply means "rod" and bacilli are rodshaped micro-organisms. Some bacilli produce products such as vinegar and antibiotics - others cause food poisoning and food spoilage.

### YEASTS

Yeasts are widely used, in baking,

- \* A punter in the Slaughter Line, recently lost £20 on a "Quack". You could say he was "ducked" out of his money.
- \* Joe Lynch's Chips done well in recent 5-A-Side. However, they got burnt in the semi-final.
- \* Tyler "Whosoever gets my son will get a prize". A girl from Pallaskenry on hearing this asked to see the prize. Jack Lyons told a friend of mine that one. I'll be at your funeral Jack.
- \* Congratulations to our Chairman on his little stroke of good fortune in having a "Sweeping" success of late.
- \* Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Seanie Lynch on the birth of a son.

brewing and wine-making, and even in dried form, as a component of animal feeds. On the other hand, they can cause spoilage in wine, beer, cheese and milk. One strain can cause a particularly unpleasant skin disease commonly called "Thrush".

### MOULDS

Chemicals such as citric acid, and antibiotics such as penicillin are produced by moulds. As against that, moulds are also responsible for such things as carrot blight, and root rot in vegetables.

### STREPTOMYCES

These micro-organisms occur in soil. One strain of Streptomyces produces the well known antibiotic "Streptomycin", but other strains are responsible for a lung disease called "Farmer's Lung", which can be contracted by inhaling dust while piking hay. Other strains can cause skin lesions and potato scab.

### SIZE

Micro-organisms are, as the name implies, very small life-forms. Their tiny size can be appreciated when one considers that a one-inch long chain of Streptococci [which are sometimes responsible for sore throat conditions] would consist of 50,000 bacteria.

In a future edition of the "Gazette" we hope to deal with the effect that temperature and time has on these micro-organisms.

## SYMPATHY

Sympathy is extended to Mr. Bill Lynch of the Freezer Department and his family on the recent death of his father after a brief illness.

Condolences are offered to Patrick and Michael Dunne, Despatch Supervisor and Assistant Cannery Supervisor respectively on the death of their mother Ellen, on 15th September. We wish to sympathise with other members of the Dunne family on their bereavement.

### CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS

- Across:** 1. Rocket; 4. Bombs; 7. Fire; 8. Closed; 9. Eased; 12. Che; 14. Officers; 15. Or; 17. Path; 19. Emulate; 20. Seized; 21. Miss;
- Down:** 1. Rifle; 2. Cords; 3. Tag; 4. Bullets; 5. Mess; 6. Soldier; 10. Emit; 11. Jet; 13. Hoot; 14. Orders; 16. Bare; 17. Poem; 18. Hits.

## FIRST DAY

A feature of the meat industry that has been with us since Shannon Meat was started is the seasonal nature of the livestock supply. In July and August of each year, there is a dramatic increase in the output of the factory. This increase each year necessitates intensive recruiting of new staff to the organisation. In July to September of this year, in the region of 50 new people commenced employment for their first season with the company. What is it like on ones first day with an organisation employing 300 people?

For some years Shannon Meat Limited have introduced an induction programme for recruits on their first morning. This has been redesigned this year. The recruits are welcomed to the company, given a detailed history of the organisation and informed of the different activities within the organisation; e.g. sports clubs, etc. They are then given a tour of the plant by a training instructor who explains in detail the process throughout. He also organises lockers and protective clothing, etc.

Detailed conditions of employment are given to each recruit. These are read and discussed. In the afternoon, the chief chemist, gives a comprehensive lecture on hygiene requirements, and rules, in a food processing plant. This is followed by an explanation of the incentive bonus scheme and its operation by the Industrial Engineer. Safty is an area that the company is ever highlighting. The Chairman of the Safety Committee, the plant engineer, gives the recruits a talk on the safety aspects of their job. Finally, where appropriate, the officers of the Shannon Meat Section committee of the Irish Transport and General Workers Union are introduced to the new employees and given an opportunity to discuss their role in the organisation.

In evaluating the induction programme, all staff that have been on it, have been emphatic in their expression of the benefit of the course. The first day of any job is a day that one always will remember. The induction programme assists the new staff to contribute from the start to the success of the organisation.

## SHANNON MEAT LIMITED

### STAFF SOCIAL COMMITTEE

### ELEVENTH ANNUAL

### DINNER DANCE

will take place at

THE DEVON HOTEL, TEMPLEGLANTINE

on

**SATURDAY, 17TH. NOVEMBER**

MUSIC BY: Maurice Mulcahy Orchestra.

DINNER: 9 p.m.

SUBSCRIPTION: £5.00.

