

Shannon Meat GAZETTE



Vo. 6 No. 1 December 1980/January 1981.

Tel. [069] 64111 or [061] 40700.

ON THE MOVE



Michael Guiney

Michael Guiney has recently been appointed to the position of Foreman in the Company's Maintenance Department.

Friendly Michael hails from the County Cork village of Kiskeam and remains a loyal supporter of the rebel county.

Michael received both his Primary and Secondary education in his local parish. He also attended the famous Agricultural College of Mountbellew, Co. Galway, where he arose triumphant with his Certificate.

City and Guilds

Michael served his Apprenticeship as a Fitter Technician with the Air Corp, Balldonnell. While serving his time as an Apprentice he studied by night at Bolton Street College where he passed the City and Guilds Examinations.

Thirty-one year old Michael joined Shannon Meat Limited on 16th. October, 1978. He assumed his responsibilities as Maintenance Foreman in the latter part of September of this year.

Michael is married to Limerick girl Ursula Burke. In fact, in the not too distant past Mike was made to feel a very proud man when his wife presented him with a daughter, whom they have christened Deirdre.

Like most of his counterparts in Shannon Meat, Mike's main interest outside of work and family, are centred around sports.

We are sure that Mike with his pleasing personality will be equally successful as a Foreman as he is a Fitter.

WELCOME

Welcome to the Following people who have joined the Company.

Tom Govan, Abbeylands, Rathkeale.
Tom O'Regan, Monleena House, Newcastle West.
William O'Brien, Barnagh, Templeglantine.
Joan Spillane, Mountcollins, Abbeyfeale.
Robert Browne, Kennedy Park, Limerick.
Ann Condon, Dohile, Rathkeale.
Eddie O'Dwyer, Courtmacsherry.
Mary Murphy, Ballagh, Abbeyfeale.
John Broulder, Knocknaclugga, Carrickerry.
Pat White, Glendarough, Templeglantine.
Richard O'Kelly, Rylands, Rathkeale.
Sean Condon, Dohile, Rathkeale.
Patrick Harnett, 18 Abbeylands, Rathkeale.
Liam Walsh, Enniscouche, Rathkeale.
John Roche, Ardagh.
Michael Casey, Ballingooole, Croagh.
Gerard Griffen, Athea.
Seamus O'Connor, 15 Abbeylands, Rathkeale.

Joe Hannon, Finniterstown, Adare.
Joe Morrissey, Holycross, Rathkeale.
Pat Meade, Carrick-on-Suir.
Pat Lyons, The Square, Abbeyfeale.
Mary Broulder, Knocknaclugga, Carrickerry.
Martin Kelly, Assumpta Park, Newcastlewest
John Sexton, Templeglantine.

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT 1980



Mr. Frank Wall, Chairman.

The past year has shown considerable improvement in the Company's trading and profits. This was made possible by a better supply of cattle, particularly in the latter half of 1979 resulting in greatly improved throughput, and the benefits accruing from our heavy capital expenditure in recent years. We also had the benefit of a successful Private Storage Aid scheme. Against this, however, the operation of the 2% levy, the exchange difficulties of the European Monetary System and the appreciation in Sterling, coupled with the delay in the E.E.C. Agricultural Price Agreement all militated against normal profitable trading.

The current recession had adversely affected the Company's markets in the U.K. as well as in Europe generally and has resulted in failures of a number of meat trading firms. Sales of meat are becoming increasingly difficult while high interest rates and rising costs put severe pressure on profit margins. At home the poor tourist season has adversely affected our home trade.

A healthy and prosperous farming industry is essential for the maintenance of supplies of cattle on which our Company depends. Unfortunately the farming community

and particularly those engaged in beef production have been amongst the hardest hit by the recession and rising costs. Some really constructive action must be taken to halt inflation, which is choking their efforts to maintain a decent standard of living. An adjustment in various regulations to enable the beef producer to compete on an equal footing for stores and an adjustment to the Intervention intake which might enable a higher Intervention price to be paid. In this connection it should be emphasised that the proposed suspension of Intervention would bring about a radical change in trading arrangements affecting the Irish Meat Plants and would also have a serious adverse effect on the beef producer. Serious note must be taken of the depletion of the national breeding herd. The present reported destocking of dairy herds due to farmers being unable to meet their day to day commitments is to be deplored.

We must continue to say and publicise that the main obstacles to the continuing expansion and prosperity of our company are: (i) the export refund system of the E.E.C. which massively favours the export of chilled carcasses and live exports against the added value/intensive processing of meat products which is this Company's primary activity and (ii) excessive inflation and inflationary costs compared with those of our European counterparts.

Once again it is my pleasure to express our sincere appreciation to our Management and Staff for their loyal and devoted service to the company during the past year.

FRANK WALL
Chairman

J.J. BASTOW - TRIBUTE

We offer our sincere sympathy to the wife and daughters of Mr. Jim Bastow who died recently. Jim was Secretary of the Irish Fresh Meat Exporters' Society since its foundation in 1941. His name will be ever associated with the modern Irish Meat Industry of which he was truly a founding father. He was a man of many talents, a low handicap golfer and for a long number of years, the premier player on Ireland's International Bridge team.

His charity, especially his efforts on behalf of mentally handicapped children, were a large part of his life. He passed away suddenly while praying at the 7th Station at the Way of the Cross in Lourdes. He would not have wished it to happen in any better way.

AUTOMATIC TELEPHONE

In November Telephone Exchanges in Rathkeale, Newcastle West and Ballingarry changed to the automatic Dialling System.

To Contact Shannon Meat Ltd., Dial —

(069) 64111

OR

(061) 40700



Photographed at the Shannon Meat Annual Social which took place at the Devon Hotel on 15th. November are Mr. Alan Ruth, Mrs. Catherine Ruth, Mrs. N. Lynch and Mr. Paddy Lynch, General Manager and Director of the Company.

WE WISH
ALL OUR READERS
A HAPPY, PEACEFUL
AND
PROSPEROUS 1981.

The Christmas Holiday arrangements for the Company are as follows :-

Slaughtering operations will cease on Monday, 22nd. December and will resume on Friday, 2nd. January.

Livestock will be accepted up to and including Monday, 22nd. all Livestock must be advised.

FIVE TO-DAY

Tempis Fugit. It seems a short five year's since we published the first Edition of The Shannon Meat Gazette. Many changes have come to pass since then. The Magazine was introduced in 1975 to improve communications between Employees, Suppliers and Customers. It was not meant to cater for all communications in this area. It can help in a small though important manner.

Over the past five years we have received many comments and encouragement from many sources. On some occasions views we expressed were not in accord with everybody's thinking and on many occasions they told us so. We welcome this and concern will really arise when nobody has a comment or criticism. At that stage the Magazine will not be read.

As we publish the 31st Edition we say "thank you" to the many people who contributed over the past five years. To those who feel that they may have something to say through this medium we express the newspapers maxim - "Publish and be damned."

SENIOR CITIZENS RUN

For the second year in succession, the members of Rathkeale AC have organised a Charity Run. Last year, they ran from Dublin to Charleville in aid of the Charleville and District Mentally Handicapped Association.

This year's feat is more parochial in that they are this time raising funds for Rathkeale Old Folks. Yes, some of them are looking after their own futures, - crystal ball gazing or maybe that is how they'll feel after the run.

Our band of athletes are running from Wexford to Rathkeale, on Saturday and Sunday, 20th and 21st December. Their target is to raise £2,000 for the Old Folks - a most worthy cause and an effort well worth support.

Albert Servant

Albert Servant,
13, Rue Jean Bovin,
F72300 Sable/Sarthe
FRANCE

Dear Sir,

This year I complete my third year at School to Nantes. I study animals waste in a killing Plant with the collaboration of the Nantes municipal Killing Plant.

Now, I complete my third Year training in a Poultry killing Plant. I study about the poultry refrigeration. I finish my training at the end of September. After, I search for a job - maybe I stay in this Company as Chief Engineer? In this Factory they kill chickens, guinea hens, turkey, duck and rabbit. They practice boning of chickens and duck.

The Managers want to build a second killing plant. I am interested to be involved in this. This is good for my first job.

Sable/Sarthe is a small town near Le Mans, 150 Kms. from Paris.

"Bonjour é Jim et é John" at the Lab. See you. Albert.

PROFILE



Pa Dunne is Supervisor of the Despatch Department. The popular Pa is married with two children Derick and Patricia.

He continues himself with the remainder of his life story -

"My first School was on the present site of the Boy's National School and the teachers were Mrs. Hayes and Mrs. Mooney. I then progressed to the School which was situated where the Cemetery is now. Mr. Boyle was Headmaster at the time and he had a big influence on me. On reflection, though he did not spare the rod, yet he was a very good teacher.

After I did my Primary Examination I commenced Secondary School, at the School which was being run by 'Jacko' O'Connor and two of his daughters. The School was closed down when I had completed my second year. So, I then went to Adare and there I did my Intermediate. However, I only stayed there for twelve months as I did not get on too well with the Christian Brothers" - Christian maybe but Brothers never! "I then completed my Secondary education in Newcastle West."

Training

"I joined Shannon Meat Limited in March, 1966. I had spent a few Summers working in the P.B.R. Mr. George Boyle, R.I.P. who was Manager of the Bakery at that time was instrumental in getting me the job in Shannon Meat.

At that time there was no sophisticated training Schemes, so it was a matter of watching and learning. One of the people I remember working with at that time was Michael Kelly who is presently, Charge-Hand of the Refining Plant. As well as picking up various tips from my fellow workers John Mulcahy spent a little time with me and other newcomers in teaching us the rudiments of trimming and boning. He has been a big influence on me in my time with the Company and I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for all he has done for me.

I spent six months in the Boning Room and one of the things I remember was clearing the ice from the tables, prior to commencing work, how times change.

From the Boning Room I graduated to weighing carcasses in the Slaughter Line. I spent nine months there and great times they were. At this time I worked closely with Tom Cullen who has since retired and with Ned Roche, Ballywilliam R.I.P., two great friends.

From here I moved to the Shipping Department where I spent a few years checking loads and completing Customs Documents. In the early seventies it was decided that Billy Nestor who was then running both the Home Sales & Loading Departments should concentrate on the fast developing

PATRICK DUNNE

Home Sales Department. So, I was offered the position of supervising the Loading Department. I have held this position since."

Appreciation

"I would like to voice my appreciation to all those who work with me and those whom I supervise. The Cold Store Staff, the Loading Team affectionately known as the 'heavy gang'. (If Allan Clarke gets the same effort from his players as these give me, Leeds First Division survival is assured). Thanks also to Johnny O'Sullivan, Gerry Geaney and last but not least, my right hand man - Gerard O'Connor.

Since I have joined the Company I have seen many changes like the Slaughter Line, Boning Lines, Office and amenity blocks to name but a few. In my own Department we have the new Cold Store and updated improvements in handling and distribution.

In my young days I played a little soccer. Unfortunately, as with people such as Mick Coop of Coventry, the highlights of my career were few and far between, in fact almost non-existent." Somehow, I think brother Miko is meant to be reading this.

"I think there was a lot more fun in the game then and we played solely for the enjoyment we got from the game. I remember playing for hours everyday at the playgrounds in Roche's Road. One youngster I remember from those days was Tom White of the Boning Department. He was just out of nappies at that time.

To-day, there is too much emphasis put on drink and the Pub by the young people and involvement in sport comes a poor second.

Leeds

"One of the great loves of my life is Leeds United and although they are receiving much criticism at the moment, I have every confidence that their new Manager Allan Clarke" (hope he isn't sacked in the meantime), "will have them back on the path to greatness before very long" - optimism of the highest order.

"Patch Markham and myself figured we could have done a job for the Club and we were thinking of applying for the Manager's job. However, "Sniffer" has our full support and we are available if he needs advice. We may undertake to write to him during one of our lunch-hour discussions and thrash out" - a most appropriate word - "his problems".

"I run a Cub Pack which is great fun as I like being involved with young people. Another of my interests is singing. I am a member of the local Choir - at present I am teaching Johnny O'Sullivan a few Hymns as he only knows 'You'll never walk alone'. I am also attending Drama Classes, and a Drama Group has been formed. It is hoped eventually to put on plays at the Community Centre. Reading and some Photography are two further interests of mine."

Pa Dunne as is his brother Miko, a softly spoken, friendly, genuine, helpful and most amiable of nature's gentlemen. We leave the last few words to Pa.

TIME'S CHANGE



Rathkeale, Sunday 1939

Mr.

From JOHN SHEAHAN
VICTUALLER

Always Supplied with Finest Fresh Cured Beef, Mutton, etc.

25	5 lb. Mutton	4.2
26	10 lb. Mutton	8.4
		12.6

Times Change! The above Bill from J. Sheahan, Victualler, Rathkeale shows that 15 lbs. legs of Mutton cost 12s 6d or 62½p in 1939. Think of that when you are having your Christmas Drinks!!!!

SYMPATHY

Sincere sympathy is expressed to Willie and Patsy O'Donnell of the Boning Hall on the death of their Mother, Mrs. William O'Donnell, of Kilquane, Rathkeale. Condolences are forwarded also to other members of the O'Donnell Family.

Some Member of the Staff have suffered bereavements since our last issue. To these and their families we express our deepest sympathy.

NEW CLUBS

Hereunder is a list of Clubs/Associations that have been formed in Rathkeale recently:-

- Boxing Club
- Youth Club
- Abbeylands/Boherboy Resident's Association.
- Drama Society
- Old Folk's Charity Run Committee.



Joe Hannon of Finniterstown, Adare [above] joined the Company in the Despatch Department in October.

"I would like to thank the Company for giving me the opportunity to have met my wife. Around the time when I was working in the Slaughter Line, I met a girl by the name of Anne O'Grady who also worked with the Company in the Boning Hall and who subsequently became my wife. My Wages when we got married in 1968 were £12.50".

Come to think of it, one final thought, the co-ordinator of this Profile was the altar boy at Pa and Anne Dunne's wedding.

PICTURE PARADE

PICTURE PARADE



In October, Staff and students from the Bolton St. College of Technolng visited the company as part of their survey commisioned by Rathkeale Community Council. Photographed above are Joe Davis, [left] with some of the students.



At the 13th. Annual Company Social were Marcella Curtin, Donal Markham, Patrick and Stephanie Dalton all from Rathkeale.



Photographed at the Annual Dinner Dance were Daniel Ahern, Sandymount, Dublin and Miss Ita Reidy, Ashford.



Liam and Mary O'Donnell at the Devon Inn.



Enjoying the music of Maurice Mulcahy on the 15th. November are the music makers themselves, Pa Guinane, Frank Costelloe and their gracious wives.



Jimmy Hayes conducts the Maurice Mulcahy Orchestra at the Annual Social.



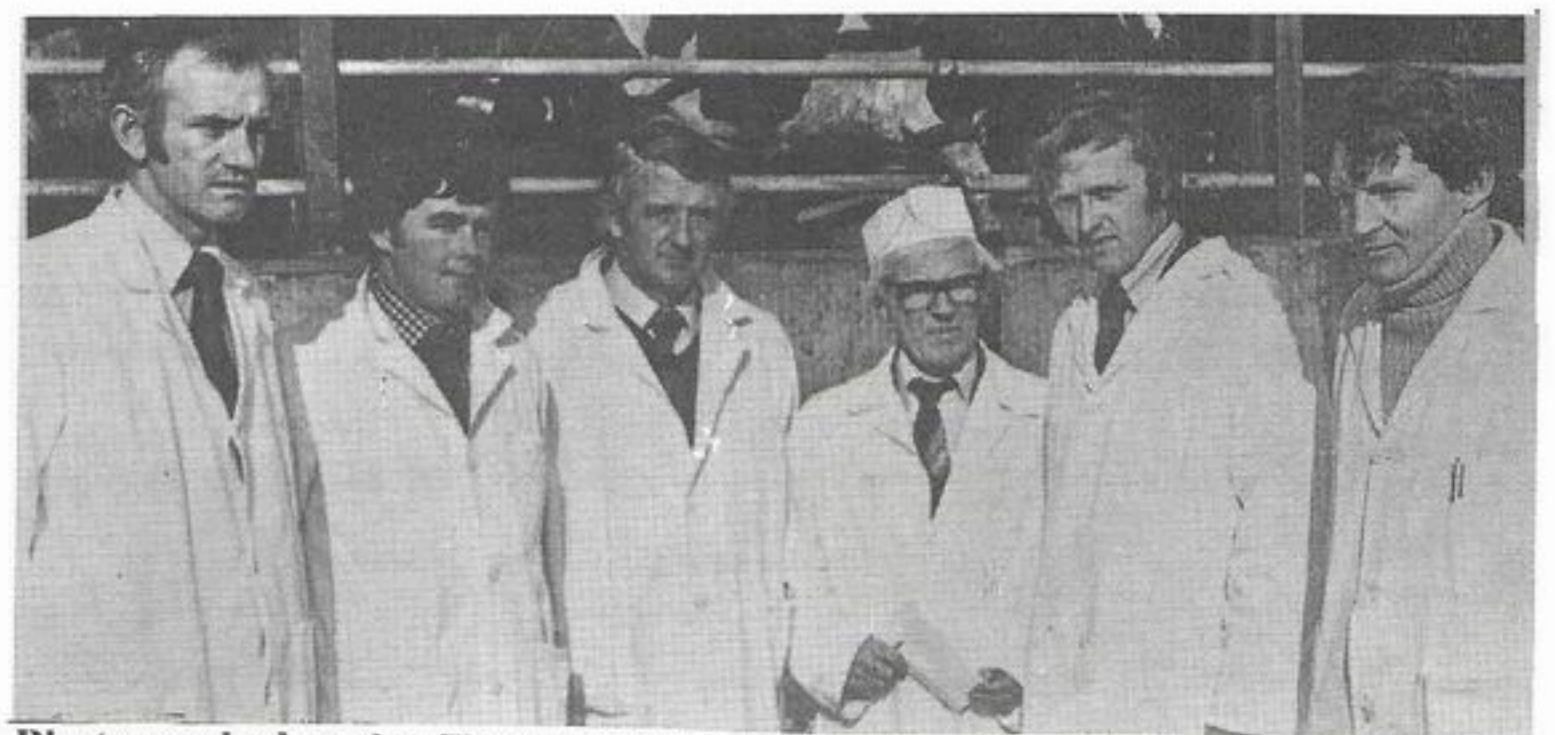
Enjoying the Annual Staff Social on 15th. November are Mary Liston and Mary Lynch.



Mr. & Mrs. Bill Lynch at the Annual Social



Eugene Doyle, Livestock Group Inspector of the Department of Agriculture on Right during the course of his demonstration on Carcase Classification for the Charolais Society of Ireland at the Company's premises on 24th. October this year.



Photographed at the Charolais Breeders Society Classification demonstration are, Dan Neville, Shannon Meat Ltd., Eamonn Maguire Classification Officer of the Department of Agriculture, Donie Donovan, Shannon Meat Ltd., Bart Monaghan, President Charolais Breeders Society of Ireland, John Dillon, Chairman Mid-Western Branch of the Charolais Breeders Society and Maurice Windle Classification Officer of the Department of Agriculture.

TOM VOKES THE TERROR OF LIMERICK

By Pdraig O Maidin,
Cork County Librarian

On March 4th. 1822, a number of men appeared before a special Insurrection Court, at Rathkeale, charged with various crimes. The greater number of them were charged with being absent from their homes after sunset, which at the time, meant being abroad any time after half past five in the afternoon. Under the Insurrection Act, the hour of curfew had been fixed at 9.00 p.m., but this had suddenly been altered by Proclamation to sunset. It was, of course, impossible for men trying to eke out a livelihood to obey the new regulation. Where a magistrate had any suspicion against a man, he had only to send his constables into his locality, discover him in a field, haul him before the Insurrection Court and have him transported beyond the seas for seven years. It was, of course, manufacturing crime.

Most of the men who found themselves before the court, at Rathkeale, on that March day knew that they could expect no mercy from the special magistrates appointed under the Insurrection Act. Some did not bother to bring witnesses to court and casually accepted the verdict of transportation, satisfying themselves that they were sentenced for "no crime", or as one of them put it "it's not any way scandalous", and such of them, in whom even a faint hope had survived the rigours of imprisonment while awaiting trial, they went pale when they saw Tom Vokes in the court that morning. Vokes was there to be sure that nobody escaped.

Thomas P. Vokes, Chief Police Magistrate for County Limerick, terrorised not only Limerick, but also those parts of the neighbouring counties into which he made occasional forays. For thirty years his name was the most dreaded in Ireland. His memoirs, as told by his son-in-law, H.R. Addison, are intended to show him as a man of inexhaustible resource and of unusual courage and energy. It has often struck me that if Conan Doyle did not model his fictional Sherlock Holmes on Vokes, then, at least, he must have been influenced by him.

In the 1820's, Limerick, like many other Munster counties, was in almost total Insurrection after the decline of trade with the Continent with the end of the Napoleonic wars and with the still increasing burden of rent, it looked as if landlordism had totally failed. The tenant farmers and the labourers driven to desperation and on the verge of starvation were attempting to force the landlords to abandon their estates, so that the farms might become available without rent and sufficient food be made available for the people. To a large degree they succeeded. The almost total state of Insurrection is shown in a report in May, 1822, which states that in North Cork at the time, the greater part of the population left home and established camps on the mountains. From these camps, bodies of men descended on the neighbouring towns to seize food, bedding and arms.

When Vokes died, in 1852, he was credited with having single handed put down the state of Insurrection in the 1820's, in

Limerick. One of his methods is described by his son-in-law, Addison, who was brought by Vokes to witness one of the first executions in the new jail in Mulgrave Street, in Limerick, now Limerick Prison.

Addison describes the condemned man. "He was a tall athletic young man, some five and twenty years of age, dressed from head to foot in white flannel and perfectly ready to converse about himself, but equally determined not to betray the companions of his kind, nor the fearful links which probably bound him to carry out the organised will of others, nor even now ready to afford a clue by which one of those secret societies, those brotherhoods of blood might be discovered. Even now at the last moment, he might hope for a respite for the judge was still near."

The condemned man went to his death having said goodbye to his wife and family. Re-entering the prison yard, Vokes inquired of the head jailer if the prisoner's clothes had been destroyed. "The officers bowed assent and we passed on. I could not resist my desire of asking the head magistrate why this was done." Vokes assured him that it was done to check crime. Addison was astonished and insisted that Vokes must be joking.

"You must know then" said Vokes "that when this country first earned its fatal celebrity, every means were adopted to put down the lawless bands which the paraded through our fields in open daylight; special commissions had no effect, prompt executions were of no avail, guilt still enjoyed first primacy and when an execution took place, it was rather a source of triumph for the condemned man, then the severe and wholesome lesson it was intended to impart. Cheers greeted the monster as he ascended the gallows and when he was cut down, his body was carried away to be interred with drunken pomp."

Vokes prevailed on the authorities to order the bodies of the executed to be buried within the precinct of the jail; "indeed on some occasions, they were given over to the surgeons to be dissected to the great horror of their relatives. This gave a temporary check to crime, but after a while, it was clear that they had become callous on this head and even these salutary measures failed to alarm them.

"About this time I became an officer of government and I mentally vowed to find out what consideration they had introduced to meet this horrible stroke aimed at them. In thus depriving them of the dead bodies of those they loved. After considerable trouble, for they jealously guarded their secret, I found that immediately on each execution taking place, the friends of the culprit came to the prison gates and his clothes were duly delivered, and loaded with them, they set off to some neighbour's cabin and there having arranged the garments in a proper form, they went through the whole mockery of waking them. Here the whiskey flowed and the tobacco smoke formed a canopy of cloud. Here they danced around the apparel of the deceased. Here they poured

LIVESTOCK TOPICS

Mid-Western Charolais Society Field Day

On 24th October the Mid-Western Branch of the Charolais Society held a Field Day on the Classification Scheme at the Company's Premises. Mr. Eugene Doyle of the Department of Agriculture outlined the operating of the Scheme and its growing importance for the eighties. Consumer demands will be more educated and the trade will have to respond to this. It will be uneconomic to produce a lower grade animal not suitable for the market place.

The Charolais and Charolais cross animals were assessed by those attending before slaughter and Grading and later were shown the animals in the Carcase state and saw the actual grading taking place by the Department of Agriculture Classification Officers - Mr. Maurice Windle and Mr. Eamonn Maguire.

A Charolais X Shorthorn achieved the best kill out at 68 lb. per cwt. and graded confirmation "R" and fat score "3" which would qualify for a premium of up to 4p per lb in price.

Alternatively a Jersey X Charolais had a kill out of 57 lb per cwt. and graded L 3 which would only qualify for the basic top price being quoted. This animal would be regarded as an average grade.

Taking the quoted price for the week at 68p per lb. the latter bullock with a 57 lb kill out was worth £38.76 per cwt. or £503.88 for a 13 cwt. animal.

Alternatively the first animal with a kill out of 68 pounds because of the good grading qualified for a premium of 4p per lb., bringing the price to 72p per lb. and £48.96 per cwt. He realised £636.48 for the same liveweight of 13 cwt.

Allowing that the kill out of 68 lbs. was exceptionally good the example highlights the variation in

final price depending on the performance of the animals. It must also be realised that the animal at the lower end of the scale could slip into a grade of "A4" which in many factories would further reduce the value and limit markets.

Chart

The variation in the value of the animals is shown on the accompanying chart.

Speaking at the field day, Mr. Bart Monaghan, president of the Irish Charolais Society, thanked Shannon Meat Ltd. for the excellent exercise and demonstration of the actual working of the Beef Classification Scheme.

"It certainly educates us and points the finger at what is the best for the meat processor to handle and the farmer to breed.

"Charolais have been bred in Ireland for the most of twenty years and if they were not a viable proposition they would have disappeared long ago. To-day they are more popular than ever before. Feeders and cattle finishers like them because they gain faster than other breeds, and the meat processors like them because they are in demand, by the meat buyers.

"The retail meat buyers want them because of their cutability of saleable lean meat. In these times of doom and gloom it should be the objective to produce a product that is more profitable," he said.

Mr. Monaghan said that the myth about difficult calving had been dispelled through the work of the society and the Department of Agriculture provided that the farmers availed of the advice in the selection of the right bulls.

"We are at a serious crossroads in Irish farming. It is not a time to preach doom and gloom. It is time to spread a little confidence and let's hope that our meat factories have some ideas," he said.

Breed	Teeth	Live Weight	Grade	Carcase Weight	Kill out Per cwt.	Price Per lb.	Price Per cwt.	Total Value
Simm x Ch.	4	13.3.0.	R3	856 lb.	62.40 lb.	72p	£44.92	£617.76
Fr. x Ch.	2	15.1.0.	R4	952 lb.	62.42 lb.	72p	£44.94	£685.44
Her x Ch	4	15.3.0.	R5	1008 lb.	64 lb.	70p	£44.80	£705.60
Jer x Ch	2	11.0.0.	L3	626 lb.	56.9 lb.	68p	£38.69	£425.68
Sh x 1/2 Ch	6	14.0.0.	L3	844 lb.	60.28 lb.	68p	£40.99	£573.92
Fr. x 1/2 Ch	6	13.3.0.	L2	814 lb.	59.2 lb.	68p	£40.25	£553.52
Sh x Ch	6	14.0.0.	R3	953 lb.	68.0 lb.	72p	£49.01	£686.16
Ch x Ch	2	12.2.0.	E2	831 lb.	66.48 lb.	72p	£47.86	£598.32
Ch x Ch	2	12.2.0.	E2	786 lb.	62.88 lb.	72p	£45.27	£565.92

The animals in the above chart were selected from the total steers offered on the 24th. October and represent a Cross Section of the total.

forth blessings on the soul of the man who had been hanged and called down curses, mingled with oaths of vengeance on the murderers, thus designating all who had in any way assisted in bringing the assassin to justice."

Vokes decided that in future the condemned man must be stripped of his clothes on the morning of his execution and a plain costume of white flannel substituted. "Thus clad, he appeared on the scaffold before the crowd to their great astonishment and horror, which was not a little increased when an application at the gate were told that the clothes of the person just hanged had been burnt. Ridiculous as this remedy may appear to you, it alarmed all the superstitious peasantry and

afforded them a more effectual check to crime than any other measure I have been lucky enough to originate."

Vokes had little need to take considerable trouble, as he claimed, to discover or invent crime. He had a bunch of paid spies and agents housed in his cottage at Rathbane on the outskirts of Limerick. Where his memoirs can be checked with contemporary accounts, they are shown to be exaggerated. His effort to degrade the condemned and the executed had little effect on the "peace" that came in 1832, which was almost wholly due to the exhaustion of the people and to the influence of Daniel O'Connell and the Catholic Association which gave them renewed hope and leadership.

Good Start

Unlike last Season when we were very lucky to avoid relegation, we have made a good start to the present campaign. Noel Harnett had his team hard at work weeks before the season started and as a result of the great effort put in by all the lads, we are now nicely placed in the League, and are also through to the closing stages of both the Munster and F.A.I. Cups (Desmond League Area). Our youth team (under 18) have qualified for the final of the minor cup. So, we are firing on all cylinders at the present time. Noel must of course take the lions share for our fine start, but I'm sure he would be the first to agree that but for the great effort put in by all the lads we would not be in the position we now find ourselves. On the minor front, we feel we have a score to settle here. We have been beaten in five (or is it six) successive finals in the Minor League. Mike Meade has played in all those finals (what a record) and it's ironic that if we can win this one he won't be in the side as he has been transferred to Newcastle at his own request. I, personally, was very sorry to see him go but there you are. We wish him well.

New Clubhouse

A few weeks ago the Committee were locked in discussion with the Pitch and Putt Committee, and with the help we got from Shannon Meat, the end result of it all is that we are now in the happy position of having our own Clubhouse. It's a great pity that the Pitch and Putt did not take off in the town. The lay out of the course was second to none. A fine Clubhouse was provided, plenty competition for the Members, a hard working Committee. However, the support in the town just wasn't there. But, to get back to the Clubhouse, it was lying more or less idle, and we were delighted to do a deal with the Pitch and Putt people and have the Clubhouse transferred down to the Soccer pitch. It will certainly be of great benefit to the players who will now be able to change in all weathers in comfort.

Important Meeting

A Meeting took place on the first Friday of November with one of the issues concerning the sporting bodies of the town and the Community Council Committee with a view to getting the use of the Community Hall for training purposes. The sporting bodies represented were - the Boxing Club, the Athletic Club and both Soccer Clubs - Deel United and Rathkeale United. The feeling we got from the Community Council people was that the Hall is in great demand at the moment, but, they will endeavour to

Match Results to-date:-

Park	6
Rathkeale United	1
[O'Keefe]	
Rathkeale	
[O'Doherty, O'Keefe]	2
Killeaney	1
Breska	2
Rathkeale United	3
[Harnett Pen. Comny 2]	
Rathkeale	
[Casey]	1
Kildimo	0

facilitate us as best they can. A further Meeting was arranged.

Watch it Grow:-

Comny Vincent, O'Doherty Seamus, O'Keefe David - 2 Each. O'Brien David, Casey Liam, Harnett Noel - 1 Each.

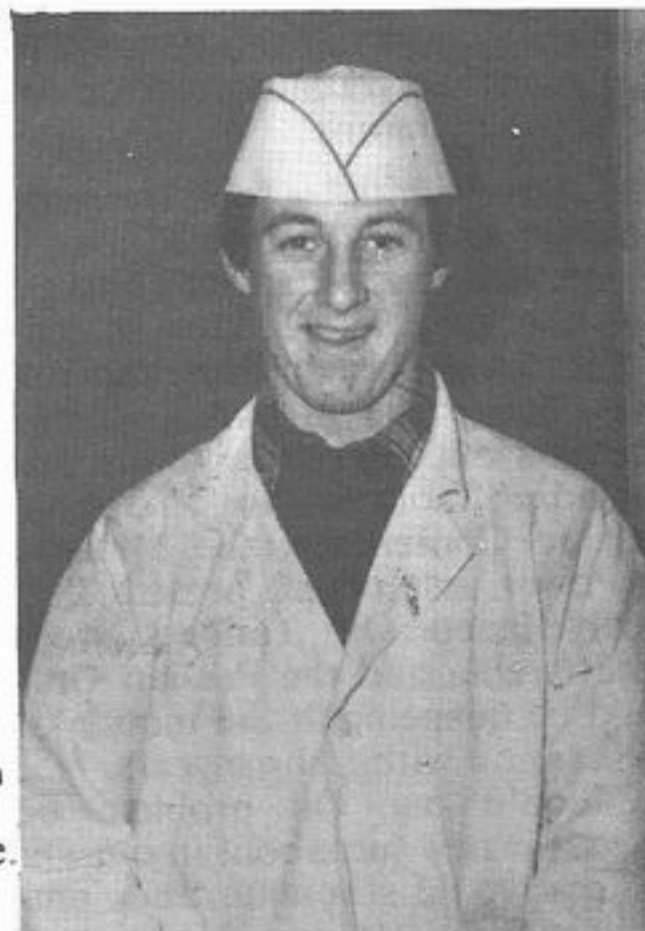
Michael Dunne.



Tim Shiels Chairman of Rathkeale United and Secretary of the Desmond League.

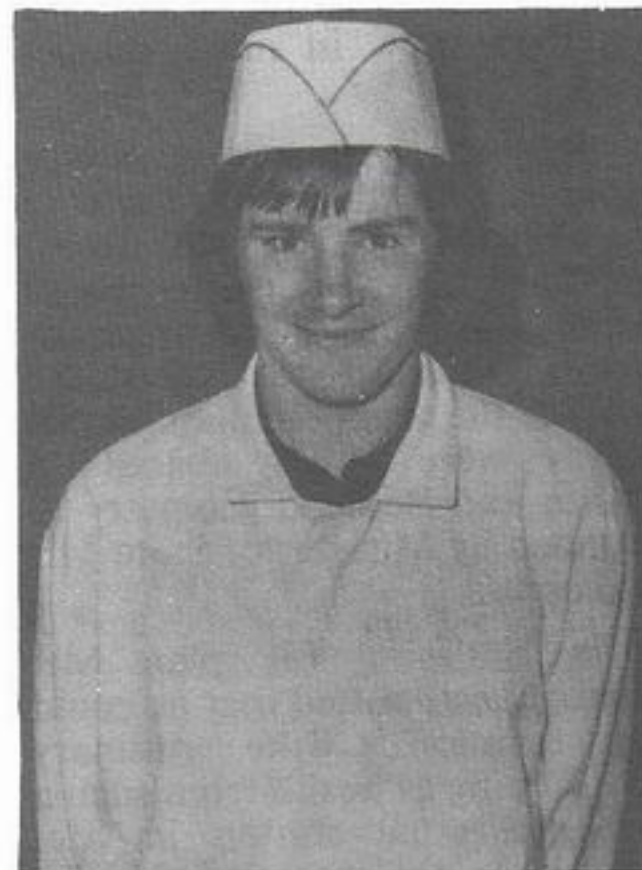
NEW FACES

Name : John Roche.
Address : Clonagh, Ardagh.
Age : 16
Marital Status : Single.
Department : Tripe.
Hobbies/Interests : Disco Dancing, Driving my Car.
Favourite Actor/Actress : Chips, Marlyn Monroe.
Favourite Food : Beans and Chips.
Favourite Country : Ballybunion.
Best Friend : Sean Markham.
Biggest Influence in Life : My moter-bike and Uncle Jack Lyons (Jnr.)
Life Ambition : To jump clear 13 buses on my motor-bike in the Main Street, Rathkeale.
What Person would you most like to meet : Blondie, (Debbie Harrie).



John Roche

Name : Seamus O'Connor.
Address : 15 Abbeylands, Rathkeale.
Age : 17
Marital Status : "What's that?" No anyway.
Department : Red Offal.
Hobbies/Interests : Soccer, Cycling, Disco Dancing.
Favourite Actor/Actress : Barbara Streisand and Paul Newman.
Favourite Food : Spuds and Beef (just what Mother cooks).
Favourite country visited : Ballingarry.
Best Friend : Philip Dollery.
Biggest Influence in Life : Birds.
Life Ambition : To Play with Liverpool.
What Person would you most like to meet : Bob Paisley, Manager of Liverpool



Seamus O'Connor



New Craft apprentices to join the Company are, Liam Walsh and Patrick Harnett from Rathkeale.

Since the last Edition things have been very quiet on the Inter-Firm G.A.A. scene. Due to some very heavy rain most pitches were in very bad condition and in fact almost unplayable. A number of players involved with Inter-Teams are at present assisting their own Clubs in the completion of the County Championships proper. As soon as all these competitions are completed, the Inter County Board will finish off its outstanding league games. Our only remaining match in the league is against Castlemahon. Most of their players are involved in the Junior Championship with their Clubs.

Munster Championships

The Munster Inter-Firm Intermediate Hurling Final between Limerick County Council and Erin Foods of Thurles was played on Saturday, 8th November in Bansha. The Limerick champions were very unlucky to loose this game. There

was only five points between the sides when John Moloney blew the final whistle. Had the Council taken their chances early in the game, County Limerick would have won its first Munster Inter-Firm Title.

Limericks representatives Alcan were beaten in the Semi-Final of the Munster Senior Football Semi-Final replay.

America

I have been asked by James Kavanagh, who recently toured the United States with the Adare Club during the All-Stars trip, to thank his many friends for their very kind gesture prior to his departure. Rumour had it that he will go again next year. Some people suspect that Ronald Reagan has offered him a job at the White House. Knowing James, anything could happen in the near future.

Seamus Quaid

County Limerick was shocked and saddened by the recent tragic death of one of her greatest sons. My own native County where Seamus Quaid had graced our playing pitches for many a year with his skills and determination was alas also the place for this unforgettable tragedy. One cannot put into words how horrified we all were on hearing the news. I had the pleasure of seeing Seamus play in many games in County Wexford Championships. His sportmanship and determination were just two of his many outstanding qualities.

In early 1960 Padge Kehoe, then near the end of his playing career with Wexford said, "give me two fast half-forwards and we will win the All-Ireland Final". The Wexford selectors gave him his wish and one of these forwards was Seamus Quaid. Wexford beat Tipperary in the Final. Seamus was always loyal to his own native Limerick, so it was Wexford's loss when he decided to play for his home County in 1962.

On behalf of Shannon Meat Inter-Firm G.A.A. Club and everyone associated with the Club, I would like to extend our deepest sympathy to his broken-hearted wife and family, Mother and Father, Brothers and Sisters and relatives. May the grace of God help you all.

DIM WIT

- * Heredity, is what makes parents's of kids like him, wonder about each other
- * When he was eight year's old, his parents pleaded with him to run away from home.
- * He's such a delinquent, he could go to a Reform School or a Scholarship.
- * There are three ways of saying good-bye to him - Adieu, Adios and Arsenic.
- * By the silence in the room, you can safely conclude that he has just told a joke.
- * She speaks 140 words a minute, with guests up to 180.
- * It's no help to him when she lets her mind go blank she neglects to turn off the sound.
- * From the day they were married, he hasn't been on speaking terms with her - only on listerning

MORE GARDEN HONOURS

Shannon Meat Limited have been placed fourth in Ireland in the Industrial Premises Section of the National Gardens Competition, 1980. We were a mere five points below the overall winner Digital Equipment Limited, Ballybrit, Galway. Last year there was a margin of ten points between our gardens and that of the winner. With this rate of progress and taking into account that 60% of the landscaping has been planted in the past four years, we look forward to bigger things in the future.

Our congratulations go to Sean Guiry and to his staff for a job well done. We are proud of you.

I.T.G.W.U.



Official Changes

At the end of October our Branch Secretary, Patrick Kelly retired from his position. We wish him every happiness for the future and convey to him our gratitude for his help over the years. Paddy was appointed an Official with our Union in 1957. Before that time he was active in Union circles with C.I.E. He became Branch President during that time. He had the honour of being elected Mayor of Limerick and graced that position in 1960/'61. We wish Paddy, his wife and family every happiness in the future.

Our new Branch Secretary is Joseph Skerritt. Joe joined our Union as an Official in 1969. Prior to this he had many year's active service with many Organisations and always kept our Union flag flying. Prior to his new appointment he was our Assistant Branch Secretary and as such gave excellent service to this Committee since its election. We thank him for this and congratulate him on his new appointment.

Our new Assistant Branch Secretary is Gerard McMahon. Gerry joined our Union as an Official in 1978. Prior to this he spent eight year's with Shannon Development Company during which time he was involved with the Planning and Building of the new Shannon Town. Gerry has also worked with Aer Lingus. We welcome Gerry to the Limerick County Branch of the I.T.G.W.U. and look forward to working closely with him and Joe Skerritt in the future.

Two other Union Officials retired this year. They are Mr. Vincent Moran and Mr. Thomas Kennedy. Also 1980 saw the first female Official appointed to Limerick in the person of Mary O'Donnell.

From the above it appears to have been an active year in the staff area for our Regional Secretary, Frank Prendergast.

Finally, on behalf of the Section Committee of the Union in Shannon Meat Limited, we wish everybody a Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

A GOVERNMENT SPONSORED OIL BONANZA



Robert Browne

There has been a lot of talk going about the Factory lately about the price of Oil and Petrol. People have genuine fears that the price of Oil will become an intolerable burden on the Economy, bringing consequent ruin and disaster to the Country. The Government, however, have once again been looking after all our best interests.

With our Oil Explorations off the Porcupine Bank and in the Celtic Sea coming to little over the last few years, the Government have again felt the need to hold secret conclave to see what can be done to illuminate the darkening horizons of our ailing Economy.

After initial brainstorming sessions had reached their climax it was decided in the national interest to involve a number of Government Bodies. Enveloped by this decision have been the I.D.A., Coras Trachtala and Bord Failte. In his concluding address to a special Delegate Conference, the Minister for Power assured all present that heavily laden Oil Tankers from Saudi Arabia and the Persian Gulf would be queuing at the mouth of the Shannon within three years. Not only could our Oil problem be solved, the new turnabout in our Oil fortunes would stimulate trade and auxiliary Industries too. Unemployment he felt would become a condition of the past, its devisive effects a memory as vague as is the Penal Code now in most peoples minds.

This change in our economic fortune was not to be likened to a Dr. Jekyll/Mr. Hyde transformation. They were, he insisted based upon an objective and indepth study into our Oil shortage. Indeed, so sound was the proposed plan that its premises were solidly based in scientism and Boolean geometry as expounded by Minister of State Mr. O'Donoghue.

In outlining his plan Mr. O'Donoghue admitted that he could easily bamboozle the ordinary people coming as he did from such a noble intellectual station in life. However, on this occasion for the benefit of all he would keep his oratory simple and brief, yet concise and to the point.

"The Arabs live in dry arid regions of the world, he stated. What they have in abundance we have in short supply. What we have now realised is that what we have in abundance they have in short supply, if you get my drift. Water, yes water! Gentlemen if you will excuse the pun that's what our economic miracle will be based upon."

The future of our economy has been secured as it were by a double coincidence of wants. Why, already the Government have made the necessary arrangements for the building of a pipe-line to run from Lough Derg to the Shannon Estuary.

By Robert Browne

An essential element of the Governments blue-print has been for Bord Failte to invite Sheik Yemani and other Sheiks of Saudi Arabia to visit Ireland in order to forge long forgotten ancestral links with the Country.

Professors of History and Anthropology in the three major Universities have diligently worked to trace the Genealogy of the Sheiks in order to superimpose their lineage on Irish Mythology, this they have done admirably. Who would have believed that the Sheiks ancestors were entertained at Eamain Macha by Rory Mor founder of the Rudrician line of Ulster Kings. Indeed, the oldest foreign reference to Ireland was made by the poet Orpheus in the time of Cyrus of Persia, six centuries before the birth of Christ.

All this realistic pinpointing of former History will take place in April of next year.

The Sheiks and Oil Magnates who have more Oil than water will be given a sumptuous Banquet including some of the strongest poteen seized by the Gardai over the past twelve months. When the inevitable effects of the poteen are manifest Coras Trachtala will step in with an attractive offer to barter water for oil. Such an offer, the Government feels, is almost certain to succeed bearing in mind the jocular and festive mood of the occasion and the fact that the poteen and blood of their ancestors will be coursing through their veins.

So let us all relax, steadfast in the knowledge that the Government as always are looking after our needs, and doing so in a way, might I add, that would have made Cuchulainn proud to be Irish.

SHANNON MEAT CHAT

By The Scribe

- * Hello! You know I am 31 editions old this issue or if you convert this to years, I am five year's old. Gosh! you'd never miss growing up.
- * Congratulations to Dick Sheehy of the Cold Store and his wife who had an heir recently.
- * It is said that Tom Murphy has a very sweet tooth. The manner in which he devours Buns, I believe it.
- * James Kavanagh had a most enjoyable holiday in the States lately, judging by the 'state' he came home.
- * Fancy going aborad on a Mediterranean Holiday and coming home without a tan, but then of course you must realise it was also a honeymoon.
- * Arriving straight from the Curragh, or was it the R.D.S., Ballsbridge in her Jockey suit to the Dinner Dance was Maureen of the Home Sales Department.
- * The Laboratory and Cannery extension have the scrumptious scent lately of "McDonald Good Good Kitchen".
- * Tom And Gerry! No, it is now Pauline and Gerry a Packer and Boner respectively from the Boning Hall.
- * The following mergers are presently been structured and it is taking no Henri Kissinger to negotiate them either.
- * Finally a senior Typist is being (Granada driven by a member of the Department of Agriculture.
- * It is assumed that the two lassies are seeing eye to eye (from close quarters) with some personnel in the Work Study Section to the exclusion of a member of the Stores Department. Terribly confusing but it's great.
- * Rumour has it that seeds have been set in the Home Sales Department also. It could be a case of "Do you like my hair, Tom?" What do you think Breed?
- * Felicitations (how about that for a word) are extended to Dan Neville on the birth on a daughter.
- * I must say Mick Shiels takes great care of young Paddy McNamara, even if it's often vice-versa. Our answer to the two gentlemen in the Muppet Show.
- * Mike Liston, John Lynch appeared as if they were attending the Last Supper (or should it be 'Last Sup') with their disciples (ooh!) at the Dinner Dance.
- * It was thought an episode of Hawaii Five-O was taking place in the Company recently when a white squad sped in and out of the premises pursuing a possible candidate for the 'force'.
- * Gerard Heaphy was made to feel very grand lately when Philomena Begley sat on his knee during a recent Cabaret Act as she sang "Hello Dolly."

"Beef is Best"



TRADITIONAL POT ROAST

Brisket has slightly more fat than most joints but it makes a succulent dish.

- 1-2 tablesp. beef dripping or oil • 1 kg (2 lb) boned, rolled brisket or housekeepers' cut • 4 small whole onions, peeled • 4 small carrots, peeled • 4 sticks celery, cut in three (optional) • 1/2 turnip, cut in chunks • 250 ml (1/2 pt.) beef stock or stock cube • 1/2 teasp. thyme
- 1 tablesp. plain flour and 1 tablesp. butter worked to a paste • salt and pepper

Set oven at gas mark 2 150 C (300 F).

Method

Heat the dripping or oil in a thick cooking pot and when it's hot put in the meat, brown it all over, then transfer it to a plate. Add the vegetables and brown lightly, then set the joint on top, add the stock and thyme.

Cover with foil and tightly fitting lid. Place in the oven and cook for 2 1/2-3 hours or until very tender. Place the meat and vegetables on a warmed serving dish then bring the liquid to the boil and boil briskly until reduced slightly. Add the butter and flour paste and whisk until the sauce thickens. Season well. Serve with the meat and some sharp mustard.



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CALENDAR 1981

JANUARY

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
<small>New Moon 6th First Quarter 13th Full Moon 20th Last Quarter 28th Bank Holidays: 1st Great Britain & Ireland 2nd Scotland</small>				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

FEBRUARY

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	*	<small>New Moon 4th Last Quarter 11th Full Moon 18th Last Quarter 27th</small>			*	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

MARCH

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	<small>New Moon 6th First Quarter 13th Full Moon 20th Last Quarter 28th Ash Wednesday 4th Bank Holiday: 17th Ireland</small>			

APRIL

MAY

JUNE

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
<small>New Moon 6th First Quarter 13th Full Moon 20th Last Quarter 28th Bank Holidays: 1st Great Britain & Ireland 2nd Scotland</small>				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

APRIL

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
*		<small>New Moon 4th Last Quarter 11th Full Moon 18th Last Quarter 27th</small>				*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

MAY

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	<small>New Moon 6th First Quarter 13th Full Moon 20th Last Quarter 28th Ash Wednesday 4th Bank Holiday: 17th Ireland</small>			

JUNE

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
<small>New M. 4th First Q. 11th Full M. 19th Last Q. 27th Good Friday: 7th Bank Holiday: 20th</small>			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	+	+

JULY

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
+					<small>New Moon 4th First Quarter 10th Full Moon 19th Last Quarter 26th Bank Holidays: 4th & 25th Great Britain</small>	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
+		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	+	<small>New Moon 2nd First Quarter 9th Full Moon 17th Last Quarter 25th Bank Holiday: 1st Ireland</small>	

SEPTEMBER

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
<small>New Moon 1st 31st First Q. 9th Full M. 17th Last Quarter 24th</small>			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	+

OCTOBER

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
+		<small>First Quarter 7th Full Moon 15th Last Quarter 22nd New Moon 29th Bank Holidays: 3rd Scotland/Ireland, 31st England & Wales</small>			+	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 30	24 31	25	26	27	28	29

NOVEMBER

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
<small>First Quarter 6th Full Moon 14th</small>		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	+	<small>Last Quarter 20th New Moon 28th</small>	

DECEMBER

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
<small>First Quarter 6th Full Moon 13th Last Quarter 20th New Moon 27th Bank Holiday: 26th Ireland</small>				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	+	<small>First Quarter 5th Full Moon 11th Last Quarter 18th New Moon 26th</small>			

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
<small>Bank Holidays: 25th & 26th Great Britain & Ireland</small>		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	<small>First Quarter 4th Full Moon 11th Last Quarter 18th New Moon 26th</small>	