

Shannon Meat GAZETTE



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Beannachtai na Nollag agus gach uile dhea ghuidhe i gcoir na hAthbhliana

SATISFACTORY OUTCOME IN SPITE OF DIFFICULT CONDITIONS Chairman's Statement

It is gratifying to be able to report a satisfactory outcome of the past year's trading in spite of the extremely difficult conditions in the meat trade. The continuing decline in demand for meat, with increasing competition for the available markets, has added to the pressure on margins already unacceptably small.

There is little doubt however that the most serious problem facing the Irish Meat Plants is the stagnant level of the cattle herd in this country, aggravated, it must be said, by the increasing plant overcapacity, and the unfortunate seasonal direction that the trade has taken. That this Company has surmounted these difficulties to the extent reflected in our trading results is a matter for congratulation and a tribute to the skill and dedication of our management and staff. The pressures on management in their efforts to keep a viable operation going during the long slack season, and at the same time maintain smooth employee relations, are truly enormous. Our Company has over the years provided good employment and at present employs 258 people in our Rathkeale premises.

A large part of Irish beef exports now go to the Middle East with the aid of very generous E.E.C. refunds. Ireland joined the E.E.C. "to develop our trade with prosperous Europe". It is sad to observe the present decline in shipments of meat to Europe and one wonders if this is a desirable development and if in the long term it is in the country's best interests.

I must again say a very well deserved word of thanks to our most excellent management and staff for their continuing efforts, loyalty and devotion to the best interests of our Company.

FRANK WALL
Chairman



Attending the Livestock and Beef Show, Nicholas Ryan, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, Donal Sheehan, Director Shannon Meat Ltd, Frank Wall, Chairman, Shannon Meat Ltd., and Michael Wall, Tarbert, Co. Kerry.



"WEDDING BELLS"



On 18th. August the most recent "all" Shannon Meat wedding took place when Richard Hayes, maintenance fitter from Ballynoe West, Castlemahon married canteen officer, Anna Fitzgerald from Cooltomin, Rathkeale in Coolcappa Church. The reception took place at The Devon Inn, Templeglantine.

LIVESTOCK AND BEEF SHOW

On Sunday, 14th. October in excess of 1,000 people attended the show at Shannon Meat Ltd. Great interest was shown in the cattle judging and in the carcase display. The Video Show, "a Guide to Premium Markets" by CBF was run continuously all afternoon. The meat cutting display and cookery demonstration were packed to capacity. It was a most educational and social afternoon for all who attended.

CHRISTMAS ANNOUNCEMENT

HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A
PROSPEROUS 1985
TO ALL OUR READERS.

The Christmas holiday
arrangements for Shannon Meat
are as follows:—

Slaughtering operations will
cease on Thursday, 20th.
December, and will resume
on Wednesday, 2nd. January,
1985.

All livestock after Tuesday,
18th. December must be
advised.

EDUCATION WAS THE THEME

By Donie Donovan
Livestock Procurement Manager

Our Livestock Show which was held on Sunday, October, 14th., 1984 turned out to be a tremendous success. One of the most important reasons was the fact that we were blessed with glorious weather.

Being our first attempt it was difficult to envisage how it would turn out. It is only when something like this is put together that one realises the wide variety of breeds there are. In all we had eight different breeds of cattle. Each breed is identified in its own group on the hand-out which was available on the Tuesday afternoon and is reproduced in this edition of the "Gazette". It was never our intention to set-up the Show to score points for any particular breed. The whole exercise was entirely educational which explains the involvement of ACOT and CBF. The fact that ACOT provided the mobile liveweight scales and the personnel to record the weights on both occasions adds considerable weight to Donie Ahern's Chart. Full marks to Donie on an excellent job done against the clock. [see Page 9].

We had one animal on display out of fifty which scored an "E", an excellent Charolais, the property of Mr. James Melody, Bunratty. This animal was not in the competition as the whole idea of the Show was to use a sample of livestock representative of normal flow of Bullocks to the Plant. One must admit while the forty bullocks used for the competition were reasonably good there are still a lot of animals offered which leave a lot to be desired. At least Classification has done some excellent work in identifying the weak links in beef production.

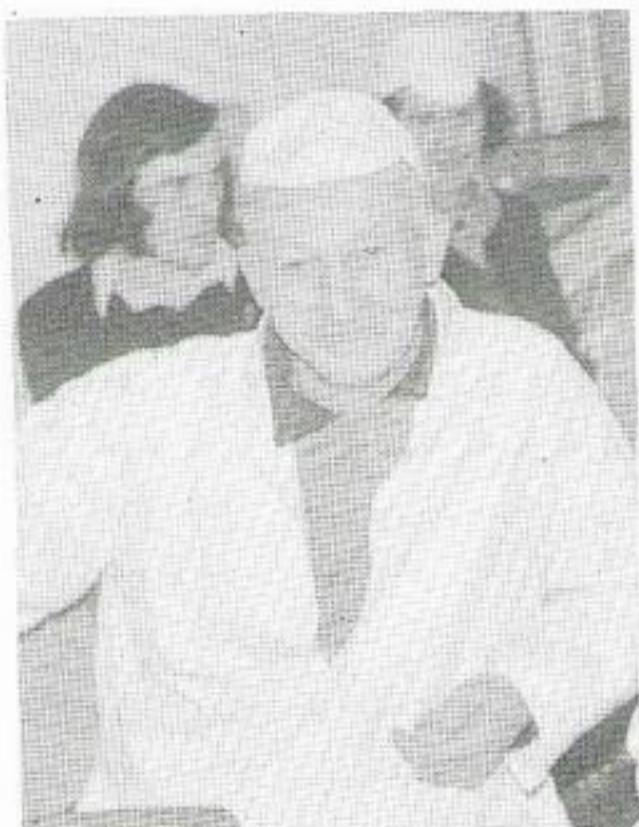
The five Blonde d'Aquitaine entered by B. Keane of Ennis were presented for the purpose of having the breed represented. They performed exceptionally well taking into account that the animals were scarcely 18 months old. If those five animals were held to the 2½ year old stage they would surely develop into excellent beef cattle. We are most grateful to Mr. O'Connor of Clarecastle CBS for locating these stock for us. To all the owners who presented stock for the show we wish to thank sincerely. There wasn't enough money to give everyone a prize but the important thing is we hope that everybody learned something from the exercise.

The competition which was run on Sunday for a Carcase of Lamb was won by Thomas Lynch, Ballingarry who was also the winner of this year's Macra Na Feirme National Stock Judging Competition at the Spring Show in the R.D.S. Last and by no means least many thanks to Mr. Dermot Ryan and his staff from the Dep. of Agriculture who put a tremendous amount of hard work into the Show.



Tom Lynch from Ballingarry, winner of the Visitors Competition at The Livestock Show.

APPRECIATION JOHN HAYES



The Late John Hayes.

It is a very sad occasion when a member of the staff of our Company passes on to their eternal reward. The death of John Hayes on 2nd. November although while not unexpected was felt deeply by those who knew him. We all knew that we had lost one of the kindest and honest people who ever worked with us. John bore this final illness with great courage and patience, without a hint of self pity. He had the same dignity and nobility in his final months and weeks as he displayed throughout his lifetime.

John Hayes was a native of Coolanoran, Ardagh and first joined Shannon Meat Limited in September, 1961. Almost all of his time with us was spent in the Boning Hall. Larry Kelly remembers well the first day he joined the Company. Larry had joined a very short time previously both of them spent much of the day removing and loading bags of fat from the Offal Chiller. Larry was with him for that day and introduced him to working life here. There was no induction programmes in those days. Larry trimmed boneless beef with him in the area where now the Home Sales Chill is situated. For many years they worked together in this area and later in the present Boning Hall. Larry sums up his view of John as

friend and as a worker - "He was a first class friend and worker, he was very honest, genuine and helpful in all his dealings with everybody. A most dependable and diligent employee."

Tom Glenny worked with the late John Hayes for many years. Tom says "John was my best pal for 20 years. He was a great friend. I valued his friendship very highly. As a person he was most genuine, honest and hardworking. Anything that I could say could not reflect on how well he was regarded by everybody."

Hobbies

John was very proud of his home in Coolanoran. He enjoyed gardening very much and had a keen interest in growing and maintaining flowers and shrubs. The lawn was always a smooth carpet of green without a blade of grass out of place.

Mick Shiels went to school with him in Ardagh and remembers well the day that the news came of his father's death. John was in third or fourth class at the time and the teacher Mr. O'Connor, had the task of informing the young boy that his father was killed felling a tree. It was a great tragedy to John, his brother and sister.

Talking to John one week before he died, he told me that he felt he might not work again in Shannon Meat. He said, "I really loved working there, the people were the nicest group I ever came in contact with. I enjoyed every minute of my time there."

It was a pleasure to work with you too John and we look forward to meeting beyond the great divide.

To his sister, brother and relatives we express our deepest sympathy.

D. Neville.

NEW APPRENTICE FITTER

LIAM WOULFE



Liam Woulfe

This young man, who joined Shannon Meat in October, born in 1965, hails from Ardagh. He is the youngest of a family of eight. He has four brothers and three sisters. He is the son of James and Joan Woulfe.

He attended Ardagh National School and continued his education in the vocational school in Newcastle West. He was very successful in his Inter and Leaving certificates.

He always enjoyed working with his hands and also has a very keen interest in computers. He enjoys playing and setting up computer games as a past-time. He also does a small bit of programming. He got very interested in computers as a result of attending a short course in them after leaving school.

In these very difficult times Liam feels he is very fortunate to be serving his time as a fitter. We would like to extend every success to Liam in his apprenticeship in Shannon Meat, and every success afterwards in his chosen career.

BEEF SYMPOSIUM

On the evening of 16th. October a symposium based on the results of the Livestock and Beef Show was attended by 350 people. After viewing the prize winning carcasses, those attending heard lectures on Beef Production from Dr. Gerry Scully and John Fraher ACOT, Mr. Dermot Ryan, Department of Agriculture and Mr. Paddy Moore of CBF. The symposium was chaired by Michael Dooley of Shannon Meat. Following the talks a lively discussion took place on all aspects of beef production and beef classification. The panel of speakers were joined by Donie Donovan of Shannon Meat Ltd. for this. The interest on the proceedings were reflected by the many and varied questions from the audience. Mr. Paddy Moore of C.B.F. presented the competition winners with their prizes. The Chairman, Michael Dooley thanked ACOT, CBF, the Department of Agriculture and the staff of Shannon Meat who contributed to the success of the events.



By: Anna Hayes
Canteen Officer.

STOCKS AND SOUPS

Soup is a very nourishing and tasty part of a meal and during the winter is especially popular. The use of stock in a soup gives it flavour and nutrition. A pressure cooker can be used very efficiently in stock making - cutting back on cooking time and fuel. One should make enough stock at a time for several days.

The basic stock recipe is as follows :

- 2 lbs. meat bones (either fresh or from cooked joint)
- 1 teaspoon salt - pinch pepper.
- 2½ pints cold water.
- 2 large onions.
- 2 sticks celery
- 2 med carrots
- Spring each of thyme, bay leaf and parsley.
- Pinch of mixed herbs.

COOKS CORNER

Chop bones small. Put into pressure cooker with water and bring to boil over high heat. While this is coming to the boil prepare veg, and cut into pieces. For brown stock fry veg. in frying pan. Remove scum from the stock. Add the remainder of ingredients and at medium heat bring the cooker to pressure and cook for 45 mins. Allow pressure to reduce at room temperature. Strain, and leave to cool, remove any fat. This stock can then be used to make different types of soups. For example, the brown stock for Mixed Veg. Soup, fry veg, make roux, add stock - simmer and flavour. French onion soup, also, just fry rings of onion, add stock and pressure cook for 4 mins. Serve with toasted cheese on toast.

Use white stock for mushroom, celery, tomatoes soups, for example. The use of stock as a base for packet or dried soups gives extra flavour. You might even convince someone they're eating homemade soup.

CHRISTMAS IN OTHER DAYS

By Yuletide

I was asked to write something about Christmas. Well what can one say?

Talk about Christmas and one tends to think about the Christmas just coming up or last Christmas or perhaps the previous one. All very familiar I thought, and not too much interesting mileage to be got out of that.

So, I thought I'd go back a bit. Back to the Christmases when I was a youngster in Rathkeale and try to remember what Christmas was like then.

The first thing that comes to mind was the sheer excitement of it all. And while no doubt, the kids of today still look forward to it I think it was different then. One has to remember the times.

Money was scarcer and parents had more pressing needs throughout the year than buying toys for their children. Unlike nowadays, one rarely got a new toy during the year. We had to wait for Santy. Naturally the long wait heightened the sense of excitement.

And it was a long wait. During the long summer holidays from school Christmas was rarely a topic. Unless somebody got a new toy which was the envy of the rest of us. Immediately we were all getting the same thing from Santy - except we were all getting at least two of them.

School

Then September came and we were back to school. This was a depressing time. We tended to be irritable and sulky, and easily-frayed tempers were always close to the surface. It was a time when young fists would fly at the drop of a hat. Unless you were sure of your opponent you had to be careful.

But after a few weeks the memory of the holidays started to fade and we began to thaw out. September was gone and October was slipping away. The days were getting shorter and it was turning cold. The sandals were put away and we were all back in boots. The town began to take on an air of winter.

But there was also a smell of Christmas in the air. Not a day passed but somebody asked "What are you getting from Santy?" As we moved into late November this intensified. The shops began to dress their windows for Christmas and suddenly we had visual evidence of the objects of our dreams. It was time to write our letters to Santy.

In this we were very lucky. Mrs. O'Shea (a marvellous woman with a wonderful feeling for what was important to kids) had us organised. We would all call to her house with our letters on an appointed day. Or if you still hadn't written your letter that was no problem. She would sit down and write it with you. All the letters were then gathered and put in one huge envelope addressed to Santy.

The ceremonial posting then followed. We would all troop excitedly behind her down to the letter box and watch the envelope bearing our hopes drop into the box. This was our guarantee that Santy was on the way. No doubt Niall and

Pa and Miko and the others will have memories of that.

What amazes me looking back was that year after year we seemed to look for the same things. There were cowboy suits and cowboy hats. There were guns and holsters, Woolworth's bows and arrows, Ludo, Snakes and Ladders and "Dinky" cars. We knew in our hearts of course that we would be lucky to get one or two of these things (it had been well drilled into us at home!) but it still didn't deter us. We asked for the lot.

Letters

Once our letters had been posted there was nothing to do then but wait. And what a wait it was. But of course there was one thing yet to come which helped to shorten the time to the great day. That was the trip to Limerick on the 8th. of December to see Santy in Todds.

Now while this too was an exciting day for us I think it was also the day that caused the first stirrings of doubt in our young minds about Santy. On Christmas night he brought us toys and it didn't cost us anything. Yet in Todds we had to pay. Not only that - for a half-crown you got a bigger parcel than you did for two bob. It didn't seem right. Still when the day came we enjoyed it and when we met Santy our doubts were forgotten.

And it brings to mind the occasion that Santy came to Hudsons shop. I think it was the first time that he came to Rathkeale. I remember that he left Hudsons in a decorated pony and trap and moved slowly down the street ringing a bell as he went. He went back as far as the river bridge and turned again. We were all intrigued, and of course by the time he got back to Hudsons practically every youngster in town had arrived with him. Real 'Pied Piper' stuff, and on reflection, a very innovative piece of marketing.

But this aspect of Christmas was for us merely an interlude before the real thing. And when Christmas Eve finally arrived we were at fever pitch. I remember we used to all gather at O'Sheas after lunch and sit excitedly around the radio. Santy used to have his own programme in which he spoke to all the children around the country telling them that he was on the way. Just to hear his voice was excitement enough, but waiting to hear if he would call out any of our names was almost unbearable.

Of course he warned us to be in bed early that night but that was never a problem. As far as we were concerned the earlier we went to bed the quicker Christmas Day would arrive. And arrive it did.

Invariably we woke early. Immediately parcels were feverishly torn open and examined. After a hurried breakfast we were out in the street. There a mob of us spent the day playing with our new toys, examining what each other got and proudly showing off what we had got ourselves. It was the best day of the year.

Grow Up

Of course all good things came

THERE OUGHT TO BE A LAW!

● you're right.
there are lots of laws.

- Extract from Part III of the Regulations:**
- Food premises:** 25. The following provisions shall be complied with in relation to a food premises and a food business carried on in connection therewith by the proprietor thereof:—
- (1) the walls, ceilings, floors, doors, windows and all parts of the premises shall be kept in a proper state of repair and in a clean and hygienic condition;
 - (2) except in the case of an artificially refrigerated room suitable and sufficient means of ventilation shall be provided and suitable and sufficient ventilation shall be maintained;
 - (3) suitable and sufficient means of lighting shall be provided and each part of the premises shall be kept adequately lighted for the purpose for which it is used;
- Food workers:** 31. A food worker, while engaged on any work in connection with a food business:—
- (1) shall keep himself clean and shall, in particular
 - (a) wash his hands immediately after using a sanitary convenience, and
 - (b) wash his hands and (if they are uncovered while engaged on his work) his forearms at other times as often as may be necessary to keep them clean;
 - (2) shall wear clean outer clothing;
 - (3) shall maintain all machinery, apparatus, utensils, tables or other equipment used in contact with food or food material for which he is responsible in a clean and hygienic condition;
 - (4) shall not unnecessarily handle food or food material;
 - (5) shall not spit or engage in any other unhygienic practice.

● they all say that food must be clean and safe to eat.

people
TRUST
YOU
to
PROTECT
THEM



Name: Margo Forde.
Address: 3 Clontemple, Ballingarry.
Age: 20 yrs.
Marital Status: Single.
Hobbies/Interests: Dancing, Soccer & Athletics.
Favourite Actor: Robert Redford.
Favourite Food: All Food.
Favourite Country: Spain.
Best Friend: Eithne Mulcahy.
Life Ambition: To have a date with an Arab.
What person would you most like to meet: David Essex.

**N
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S**



Name: Eithne Mulcahy.
Address: Spar, Ballingarry.
Age: 17 yrs.
Marital Status: Single.
Hobbies/Interests: Dancing, Music & Reading.
Favourite Actor: Pierce Brosnan.
Favourite Food: No particular food.
Favourite Country: Italy.
Best Friend: Margo Forde.
Life Ambition: To marry Pierce Brosnan.
What person would you most like to meet: Pierce Brosnan.

to an end and all too soon we began to grow up and Santy went out of our lives. For children, I think it must be one of the most disappointing times in their young lives when the reality of it all suddenly hits them. No more feverish build-up and no more Santy.

In truth of course it must be said that because of what Christmas meant to us at that age, the real meaning of Christmas went over our heads. Hopefully that came later.

There is no doubt however that for most of us Christmas and Santy provide some of the strongest and happiest memories of childhood. It is a time without which our childhoods would seem somehow incomplete.

As I already said, the above experiences have little to do with what Christmas should really be about, but if I've managed to jog a few happy memories for a few people then hopefully the good Lord will forgive me.

PROFILE -

SEAN MULCAHY



Sean Mulcahy

When our Managing Director, Maurice Cowhey came to measure the site, from which sprang forth Shannon Meat P.L.C., he was met at the gate by our Sean Mulcahy.

It must be mentioned that Seanie wasn't employed by Shannon Meat on that particular day. Mr. Cowhey (who was accompanied by Bernard Daly, Snr.) chose to mark out the site, simply because Shannon Meat didn't exist at this time.

The facts of the matter are that Seanie (who must have appeared like a 1950's version of St. Peter) was in the employment of Limerick County Council, who had a store where our Livestock Department is currently located.

It is interesting that on the 13th. October, Seanie celebrated twenty-five years of devoted and loyal service to Shannon Meat.

Sean Mulcahy came into this world on 13th August, 1936, in Bank Place, Rathkeale. His father was Charles Mulcahy and his mother, Mary Harrington, was originally from Cooltomin, near Coolcappagh.

SISTER

That most pleasant and friendly of bodies Ita Ryan, is a sister of Seanie and she and her very popular family reside in the old family home, today. His brother, Cha', resides in Birmingham and at one time was employed by the People's Bakery.

At school, the young Mulcahy was tutored by some of the most famous names in local education circles, namely, Messrs. Madigan, Condon and Boyle. Just to mention, two of his class-mates - for he can't remember the rest, one was Bernie White, of the New Line, Rathkeale who in his time drew a large number of cattle to Shannon Meat. The other turned out to be one of the world's greatest ever jockies - Liam Ward.

At fifteen years of age, like most others of his contemporaries, his school-books became history.

FAIRS

As a very young boy he has vivid recollections of the very large fairs held in the town of Rathkeale. With great nostalgia his mind wanders back when he was herding cattle for Mossie Joe Roche and Dan Hourigan (God rest their souls).

In those 'good old days'

Rathkeale was a great trading town and boasted some of the finest businesses in Limerick such as People's Bakery, McDonnell's, O'Grady's (Thomas Street) and Teskeys.

Seanie's first occupation, on leaving school, was farming. He was employed by the Giltenane's of Blossom Hill for the princely sum of £20 per annum - which was a good wage in those days. Come to think of it, he can now earn that amount in a couple of hours - the ravages of time.

After his experiences down on the farm, his next job took him all of a hundred yards from his own front door, to work for Jimmy Supple. With Jimmy, he worked as a helper in the trucks, drawing such as groceries, porter, etc. It was here he learned the art of driving a truck, behind the backs of both his boss and also the Law.

Two of the most outstanding memories of working with the Supples have to do with our Irish weather. On one occasion a freak tide caught them on the bridge in Adare, fortunately their truck was able to swim. A more frightening experience was an unbelievable fog which descended upon Limerick one summer's evening in 1945. Seanie relates "You literally had to hold onto everything you possessed, otherwise it would be stolen". Of Jimmy Supple, Sean has this to say - "He was a very hard worker and a great man."

HACKNEY

As Seanie, himself was growing, so too was his character and never was this more in evidence than when he drove Hackney for Corneil's, who were located aside the AIB Bank. In Rathkeale as this time, there were many taxi owners, Seanie remembers - "There was Jim Sparling (for whom Paddy Shaughnessy of the Pike was a driver) O'Grady's and Thompsons?"

At the time when petrol was 2s 4d a gallon, (of course Alan Dukes wasn't around then) Seanie often made the long trek to Dublin. His esteemed passengers on this trip would be either George Spillane (of tobacco fame in Limerick) or D.J. Madden.

"It was gas sport" laughs Seanie, though sadly, knowing those day's will not come back, when he thinks back on his days as a hackney driver. Days when he drove teams to matches and teams of couples to and from dances. "Sure there are great stories, I could tell" and then he pauses knowing, that you don't reveal these stories he might tell. The comedy film "Adventures of a Taxi Driver" could well be based on our subject in this particular profile.

After he had left this episode of his life behind him he then drove a truck for Pat Joe McMahon. This job kept him busy for the next four years of his life, often lifting 32 stone bags of corn, unassisted.

KICKED

The County Council was his next landing spot and this brought Seanie to be domiciled in the old Work-House ruin, later Shannon Meat. In point of fact, the new factory kicked him out and Seanie

and his store moved to Johnny Sullivan's in the Fair Hill.

On the 13th. October, 1959 Sean Mulcahy joined Shannon Meat. In those early days, in the history of the Company, his job was shovelling Offal into Ronan's containers. Seanie says - "In those days, it was very much labour intensive and there was a crowd of us occupied in doing it." With the purchasing of a tractor, the muscle element was no longer required and it became Seanie's responsibility for the removing of offal from the Plant.

In the Autumn of 1982, Sean Mulcahy joined the driver's team. Although he states categorically, to hating his present task, saying with much vehemence "I wouldn't do this cursed job for £1,000 a day." We all know otherwise.

For the first time ever, Seanie makes public his admiration for his present co-pilots - Pa Guinane, Ned Roche, Pat Alfred and Mike Lenihan. From Seanie, in turn, the boys are treated with his wife's excellent home baking and how they thrive on it.

MARRIED

In 1962 (he thinks) Seanie married Josie McMahon from Shanagolden. His devotion to Josie is undenied and he makes no secret of his love for his dear wife. In fact, every decision is made with his good wife and family in mind.

The Mulcahy's have four children - John Anthony (19), who also works with Shannon Meat, Patrick (16), Angela (14) and Helen (10). Seanie's mother-in-Law, Mary, resides with them in their family home in rural Shanagolden.

It is most noticeable and uncanny how John Anthony resembles his father - in manners, talk, walk, etc. I suppose if the clock was to be turned back all those years, Seanie as a youngster would be the John Anthony of to-day.

HORSE-RACING

Apart from his family and his work (hopefully) Seanie's greatest love is horse-racing. His interest in horses dates back along time. Once he accompanied the late Willie Dunne (father of Pa and Miko) to Steadman's Stud in Kilfinny. While there, the young Mulcahy mounted a horse, name "Workman". Affected by the Mulcahy touch this horse went on to win the English Grand National in 1939.

In racing circles, or in the "sport of kings", Sean Mulcahy is very well known. He has introduced his driver colleague and friend, Pa Guinane to the who's-who in Irish and English racing. He has rubbed shoulders with the masters in the sport such as Pat Eddery, Lester Piggot, Willie Carson, Yves St. Martin, Christy Roche and Vincent O'Brien. Pa Guinane would probably tell us that shoulder hasn't been washed since.

Seanie hasn't missed an Irish Derby Day at the Curragh since 1962. One of Seanie's famous sayings "My name is John Mulcahy, no relation to J.A. Mulcahy the millionaire." However, he may not be a declared millionaire, as of yet, although Neddie Roche thinks otherwise, (these well-off people are very clannish).

Rich in wealth, or not, is immaterial to us, Seanie to us is a friend and colleague, blessed in man's finest qualities.

NEW FACES



Name: Paul Reidy.

Address: Ballyroe, Ballingarry.

Age: 18 yrs.

Marital Status: Single.

Hobbies/Interests: Dancing and reading

Favourite Actor: John Wayne.

Favourite Country: Ireland.

Best Friend: Tony Mackessy & Oliver Hanley.

Life Ambition: To be always happy.

What person would you most like to meet: The Pope.



Name: Moyra Naughton.

Address: St. Brigids, Castlematrix, Rathkeale.

Age: 23 yrs.

Marital Status: Single.

Hobbies/Interests: Reading & Dancing

Favourite Actor: Clint Eastwood.

Favourite Food: All foods.

Favourite Country: Switzerland

Best Friend: Mary Nash.

Life Ambition: To be happy.

What person would you most like to meet: Ml. Spillane.



Name: Eugene Lyons.

Address: 53 Assumpta Park, Newcastle West.

Age: 16 yrs.

Marital Status: Single.

Hobbies/Interests: Soccer, Tennis & Dancing.

Favourite Actor: Clint Eastwood.

Favourite Food: All Food.

Favourite Country: England.

Best Friend: Richard McCoy.

Life Ambition: To be rich and happy.

What person would you most like to meet: Barry Sheene.

PICTURE PARADE



Photographed at the 16th. Annual Social which took place on 10th. November, were Jim and Mary Stack, Madonna Collins and John Stack.

PICTURE PARADE



At the Social Club Annual Social on 10th. Nov. were, Noel White, Kevin Donovan, Josie Dinnage and John Dinnage.



Jim and Nuala O'Connor enjoyed the Staff Dance at The Devon Inn.



Mary and Donal McAuliffe were at the Supper Social on 10th. November.



At the Annual Social in the Devon Inn were Breda Williams, Esther Jones and Christy Jones.



At the Staff Club social were Margaret and Jim Power with Willie and Catherine Crowley.



Involved in organising the Staff Social Club's Supper Dance were, Michael Guiney, chairman, Maureen Curtin, asst. secretary and Pa Coleman, secretary.



From the Heavy Gang, Tom O'Regan and Pat Madigan.



Mr. & Mrs. Pat Aherne at the Livestock & Carcase Show on the 14th. October.

PICTURE PARADE



At the Livestock and Beef Show on the 14th. October.

PICTURE PARADE



Judging the livestock at the Show.



Consentration at the Carcase Display and talk at The Livestock and Beef Show.



Discussing Cooking on 10th. October.



Gerry Scully, ACOT speaking at the Beef Production Symposium in Shannon Meat Ltd.



Dermot Ryan, Department of Agriculture talking on Carcase Classification at Shannon Meat Ltd.



Awaiting the next run of the video 'A Guide to Premium Markets' at the Livestock and Beef Show.



The winner at the Show, Tony Boland, Tulla, Co. Clare, being presented with prize of £150 by Paddy Moore of C.B.F.



Seen at the Show were John Costelloe and John Moansey from Castletroy, Limerick. Castletroy, Limerick.



Photographed at the Livestock and Carcase Show on Sunday 14th. October, were Richard O'Regan, Jerry Hynes, Richard Hynes and John O'Regan.



At the Show at Shannon Meat were Timmy McGrath, Sean Cronin and Thomas Kearney of Abbeydorney with John Collins of ACOT.

COMMENTS ON CHART OF LIVESTOCK AND CATTLE SHOW RESULTS

By John Fraher, ACOT



John Fraher, ACOT.

Number of Teeth:

The number of permanent incisors an animal has is a guide to its age. The appearance of permanent incisors is as follows:-

- Under 21 months :
no permanent teeth — 0 Calf's Mouth
- 21 months:
1st pair appear — 2 incisors
- 28 months:
2nd pair appear — 4 incisors
- 35 months:
3rd pair appear — 6 incisors
- 42 months:
4th. pair appear — 8 Full Mouth.

A key to remembering the above is to multiply 7 by 3, 4, 5 and 6 to obtain the age of the appearance of permanent incisors e.g.

- 21 months = 7 X 3
- 28 " = 7 X 4
- 35 " = 7 X 5
- 42 " = 7 X 6

Take for example Bullock number 8 on the chart. He had only two permanent teeth. This means he was less than twenty eight months old or 850 days. His carcass weighed 1123 lbs. at slaughter and assuming a carcass weight of 50 lbs. at birth this animal had an average daily carcass weight gain of 1.262 lbs. per day.

Another bullock that deserves special mention is bullock number 39. Note he had no permanent teeth, just a calf's mouth indicating he was less than 21 months or 638 days old. At slaughter his carcass weighed 744 lbs. Again allowing 50 lbs. carcass at birth the average daily carcass gain was 1.08 lbs.

Fresh and Fasted Weights

All cattle were weighed on entering the factory by ACOT staff on the ACOT weighing scales. This was done to establish the "Kill-out" per cwt that the producer would use when comparing the live and dead-trade prices.

The cattle were again weighed twenty-one (21) hours later. The second weighing was done to compare the "Kill-Out" within breeds and between breeds. There was varying loss in weight in the animals between the full and fasted weightings. This loss in weight was as a result of the stomach and bladder emptying out and depends on how full the animal was on arrival at the factory. **This does not affect the carcass weight that the producer is paid on as there is no loss of carcass flesh when the animal is comfortably penned and has a supply of water.**

Dead Weight:

The weight recorded here is

C.B.F.		LIVESTOCK AND CARCASE SHOW RESULTS															A.C.O.T.			
HELD AT SHANNON MEAT LTD. ON SUN. 14/10/84																				
MARKET	PLACING	BREED	LOT NO.	NO. OF TEETH	FRESH LIVE WEIGHT		WEIGHT PRIOR TO Slaughter	OWNER	DEAD WEIGHT LB.	CONFIRMATION	FAT SCORE	KILL % FRESH WEIGHT	KILL % PRIOR Slaughter	KILL OUT LBS/CWT FRESH LIVE WEIGHT	KILL OUT LBS/CWT PRIOR TO Slaughter	PRICE PER LB.	FRESH WEIGHT PRICE PER CWT.	VALUE PER HEAD	AVERAGE KILL OUT LBS/CWTS PER BREED	
FRIESIAN CLASS	3	FRIESIAN	1	4	660	12.98	11.90	J. Harold	706	R	3	48.58	53.00	54.39	59.32	103	£56.02	727.18	59.21	
	1		2	4	730	14.36	14.26	J. O'Dwyer	892	R	3	55.47	55.85	62.11	62.55	103	£63.98	918.76		
			3	4	735	14.46	13.38	P. Keating	874	O	2	54.04	58.41	60.51	65.39	102	£61.72	892.50		
			4	4	640	12.59	11.80	MI. Walsh	745	R	3	52.83	56.39	59.17	63.13	103	£60.94	767.35		
			5	4	610	12.00	11.61	T. Cahill	714	O	3	53.12	54.92	59.50	61.49	102	£60.69	728.28		
UNITED KINGDOM MARKET	1	HEREFORD	6	4	642	12.63	12.00	R. Baker	784	U	3	55.44	58.33	62.07	65.33	104	£64.55	815.36	62.33	
			7	4	550	10.82	10.82	K. Barry	656	R	4H	54.17	54.17	60.62	60.62	103	£62.44	675.68		
			8	2	885	17.41	16.72	A. Carroll	1123	U	5	57.61	59.98	64.50	67.16	101	£65.14	1134.23		
			9	2	664	13.06	12.39	G. Furnell	799	R	4L	54.65	57.60	61.17	64.48	103	£63.01	822.97		
			45	4	705	13.87	13.08	A. Reidy	864	R	4L	55.63	59.01	62.29	66.05	103	£64.16	889.92		
		2	A. ANGUS	11	4	630	12.39	11.31	S. Hanley	740	R	4H	53.35	58.45	59.72	65.42	103	£61.51	762.20	62.30
				12	2	644	12.60	11.80	D. Muame	781	U	4H	55.03	59.12	61.64	66.18	104	£64.10	812.24	
				13	4	575	11.32	10.72	J. Cregan	707	O	4H	55.76	58.92	62.46	65.95	102	£63.70	721.14	
		3		14	2	580	11.42	11.02	Wm. Dillon	762	R	4L	59.62	61.75	66.78	69.14	103	£68.78	784.86	
				15	4	610	12.00	11.21	Mjr. Furnell	738	R	4L	54.91	58.80	61.50	65.83	103	£63.34	760.12	
				* 41		625	12.30	11.61	B. McEnroe	760	R	5	55.19	58.46	61.78	65.46	101	£62.40	767.60	Not Included
			SHORTHORN	16	4	585	11.51	10.42	E. Touhy	665	R	3	51.59	56.98	57.77	63.81	103	£59.50	684.95	58.06
				17	2	565	11.11	10.42	J. Giltinane	659	R	3	52.93	56.46	59.31	63.24	103	£61.09	678.77	
				18	4	608	11.96	10.42	J. Carroll	650	O	4L	48.50	55.69	54.34	62.38	102	£55.43	663.00	
				19	4	508	9.99	9.34	N. Hewson	585	R	4L	52.32	55.92	58.55	62.63	103	£60.31	602.55	
		* 20		2	590	11.61	10.42	M. Moloney	703	O	4L	54.07	60.23	60.55	67.46	102	£61.76	717.06		
CONTINENTAL MARKET		CHAROLAIS	21	4	674	13.26	12.79	J. Scanlon	799	R	3	53.80	55.79	60.25	62.47	103	£62.06	822.97	63.23	
				22	4	710	13.97	13.17	J. O'Keefe	876	R	4L	56.01	59.38	62.70	66.51	103	£64.58		902.28
				23	4	730	14.36	14.16	A. Boland	937	U	3	58.27	59.11	65.25	66.17	104	£67.86		974.48
				24	4	901	17.73	16.00	T. Costelloe	1131	U	4L	56.97	63.11	63.79	70.68	104	£66.34		1176.24
				25	4	770	15.15	14.56	P.J. Barry	935	U	4L	55.09	57.36	61.71	64.21	104	£64.18		972.40
			* 49		830	16.33	15.45	T. Melody	1064	E	3	58.20	61.50	65.15	68.86	106	£69.06	1127.84	Not Included	
			SIMMENTAL	26	2	750	14.75	14.16	P. Dwane	864	R	3	52.26	54.51	58.57	61.01	103	£60.33	889.92	59.35
				27	4	700	13.77	12.98	J. Hanley	804	R	3	52.14	55.33	58.38	61.94	103	£60.13	828.12	
				28	4	755	14.85	13.77	P. Holland	883	R	4L	53.06	57.26	59.46	64.12	103	£61.24	909.49	
				29	4	590	11.61	11.11	S. Nolan	680	R	2	52.30	54.66	58.57	61.20	103	£60.32	700.40	
		2		30	4	815	16.03	15.34	J. Donovan	984	U	3	54.78	57.27	61.38	64.14	104	£63.84	1023.36	
			LIMOUSIN	31	2	600	11.80	11.21	P. Smith	743	U	2	56.20	59.20	62.96	66.28	104	£65.48	772.72	62.65
				32	2	702	13.81	12.98	J. Hogan	835	U	3	53.97	57.46	60.46	64.32	104	£62.88	868.40	
				33	2	720	14.16	14.15	J. Kelly	906	U	3	57.12	57.12	63.98	63.98	104	£66.54	942.24	
				34	4	684	13.45	12.79	P.P. Kelly	803	R	4H	53.28	56.07	59.65	62.78	103	£61.44	827.09	
		35		4	555	10.92	10.62	K. Barry	684	R	4L	55.92	57.52	62.63	64.40	103	£64.51	704.52		
			* 43		600	11.81	11.12	M. Grubb	789	U	2	59.68	63.35	66.80	70.95	104	£69.48	820.56	Not Included	
		BLONDE D'AGUITANE	36	2	608	11.96	11.70	B. Keane	740	R	1	55.22	56.48	61.87	63.24	103	£63.72	762.20	62.57	
			37	0	545	10.72	9.83	B. Keane	648	R	2	51.14	58.90	60.45	65.92	103	£62.26	667.44		
			38	2	590	11.61	10.82	B. Keane	734	R	3	56.44	60.61	63.22	67.83	103	£65.11	756.02		
			39	0	595	11.70	11.61	B. Keane	744	R	2	56.75	57.23	63.58	64.08	103	£65.49	766.32		
			40	2	600	11.80	11.61	B. Keane	750	R	2	56.73	57.69	63.55	64.59	103	£65.46	772.50		
			* 47		660	12.99	12.20	B. Keane	799	R	2	54.92	58.47	61.50	65.49	103	£63.35	822.97	Not Included	

NOTE : * = Breed Society Cattle.

the hot carcass weight minus 2%, known as the Cold Carcass weight. 2% is reckoned to be the minimum weight loss during killing.

Conformation in Shape:

The conformation of carcasses is described by the letters E U R O P "E" denotes the best and from there declining to "P" which is the worst.

In the chart you will not note there was only one carcass in the E class. This was the Charolais Bullock sent in by the Charolais Breeding Society.

Fatness:

There are five fat classes described by the letters 1 to 5. 1 denotes the leanest and 5 the fattest with class 4 split into 4h Low and 4H High.



Donie Ahern who compiled the above chart on the results of the Livestock and Carcase Show.

The above chart outlines the details of each of the 47 animals displayed at the Show. Included are the cattle presented by the breed societies which were not included for the competitions.



At the Livestock and Beef Show, Willie Cleary, Shannon Meat Ltd., Gerard Brickley CBF and Donie Donovan, Shannon Meat Ltd.

HARVEST THIRST

From Patch, Memories of an Irish Lad.

by Patrick J. Carroll, C.S.C.

Owen Clancy fell sick of heart-weakness in late July and was ordered to rest in his bed by Dr. Moylan. There was nothing the mother could do except to call in every day, halfway between noon and supper, to see that Owen took his medicine, and to freshen up the pillows. Sometimes she would order him a cup of chicken broth on her own account, or some toast with butter on only one side.

"Keep the windows wide open and let in plenty of air. There must be no talk about the hurry of work in the garden or any stir of excitement."

"A bit of chicken might be good for him," suggested the mother.

"Chicken would be good. Or a light steak. Or any bit of reasonably well-fed fowl!"

"I could kill a crow," remarked Mick, after the doctor had mounted his gig and was on his way out the borheen. But the mother quenched him with a chilly look.

If any of you come from my part of Ireland and get lonesome sometimes, as one will follow the doctor out the borheen and look to the right of you to see the wheat fields aging to yellow, and look to the left where the oats are still green and growing. Think of the warm Summers that are over there sometimes, when there is whispering among the grain stems, and insect chatter above dry and browning grass. Recall the quiet cattle, so drowsy around noon, and the Bog below Sheehys' sending abroad combined odors of rushes and drying peat. The dyke runs out from the Bog, as it ran always, and cows for coolness stand knee deep in water. It still empties itself into the Deel, which in turn goes on a brooding journey until it passes Askeaton under the bridge of trees arches and joins the Shannon, which is wide and white and wonderful beyond all speech. And if you like, think of the women so neighbourly and so human and so full of sympathy, and so unconscious of a world beyond them which fosters tumults and strange sins; or of the men whose talk is of the land, planting, plowing and reaping.

Well, August came and Owen's heart was not mended entirely.

"There's a more regular beat and the compensation is more marked. By October you will be around. if you are careful." This was how Dr. Moylan expressed his judgement. The phrase "if you are careful" was a sort of *sine qua non*, as they say in the classics. If Owen was not careful there would be no cure, no matter how many medicines they put inside of him.

His children were young, a fact which left his wheat field still uncut when August was well on its way. So Dick Sheehy and our Mick and Tomeen Madigan and Bill Walch and two or three others whom I do not remember any more, were over in Owen's garden of a Friday to cut down his six acres of wheat. Dick called for Mick on his way to the garden. He lit the pipe, and when there was a good fog coming out of it, he asked Nan if she was going to Madigans' party the Monday evening following. **"I am,"** Nan answered, **"but I'm not going with you."**

"I'm glad you're provided for," said Dick, **"because I've asked a very nice girl already."**

"I had to refuse ten gentlemen, and 'tisn't very likely I would consider you."

Dick said nothing to that. He turned to the mother who was clearing off the breakfast table.

"We'll need Patch back in the hot garden to get us a cooling drink." I, who was putting the second cube root sum into my copy book of red and blue lines, pricked up my ears like a hound that hears the call of a hunter. **"You can't expect a boy to keep up in the books if he misses doing his sums."** **"You can't expect men to work out in a blistering heat and perspiration smothering them without some liquid nourishment,"**

Dick said. **"If he goes,"** answered the mother, conceding and at the same time receding, **"he is not to be sent after porter. If ye must have porter, go after it yourselves."** **"Who's speaking of porter?"** Dick retorted, pretending to be hurt. **"'Tisn't as if we had a liking for it that you need be reminding us,"** Mick added on his account. **"I'd rather be sure than sorry,"** answered the mother in one of those maxims she loved.

So I was surrendered to the wheat garden and to the thirst of seven or eight men. It was one of the few times Dick ever sought my services for something agreeable; and I never knew why he was so insistent until later.

It was a great day in the garden and the ripe wheat falling before the sharp edges of the scythes. Two men mowed, two divided the cut wheat which lay against the uncut, into bundles after the mowers, and the others bound the bundles into sheaves and later set up the sheaves into stooks; or shocks, as we say in this country.

At one o'clock when dinner was over and the workers had returned to the garden, they stood in a circle and talked among themselves. **"Patch, come here!"** Dick shouted to me at the end of the conference. I went from where I was lying in the shade of a stook, awaiting orders. **"Patch, we're sending you to Askeaton for a jar of porter to keep some strength in us. Go down to Clancys' for the ass and car and start off."** Dick handed me one-and-eight pence, which was contributed by the conference. That barely paid for the porter, and left me no margin for myself. I would be hungry when I got to Askeaton; and Lynchs' bakery had very fresh bread. **"I don't want to go because of what the mother said. She would not like at all for me to get porter out of of a public house."** Dick put his hand into his trousers' pocket and after a long, long search brought the hand back into the sunlight again. He scrutinized the hollow of his palm and seemed satisfied with its contents. He handed me three pennies, counting them, **"one, two, three"** impressively. I gave way to the temptation.

The ass travelled slowly down the dry road that hot afternoon. I met Mrs. Connelly at Connellys' cross and she watching her son, James Michael, driving he geese from the hay yard into the pond.

"How's Owen Clancy, Patch dear?" she asked me. **"He's getting better, I think."** Then I added: **"The doctor said he would be up and around by October."** **"Would you take a chicken with you to your mother for Owen, if I had it ready when you're coming back?"** she asked. **"He won't be alive, will he?"** **"Of course, she won't be alive,"** Mrs. Connelly answered, pointedly changing the gender. **"And the feathers will be plucked off her?"** **"'Tisn't a hunter I am, to be handing you a dead bird with feathers on her."** **"It would be good to wrap her up well in a paper, and to tie the string tight."** **"Faith, ye're very particular up in the Craggs, the way ye're giving orders!"** she observed ironically. And then I drove on. I saw Mike Fitzgeald down near Hunts' and he leading a cow to Stonehall. At the edge of the town I met Patcheen Purcell, the cobbler, probably driving to Limerick to buy leather.

I tied the ass to a post outside the courthouse and handed in the jar, which was in a gunny sack, to the man in the public house. I paid him the one-and-eight pence, and told him I'd call for the jar after a while.

Now I always had a passion for climbing upon the birdge parapet at Askeaton and watching the Deel. So I bought fresh bread at Lynchs' bakery, and they put jam on it without charging me at all for the jam. The tide was near the full, but still coming in, and there was a tang of salt to the water that made you hungry for the sea. Enrights' turf boat, "Mary Ann," was coming up from the Shannon with a bulge to every sail, and I stopped eating to watch her. Down at Russells' mill they were loading flour for Kilrush, to feed the people of County Clare. I stayed for a full three-quarters of an hour watching the river, which had the curves of a serpent, until it wedded the Shannon and gave up its own name. There were sea gulls far down, very low above the river, and not screeching at all. And a boy was rowing an old man from the west bank over to the Abbey; scarcely was there a movement of the waters where he crossed. I finished the fresh bread and jam, and because I didn't care for any more I thought I was losing my appetite. I might have stayed there on the bridge parapet all evening filling my nostrils with salt-water odors and letting my thoughts drift with the drifting boats, if the man in the public house hadn't come out after me. **"Have you been sent down on an errand, or are you out on a leave of absence?"** he asked.

I sighed and hurried down to the ass car, where the sack and its contents were waiting for me. Up at Connellys', Mrs. Connelly kept her word about the dead chicken, only I felt the mother at home would have fixed it into a tidier package; but I didn't say so. I simply said in a most reverent manner, **"I thank you, Mrs. Connelly, and very kindly."**

Well, finally, when at four o'clock I reached the borheen outside the garden, the seven or eight waiting men had a desert thirst. Besides, they were in a raging temper that I had kept them waiting

so long. Dick came out to the ditch, climbed over and stood on the hard borheen behind the car. **"Where the devil were you? In Cork city?"** **"Didn't I have to stop at Mrs. Connelly's to get the dead chicken to give to the mother for Owen Clancy?"** **"It shouldn't take three hours to get a dead chicken. I could kill and skin and dress a bullock in that time."** **"But didn't she have to put paper around her, and didn't she have to tie the string?"** **"Will you shut your mouth!"** Dick roared and the thirst itching him. **"Hand me down the jar."**

In the meantime the men were all stopped working, bolt upright, and looking at us with a thirst and a hope, as if we had just found a spring in the wilderness. **"Young fellow,"** preached Dick, as if he were one of the Holy Fathers at the mission, **"you must keep in mind a feeling for others, and you must remember there are people in the world besides yourself."** **"I couldn't make the ass go any faster and the day so hot,"** I replied in simple self-defense. **"Why must you answer me back at every turn?"** Dick put the question very severely. I was just beginning to get the jar out of the gunny sack, but felt that Dick's question required some pertinent answer. **"Will you tell me, Dick, why I haven't a right to answer you back, when you're not the priest, nor the mother, nor even old Burke? Will you tell me that, Dick?"** **"What the devil is holding ye, and we here splitting with the drouth?"** roared Tomeen Madigan up from the garden. Dick couldn't answer me and Tomeen roaring up at him. **"Patch, hand him out, and hand him out quick."** **"Will I take him out of the bag first?"** I asked for information. **"Yes, bring him out stripped."** I brought him out stripped. Around the edge of the cork there was an oozing of the dark fluid; and the familiar odor of Dublin stout was unmistakable.

I can not tell you absolutely about what followed, it followed so quickly. Dick stood at the rear of the car, his two palms ready to receive the horn of plenty. And myself was holding the horn of plenty by the handle. Mick and Tomeen Madigan and Bill Walch and the others were looking up at us in silent reverence, as if we were hoisting a flag of truce. **"Let him down easy, Patch!"** Dick cautioned me.

I have never been able to state definitely what I answered, or if I answered anything at all to what Dick said. I was about to lower the jar into Dick's two bent palms where it would clink securely, when I saw the mother, about forty yards away, coming down the borheen from her mid-afternoon visit to Clancys'. Well the shock was so great - her sudden appearance, I mean, and the nature of the business we were engaged in so dubious, - that I let go the jar very suddenly, and ahead of the time, so it never clicked in securely between Dick's cupped hands. Instead it fell on a hard protruding rock that was destined for it from all eternity. Crash. Smash. Splash. Ah, dear! Dick was so surprised at seeing the mother, and so taken aback at having been discovered contributing to my delinquency, his humiliation

Harvest Thirst [contd.]

quite obscured the pain of loss. He did not swear, for one thing. He did not even roar at me. He simply murmured, more in sorrow than in anger, "Well, that's the end of it!" I suppose he meant the end of the porter; for the jar was of no consequence.

When Mick and the men in the garden saw the mother coming, they set to work as if the day of judgement was tomorrow and they had to be finished by then.

The mother contemplated the broken jar, the dark fluid, Dick, and myself. "Nice training to be giving a boy, sending him down to a public house for drink! And after I warning ye!" I felt the best thing I could do would be to cry, which I did; and pressed the inside of my cap against the outside of my eyes, as was my custom. "Come down from that car!" said the mother with considerable severity. I was just ready to hop off when Dick found his speech. "At least you might drive the ass home to his owner, and not leave him here all night." I halted on the seat awaiting a revision of orders from the mother, who seemed to hold the balance of power. "I told you this morning before you left the house -" she was speaking to Dick - "not to send the

minor to the public house for the drink." It was the first time I had ever heard the mother refer to me as "the minor." I suspected she was using the language of the courts. "When men are mad with a raging thirst, can you expect them to be thinking about minors - or majors either?" "Why don't ye get buttermilk - or lemonade?" "Why don't we get bog water?" Dick expressed such depths of disgust the mother nearly laughed outright. Then she said, after looking at the moist ground, the rock eternal, and the broken pieces: "'Tis gone now, anyhow; and all ye can do is offer it up for the Poor Souls." "We might as well," Dick agreed. But without enthusiasm, I thought. "Drive that poor beast to his owner," she said to myself. "Will I hand you out the chicken?" I asked. And I had to explain when, where and why I got it. Then convinced I had secured it lawfully, she took the package. "Get up Ned!" I was speaking to the ass.

Ned took his own time about "getting up," and when he "got up" finally his speed was nothing to brag about. While I drove on down the borheen the mother kept talking to Dick. I suspect she was impressing upon him the iniquity of sending me, a minor, to a public

house.

I turned north at our own gate and followed the branch borheen that led to Clancys'. I became curious to find out if the mother was still lecturing Dick about the evil of sending a minor to a public house. She was not. Instead, she was walking down the main broheen and was about to turn in at the stile. I then directed my eyes to the harvest field. Our Mick was standing with his back to the setting sun and facing Tomeen Madigan, who leaned on his scythe-tree. Bill Walch was kneeling on his left knee and his face was toward Dick, who knelt on his right knee. On the other knee Dick rested an elbow, while he supported his chin on the palm of his left hand. The others were standing; motionless as if they were a photograph. "'Tis offering it up for the Poor Souls they are, as the mother told them," I said to myself out loud.

The ass, grasping at any straw, stopped, pretending he thought I was addressing him. "Will you get up?" He did get up, convinced I was not in a mood for fooling.

At Clancys' I told Mrs. Clancy about the chicken I had brought up from Mrs. Connelly. "Wasn't it kind of her, Patch, to think of us?"

"It was, Mrs. Clancy; I suppose the mother will send her down by Fan." Mrs. Clancy was so thankful to everybody for all the acts of kindness they had shown her in her trouble, she cut me a large piece from the hot cake she had taken out of the oven only five minutes before. The butter she spread upon it melted beautifully. Although I would have liked it better had she covered it with jam. Ah, dear!



Patrick J. Carroll, C.S.C.

SOCCER SCENE

SHANNON UNITED NEWS

Here we are again halfway through another season and going nowhere. We are like the Coventry team of some years ago, coming and coming but as yet they have not arrived. At times we can play lovely football but we lack the competitiveness to be winners. We play a better brand of football than most of the teams in the League but more often than not we finish as the losing side. It isn't a selection problem but rather the players attitude on the pitch. They lack a belief in themselves and seem to accept defeat too easy. A leader on the field may be the answer, we don't have one at present, and until we can solve this problem we will never win anything.

However, I'm happy to say we don't seem to have the same problem with the minors. They are going from strength to strength. After their great win in the Desmond Cup during the Summer they are going very well in the F.A.I. youths cup. Having beaten Neangh we are really going into the unknown, and we are eagerly looking forward to facing up to our next opponents whatever part of the country they may be from. It's a great thrill to see these lads playing because the football they play is of the highest order and they have a lot to offer. The Desmond League Youth's are playing shortly and I'll be very surprised if the Club isn't well represented on the league side.

Just a few words about our neighbours Deel United. They also seem to be having their problems at the moment. They have a very unsettled side due largely to the G.A.A. commitment of many of their players, but as soon as the G.A.A. season is over they will begin to fire on all cylinders and shoot up the table where they belong.

Results so far:

Kildimo 3 Shannon United 4
Ml. Meade 2, D. O'D, E. Geaney

Shannon United 2 Iverus 4
D. O'Dea, P. Reidy.

Broadford 1 Shannon United 2
D. O'Dea, J. Coleman

Shannon United 1 Ballingarry 1
N. Harnett

Deel United 3 Shannon United 1
P. Sheehan

Shannon United 1 Broadford 0
M. Meade

Park 10 Shannon United 1
P. Reidy

F.A.I. MINOR:
Shannon United 2 Nenagh 1
E. Geaney, K. O'Rourke.

Denis Law.

DEEL UNITED

At the time of writing, Deel find themselves in the bottom four of the first division and have made their exit from both the F.A.I. and Munster Junior Cups.

The main contributing reason for this apparent poor showing is that no fewer than seven of the first team are involved in the Gaelic scene, where they are hoping to bring the County Junior Football title to the parish.

It is hoped that once the Gaelic season has terminated (and the fear is that it may not), Deel have enough potential to shoot up the table and away from the relegation zone. This season, it must be remembered that four clubs will be demoted.

Match Reports:

League:

Adare 4 Deel Utd. 2
James O'Grady, P.J. Wall

A very depleted side looked to have both points sewn up at half-time when leading 2-0, despite being under severe pressure. However, the home sides constant waves of attacks payed off, when they scored early after the break. Alas, the flood-gates were then opened also.

Deel Utd. 2 Pallaskenry 6
L. Kennedy & T. Shaughnessy.

Missing their G.A.A. players the Rathkeale side were always fighting a rear-guard action against a strong Pallaskenry side. Furthermore, the loss of key players Edmund Dollery & Richie Hayes during the game was to be a major disaster.

F.A.I. Junior:

Deel Utd. 3 Shannon Utd. 1
Jas O'Grady, Jimmy Fitzgerald, Liam Kennedy.

Both sides started slowly, probably as each had a healthy respect for one another. On the day, Deel were comfortable winners and they won without being over-extended. Prominent for Deel were Liam Kennedy, Richie Hayes and Tom Shaughnessy.

Newcastle Utd. 3 Deel Utd. 1
Charlie Hogan

This was a very exciting cup tie, with both sides playing some very good football. Lapses of concentration by Deel defenders allowed Newcastle two penalties which they duly converted. After this it was an uphill battle for Deel, but only for the brilliance of the home keeper, John Wall, Deel Utd. would have advanced, as the Newcastle keeper saved time and time again.

Munster Junior:

Deel Utd. 4 Breska 0
Ray Doherty 2, L. Kennedy, S. Harnett.

This was one of Deel's better performances in some time. They dominated the Clarina side from start to finish and were unlucky not to have scored more. Their use of the ball was good and the back-up for each other first class.

Deel Utd. 2 Villa Rovers 3
Liam Kennedy 2.

Once again Deel had to take to the field without the services of their gaelic players. However, their replacements weren't to let the side down. Trailing 3-0 at the break, they put in a great second half and pushed the fancied Ardagh side all the way.

Season's Tally:

Liam Kennedy 5; P.J. Wall, Sean Harnett, Ray Doherty - 3 each; Seamus Doherty, Charlie Hogan, James O'Grady, 2 each; Richie Hayes, Jimmy Fitzgerald, Tom Shaughnessy, 1 each.

DEEL UTD. B

Results

League:

Deel Utd. B 1 Kilfinny 4
Jack Lyons

Iverus 6 Deel Utd B. 0

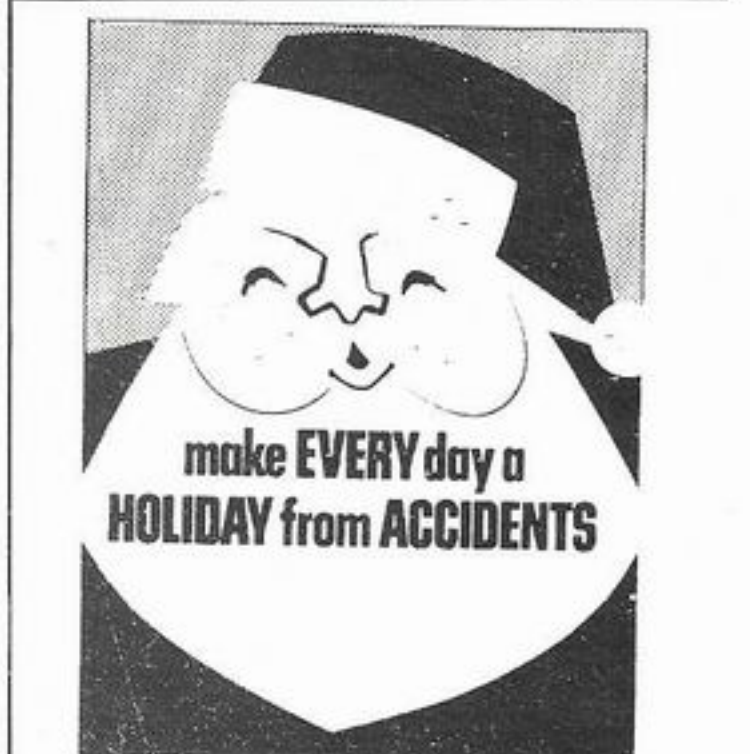
Askeaton B 3 Deel Utd. B 1
Tommy McCann

Munster Junior

Newcastle Utd. A 8 Deel Utd. B 0

Season's Scorers:

Jimmy Fitzgerald 3, Anthony Flaherty 2, Johnny Daly, Jim Nix, Jack Lyons and Tommy McCann 1 each.



CHRISTMAS IN OTHER DAYS

By Yuletide

I was asked to write something about Christmas. Well what can one say?

Talk about Christmas and one tends to think about the Christmas just coming up or last Christmas or perhaps the previous one. All very familiar I thought, and not too much interesting mileage to be got out of that.

So, I thought I'd go back a bit. Back to the Christmases when I was a youngster in Rathkeale and try to remember what Christmas was like then.

The first thing that comes to mind was the sheer excitement of it all. And while no doubt, the kids of today still look forward to it I think it was different then. One has to remember the times.

Money was scarcer and parents had more pressing needs throughout the year than buying toys for their children. Unlike nowadays, one rarely got a new toy during the year. We had to wait for Santy. Naturally the long wait heightened the sense of excitement.

And it was a long wait. During the long summer holidays from school Christmas was rarely a topic. Unless somebody got a new toy which was the envy of the rest of us. Immediately we were all getting the same thing from Santy - except we were all getting at least two of them.

School

Then September came and we were back to school. This was a depressing time. We tended to be irritable and sulky, and easily-frayed tempers were always close to the surface. It was a time when young fists would fly at the drop of a hat. Unless you were sure of your opponent you had to be careful.

But after a few weeks the memory of the holidays started to fade and we began to thaw out. September was gone and October was slipping away. The days were getting shorter and it was turning cold. The sandals were put away and we were all back in boots. The town began to take on an air of winter.

But there was also a smell of Christmas in the air. Not a day passed but somebody asked "What are you getting from Santy?" As we moved into late November this intensified. The shops began to dress their windows for Christmas and suddenly we had visual evidence of the objects of our dreams. It was time to write our letters to Santy.

In this we were very lucky. Mrs. O'Shea (a marvellous woman with a wonderful feeling for what was important to kids) had us organised. We would all call to her house with our letters on an appointed day. Or if you still hadn't written your letter that was no problem. She would sit down and write it with you. All the letters were then gathered and put in one huge envelope addressed to Santy.

The ceremonial posting then followed. We would all troop excitedly behind her down to the letter box and watch the envelope bearing our hopes drop into the box. This was our guarantee that Santy was on the way. No doubt Niall and

Pa and Miko and the others will have memories of that.

What amazes me looking back was that year after year we seemed to look for the same things. There were cowboy suits and cowboy hats. There were guns and holsters, Woolworth's bows and arrows, Ludo, Snakes and Ladders and "Dinky" cars. We knew in our hearts of course that we would be lucky to get one or two of these things (it had been well drilled into us at home!) but it still didn't deter us. We asked for the lot.

Letters

Once our letters had been posted there was nothing to do then but wait. And what a wait it was. But of course there was one thing yet to come which helped to shorten the time to the great day. That was the trip to Limerick on the 8th. of December to see Santy in Todds.

Now while this too was an exciting day for us I think it was also the day that caused the first stirrings of doubt in our young minds about Santy. On Christmas night he brought us toys and it didn't cost us anything. Yet in Todds we had to pay. Not only that - for a half-crown you got a bigger parcel than you did for two bob. It didn't seem right. Still when the day came we enjoyed it and when we met Santy our doubts were forgotten.

And it brings to mind the occasion that Santy came to Hudsons shop. I think it was the first time that he came to Rathkeale. I remember that he left Hudsons in a decorated pony and trap and moved slowly down the street ringing a bell as he went. He went back as far as the river bridge and turned again. We were all intrigued, and of course by the time he got back to Hudsons practically every youngster in town had arrived with him. Real 'Pied Piper' stuff, and on reflection, a very innovative piece of marketing.

But this aspect of Christmas was for us merely an interlude before the real thing. And when Christmas Eve finally arrived we were at fever pitch. I remember we used to all gather at O'Sheas after lunch and sit excitedly around the radio. Santy used to have his own programme in which he spoke to all the children around the country telling them that he was on the way. Just to hear his voice was excitement enough, but waiting to hear if he would call out any of our names was almost unbearable.

Of course he warned us to be in bed early that night but that was never a problem. As far as we were concerned the earlier we went to bed the quicker Christmas Day would arrive. And arrive it did.

Invariably we woke early. Immediately parcels were feverishly torn open and examined. After a hurried breakfast we were out in the street. There a mob of us spent the day playing with our new toys, examining what each other got and proudly showing off what we had got ourselves. It was the best day of the year.

Grow Up

Of course all good things came

THERE OUGHT TO BE A LAW!

● you're right.
there are lots of laws.

Extract from Part III of the Regulations:

Food premises:

25. The following provisions shall be complied with in relation to a food premises and a food business carried on in connection therewith by the proprietor thereof:—

- (1) the walls, ceilings, floors, doors, windows and all parts of the premises shall be kept in a proper state of repair and in a clean and hygienic condition;
- (2) except in the case of an artificially refrigerated room suitable and sufficient means of ventilation shall be provided and suitable and sufficient ventilation shall be maintained;
- (3) suitable and sufficient means of lighting shall be provided and each part of the premises shall be kept adequately lighted for the purpose for which it is used;

Food workers:

31. A food worker, while engaged on any work in connection with a food business:—

- (1) shall keep himself clean and shall, in particular
 - (a) wash his hands immediately after using a sanitary convenience, and
 - (b) wash his hands and (if they are uncovered while engaged on his work) his forearms at other times as often as may be necessary to keep them clean;
- (2) shall wear clean outer clothing;
- (3) shall maintain all machinery, apparatus, utensils, tables or other equipment used in contact with food or food material for which he is responsible in a clean and hygienic condition;
- (4) shall not unnecessarily handle food or food material;
- (5) shall not spit or engage in any other unhygienic practice.

● they all say that food must be clean and safe to eat.

people
TRUST
you
to
PROTECT
THEM



Name: Margo Forde.
Address: 3 Clontemple, Ballingarry.
Age: 20 yrs.
Marital Status: Single.
Hobbies/Interests: Dancing, Soccer & Athletics.
Favourite Actor: Robert Redford.
Favourite Food: All Food.
Favourite Country: Spain.
Best Friend: Eithne Mulcahy.
Life Ambition: To have a date with an Arab.
What person would you most like to meet: David Essex.

N
E
W

F
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S



Name: Eithne Mulcahy.
Address: Spar, Ballingarry.
Age: 17 yrs.
Marital Status: Single.
Hobbies/Interests: Dancing, Music & Reading.
Favourite Actor: Pierce Brosnan.
Favourite Food: No particular food.
Favourite Country: Italy.
Best Friend: Margo Forde.
Life Ambition: To marry Pierce Brosnan.
What person would you most like to meet: Pierce Brosnan.

to an end and all too soon we began to grow up and Santy went out of our lives. For children, I think it must be one of the most disappointing times in their young lives when the reality of it all suddenly hits them. No more feverish build-up and no more Santy.

In truth of course it must be said that because of what Christmas meant to us at that age, the real meaning of Christmas went over our heads. Hopefully that came later.

There is no doubt however that for most of us Christmas and Santy provide some of the strongest and happiest memories of childhood. It is a time without which our childhoods would seem somehow incomplete.

As I already said, the above experiences have little to do with what Christmas should really be about, but if I've managed to jog a few happy memories for a few people then hopefully the good Lord will forgive me.

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GAZETTE



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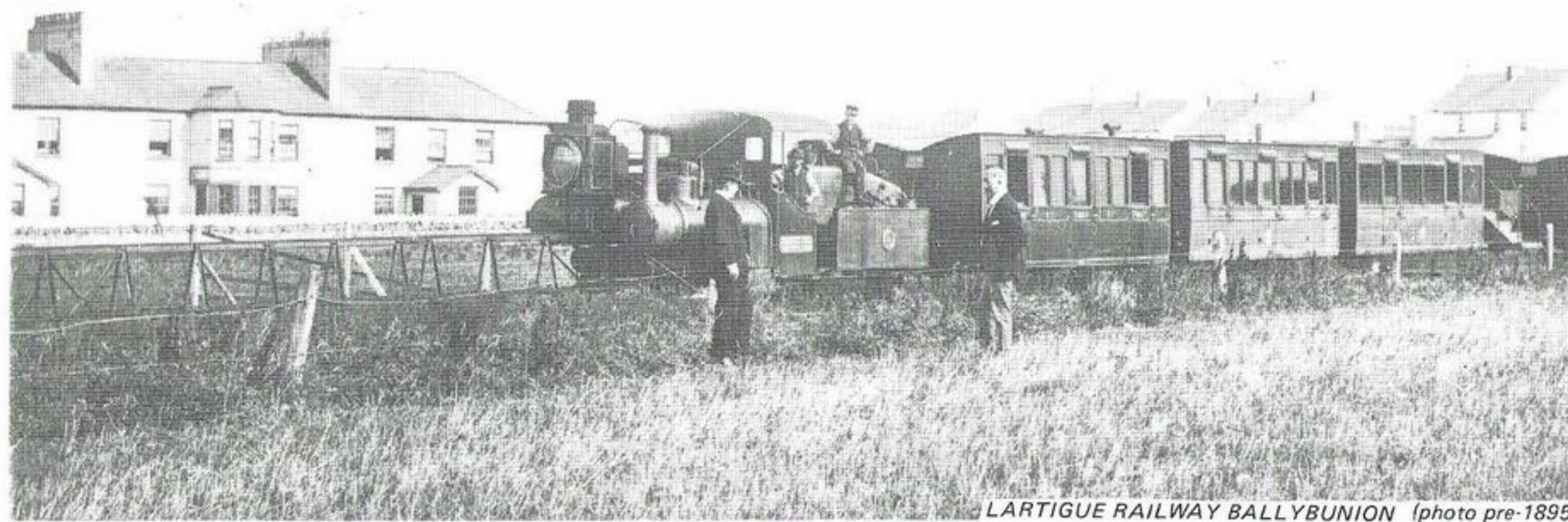
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CALENDAR

1985

JANUARY

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
F.M. 7th L.Q. 13th N.M. 21st F.Q. 29th	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	Bank Holiday 1st Scotland, 1st/2nd Epiphany 6th	

APRIL

FEBRUARY

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
+	Full Moon 5th Last Quarter 12th New Moon 19th First Quarter 27th Ash Wednesday 20th			+	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

MARCH

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
+	+	Full Moon 7th Last Quarter 13th New Moon 21st First Quarter 29th St. Patrick's Day 18th			1	2
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

JUNE

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
F.M. 7th L.Q. 13th N.M. 21st F.Q. 29th	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	Bank Holiday 1st Scotland, 1st/2nd Epiphany 6th	

APRIL

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
+	Full Moon 5th Last Quarter 12th New Moon 19th First Quarter 27th Ash Wednesday 20th				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
+	+	Full Moon 7th Last Quarter 13th New Moon 21st First Quarter 29th St. Patrick's Day 18th			1	2
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

JUNE

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	+	Full Moon 5th Last Quarter 12th New Moon 20th First Quarter 28th Good Friday 5th Easter Monday 8th		

JULY

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
+	F.M. 4th L.Q. 11th N.M. 19th F.Q. 27th Bank H. 6th/27th G.B.			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

AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
+	+	Full Moon 3rd Last Quarter 10th New Moon 18th First Quarter 25th Bank Holiday 3rd Ireland Corpus Christi 6th			+	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	25	26	27	28	29

SEPTEMBER

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	F.M. 2nd/31st L.Q. 10th N.M. 17th F.Q. 24th		

OCTOBER

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
+	L.Q. 8th N.M. 16th F.Q. 23rd F.M. 30th Bank H. Scot/Ireland, 26th Eng/Wales			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

NOVEMBER

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	Last Quarter 7th New Moon 14th First Quarter 21st Full Moon 29th				

DECEMBER

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
L.Q. 7th N.M. 14th F.Q. 20th F.M. 28th	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	Bank Holiday 28th Ireland	

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
+	Last Quarter 5th New Moon 12th First Quarter 19th Full Moon 27th All Saints 1st				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

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	Last Q. 5th New M. 12th First Q. 19th Full M. 27th Bank Holidays: 25th/26th			+