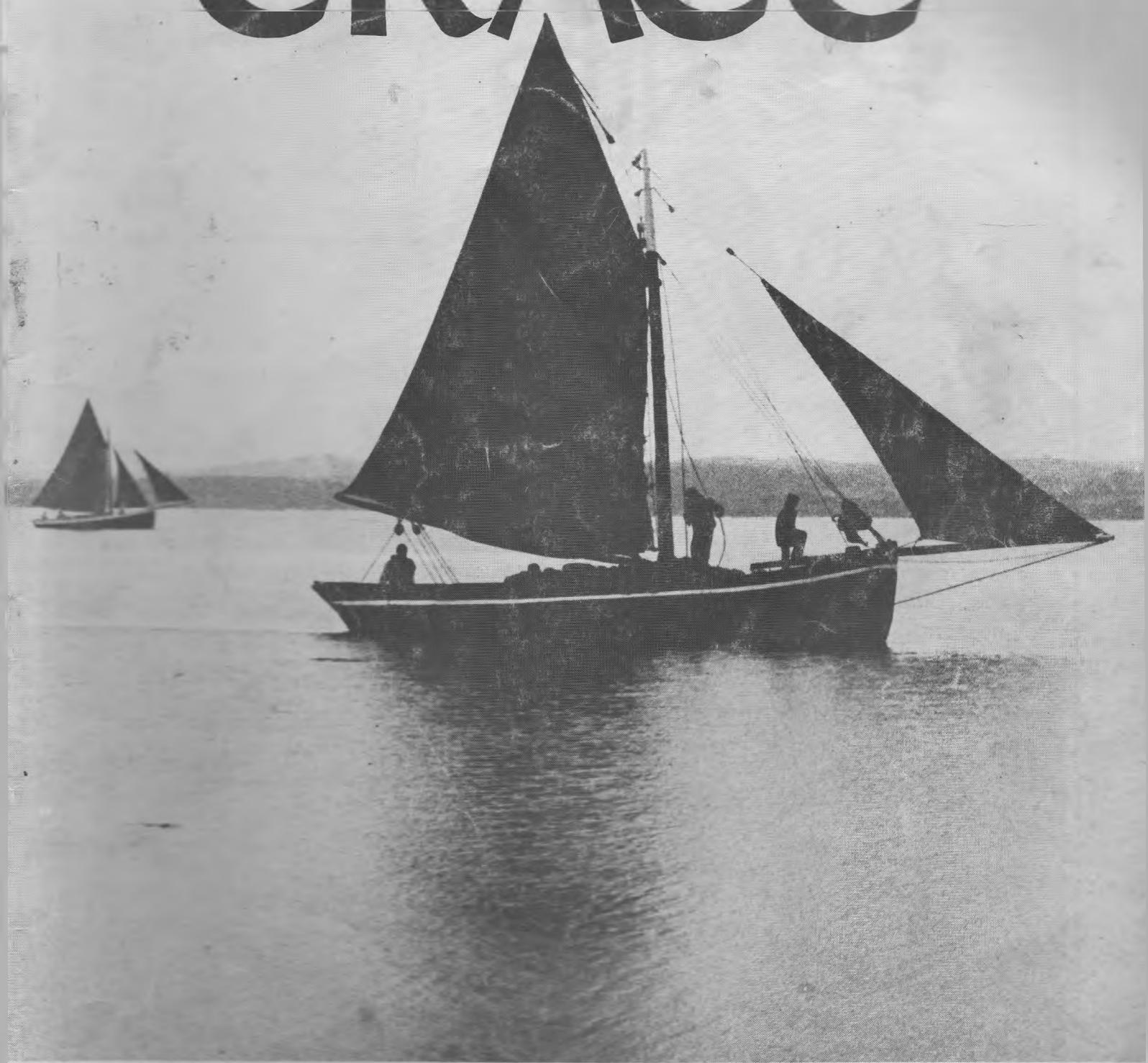


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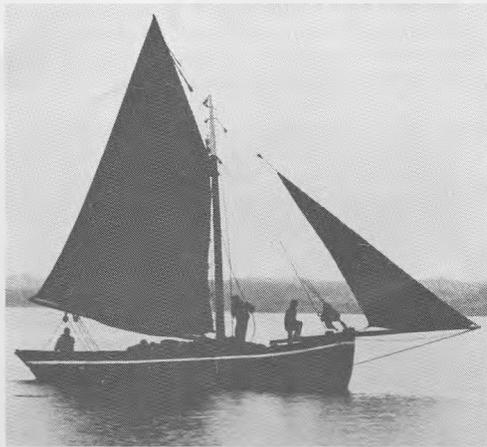
TRÁČT



KINVARA'S NEW MAGAZINE

SPRING 1980

50p



Spring 1980

Issue No. 1

EDITORIAL

WE HOPE you enjoy reading this first issue of "Tracht". Our object in publishing a parish magazine is that it should be a means of communication between all members of the community, both those at home and those who have left the parish of Kinvara or the island of Aughinish to live elsewhere. We intend publishing two more issues this year.

We will have articles on the history and natural amenities of our parish from time to time, but we are more concerned that "Tracht" be a forward looking magazine where ideas for the improvement and development of the area can be aired and discussed.

We invite articles from everyone who has any connection with Kinvara and we would welcome letters suggesting features and articles which you would like to see in print.

CONTENTS

Tracht is published by
KINVARA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Editorial Board:

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John Conneely.*

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Thomas Quinn.*

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Features

Kinvara—A Progressive Community	4
Boats Back In The Bay	7
A Co-op is Born	10
A Pilgrim at Ballybrit	19
Winter Feeding On The Farm	21
Mussel Harvesting In Kinvara Bay?	25
Galway's Rally Weekend	26
From Charing Cross to Crushoa Cross!	26
Maitiú Ó Mócháin	27

Clubs and Societies Notes

Youth Club 1979/'80	6
Monthly Draw	9
Soccer Club	11
Community Games	13
Swimming Club	14
Bridge	23
PTAA	29
Gun Club	30
Social Services	30
Cartoon Page	22
Poetry	27

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KINVARA — A Progressing Community

KINVARA is at the beginning of a new phase of development and progress. This is going to take place on a number of fronts — social, cultural and economic.

In the social sphere, it is indicated by the imminent completion of our new Community Centre. When Fr. MacDyer began his trojan work in Glencolmkille, he saw a playing field as a first necessity, and secondly, a Community Hall. After their completion, the really great economic and social transformation of that remote area of Donegal took place.

In the cultural sphere, we see a great revival in Irish music, and a renewed interest in writing — evidenced by the production of this magazine. Kinvara has always had good, and at times excellent artists, but we now have new residents in the area also, many of whom have brought with them considerable artistic talent.

In the economic area we see the continual improvement of farm holdings, the continued expansion of Co-op activities and negotiations aimed at establishing a new industry in the area.

HISTORY

We must make sure that we are properly organised to avail of the opportunities presented to us. The Muintir na Tire Community Council is the means for organising the parish in a spirit of self-help, unity and co-operation.

But first, let us have a brief look at the development of the present Community Council.

Muintir na Tire itself was founded by Canon Hayes in the late thirties. It was a Community Development Movement, and in 1949 a number of people in Kinvara parish saw the potential of a branch of the organisation for the improvement of the area.

The pioneers of the local movement included: J. P. O'Grady, Thomas Reidy, Joseph Lynch, Kieran Moylan, Paddy O'Loughlin, Poulmagann; Mick Fahy, Cahermore; Eddie Connolly, Killina; Michael Curtin, Aughnish; Rev. T. Martyn, CC; Martin Glynn, Traught; John-Joe Shaughnessy, John Fahy, Nogra; Mattie Callinan, Paddy O'Loughlin, Kinvara; Jack Conole, Joseph Muldoon, John Sullivan, Kinvara; Thomas Donlon, Mattie Higgins, Jimmy Conole, Micko Quinn, Cappamore; Michael McInerney, Roo; Patrick Nolan, Moy; Michael John Corless, Mick Tully, Richie Johnston, Michael Waites, Battie Tannian, Mick Forde, Killina; Paddy Fallon, Michael Connors, Ardnagrove; Patrick Flaherty, Killina; Thomas Connolly, Killina; P. J. Burke, Killina; Tommie Corless, Michael J. Leech, Paddy Gardiner, Patrick Donoghue, Cappamore; Very Rev. Canon Garrihy.

Some of the above have passed to their reward, but we are proud of their memory for what they did for the community.

ACHIEVEMENTS

The main aim of the guild was to unite the people of the parish and to foster the idea that much could be done for the benefit of the community through the concerted efforts of the people themselves. The list of achievements shows how successful the guild was in realising this aim:

1. The promotion of rural electrification.
2. The promotion of beet growing.
3. The promotion of water schemes, and the provision of water pumps.
4. The improvements of fairs.
5. The promotion of woodwork classes and agricultural courses.
6. The purchase of the present hurling field.
7. The erection of a Calvary Cross in Mount Cross cemetery.
8. The erection of a plaque at the birthplace of Francis Fahy.
9. The provision of social services.
10. The improvement of roads and the provision of facilities such as a pillar box in Nogra.
11. The provision of protective railings at the Quay.
12. Dissemination of agricultural advice.
13. The establishment of Kinvara Handcraft co-operative.

THE SEVENTIES

In the early seventies Muintir na Tire recommended the establishment of representative Community Councils. We can be proud that Kinvara delegates were among those who initially formulated this new development.

Kinvara itself was one of the first communities to enthusiastically adopt the idea. A steering committee was set up to arrange elections in



Community Centre nearing completion

the parish in the autumn of 1975. All households exercised the right to vote and four members each were returned from Kinvara town and Doorus, and two each from Killina, Roo-Cahernamadra, Moy-Trellick, Crushoa and Caheravonneen-Cahermore. Each organisation in the parish was entitled to nominate a delegate to the council also, and this was availed of by most of them.

The first chairperson of the new council was Tommy Corless and Rev. Fr. Michael Brennan, a native of Gort, was its hardworking secretary. Sub-committees were set up to carry out specific tasks — Social Services, Tidy Towns, Community Centre, Agriculture, etc. Representations were made to the relevant authorities on sea-pollution, the town dump, provision of extra street lighting and post boxes, the availability of the mobile sheep dip in more areas of the parish and the inclusion of Cahermore and Doorus in the Disadvantaged Areas Scheme.

PAST YEAR'S ACTIVITIES

It would be tedious to recount all the activities of the Council since its establishment in 1975, but an account of the work done in the past year is fairly representative of each year's activity:

1. The Community Games were held in the hurling field and athletes who qualified for Galway were trained three evenings a week.
2. The Tidy Town Sub-Committee continued its climb towards the prizewinning category, being only two marks behind Gort, the awardwinning entry from County Galway.
3. Next year should see another substantial improvement in the marks again, as the County Council has agreed to bear the cost of planting trees and shrubs on the grass island opposite Thornville, and a cannon recovered from the Quay is to be erected there.
4. The Assistant County Engineer in Gort, Mr. Mitchell, and the council workers, Bill Sullivan and Joe Keane, have co-operated with the committee at all times, and deserve the thanks of the community for helping to keep Kinvara beautiful.
5. Preparations were made to establish an Information Centre in Kinvara, where people could be made aware of their entitlements with regard to grants, social welfare and other services in complete confidence. It is hoped to have this in operation in 1980.
6. Music classes were started. 63 pupils, both children and adults attended the first session. Classes were held for seven one-hour periods per week.
7. Negotiations were held with a representative of Irish Rent-a-Cottage Ltd, which, it is hoped, will result in the building of cottages under this scheme in Kinvara parish.
8. A successful Community Social was held in Ballyvaughan.
9. The first 'Arts' concert was held in Kinvara, when Emma Mildenberger, a German folk group, came to Seamount for a public performance.
10. Representations were made to the Post Office and the Board of Works to expedite the establishment of an automatic telephone exchange.
11. Representations to the County Council concerning the water supply to Kinvara and Doorus are at present going on. It is hoped that these will be brought to a successful conclusion.

COMMUNITY CENTRE

Undoubtedly, the most daunting task undertaken by the Community Council is the erection of the Community Centre. Surveys were carried

out and the project was discussed in detail before it was decided to go ahead. It was felt that a community hall would fill the following needs, and many more:

1. It would be a venue for youth club activities.
2. It could be used as a day-centre where senior citizens could come and have certain services provided for them, e.g. Laundry, Chiropody, etc.
3. Concerts and dances could be held there regularly.
4. It would help promote drama in the area.
5. It would be a meeting place for different groups.
6. It could be used for indoor training by the different sports clubs.
7. It would be a centre of adult education.
8. It would be available to the schools in the area for physical education, games, dancing lessons, etc.

PLANNING

Plans were drawn up by Raymond Monahan, and money was collected to allow work to begin. Individuals and some parish organisations contributed generously. Fund-raising activities were organised and these were well supported.



A site for the Centre was given to the community by the trustees of the Church Property, and work commenced when sufficient money was collected. The site was cleared, foundations laid and blocklaying began.

In the initial stages voluntary labour and the AnCO Youth Training Scheme were of great help in getting the work off the ground. AnCO paid the foreman and the youths who were trained on the site in the various skills needed in building. Under the watchful eye of the foreman, Sean Conole, they steadily raised the height of the structure.

However, as Spring approached some trainees had to leave the project to return to farmwork, while others had improved their skills to such an extent that they found better-paying employment with established builders. As we could not guarantee a minimum of ten trainees to AnCO, we reluctantly had to dispense with help from that source for the time being.

INTERNATIONAL WORKCAMP

In July a group of young students and workers arrived in Kinvara to help us build the Centre. Two arrived from Dublin, three from France, three from Holland, two from Denmark, and one each from Finland and Germany. They stayed in the Convent National School and reported for work punctually each morning, Monday to Friday.

Much of the food for the Workcamp was provided free by local people. The brown bread was especially appreciated. Sean Duffy, wholesale victualler, Gort, provided meat. Rainer Krause kept the group supplied with fish and Pearse Pigott, Gort provided eggs.

Under the direction of Peadar McCormack, and with the aid of some local volunteers, the hall area was filled in with many lorry loads of stones, the sub-floors were laid down in the hall and stage, more filling was brought in for the area surrounding the hall and scaffolding was erected to complete the blockwork.

Not only did the 'International Volunteers' work hard, but they established firm friendships with Kinvara folk, especially the young. The camp was organised through contact with 'Comhchairdeas', the Irish section of the International Workcamp Movement. The Community Council was so satisfied with the result of the experiment that it hopes that future workcamps may be established in Kinvara.

COMPLETION

The completion date for our Community Centre depends entirely on the availability of money. The contract for completing the work has been placed with the Building Construction Unit of Kinvara Co-op, under the management of Tommy McCormack. We need £20,000

KINVARA COMMUNITY CENTRE PROJECT

Financial position to 11/1/'80

INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
By: Parish subscription	\$4,538.32	To materials/wages etc.	
Swimming Club	533.00		£12,904.09
Gun Club	50.00		
Kinvara PTAA	50.00		
Youth Club	150.00		
Bridge Club	100.00		
Seamount College	300.00		
Profit Mounthly Draw	3,015.00		
Profit Sale of Work	1,379.00		
Profit Buffet Social	199.58		
Siamsa (Gort)	1,000.00		
Bank Interest	526.13		
Excess Expdin			
Excess Expenditure	1,063.06		
	£12,904.09		£12,904.09

* This expenditure would have been some few thousand pounds more, but for the generous support received from AnCO.

approximately to finish the work. At present, we cannot get a bank loan due to the credit squeeze, so we are entirely dependant on fund-raising activities and contributions to keep the work going.

We are very grateful to all who have helped in any way so far — either by donating money, giving voluntary labour, or organising and supporting fund-raising activities, especially the active Ladies Committee who organised a sale of work and the 'Kinvars Siamsa'.

However, there may be readers who would like to help, but have not yet had an opportunity to do so. If you are one of them, we would appreciate your support. There are three ways you can help us financially:

1. By making a contribution to our fund.
2. By organising some fund-raising activity.
3. By sending us £10 (or \$20) before 15th February, 1980, for participation in our monthly Community Lottery up to November '80. There is a prize fund of £1,050 every month, at least £50 of which is guaranteed for prizewinners on the Kinvara books. The Lottery is a national one organised by the Community Councils throughout the country affiliated to Muintir na Tire. Please send your contribution to: The Honorary Treasurer, Kinvara Community Council.

THE ROAD AHEAD

The Community Council consists of representatives directly elected by all the people, or nominated by a parish organisation. It has done significant work and it enjoys the support of the vast majority of the people in the area, regardless of politics or other divisions. It needs the support of everyone to strengthen its commitment to improving facilities in the area.

At the annual general meeting in October, the council committed itself to getting a satisfactory solution to the sewerage and town dump problems in the coming year.

If you have any suggestions, why not give them to the Council? And if you live in the area and feel you have something to contribute, why not offer your services on one of the sub-committees?, and when the new Council is being elected in eighteen months, in allowing your name to go forward as a candidate.

The Community Council belongs to the community. It must NOT be seen to belong to any group or groups. A change of officers and personnel from time to time is essential if it is not to become stagnant. It is up to each individual in the community to see that this does not happen.

— STAN MAC EORIN

YOUTH CLUB 1979/1980

THERE ARE approximately 100 young people between the ages of 12 and 17 in the Kinvara parish. The majority of parents of those young people attended a number of meetings in June, 1979 to discuss the re-establishment of Kinvara Youth Club. The parents wished that the Youth Club would help to cater for the social and educational needs of the parish youth. Frs. P. Callinan and T. Tarpey also attended the meetings.

Mrs. Bridget O'Connor, Mr. Shaun MacMahon and Mr. Michael O'Sullivan were selected by the parents to establish and run the club for the year 1979/80.

Fifty young people joined the club and agreed to pay £1.00 membership fee. The membership fee was used to provide insurance cover for the members. The members elected the following committee: Chairperson, Caroline McLoughlin; Secretary, Siobhan MacMahon; Treasurer, Noel Monahan; P.R.O., Joseph Byrne.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES – The youth club leaders see youth work as an educational process, supplementary to the home and the school. They see its aim as the personal development of young people. They see youth work as a process of education through the experience of

relationships, through social action as well as ideas and skills.

They believe that a sense of self-growth and ability in social adjustment are the basic growth forces of the personality. These forces are the key to enriching relationships, and provide the motivation for academic, social and sporting achievements.

To help in the implementation of above aims the following specific objectives were formulated:

(a) Development of members' personality.

(b) To organise social, sporting and educational activities for members.

(c) To educate members in proper procedure in running meetings.

(d) To benefit community.

A programme based on above concepts was prepared for the year 1979/80. Among the activities organised up to December, 1979 were: Soccer, cycle outing to Coole Park, treasure hunt, quiz, indoor games, disco outing, tennis tournament, health walk and a Christmas concert. Members are currently planning events for the New Year; the first being an arts and crafts competition to be held shortly.

—Michael O'Sullivan.



BRENDAN BURKE

Cahermore, Gort

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BOATS BACK IN THE BAY

THE VIEW from the Cartron side is good and better than most, the classic mixture of castle, sea and town with a hint of hills in the background. But the best side of Kinvara is unknown these days to all but a very few of the people of the district and a handful of visitors from Galway and as far as France.

The family from Brittany who sailed in last summer saw how the sunlight magnifies the castle and makes the houses glitter with the reflection off the water. The skyline is a fringe of trees, a dark foliage frame for the painted shop fronts. They seem to be as insubstantial as a backdrop for a play until the stone bulk of the pier detaches itself from the picture and roots it in reality, secure and welcoming.

The best harbour for hundreds of miles on a coast where safety often has to be hard earned by an abrupt and dangerous heave of the helm to round a protecting wall, Kinvara opens long arms to the traveller on the sea. It is never more welcoming than on a horrible night of westerly wind. There is a warm glow to the south, a threshold of calm at Doorus

topped up with more turf. As soon as all were moored in Kinvara the business of unloading began, before the falling tide made it too strenuous.

From then until the Sunday afternoon there was plenty to entertain the crowds who continued to pour into Kinvara from near and far. The 'Castle girls' – Aoife McKenna, Anne Meagher, Alison Bowyer and Katherine Walshe – who between them did most of the hard work of organising the event and obtaining the support of sponsors – played and sang for the visitors. So too did Kieran and Roisin Moylan. In Flatley's yard a collection of farm and home implements and utensils, some as old as the boats aground in the harbour, was arranged by Michael O'Sullivan, John Conole and Martin Winkle. Geraldine Quinn, wearing long skirt and shawl and sporting a clay pipe, showed how a paddle churn was used. Gerry Byrne, also dressed for the period, explained the uses of farm implements, often to youngsters who had never seen them before.



Johnny Jimmy McDonagh's 'Maighdean Mhara' is the first boat to the Pier

Point and the waves tear on behind, over the Comb and destroy themselves on the rocks at Mulroog.

The glow becomes a group of lights showing the course past Gormeen, the wind flings a last, weakened blow through the gap at Ballybranigan and that's it. As the boat touches the quayside, all the sound and fury and the odd flashes of fear are forgotten. It's a great little harbour.

The brandy-smuggling Delamaines probably had something of the same feeling; in more recent times the crews of the Connemara turf boats certainly appreciated Kinvara. There are plenty of them still around to tell of tough passages – and of the men and the boats lost on the way. Last August, some of them made the return trip, loaded above the gunwhales with turf, and threw up their cargoes on the quay, much as 50 years ago.

They were taking part in Cruinniu na mBad, a gathering of boats which caused a traffic jam back to Dun Guaire and brought thousands of onlookers to the harbour over three days.

Five hookers, two half-hookers and a gleoteog came striding up the bay on a Friday evening, on the fresh north-east wind that had brought them from Carraroe forty miles away. A band of pipers from Western Command and a large crowd waited in the rain for the returning turf boats – the Mhaighdean Mhara of John Jimmy McDonagh, Brian Hussey's American Mor, the Morning Star skippered by John Healion, Mick Hunt's St. John, the O'Brien's Tonai, Cyril Saunders Hunter and the Galway gleoteog of Dr. Michael Brogan made the voyage home in his small pucan. Most of the boats were built by the Rainighs at the Weir.

Among those welcoming the boats at the quayside were Fr. Martin O'Grady and Tony Moylan, chairman of the Cruinniu committee and originator of the whole event. On the way up the bay the boats had called at Parkmore and while the crews were entertained by the Hynes family and by Miko and Noreen Fahy at Nogra their cargoes were

In the Parochial Hall, Thomas Quinn mounted a photographic exhibition of reprints of old Kinvara views and his own striking portraits of local people, the visiting hookers and their badoiri.

On the Saturday there was a puppet show for children and a weaver and a clog-maker demonstrated their crafts. That afternoon the charity fund-raising side of the festival got under way with the sale of the turf. Pascal Spelman, one of the entertainers who lent their talents and their support, readily took on the role of auctioneer and found himself in a double bill with Most Rev. Eamon Casey, Bishop of Galway. Between them they made short work of the sale, realised several hundred pounds towards the relief of Vietnamese refugee children.

Another 'Eamon', the actor Joe Pilkington, contributed a great deal of drive and enthusiasm to the early organisation and later shared in the very obvious enjoyment of all, especially the older people of Kinvara. It was the boats with their black bellies and sails almost equally black, their amalgam of grace and sturdiness, simplicity and refinement, together with the ways of the men handling them that drew people again and again to the quayside. They had a race on Saturday evening, down to Parkmore and back – a very short distance by their standards, but nonetheless as extremely keenly and skilfully contested as any.

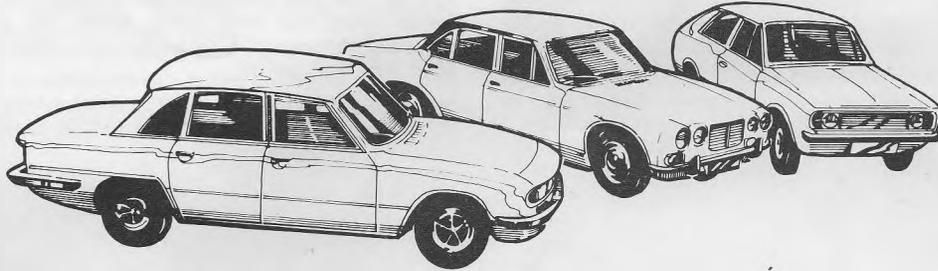
Just as in a horse race there is an amount of carefully calculated boring in, of crowding on the rails – in this case the Crushoa islands and the submerged point of Carraig Fhada. Johnny Jimmy shaved the mark by a foot and a half and increased his lead all the way back to the finishing line off the pier. It was only fitting that the Mhaighdean Mhara's first win of the season should be in the port he last visited in 1947.

Later when the special trophy and purses were presented by Kinvara's own sean-bhador, John Joe Conneely, the visiting skippers applauded the hospitality they had received. They thanked the people

continued on page 9

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BOATS BACK IN THE BAY

continued from page 7

who took them into their homes and praised the entertainment. There was a ceildhe in Johnston's on Friday night and great open-air ceildhe on the road by the quay which went on well into Sunday. There were musicians from all over the county and from Clare, carloads of friends and relatives from Carna and Carraroe and a dozen Connemara towns and villages, all expressing with their hosts a comhchairdeas deeply rooted in the music and the sea.

In a few hours the tide rose to take them away, one by one the sails filled with a fresh south-westerly and the hookers disappeared down the bay and over the horizon to the north-west. Once again the few small boats had the harbour to themselves, but the link remains. Already, the American Mor has returned to winter in Kinvara and is expected to stay for a part of next season. A new hooker is being built at Kinvara Boats



and will be based there. The Galway Hooker Association has promised to come back, with reinforcements to another Cruinniu na mBad in Kinvara next August.

The opportunity is there for Kinvara to follow the example of Kinsale, which in a few years pulled itself from a comparative state of dereliction to four-star ranking on the national and European tourists map. The situation of the two towns is not dissimilar; perhaps in the future this Cruinniu na mBad may be seen as an important step towards great developments.

— BILL CRAMPTON

FORDE'S GARAGE

KINVARA

SERVICES TO ALL MAKES OF CARS

PERSONAL ATTENTION

Proprietor: Joe Forde

PHONE KINVARA 36

KINVARA MONTHLY DRAW

SINCE THE draw began £1,625 has been paid out in prizes over a period of eighteen months. The following is a full list of prizewinners:

£80: Martin Grady, Kinvara.

£55: Mrs. Florrie Corless, Kinvara.

£50: Mrs. Anne Kavanagh, Roo; Johnnie Forde, Cartron; Caitlin Ni Fhearail, Nogra; Cliona Murphy, Northampton; Mrs. Delia Noone, Trellick; Rita and Kathleen Huban, Doorus; Martin Quinn, Crushoa; Michael Monaghan, Gortaboy; John Burke, Cartron; Michael Glynn, Carrowgariff; Mrs. Annie Burke, Crushoa.

£40: John Leech, Moy.

£30: Miko Forde, Cahervoneen; Karen Brogan, Kinvara; Michael Cunningham, Gort; Seamus Brogan, Kinvara; Thomas Leech, Kinvara; John Waites, Killina; John Sullivan, Crushoa; Michael J. Fahey, Newtown; Sean Conole, Crushoa; Mick McInerney, Leeha; Thomas Fahey and Michael Keane, Doorus; Mrs. Willy Canny, Carron; Siobhan Glynn, Carrowgariff; Jim Burke, Limerick; Sheelagh Dooley, Loughrea; Pat Quinn, Moy; Matt Fordham, Ballinderreen; Mrs. Eilish Bermingham, Kinvara.

£20: Thomas McCormack, Loughcurra.

£15: Paddy Kavanagh, Roo; Michael Corless, Dunguaire.

£10: Katherine Kavanagh, Newtown; Kathleen Brogan, Kinvara; Joe Connors, Kinvara; Peter Curtin, Mountscribe; Maureen Muldoon, Galway; Patrick Flaherty, Killina; Raymond Monaghan, Kinvara; Michael Deeley, Loughcurra; Gerry McMahon, Crannagh; Paddy Costello, Aughinish; Miss Bernadette Winkle, Kinvara; Thomas Donlon, Kinvara; P. J. O'Loughlin, Kinvara West; James Fahey, Rineen; Sean Conole, Crushoa; Mrs. Emily McCormack, Fanore; Fr. E. Larkin, Gort; Mattie Connolly, Gortaboy; Mrs. Quirke, c/o Sr. Joseph; Bertie Linnane, Chervoneen; Sr. M. Dolores, Gort; P. J. Connolly, Kinvara; Peter Linnane, Tiernevan; Sr. M. Joseph, Kinvara.

£5: Mrs. P. Curtin and Gerard Curtin, Newtownlynch; Mrs. Kathleen Tully, Kinvara; Paddy Geraghty, Crushoa; Colin O Domhnaill, An Ceathru Rua; Paddy Linnane, Nogra; Stan McEoin, Kinvara W.; Tom Mahon, Geeha; Michael O'Connor, Ardnagrave; Cathy Hanley, Tooreen; Donal Barry, Kinvara; Paddy Vasey, Parkroe; John O'Connor, Kinturla; Paddy Kelly, Kinvara; Mrs. Mary Keane, Cahervoneen; Sinead Moylan, Dunguaire; John Conneeley, Kinvara W.; Maura Fallon, Boherbee; Michael Waites, Killina.

Many thanks to all the subscribers who supported our draw in aid of the Community Centre.

By joining our draw you will be helping us to raise the £20,000 needed to complete the building. £10 (\$20) will entitle you to participation in ten draws. Send your subscription to:

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KINVARA COMMUNITY COUNCIL,
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FROM HOME — STAY AT

WINKLE'S HOTEL

TELEPHONE KINVARA 4

A CO-OP IS BORN

CO-OPERATION between neighbours has always been characteristic of life in rural Ireland. In the latter half of the last century recognition of this attribute led to the formation of Co-operative Societies, which gave a new sense of pride and hope to rural communities. Many failed through lack of management, expertise and share capital investment. The experience gained, however, gave birth to a very strong Co-operative movement which has revolutionised farming, in particular, in this country. Throughout the country there has been a growth in Community Co-ops, set up to develop the social and economic life of the community, on as diversified a front as possible. Such a Co-op is Kinvara Handcraft Co-op.

BIRTH

The idea of a Knitting Co-operative was born in the house of local curate, Fr. C. O'Connor in the Spring of 1968. There many incidental discussions took place between himself and locals – Sergeant John McLoughlin, Toddie Byrne, Gerry Ryan and Thomas Donlon. This led to an invitation to visit Fr. Canney's Knitting Co-operative at Cloonfad. Enlightened by his success and assured of his advice and support, a determined group returned home. At that time, there existed in Kinvara the nucleus of a knitting group under Mrs. Bugg, who were knitting for an outside commercial firm.

Meetings followed with the late Seamus Duke, then County Development Officer for Galway and John Tobin, I.A.O.S. Both were extremely helpful and urged the formation of a Co-operative group.

A circular, in the names of the people mentioned above, was sent to each member of the Kinvara Guild of Muintir na Tire to attend a special meeting on April 10th, 1968. This meeting approved of the idea of establishing a Co-operative and 23 members present agreed to put up £20 each in Share Capital. The acting Secretary, Toddie Byrne, was instructed to circularise all the families in the parish with a view to taking out Share Capital. Volunteers went from house to house and within a few weeks 139 people opted to become shareholders. In the main, these were local farmers and business people who were anxious to see some form of local development.

After some meetings with John Tobin, I.A.O.S. on the technicalities of forming a Co-operative Society, the stage was set for the meeting of the Shareholders – Friday, August 30th, 1968. Mr. John Tobin addressed the meeting and spoke highly of the great response to a worthwhile local idea. He went on to say that he had no doubt but that with continued local support and Co-operation and shrewd management this venture would be an asset, not alone to Kinvara, but to a broad hinterland in South Galway and North Clare. At this meeting, a Management Committee, consisting of Rev. C. O'Connor, CC., S. Mac Mahon, NT, K. Moylan, NT, P. Bermingham, G. Ryan, T. Donlon, P. Kavanagh, B. Connors and T. Byrne was formed to initiate the actual development of the Co-operative.

DEVELOPMENT

Under the Chairmanship of Fr. C. O'Connor, CC, and with Toddie Byrne as Secretary, the Management Committee got down to business.

The knitters were organised under Mrs. Bugg. Patterns were devised and the first completed garments, bearing the Kinvara Castle Symbol, were got ready for sale.

A Muintir na Tire loan of £1,500 added to the initial £700 Share Capital proved sufficient at the start, but later had to be augmented by generous overdraft facilities provided by the National Bank of Ireland Ltd., Gort.

Very early on, it became apparent that the Co-operative needed some store/shop display facilities, as garments were stockpiling in various houses. At this stage, the Co-operative was fortunate in being able to rent half a shop from Mrs. L. Forde. Very soon, the volume of work increased considerably (over 120 knitters) and necessitated the appointment of a full-time quality controller. Miss Mary Hourigan took over this onerous role and has played a major part in the development since.

The need for a larger premises (even though eventually Mr. Forde's full shop was rented) became of paramount importance. A site known as Gill's corner, was purchased for £800, and yet another stage in the development of the Co-operative was underway.



From the beginning, the County Galway Development Team, under the Chairmanship of Mr. A. A. Sharkey, showed a very keen interest in the work. Mr. Sharkey took up the problem with the Central Development Committee of the Department of Finance. This move was eventually successful when with the help of our local TD's, the then Minister for Finance, Mr. C. Haughey, TD, authorised a grant, not exceeding £4,000, for the proposed premises. Plans were drawn up by Raymond Monaghan and finally, Messrs Fahy and Morgan, Loughrea got down to the task of building. The building was completed in 1971 and the overall effect met with wide approval. And, (very important), business began to boom there.

SINCE 1971

Progress to date has been steady, if not spectacular. Our craft shop, ideally situated in the centre of the village is acclaimed for the variety and quality of its crafts and is a 'must' for visiting tourists. The development of a Mail Order business, set back somewhat unfortunately by the Postal Strike of 1979, has reached out to the four corners of this earth and is a potential money earner for future Co-operative Development. Our hand knitters are still turning out richly patterned hand knitted Aran garments, for which there is still a very keen demand.

In the mid '70's the need to diversify into other areas of development became all too obvious. Kinvara Boys Old National School, with its spacious school yard (which brings back memories of many hotly contested hurling games) was purchased. Since then the old school has been extensively reconstructed, without taking from its original character. Hopefully a better utilisation of this building will take place in the not too distant future.

In the old school yard fishing and leisure boats are built of native larch and oak under the direction of Bill Crampton. This is the revival of a craft which Kinvara was noted for in the last century and perhaps much earlier. It will help to focus attention on Kinvara Bay as an ideal centre for fishing and sailing boats, as well as providing increased employment in the locality.

The Co-op's entry into the supply of fertilisers to local farmers, the majority of whom are shareholders, is one which has met with success. A further extension of this farmer service, hopefully will be developed over the years. In recent weeks a Building Construction Unit under the wing of the Co-op, and with Tom McCormack in charge is busily

engaged in completing the local Community Centre. Negotiations are under way at the moment for the building of thatched cottages in Kinvara, a long desired wish of the Community. The Co-op Construction unit will be entrusted with the organisation and the development of this project.

THE FUTURE

The main interest now of the Management Committee is to consolidate our progress to date. Having secured some, there are many other areas of development which can be undertaken so as to make Kinvara Parish a better place socially and economically. This can only

be achieved with a greater share capital investment.

The Committee are grateful to the many at home and abroad who have increased their investment and earnestly hope for an increase in new investments.

PRESENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Stan Mac Eoin, Kinvara; Paddy Geraghty, Crushoa; Paddy Kavanagh, Roo; John O'Connor, Dooras; James Conole, Crushoa; Thomas Donlon, Kinvara, Hon. Secretary; Thomas Tannian, Killina; James Fahy, Dooras; Michael Connors, Ardnagrove; Toddie Byrne, Manager.

— TODDIE BYRNE



KINVARA SOCCER CLUB

1979 WAS a very successful year for Kinvara Soccer. The Club finished joint third in the Galway District League. The highlight of the year was the winning of the Hibernian Cup.

The match was fixed for Galway Rovers ground, Terryland. Thermo King came to this match as firm favourites because Kinvara were a relatively unknown side.

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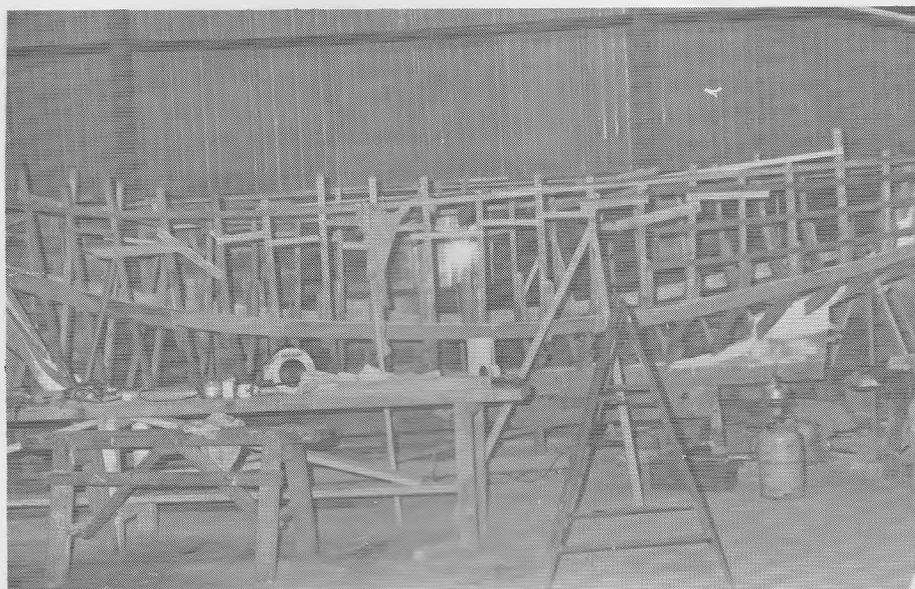
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COMMUNITY GAMES



Patrick Curtin, Colm Corless and Gerry Huban, joint winners of the award for 'Best Boy Athlete' in Community Games 1979.



Edel Leech, best girl athlete in Community Games 1979.

GERARD STAUNTON of Trellick is putting Kinvara on the map in the world of athletics as he competes at venues at home and abroad. But judging by the success of Kinvara's young athletes in the Community Games in recent years, he may yet be challenged for his place on international teams by some of his fellow parishioners.

Kenneth Corless of Mountscribe; Catherine, Geraldine and Noeleen Keane of Cahervoneen; Geraldine Kilkelly of Roo and Edel Leech of Loughcurra have all represented County Galway in the All-Ireland finals of the Community Games in Mosney, County Meath, and Noeleen Keane and Geraldine Kilkelly brought medals home to Kinvara after beating the best that the 'Rest of Ireland' could put against them.

At the County finals in Galway other representatives from the parish have brought a considerable number of medals home to Kinvara. These have included Francis Byrne, Kinvara; Mary McLoughlin, Kinvara; Colm and Enda Corless, Mountscribe; Michael and Patrick Curtin, Newtownlynch; Marian Waites, Killina; Gerry Huban, Mountscribe; Caitriona Monahan and Yvonne Greene, Kinvara who won medals for swimming.

On Sunday, June 24th last all the boys and girls between seven and sixteen took part in the local Community Games. Twenty-eight events were run off in good time, thanks to an efficient committee and the many people who helped on the day.

The winners went on to the County Galway Community Games and this year they brought the highest ever number of medals back to Kinvara, and one girl went on to represent the County in the All-Ireland finals. Their success reflects the hard work they put into training both at home and at the three-times weekly sessions which were held in the hurling field prior to the finals in Galway.

The Quilty Cup, donated by Joe and Anne Quilty Geeha, for the best girl athlete in the parish was this year awarded to Edel Leech, Loughcurra.

The I.F.A. Cup for the outstanding boy was won jointly by three athletes: Colm Corless, son of Mattie and Peg Corless, Mountscribe; Patrick Curtin, son of Michael and Kathleen Curtin, returned from America and living in Newtownlynch and Gerry Huban, son of Martin and Kathleen Huban, Mountscribe.

The committee who organised the games this year were: Donal Barry, Mrs. Maura Mongan, Rev. Fr. P. Callinan, Mrs. Peg Corless, Mrs. Tilly Leech, Mrs. Katherine Kilkelly, Stan MacEoin, Mrs. Mary Keane, Mrs. Kathleen Curtin and Paddy Geraghty.

The members of the Committee acknowledged the work which Sergeant John McLoughlin put into organising the Games down through the years and congratulate all who took part in all stages of the games in the true spirit of sport and friendship.

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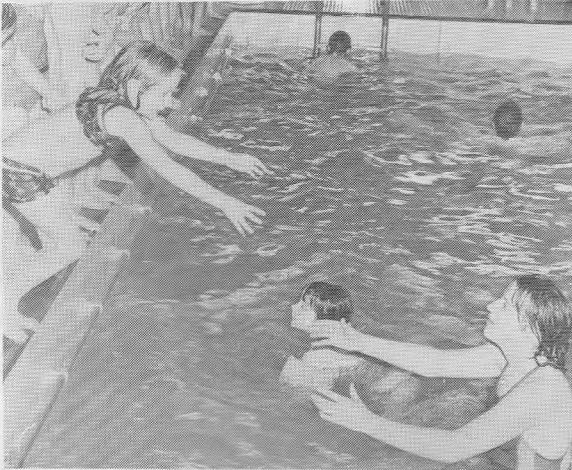
SWIMMING CLUB

THERE IS probably a bigger proportion of children under 16 in Kinvara capable of swimming than in any other parish in Ireland. This is due to Kinvara Swimming Club, founded in 1969 and which has at present 100 learners attending classes every week in Kilcornan Swimming Pool, Clarenbridge. Seventy of these are young people aged six to 16 while thirty are adults.

Paddy Geraghty organises the transport for the two weekly junior classes on Mondays and Fridays. Mrs. Eilish Bermingham is the Chairperson of the club; Mrs. May Monahan the Honorary Secretary; Paddy Geraghty the Treasurer and Michael McCormack, Donal Barry, Stan MacEoin and Noreen McMahan are on the committee.

There is one qualified swimming instructor in the club at present, Stan MacEoin but five others have passed the Preliminary Teaching Award of the Irish Amateur Swimming Association - Elizabeth McCormack, Eilish MacMahon, Caroline McLoughlin, Mary McLoughlin and Mary Barry.

Noreen MacMahon is a qualified Water Safety Instructor. Mrs. Noreen Phelan (formally Murphy) and Eleanor Monahan also hold this qualification and taught numerous youngsters water safety before they left Kinvara.



Noreen MacMahon, helping young beginners



Elva Bermingham winner of the Island swim 1979, and received the 'Best Swimmer Award' at the annual gala.

Boxing

Champion



THE NAME Bob Ford is well known not only to Kinvara folk but to Galway hurling enthusiasts wherever they gather. Along with Colm Corless and Josie Gallagher he was among the greatest hurlers to wear the Galway jersey.

But it appears that his fame may be emulated by his son, Peter, who was one of seven young sportspeople to be awarded a third-level scholarship of £986 in 1979 by the Department of Education. He is the only one in Ireland to be awarded a boxing scholarship. Peter is being advised and coached occasionally by Mick Dowling, who himself brought much fame to Ireland in the boxing arena and who is now preparing Ireland's boxing hopefuls for the Olympic games in Moscow.

But Peter's talents are not confined to boxing. He won an All-Ireland medal with the Mayo Minors in 1978 and he was adjudged by some commentators to have been the 'man of the match' in the 1979 All-Ireland semi-final against Dublin, although he was on the losing side.

He has gained an All-Ireland Community Games gold medal as a member of the Ballinrobe basketball team and he has also competed successfully in track and field events. Like his father, he is an accomplished hurler, and he would surely have helped Kinvara in this year's championship had Bob not migrated to Ballinrobe.

In February he takes part in the Irish inter-varsity boxing competitions and after that in the British and Irish University Championships in Bath, England. His ambition for 1981 is to win a national senior title.

Kinvara will keenly watch Peter's progress and be 'rooting' for him all the way.

GER FALLON



VICTUALLER

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VICTUALLER. ESTABLISHED 1903

Action From The County Hurling Final



Anthony Connolly makes a solo break but is pursued by a very determined Joe Connolly

1979 WAS almost a great year for Kinvara hurling, and their meteoric rise from a junior side shortly before, to a senior panel capable of not alone beating, but devouring every team thrown at them, was astonishing!

Little can be added to what was already been said many times about the county final; what went wrong? Was it fear of the occasion, or disappointment owing to the deferment of the game that should have been held on the previous Sunday? The weather on that day was not

suitable, but the weather does seem to be less predictable in December than in September when such games should be played.

The inability of the Kinvara team to bring the cup home, wrongly clouded for many the fact that they had such a successful year, achieving more in a shorter time than any team in the history of the parish. Fr. Martin's men will be back again in 1980 with just as colourful a year, but this time, hopefully, with that extra bonus, the County Cup.

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KINVARA SENIOR WHO REACHED THE COUNTY



*Left to right, back: Colm Muldoon, Stephen Moylan, G
Colm Brogan, Sean Forde, and Fr. Martin O'Grady,
Frank Quinn, Kevin Huban (Capt.), Bertie Linn*

HURLING TEAM

SENIOR HURLING FINAL, 1979



*Back row: P. J. Curtin, Gerry Mahon, John Huban, Declan Brogan,
Manager. Front, Left to right: Paschal Quinn, P. J. Curtin,
Michael Curtin, and Anthony Connolly.*

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A PILGRIM AT BALLYBRIT



HAS IT REALLY happened or was it all a dream? Sometimes I find it difficult to believe that I have actually seen the Pope, but I am reassured of the truth when I recollect the many witnesses there in Corral No. 2 in Ballybrit.

When did it all begin? For me it began as wishful thinking in May. On Sunday 27th when we went to Knock by bus for the 80th Jubilee P.T.A.A. pilgrimage I asked if we could have a bus to Knock "when the Pope comes". I did not believe that we would be privileged by the hoped-for visit; then one Sunday we were all informed of the good news at Mass; Pope John Paul II was definitely going to pay us a visit. The speculation about the places he would visit quickly changed to planning for each centre.

At home in Kinvara people were talking in an abstract way but it was some time before the majority got involved. The first action was probably activated when there was an appeal at Mass for volunteers to act as stewards. Over 40 prospective stewards were tutored on their duties under the direction of John Conneely.

Two weeks before the "Big Day" a circular was read at all Masses advising people to dress suitably for the weather, to take enough food for at least one meal and to carry a flashlight and folding stool.

I think that buying the stools generated a great deal of excitement, if not panic. Stools available at £1.60 did not last long. Chairs were selling at £2.65. This soon changed to £2.99, then £3.99 and eventually £4.99. During the last week a big container lorry parked at Eyre Square sold a load of folding chairs every day.

Rainwear was in urgent demand also - from caps to wellies. Stocks cleared and were replenished with unusual haste. Prudent shopkeepers loaded and unloaded the counters with vacuum flasks and sandwich boxes. Friday and Saturday were like Christmas Eve in Galway. The rush was on for flags. They disappeared from displays and reappeared at windows and gates.

Of course the youth were given priority in Galway and the youth leader in Kinvara, Michael Sullivan, was in touch with Fr. Tarpey, who is the youth organiser for the Diocese. When I asked Michael how the youth reacted he told me that the first reaction was one of disbelief that Pope John Paul II would really come and bestow such an honour on Ireland. They also hoped that the visit would bring peace and happiness. Arrangements were made for the Kinvara Youth to join with the rest of the youth from South Galway for a Penitential Service in Oranmore church at 4.00 a.m. of that great day. Lessons were read at this service by Joseph Byrne from Kinvara and one other boy and two girls from other South Galway parishes. After the service they all walked to Ballybrit. This took one hour.

▼Cormac Liddy of Geeha was the only Kinvara Parishioner to fly to Ireland on the same plane as Pope John Paul II. This is how he reported the historic event for the Limerick Leader the week after the Papal visit.

"It had been an early start, a 5 a.m. call had brought me still bleary-eyed from a quick shower and then we were rushed straight from the Holiday Inn Hotel in Parco Dei Medici to what seasoned journalists said was the most searching security check they had ever been subjected to.

"It took more than 90 minutes for us to get cleared through customs and as we waited about prior to boarding, armed Italian police glared constantly at our every move.

"Tension was mounting and as we glared back into the darkness we could see intense activity outside which indicated that His Holiness was approaching.

"While Pope John Paul might have fallen behind several times on his schedule while here in Ireland, he certainly went in the opposite direction prior to his departure - he boarded at 7.40 (Rome time) which was 20 minutes earlier than anticipated.

"The Pope and his large entourage went straight to the first class compartment. Within minutes piped music of 'Dance Little Lady' was

gonged as Captain Thomas P. McKeown made what is now a historic announcement over the public address system: 'Good morning Holy Father and distinguished visitors. This is your Captain speaking. We acknowledge with deep gratitude your presence among us. Our flying time to Dublin will be two hours and 40 minutes and we shall be flying at a height of 32,000 feet'. And with those words I was on my way into history, a member of the first ever flight to fly a Pope to Ireland.

"The Pope was offered an Irish breakfast and eventually word came through that the plane walkabout was 'on'. It was just as he crossed the corridor to go back up the plane that he held out his two hands to clasp mine. My eyes swelled as if I might burst into tears and I simply said 'welcome to Limerick'. It was a moment never to be forgotten for me as Pope John Paul raised his right hand to bless me and then he was gone".

The historic first step on Irish soil was made by Pope John Paul II at 10 a.m. on Saturday, 29th September, 1979. After a tumultuous welcome in Dublin he celebrated Mass at the Phoenix Park, and afterwards went to Drogheda. He returned to the Papal Nunciature to retire for the night, while the people in the West travelled to his next venue, Ballybrit.

Saturday night came at last and even the air assumed an electrified stillness. Everybody and everything seemed to calm down. I was in Ardrahan at midnight and was utterly awed as I watched the buses from Cork and the South passing in a glorious procession of lights through the night. All one way traffic and double decker buses bumper to bumper.

I returned to Kinvara and here too the air was balmy like a summer night and very comfortable as people sat or stood about ready to 'go'. My travelling companions ranged in age from 7 to 82 and came from Donegal and Kerry as well as Kinvara. We left at 2.30 a.m. and parked 1½ miles from the racecourse at 3.30 a.m. Everybody was in good humour and as we walked we chatted to people from Derry, Belfast and Cork as well as Oranmore and Clarinbridge.

It was a relief to our feet when we sat down in our corral. We had ample room and lack of sleep was of no importance. Soon we watched the passengers from the second Kinvara bus arrive. The stewards came along and chatted with us when they were not busy.

The crowd was growing steadily until it reached 285,000. Finally, at 10.30 a.m. the noise of the Pope's helicopter was heard coming from the East.

The crowd, charged with emotion, cheered as the helicopter circled above our heads. After landing, the Pope changed quickly into green Mass vestments and ascended the podium for Mass. Happiness radiated from everyone. We absorbed the feeling of privilege at being in the presence of the Pope. The greatest moment of all was when the Pope mobile had to stop in front of our corral for a few minutes and we had a close-up view of him.

A contented tiredness settled in as we moved towards home. The traffic was chaotic and we just waited patiently as passengers were lost and found, and we got on the road inch by inch. My feelings at the end of the day were of total contentment.

The Pope's visit made a huge impact on everyone who was in Ballybrit. But there was a humorous side to the event also. One of the stewards from Kinvara, having eaten a hearty breakfast of sandwiches and tea, put his bag into a clump of bushes, where he thought it would be safe. However, a vigilant army patrol spied the object and when our steward claimed his bag he was ordered at the point of a gun to empty out its contents. But nothing more lethal was discovered than a sandwich box, a salt canister and a flask!

— EILISH BERMINGHAM

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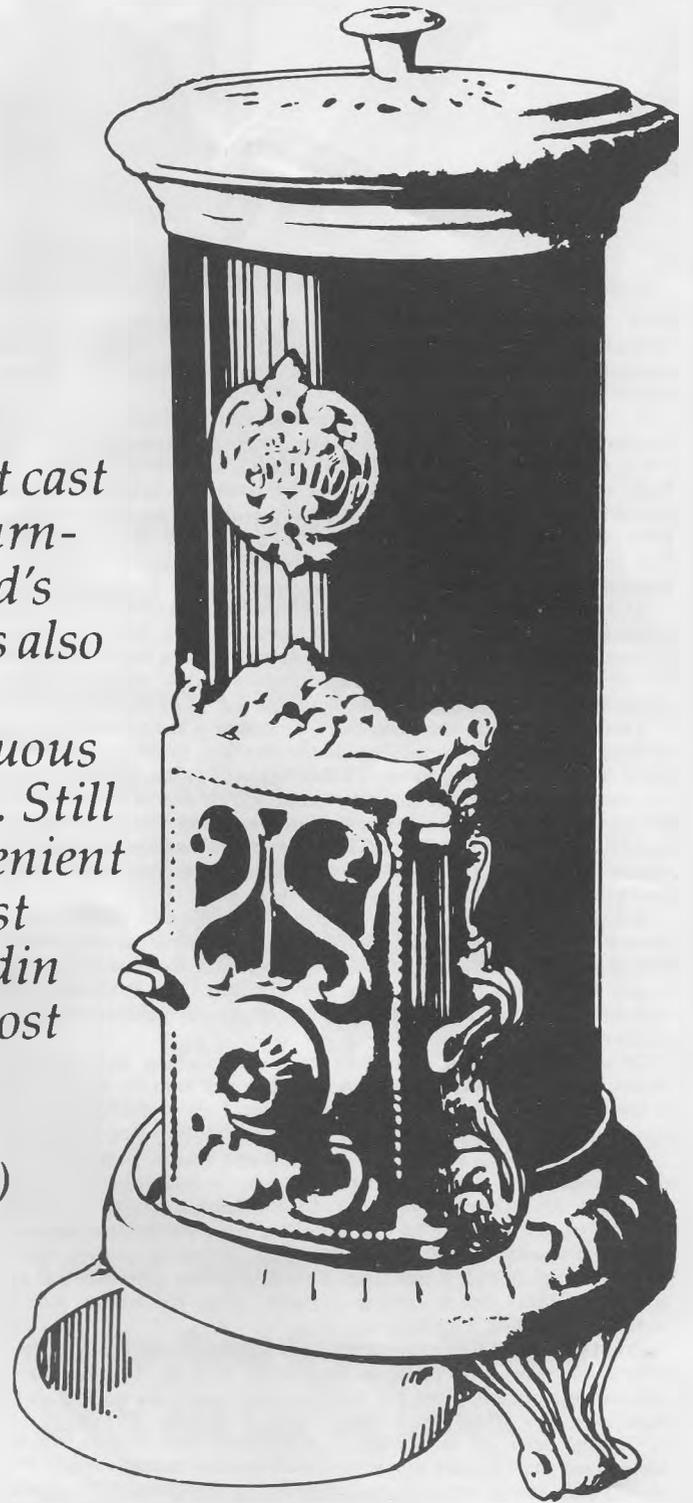
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WINTER FEEDING ON THE FARM

MANY farmers were caught short of feed last winter – and lost **as a result**. Worse still, some of them lost stock through **starvation**. Were you one of those?

Make sure that you will not be caught this winter. And just one word of advice. When you are budgeting, don't skimp on feed supplies. Budget for a FIVE MONTHS feeding period.

YOUR WINTER FEEDING PLAN

The first thing is to have an idea of the number of livestock units you are going to carry. To do this, you must know what a Livestock Unit is.

A cow is taken as one livestock unit and this is equated to other livestock as follows:

1 Cow	.....	One Livestock Unit
2-year-old	.....	One Livestock Unit
1½-year-old	.....	Two-Thirds Livestock Unit
Weanling	.....	Half Livestock Unit
Lowland Ewe	.....	Quarter Livestock Unit

By using this table you can calculate the number of livestock units you have to provide for.

The next thing you want to know is the acreage it will take to provide the winter feed for them. Here is a simple rule of thumb. If you are a 'silage' farmer, you will need a HALF ACRE per livestock unit and if you are a 'hay' farmer you will need THREE QUARTERS OF AN ACRE for each livestock unit. In the first case, the half acre will have to provide silage and meals; and in the second case, the three quarters of an acre will have to provide hay, roots and meals.

FEED REQUIREMENTS IN TONS AND CWTS.

Cow or 2-year-old beast – 5 tons silage + 4 cwts. meals (or 1½ tons hay + 2 tons roots + 4 cwts. meals).

1½-year-old beast requires 4 tons silage + 2 cwts. meals (or 1 ton hay + 1½ tons roots + 2 cwts. meals).

Each weanling requires – 3 tons silage + 2 cwts. meals (or ¾ tons hay + 1 ton roots + 2 cwts. meals).

Each lowland ewe requires ¾ ton silage + 1 cwt. meals (or ¼ ton hay + 1½ tons Swedes + 1 cwt. meals).

Now let us see how we can apply this in practice. We will take a 35 acre farm carrying 10 cows, 10 yearlings, 10 calves and 25 ewes. The table will show you that this gives a total of twenty-six Livestock Units.

By winter the yearlings will be 1½-year-olds approx. – starting their second winter feeding; and the calves will be weanlings – first winter feeding. We will deal with this under each of the two systems – Silage and Hay.

SILAGE SYSTEM

On this system, the feed requirements will be as follows:

For 10 cows	.....	50 tons silage and 2 ton meals
For 10 weanlings	.....	30 tons silage and 1 ton meals
For 10 1½ yr-old cattle	.....	40 tons silage and 1 ton meals
For 25 lowland ewes	.....	20 tons silage and 1 ton meals

TOTAL 140 ton silage and 5 ton meals

On average, one cut taken from 17 acres should provide the 140 tons of silage and 3 acres of barley should give the 5 tons of meals – a total of 20 acres.

HAY SYSTEM

On this system the feed requirements should be as follows:

For 10 cows	.....	15 tons hay + 20 tons roots + 2 tons meals
For 10 weanlings	.....	7 tons hay + 10 tons roots + 1 ton meals
For 10 1½-yr-old cattle	.....	10 tons hay + 15 tons roots + 1 ton meals
For 25 ewes	.....	6 tons hay + 40 tons roots + 1 ton meals

TOTAL 38 tons hay + 85 tons roots + 5 tons meals

On average, the feed requirements should be supplied from 15 acres hay + 3 acres roots + 3 acres barley – a total of 21 acres.

With reasonably good management, you could carry all the stock listed on the 'Hay' or 'Silage' systems. 3 to 4 acres Sugar Beet would go

a long way towards the requirements of roots and meals in the form of by-products, i.e., Beet Tops and Pulp.

KEEP STOCK OFF THE LAND DURING WINTER AND EARLY SPRING MONTHS

It is a well established fact that if livestock are allowed to roam over the farm during the winter and early spring months, early grass cannot be obtained. It is also well established that the earlier grass is available for grazing the more valuable it is for three reasons:

1. It will obviate the necessity of giving more expensive feed during the late spring months.
2. It will give higher production than other foods.
3. It will enable a higher stocking rate to be maintained on the farm for the whole year.

KEEPING STOCK OVER THE WINTER ON THE SMALLER FARMS

There are good reasons to suggest that on smaller farms cattle should be kept over one winter only, that they should be sold at 15 to 18 months of age. If this were done, the farmer would need fewer buildings, less winter feed, and would have fewer management problems. If you consider the high cost of buildings and the very high rate of interest on borrowed money, you will see a good deal of sense in this point of view.

HOUSING OR OTHER ARRANGEMENTS FOR WINTERING FARM ANIMALS

We consider it of great importance to keep stock off the land for the winter. We have already mentioned that the provision of housing is expensive.

Dairy cows and weanling cattle should be housed. Older cattle will get along all right in the open, provided they have a dry place to lie down and some shelter from the wind – topless cubicles or a dry 'crag' would suffice.

There is no need to have the silage pit roofed, but it should be on a concrete base with a concrete apron for feeding and exercise.

SHEEP

Sheep are kept on most farms in the Kinvara area and they are generally allowed to roam over the farm during winter. We strongly suggest that this practice should be changed. The simplest method is to provide sufficient roots (Swedes) for the ewe flock and to fold them on the Swede growing area or alternatively to feed on a confined pasture area. Three (3) acres of Swedes will be sufficient, with hay, for a 40 ewe flock. The traditional 'sheep cock' has its place still and should be sited convenient to the area where the Swedes are grown/or fed.

SILAGE FOR SHEEP

Only very few farmers are using silage as a winter feed for sheep, but those who are find the system very satisfactory. A few points must be remembered about feeding sheep on silage:

1. The silage must be well preserved – palatable.
2. The silage must not be more than 3 to 4 feet high in the pit.
3. A feeding space of at least 3 inches per ewe must be provided.
4. It is usually necessary to have ewes fasting for two days before they start eating silage.
5. Because of (4) above, ewes should be started on silage when they are no longer than 10 weeks pregnant – to ensure that no damage is caused by the few days starvation.
6. If slats (unroofed) are provided, a space of 8 sq. feet will be needed per ewe and as a general rule the ewes should be penned in lots of not more than 60 ewes for ease of handling.

Naturally, in an article like this, we can only give general recommendations. But if you have any particular problem, you have only to ask your local Instructor, who will be glad to help you.

– MICHAEL SULLIVAN

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O'REGANS
ON THE QUAYSIDE
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Saint Colman and his young disciple had fallen on hard times (or rather—off “hard times”). Their 40 day fast was at last at an end—but food was scarce.

They became disillusioned

The True Story Of The Flight Of The Dishes

by Emer Johnston



EXIT food, to startle the locals in Kinvara



Meanwhile, at Dungaíre Castle, Guaire is getting his (cold) dinner (or so he said). The wife, a fairly boisterous woman, gets a little aggravated at his remark—but her aim is lousy.



—and Cahernamadral

—Finally it descends, yes, Colman & Co. receive chow via air mail



Guaire mounts a search party in pursuit of his royal din-dins (or at least tries to)



Unfortunately Colman and Co. are caught



Guaire has a hang up about his grub being nabbed but Colman cools him down



He joins the merry repast and extends a genial invitation to his cousin plus pal to partake of a banquet with him at the castle (plug, plug).



It all happens at DunGuaire

STAUNTON FOR MOSCOW?



KINVARA'S most celebrated athlete is a quiet young man from Trellick, Gerry Staunton, who has carved a name for himself in the tough, gruelling field of cross-country running. He has travelled and run in countries all over the world, the most recent being Israel, and while in the U.S. in 1978 was awarded, with his two Irish team-mates, the honorary citizenship of Cambridge, Mass. by the Mayor of that city.

He is at present training in London for the greatest challenge of all, the Olympic Games in Moscow in 1980.

In the next issue of Tracht we hope to have a special article and interview with this outstanding runner.

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Aideen Mongan, Curranrue, is 1979 gold medalist in All-Ireland Irish Step Dancing Championship (under 7). She also secured a bronze medal on that occasion and in Dec. won Connacht Reel Championship (under 7)

THE BRIDGE CLUB

IN JANUARY, 1975 Kinvara Bridge Club was formed when Moya MacEoin brought 16 people together for its inaugural meeting in Winkles Hotel. Since then it has grown to its present membership of about 30, drawing card enthusiasts from all parts of the parish, as well as about six members from outside the area.

Joe Muldoon held bridge classes in the early days, but the standard has improved very much and the club now looks forward to a number of competitions in the coming year with other clubs.

The President is the main official responsible for the smooth running of the club. Since its inception the following have filled this office: Mrs. Moya McEoin, Kinvara West; Shawn MacMahon, Kinvara; Paddy Kavanagh, Roo; Mrs. Grainne Byrne, Kinvara and Donal Barry, Kinvara.

Bridge sessions are now held every Monday evening in Al. Corless's lounge. A warm welcome awaits anyone interested in taking up the game. Mrs. Bridget O'Connor, Kinturla, is the present Honorary Secretary, to whom any enquiries may be made.

PADDY CONNOLLY KINVARA

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Mussel Harvesting In Kinvara Bay?



for human consumption they are preserved in vinegar and exported in bulk.

THE EDIBLE MUSSEL (*mytilus edulis*) occurs widely along the Irish coast. They can often be seen attached in clumps to rocks or in dense patches along the shore at low water. However these mussels are of little commercial value because of their small size and the poor condition of their meats. Large quantities of mussels occur below low water level in some river estuaries and enclosed bays, since these areas provide the necessary conditions for good growth and development. It is these stocks that can be commercially exploited. We ask "Can Kinvara Bay (a controlled shellfish area) be exploited to yield large quantities of *mytilus edulis*?"

In our attempts to answer this question we will give a short account of the biology of the mussel.

In mussels the sexes are separate, which means that eggs and sperm are produced by separate individuals. In some mussels both are produced within a special organ (gonad) localised near the base of the foot, but as the reproductive cycle progresses each year the eggs and sperm invade other parts of the body including the MANTLE. As this development progresses the MANTLE thickens and becomes coloured, the male assuming a white colour whilst the female appears orange.

Spawning (i.e. release of eggs and sperm) occurs in both sexes at the same time. It has been recorded from late Spring to early Summer. Fertilisation of the eggs by the sperm takes place in the water and the resulting young mussels swim freely for about one month. Then they attach themselves to suitable surfaces by special threads and grow to adult mussels. Growth is seasonal, being greatest in Spring and Summer, slowing down in Autumn and stopping in Winter. The time taken for mussels to reach commercial size (two inches in length) depends on a variety of factors and varies from area to area.

We, 4th Year Students believe, having examined mussels growing and attached to rocks at low tide, that the waters around Kinvara exhibit all the required factors i.e. a good food supply, temperature and shelter. The area has already a thriving oyster harvest. We believe that mussels could reach the required size in 2½ to 3 years, having a commercial value of £300 per ton in Britain and France.

Can we market the edible mussel? History shows us that we can and very successfully. Traditionally Irish mussels have been exported to Britain as far back as 1926. In fact in 1926 Irish mussels formed 45% of the total quantity imported into England, approximately 38,000 cwts. Irish mussels were very much in demand in the early 40's, Britain seeking food of high protein content. In 1943, 76,642 cwt. of mussels were exported to Britain. In recent years there has been an increased awareness of the value of mussel processing, and seven factories have therefore been established near the available sources of supply - three

along the West Coast; one in County Galway and two in County Kerry. When the mussels are landed they are washed and then cooked by boiling in salted water. When they are considered cooked and suitable

CULTIVATION OF MUSSELS

Intensive exploration of natural stocks in recent years has led the intensification of cultivation techniques to increase supply.

There are a number of methods of cultivating mussels, but the most successful for the waters along the west coast of Ireland have been developed by Beirteach Teo, a subsidiary of Gaeltarra Eireann, in conjunction with research scientists (both independent and from UCG).

Spat (young mussels) is collected by rope cultivation techniques to encourage settlement. Ropes (10 metres) are hung off individual floats on a 200 metre long line upon which young mussels settle in large quantities early in Summer. As the mussels grow a reduction in numbers on each rope is required. This is accomplished by removing some and attaching them to new ropes or by replacing with another set of ropes. This shows the possibility to seed several sets of ropes in one season.

The most successful developed method of harvesting mussels in Ireland is the raft method. Based on the Spanish Polygasa design a 15 m x 15 m fibre glass raft is capable of producing 55 tons from 780 x 10 m hanging from it. Such a raft has an estimated life of 25 years in water. Some 14 months after settlement on the ropes the mussels will have attained a length of about three inches which is optional for marketing. It should be pointed out that a yield of 55 tons can only be achieved if conditions are favourable.

PROSPECTS FOR KINVARA

It has been shown that the Spanish Raft Method of mussel farming is viable in the sheltered inlets of the West Coast - Why not in Kinvara's surrounding waters?

In an area where scenery and the sea are such significant assets, why not exploit the sea to its fullest and supply additional incomes to those in the area? Fish farming fits in well with local occupation and most of the work can be done during the quiet Winter months. Undertaken on a local Co-op. or individual family basis, the industry could provide employment, supplement incomes and prevent depopulation of this very beautiful area.

- 4th YEAR STUDENTS, SEAMOUNT COLLEGE, KINVARA

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GALWAY'S RALLY WEEKEND

ONE OF the most pleasing aspects of our roads around Kinvara is their peacefulness. During the tourist season, when endless hordes from all over the globe descend on our "Fair Isle" in vehicles ranging from bicycles to buses, driving becomes a nerve-fraying ordeal in our cities and towns.

Kinvara's country lanes provide a welcome retreat where the motorist can relax and get away from it all. For a few days each year, however, the situation becomes reversed as hundreds of international rally drivers come to do battle on what is considered to be some of the finest tarmac rallying stages in the world. Roads that are more accustomed to the singing of the birds reverberate to the sound of clattering camshafts and howling exhausts as Galway becomes the focal point of European Motor Rallying for one weekend.

Why is Galway special? Firstly the Galway International Rally is run completely on tarred roads, in contrast to more built-up countries, like England, where rallies must be held mainly on forest tracks, thus considerably reducing the enjoyment of the event for both the competitors and spectators. As well as the surface, the layout of the roads is ideal for motorsport – almost as though an ancient roadmaker had visions of future motorsport enthusiasts admiring his forethought in providing such exquisite bends, bumps and hollows, to test the skills of some of the world's greatest drivers.

Galway's Rally Weekend, like its race week, is famous also for the great social activity that accompanies the event, and the thousands of competitors, back-up crews and supporters who come into the area, provide a great boost at an otherwise low time for the tourist trade.

Begun in 1966, the Circuit of Galway Rally, as it was then known, went from strength to strength, and in 1971 it graduated to full international status. In 1977 the rally was designated a round of the European Rally Championship which is made up of about 30 events in countries all over the Continent, including such far away places as Spain and Finland. This was indeed a great honour and a tribute – both to the quality of the event and the efficiency with which it was conducted by the Galway Motor Club. On only two occasions in its history has the rally failed to take place; it was cancelled in 1968 due to the foot-and-mouth epidemic in Britain; and cancelled again in 1974, this time due to the oil crisis of that year.

The event, with total prizemoney of over £6,500, has now been firmly established as one of Europe's finest, and in early February each year as the cars begin to arrive an air of excitement and expectancy grips young and old alike. Weeks of preparation in workshops from Turin to Tipperary finally comes to fruition on the Thursday night as the competitors assemble in the Fairgreen in Galway. Locals watch reverently as Ford, Porsche, Fiat and scores of other crews tend lovingly to their charges. Rally cars are extremely complex, often temperamental machines which requires a great amount of attention for optimum performance. Indeed, by the time the Rally starts on Friday afternoon some cars begin to give notice of their intentions to expire shortly, as happened to Rosemary Smith's car last year. Consequently, relatively reliable cars like Porsches and Fords enjoy great success in these events.

Many people mistakenly believe that competition cars differ only slightly from the ordinary car in the street; in fact, nothing could be further from the truth. Take a works Ford Escort RS 1800, for instance, it is powered by a specially tuned 2,000 cc engine, producing up to 240 BHP (brake horse power). By comparison an ordinary Escort 1100 cc engine produces about 48 BHP; this gives an idea of the rally cars' performance potential. Special gearboxes are fitted in order to give

rocket-like acceleration at the expense of top speed. In addition, special wheels, tyres, brakes, steering rack, suspension and many other components are fitted. The result of all this development is a car that can accelerate from standstill to 60 mph in an incredible six seconds, while returning about seven miles per gallon. It is understandably very expensive to prepare and maintain a car, therefore, it is not surprising to learn that most rallies are won by teams like Ford Ireland, British Leyland, Dealer Team Vauxhall, etc., who can afford to give their drivers all the attention and help they need to win.

The rally reaches the Gort-Kinvara region on the Saturday and with it all the excitement and colour of the event. In former years the most



popular vantage points for the Kinvara people were those in the Ballybuck special stage, which runs from Labane through Ballybuck, Boherbui, Moy, Trellick; and the Doomore stage, which runs from Cappamore across to Carron via Eagles' Rock. There are many good places from which to watch the event in perfect safety, provided, of course, one does not stand in semi-suicidal places like on the roadside or on top of shaky single-stone walls. It is much wiser to leave the heroics to the drivers!

In previous years each stage was attempted twice, once in the morning and again in the afternoon. This year, each stage will be done three times but the cars will be much closer together. This change will be welcomed by spectators as they will not freeze to death standing around, and any discomfort formerly cause to residents on the route will be much reduced due to the road being closed for shorter periods.

Also the cars will be travelling faster and faster on subsequent attempts thereby providing a great opportunity to see household names like Billy Coleman (Cork), John Taylor (G.B.), Roger Clark (G.B.), Jimmy McRae (Scotland), Markku Alen (Finland), and many other aces in action.

This year's event is again being sponsored by Henley Forklift and Ireland West Tourism and will run on the 8th, 9th and 10th of February, 1980, according to the usual format. Due to the stages being secret, details of places to be visited by the rally will not be made known to the public until shortly before the event, however, residents on the route will receive ample warning, and the Motor Club will also stage a film show in Gort a few weeks prior to the rally. Anybody who is interested will be welcome to attend this show, the date and time will be announced in The Connacht Tribune.

Sunday evening brings peace once again and as the last screaming engine disappears into the distance the singing of the birds again becomes the predominant sound on the quiet roads. By Monday nothing remains but the tyre-marks on the road to remind us of South Galway's roads finest hours, and I believe that if roads had emotions they would surely be lonely after their weekend of attention and excitement.

—JOSEPH QUINN

FROM CHARING CROSS TO CRUSHOA CROSS!

I WAS born in London, but I am connected to Kinvara by being the grandson of the late Kathleen and Tommy Sullivan of Kinvara West.

It was in February 1977 that we returned to Kinvara, after learning that Kathy had suffered a stroke. Our journey from the busy streets of London to Kinvara was not all in vain as we found Kathy her usual cheerful self. For the following six months she was the closest friend I had in Kinvara and from her I learned to love the place, though I found things so very different to London. But she had a relapse and tragically passed away on the night of November 7, 1977.

I took Kathy's death very hard, as we were the best of 'comrades' as she used to say during the few short months together. But when I now think of her, I don't feel sad, but joyful knowing she has reached her goal – Heaven.

The change from the busy sidewalks of London to the quiet and peace of Kinvara hit me very forcibly. I found it very difficult to adjust to the slow pace of life after 12 years in London. But, with the aid of helpful companions, adjusting to Kinvara life was made ever so easy.

School was another problem. I found school in Ireland very different to school in England and I thought I had a problem which couldn't be solved. While I found the boys and girls very friendly and eager to be

my friends, their accents, interests and outlook on life were different to those of my London friends. The teachers even appeared strange. They were friendly, took a personal interest in each student and created a more pleasant atmosphere in the classroom than I had experienced in England. But my English school had much better facilities, a fine gymnasium, an excellent swimming pool and a number of football and cricket pitches.

The novelty of the change confused and overwhelmed me. I found it difficult to adjust to the Irish Education System, but with the help and advice of a friendly headmaster Mr. Breathnach, and understanding teachers, the problem was solved in a matter of months. I am now glad I decided to further my education in Ireland.

With all my problems resolved and a thing of the past, I can see I was a fool to believe I was living life to the full in England. True, there were more facilities in London where I lived, but it isn't facilities alone which provide a happy life, is it? It involves happy friends and comrades and a close community atmosphere. With five years of Kinvara life behind me, I can safely say that "Kinvara is my home", and I would recommend it to anyone I meet on my travels through life.

— JOHN SULLIVAN

POETRY

THE MASS ROCK OF POULNAGANN

Today its there as in Penal days
This rock we will cherish always,
Where the Lamb of God was offered for man
On the Mass Rock in Poulmagann.

Here saint and sinner came to pray
And plead to God as they knelt on clay,
While the hunted sagart changed the breads
On the Mass Rock in the Place of the Heads.

— MRS. CATHERINE WHELAN

A THOUGHT

As we go down the highways and byeways of life,
We encounter trouble, sorrow and strife.
But with these misfortunes we surely can cope,
If we have the will, the faith, and the hope.
For the motto of Bruce must be known to all men,
Thought we fail many times, let us try, try again.
Then we shall succeed, come rack, or come rope.
'Cause we have the will, the faith and the hope.

— RICHIE JOHNSTON (R.I.P.)

MUSINGS IN THE BURREN

In vales of the fertile rock
I scan the gaping wounds that are called Burren
Cold, hard-edged — though protective
Mounds silent — but all-knowing
What tribe cast this spell on you?
Visible physical links with neolithic man
Cromlech, cairn, fulacht fiadh
Invisible untapped sounds pressurise me
I gaze out to sea, I do not see Hy-Breasail; Did they?
Sense of timelessness — as if in surreal landscape
Scholar, mystic, monarch, meek
All behold — but verdict varies.

— GERARDINE QUINN

MAITIÚ Ó MÓCHÁIN

cur síos ar a shaol agus a shaothar le PADRAIG O HEIDHIN

FEAR BACACH ab ea Maitiú Ó Mócháin. Bhi eolas maith agamsa air agus bhi se an-mhaith ar fad le stair na hÉireann agus i dtaobh stair an cheantair. Ta se raite go raibh se ag dul ag scríobh leabhair babhta. Sa teach ina bhfuilim fein anois a bhi se ina chonai.

Ach bhi se bocht ar ndo, Bhi se ag dul thart an la seo is bhi beirt thear ag cur coiriú ar sheipeal Dhubbhrois, ach bhi an bheirt imithe chun dinneir nuair a thainig Matt. Bhi asal is carr aige agus thug se leis maith gan mhaith — cupla seanghiotai 'larch' — níorbh fhiú leithphingin iad. Ach thainig buachaill baire eicint ina dhiaidh agus thog se ropa den 'scaffold'.

An tAthair O Meehan a bhi sa pharoiste seo an t-am sin agus rinne se seanmoir i nGaeilge ar an ngadaíocht. Ansin d'fhan Matt on Aifreann:

Nuair a fuair an sagart amach ansin go raibh se contrailte, nach raibh an sceal ceart aige, duirt se leis na daoine maitheamh dho e. Ach ní raibh aon mhaith ansin. Bhi nadur a mhathar i Maitiu, nadur Gearmaineach, agus ba an-dheacair e a athru.

Silim go mba Gearmaineach i a mhathair mhor; 'Peeler' a bhi ina athair, agus bhi dearthair aige a bhi ina chaptaen soithigh ag dul go Sydney. Captain Mahon a thugtaí air.

Rinne se vearsai i mBearla faoi eachtra na maidi.

*A lengthy sermon we had on Sunday,
Our father was vexed and he prayed to NIX.
To come at the rogue who stole his sticks,
Then he ordered misfortunes on all his goods,
His hay, his oats, his barley and spuds.
And then he painted him black and white.
And ordered him away out of sight.*

*Next comes Tom Reilly with his three Vs,
To conquer Matt the priest to please;
When Reilly came nought could he find*

THE GOD OF WAR

*"Haw, Haw, Haw," laughed the God of War
As he looked on the earth below
And saw men struggling knee-deep in blood,
Exchanging blow for blow.*

*Oh what a sight! Oh what a sight!
And he thumped his mail-clad chest,
Of all my triumphs since time began,
Why this is my very best.*

*And with cupped hands he then bent down,
And scooped-up quarts of blood,
And drank it down with a gurgling sound,
And roared; "Ah this is good".*

*Then he snatched a bomb from a thunder-rack,
And flung it at the world,
And towns and cities went-up in flames,
And men with fear, lay curled.*

*Huddled together in caves and nooks,
Or buried beneath debris,
And Mars looked down and laughed again,
"Ah this is the life for me".*

*"Ah this is the life for me" he roared,
Besotted with human gore,
He staggered and cursed and shook his fist,
And then at men he swore.*

*"I'll smash your homes, I'll burn your towns,
I'll sink your ships at sea,
I'll tear you asunder limb for limb,
For that is the life for me".*

*But he paled and shook and a death-like look,
Came into his blood-shot eyes,
And a peaceful plane was seen again,
Careering across the skies.*

*And men looked up relieved and glad,
And to each other they said,
"Thank God, we never again will fight,
The God of War is dead".*

— F. L. MacEOIN (Fred Johnston)



*For the ashes flew before the wind
And left poor Reilly far behind.*

*But 'tis in Kinvara they both do dwell,
The priest and Reilly can go to Hell.*

Tom Reilly — b'shin Sergeant Reilly on Chabhan a bhi i gCinn Mhara. Na 'three Vs', b'shin comhartha an tsairsint san R.I.C. ar nos na 'three stripes' anois.

Bhi Matt i dtrioblóid go minic leis na peelers, th'reis go mba mac peeler e. Sa chead 'Tracht' eile inseoidh me sceal eile faoi Mhath agus e ag saraíocht leis an dli.



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Kinvara Pioneer Council

P.T.A.A.

THE PIONEER Total Abstinence Association is flourishing in Kinvara. Attention has been drawn to the fact that 14 of the 22 Community Council members are Pioneers.

Co-operation is the key to our stability. This has manifested itself very much during this year when our centre was represented in competitions in Ballinlerreen, Claremorris and Roscommon. Patricia Whelan proved herself in Solo Singing and the Figure Dancing champions are Ann Keane, Marie McCormack, Enda Mongan, John and Brigid Keane and Michael, Brenda and Edel Leech. A bus full of supporters travel with competitors. Every month on the first Sunday new applicants arrive at the parish hall to 'join up'.

The Officers are as follows: President, Thomas Quinn (Golden Jubilarian); Spiritual Director, Fr. P. Callinan; Chairman, Miko Waites; Vice-chairperson, Grainne Byrne; Secretary, Sr. M. Joseph; Assistant Secretary, Teresa Leech; Treasurer, Paddy Geraghty; Assistant Treasurer, Joan Kavanagh; PRO, Eilish Bermingham; Council, Gerry Byrne, John O'Connor, Mary Kavanagh, Peg Corless, Alice Forde.

ARE YOU INTERESTED?

ARE YOU interested in keeping a student for three weeks in the summer while he/she attends English Language classes in Kinvara, and also learns something about the Irish Language, Music and Literature?

You would get at least £25 per week for keeping a guest in your home. As a member of the family he/she would take part in activities both within and outside the home.

The Community Council was approached by Mrs. Joan Molloy, the Director of the Kinvara Language School in Barcelona, to help her establish a summer school in Kinvara. The students would be about 16-19 years of age and most likely, natives of Spain.

If you are interested in being host to a student please contact the Honorary Secretary, Kinvara Community Council, c/o Kinvara Handcraft Co-op. before February 15th.

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GUN CLUB 1979/1980

THE KINVARA Gun Club, now in its fifth year, opened this years game season with a big bang, and judging from the results of the first day's shoot, the season promises to be very good.

Chairman, Thomas Hanlon, Carnamadra; Vice-Chairman and Secretary, Tommie Corless, Kinvara; Treasurer, Tom Joe Gill, Cahermore. Committee: Joseph Forde, Kinvara; James Donohue, Cappamore; Tommie Glynn, Cahermore.

At the Club's annual dinner dance held in Glynn's Hotel, Gort, in October, prizes were presented to competition winners. It was attended by more than 200 members and friends, including Very Rev. B. Canon Mulkerrins, P.P. and Rev. P. Callanan, C.C. who were guests of honour.

We are looking forward to the future in the hope that the same enthusiasm will prevail and that our membership will grow in numbers as an ambitious programme of restoring the parish woodlands is being undertaken. We would like to record our sympathy to the relatives of the late Mr. G. Nally, Thornville, the club's first President and founder-member. R.I.P.



Pat Keane and Mrs. O'Shaughnessy, Mayor and Mayoress of Kinvara 1979

SOCIAL SERVICES NEWS

THE AIM of the Social Services Committee is to give help and encouragement wherever needed and to organise social activities for the Senior Citizens of the parish. When it comes to support for the local committee the Kinvara Community is second to none.

Last Christmas we had an excellent party for the Senior Citizens in Seamount College. A full turkey dinner was provided by the ladies of the parish. Music was supplied by Ciaran Moylan, N.T. and some of the Droney family from Belharbour and, of course, many songs from the talented senior members who really enjoyed the whole affair and washed it down with some of the best spirits in Kinvara.

An outing was held in August and eighty people travelled to Knock Shrine, Co. Mayo. They had a memorable day and on the return journey stopped for refreshments in Headford at David Heneghan's, Angler's Rest Hotel. Ciaran Moylan was given an accordion and before long Mrs. Florrie Corless and himself had set the party alive with music,

song and dance, Frank Naughton and Ann Tully 'took the floor'. Mary Lynch was jealous of the lightly-footed Ann so she took out Fr. Callanan to show them all how to waltz, both were discovered to have bad knees and so had to give pride of place to Ann and Frank.

In July a dance was held in Glynn's Hotel, Gort, to raise funds for the Social Services Committee. It was very well supported and an enjoyable night was had by all. A group of fifty from the Irish Wheelchair Association were entertained in Seamount College with a meal and music. They all agreed that they enjoyed their visit to the parish.

The Social Services Committee operate a scheme whereby gifts of fuel are given to families where they are needed. The funds for the provision of this fuel are made available through subscriptions from the people of the parish.

If you wish to support this work for the Community in any way, contact any of the members of the committee or Fr. Callanan.

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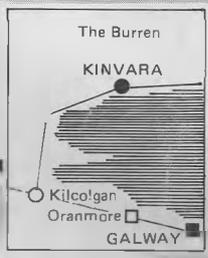
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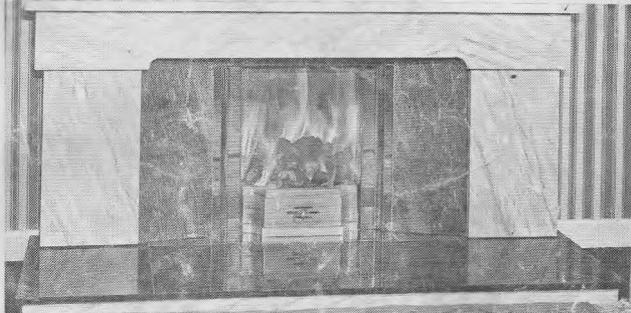
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