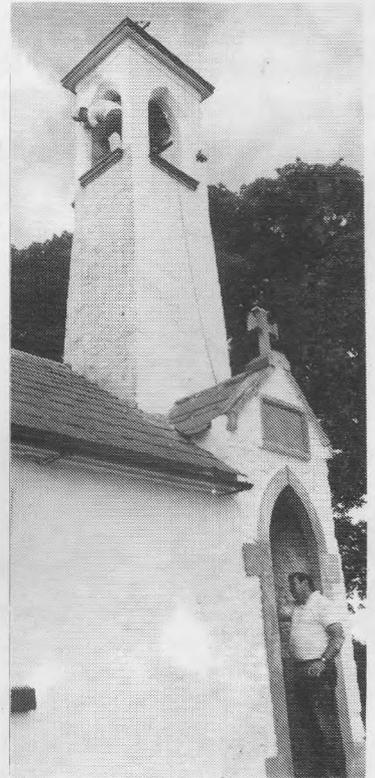


M.C.

# TRÁCT

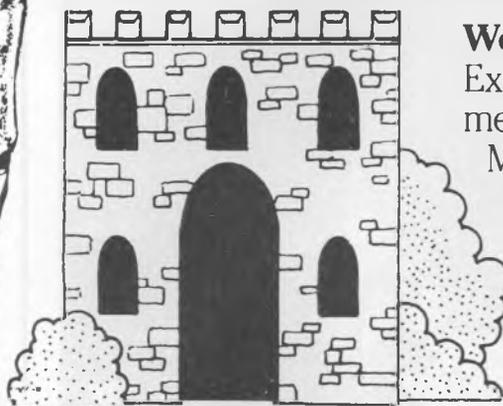


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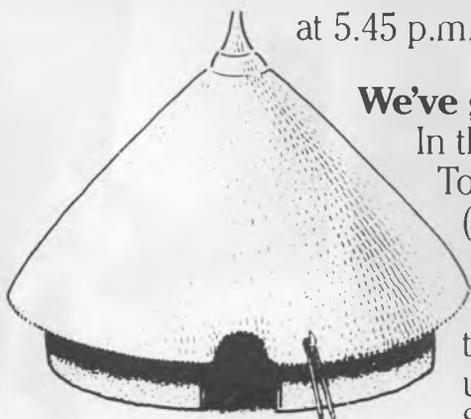


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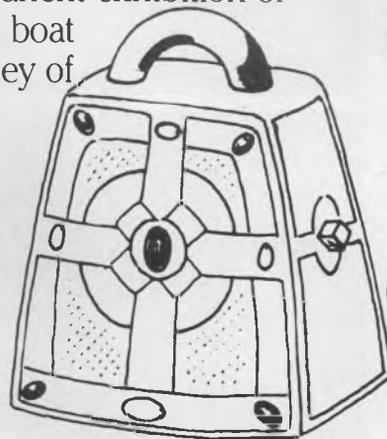


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## EDITORIAL

Tract '87 contains a rich assortment of articles and photographs designed to re-capture some of Kinvara's almost forgotten history. In these pages you will find something from almost every century back to the time when the town emerged as a recognizable place. We are particularly fortunate in having articles in this issue by people such as Paul Gosling, Director of the UCG-OPW County Galway Archaeological Survey, J.P. Hynes, author of 'White Sheeted Fort', and Jimmy O'Connor, whose knowledge of the history of the Irish Postal service has resulted in a fascinating article on Kinvara's own postal service. Maura Mongan's articles on two of Kinvara's old schools will bring back many memories, while Michael Sullivan's researches have uncovered a hitherto unrecorded school. Two articles draw attention to Kinvara's old and new links with France as a kind of preparation for the twinning ceremonies with Locoal-Mendon that will take place next year. Gabrielle Warnock's excellent short story will strike a cord in the mind's of many parents. Toddie Byrne has contributed a challenging piece on Muintier na Tire in this year of its 50th Anniversary.

Our feature article this year is, most appropriately, on St. Colman's Church. Occupying pride of place once more in the community after its splendid restoration, our parish church has had an interesting history that our article only begins to hint at. Plans are in train to bring out a booklet on St. Colman's at some future stage.

To cut things short, Tract '87 has within it "all God's plenty" - photographs, stories, reports, articles, and even a competition! We may be a little later appearing this year than we intended, but we think you'll agree it's been worth the wait. So, with a warm word of thanks to our many advertisers and to those who've helped in the production, let's turn over the page and begin...

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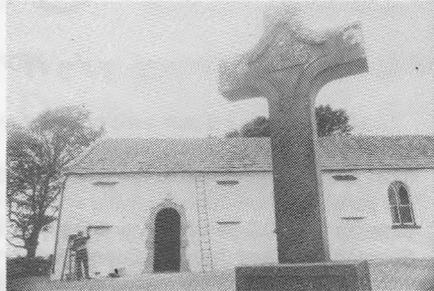
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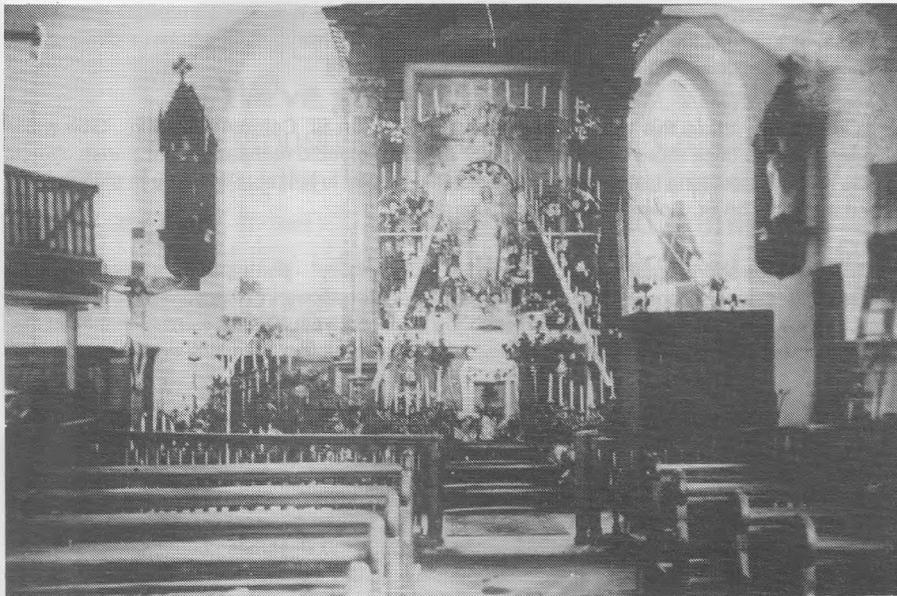
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# St. Colman's Church - A Celebration

In Ireland the parish church has always been the centre of the community. Here, over the centuries, people have come to be married, to have their children baptized, and to see their loved ones and neighbours buried. During the many dark periods of Irish history, the consolation and security of the church and its familiar rituals was all that the people had. Recently St. Colman's, the parish church of Kinvara, has undergone a splendid transformation through the unselfish efforts of a number of parishioners who gave of their time, energy and services. It



Work in Progress



The Altar in St. Colman's Church Earlier This Century



Interior of St. Colman's

seems fitting at this stage to look briefly at the history of this venerable church - a testimony in stone to the faith of the people who built it and who have, over the years, made it their own.

The story begins with the birth in 1770 of Nicholas Joseph Archdeacon in Cork, son of a Mr. Archdeacon of that city, engaged in trade, and Eliza, youngest daughter of Thomas Redington of Creggana and later Kilcornan. After the death of her husband while her two children - Nicholas and Mary - were infants, Mrs Archdeacon moved to France, where she remained till her son was two years old. Nicholas was educated in Cork and later on the Continent, at Douay and Louvain. Those were dangerous years for a young man abroad and especially one studying for the priesthood. While in Paris during the summer of 1793 he was arrested as a foreigner and brought before the Revolutionary Tribunal. Two English Benedictines testified on his behalf and he was released. But in 1794 he was arrested again, escaping eventually to Louvain where he completed his studies.

After being ordained priest by the Papal Nuncio at Brussels, Archdeacon returned to Ireland where he worked briefly in Cashel. Probably through the influence of his mother's family, the Catholic Redington's of Kilcornan, he was transferred to the diocese of Kilmacduagh and in 1797 became parish priest of Kinvara. In October 1800, while still a few months short of his 30th year, he was created Bishop of Kilmacduagh. He made his home at 'The Hermitage', the ruins of which still stand outside the village of Nogra. The new bishop, whose command of Irish was poor, nonetheless attempted to preach in the language of his parishioners. Tradition also portrays him as a kindly man, who journeyed through his large diocese on horseback and scorned any sort of display or ostentation.

Archdeacon's time as bishop coincided with the end of the long period during which the Catholic gentry exercised by right considerable authority over the affairs of the clergy. As bishop, Archdeacon was not prepared to accept such interference. Two incidents illustrate this.

The first concerns Mark Lynch of Doorus. Sometime early in the century he had been granted permission to build a church on his estate for the use of his tenants; later, for reasons not now clear, permission was withdrawn and the building was put to use as a school. Lynch next appointed a teacher without first consulting the bishop. In response, Archdeacon appointed a chaplain, Fr. Michael Acton, for Lynch's private chapel. Lynch refused to accept the appointment so the bishop forbade the saying of Mass there. At this stage Lynch appealed to the Archbishop of Tuam, Dr. Oliver Kelly, whose nomination in 1815 to the see Archdeacon had opposed. Eventually, in 1820, after lengthy discussions, Archdeacon

was forced to accept Lynch's nominee, Fr. John O'Reilly, a Carmelite from Loughrea. A more serious dispute arose over the appointment in 1816 of a parish priest in Beagh. The Clanricarde family claimed the right of appointment, whereas Archdeacon claimed that right as bishop of the diocese. Not until 1821, after the case had been referred to Rome, was the dispute resolved in favour of the bishop.

The earliest edition of the O.S. map of Kinvara shows quite clearly that c. 1839 a small chapel, then in ruins, stood within present-day Mountcross cemetery. The inscribed slab now set in the wall of the belfry of St. Colman's was taken from this old chapel; it reads: "Ora pro conservo tuo Patricio Neilan, 1735". Nothing is known about Fr. Neilan, but it is reasonable to assume that he was the parish priest of Kinvara around this date. From a 'Report on the State of Property in Ireland' we learn that in 1731 one priest - very probably Fr. Neilan - served the parishes of 'Kileny', 'Kinvarra', and 'Duras', and that the 'Mass-house' had been erected sometime before the reign of George I. As his reign began in 1713, that means that the old chapel was in existence at least as early as the first decade of the 18th century. It is possible that another Mass-house was situated on the grounds of the French estate at Doorus Demesne. Fr. Gregory French, a Dominican, who died c. 1709, was said by Charles French Blake-Forster in 'The Irish Chieftains' to have served as parish priest in Kinvara and, as a monk, to have narrowly escaped arrest and transportation after the introduction of the Penal Laws.

Dr. Archdeacon realized that a new church was urgently needed for what was at that time a large parish. The census of 1821 recorded 2065 inhabitants in Kinvara and another 1279 in Doorus. The site was given by James de Basterot on land some distance outside of the town. Although the enforcement of the Penal Laws was fairly lax by this time, it was still felt necessary to construct chapels away from the centre of towns and villages; they also could have neither belfries nor steeples. Construction of the new church probably began as early as 1816 or 1817. The bishop was quite determined when it came to raising funds for the church. In fact, it seems likely that his opposition to the proposed Doorus chapel of Mark Lynch was primarily motivated by his fear that the existence of another church in the parish would hamper his efforts on behalf of the new Kinvara church. On one occasion the bishop ordered all his parishoners to attend Mass in the partially completed structure so that they could contribute towards building costs, forbidding all private Masses on that particular Sunday. It is more than likely that contributions were sought from his wealthy relations, the Redingtons of Kilcornan and the Blakes of Ballyglunin; as well, the Gregorys of Coole, although Protestant themselves, contributed towards the new church. St. Colman's was finally completed and consecrated in 1819, making it one of the oldest churches erected in the West of Ireland after Penal times, and certainly the oldest church still functioning in the diocese of Kilmacduagh.

Worn out by his labours on behalf of the people of Kinvara and the diocese of Kilmacduagh, Dr. Archdeacon died in his apartments overlooking Eyre Square in Galway on 27 November

1823, and was buried in the graveyard of the Abbey Franciscan Church. Surely a man associated with Kinvara for over a quarter of a century deserves to be remembered, even honoured in some way, by the descendants of the people he served so faithfully.

During the 19th century St. Colman's served as a focus for the people of Kinvara. The Crushoa people have always had a special devotion to the church and they tell a curious story about the name of their village, which, translated from Irish means "the grave of the cross". When the church was being built, so the story goes, the priest asked the people of Crushoa for two crosses in their keeping to place atop the new building. The smaller of the two was given, and this now sits at the peak of the west gable. But the larger cross was buried by seven village men. One of the men went home and told his wife the location, and she told another woman, and so on. So six of the men, excluding the one who'd let out the secret, dug the cross up and re-buried it. And the secret of the exact location died with the last man involved. That something lies behind this story is certain; the tradition in the village is very strong. But what precisely this is is most uncertain. Could the cross date from penal times? There is an old Mass rock in Crushoa, not far from the pier. Is there a connection? Or is the cross much older than that, and had it come over the passage of years to be associated with the luck of the village? At this point in time it is virtually impossible to say. Perhaps someday it will be found.

A grimmer sort of evidence of times past in Kinvara is provided by the commemorative plaque at the north side of the altar, dedicated to Fr. Patrick Forde, curate from 1844-46, among the worst years of the Famine. In Sir William Gregory's Autobiography, he writes: "From the moment that my father saw the extent of the catastrophe, he and the priest of Kinvara, Father Forde, whose name should be recorded, worked together incessantly to meet the emergency. At last, my father was stricken down and Father Forde shortly afterwards was added to the roll of victims." That the number of Famine victims or emigrants in the years following was very great can easily be shown by comparing the pre-Famine population of 1800 families with that of the year 1867 when the figure had fallen to 700 families.

In December 1920, St. Colman's witnessed the sad spectacle of the Loughnane funeral. Canon Martin Fahey was P.P. at the time, and his courage and compassion on behalf of the family and friends of the murdered brothers earned him the gratitude of his parishoners.

In recent years St. Colman's had begun to show its age; time had taken its toll on both the inner and outer fabric. Concern had been expressed by many people at the state of the building. So the decision of the Community Council, through the Tidy Towns Committee, to sponsor the restoration of the church was warmly welcomed. Beginning a few months ago, a group of volunteers met at the church on Mondays and Thursdays to carry out the work.

The result, as our cover indicates, is magnificent. St. Colman's has been restored to pride of place in Kinvara. Work is now going ahead on the interior and by the time you read this will be finished. Below is a list of those who volun-

tarily gave of their time and labour painting and restoring the parish church:

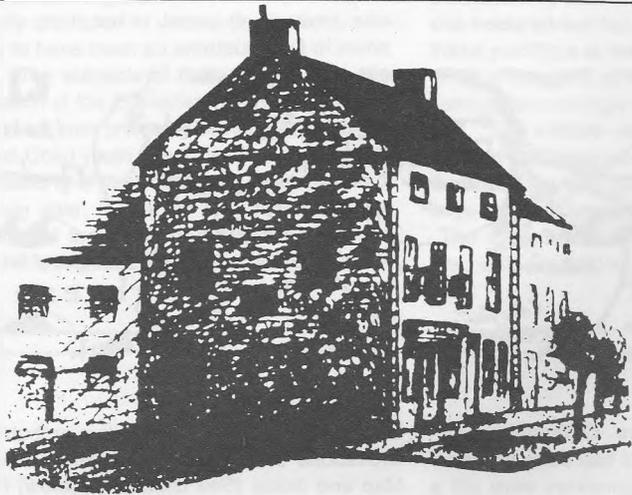
Richard Johnston, Kinvara  
Sean McInemey, Kinvara West;  
Sean Conole, Crushoa  
Stephen Moylan, Crushoa;  
Paddy Kilkelly, Crushoa;;  
Tom O'Loughlin Gortnaglough;  
James Conole, Crushoa;  
William Kavanagh Jr., Loughcurra;  
Tom McCormick, Kinvara West  
Tom Kilkelly, Crushoa  
Miko Forde, Caheravoneen;  
Brendan Lyons, Funshin;  
Thomas P. Corless, Kinvara  
Paddy Geraghty, Kinvara;  
Michael John O'Loughlin, Poulnegan;  
Michael Keane, Cahernamadra  
Paddy O'Loughlin, Poulnegan;  
Thomas Quinn, Crushoa  
Sean Mongon, Corranrue;  
Stan Mac Eoin, Kinvara West  
John Leech, Crushoa;  
Patrick O'Loughlin, Gortnaglough;  
Thomas Martin, Leeha South;  
P.J.O'Loughlin Kinvara West  
Bill Sullivan, Kinvara West  
Special thanks to Topper Ireland Ltd  
and to Paddy Connelly who gave  
machinery.

St. Colman's is cruciform in shape (that is, built in the shape of a cross), and measures 81 feet between the eastern and western gables, and 78 feet across the transepts. The church is very spacious, a feature noted by the O.S. team that visited Kinvara in the 1830's. Of the townland of Ballybranigan, in which the church stands, they wrote: "On the south west stands a Roman Catholic chapel capable of accommodating from 5 to 600 persons." The church, the estimated cost of which was given as £2000 by Samuel Lewis in 1837, was built with practicality rather than elegance in mind. The original church was thatched as the cost of a slated roof would have been prohibitive at the time of its erection. Externally St. Colman's has a grace and simplicity entirely lacking in many modern churches. The shape of the rounded-doorway is echoed in the shape of many of the windows, which are ornamented with simple wooden tracery. Sitting atop the west gable is a small cross on which the date 1819 has been inscribed. The belfry on the south-east corner was originally erected in 1845 "by the parishoners" as the inscribed slab states. From it we also learn that Fr. Patrick Forde was then administrator of the parish for Dr. Edmund French, Bishop of Kilmacduagh. We are even told the name of the architect - Martin Linnane. Earlier this century the belfry was raised higher, the work being done by Sean Conole of Crushoa.

Internally, St. Colman's has seen many changes. Older people will recall the three galleries above the nave and transepts, and the old altar and statues shown in the photograph taken by Tomas O'Heidhin earlier this century. The renovation carried out in 1951 resulted in the removal of most of the older adornments. What remains of the older church? Firstly, we should note the two Holy Water fonts, one on the north and the other on the south wall of the transepts. Of rough, unfinished stone, it is possible that they were taken from the old chapel at Mountcross.







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quarters, whereof one quarter in Ballibrana-gaine one quarter in Clonnaswoy one quarter in Moa beareth rent to the Bishoprick of Kilm-kowgh..."

Obviously then Ballybrannigan and the castle on it still belonged to the O'Heyne in late Tudor times as did Clonnaswoy (which is the townland of Cloonasee, south of the town of Kinvara).

Other entries in the indenture mention...!Oyne Mantagh O Heyne of Downgory Otherwise called O Heyne, Conor Crone O Heyne tanest to the said O Heyne..."

Another mention made relating to the holdings of those chieftains included "...killowveragh otherwise called O hennis lands consisting of 16 quarters..." (I cite these to demonstrate the inconsistency of spelling in those early centuries and to confirm that Owen O Heyne was living in Dunguaire at the time.)

I found an interesting reference in 'The Composition Book' to a place called kennalgorry (Cinel Guaire: the people of Guaire) in the 'Barony of Downkillin'. Surprisingly there is no mention of the Killikellys in connection with that place despite the fact that three years later there took place a "...public assembly of MacGillikellys of Kinelguary in Galway in 1588 to renew ancient divisions of lands among branches of the name...". Among those who attended were the principal men of the O Heins, (from Gaelic and Gaelicised Ireland in the Middle Ages by K. Nicholls)

Where was Cinelguaire anyway? Could that have been the local name for this very castle which was demolished and which I have called Kinvara Castle? On page 66 of my book White Sheeted Fort, I mention a line in Lady Gregory's book "The English were feasting at Cillin O'Guairé till the time Sarsfield came..." Was Cinelguaire the traditional castle of the Killikellys at Cloughballymore? Was it Dunguaire or was it Kinvara castle? The 'minutes' of such a meeting as that held by the Killikellys on that memorable but unremembered day in 1588 would indeed have been enlightening for us today in discovering which of the last of the Irish chieftains lived where at that time!

#### The Ballybranaghan Castle

The strongest evidence that another O'Heyne castle stood in Ballybranaghan is the account given in The History and Topography of County Clare by J. Frost. After referring to the O'Heyne castle at Roo which fell during the Lisbon earth-

quake in 1755, he wrote "The present representative of the branch of the O'Heynes who lived in this castle and also in the castle of Ballybranaghan at Kinvara, is a descendent of John Hynes..."

Another very pertinent entry in The Topographical Dictionary of Ireland states of Kinvara that "A Castle stood near the pier but its materials have been used in building." These two statements refer to a castle which stood on the site now occupied by Delamaine Lodge.

#### Mistaken Identity

Among the documents held in the Record Office and cited in an article in the proceedings of the R.S.A. is one dated February 21, 1615 reading as follows:

"Grant to Oliver Martin of Kinvara, gent. In Killaraght (Kiltartan) barony the castle of Kinvara, and the parcels of Kinvara, Ballybranegan and Knockechollen, containing 1 quarter eleven twelfths of Crossoby Clownasy...etc."

Although reference is made to Martin holding the land from the year 1607 we can only be sure that he was living in the Castle of Kinvara in the year 1615.

I suggest that here the appellation, Castle of Kinvarra, is significant because the present castle in Kinvara Bay has always borne the title Dunguaire Castle. I conclude from this that the castle at Ballybranaghan, on the Delamaine Lodge site, was probably called the Castle of Kinvara.

I suggest too that the two castles have been confused in various writings. For example, the Rt. Hon. Archer Martin, a Judge of the Appeal Court of British Columbia, Canada, in writing to R.J. Kelly in the early part of this century probably made that mistake when he wrote: "This shows that Richard's possession of Kinvara Castle, that is Dunguaire, was confirmed as early as 1615..."

He has assumed that Kinvarra Castle and Dunguaire were one and the same place because of course in 1912 when he wrote his letter he had no reason to believe there had been another castle. It was, of course, Oliver's not Richard's possession which the document confirmed.

A passage in Blake-Foster's Irish Chieftains...cited by Kelly in an R.S.A. document says that Richard Martin got Dunguara Castle, near Kinvarra from the Chief of the sept of O'Hynes in 1641. If that statement is accurate

then the Martins must have been living in Kinvara Castle some thirty years before getting Dunguaire Castle. Richard lived in Dunguaire in 1642 whereas an Oliver Martin was in Kinvara Castle in 1615!

In 1691 a Book of Surveys and Distribution shows Ballibrannigan (540 acres) held by Oliver Martin and by Teige and Edmund O Hene but those acres and others were soon forfeited to Colonel Carey Dillon.

Monsignor Fahey wrote of Kinvara "The small quay built there in 1773 by James de Basterot was extended in 1807 and 1808 by Richard Gregory of Coole, the new proprietor. And in a little time one of the fine old castles, which flung their shadows on the littler harbour, was thrown down to supply building materials for the erection of the existing pier, alongside of which schooners of fair tonnage may safely ride at anchor."

The present owner of Delamaine Lodge, Dr. Robert Brannick has found evidence of the old Kinvarra Castle in the grounds. That evidence includes:

The fact that Delamaine is in Ballybranaghan and it is situated upon a substantial mound which commands excellent views of the harbour and its approaches;

huge walls below the barn which could have been part of the castle;

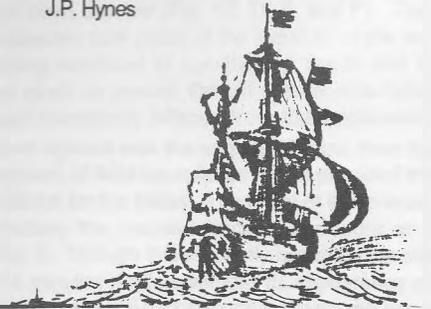
a cobbled area which would have been a courtyard;

a large carved stone worked like the lintels in Dunguaire castle windows and having the same punched dot decorative motif;

other cut stones of the kind used in all the castles of the region.

Dr. Brannick and I have discussed the evidence and everything points to that charming place Delamaine Lodge, once the home of a dashing Huguenot sea captain, as being the site of the old Kinvara Castle and a tangible link with the last of the great chieftains.

J.P. Hynes



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# The Follies at Northampton

The word folly can be traced from the French word 'folie(m), fol(f)', meaning fool or foolish. It appears to have entered English usage in the 13th century and was subsequently applied in the 16th., to any 'costly structure considered to have shown folly in the builder.' In architectural parlance, however, the term folly can be generally defined as 'architectural erections without functional intention'. The hey-day of the folly was the 18th and 19th centuries and the inspiration behind their construction appears to have been the 'rediscovery' of the classical world which led to romantic ideas of what ancient ruins should look like; witness the stepped pyramid at the Neale in Co. Mayo or the Belview Gate near Laurencetown in east Galway. As edifices of this kind were by definition the preserve of the very wealthy it is therefore all the more surprising to find a fine series of follies on a small 19th century estate at Northampton, approximately 1 1/2 miles (2.4km) to the south-east of Kinvara. Here, in the fields around Northampton House, a group of seven follies are to be found on the lands of Mr. Barry Mooney, Mr. Aidan Connors and Mr. Peter Callanan (Fig. 1).

As if hinting at its unusual possessions, the very name 'Northampton' is itself an exotic intrusion into the predominantly Irish placenames of the area. Its recent ancestry is betrayed in the Name Books of the Ordnance Survey compiled in the 1830's, which recorded the orthography (correct spelling) of every townland name in Ireland. Therein it is listed as the English form of Pollnaveagh 'Poll na bFiadh, the Hole of the Deer - which is the name of an adjoining townland (Fig. 1 and 3). This strongly suggests that Northampton was created as a separate entity of 112 acres, 2 roods and 16 perches, from a portion of Pollnaveagh. When exactly this occurred is unclear but it was certainly given formal authority when the first 6 inch to the mile maps were published in 1841 (Fig. 3).

Gazing at these fine old maps today one is struck not only by the intrusive character of the name Northampton but also by the large size of its fields particularly when compared to those of the adjoining townlands of Cahercon to the south and Loughcurra South to the west (Fig. 3). Averaging approximately 5 acres apiece in 1841, these fields, large even by today's standards in south Galway, bear the unmistakable mark of the improving gentleman farmer. They also bear testimony to the changing pattern of Irish farming in the early 19th century when, even before the Great Potato Famine of 1845-1848, a move from tillage to livestock production was apparent. This, of necessity, was to accelerate the displacement from the land of the poorer tenantry with their small tillage holdings. Unnecessary field-boundaries could then be removed and estates consolidated into large, open fields. The follies at Northampton were a by-product of this work.

On the 1841 map (Fig. 3), the work of enlarging the fields can be seen to have been already completed in Pollnaveagh and in the new townland of Northampton. In the latter, the formal gardens around Northampton Lodge were reported by the Ordnance Surveyors as being 'in good order' suggesting that they were al-

to a subterranean well-chamber with an enigmatic alcove beside it and the remains of a hydraulic water pump above form an arresting combination of the romantic and the practical. The presence of a stone cross and local tradition attest that this is revered as a holy-well. However, the ordered layout of Pollnaveagh

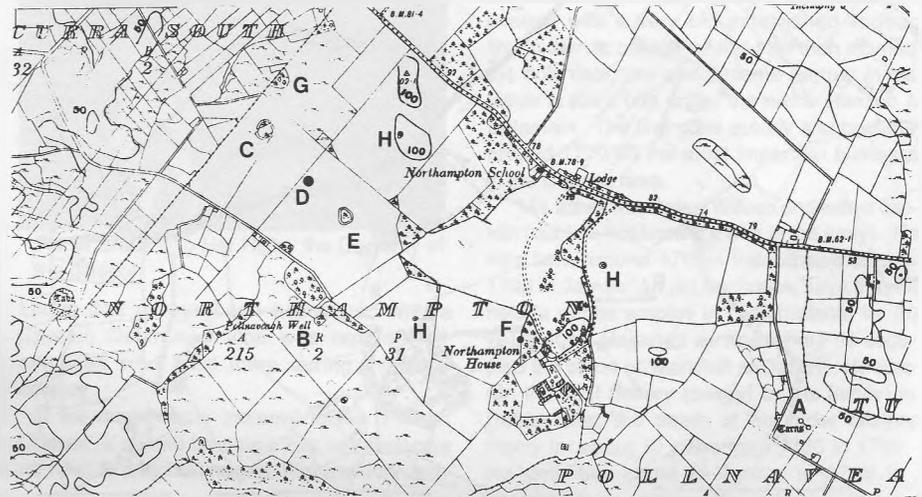


Fig. 1 1922 Edition Based on the Ord. Survey by Permission of the Gov't (Permit No. 4819)

ready in existence. To the east of the lodge the map shows two circular cairns resembling a pair of spectacles (Figs. 1 and 3A). Though somewhat overgrown today, these cairns present a remarkable appearance very unlike a genuinely ancient cairn (Fig. 2). Averaging 6.50m in diameter and 3.00m in height, they are composed of small limestone boulders built without mortar in two near vertically-sided tiers, the upper one set back from the lower by about 1.50m all around. These cairns are undoubtedly the result of the imaginative use of the masses of stones cleared from the surrounding fields in the late 18th or early 19th centuries.

The third folly marked on the 1841 map is Pollnaveagh Well which is situated to the west of Northampton Lodge (Figs. 1 and 3B). Set in a natural hollow amid a grove of trees, this charming well has already been recorded by Kinvara's intrepid map-makers, Korff and O'Connell. Here again, the neatly laid stone steps leading

Well, with its prominently placed window fragment and its dedication to St. Matthew, suggest that it is a relatively recent and romantically inspired creation.

By the time the 1922 revision of the 6inch map for Northampton was published, the size of the townland had almost doubled to 215 acres 2 roods and 31 perches and four further follies had been erected (Fig. 1C, D, E, and F). This expansion took place at the expense of the adjoining townland of Loughcurra South and in the lands so-gained, the old narrow strip-fields were completely effaced from the landscape.

Once again it was the surplus of stone from the removal of field boundaries which provided the material for the follies. The finest of these is undoubtedly the massive circular enclosure at C (Fig. 1). Though this evidently occupies the site of a genuine ringfort, witness its appearance on the 1841 map, its present character is the result of extensive 19th century embellishments.

These are betrayed by its two entrances, external mural stairs and the degree of preservation and massive proportions of its enclosing wall. This averages 2 metres in height, 4-6 metres in width and encloses an area some 27.50m in diameter. Just over 200 metres to the south-east stands a second stone-built enclosure (Fig. 2E and Fig. 4). Though its wall is of much more modest proportions - 2.30 metres wide by 2.00m high - the use of mortar in its construction indicates that it is of recent vintage. When coupled with its neat appearance, the presence of mature beech trees in the interior and the absence of the site from the 1841 map, it strongly suggests that this whole picturesque monument is a 19th century fabrication designed to look like an ancient fort.



Fig. 2 One of the tiered-cairns at Pollnaveagh. (L. Fitzpatrick, A.S.G.)

Between these two pseudo-forts is yet another tiered-cairn (Fig. 2D). Though now sadly in a state of semi-collapse, enough remains to indicate that it was almost twice the size of its sisters in Pollnaveagh, already described. Here too mortar was used in the lower courses of the cairn. Finally, close to Northampton House itself is a very odd looking little turret (Fig. 2F). A narrow staircase leads to a tiny platform with a crenellated parapet. Whatever its function, its crudely built walls and irregular plan have a certain charm in our age of cement blocks and right-angles.

tion cannot be given, for though Northampton and its follies are but 200-250 years old, very little is known of the inhabitants of the Lodge. Research by Jeff O'Connell in the Tithe Books for Kinvara (1826) reveals one P. Mahon as resident of Northampton and the Parish Records for 1834 give his first name as Patrick.

By the time the Ordnance Survey Name Books were compiled in the late 1830's, a James Mahon, presumably the son, is in possession. James is also listed therein as 'middleman' for the adjoining townlands of Loughcurra and Pollnaveagh indicating that he effectively held

stone to build a local school.

From these undistilled facts it seems most likely that it was the Mahon family who built Northampton House and farmed its estate. And though we as yet know little or nothing of the lives, loves and character of the Mahons, the imaginatively conceived follies they have left us, bear testimony to a romantic spirit in at least one of its members. As for the labourers and tenants who undoubtedly built these relics of the past for them, we know only that some of them went by the names of Kane, Kellegher and Tierney.

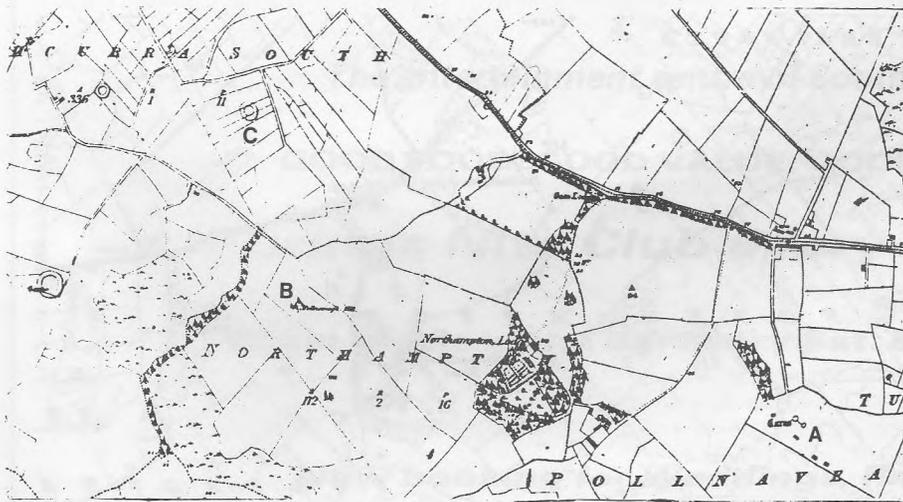


Fig. 3 Portion of the 1841 edition of O.S. 6" map no. 113 for Co. Galway

To gaze at these fine monuments, leaves an impression of a forceful mind which sought to impose its sense of order and taste on what must originally have been fairly rough country side. This is reflected not only in the follies themselves but by the very neat appearance of the surrounding field-boundaries, gate piers and the access road to Pollnaveagh Well. Of particular note are the skillfully built stone-stiles to the D-shaped tree-plantation at G and the caré invested in the cattle-drinks marked H (Fig. 1). Who then was the architect of this landscape? Remarkably, the answer to that ques-

these lands for their respective owners, Richard Gregory of Coole Park and John Martin of Tully. Sometime in the late 1860's Mr. W. Murray acquired Northampton House. After his death (date unknown) his widow married County Llewellyn Blake of Cloghballymore but he appears to have resided at Northampton for a brief period only. When exactly the house fell into ruins is unclear but it was undoubtedly unoccupied by 1920 about which time I.R.A. 'courts' are reputed to have been held there. It appears to have reached its present state of demolition in the 1920's when most of it was levelled for



Fig. 4. A view of one of the pseudo-ringforts at Northampton. (O. Alcock, A.S.G.)

Acknowledgements: Thanks are due to Jeff O'Connell, Tom Byrne, Angela Gallagher and the O.P.W./U.C.G. Preliminary Archaeological Survey of Co. Galway from whose files much of the information contained in this article was taken.

(The follies at Northampton and Pollnaveagh are private property and are not open to the public. If you wish to visit them you should first seek permission from the landowners. - Editor.)

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# A Note on 'The French Chapel'

Many Kinvara people will recall the cluster of old houses and out-buildings that made up what used to be known as the Claddagh. Nothing is now left; St. Anthony's, once a hotel owned by Mrs Agnes Flatley, has been re-born as 'Capriccio', the attractive restaurant recently opened by Mr and Mrs Regatta, while two semi-detached houses and the recently erected home of Mr Joe Curley, now occupy the site of many of the older dwellings. One of the now demolished buildings, however, presents something of a puzzle. Occupying a position directly behind the old St. Anthony's, it was referred to by many people as 'The French Chapel'. Before it was demolished it was used as a storehouse and it was only in 1971 when workmen began to remove the older dwellings as the start of a projected £250,000 housing scheme, that serious attention was focused on the curious building. What was most striking about it was its' apparently religious character. A cut and dressed stone doorway, about nine-foot high, was surmounted by a three-foot window, described as 'Gothic' in one newspaper report, and "obviously a church window" in another. The most intriguing feature was an inscription above the window - "1782". Local

Lodge, and being curious about the name, started to investigate its possible origins. His inquiries paid off handsomely. He learned from a friend that a very fine cognac was still being produced by Delamain & Co. in Jarnac, France. Kinvara readers will recall that Delamaine



Nurse Brady - To Her Right the Doorway of the Chapel

Lodge has always been associated with a Captain Delamaine who was reputedly a smuggler who lived there during the 18th century.

If we return for a moment to the 'French Chapel', it should be noted that not everyone referred to it by that name. Richard Johnston

M. Alain Braastad of Delamain and Co., who is descended from James Delamain, responsible for establishing the business in the 18th century. Dr. Brannick has kindly allowed me to quote an extract from the reply he received from M. Braastad:

"James Delamain when he came from Dublin to Jarnac in 1760, aged 20, was already in contact with a very old established cognac firm in Jarnac called Ranson. He then married the only daughter and became partner in his father in law's firm under the name Ranson & Delamain. The firm grew quickly and became around 1770/80 the most important business in the Cognac area.

"His father was called William and was a captain (but I do not know if it was in the navy). He was born around 1715 in Ireland and died in 1793 in Jarnac. An old document says that he held 'a gentle employ in Dublin castle for 30 years at his Majesty's service' where he occupied the office of 'Marshall of Dublin'. He also ran the Delf pottery (owned by his family) in Dublin after the death of his older brother Henry for about 10 years from 1760 to 1769. He definitely came to Jarnac in 1788 to live near his son James. He had married 1st Hannah O'Shaughnessy, daughter of Rodger O'Shaughnessy from one of the most ancient and respectable families in Ireland and 2nd Mary Ackland daughter of Major Dudley Ackland. He (William) was a Free Mason and a Huguenot. From my documents I cannot see that he had a property in Galway but I can imagine he could have had a good cellar with a wealthy son in the brandy trade and himself quite a wealthy man."

From this interesting account it is possible to conclude with some confidence that the mysterious Captain Delamaine was, in fact, Captain William Delamain. Not only do the dates fit, but the fact of his marriage to Hannah O'Shaughnessy, daughter of Rodger O'Shaughnessy, virtually proves his association with the Kinvara area. For the O'Shaughnessys were for many centuries one of the most powerful and influential families in this part of South Galway, and remained so well into the 18th century, despite the loss of much of their former property through confiscation.

So what of the 'French Chapel'? From the evidence of M. Braastad's letter, the Delamain's were Huguenots. It is possible that Delamain Lodge was built sometime during the 18th century, that a small group of servants, retainers, associates or even relations resided for a time in Kinvara, and that a small chapel was erected, around 1782, for worship. It is possible that there was some connection between the Frenches of Doorus and Captain Delamain; we know that both the Frenches and the Lynches, related by marriage, were involved in trade with Bordeaux. According to M. Braastad, Captain William Delamain left Ireland in 1788. A few years later, Bartholomew and James de Basterot arrived in Doorus, inheriting most of the old



St. Anthony's (Now 'Capriccio')

opinion suggested a variety of possible explanations - that it was taken from St Coman's Church, now hidden behind the houses facing the Quay, or that it was a Protestant clergyman's residence. As the old building was quite inexcusably destroyed by the builders shortly after the newspaper report I have quoted from appeared, and the stones scattered or used in the construction of the semi-detached houses, it seemed as if the mystery would remain unsolved.

However, a few years ago, Dr Robert Brannick, an American, purchased Delamaine

and Dr Paddy Greene both maintained that it was a 'Huguenot' Chapel. The Huguenots were French Protestants, many of whom fled persecution at home to the relatively tolerant Protestant countries such as Holland the Netherlands, and Britain, which encompassed at that time Ireland as well. Research had failed to turn up any records of Huguenot settlement in the Kinvara area, but this did not rule out the possibility altogether.

Meanwhile Dr Brannick wrote to an address he had for Mrs John Delamain of New Zealand. A copy of Dr Brannick's letter was then sent to

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French property in Doorus and Kinvara. In 1826 James de Basterot is listed as the proprietor of Delamaine Lodge. Is the fact that there are no records of Delamain property in Co Galway possibly explained by suggesting that Captain Delamain leased an already existing house belonging to the Frenches,

whose property Ballybranigan was, and that the name 'Delamaine' simply became associated with one of its occupants?

Much of this is, of course, speculation. There are few firm facts to go on. But if what we suggest is true, then questions remain. What, for example, happened to the little

Huguenot settlement? Did it depart with Captain Delamain? Or did it remain, eventually blending into the majority Catholic community? More information may one day become available, but until it does much about this episode in Kinvara's past will remain a mystery.

J.W. O'Connell

## The Post Office in Kinvara

To most people the Post Office means the Postman, a letter sent or one expected, a Savings Book or a Pension Book. Behind these everyday images which we take for granted there is a big organisation of Clerks, Postmen and Postmasters/Postmistresses in a vast network of offices - 2200 in Ireland and 630,000 in the 164 countries in the Universal Postal Union - each contributing in his/her own way to the smooth running of all its services.

The first attempt at a public postal service in the British Isles was inaugurated by Charles I in 1635. An Act of Parliament in 1657 set up a Government Monopoly of the postal service which exists in the letter service to this day. The services provided have varied over the years and were introduced at various stages. The Money Order service first introduced in 1792; was revised in 1838. Book post in 1840; the Savings Bank in 1861; Life Insurance in 1864; Dog Licences in 1867; The Postal Order Service in 1881; and the Parcel Post service in 1883. In 1909 payment of Old Age Pensions commenced - the first of the Social Welfare payments. Widows and Orphans pensions in 1935 and Childrens Allowances in 1944. Incidentally, the former title of Letter Carrier was changed to Postman with the introduction of the Parcel Post Service in 1883.

The network of post offices was established gradually depending on the population and the importance of the town or village.

The local Post Office at Kinvara was opened in 1833 as a Sub-Office to Ardrahan. About 1854 it became a sub-office of Oranmore. In 1899 it was a sub-office of Galway; in 1905 it was under Athenry and since 15th November 1909 it has become a sub-office of Galway. Records prior to 1880 are not available now, and it is necessary to rely on old Directories held by collectors and other sources for information on this period.

The following have held the appointment of Postmaster/Postmistress:-

1833	to 1843	John Burke
1844	to 1853	William Dann
1855	to ?	Thomas Fahy
22.08.1884	to 25.07.1906	Mrs Mary O'Donnell
17.09.1906	to 03.02.1908	Miss Margaret Brennan
01.05.1908	to 02.09.1915	Miss Annie Teresa Rice
03.09.1915	to 22.04.1919	Miss Mary Elizabeth Rice
01.04.1920	to 16.03.1922	John Phelan
24.05.1922	to 17.07.1961	Mrs Mary Phelan
17.07.1961	to present	Miss Frances Ryan

There is no actual record as to who held the early appointments. In a description of Dungory East townland in O'Donovan's Ordnance Survey notes, the authority quoted for the information given is John Burke, Postmaster, Kinvara. As the survey was carried out about 1835 to 1837, it would have coincided with the establishment of the Post Office, and it is assumed, therefore, that this John Burke held the first Postmaster appointment.

In the same survey in a description of the Glebe lands, the Revd. John Burke of Kicolgan is shown as the Incumbent. It is stated that 'the ground of a new church is laid out in this Glebe, and it is expected the building of it will commence in 1839. Prayers are read by the Incumbent every Sunday in the house of Wm. Dann, a linen draper in the town of Kinvara'. This, no doubt, is the same William Dann who held the Postmaster appointment from 1844 to 1853.



Paddy Joe Keane for 36 years as Postman - 1940-1976

The names of John Burke or William Dann are not shown in Griffith's Valuation lists of 1850, nor is it indicated where the Post Office was located or who held it then.



Paddy Phelan and Paddy Joe Connolly

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Thomas Fahy was the father of Francis Fahy, the poet. Francis, who was born in 1854, wrote that he left Kinvara in 1873. Since the family were there then his father is likely to have continued as Postmaster until 1884, but this cannot be definitely confirmed. He owned the premises now occupied by 'The Ould Plaid Shawl', and the Post Office was located there.

When Mrs O'Donnell and her niece, Margaret Brennan, held the appointment, it was located at the corner of Barrack Street/Main Street, which later became part of O'Grady's. Margaret Brennan was Postmistress for 1 1/2 years only. She died at an early age on 3.2.1908. Other members of the Brennan family were teachers at the Boys National School, Kinvara. Annie T. Rice was Postmistress at Burrin from 1902 until she transferred to Kinvara in 1908. She married Tom Haran in 1910. He was a National Teacher at Northampton. Her sister Mary Elizabeth Rice succeeded here as Postmistress from 1915 to 1919. During the Rice's tenure, the Post Office was located in the house now owned by Mrs Mary Shaughnessy on the Gort Road. Later it moved to the premises now occupied by the Kinvara Veterinary Drug Co. which was purchased from William Flatley.

John Phelan, who was appointed Postmaster in 1920, died on 16th March, 1922 aged 58 years. He was succeeded by his widow, Mary Phelan. She held the position until her retirement on 17th July, 1961. She died on 11th April, 1977 aged 93 years. In all, the Phelans held office for 41 years which was a great record of service to the community. During the Phelan's term of office the Post Office was located in the house at the fork of the Gort and Killina Roads where the hairdressing business 'Touch of Class' is now.

When Francie Ryan was appointed the office was located for two years in the Ryan home on the Gort Road (later owned by the Fahys). In 1963 it moved to its present location on Main Street in the premises formerly owned by the O'Halloran and Doyle families.

The year 1840 is an important one. The then Secretary to the Post Office - Rowland Hill - realised that the real cost of the postal service was not in carrying mails from one town to another but in collection and delivery. He considered that if people could be encouraged to exchange more letters the postal charges could be greatly reduced. He convinced the Government that his ideas were sound and on January 10th, 1840 it became possible to send a letter weighing not more than half an ounce anywhere in Britain and Ireland for a penny. This charge lasted up until 1918 although the weights varied over the years. Hill also introduced postage stamps, which meant that the sender now paid the postage. This replaced the practice of collecting the postage when the letter was delivered. In 1839 the Post Office had commissioned the design of a pre-paid envelope from a William Mulready for the new service. He was born in Ennis and a fee of 200 was paid to him.

Delivery of mails was not a feature of the early Post Office and the addressee had to collect his letter and pay the fee for conveyance. In 1832 the postage on a letter from Ardahan to Dublin was 10d (i.e. old pence). The introduction of the Penny Post ensured that delivery would be free. In 1863 the salary of the Postmaster at Kinvara was 6 per annum which included 3 for provision of free delivery. Some restricted rural deliveries had commenced throughout the country in 1831. By 1892 such deliveries were deemed financially viable if costs were covered by a revenue of one halfpenny for each letter. Anthony Trollope, the well known author, in his capacity as Surveyor and stationed at Banagher, was responsible for the considerable extension of the rural deliveries.

The first delivery provided in Kinvara was a 'village' delivery, and this commenced on 3.8.1894. The first Postman employed was Martin Traynor under the title of Village Deliverer - a part-time post with a wage of 1s/9d. per week. The first rural delivery was provided to Doorus house on 30.08.1898 on a restricted basis at first with Martin Traynor being switched to this route. The delivery was expanded later on 9.2.1904 to include more of the area, and he was upgraded and became an established full time rural Postman with a wage of 18s/0d a week. He died on 21.9.1906, aged 29 years.

Further deliveries commenced on a restricted basis at first, but extended gradually, as the number of letters increased, as follows:-

Northampton	on	02.02.1901
Killinny and Inishroo	on	26.05.1902
Killeenavarra	on	26.05.1902
Moy	on	02.01.1905
Aughinish	on	24.11.1907

The latter, which was provided from Burrin Post Office, ceased on 4.1.1913, when presumably the delivery came from Kinvara. Other Postmen employed over the years were:-

	From	To
James Coleman	07.05.1898	31.08.1907
P. Burke	04.04.1901	17.06.1903
Patrick Tierney	02.09.1901	19.01.1907
Michael Jos Stanton	26.05.1902	20.09.1950
(He retired on 20.09.1950 and died on 16.6.1966, aged 80 years)		
Fergus Cloran	18.06.1903	14.07.1907
Michael Leonard	11.04.1905	02.10.1906
Martin Cloran	02.01.1905	14.04.1907
Edward Davenport	04.04.1906	12.11.1910
Michael Traynor	03.10.1906	?
James Kelly	21.01.1907	16.09.1907
John Cloran	08.04.1907	22.09.1907
John Jordan (Came from Navan)		
	09.09.1907	04.01.1908
Mary Burke	23.09.1907	12.07.1908



Michael Joseph Stanton served longest as postman - 1901-1950. He also performed the first cycle delivery. Shown here in an earlier uniform with puttees.

Charles Flynn	13.07.1908	02.10.1909
Thomas Leonard	31.03.1910	?
Patrick Callaghan	10.04.1910	11.06.1939
(He was previously in Kilfinane and Kilmallock, Co. Limerick -he died on 11.6.1939, aged 58 years)		
John Woods	02.02.1913	30.12.1923
(He was a native of Murrough, Craggagh, and served there and at Moate before coming to Kinvara. He transferred to Galway in 1923).		
Thomas Shaughnessy	06.04.1913	20.04.1940
(He died on 7.7.1963, aged 73 years)		
Patrick Connolly	26.05.1939	09.10.1969
(He died on 9.10.1969, aged 56 years)		
Patrick Jos Keane	22.04.1940	05.02.1976
(He retired on 5.2.1976 and died on 14.07.87, aged 77 years)		
Patrick Phelan	30.04.1951	15.11.1977
(He retired on 15.11.1977)		
Batty Linnane	25.10.1976	Present
(He also performs delivery from Burrin P.O.)		
Albert Comyn	04.11.1977	Present

Most of the earlier Postmen were employed for very short periods. There is no record of when some of them ceased.

The earlier deliveries were all provided on foot with the Postman walking between 10 and 15 miles daily. The safety bicycle was invented and marked in 1885 with the pneumatic tyre arriving in 1889. Its introduction into the Post Office was inevitable. The first cycle delivery was on the Killeenavarra route. This commenced on 27.11.1905 and Michael Stanton, the Postman, was provided with an official bicycle and was paid an additional 1s/0d per week for cleaning it. His wage at the time was 7s/6d per week so the allowance was generous and no doubt welcome.

Surprisingly the use of bicycles was not extended to the other routes until much later. Cycle working commenced on the Ardnagno route on 3.2.1930 and on the Doorus route on 22.4.1940.

Three of the Postmen - Thomas Shaughnessy, Patrick Callaghan and John Woods had joined the Army and were absent on Army service during the First World War between 1914 and 1919. During their absences the frequency of delivery was reduced as a war retrenchment measure but on demobilisation the deliveries were revised to allow restoration to the original position.

Sunday deliveries which had commenced in 1914 in the town and vicinity because of the war retrenchment restricted weekday deliveries, were ceased in 1919.

Following the emergence of a separate Irish Post Office in 1922, revisions of the delivery duties took place and from 30.12.1923 the number of routes was reduced. John Woods who delivered to the Corranroo area was transferred to Galway. The frequency of delivery to some townlands was reduced to three days a week at first but this was increased to four days from 29.6.1947. The townlands affected were: Normangrove, Cappacashen, Cappaghmore, Gortnaglogh, Gortskeagh, Funshinbeg, Moy, Croosooha, Tawnagh, Mountscribe, Carrownamadra, Roo, Shanclogh, Leagh, Corranroo, Cartronrellick, Funshinmore and all the Doorus area as far as Aughinish.

Daily deliveries to all areas were introduced on 6.2.1956. The following townlands were transferred to the Burrin delivery area at the time: Roo, Shanclogh, Inishroo, Leagh, Cartronrellick, Funshinmore and Corranroo. Tarrea townland was transferred to Kilcolgan at the same time.

Motorisation of deliveries commenced on 13.10.1969 on the Doorus route and Paddy Phelan was the first motor driver. Motorisation of the entire delivery area was completed from 25.10.1976. Delivery on Saturday ceased on 5.4.1978 in order to give Postmen a day off. In the 82 years since they first commenced in 1894 the delivery system had evolved from walking to cycling and finally to motorisation.

The method of conveying the mails to and from Kinvara had varied greatly over the years. In the earlier days the mail would have been carried by 'Post Boys' on foot at first but later as road surfaces improved they provided their own horses and sometimes carts. There is no actual record of the earlier conveyances. It may have been from Ardrahan because it was its sub-office and later because the railway was there. There is a recollection that the mail was conveyed on contract from Ballyvaughan to Kilcolgan providing a delivery and collection service for all



Paddy Connelly outside Fahy's, Nogra

offices on the route. There it linked up with the Galway/Gort or Galway/Ennis Mail Car. The times of departure from Ballyvaughan and Kilcolgan varied. Generally, it left Kilcolgan at 2am and returned from Ballyvaughan at 5pm. At another time arrival time at Kilcolgan was 10pm.

About 1904-05 Mortimer Flanagan (Grandfather of Maura Mooney-Hynes, Postmistress at Ballyvaughan) had the contract using a horse and side-car. He employed Paddy Clancy from Ballyvaughan to drive. Later, John and Willie Irwin also from Ballyvaughan had the contract with Martin Moran from Ballyvaughan as driver. He was succeeded by Ms. O'Flaherty, garage owners of Galway. They employed Christopher St. George of Kilcolgan as driver. Ms. O'Flaherty also had the Galway/Gort mail contract with Andy Naughton - a native of Spiddal - as driver. Horses were kept and changed at St. George's, Kilcolgan.

The mails would arrive at Kinvara at about 4am and would be despatched in the afternoon at around 3pm. Holdups and robberies occurred on occasions. At one time 1000 approx. was taken from the mail bags. On 11.2.1926 the mail car was held up at Pollagh Cross at 3.30am and parcels containing jewellery, watches and cutlery were stolen. Charges were brought in connection with this raid and two men were given jail sentences.



Francie Ryan

The Post Office took over the running of the service on 1.2.1927 using its own motor mail van from Galway with a Postman as driver. This continued until the outbreak of the Second World War 1939-1945. On 9.8.1940 because of the shortage of petrol for vans, it was necessary to revert to a horse-drawn side car again between Ballyvaughan and Kinvara. John Flanagan, Ballyvaughan (son of Mortimer Flanagan) provided the service driving the horse himself. After the war, the Post Office mail van service was resumed. On 10.3.1958 the conveyance reverted again to a private contractor using his own van and Barney O'Donnell of Newcastle, Galway was appointed. On 10.4.1967 Gus McGann of Ballyvaughan had the contract. In June 1967 Sam Talbot took it over, and since 25/7/1977 Bill Sheridan is the Contractor.

The Telegraph service, i.e. the sending and receipt of telegrams had been developing before the letter delivery service. The Post Office acquired the Electric Telegraph Company in 1870 - prior to that it was a privately owned Company. In 1877 telegraph working commenced at Kinvara. Originally telegrams were transmitted on the Wheatstone system (or the 'ABC' system as it was sometimes called), by which an electric impulse propelled a needle along the letters of the alphabet on an apparatus. The call code for Kinvara was KJB. The charge for sending a telegram was one shilling (5 new pence) for 20 words. Porterage charges on delivery varied from 1d to 9d, depending on the distance involved. The Postmaster was paid 1d for each message dealt with. In 1877 the allowance paid was 6s/- a week, while in 1905 it was 4s/- a week. The decline, no doubt, was because of the advent of the letter deliveries in the intervening years.

The telephone was the latest of the services to develop. The National Telephone Company - a private Company - was set up in 1897. It was taken over by the Post Office in 1912. At first, only local calls were handled until trunk lines were installed in 1914. The exchange at Kinvara was opened on 12.11.1925 with a call office and one subscriber - the Garda Barracks. Development was slow at first, and by 1960 only five subscribers were connected as follows:-

- No. 2 Gardai
- No. 3 Doctor
- No. 4 Winkles Hotel
- No. 5 Michael Tully
- No. 7 Miko Fahy, Nogra

It was developed gradually after that and 71 subscribers were connected when it was converted to automatic working on 30.5.1981.

Providing a telephone service was an onerous task for Postmasters. As the number of subscribers increased the hours of service were extended also. In the later years these were from 8am to 10pm on week days and on Sundays and Bank Holidays from 9am to 10.30am and from 7pm to 9pm.

The village of Corranroo had its own Post Office at one time - Curranroo was the version of the name used. It was opened on 1.12.1902 and closed on 28.2.1917. The Postmaster was Thomas Healy and the office was located in the house now owned by the Burkes. Of interest is that the front of this house is in Co. Clare while the rear is in Co. Galway. The Postmaster's salary on appointment in 1902 was £6 per annum and this had risen to £16.7s at the time of closure. A delivery was provided from the office to the surrounding area. Thomas Healy and T. Darmody were employed as Allowance Messengers with a wage of 1s/- per week.

Apart from those serving at present and Paddy Phelan who is in retirement, all of those who served over the years have now gone to their reward. We must remember them with gratitude - the pioneers that they were. Of such people and traditions was the Post Office built.

The Post Office, first set up under the British Government, transferred



Mrs Mary Phelan was longest serving postmistress, having served for 39 years - 1922-1961.

to the new Irish Government in 1922 under the Department of Posts and Telegraphs, became a separate state sponsored Company - An Post - on January 1st, 1984. (Another stated sponsored Company - Telecom Eireann - has taken over the telephone system).

What is probably one of the oldest services in the world has been adapted to meet the changing times and no doubt will continue to evolve, as it has done, to meet the challenges of the future.

Jimmy O'Connor

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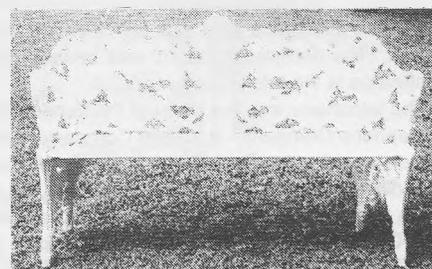
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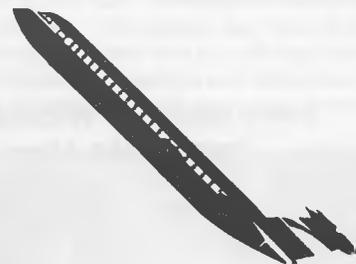
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# The Murder of the Loughnane Brothers

Friday, 26th November 1920 was dry, and the air had that invigorating crispness that so often makes late Autumn delightful. Earlier that morning Robert and Peter Glynn had brought their threshing machine to the farm of their neighbours in Shanaglish, the Loughnane's. Mrs. Loughnane was a widow, with six children, three sons and three daughters. Only two of the children were home that morning - Patrick and Harry, Pat, the eldest, was 29 years old. He was President of the local SinnFein Club and had often expressed his regret that he had been unable to take part in the events of 1916. A tall, rangy man, he was a popular player on the Beagh Hurling Team where his position was full-back. Harry, the youngest in the family, was 23 years old. He shared his brother's enthusiasms and acted as Secretary of the SinnFein Club, as well as being goal-keeper for the Beagh Club. Harry had ambitions to be a teacher, but he suffered from chronic ill-health and had had to abandon the idea. A big man, like Pat, he had a quieter, more introspective side, that expressed itself in religious devotion and reading.

As the work began, fourteen other neighbours from the area gathered to help the Glynn's and the two brothers. The seasonable weather made the labour more pleasant and the hours passed without incident, until around 3pm. Robert Glynn recalled years later what then happened:

'About 3pm Pat Loughnane was anxious that the men should have a break for half an hour but his mother said that it would be better to continue on and finish early, and then, all could enjoy themselves in comfort...on went the work. Shortly afterwards, a

lorry load of auxiliaries drove up. They jumped off the lorry and made straight for us...in a flash, I decided to run for my life. The 'Auxies' had the place surrounded and I ran into two at the first fence but they couldn't stop me...I had always been a fair runner and, as luck would have it, I had my light shoes on that day...I ran into four more of them at another ditch. I tore through them and though they fired at me, I got away without a scratch.'

Later that evening Robert returned to Loughnane's and learned from his brother that all the rest of the men had been lined up against a wall and a policeman from Tubber, who had arrived with the Auxiliaries, picked out Pat and Harry. One said to Pat - 'Bring with you the gun you had at Castledaly'. This was a reference to an ambush that had taken place not long before near Castledaly in which two policemen had been killed and a number disarmed. According to Peter Glynn, once the two brothers had been picked out, the other men were let go. Pat and Harry were bundled into the back of a lorry and disappeared down the road. The whole incident had taken perhaps an hour.

The lorry proceeded by way of Tubber, where Michael Carroll, in the late afternoon, was stripping a horse:

'...a lorry stopped about 30 yards away.

There were several Auxiliaries and two prisoners on the lorry. I recognized the two prisoners as Pat and Harry Loughnane. The Auxies rushed up and caught me. They asked me several questions and struck me repeatedly about the head and arms with their revolvers while searching me. I was refused time to change my coat and was held

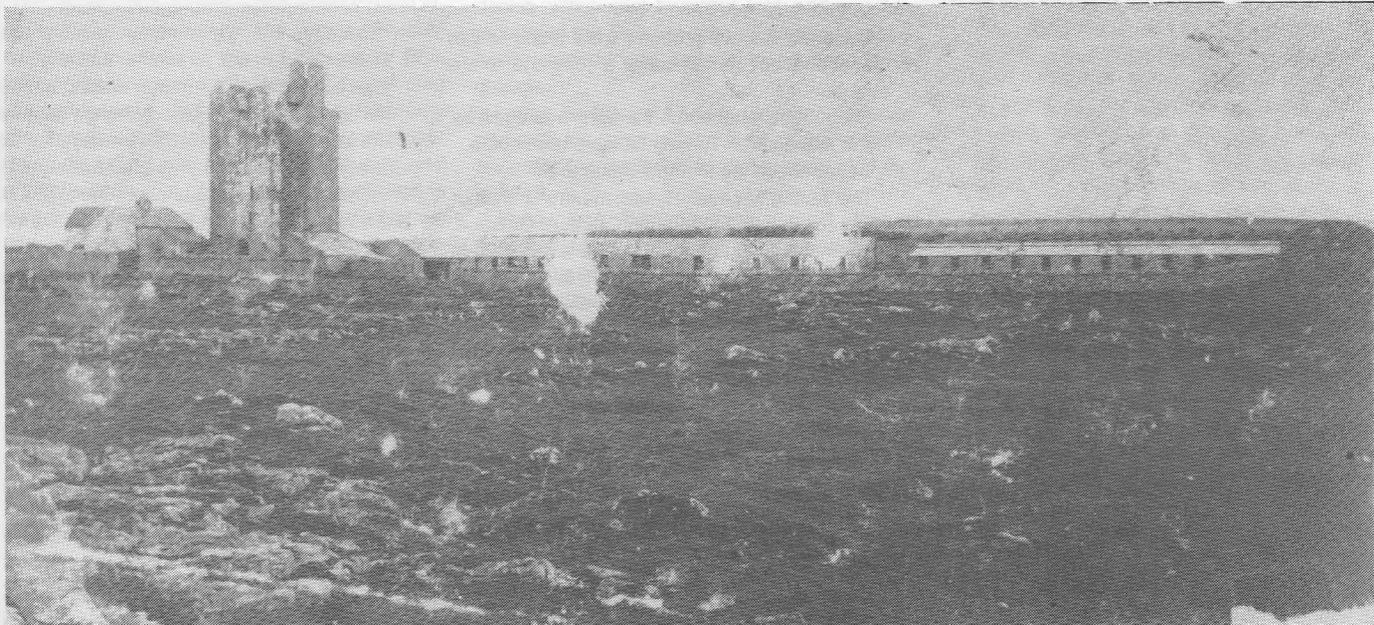
on the lorry while they searched the house. When they came out some who had remained on the lorry told me to jump off and run away. I refused to jump and just as the lorry started two of them caught me and swung me over the side onto the road.

As I was falling my coat got caught on a hook at the corner and I was dragged along suspended from the lorry for a distance of twenty yards. I was then caught and dragged back into the lorry. I was beaten on the head with revolvers...I was...beaten about the body and knocked down on the floor of the lorry and in this position I got several kicks. The other two prisoners were also beaten... I haven't a clear recollection of how I got to Gort Barracks...The police were at the door and as we passed in, one of them struck me and I fell under the table...The two Loughnanes were then beaten and knocked down where I lay...I was dragged into the lock-up and thrown on the floor with the Loughnanes. About a half an hour later we were taken out to the day-room and further questioned.

I was again beaten and put back into the cell. That was the last I saw of the Loughnanes.'

During a pause in the brutal interrogation, a young R.I.C. Constable, who had earlier tried to stop the beatings, told the brothers that their position was hopeless, that they were to be killed.

Eventually the Loughnanes were turned back over to the Auxiliaries. Before leaving Gort, one of them went into Coen's Shop and bought thirty-three yards of rope. The lorry then set out for Drumharsna Castle, half-way between Ardahan and Kinvara, where the Auxiliaries had established their headquarters. At some



Drumharsna Castle 1920

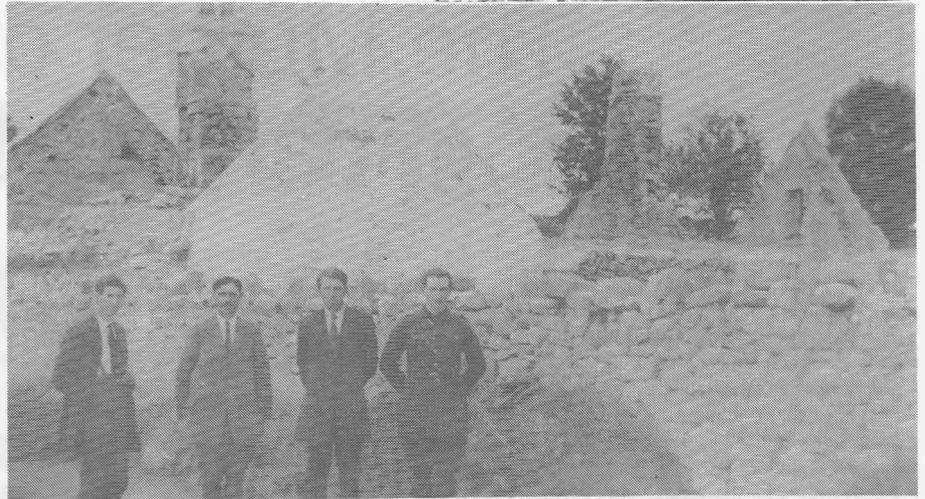
point along the journey, the lorry stopped and the brothers were pushed out. What happened next almost defies belief. Apparently two Auxiliaries positioned themselves on the bonnet, and thrusting their bayonets out, forced Pat and Harry to run in front of the moving lorry. When the two men were so exhausted they couldn't run any further, lengths of the rope purchased in Gort were tied around their chests, under their arms, and attached to the tail-piece of the lorry. That evening Pat Linnane and his mother were walking to their home at Shessy, near Crann Mor, and saw the two brothers, still alive, but covered in blood, lying on their backs behind the lorry. Other people actually saw the brothers being dragged over the rough-surfaced road to the Castle.

On Monday night, 29th November, a group of Auxiliaries called on old Mrs Loughnane to inform her that her sons had escaped. This was simply a method used to cover up the disappearance of men picked up for questioning. If they were later found dead, it could be claimed that they were shot escaping. Nora, a sister of Pat and Harry, had returned home when told about her brother's disappearance, and after the Auxiliaries had delivered their message, had begun to suspect the worse. Her subsequent behaviour was, under the circumstances, exceptionally brave. The neighbours and other witnesses were terrified to tell her what they knew in case of reprisals. Doggedly, Nora Loughnane persisted in her inquiries, even going to the police to ask for information. Eventually, the local people began, in whispers and furtive glances over their shoulders, to tell her what they knew.

What happened to the brothers after they were dragged along the road to Drumharsna Castle? It appears that after being further beaten and tortured at the Castle, they were taken as far as a wood owned by Moya Hynes at Carrowgarrif where they were shot. Four shots were reportedly heard. The Auxiliaries then drove off, leaving the brothers for dead. But it seems that Harry Loughnane at least was still alive early on Saturday morning. On Sunday night the Auxiliaries returned with a lorry, on to which they loaded the bodies. They took them to Owenbristy where an attempt was made to burn the bodies, and when this failed, they tried to bury them, but the ground was too hard and too rocky and this failed also. Finally, the bodies of Pat and Harry were thrown into a shallow, muddy pond nearby. To conceal the bodies, dirty oil was poured over them.

Michael 'Tally' Loughnane, a cousin, had been engaged in the search for information during the days after the Auxiliaries had paid their visit to Mrs Loughnane. By Saturday, 4th December, he had abandoned all hope that his cousins were still alive. That night he dreamt that he saw their bodies in the pond at Owenbristy. Greatly disturbed, after Mass the next morning in Gort, he contacted Michael and Willie Hynes, both members of the Volunteer Force from Kinvara, who were on the run, sleeping at night in a tent at Boherbue. 'Tally' told Michael Hynes about his dream:

'I thought Tally was daft but I told him to go and have a look in the pond and then come back to us. He was back in quick time, with a frightened look in his eyes, to tell us that



Hyne's House, Dungora, After it was burnt by the 'Tans'

some things like burnt bodies were there under the water which was covered with filthy oil. We went to the pond with him and, right enough, the burnt bodies were there. We went into Kinvara and borrowed an old horse-van from Pat Helebert. My father drove the van out and we brought the remains of the two boys, God rest them, back to Kinvara in it.

Our house, out-offices, hay and straw had been burnt the Monday night previous but a barn had escaped...and to it we took the bodies and laid them on sheets on the floor. Canon Fahy, God rest his soul, was P.P. here then. He came down to the barn and stayed with us all the time at the wake.'

The next day coffins were brought from Gort, but the bodies could not be placed within them until Nora Loughnane arrived to formally identify her brothers. Michael Hynes's account continues:

'Thomas O hEighin, an Irish teacher, took a photograph of the coffins and of the bodies in them...At midnight we brought them to Kinvara Church. Canon Fahy said prayers all the way. Next day, after Mass, the funeral left for Shanaglish.'

And there the two brothers were finally laid to rest. Michael Hynes adds a footnote to the events:

'Two nights afterwards the barn was burnt by the Auxiliaries. Tommy Quinn composed a ballad which we thought was good.'

The ballad Michael Hynes mentions was indeed composed by Tommie Quinn of Crushua. It seems appropriate to include a few lines from this ballad, composed in the passion of the

hour by one who witnessed the scenes he describes.

'Oh, God it was a dreadful sight  
To see their dull remains  
Lying side by side that winter night  
Their bodies black with flames.  
To an old house near Kinvara  
The funeral marched that day  
When a bodyguard of the I.R.A.  
Took the remains away.  
Our hearts were almost bursting  
And dead silence reigned over all  
As the bodies were slowly taken  
And laid upon the floor.'

The murder of the Loughnane brothers was only one of a number of atrocities that were committed by the Auxiliaries - better known, on account of their distinctive uniforms, as the 'Black and Tans'. Only a month before the Loughnanes were killed Mrs Ellen Quinn, holding a baby in her arms, was shot dead outside her home near Gort, by a soldier sitting in the back of a lorry that happened to pass down the road. W.B. Yeats, in Oxford, during this year, was told by Lady Gregory about the murder of Mrs Quinn; his response came in these lines from 'Nineteen Hundred and Nineteen' -

'Now days are dragon-ridden, the nightmare  
Rides upon sleep: a drunken soldiery  
Can leave the mother, murdered at her door,  
To crawl in her own blood, and go scot-free.'

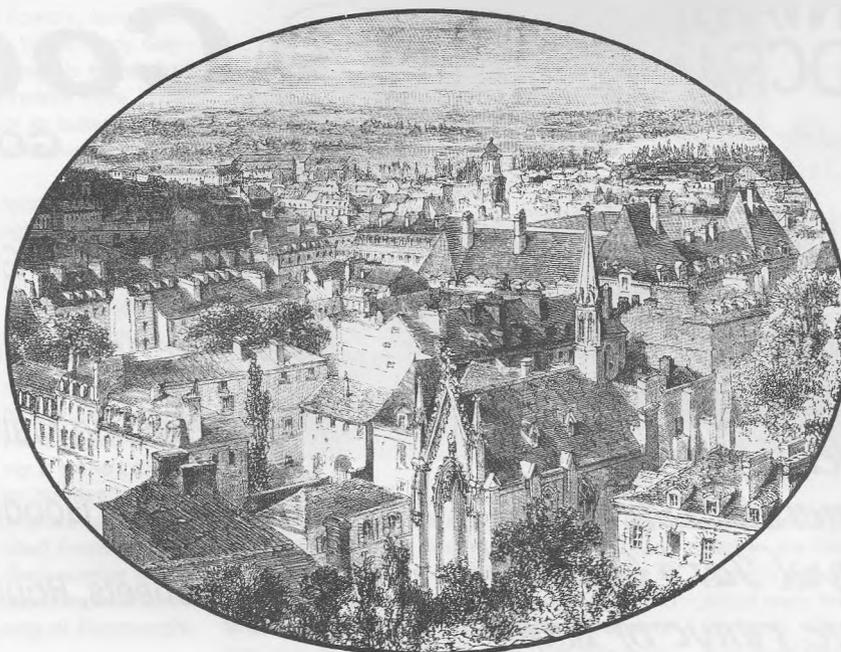
Those were indeed nightmare days for South Galway and Kinvara. The full history of that time, so far as Kinvara is concerned, has never been told. Perhaps in a future issue we will try to explore it further.

J.W. O'Connell



Liam Mellowes (?) delivers Oration at Loughnane Funeral

## Links Between France and Kinvara



Rennes the capital of Brittany

Kinvara, the small west coast village in which I live, has had strong links in the past with France, and these links have been revived in the present day through a twinning project.

Kinvara's main connection with France, in the past, was through the de Basterot family. It was in the home of Florimond Comte de Basterot in 1898 that plans were made to establish an Irish National Theatre, when Lady Augusta Gregory, W.B. Yeats and Edward Martyn met to discuss their dream. When Florimond died in 1904, three months before the Abbey Theatre opened its doors, the long line of this distinguished French family which had links with the Kinvara area since 1770 was ended.

This connection started when a lady from Duras, in Kinvara, ironically called Frances French, married a member of the Parliament of Bordeaux, Bartholomew de Basterot. Frances died soon afterwards while giving birth to their only son, James. Bartholomew got heavily into debt in France, owing over half a million pounds, and in 1790 a council of creditors was established to run his estate. In an attempt to restore his fortune he set off to Dublin in 1791 with the permission of his creditors in order to initiate proceedings to secure the French estate in Duras. Frances' brother, Patrick, had bequeathed the estate to his first cousin, Anne Donelane. The de Basterot family succeeded in their challenge to this will, though the litigation extended over several years, and they were at a decided disadvantage in the courts since they were Catholics and foreigners in an English governed Ireland. Bartholomew and James settled at Neptune Vale, Kinvara, but were forced to sell much of the new estate to such people as Robert Gregory and Mark Lynch to defray the legal expenses.

After Bartholomew's death his son, James, be-

came the new Comte de Basterot of Duras. He married an Irish girl, Annabella O'Brien, and built a beautiful mansion called Prospect to remind him of France. He also built the pier in Kinvara. A devout Catholic, it was James de Basterot who gave the site on which the present Parish Church is situated. Although admittedly not much over which to enthuse now, though it is still in use, in 1819, when it was built, it was one of the finest post penal churches in the country. James de Basterot was also a keen artist and gave some pictures to the church in the year it was built. One of the pictures depicts a Crucifixion scene with figures of St. John and the kneeling Magdalene. There is also a Madonna with a very beautiful face and a striking picture of the Resurrection. The pictures have been restored and are still to be seen in the church.

James de Basterot had a very good relationship with his tenants, and their suffering during the great famine troubled him greatly. He died in 1849.

James' son, Bartholomew, named after his grandfather, inherited the estate and title following the death of his father. Unlike his father, Bartholomew lived mainly in France working for the French diplomatic service, only returning to Duras on holidays and when he retired. In 1850 he was forced to sell yet more of his estate, this time to the notorious landlord, Comerford, from Galway City. Bartholomew was very interested in literature. He and his wife, Pauline Florimonde de Latour de Maubourg, were also very interested in geology, and the Burren area surrounding their home was a paradise for them for this reason, as it was for the French poet and novelist Paul Bourget, who was so enthralled by "la pierre de la Burren", which surrounded him during his stay at Prospect, that it influen-

ced a novel "Le Royaume de Pierre", which he later wrote. Bartholomew died while visiting Turin in 1888.

His son, Florimond, became the last Comte de Basterot following his father's death. He is still remembered by some of the very old people of the parish. He is also remembered at National level, for without him the Abbey Theatre might never have been founded. The estate which Florimond inherited had dwindled, portions having been sold off at various times. In 1866, when he was thirty years of age, he built the quaint pleasant looking villa which is now a youth hostel. In that house is a plaque which reads:

"It was in this house, then the property of Florimond Alfred Jaques Comte de Basterot, that Augusta Lady Gregory of Coole Park in the summer of 1898 met William Butler Yeats at the request of her neighbour Edward Martyn; and there began between them the conversation which led to the founding of the Abbey Theatre."

Also in the room is hung a framed print by W.B. Yeats which reads:

"John Synge, I and Augusta Gregory thought  
All that we did, all that we said or sang, Must  
come from contact with the soil, from that  
Contact, everything Anthaeuslike grew  
strong; We three alone in modern times had  
brought Everything down to that sole  
test again, Dream of the noble and the  
beggarman."

Yeats recalls how Florimond used to take great pleasure in showing people around his boyhood home of Prospect, which his father had been forced to sell. This was probably when Yeats became friendly with Florimond. The de Basterot friendship with Lady Gregory went back further. She wrote,

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"He had been my husband's friend and always in the summertime we used to go and spend at least one day with him."

She left a description of the place in which she said the garden was full of flowers, lavender, roses and carnations. When Yeats, Lady Gregory and Edward Martyn met at this house the original plan was to have the theatre there, in de Basterot's home. Because of its isolation, this was obviously not feasible. However, in Yeats's own words:

"In his garden, under his friendly eyes the Irish National Theatre, though not under that name, was born."

Over the door of his house is an inscription still to be seen today.

"Built by Florimond Compte de Basterot, 1866"

He died in this house on September 15th 1904, just three months before the Abbey Theatre opened its doors. He is buried in the little churchyard in Duras, only a stone's throw from his house. Shortly after his death, Lady Gregory received a sad, pompous black bordered document signed by titled French ladies and gentlemen expressing deep sorrow at his death. Lady Gregory contrasted the local people's sorrow with the pomposity of Florimond's French acquaintances.

"I do not know if the bearers of these high sounding names keep him in their memory - it may well be that they do for he was a friend not easily forgotten - but I know that there is still many a prayer said on the roads between Kinvara and Burren and Currenree and Ballindereen for him who never was without a bag of money to give in charity, and always had a heart for the poor."

So ended the de Basterot connection with Kinvara, but there are still reminders of their existence here - the foundations stones of Neptune Vale, the ruin of Prospect, Florimond's residence, Duras House. To these should be added the Abbey Theatre, the pier in Kinvara, the parish church and also a stone mausoleum in Parkmore Churchyard, on which is inscribed the names of all the de Basterots connected with Kinvara.



PARKMORE CHURCH

With Florimond's death Kinvara suffered a period of isolation. There no longer existed in the area a patron of the arts and literature who might attract the pioneers of the Anglo-Irish revival to the area. French was no longer head on the boroens or by the seashore, as the relation and friend who welcomed visitors from France was no more. That a rural area like Kinvara would re-establish vibrant links with France once more seemed most unlikely.



Breton Visitors This Summer

But, in 1983, Monsier Alan le Buhe from Locoal-Mendon, a small community about 30 kilometres from Lorient, asked Polig Monjarret to find a suitable community in Ireland with which to twin. Polig is the person who, more than anyone else, has promoted Breton-Irish friendship. He was familiar with Kinvara since he was acquainted with Danielle Clissman, a Breton who was then living here. Polig suggested to Alan le Buhe that he write to the Clissmans, which he did on December 21st, 1983. The letter was passed on to my father and he subsequently had a visit from Herve Matte, a Breton residing in Waterford, who was asked by Polig Monjarret to visit Kinvara to promote the twinning. My father was very enthusiastic and on 22nd March, 1984, he submitted a proposal to Kinvara Community Council that it investigate the feasibility of twinning with Locoal-Mendon. A five person sub-committee was given the task of going into the pros and cons of twinning. They reported back with a recommendation that contact be established with Locoal-Mendon with a view to twinning.

In the summer of 1984 Alan le Buhe, an adult education teacher, and Dr. Jean Luc Kerambraun came, with their wives, to spend a week in Kinvara. They showed slides of Locoal-Mendon to a large audience in Kinvara Community Centre, and also gave exhibitions of their singing and dancing.

In Easter 1985 a delegation of ten Kinvara people went to Locoal-Mendon. They came from all walks of life - two farmers, three teachers, two students, an artist, a nurse and a bus driver. This delegation of three males and seven females came back full of enthusiasm for the twinning project. In July, 1985, five students from Kinvara visited Locoal-Mendon, and Alan who had fallen in love with Kinvara, came with his two sons, aged seventeen and eighteen, to spend five weeks here.

In Easter 1986 a group of 48 Bretons visited us. In the summer of that year a group of fourteen students, in which I was included, visited Locoal-Mendon. It was my first time there and I enjoyed it immensely. Eight students from Locoal-Mendon visited Kinvara that summer also. As I write this, plans are going ahead for a full scale invasion of Brittany at Easter, during

which the Twinning Charter will be signed.

When the French people came to Kinvara they brought with them their music and dance. So proud were they of their culture that they put us to shame. One night during the Easter in which they were visiting Kinvara there was a concert for them, featuring traditional talent from Ireland and Brittany. After the concert, Alan (the instigator of the project) and his son, Herve, proceeded to sing a song to which we all danced. They sang that song for almost an hour without once stopping. Experiences like that typify their pride in their culture. Needless to say, we in Kinvara were shamed into taking more pride in our own traditions.

We were amazed, also, at how much they loved our music, and they brought home with them many recordings of Irish musicians. They got a commitment from some of our local musicians to go to Brittany to play at concerts there, which they did last October.

Wine and brandy form the basis of another link with France in days gone by and at the present time. In the past, around the time of the first of the de Basterots, Kinvara was the centre of a wine and brandy smuggling operation. In those days the liquor was landed at Delamaine Lodge, which was later to become the residence of the Parish Priest. Though little is known, so far, of the Delamaines, it has been established that there were a French family and that a branch of that family still exists in France where they are engaged in the manufacture of brandy. There is widely reputed to be a major store of wine and brandy hidden somewhere in the vicinity of Delamaine Lodge, which was also called Smugglers' Cove. In those days, presumably, only the gentry could have afforded that wine. Nowadays, however, many in Kinvara, through their association with Locoal-Mendon, are among the top wine experts in Galway, perhaps Ireland!

To my knowledge, no Irish adult and very few Irish teenagers have come home from Locoal-Mendon without a bottle or two (or more) of top quality French wine. It is significant that much of this wine is from Bordeaux, the native soil of the de Basterots.

Many Kinvara farmers who have land bordering the shore have oyster fishing rights. One oys-

ter fisherman from Kinvara has spent a month as the guest of one of the most progressive oyster farmers in France, who happens to live in Locoal-Mendon. The Irishman was amazed at the intensive cultivation of the oyster, and that hundreds of people could gain a livelihood from a resource that is in no way superior to what is in Kinvara Bay. It may be significant that this man has since set up his own company to develop an oyster farm near Kinvara, and that he has already established markets for his produce in France and other European countries. In future years I expect that many people, especially younger ones, will travel to Locoal-Mendon to gain expertise which their counterparts there

have. In return, the Kinvara oyster farmers will be able to offer to their French compatriots the opportunity to see the native oyster being cultivated in Galway Bay. This oyster has disappeared from French waters because of disease, and for this reason the Japanese oyster, which is hardier but not as palatable, was introduced. Hence, there is a ready market for the native oysters from Kinvara Bay.

Many other links with France are now being re-established. In days gone by French Cuisine was introduced to the Kinvara area by the Delamaines and the de Basterots. Today in many homes in Kinvara one is as likely to be offered Kugin-Aman or Far, as apple tart, and visitors to

Locoal-Mendon shouldn't be surprised to find Irish stew awaiting them!

The cultural and economic links are multifaceted. They include music, song, dance, farmwork, mariculture, sport, cuisine and language learning. Genuine bonds of friendship have been established.

When Bartholomew de Basterot came to our parish in 1791 he could not have foreseen the close links which would one day be established between his native country and the small farmers and oyster fishermen of Kinvara, on the edge of the Burren, in the south east corner of Galway Bay.

## Vive Kinvara et Vive Locoal-Mendon



Each Member of the Twinning Committees assisted in Planting the Tree

The report in 'The Connacht Tribune' in May of this year of the proceedings of the first leg of the twinning ceremonies uniting Kinvara with Locoal-Mendon - the 'away' game that focused attention on the visiting side - confined itself to a description of the events. Those things that never appear in print - the impressions, the friendships, the camaraderie, the emotions, the jokes, the music, the reactions, the colour, and the human interest aspects of that occasion - were the hidden twinning. These are the things that create the enduring bonds that will link our two communities in the years to come.

Twenty-five years ago, when the European Movement was finding its feet, the seeds of this twinning of communities were sown in very fertile soil - the boundless good will among Europeans spring from that idea was a source of hope that contrasted sharply with the hostile attitudes and suspicions of the past.

There are many similarities between Locoal-Mendon and Kinvara. They share a common Celtic heritage and both are imbued with a nationalism that has been nurtured in the shadow of an empire. Farming and oyster fishing are their principal occupations. There is one main town in each area, as well as satellite villages. Looking at last Easter's twinning from that level

a picture of kinship emerged. A definite tie-up was made, with on one side a commitment to carry out the programme of united towns and, on the other hand, to perpetuate genuine friendship. In very simple language, the purpose of the twinning - 'to encourage exchanges in the fields of cultural, touristic, social and economic affairs in the interests of the people of both communities' - was realised. These exchanges will enable us to view our own heritage with more confidence and will teach us the rules and reasoning of another culture. People of all ages will travel outside their own county to experience the reality that was described in their schoolbooks. Friendships will be made, and ideas will be picked up for use in every day work and living.

Two years ago my family and I visited Locoal-Mendon during a camping holiday in Brittany. On our return I attended a meeting in Kinvara where I was asked to speak about what I had seen in Locoal-Mendon. Two couples from Locoal-Mendon were present also and one of them took three slide-photographs during my remarks. During my stay in Locoal-Mendon this Easter I was shown these slides. Very interesting slides they were too. And certainly not because they fed my vanity - just the opposite! In

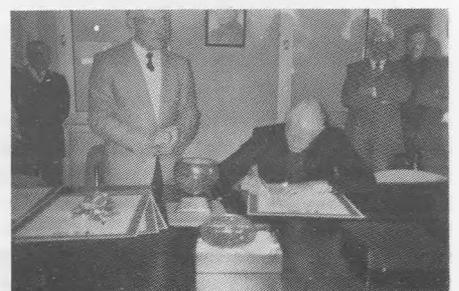
the first slide, one of the listeners was seen to be nodding off. In the next, the nodding-off was much more pronounced. And in the third slide, total sleep had descended!

I must hand it to the good people of Locoal-Mendon, not once did anyone laugh at the atrocious sentences I strung together in French. As I struggled with verbs in wrong tenses, feminine nouns with masculine articles, and phrases that came out very different to the correct ones, I got encouragement and assistance from everyone. In fact, the distinct impression given was that they were only too pleased to help out someone making the effort.

If you go to \*Coole Park's pleasure garden you will observe a row of trees beyond the summerhouse. A tree of this type which is a native of this country was ceremoniously planted in front of the Mairie (Town Hall) in Locoal-Mendon to mark the twinning occasion. My enquiry of the Secretary of the Mairie on Easter Monday as to



Admiring the Charter, M. Serge le Guogec, Stan MacEoin, Canon O'Connor, Tommie Corless and Marie Flatley



Signing the Accord of Friendship, Mayor Serge Le Guogec and Canon O'Connor



The Assembled Group Outside the Mairie After the Official Signing of the Twinning Charter

It was in the main hall of the Mairie that the twinning committees met to discuss the reciprocal visit of the Bretons in August 1988. And it was there that the main organizational differences between our two communities became clearer to me. The political system in Locoal-Mendon consists of a local power structure on top of which is the Mayor. There are local elections in Locoal-Mendon to elect representatives onto their Council and the Mayor is the Chairman. He has control of the responsibility for the spending of some 300,000 francs in public money in the area. He has a fine new town hall or Mairie and a full-time staff. The Mayor, M. Serge le Gougnec, is a farmer and is in his office at specified times each day during his tenure. Their twinning-committee, like ours, is a sub-committee of their Council.

Some of the party from Kinvara were so impressed by the hospitality shown them that they feared they could never quite match it. Others, however, were confident that Kinvara/New Quay/Ballindereen would rise to the occasion in August 1988 and make the second twinning ceremony as memorable as could be. These complimentary views are the seeds of the success of the 'home' game next year.

John Flatley

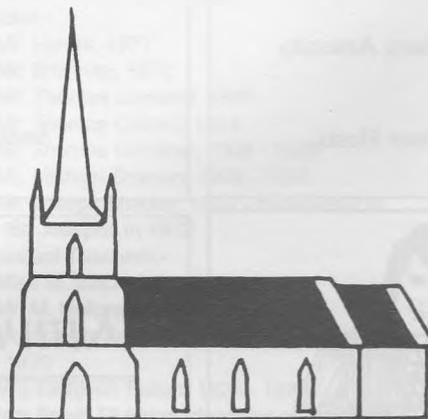
the description of that tree elicited the following reply:

'Genre d'artes de la famille des coniferes. Piece triangulaire de charpente, sur laquelle on pose des lampions aux jours d'illumination. Instrument ou l'on met les bouteilles pour les faire egoutter.'

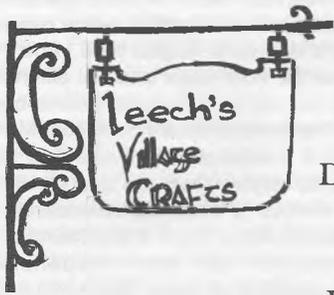
Locoal-Mendon has since Easter Monday a Sraid a 'Phuca second to none, because the street on which their Mairie is situated was officially named Rue de Kinvara. Be on the lookout for photographs beneath that sign as well as beside the ornate twinning signs at the entrances to the town.

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# A Look Back at Three Schools:

## Kinvara Boys School

Kinvara N.S. 15th Nov., 1949

Kinvara National School holds the proud distinction of being one of the oldest national schools in Ireland, certainly the oldest in South Galway. For 132 years, nearly five generations have passed through its doors. Kinvara can be proud of this establishment, which offered a high standard of education to its pupils from its opening in 1840 to its closing in 1972.

The building stands a half-mile west of the village of Kinvara, an interesting two storey structure, locally known as "The National". The old wall plaque reads - Kinvara National School 1840.

A new modern school building was required to replace the old one, but that never materialized.

The school was closed on Friday, July 7th, 1972 as part of an amalgamation scheme of the Dept. of Education. Mr. Joseph Muldoon was principal at the time, having served there since 1933. Mrs Grainne Byrne was assistant teacher there since 1965. The pupils and teachers transferred to St. Josephs Girls N.S. in the first stage of the amalgamation plan. The building was taken over by Kinvara Co-Op and used as a boat building centre. Later on, it was sold to a private company, Topper Irl. Ltd., specialists in flotation.

School records and registers are available from 1862. The school building cost 134 and 26 was spent on school furniture. In the early years, the school accepted boys and girls, but, by 1862, it was solely a male establishment. The first pupils listed in the earliest registers available are:

Bernard Healy, Kinvara, registered in 1862 - occupation of parents, shopkeeper.

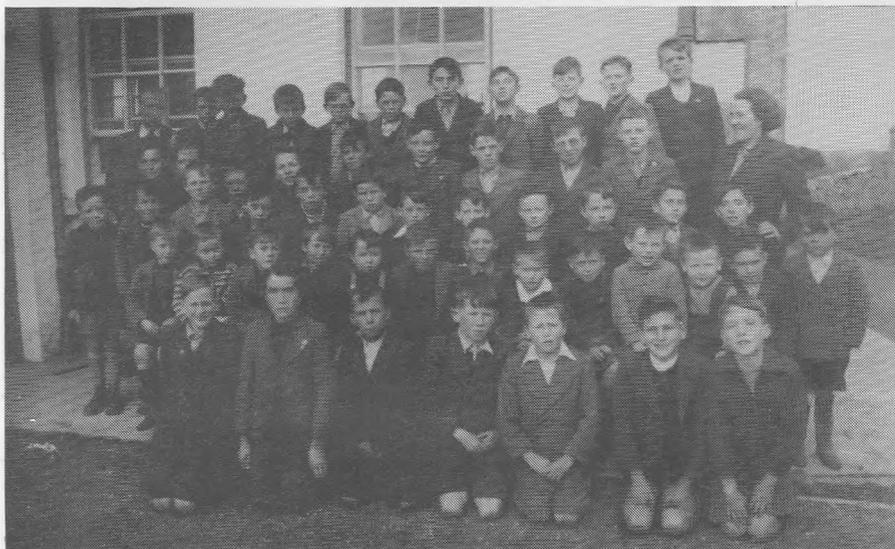
Thomas Donoghue, Kinvara, registered in 1864 - also the son of a shopkeeper.

Thomas Madden, Coarse Park, 1864 - his father was a limeburner.

Other occupations of the time included weaver, dyer, baker, shepherd, carman, boatman, postmaster, policeman, butcher, tailor, blacksmith and farmer.

For the majority of pupils in the area at the time, their primary education was the only formal school education they were to receive to equip them for life. Sadly, for most, emigration faced them after leaving school, and its a tribute to their teachers down through the years, that these students who settled in many parts of the world, became citizens of whom Kinvara could be proud.

The first teacher in Kinvara N.S. was Mr. Daniel Brennan, appointed on April 13th, 1841. His son, Michael, succeeded him in 1854. Like his father, Michael was a competent teacher. In 1856 he was paid extra salary to teach Agricultural Science as a subject in the school. He taught this subject extremely well, as the records show. Other subjects taught in the school at that time included Reading, Writing, Grammar, Spelling, Geography, Book-keeping and Catechism.



Back Row L-R:

Mr Joseph Muldoon (Principal), P. Kavanagh, M. Whelan, J.P. Hanlon, M. Picker, W.J. Kelly, M. Silke, F. Kelly, M. Connolly, J. Flatley, J. McInerney, Mrs S. Muldoon (Assistant)

2nd Row L-R:

D. Hanlon, J. Corless, M. Curtin, E. Muldoon, J. Curtin, S. Picker, S. Brogan, M. Connolly, A. Byrne

3rd Row L-R:

F. Flatley, M. Keane, M. Quinn, M. Connolly, P. Keane, P. Sullivan, P. Shaughnessy, J. Shaughnessy, P. O'Loughlin, C. Muldoon, M. Linnane, J. Connolly, P. Corless

4th Row L-R:

K. Muldoon, J. Linnane, P. Hanlon, J.P. Ward, F. Muldoon, P. Kelly, B. Curtin, M. Forde, S. Keane, J. Nolan, B. Nolan, K. McInerney

Front Row L-R:

V. Byene, P.J. Connolly, M. Donoghue, P. Flatley, J. Curtin, P.J. Forde, B. Muldoon

Other teachers who served in the school included:-

Mr. Hynes, 1871

Mr. Brennan, 1872

Mr. Thomas Leonard, 1890

Mr. Thomas Clifford, 1894

Mr. Thomas Gardinar, 1903 - 1929

Mr. Michael Stanton, 1929 - 1932

Mr. Joseph Muldon, 1933 - transferred to St. Josephs in 1972

Assistant Teachers:-

Miss M. Blackburne, 1841

Mr. M. Halloran, 1854

Mr. Francis Fahy (Poet and Writer), 1869 - 1872

Mrs Kathleen Fallon, 1926 - 1929

Mrs Sarah Muldoon (daughter of Thomas Gardiner and wife of Joseph Muldoon),

1929 until her death in 1957.

Miss Margaret O'Shaughnessy, 1957 - 1965

Mrs Grainne Byrne, 1965 - 1972 - transferred to St. Josephs in 1972 and still teaches there.

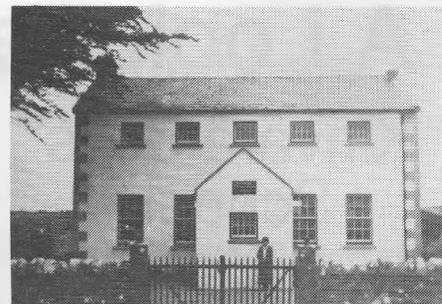
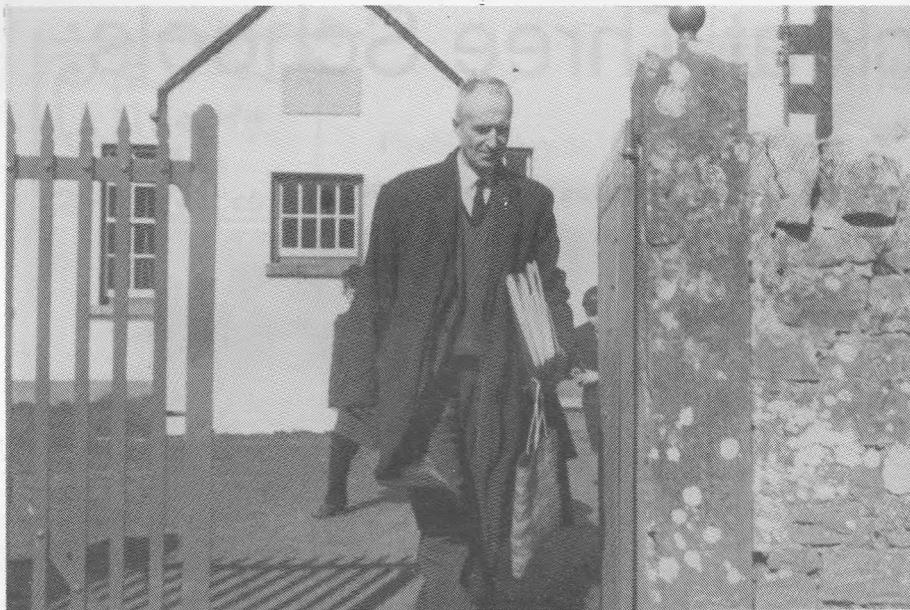
Mr. Joseph Muldoon retired in 1975 and is an active member of the local community. Mrs Kathleen Fallon, a gracious lady, is now living in

Dublin and has vivid memories of her happy years in Kinvara.

For the hundreds of boys who have pass through the school over the years and especially those who frequently pass by the way now, it is sad to see their "alma mater" is no longer the educational institution with which they were closely associated; however, the two-storey building looks the same from the outside; the playground, while appearing smaller, is still the same, although showing evidence of a new type of industry. Times have changed and we must progress with the times; but can you call the Dept. of Education's policy of closing small rural schools real progress?

Maura Mongan

Note: The spelling of the word Kinvara changed from having 2 "r's" (Kinvarra) in 1890 to the present form. On the old wall plaque, the spelling of Kinvara is with one "r". The school was 50 years old in 1890. Was the plaque erected in 1890?



Kinvara N.S. in the early 1930's  
Mrs Sarah Muldoon - Teacher

A Historic Day: July 7th 1972  
Joseph Muldoon with Roll Books & Register  
dating back to 1862 walks through the gates

## Killina N.S.



Killina School Christmas 1963

Killina N.S. now a private residence was for 86 years a centre of education in the Killina area. It was the last of the primary schools to be established in the parish of Kinvara.

Kinvara Boys N.S. established in 1840

Doorus N.S. established in 1852

Northampton N.S. established in 1853

Convent of Mercy N.S. established in 1878

Killina N.S. established in 1886

A hedge school was in operation in Killina from 1835 and had ceased to operate some time before 1868 when the P.P. of Kinvara, Fr. John Maloney obtained a temporary dwelling to be used as a school until the present building was erected in 1885.

School registers are available only from 1909. The first pupils recorded in the register in 1909 are:

Bridge Daly - Cappacashreen  
Sara Neylon - Boherbee  
Katie O'Shaughnessy - Killina  
Mary A. Kavanagh - Newtown  
Mary Lynch - Ballybuck  
Margaret Forde - Killina  
Peter O'Dea - Newtown

Down through the years the area produced students of a very high intellectual quality. Past students have achieved great successes in the field of education, business, technology and agriculture. The area has also made its own contribution to the priesthood, brotherhood

and sisterhood.

On the sportsfield, the pupils of Killina had their successes too. The senior boys won the County Championship in 7-a-side hurling in 1965, '66 and '67. With the help of the athletic girls of the school, they won the Parish I.F.A. Cup, three years in a row. Considering that the

school had the lowest enrolment of all Parish schools at the time, this was a great achievement.

Records are not locally available of all the teachers who taught in Killina N.S. We know that Mr. Haren taught there and also in Northampton N.S.

Happy Memories of the Late 1950's, Killina N.S.



PHOTO I

Back Row L-R:  
John Nilan, Bob Connolly, Pauline Flaherty, Ann Flaherty, Phil Flaherty, Paraic Nilan, Paddy J. Fallon

Centre Row L-R:  
Laurence Shaughnessy, Mary Fallon, Eileen Shaughnessy, Mary Connolly, Teresa Connolly, Teresa Connolly, Mattie J. Nilan, Liam Connolly

Front Row L-R:  
Thomas Nilan, Marty Fallon, Michael Flaherty, Patsy Forde, Laurence Shaughnessy, Martin Flaherty

PHOTO II

Back Row L-R:  
Mattie Shaughnessy, Mary Burke, Chris Fallon, Michael Nilan, Ann Connolly, Paddy Flaherty, Patricia Connolly, Bridget Burke, Liam Kavanagh

Front Row L-R:  
Colm Nilan, Francis Fallon, Anthony Connolly, Gerard Nilan, Michael Kavanagh

On her own: Catherine Nilan

Mrs O'Dea (mother of John J. O'Dea, Kinvara) from 1894 - 1914.  
 Mrs M. Griffin (nee Davenport) from 1914 until retirement.  
 Mrs Kerins (nee Ryan) for some years around 1927  
 Mrs Bridie Conroy (nee Quinn) a native of Doo-ras and now teaching in Craughwell N.S. - 1951 to 1962  
 Mrs Matilda Leech, principal of Northampton N.S. - 1963 - 1972  
 Mrs Maura Mongan (nee Muldoon) Northampton N.S. 1957 - 1972

Last Group Photograph of Killina N.S.



In the early 70's the school going population declined and the school was reduced to a one-teacher school. By mutual agreement with parents, teachers and Dept. of Education, the school was amalgamated with St. Josephs, Kinvara. In December 1972, Killina N.S. closed its doors. The last pupils to be registered were Marian Waites, Carmel Connors, Matthew Connors, Noel Tannian and Enda Mongan.

In January 1973 Mrs Leech and her band of pupils joining the Josephs N.S. centre, thus ending a century of education in Killina N.S.

Maura Mongan

Back Row L-R:

Mrs Maura Mongon (Assistant), Rita Connors, Catherine Kavanagh, Geraldine Connors, Susanne Connors, Ann Nilan, Ann Burke (Holding IFA Cup), Francis Hynes, Pat Burke, Patrick Hynes, Mrs Leech (Principal)

Centre Row L-R:

Monica Kavanagh, Breeda Connors, Ann Connors, Carmel Connors, Mary Leech, John Waites, Albert Connors, Joseph Quinn, William Hynes, Brendan Connors.

Front Row L-R:

Marian Waites, Thomas Connors, Noel Tannian, Michael Leech, Michael Connors, Enda Mongon, Brendan Leech, Matthew Connors.

## Kinvara Agricultural School

A very interesting piece of history recently came to light, namely that there was a Model Farm attached to Kinvara (Old) Boys National School between 1856-1876. The Model Farm consisted of a dwelling house, barn and cowhouse plus 5 acres of arable land and 7 acres pasture.

The teacher, Mr. Brennan, who was educated in Dublin, taught agricultural theory to third and fourth class and the practical aspects of farming were demonstrated on the Model Farm. Mr. Brennan received £5 per annum in additional salary for Agricultural Instruction. The extra salary did not even cover the rent of £1.0.0. per acre, on the land, paid by the teacher. However, Agricultural Free stock was provided for the farm.

In the last century, Kinvara and Lough Cutra were the only schools in South Galway which were referred to as ordinary Agricultural National Schools.

Mr. Brogan, an Agricultural Inspector visited the school on 42 different occasions between 1858 and 1875. There were usually two visits per year. These visits could be any month of the year. This begs the question of annual holidays!! March was the only month that there was no recorded visit. The number of pupils recorded at time of inspection ranged from 3 to 28. The length of inspection was 2 1/2 hours. One inspection was from 3.00pm to 5.30pm. He wrote observations and suggestions into a type of roll book (see illustration). This book was for the special information of the Manager, Teacher and Boards Officer and not for the public generally.

Cattle and sheep were kept. The cattle were described as the "common kinds in fair condition." The crops grown were potatoes, wheat, barley, oats, mangels, turnips, rape and vetches.

The Agricultural Theory Books used in the school were:

1. Johnston Agricultural Chemistry
2. Agricultural Class Book
3. Murphy's Agricultural Instruction

Mr. Brogan advised the pupils that "the first step towards improvement is to become fully sensible from errors."

The objective of the agricultural education was that the students would be taught good farm management practices and skills. Great emphasis was placed on the proper storage of farmyard manure and the adop-

tions of a five course rotation for the fields, e.g.

	Field No 1	Field No 2	Field No 3
1868		Green Crops	Potatoes
1869	Grass 1st year	Grain with seed	Mangel or turnips
1870	Grass 2nd year	Grass 1st year	Grain or grass seeds
1871	Oats	Grass 2nd year	Grass cutting
1872	Green crops	Oats	Grass
1873	Grain & seeds		

In 1874 Mr. Brogan suggested to adopt a seven course rotation, e.v. years 1, 2, 3 grass, 4 potatoes, 5 grain, 6 turnips, 7 barley and grass seeds. This suggestion was not put into practice.

Economic returns were given for the years 1867 to 1874.

	Profit			Loss		
	£	s	d	£	s	d
1867	3	14	5			
1868	6	13	5 1/2			
1869	6	14	11			
1870	8	7	7			
1871	8	18	4			
1872	17	3	8 1/2			
1873	11	14	9			
1874				6	17	6

These profits seem substantial from such a small acreage.

Some interesting observations by Mr. Brogan in connection with his visit were:-

a) On 8th December, 1859, there were only 7 pupils present "...in consequence of the severity of the day."

b) On 10th day October, 1860 only 3 pupils "because it was Saturday and the hurry of the harvest operations not being yet over."

c) 18th August, 1860 he wrote "I have been very well satisfied with the progress and intelligence of the pupils whom I examined in the Agricultural class."

d) Drougths in 1868, 69, 71 affected the crops and grass. The potato crops failed in the years 1861 and turnips failed in 1871 because the latter crop had not sufficient manure. The turnip cros was very successful in 1862.

e) In 1872 the Model Farm had great difficulty at procuring hired labour.

Mr. Brogan 'listed the more prominent errors of Irish Husbandry'.

1st - Erecting and keepign in repair useless internal fences thereby making land and labour.

2nd - Not remedying the natural defects of inferior soils such as wetness, stiffness, shallowness, etc., and not reclaiming the waste portions of their holdings.

3rd - Not procuring and using the most improved farm implements, and thereby losing immensely more in the extra labour entailed by the use of bad implements and the imperfect manner in which they perform their work, than the price of the most improved implements would amount to.

4th - Not following any regular system or rotation of cropping.

5th - Not growing a fair proportion of winter or "stolen crops" every year so as to ensure a sufficient supply of cattle food in the month of April and May when such is generally very deficient.

6th - Not housefeeding their cattle so as to ensure an adequate supply

of farmyard manure and to obtain the largest amount of produce from their land.

7th - Not carefully and skillfully managing their farmyard manure so as to prevent the waste of its most useful ingredients.

8th - Sowing grain crops too thickly and thereby not only wasting much seed but rendering the produce light and of inferior quality.

9th - Not attending properly to the perfect "after culture" cleaning, thinning, and loosening and pulverising the soil of their "Green Crops".

10th - Not cutting their grain and grass (hay) crops sufficiently early, when they contain the largest proportion of soluble nutritive matter, but permitting them to grow till the grain becomes deteriorated or shed and the grass becomes dry, sapless and useless.

11th - Wasting labour and also wasting the produce by too much exposure to the weather in the saving of grain and grass crops especially by the senseless practice of making hay stacks or cocks in the field before drawing to the haggard.

12th - Keeping an inferior description of livestock and not attending to the improvement of their farm animals by breeding only from the best dams and sires and by good treatment as to feeding, housing, cleanliness, ventilation, etc.

I ask, how many of the above errors are still practiced in the area in 1987?

Michael O'Sullivan

28 Clonlara (Clonlara) Agricultural National School, County Galway

OBSERVATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS OF AGRICULTURAL INSPECTOR.

Inspected from 10 1/2 o'clock, until 1 1/4 o'clock, 26<sup>th</sup> day of January 1864

Mr Brogan Agricultural Inspector.

Agricultural Pupils Present—I. Boarders \_\_\_\_\_; II. Industrial Class—paid Locally \_\_\_\_\_ by Board \_\_\_\_\_;

III. Ordinary Pupils (not included in foregoing) 24.

Agricultural Inspector, and not for the Public generally.	Agricultural Instruction.		Farm Accounts.	<i>Accurately kept - The Balance Sheet for the past year shows a gain of £6.13.5 1/2</i>	
	Practical.	<i>Petty fair &amp; sufficient</i>			
	Theoretical.	<i>Do. Do.</i>			
Supply of Agricultural Books, &c.		Domestic Apartments.	Class of Literary Department to which Agricultural Pupils belong.	<i>In middling order. Vard not sufficiently clean.</i>	
Condition - <i>Good order</i> <i>Now read New Agr. Class book, p 26</i>					
Mode of Culture, &c.					
Farm Management—Rotation, &c.		<i>Rotation. Four courses shift</i>		<i>Vard 9 } Val 24.          15 }</i>	
Mode of Culture, &c.		<i>Culture - Fairly advanced &amp; efficient</i>			
Mode of Culture, &c.		<i>Crops - Some not so</i>			

# THE OMECOMING

I have difficulty in recognising my daughter Kathy as I stand on tiptoes, craning my neck to get a view of the passengers from her flight milling into the enclosed baggage area of the arrivals lounge. At first I think that she must have missed her flight, and I realise that I'm not just thinking it. I'm hoping it. The realisation shows me how I have been dreading her return. When I finally do recognize her, I realise that her return is going to be far worse than I had anticipated.

While away, she has shaved off most of her hair. One section has been left to form a thin plait which dangles forwards over her left eye and is secured by an elasticated ring of what look like red beads, though it is difficult to be sure from this distance. I find myself wondering how on earth I am going to bring her to lunch with her grandmother (whose opinions have grown sharper and less tolerant with the passing years and whose appreciation of Kathy has long since dissipated).

Kathy's face, in the height of summer, so far as I can see, is painted a luminous white (though the luminosity may be exaggerated by the very bright lights which shine overhead). She is standing with her arm linked into that of a man who wears a beard and small, very pointed shoes. She is taller than he is. I am annoyed because I am not expecting a man. She has not told me that there is another man. I wave at her through the locked glass doors as she waits to collect her suitcases from the crawling belt of luggage, and she twiddles her fingers back at me; then turns away. She speaks to her friend and points towards me. He looks at me and I smile as befits the mother of his girl-friend, but he has looked away again before he notices and the smile is wasted.

The young man is called Winchy. His real name is William but this he has eschewed in favour of something more winsome. He says he finds William too redolent of Scott Fitzgerald and long scarves. We are carrying luggage out to the car park while he talks and I nod and say that I see what he means, since I have only just met him, and hardly wish to begin with an argument. Besides, I seem to have picked up the heaviest suitcase and I am too puffed to speak. I can't precisely recall Scott Fitzgerald's novels, but the name William does not ring a bell and I make a mental note that I must check him out.

Winchy seems to be much the same as all the others. Apart from the American intonations there is nothing specific to single him out. He plays the piano, but then most of them played something. Frank used to play the violin (quite well) and even Roddy played the recorder (appallingly). Kathy says that they sometimes try duets, though he is far more advanced than she is. We have a piano at home on which Kathy struggled half-heartedly as a child. I remember I was encouraging for a time, but then I lost heart myself because she never grew enthusiastic. It takes love, it seems.

'I've never been to Ireland before,' Winchy says as we drive back towards Dublin.

He is sitting in the back of the car, but it hardly seems like it as he has both arms draped over Kathy's shoulders and one hand is playing with the red beads around her plait, while the other holds her hand. His head is pressed against hers, obliterating the view through the rear-view mirror. I feel very crowded.

'I don't even have an Irish relative. My ancestors are all Italian.' Which explains the lack of height. And even the pointed shoes? But I mustn't be catty. He has spent a great deal of money to come over here for a holiday with my daughter. At least, I suppose he has come for no more than a holiday. I take a quick look sideways and see to my relief that Kathy wears no rings on her fingers. Not that rings would mean anything either way, but it is something.

She has been in the States for six months and in that six months has only written to me on two occasions, though she did ring me once, for my birthday, which touched me, even though she had mis-calculated the time difference and I was woken at three o'clock in the morning.

I wish she had warned me about her hair. I find her appearance such a shock. I can't understand why she should deliberately have marred her looks. I haven't mentioned it to her, because I can't think what I can possibly say that won't sound either critical or hypocritical. When I hugged her in the arrivals lounge at the airport, my face was prickled by the stubble of hair which is bristling like the beginnings of a beard all over her head. I notice that she scratches her scalp quite a lot, and I remember, from childbirth, that greshly growing hair tickles. Perhaps she is going to allow it to grow back to normal. Then I begin to worry that the hair will have changed colour. She has, or had, the most beautiful hair. A burnished patina of gold fused with red.

It is still only breakfast time when we arrive home. I have laid in rashers especially, but neither of them want more than toast and coffee. Winchy says they ate trash throughout the flight, because they couldn't sleep. They were in the front seats, right under the film screen, so that they couldn't see the picture, but were kept awake by the sound. He leans on the table and says to Kathy that he needs to clean his teeth.

I have made new covers for the chairs in the sitting-room and curtains to match and Kathy is not pleased. She changes herself dramatically, harshly, but she likes her background to remain the same. 'And look, the cat has ruined one of the covers already.' It is true. Hundreds of threads have been pulled from the flowered material and even as we speak, the cat prowls into the room and caresses itself against my legs. Its hairs cling to my stockings and Kathy curls her lip. She hates the cat. I bought the cat the first time Kathy left home and she came back and felt usurped.

I tell them that we are having lunch in town with Kathy's grandmother and Winchy says he'll sleep for a couple of hours. I show him into Kathy's bedroom, where there are two beds. 'You can use Kathy's bed,' I say, and I turn back the duvet for him before leaving the room.

'And where do you want to sleep?' I ask Kathy. She just gives me a look without bothering to answer. 'Well, do you like him?' she asks and she eyes me accusingly. She is sprawled out in the bigger armchair, with a second cup of coffee clasped in her hands. She keeps yawning and the sight of her doing that makes me want to yawn myself. I suppress it and my eyes water. I was late to bed the night before and up too early this morning. I evade the question by asking how they met.

'At a gig.' She says no more. I look at her, wondering did she still have her hair then, but I don't dare to ask.

'Are you home to say?' She shrugs. 'It depends on Winchy.' Winchy comes downstairs, rubbing his eyes sulkily. He is too tired to sleep. I give him another cup of coffee.

No one would employ Kathy now. Why, even some of her old friends would shun her. Roddy (who used to play the recorder so badly) wouldn't be seen dead with her nowadays. I met his mother a few weeks ago and she says that he has really matured in the last couple of years. He has joined a firm of accountants and passed his initial exam the first time round.

Winchy says he works part-time for a recording company. 'Making discs, you know,' he says and he winds his index finger round in circles to denote the spinning of a record. 'And how long do you have over here?' He is just as vague as Kathy.

'I think this is more an area of impulses,' and Kathy nods agreement.

There is lots of hot water, so I suggest that they both take showers to freshen themselves up.

Kathy appears after her shower, wearing a multi-coloured, multi-striped dress, which seems to be scarcely longer than a tee-shirt. Her legs, admittedly, look beautiful. An even, golden brown from thigh to toe, and her legs, too, are shaved. Then Winchy appears and I realise that Kathy is really wearing a tee-shirt. A man's tee-shirt, because Winchy is wearing an identical shirt himself, over his jeans. Again I refrain from comment. I consider ringing my mother to cancel lunch, because my nerve is going, but I realise that cancelling lunch will only raise my mother's curiosity.

Winchy falls asleep in the car as we drive into town and wakes with a jerk as we stop suddenly at the canal traffic lights. He is sitting in the front this time, supposedly viewing the sights and I catch sight of him blinking and making faces to stretch the skin below his eyes. He attempts to take an interest in his surroundings and I point out the Georgian architecture and the onslaught of glass buildings. I even drive in a loop so that he can be shown Trinity College and the Bank of Ireland. Traffic is heavy, and I point them out with quickly gesturing hands and leave him to work out which is which. Kathy is silent in the back of the car and when I look into the mirror, I see that she too has fallen asleep. Her head looks so naked. Like that of an outsize baby and the sight of it makes me shudder, and I look quickly back into the traffic before I lose concentration.

I have a reserved parking space beneath our office block, towards which I am heading. I am a secretary. Well, they call me a personal assistant, which entitles me to more money, but basically my duties are secretarial. I have taken the day off work to meet Kathy (for which she hasn't even thanked me) and tomorrow will therefore be a heavy day, with a double amount of post, and John, my boss, will be regretting his kindness in having allowed me the free time and will have to be pandered to.

My mother almost refuses to join us for lunch. We are late and she is standing outside the restaurant entrance, peering back up the street towards us. Because of her bad eyesight, she doesn't see us until we are close by. She is wearing a hat and thin summer gloves. She carries a handbag which matches her shoes. The accessories are part of a wedding outfit, purchased for the wedding of another grand-daughter, two years back. She likes to dress up when she comes to town. She takes one look at Kathy and her face registers horror.

'What have you done to your hair?' she shrieks above the noise of a passing bus. 'I sold it,' Kathy shrieks back. She bends over to kiss her grandmother on both cheeks, French style and the tee shirt rides up perilously close to her knicker line. Now that I hear my mother's question, it sounds perfectly normal and I wonder why on earth I didn't ask it myself.

'It's beginning to grow again,' I venture and Kathy rubs at her head with her hand. I am feeling relieved. I had been afraid of some involvement with a religious sect.

Winchy says nothing and waits to be introduced. When Kathy does so, he holds my mother's hand for a long time in his and he looks into her eyes. He says that he never knew either of his grandmothers. Both died before his birth. He feels a great emotional lack. My mother extracts her hand, and says that we must eat. We have a table reserved and we are already late.

'She looks as though she's been through a delousing station,' my mother hisses at me, as we walk ahead of them to the table. The waitress makes a bit of a fuss about the extra place, but my mother threatens to call the manager and the waitress subsides.

Children at the next table start giggling and pointing at Kathy's hair. My mother quells them too.

It transpires during lunch that Winchy's part-time work is really more on the lines of casual labour. He is not on the pay-role but is called upon during busy periods.

There are plastic flowers at each table and someone has held a cigarette to the bunch at our table, and one of the flowers has melted into a lumpy knot of plastic.

'I may go back to the States myself,' Kathy says. She is eating a beef-burger and tomato ketchup has squeezed out from the side of her mouth and is running into the white, luminous makeup. 'Winchy says

he can get me a job on radio announcements. He says Americans go wild for my sort of voice. They find it so cultured.'

My mother sighs with irritation and she passed Kathy a tissue from her handbag. 'You are so unrealistic, Kathy. I saw,' she adds suddenly, 'as I was walking down Grafton Street, a group of street mimers. They wore makeup just like your makeup, but even they looked better. They had a hairline at which the makeup was able to terminate. And besides, they had a reason for the makeup. They were supposed to look odd.'

I know what she is thinking. She is thinking that I have made a thorough mess of bringing up my daughter. She may be right, but why does she also have to think that she would have done a much better job herself? Simply because she brought me up. Kathy is not like me. Kathy, for instance, can't be shamed. Nor can she be bullied. She can only be left alone to rectify her own mistakes.

I push at my mother's leg beneath the table and she looks at me. I frown and shake my head fractionally. Kathy sees the movement and she bursts out laughing. 'Nothing changes,' she says and she picks up a chip in her fingers and pushes it into her mouth. She chews on the chip and continues to laugh. 'Don't you love them, Winchy?' she asks, tickling at his ear with her greasy fingers. 'Didn't I tell you how they would be?'

'It's what radiates from inside that is so important,' Winchy says and he hunches up his shoulder to wipe away her hand. 'Not the outward appearance. Kathy,' he says to my mother, 'has reduced herself to the essentials. I think it is very beautiful to have done that. Courageous.'

'When is she going to meet Patrick?' my mother asks abruptly and I could kill her on the spot. She must know what she's doing.

Kathy looks at me sharply. 'Who is Patrick?'

'Oh, hasn't she been told about Patrick yet?' My mother looks genuinely surprised but I can't believe that she is. She is quite capable of spite. She probably asked the question to retaliate for being subjected to such a lunch.

'Who,' says Kathy once again, much more slowly this time, 'is Patrick?'

Why should I be afraid to tell her and why should my heart begin to race nervously? After all, Kathy should be happy for me.

'Actually, he prefers to be called Paddy,' I say. (My mother knows this too, but she disapproves.) 'Paddy is a friend of mine. We have become very close. We are going to marry.'

I smile at my daughter, who stares back at me from shadowy eyes. The depth of her eyes is exaggerated by the surrounding paint and the lack of hair. I am furious with my mother who is now sitting back in her chair, drinking her coffee and trying to catch the eye of the waitress for the bill.

'I didn't mean to tell you so suddenly,' I tell Kathy.

I didn't mean to tell her at all. I had meant to let the situation grow on her. There is no point in confronting Kathy with new ideas. She is hostile to any new moves. She always has been. She needs to be eased in gradually to new ventures. Kathy shrugs and turns a hurt face to Winchy, who is smiling politely, unsure of whether or not he should congratulate me, unable to understand the nuances, half-asleep.

My mother is pulling on her gloves. Now that the damage has been done, she is ready to leave. She is slightly ashamed and insists on paying the entire bill.

'You'll love Patrick,' she enthuses hypocritically as she kisses Kathy goodbye.

We go home and Kathy sulks for the rest of the afternoon so that Winchy and I are left to attempt conversation together. He is taken aback by Kathy's behaviour, but they are obviously not close enough for him to imagine he can interfere. She lies on the sofa with her feet on his knees and her back to the edge. She is reading a book and the pages turn regularly and ostentatiously.

Finally, I ask her straight out what she thinks of my intended marriage. Having stayed silent for so long, she can't bring herself to say something nice. Without bothering to roll over, she says she hopes I know what I'm doing. 'You can't have known Patrick that long.'

'Paddy,' I murmur. 'He really does prefer to be called Paddy.'

'But I haven't even met him,' she replies coldly and the one free shoulder shrugs.

I get to my feet and walk across the room towards the adjoining kitchen. The cat rushes ahead, tail up, hoping for food.

I find myself wishing uncharitably that Kathy would leave for good and

not keep coming back. I mean, I love Kathy, but she is too old for the relationship she keeps trying to return to.

'Of course,' I call back with cruelty from the kitchen, 'I will be selling the house.'

There is silence from next door. I don't know what I expected. Vociferous rage perhaps? Kathy is too possessive. She thinks she has absolute rights in my house. She can't bring herself to shift her centre of being away from me. She does things to shock me, just to check the integrity of my love. Like shaving off her hair. My mother says it is my own fault. She says that our relationship was unnaturally close when Kathy was a child. In particular, she says that I wouldn't let anyone else come close to Kathy and that now I am reaping the whirlwind of my greed.

I pour myself a glass of orange juice from the fridge and drink it so

quickly that my teeth ache. Then I go back to the other room. Kathy has retreated to Winchy. She has buried her head in his shoulder, and though I can't see her face I know she is crying. He winks one of his small eyes and gestures for me to go away. He thinks he can handle Kathy alone.

I say that I am going for a walk and I go out to a call box and phone Paddy.

'Paddy,' I say and my voice is trembling.

'She's home?' he asks. I nod at the telephone and then I say yes, she has come and I ask him not to call around until after the weekend. Then I hang up.

Gabrielle Wamock

(First appeared in Irish Press)

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## Musicians of Kinvara

Charlie Piggott was born in Cobh, Co. Cork of Kerry parents. Both his father's and mother's people played traditional music, Charlie remembers. He started playing the melodian and tin whistle at an early age and spent a lot of his youth living in Dingle in West Kerry where a lot of the old ways and traditions still exist unaffected by modern influences. "I am grateful for this contact with the 'old world' which has been responsible for the strong passion I have for playing traditional Irish music" Charlie says.

"I think" he continues "that many present day musicians spend too much time and energy trying to develop the music and make it more progressive. A lot of the older music, such as many airs, jigs and sean-nos sons have come down to us from earthy spiritual chants and like the Irish language it was an integral part of the everyday life of the people and their association with the land".

"I would encourage the younger people of the parish to spend more time listening to the older



musicians and singers like Pat Keane and Mike Naughton," Charlie says. Charlie Piggott came to Galway in the early seventies and worked at research in Biochemistry at U.C.G. In 1975 he was instrumental in forming the group "De Danann" and many traditional musicians have played music with him as part of that group down the years. With the group "De Danann" he toured Germany, called "Irish Folk Festival" starring Micko Russell, Jackie Daly, Seamus Creagh and other well known traditional Irish musicians. As part of "De Danann" Charlie recorded several albums in the late seventies.

Charlie Piggott moved to Kinvara "to settle in the countryside and live as close to the changing seasons as possible". He now resides in Mountscribe and runs the cafe in Kinvara with his American born wife Maggie.

Charlie, who now plays the melodian, can be heard playing music in Linnane's Bar and Seafood House in Newquay on Friday nights.

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# Bochtanas an tSaibhris

Bhí rí in Éirinn fadó. Bhí sé an - tsaibhir agus an - chompóirdeach mar bhí gach uile rud aige, talamh, títhe is éadaí breátha le caitheamh, is gach uile rud deas. Lá amháin dúirt sé, "Mise an fear is compórdaí agus is sólásaí sa domhan."

Lá amháin tháinig fear ó thíre eile chomh fada leis. Bhí an fear seo an - ghlic ar fad. Thug an rí an fear glic seo isteach go dtí a phalás agus thaispeáin sé dó na seomraí deasa, na cairpéid breátha, na troscáin saibhre, na pictiúirí is na leabhair. Tar éis tamaill thóg sé amach é agus thaispeáin sé dó na gairdíní, na stáblaí is na céadta rudaí a bhí bailithe suas aige o chuile pháirt den domhan.

Nuair a thainig an tráthnóna bhí an fear glic agus an Rí ag labhairt le chéile. Dúirt an Rí leis an bhfear glic:-

"An bhfuil fhios agat cé hé an fear is saibhre agus is compórdaí ar domhan?"  
Cheap se go ndéarfadh sé an Rí.

Stad an fear glic ar feadh noiméid, agus ansin dúirt se:-

"Ta fear bocht atá i mo thíre im' intinn agam, agus ceapaim gurbh é an fear is compórdaí."

Ní hé sin an freagra a bhí ón Rí.

"Cén fáth a dúirt tú é sin?", arsa an Rí.

"Mar is fear cneasta é a d'oibrigh go cruu le haghaidh a chuid páistí a thógáil, agus nuair a bhí siad fasta suas agus in ann a dhéanamh amach dóibh féin chuaigh sé san arm agus throid sé ar son a thíre. Ni fhéadfadh aon duine a bheith níos compórdaí ná an fear sin."

Bhí fearg ar an Rí ansin agus dúirt sé:-

"Cén fáth a chfuil níos mó measa agat ar dhuine bocht ná mar atá agat orm-sa?"

"A Rí", arsa an fear glic, "ni fhéadfadh éinne a rá go chfuil tú sona sásta go mbeidh tú ar chluain na marbh."

Tar éis go leor blianta d'éirigh rí eile suas i Sasa-

na agus tháinig sé go hÉirinn, agus thosaigh sé ag troid in aghaidh an Rí a bhí in Éirinn, agus bhuail sé é. Dhóigh Rí Shasana a phalás agus chuir sé deireadh lena chuid gairdíní, agus thóg sé a chuid seoda agus cuireadh isteach i briosún é.

Tar éis tamaill thóg na saighdiúirí go dtí baile mór é. Ansin chuir siad na troscáin on phalás breá ar bharr a chéile. Nuair a bhí sin réidh do cheangail siad an Rí istigh ina lár agus rith fear de na saighdiúirí le haghaidh paideoige chun é a lasadh.

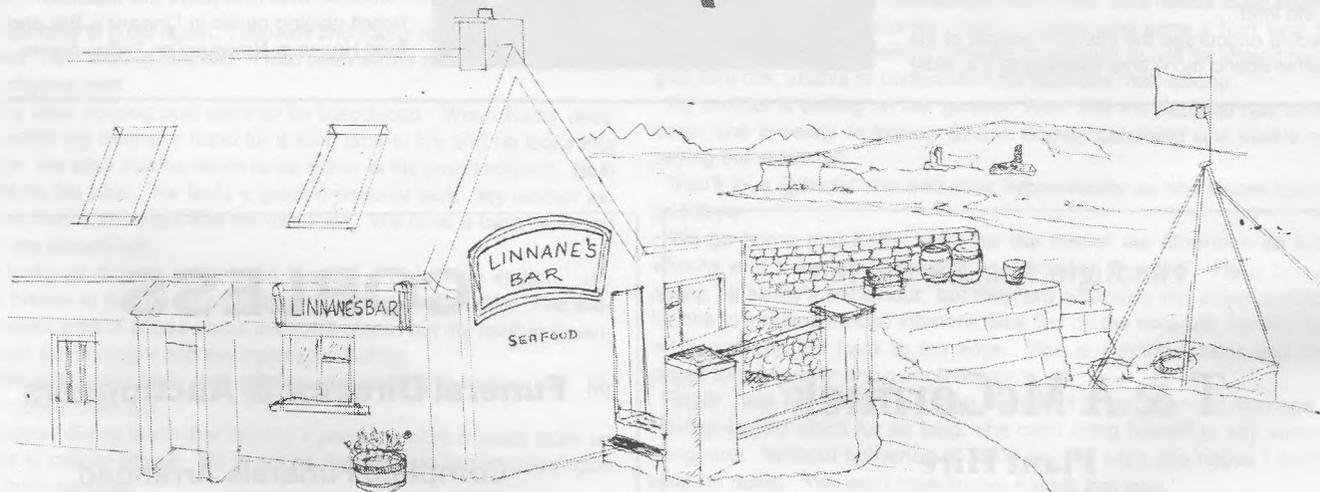
"Anois beidh lasaire breá againn", arsa na saighdiúirí.

Thosaigh Rí na hÉireann ag beiceadh, agus chuimhnigh sé ar na focla a dúirt an fear glic leis blianta roimhe sin:-

"Ni fhéadfadh éinne a rá go bhfuil tú sona sasta go mbeidh tú ar chluain na marbh."

Seanscéal á Insint ag - Eibhlin Bn. Ui Chuaigh

## LINNANE'S BAR

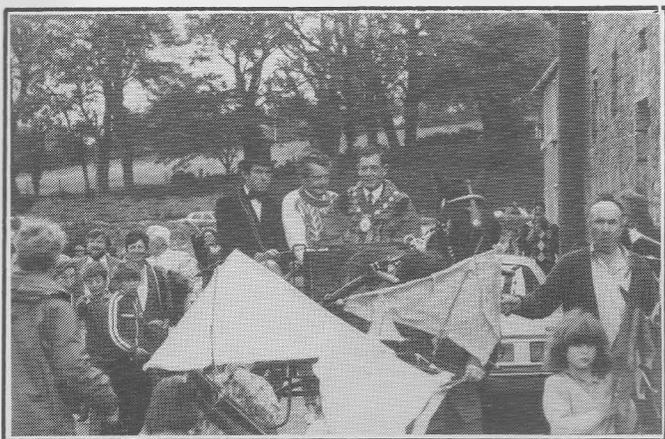


## NEW QUAY PIER



The Kirtvara owned Hooker 'MacDuagh' sailing in the Hooker Race

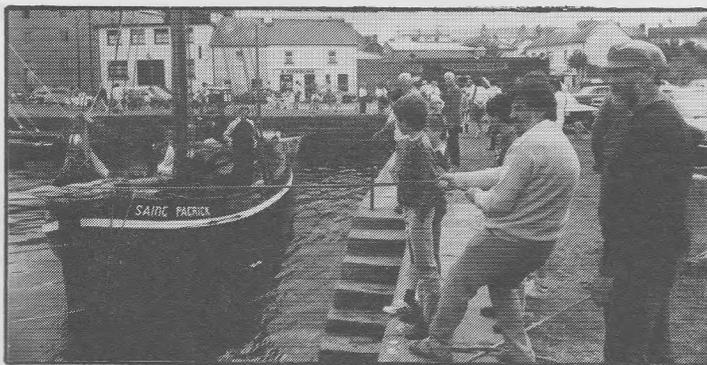
This year's festival was a resounding success, the bay filled with a colourful variety of boats, and the land-based events providing much enjoyment - especially the greasy pole! Mr. Dessie O'Malley arrived in Kinvara in the most appropriate way - on board the re-built boat of the Mayor of Galway, Martin Connelly. The races on Saturday and Sunday were very exciting, and the weather couldn't have been better. Music on the Quay went on into the early hours of the morning, while on Saturday night the visiting Horse & Bamboo theatre company put on a magical show. Great credit is due to the Cruinniú Committee for organizing a wonderful weekend. It's a lot of work and they deserve the thanks of all of us. We must also single out for praise all those who tidy the town streets up after it's all over.



Dessie and Mayor Connelly of Galway



Dessie's Attentive Audience



The St. Patrick, the hooker that sailed to America



Sports on the Quay

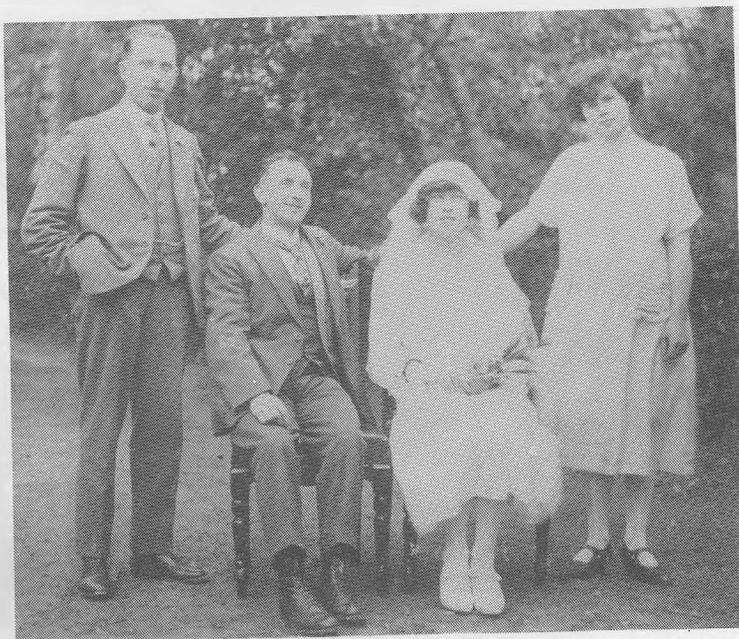
**K**invara



Canon Mulkerrins - at Far Right: Jimmy O'Connor



Patrick and Maria Corbett, c. 1918



L-R: Patrick Leech, Michael Leech, Mary Leech, Delia Regan, April 14th 1926



Fancy Dress Parade in Kinvara in about 1959

**P**eople



Doorus N.S. in the '50's  
 Back Row L-R:  
 Mary Maloney, Mary Moylan, Paddy Joe Curtin, P.K. Huban, Paddy Huban,  
 Carmel Curtin, Ann Money Martin Keane, Catherin Huban  
 2nd Row L-R:  
 Agatha Huban, Roisin Moylan, John Curtin, Paddy Mooney, Bridie Moran  
 Front Row L-R:  
 Teresa Connors, Tom Curtin, Tom Huban



Paddy Geraghty Hangs Out His Sign



L - R: Paddy Connolly (?); John Joe Shaughnessy; Pete Deeley; Danny O'Dea; Tommy St. George; Willie Ryan; Paddy Connolly; John Connolly (?); --(?); Tom Connolly; - (?) -  
 Centre L-R: Joe Brady (?); Tom O'Halloran; John Ryan; Paddy Joe Griffin.  
 Front L-R: Bernie Murphy; Eddie Griffin

# IN OLD KINVARA



This fine photograph was taken about 1912 or 1913. It shows a meitheal assembled for a threshing at the haggard of Tom Forde, Caheravoneen (Father of Mary Linnane).

Patrick Forde, Pierhead and Mrs May Forde, Killina, have helped with identification of those in the picture. They are (as far as can be ascertained):

L to R: Tommy Forde (Killina); Lar Gillane (Caheravoneen); Patsy Larkin (Killina); Jim O'Connor (Ardnagno); Jack Givnan (Cloosh); Martin Connors (Caheravoneen); Mick Helebert (Caheravoneen, at back); Tom Forde (Caheravoneen, at back); Mike O'Connor (Ardnagno, seated with mug); Molly Linnane (Caheravoneen); Pat Killeen (Caherirland); Patsy Linnane (Caheravoneen, with refreshment jar); Bridget Forde (Caheravoneen); Pat Forde (Caheravoneen); John O'Connor (Ardnagno, at back); Delian Gillane (Caheravoneen); Katie Forde (Caheravoneen); Patsy O'Connor (Ardnagno).

Four horses operated the thresher - each pair being yoked to the end of a long beam of wood which was fitted to the revolving top of a "power" unit. This set a number of cogged wheels in motion in the latter, from which a long iron spindle extended to the "drum" (which contained the cutters) located some distance away near the corn stack. The "power" unit was set in a large timber frame which was secured to the ground with wedges to keep it steady.

The horses moved clockwise in a circle stepping over the spindle as they passed it. In other areas this was called a "milling", but that term was not used locally. A "board" or table topped the drum on which the sheaves were cut and fed into the drum cutter which separated the corn from the straw. The corn was put through the drum a second time to separate the grain from the chaff. Later it was winnowed in another machine to take the chaff away from the grain.

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Galway Vindicator 9.7.1898 - Death of John Holland, Kinvara.

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On the 4th inst. the above named respectable inhabitant of Kinvara passed peacefully away in the 78th year of his age fortified by the grace of Holy Church of which during life he had been a devoted and exemplary member. John Holland was a man who gained for himself the respect and esteem of all who came into contact with him. He was one of those who help to make history and are a credit to their country as the following extract from Dr. Fahy's learned History and Antiquities of Kilmacduagh will show.

"After the failure of the 48 movement the leaders sought to escape as best they could with a price upon their heads. It was treason even to shelter them. John Blake Dillon made his way to Kinvara and was hospitably received by Father Arthur, the respected P.P., but he had scarcely reached Kinvara when intelligence of his arrival reached the Authorities. A friendly message was however sent to Fr. Arthur and his curate Fr. Kelly secured the services of an experienced boatman to take him to Aran Islands. They well knew that John Holland of Kinvara, whom they engaged, was not alone an expert seaman but trustworthy and honourable al-

so. So, disguised in Fr. Kelly's clerical attire Mr. Dillon was put on board Holland's boat at Doorus accompanied by Fr. Kelly, and sailed for Aran. Heavy seas and adverse winds were encountered off Black Head so that all the fishing smacks were obliged to see shelter landward. Yet, undeterred by the gale Holland sailed boldly on but instead of tacking from shore to shore like the Connemara boatmen who were also going West, he hugged the South coast. This attracted the notice of those on board one of the Government cutters guarding the bay, who bore down on him coming quickly alongside and seeing only one man on board, as Mr. Dillon and Fr. Kelly had been obliged through illness to seek shelter in the little cabin, the cutter permitted him to continue his course. He succeeded in safely landing his passenger on the middle island of Aran while one of Her Majesty's boats was lying at anchor in the adjoining harbour of Kilonan. Eventually Mr. Dillon succeeded in making his way to America."

That he was indebted in no small degree to the fidelity and intrepidity of John Holland for his escape is evident from the above extract.

The large and respectable funeral which conveyed his remains to their last resting place on Wednesday last was evidence of the esteem in which he was held during life.

R.I.P.



The Old Claddagh with Duck

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Galway Vindicator 21.5.1873 - Kinvara May Fair

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This fair was held on Monday. Owing in a great measure to the fact that farmers in this neighbourhood prefer shearing and disposing of their wool in the market here, where high prices are always current, the May fairs are, as a rule, small. This fair, both as regards the attendance of buyers and the show of stock for sale was unexceptionally so - in fact it was the very smallest

held here for very many years. Transactions were however, brisk and anything saleable went off at remunerative prices. The following may be quoted as the general tone of the fair - Ewes from 50s to £4, Wethers from £ 4 to £5: 55 and Hoggets from £2 to £3. Very large lots were exhibited for sale and the following comprise the most important.

Mr. Wm. Flatley, Merchant, Kinvara bought a lot of 30 wethers a £3 each and a lot of hoggets at 48s. Mr. Francis Kilkelly, Kinvara sold a lot of

ewes with lambs at foot for £2:17s:6d to Mr. Hynes, Loughrea, Mr. Thomas Leech, Loughcurra Lodge, Kinvara sold a lot of 20 hoggets to Mr. Richard Maloney Gort at 48s and a lot of 25 two-year olds at £3; Captain St. George, Tyrone sold a lot of 40 hoggets at 52s 6d; Mr. Michael Hynes, Bayfield, New Quay sold 60 wethers to Mr. Redmond Mullen, Clarenbridge at £3:10s and a lot of 50 hoggets to Mr. Hawkins, dealer at 50s. Mr. Thomas Hynes, Ballyhehan, New Quay, bought a lot of wethers at 47s:6d.

Mr. John Forrest, Gort bought a lot of hoggets at 51s; Mr. John Hynes, Aughinish sold a lot of 60 wethers at £3 to Mr. Fergus Curtin, Mickinish, Burren; Mr. Pat Quin sold a lot of hoggets at £2:17s. This was top price. Nearly all sales were effected at an early hour and at 12 o'clock the streets were cleared of every animal that could be disposed of. The town was remarkably quiet during the day and nothing of a disagreeable nature occurred.

#### Principal Traders in Kinvara 1910

Martin O'Grady, Bakery, Provision Stores and Egg Exporter  
 Fred J. Johnston, Draper, Wine and Spirit Dealer, and Agricultural machine agent and fancy warehouse, etc.  
 Michael O'Donohoe, Victualler, Wine and Spirit Merchant, and Provision Stores.  
 Patrick J. Flatley, Coal Importer, Wine and Spirit Merchant, Family Grocer, etc.  
 Thomas P. Corless, Hotel Proprietor, Wine and Spirit Merchant, etc.  
 William R. Flatley, Draper and General Fancy Warehouse.  
 Thomas Greene, Hotel Proprietor, Posting Establishment, Wine and Spirit Merchant  
 Arthur O'Dea, Grocer, Wine and Spirit Merchant and Hardware Dealer  
 Johanna Bruen, Tea Dealer, Fancy Warehouse, and Leather Dealer  
 Patrick Hession, Provision Dealer, etc.  
 Michael Corless, General Grocer, Tea, Wine, and Spirit Merchant, Posting Establishment, etc.  
 Charles Gaffney, Family Grocer, Tea, Wine and Spirit Merchant  
 James Kilkelly, Family Grocer, Provision Dealer and Agricultural Merchant, etc.  
 Fergus O'Dea, Bakery, General Family Grocer, Fancy Warehouse and Agricultural Manure Agent and Provision Merchant, etc.  
 Thomas O'Halloran, Draper, General Fancy Warehouse, Grocer and Hardware Dealer.  
 Patrick Quinn, Tea, Wine, and Spirit Dealer, and Provision Merchant.  
 Michael Connolly, Tea, Wine, and Spirit Dealer, Family Grocer and Provision Merchant.

Martin Greene, Grocer, Team, Wine and Spirit Merchant  
 Christy St. George, Grocer, Wine and Spirit Dealer  
 Mary Tyrrell, Bakery and Provision Stores  
 Martin Flanagan, General Draper and Fancy Warehouse  
 Bartley Bermingham, Grocer and Provision Dealer  
 Michael Bermingham, Victualler  
 Anne Watson, Draper, Grocer Wine and Spirit Dealer and Fancy Warehouse.  
 John McMahon, Victualler.

The variety of business carried on then made the town and surrounding area totally self sufficient. Many of those listed are still in business but the range of same has greatly changed in many instances.

Tullys have succeeded Michael O'Donohoe  
 Veterinary Drug Co. has replaced Wm. R. Flatley  
 Ould Plaid Shaw is now in Thomas Greene's  
 Johanna Bruen's is vacant  
 Mrs. Maureen Keane lives in Pat Hession's  
 Lynch's has replaced Charles Gaffney  
 Gerry O'Shaughnessy resides in Jas Kilkelly's  
 The Post Office has replaced O'Halloran's  
 Sextons have succeeded Pat. Quinn  
 Brogans has replaced Mary Tyrrell.  
 Kinvara Co-Op has replaced Martin Flanagan  
 O'Shaughnessy's has replaced Anne Watson.



The Famine Grave at Foy's Cemetery

#### A Terry Alt Shot May 5 1831

On Saturday night a party of the 28th Regt. were patrolling near Curranrue, when a peasant presented a gun from behind a wall at the officer, who was behind the main body of his men. Fortunately the gun burned priming. The two rearguard instantly fired at the daring fellow with such fatal effect that he died on the spot.

(From the Connaught Journal - 1831. The Terry Alts were a secret society that operated throughout Clare and parts of South Galway in the late 18th and early 19th century; they were not really nationalists but were basically opposed to landlords, bailiffs, and tithe-collectors. Clearly, from the above extract, they had supporters in the Kinvara area.)

#### St. Ciaran's Shrine

Visitors to Traught and the people of Doorus are familiar with the gleaming white statue of the local patron saint. On July 31st, the patron's day, local people still perform devotions



St. Ciaran's Shrine at Traught

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KAETHE BURT O'DEA  
DESIGNS FOR

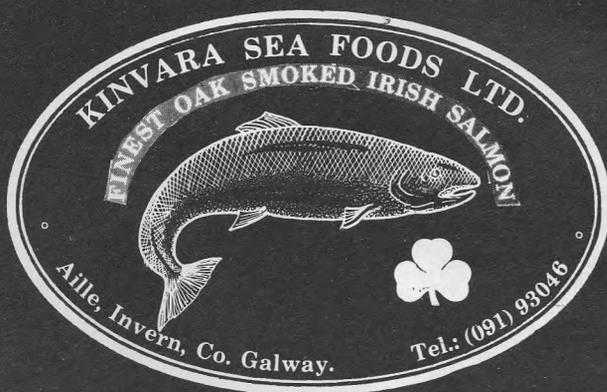
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at the shrine. In the past, however, the devotions often attracted large crowds from all over the area. The Rosary would be recited as well as prayers addressed to the saint. Those seeking some special intention would often spend the night sleeping by the shrine. Our photograph, another from the O'Heidhin collection, shows the shrine as it was earlier this century. So many of our old traditions, visits to Holy Wells, saint's shrines, open-air masses, have nearly all passed away. It would be good to revive some of these practices again.



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#### St. Coman's Church

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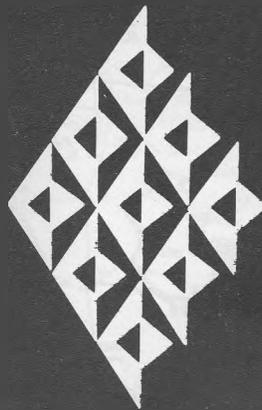
In this photograph, taken by Tomas O'Heidhin earlier this century, is shown St. Coman's Church, now completely closed in by buildings. The church is probably about 600 years old but clearly occupies the site of a very much older church, possibly dating back to the 6th century. Surrounding the church is the ancient burial ground for the village, with many fine headstones still in good state. The church has many interesting architectural features, including a fine lancet window in the east gable and a beautiful 17th c. window in the south

wall. Inside is a burial vault dated 1810 and a broken tomb slab with the date 1678. Unfortunately, this fine old church, with so many historical associations with the town, is in a rather sad

state of disrepair. It would be nice to think that someday it could be cleaned-up, in the same way Foy's Cemetary and St. Colman's have been.

St. Coman's Church

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# Doorus & Crushoa in 1834

In 1834, the Rev. Thomas Kelly, Administrator of the Parish of Kinvara and Duras, compiled a list of the names of the inhabitants of the Parish. Altogether there are 239 names included. To get a more accurate idea of the population of pre-Famine Doorus and Crushoa we must estimate a figure that includes wives and children. If we multiply 239 by 6 (i.e. wife and 5 children) we arrive at a figure of 1434. Although this sounds enormous, the Census of 1821 gave a total figure of 1279 for Doorus and Crushoa; allowing for the passage of nearly 15 years the figure of 1434 seems reasonable. What is really extraordinary, however, is to reflect on the fact that the population of Doorus and Crushoa in 1834 was greater than the combined population of Doorus, Crushoa and the rest of Kinvara today by nearly 350 persons!

(Note: Spelling of names has been left as the Rev. Kelly recorded them. The names enclosed in brackets after a name probably refer to a father or mother and serve the purpose of distinguishing one individual from another in a village where they share the same Christian name.)

## Geehe

Bartley McGuinness  
Thomas Neilan  
Michael Griffin  
Mark Bohannon  
Thady Neilon  
Peter Burke  
Michael OMeala  
Pat Quinn  
Michael Larkin  
Tim Mahon  
John Joyce  
Conor O'Brien  
Owen Connelly  
Mark Moran  
Widow of Peter Mahon  
Widow of John Mahon

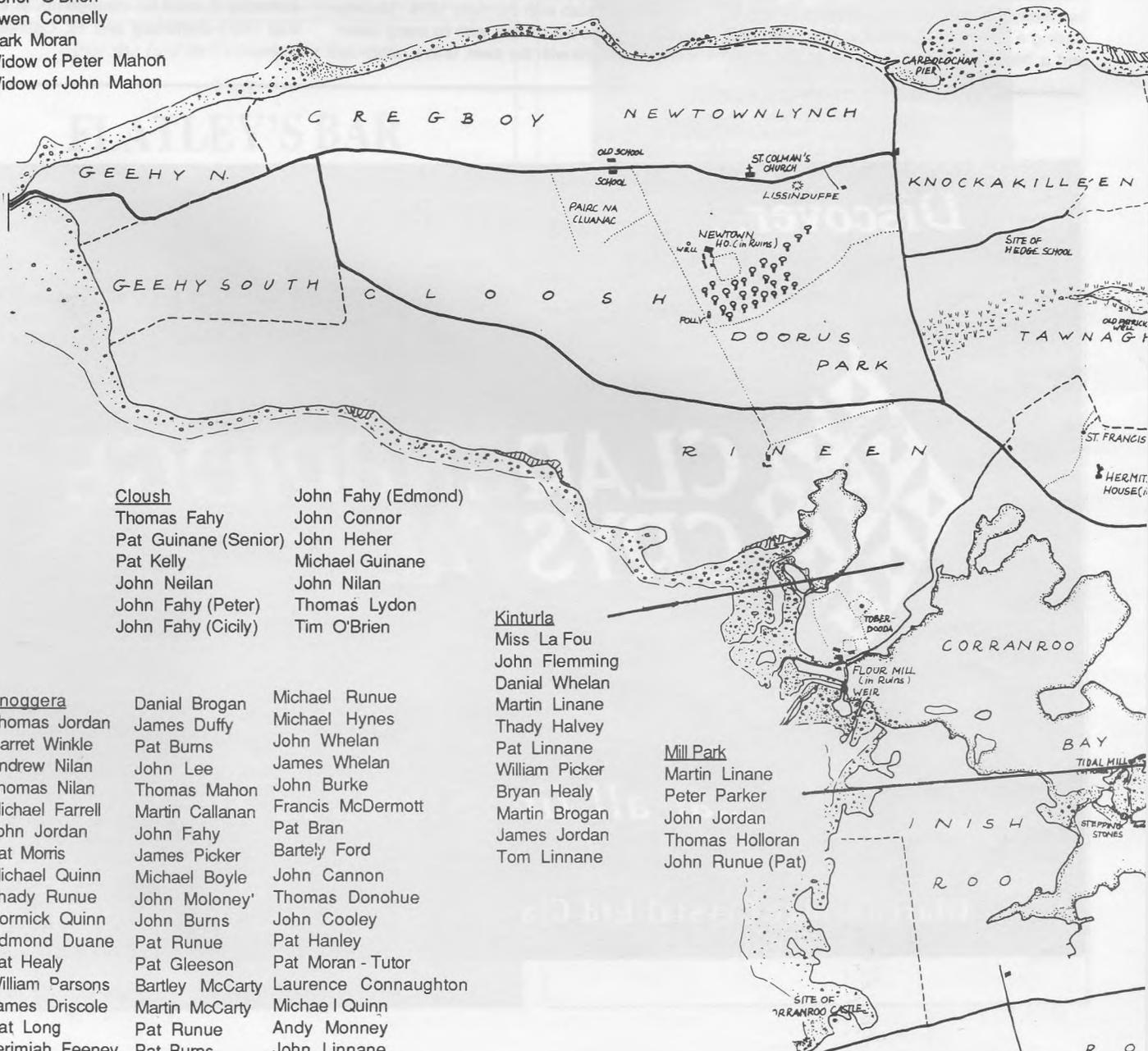
## Newtownlynch

Thomas Liddane  
Michael Egan  
Pat Liddane  
Michael Milaville  
Pat Milaville  
William Fallon  
Thomas Keirce  
Michael Melody  
Pat Melody  
James Connor's widow  
Anthony Conor

Tim O'Brien  
James Mooney  
James Connor  
Pat Shaughnessy  
Martin Kerrins  
John Toole  
John Milaville  
Doris Keaton  
Pat Glynn  
James Kelly  
Pat Mooney

## Knockeculleen

Michael Hooban  
Michael Burke  
Pat Hynes  
Thomas Hynes  
Thomas Darmody  
Charles Meally  
William Kean  
Dermot Larkan  
Pat Mooney  
John Hooban  
Peter Burke  
John Melody  
John Cortas  
Peter Neilan  
Matthew Earl  
Widow Burke  
Pat Shaughr  
James Conn  
Tom Donohc  
Pat Hanley



## Cloush

Thomas Fahy  
Pat Guinane (Senior)  
Pat Kelly  
John Neilan  
John Fahy (Peter)  
John Fahy (Cicily)  
John Fahy (Edmond)  
John Connor  
John Heher  
Michael Guinane  
John Nilan  
Thomas Lydon  
Tim O'Brien

## Kinturla

Miss La Fou  
John Flemming  
Danial Whelan  
Martin Linane  
Thady Halvey  
Pat Linnane  
William Picker  
Bryan Healy  
Martin Brogan  
James Jordan  
Tom Linnane

## Knoggera

Thomas Jordan  
Garret Winkle  
Andrew Nilan  
Thomas Nilan  
Michael Farrell  
John Jordan  
Pat Morris  
Michael Quinn  
Thady Runue  
Cormick Quinn  
Edmond Duane  
Pat Healy  
William Parsons  
James Driscole  
Pat Long  
Jeremiah Feeney  
Danial Brogan  
James Duffy  
Pat Burns  
John Lee  
Thomas Mahon  
Martin Callanan  
John Fahy  
James Picker  
Michael Boyle  
John Moloney'  
John Burns  
Pat Runue  
Pat Gleeson  
Bartley McCarty  
Martin McCarty  
Pat Runue  
Pat Burns  
Michael Runue  
Michael Hynes  
John Whelan  
James Whelan  
John Burke  
Francis McDermott  
Pat Bran  
Bartely Ford  
John Cannon  
Thomas Donohue  
John Cooley  
Pat Hanley  
Pat Moran - Tutor  
Laurence Connaughton  
Michael Quinn  
Andy Monney  
John Linnane

## Mill Park

Martin Linane  
Peter Parker  
John Jordan  
Thomas Holloran  
John Runue (Pat)

Duras

Lieutenant James Kilkelly  
John Meheran  
Michael Kean  
Pat Corlas  
Pat Kilkelly  
Colman Mahon  
Laurence Daly  
William Shaughnessy  
James Linnane  
Thomas Kilkelly (Joe)  
Michael Kilkelly (Joe)  
Thomas Holehan  
John Cavanagh

Traught

Pat Burke  
Matt Kyle  
Martin Donelan  
Denis Glynn  
James Linnane  
Pat Glynn  
John Callanan

Parkmore

John Kelly  
Peter Cavanagh  
Pat Flaherty  
Michael Fahy  
John Fahy  
Edmond Connole  
James Connole  
Pat Connole (Owen)  
Peter Hynes  
Thomas Linnane  
Pat Larkin  
Michael Hynes (Nora)  
Andrew Kilkelly  
Pat Corlas  
John Cavanagh

Martin Arkinson  
Michael Arkinson  
Thoms Branran  
Michael Linnane  
Pat Hynes  
Dermod Denelan  
Edmond Donelan  
Michael Grady  
Pat Connole  
Edmond Connole (Junior)  
James Connole (Peggy)  
Michael Connole (Ned)  
Widow Cloonan  
John Donohoe  
John Cavanagh (Laurence)  
John Cavanagh (Ned)

Tawnagh

William Kilkelly  
Bryna Fahy  
Martin Quinn  
Laurence Halloran  
Thomas Wood  
Michael Kilkelly (Edmond)  
John Hynes  
William Madden  
William Halloran

Mountscribe

Michael Moughan  
Michael Corless  
Pat Corlas  
Pat Minouge  
Thomas Connole  
James Connole  
Thomas Linnane  
Henry Corlas

Crushoa

Thomas Corlace  
John Conlan  
Dennis Madden  
Widow Conole  
Michael Shaughnessy  
John Whelan  
James Whelan  
John Corlas

Bryan Moylon  
Stephen Moylon  
John Kilkelly (Bryan)  
John Kilkelly (Edmond)  
Thomas Kilkelly (Ned)  
Pat Kilkelly (Ned)  
Michael Donelan  
Mark Donelan Senior  
Thomas Heynes  
Pat Quinn (Gregory)  
Thomas Quinn  
Thomas Heynes  
Peter Kerins  
Thomas Kean  
Mark Donelan Junior  
Martin Conole  
Mrs Heynes  
Michael Conole  
Bryan Kilkelly  
Martin Hynes  
Pat Gilligan  
John Gilligan  
Dermott Gilligan  
Ned Kilkelly (Ned)  
Martin Hynes  
Martin Kilkelly



Dobrus & Crushoa in 1834

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## Kinvara Community Council

The main preoccupation of the members of the Community Council over the past eleven years has been the water problem and the debt on the Community Centre. The people of the parish will be pleased to know that we are now approaching the end of our fund raising campaigns, with the debt now down to 1,667. The last instalment of 333 is due to be paid on 20th December, 1987. The water problem is still with us, and could be for the next two or three years, 'despite all the promises'. A public meeting to give the community an opportunity to air their views on the matter and discuss further action will be announced by the Community Council in the August Newsletter.

### Golden Jubilee

The Golden Jubilee of Muintir na Tire will be celebrated in Tipperary on 1/2 October of this year. In conjunction with this a number of other events will take place on 3/4 October. Kinvara Community Council will be represented at the celebrations by at least four members. Plans to mark the Golden Jubilee by the Community Council will be discussed shortly. This is an opportunity to highlight the importance of Community work. At least one main function will be held locally.

### Council Elections

For those in the community who are not familiar with the Community Council's Constitution, Rule One on organisation states: 'The Council shall be elected for a period of three years, and elections shall be held in accordance with the procedure determined by the Council.' The present Council is now coming to the end of its three year term and arrangements to hold new elections will be announced in the autumn. The following will give some insight on the background and election of a representative Muintir Community Council.

### Background

When Canon Hayes founded Muintir na Tire in 1937 his aim was to break down class antagonisms and conflicts between sectional interests

and to replace these with a spirit of neighbourliness and a community unity to solve problems common to the whole Community.

The frame work he chose to achieve this aim was called the Paris Guild which was elected on a vocational basis with equal representation for all the vocational groupings.

In 1971 Muintir na Tire changed the basic guild structure to the representative Community Council.

### What is a Community Council

A Community Council is a representative body whose aim is to involve all the members of the Community in identifying local needs and problems and taking the initiative to solve them either through their own efforts and resources or in association with higher and more competent agencies. A Community Council ensures that the identification of local problems and their solution is an on going concern and that this concern is integrated into the everyday life of the Community.

The basic principles of a Community Council are:

- i) that the Council is representative of the whole Community within a defined geographical area.
- ii) That it should have representation on in from the voluntary organisations in the community
- iii) that it is non party political, non sectional and interdenominational
- iv) that it uses the Community Development approach as promoted by Muintir na Tire. "He who pays the piper calls the tune". (Old Proverb). The people of the Parish who contributed so generously to the Community Council funds will have an opportunity to vote for the persons whom they would wish to have representing them on the Council. The outgoing Council had eighteen elected members. Five co-opted members and six representatives from clubs and organisations making a total of twenty nine. The outgoing officers are President, Rev. Michael Canon O'Connor, P.P.O.; Chairperson,

Toddie Byrne; Vice Chairpersons, Stan MacEoin and Mrs C. McInerney; Hon. Secretary, Rev. Martin Keane, C.C.; Assistant Hon. Secretary, Mrs M. O'Shaughnessy; Hon. Treasurer, Paddy Geraghty; P.R.O. Thomas P. Corless; Editor of Tract and Community Newsletter, J.W. O'Connell.

## Muintir na Tire: Fifty Years On

50 years ago, in 1937, under the inspired leadership of the late Canon Hayes, Muintir na Tire, as a national organisation, was born. At that time the 'climate' of Ireland was such as to give rise to doubts and the cynic was ever ready (and unfortunately still is!) with his comment that this was just another plethora of 'talking shops'. This new movement, based on traditional neighbourliness, was based on the parish community and became a rallying point for local endeavour. It brought together people of all classes and creeds, on a voluntary non-elected basis seeking to make their own parish a better place to live in. It was Christianity in action.

Commenting on the national success of the movement, on the occasion of the silver jubilee of its foundation in 1962, a leading sociologist stressed that self-realisation was its essence and life blood.

The building of local halls, the running of local festivals, the planting of trees, the putting on of local drama productions, the improvements to agricultural land, etc., became monuments to co-operative effort. But the real measure of the impact, important though the outward effects may be, were the achievements of the mind and the spirit - the bringing about of changes in attitude. This led to communities realising that it could do things which previously seemed impossible without special assistance or provision. It vindicated Canon Hayes' argument that patriotism starts with the parish or has no beginning.

In 1949 the first guild of Muintir na Tire was founded in the parish of Kinvara. Most of the local pioneers have passed to their eternal reward, while some are still active - even engaged in community work. In the 38 years since its inception there are many monuments ('lighted candles', as Canon Hayes would have referred to them) to co-operative work: the promotion of rural electrification, the purchase and development of the present G.A.A. pitch, the erection of plaque to the memory of poet and song writer, Francis A. Fahy, and the building of the Community Centre - to mention but a few. These and many other minor developments were brought about by co-operation, dedication, the harnessing of local skills and often hard, though soul-satisfying, work.

Looking back over the minutes of past meetings it is unbelievable to note the wide range of topics discussed and in particular the concern shown for the poor and the old age pensioners (now our esteemed senior citizens), the hospitalised, the badly housed, the farmer whose home was burned down, and parochial needs.

In hindsight how momentous were many recorded decisions! For instance, a minute of Parish Council Meeting, 9th Feb. 1960, records that there was approximately £350 in the Field Fund and that it was agreed to engage a Mr. Sheehy to bulldoze Tully's rock at £4 per hour, to the limit of the fund. This decision was amended at following monthly meeting and the go-ahead was given to complete the work, down to levelling, for £700. Another item included in the minutes of the same meeting refers to decisions taken to ask the County Council to provide street lighting for Fair Day, Feb. 29th. References to debates, concerts, carnivals, a public toilet, the beet campaign, whist drives, newsletters, Christmas tree, swimming gala, dumping at quay, Gorta walk, Parkmore Strand, cottage scheme and town twinning reflect the intense interest and concern of past members and no evidence of rancour or bitterness though many an unrecorded argument. Do such recordings not constitute some elements of real history - local history, which we have been so neglectful of in the past? Happily for those who come after us, magazines like Tracht can provide a visible and tangent link with the past

Up to the early seventies, membership of the local guild was voluntary, with no triennial elections, and representative of farming, working, professional and business community. The establishment of elected representative Community Councils was then recommended by Muintir na Tire at national level. Kinvara gladly adopted the idea and the first meeting of the newly elected Community Council took place on Friday, May 16th 1975. This led to the development of sub-committees and the expansion of Community Council activities.

As we approach the end of another three year term of membership it is fitting that we assess the present state of the Council. There is still a small hard core of people imbued with the spirit of community development. Attendances at monthly meetings rarely exceed half. There are many areas of the parish not represented. There is a total lack of input by the business community, brought about by the unique election system, which has no nominated candidate list and thus favours outgoing members, who are seen to be members. The system too has resulted in members elected, who never sought office and who, in fairness, never wished to be members. For our parish to develop into the next century, serious thought must be given to change. Would it be better to invite volunteers as in the early years, but under a new limited company system?

The sub-committee system must be looked at in view of the central control and public liability implications. There is no reason why a well established sub committee dealing with a specific area of parish development (i.e. Tidy Towns, Twinning) should not branch out on its own. The Club representation on the Community Council serves little purpose and with very few exceptions, has not worked. Perhaps our greatest oversight down through the years is not have provided a forum for our youth to have become involved in our development programmes. While we can all claim to be at least young in heart, let's face it, we are all, with very few exceptions, 'pushing on'. An injection of young blood would provide the stimulus to move forward with more vigour and appreciation of making our parish - yest (it cannot be repeat-

ed often enough) - a better place to live in.

In this article I have traced briefly the development of Muintir na Tire nationally and locally, its philosophy, its contribution to the concept of self-realisation and in particular the benefit it has bestowed on our parish. I have questioned many aspects of our organisation so that together we can force a better way ahead.

Finally, Kinvara is a parish with a proud tradition, a wealth of historical and archaeological remains and a people who have practised neighbourliness and Christian charity for centuries. Its setting between the rocky Burren and the bluey-grey Atlantic rollers has given it a magnetic charm which captivates the visitors and leaves the native with that "peace of mind" recalled to verse by poet Francis A. Fahy. It is to its credit that there are still people prepared to give of their time, energy and ability, not just through the Community Council but through the other organisations of the parish. I must comment that despite the growing apathy and self interest attitude of our times, our Community Council has been well supported down through the years in the implementation of its schemes and in its many fund raising efforts. The good ladies of the parish were a shining example of what cooperation and neighbourliness is all about. On that positive note, I conclude by misquoting the late John F. Kennedy's remark: Ask not what your parish can do for you, but what you can do for your parish.

Ar aghaidh le Muintir na Tire.

Toddie Byrne, Chairman, Kinvara Community Council

## Tidy Towns Report

The effort to improve Kinvara's rating in this years Tidy Towns Competition was launched at a meeting in March 1987. The Chairperson of the committee, Paddy Geraghty, explained to the Meeting that as a sub-committee of the Community Council, they had the support and help of the Council in their effort to gain extra marks for the town. Under rule eleven of the Community Council Constitution, sub-committees were encouraged to co-opt members of the community who are considered to be specially suited for the work on hand. The Tidy Towns Sub-Committee were now availing of rule eleven to co-opt onto the Committee a number of persons from the community who have expressed an interest in the clean-up effort of the Tidy Towns sub-committee. If the effort is sustained, Kinvara will eventually win top marks.

The Assistant County Engineer in Gort, Mr. Noel Forde, and the General Overseer, Mr. John Monahan, with 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 tidy. During the Autumn of 1986, Mrs Rose McLoughlin, wife of ex-Sergeant, John McLoughlin, presented a red oak tree to Mrs. May Monahan, Hon. Secretary of the Tidy Towns sub-committee. The Committee decid-

ed to combine the present and the future and also to mark the commencement of European Year of the Environment by planting the red oak tree on 21st March 1987 and having present at the planting two year old Master James Fahy, Kinvara West, who lives closeby to where the tree was planted on the grass island opposite Thornville. By the year 2037, both James and the tree will be in their prime. The planting of the red oak tree is a manifestation of the sub-committee's faith in the future and a hope that many more young people will become aware of community environment policy



Planting of the first flowering trees in Kinvara, 15th Feb. 1961  
John McLoughlin; Sean Nolan; Patrick Curtin; Mrs O'Halloran; F. Greene, Jr.

The Council of the European Community designated 1987 as European Year of the Environment, the objectives of which are to make all community citizens aware of the importance of environmental protection, promote better incorporation and integration of environmental pro-



Mrs Maureen Fahy, John Fahy

tection policy in economic, industrial agricultural and social policies, emphasise the European dimension of environment policy and demonstrate the progress already made and the achievements realised by community environment policy since its inception.

A wide range of campaigns and awards at European level are being promoted during the year, including a European Clean Towns Competition.

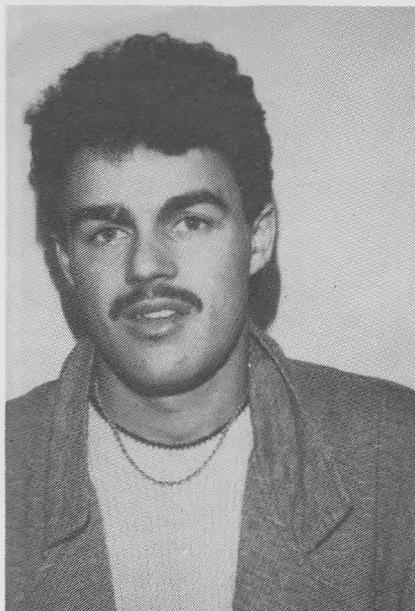
In Ireland, the competition is being run in conjunction with the 1987 Tidy Towns Competition organised by Bord Failte. Entries for the European Competition will be selected from the winners of each category in the Tidy Towns Competition. In addition to being awarded prizes at national level, tidy towns committees may have the privilege of representing Ireland in the appropriate category at European level with all the prestige and publicity associated with participating at this level.



The Japanese Ambassador visiting Seamount

## Sports Roundup:

### Gerry McInerney



Gerry McInerney

Reading through match reports of the games Gerry McInerney has played, one is struck by the unflinching praise which he always draws on himself - "the game's most consistent performer"; "the most formidable opponent that P.J. Molloy has had to contend with at club level"; "left half-back Gerry McInerney was once more a player apart"; "McInerney gave the complete defensive display forcing his opponents into error and effecting lengthy clearances"; "His display was the essence of courage"; "It was Kinvara's Gerry McInerney, who was the star in a marvellous second half display"; "The Kinvara

man, who was one of only a few Galway players to impress in the senior final, enhanced his ever increasing reputation with a thorough defensive performance -".

Try as one might it appears impossible to get anywhere either a written or verbal account of a match in which Gerry participated where he didn't play an excellent game. He has made the left half back berth his own position, but he has also played in the forwards and at centre-field with outstanding results.

His determination and courage must be his outstanding characteristics. When these qualities are allied to skillful ball control and an uncanny positional sense a star is created.

Yet Gerry McInerney is but 22 years old. The Galway mentors knew that his fighting spirit and inspirational play would be a vital ingredient if the team were to have a realistic chance of winning the All-Ireland in 1987. It is a source of relief to many, and encouragement to all, that Gerry has returned from the U.S. to resume training with the senior panel.

While in New York he played with the Galway team there. He found that senior hurling over there was tougher than here at home, so he won't have lost any of his edge in the competitive game.

#### Impressive Record

Already, Gerry has five All-Ireland Medals to his credit. He won three of them between 1981 and 1983 as a member of the County Galway Vocational Schools Team (he was captain in 1983). As a minor he won another medal in 1983 and also earned himself the 'Galway Advertiser' G.A.A. Sports Star Award "for his great courage, consistency and all round attacking excellence in inspiring Galway to their first All-Ireland Minor hurling win."

His next great success was winning an Under 21 All-Ireland Medal last year. The 'Connacht Tribune' had this to say: "The star Galway performer on the day was undoubtedly left half

back Gerry McInerney, who was in splendid form all through, particularly in the opening half, when his powerful forays out of defence brought repeated rounds of applause from the attendance."

The senior final against Cork the previous week had been a great disappointment. Galway went into the game as firm favourites but few on the team played to their full capability. Gerry was one of a very few who never became dispirited. His play impressed everyone on the day. Though it was his first senior All-Ireland he hurled like an experienced senior player and his courage, determination and exceptional work-rate never slackened until the final whistle.



Victory Night

#### All-Ireland This Year

Gerry's presence must give the Galway team the lift which it badly needs. All the backs will increase in confidence, and the forwards can be assured of getting more of the ball from his lengthy clearances. He is determined to win a Senior All-Ireland medal, and after talking to him one comes away quite sure that he will.

#### Background

To visit Gerry's home in Kinturla is always a great pleasure. The genuine, warm hospitality couldn't be surpassed anywhere. Gerry inherits his unassuming friendliness from two outstanding people, Jimmy and Kate McInerney.

Jimmy was an athlete of note in his day, winning the Munster Championship for the high jump on one occasion. He frequently took part in sports throughout Galway and Clare. Traught was one of his favourite venues, and I have it on good authority that there wasn't anyone in Kinvara that could beat him in the 100 yds and 220 yds.

Kate is one of the most consistent and hard-working members of Kinvara Community Council. Any task she undertakes is done to perfection.

With such antecedents it's not to be wondered at that Gerry has become one of the greatest hurling prospects ever to come out of County Galway. He possesses his father's athleticism, his mother's consistency and hard work, and these traits, combined with his own natural abilities, definitely make him a player to keep an eye on in the future.

Now, Gerry is an inspiration for not only the young up-and-coming players, but for his teammates as well. An unfair burden to put on the shoulders of a 22 year old? Maybe. But Gerry McInerney will cheerfully respond to the challenge, and in doing so he has the support of not only everyone in Kinvara, but throughout County Galway, and he carries with him the best wishes of his many admirers throughout the country.

#### Stop Press:

As we go to press, it is great to be able to record that Galway won a resounding victory over Kilkenny in Croke Park on September 6th. To cap our profile of Gerry, we include two comments from the Irish Times that sum up Gerry's great contribution:

"There is no doubt that the man of the match was Galway's left half back, Gerry McInerney. Rarely in an All-Ireland Final, or any other game, has one man hurled with such splendour. More than any other, he broke the hearts of the Leinster Champions."

"There was unanimous agreement that Gerry McInerney had been a major factor in Galway's win."

Congrats., Gerry!



Gerry in action in the Galway -Tipperary Semi-Final

# Geraldine Kilkelly



Geraldine Kilkelly

Last year's Tract did a feature on the outstanding sporting career of Mary Kilkelly of Currenrue. In that article reference was made to Mary's younger sister, Geraldine, when the author said that she was "probably the only one in County Galway likely to emulate Mary's achievements." Little did he realize that in the short span of a year that his prophecy was to be fulfilled.

The past year has been an exciting and action-filled time for 17 year old Geraldine. She led Seamount to the Connacht Schools Final; she was captain of the Connacht Schools team beaten 2-1 by Ulster in the Inter-Provincial Final; she was a member of the Connacht Under 21 team that was unlucky to lose 3-2 to Munster in the final. It is interesting to note that these two performances by the Connacht Schools and Under 21 teams were the best ever in the province's history.

Geraldine is now a member of the Connacht Senior Squad, but her expertise was recognized this year by the international selectors also. She was a member of the Irish Schools Team that won the Four Nations Tournament in Scotland. She played centre-link on the team and was popular choice for the award of 'Best Player of the Tournament'.

This led to Geraldine's being drafted onto the Irish Under 21 team, and she found herself a few weeks later taking part in the qualifying round of the European Cup in Amsterdam. Again the team met with success, losing only one of six matches and finishing second to West Germany.

Having qualified in Amsterdam, the Irish team will take part in the European Championship proper in Dublin in September. The teams in Ireland's group are U.S.S.R., Italy and Scotland. If Geraldine's team is successful then it will travel to France in July 1988 for the World Cup.

#### Earlier Career

Of course Geraldine's success didn't begin in the past year. She won three silver and one bronze medal as a member of Kinvara's Community Games Under 16 Hockey team between 1982 and 1985.

When she went to Seamount she was captain of the 1st year team that won the Blackmore Shield; she captained the 3rd year team which won the Griffin Cup in 1985 and she was captain of the school's senior team this year which was beaten 1-2 by Taylor's Hill in the Connacht Final.

Geraldine is also an accomplished Camogie player. She played first for Michael Cusacks and is now a member of the Gort Senior team, and the Galway Junior team. Her success at

club and inter-county level has been very impressive and she is hopeful that she'll win a Junior All-Ireland medal next year, Galway having been beaten narrowly by Armagh in the All-Ireland semi-final replay this year. She is also an accomplished athlete and she has represented Kinvara and Galway with distinction at the Community Games in Mosney, at the Connacht and National B.L.O.E. championships, and the N.A.C.A. Munster championship. It would be tedious to list all her successes. Let it suffice to say that there were a number of firsts in her many 100m races, and she was seldom placed below third.

Geraldine also won fame as an outstanding player on Kinvara's Under 12 and Under 14 Hurling teams. After playing in the final of the Linnane Cup in 1984, however, she decided to leave hurling to the boys and put all her energies into Camogie and Hockey.

Her ambitions are to win a Senior All-Ireland Camogie medal with Galway, and to be a member of a successful Irish Hockey team in the 1992 Olympics.

Geraldine generously attributes her great success to her parents, Mattie and Catherine Kilkelly. Their car may be seen in any part of Ireland carrying players to hurling, camogie or hockey matches. Few parents give so much of their time, energy and resources to encouraging sporting excellence in their offspring. Success on the sportsfield can sometimes lead to a foolish pride and arrogance, but in the Kilkelly household one can see that it has helped to make the family a united happy entity, with all its members encouraging and supporting one another. Their friendship is valued by all who know them.

## News From Our Schools

### Kinvara Community Playgroup

The past year has been a busy and successful one for the playgroup. Our first celebration in the school year came at Hallowe'en when strange and exciting witches could be seen around the Courthouse. This was followed by a beautiful ceremony of carols and lighted candles to celebrate the first Sunday in Advent. Intense preparations for Santa's annual visit to the Community Centre quickly followed but all the hard work was entirely worthwhile when by 5pm 272 children had visited Santa!

Among the activities of Easter term was a visit by a child psychologist and a speech therapist from the Western Health Board. All the parents got an opportunity to talk with them during a coffee morning at the playgroup. Our annual Mother's Day cake sale was very successful. During the Easter holidays, four members of the playgroup committee attended the Irish Pre-school Playgroup Association's A.G.M. in Dun Laoighaire.

Summer term brought outings to Parkmore, Parkroc and Coole Park. Term ended with a video being filmed by Sheila Conneely of the playgroup in action. Fears that the camera would inhibit the children proved entirely groundless!

The playgroup committee would like to express their gratitude to the Kinvara community for the great support. Visitors are welcome to the playgroup during morning and afternoon sessions in the Courthouse. Enquiries about the playgroup can be made to Aine O'Connell (Morning Session), Ann Vesey (Afternoon Session), or Jean Greene (Chairperson).

### Doorus National School

Our school year ended with 52 on the rolls, the highest number for many years. Many new developments took place in the school throughout the year. Our new heating system was installed and also new windows. The employment of a school caretaker, Noel Linane, saw the school freshly painted and maintained. During last term there were extra facilities provided for the pupils - hurling coaching provided by Pdraic Kelly, gardening with Dirk Flake and art with Anne Korff. At the end of each term a very interesting and informative newsletter was provided by the Parents Association. The school joined with others for a trip to Dublin by

train in May, where they visited Croke Park, Dublin Zoo and the ILAC Centre. The senior pupils visited many historical sites in the local area and wrote a report on their tour. On the sports side, the school football and hurling teams failed to qualify for the later stages of the championships. The hurlers, in particular, being unlucky to have been beaten by a point by Kiltiernan who eventually won the championship. The school was represented on the victorious Kinvara Under - 14 team by Sean Glynn, Garret Byrne, Fnda Costello, Peter Huban and Kieran Glynn. Many pupils won plaques at the Sports Day in Gort. Aisling Corless was the school winner in the Art Competition held in conjunction with the twinning with Local-Mendon.

The annual school dance which was held before Christmas in the Community Centre was a great success.

### Doorus School Sports Report

Shirley Helen O'Connor:  
BLE and BLOE Sports, Gort: 1st in U-13 long jump; 1st in U-13 100 metres spring; 1st in U-13 shot; 1st in U-13 80 metres hurdles.

County Championships, Galway: 1st in U-14 relay; 2nd in U-13 relay; 22nd in U-13 hurdles; 2nd in U-13 100m spring; 3rd in U-13 long jump.

Connacht Championships, Claremorris: 2nd in U-13 relay; 3rd in U-13 long-jump.

David O'Connor won the U-7 sprint in Gort.

Rachel Curtin: 1st U-10 100 metres

Paula Fahy: BLOE, Gort:- 1st in U-12 long jump; 1st in U-12 800 metres; 2nd in U-12 80 metres hurdles.

County Championships, Galway:- 1st in long jump; 2nd in 800 metres; 1st in 4 x 100 relay; 1st in 4 x 100 shuttle relay.

Connacht Championships, Lanesborough:- 3rd in 800 metres; 2nd in 4 x 100m relay;

Brenda Fahy: BLOE, Gort:- 1st in U-11 Long-jump; 1st in U-11 100m spring; 2nd in U-11 shot; 1st in U-11 hurdles.

County Championships, Galway:- 2nd in U-11 shot; 3rd in U-11 hurdles; 2nd in 4 x 100 shuttle relay; 2nd in 4 x 100 relay.

Connacht Championships, Lanesborough:

3rd in 4 x 100 shuttle relay

Aisling Corless, BLOE, Gort:-

2nd longjump; 3rd in the shot.

In addition, in Gort, the Doorus girls won the "Schools Cross Country" (The National Schools Cross Country event). Members of the team were Paula and Brenda Fahy, Anna and Teresa Hynes and Rachel and Veronica Curtin. Veronica also won the Under-8 sprint in Gort and Michael Curtin won an All-Ireland Vocational Schools hurling medal and the swimming event in a recently held Super Stars competition.



Michael Curtin

#### Under 14 Hurling Team

It was a pleasure to work with these boys who showed tremendous dedication and willingness to improve. Having brought the first ever Under 14 County Championship to Kinvara, there is a bright future in store. Already two of the team stalwarts - Michael Kilkelly and Sean Moran - have won places on the County Under 14 team.

Joe Byrne - Team Coach



Back Row L-R:

Peter Huban, Damian Mitchell, Mark Conneely, Sean Moran, Lawrence Glynn, Patrick Costello, Michael Kilkelly

Front Row L-R:

Valentine McCormick, Garret Byrne, Enda Costello, Sean Glynn, Derek O'Connor, Brendan Forde, Eamonn Mongon

#### Northampton N.S. today.

The last edition of 'Tracht' magazine carried a report on the origins and stages of development of Northampton N.S. officially known as 'Scoil Bhríde'. In this issue we get an insight into the day to day activities in the same school. Being a two-teacher school, it may have its limitations in the child-orientated curriculum of today. However the usual subjects, as laid down in the official programme, are being taught. In addition many extra-curricular activities are catered for also.

Gaelic games are strongly encouraged and the school has entered the annual 7-a-side school competitions in Hurling and Football. Scoil Bhríde reached the Hurling Final in 1986 and looked poised for certain victory in the Final. However, an unfortunate accident to one of the star players left the team shattered on the day and they were defeated by the narrowest of margins - one point. Our grateful thanks to their trainer, Joe Mitchell, who encouraged and urged them to the highest level of performance. Our thanks also to the great number of parents and faithful supporters who travelled with them to every fixture; a set of jerseys and hurleys were presented to the team by the 'Parents Committee' at a social function in the school during the year. In addition, a special G.A.A. 'skills' course organised by the G.A.A. in conjunction with AnCo was run in the school, during the last term.

The very active School Committee consists mainly of members of the Management Board together with many willing parents who have given unstintingly of their time, in a fund-raising campaign to provide money for school funds. 'Progressive 25' card games were a feature of



The Clash of the Ash!

this campaign. These games helped to develop a wonderful community spirit within the locality while the proceeds have provided funds for a much needed heating system which will hopefully be installed in the school during the summer vacation. A well organised and energetic ladies committee showed their commitment during those winter months too by producing the 'goodies' for the 'cuppa' at the end of each card session. Some donations were also made to local community causes from these funds.

The Christmas School Mass was a special feature of the 1st term with the children taking part in the preparation, readings, offerings and singing. Parents and friends were invited to participate.

The Christmas concert consisted of a Christmas Tableau where scenes from the Nativity were reenacted by Angels, Shepherds and Wise men accompanied by traditional hymns. Santa Claus arrived too and presented his gifts to a very excited audience.

First Confession and communion as well as Confirmation were the main events of the 2nd term culminating in a very meaningful 'First Communion Mass' in St. Joseph's Church and an evening Confirmation ceremony in Ballinderreen.

The annual school tour was another important event. This year we visited the Hunt Museum in Plassey House, Limerick, followed by a trip to Knappogue Castle and the Craggaunowen Project at Quin catching a bird's eye view of the flora and fauna of the Burren at the Burren Centre in Kilfenora.

Scoil Bhríde is very committed to the fostering of Gaelic culture and accordingly Irish music and dancing are well catered for. The music is in the capable hands of Margo McGeeney and the end-of-year concert which was attended by parents and friends was a tribute to her great work.

The noted Galway dance teacher, Celine Hession caters for the dancing needs of the children and has done trojan work in achieving such a high standard both in Solo and Figure Dancing.

The pupils have also been involved in Art competitions sponsored by Tidy Towns, Anti-Litter

Campaigns and the Local-Mendon twinning committee. It is our hope to provide special art classes in the future.

Finally, the introduction of new entrants to the school during the last week of June led the School Party on closing day. Our Senior Pupils said good-bye and another school year came to an end.

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#### Seamount College

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Last year started on a good note for Seamount College. A very high standard was reached in the Leaving, Inter and Group Cert. examinations. As well as following the traditional post Leaving Cert programmes, two students moved into new fields. Margaret O'Sullivan was called to Trinity College to study music and Regina Ryan was called to a School of Acting in Dublin.

A ceili band was formed by Sr. Dolores last September. Those taking part were Lorraine Larkin, Caitriona Carr and Karen Devane - fiddle; Lisa Kelly and Nadine Walsh - tin whistle; Do-reen Corless and Sharon Tannian - accordion; Louise O'Connor - badhran. They competed in Slogadh and reached the regional finals in Loughrea in February. They also provided the dance music for the first years who took part in the Cor Fheile in An Spideal in May. Some of the group played at school masses and also at the Requiem Mass for Sr. Veronica who is sadly

missed by all who knew her.

Before Christmas holidays, the fourth year students, aided by the first years, took part in the musical "South Pacific". It was directed by Mr. G. Barrett and Mrs. Mona Devine. Two students, Brenda Mongan and Carmel Meehan played the musical accompaniments. The large attendance showed how these musicals are appreciated over the years. Some students have achieved a very high standard in art, among them were Rhoda Daly and Caitriona O'Connor. Both won prizes in the Galway Advertiser competition, and Caitriona O'Connor won a free trip to Local Mendon. In the literary field, Katherine Ryan won a special award for her English essay "The Emerald Green Ass."

Sport plays an important part in the activities of Seamount College. Last year was no exception. There are facilities for both indoor and outdoor games. The pupils took part in competitive games in hockey. A Leaving Cert. student, Geraldine Kilkelly, played for Ireland in the under 21 hockey team in Amsterdam last Easter. We wish her every success in the future.

These are but a few of the achievements of Seamount over the past year. They would not be possible without the dedication and hard work of the Principal, Sr. Laurence and all the staff. As a new school year begins, there is every reason for optimism as yet another first year class begins their secondary education of Seamount College.

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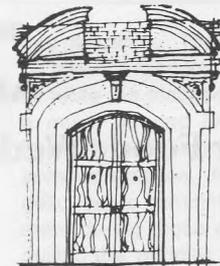
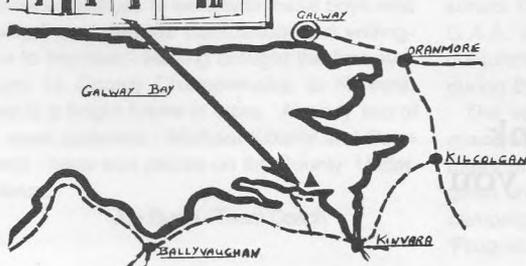
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# Clubs & Activities



Green Isle Swim

## Kinvara Swimming Club

The club reports another very successful year. Up to 200 learners attended classes every week. These ranged from two classes on Saturdays for beginners and improvers, through adult classes to life-saving classes for the more proficient.

The instructors were Stan Mac Eoin, John Curley, Helen O'Connor, and Bridie Giles, and they were ably assisted by the older proficient swimmers in the club. Paddy Geraghty organized transport, changing room, bus supervision and club finances.

It is hoped to develop the club's activities from September by having a 'Family Hour' in the pool. This will be from 6pm to 7pm every Monday, beginning 21st September and continuing for ten weeks. The fee will be £ 25 for session, and the whole family will be entitled to swim together, regardless of its size. Interested families should pay a deposit of £ 10 before 15th September to Mrs May Monahan, Stan Mac

Eoin, Paddy Geraghty, Bridie Giles or Helen O'Connor. The scheme will go ahead if there are twelve interested families.

A ten-week Adults' swimming class will commence on Wednesday, 23rd September at 8pm. The fee will be £15. A deposit of £5 to any of the above will secure a place on the course, which will be confined to a total of thirty.

The demand for swimming lessons seems inexhaustible. The club could function seven days a week if it had sufficient qualified personnel. We again invite proficient swimmers over 16 years to qualify as instructors and to pass on to others what was freely taught to them.

Swimming opens up new opportunities for recreation to participants. They can try sailing, canoeing, rowing, scuba diving and other aquatic activities. They learn to respect the water in all its forms and moods and they will never take reckless chances.

Kinvara Swimming Club hopes all readers of TRACT will have enjoyed their Summer swimming, and that they will always take care while in the water.

## Kinvara Rowing Club

The Rowing Club suggested by Anthony Moylan has been in existence for only a short time. So far it offers both junior and ladies teams. All that is lacking is a boat of our own. Fund raising is under way to rectify this. Committee members are: Josephine Colfer, Chairman; Bernie Devaney, Secretary; Gemma Murphy, Treasurer.

## Ladies Maraton

The Doorus ladies again represented the area in the Ladies Mini-Marathon held in Dublin recently. Teresa Curtin, Mary Mahon, Una Mahon and Rose Fahy each completed the course and received a medallion. Congratulations to these energetic and determined ladies!

## Ladies Keep Fit

A group of ladies meet every Tuesday at 9 pm in the Community Centre for a Keep-Fit session. Everyone is welcome. Fee per session is 50p.

## Music Lessons in Kinvara

Music lessons for children are held every Saturday in the Community Centre. Tuition is offered in a wide variety of instruments by Mr. David Hanrahan (Tel. (065) 25470). The entertainment provided by these your musicians at the Christmas Concert was of a very high standard.

## Set Dancing

There has been a great revival of interest in set dancing in recent times. Classes under the direction of Philip Demead are held in the Community Centre. These classes will recommence in the Autumn. See the Newsletter for details.

## Tin Whistle Lessons

Margo McGeeney teaches the tin whistle to children and adults in the Kinvara area. Her classes are held in the local National School and in the Ould Plaid Shawl. All pupils are encouraged to take part in 'sessions' as the area is rich in music making.

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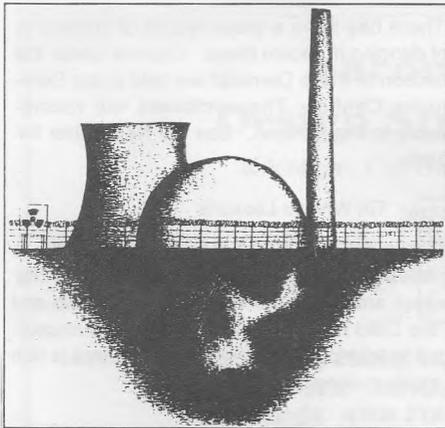
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### Imshaol Beo - For a Living Environment

A group of concerned individuals from the South Galway, North Clare area has been meeting regularly in Kinvara and Corofin. Their main concern has been the effect of radiation on our environment, especially in relation to the food we eat. A suggested food-guide for these post-Chernobyl times was printed and distributed by the group in April. They have also been in communication with the Nuclear Energy Board and the Minister for Environment, Mr. Ray Burke, T.D. A member of the group, organic grower, Dirk Flake, was interviewed by the Tod-Tonight team on their programme which examined the effect of radiation here after the Chernobyl disaster. The group is currently planning an information and education programme. Interested people can obtain further information from Pat Farrell, Convent Road, Aine O'Connell, Parkmore or by phoning 37357.



### The Arts in Kinvara - A Personal View

When I was asked to write an article on the state of the Arts in Kinvara, I heaved under the responsibility. I felt there definitely was something to say but to begin I had to define 'the Arts' and that term was just too intimidating. So I asked any friends I met in the next few days... "How do you define the Arts?" I didn't get a clear answer but we had some vibrant conversations. It turned out to be one of those mighty topics on a par with Politics, Sex and Religion, but I soon realized there is no common definition of 'the Arts' that expresses my true feelings on the matter.

The idea I have developed in the Arts in Kinvara is not simply making myself available to locals a week and with men, and our aspirations. A new example and promote a production that I personally

# Reports

would like to see my own kids and my neighbours enjoy. Now, in doing this a couple of times I seem to have made a bit of a name for myself as an Arts contact and in the past year I have received letters from singers, dancers, musicians, theatre companies, and so on, all offering their wares. I'd love to have said, yes, come on, to most of them but unfortunately I couldn't, so I had to file them in the drawer marked 'frustration'. I'll tell you why I couldn't - not because of money because fees can be negotiable, not because of lack of a potential audience, and not because of lack of space - we have a fine Community Centre. No, the real problem is lack of support and an unwillingness to take responsibility for the quality of socializing we need. We need stimulation that is alive; we need to experience creativity and celebrate its place in life. At least I do. The pub and the 'box' are not enough for me. I would like to see the Community Centre turned into an Arts Centre. We have loads of talent in our midst. We have artists, craftspeople, dancers, musicians. There is tremendous potential. Let's bring it into our lives.

The Arts Week last year was a start. All that's left is a memory and a slowly deteriorating mural. The bit of theatre that came our way - Galway Theatre Workshop's 'Female Parts' and 'Eeny, Meeny, Mighty Mo' - were fun and did cause a reaction. So let's exchange ideas on how to make 'the Arts' a live issue for Kinvara. (Thanks for the soapbox, Jeff).

Helen McGinley

### A Woman's Place

"Take your eyes off the guys", a slogan to us as women from Mary Daly's keynote speech to the 3rd International Women's World Congress, "Visions and Revisions" held in Dublin 6 - 10 July this year.

These five days were a chance for us to take our eyes off not just "guys" but all the concerns that fill our time and take our energy - children, our partners, homemaking work - and to focus them squarely on ourselves. A chance to take ourselves seriously, to debate the issues that interest or alarm us, to give ourselves time to think.

Originally planned as an academic congress, the efforts of some feminists involved to include 'grass-roots' women, resulted in a much broader, much more vital event. At times the academic theory did not meet the direct experience of ordinary women.

Each of the five days had a keynote speaker - one and a half hours of a prominent feminist, set pieces, and the choice of approximately twenty smaller group sessions every two hours.

Some of these were lectures, some workshops. These covered not just the Political issues like equal pay, abortion, women and

and with men, and our aspirations. A few examples of the topics covered were - Goddesses

and Female spirituality, Women Writing, Feminist Science, Reproductive Technology, Women and the E.E.C.

A small group of Kinvara women went to the Congress on the Thursday and Friday. Each of us coming back felt that there was some special power in women working together, talking and listening to each other. For myself, working in Women's Adult Education, there was an amazement that there were some one hundred such groups now in Ireland. I met many women in small women's groups from all over Ireland and I wondered - 'Why not here?'

Pat Farrell

### Just what the Doctor Ordered!

It was standing room only in the Community Centre one Sunday night in January when the capacity audience hugely enjoyed an excellent concert and a one act comedy. Enda o'Connor and Gemma Murphy opened with a beautiful selection of songs. Adult and Junior set dancing showed that this art form is flourishing in Kinvara. The young musicians, pupils of David Hanrahan, also showed that this tradition is well fostered in the area. Kieran Moylan, the Pioneer ballad group from Mercy Convent, and Charlie Piggott, were all greatly enjoyed and appreciated by the attentive audience. Tommie Corless, as usual, acted masterfully as the Master of Ceremonies.

The Kinvara Drama Group, under the Svengali-like direction of John Conneely, performed the hilarious farce 'Coughwater'. Young and old laughed loud and long at the antics of the cast: Derek Smith, Don Devaney, Toddie Byrne, Rosario Ruane, Aine O'Connell, Josie Nolan, Gerry O'Shaughnessy, Stan Mac Eoin, Bernie Devaney and Emer Monahan.

A great community night out was enjoyed by all and the wealth of local talent, young and old, was greatly appreciated. The next concert and play is eagerly anticipated.

From zilch

Zilch. Is  
the slop of the floodline and this is where she sprang from  
an Atalanta  
shivering like a foal, above the knee.  
Amphibious, ambiguous, of sea-horse pouch born.

Zilch. Is her squelching feet  
dabbling the slop of the floodline  
doubt in her step, doubt.  
Shall she return to water  
her lymphatic alpha, the safe  
sound around Black Head  
or steer for omega, dune and beyond,  
marsh and canals and stonebuilt walls  
bloodflow in destined vessels  
pre-fabricated pumping  
red to blue  
blue to air  
air to lung  
red to heart  
heart to brain  
heart to gut  
heart to limb  
heart to womb

Or so the children of Fanore  
will learn by heart.

Zilch. The slap of overlapping waves  
the stir of sand and shell and shingle.  
Slop. From Connemara all the way  
an Atalanta, wet and sea-weed freckled, sinks  
her head, sulks,  
scrapes her toe in the sand

then dashes to the dunes  
sets out and searches bins and wire-baskets  
and free-parked hire-cars

for shoes. To cross the road, Cois Farraige  
to school.

Leen Vandommele



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## Design a Crest for Kinvara: A Competition

Anyone who has visited the continent and driven through the many small towns and villages that dot the countryside in Brittany, Francy, Germany, Switzerland and Italy will have noticed that in nearly every case, on the approach roads, the first thing that greets you is an attractive sign containing the name of the place along with a distinctive crest or coat of arms. In many cases, these symbolic crests are those of the aristocratic family that once owned and ruled the area. Sometimes, as in the case of Galway City, the arms are derived from the merchant or commercial life of the place. But whatever the original of the sign, crest, or coat of arms, the effect is to give the village, town, or city a recognizable identity. Think of how well known the Bear logo for Aillwee Cave now is, and how many people make it a stop on their travels.

Tract is sponsoring a unique competition this year - design a crest or a symbol that will represent Kinvara! Anyone may enter by submitting a design to either Jeff O'Connell or Stan MacE-

oin before March 1st. The designs will be exhibited in shop windows around the town. A panel of judges, including Tom Kenny, of Kenny's Bookshop, Tom Quinn, Anne Korff, Eamonn O'Doherty, Joseph Quilty, Ita Leech and Pam Fleming, will judge the winning entries on the evening of March 31st. The winning design will be placed on two professionally constructed metal signs positioned on the approach roads from Galway and Ballyvaughan. In addition to the winning design, the crest of Locoal-Mendon, the Breton community Kinvara is twinned with, will be placed alongside, announcing to all who pass through the firm ties of friendship that unit us. Finally, the winner will receive a cheque for £50, and the two runners-up will receive prizes of £15 each.

So get your sketch pads out and start designing! Further details will be given in the monthly Community Newsletter.

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### Community Information

Tract, on behalf of Kinvara Community Council, extends a warm welcome to all new members of our growing community. Moving into a new area can often be quite an ordeal. How do you get to know people? Where do you go for information on services available? How do you claim your entitlements? - Social Welfare? Children's Allowance? Where does the doctor live, and what are his hours? What clubs are there? For children? For adults?

Jeff O'Connell, Kinvara Community Officer, is available in the Community Centre, Tuesday and Thursday, 10 - 12 pm, and Friday, 10 - 1pm to help you answer these, and other questions, you might have. Please feel free to call in.

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## *Redbank Shellfish*

*Proud to be part of your Community.*

New Quay,  
Burrin,  
Co. Clare,  
Ireland.

## Transition

### Births

Fintan Martin Luke 4/5/86  
 Derek Thomas Daly 3/7/86  
 Elva Martina Conole 18/6/86  
 Gerard Marin Mahon 10/10/86  
 Thomas Michael Fahy 26/10/86  
 Sue Marie Nolan 28/10/86  
 Patrick Noel Linnane 25/12/86  
 Patrick Gerard Martyn 18/12/86  
 Gerard Fahy 18/12/86  
 Paul William Madden 18/9/86  
 Gary Thomas Kavanagh 15/1/87  
 Alan Christopher Leech 6/2/87  
 Michael Cormac Murphy 1/4/87  
 Eamonn Patrick Callanan 15/4/87  
 Declan Monaghan 20/4/87  
 Aoife Patrice Burke 18/5/87  
 Regina Mary Daly 7/5/87  
 Brendan O'Toole

Michael Linnane & Mairin Finnegan 23/4/87  
 Daniel Wilson & Una Corless 6/6/87  
 Richard Johnston & Christina Hanley 4/7/87



Marriages outside the Parish  
 Gerry McCorkick & Bernie O'Connor  
 Michael O'Toole & Maeve Johnston  
 Tommie Daly & Geraldine Daly  
 Shannon & Alice Forde  
 Bartely O'Donnell & Emer Johnston

### Deaths

Peter McCormick 20/9/86  
 Margaret O'Dea 25/9/86  
 Patrick Lee 126/9/86  
 Thomas Conneely 1/10/86  
 Michael Hynes 1/11/86  
 Peter McCormick 2/11/86  
 Mary Kate Leech 5/11/86



Rev. Martin O'Grady 5/12/86  
 Mary McCooke 12/12/86  
 Nora O'Shaughnessy  
 Annie Fahy 7/1/87  
 Kieran Moloney 8/1/87  
 Joseph Halvey 18/2/87  
 Elizabeth Murphy 1/3/87  
 Sr. Veronica 23/3/87  
 Bridie Corless 12/4/87  
 Mary Noone 2/5/87  
 Bal Winkle 21/5/87  
 Margaret Kavanagh 1/7/87

### Marriages

Matthew Mulkerins & Mary Kavanagh 28/6/86  
 James Bane & Catherine Nilan 12/7/86  
 William Kavanagh & Yvonne Lydon 8/8/86  
 Martin O'Connor & Ann Tully 4/10/86  
 Michael Loughrey & Dympna McInerney  
 29/11/86  
 David Byrne & Joan Kavanagh 28/2/87  
 Gerard O'Brien & Elizabeth McCormick 7/3/87  
 Patrick Joyce & Breeda Connors 20/4/87

*Best Wishes to 'Trácht'*  
 From

# MAC MAHONS

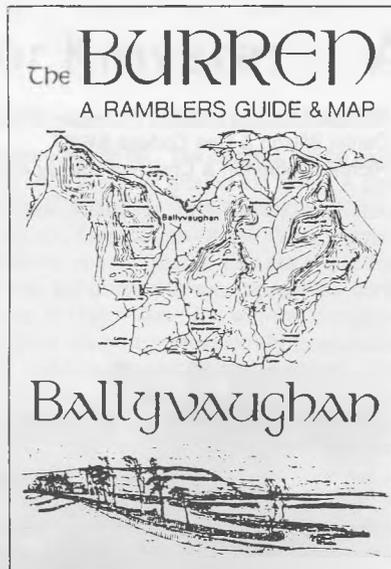
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**NEWSAGENTS      ANIMAL FEEDS**  
**GRASS SEEDS**

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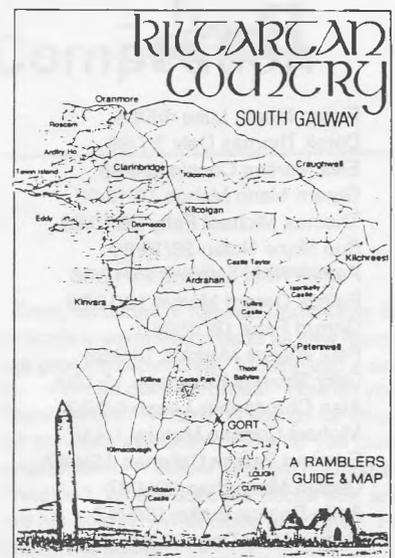
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Kinvara, situated on the south shore of Galway Bay, is an area of great natural beauty that also contains many fascinating relics of Ireland's past. Famous in more recent years for the colourful summer festival, Crinnu Na mBad, Kinvara and Doorus have also played host to figures like Lady Gregory, W.B. Yeats, and Frances Fahey, author of 'Galway Bay'. Special features include: An illustrated guide to the area's wildlife, inset maps of the town in 1840 and today, and an illustrated text that introduces the area's historical and archaeological features.



The Burren is a region of spectacular contrasts - limestone mountains and sheltered valleys, rocky cliffs and rolling sandhills, streams running down hillsides and underground rivers. This guide and map introduces the Northern Burren, taking the town of Ballyvaughan as its focus. Within the area depicted, a wealth of archaeological and historical sites exist, only waiting for the enthusiastic ramble to uncover them. Special features include: an illustrated guide to the more distinctive Burren Flora, a text illustrated with superb drawings of many of the most interesting sites, and a list of Irish place names.



'Kiltartan Country' includes on one side a detailed map of the area, and on the other a 7-page introduction to the history of South Galway, illustrated with many superb drawings that convey the special 'personality' of this fascinating region. Special features include: A perspective map of the Kilmacduagh Churches, an inset map of Gort, a note on Townlands, and 9 suggested tour routes, organised from Gort, Kinvara, Clarinbridge and Craughwell. The map employs the National Grid Reference, so that the sites mentioned in the text - over 70 may be easily located by the enthusiastic ramble.

## Kinvara Heritage Tours

South Galway is fortunate that so much of its archaeological, historical and cultural heritage is preserved.

From the pre-Celtic people who built the megalithic tombs, to the Celts themselves, whose most distinctive monuments are ring-forts scattered widely through the district; from the early Christian monks, whose churches stand as mute testimony to an enduring faith, to the proud castles and 'big houses' of the ruling class — the entire sweep of history may be encountered in miniature.



## Kilmacduagh

And of course South Galway is intimately associated with the names of W.B. Yeats who lived at Thoor Ballylee near Gort and Lady Gregory whose home was at Coole Park.

**KINVARA TOURS** offers you the opportunity to discover for yourself the sources of their inspiration.



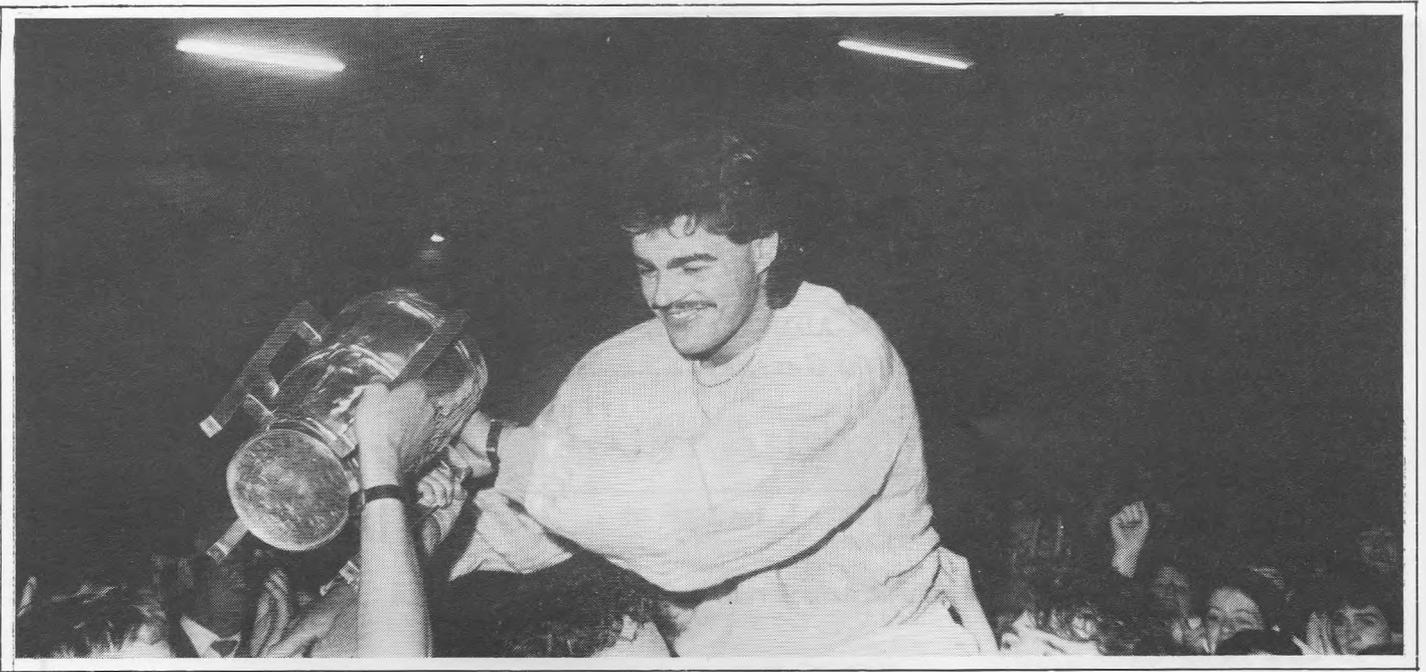
1819

*Thanks to all who helped renovate St. Colman's Church*

William Kavanagh, Jr., Loughcurra.  
Thomas Quinn, Crushoa.  
Stephen Moylan, Crushoa.  
Sean Conole, Crushoa.  
Frank Quinn, Crushoa.  
Paddy Kilkelly, Crushoa.  
John Leech, Crushoa.  
James Conole, Crushoa.  
Thomas Kilkelly, Crushoa.  
Martin Moran, Doorus Demesne.  
Paddy Conole, Tawnagh.  
Bill Sullivan, Kinvara West.  
Sean McInerney, Kinvara West.  
Stan McEoin, Kinvara West.  
P.J. O'Loughlin, Kinvara West.  
Thomas McCormick, Kinvara West.  
John Fahy, Kinvara West.  
Thomas P. Corless, Kinvara.  
Paddy Geraghty, Kinvara.  
Richard Johnston, Kinvara.  
Gerry Ryan, Kinvara.  
Micko Forde, Caheravoneen.  
Micko Waites, Killina.  
Sean Mongan, Curenrue.

Eamonn Mongan, Curenrue.  
James Nolan, Curenrue.  
Paddy Naughton, Shanclough.  
Joseph A. Corless, Kinvara.  
Michael Kilkelly, Curenrue.  
Dick Kilkelly, Curenrue.  
Michael Keane, Cahernamadra.  
Brendan Lyons, Funshin.  
Paddy O'Loughlin, Poulnegan.  
Martin Noone, Cahernamadra.  
Tom O'Loughlin, Gortnaglough.  
Michael J. O'Loughlin, Gortnaglough.  
Patrick O' Loughlin, Gortnaglough.  
Pat Nolan, Kinvara.  
Michael Sullivan, Kinvara.  
Paddy Connolly, Kinvara West.  
Joe Mitchell, Loughcurra.  
Damian Mitchell, Loughcurra.  
Mrs. Eileen O'Sullivan, Kinvara West.  
Mrs. Sheila Conneely, Kinvara West.  
Mrs. Marian Connolly, Kinvara West.  
Mrs. Bernie McInerney, Kinvara West.  
Mrs. Bernie Leech, Kinvara West.  
Mrs. Catherine Kilkelly, Curenrue.

Paddy O'Loughlin (Kinvara West) provided paint; Paddy Naughton (Shanclough) provided machinery, as did Sean Mongan, Thomas McCormick and Paddy Connolly. Joseph A. Corless donated the electric shades and Gerry Ryan the electric lights and window mouldings. Grateful thanks to all who brought tractors and scaffolding, and to the Tidy Towns Committee for the use of their lawn mower.



*The night Gerry brought the Cup home to Kinvara.*



# Frank O'Neill

## *Sculptor*

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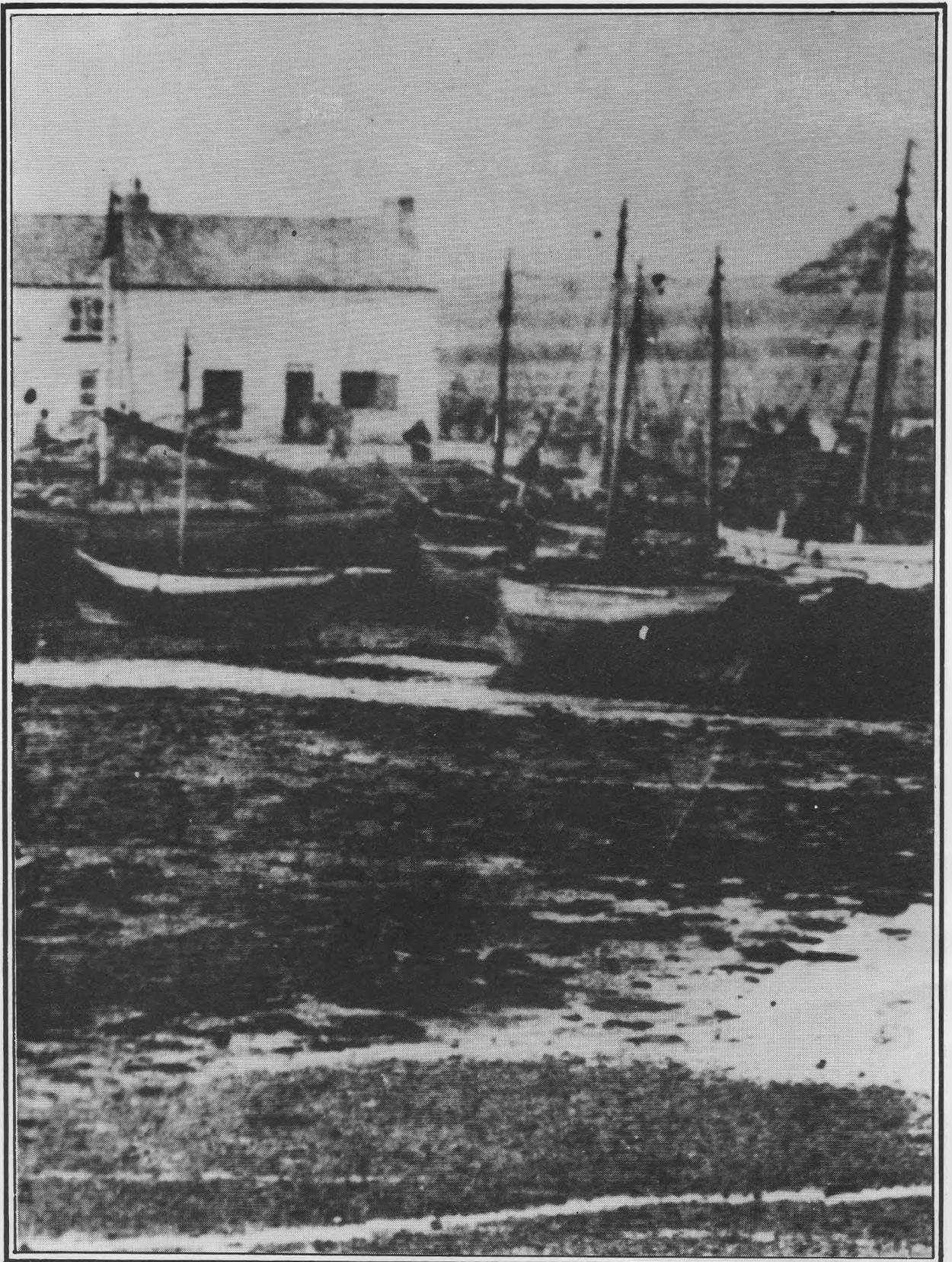


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KINVARA QUAY AROUND THE TURN OF THE CENTURY