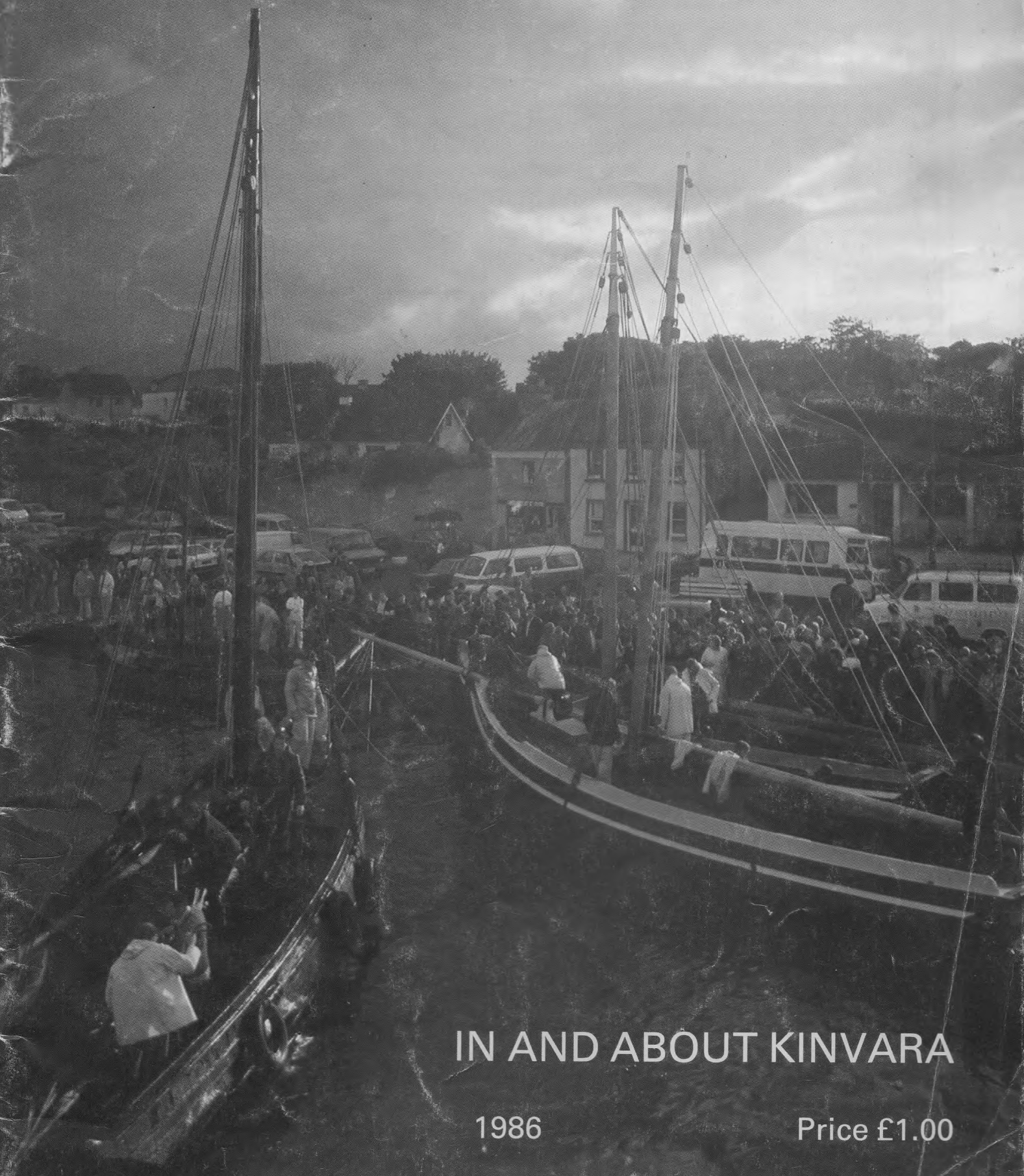


# TRÁČT



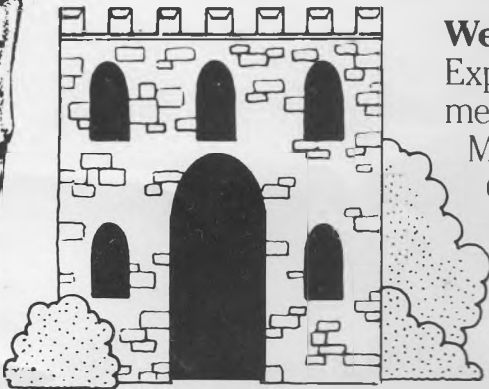
IN AND ABOUT KINVARA

1986

Price £1.00



# WE'VE GOT A LOT FOR YOU TO SEE TODAY

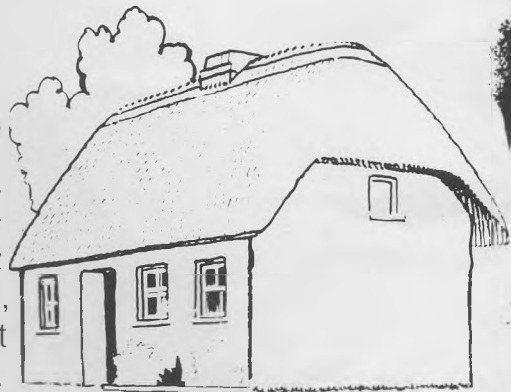


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Time: 5.45 p.m.  
and 9.00 p.m.

## **We've got a 19th Century Village**

on the grounds of Bunratty Castle, Co. Clare. Stroll around the Folk Park and go back in time to another Ireland. See the houses and domestic life of the 19th Century. And there's a Ceili, traditional meal and entertainment every night at 5.45 p.m. and 9.00 p.m.

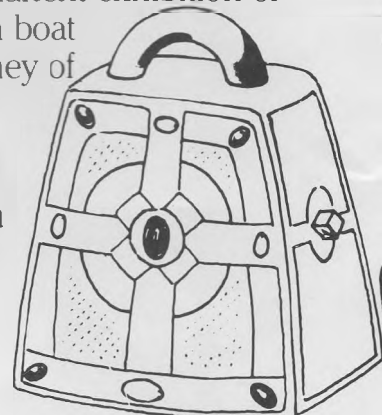


## **We've got a Bronze Age Settlement**

In the grounds of Craggaunowen 16th century Tower house are a reconstructed Crannog (Bronze Age lake dwelling); a Ring Fort of early Christian type; a Museum of mediaeval objects and recently the permanent exhibition of the "Brendan" - the skin boat used to retrace the journey of St. Brendan to America.

## **We've got historical treasures**

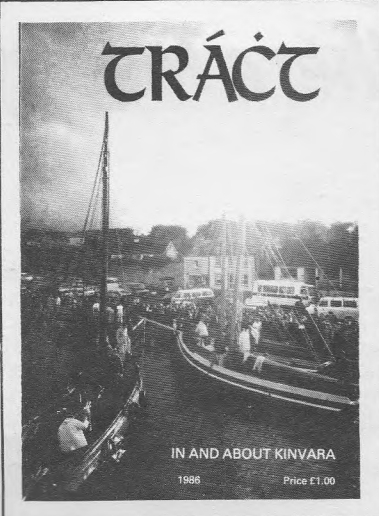
At the Hunt Museum, we've got an exhibition of Irish antiquities and European art objects, including mediaeval bronzes, ivories, Limoges enamels. The Hunt Museum, NIHE, Limerick.



Open daily 9.30 a.m. - 5.30 p.m. April to October (Bunratty open all year round).

Booking for entertainments at any tourist information office.

Further information from Shannon Castle Tours (061) 61788.



Published by:  
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Editorial Board:  
J.W. O'Connell  
John Mahoney  
Stan MacEoin

Advertising:  
John Conneely  
Paddy Geraghty

Production & Layout:  
Mary Kilkelly  
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Photographs & Cover:  
Thomas Quinn

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**EDITORIAL**

It is a pleasure to be able to introduce Tract, 1986. Although the gap between issues may have been somewhat longer than usual, we hope you'll agree it's been worth waiting for! We've grown a lot bigger since last time - more pages, more pictures - in order to bring you a greater variety of articles. Some regular features, such as the short story, "Musicians of Kinvara" and "In Old Kinvara," are being introduced in this issue; as we get established, we hope to add more - a letters page, for example.

For we do aim at getting established. Community magazines are becoming more and more popular around the country. Just in our own area, there are Guaire in Gort, the Adrahan magazine, and the Craughwell Blazer. Why not a regular Kinvara magazine? A community magazine is, in a real sense, an index of a community's health and self-respect. Kinvara is a marvellous place - full of history and beauty and music; it has a very distinctive character that attracts people here from - quite literally - all over the world. In these pages we hope you will find the two dimensions of Kinvara, in those articles that show us as a community at work and play, and in those that show those outside the community why Kinvara is such a unique place.

Many people have worked very hard to get this issue out. Most of their names are in the column to the left, but merely to list them seems hardly enough. So, we would like to express our deepest thanks for all their time and effort. We would also like to thank all those who have supported Tract through advertisements. Such support is a real vote of confidence in what is, after all, a genuine community effort.

Coming soon...the NEXT ISSUE!

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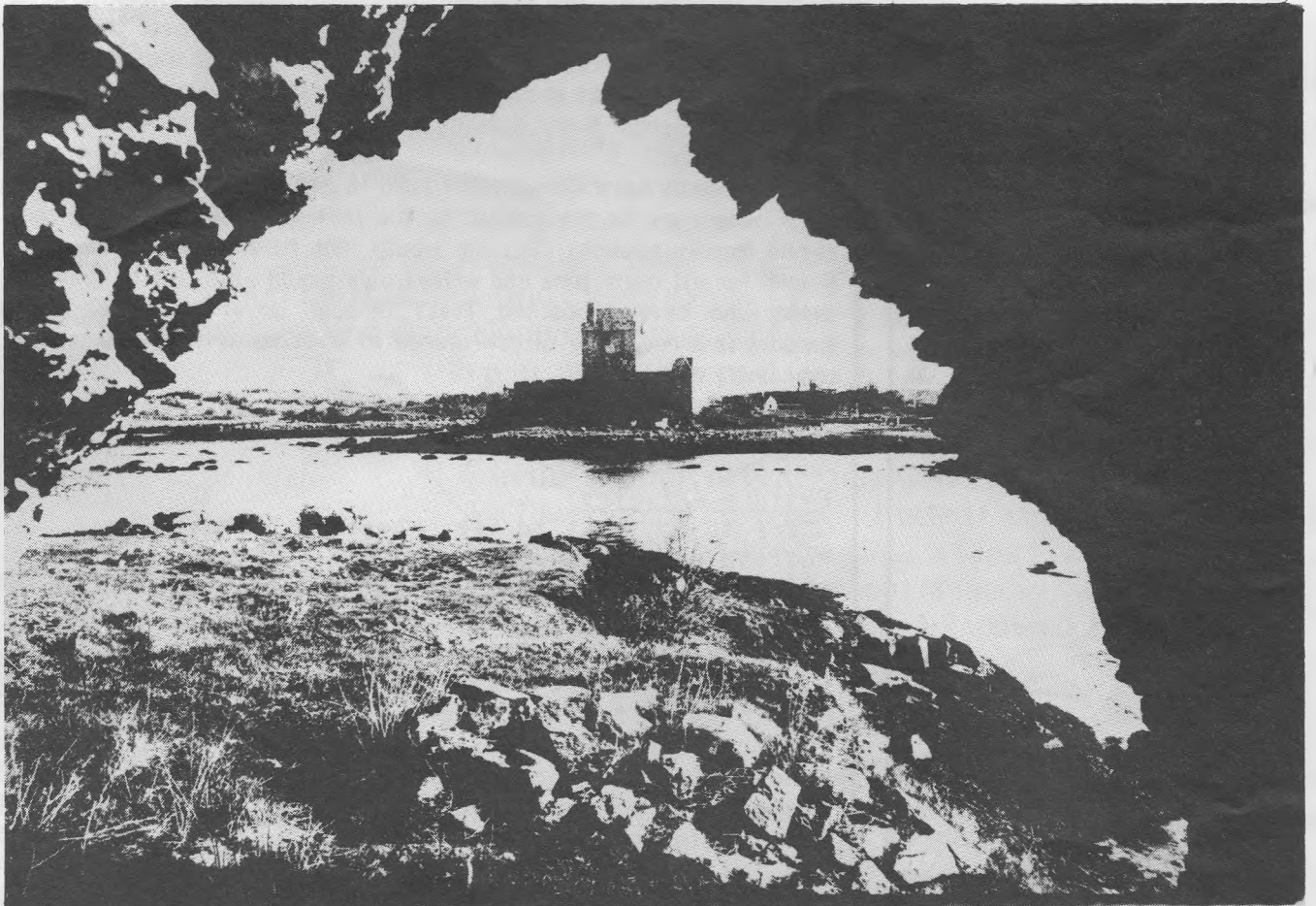


# Where To Go What To See Where To Stay

Kinvara, the attractive seafront town about 18 miles from Galway City, has become widely known in recent years because of Cruinniu na nBad - the colourful weekend festival held in August each year that re-creates the days when the graceful Connemara hookers sailed across Galway Bay with turf for the people of Kinvara, South Galway and North Clare. The decision by the Royal Prince and Princess of Japan to make Kinvara one of their stops in their busy schedule in Ireland clearly reflects the reputation for hospitality and genuine Irish atmosphere Kinvara has achieved in the eyes of the world.

Kinvara, however, has an ancient tradition of welcoming the stranger and turning him into a friend. King Guaire, the renowned 7th Century King of Connaught whose name is celebrated in Dúnguair Castle, was known throughout Ireland for his hospitality. Legend has it that his right arm was longer than his left on account of his lavish generosity. Over the last century this tradition of providing rest and refreshment for the weary traveller was carried on by several excellent hotels. Lady Gregory, Yeats, Edward Martyn, Oliver St. John Gogarty (who owned Dúnguair Castle for a brief spell) and George Bernard Shaw were all familiar visitors to the town.

Today Kinvara is a growing, bustling town, with many attractive hotels and guest-houses. The surrounding area and the beautiful Doorus Peninsula are also well served with lively pubs, guest-houses and fascinating spots to visit. Every year Kinvara is visited by large numbers of tourists who come in search of beautiful scenery and traditional music. Yet, Kinvara, even at its busiest, remains a friendly, inviting area, where the hard-pressed traveller can really "get away from it all." A very warm welcome is extended to everyone!



## A Tourist's Guide To The Kinvara District

### Activities:

**Swimming** - There is an excellent beach at Traught in Doorus, convenient to shops, a pub and guest-houses. Next to the beach is a field where, for a nominal charge, caravans may be parked.

There is a heated indoor swimming pool at Kilcornan, Clarenbridge (7 miles from Kinvara). Opening hours: 2-5pm; 7-8pm. Enquiries: (091) 96106.

**Sailing** - For those who wish to bring boats to Kinvara, there is a tidal quay in the town and a pier at Parkmore, Doorus.

**Walking** - There are some excellent opportunities for the walker to stretch his legs while enjoying a stay in Kinvara. Many of these are shown on 'Kinvara - A Ramblers Map and Guide' (see list of maps and books below).



Cahercon Ring Fort

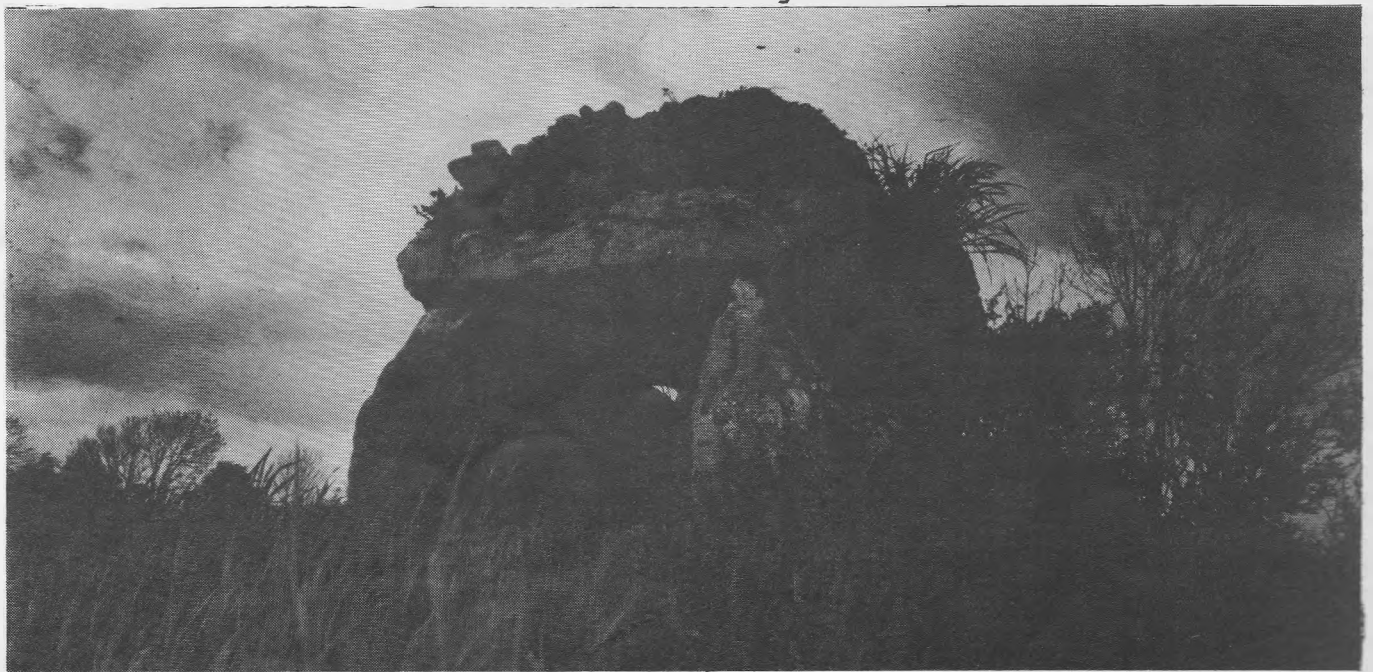
**Mountain Climbing** - Kinvara borders the spectacular area of the Burren. The gently rolling limestone hills may be climbed, for the most part, without great difficulty, and the views they provide are truly breath-taking. 'The Burren: Ballyvaughan - A Ramblers Guide and Map' and the large map of the entire Burren (for both, see list below) provide suggestions for interesting walks and climbs.

**Adventure Centre** - During April-June and September-October the adventure centre operates from Johnston's Independent Youth Hostel in town. Opportunities are provided for canoeing, sailing, swimming, cycling, orienteering, mountain-climbing and rock-climbing. For schools interested in bringing groups on an Adventure Weekend, all facilities are provided. For information, ring Richard Johnston, (091) 37164

**Historic Spots:**

Both Kinvara and Doorus have plenty to satisfy those in search of Ireland's rich historical heritage. Everything from ring-forts to castles, megalithic tombs to ruined 'Big Houses' may be found in the area. Literary associations are also rich. From Ballylee Castle and Coole Park outside Gort to New Quay where Lady Gregory had a summer house, the tourists who wish to explore some of the spots connected with the Irish Literary Renaissance will find plenty to keep themselves busy. The An Oige Youth Hostel in Doorus is the former home of Count Florimond de Basterot; in the front room is a permanent exhibition commemorating the historic meeting that took place here between Lady Gregory and W.B. Yeats which laid the foundations for the Irish National Theatre. Listed below are only a few of the many interesting spots to visit:

Doorus Demesne Wedge Tomb





**Dunquaire Castle** - This 16th Century tower house was restored by the late Lady Amptill and is now owned by Shannonside Tourism. The Castle is open to the public every day during the summer months 9.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. Medieval Banquets are held during the summer. A tea-room provides light refreshments.

**Doorus Demesne Wedge-Tomb** - Dating from Ireland's Bronze Age, these impressive tombs are found widely throughout the Burren, but this one near Kinvara is a very fine example.

**Cahercon Stone-Fort** - This is an excellent example of a Celtic stone-fort. Constructed out of massive limestone blocks, these structures are found all over the country, were protected enclosures where a farmer and his family lived and where also the livestock was kept at night.

**Aughnish Martello Tower** - Built by the British to repel a threatened Napoleonic invasion, these squat, grim-looking towers can be found all along coastal areas in Ireland where it appeared an invading force might try to land. (There is another at Finavarra Point; the most famous one is that lived in for a time by James Joyce, just outside Dublin).

**Craft Shops:**

Kinvara Handcrafts (on the square).  
Leech's Village Crafts (next to the Post Office).  
Dunquaire Castle Craft Shop.

**Restaurants:**

Piggot's Cafe (on the Quay).  
Dunquaire Tea-Room (at Dunquaire Castle).

**Mini-Bus Hire:**

Eilish Bermingham (091) 37134  
John Conneely (091) 37206



Martello Tower on Aughinish

**Banks:**

Bank of Ireland  
Allied Irish Banks  
Note: Banks are open in Kinvara on Wednesdays only, 10 am - 12 pm. In Gort (10 miles from Kinvara) both banks are open daily.

**Post Office**

Daily: 9:30am-5:00pm; Saturday 9:30am-1:00pm.  
Note: On weekdays P.O. closes between 1-2pm for lunch.

**Emergencies:**

Doctor: (091) 37106  
Garda Station: (091) 37102

**Churches:**

Mass are offered in:  
St. Joseph's (Kinvara): Saturday, 8.00pm; Sunday, 8.30am  
St. Colman's (Kinvara-West): Sunday at 11.00am  
St Kieran's (Doorus): Sunday at 9:30am  
(For information: (091) 37154 or (091) 37283)

**Youth Hostels:**

Johnston's Independent (Kinvara): (091) 37164  
An Oige (Doorus House, Doorus): (091) 37173

**Hotels and B & B's:**

Winkles Hotel: (091) 37137  
Winderemere: (091) 37151  
Kinvarra House: (091) 37118  
Smith's B&B: (091) 37127  
Cois Cuain: (091) 37119  
Burren View (Doorus): (091) 37142  
Teac Caoilte (Doorus): (091) 37214  
Rockville (Doorus): (091) 37286  
Linnane's (c/o Nogra Stores): (091) 37115  
Mrs. Thomas Martin (Corker): (065) 78019

**Maps & Books Available Locally:**

Kinvara - A Ramblers Map & Guide -£ 1.75  
The Burren - Ballyvaughan: A Ramblers Guide & Map - £1.75  
The Burren £3.50  
Galway Bay (Ordance Survey) £2.55  
White-Sheeted Fort - J.P. Hynes - 50p  
The Galway Hooker - £6.50  
The Burren (Irish Heritage Series No. 30) - £2.50  
Burren Journey West - George Cunningham - £2.50  
Galway Bay Ecotour - Tony Wilde - £1.00  
The Galway Guide - 50p  
The Clare Guide - 50p  
The Guide to the Birds of Ireland - £5.95

**Film:**

Kinvara Handcrafts  
McMahons Shop  
Dunquaire Castle Craft Shop

**Petrol Stations:**

McMahon's  
Winkle's Hotel  
Paddy O Loughlin

**Garages:**

Forde's (091) 37124  
Sullivans  
Paddy O Loughlin (091) 37135  
Paddy Connolly (091) 37253

**Tourist Information Point:**

Kinvara Handcrafts, The Square.

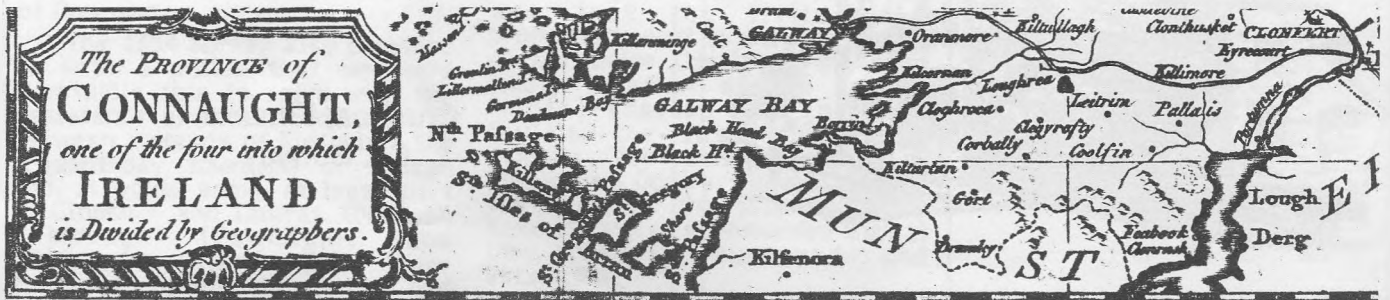
**Public House Hours:**

Weekdays: 10.30am - 11.30pm (summer)  
Sundays: 12.00-2pm; 4-10pm.

**Booking For Medieval Banquets:**

Dunquaire Castle (091) 37108  
Winkle's Hotel (091) 37137  
Galway Tourist Office (091) 63081  
Shannon Castle Tours (061) 61788

# Putting KINVARA On The Map



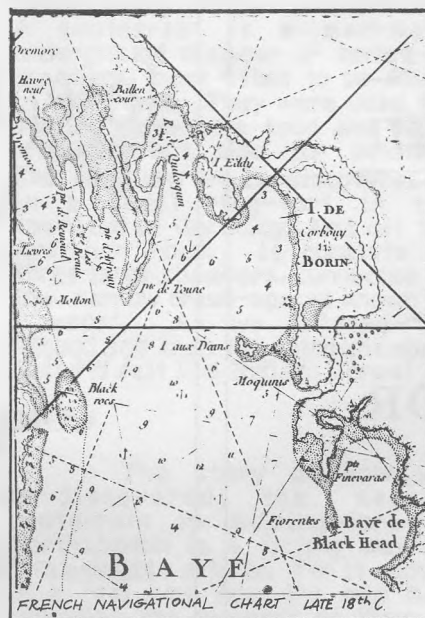
July of this year sees the first anniversary of 'Kinvara - A Ramblers Guide and Map'. It is very gratifying to be able to record the great popular success the map has enjoyed. For this was one of our chief aims - that the people of Kinvara should see it as their map, and that their pride in Kinvara's rich historical heritage should be renewed and deepened. Undoubtedly in the years to come additions and alterations will have to be made to the map - we already have plans to include several more sites and more Irish place-names in a future edition - but the initial spade work at least had been done. In this article we would like to explain a little of how we went about making the map and also share some of the discoveries we've made.

To begin with, however, we should say something about the resources available to the mapmaker. Apart from the most important of these - sturdy legs in stout boots! - the basic resource material can be classed as follows:

1. Earlier maps
2. Air-photography
3. Ordnance Survey Letters 1839-40
4. Surveys of Land-Ownership from the 16th century onwards.
5. Local Tradition
6. Archaeological Material

All of these, with the exception of Air-Photography, were made use of in making the Kinvara map. Although mapmaking in Ireland has a long history, much of it connected with the occupation of the country that began with the Normans, the earliest maps that are really useful for subsequent mapmakers are those drawn under the direction of Sir William Petty. Petty proposed in 1654 to the commissioners responsible for the Cromwellian land settlement that an accurate topographical survey be carried out. Petty's atlas of Irish maps was finally published in 1685 and remained the most precise survey of the country until

the appearance of the Ordnance Survey maps of the early 1840's. On Petty's map of Co. Galway, many of the townlands of the parish of Kinvara are plainly shown, despite some peculiar spellings - Duras, Corboy (Cregboy?), Kinturly, Monascreeboo, Crossouy, Rogh (Roo?), Carronamadro, Moige (Moy?), Doungory, Treylick and Loghcurragh. Mapmakers all over the country, however, owe an enormous debt to the men who carried out the Ordnance Survey of 1839-42. Plotted on a scale of 6 inches to the mile, these maps



are one of the major milestones in the history of mapmaking. It is worth mentioning that Ireland was the first country in the world to have such accurate maps, earlier even than England itself. Two men who were instrumental in the Survey were John O'Donovan and Eugene O'Curry, Irish scholars and men of quite incredible physical stamina. The letters they wrote while actually walking through the areas being surveyed are a primary source of information on the early 19th century landscape.

Often they reveal a dry wit and a refusal to be satisfied with merely local hearsay:

"In this parish about a quarter of a mile east of the town of Kinvara there is a holy well dedicated to St. Mac Duach. It is walled in, and shaded by some hawthorne and an ancient ash tree as usual with most holy wells in Connaught. Some think that St Colman had a little church or hermitage here, but I find no authority for any hermitage of his being any where, except in the Barony of Burren where its situation is indicated by "Bothar na Mias."

Surveys of land-ownership, carried out by successive English governments since at the least the 16th century, also provided fascinating information about Kinvara. The Composition Book of Connaught, dating from the reign of Queen Elizabeth, records what appears to be the earliest reference to the land where the town of Kinvara now stands. Once again allowing for the peculiarities of English spelling of Irish names, the following account may speak for itself:

"Also there is a quantitie of land called Killviaragh alias O Heins land consisting of 16 quarters, whereof one quarter in Ballinbranagain one quarter in Clonnswoy one quarter in Moa..."

In the 1654 Cromwellian Survey, we find an even more complete townland list, along with the names of owners in 1641 (the year in which the native Irish rose in rebellion against the English settlers), and descriptions of the nature of the land in the particular townlands. For example, in 1641 Oliver Martin was the proprietor of Corboy - clearly Cregboy in present day Doorus - which is described as "a Quarter together with four small parcells of Land



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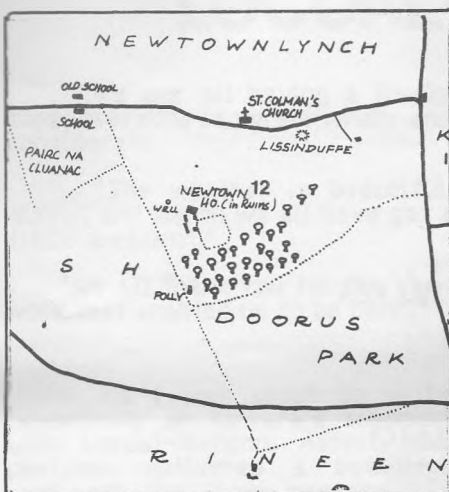
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**Tel. 091-31078 (Church St., Gort)**

*Branch Office at Kinvara on Fridays*



being no part of a quarter all Rocky Stone pasture and arable in some places intermixt one quarter whereof is Stones and Rocks nearly unprofitable...." By the terms of settlement, Martin lost this land to Col. Carey Dillon, the Protestant brother of the 3rd Earl of Roscommon.

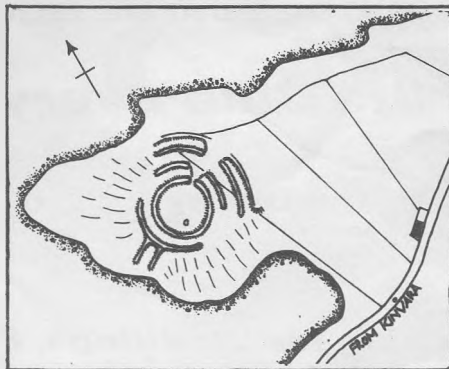
The 1654 Survey also provided us with a puzzle that we were eventually able to solve with the assistance of local tradition. In between accounts of Kinturly - the present-day townland of Rineen and, it would seem, at least part of Cloosh - and Dowras (Doorus), Tamneagh (Tawnagh), and Mounskrebo (Mountscribe), there appeared a townland name that had no recognizable counterpart - Lissinduffe. However, it fell neatly into the area now known as Newtownlynch. 'Lissinduffe' is clearly an anglicized spelling of an Irish original. The first stage on the way back would be 'Lisheenduff'; the original Irish form may have been 'Lios an dubh'. In any case, it seemed to refer to a lios or ring-fort, one of those protected farm enclosures so common in all parts of Ireland that date from the Celtic period. 'Dubh' being the Irish for 'black', what we were looking for was an area of land on which stood, or had stood, a ring-fort known as 'The Black Fort.' Geographically, it seemed to fit, but evidence was lacking until a chance remark by a local man led us to a corner of an otherwise cleared field in the townland of Doorus Park near Newtownlynch. There, partly cut off by the adjoining road, lay a hitherto unrecorded ring-fort. It was a moment of great satisfaction.



We were very fortunate in winning the confidence of Paul Gosling, the director of the UCG-OPW Archaeological Survey of Co. Galway, at an early stage of our mapmaking. Some people may recall the fascinating lecture Mr Gosling gave at the Community Centre last year. We were given unlimited access to the Survey

Team's field reports for the Kinvara area. In return, our own field work resulted in two unexpected bonuses for the Survey itself.

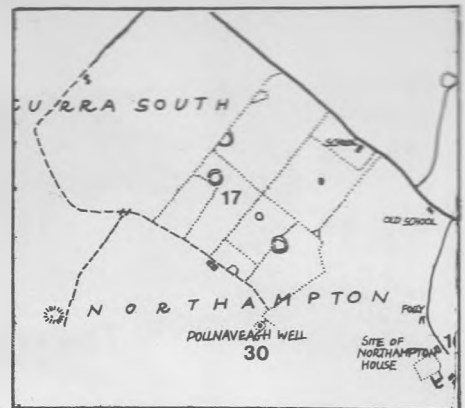
One of the exciting conclusions reached by the UCG Survey Team was that the little-known promontory-fort to the north-east of Dungaive Castle is the most likely location of the famous 'white-sheeted fort' of Rath Durlais, the stronghold of the famous 7th century King of Connaught, Guaire. So excited was the Team by the site that they have strongly recommended that it be properly surveyed and excavated.



Our own contribution to the Survey consists not only in the locating of Lissinduffe, but in the re-discovery of two souterrains. A souterrain is a man-made underground chamber or series of chambers, most often to be found in ring-forts. They were used for storing perishable food and dairy products, but also for defence. The first one we re-discovered is in a small ring-fort in the townland of Gortaboy, just off the Ardrahan road. It consists of three large chambers, connected by low, narrow crawl-spaces known as 'creeps'. As we entered the second and then the third chamber, we both felt like Indiana Jones!

The story of how we re-discovered the second souterrain in a ring-fort in Northampton is a fitting way to conclude this article. For it shows in a real way how the map has rekindled the interest of Kinvara people in their own past. Last summer, during the weekend of Cruinniu na nBad, Mr. Tom Hanlon of Carrownamadra approached us and asked if we were the ones who had made the map. When we told him that we were, he inquired if we were interested in "looking at a cave". 'Cave' being the common word for describing souterrain, we said that we certainly were. The following Monday we went with Mr Hanlon to a ring-fort that we had included on the map. As we walked towards it, Mr. Hanlon was so

enthusiastic that we didn't know how to tell him that we knew about this fort, and that the souterrain,



which we had seen, was only a collapsed hole of rubble. When we arrived, we eventually said as much. But Mr. Hanlon was quite unperturbed - "No, there're chambers down there - big chambers". He indicated where we should look, and when we began to scrape the earth away, to our amazement the beginnings of a cut-stone passage began to emerge. The following Saturday we returned with a friend to help us dig, two buckets, torches, a spade and a shovel. After about 4 hours of clearing what was only infill deposited over the years, we shone our torches into the darkness of an enormous cut-stone chamber, at the end of which was another, equally large. Mr. Hanlon had told us that no one had been in the chamber for at least 40 years, when his brother had gone down with a friend. As we shone the torch over the stone-walls, imagine our surprise as the light picked out an inscription 'Tom Leech - 1939'!

J.W.O'Connell/Ann Korff

Kinvara - A Ramblers Map and Guide - £1.75



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The Bretons say Farewell to Kinvara...until the next time!

## Twinning with LOCOAL-MENDON

"We are all having a lovely time; everyone is very friendly and considerate."

"The weather is beautiful, sunny, and warm; we all have got a little sunburnt."

"We all thank you for the hard work that enabled us to be here."

As I was about to write 'something' on Kinvara's twinning with Locoal-Mendon, Albert, the postman, delivered a beautiful card with the above message. It came from five girls from this area who are in Locoal-Mendon for three weeks. The message sums up what twinning is all about.

"Having a lovely time" - enjoying one's self; having new experiences; broadening one's horizons.

"Everyone is very friendly and considerate" - contact with others of a different culture and background; a striving to overcome the handicaps of different language and culture; enjoying the assets of a 'new' culture and language; recognising the common humanity we all share whether we are Celtic or Latin, Catholic or Protestant, Black or White, Conservative or Radical.

"The weather is beautiful" - a new experience; a memory for the bleak days of Autumn and Winter.

"The hard work that enabled us to be here" - relationships must be worked at; they don't just happen; Commitment on both sides is necessary; the 'marriage' must be supported by all the members of the family - the communities of Kinvara and Locoal-Mendon.

My original intention was to give an account of all the happenings in our Twinning history. But that can be had elsewhere. By now everyone in our community knows of Locoal-Mendon. Most have met some of our dear friends from Brittany. Every meeting draws our communities closer together. About twenty people from Kinvara will visit Locoal-Mendon over the Summer. But our BIG expedition is scheduled for next Easter when it is hoped that many from Kinvara, Ballindereen and New Quay will cross the Celtic Sea to visit Locoal-Mendon for the official twinning ceremonies.

To avail of the special low twinning rates (£70 return for adults, £40 for children), application should be made now to Very Rev. Canon O'Connor, P.P., Chairperson, or Stan Mc Eoin, Honorary Secretary.

Let there be music, song and dance. Let our Celtic spirit free to roam the Celtic world. Let there be peace and joy.

Stan Mc Eoin.

# Tomás O h-Eidhin

(1868-1943)

Tomas O h-Eidhin (Tomas Hynes) was born in Killina on Dec. 16th, 1868. He grew up in a community still suffering the effects of the Famine of 1845 - 1848. The population of the parish had fallen from 1,700 families in 1841 to a little over 700 families 25 years later. The years 1876 to 1879 were bad ones in Killina as in most parishes along the western sea-board. Agricultural prices were depressed and a succession of bad harvests resulted in poor returns for the farmers. Famine again stalked the land. Evictions increased. Land agitation grew. This was the environment in which the ideas and attitudes of the young O h-Eidhin were shaped.

He was the second of seven children born to Bartley and Mary Hynes. His father had a keen interest in the Irish Language; despite the new national school system Irish was still spoken widely throughout the parish. On Sept. 4th 1901, Bartley Hynes was



summoned to appear before Justice Francis Perse of Kinvara Court. The charge against him was that on July 31st, 1901, he allowed his cart to be used on a public street without his name and address being painted on it in legible letters. This charge referred to his insistence that his name and address should be in Irish. He was fined one penny.

Tomas got his love of Irish from his father and in 1908 he went to Ring, Co. Waterford, to perfect his use of the language. The certificate that he acquired at the end of this course qualified him as an instructor in Irish. He got 100% for spoken Irish, 85% for

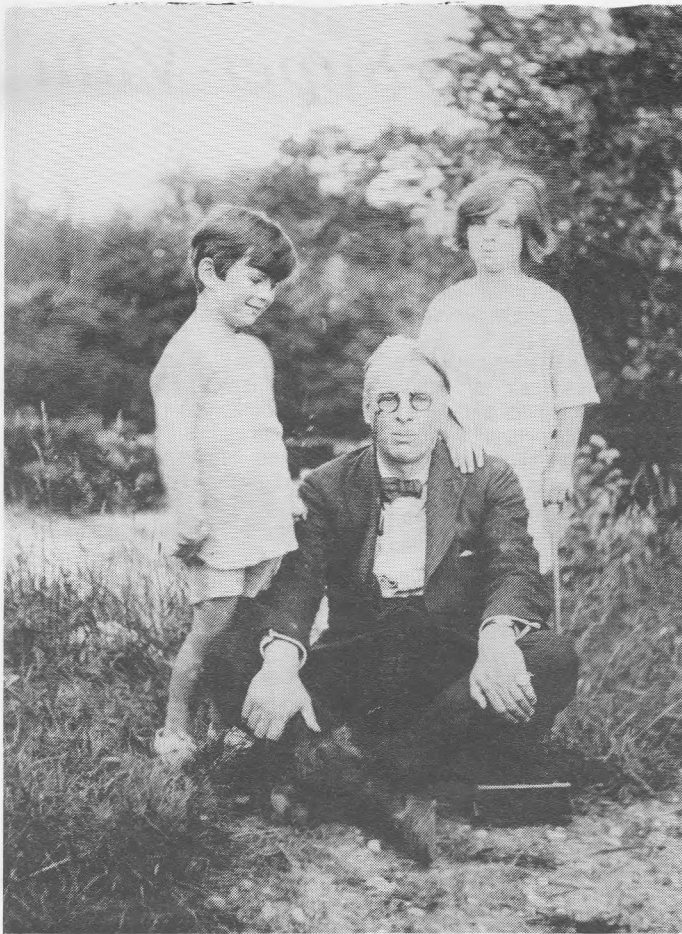
written Irish, 90% for range of vocabulary and 80% for ability to teach Irish.

Much of his time after this was spent as a Timire for the Gaelic League promoting Irish throughout the area. Many of the older people still remember his classes in Kinvara, Lurga, Kilbeacanty, Ardahan and in many parts of Clare - even as far away as Kilrush. Then and later he was involved in organising Feiseanna for the Gaelic League. Joseph Muldoon still remembers being asked by O' h-Eidhin to send a group from Kinvara N.S. to Gort to take part in a Feis in 1933.

His involvement with the Gaelic League involved him in constant travelling and he was a familiar sight on the roads of Galway, Clare and even Roscommon. His frequent travelling and his strong republican convictions led many people to believe that O h-Eidhin was a contact man between various units of the I.R.A. during the War of Independence. Many old people to whom I spoke referred to O h-Eidhin as the "I.R.A. man." Absolute proof of this may never come to light now but there is no doubt that he was on friendly terms with most of the leading I.R.A. men of the area during those troubled years. His nephews, Mickey and Willie Hynes of Dungora, were active republicans whose house was burned down by the Black and Tans. His best friend was Padraig O Fatha of Labane who was also an active service volunteer and his shop in Gort could be used easily



I.R.A. Camp (L. to R.): Bertie Quinn, Mikie Hynes, Seamus Davenport, Joe Kilkelly, Tommie Reidy, Tommie Quinn, Padraig Kilkelly



W.B. Yeats & his children

by I.R.A. men without the danger of arousing suspicion.

However, O h-Eidhin will be remembered chiefly for the record he left behind in his photographs. No one now knows where he got his interest in photography but there is no doubting that his photographs capture the essential features of a way of life that has long since gone.

On three days each week - Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday - O h-Eidhin cycled to Gort and opened his little shop at the square in the premises now occupied by "Frank Finnegan & Son, Butchers." A steady stream of people from all over South Galway and North Clare came here to have their photographs taken. These were the passport photographs - 6 for 5 shillings - which represented the first step in their emigration to the new world. Many of the group photographs of this period - school groups, hurling teams etc. - were taken by O h-Eidhin. He took many family group photographs also - many of which found their way to America. The healthy appearance of the people and the quality of their dress give the lie to those who believe that everyone in those days was barefooted and starving.

His photographs illustrate many of the strands of the War of Independence. One photograph shows an R.I.C constable with his wife and dog while others show an I.R.A. camp in Kinvara, the shell of the Hyne's home at Dungora after it was burned by the Black and Tans, the bodies of the Loughnane Brothers in their coffins outside the Parish Church - all scenes of tremendous historical interest.

Yeats invited him to Thoor Ballylee to take pictures inside the Tower, the negatives of which were presented by his niece, Mary Hynes, to the Kiltartan Society. These were later used when the Tower was renovated. He also, on the occasion, took at least two photographs of Yeats sitting on the grass with his children, Michael and Ann, standing on either side.

O h-Eidhin left behind a photographic record of old Kinvara which enables us now to have an appreciation of the life of the parish during the early years of this century. These photographs and others stimulated the interest of Paddy Greene in old Kinvara and inspired his very successful photographic display of the History of Kinvara some years ago.



Mr & Mrs Leech, Loughcurra

These photographs also provided the inspiration for the Cruinniu na mBad festival - which was designed to celebrate the skills of the old boatmen.

It is not just the number and range of his photographs that make him an important figure but also the quality of his work. Thomas Quinn honoured O h-Eidhn's contribution during the Cruinniu na mBad festival, 1985. This exhibition highlighted his early Victorian style and his flair for composition especially in his groups and family photographs. Great interest was shown in this exhibition by many people who had never heard of O h-Eidhn and it is hoped that an even bigger display can be mounted for the 1986 Cruinniu.

The last years of his life were spent in quiet retirement in Killina. His interest in the Irish language and politics never waned. He was no longer able to travel as extensively as before but he spent his time collecting folklore and items of local history. He died quietly at home on February 12th, 1943 and was buried in Kilmacduagh Cemetery.

John Conneely & Thomas Quinn



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## The

When they moved down from Dublin with the baby, everybody said they must be mad. What would they find to do in the country? In the winter, when John was away at work all the day, Sheila would go demented with boredom. Their friends said these things, and then waited with a certain smug satisfaction for their pronouncements to be shown to be true. But John and Sheila hadn't been bored. They had brought their precious child away from the city that he might grow up in a still, calm environment. That his sense of peace might develop unhindered by the enforced activities of city life.

There were days of course that were terrible, when the rain was so solid that Sheila couldn't even see the lake, let alone the far side of the lake. There had been the November of the flooding when the lake had seeped further and further up the garden path, and the locals had vied with each other in remembering past disasters of flooded houses, ruined crops. That November, rats had been flooded out of their lake shore holes, and it seemed that most of them had come to roost in the attic of their thatched house. But such things made Sheila and John feel vibrant, elemental. It seemed to them that their city friends were living life at second hand.

It was only lately, in this third winter, that Sheila had begun to feel low, not so well able to cope. The lake was beginning to obsess her. The fact that it wasn't tidal. It was a heavy lump of water which swelled like a putrid boil in the winter and shrank in the summer. The child too seemed uneasy this winter. Today, for instance, he had sat by the window, crying for hours, and she had been able to do nothing to amuse him, unable to bring him out because of the rainstorm which had swept across from the western side of the lake at breakfast time, and had only begun to roll away as she was folding him into his bed. She always put him to bed before John's arrival home these evenings, because John was behaving queerly too. He seemed to have lost interest in the child. He never asked about him, rarely went into his room to look at him sleeping, though he had always done so in the past, used to want to wake him up to play with him. Weekends had become a torment. John ignored the child. Sheila thought that the child must be so hurt by his father. Sometimes John would kiss Sheila as though the child wasn't there. In a sexual way, which made Sheila freeze with horror. What such behaviour must do to the child's previously gentle view of life, she could scarcely bear to imagine. John had coarsened, soured.

"Do you think we made a mistake in coming to live here?", she asked him fearfully that night, as they sat near each other on the sofa.

"We weren't to know"

"But do you think we would be any better back in the city?"

"Would it make any difference?"

And the look on his face pierced her, so that she had to turn her head away.

"What are you knitting?", he asked, suddenly and sharply.

"Socks".

"They're very small."

"They are for the child."

"Oh Christ." And he pushed himself away from

the sofa, and walked defeatedly from the room. She called out to him not to slam the door, not to wake the child. Even as she called, the door shuddered in its frame, and the echo of the slam was in her ears, simultaneously with the echo of her own words. The child remained sleeping, and she took up her knitting again, from her lap where she had rested it to listen more carefully for noise. His little feet had been so cold last winter. This winter they would be warm as toast.

When she woke up the following morning, John had gone, had eaten breakfast and had left the house without waking either her or the child. He had taken the habit of doing this, though in previous years they had always eaten a family breakfast, had looked upon it as a comforting way to begin the day. A time for sharing the surprise of a new day. Sometimes before John went to work, if the day was good, the three of them would walk down to the end of the pier, see what birds were to be seen out on the lake, and John would sigh enviously at the thought of Sheila and the child being able to stay at home all day. Today should have been one of those days, but she was thinking about a past now. Still she and the child would enjoy this day, and in the evening, she would try really hard to share the day with John. She might even keep the child up for a family supper. John used to enjoy those family suppers.

She brought the child outside after breakfast. The day was warm, had enticed out a few bees looking for late flowers. She pointed out the bees to the child, but he was sad again today, could only cry and point to the scant, bedraggled leaves on the ash trees, where they hung like wet paper bags. We'll walk down on the pier and see if we can see any shoals of baby fish. But the child shook his head and began to run. She was always surprised at how fast he could run. Out through the gateway which John had left open on his departure, and on up the winding, heavily hedged lane. She was following behind him, half-laughing, half-crying, because she was upset that he as well as John should be out of sorts to her. Round the second bend, she saw not the child, but a neighbour, a farmer, from whose wife she bought her eggs week by week.

"Did you see him?"

"Who?"

"The child."

The neighbour shook his head. Several times he shook it from side to side, like one of his own ponderous cattle. He looked as though he was scratching an itchy lump on the back of his neck.

"No ma'am. I didn't see the child."

"Oh well. He must be on ahead. I must catch up."

Sheila passed on, looking back once to see her neighbour looking back to her, and his head still shaking. She waved and he waved to her, the head stopped shaking and he walked on down the road. And then of course the child came up behind her. She remembered that she too had played hide and go seek as a child.

"Shall we go down to the pier now?"

This time the child nodded. Yes. They would go down to the pier. And Sheila was glad, because on a day like today, the lake wouldn't be ominous. She could glimpse it through the trees from this height up the lane, and it was blue and shimmering. Just the way it had looked the first years. Today she could surprise her obsession, chase it away.

The child had begun to run on ahead, hurtling down the hill in crazy way of the small children, his head seeming to move faster than his feet. She began to run herself, expecting him to fall, wanting to be there to pick him up, Kiss the wind back into his chest. But he wasn't falling. He was just running uncontrollably, and she couldn't seem able to catch him up.

Something was hampering her. Her wellington boots maybe. But there was something more. There seemed to be a weight of something round her body, and her head had become too heavy to carry. She could barely manage to lift her head, and watch as her tiny child ran light-footed along the ridge of the pier, and caught his foot on one of the boat rings which was sunk into the pier wall. And it seemed

like years later that she too was running along the wall of the pier, and almost unconsciously catching her own foot in the same ring, and falling herself through the widening rings which showed where her son had hit the water.



"It was deliberate, I suppose."

"Not a doubt about it. Didn't she throw herself in at exactly the same place where the child went in the year before?"

"God love her."

"There's not much more we can do here."

And the neighbours, with their boat hooks, withdrew from the shore of the lake.

Gabrielle Warnock

Gabrielle Warnock's first novel, 'Fly in a Web,' was published last year by Poolbeg Press (£2.49). It is available at Kinvara Hand Crafts, The Square, Kinvara, and at Dunguaire Castle.

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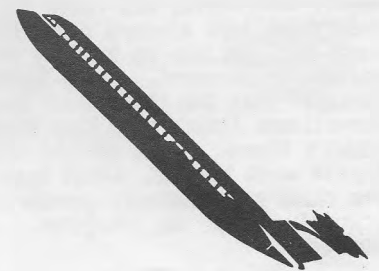
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## Parnell in Kinvara

Parnell outside Thornville Lodge with Dr. W.J. Nally & his wife

Gazing at the reader, across the gulf of a century, are the penetrating eyes of one of Ireland's greatest political leaders, Charles Stewart Parnell. This hitherto unpublished photograph of 'The Chief' was developed from a smaller original by Thomas Quinn. On the back of the original is the date - 1886. What was Parnell doing in Kinvara? And who are the other two people in the photograph?

In the summer of 1886 the British Prime Minister, William E. Gladstone, introduced the Home-Rule bill in Parliament. Behind the introduction of this bill lay not only Gladstone's personal convictions but, perhaps more importantly, years of patient preparation by Parnell and the Irish Nationalist Party, upon whom Gladstone relied for his Parliamentary majority. Earlier in the year T.P. O'Connor, a Nationalist, had been elected in Galway City as well. On February First a writ for a by-election for the Galway seat was moved in the House of Commons. The Nationalists of Galway selected as their candidate a local man, Michael Lynch.

However, by 1886 Parnell's affair with Catherine O'Shea, the wife of Captain W.H.O'Shea, a rather luke-warm member of the Home-Rule coalition, was in its sixth year. As was subsequently shown, Captain O'Shea knew of the affair and turned a blind eye because of the political advantages he gained through its continuance. The by-election of February 1886 was a prime example of this.

O'Shea had been M.P. for Clare in the Parliament of 1850-85, but his half-hearted support of home-rule did not recommend itself to his constituents. When he decided that re-election in Clare was hopeless, he demanded that Parnell should secure his return to Parliament for the Galway seat. Meanwhile, however, Lynch, the local favourite, had gained the support of the Irish Nationalists in Galway. So opposed to O'Shea were J.G. Biggar and T.M. Healy that they hurried to Galway to give their support to Lynch in opposition to their leader's choice. A public meeting was held in Eyre Square

on Sunday afternoon, February 7th, addressed by Biggar and Healy on behalf of Lynch. On the 8th, Nomination Day, Lynch was officially proposed as candidate and another public meeting was held that afternoon.

Finally on Tuesday, February 9th, Parnell arrived in Galway. A private meeting of the Irish Nationalists was held at the Railway Hotel (Great Southern Hotel). Later that day, after Parnell threw his full weight behind O'Shea, he was adopted as the Galway candidate. An afternoon public meeting was held in Eyre Square, at which Parnell spoke in support of Captain O'Shea.

It was a personal triumph for Parnell's leadership; he had argued that the real issue was not between Lynch and O'Shea, but whether his position as leader of the Parliamentary party was to be upheld or whether he was to suffer an embarrassing and potentially damaging defeat just at the moment when Gladstone was about

to introduce the Home-Rule bill. That this became the real issue, however, does not change the fact that the real reason for Parnell's action was the pressure brought to bear by Captain O'Shea, arising out of the former's relationship with his wife. As the historian T.W. Moody comments: "The Galway election of 1886 has a unique

importance in the history of Parnell's leadership of the home-rule movement as the only occasion on which, prior to the O'Shea divorce, Parnell's private life obtruded itself into his public conduct and his authority within the party was seriously threatened."

All the fuss was over by February 10th, so it would seem likely that Parnell's visit to Kinvara took place shortly after that date. The photograph was taken outside Thornville Lodge, the residence of Dr. William J. Nally. The other two people with Parnell would appear to be Dr. Nally and his wife.

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# Musicians of Kinvara

Kinvara is not only a place of historical interest but also a place where good traditional Irish music is to be heard. It is not so long ago that the now very popular group 'De Danaan' used to play regularly in town and there once existed a group called 'Kinvara,' formed by well known musicians like Dolores Keane, John Faulkner, Jackie Daly and others. 'Tracht' will present in this and in the following issues profiles of some of the local musicians. We start with Jerry Mulvihill

Jerry, who lives in a thatched cottage at Lisheeneenan, was born 31 years ago in the small village of Enfield in County Meath. His parents came from Listowel, County Kerry. Jerry's father is a fiddle player and his mother plays the accordion. Jerry started learning when he was about fourteen years of age "picking up tunes from my father and my grandmother when visiting Listowel," he recalls. "My grandmother played the fiddle and concertina. I have good memories of late sessions at home in Enfield and in Listowel when I was young."

Jerry has played the banjo since he was about 14 years old. At the age of 18 he went to work in Dublin "where Irish music was plentiful." "I played a lot with Jerry Bevin from West Cork whom I regarded as one of the finest banjo players I ever heard," he says. In Dublin Jerry Mulvihill studied music and the Irish language. Now he works as a Welfare Officer with the Western Health Board.

In 1980 Jerry moved to Galway. "The main reason was to improve my Irish," he explains. He lived in an "all Irish" house in Spiddal for two years. There he played a lot with the piper Eamonn Brophy and others. "It was in Spiddal that I really became aware of the great tradition of Sean Nos singing which exists there," Jerry remembers.

Jerry Mulvihill, who has played many times in Galway City, prefers the quiet country sessions like those in the pubs in Kinvara. "Good Irish music and singing and dancing sessions are part of every day



life here in Kinvara," says Jerry, who occasionally goes abroad to perform, mostly to the USA. "Irish music is part of me. It is as important to me as the wind is to the sails of a Galway Hooker."

By the way, Jerry, Charlie Piggott and others play every Saturday night at the 'Ould Plaid Shawl,' and on Sunday nights at 'Flatley's.' There are occasionally extra special sessions at 'Tully's.'

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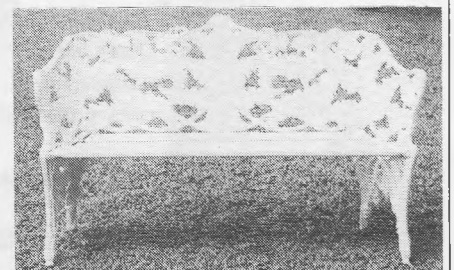
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# Environmental Awareness

The formation of the European Economic Community (E.E.C) was a major world development of the 20th century. The E.E.C. enact laws, regulations and directives which govern the lives of some 300 million people. The Common Agricultural Policy (C.A.P.) is one such regulation. The C.A.P. has a major influence on Farmers' incomes, lives and also the Environment.

of regulations No. 797/85, in 1985, by the E.E.C. This regulation deals with Agricultural Structures like the Farm Modernisation Scheme, Mountain and Hill Land Improvement and Specific regional measures.

Article 19 of Regulation 797/85 deals with "National aid in environmentally sensitive areas". It is a common framework for the

density and the level of intensity of agricultural production will be compatible with the specific environmental needs of the area concerned.

4. Member States shall forward to the Commission all such prospective schemes, together with a list of areas qualifying for aid under those schemes.

Articles 92 to 94 of the Treaty shall apply. The commissioner shall decide on the whole aid system planned, including the application areas, within three months following it's notification, after consulting the standing Committee on Agricultural Structures. Articles 29 shall apply to the special schemes referred to in this article.

It is up to member states to implement the above guidelines. Certain E.E.C. countries have selected environmentally sensitive areas. Italy has selected an area of the Poe Region.

\* Farmers in these specially designated areas have agreed to introduce or maintain farming practices compatible with requirements dictated by the need to protect the environment and the countryside. Special financial aid is made available to farmers in these areas.

\* The purpose of this article is (a) to highlight an E.E.C. regulation concerning the environment and to make farmers more aware of environmental issues.

(b) to get policy makers to support agriculture in areas where it is essential for land-use planning, maintenance of the social balance, and the protection of the environment and landscape.

This should be done within the basic objectives of the C.A.P. as outlined in Article 39 of the Treaty of Rome.

\* In conclusion it can be seen that the work of farmers in the protection of the environment and preservation of the countryside is a genuine service to society as a whole.

Should Kinvara be a special designated area under Article 19 of Regulation No 797/85?

Michael O'Sullivan, M. Agr.Sc

June 1986



The major objective of the C.A.P. was to ensure adequate food supplies for the millions of people within the E.E.C. Due to modern technology and expertise there has been a green revolution during the past two decades (sixties and seventies). The green revolution has resulted in a phenomenal increase in agricultural production. This in turn has given rise to huge food surpluses.

However, an unwelcome development of the 20th century is the pollution of the environment. Consequently, there is a growing awareness and concern among the public in all matters relating to the environment, it's conservation and protection.

Eurocrats, Bureaucrats, Policy makers and Politicians have taken cognisance of this concern and have introduced measures which may protect the environment. One such measure is the introduction

promotion of the preservation of the environment under the C.A.P. The following are the guidelines of Article 19:

1. In order to contribute towards the introduction or continued use of agricultural production practices compatible with the requirements of conserving the natural habitat and ensuring adequate income for farmers, Member States are authorized to introduce special national schemes to environmentally sensitive areas.

2. For the purpose of this Article, 'environmentally sensitive areas' means in particular, areas of recognised importance from an ecological and landscape point of view.

3. The aid may be granted to farmers who undertake to farm environmentally important areas so as to preserve or improve their environment. The farmers undertaking must stipulate at least that there will be no further intensification of agricultural production and that the stock

**K**invara



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The Prince and Princess of Japan on their visit to Kinvara



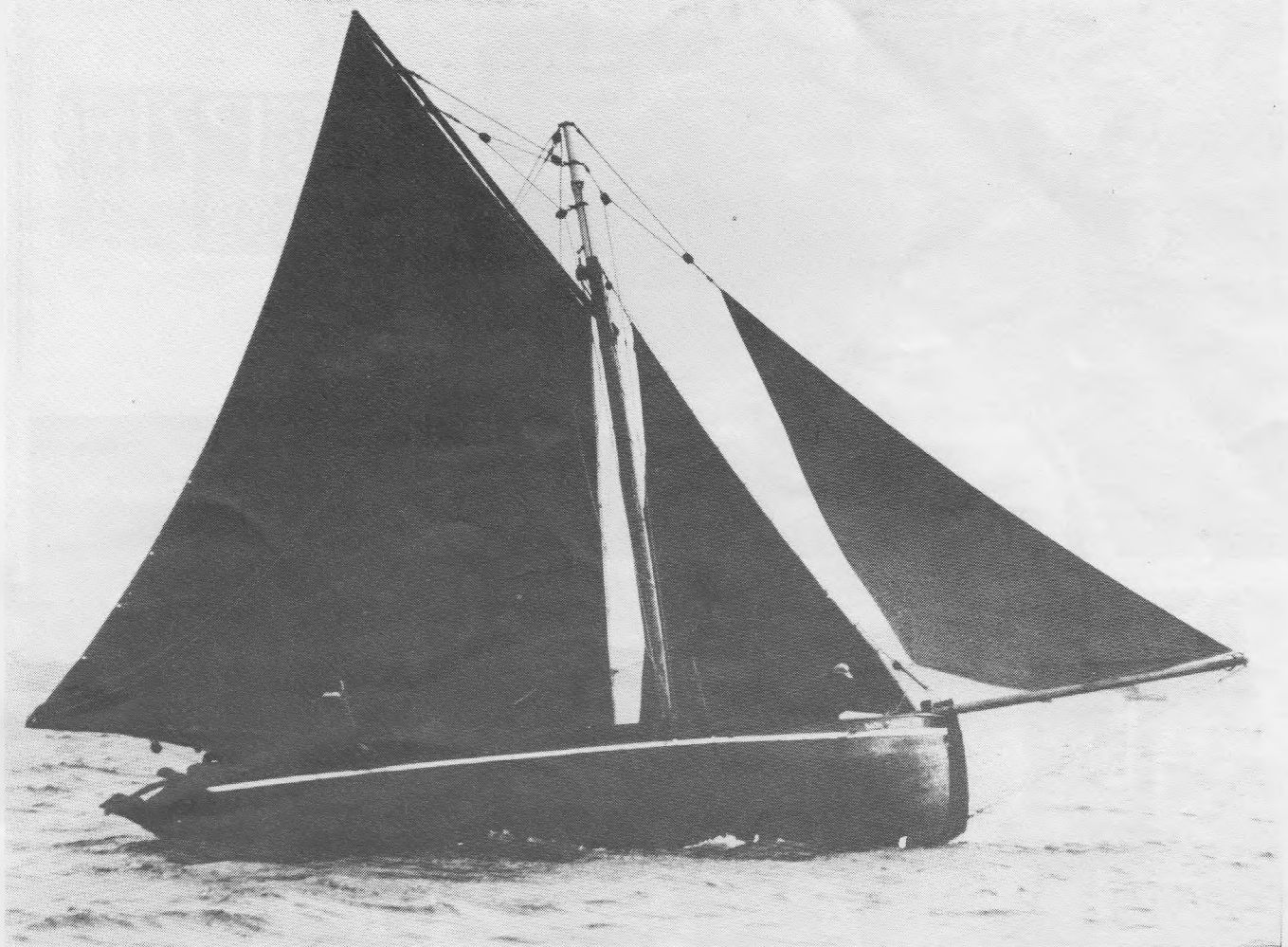


People



Mr Haughey taken in hand!

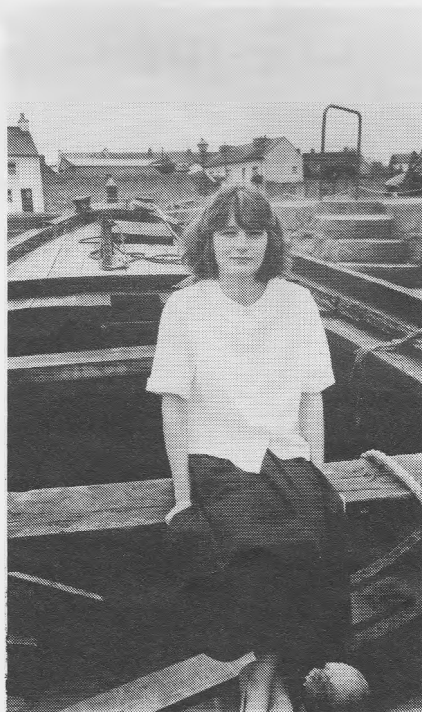




# Cruinniú na mBád 1986

(15th - 17th August)

Kinvara's annual festival of the boats - Cruinniú na mBád - will be held this year from Friday, 15th August - Sunday, 17th August. As usual, there will be plenty going on - a parade, a fish-cooking demonstration on the Quay, and, of course, lots of music. Dances will be held each night of the festival. All that's hoped for now is a little of God's sunshine to ensure another enjoyable weekend for those coming to Kinvara for this year's Cruinniú!



Pictured is Miss Jane Joyce of Kinvara who has been chosen Banríon an Chruinniú for this year's festival.

## saturday

- 2 p.m. - Festival Band & Fancy Dress Parade
- 3 p.m. - Gleoteog Mora & Beaga Race.
- 3.30 p.m. - Putting Competition
- 4 p.m. - Slow Bicycle Race
- 5 p.m. - Yacht Race
- Evening - Music on the Quay.

## sunday

- 12 p.m. - Open Air Mass
- 2 p.m. - Currach Race
- 2.30 p.m. - Bonny Baby Competition
- 3 p.m. - Hooker Race
- 3.30 p.m. - Aeraiocht /Set Dancing Competition
- 4 p.m. - Tug-o-War

In addition, a group of Mummers from Clare will be performing, and there will be a Children's Disco in the afternoon.



# AN BÁC MÓNA (AR STAD)

Balilíodh an t-eolas seo ó bhaill Scoil Éigse Dhubhrois ar 13 Feabhra, 1967. Bhí an cruinniú i dtigh Phádraigh Uí Éidhin agus bhí na daoine seo leanas i láthair:

Pádraig Ó hÉidhin (R.I.P.), Eibhlín Bean Uí Chuaigh, Pádraig Ó Cuaigh, Pádraig Mac Conmara (R.I.P.), Una Bean Uí Chonchubhair agus Peadar Ó Buchaininn. Ó Pheadar a tháinig an cuid is mó den eolas faoin mbác móna.

Cúrsaí - ta ceithre cúrsaí

Lóinéar - rópa chun an seol mór a tharraingt suas.

Loinéar beag - rópa chun an pic a tharraingt suas

Scóid - rópa is ea é

Taca - rópa lena athraítear an 'forsail'

Cor an Bholaird - an greim a cuirtear ar an scóid

Lóchar - an suíochán deiridh

An Binn - ainm an chláir adhmaid atá ar bharr

Na Seais - na suíocháin; an seas tosaigh, an seas deiridh, an seas láir, an seas crainn.

Craiceann - cláracha an bháid (ar an taobh amuigh)

An Glún - 'gunnel'

An Teil Deiridh - áit a seasann an fear nuair a bhíonn sé ag stiúradh,

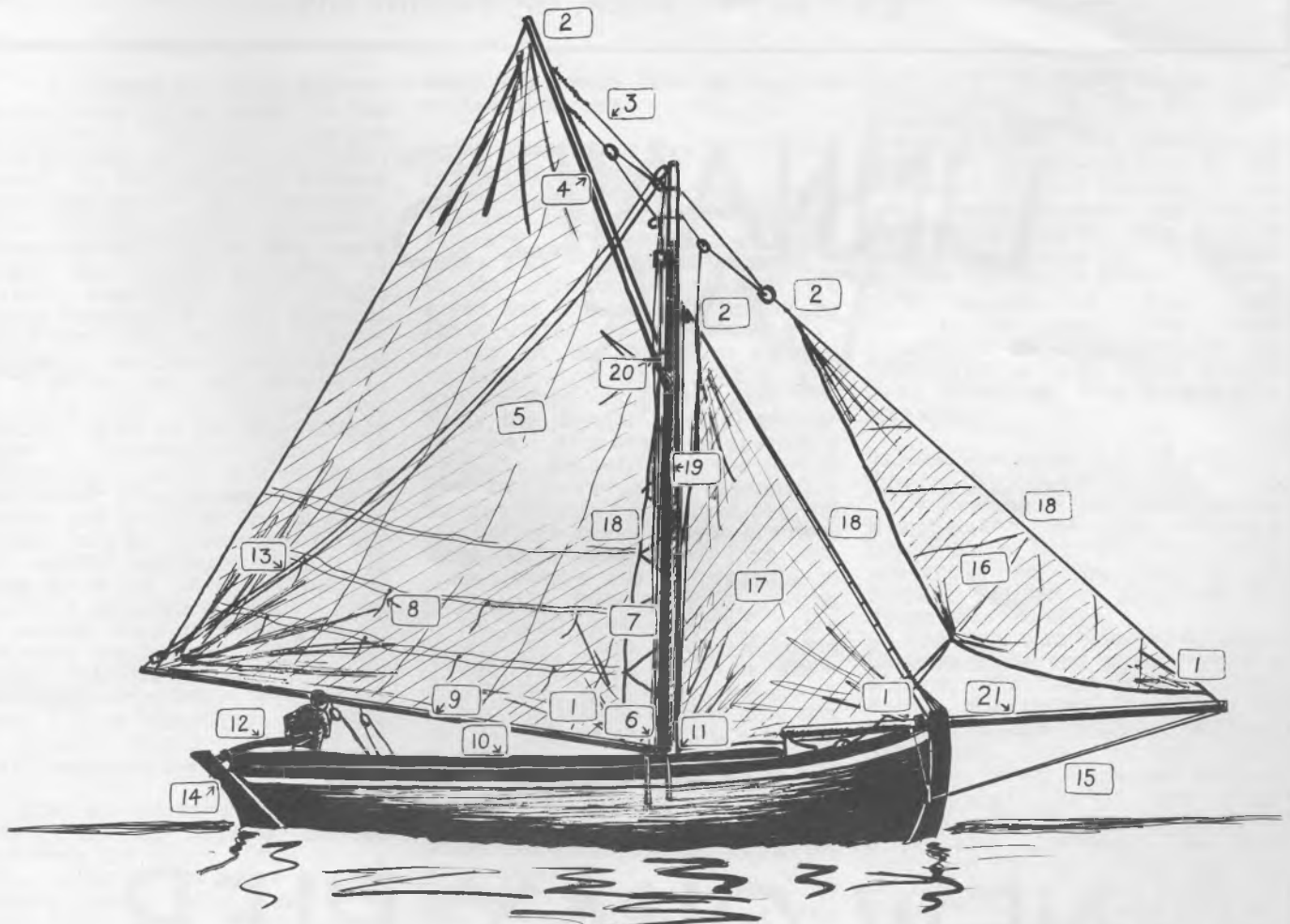
Galún Taosca - an soitheach lena taosctar an bád,

Poll Taosca - áit fé leith ar bhun an bháid as a taosctar an t-uisce.

Liméar - poll beag faoi na 'ribí' tré'n a ritheann an t-uisce go dtí an poll taosca

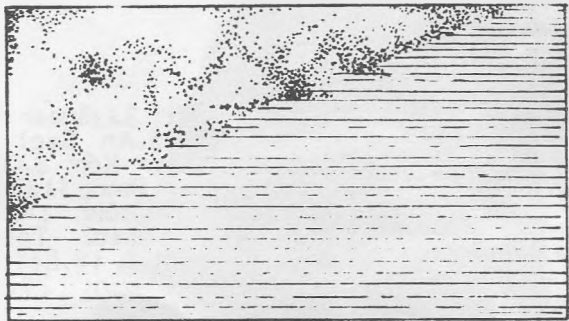
An Baileast - ballast

- 1.Taca; 2.An Píc; 3.Lóinéar Beag;
- 4.An Gaiffil; 5.An Seol Mór;
- 6.Crios; 7.Loinéar Mór; 8.Cúrsaí;
- 9.An Búm; 10.An Binn; 11.Coiléar;
- 12.Halmadóir; 13.Scóid; 14.Stiúir;
- 15.Ste; 16.An Seol Tosaigh;
- 17.An Forsail; 18.Leithéad Tosaigh;
- 19.Crann; 20.Trót;
- 21.Baumsprit.

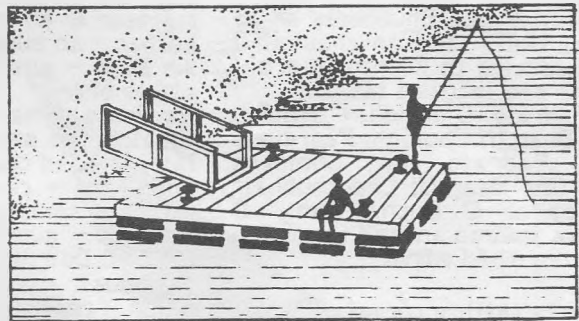


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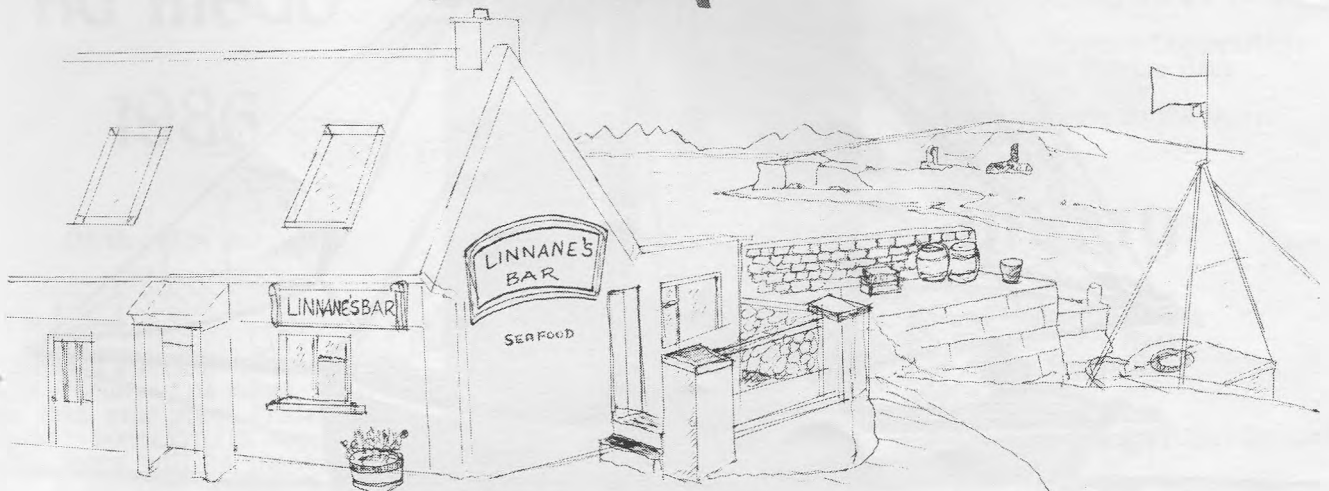


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# IN OLD KINVARA



A number of years ago Fr. Martin Coen, former editor of the Craughwell 'Blazer,' began contributing articles on local history to the Connacht Tribune under the heading of 'Gleanings.' Sometimes the articles followed a theme, but more often they were simply fascinating snippets of history and local lore which, unless recorded in some fashion, might eventually be lost forever. Fr. Coen's idea has always seemed to me an excellent one. Kinvara is an area rich in history and folklore. Many of the older people have a wonderful store of memories, while others have interested themselves in local history and tradition for no other reason than to recover and record our rapidly vanishing past. We hope to make this section of Tracht a continuing feature, and we would hope that it will over the next few issues become your page. All items will be very gratefully received - a story, a poem, a local legend, recollections of Kinvara people now gone to their rests, anything at all.

Does any reader ever recollect their childhood bedtime stories beginning like this? "Once upon a time, when birds were swine, turkeys chewed tobacco and birds built their nests in old mens' beards; the houses were thatched with pan-cakes and sugar o' candy sticks..." Someone in the parish

does and would like to know if anyone else does.

## Galway Vindicator May 5 1875 Rejoicings in Kinvara

A correspondent writes that on Tuesday 27th ult. the town of Kinvara presented a gala appearance - a pleasant contrast to the monotonous quiet of its every day life - to do honour to their esteemed townsman Dr. Hynes on the occasion of the marriage of his amiable and accomplished daughter with Dr. Nally the popular medical officer of the Ardrahan dispensary district. En route to the parish Church several tastefully arranged triumphal Arches bearing appropriate devices were erected, flags were suspended from the shop windows and the vessels in dock, with their ensigns at the mast head and bunting gaily streaming from the rigging presented an appearance attractive and imposing to a degree. A bonfire - that sine qua non of such celebrations - blazed in a conspicuous place, round which were assembled a large crowd who enjoyed themselves thoroughly. Indeed the whole display - happy in its conception and perfect in its arrangement - was highly creditable and gave evidence, if such was necessary, of the pleasure with which the joyous event is regarded and of the kindly relations that exist between Dr.

Hynes and the people of the town with whom he is so very deservedly popular.

(Editor's note: The affection in which Dr. Hynes was held by the people of Kinvara stemmed in no small measure from the heroic work he did during the Famine years. There is an old photograph in 'The Old Plaid Shawl', looking north towards the present Post Office, showing the town decorated as described in the 'Vindicator' article. Could it have been taken on this memorable occasion?)

## Galway Vindicator July 10 1875 Kinvara Dispensary District.

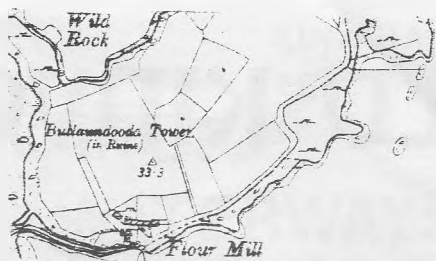
A meeting of the Committee of Management of the Kinvara Dispensary District was held yesterday for the election of Medical Officer in place of Dr. Hynes retired.

The chair was occupied by Capt. Llewlyn Blake and other members present were: Capt. Blake Foster, Arthur Alexander, The Rev. W. Moran, William Flately, Michael Staunton, John Burke, Owen Sweeney, Henry Flanagan, William Hynes, Pat Curtin and John Kilkelly. Dr. Brodie, Local Govt. Insp. also attended. The only candidate for the office was Dr. William Nally, Medical Officer of the Ardrahan Dispensary District, who was proposed by Capt. Blake Foster, and was unanimously elected. In returning thanks Dr Nally said it would ever be his

desire to follow in the footsteps of his father-in-law Dr Hynes and expressed the hope that he would become as popular and as successful in the treatment of disease as he (Dr Hynes) had been.

**Galway Vindicator August 16 1876**  
**Daring Burglary**

On Tuesday night a robbery of an unusual character was perpetrated at Delemane Lodge, Kinvara, the residence of the Rev. Mr Moloney, Admin. of the parish. It appears that the Rev. gentleman and his curate had gone to Ennistymon on an annual Retreat with other clergy, leaving his sister and servant girl, the only occupants of the house. At about one o'clock Miss Moloney was awakened by a noise, sprang from her bed and called aloud for the servant when she heard someone walking in the Oratory. With heroic courage they followed and attempted to capture the robber, but he escaped through a window where he had effected his entrance. Procuring a light, they discovered that he had removed from under a beautiful gold cross a massive silver pedestal. In his flight he dropped it outside the window. Enclosed in the pedestal is a gold box set with precious stones and containing, it is stated, a piece of the True Cross. All was the treasured gift of a French Catholic noble-man, Baron de Basterot, whose ancestors came to Ireland during the Revolutionary era and acquired large property in the neighbourhood. It is believed the outrage was committed by some tramp.



**Bullaundooda:** - Shown on the Ordnance Survey Map as Bullaundooda Tower (in ruins), it was known locally as Polldooda. Situated in Rineen townland just north of the old tidal mill, access to it was by a "bohreen" off the mill road, but this is now completely overgrown with bushes. There is no well, only a Bullaun (artificial hollow in a stone) which collects rain water. It is especially associated with a cure for eye ailments. Kate Linnane (now in her 90's) formerly of Kinturla, who resides with her daughter in Tullamore, says that Mondays and Thursdays were the days to make visits and that a number of cures took place there. She also tells that there is a tradition that once when a former owner of the land tilled the field, the sod was found to have been turned back the following morning. In the last century all-night vigils were held at the site, and there is evidence of this in the volume of old sea shells in surrounding mounds. Occasional visits are still made by people seeking a cure. Apart from a cairn of stones, there is now no real evidence of any tower.

Michael John Huban, formerly of Knockaculleen (now 90 yrs old)

states that old people in the area had a saying that three Saints were guarding Doorus: St Kieran (associated with Traught), St Bricin (associated with Tobar Bricin in Parkmore) and St Dowd who was associated with Bullaundooda. There is no record of such a Saint on the Church Calendar now, but since O Dubhda (or O'Dooda) is the Irish version of that name, Bullaundooda could mean Bullaun of O'Dowd.

The following extract is taken from a very old parish register in St. Joseph's Church. It refers to the activities of an extreme Protestant group which took advantage of the wretched plight of the poor victims of the Famine, offering them food and clothing if they would convert. The brief narrative is vividly written and one or two words - where illegible - have been supplied by the editor.

"The Jumpers stormed this locality July 3rd 1852. A colony coming from Boffin Island, Connemara. This is the second invasion - but it is to be hoped the last will be as abortive as the first, which ceased to appear after brief but desperate efforts to capture the poorest of the poor. - All Praise & Grace to such as withstood the bribes of the Fanatics and the scoff of the licentious. Amen"

The administrator of the Parish at the time was the Rev. Francis Arthur who served throughout the Famine period.

A special word of thanks to Jimmy O'Connor for some of these items.



# The Two Chalices

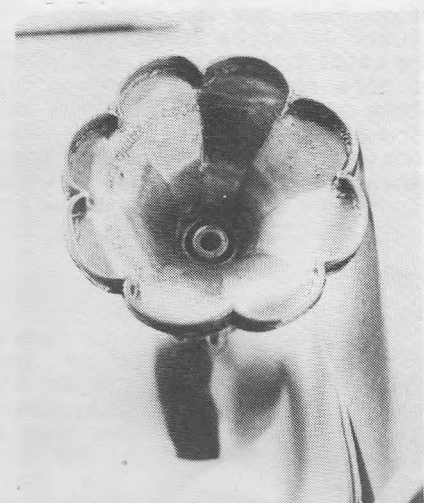
In the parish of Kinvara are preserved two chalices, both dating from the 18th century, as different from each other as could be, yet linked by a fascinating historical connection.

The first, which we will refer to as the French Chalice, is a beautiful silver cup, surmounting a delicately engraved silver stem and base. The cup, as can be seen from the photograph, is not the original. Although nothing is known of the details, it appears that sometime during the 18th century the original cup was destroyed. The present cup is a restoration of the mid-19th century. The fleur-de-lys motif is repeated several times on both stem and base, while the base contains a representation of Christ on the cross and an engraved inscription which reads: "1703 The Gift of P French Esq. to the Rever'd Father O Heyne and his Successors in the Parish of Kinvara and Duras". On the reverse side of the base is another inscription: "P French's 5th deset F. Vts. de Basterot replaced the cup sacrilegiously destroyed 1866 Rev. F. Arthur P.P."

Patrick French was the son of Robuck French who lost both house and property in Galway after the victory of the Cromwellian army; by the terms of the Cromwellian Settlement of 1656 he was allotted as a transplanted person portions of Kinvara, Cloghballymore, and Duras. Just above Crossoha is the townland of Doorus Demesne, where the ruins of the fine house and walled gardens that belonged to the French family can still be seen. Patrick French succeeded to all his father's estates in 1691, and married Julia O'Brien, by whom he had a daughter and three sons. Interestingly, Patrick French, who died at the Castle at Cloghballymore in 1708, had been exempted from the action of the notorious penal laws for having provisioned the troops of Ginkel after the Battle of Aughrim. In the Public Records Office, Dublin, is the will of Patrick French. One of the witnesses is Turlough Hynes of Poulnegan. Clearly, the same man, described as a priest living in Poulnegan, was obliged to register at Kilmacduagh in 1704 under the provisions of the penal laws; at the time of registration his age is given as 54 years old. There seems little doubt that this Turlough O Heynes is the priest to whom Patrick French gave the chalice on behalf of the people of Kinvara and Doorus.



The French Chalice



Poulnegan Chalice resting on Altar Stone

(As a footnote, it is interesting to see that the spelling of Kinvara in 1703 was with two 'r's.) Patrick French's "5th deset" (descendant) was Vicomte Bartholomew de Basterot, whose grandfather had married Francis French in 1770. De Basterot and his Irish wife had travelled to Ireland after the French Revolution; after a costly legal battle he eventually established his claim to the lands of Duras and part of Kinvara. For a time the de Basterot's lived at 'Prospect', the old French estate in Doorus Demesne, but sinking fortunes led to the construction first of 'Neptune Vale,' near Traught, and finally 'Duras House' (now an Oige Hostel). The last person to be mentioned on the inside base inscription is the Rev. Francis Arthur, who served the parish of Kinvara during the dark

days of the Famine.

The other chalice, which we will call Poulnegan Chalice, is very different. As the illustration shows, it is very simple in shape and decoration. The cup is crushed and partly missing, while the base has also suffered damage to such extent that it can no longer stand upright. In the photograph it is resting on a heavy, rectangular altar stone, carefully finished and edged. In each of the four corners are inscribed crosses which have clearly been deliberately cut into the stone. There is also a lightly scratched cross in the centre, but this is unquestionably a later addition. Parallel lines surround this central cross; they do not appear to be cut into the stone; they look, rather, almost like some kind of enamel substance, and give the strong impression of being the base of something that once stood

in the middle of the stone itself. The chalice and altar stone area are in the family of Mrs. Rose Hynes/O'Connor, whose family home is in Poulnegan. There is also what is described as the 'Mass Rock' not far from the new house. As can be seen, it is unlike the usual type of mass rock, which is more commonly a large single stone or boulder. This gives the strong impression of having been constructed from the ruins of some other building. A number of the stones are finely cut and a few are even carved.

In an article on place-names published in the Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries we read: "Poll na geann - Pollnacunn - (Hole of the heads) there was a college near the place and the brethren were killed and their heads thrown into this hole." That something took place here to give rise to such a tradition is clear. That the area - itself in the townland of Carrownamadra - was already known as Poulnegan at the start of the 18th century suggests that the name is an old one. What happened we will probably never know, but what is interesting is the suggestion that there was a "college" nearby. The stones of the altar may very well be the ruins of such a building. Not far

away from Poulnegan is Shanclough Church and Killeen. Aerial photographs reveal traces of extensive enclosures and buildings. It is very possible that in the early days of Christianity in the Kinvara area that this district - together with Poulnegan - was a religious settlement of some kind.



Mrs. Rose O'Connor & her son, holding Chalice and Altar Stone

The Poulnegan Chalice also has a history, and one that gives us a glimpse of those dark days when to practice one's faith was not alone difficult but dangerous. According to research confirmed by Rev. Martin Coen, the chalice belonged to Edward Hynes who was born in 1742 at Poulnegan. Edward Hynes's brother Terence, was also a priest. Attached to the chalice was a document that stated that Fr. Hynes had used the chalice for mass and that it was "crushed by him before his death to prevent its desecration"; the date given is 1785.

To conclude, these two chalices, so very different, are both symbols of a people's faith during a time of persecution, and also tangible evidence of Kinvara's history. From the ancient family of O'Heyne - the family of King Guaire - through the French's and de Basterot's of Kinvara and Doorus, it is possible to trace a line - a line in time that brings all of us that little bit closer to our own past.

J.W. O'Connell

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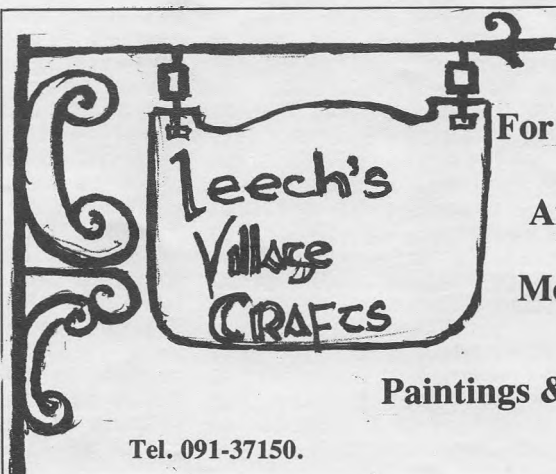
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# Kinvara Community Council

Once a month a small group of women and men, come together, having cast their own personal cares aside, to discuss, and where necessary, take action on local problems. They are carrying on a tradition of Christian concern for their community, as enshrined in the philosophy of Muintir na Tire. Many landmarks stand witness to this caring attitude which demands many hours of unselfish devotion to making our community a better place to live in. The role of the Muintir na Tire Guild, the forerunner of the Community Council, was best exemplified in its promotion of a Rural Electrification Scheme and the provision of the G.A.A. pitch for the parish. There have been other developments: Traught Strand, graveyards, the building of a community centre and the still not fully resolved water supply improvements to mention but a few.

What is happening today? The main preoccupation at the moment is to clear the outstanding debt on the Community Centre, which through the generosity of the people of the parish and the dogged persistence of successive committees (not forgetting the wonderful contribution of Ladies' Committee) leaves a manageable sum of £6,000 to be raised, from an initial £64,000. The same centre has come in for some criticism through the years, but it has served the parish well. The recent public liability problem is now resolved and by September the



Mrs Bridie Corless presents Chain of Office to Kinvara's Mayor, P.J.



At the Unveiling of the Plaque to Tomas Uí Dhomhnallain, (L. to R.): Toddie Byrne, Tom Connolly, Joseph Muldoon & Thomas Corless

way should be cleared for a resumption of the hall's many uses.

The Tidy Towns subcommittee is doing tremendous work to brighten up our town and to-date has been successful in bringing many awards to the parish. The Twinning sub-committee has opened up new horizons in Brittany, particularly for our young people, and the welcoming of French visitors cannot but be a boon to the business of Kinvara.

The Council is pressing for an early implementation of the water augmentation scheme from Lough Curra. A matter of recent concern is the pollution in the quay area, which is feared will become a health hazard. A strong case is being put to the relevant authorities to have the matter treated as urgent.

What of the future? It is important that an opportunity be given to more people in the parish to take part in this

working-together effort for our community. Perhaps our constitution is too restrictive. A

public meeting to discuss this aspect may be worthwhile. There has always been an appreciative upsurge of support in the parish for worthwhile initiatives. The Cruinniú na mBad idea typifies this response to the latent sense of parish pride. Long may it remain. There is so much good to be gained by people meeting, discussing problems and embarking on projects.

Finally let me thank our Tracht magazine subcommittee, and in particular Jeff O'Connell, for it's work in producing this edition. I hope you enjoy its social and historical articles, its unique photographs, its excellent presentation and its capacity to make you feel proud of your parish, Kinvara.

Toddie Byrne, Chairman  
Kinvara Community Council.

## Pioneer Centre Is Now 50 Years Old

Kinvara Pioneer centre is now 50 years old. Last Christmas, to mark the special occasion, a temperance Mass was offered up for the Pioneers of the parish, both living and dead. Twenty-six new members enrolled during the Mass and Fr. Martin Keane, C.C., Spiritual Director, gave an inspiring homily to the new members in which he asked them to

be faithful to the promise they made to the Sacred Heart.

Fr. Keane congratulated all the Senior Pioneers in the Parish on their dedication and said it was an example to everyone, particularly the young members. He said a special word of praise for the very talented younger Pioneers in the Drama and Ballad groups.

Kinvara is a charming town and has enormous potential. There is no doubt that, with a little more community effort, Kinvara could be pushing for a major award this year. The 1985 Tidy Towns report states that there is an obvious and strong sense of Community effort in Kinvara and the Community are to be congratulated on such a good presentation. A

## Keep Kinvara A Tidy Town

total of thirty seven centres participated in the Galway County Competitions in 1985. Kinvara got first prize in Category B and a cheque for £800. In the Ireland West Cleaner Community Campaign, Kinvara got first prize,

a trophy and a cheque for the Best Kept Local Authority Housing Estate.

The previous year Kinvara was awarded the National Title "Best Small Seaside Town" and a cheque for £300. Chairman Paddy Geraghty and Secretary Mrs. May Monahan were presented the award by the Minister, Mr John Bruton, at Jury's Hotel, Dublin on the 4th September, 1984. The Mayor of Galway, Mrs Bridie Flaherty, and Mr. Tom Connolly, Regional Chairman, Ireland West also attended.

### Plans for 1986:

The sub-committee have resumed their activities and are working on plans to improve on their 1985 markings in the National Awards. There are fourteen members on the Sub-Committee at present. You can give them a hand by participating in the local activities. This year, prizes of £25, £15 and £10 will be awarded in each of three categories of flower display: window box, pot and tub. Judging will take place during July and August.



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# Sports Star Supreme

There hasn't yet been a Kinvara man who has played on Senior County Teams in both football and hurling, and has played for his province as well as for an Irish National Team.

There might be yet; but these are already some of the notable achievements of 19 years old Mary Kilkelly of Currenrue. She plays camogie with Gort and was last year a member of the team that won the County Championship. She has played on the Galway Junior Team, and is now an important member of the County Senior Team. She was also on the St. Colman's Vocational Team that participated in the 1986 County Final.

If there were a Camogie All-Stars Team, Mary would be an automatic choice. But her star status has been recognised by the National Ladies Hockey Selectors. Last Easter she played an outstanding part in helping Ireland to win the Four Nations Schools Tournament held in Aberystwyth, Wales. She is now a member of the

U-21 panel which plays Spain in June, and England, Scotland and Wales in September.

Her list of honours in Ladies hockey is impressive: she played on the Kinvara Team that won the Cross Cup Plate, on the Seamount College team that won two Connacht Championships, on both the Connacht Schools Team and the



Mary Kilkelly, Sports Star Supreme, Kinvara Salutes You.

Connacht under 21 team that came second in the their respective classes in the Interprovincial Series 1985, and on the Kinvara team that won silver and bronze medals in the Community Games 1982 and 1983, respectively.

Mary has also played Gaelic Football with Michael Cusacks, and

was selected for the Clare Ladies Team in 1985 which defeated Kerry and Cork on its way to the Provincial decider won by Tipperary after a close and hard fought game.

Mary's interest in sport stems from the home. She belongs to one of the most sporting families in the county. She takes her football talent from her father, Mattie, who played with Michael Cusacks in days gone by, and her athletic ability and determination from her mother, Catherine, the undisputed Kinvara Mothers Sprint Champion for the last eighteen years, who has done more to promote sport and games than any other woman in the parish. Her uncles, John, Kevin, P.K., and Martin Huban have given outstanding service to Kinvara Senior Hurling Teams down through the years. Her brothers Declan and Michael are following in their uncles' footsteps, as will nine years old Niall in years to come. Aidan is five years of age and is sure to follow in the footsteps of his older brothers and sisters. Sixteen year old Geraldine is a member of the Galway Junior Camogie Team and the Connacht Schools Hockey Team, and is probably the only one in Galway to emulate Mary's achievements. It is too early to assess six month old Emma's potential, but we should be able to report on her sports talent in a year's time or so! Martin, the eldest of the family follows the sports careers of his brothers and sisters with pride and gives them every encouragement. Stan MacEoin



## Women's Mini Marathon

Five ladies from Doorus took part in and completed the Women's Marathon which was held in Dublin on Sunday, June 1st. The competitors were: Kathleen Curtin, Rose Fahy, Teresa Curtin, Rita Huban and Mary Mahon. They each received a medallion. Congratulations to all of them.

## Aerobic Classes

Kathleen's Fit 'n Slim classes were again a great success during the past year. At a function held in the Green Briar Inn, the best slimmer from each club was presented with a beautifully engraved Galway Crystal Plate. Mary Sullivan of Nogra was chosen to represent the Kinvara Club.

# Kinvara G.A.A.

Despite the inclement weather, 1986 so far has been quite demanding on players and officials. Our senior hurlers are progressing in the Open Draw and have played a number of challenges in preparation for the County Championship. By the time this article is read they will have played at least one match in their Group. With Tony Moylan as manager, ably assisted by P.K. Huban, P.J. Canney and Captain Frank Quinn, they stand a good chance of bringing the elusive first County Championship to the seashiders.

Our minor and under 21 hurlers are confident when matches are resumed after the examinations are over of making further progress.

Most G.A.A. activity, however, in the parish so far this year has centred around our juveniles. The under 14 hurlers put up a very credible performance in the top division and now await the Brendan Linnane Trophy competition which was won for the first time in 1984. Later on the under 12's and under 16's will be in action on the hurling field.

Juvenile football took a major



step forward this year under Michael O'Sullivan, John Mc Loughlin and Derek Smith. The under 16 team having beaten Clonbur, Glynsk and Sarsfield's came up against an excellent Spiddal team in the League final, but with a little luck could have emerged as winners. They now await the Championship with confidence. The under 14 team has already beaten Salthill, Mervue, St. Patrick's and Eire Og and are well set to play Clonbur in the quarter-finals.

On the schools front the unlucky Northampton 7-a-side hurling team of 1985, looks poised for an historic victory in 1986. Certainly if their determined defence and excellent attack continue, Northampton will record their first County Championship. Doorus N.S. after their two-in-a-row County Championships, bowed out this year, but are already looking forward to 1987! Ar aghaidh le Cumann Luth Chlead Gael.

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## Youth Club

The club has had a reasonably successful year with funds staying at a satisfactory level. There are 32 members in the club and we hope to increase numbers next year. The committee consists of:  
Chairperson - Philip Sweeney  
Secretary - Niall O'Shaughnessy.  
P.R.O. - Kevin Sexton  
Treasurer - Brian MacMahon  
Comm. Council Rep. - Roy Bermingham  
The vice-committee consists of:  
Margaret Corless, Niall Byrne,  
Aileen Walsh, Roisin O'Shaughnessy and Karen Kelly.

This year we raised funds by having a 12 hour fast at Christmas with half the proceeds going to St. Vincent de Paul in Galway. We took part in the County Youth Competitions, reaching the finals in some events. From last September to the end of May of 1986 we met every Saturday night in the Community Centre at 8.30 and held all sorts of games and competitions.

Finally we urge the parents of the Youth Club to assist next year's committee in making Kinvara Youth Club one of the best in County Galway.

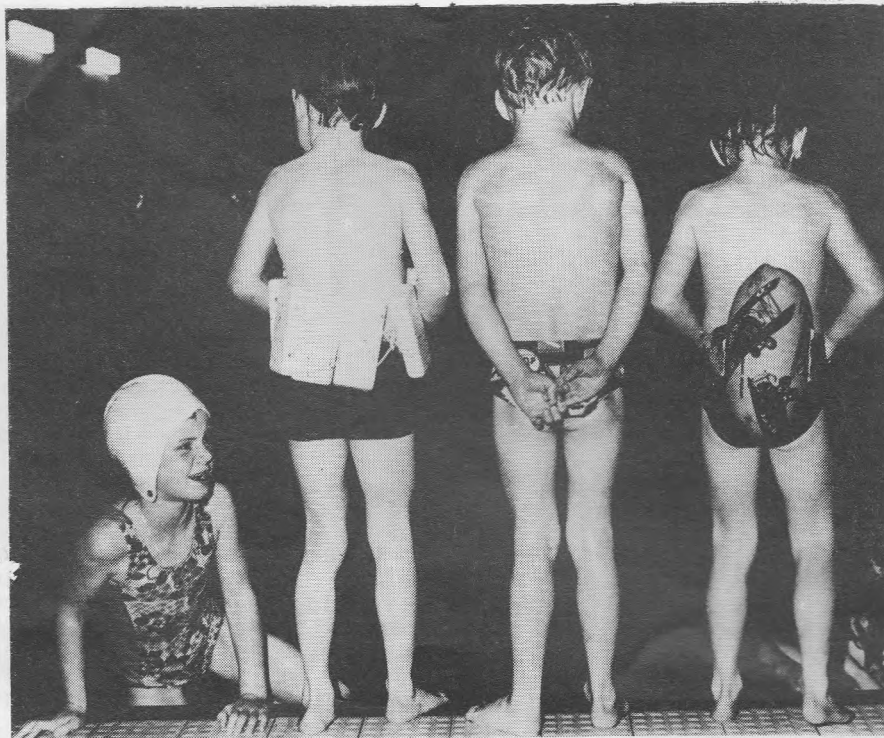
Kevin Sexton P.R.O.

### Ceili and Set Dancing Classes:

There has been a great revival of interest in that most enjoyable and sociable form of dancing - set dancing. Here in Kinvara classes were held in the community centre and were greatly enjoyed. The classes were led with great enthusiasm and even greater patience by Philip Denmead. The group was represented at a feis in Ballinasloe by Josephine Colfer, Enda O'Connor, Rosario Ruane and Marie McCormack. They achieved second place in the set dancing section. Classes will be resumed in October. Cead mile failte roimh cach.

### Irish Music Classes For Children

Irish Music Classes are held every Saturday in Kinvara under the tuition of Mr. David Hanrahan. Instruction is provided in a wide variety of instruments. Some pupils represented the class in the Co. Galway Fleadh Ceoil at Renvyle recently. Miriam Callanan on the accordion won third place and was presented with a medal. Classes continue throughout the summer. Further details from David Hanrahan. (065) 25470.



"All together now..."

## Let's Go For A Swim

For ten months of the year an average of over 150 learners attend classes organised by the Kinvara Swimming Club. Over 100 pupils attend the two Saturday classes; there are 40 life-saving enthusiasts on Sunday mornings; 20 adults attend the Friday evening swimming classes. In all four classes per week has been the norm, though there were five running simultaneously at one period over the past year.

This is possible because of the consistent dedication and reliability of the instructors: John Curley, Bridie Giles, Helen O'Connor, Stan McBoin, and the organisational ability and financial wizardry of Paddy Geraghty and Eileen Glynn, and the back up provided by Honorary Secretary, May Monahan. The Brothers of Charity and the swimming pool staff have also earned our appreciation.

In the past, valuable help was given by a large number of young people from time to time, and indeed we have reason to appreciate still the assistance given to the instructors by some of our older competent swimmers.

However, our constant appeal is for more help. There is a huge population eager to learn to swim. We could run classes every day of the week if we had the qualified personnel with commitment.

Swimming is the healthiest pastime, suitable for all ages. A good swimmer may learn life-saving and become capable of saving another's life in an emergency (as some of our swimmers have done already)

From the 4th to 9th August, the Jimmy Cranny Swim School will take place in Kilmacnab. Courses for the following awards will be held: Preliminary Teaching Award, Swimming Teacher's Certificate, Preliminary Coaching Award. Details from Rody Mc Randall, I.A.S.A., Education Secretary, Curragh, Castlebar, Co. Mayo.

Enjoy your summer swimming. But take care! The water, and especially the sea, must be respected. Parents must satisfy themselves that their children are good swimmers before they are given permission to swim in the Quay. Do NOT swim out to sea, nor swim after a ball or other object. Do not use air mattresses in the water, nor swim soon after a meal. Never swim alone, nor on a 'new' beach until you get reliable local knowledge about it. Swim in to land or parallel to the shore, and don't be tempted to stay any longer than 20 minutes in the water. The fact that you weren't tempted last year doesn't mean you won't be tempted this year. I know many swimmers are praying to the Lord to let them have this temptation this year!

# Kinvara Community Pre-School Playgroup

One of the most successful local initiatives in terms of organisation and parent participation is the Kinvara Community Pre-School Playgroup. The Playgroup, which is based in the Courthouse, started in 1979 with 10 children attending. The idea of a playgroup was very new then and much credit must be given to the original committee who pioneered the playgroup. Due to a growth in numbers, an afternoon session was added in 1982. There are now 10 children attending the morning session (10a.m-12.30p.m) and 10 children attending the afternoon session (1-3p.m). In keeping with the guidelines of the Irish Pre-School Playgroups Association (I.P.P.A.), numbers are limited so that each child may benefit from individual attention.

Kinvara Community Playgroup is a member of the I.P.P.A and each year two members of the committee attend the annual general meeting of this body. It is very beneficial to the Playgroup to be part of a nationwide movement concerned with the development and care of the pre-school child. The Kinvara playgroup also has close ties with the Western Health Board. A child psychologist and a speech therapist from the Western Health Board have come along to meet the parents and children at coffee mornings arranged during the year.

Playgroup morning or afternoon revolves around activities such as painting, play-dough, sand-play, ring-games, nurser rhymes, building with blocks and lego,

houseplay and story telling. The individual development of each child is encouraged while the child is also helped to socialise with others. Each year the playgroup celebrates the festivals in appropriate fashion - dressing up as witches at Hallowe'en; carols and lighted candles at Advent; Navitivity Play and party at Christmas; the Easter Bunny's visit and the summer picnic at Coole Park. At Christmas the visit of Santa to Kinvara is organised by the Playgroup committee and parents. Last year was an outstanding success with almost 300 children meeting Santa in the Community Centre.

Anyone who would like to visit the Playgroup is warmly invited to do so during either morning or afternoon sessions. Enquiries during holiday time can be made to the Chairperson. The Playgroup leaders are Aine O'Connell (morning session) and Ann Vesey (afternoon session). Committee members are: Jean Greene (Chairperson); Josephine Kavanagh (Secretary); Rosario Ruane and Finola Murphy (Treasurers); Denise Griffin (Community Council Rep.).





## Northampton School

The people of Kinvara can be justly proud of the educational facilities provided in the parish over the last 150 years. Education was always a high priority and accordingly such facilities ranged from Hedge Schools in the early 19th century to the modern Primary and Secondary schools of today. At one time the parish boasted of 5 primary schools but this number has now decreased to three because of the decline in population.

One of these three schools is 'Scoil Bride Naofa,' Northampton, whose roots go deep into the middle of the last century. Already having one school in the parish since 1841, moves were made to establish a second in the Northampton end of the parish. In July 1851, the Commissioners of the Board of Administration, in charge of Education, received an application for a grant to build "Schoolhouse" at Northampton about 1.5 miles from Kinvara. This application was made by one James Mahon, proprietor of the Northampton Estate, who kindly donated the site. The proposed school would cater to the children of the surrounding districts of Cahermore, Caheravoneen, Loughcurra, Killina and Caherglissan.

### *Francis Fahy a Monitor*

This school was opened on May 10th, 1853, admitting 30 boys and 20 girls. It seems to have steered a reasonably successful, though uneventful, course throughout the remainder of the century. Many of the teachers who taught there are unrecorded - with one notable

exception. I refer to Francis A. Fahy, of course, who was destined to become famous in literary circles later as poet, patriot and composer. In his early teens Francis Fahy was appointed monitor in Northampton School, a post he retained until 1869 when he left to take up another appointment.

By 1867 the ownership of the Estate changed hands on the death of James Mahon; the new owner, William Murray, became patron of Northampton School. He was a man of great kindness and consideration and after his death his widow continued to show the same concern towards school and tenants.

The school itself was a one-roomed stone structure to which was added a hallway or cloakroom in the early 1900's. This addition was constructed by Bartley Forde, a grand uncle of the present owner of the school, Edward Forde. The latter has renovated and refurnished the building to make it his private residence.

The earliest school records available date back to 1867. As well as the 3 R's, subjects such as Agriculture, Algebra and Geometry were sometimes taught and later special classes were formed to promote the Irish language. With the exception of Francis Fahy, the names of teachers who taught in Northampton school during the latter half of the 19th century are not readily available in school records. We have been told that a Mr. Leonard assisted by a Miss Rice taught there around the turn of the century. By 1905 the names of Thomas Haran (Prin) and Margaret Burke (assistant) appeared on the records, the latter

being replaced by Miss O'Donnell in 1910. The name of Mr. Cafferty replaced Mr. Haran at the beginning of the 30's but his stay was of short duration. Finally, the name of Mr. Tomas Donlon appeared on the records around 1935, a man who gave distinguished and invaluable services as a teacher and as a worker in the local community for the next 40 years.

In the meantime another change of ownership in the Northampton Estate made the name of Brady-Murray a household word throughout the district during the early part of this century. However, the days of the landlords and large estates were numbered and, accordingly, the Land Commission took over the division of the Estate. Provision was made to hand over a two-acre site for a new school at that time. The contract for this building was awarded to John Burke of Ballindereen and work began in 1951. The present school, under the title of 'Scoil Bride Naofa' was blessed and officially opened on the 4th March, 1953, exactly 100 years after the opening of the old school. Present on this auspicious occasion were his Lordship, Most Rev. Dr. Browne, Bishop of Galway, who presided at the mass, Very Rev. Canon Garrihy, P.P. and Rev. Fr. B. Mulkerrins, C.C., who celebrated the mass, as well as Mr. Donlon (Prin), and his wife, Anna, who had replaced Miss O'Donnell some years previously. Parents and pupils of the district also attended this pleasant function. Total enrollment at the time consisted of 27 boys and 29 girls, a number which did not differ very much from the original enrollment of 100 years previously.

First entry on the Register in the New 'Scoil Bride Naofa' was Pauline Staunton of Loughcurra, whose first day at school was one week after the official opening. She was quickly joined by Peggy Glynn, Teresa McInerney and Helen McTigue, as well as Tom Vesey, Michael Burke, Micheal Murphy and John Callanan.

For the next 20 years Northampton school continued to provide education for all the children of the surrounding districts under the guidance and care of Mr. and Mrs. Donlon. The number of school entrants has remained pretty constant despite a drop in the local population. Closure and amalgamations have been discussed on a couple of occasions but this was strongly rejected at the local level. Today, the school continues under the guidance and care of (Mrs) Maura Mongan (nee Muldoon) and (Mrs) Matilda Leech, who have replaced Mr. and Mrs. Donlon.

Mathilda Leech.

# St. Joseph's National School

At St. Joseph's N.S. enrollment has risen so much in recent years that the appointment of a sixth teacher was necessary last year. Due to lack of accommodation, however, one class is using a room in the Community Centre on a temporary basis pending the construction of a new school.

During February, Miss Riona Finn from Thomond College in Limerick did her teaching practice here and this concentration on P.E.

for the month was much appreciated by the pupils who became quite adept at Volleyball as a result.

This year 67 pupils participated in a Skipathon to raise funds to assist The Irish Heart Foundation. In the past three years over £1,000 has been raised by the local pupils.

Lydon House Bread Wrappers were a major item of interest during April and May as we sought 5,000 wrappers before May 31st to win a Commodore Computer. Tension mounted as D-Day approached and the magical number was acquired. Mr Des Redmond of Lydon House presented the Computer to the delighted pupils on June 17th.

For the past two years along with 24 other schools we have been involved in piloting a Science project. At a recent seminar in Galway where the results of our two years were discussed it was concluded that Science has a great potential in the education field and in the coming years it is hoped that the subject will gradually expand to all schools.

Shawn Mc Mahon.



Girls of St. Joseph School, 1952

## Doorus National School

The present school built in 1954 in the townland of Cloosh, replaced the old National school, which was first opened on January 1st 1852, and is now quaintly restored as a summer holiday residence. There were 50 pupils attending it and they had to pay a penny a week school fees. Michael D. Brennan was the first teacher. He taught English Writing, Arithmetic and Catechism. Even though Irish was then the spoken language, the subject was omitted from the school curriculum. The local Catholic landlord Mark Lynch was to the fore in having this school established. Indeed many years earlier, in 1826, he was responsible for securing a teacher, Stephen Killeen, to teach local children in the thatch-roofed Durus Church for the paltry pay of ten pounds, sixteen shillings and eight pence. Later, in 1835, it is recorded that of six hedge schools in the parishes of Kinvara and Doorus two were in the Doorus area. Patrick Moran taught thirty six boys and seven girls in Nogra.

The fee was one shilling and eight pence to three shillings and sixpence per quarter. Patrick Spelman had a school in Knockaculleen, where the fee was one shilling and eight pence to seven shillings and six pence per quarter.

Down through the years many teachers taught at Doorus N.S. The school records date from 1876, so there is a gap of 24 years, where the teachers names are not recorded. We know that the first teacher, Michael D. Brennan, changed to Kinvara Boys' National School within a few years of starting in Doorus. Of the past teachers, three are happily retired in the parish, namely Kathleen Farrell, Joseph P. Muldoon and Kieran Moylan. The older generation will remember James Fallon, his father, Patrick, and Sarah Gardiner who gave devoted service to the children of the locality at a time when post primary education did not exist and a harsh inspectorial system

was hostile to a true spirit of learning.

Today, forty five children attend - with Toddie Byrne as Principal and Peg Corless as assistant. A wide curriculum is taught which includes Irish, our native language. The Gaelic games of hurling, football and rounders are encouraged. In 1984 the centenary of the foundation of the G.A.A., the school won the County Schools 7-a-side championship in hurling and football, a feat repeated in 1985. This year the children produced their own school newsletter, which contained many interesting articles of social and historic value.

Officially known as St. Kieran's National School, the school today carries on the tradition of learning which the hedge school masters initiated and national teachers under a harsh alien regime and in difficult times developed.

Go mba fada buan a saothar.

Toddie Byrne

# Gleanings From Seamount



Having spent the last five years in Seamount College I can safely say that I am well acquainted with every corridor there, every nook and cranny, and each pebble on that well-trodden drive. Looking back over the years I can see many changes in the school and its occupants - teachers and pupils alike. Miss French, who for many years was responsible for the scientific edification of the female population of Kinvara, left to enjoy a well earned retirement. Sr. Bernard departed to the greener pastures of Mercy Convent, Galway, to be succeeded by Sr. Laurence.

My First-year seems in retrospect to have been filled with sunny days and fun-filled nights, trips to the Castle and long charity walks, resulting in blistered feet and weary bones. Second year was quiet after the 'high' of First-year. Much appreciated innovations were hot-drinks at bed-time, an ironing board and spin-dryers to ease the laundry problems.

Second year brings memories exciting wins in hockey. The Griffin Cup, the Blackmore Shield and the Heskin Cup all added up to a marvellously successful hockey season for Seamount. Another occasion was the Past-Pupils' Union Dinner, 1983, when a presentation was made to Sr. Mary of the Sacred Heart and Miss French as a token of appreciation for their many years of dedicated service to the school.

We had outings to the Spring Show in Dublin and to Concerts in Galway to brighten our lives during the exam-blighted days of Third Year. English and Irish debates did much to lighten the atmosphere. The Pioneer Movement was very busy with

Ballad groups, quizzes, competitions and a night-vigil in Knock. In hockey, we won the Griffin Cup for the 3rd successive year. Sports Day was exceptionally successful with special emphasis on water events. Third year also saw the production of Andrew Lloyd Weber's beautiful musical "Cats" - most of the school was involved in making it the success it was.

At the arrival of 4th year our class gave a collective sigh of relief at the prospect of a year free of exams. We staged 'West Side Story' with the invaluable help of Miss Carroll and Mr. Barrett. It was an enormous success and the money realised was promptly despatched to Third World Relief Organisations.

An exciting addition to the curriculum was Mr. Barrett's Resourcefulness classes designed to develop our awareness of the world outside of school. We had lectures and discussions with local entrepreneurs such as Richard Johnston of the Kinvara Youth Hostel and Brian Mooney of the Kilfenora Burren Perfumery. A French flavour was added by the arrival amongst us of Mademoiselle Laurence Beranger, a French 'assistante,' who spent a year endeavouring to convert our brogues to a semblance of a French accent!

Romance was in the air all this time as Miss Carroll and Miss McHugh took trips up the aisle. Miss Carroll (now Mrs. Timmins) left to live in Wicklow and Miss McHugh (now Mrs. Mc Hugh) is still with us.

Fourth year was a blitz of hockey matches which culminated in the Heskin Cup. Mary and Geraldine Kilkelly were outstanding, both played at provincial level and Mary was selected to play at national level.

One of the sadder memories of 4th year was the sudden illness of Sr. Mary of the Sacred Heart, a very much-loved and respected lady.

Early in 1985 the Prince and Princess of Japan visited Kinvara and attended a reception and concert in Seamount. This event focussed the attention of the media on us and will stand out as a very special memory.

Fifth year then came about with the threat of the Leaving Cert. Exam hanging over us. Our noses were scarcely lifted from our books when the younger students were adding their own stamp to the school with Ultra-Brite (the 2nd Year Shop) and the establishment of Seamount Magazine, 'Pipe-Line.' Music was not neglected; the present 4th Years produced the "The King and I." The 4th Years also initiated the school Disco where an excellent night was had by all. On the hockey pitch the Seniors won the Costelloe Cup.

To conclude, I would say that my five years in Seamount have been very enjoyable.

Margaret O'Sullivan

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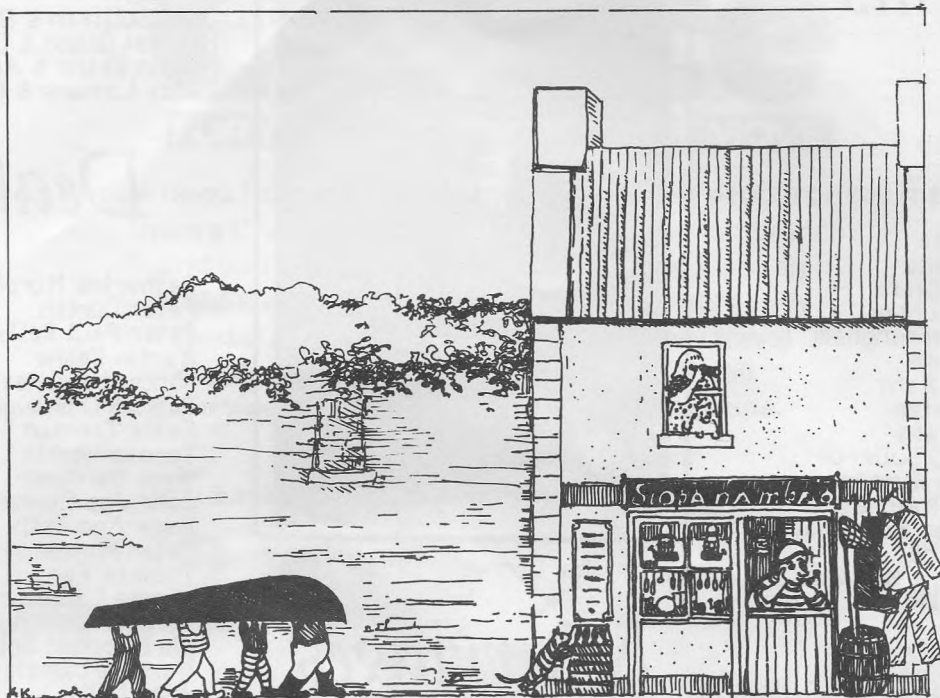


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## Kinvara Arts Festival

July 22nd-27th, 1985

The aim of Kinvara's first Arts Festival was to provide the people of Kinvara with a week of various activities revolving loosely around the 'Arts.' The organizers were able to draw upon the wealth of local talent in virtually every area of the artistic sphere.

The result was a lively and colourful week. There were several puppet shows, live theatre, music and dance workshops, a harpsichord recital and lecture given by our own Margo McGeeney, discos, a showing of Ger Conneely's excellent Cruinniu na mBad video, and an Irish Film night.

The visual arts were very much on display. Local artists displayed their work in shop windows throughout the town. An exhibition of photographs of old Kinvara was held in the Courthouse. Tomas Quinn organised an excellent exhibition of the photographs of Tomas O'h-Eidhin in the 'Sraid na Phuca Gallery.' Under the direction of Ms. Ann Korff, a group of local children painted a very colourful and imaginative mural of a boat supplies shop on the front of a derelict building down by the quay. This has become one of the most eye-catching sites in Kinvara

- a must for every passing photographer!

It was a very full programme, greatly enjoyed by all who took part. Sadly, there was not as much adult participation as might have been expected. With all the talent in the area, a Kinvara Arts Festival could become a real focus for community pride - but it depends on you, the people, to make it happen.

The organizers of last years festival would like to thank sponsors and all those who did lend a hand.

Pam Fleming & Helen McGinley

### The Mobile Library

For all those interested in reading a good book, Galway County Libraries Mobile Library are on the Quay, Kinvara, just across the road from Bermingham's, every two weeks as follows: Monday 9th June, Monday 23rd June, Monday 7th July, Monday 21st July - 12.00 to 12.45 o'clock. Membership Fee is only £1 per year. You may take 3 books with you for two weeks: CHILDREN AND OLD AGE PENSIONERS FREE. For further information phone 62471.

## National Choreography Course

July 1<sup>st</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>

Kinvara is hosting this year the 1986 National Choreography Course, organized by the Dance Council of Ireland. Sara and Jerry Pearson, both from the United States, are the two tutors for the course. Mr. Pearson has worked with the Dublin Contemporary Dance for whom he choreographed 'Acid Rain', 'Classical Ideal', and 'Lunar Parables'. The Pearson Dance Company have performed twice in Dublin, in 1982 and 1983.

About 30 professional dancers are expected to take part in the Course. However, the organizers have offered to take local children and adults for some introductory classes. To conclude their stay in Kinvara the group will offer a performance to the public in the Community Centre.

Kinvara is very fortunate to have been chosen as the venue by this highly acclaimed Course. Put the jogging aside for a while and come along and learn to dance instead!

## Births

Paula Anne Huban  
Sarah Anne Murphy  
Rebecca Griffin  
Lorraine Beatty  
John Philip O'Dea  
Julian Peter Keane  
Seamus Joseph Keane  
David Thomas Murray  
Eimear Marie Bermingham  
Christine McCooke  
Cormac Michael Fahy  
Sarah Marie Martyn  
James Patrick Fahy  
Laetitia Marie O'Sullivan  
Laura Elizabeth Murphy  
Kieran Leonard Maloney  
Noel Christopher McCormack  
Sinead Noel Keane  
Clodagh Christine McMahon  
Emma Louise Kilkelly  
Thomas Mahon  
Paul Gerard Quinn  
Saileog Aoife O'Halloran  
Brigid Christina Fallon  
Cathal Mitchell  
James Thomas O'Donohue  
Mark Sean O'Donohue



John Joe Conneely 1902 - 1986

## Marriages

Gerry Mahon & Elaine Murphy  
Alan O'Reilly & Bernie Quinn

Walter Keady & Susanne Connors  
Martin Nicholson & Carmel  
Connolly  
John Sullivan & Bernie Murphy  
Paschal Quinn & Catherine Hayes  
Martin Keane & Ann Rourke  
Paddy Linnane & Pearl Quinn

## Deaths

Catherine Murphy  
Peter Curtin  
Peter Paul Kelly  
Martin Keane  
Vincent Mooney  
Patrick O'Shaughnessy  
Delia Tannian  
Teresa Winkle  
Mary Gardiner  
John Joe Conneely  
Mary Ann Kelly  
Peter Hynes  
Thomas Fahy  
Winnie Lacey  
Stephen Donohue  
Christopher Jolley  
Margaret Deeley  
John Lally  
Bridget Fahy  
Joe Hynes  
John Quinn

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