

# Amagh

2001



# Christmas Greetings

When you hear the words "Annagh Magazine" you know that winter has arrived. It also signals that Christmas, one of the highpoints in the Christian calendar, celebrating the birth of Christ, cannot be far away. So, as we wind-down the year 2001, I want to wish everybody at home and, all Ballyhaunis people, wherever you are, a very happy, peaceful and blessed Christmas. May Christ the Prince of Peace bring peace to our homes, our community and, especially peace to our world.

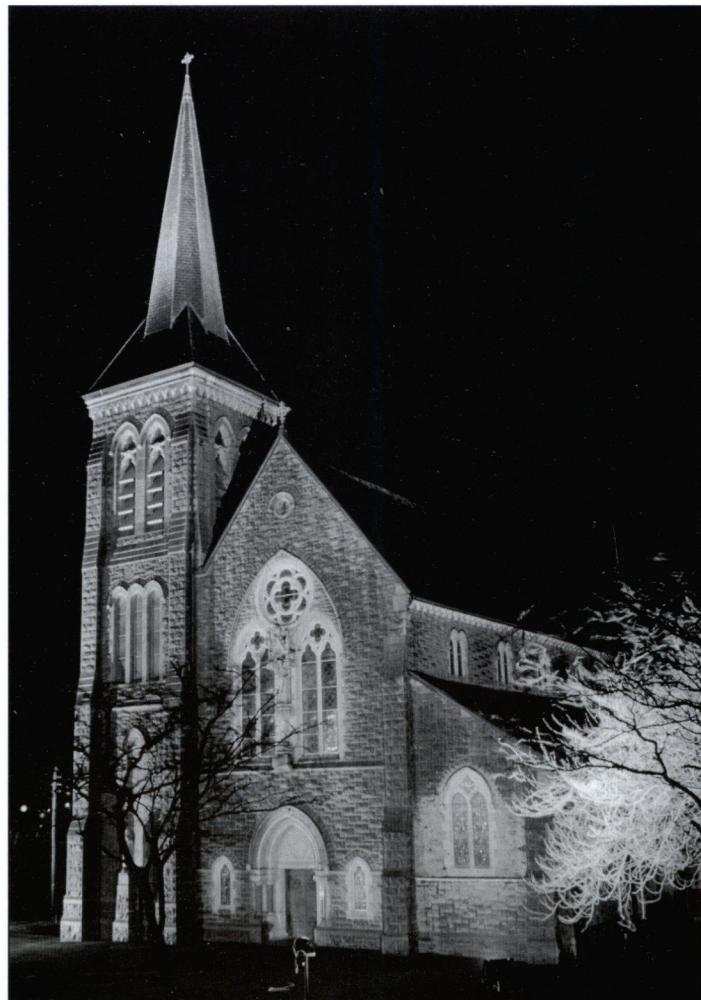
The year that is ending has seen many changes in our parish. The two primary schools in Ballyhaunis have amalgamated and the school is now known as Scoil Iosa. It was a courageous move and we congratulate all who facilitated the smooth transition and wish teachers and pupils every success and happiness. We also said farewell to many priests during the year. Fr. James O'Grady left to take up a new position in Clifden while three Augustinians, Fr. Michael Collender, Fr. John Walsh and Fr. Tim Walsh departed to new appointments. We welcome Fr. Declan Carroll who takes over from Fr. James O'Grady at St. Patrick's Church, and Fr. Aidan O'Leary and Fr. Pierce O'Mahoney who have come to the Friary. We wish them all every blessing and happiness in the parish of Annagh.

Many more have been called away by death and this Christmas will be a lonely one for their families and relatives. We will all remember them in our prayers as we celebrate the birth of Christ and pray that their loved ones are now celebrating with Christ in heaven.

The terrible events of September 11th shocked the United States, and also shocked people everywhere, including our own parish. There are many Ballyhaunis people in the U.S. and we assure them of our prayers this Christmas that God will protect them and keep them safe.

May you all, both at home and abroad, have a happy and holy Christmas and may Christ, the Prince of Peace, bless your homes with peace and happiness.

*Joseph Cooney.*  
Fr. Joseph Cooney, P.P.



St. Patrick's Parish Church, Ballyhaunis

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## Editorial

Welcome to readers of Annagh Magazine at the end of 2001, and we sincerely hope you will find many items of interest in it. We are very mindful of the interest of our readers and we have tried diligently to get a mix that will please as many people as possible. Some of the photographs are not just old but historical, and the extracts from the census returns of 1901 will provide food for thought for many. Younger readers will enjoy articles and pictures from their contemporaries at home and abroad. Society and club reports help to illustrate events in and around the town over the past year, and older writers have given us a peep back into past times. We are indeed grateful to all of them as they keep the show on the road.

Our special thanks to our loyal patrons and readers who never let us down and we hope this year's production will not disappoint them. But for them the effort would collapse, money being the sinews of war.

During the year came the sad death of Joe Greene, a former editor, who was instrumental in the development of the Annagh Magazine in its early years. May God grant him rest.

A few of our senior citizens in the parish have topped the ninety year mark in the last couple of years. With all their neighbours we wish them continuing health and happiness.

We hope all our patrons, readers and contributors and the hard-working committee will enjoy a happy Christmas and New Year. Finally, if you would like to contribute an article, or make contact with the Annagh Magazine, you can contact us at our new e-mail address: annaghmag@eircom.net

### The Editorial Committee

## Annagh Magazine Society

President: Jim Lunden; Chairman: Martin Forde; Secretary: Máisín Meath; Treasurer: Maura Griffin; Asst. Treasurer: Gerry Cribbin; P.R.O. John Halpin; Sales, Marketing & Distribution: Seamus Mulrennan. **Editorial Committee:** Maura Griffin, Paul Waldron, Jim Lunden, John Halpin. **Committee:** Agnes Heaney, Joe Keane, Michael Godfrey, Joe Hosty.

## Cover

The four photographs adorning our cover this year come from postcards dating from the early twentieth century, published by M. Flatley Stationer, Ballyhaunis and printed in Saxony, part of Germany. On the front we have a view of Knox Street taken from the Square, and a rare view of the interior of the Friary as it was prior to the 1908 renovations (when the altar was where the present front door now is) On the back we have a view of St. Mary's Priory with the Friary church. At the bottom is a view of Abbey Street taken from near the railway bridge. We are indebted to Declan Lyons, Manchester and formerly of Devlis who designed the Celtic artwork for the cover.



Clare Street Neighbours Day Out, Mullingar 1950's. L-R: Mary Barry, Kevin Barry R.I.P, Una Donnellon, Tom Barry R.I.P., Alice Lyons, Mrs. Kathleen Mulhern R.I.P., Rosaleen Dwane R.I.P., Mick Mulhern R.I.P



# Ballyhaunis Community Council

Ballyhaunis Community Council was set up primarily to reveal and assess the community needs and to mobilise the community resources – human and material – to meet those needs. A survey carried out in the area last summer highlighted some of these needs as identified by the residents of the area and it is hoped that over a period of time projects will be undertaken, in conjunction with statutory and public bodies where appropriate, to address these needs. The community council will not replace or supersede any other existing or new organisation in the area.

Several projects have been earmarked for development under the auspices of the Community Council over the coming months and years. Already the Tidy Towns / Environment Improvement group is up and running. Ballyhaunis officially entered the national Tidy Towns competition for 2001 and came in for some very favourable comments from the judgement panel. The County Council have given great support to the venture by providing skips on a couple occasions and also by providing a litter warden for the area. Council officials have reassured the community council that where they see worthwhile efforts being made by residents to improve an area they will lend any assistance they can to facilitate and augment the local effort.

## Ballyhaunis Tidy Towns

Ballyhaunis Tidy Towns sub-committee was formed during the year, with the following members: Chairman – John Higgins; Edward Mulhern, Enda Murphy, Jim Landon, Mike Byrne, Peter Jenkins.

Weekly planning meetings were held. An audit of the positive and negative aspects of the area was drawn-up, and photographs were taken. Groups were set up in each area. A five-year plan was compiled and presented to County Manager Des Mahon and Chairperson of Mayo County Council Anna May Reape, and other public representatives. With the help of Gerry Costello, Mayo County Council, two major clean-ups took place and thirteen skips of litter were removed from the area. Regular visits were made to Paul Dolan, Area Engineer, who proved most helpful in getting improvements made. Meetings were held with Cllr. John Cribbin, Cllr. John Carty and Deputy Jim Higgins. Gary Smyth, Litter Control Officer, was outstanding in his support of the sub-committee. Alex Fleming, Assistant County Manager, met the committee recently to plan for 2002.

Thanks to all the people who helped make Ballyhaunis and district a nicer place for people to live and work in.

## Major Boost

The Tidy Towns town improvement group got a major boost recently with the formation of a voluntary group among the asylum seekers in the town to assist in the work of the Tidy Towns

group. Approximately thirty residents of the former Convent have pledged their assistance in improving the riverside walk and the river itself. Mayo County Council has kindly offered to provide equipment to assist in this effort which has stemmed from a desire on the part of the asylum seekers to repay the kindness they have been shown since their arrival in the town by making what they consider to be a worthwhile contribution to the area.

## Tidy Towns Report

The following is the text of the Ballyhaunis Tidy Towns Report, as prepared by the Judges following their adjudication on 12th June 2001. The marks achieved are given in brackets after each sub-heading:

### Overall Developmental Approach (37/50 marks)

Welcome back! As it is almost a quarter century since Ballyhaunis was in the Competition, this is being treated as a new entry. Due to your exceptionally thorough Environment Action Plan, marking is unusually high under the above heading; the statistical, demographic and historical information provided is very interesting indeed; the Town Audit is especially detailed and comprehensive.

As this is a 5 Year Plan, it might be prudent in your timescale to programme individual objectives for particular years, rather than attempting to march forward on all fronts at the same time. It is candid - indeed brave! - to include photographs of less attractive areas, and this is appreciated. Do not be disappointed by the marks under the headings below - they are a fair base, and, assuming that progress will be made by next year, you may expect appropriate increases then.

### The Built Environment (25/40 marks)

The town centre is well presented, the view down Main Street from outside the Church is most attractive with its pleasant curve, trees, attractively painted frontages and high quality street furniture. Landmark buildings - the Church, Court House, Friary - are



Pictured at the launch of the Five Year 'Ballyhaunis Environmental Plan'. Front, L-R: Richard Finn M.C.C., John Cribbin M.C.C., Annie May Reape, Chairperson Mayo County Council, Jim Higgins T.D., Des Mahon, County Manager. Back, L-R: Gary Smyth, Litter Control Officer, Mayo County Council, Jim Landon, Enda Murphy, Edward Mulhern, John Higgins, Canon J. Cooney, P.P., Pat McHugh M.C.C., Peter Hynes, Architect, Mayo County Council.

handsome and well maintained. Unfortunately three ill-maintained large buildings catch the eye immediately, and these naturally have a deleterious effect much greater than their number would imply, due to their size and conspicuousness: a hotel in the Knock road, the Scout Hall on the Castlerea Road and the cinema on the Claremorris road. There are some very fine shopfronts, but none of those nominated for regional/national awards can be considered because of one or more very stringent requirements: the entire building, including roof, gutters, chutes and stacks, must be in first rate order; in traditional street houses wooden sash windows should be retained (i.e. no PVC or aluminium); there should be absence of plastic or mass-produced signs; paintwork should have an entirely fresh appearance and gables and stacks should also be painted. The best shopfront noted this year was Curley's Pharmacy with its well preserved upper storey and its beautifully designed granite fascia - unfortunately the paintwork was not quite up to standard. It was nice to see plants on display at Delaneys, adding colour to that important intersection.

### **Landscapeing (28/40 marks)**

Some pleasant planting was noted here and there. The grounds of the Friary are attractively laid out. The walk alongside the Clare River is certainly a highly suitable location for clearing and planting. Other locations noted in the Town Audit should be developed over a period of time, in public areas as a priority.

### **Wildlife and Natural Amenities (15/30 marks)**

The Clare River should also be considered under this heading. Study the recommendations in the Tidy Towns book, and be sure to take advice from knowledgeable organisations and individuals. More trees should be planted in estates and where there is space on approach roads. An illustrated public signboard showing the flora and fauna of the district might be advantageous. A schools competition for identifying trees and plants, and animals and birds, should create interest and awareness among the coming generation. A purely nominal mark is being given under this heading as not a great deal of consideration seems to have been given as yet.

### **Litter Control (21/40 marks)**

This was not particularly effective. There was some litter in almost all central streets, and very noticeable litter at the Railway Station, on the Claremorris Road, near the Health Centre, and in the riverside Car Park.

### **Tidiness (8/20 marks)**

Good to see a bottle bank in use - but the Car Park where it is situated is unkempt. A weedy road and some broken walls were seen in an un-named street (near Burke's supermarket). Major industrial premises on the south side of the Claremorris road require well thought-out upgrading. Another business premises on the north side of the same road needs essential screening - either with stone walls, or hedging, trees and other planting. Incidentally, when planning new boundaries anywhere, avoid cement block walls (or else have them clad in plaster and paint), and post-and-wire fencing (which is short-lived and attracts weeds).

### **Residential Areas (19/30 marks)**

There are many very pleasant and well maintained terraces of street houses, particularly on Main Street and the Knock Road - this is a residential area to be proud of. Among newer estates, Ashling Drive

is neat, as is the estate at An Lochan - more tree planting would be advantageous here. The un-named bungalow estate opposite the church is also well kept, but is also in need of vegetation. Excellent new housing was noted in Stone Street, and it is hoped this will be extended. It was good to see stone boundary walls at Abbey Vale, and also extensive tree planting. Uncoordinated suburban spread on some approach roads should be strongly discouraged.

### **Roads, Streets and Back Areas (21/40 marks)**

Surfaces and paving are generally very good in the town centre; lampstandards here are handsome, and absence of overhead wires is visually most welcome. Surfaces are not so good in some other places, such as the Sligo road and near the Station. An Lochan car park is not well maintained. Credit Union signs in Irish and English are excellent, but several directional signs need cleaning or painting. It must be stressed that the efficient Environment Committee has identified numerous back areas and unsightly corners, and it is clear that these will be addressed in time.

### **General Impression (6/10 marks)**

In spite of some unsightly corners and buildings, Ballyhaunis is an attractive town with a pleasant central shopping area and some fine housing. The initiative of the Environment Committee is exactly what is needed to bring it up to a high standard.

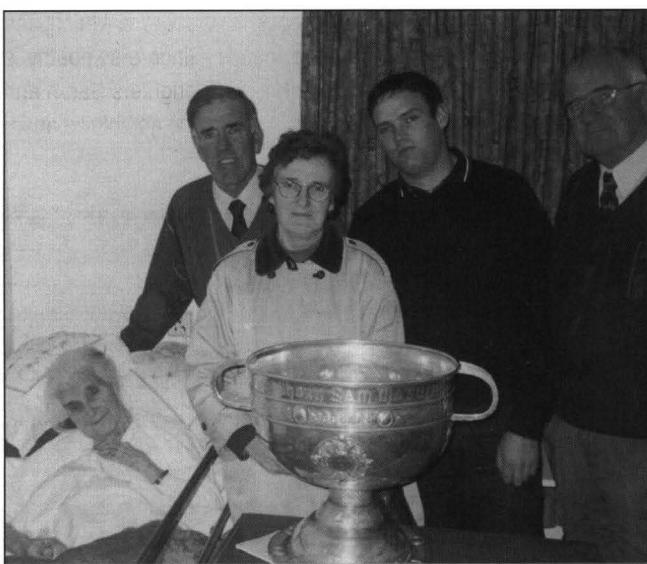
Total Marks – 182/300 marks.

### **Other Community Council Projects**

Other projects include a Carer's Group attending to the needs and wants of the elderly and the infirm as well as groups examining the social and material needs of the very young and their parents, the Travelling Community and the immigrant workers in the area.. A lot of this work is unsung and not attention grabbing but is very much appreciated by those who need it and benefit from it.

There are also other projects in the pipeline which are of a more long-term nature such as the possibility of establishing a community centre, and projects for our younger residents like the provision of a playground for pre-school and primary school children as well as suitable facilities and amenities for teenagers and young adolescents. The Community Council was also to the fore in the establishment of a working group to explore the future role of the Augustinian grounds and abbey for the people of the area.

All of the above mentioned projects plus a great many others remain to be completed and it will take time and commitment from a large number of people to achieve the objectives but the rewards will be great and will be appreciated not just by the present generation but by future generations too. A good deal has been achieved to date by a relatively small number of people working in an informal structure. There is no doubt that the people of Ballyhaunis want to see improvements in the area for all sectors of the community – the very young, teenagers, the emigrant community, the unemployed and marginalized, the elderly and the unwell. It is the view of those currently involved in the activities of the Community Council that if we want to see improvements we will have to make a start ourselves. There is little point in approaching public or government bodies asking them to do something for our area if we are not prepared to do something ourselves too. The Community Council is the vehicle to help achieve the improvements we all wish to see and the more people who get involved the greater our chances of success will be.



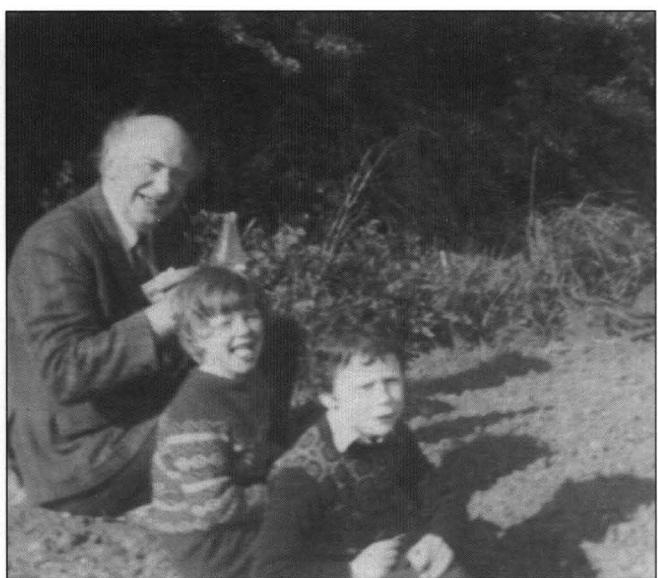
Tessie Walsh, Glenamaddy on her 100th birthday with her daughter Nuala Forkan, Tooreen, sons; Seamus & Tiernan Walsh and grandson, Galway footballer, Shay Walsh with the Sam Maguire Cup.



Agnes Carney Quinn, Reisk, with her daughter Eleanor and son-in-law Seamus Forde and grandchildren on the occasion of her 100th birthday. Back l-r: Declan, John, Damien, Seamus & Liam. Front l-r: Eleanor, Marie, Deirdre and Seamus snr.



Presentation to Fr. James O'Grady C.C. on his departure from Ballyhaunis to Clifden in July. L-R: Maria Cribbin, John Brennan and Mrs. O'Grady (Mother) and Fr. James.



Vincent Caulfield R.I.P., Seamus Caulfield and Seamus Cox, Hazelhill 1976



L-R: Tommy Joe Forde, Aidan Waldron, Johnny Murren, Jack Kennedy and Martin Sullivan. Taken 1940's.



Paddy Walsh, George Murray and Vincent Caulfield. Members of Red Cross, early '40's

# Ballyhaunis and District Credit Union

By John Tuohy

The Credit Union since it was first established in Ballyhaunis has continued to grow and make remarkable progress, its total membership has now reached over 4,000, and members' savings have continued to increase since its foundation in 1983. With assets of over £6,000,000 (over 7,620,000 Euros) the Credit Union continues to grow from strength to strength.

Over 65% of savings in the credit union are given out on easy obtainable loans to members for provident and productive purposes, at a low rate of interest, tailored to meet their needs, e.g. house or site purchase, car purchase, home improvements, home furniture, school fees, car insurance, etc. Interest on loans is charged on the reducing balance of the loan, weekly or monthly as the case may be, members only pay interest on what they owe. There are no hidden or transaction charges and all loans are insured at no extra cost to the member. This makes borrowing from the credit union a very competitive option.

The Credit Union was set up initially to promote thrift among its members in the common bond of the community, to encourage members to save regularly and borrow wisely. Loans to good members can be paid out on the spot. Services to members include: - free life insurance on savings and loans and free loan protection insurance at no extra cost to the member. 10% discount off membership fees of VHI or BUPA, Home insurance, Auto Insurance, Foreign Exchange, Western Union money transfer. All surplus funds are paid out to the members at the end of the financial year in the form of a dividend. This is approved at the Annual General Meeting to which all of the members are invited to attend. The Board of Directors and Supervisors are an entirely voluntary group giving their time freely in the service of the Credit Union.

The Directors and Supervisors appointed for the year 2001 were as follows: Chairperson - Helene McCafferty; Vice Chairperson - Pat Fitzgerald; Treasurer - Pat O'Connor; Assist. Treasurer - Maura Murphy; Hon. Secretary - Cynthia Fitzgerald; Assist. Secretary - Mary Rudden; Credit Control - Pat Fitzgerald, Frances Mulhern, Helene McCafferty and Patricia O'Connor. Credit Committee: Aiden Kelly, Ina Freyne, Justina Lyons, Margaret Byrne and Rita Lundon. Education and Training: Madeline Niland and Wendy Dowler. Promotion and Planning: Rita Lundon, Jarlath Walsh and Eddie Mulhern. Supervisory Committee: Helen Lyons, John Tuohy and Barry Butler. Office Administrator - Katherine Kilbride. Tellers: Helene McCafferty, Cynthia Fitzgerald, Ina Freyne and Mary Rudden.

The Credit Union suffered a sad loss this year on the death of the late Patrick Fitzgerald on October 10th. He was a Founder member of the Credit Union in 1983 and was a member of the first Board of Directors. He held a number of important posts in the organisation, including Supervisor of the Board, Hon. Secretary, and later Chairman of the Credit Control Committee, this year he was elected Vice Chairman of the Board. A truly dedicated member of the credit union he believed in the philosophy of the movement, he was a man with great community spirit. His untimely death at an

early age has come as a great shock to the Credit Union, the community and to all his family and friends. Sincere sympathy is extended to his wife Cynthia, son John, and daughters Sarah and Katherine and his brother and sisters. Ar dheis Dé go bhfuil a anam dilis.



Credit Union Poster Competition Winners 2000. Back l-r: Michael Goulding, Lisa Henry, Seamus O'Dwyer, Shane Nolan, Louise Keane, Joseph Ganley. Front l-r: Jackie Daniel Dempsey, Niamh Cunnane, Sheana Flanagan, Aisling Kenny pictured with Madeline Niland, Patricia O'Connor, Helena McCafferty and Mary Rudden.

## Dear Moon in Heaven

By Michael Godfrey

Dear moon in heaven and all stars I see  
What beautiful picture that God gave us free  
Shine bright on the hungry, the weak and oppressed  
Who are often the people that God loves the best

O what hunger they suffer because we will not share  
The food and the wealth that God has put there  
If they look at those pictures and those eyes of despair  
And then look in their hearts the answer is there

We are brothers and sisters they too are Gods' race  
Whom man has forgotten in his power greedy pace  
We know that their suffering in vain will not be  
For it's suffer these children to come unto me

I hope that those nations of wealth and of power  
Will bring them relief in their pitiful hour  
I hope they'll respond to the children who weep  
In the message God gave them, feed my lambs, feed my sheep

Dear moon in the heavens and all stars I see  
What a beautiful picture that God gave us free.  
Shine bright on the hungry, set this cold world at ease  
Pray shine out the message  
of love and peace



# Being the best at Sheepdog Trialling

By John A. Murphy

Most of us can relate to the joys of winning at sport, for example the county championship, the Connacht final and the All-Ireland! Players very often talk about the honour of pulling on the county jersey. An even greater honour is perhaps associated with pulling on the country jersey. Such an honour is normally associated with international soccer, rugby or athletics. Representing your country is essentially the ultimate achievement and, of course, is not confined to the aforementioned sports. On the basis of relativity it applies equally to sheepdog trialling. Many people reading this will not be aware that right here in the parish of Annagh we have a person who has represented Ireland in this on four occasions – Peter Concannon, who now resides in Lecarrow. Another great sheepdog triallist is George Flanagan, who resides in neighbouring Tooren, a place more closely associated with hurling.

This enthusiasm for trialling has been facilitated by the introduction of the Ballyhaunis Sheepdog Trials, which take place annually in Lecarrow. The trials, which started in 1984, quickly established themselves as one of the points of the year trials in Ireland, attracting competitors from over fifteen counties. Apart from the five Connacht counties, competitors have come to compete in Ballyhaunis from Clare, Cork, Donegal, Waterford, Wicklow, Tipperary, Kildare, Fermanagh, Meath, Westmeath and Limerick. The prestige of the trials is enhanced by the provision of the following trophies: The Farmers' Journal – for the Open competition; The Noel Patterson – for the Intermediate contest; The Western Brand Chicken Trophy – for the Novice competition; The Val Waldron Memorial – for the best outrun, lift and fetch.

Val Waldron, R.I.P., was renowned in the area for his breeding of sheepdogs, and was a regular competitor at trials throughout the West of Ireland in the sixties and early seventies. Breeding and training dogs was for him a vocation, from which he commanded considerable respect and admiration.

The trials receive annual support from the following agricultural related organisations, most of whom have been involved since 1984: Dawn Meats, Irish Fertilizer Industries, Major Steel, NCF, Systamex and Ulster Bank.

## Local Competitors

Peter Concannon developed his interest in sheepdog trialling from watching "One Man and His Dog" on television almost twenty-five years ago. He bought his first dog called Toby for £10 and in 1983, competed for the first time in a trial at Four Roads in Co. Roscommon, coming second in the Novice event. That was the beginning of the success story. His greatest achievement was getting on the Irish team for the first time in 1991, following qualification in Northern Ireland when he was best of 150 competitors. As his practice is largely through farm work it essentially means six to seven days per week. Peter has particular pride in the Ballyhaunis trials as it was largely his idea, and he acknowledges the role of these trials in developing his own skills through the participation of the best triallists from all over Ireland. His fondest memories of the Ballyhaunis trials date back to 1992 when he won the Open competition with his dog Spy. Of the many triallists who have competed in Ballyhaunis, Peter particularly admires Denis Birchill from Wicklow (he can make a bad dog look

good) and Sammy Long from Donegal (he never brags or boasts about his achievements).

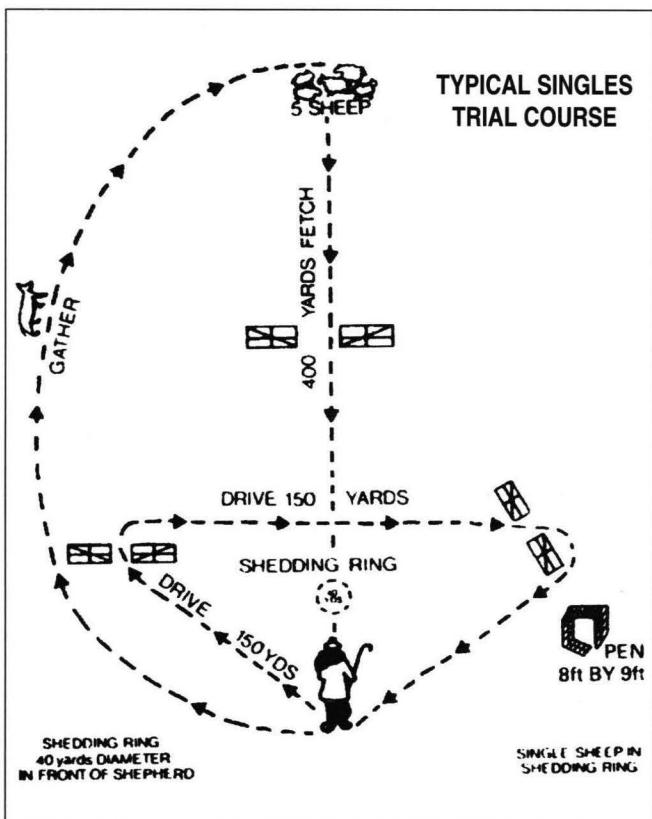
George Flanagan acquired his interest in sheepdogs at the early age of thirteen when he bought his first dog for ten shillings (50p). In 1974 he bought two pups, a dog and a bitch from Lionel Pennefeather from Derry, to commence breeding. It was ten years later when he decided to compete, accompanying Peter Concannon to a trial at a ploughing match in Menlough, Co. Galway. In this event he came third in the Novice, following Peter who came second. George enjoys every minute of every trial – win or lose. He practices three to four times per week. Again the existence of the Ballyhaunis Sheepdog Trials has helped him develop his skills through seeing and competing with dogs he would not otherwise have seen. He has considerable pride in these trials as he assumes the role of host, welcoming top performers to Ballyhaunis. The triallists who George most admires are Peter Concannon (if he has the right dog very few can compete with him), Martin O'Neill of Meath and John Brennan of Tipperary (he has good temperament).

Peter and George are also fortunate in that they have understanding wives. Christine, Peter's wife, enjoys watching trials and at this stage can confidently judge a good run. Nancy, George's wife, loves dogs and is a frequent attender at trials.

## Typical Singles Trial Course

For those who have not had the pleasure of attending a sheepdog trial and experienced the excitement and challenge, the following is a brief description of a typical singles course.

There is a time limit of 12 minutes for the course.



**Gathering (400 yards):** A straight fetch from the lift to the handler, through a centre gate (seven yards wide) 150 yards from the handler. No re-try at the gate is allowed. The handler will remain at



Peter Concannon with two of his winning dogs, Roy and Spy

the post from the commencement of the outrun and at the end of the fetch he will pass the sheep behind him. **Driving:** the handler will stand at the post and direct his dog to drive the sheep 450 yards over a triangular course through two sets of gates seven yards wide, a second attempt at either gate is not allowed. The drive ends when the sheep enter the shedding ring. **Shedding:** two unmarked sheep to be shed within a ring 40 yards in diameter. The dog must be in full control of the two sheep shed. On completion of the shed the handler shall reunite his sheep before proceeding to pen. **Penning:** the pen will be eight feet by nine feet with a gate eight feet wide to which is secured a rope six feet long. On completion of shedding, the handler must proceed to the pen, leaving his dog to bring the sheep to the pen. The handler is forbidden to assist the dog to drive the sheep to the pen. The handler will stand at the gate holding the rope and must not let go of the rope while the dog works the sheep into the pen. The run concludes with the closing of the

gate by the handler. Judging is determined by the allocation of points for each stage of the run as follows: Outrun – 20; Lifting – 10; Fetching – 20; Driving – 30; Shedding – 10; Penning – 10.

#### Working Dogs

Apart from trialling, sheepdogs are of course predominantly used to herd, drive and gather flocks on the farm. For centuries dogs that tended sheep and herded cattle were of any size, shape or colour and, as long as they were efficient, their appearance was of no particular importance. Different types of farm dog, however, did not evolve by accident; shepherds, farmers, butchers and drovers all bred dogs to suit their needs. A dog used for working sheep could not always control a herd of cattle or take on the tasks of a drover's dog.

Shepherds and flockmasters required dogs with stamina that could work long hours, often in difficult conditions. The life of a drover's dog was quite different from that of a sheep or farm dog. Before the introduction of the railway, cattle and sheep were driven hundreds of miles by drovers and their dogs. The journeys were long and arduous and specially trained dogs, working in packs, would drive the stock by day and guard it at night. The life of a drover's dog was tough and often short, but without them the movement of livestock would have been extremely difficult, if not impossible.

In the agricultural world today, machinery takes care of most aspects of farm life but it cannot replace the dog, which still plays an active part on many farms around the world. It is uniquely exciting when this work can be recreated in the form of a sport called sheepdog trialling. In the same way as all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy, play alongside work ensures that there are many happy sheepdogs throughout Ireland and, dare I say it, many happy trialists, including Peter and George.

## Aid for Belarussian Children

Once again Ballyhaunis A.B.C. hosted ten children from the Magilof region of eastern Belarus, one of the most highly contaminated areas in the country. We are part of the Donegal A.B.C. under the direction of Ernan and Phillis Meenan. We hope that their time spent here in Ireland, availing of the fresh air, good food, and above all the warmth and love of our own wonderful host families. Will boost their immune systems and that they return to Belarus with many happy memories.

The highlight of their four weeks stay in Ballyhaunis this year was a barbecue hosted by the Justice family, Cooilcrahan house, Foxford. Con and Maureen - we sincerely appreciate your generosity. We would also like to thank everyone who worked so hard to make it a success - caterers, entertainers and musicians. It has indeed been a memorable day for all of us. The group would like to thank all who supported the different fundraising events during the year, also the businesses in Ballyhaunis and surrounding areas. With your continued support we hope to do it all again next year, please God.

We would welcome any new families who may be interested in hosting children or in helping the group without actually hosting children. For anyone who would like to make a donation

to the group, our account number in the Bank of Ireland is 95330378 code 90-37-28.

Officers for the coming year: Chairperson - Denise Haugh; Assistant Chairperson-Bernie Mulligan; Secretary - Mary Murphy; Assistant Secretary - Olive Lyons; Treasurer - Frances Mulhern; Assistant Treasurer - Ann Shanaghy; P.R.O. - Veronica Regan.



Belarussian children with Tanya, their interpreter.





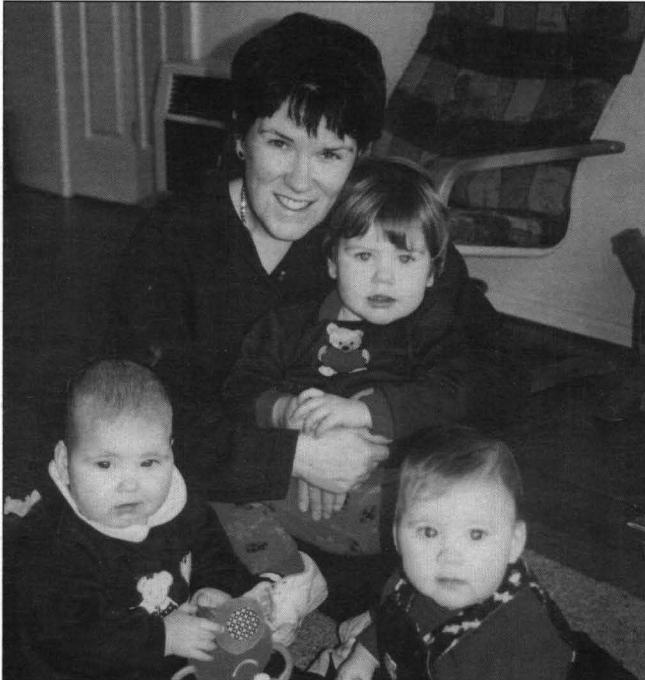
Annagh Pastoral Council. Front l-r: Joe Byrne, Tom Finn, Canon Joe Cooney, Maura Griffin, Mary Donnelly. Back l-r: Fr. James O'Grady, Eamon Healy, Margaret Tarpey, Bernie Lyons, Kathleen Madden, Maura Patterson, Seamus O'Boyle and Columba Jordan.



At the Senior Citizens Party. L-R: Mary Plunkett, Forthill, Olive Waldron, Cave and Lilly Jo Lyons, Gurteenmore.



Three generations of the Philbin family enjoying a holiday in Ballyhaunis. Joseph, John and Conor, Paddy & his wife Mona, their daughter Maureen and granddaughter Samantha.



Mary Ruane (Ryan) Johnstown and Australia with her daughters Ciara and twin girls Fiona and Maeve



Taken at Bonfire on Walsh's Hill, Johnstown 1981. Front l-r: Joe Healy, Pat Healy, James Walsh, Marie Healy, Declan Byrne. Middle l-r: Collette Jordan, Ann Marie Waldron, Caroline Walsh and Elaine Walsh. Back l-r: Collette Rattigan, Mary Ruane, Mary Walsh, Collette Byrne, Bernie Jordan, Noreen Ruane, Ethna Byrne and Elaine Walsh

## John McGarry The Music Maker

By Mike Finnerty

Seventy years ago, as Ireland battled against the economics of life, John McGarry left school. He was fourteen. As an only child he had responsibilities to attend to. And he did. His home was in Agloragh, on the outskirts of Ballyhaunis, and there was a farm to be tended to. His friends emigrated but he remained. It was a fateful decision.

He discovered music soon after and his heart was captured. From then until now the love has remained constant. If you listen, John will tell you.

It's a dark, cold, wind-swept Tuesday night as a fresh-faced John McGarry extends a warm hand of welcome. We talk for over an hour; of music, musicians and times passed. How he came to discover the magic of music and how he passed it on to his son and daughters as the years rolled by. He is animated as he recalls dates, names, places and dancehalls instantly. His mind is as sharp as ever.

### Music his first love

"Michael Brennan's father taught me," he begins to explain. "He was a violin player and he gave me the start after leaving National School. I could always sing. We were a singing house and I'd sing wherever I could. I went to school in Ballyhaunis and after I left the convent I went to Logboy. After leaving school I went into the farming straightaway, alas. There were no other prospects even though I wanted to go into building. But I would have had to emigrate to do that and that wasn't possible because I was an only son. Things were very bad that time. The least that would be in a family would be seven. I don't know how they survived."

"In the summer-time all the emigrants would come home on their holidays. Before I went to the dances we went to Fergus' in Cloontumper. You'd go in three fields to get there. Uncle Fergus was a concertina player, Austin Fergus was an accordion player and I had hit up with him on the fiddle. We did three and four nights there with the crew. The spraos were where everyone went."

The beginning of John McGarry's relationship with music was like many things in life — a moment of chance. His enthusiasm for life itself put him in the right place and fate did the rest. "Our neighbour, Owen Judge's mother was in America and didn't come home for years," he explains. "When she came back she bought a new violin for her son Paddy and sent him up to Michael Brennan's in Lisduff to learn. I used to go up with him every Sunday. Then Paddy got a new bicycle. Stop, it was like an aeroplane — a new Raleigh bicycle. So I used to drive his mother into mass in the Friary in the horse and cart and at Christmas time she gave me a ten shilling note."

"There was a fiddle in Michael Curley's window for ten shillings and a bicycle in Tommy Cunningham's yard for ten shillings. I used to turn in the bed at night trying to decide how to spend this money — would I go for the bloody bike or would I go for the music! Then I went for the fiddle and Michael Brennan said he'd try and teach me. I was off."

### Practice Makes Perfect

It becomes apparent from an early stage that John McGarry is a born story-teller. His voice rises and falls as he speaks and his eyes light up the room. They may have been hard times but they were magical times. The music was his release from the hardship. "I used to get up around four in the morning and memorise my tune. My mother and father didn't give a damn, they were delighted to hear me playing. I stuck at it night and day and got on



L-R: Paddy Boland, R.I.P. (Carnbeg), Sally Fitzmaurice (Lisbane), Nancy Fitzmaurice, R.I.P. (Lisbane), Paddy Morley (Woodpark), Anne Lynch (nee Grogan, Holywell), Jackie Tolan, R.I.P. (Knockanarra), Mary Flatley (Lassany), Johnny McGarry (Agloragh). Taken in January, 1953,



well with it. I'd be playing ceilí tunes, reels, jigs and hornpipes. All was going well. But I wanted to get better. That was where I met Johnny Groarke. I used to bring my mother and father to mass and bring Johnny home for the dinner. In return, he taught me scales and keys. Every hour I got I practised and I read the book Johnny had given me. The good men could read the music; the middlin' men couldn't!"

John McGarry was eighteen and itching to take the next step. Every spare moment was spent practising, playing and singing. A man called Tom Swift then knocked on his door. "Tom was a good singer and a first-class drummer," recalls John. "He landed at my door and told me he was starting a band. I told him I'd love to join but I'd be no good. He said: 'Don't you know how to sing?' I said, 'I do'. He said, 'C'mon so.' So off we went: Paddy Byrne, Gus Lanigan played the trumpet, Tom was on 'the skins' as he used to say and Mick Eagney. That was my first band.

Then the quick-step, waltz and the fox-trot arrived. Punters wanted that, all the good bands were playing that. Bands like Stephen Garvey, Bert Flynn from Roscommon, The Boyle Crystal..... Tom could sing all those songs. I often think of it..."

### **Big Band Era**

It is at this stage that we hear John McGarry sing for the first time. His mind is now back in the 1940s and his voice bounces off the walls. "There's a goldmine in the sky far away," he sings. "Tom was a lovely singer. Then I got into it. I knew the tunes and I could read the notes. The money was bad but it was an awful lot better than out working in rain and muck. That band finished after a year. Back to the farm but then Tom arrived back. "He said Dick Prendergast was starting an outfit and I ought to come. Dick was about 100 years ahead of his time. He played the accordion and there was Tom and myself and we went down to Kiltimagh — to O'Brien's on St. Stephen's Night into a big hall. Dick was singing away and Tom asked me to do a number. It was the first time I caught hold of a microphone. I started off with 'Danny Boy', did 'When Irish Eyes are Smiling' and the next thing O'Brien came up the hall flying. He said to Dick: 'Let him sing, you stop'. Jaysus, I was seven foot tall. I knew I was in business but I didn't know how much longer I was going to be able to do this."

It may be midweek in late September, 2001 but, by this stage of the conversation, John McGarry's living room has been transported back some fifty years. The days of innocence — a different country. "I knew that if I put in the effort this was worth more to me than the land," remembers John. "I put in four and a half great years with Dick Prendergast and then I pulled in Martin Hopkins, a very good accordion player. We used to meet every musician in the county. I never came home at all at Christmas. We'd stay out playing for the whole week. We played in Midfield, Cloonfad, Williamstown, Claremorris... I could be naming for a month. Dick had a car and we'd stay with him."

The wheel never stopped turning. Paddy McGarry's dancehall (fore-runner of Midas) opened its doors in Ballyhaunis and all over the county weekends were changed for ever. Men like Paddy Fanning from Knock, Paddy Morley in Woodpark and Tom Garvey from Aughamore were fixtures on the local circuit. Johnny McGarry was a busy man too. "Once a month Paddy McGarry would have a big band," he explains. "For the other three weeks he'd have us. Myself, Martin Hopkins, Paddy Boland from Tooren and Padraic Judge were the band. The tunes were changing but there was no radio. The only way you'd hear them was to hear the bands playing them. I used to send off to Piggott's of Dublin for a

song's notes on Monday, I'd have them Friday and I'd have it learnt on Sunday.

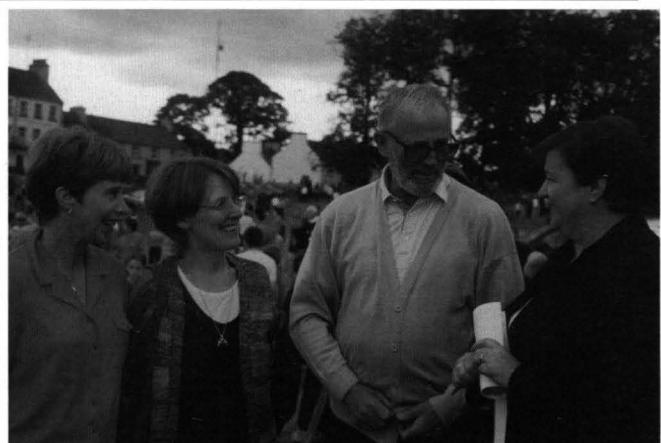
"We used to have Monica Flynn playing with us too. She was the organist in the church for years and played piano with us. She was first-class. Myself, Martin Hopkins and Dick Keane started doing the club in Tooren as well — in fact, we were the last three men to play there. Paddy Cosgrove and Austin Henry drove us all over. Sunday nights and Holy Days were when we'd play. We'd practice all week for it and play from nine at night to half-one in the morning. We'd only stop for a drink — the best of porter. Three of four crates would be left for us when we'd land. In Cloonfad we used to get two suppers — one when we landed and one when we finished. We were superstars... you couldn't keep girls away. If you were in a band you were sitting pretty," he laughs.

### **Echoes of a Different Time**

It is a mystical journey. There were no unsightly brawls, drug-peddling in hallways or drunk and disorderly behaviour. It is obvious that the spirit of the time was different. John McGarry's time. "After that I ran shows on my own," he tells us. "I was four and a half years down in Gortaganny with Leo Byrne, a first class sax player, John Ganley, Paddy McGrain from Ballaghaderreen and Mick Mahon — we had Dave Ookart, a German, he was with us too. The Premier Aces took over from us. It must have been the late fifties. I was never out of a job. The way music is today, a middlin' man can put up a good show. I've come from the days when there was no money to the days when there was plenty. It was slavery in those days. Everything is different now."

But the past still calls to visit every Saturday night and John McGarry can be found in Val's in the centre of Ballyhaunis town. The session will be in full swing and he will be sitting in its midst. He, Joe Burke and Tommy Joe Byrne swapping stories and tunes. His family now carry the torch, singing and playing music with the best of them. He compliments their work and also recommends one of the new breed. "Brendan Lyons from Tooren is as good a man as I've heard," he says. "He has a great way with the crowd. But I always really admired Leo Byrne and Dave Oogart who were both sax players and John Ganley, an accordion player. Sometimes, when you'd been listening to Mid West Radio, the memories would come back — John Duggan and Seamus O'Dubhthaigh especially..."

The only pity is that the conversation has to end. This was more than a lesson in history. It was a lesson in life, and how to live it.



Abbey Pattern 2001. L-R: Ita Fahey, Anna Butler, Fr. Aidan O'Leary O.S.A. & Margaret Byrne.

## Gracenotes

By Tina Kirrane (P.R.O.)

Since its formation in 1998 "Gracenotes" has gone from strength to strength. We are now an integral part of the social scene of the local community, and regularly perform on local platforms. The past year has been our most successful yet with concerts, weddings, competitions, and also included a very enjoyable trip to Italy. The first of these concerts, in aid of Western Care, took place in the Parochial Hall last December (2000), where we were delighted to be able to play host to the visiting Kiltimagh Choral Society. Hopefully we will join forces again at some future date.

One of the most rewarding events this year was the staging of the "Springtime Cabaret" held in Midas last April. This featured the choir and local guest artistes, including Brian Flanagan and friends, who provided a memorable evening of entertainment. An extra treat was in store for lovers of Irish dancing as the talented John Doherty took to the boards. A great night was had by all. In late May, we travelled to New Ross, Wexford, to take part in the A.I.M.S. Choral Festival. We were

thrilled to be awarded second place in the Madrigal Section and really enjoyed the relaxed atmosphere in this friendly town.

On July 3rd, we embarked on our "Italian Grand Tour" where we participated at the 40th International Choral Competition in Gorizia (near Trieste). This was a wonderful experience for the group as the international element of the contest was well represented by choirs from Finland, Italy, France and Israel. We also visited the beautiful cities of Venice and Treviso. The next trip abroad is already in the planning! Our programme for the immediate future includes a wedding, an outing to Sligo to compete in the Choral Festival there, and a local concert in December.

New members are always welcome and anyone interested in joining the group can contact the following committee members: Chairperson - Laura Brogan; Musical Director - Anna Butler; Secretary - Nuala Fitzgerald; Asst. Secretary - Maureen Thornton; Treasurer - Moira Stratford; Asst. Treasurer - Xanthe Pratt; P.R.O. - Tina Kirrane; Librarian - Mary Dawson; Committee Members - Ita Fahy and Christina Concannon.



Members of "Gracenotes" in Italy this Summer (2001)

Back, L-R: Marie Kelly, Laura Brogan, Christina Concannon, Ita Fahey, Eimear Thornton, Maureen Thornton, Yvonne Loughran, Brid Kenny, Mary Lyons, Una Shields, Nuala Fitzgerald. Front, L-R: Mary-Hannah O'Connor, Anne Lyons, Frankie O'Malley, Anna Butler, Mary Dawson, Margaret O'Grady, Tina Kirrane, Siobhan Coyne, Mary Patterson.

## Notes From 'The Navel of the World'

By Grahame Cleary

"Irlanda", I answered when asked where I came from. The next question revolved around whether I was from "el Norte" or "el Sur" and generally how things were with regard to the troubles. As my Latin American Phrasebook did not cover the words "ceasefire" or "assembly", I found it impossible to deliver a detailed explanation of the state of the N.I. peace-process and instead, settled for stating that things were "tranquillo" at the moment. These were not the kind of questions I expected from people living on one of the most isolated islands on the planet.

The isolated island in question was Easter Island, Isla de Pascua (in Spanish) or Rapa Nui, as it is known locally. Rapa Nui is half a dot in the South Pacific – 3,700km from its ruling state, Chile; 4,050km from Tahiti in French Polynesia and a long way from Ballyhaunis...or Belfast for that matter.

The reason for my five-day stopover in Easter Island was to see at first hand, the famous stone statues (known on Rapa Nui as *moai*) that litter the island. These impressive monoliths, as well as the altars (*ahu*), tombs, quarries, caves and petroglyphs are remnants of an extinct culture that thrived on the island for 1,300 years ago. The *moai* represent former ancestors who were worshipped as deities, each *moai* placed on an *ahu* with their backs to the sea. The *moai* are tall, stern-looking, stony faced (every pun intended) individuals, some complete with a topknot or headdress, with some more weather-beaten than others.

The majority of the *moai* and *ahu* found on the island lay ruined as a result of intertribal warfare that broke out during the 17th and 18th Centuries. The warfare was caused by pressures faced by the islanders due to an increase in population and the disappearance of trees. The lack of trees meant no canoes, no canoes meant a lack of fish, which led to starvation and famine for the islanders. Subsequently, the islanders lost faith in their ancestors, abruptly stopped carving the statues and developed a fascination with a cult that centred on a bird man (*tangata manu*).

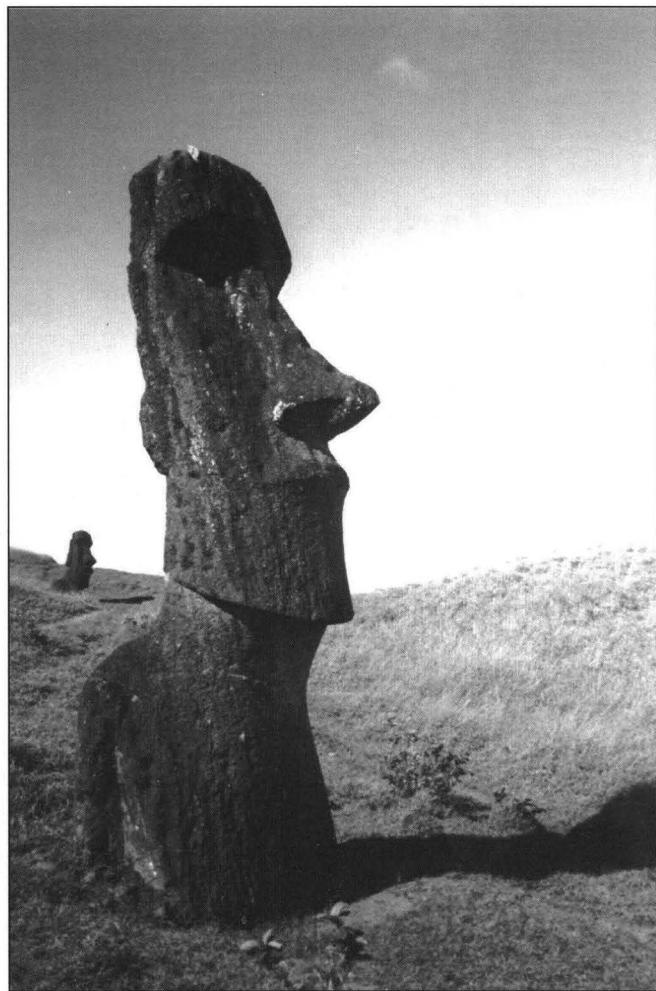
One of the most impressive sites on Rapa Nui is the quarry at the Rano Raraku. About 800 – 1,000 *moai* found throughout the island were carved out of this quarry that is, in fact, the vent of a volcano. As the islanders dramatically abandoned their creation and adoration of the statues, many now lay strewn around the quarry (statues not islanders!) – facedown, lopsided, half buried, half completed – all with stories to tell.

### The Islanders

The islanders I met were very approachable and sincere. On a days walking at the northern end of the island I came across an oil-skinned (that's dressed in oil skins rather than covered in oil), bare-footed cowboy on horseback. Now this guy was a genuine cowboy, not of your chancer/conman variety – he had cattle and horses to boot. We got talking (well he talked rapid Spanish, I nodded, smiled and threw in the odd 'Si') and he took me to some nearby petroglyphs and a cave where he maintained he often took his chica.

Although cattle farming is undertaken on Rapa Nui, the only industry of note is tourism, which is, in a word, basic. Various guesthouses, a handful of restaurants, Knock-like souvenir shops, rent-a-car, a museum and taxi drivers masquerading as tour guides are what many of today's 2,800 islanders depends for sources of income.

The island's landscape is barren – think parts of northwest Mayo – treeless, fenceless, open. A strange, quiet place with the incessant barking of dogs and the South Pacific wind the only noises heard. The earliest inhabitants on Rapa Nui, who were of Polynesian descent, called the place *Te Pito o Te Henna*, "The Navel of the World" and I will do well to come across a stranger, more interesting belly button in this lifetime.



Above: 'Moai', Rano Roraku, Easter Island

## Memories of the Showband Era

By Pat Halpin, Main St. and London

During a recent conversation with my brother John Halpin, we started to reminisce about the days, and nights, I spent in the Showband scene of the 1960's, and he asked if I would be interested in writing an article for the Annagh Magazine, about my recollections of that same period, and how I got started in the business. - Although my memories may be a little hazy, for one reason or another, I said I would give it a go.

I always loved music, and like many of my contemporaries, was sent at an early age to Sister Dymphna at the Convent School, to learn the piano. - Although I studied for a number of years, and did my grades, it was not, to my parents dismay, my instrument of choice, and soon I found myself looking for something very different, and started taking lessons on the trumpet from a well known local band leader Gus Lannigan. - Gus lived down Barrack Street, -and he and his daughters had a well-known band that played all around the area at the time. - Unfortunately after a few lessons, he came to the conclusion that, as they say in the business, "I didn't have the lips for the trumpet", so my next progression was to the Banjo, which my parents had bought me as a present one Christmas. - This however was also short-lived, because as the year was 1962 a new musical phenomenon was just about to take place across the water, in a city called Liverpool, it was known as the Beatles.

### Early Days

By the mid 1960's, practically every town in Ireland had at least one band or group, however accomplished, associated with that town or area. - Now although Showbands like The Clipper Carlton, The Royal, The Dixies, The Miami, Joe Dolan etc. had stated in the late 1950's early 1960's, and had the emphasis firmly on the "Show" aspect, it was the advent of the Beatles and the Liverpool Sound in 1963, that was the catalyst for every teenager and would be Beatle, to pester their parents into buying them a guitar or drum kit. Here in Ballyhaunis it was no different. St.-Pat's college had opened a few years previously, and decided to take its first Leaving Certificate class in 1963. - This reunited many old friends, which had spent the previous three years at various boarding schools around the country. -

John Conway, John Higgins, Eamon "Ned" Curley and myself among them. - Shortly afterwards a music teacher called Leo Byrne visited the school. - He taught many instruments, guitar and drums being among them, so straight away the aforementioned names signed up. - He provided the guitar and drums to learn on, but it wasn't long before we decided we had to have our own instruments.

After many weeks of pestering our parents, we got a result, and it was agreed that my father 'Jack' would take us on one of his business trips to Dublin, to purchase the instruments. - They were bought in McCullough Pigott's music shop, and consisted of two electric 'Egmond' guitars for John Conway and myself, an

'Egmond' bass guitar for John Higgins and a set of 'pearl' drums for Ned Curley. - We were on our way!

### Serious Gigs

We used to rehearse in our various homes, much to the annoyance of our parents, and using borrowed amplifiers, mainly Bertie Curley's one, which he used for his bingo calling sessions in McGarry's Cinema, and which was never the same again after we had finished with it. - We rehearsed tunes by the Beatles, The Searchers, The Shadows and all the popular stuff of the day. - Eventually we would be asked to perform a few numbers at various functions in the Central Hotel, free of charge of course, but at least it gave us the chance to play in public. Finally, we got our first professional gig playing as a support act to Paddy Fannon's band during one of his regular Wednesday night Ceidhle sessions in the Parochial Hall. - At the end of the night Johnny Biesty paid us the princely sum of four pounds. We thought we were made.

Having finished our schooling, and our dreams of being the next Beatles, we went our separate ways. - John Higgins and Ned Curly trained to be teachers, John Conway went to Dublin and played part-time with a band, I stayed in Ballyhaunis and helped my father with the business, but still could not get the music out of my system. This was now about the mid 1960's, and a band from Claremorris was starting to make it very big. - They were called the Royal Blues and were made up of local musicians and a few lads from Dublin. - They were managed by a taxi driver from Claremorris called Andy Creighton, with some help from Peter Hannon from Ballyhaunis. Their lead singer was Doc Carroll, and thanks to the huge success of his recording of an old Fats Domino song "Old Man Trouble", they became one of the biggest bands in the country.

### The Showbands

Also at that time you had bands from Tuam like Johnny Flynn, Olly Maloney, Jerry and the Ohio, The Bandits. - From the Castlerea area you had the Premier Aces and the Rhythm Stars. From Castlebar Bros Walshe, The Royal Chords, and from the Charlestown area a group called the Fab Five. - They included Shay Cribbin, Kevin Maloney, Gerry Foley, Mal Tiernan and Brendan O'Grady. - They were semi-professional at the time, but decided to form a Showband and go full time under the management of Sheamus Cox from Ballyhaunis. They augmented the group by another two musicians, John Conway from the



**The NIAGRA Showband**

(BALLYHAUNIS)

L-R: Pat Halpin, Tony Dolly, John P. Kelly, Liam Byrne, Gerry Fahey, Aidan Staunton and Don O'Shaughnessy.

town on keyboards, and Patsy Haugh from Castlerea on trumpet. They changed their name to the Riviera Showband, had a few successful records, and were quite big in the late 1960's. While all this was going on, I was still keeping my hand in on the guitar. - I used to do some gigs with an old friend from Carrowkeel, Greg Caulfield, and another great character from the town Tony "The Toad" Rattigan, better known as the Singing Cowboy, but with the success of the Riviera I started thinking about having another serious go at the business.

There was a group in Knock called the Applejacks, which included John Kelly and Tony Dolly. - They were looking for a lead guitarist, and I got the job. - We recruited a young drummer from Tuam by the name of Gerry Fahey, and called ourselves "The Limited Company". - We were managed by John Conway from the Riviera. - We played lots of the smaller halls around Mayo and the neighbouring counties, as well as playing relief for the big bands in the larger halls. - This went on for a while, until at John Conway's suggestion we decided to form a Showband, go professional, and try and emulate the success of the Riviera. - We were joined on keyboard's by a friend of John Kelly from Westport, Aiden Staunton. - We also recruited a trumpet player and ex-leader of the Artane Boy's Band from Dublin, Don O'Shaughnessy, and a saxophone player from the No.1 Army Band also from Dublin, Liam Byrne.

### The Niagara Showband

We changed our name to the "Niagra Showband", and that was in 1968. Although the band was based in Knock, we were mainly known as a Ballyhaunis band, and were always well supported by the guys from the town. - We played all over the country, as well as numerous tours of England, but it was always the local halls, like the Parochial Hall, Claremorris Town Hall, Knock Hall, and the famous hall in Gorteganny that we enjoyed playing most, mainly because we were playing to the home crowd and the atmosphere was always electric, to say the least. We were together for almost three years, made two records with John P. Kelly on vocals, and had a change of personnel along the way, with Paddy Glynn from Claremorris, coming in on drums, and another John Higgins, this time from Kiltimagh on bass. - Both were formally with the group "Time Machine". - We finally disbanded Christmas 1970, after spending four months in England playing the "Mecca" dancehall circuit. Most of the guys are still in the business, and we meet up every now and again to reminisce about old times. - The one exception is Jerry Fahey, who tragically died in a motor accident in Canada in 1985. - He was also the youngest member. - R.I.P. I went on to play in other bands in Ireland and England, but eventually settled down to that inevitable "proper job". -



'The Wayfarers' Folk Group from the 1960's, Irene Heaney, Gregory Caulfield and Angela Heaney.

### Fond Memories

I still look back with great fondness to that time in the 1960's, and don't regret one second of it. - I do however feel sad, at the demise of the dancehalls, the showbands, and with them the live music that I feel a lot of today's youth are missing out on. - Even here in London, all of the big dancehalls have closed, or have been rejuvenated, and aimed at the ever growing club culture, with D.J's blasting out sounds like Hip Hop, House and Garage. - Fortunately, the only kind of garage music I ever heard, would have been some mechanic playing his radio in Bertie Lynch's or Freyne's. However with news of the original Royal Blues reforming, and some of the other old bands due to follow suit, it may be time to start practising these old jiving steps again and who knows, even the old "Niagra" may make a comeback. - We'll await with bated breath. N.B. -But don't hold it too long!



Community School Graduation 2001. L-R: Louise Lilly, Orla Mulrennan, Carmel Meagh and Lauren Kelly, on their way to Carrick-on-Shannon



Enjoying a chat at Holywell crossroads. L-R: Noreen Miller (upr Main St.), Ann Beisty (Carrowkeel), Joan Biesty (Pattenspark) and Alacoque Grey (Clare St.)



Taken at the Square awaiting the Relics of St. Teresa Summer 2001. L-R: Kathleen Waldron (Johnstown), Teresa Healy (Johnstown), Kathleen Cribbin (Knockbrack), Joan Flynn (Abbeyquarter), Mary O'Connor (Leixlip, back to camera), Mary Waldron Sykes (Leeds), Pauline Curley (Clare St.), Bridget McLoughlin (Carrowreagh). Seated: May Moyles (Abbey St.) and Sarah Ann Waldron (Cave).



Senior Citizens Party. L-R: Eileen Waldron (Cave), Bridie Brennan (Upr Main St.), Mary Burley (Classaghroe) and Michael Lyons (Classaghroe)



Signing a book of condolence to the Firefighters and people of New York following the Sept. 11th tragedy. L-R: Ann Curley, Mary Commons, Michael J. Lyons, Michael Griffin, M. J. Walsh, Edward Mulhern and Sean Freyne (Fire Officer)

# Teaching in Ballyhaunis for almost Forty Years

By Patricia Waldron

I was asked to write about my many years teaching in Ballyhaunis, and then one day I met a gentleman on the street who shook my hand and said "Patricia do you remember me? I was in the Tech long ago." Then he went on to name the teachers there – Padraig Ó Ghabhlaín, Padraig Hughes, Kathleen Cunningham, and Sean Cleary – all gone to their eternal rest, R.I.P. Many other teachers joined us later. It is sad to see the condition of our "Alma Mater" now. It is in a terrible state, grounds all overgrown and all the windows broken. It would be great if someone would do something about it!

## Early Career

I trained as a Home Economics teacher – then called ' Domestic Science Instructor' – in St Catherine's, Sion Hill Co, Dublin and was lucky to be appointed to Mayo V.E.C. under the C.E.O. Padraig O'Loughlin R.I.P. For the first year after I qualified, I was sent out to take evening and night classes in cookery, needlework and crafts in centres in Mayo including Balla, Mayo Abbey, and Shrue. We were called 'Itinerant teachers'. My teaching equipment including oil stores sewing machines etc, arrived at the centre and I took over from there. I enjoyed my work and have many happy memories of each centre.

I was then appointed to the Vocational school in Ballyhaunis, taking over from Maura Cunningham Jordan; at that time lady teachers had to resign when they got married. Most of our students came from rural areas and, of course, there was no school transport, so some students had to cycle up to nine miles every day, sometimes arriving in very wet clothes.

## Classes

My classes included preparation for a practical 'Group Cert' exam in cookery and needlework. The standard had to be, and was a very high standard and the girls would have been capable of catering for any occasion. They loved showing off their achievements and bringing home their lovely decorated Christmas cakes. I also took night classes for adults during the winter season and these were always well attended.

We had a lovely garden attached to the school and had a great gardener - Paddy Cassidy R.I.P. Paddy kept the kitchen supplied with fruit and vegetables. Electrification had not arrived in many areas so some of my students had never used electricity and it was amazing the standard they achieved after two years. We also did some laundry work and at times all we had were 'flat irons' which had to be heated on an old iron solid fuel cooker, so you can imagine the trouble it was to keep them heated and clean.

We went on a school outing every year, hired a bus and made the sandwiches etc., in the school, packed boxes and built a fire to boil water for tea. I remember one very wet day, so lunch was a disaster with no open fire and no tea, but we still enjoyed ourselves.

## Amalgamation

In the mid seventies it was decided to amalgamate the three Post Primary schools in the town. There was great communication between the three schools before this happened so when we eventually moved into the Community school in 1997, everything seemed to go ahead very smoothly. It was a great change for me, my classes were much bigger and it all seemed so strange. We had about forty teachers but it had a lot of advantages, big and better equipment and it was great to be able to discuss points with my two colleagues Sally and Helen. Our

headmaster Eddie Thornton ran a 'great show' and with the help of Fr Mc Myler and all the other teachers, the students got and are still getting a great education. Sport and musicals are part of the wide curriculum.

## Retirement

Now that I have retired I still feel part of the school. My past pupils know that I was never good at remembering names and do love people to come and talk to me at any time. We must have past pupils living all over the world and I know that many of them have achieved some great things. Some of the students in the Community school could almost be grandchildren of my first pupils. "How the years fly". I must say that I enjoyed all my years teaching in Ballyhaunis and am now very happy in my retirement.



Vocational School outing 1966. L-R: Driver, Christy Ruane, Teresa Lynch and Patricia Waldron.

## Priest and Grandfather

Gerald Freely was born in 1934 at Harrow, England, son of the late Michael Freely originally of Scragg, Ballyhaunis. He married Margherita Von und Zu Egglofstein in 1960 and is the father of seven children. He practiced law as a solicitor in London for forty years. Six years ago his wife died of cancer. Gerald then decided to try his vocation as a priest and, with the encouragement of the late Cardinal Hume, he entered Allen Hall Seminary. He was ordained a priest in Westminster Cathedral in July 1999.

The photograph shows Father Gerald, after celebrating his first Mass at Harrow-on-the-Hill church, with fourteen of his nineteen grandchildren. Father Gerald is at present Assistant Priest at the church of the Sacred Heart, Ruislip in North London.



Rev. Gerald Freeley and his grandchildren.

# Growing up in the Thirties and Forties

By Tony Boyle

It is almost impossible to explain the difference it was growing up in the thirties and forties to the youngsters of today who are now so well off in their youth. In the early part of the last century it was difficult to believe that we would be the last generation to experience the condition that existed when we were depending on the oil-lamp for light and trying to kindle a fire on the night's rakings. We who were the children of the thirties and forties came into the fifties to the challenging and exciting world of adolescence.

## Rural Electrification

Rural electrification flooded our homes with light, cleaning away old ghosts and beliefs and sending fairies scurrying underground. Modern plumbing replaced the bucket of spring water from the pump or well and the timber rain barrel at the gable end of the house. Corners hitherto shrouded in dust suddenly found themselves scrubbed clean with the new and plentiful supply of hot water and disinfectant. The flush toilet replaced the chamber pot bringing an instant solution to the problem. The wide and warm comforting arms of the open fire were folded up and into its corner came the rather cold-looking ranges and the shining enamel-faced cookers. Cows accustomed to the soft glow of the storm lantern, as we checked them at night now blinked at the glare of the harsh electric light.

The older generation stood and hesitated on the blink of this new world, but we younger generation took things for granted and swam happily with the tide. We became the young parents of the sixties and seventies and brought children into a new world totally different to the one of our own childhood. Economic prosperity boomed and our teenagers grew up from the shadows of the oil-lamp

and the dwindling call of the corncrake. We had left behind a world now almost forgotten.

## The Wonder of Radio

"Ah, God be with the time I spent with poor old Dan Malone, when he landed home from Dublin with his brand new gramophone. And then when ten o'clock'd come, I wouldn't want to go. T'was me was keen on that machine, some sixty years ago." In the forties, the radio came and we wondered at Micheal O'Hehir and his broadcasting genius and those who had radios experienced crowds in their kitchens on Sunday afternoon. The wedding parties were in the house of the bride, and the Sunday night dance was the event of the week. Those were the years of shortages and rationing. There was no evening Mass and a G.A.A. match was unheard of on a Saturday, and there was no soccer only in the cities and large towns.

## Social Events

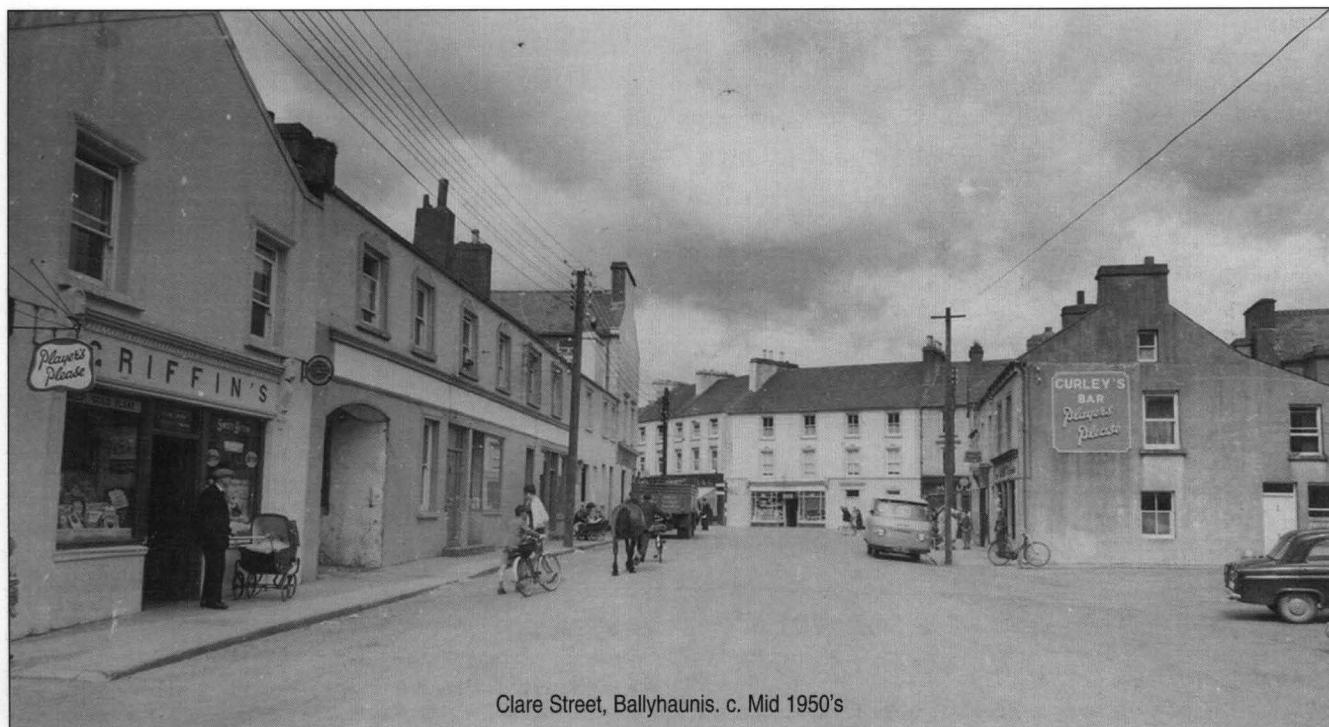
"And when we'd have a wedding, Ah! Tis I remember well. The 'do' was in the house at home – no talk of a hotel, and as regards a honeymoon, well, to Galway they may go. Ah! God be with the 'Dragging Home' of sixty years ago."

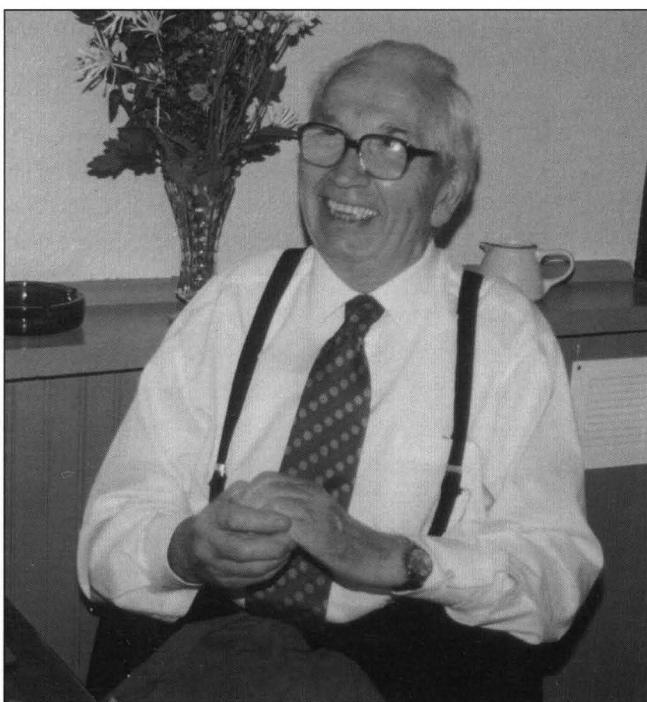
The fifties brought mass emigration and money was scarce. It was difficult to make a pound and many items were on short supply, and we had not yet had got T.V. It was not a good decade and there was no inflation. The E.S.B. changed the whole scene and the pint was only a half crown. (12 1/2p).

"And in the neighbours house at night when T.V. had no say. We'd sit and talk beside the fire and "25" we'd play. But now ye have the singing pubs where men and women go. No decent girl went into pubs some sixty years ago."

## Progress?

Back in the thirties and forties who would foretell that practically every house in town and country would have a telephone





Tony at his Birthday party on September 8th last.

and television before the end of the century plus a car – and maybe two – outside the door? And don't talk to me about the mobile phone – they are now practically running the country! Anyway, thank God for all the progress.

"And we wouldn't pass the village on a Sunday after Mass, for a game of simple football – or perhaps Pitch 'n Toss. But now it's up to Dalymount or Lansdown Road they'll go. We scarcely knew where Croke Park was some sixty years ago.

#### **Tony Celebrates His 80th**

A man, who is one of the oldest contributors to the Annagh Magazine, was hosted by his family in a Galway City hotel on September 8th last on the occasion of his 80th birthday. He is Tony Boyle, who has written articles for the magazine for almost twenty years now. Amongst the attendance at the party were his wife and children and eighteen of his twenty grandchildren. Lets hope that Tony contributes to "Annagh" many more years. He is also a regular subscriber to his own Parish Magazine in Galway city for over twenty years. It is over sixty years ago since he first came to work in Ballyhaunis. Congratulations Tony!

## **Marriages in the Parish of Annagh**

**1st November 2000 to 31st October 2001**

James P. McNulty, Carrowmore Lacken & Catherine Phillips, Main Street  
Derry Joseph Cox, Tooreen & Tara Haugh, Castlerea, Co. Roscommon  
Ryan Patrick Fitzgerald, Carrick-on-Suir & Linda Morris, Abbey Street  
Gerard Redmond, Saggart, Co. Dublin & Sharon Greene, Carrowreagh  
David Doherty, Carrick, Ballinlough & Paula Moran, Main Street  
Griffin McManus, Calry, Co. Sligo & Angela Cribbin, Drimbane  
John Hargaden, Carlow & Barbara Dillon, Ballindrehid  
Edward Allen, Tooraree & Kathleen Mongan, Tooraree  
Colin Jennings, Cloonfad & Collette Waldron, Abbeyquarter  
John Fitzmaurice, Forthill & Mary Kedian, Moneymore  
John Guilfoyle, Greenwood & Olivia Gallagher, Knock Road  
John Doyle, Wexford & Orla Keane, Doctor's Road  
David McNamara, Cork & Victoria Fitzgerald, Upper Main Street  
Morgan Keogh, Dublin & Hilary Madden, Gurteen  
John Tynan, Co.Cork, & Bernice Patterson, Knock Road.  
Anthony Mulkeen, Tulrahan & Collette Byrne, Johnstown  
Martin Mullarkey, Knockbrack & Annette Baine, Knockbrack  
John Gill, Crossmolina & Helena Plunkett, Scrigg.



## **Marriages Outside the Parish**

Richard Phillips, Main St. & Gemla Marren, Galway (The Claddagh, Galway)  
Martin McDonagh, New Road & Martina Maughan, New Road (Knock)  
John Moran, Annagh & Catherine Hanley, Ballaghaderreen (Lough Talt, Co. Sligo)  
Matthew Merrick, Claremorris & Christina Devane, Aisling Drive (Ballintubber Abbey)  
David O'Connor, Hazelhill & Aisling Keogh, Galway (NUI Chapel, Galway)

# American Wakes

By Willie Costello

Many stories have been told of harrowing scenes witnessed at American Wakes, which were common in rural Ireland in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Those wakes were not concerned with death but were gatherings of relations, friends and neighbours to bid farewell to a young person about to emigrate to America. The tears that were shed at them and the trauma of parting, more than likely forever, with a young member of a family often equalled and sometimes surpassed the grief endured on a death. So the term "wake" was not inappropriate.

The gathering, or party, which was hosted by the parents of the intended emigrant, was a curious mixture of celebration and sorrow, with dancing, singing, eating and drinking combined with tears, tributes, presentation of gifts and expressions of fond farewell and affection to the young neighbour they were about to lose, and who, in all probability, they would never see again.

## The Party

The early part of the night was no different from the usual country house dance when those present danced sets, polkas and waltzes to music played on violin, concertina and tin whistle by unpaid local musicians. At intervals somebody would be asked to sing a song and another might dance a hornpipe or a jig. All eyes were fixed on the soloist who was given total silent attention until the conclusion, when applause greeted the performance.

The break up of the party was seldom before dawn, at which point the presents, which were left in a bedroom by the guests when entering, were given to the prospective emigrant. These were always small for two reasons: The first was the desire not to overburden the traveller with heavy or bulky luggage and the second was that few could afford the cost of anything substantial. Rings, small prayer books, rosaries and religious medals were typical, as were a set of hankies to a girl, or a pipe to a boy if he was a smoker. Following the presentations speeches were delivered, all extolling the virtues of the departing emigrant and expressing the loss that would be felt in the locality.

My mother attended an American Wake close to her own home near Claremorris during her youth, here the mother of the young girl who was to emigrate the next day spoke emotionally about her daughter's talents. Having described her powers at milking cows, churning butter and baking cakes, she went on to put great emphasis on the fact that she could iron twelve men's shirt collars with one heating of the iron. The only type of iron available then was heated by leaving it for several minutes against burning coals on the hearth. It would scarcely be possible to iron with one heating more than six or seven collars, all of which has to be soaked in water containing starch to stiffen them.

## Shirt Collars

In those days, and indeed up to the nineteen sixties, men's shirts,

with the exception of what were called "working shirts" had separate collars. The design was very practical because all clothes were laundered by the womenfolk who, with soap and hot water washed them by rubbing them intensely with their bare hands against a washboard. Needless to say, men did not put on fresh shirts each day. Instead those donned on Sunday morning lasted for the week. An expression often used as that time sometimes jocosely when describing a man who was ill, or who was of a sickly appearance was "another clean shirt will do him".

At least three collars were supplied with each good quality shirt. Fitting was arranged by using a stud at the back of the neck and another at the front. Shirts also had reversible cuffs, and in mid-week the soiled parts were turned inward and the clean parts exposed. The Faulet brand was famous for reversible cuffs.

From the foregoing it can be deduced that ironing collars was an important chore in the work life of the rural housewife and all young girls aspired towards being competent at it.

## The Eulogy

When the woman finished her eulogy a young man stepped forward to speak. As he lived nearby, he was well known to all present and he was a very eligible bachelor. He said he was very impressed by what the woman had said and it would be a shame if Ireland were to be deprived of a young woman who could iron twelve shirt collars with one heating of an iron. Therefore he was now proposing to marry her so there was no need for her to emigrate. The couple were wed within a couple of weeks. Typically for the time, they had a large family and many of their descendants are living in the same district today. It is likely that a secret relationship already existed, but anyway it was one wake that had a happy ending.

According to stories handed down, most American Wakes were held on the night before and early morning of departure. As the guests were about to leave, the father, brother or close friend tackled the horse and cart and prepared to take the boy or girl and a suitcase of meagre belongings to the nearest railway station. It was then that the poignant scenes took place with parents and siblings hugging and crying, while enduring the great loneliness, knowing that the chance of the departing person ever returning was remote.

I recollect only one American Wake in the course of my childhood. Even now it does not appear to me to have caused the trauma that was normally associated with such events but I was too young then to appreciate the loneliness, which is bound to accompany any parting. Neither did the wake conform to the conventional rules. It was held a few nights before the departure and there were two young sisters emigrating. On the Sunday afternoon following the wake the two visited in our house, which was about a mile from their home, and it was then that my mother gave them the little presents. It is likely that ours was not the only house to which they called. There was no apparent sadness and certainly there were no tears. The fact that they were going to join

an older sister, who was in America for some years and where a number of uncles and aunts also resided, probably made leaving home easier for them. It should be remembered also that all emigrants went with high hopes of a better life for themselves and with the good intention of helping out with "some of their hard won earnings the hapless ones at home". In almost all cases these hopes were realised. These two girls got on well and they visited their old home many times before each got married and settled down in Boston.

### **Emigration Dwindled**

In the late nineteen twenties and throughout the thirties emigration to America dwindled to almost nil because of the Depression there. When it resumed on a very limited scale after World War Two, the days of the American Wake were but a memory. The crossing of the ocean by steamship, sometimes taking several weeks if the seas were rough, and including

several bouts of seasickness was now replaced by comfortable air trips taking only a few hours. It is unlikely that any emigrant of those early years could envisage that before the end of that century people would become so affluent and technology so advanced that holidaymakers flying across the Atlantic would be commonplace and that many business people would fly to America several times each year. It is not unusual for people to return home on the day following the outward flight.

In the last century, hundreds and possibly thousands of songs concerning emigration were composed and they were sung in every corner of the world where Irish exiles assembled. There must be but a few Irish adults who have not heard of "Goodbye Johnny Dear"; "I'm Sitting on the Stile Mary"; "An Irish Boy was Leaving"; "The Old Bog Road"; "Noreen Ban"; "The Shores of America"; "Spencil Hill" and countless others. They were practically all sad and like the wakes they brought tears from many eyes.

## **Grease is the Word**

**By Sinead Lunden (PRO)**

From the 20th to the 24th of March 2001, the Scout Den resonated with the catchy, upbeat strains of the ever-popular musical 'Grease'. The production, which was Ballyhaunis Musical Society's eighth, proved a huge success, with large audiences in attendance each night. 'Grease' owes its origin to the 1970s film production, which starred Olivia Newton John as 'Sandy' and John Travolta as 'Danny'.

Following auditions, held in November, it was straight to work for the talented cast of 'Grease'. Anne Marie Madden and Lorcan Higgins made a cute, dashing and convincing couple as 'Sandy' and 'Danny'. Sinead Lunden and Fergal Carton were the sparring 'Rizzo' and 'Kenickie'.. It would be difficult to forget Noreen Freyne and Tom Forde's rendition of 'Mooning' aka 'Jan' and 'Roger'! or Sinead Nevin as 'Marty', singing 'Freddy My Love'.. Bernie McNamara and Brendan Kearns gave dreamy and highly musical performances respectively as 'Frenchie' and 'Doody'. Aisling Toal played the part of 'Patty Simcox' to perfection. Michael Goulding, as 'Sonny', delivered some great one-liners, while Leo Forkin as 'Eugene', had everybody in stitches, both on and off stage! Johnny O'Shaughnessy, excelled himself in the dual role of 'Vince Fontaine' and the teen angel. The talented Deirdre Moran, played the part of 'Cha-Cha' and Deirdre Carter Roache, played a most convincing 'Miss Lynch'.. The melodious chorus line included Austin Finn, Adrian Murray, Siobhan Quinn, Anita Duffy and Laura Freyne.

Without the assistance of directors and a choreographer, a show cannot go on. This year our director Ray Leonard requested and got the invaluable assistance of the extremely talented Frankie Ralph O'Malley. Responsibility for the all important music of the production was given over to the gifted Pauline McGarry. Rhona Trench, was drafted in as choreographer. The sole comment here would have to be that Rhona earned every single penny, refining our leaping, bounding and toe-crushing! The exceptional music and accompaniments were provided by John Flatley, Michael Sheil, Kieran Murphy and Gearoid Connaughton.

As is the case every year a successful committee makes the way for a successful show. Well done to Adrian Murray (Chairperson), Michael Kelly (Vice-chairperson), Noreen Freyne (Secretary), Deirdre Moran (Vice-secretary), Seamus Boyle and



Front, L-R: Noreen Freyne, Sinead Lunden, Anne Marie Madden, Lorcan Higgins, Fergal Carton. Back, L-R: Michael Sheil, Kieran Murphy

Fergal Carton (Treasurers), Sinead Lunden and Aisling Toal (PROs). A big thank you must also go to the stage crew, the 'Full Shilling', The Hazel, Geraldine Conlon, Connaught Scaffolding, Bernie Freyne, Gerry Higgins, Frank Herity, The Community School, Paul Waldron, Mike Byrne, Tony Flynn, make-up artists, sponsors, patrons, supporters and friends of 'Ballyhaunis Musical Society.'

As we go to print, Ballyhaunis Musical Society are rehearsing for our 2002 production of "Guys and Dolls". It's true – "There's no business like show business".

## Ballyhaunis Cricket Club

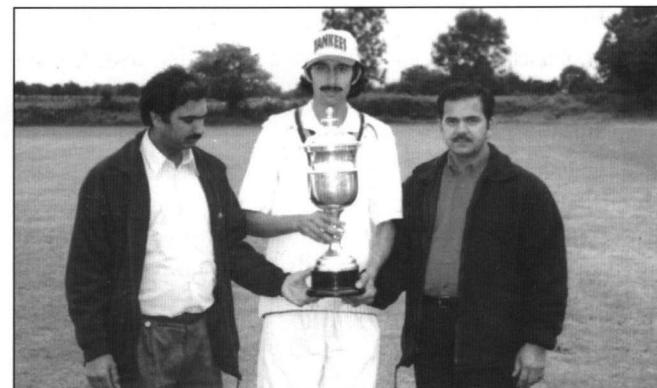
The Ballyhaunis Cricket Club, in just their second year participating in serious competition, have had an excellent season – with a Connacht title to their credit and having played in the Final of the Midland League, in which teams from all over Ireland take part. Tremendous progress indeed, in their two short years existence.

Founded in 1999, the Ballyhaunis Cricket Club started off by taking part in a number of friendly matches with teams from around the country, having been formed too late in the year to enter serious competition that season. The experience gained in these matches, coupled with regular training and dedication towards developing their playing skills, meant the club quickly attained a competent standard. Last year, 2000, the Club entered for the Connacht Cup and the Midland League Cup and acquitted themselves well in both tournaments. This season – 2001 – they once again entered both contests and have met with remarkable success to date.

### Connacht Cup

The four West of Ireland cricket clubs compete in the Connacht Cup competition – Galway, Athlone, Castlebar and Ballyhaunis. Each team plays the other three and the two highest scorers meet at the final. On Sunday 2nd Sept. Ballyhaunis beat Galway, 94 to 93, to win the Connacht Cricket Title and take home the "Martin Davey Perpetual Cup", presented to the Captain, Anwar Hussain, by David Baxter, President of the Irish Cricket Union (I.C.U.). The game was played at the Galway club's home ground in Claregalway.

In the Midland League Cup tournament, teams from all over Ireland take part – this season there were ten. The Ballyhaunis side overcame Galway in the quarter-finals, and went on to defeat Mullingar later in the season. On Saturday 15th Sept., Ballyhaunis met the North Kildare team in the final – the equivalent of an 'All-Ireland Final' – at Kilcock, Co. Kildare (the game was deferred from 19th Aug.). They hoped to emulate their success two weeks earlier when they won the Connacht Cricket title and brought home the "Martin Davey Perpetual Cup" .. Unfortunately, Ballyhaunis had to do without their Captain who was unable to play due to a family bereavement, and they failed to secure the "Dick Hogan Cup" this time. The final score was Kildare - 139, all out; Ballyhaunis - 80, all out. The Runners-up medals were presented to the Ballyhaunis team members by the President of the Midland League. The Leinster and Irish Cricket Union presidents were also in



Pictured holding the Martin Davey Perpetual Cup are members of the Ballyhaunis Cricket Club - Connacht Champions - left to right, Mohammad Gulzar (Manager and Coach); Anwar Hussain (Captain) and Mohammad Iqbal (Chairman).

attendance. There was some consolation, however, when a member of the Ballyhaunis team – Mohammad Asif – won the Man-of-the-Match award.

All current members of the Ballyhaunis club belong to the Muslim Community in the town: some were born in Pakistan; some are natives of Ballyhaunis who attended the local Primary Schools and the Community School. Others work at "Dawn Ballyhaunis" – the meat processing factory on Clare St. Several of the club members are also members of the Ballyhaunis G.A.A. club and play football and hurling at Under-age level. Mr. Mohammad Gulzar, Manager and Coach of the Cricket team, was eager to point out that anyone interested in joining the Club and participating in the game of cricket would be most welcome.

The Ballyhaunis Cricket Club trains in the grounds near the Mosque in Clare St., both on a grass surface and a hard surface covered with a special mat. They train whenever possible, but make a special effort to follow a regular training routine coming up to important matches.



The Ballyhaunis Cricket Team who defeated Galway in the Connacht Championship to win the Connacht Title and the "Martin Davey Perpetual Cup" on Sunday, 1st September. Back Row, L-R: Farhan Afzal, Tayyub Idrees, Anwar Hussain (Captain), Tahir Mahmood (Vice-Captain), Shakeel Ahmed (Wicket-keeper), Rizwan Ali, Arslan Afzal, Nadeem Mansha. Front Row, L-R: Saif Ahmed, Naveed Asgar, Shabir Ahmed, Mohammed Asif, Mohammad Amjid, Abid Zahoor.

Last year Ballyhaunis played Athlone in a friendly match played in the grounds of the Community School. They also played Castlebar in the Connacht Cup at the same venue. Both matches attracted some considerable interest and a number of spectators from the locality were in attendance.

### Proper Grounds and Sponsorship needed

In less than three years the Ballyhaunis Club has become a force to be reckoned with on the Irish Cricket scene, having become Connacht champions and All-Ireland Finalists: all this in only their second year in serious competition! This success, however, has been at a price and since its formation club members and players have paid for everything out of their own pockets, with no financial backing to speak of – all travel expenses, kit and equipment expenses, not to mention food and the many other items of expense that sport clubs meet with in the everyday running of their organisations. Sponsorship would be a most welcome, and any individual, group or firm willing to

sponsor the Ballyhaunis Cricket Club should contact any of the club members for further details.

Another disadvantage faced by the Ballyhaunis club is its lack of proper grounds. Without a proper playing pitch any further development will be seriously curtailed since they need to host games on their own grounds to participate in other competitions such as the 'Wallace Cup' and the 'Tillin Cup'. "We need to have a suitable ground to host matches here in Ballyhaunis if we are to enter these other competitions", said Mr. Mohammad Gulzar, Manager and Coach of the team. He also pointed out that their own ground was necessary if they are to fully avail of sports grants. Any help in sourcing suitable grounds in the general Ballyhaunis area would be greatly appreciated.

The Ballyhaunis Cricket Club's successes so far, at provincial and national level – achieved with the minimum of resources – are a credit to a small, dedicated group of people. They have brought distinction to their town and have added another dimension to the sporting life of the district.

## Ballyhaunis Golf Club

By Kay Curley

As the sun sets on the 2001 golf season and the silverware gleams in its rays, our ladies being victorious in both the County cup and Connaught title intermediate team event. Our proud Captain - Mr. John Cleary; Lady Captain – Mrs. Rita Mooney; and President - Dr. Helen Cleary, celebrate a wonderfully successful year.

The ladies team won the County cup for the first time since its inception in the 1940s. Miss Mai Moyles, present honorary member, being one of the visionaries for such a competition. The main competition prize winners this year were: Captain's (John Cleary) prize – Tommy Prenty; Captain's (John Cleary) prize to ladies - Kay Curley; Lady Captain's (Mrs. Rita Mooney) prize - Laurena Freeley; President's (Dr. Helen Cleary) Prize –Tommy Prenty. Golfer of the year: Men – Pat Curley; Ladies – Laurena Freeley.

The Open Week held in July was a tremendous success. There was a wonderful array of prizes, which were generously sponsored by local businesses. For the first time in its history the club had a lady president, Dr. Helen Cleary from Kiltimagh. Helen's father, the late Dr. Kirby, was a founder member of Ballyhaunis Golf Club. Many new members joined the club during the year and enjoyed the lessons on Wednesday evenings.

The club looks forward to 2002 under Captain John Collins, Lady Captain Mrs. Phil Glynn and President Michael Mahony, with great confidence and eager anticipation.



John Cleary presents his Captain's Prize to Kay Curley



County Cup winners. Back, L-R: Kay Fanning, Mary Frances Cleary, Fiona Prenty, Moira Noone, Siobhan Herr; Front, L-R: Phil Glynn, Mai Moyles, Rita Mooney (Lady Captain), Kay Buckley.

## Spread It Around

By Eamon Murren

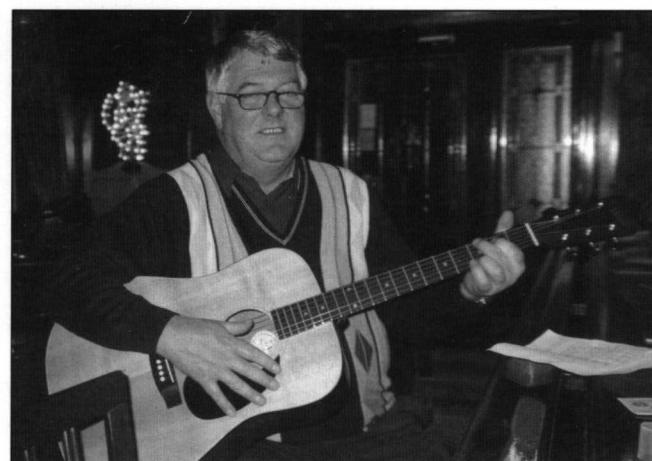
It was last Christmas night in the beautiful home of Paul and Paula Donnellan that Brian Hunt brought up the subject of margarine. It seems that Brian, as a young lad, was sent with a can of milk to new neighbours, who had arrived in Derrynacong. The woman of the house gave Brian a lovely cup of tea and a slice of brown bread. Once he tasted the bread, Brian got an awful sensation. The bread was not covered in butter. Brian had just been introduced to margarine. Brian spent the next few minutes stuffing his pockets with pieces of bread until it appeared that he had it all eaten. By all accounts Brian did not deliver the milk the next day.

In those days most of the country houses would have their own butter. I personally did not like what we called "country butter" .. I recall travelling with the late Vinnie Caulfield in his travelling shop, and on many occasions being offered tea and beautiful home-made brown bread. The only problem was that the bread would be covered in "country butter" .. I would have to make the excuse that I wasn't hungry. When we'd get back to the van Vinnie would tell me to take an apple or a banana for the hunger.

My memory of butter is what we called "creamery butter". The brands were 'Manor', 'Gurteen', 'Kilmactranny' - to name but a few. In later years 'Kerrygold' took over most of this market. The early brand of margarine was 'Stork'. In the late sixties or early seventies came 'Summer County'.. This was the first real effort to take the place of butter. They did a lot of advertising but the product gradually died a death. Today we have 'Connacht Gold', 'Dairy Gold', etc. - but none have replaced the butter.

### Changing Eating Habits

Brian Hunt's second topic of conversation last Christmas night was the bog. Doing a few hours work in the bog and then sitting down enjoying tea and sandwiches and whatever else was going. I was recently talking to a returned emigrant who told me that as a young boy they would be brought to the bog by a neighbour. They would meet in the morning in the neighbour's house. The neighbour would be having two boiled eggs for his breakfast. The boy's breakfast would be the tops of the two eggs. If the neighbour got bad porter the night before, he might be having only one egg so our friend got only one top. Hardly adequate sustenance for a day in the bog! Indeed, the late Mick O'Connell told me that he knew of a man who was sent to the bog on a regular basis and



"Singing for his Supper" - Brian Hunt.

his food was a bottle of tea and a lettuce sandwich.

Life has certainly changed with not a lot of people now going to the bog and the variety, if not the quality, of food improved. People's eating habits have changed too. I think it was Mark Killilea (M.E.P.) who defined an ordinary man "as a man who eats his dinner in the middle of the day" .. If that definition holds true then the amount of ordinary men in the world is slipping fast. Changing work practices, mean for many a fast lunch and dinner in the evening. The growth of fast food outlets, microwave dinners, Chinese takeaways have all changed people's eating habits. The days of the feed of cally, or bacon and cabbage have been replaced by pizzas and pasta. With society becoming more affluent, we are becoming more adventurous when it comes to food. Michael Waldron tells a story about a cousin of his visiting Cave from Monaghan. The lady explained that when they were young, times were hard. They often got for dinner potatoes and "point" .. When asked to explain "point", she said "you got potatoes and you could stick your fork into a potato and point it at a slice of bacon that was hanging from the ceiling!"

Many of the old brand names we knew are gone too. Names like 'Tiger loaf', Crusty pan, Vienna roll, Tipsy cake, etc. Many of the old Ballyhaunis food outlets are gone too such as "Corcoran's Café", "Mercy Flatley's", "Vera Biesty's", to name but a few. Indeed what would one give now for a bag of Mrs. Glynn's chips.

Incidentally Brian Hunt discussed several other topics last Christmas night but for some reason or other I cannot recall what they were.

## Ballyhaunis Apostolic Work 2001

By Bridie Brennan

The Apostolic workers had a good year in 2001, although we are few in numbers. Our 39th Annual Exhibition was held in June and it was very successful. Quite a few people came to view our work and support us financially. Apostolic work supports Missionaries by prayer and practical assistance – both material and financial. With the awful reports of war and famine in Third World countries, our help is needed now more than ever.

We had a very enlightening Vigil in Knock, given by Fr. Buggy, from Castlebar. In September, the display of the Archdiocese was held in Castlebar. A special Mass was held in the Parish Church, concelebrated by a number of Missionary priests. Most of our members attended this Mass, and it was interesting to meet workers from other parishes and to view their work.

We are very grateful to the Golf and Bridge Clubs for their continued support. A special thanks to the Priests of the Parish and the Friary, and also to the Sisters of Mercy for all their help.



Apostolic Workers, L-R: Bridie Brennan, May Moyles and Kathleen Finn

## **Knock to Nome**

**First Irish Expedition through the North West Passage**

**By Dr. Michael Brogan**

When the idea of having a go at the North West Passage (NWP) was first mooted two years ago by my old sailing friend Paddy Barry, it seemed the logical thing to do. I'd been to the Eastern Arctic in 1990 in Paddy's hooker "St Patrick" and had sailed around Europe and Norway in my own "Mac Duach". Another friend, Jarlath Cunnane, had vast sailing experience and had recently, with Paddy, sailed in the Antarctic with a "Shackleton Expedition".. Everest climber Frank Nugent was also on this Antarctic voyage. Once we decided to attempt the NWP the team was quickly assembled.

### **The Northabout**

We looked around for a suitable boat for the expedition, but didn't find one. The decision was made to start from scratch and build our own boat. The plans for a suitable forty-eight footer, specially strengthened aluminium sailing vessel, were bought. This design had proven itself in previous expeditions in the ice. The boat would sleep eight people, have a large fuel and storage capacity, a shallow draught and retractable centreboard for stability at sea. Among other items, a 120 HP Perkins engine and a large cooker for heat and cooking. A departure date of the 23rd of June 2001 was set in order to arrive in Baffin Bay, North Greenland, at the beginning of the break up of the ice.

The materials were acquired, and without going into the logistics, "Northabout" was built by Jarlath with the technical back up of Paddy and a little help from the team, and friends in and around Knock, in a record time of thirteen months.

We were to allow three years to get through the NWP. So, during this period we had to get enough suitable food for eight men for forty weeks, or sufficient to over-winter in the event of getting caught in the ice. We had to be prepared to rescue ourselves in the event of losing the boat, so clothes for extremes of weather were got as well as snow shoes, climbing gear, guns for polar bear, emergency rations, etc., etc., the list goes on.....

### **Forward to Greenland**

With everything in place and deadlines set, the boat left Jarlath's shed in Knock to be launched, rigged and vittled about three weeks before departure. Her sea trials were to be the first leg of her journey to Greenland. She passed with flying colours weathering a storm on the way to Cape Farewell, having departed Westport on schedule. Jarlath, Frank Nugent (climber), Terry Irvine (sailor), John Murray (film-maker), and myself, flew to Illulissat, Greenland, to join Paddy and Gearoid O'Riain (communication and all round expert) for the onward voyage to North Greenland and the NWP. Four of the team who helped deliver the boat to Greenland flew home and from here Jarlath took over as skipper.

Our arrival at Illulissat was memorable. We had twenty-four hours of blue skies, the biggest glacier in the world calving huge icebergs in mighty explosions, howling huskies everywhere with the smell of fish, seal blubber and dog excrement all round. It

was truly a surreal experience. But this was Greenland and we were to get used to it.

We sailed out of Illulissat in wonderful sunshine and heavy ice, northwards inside Disco Island, through the Vaigat (Iceberg Alley) towards Melville Bay, calling into isolated Inuit habitations on the way. The constant noise of the aluminium hull encountering ice floes, and twenty-four hours daylight ensured we didn't get a lot of sleep, but this we had to get used to.

### **Arctic Wilds**

The Arctic is one of the most naturally beautiful and least spoilt regions of the world. Few people live there and those who do are remarkable. In this harsh climate they live on the edge and are true survivors. They are trying to hang on to their traditional way of life of surviving by hunting, sledging and other facets of their culture. In winter their hunters will often take a dog sled team and travel 1,000 miles to hunt.

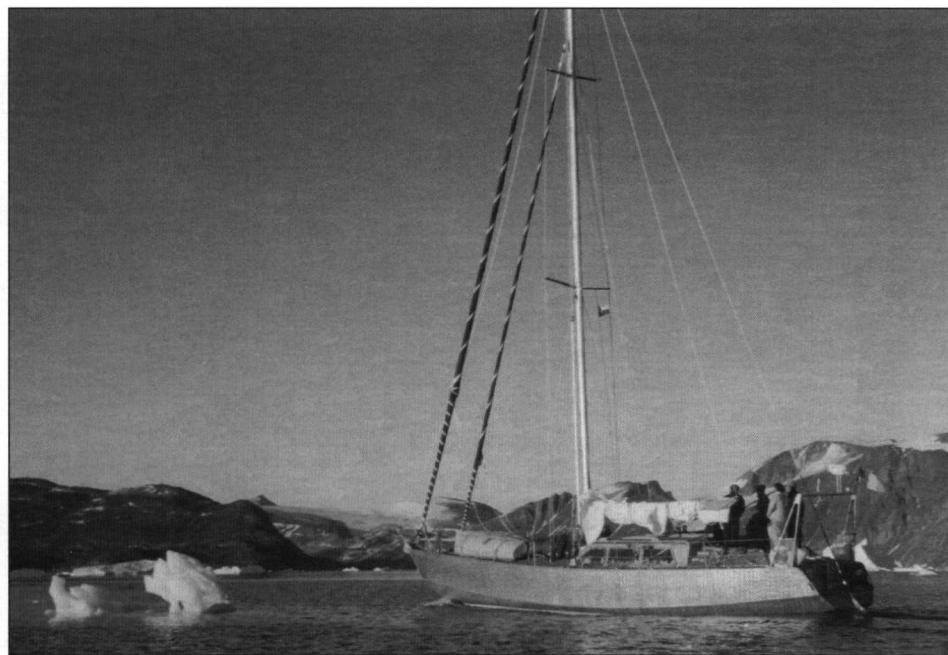
In Greenland they still hunt seal and whale with harpoon in their small kayaks. However, as with many Aboriginal people, alcohol, and the intrusion of Western influences have taken their toll. But the Arctic is where they want to be and many habitations are taking steps to preserve the old customs.

### **An Eskimo "Set"**

We were amazed when in one very isolated habitation called Kuvlurdsovaq an elderly Eskimo took my fiddle, began to run the bow across the strings to the tempo of a reel, four couples paired off and danced an Irish set, as well as I have seen it in County Clare. It seems these dances were handed down from their ancestors who learned them from Eighteenth Century Irish and Scottish Whalers! Another memorable experience was our first sighting of a Polar bear at close quarters, sitting on an iceberg, thirty-five miles out to sea. Sightings of wildlife such as bear, whales, etc. was something very special.

Brendan Minish, a radio ham operator, had built a special mast to keep in contact with us, outside his house near Castlebar. He proved invaluable in keeping us in touch with home and the outside world as well as providing us with weather and ice information. With his information that the ice ahead was breaking we headed across Baffin Bay to Lancaster Sound.

Located 500 miles north of the Arctic Circle, the NWP refers to the sea route from the Atlantic to the Pacific, over the American



The Northabout.

Continent, from Greenland to the Bering Strait. This Passage has lured, confounded and killed explorers and adventurers for centuries. The best known was Franklin's expedition whose ships were never seen again after they left Greenland! We were already committed and there was no going back. Log of Wednesday 8th of August: Lancaster Sound: "Ice to Port and Starboard...still in ice...slow progress...no progress...drifting in pack ice" .. We were beset. Was this the end of our expedition for this year? For the first time we were beset, many thoughts crossed our minds and without saying so, I am sure each person had the same thoughts running through their minds.

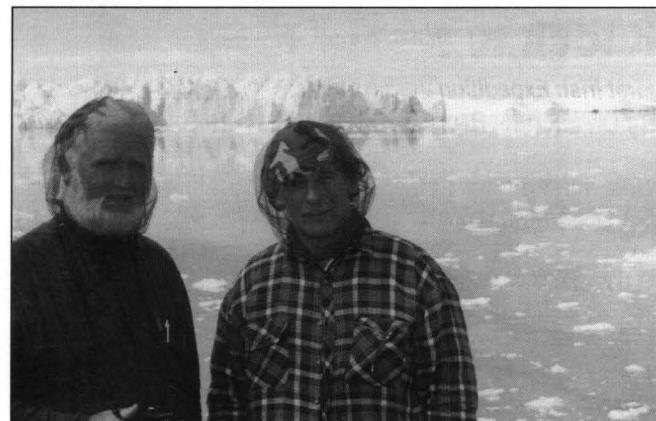
With one person on "Bear Watch" we tried to get some sleep, and thirty-six hours later there was a lead ahead, which we took into clear water towards notorious Peel Sound. We had a fairly clear run to Gjoahaven (population of 300). Here we were greeted by a native drum-dancer who turned out to be a grandson of the explorer Roald Amundsen, and a dead ringer for him, with his aquiline nose and blue eyes? From here we had tough sailing westwards through the archipelago of islands in sometimes uncharted waters, past places with the names of Starvation Point, Desolate Bay and Cape Terror. Ashore we came upon human bones, probably the remains of some of Franklin's expedition.

### Magnetic North

As we were close to the Magnetic North Pole our compass was useless. The charts in the passage are neither accurate for position nor depth and are not updated. Here navigation is difficult and sailing often hazardous. For days we were sailing in dense fog, picking our way through the ice. The combination of wind, ice, fog, shallow water (we went aground quite a few times) and problems of navigation made for "hairy" sailing conditions at times. On August 23rd we had cleared the shelter of Victoria and Banks Islands to the North and were into the open Beaufort Sea where the Polar pack-ice extends to the shores of the Yukon and Alaska. Weather conditions were getting worse and we had a few hours of darkness at night. We were experiencing more freezing fog and heavier pack-ice with stronger winds. Driftwood from the Mackenzie River littered the shores of the mainland and islands. There were few bays in which to find shelter so we had to keep pushing westwards.

### Shores of Alaska

Slowly we made our way along the shores of Alaska often getting caught in ice. It paid off to have a shallow draught which allowed us to go right into the shore to circumvent the heavier ice and push the lighter



Jarlaith Cunnane and Mick Brogan. The ice-berg which sunk the titanic broke off the ice floe in the background.

floes aside.

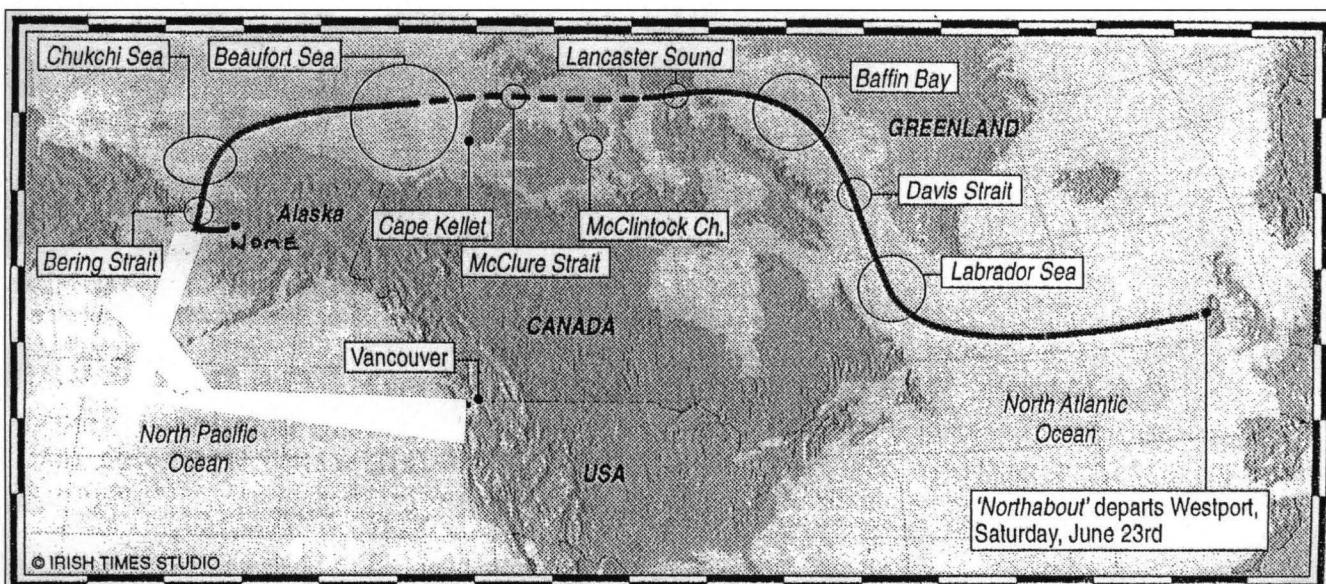
After Point Barrow the ice becomes less of a problem. At this point there is a small habitation where we looked forward to a shower, fresh food and some rest and recuperation (R & R). As we approached the Point, the wind blew ever stronger from the North. We were within fifty yards of the beach but couldn't go ashore. Sea conditions made it too dangerous to anchor or launch our dinghy. We could see people ashore were taking pictures of the boat. It was frustrating not being able to get ashore and we had no choice but to push on through bad conditions with a dubious forecast, through the Cukchi Sea to the Bering Strait.

### Journey's End

This turned out to be a difficult leg of the expedition, with a following gale and huge seas pushing us south towards the Bering Strait. The wind kept extinguishing our cooker so we couldn't cook, and had no other source heat. We were focused on getting through to the Bering Strait with ourselves and our sturdy ship intact. The ship's Log on 1st September at 19.35 hours reads: "Crossed the Bering Strait. End of the North West Passage. A tot (of rum) and cheers all round. Diomede island and Russia 20 miles to the west."

We were the first Irish expedition to complete the NWP and the fifth boat ever to do so in one season. With our spirits high we sailed on to Nome, Alaska, where there are seven saloons. We visited all of them!

Further information on the Northabout expedition can be obtained from: [www.northabout.com](http://www.northabout.com)



Route taken by the 'Northabout' through the North West Passage.

## **Junior Legion of Mary**

The Junior Preasidium meet on Monday evenings at 4.30 p.m. in the Parochial Hall. The meeting is open to boys and girls from age eight to fourteen.

The main purpose of the Junior Legion of Mary is to encourage and support young people in their spiritual growth. During the meetings the boys and girls take part in group prayer, spiritual reading and discussion. The children also commit themselves to one hours work for Our Lady each week. This work takes the form of visiting neighbours and relatives, helping out with household chores, and some community work such as delivery of the Irish Catholic paper, distribution of holy water at the masses and stringing miraculous medals for the missions.

Outings and parties take place occasionally throughout the year. Several were cancelled this year due to the Foot-and-Mouth outbreak. However, we did manage a retreat day in Knock. Twenty children from St. Joseph's and St. Mary's joined the members for the day. Our facilitators for the day were Debbie Moore and Mary Duffy. The focus of the retreat was the Knock Apparition and its significance, the Folk Museum, personal prayer and meditation and lots of fun and games. The day concluded with Mass in the Apparition Chapel. The liturgy and music were prepared by the children and the celebrant was our

own Fr. James O'Grady, who kindly joined us for the day. A great day was had by all. A special rosary is recited each week by the members for special intentions such as recovery of the sick, peace, national and global disasters. Last year the presidia purchased a small statue of the Blessed Virgin. Each week the statue is passed around the houses of young people. We ask them to make an altar and to pray the Rosary and, if possible, to encourage a family member to pray with them. Any young person in the parish may request the statue through the junior members.

The junior members frequently visit Carewell nursing home where they entertain the residents. This year some members visited the Dalton Home in Claremorris to talk to and entertain two ex-senior legionaries, Mary Dillon Leetch and Kit Freeley. The ladies welcomed the visit and encouraged the girls to keep up their good work. Plans are now underway for Christmas. The members will soon begin one thousand Hail Marys which they will offer as a gift to Jesus on Christmas morning. Members are also collecting stamps for the missions. If you have any used stamps or religious Christmas cards they may be donated to the junior or senior branch of the Legion of Mary.

This years officers are: President - Freddie O'Brien; Vice-President - Christina Concannon; Secretary - Maria Connolly; Treasurer - Derbhla Murray; Assistant Treasurer - Maria Hunt.



Junior Legion of Mary members and friends, on retreat in Knock

## Ballyhaunis Parent-Toddler Group

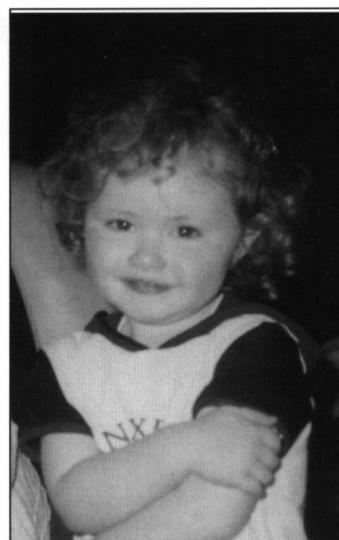
By Mona Herr

Who would have believed it? Here we are, in the third year of the Ballyhaunis parent-toddler group, well underway and thriving. The enthusiasm which has enabled this group to become established in October 1999, has rarely, if ever waned.

The original group started in a small room in the Parochial Hall with nothing more than a few toys donated by various people locally. The response to the group was so great that in just a few weeks it was necessary to move to the main hall in the building. We have been based there ever since. With the assistance of Grant aid from the I.R.D. Kiltimagh, the first year and the People-in-Need trust the second year, our meagre collection of toys was replaced with a more sophisticated variety including proper floor mats, a climbing frame, a trampoline, mini-kitchen lego table and blocks, see-saws, fold away castle, to name but a few. A separate area accommodates the younger babies providing them with a range of smaller toys for them to enjoy. We would like to think that the toddler group provides equipment which broadens the young child's horizons, offering them a range of opportunities they might not have at home.

The group meets every Thursday morning from 10.30 to 12.30. As well as providing a safe and stimulating play environment for the children, it is an opportunity for the

parent/parents to socialise, chat, have a coffee and perhaps build friendships. Since the onset of this group we have had regular social nights out throughout the year, not forgetting the inevitable Christmas party. A committee works hard in setting up and running of the group and I would like to thank them for their genuine dedication and commitment in the ongoing management of the group which has proven to be a huge success. Long may it continue!



Helen Gallagher, Upper Main St.



Christmas Party (2000). L-R: Aibhinn Herr, Gerry Higgins, Aoife Mulrennan, Mary Mulrennan (parent), Adam Hickey, Andrew Hickey, Maedhbh Caulfield, Máire Caulfield (parent).

## Ballyhaunis Ladies Group

Ballyhaunis Ladies Group was formed on the 25th of September 2001. The following committee was formed: Chairperson - Maura Caulfield; Vice-chairperson Mona Herr; Secretary - Paula Grogan; Asst. Secretary - Mary Mulrennan; Treasurer - Agatha Higgins; Asst. Treasurer - Geraldine Murphy; P.R.O.- Ann Burke, Asst. P.R.O.- Marie Brennan.

The Ballyhaunis Ladies Group was set up to facilitate and encourage women in the area to get involved in local activities and issues, be they social, recreational or health related. Our group was launched last June, when a Colour-Me Beautiful night, with cheese-and-wine, was organised. It was a great success, with a large attendance and proceeds on the night went to Breast Cancer Awareness.

On the 17th of October we held a talk on the "Alexander Technique", presented by Mr. Richard Brennan (A.S.T.A.T), which was about good posture and getting rid of bad habits. Members have also completed a First Aid Course. It is hoped our group will arrange monthly events between now and the end of June, and that they will be a mixture of talks and social matters. It is planned, for the New Year, that Dr. Corcoran

from Castlebar, will attend our group and give a talk on women's health-related matters. This will be advertised nearer the date.

The Ballyhaunis Ladies group meets on the first Wednesday in each month. New members are very welcome.



Back L-R: Paula Grogan, Agatha Higgins, Mona Herr, Ann Burke, Martina Gallagher, Caroline Davis, Mary Mulrennan; Front, L-R: Eileen Jordan, Marie Brennan, Máire Caulfield.

## The Man in the Middle

By Eamon Murren

Local G.A.A. referee Michael Daly created history this year when he became the first Ballyhaunis man to referee an All-Ireland Minor Football Final. Indeed, from what I can gather he is the only Ballyhaunis man to have referred any kind of an All-Ireland football final. Furthermore, Michael may be the only Ballyhaunis man to ever have refereed a match in Croke Park! Michael's final was a close encounter between Tyrone and Dublin, and ended in a draw. His performance drew plaudits from both camps and showed why he is one of the top G.A.A. referees in the country.

Like a lot of referees, Michael drifted into refereeing by accident. He was trainer of the Ballyhaunis minor team that was to play Kiltimagh. The appointed referee failed to turn up on the day, and Michael was handed the whistle. One of the spectators at the game was the then Mayo County secretary, John Prenty. John approached Michael about taking up refereeing on a full time basis and so the seed was sown.

Michael came up through the ranks from East Mayo to county, from county to province and eventually to the national stage. He is regarded as the number one referee in Mayo and has refereed county finals, from Under-12 to Senior. For the past

two years Michael has been on the National Panel of Referees. He has refereed National Football League games as well as a number of Senior Championship matches in the new All-Ireland games this year. His biggest game so far has been the All-Ireland minor final. Surely a senior one beckons soon.

Michael is the son of Michael and Bridget Daly, Upper Main Street. He works for Webb's butchers, Main Street. He is married to Mary (nee Lavin) and lives in his wife's home town of Swinford.



Mike Daly with his 'team' in Croke Park just before the Minor All-Ireland Final this year. L-R: Michael McHugh (Bekan), John Clancy (Cloonbook), Mike Daly, Hubert Flannery (Charlestown), Alan Dunleavy (Swinford), J. Canny, J. Lynch.

## Class of '82 Reunion

By Noreen Keegan

Yes Folks it's that time again – Reunion time for the Class of '82 from the Community School, Ballyhaunis! A provisional booking has been made in the "White House Hotel", Ballinlough for 29th December 2002. Yes, I know it seems like a long time away, but where has the last ten years gone since our last reunion in "The Manor House"?

Noreen Keegan, formerly of Pattenspark, would like to hear from anyone who was in this year, regardless of whether they finished in 1982 or not. If anyone is interested in forming a committee to make this one of the best reunions ever please e-mail me at noreenk\_kavanagh@hotmail.com

All help would be greatly appreciated and the great thing is it can all be organised over the Internet. If I have left out anyone's name, I apologise and if you know of anyone in this year please pass on my e-mail address.

Class of 1982: Mary Donnellan (Knock), Mary Lyons (Erriff), Mary O'Sullivan (Bridge St.), Bernie Mulkeen (Raith), Jackie Lyons (Turlough), Nuala Lyons (Granlahan), Christine Murphy (Tooreen), Breda Murray (Tulrahan), Antoinette Lynch (Ballinlough), Mary Jo Higgins (Bekan), Josephine Loftus (Lavallyroe), Delia Waldron (Aughamore), Lisa Stanley (Ballinlough), Maureen Sloyan (Ballinlough), Marie Ruane (Brickens), Eithne Kearns (Lavallyroe), Caroline Levins (Clare St.), Mary Delaney (Coolnaha), Majella Fahy (Coogue), Ann Curley (Clare St.), Margaret Lyons (Aughamore), Patricia Caulfield (Carrowkeel), Angela and John Cox (Tooreen), Elizabeth Cuddy (Tooreen), Maureen Cullinney (Bekan), Nora

Glynn (Lavallyroe), Jeannette and Pat Neary (Tulrahan), Joanna Webb (Devlis), Helen Glavey (Lauralea), Therese and Maire Forkin (Tooreen), Pauline Morley (Kilmannin), Declan Phillips (Main St.), Thomas Moran (Knox St.), Sean Sweeney (Drimbane), Regina Byrne (Bekan), Trina and Jimmy Flatley (Lakehill), Cathy Fitzgerald (Granlaghan), T.J. Rogers (Aughamore), Jimmy Nolan (Tully), James Waldron (Devlis), Gerard O'Connell (Drimbane), Francis Salmon (Knock), Delia Guilfoyle (Greenwood), Bridgid Griffin (Clare St.), Deirdre Durkan (Abbey St.), Mary Flanagan (Crossard), Agatha Brett (Aughamore), Anne Carney (Carrowkeel), John Caulfield (Carrowkeel), Zau Zaulifquar Ali (Clare St.), Tommy Jennings (Rockfield), Karen and Tony Keane (Knox St.), Judy Davitt (Brackloon), Padraig Flatley (Clare St.), John Fitzgerald (Upper Main St.), John Dillon Leetch (Doctor's Road), Raymond Waldron (Knock Road), Liam Smyth (Knox St.), Dominic Stanley (Ballinlough), Kenneth Kennedy (Churchfield Knock), Liam and Padraig Cunnane (Kilgarriff), Sean O'Boyle (Laraganboy), Michael Knightly (Dunmore), Tom Grady (Meeltrane), Liam Harte (Meeltraun), Tommy Feeney (Erriff), John Heneghan (Tullaughane), Stephen Murray (Doctor's Road), Vincent Caulfield (Upper Main Street), Robert Flynn (Main Street), Gerard Moylan (Ballinlough), John A. Lynch (Granlahan), Donal Morris (Bekan), Frank Henry (Knock Road), Brian Loughran (Upper Main Street), Sean Freyne (Clare St.), Michael Jordan (Tully), Peter Cassidy (Tooreen), John John Morley (Knox St.), Peter McHugh (Main St.), Paul Goggins (Granlahan), Gerry Flynn (Cloonfenian), Jimmy Nolan (Carrowbehy), Stephen Nolan (Knox St.), Tommy Moran (Hazelhill), Milo Waldron (Lisduff).

# Emigration and Migration from Mayo in the 19th Century

By Joe Costello

Last year I wrote an article on the more celebrated side of the railways in light of their sporting influence on the past of Mayo. This year I would like to focus on the more infamous nature of the part played by railways. This was in the area of emigration and migration. The following eyewitness account, I think, reflects rather graphically the effect it had on the area.

Picture the scene - Balla railway station in April 1866, twenty people await the mid-day train, to commence a journey which would not cease until the American shores. The whistle of the engine combined with the tolling of the bell announced its approach. It was the signal for a universal and heartrending outburst of grief. Parents, children, brothers and sisters all embraced. Despite the presence of strangers, no restraint was demonstrated. Some showed a degree of strength, but the vast majority wept like children. The time which elapsed during the arrival and departure of the train was characterised by loud sobs and wailing. It is remarkable to note that even in these brutal moments, the emigrants were most gracious in their praise of the emigration official present. The agent had arranged their travel and luggage to be carried free of charge to the station.

Once the agent announced to the Station Master that both passenger and luggage were safely aboard, the bell rang once more and the train began to move. Then arose the last piercing shriek of anguish from some hundred throats together. None who heard this loud, agonising, and fearful wail for those departed emigrants could have forgotten it forever.

## Seasonal Migration

Put simply, and rather cruelly, the railways facilitated the rapid transit of emigrants from areas like Balla and starved the area of young able working men and women. Indeed Mayo also served to provide the largest numbers annually when it came to seasonal migration. The Midland Great Railway, at least till 1865, was the beneficiary of an expanding market, and the numbers of migrants heading from this part of the country were on the increase at the time.

The 1866 Commission on Irish Railways produced evidence that suggests that seasonal traffic was larger in the 1860s than at any other time. In the mid sixties, the company provided special fourth class passage: a particular ticket was issued known as the "harvest ticket". Fourth class conditions were anything but comfortable, often little more than cattle wagons.

John Ennis, member of parliament, and chairman of the company, gave this evidence to the Commission: "With regard to harvest labourers, of whom we carried 70,000 last year backwards and forwards to Dublin on their way to England, we have carried them for about a penny a mile." It is notable that virtually no women or children accompanied the men on this annual trip. Further evidence stems from Alexander Parker, a Dublin industrialist, who pointed out that prior to the advent of the railway, the reapers, and harvesters who went to England and cut hay and corn were in the habit of carrying their sickles and walking up to Dublin: "Interestingly, though that portion of the population has been much

thinned by emigration, yet the receipts upon that railway from that source have increased rather than diminished..."

According to the Midlands half-yearly reports, which are kept in Heuston station in Dublin, the average number of fourth class passengers between 1861 and 1865 was 78,000 per half year. The major stations of departure were Ballaghaderreen, Ballyhaunis, Ballina, Castlebar and Foxford. The journey was financed by a loan from local shopkeepers and gombeen men. This system was frequently condemned by Local Government Inspectors, leading one to proclaim: "Once they get any of these people into their books they never let them out of their pockets till they have all that can be got out of them." However were it not for the same shopkeeper the migrant might well have not travelled.

## "Most Efficient Labourers"

The next paragraph throws light on the migrants time in England, The greater proportion of work on farms was done by the Mayo labourers who arrived in large numbers in early April and return to their native county at the end of September. Their ordinary wages were about two shillings a day. They had to find their own food, with the exception of buttermilk, which was supplied to them gratuitously, at the rate of a pint a day. At harvest time, they had an additional shilling a day. Wheaten bread was their only substantial food. They slept in barns and outhouses upon straw, with a sack for a pillow. Their main objective was to save money: many carried back £10 to £12 of their wages for the half-year. They were described as "most efficient labourers, and a more industrious, honest, cheerful, easily managed, and well conducted class of men is no where to be found" .. This periodical immigration of Irish labour became a necessity in England. The men generally returned to the same homesteads year after year and employers and employed were naturally pleased to see each other again. Investigations by Irish Poor Law Inspectors, carried out in the late 1860s and early 1870s, convey the same impression of a heavy migration.

Inspectors like Hamilton, Roughan and Brodie who all dealt with the poorer areas of Mayo, all stressed the importance of seasonal migration in their areas. It would seem that this exodus was as great as ever in the early 1870s. At this time, seasonal work added £10 or more to the budget of many a western family, and perhaps made up a third of their total income. This money was used to pay off the rent to the landlords and also the shopkeepers. It is hardly correct to depict the region of Mayo as an area where rent was not an important economic consideration. Subsistence would have been impossible even in a no rent situation. The payment of rent, the annual migration, the continued poverty – all were closely linked, and the chain was not broken till the 1880s or even later in some areas.

## Conclusion

To conclude, the railway paradoxically both gave and took from the county of Mayo. The Balla scene makes chilling reading as emigrants waved good-bye to their loved ones. On the other hand, by its very existence, not to mention affordable fares, the railway enabled the county to maintain some sort of hold on its roots. Otherwise many more people would have forced to permanently leave the county. It helped to give support to the dependants as well as the migrants themselves. In truth, such a structure was never going to increase the living standards of its participants but left both parties unmistakably reliant on each other for survival.

Dedicated to the memory of Pat and Bea Harte.

## A Wynne Returns to Ballyhaunis

By Anita Lucas

After several years of holidays, and searching for ancestors, I revisited Ballyhaunis in 1998. This time, for another reason – my mother's funeral. After seventy years in England, she was returning to her place of birth. I had promised to bring her back, despite the fact that all her brothers and sisters, mother and father, were buried in Leeds, England.

Her name was Ellen Wynne, born in 1908 in Ballyhaunis, the daughter of Pat and Mary Wynne. They lived on Abbey Street. The house is still there – painted blue – and Mum (Ellen) had stood on the doorstep for her photograph on the only return visit she ever made, when she was seventy-two. She pointed out the Abbey, the school where she was educated for a while, and the well at the bottom of the hill from where she used to fetch water for her mother. She told how they used to have a cow "out the back", and how her mother Mary had a churn in the downstairs room for making butter. The front room was set up as a barber's shop. Her father Pat Wynne worked at the Hotel where he was a servant/boots. I believe his brother John Wynne worked there too. It seems Pat was also interested in horses and rode in the Curragh.

I discovered that Mum's mother Mary Wynne was born Mary Hughes, daughter of Thomas Hughes and Maria Heneghan of Ballysakeery, Killala. Mary had travelled from there to Ballyhaunis with her two sisters Bridget and Margaret or Maggie. Bridget married a Patrick Downey; Maggie married a Michael Morrisroe from Ballaghaderreen. Mary herself married Pat Wynn in 1898, a witness at the marriage being Martin Mannion.

Mary gave birth to thirteen children, two of whom died in infancy, before she and Pat sold up and travelled to England, sometime around 1920. Various witnesses to the baptisms of their children were Delia Wright, Willie Flatley, Annie Moyles, Mary Flannery, Thomas Sweeney, Hannah Kearns and Joseph Smyth.

### Anyone Remember The Wynnes?

Pat Wynne – Mum's father – was born in Ballyhaunis in 1868. Only "Ballyhaunis" is given on their birth records, so I don't know where exactly in the town the family then lived. The only information I have been able to

find out about his family was that he had four brothers: John, born 1862 (baptismal sponsor: Margaret Boyle); Owen, born 1864; Thomas, born 1870; Edward, born 1877 (baptismal sponsors: John Wynne and Catherine Blighe); and a sister Catherine born 1872 (baptismal sponsors: Patrick Fadian and Bridget Concannon). Their father was John Wynne, a labourer, who died in 1896; their mother was Margaret Fitzmaurice, who probably died in 1904.

And that is where the information stops! Where did the Wynnes come from? Had they always lived in Ballyhaunis? Were the Fitzmaurice family local people? So far I cannot find records of the baptisms of either John or Margaret. As most of the Wynne family moved to England, we have lost contact with any friends they might have had. Can you help? Does anyone recall family stories mentioning the Wynne or Fitzmaurice connection? I live in hope that someone will give me a lead to the origins of these two families.

In the meantime, Ellen Wynne (married name Peel) lies in Ballyhaunis cemetery – returned at last to her beloved Ireland. If you have any information on this particular family, you can contact me – Anita Lucas – at 25 College Lawns, Armley, Leeds LS12 3LP, England. Email: Anita.Lucas@tesco.net



Ellen Peel, nee Wynne, born in Abbey St., 1908; moved with her family to England around 1920; died in 1998 and buried in Ballyhaunis Cemetery.



Ellen's parents Pat and Mary Wynne (nee Hughes), Abbey St., Ballyhaunis

# A Long Journey from Castlebar to Ballyhaunis

By Fr. Declan Carroll, C.C.

Well, I suppose it all began two and a half miles outside Castlebar, in a place called Ballynew, which is on the old Dublin road, leading to Turlough Village. I was reared on a farm, and I was never spoiled even though I'm the youngest of six in family. I enjoyed the work around the farm, and like all people reared on a farm you worked hard at all the jobs that had to be done. My Dad worked in the Bacon Factory in Castlebar and, before he came home from work, certain jobs had to be done. We sold milk to the Creamery, so it was a twice-a-day chore. Being the youngest of the family I learned at an early stage to pull my weight with the in-house work, as well as the out-side. I attended St. Patrick's National School, Castlebar, which was ran by the De La Salle Brothers, and then went on to their Secondary School which was St. Gerald's. I sat my Leaving Cert. in 1985, decided to return to repeat, but then I bailed out at Christmas '85.

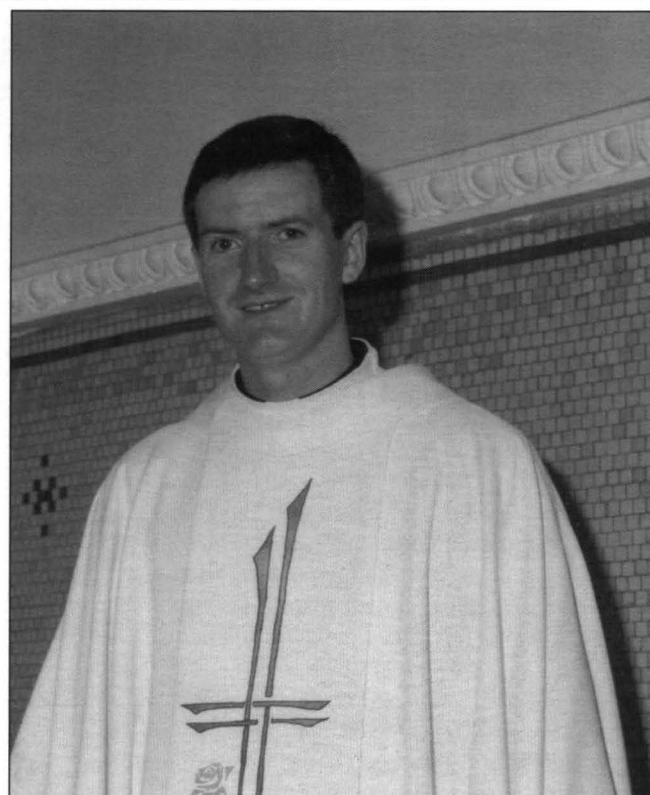
## Working Life

Like all young lads I was anxious to get a job, and start earning a few pound. I started working as a barman in the Welcome Inn Hotel within two weeks, and the owners Anthony and Ann McHugh, brother and sister, have remained good friends of mine ever since. During my stint with the hotel I was always anxious to see what else might be on the horizon, so I didn't spare myself when it came to doing interviews. In May of 1986 I started working for Travenol in Swinford, now known as Baxter. They are a health care company. During my two years with the company I worked a year and a half on nights, and the remaining six months on days. I can certainly say I learned a lot during those two years, and I have fond memories of the place and the people that worked there ever since.

Before I decided to leave Travenol the thought of Priesthood came into my head, but that's all it was at the time, so I decided the best thing was a change of job and then maybe this thought might go away. I was then lucky enough to get employment in Castlebar as a secretary for Castlebar Oil Company, who are distributors for Texaco. I worked there as happy as could be, and all this time I kept working an odd night in the Welcome Inn, so I had plenty of variety. I had my car, my friends, plenty of money in the pocket - even though I spent it generously.

## Vocation

The term I often use to describe this stage of my life is - I was satisfied and happy, but not fulfilled. There was something missing in my life that I could not express in words. It was then this notion of priesthood came back to haunt me again. I use the word 'haunt', because that is how I felt. I prayed that it would go away. I remember walking back the fields of our farm at home and sitting on a wall crying my eyes out, hoping that this idea would leave my mind. However, it stayed with me, and I had to work through it, but I just could not bring myself to discussing it with my mother and father because I had always been there for my Dad on the farm, and, by me going off for the priesthood, I felt I was in some way letting him down. I was the last on the farm as all the rest of the family were gone away, so I had lived on my own with my parents for the previous seven years. So



Fr. Declan Carroll, C.C., Annagh

how would they feel with no one there when they needed a helping hand? I was blessed to have a nephew who stepped in to lend a helping hand, and so it all happened quite suddenly in the end.

I remember well before all that side of things happened, I phoned up a priest friend of the family whom I confided in to see was I thinking straight. I remember the advice he gave me to give it a try. The objective of my years in Maynooth was to find out more about myself; if I didn't finish, it didn't mean that I had failed but rather gained many friends and become a better person because of the experience. This, I thought to myself, couldn't be a bad thing. After this meeting I broke the news to my parents, which I remember was on a Monday, and that evening the priest rang to tell me I had to be in Maynooth by the following Sunday. So I handed my notice in to a shocked and bewildered staff in both Castlebar Oil and the Welcome Inn.

## Maynooth

That journey to Maynooth on the following Sunday was a long one. I remember the previous Friday before I left being interviewed by Archbishop Cassidy and he told myself, along with the other three lads that were going also, that if we had All-Ireland tickets to hand them over to him (no chance!) because we would not be allowed out for the match. We thought he was joking at the time, but he wasn't because for the first month we could only correspond with the outside world by letter, there was no phone calls or no visits. This, I suppose looking back on it, made us settle in as a class, and also settle into Maynooth. In that year of 1989 fifty lads entered Maynooth, which was the smallest class to date at that time! It certainly was a big change to the routine of life I was used of, but I enjoyed my years there. Yes, there were many ups and downs, but through it all I learned more about myself, and I became closer to the God I knew and loved, because the picture in my life was becoming somewhat clearer. But, I often feel the perfect picture of life will not be

realised until the day we die - then all what we termed as mystery will become clear and understandable.

Out of my original class of fifty lads, thirty-five were ordained, which is a good ratio. When I entered Maynooth twenty-nine lads were studying for the Tuam Archdiocese; now sadly, there is only one. In Maynooth when I entered, there were 350 clerical students in total, and again sadly today there are only eighty-five.

### Ordination and First Posting

When I was ordained on June 11th 1995, my first posting was to Tuam to replace a man who had been there for eleven years. That man was none other than Fr. James O'Grady. I remember how I felt then, and how I feel now, trying to succeed a man of Fr. James' calibre - he was loved as much in Tuam as all the people of this parish of Annagh loved him over the past six years. I know I can never fill his shoes but hopefully I will do my best for everyone as I go along. My time in Tuam lasted three years and I enjoyed it immensely. It was great being part of a team, and I certainly learned a lot from my brother priests. Tuam was a big town, and each of us had our own areas - the area I had contained around 670 homes. I was chaplain to St Patrick's Secondary School, which I enjoyed, along with having responsibility for classes in all the Primary Schools in the town. There was never a dull moment. In the town there was a big Traveller population, two-thirds of which I had the care of. I enjoyed my time working with the youth of the area, and during which we revived the "Tuam No Name Club", which another priest had started many years previously, namely Fr. Joe Cooney.

### Inishbofin

The three years flew and then I was sent to Inishbofin Island. I remember, before my other two classmates and myself were ordained - namely Fr. Tom Commins now in Cloonfad, and Fr. Fergal Cunnane now in Claremorris - the Archbishop told us that we would have to serve a stint on the Islands; so that if we didn't get posted in our first appointment, we would more-than-likely be sent in our second. So I was the one sent in my second appointment.

However, I would not change a moment of the time I spent on Inishbofin for anything. The biggest fear I had going there was the isolation, and not having anyone in the house. Up until this I was always used of having company around, and now I was on my own. I replaced Fr. Paddy Sheridan, who is now in Tooren, and it was a new experience in every sense. I found out very quickly that you had to become Jack-of-all-trades if you were to survive. I quickly set about doing up the house and painting it, and for the three years that were to follow I hardly ever left that paint-brush down. I enjoyed what I did both pastorally and physically for the people of Inishbofin. They are a very close-knit community, and anything they could do for you, they were only too willing to help. Through the help and support of the people there, we managed to achieve a lot together.

During my time on Inishbofin, the hardest thing I had to deal with was the tragedy of three Island sisters being lost in a fire. The trauma and the shock this caused at that time, I will never forget. The morning of the 6th of July 1999 will always be embedded in my memory. It affected everyone in some shape or form, but through the kindness and thoughtfulness of the people of the Island, we helped the bereaved family and each other through that difficult time. Out of the tragedy came a fund raising project in memory of the three sisters, and this enabled me to

paint and do up, as it were, the inside of the church. From the storm of Stephen's Day 1998 thanks to Church and General and the local expertise of the men of the Island, eight of us re-roofed the Church. So when I look back on my three years in Bofin I learned a lot of "Do it yourself skills".

### Life on the island

Living beside the sea and crossing it on calm and stormy days gave me an appreciation and a love for it. I reflect back to a time on the Island before the Famine when there was nearly 1,400 people living there, and now there are just over 220, but it is growing. Like any small rural village the population goes in cycles. During my time there I baptised over twenty-two babies. Sadly for the Islanders I was their last resident priest - their first one came in 1855. This, of course, has come about because of the falling numbers of vocations. I prepared them as best I could for this change, but the emotion experienced on both sides on the day of my departure I will never forget. Every man, woman and child came down to the pier to see me off, and I know every priest sheds tears the day they leave their parish, because when you leave the people you have grown to know and love, it's as if part of you dies. But that day the hardest thing was, there was no priest coming in to replace me on the boat's return journey. Whatever any priest does for his people he can rest assured the man coming after him will take over where he has left off, he may have a different way of doing things, but at least there is continuity. Not having a priest will be difficult for the people of Bofin. Its something I suppose that will affect all of us more and more as time goes by here on the mainland. The true realisation of what's happening has not yet hit many people. The Church is going through a period of change, but change in itself is a good thing. So I look forward to the challenge that lies ahead.

### Ballyhaunis

I arrived in Ballyhaunis on Friday the 20th July of this year 2001, taking up my new post, and my third appointment since I was ordained. Like I said earlier, Fr. James is a hard man to follow. I take this opportunity to thank him for his six years with you. During these years he became part of your community and part of your lives. Everyone in this parish of Annagh will never forget him, nor will he forget you, but all I can hope and pray for, is that I will do my very best for both young and old alike in this parish whilst I am left here. It will take a while for me to get to know the many names and faces, but bear with me. When I started in the Community School as Chaplain the first week the students were back, the thought crossed my mind that there was nearly four times as many pupils in this school, than I had as a total population on Inishbofin. I look forward to getting to know all the students and teachers, and again doing my best for them both inside and outside school as best I can. I would like to thank Fr. Joe Cooney for making me feel so welcome since I came to the parish.

I look forward with hope and enthusiasm to many happy years with you. I thank you the people of this parish for having that friendly hand-shake, that smile, and kind words of welcome when I arrived - it certainly meant a lot to me. I thank you for taking the time to read this article, and like you, I think a short rest and a cup of tea is called for now, because it has been a long journey from Castlebar to Ballyhaunis.

May God Bless each person from this parish, living here, or away from home, may He guide us on our journey through life, and may we always recognise Him in each other. Looking to the future with love and faith,



Seated: Agnes Forde R.I.P. and Nell McLoughlin R.I.P. (Langanboy)  
Standing: Noreen and Tom Hopkins with Martin Lyons R.I.P. (Ballindrehid)



Graduation Ball 2001. L-R: Danielle Flatley, Maria Coyne, Mariann Knight, Beatrice Healy, Siobhan Lyons, Aine Cribbin



Senior Citizens Party Organising Committee. Front l-r: Helen Meehan, Canon J. Cooney, Kathleen McBride. Back l-r: Brigid Lynskey, Fr. James O'Grady, Mary Elwood, Michael Caulfield, Sr. Assumpta & Teresa Healy



Micheal Murren, Mary Teresa Hopkins and Noel Cullinney (Up Main St.)



Killinaugh Stations. October 2001 hosted by Bill and Maureen Comer. Front l-r: Geraldine Connolly, Peg Hoban, Mary Hunt, Maureen Comer, Judith Regan and Paddy Diskin. Back l-r: Canon Joseph Cooney, Bill Comer, Deirdre Diskin, Marian Regan and Sean Regan

# Ballyhaunis Girls Are All-Ireland Champions

By Pat O'Connor (Club Sec.)

Ballyhaunis Under-14 Girls created their own bit of history on Sunday 16th September 2001, when they became the first team from Mayo to win a club Soccer All-Ireland Title at any level. In this O'Driscoll O'Neil sponsored decider, played in perfect conditions in Birr Town Football Club, Ballyhaunis – not knowing anything about their opponents Lifford (Ennis) – started with a strong defensive formation and the first half was an even affair with both teams having only half chances.

Having had their fill of penalty shoot-outs over the last month, Pat O'Connor (Manager) decided to go for broke. Shortly into the second half, he brought on one sub and made six positional changes. This changed the game completely and, from then on, Ballyhaunis dominated matters. Eilis Nevin was a powerhouse in midfield and the chances came quick and fast. Eilis had three or four good shots saved. Claire Prenty robbed the keeper twice close-in, only to see one shot taken off the line and the other bounce up off the hard surface and hit her arm as she took it round the keeper. Ballyhaunis defence were badly caught out of position as they pushed on close to the end of normal time, but Karen Higgins made the tackle of the day, taking the ball away when it looked a certainty that Lifford would score.

Ballyhaunis continued to dominate the game in extra time with super-sub Martina Lynch sending in some good crosses, but good defensive play and great goalkeeping from Lifford kept the score blank. Eilis Nevin went on a great burst from the kick-off of the second half of extra time and was very unlucky to see the ball hit the side netting. A great pass from Linda Healy to Eilis who had moved to an inside right position finally created the opening and Eilis pushed on and rifled the ball to the net under the diving keepers body. Eilis immediately reverted to her more favoured position of sweeper and try as they did Lifford could not get an equaliser.

There was great joy and celebration as the final whistle went, and again when captain Kimberly Moran raised the Cup. This All-Ireland was won on the strength of the Ballyhaunis panel of players with twenty-two different players competing at some level in the competition.

Team on the day was: Marie Finan, Karen Higgins, Brenda Kilcourse, Eilis Nevin, Joanne Hoban, Kimberley Moran (Captain), Linda Healy, Mary Cunnane, Lisa Webb, Claire Kilcourse, Claire Prenty. Subs used: Martina Lynch, Emily Hickey. Completing the panel were: Johannah Burke-Rowlands, Louise Hickey, Avril Regan, Ciara Fitzmaurice, Aisling Tarpey, Bernie McGowan, Michelle Keane, Etna Tighe, Nicola Kilbride.

## Other Achievements

Karen Lilly and Edel Kilcourse were on the Irish Under-16 panel in



Ballyhaunis Under-14 Girls' Soccer All-Ireland Club Champions

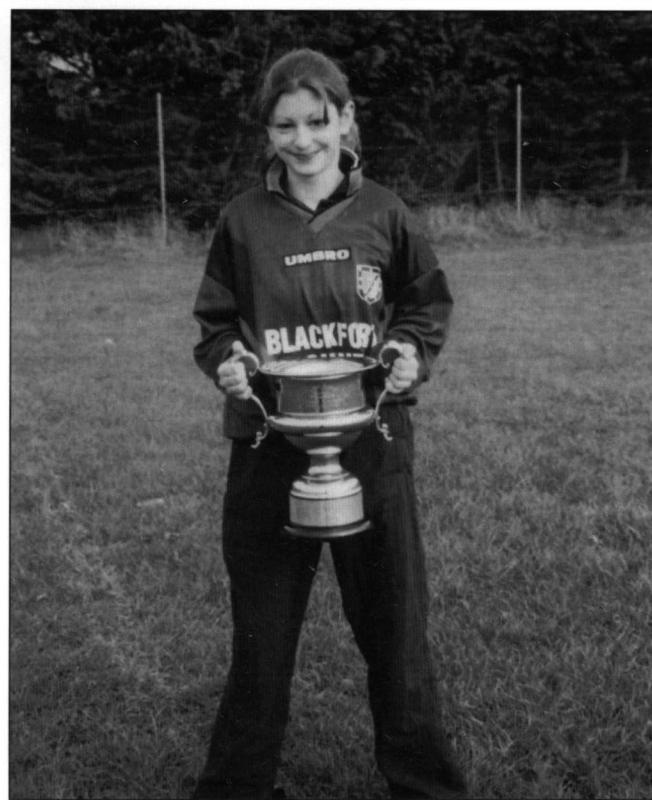
Back, L-R: Etna Tighe, Aisling Tarpey, Martina Lynch, Claire Prenty, Emily Hickey, Claire Kilcourse, Eilis Nevin. Middle, L-R: Ciara Fitzmaurice, Bernie McGowan, Nicola Kilbride, Maria Finan, Lisa Webb, Louise Hickey, Pat O'Connor (Manager); Front, L-R: Linda Healy, Mary Cunnane, Avril Regan, Kimberley Moran, Karen Higgins, Joanne Hoban, Brenda Kilcourse. Missing from photo: Johannah Burke-Rowlands.

July when they played Northern Ireland, and Edel was again selected on the Irish Under-17 panel that played England in two matches in August.

Karen Lilly captained the Connaught Under-16 team that won the Inter-Provincial Tournament in August. She played a real captain's part with a fantastic display in midfield scoring in each of the three matches. Karen was then selected by The Mayo Association League as the "Player of the Month" for August, becoming the first girl ever to be so selected. Also on the Connaught team were Edel Kilcourse and Eilis Nevin.

Tara Nevin and Selina Travers were on the Connaught Under-18 Team in the same tournament. Tara Nevin has been training with the Irish Under-18 and Under-19 panels all Summer, and it must be only a matter of time before she makes the breakthrough. The Connaught Schools Senior Team performed very well in their Interprovincial Tournament in Donegal in October. On that team were Tara and Eilis Nevin, Karen Lilly and Edel Kilcourse.

The future of this club depends on more people getting involved in building upon the outstanding achievements of these talented young players.



Kimberley Moran, Captain, Under-14 All-Ireland Club Winners.

## Ballyhaunis Pioneer Total Abstinence Association

By Laura Freyne & Aileen Burke

At the beginning of the new school year (2000/2001), the Young Pioneers from Ballyhaunis Community school, invited Shane Kitson, President of the Young Pioneers to come and talk to the first year students. He gave a most informative talk and, as a result of his visit, thirty-four new young members were recruited for our new Youth Pioneer Centre in Ballyhaunis Community School, under the supervision of Mrs. Mulroy.

During the year we held a Cake Sale, which turned out to be a great success raising a total of £79. The following committee meet weekly to plan the leisure events and spiritual activities: Chairperson - Miriam Judge; Secretary - Michelle Sammut; Treasurer - Laura Freyne. In the early months of the year we held our weekly Friday nights entertainment in the Parochial Hall. Most of the group would attend and participate in the indoor soccer, table tennis, cards, and listen and dance to the music..

The annual Regional Pioneer Dinner Dance, was held in the Belmont Hotel, Knock on the 23rd February. This was attended by over three hundred Pioneers, and a most enjoyable night was had by all. The Pioneer quiz was held on the 5th March, in Mount St. Michael's, Claremorris. One of our teams from Ballyhaunis got through to the All Ireland Finals, to be held in the near future. On the 16th June, members of the adult and school centres got together and had a most enjoyable coach tour, which took in Galway city and Salthill. A wonderful day was had by young and old. A special Pioneer Mass was celebrated by Fr. John O'Gorman, Diocesan Spiritual Director, in Ballindine on the 19th October, at which the presentation of Silver and Gold pins took place. Mr. Frank Leonard from the Ballyhaunis Centre, was the proud recipient of a

gold pin. What a wonderful achievement - fifty years a Pioneer! Ballyhaunis Community School Youth Centre was represented by Aileen Burke who read one of the readings at the Mass. This was one of our best years for participation in the Pioneer Regional Readoiri competitions. Many teams entered in the different categories such as figure dancing, junior set dancing, group disco dancing, junior solo singing, group singing, junior recitation, junior musical solo, musical group and novelty act. Laura Freyne got through to the Connaught finals representing Mayo in junior recitation competition.



Sean Coll, National President P.T.A.A., presenting the "Gradham" award to Patsy Flanagan (Centre), Secretary of Ballyhaunis P.T.A.A. Also in the picture is Padraig Brady, former National President P.T.A.A.

## Ballyhaunis Chamber of Commerce

By Martin Fitzmaurice (PRO)

In this, my first year as P.R.O. of Ballyhaunis Chamber of Commerce, it is a pleasure to write this report, with so much progress to report on all fronts. As we are all enjoying the Christmas Season currently, I would like to start by complimenting all the traders of the town for funding an excellent display of Christmas Lights. The main thoroughfares of the town are well lit and the Christmas Lights Committee hope to extend the existing lights and continue to add new lighting features each year.

Early in 2001 Mayo County Council completed the work on our streets. We were then successful in acquiring the services of Mr. Simon Wall, Architect, who was available all year to meet residents of the town by appointment. He met with interested residents and business people to give them advice on shop fronts, colour schemes, etc., with a view to completing the streetscape to the highest standard.

Many of our existing businesses have gone to a lot of expense in updating and upgrading their premises and shop fronts, all of which adds to the appearance of the town. We would also like to congratulate all the new businesses which have set up in Ballyhaunis during the year.

### Enterprise and Technology Centre

During the year we made great progress at our Enterprise and Technology a Centre. This site was acquired by the town and is located at Clare Road. Construction on the first building is well under way at present. The Centre will comprise of a number of units suitable for start-up businesses. The main unit comprises of 1,200 square feet and is over six meters high. This will be available to established businesses or people interested in locating in the Ballyhaunis area. We have acquired a grant of £87,500 for the Enterprise and Technology Centre, and one of the conditions of this grant is that 80% of the occupants must be manufacturing or internationally trading services.

On the initiative of Ballyhaunis Chamber of Commerce a Social Housing Committee has also been set up to develop a Social Housing Project for the elderly on a site at Clare Street. Planning permission has been granted already for twenty-one houses and this also includes a community house, which will include facilities such as a laundry service, communal meeting and dining areas, access to public health care. Work is due to commence shortly on this development.

### Employment in Ballyhaunis

As a result of the continuing growth in the Irish Economy coupled with the huge increase in the number of Third Level college places available, there has been a huge shortage of skilled labour, particularly in the trade sector. The Small Firms Association announced last year that the single biggest problem facing small to medium Irish companies was the recruitment of skilled labour.

Ballyhaunis also has suffered from the skilled labour shortage, and, as a result, most local manufacturing businesses had to recruit skilled labour from outside of the EU. By June 2001 we had approximately fifty non-EU nationals employed in the town. That figure has increased to over one-hundred at present. This has certainly been a big change around from the 15% to 20% unemployment rate a few short years ago. Ballyhaunis is now becoming a multicultural town. It should be noted that all of these people are contributing to our economy as they are all in full time employment.

### Easter Parade

For the past number of years Ballyhaunis had a very successful parade on Easter Sunday in which many people and organisations participated. Plans, which were well advanced for this year's event, had to be cancelled owing to the Foot and Mouth disease, but we are confident, come Easter 2002, that we will have our most successful parade ever.

### Other Developments

All in all there have been a number of developments in the town during the year and yet there is much to be done. Further development can be achieved with the support and interest of all residents, traders and business people of the town.

On behalf of Ballyhaunis Chamber of Commerce, I would like to invite all of you to participate in all future progress and wish you all a very peaceful and prosperous New Year.



Members of Ballyhaunis Chamber of Commerce meet An Taoiseach, Mr. Bertie Ahern, T.D. and other public representatives. L-R: Seamus O'Boyle, Mrs. Kathleen Carty, An Taoiseach, John Carty M.C.C., Liam Waldron, Peter Cunnane (President), Mary Smyth (Secretary), Eugene Carney, Sen. Frank Chambers.

## A Link With The Past

By John Plunkett

'My feet are here on Broadway, this pleasant harvest morn'. So goes the opening line of the song "The Old Bog Road". I am reminded of another bog road that runs between the villages of Curries and Lecarrow, and was my road to school in the late fifties and sixties. I can remember every house along the way but sadly many are gone for ever.

I remember in particular a man called John Thomas Hunt with whom I spent many happy days chatting about his youth. He was affectionately known as "Penter" as a distinction from his neighbours also of the same name. He told me that in his youth there were four men with the same name in Lecarrow.

The stories I remember so vividly were of his fight for freedom. I was reminded of it recently with the reburial of Kevin Barry and his nine comrades in Dublin.

He told me how he joined the Volunteers along with Frank Waldron of Redford, John McDonnell of Lecarrow and Michael Coen also of Lecarrow. They would walk miles to training sites after a hard day's work in the fields, their first training sessions were given by Michael O Cleirigh in marching, drills and use of a rifle (which were very scarce).

He told me of a near death experience he had when the Black and Tans raided his house looking for arms. In his words: "I was milking the cow and they started to bayonet the cow-house door and I shouted out, 'don't frighten the cow'." He said: "I came out looking surprised without showing too much fear, fortunately the local R.I.C. from the town were not with the soldiers so I managed to bluff my way out of it".

### On The Run

During the twenties, John Thomas told me that he kept volunteers from Tipperary who were on the run with a price on their heads. Quoting him: "I was carting turf from the Curries bog and the men were asleep in my house. I could not even tell my neighbours about the strangers in the house". At the time of the Troubles John

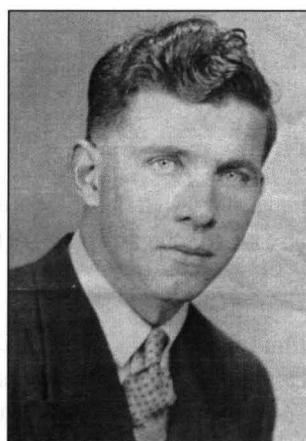


John Hunt, Senior

Thomas was still single but married his neighbour Mary Coen and raised a large family.

He also told me of the profound effect the death of his comrade-in-arms Michael Coen, who was killed by the Crown Forces, had on him. He said the Black and Tans came to the house at dusk and dragged him out and killed him in the field in front of the house.

John Thomas lived to be a good age and saw his grandchildren. When he died I was proud to attend his funeral, thank God, and see his coffin draped in the tri-colour. I hope that on the eightieth anniversary of the signing of the Treaty, others like me enjoy the memories of a man who served his country well.



John Hunt, Junior



Johnstown Stations 2001 at Joseph Byrne's. L-R: Louise Lilly, Elizabeth Rabbitte, Mary Cunnane jnr, Mary Cunnane, Sheila Byrne, Nancy Jordan, Connie Gildea, Mary Gildea, Joe Doran, Noel Byrne, Helen Byrne, Sean Cunnane, Frances Cunnane, Gertie Loftus, Margaret Byrne, Helen Biesty, Maureen Lilly, Claire Byrne, Canon Joseph Cooney P.P, Laura Byrne, Vona Walsh, Breda Fitzmaurice, Kathleen Waldron, Tara McGuire, Yvonne Byrne, Teresa Healy, Pat Byrne, Marita Byrne, John Biesty, Declan Byrne, Ian Byrne, Tim Byrne, Rita Connolly and Michael Byrne.

## **Friends of Croi Ballyhaunis and District**

By Helen Meehan

Croi is a registered charity entirely dependent on voluntary effort. Public support has been outstanding and several million pounds have already been raised to fund developments in three areas of activity, namely: Education, Research and the development of Cardiac services and facilities in the west of Ireland.

The range of Croi-funded initiatives is diverse, from the funding of cardiac equipment and research, to innovative

Drama Club who staged a play, and to Ballyhaunis Gun Club who organised a clay pigeon shoot. The proceeds of these two events were donated to Croi. Thanks also to Michael Donnellan, Ballinlough who organised a 25 Card Drive, which will take place in the Whitehouse hotel recently.

Croi annual selection of fundraising Christmas cards are now available from any committee member. Croi is hugely indebted for the sustained support of its patrons, donors and volunteers. As a charity it is entirely dependent on the goodwill and generosity of individuals and organisations. The work of Croi is funded solely by donations and endowments. There are many ways in which you can help.



Croi walkers at The Square getting ready for Coney Island.

educational projects in the community. The most recent funding milestone has been the achievement of a 1.25 million pound target towards the new Regional Heart Surgery Unit at University College hospital, Galway.

Future development plan of Croi includes: (1) the provision of a purpose built, self catering accommodation centre for patient's families within close proximity to the hospital; (2) The launch of a cardiac care programme to develop the 'Croi cardiac club' concept and to deliver patient care and education, in the patient's home; (3) The introduction of a Cardiac ambulance service in Mayo and Roscommon, similar to that already established in Galway; (4) The launch of a clinical research fund to continue supporting its current research commitments, as well as funding the appointment of a research registrar and research nurse; (5) The development and upgrading of Croi website.

Last year's fundraising events were the annual church gate collection, a sponsored walk from Ballyhaunis to Coney Island, Gorthaganny. A special word of thanks to Cloonbonniffe

## **Ballyhaunis Swimming Pool**

By Agatha Higgins

Ballyhaunis Swimming pool, for the last number of years, has been trying to keep its head above water. This year in particular was very difficult for a few reasons. The weather never seemed to be in our favour. As a result the attendance records were much lower than in previous years. Added to this was the cost of running the pool, which increased dramatically, so it made the overall costs harder to manage.

A fundraising dance was arranged for the October bank holiday weekend, and with the work and determination of the committee and swimmers, plenty of tickets were sold. The night was a great success and we would like to thank all the people who bought tickets and supported us. With our debts paid off, we now see light at the end of the tunnel, and look forward to hopefully having a better year, in 2002.

The committee, would like to thank our lifeguards Carol Donnelly, Deirdre Finn, Karen Jordan and Brigitte Burke, also our Office Manager, Roisin Thornton.

# Children's Burial Grounds

By Gerry Cribbin

The practice of burying babies and still-born infants in specific plots set aside for this purpose would appear to be a very ancient custom, which was practised for many centuries. Bernard O'Hara, in his book 'The Archaeological Heritage of Killasser', said this custom started in the early Christian period when pre-Christian burial plots were used for this purpose. In the West of Ireland it was common practice until the Twentieth Century, and Major Aldridge of Ballina recorded an example of the custom as late as 1964 in County Mayo.

Unbaptised infants could not be buried in consecrated ground. People who could be described as Travellers or 'Knights of the Road', would also be buried in these sites. These ancient burial grounds were also used on other occasions, in line with church teaching at the time.

## Type of Site

The first choice would have been an old church site (derelict), ring-forts, or a protected corner of a field, in close proximity to water - living water such as a stream, lake or river. A bank or enclosure would be raised around the site. The reason for choosing church sites, was because these sites were consecrated in the past, so it was one way of getting around the 'rules of the day'.

These are known throughout the West of Ireland by a variety of names: Cillin (Killeen), Liosin (Lisheen), Teampaillín or Caldrach. Between Knock and Ballyhaunis, there is a village named Caldragh - called after one of these sites. O'Hara suggests there are many beliefs and taboos in folklore associated with Children's Burial Grounds. Many such sites are situated near townland boundaries, which is supposed to symbolise, in some way, a sense of 'placelessness'.

In parts of Ireland, chiefly, the Midlands, North Munster, and South Galway, it was customary to bury all children, Baptised and not Baptised in burial plots known as 'Kyles'. In his book "Sliabh Aughy" (vol. I), Paddy Madden, described them as burial places for outsiders and placeless children. Burial of these infants took place usually at nightfall, by some family members; often the little coffin was a shoe-box. The grave had simple upright stones as marks. Its not known if any religious service took place, but I know of one case where a travelling family wished to bury their baby, the farmer in the nearby house went out and dug the grave, blessed it with Holy Water and said some prayers.

It is rare to find Christian symbols on these sites. One burial in the Ballyhaunis area has a plain stone cross as a headstone in a children's burial plot. But this may have been

taken from a nearby old Church site, and the cross re-used.

## When the custom started

Children's Burial Grounds, appear to have been formally established in the Medieval period, according to an article by Emer Dennehy in 'Archaeology Ireland'. They arose as a result of an argument which commenced in the Fifth Century A.D., when Augustine of Hippo declared that all unbaptised individuals irrespective of age, were guilty of original sin. This debate lasted for several centuries and was controversial from the beginning, as its primary concern - owing to the high infant mortality rate - was children. In particular, it focused on infants who died before baptism.

From the Sixth Century the burial of unbaptised individuals in consecrated ground was no longer permitted, and in the Twelfth Century the Church decreed that all newborn children must be baptised. From this time onwards it became necessary for people to seek out and establish alternative burial-grounds for their unbaptised children. Contrary to popular belief, these burial grounds were used for a wider category of individuals, including victims of disease, famine and murder; as well as people of unknown origin, such as shipwrecked sailors.

## Remembered

Those lost, hidden places in the landscape, where these 'mites' were buried, are now been searched for and uncovered from years of wild growth of briars, furze, and blackthorns. It is to the credit of many people in the country that these sites have not been lost totally or destroyed, but have been protected and remembered by so many people. Some sites may have been missed or forgotten during the pilgrimages and service which took place at various places in the last two years, but all were included in the prayers. In the future it may be possible to put a simple marker on these sites, so that people will know them as the last resting places of "Little Angels".



Coolnafarna Childrens Burial Ground

# Ballyhaunis Community Games

By Pat O'Connor

Ballyhaunis Under-15 Girls Soccer Team won the Community Games All-Ireland at Mosney in August. Ballyhaunis Girls have been competing in the Community Games soccer competitions for the past nine years and, although they have won many County titles, they just could not make the final breakthrough in the Connaught Finals. So it was a little bit of a surprise when they qualified for the All-Ireland Finals by winning the Connaughts at Roscommon in July.

Why was it so surprising, you might ask? Because we travelled to Roscommon with just twelve players and, with two games to be played, the odds were stacked against us, but for once, the weather was in our favour. It was a damp, dull, cool day and we won both games to finally make it to Mosney.

## Mosney

On Friday morning 17th August 2001, after a few scares (just as well the train was late!) the girls and their minders headed off for Mosney. By Saturday, the girls had amassed their own fan club and there was great support for our semi-final against Drumcollagher, Co. Limerick. The game was a very even affair with neither team able to score. This is a regular occurrence in Mosney as the game is played with much smaller goals than normal. Extra time and a penalty shoot-out was the inevitable result, and Ballyhaunis were the worthy winners, thanks in no small way to Eilis Nevin who scored her own penalty as well as saving two. The final was against Oldcastle, Co. Meath, and when some of the girls opted to skip the Saturday evening disco to rest up for the final, there was no doubt about how serious they were taking matters.

By Sunday morning the support had trebled and, after a brisk warm-up, everything was set. Oldcastle were a much bigger and stronger team and, for most of the first half they dominated the game, but the resilience and strong defensive qualities of all the girls kept the game scoreless. In the second half Ballyhaunis gradually improved and the game ended with them in control. Extra time saw Ballyhaunis dominate proceedings without any breakthrough. Then a penalty shoot-out yet again saw Eilis

Nevin score her own penalty and this time she saved three to see an invasion of the pitch by the supporters and great celebrations by everyone.

## The Panel

All the players deserve credit for this win as they had to dig deep into their reserves of energy, skill and determination to achieve this wonderful result. In the afternoon the medal presentation was another chance to celebrate.

The girls arrived home on Monday afternoon to a great welcome from the town of Ballyhaunis and proudly displayed their medals in a drive around the town.

The panel in Mosney was: Jade Ganley, Karen Higgins, Joanne Hoban, Eilis Nevin, Brenda Kilcourse, Claire Kilcourse, Lisa Webb, Sinead Mulrennan, Maire O'Dwyer, Claire Prenty, Kimberley Moran, Johannah Burke-Rowlands, Ciara Fitzmaurice, Etna Tighe and Nicola Kilbride. The final member of the squad was Bernadette McGowan who was absent through injury. The manager of the team in Mosney was Pat O'Connor, assisted by Cait Webb, Susan Hoban and Deirdre O Connor.

## Thanks

A lot of people need to be thanked for their help, none more so than Mary Walsh, Mayo County Secretary, and all the Mayo people at Mosney as they supported us from start to finish. All the people of Ballyhaunis who gave so generously to our Church Gate collection which amounted to over £600. This ensured that we were properly prepared. John Durkan of "Supermacs" Ballyhaunis, who sponsored the team photos; Mary Webb who organised the flags and banners; Marie Jordan, Chairperson; Kay Curley, Treasurer and Pat O'Connor, Secretary Ballyhaunis Community Games who by keeping the Community Games Committee going for the past few years made this possible.

The county track-suits were sponsored by Ballyhaunis local Mick Murray of Connaught Scaffolding a few years back, so there was no prouder man in Ballyhaunis on our arrival home as he is Claire Prenty's Granddad.

The future of Community Games in Ballyhaunis will depend totally on the support of parents. The out-going committee will not be seeking re-election, so it is vital that new people offer their services, to continue the good work done over the years.



Community Games Under-15 Girls Soccer All-Ireland Winners. Back, L-R: Pat O'Connor (Trainer), Claire Prenty, Claire Kilcourse, Nicola Kilbride, Cait Webb (Coach), Joanne Hoban, Ciara Fitzmaurice, Jade Ganley, Sinead Mulrennan, Maire O'Dwyer, Susan Hoban (Coach); Front, L-R: Karen Higgins, Eilis Nevin, Lisa Webb, Brenda Kilcourse, Etna Tighe, Kimberley Moran, Johannah Burke-Rowlands, Deirdre O'Connor (Coach).

# The 30,000 Acre Harvest

By Shane Conlon

I'm Shane Conlon from Abbey St., Ballyhaunis. My parents are Michael and Geraldine. I've one sister Michelle and two brothers - Darren and David - better known as the boxing twins.

I went to Primary and Secondary School in Ballyhaunis. In Secondary School I decided to do Leaving Cert Applied and, under the guidance of Mr. Pat Higgins, my life changed. During the two years I did work experience in different places. My placement on a farm was my favourite: it was then that I got my first taste of farm-life - something I fell in love with. I enjoyed those two years in applied leaving and Pat always brought the best out in me. Of course he was well versed and knew I was giddy and mischievous.

After school I went to the Franciscan Brothers Agricultural College, Mountbellew, Galway where I was awarded a Cert in Agriculture. I am now a second year student doing a Diploma of Agriculture and machinery maintenance at the Salesian Agricultural College in Pallaskenry in county Limerick. Although I was brought up and reared in a town I always had a love for machinery and farming.

## Off To America

I was one of the lucky students to be able to travel to America to do my work experience. I flew to Columbus, Ohio on April 25th 2001, where I stayed for three days at the Ohio State University for Orientation, before travelling on to my host. I travelled to Kansas to work for Naegele Combining Inc., this company is run by Rick and Angela Naegele who have four John Deer 9560 STS Combines, six 'artics' and two rigid trucks, but it was not always this way. When they started twenty-five years ago, they had one combine run by Rick and one truck run by Angela. After many years of hard work they have built themselves up to be one of the most professional custom cutters in the business.

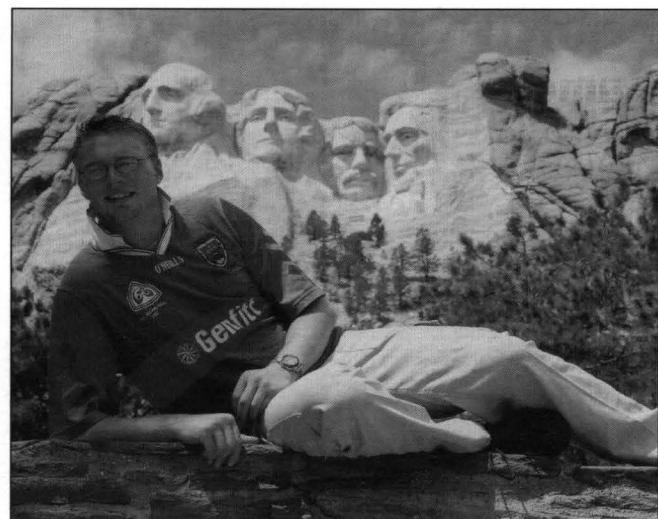
Every year in America, hundreds of 'custom cutters' make a living cutting wheat for farmers. They travel south and start in Texas, and work their way up to South Dakota. On the 28th of April, I arrived in Naegele's yard, Lucas, Kansas. Straight away, I was working on the combines, getting them ready for harvest, also taking lessons and practising for my C.D.L truck licence. There were eight students on the harvest crew including myself.

We left Lucas on May 18th for harvest, headed down towards Texas on a seven hundred and eighty-mile journey, travelling in convoy and taking thirteen hour drives, with three stops. The first few days were easy, with every student learning to do their own job. After three or four days we were all in full swing and whacked wheat like hell. We worked ninety to a hundred hours a week. Our normal cutting period of time was about ten to twelve days in every town, before we packed up and moved on. We worked in two to three towns in every state from Texas to North Dakota.

The hardest and longest working periods were in Oklahoma, Texas and Kansas. When we went to Colorado we had our first day off in six long weeks. That day we went to a tourist town called Colorado Springs, where we went white water rafting and went for a helicopter ride.

## Work and Recreation

The nice thing about harvest is, if we were not cutting or repairing machinery, Rick would give us a jeep to go sight seeing. When we



Shane Conlon on one of his few days off at Mount Rushmore

hit Dalton, Nebraska, there were only seven hundred acres to cut. The cutters had to stand still for a few days to fight against the green wheat. After six days in Nebraska, we went up to Wall, South Dakota. Every morning we had to travel twenty-seven miles from our trailer park, through the National Bad Lands Park to get to the fields. This was a most picturesque journey. It was miles and miles of rugged mountains with wild deer and buffaloes running along side you in the convoy. The Bad Lands are also home to the native Indians in America, and I got to see first hand how they lived.

We enjoyed eleven days off because of the green wheat, which all the boys will remember, for the different activities that took place there. Our next stop was Fate, South Dakota, and at this time the sun was shining down in Kansas ripening the corn eight hundred miles away. With lots of wheat to cut in Fate and not a lot of time to cut it, still our boss gave us the day off so we could go and experience Sturgis. Sturgis is a huge motorcycle show, where they had 500,000 Harley Davidson motorbikes. A small town packed to capacity. Forty-foot cranes dropping Japanese motorcycles to the ground. A day we all enjoyed.

## The Harvest Home

At this point we knew we would not be able to cut all the wheat in South Dakota because the corn (maize) season would be starting in Kansas in a few days. We headed up and stayed in a place called Dickenson. It was August and because we were so far up North the nights were getting cold. Then it was time to head back to Kansas - a drive of eight hundred and forty miles. After we arrived back a cold front moved in and stood us up for a week. In America, Corn (Maize) is cut differently: there is a special corn header that strips the cob off the stem and runs it through the combine and onto the grain bin. When we finished cutting five thousand acres of corn, we cut three thousand acres of Soya Bean, and three thousand acres of Milo, then ended up back in Lucas in early October. The corn/milo were rolled into feed lots that are used for animal feed for the winter. The biggest animal farm I saw had a herd of ninety-six thousand cattle of different breeds.

All in all this was an experience of a lifetime, something I never will forget. It gave me the opportunity to drive very large and powerful machinery, something I know I would never have got to do in Ireland. I would strongly recommend this experience to anyone with a machinery or Agri background. I'm enjoying every minute here in America!

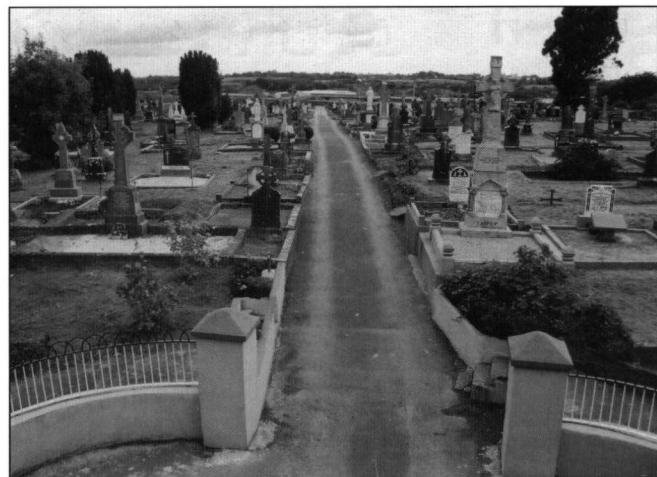
## A Visit to the Cemetery

"Those whom we love and lose are no longer where they were before; they are now wherever we are"

St. John Chrysostom

A visit to the Cemetery, the resting places of our loved ones, can be a very chastening experience. It makes us realise that we are just passing through - travelling along the road of life on our journey towards eternity. This should not sadden us, but just make us more aware of the many blessings we enjoy during our time on this planet.

Speaking at this year's Cemetery Mass, Canon Cooney, commenting on how well the place now looked, stated that the Ballyhaunis Cemetery is now a fitting place for our dead. As a community it is our responsibility and duty to keep it looking good. Each of us should redouble our efforts to try and make sure that no waste material is discarded in or around the Cemetery, as this would take away from the now very neat appearance. We appeal to those who employ contractors on their plots to insist that when they have finished the work, that they remove all the waste materials and rubbish from the site and that the surrounds are left as they were found. The Cemetery is a very large area, and due to the initial lack of



Overview of the Cemetery from the first gate.

planning and layout, the front part is not that easy to maintain. On your behalf, we, the committee, would like to thank our Caretaker for doing such a wonderful job - one in which he obviously takes a great deal of pride.

We wish to thank all those who contributed most generously to the Cemetery collection, for its upkeep, and especially those who gave generous contributions. A special work of thanks to Kathleen from Manchester, for her very generous donation. Such appreciation is very encouraging to the Committee.

## Ballyhaunis Bridge Club

By Peggy Cruise

Bridge games are held twice weekly, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, at 8 p.m. in The Hazel, Main St. Last year the number of club members totalled fifty-seven. Tragically, we lost one of our most esteemed members, Joan Delaney, in March. May She Rest in Peace. We all mourn her passing and we extend sincere sympathy to her family.

To ensure that the Bridge Club continues to grow in strength, Mrs. Corrine Flatley, holds beginners' classes in The Hazel, every Monday night at 8.30 p.m., and Donal Geraghty has just finished giving lessons on Tournament Directing. This was necessary as the President wishes all players to be more involved in the running of the club.

The A.G.M. was held in May and the following officers were elected: President - Mrs. Rita Landon; Vice President - Mr. Martin Connery; Treasurer - Mrs. Joan Flynn; Secretary - Mrs. Peggy Cruise. The incoming committee was elected: Mrs. Angela Joyce, Mrs. Corrine Flatley, Mr. Donal Geraghty, Mrs. Kathleen Lyons, Mrs. Marina Coyne, Mrs. Justina Lyons.

### Competitions

A major competition was held each month - The Murphy Cup, Charity Competition in aid of Apostolic Workers, The Bankers' Prize, Christmas Prizes, Easter Prizes and Summer Prizes. The highlight of the year was the President's (Mrs. Ina Freyne) Prize. It was a most enjoyable night. Winners were Fiona Prenty and Jean Gallagher. Bridge Club activities ended with the Annual Dinner in May.



Outgoing President Ina Freyne, being presented with a floral tribute by incoming President Rita Landon.

We had a new sponsor this year: Ballyhaunis and District Credit Union. We are very grateful to them, as we are to the Management of the three Banks who have sponsored us down through the years. We are also indebted to the staff of The Hazel who attend to our every comfort.

It was no surprise to the members that Angela Joyce has been elected Assistant Regional Secretary. We wish her every success in this most prestigious job and we extend to her our heartiest congratulations.

## Cantairi Beal Atha hAmhnais

By Pauline McGarry

Cantairi Beal Atha hAmhnais, the award winning mixed voice choral group which originated in Ballyhaunis nineteen years ago, continued to hit the highlights over the past busy year.

Since their formation Cantairi have featured among the award winners at almost all competitive events in Ireland. Cantairi have won first prize five times at the most famous of all the Irish Choral Festivals, the Cork International Choral Festival which is held in May each year. Cantairi are also well known in Sligo, Limerick and Navan, where they also achieved the top prizes.

### International Performance

Now Cantairi are preparing for even more sophisticated challenges. Their introduction to International performance abroad commences with an invitation to perform at a prestigious concert in a European

capital. In preparation for this important event serious practice is planned for the coming months.

Of course, Cantairi, will continue to fulfil their engagements around the region, where they are frequently invited as guest performers. Such invitations over the past year included: Guest Choir at the opening of the Christmas Fair at Foxford Woollen Mills; performance at the Mayo Millennium Gala Concert in Castlebar; Charity performance in Swinford with the Mayo Concert Orchestra; and the annual dinner in Pontoon Bridge Hotel, which was a great success.

As we go to print Cantairi are preparing for the Annual Christmas Celebration in the Abbey, where they will join forces with the Abbey Male Voice Choir. So there are busy times at Cantairi Beal Atha hAmhnais - it's even busier for the many members who travel from all the counties of Connacht to Ballyhaunis for practice. Their motivation? - the enjoyment of high-standard music.

For further information contact any of the following officers: Chairman - Padraig Forde; P.R.O. - Luke Murray; Secretary - Margaret Hannon; Musical Director - Pauline McGarry.



Cantairi Beal Atha hAmhnais



Abbey Street / Bridge Street, Ballyhaunis 1950's



The Lyons family in Brisbane, Australia: Dave, Julia, Kay (Back) and Fiona (front). The father – Dave Lyons – was born in Gurteen, where he lived until he was eleven. His father was Dave Lyons from Clagnagh, and his mother was Bridie Morley from Tooreen. Other members of the family are: Brendan, Maureen and Angela, who live in Manchester; Imelda, who lives in Australia. They are cousins of Eugene Freeley, Clagnagh.



Taken Easter, 2001, Brisbane. Brendan Rattigan, Michael Herr, John Prenty, Dave Lyons, daughters Kay and Fiona. Fiona is a keen Mayo football fan.



Having fun on Doctors Road. Back: Shauna Murray, Shane Healy, Jack Hughes, Aoife Murray. Front: Ann Marie Keane, Dara Healy, Hannah Doyle and Sinead Healy.



Michael J. Lyons, Lecarrow receiving a National Fire Service Award from the Minister of State Dan Wallace T.D.



School Friends Meet. Paddy Freeley, Michael Caulfield, Jimmy Flanigan, Paddy Fitzmaurice, Jimmy Finn, Michael Connolly, Tommy Biesty, Dan Tarpey and Willie Biesty.



## Brian Flanagan

### Talented Ballyhaunis Man Releases New CD

By Mike Byrne

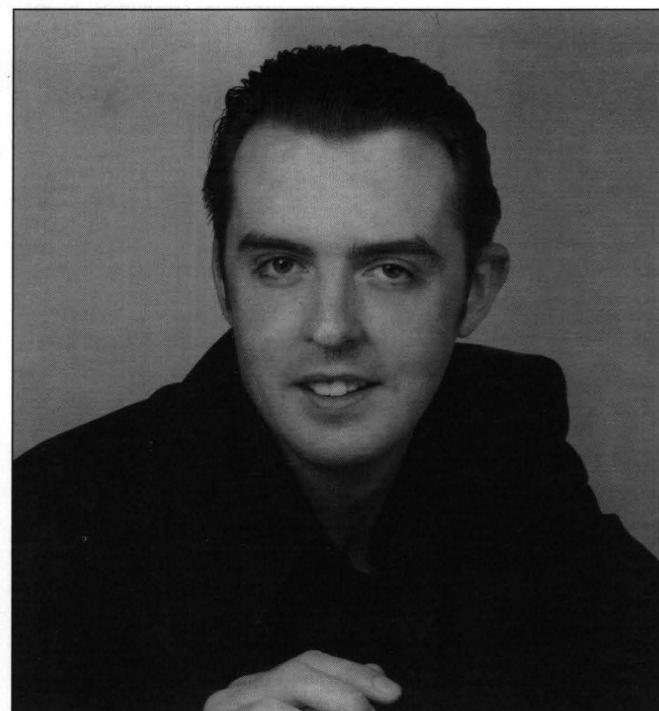
The singing career of talented Ballyhaunis performer, Brian Flanagan, has spun into overdrive during these past few months. A little over a year ago, Brian was plying his trade as a barman in a well-known Ballyhaunis hostelry (Byrne's, now Gill's). Suddenly, the affable singer and sometimes comedian finds himself singing to a crowd of over 5,000 people in a theatre in Bilbao, Spain with legendary Irish Traditional group, De Dannan, along with Frankie Gavin, Alec Finn and other fine exponents of Irish Traditional music.

In recent times Brian has been performing as support to Tommy Fleming at such venues as the Olympia in Dublin, City Hall in Cork and the Waterfront in Belfast. Most recently, Brian made his TV debut when he appeared on the RTE afternoon programme 'Open House', where he performed a track from his most recently released CD, entitled 'Going Back'. Brian's presence and vocal presentation on the show came in for some very fine and favourable comment from the programme's presenter, Mary Kennedy. Favourable comment which was well merited indeed as he delivered the old Iris Dement song, "Our town" to absolute perfection.

Brian Flanagan has, in some form or another, been involved in music for five years now since completing his Leaving Cert in Ballyhaunis Community School. He has starred in such musicals as "Jesus Christ Superstar" and "Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat", as well as performing at various charity concerts throughout the county over the past number of years. Brian readily admits, however that the highlight of his career, so far, has been performing to an Irish-Spanish audience in Bilbao this Autumn with De Dannan. Indeed, Brian had been scheduled to join up with De Dannan for an extensive tour of the USA immediately after the Spanish gig, but, unfortunately, the events of September 11th put paid to all of that. Meanwhile, however the Ballyhaunis performer is now trekking the four corners of the country, visiting many of the country's independent radio stations, where he is in the process of promoting his brand new CD, the Tommy Fleming produced, "Going Back".

#### Superb CD

What a gem of a CD it is. Recorded in Sligo during the months of May and June 2001, "Going Back" is a beautifully crafted album with twelve superb tracks. The title track, a song written by Gerry Goffin and Carole King, and a huge hit for Dusty Springfield in the 1960s, will instantly be recognised as the sound track for the ESB ad currently running on RTE television. "Going Back", the song, is beautifully rendered by Brian with superb musical backing and vocal support from Tommy Fleming. Indeed this album, jointly produced by Fleming and James Blennerhasset, is



Brian Flanagan

comprised of a fine selection of songs, both national and international, ranging from the Paul Simon tune, "April Come She Will", the Lennon-McCartney song, "I Will" and Richard Thompson's infectious tune, "Crazy Man Michael", to the more sombre "The Sun is Burning", "Lagan Love", and "Schooldays Over" – the old Luke Kelly tune written by Ewan McColl and sung here by Brian with a beautiful backing fiddle arrangement by Maire Breathnach.

All in all this new CD release from Brian Flanagan is a wonderful masterpiece, an easy-listening collection of some of the finest songs of our time, captured here by a singer with a beautifully gifted voice, itself a vehicle which is sure to carry him a long, long distance indeed.

Brian is son of Bernie and Phyllis Flanagan (nee Madden) of Ballindrehid, Ballyhaunis.

## Western Care 2001

This is a very exciting time for Western Care services in Ballyhaunis. Western Care are continuing to use the Personal Outcomes Quality System, with great success. This system stresses an individualised approach to services, i.e. enabling service users to define and realise their objectives and priorities.

At present, there are three Western Care services in Ballyhaunis: Ballyhaunis Training Centre, Group Home, and since last year, a respite house - Linden House, Knock Rd. The people who live and work in these places participate fully in their community. The residents and staff of Linden House will shortly move to their new house in Abbey Vale (near the Railway Station). Plans for next year include the establishment of a new Group Home.

## Bantracht na Tuaithe Ballyhaunis I.C.A.

By Maura Fitzmaurice

The A.G.M. of Ballyhaunis I.C.A. took place in June, and the following committee was elected: President - Margaret Kenny; Vice President - Angela Waldron; Secretary - Maura Fitzmaurice; Treasurer - Margaret Dyer. We had to postpone a few meetings earlier in the year because of the Foot and Mouth scare. We resumed our monthly meetings in September, getting off to a great start.

We entered a table quiz run by Claremorris I.C.A. and we came 3rd. The proceeds were in aid of Breast Cancer Research. Some of our ladies took part in sponsored 10 km walk in aid of the same good cause. Our membership is growing every month, and new members are always welcome. The members enjoy participating in lots of activities including handicrafts.

The year will end with our Federation Dinner in the Welcome Inn Hotel, Castlebar. The National President of the I.C.A. will be in attendance. We would like to thank all who helped and supported us during the year. Happy Christmas, and a prosperous New Year to all.



The first Ballyhaunis I.C.A. Dinner dance, held in the Central Hotel, 1964. Seated: L-R, Rita Flatley, Mary Higgins, Sarah Freeley. 2nd Row;L-R: Rita Morris (Waldron), Josie Eaton, Margaret Johnston, Mrs. Walsh. 3rd Row, L-R: Bridie Molloy, Maria Cribbin (President), Noreen Hopkins, Rita Wall, Anna Morrissey, Theresa Conway. Back Right: Lily Wilson.



Corpus Christi Procession Day 1939  
Noreen and Tommy Molloy, Barrack St.



First Communion Day 1968. Clar Grogan and Patricia Curley, Clare St.

## The Euro

By Willie Ryan

As I write, there is less than three months to go before the introduction of euro notes and coins into this country and the other eleven members of economic and monetary union. It should be noted, however, that the euro has already been in existence in Ireland in a non-cash transaction format since January 1999. Employers/managers, in addition to individuals, have had the option of opening a euro bank account during this time. Business outlets, moreover, could decide whether or not to accept euro cheques - they are not compelled to do so under the "no compulsion, no prohibition rule". The evidence to date, however, is that it is something they do not have to be unduly worried about, as the overwhelming majority of Irish consumers prefer to pay for their merchandise in the native currency. This will all change in January next.

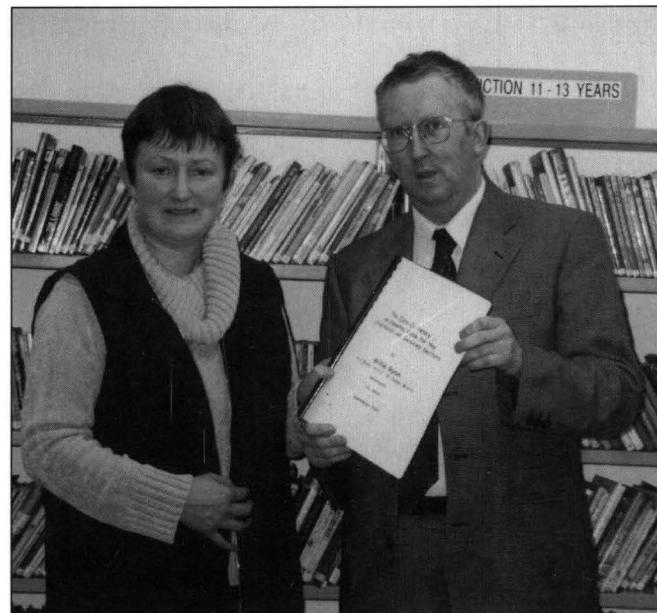
The Irish currency will continue to be used alongside the euro currency from January 1st to February 9th 2002. This is termed the "Dual Circulation" period. The euro currency will be comprised of seven banknotes and eight coins. The notes will be in denominations of 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200 and 500 euros, whilst the coins will consist of 1, 2, 5, 10, 20 and 50 euro cents, in addition to one euro and two euro coins respectively. The one cent coin will be smaller than the Irish five pence, and the two euro will be the same size as the Irish two pence. The reverse side of each coin for the eleven EMU participants will be different. In Ireland's case, for example, it will be the twelve stars on the EU flag, the year of introduction, the harp and the word Eire. The seven notes, meanwhile, will have a monotone watermark in addition to fluorescent fibres.

One might well be prompted to ask at this stage, how will the euro work? On its introduction in Frankfurt in 1999, it was decided by the European Central Bank that the euro would be equal to IR£0.787564 or 79 pence, in Ireland's case. They ruled that the 3rd figure after the decimal point was the all-important one: if this figure was five or above, it would be rounded up; on the other hand, if it were less than five it would be rounded down. So IR£0.787564 has 7 as the 3rd figure after the decimal point - 7 is greater than 4 and, consequently, it is rounded up to 79 pence. It could also be written 1 euro =IR£0.79.

### How will it work in practice?

Customer A purchases an item for 95p - what is this in euros? IR£0.95 is divided by IR£0.787564 which is equal to 1.206251. 6 is the 3rd figure after the decimal point - it is greater than 4, and so 1.206 is rounded up to 1.21 euros. Now, if B sells an item for IR£49.99 - what is its euro equivalent? IR£49.99 is divided by IR£0.787564 which is equal to 63.47420. 4 is the 3rd figure after the decimal point on this occasion. 4 is less than 5, so 63.47420 is rounded down to 63.47 euros.

Should one wish to convert from the euro to the national currency, one would multiply by the conversion rate of IR£0.787564. In this scenario, needless to say, the 3rd figure



Mr. Willie Ryan, Ryan's Supervalu, Ballyhaunis, presenting his booklet on the Euro Currency to Ballyhaunis Librarian, Mrs. Eleanor Freyne.

after the decimal point would be the all-important one in deciding whether or not it must be rounded up or down. Customer X purchases an article for 215.84 euros - what is this in Irish currency? 215.84 is multiplied by IR£0.787564 to give us 169.9878 - 7 is greater than 4 and, consequently, it is rounded up to IR£169.99.

### Dual-Pricing

Dual-pricing in both euro and national currencies will play an integral part in informing and educating the consumer. The Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment published a "code of practice" on dual price display last year. This month has seen its introduction: it will continue until 9th March 2002. This "code", under the aegis of the Department of Consumer Affairs, invites businesses to display their prices in both the euro and Irish currencies respectively. Businesses, however, cannot be forced to do this under the "no compulsion, no prohibition" rule, but the vast majority have already conformed to it long before this month. The price in Irish pounds is currently in a prominent position on all shelf-cards, window posters and various forms of labelling within the various stores with the equivalent euro figure shown in the corner. From next January, however, the euro figure will assume the premier position with the native currency moving to a more minor position. After March 9th, the Irish currency will disappear leaving centre stage to the euro. The displaying of prices in both Irish pound and euro amounts will be conducive to consumers in becoming more familiar with the euro and is, I feel, a good exercise in customer service. Store employees, moreover, will also be assisted in the changeover process as they will have to participate in training programmes to gain a good understanding of it so that they can explain it competently to the customer and deal with customer queries.

Employee training in all aspects of the euro will be vital over the coming months and cannot be emphasised frequently enough as January 2002 looms. A concern I would have with the

timing of the euro's introduction is, that it will, in many cases, coincide with the "Annual Sales". Not only could it lead to some confusion in what is a very busy time for the stores, the undoubted appeal of such prices as IR£9.99, IR£19.99, IR£99.99 and IR£199.99 will, in all probability, be history because of the "Rounding" system. An item hitherto purchased for IR£9.99 will now become 12.68 euros, thus giving the unfair perception that it is more expensive. One way around this could be to redesign the product so that it can be sold at 9.99 euros. It is worth thinking about.

The following should be noted: Approximately 220 million euro notes, in addition to one billion coins, will have to be distributed throughout Ireland. Meanwhile, in excess of 7000 tonnes of Irish pound coinage will have to be taken out of circulation.

#### **Changeover**

Irish currency can be accepted by businesses up to midnight on 9th February, 2002. Those who find they have Irish notes and

coins left over need not despair as they can cash it at the Central Bank in Dame Street for an indefinite period of time. Euro coins will be available from Banks/Post Offices from 17th December next, but they cannot be used as legal tender until the 1st January 2002. One can, if one likes, purchase a sample of them on the aforementioned date for IR£5 Or 6.35 euros. Irish pound cheques cannot be written after the 31st December next. Businesses will not cash them after that date. From January 1st 2002, it will be Euro cheques only. Cheque and Laser cards will be accepted as normal after New Year's Eve as all financial institutions will have them automatically converted. Cheque cards guaranteed previously up to IR£100 will, henceforth, be guaranteed up to a limit of 130 euros, which is the equivalent of IR£102.38.

All till receipts and shelf cards/posters will continue to show the Irish pound equivalent up to the 9th March 2002. Unused Irish pound cheques should be returned to one's financial institution so that one will be refunded the stamp duty on them.

## **Ballyhaunis Rugby Club**

By Eamon Healy

The excellent performances of Irish provincial sides in the Heineken European Cup over the past few years has created a strong platform for Rugby's development at all levels nationally, and, in addition, has inspired clubs in all corners of our island to expand and develop. Ballyhaunis Rugby Club is no exception it is proudly playing its part in offering opportunities for underage and senior players from the town and its surrounds to get some enjoyment from their involvement in the sport.

Phase 2 of our development plan is well underway with the main emphasis on the development of the dressing rooms and in the provision of proper training lights. We can feel justifiably proud of the standard of the facilities that are now in place. The dressing rooms have been in use for the past few months and are a huge advantage for both training and for home matches. The FAS schemes, which have been supervised by Peter Gallagher, have made a huge impact in a very cost-effective way. The present scheme is ongoing and will enable us to create a showpiece that can rate with the best in Connaught.

Our club continues to participate in the Connaught Junior League and Cup competitions at both Junior and underage level . The present Junior team is comparatively young: it is composed mostly of players who have come through the underage ranks. In terms of coaching the club has made a very significant breakthrough with the appointment of John Colleran as IRFU Coach/Development officer for the area. This is a very welcome development as it is the first time that such an appointment has been considered, and will enable the club to provide coaching and training session to all age groups. John will focus on introducing the game to children in national

schools, as well as to pupils in second level colleges. He is also responsible for coaching and training the Junior teams. We wish to acknowledge the help and co-operation received from the school managers and PE teachers for making this possible. We realise that there are lots of people eager to play the game of rugby, however without the assistance of the parents it will not be possible to implement a proper training programme. We would implore parents to come forward and to offer their services if they have a few free hours on a Saturday morning.

Like all other sports organisations we are struggling to keep afloat financially. Our two main sources of income are the weekly-run Bingo session held in Julian's of Midfield on Thursday nights, and a weekly lotto. We also rely on membership fees costing £50 annually which includes participation in our Lotto draw for the full year. While we have now settled into our new dressing rooms we cannot forget the support received from Mary Morris and family who provided us with accommodation for over twenty years at The Horse Shoe Inn. We are deeply grateful for their generosity.

On a more sombre note we recently had the untimely death of a man who was involved in the Club from its foundation: the late John Hanley brought to the Club a rich vein of experience and talent from his previous involvement with Munster Rugby and latterly with Tuam RFC. He displayed great loyalty and dedication during his involvement with the Club and fulfilled a variety of roles including Coach, Selector and Treasurer.

Officers of Ballyhaunis Rugby Club: President - David Walsh; Secretary - Eamon Healy; Treasurer - Bernie Jennings; Branch Delegate - Hugh Curley; P.R.O. - Georgina Dee; Team Captain - John Costello; Team Manager - Peter Gallagher.



# Another World

By Henry Madden

On the night of May 22nd, 2001, as our plane approached the airport in Tanzania, the voice of the captain was less than reassuring: "We expect to land in Kilimanjaro in five minutes- it is one of the most difficult airports in the world to negotiate at night." Just that - no explanation. Hilary and I looked at each other and said a silent prayer. Five minutes later we thanked "the Man above" for a safe landing. It was to be the first of many times over the following two weeks that we would reflect and thank God for many different things that up 'til now we had taken for granted. Our observations and experiences in a Third World mission area would change our attitudes to life – permanently.

## Third World

Only a handful of passengers alighted at Kilimanjaro; it's not one of the fashionable destinations of world travel. As we made our way in the dimly lit surroundings to passport control, the flies and mosquitoes, drawn to the lights in the dark African night, were everywhere, intent on sampling European blood. We were glad of all the jabs we'd been given prior to departure, which we were assured, would give us 95% protection against a range of killer diseases in this part of sub-Saharan Africa - often described as the "white man's graveyard." The airport surroundings were very spartan, with none of the trappings normally associated with developed countries – a stark introduction to Third World standards. Still, the pleasant attitudes and friendliness of the few officials on duty set the scene for the hospitality we were to receive from the natives in this deprived land. Just one slight hitch:

"What's in your suitcase?"

"Personal belongings and footballs."

"How many?"

"Fourteen."

"There aren't fourteen in that case?"

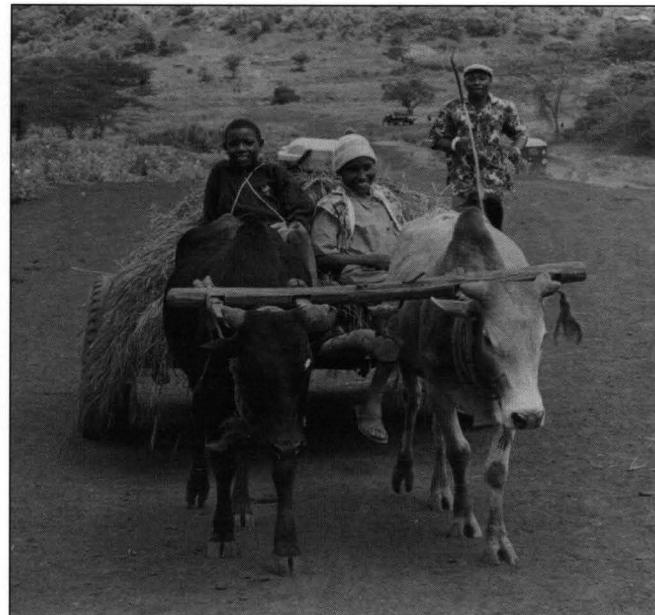
"Yes, they're just not inflated, we will pump them in Magugu."

A quick calculation followed and £100 tax was demanded. I explained to him that the purpose of the footballs was to bring a bit of cheer to the lives of poor children who only had rag balls to play with, and, surely, he wasn't going to deprive them of the pleasure a real football would give them. No, he wasn't - he had a heart, and the £100 that we could have been made to pay if-push-came-to-shove would buy one tonne of maize later on.

## Parish of Magugu

Fr. Michael Barry, a life-long friend, was waiting for us. We received a real African welcome. Not many visitors from home stop off in this part of the world, and he was delighted to see us. Hilary, my daughter, and I would be his guests in his mission headquarters in Magugu.

Having stayed overnight in Arusha, we set out at daybreak for Magugu and got our first experience of the 'real' roads. This sand road was so pot-holed and serrated, and progress was so slow that our driver left it at numerous points and drove instead in the dust tracks of the adjoining fields, where speeds of up to 25 m.p.h were possible. It was a novel experience. We eventually arrived at Magugu, a small roadside village in the heart of the farming community in the African bush, one hundred miles from where we set out in Arusha. It is situated three degrees below the Equator and as such has two summers and two winters, the climate alternating



Another World

between prolonged drought and tropical monsoon downpours. For the next two weeks we would be traveling all over Fr. Michael's mission area, and further afield.

Fr. Barry is a native of Condonstown, Dungourney, Co. Cork and was ordained a Pallottine priest in 1964. He has spent those thirty-seven years in Africa through good times and bad, through both natural and man-made disasters and all kinds of tropical diseases. He has witnessed hunger, famine, deprivation and all its consequences.

## Abject Poverty

Nothing could have prepared us for the contrast we found. The abject poverty and deprivation we encountered was appalling. It was absolutely and totally disturbing. You would have to experience it to grasp the enormity of it. Plus, we were told that we came at a good time, at the end of the rainy season and harvest time. The crops of maize, rice, millet and beans were good, as the rains had come at the right time during the growing season. Those who were able to sow crops were all right, at least for the next few months. The old and the handicapped still will have to be helped. They come to the mission every Tuesday for their free two kgs of maize flour, ground in the mission mill that was supplied by GORTA, and financed by charitable people in various parts of the world. In times of famine the largest recorded number helped by the mission in Magugu in one day was 2,235. That was a lot of maize and some of these people were known to have walked sixty km. They return and share this maize with their families and neighbours. Think about it –it will probably alleviate somewhat their hunger for one day, until they come back again the following week. It was distressing to see the poor people line up for their ration; it must have been like this in Ireland during the famine years. Some of the women didn't have either a container or a plastic bag - they took the maize away in the folds of the wraps they wore. Talk about destitution! It was awful to see young children among this gathering with the rags they were wearing falling off them, while t-shirts were available in the markets for 20p.

## Life and Death

The majority of people live in flimsy mud huts with reed roofs, which do not keep out the heavy rains or the mosquitoes, which cause malaria. They have absolutely none of the facilities that we take for

granted - not even the basics like water and sanitation. There is no social welfare. Fr. Barry says he is amazed how dressed and clean the people are for Mass on Sundays.

An old woman died the Tuesday after we arrived. Her funeral to the church was to be the next day. The mission tractor and trailer was sent to collect her remains. The driver didn't return for a long time and when he did there was no body. In the intense heat the body decays quickly. The family could not afford a box, so the remains were wrapped in a sheet and brought directly to the graveyard.

The following week John, 39 years old, died from malaria. He died because he hadn't 60p for an injection. His only relative, his sister, was 100 miles away in Arusha. She couldn't be contacted. His friends made a box for his remains and he was brought to the church.. After the prayers the box was again placed in the trailer and the mourners went in to the trailer beside it also. They sang hymns all the way to the graveyard, two miles away. Each of the men present took turns in filling the grave. They share everything out there. The boards for the box didn't cost anything. The contrast mentioned earlier continues even in death!

#### Church Services

Fr. Mick's area is far-flung. He celebrates mass in eleven out-stations, connected by appalling 'roads', really tracks. Journeys are not measured by kilometers or miles, but by the time it takes to get there. Mass is weekly, fortnightly or monthly depending on how many hours travelling time is involved. On a typical Sunday he will have 7 o'clock Mass in Magugu and three more in out-lying areas at 9, 11 and 1 o'clock, each of which can be an hour or more late. This doesn't present any problem. The people will wait because he always turns up, knowing that he may have got punctured, had a breakdown or had to detour to avoid a road or river in flood. They appreciate the Mass and attend it devoutly.

Confessions take place before Mass, as do Baptisms, both



Waiting for food. Hilary Madden with some residents of Magugu

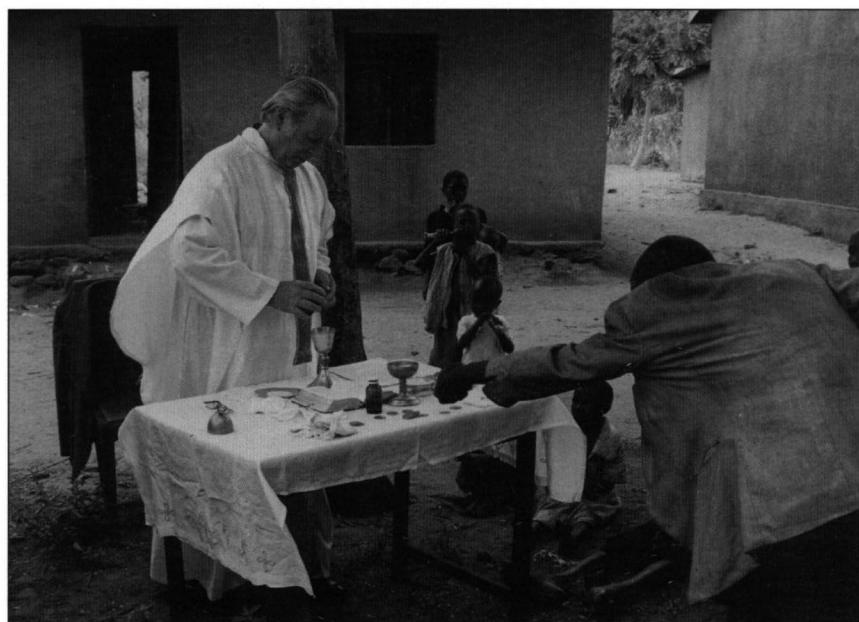
of infants and adults. Then there is always time to talk to the people after mass. After the last Mass each Sunday the women (who else!) of the area prepare a meal for the Padre, and there's always enough for visitors as well!

#### Churches

Their churches are very basic, simple structures with galvanized roofs; the majority with just gravel floors, and some low seating. There is no glass in the windows, which are just openings either with wooden shutters or steel mesh. The Stations of the Cross are just prints (about 10" x 8") covered with polythene, and the cross above the altar is mostly just painted on the wall. The altar itself is a table, covered with an immaculate white cloth. The singing of the choirs and the accompanying rhythms on the native instruments will be an abiding memory; it was simply unforgettable. The thought crossed the mind during mass that, perhaps the same God that comes down on the altars here, too, is even more at home than in the most ornate cathedral.

#### Sandals from Tyres!

There is very little motorized transport, the bicycle being the main mode of travel apart from walking. The roads and streets are litter free as there is absolutely nothing to throw away. Walking through Babati, we noticed a few well-worn truck tyres under a shabby canopy, and four men working away. We had stumbled across a sandal factory, and the sandals were being made from the worn truck tyres. Such ingenuity was astounding. Through our interpreter, Fr. Michael we found out that irrespective of size, the cost was 50p per pair, and they were guaranteed for 1,000 miles!! They could make many more but the raw material was very scarce. We bought some to show to the friends back home. As we left we thought of all the slightly worn car tyres dumped in Ireland; they would make an awful lot of sandals in Babati!



Fr. Michael Barry at outdoor Mass.

The people we met in this rural outpost of Tanzania were very friendly and welcoming, and the few phrases of Swahili we had were very useful: "karibu" (welcome), "habari" (hello), "asante" (thank you) and "mungu akubariki" (God bless you) will always be part of our vocabulary.

We accompanied Fr. Barry to a disabled people's compound in Usitawi. Many of the inhabitants were blind, the result of a protein-deficient diet. We thought of all the beef and milk powder mountains in bygone years in the E.U. that could have been used to prevent this. Blindness is traumatic at any time but when it results from lack of a basic diet, that we in Ireland take for granted, it is tragic in the extreme. The abnormally high proportion of blind people we encountered left us thanking God for the gift of sight.

### **Water**

Alongside hunger, water is the problem around Magugu. The men work in the fields and the women, who balance the containers on their heads, do the water carrying. They have no supply of clean water that can be drank at present (but this will thankfully soon change.) There is a pipeline that serves the village at one point, where the women queue up whenever there is water in it. The supply is very erratic. In times of drought there is often no water in this pipeline for a month at a time. We in Ireland can get very frustrated if the group scheme supply is off for even a few hours. Water can also be available in a stagnant collecting area, filled during the rainy season, and can also be taken from water holes shared by livestock. In fact this latter source is often the only source available. This muddy water is then filtered as much as possible through rags, and then boiled and "cooled" in the tropical temperatures, and then drank. No wonder hepatitis and gastro-enteritis are rampant. Clean water would save lives. We talked to many people in Magugu, and the consensus was that clean water was the number one priority. The community spent six months digging by hand, and reached a depth of forty-five feet, but didn't hit water; the wonder was that people were not killed. The engineers say there is plenty of water deeper down estimated at 138 metres. £15,000 would be needed to drill, line, and fit out the well, money the people of Magugu have not got.

### **Fund-Raising**

When Canon Cooney P.P., became aware of the situation in this very deprived area, he decided to help them. He suggested to his parishioners that Ballyhaunis adopt the Magugu area, and share with them some of the blessings that God had given us, by providing a well for them, at an estimated cost of £15,000. Photographs depicting all aspects of the Magugu area were displayed in the church, and people became aware of what the conditions were like. There was a great response! Canon Cooney started the ball rolling by donating the Offertory Collection, amounting to £3,100, to the well. A very energetic committee under the direction of Rita Lundon organized a raffle, which grossed £13,100, with tickets sold in many parts of the country. The dream of a well for the people of Magugu was becoming a reality. The money was forwarded to Fr. Barry, and at time of writing the well has been drilled. Deadlines have to be met for magazines like "Annagh", and by the time this article appears in print the people of Magugu, thanks to many charitable people, should



The joy of a new football

be enjoying their very own supply of clean drinking water. This will be a story and pictures for another time, God willing. Generous donations have resulted in maize being purchased to continue the weekly feeding of the poor and destitute.

Sincere thanks to Canon Cooney for his support, advice, encouragement and financial help for the project, and to Tadhg Buckley, E.P.S, for donating all the equipment for the well in Magugu. Grateful thanks to all the people who sold tickets, and to those who supported the project by buying tickets, and to all who gave contributions.

The first-prizewinner in the draw sold the prize and, donating the £1,000 received for it to the project fund, typified the wonderful spirit displayed by all. Fr. Barry has all these people included in Masses for twelve months. To you all, I say: "Mungu Akubariki."

### **Profound Effect**

My short visit to this Third World area has had a profound effect on me. I'll never be the same again and Hilary feels the same way. To meet with people who have so little of this world's goods, but are rich in human and spiritual qualities is a very humbling experience. A young mother I met in Usitawi made a lasting impression on me. She was totally blind, and it was upsetting to see the medically untreated state of her eye sockets, but behind this facial deformity was a wonderful, generous person with a deep faith and a marvellous outlook on life. She once told Fr. Michael; "God didn't give me eyesight, but He gave me six healthy children" – she was counting her blessings, not thinking of her own terrible handicap. When I heard it I promised there and then never to complain about anything again. If these people had enough to eat and drink they would be the happiest people in the world.

After experiencing the deprivation in the Magugu area we intend to help these people on an on-going basis. If we realize that everything we have comes from God, then when we help others all we are doing is sharing a little of what He has given us with our less fortunate brothers and sisters.

### **Just a Thought**

For the year 2002 if 200 people, or households, contributed £1 (1.27 euros) each week this would raise £10,000, and every pound would go directly to the mission area, where it would make an enormous difference to the lives of many people who live in another world.

## Scoil Iosa Primary School, Ballyhaunis

In September 2001, Scoil Iosa Ballyhaunis came into existence following the amalgamation of St. Joseph's Convent of Mercy Primary School and St. Mary's Primary School, Ballyhaunis. This followed the agreement of the Patron, Boards of Management, Parents and Teachers in both schools.

### The outgoing Boards of Management

St. Joseph's Primary School – Fr. James O'Grady (Chairperson); Sally Fahy (Acting Principal); Maureen Reddington (Teacher Representative); Sr. Bernardine Morrisroe (Mercy Representative); Mike Byrne and Bridie Waldron (Elected Parents); Robert Potter Cogan and Ann Nestor (Community Representatives)..

**St. Mary's Primary School** – Canon Joseph Cooney (Chairperson); Jim Lunden (Principal); Betty Regan (Teacher Representative); Martina Gallagher (Patron's Nominee); John Griffin and Marie Clegg (Elected Parents); Liam Lynskey and Anne Lyons (Community Representatives).

### Outgoing Parents' Associations

St. Joseph's Primary School: Chairperson - Christina Concannon; Secretary - Marie Cribbin; Treasurer - Donal Kelleher; B.O.M. Representatives - Mike Byrne and Bridie Waldron; Committee members - Brid Kenny, Liam Lyons, Mary Lyons, Joe Byrne, John Griffin, Maura Freyne, James Reidy.

**St. Mary's Primary School:** Chairperson - Martin Keane; Secretary - Cathy Carroll; Treasurer - Manor Cherbatji; B.O.M. Representatives - Marie Clegg, John Clegg; Committee Members - Geraldine O'Dwyer, Bridie Waldron, Gabrielle Lyons, Mary Mulrennan, Jarlath Walsh, Adrian Murray.

The Principal and staff of Scoil Iosa would like to extend a sincere word of thanks and appreciation to all of the above people, and their predecessors, for their hard work and support over the years.

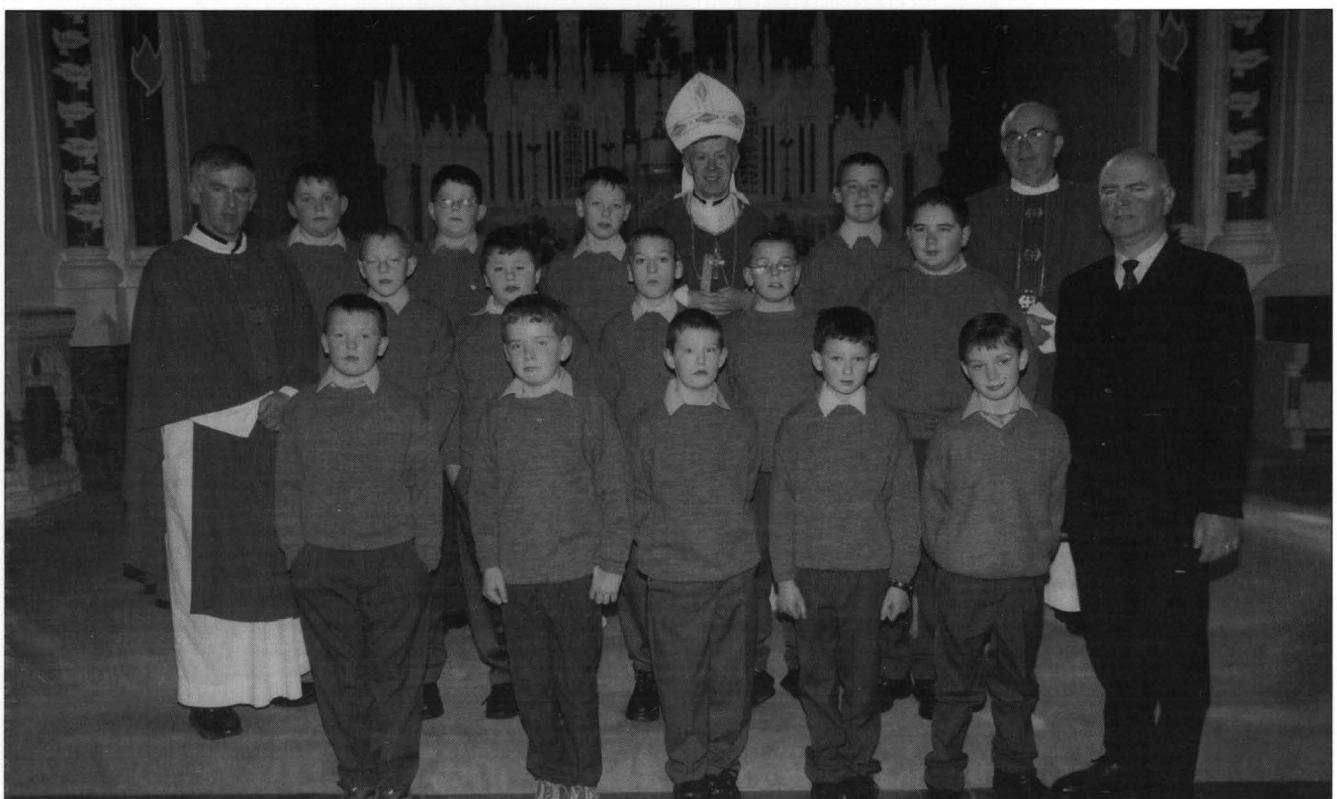
Fr. James O'Grady, C.C. was appointed to Clifden in July. His tireless work as Chairman of St. Joseph's Primary School has been greatly appreciated, and he will be greatly missed. He is wished every best wish in his new post.

Ms. Maria Campbell, Principal of St. Joseph's Primary School, has been appointed a Lecturer in St. Angela's College,



First Communion Class, 2001

Front, L-R: Conor Freeley, Kieran McDermott, Gearoid Keane, David Fitzmaurice, Christopher McDonagh; Second Row, L-R: Bridget Conroy, Marie Cleary, Vickie Tighe, Ramona Frayne, Kathleen Maughan, Olwyn Murray, Edel Lynch, Stephanie Mooney, Rebekka Johnston; Third Row, L-R: Claire O'Dwyer, Siobhan Finn, Robyn Moran, Maura Naughton, Laura Patterson, Lisa Jordan, Isaac Carroll; Back Row, L-R: Ciarán Davey, David Lyons, Aisling Kelleher, Joseph Flynn. Celebrant: Canon Joseph Cooney, P.P. Teacher: Mrs. K. Lyons.



Fifth Class, St. Mary's Primary School

Front, L-R: Enda Griffin, John Gallagher, Kieran Turner, Patrick Freeley, Tommy Webb, Augustine Kearns (Teacher); Second Row, L-R: Fr. James O'Grady, C.C., Robert Frayne, Brian Waldron, Robert Cregg, Stephen Hoban, Niall Feeney; Third Row, L-R: Robert Lilly, Noel Byrne, Paul Walsh, Archbishop Michael Neary, James Quinn, Canon Joseph Cooney, P.P.



Sixth Class, St. Mary's Primary School. Front, L-R: Sean O'Kane, William Lyons, Brian Gallagher, Kevin Gallagher, Declan Murphy, Ian Mooney; Second Row, L-R: Jeremy Freeley, Conor Mulrennan, David Maughan, Luke Cribbin, John Lyons, Matthew Cregg, Seamus O'Dwyer, Michael Waldron; Third Row, L-R: Fr. James O'Grady, C.C., John Jordan, Daniel Glancy, Kevin Higgins, James Ronayne, Michael Conroy; Fourth Row: Kieran Lucey, Patrick Kelly, John Mongan, Archbishop Michael Neary, Rody Kilbride, Canon Joseph Cooney, P.P., Jim Lunden (Teacher).



Sixth Class, St. Joseph's Primary School. Front, L-R: Lisa Carney, Kathleen Conroy, Lisa Fitzmaurice, Maria Connolly, Siobhan Lyons, Janice Foliard, Marian McNamara, Lisa Freyne; Middle, L-R: Fr. James O'Grady, C.C., Mrs. Kathleen Jennings (Teacher), Kimberly Dowdall, Niamh Waldron, Clare Byrne, Maria Hunt, Elaine Carney, Canon Joseph Cooney, P.P.; Back, L-R: Louise Cleary, Samantha Maughan, Archbishop Michael Neary, Martina Maughan, Margaret Lawrence.



Fifth Class, St. Joseph's Primary School. Front, L-R: Mrs. Ita Fahey (Teacher), Colleen Waldron, Margaret Cribbin, Sharon Kirrane, Amy Conroy, Aoife O'Boyle, Linda McDonagh; Middle, L-R: Fr. James O'Grady, C.C., Louise Kelleher, Ciara Lyons, Lydia Concannon, Isobel Morrissey, Canon Joseph Cooney, P.P.; Back, Archbishop Michael Neary.

Sligo. Her work both as Principal and teacher over the years has been outstanding.

Canon Cooney, Chairperson of St. Mary's Primary School Board of Management, worked extremely hard to make sure that the school was run to the highest possible standards. A special word of thanks to him for his dedicated service since 1993.

A very special thanks to all the Sisters of Mercy and lay teachers in both schools, to all the Boards of Management, Parents Associations, Ancillary Staffs and pupils who helped to build up and develop the educational traditions of both Schools over the years.

#### **Confirmation Day**

On 3rd March 2001 the children of fifth and sixth classes from St. Joseph's Primary School and St. Mary's Primary School received the sacrament of Confirmation from Dr. Michael Neary, Archbishop of Tuam.

#### **First Communion Day**

On Saturday 12th May in St. Patrick's parish Church, children from St. Mary's Primary School, received their First Communion from Canon Joseph Cooney P.P. Their Teacher, who prepared them for this special day, Mrs. Kathleen Lyons. St. Joseph's Primary School Choir, sang at the ceremony.

## **Ballyhaunis Fine Gael Records a Successful 2001**

Ballyhaunis Fine Gael is happy to record yet another very successful year for the Branch. The Branch held its regular Quarterly meetings at which local and national issues as well as local community issues were always high on the agenda and vigorously debated by the large attendances. The Branch recorded votes of congratulations to local Councillor John Cribbin, for the sterling work he is doing on Mayo County Council in terms of delivering improvements to the area.

The branch also recognised the continuing high profile of Deputy Jim Higgins and congratulate him on his re-appointment by Michael Noonan as Spokesman on Public Enterprise, and on being given the added portfolio of Tourism.

The National collection was held on the 29th July, and recorded another bumper return. The New Year will see the organisation get into top gear as the General Election beckons and the return of Jim Higgins to Dail Eireann and with the distinct

#### **Scoil Iosa Board of Management**

John Griffin (Chairperson, Patron's Nominee); Jim Lundon (Principal); Jimmy Duggan (Teacher Representative); Bridie Waldron and Mike Byrne (Elected Parents); Fr. Declan Carroll (Patron's Nominee); Elected by above - Sr. Bernardine Morrisroe (Secretary) and Kay Curley.

#### **Scoil Iosa Parents' Association**

Christina Concannon, Bridie Waldron, Matt O'Dwyer, Bernadette Lyons, Mike Byrne, Manor Cherbatji, Kevin Henry, Pat Ryan, James Reidy, Martin Keane.

#### **Scoil Iosa Teaching Staff**

Mr. Jim Lundon (Principal), Mrs. Sally Fahy, Mr. Augustine Kearns, Mrs. Betty Regan, Mrs. Kathleen Lyons, Mrs. Marie Byrne, Mrs. Caitlín Jennings, Mr. Jimmy Duggan, Sr. Geraldine Farrell, Ms. Ailish Crean, Ms. Aisling Toal, Mrs. June Duffy, Mrs. Ita Fahey, Sr. Nora Colleran, Ms. Stella McGrath, Ms. Maureen Reddington, Mrs. Margaret O'Flaherty, Mrs. May Fleming.

The Board of Management and Teaching Staff of Scoil Iosa would like to wish all the past pupils of St. Joseph's and St. Mary's Primary Schools every success in their future careers.



possibility of receiving a Senior Cabinet position.

The following were elected as Officers: President - Michael Webb; Vice President - Mary Buckley; Chairman - Michael Lyons; Vice Chairman - Peter Hannon; Secretary - Helen Lyons; Treasurer - John Joe Flanagan; Asst. Treasurer - Oliver Cribbin; P.R.O. - Tony Cribbin.



Fine Gael celebrate election victory of Cllr John Cribbin. Front l-r: Brian Lyons, John Cribbin M.C.C., Jim Higgins T.D., Tony Cribbin. Back: Tara Higgins, Ciara Buckley, Jimmy Tully, Helen Byrne, Laura and Claire Byrne, Jimmy Nally, Joe Byrne, John Clancy, Mike Webb, Marian and Maria Higgins.



Best Dressed Lady at the Abbey Pattern 2001 Manor Cherbatji (Ashling Drive)



I.T. Graduates at Limerick University 2001. L-R: Leona Hopkins (Langanboy), Aengus McGreal (Ballinlough) and Claire Flynn (Abbeyquarter)



Luke Cribbin, Brian Gallagher, Fr. James O'Grady, Brian Mulrennan and front: Aoife Mulrennan.



Taken in Erris 1945. Back l-r: Dett Johnston, Dan Finn R.I.P., Lil Johnston R.I.P., Kitty Finn and Mary Culkeen. Front l-r: Teresa Johnston, Ena Finn, Andrew Johnston, Dick Johnston and Tom Culkeen.



Ballyhaunis Soccer Team 1985. Back l-r: Clar Grogan, Brendan Niland, Ray Foliard, Robbie Herr, Ivan Freeley, Tommy Moran, Ted Webb, Mike Daly, Nicholas Freyne. Front l-r: Sean Byrne, Padraig Niland, Sean Finnegan, Luke Murray, Padraic Waldron, Vinnie Caulfield, Padraic Duffy and Jacklyn Moran (Mascot)

# Guinness Group Sales Ireland Ltd, Ballyhaunis Depot (1970-2001)

## End of an institution in Ballyhaunis – Part 2

By Murt Hunt

Well we have discussed at length the proposed closure of the Guinness Depot in Abbeyquarter, Ballyhaunis and it was the subject of an article in the Annagh magazine by yours truly last year. The Depot was to close at various dates in 2000 but the deadline was to be Christmas 2000 or the end of December at the very latest.

As the late Eamon Kelly (R.I.P.) would say "Things rested so", Christmas 2000 came and went and we were still there in Ballyhaunis, wondering, waiting and hoping. As I stated last year, only a major miracle or a change of heart would accomplish the mission of keeping the Depot going in Ballyhaunis. Well we got no change of heart but we did get a minor miracle and the life of the Depot was extended to the end of August 2001.. This was due to the Summer rush on beer and lager, the delay in the completion of the offices at Claremorris station and various little hiccups with C.I.E staff amalgamating with Guinness staff. In my humble opinion, the biggest hiccup was the railway line itself which has been upgraded immensely in the past year. To accommodate passengers you might ask? Oh yes indeed but more importantly to accommodate Guinness Group (Ireland) Ltd. All of their products are now railed directly to Claremorris from the Breweries at Dublin, Kilkenny and Dundalk. So the latest Guinness sponsorship was not the much debated Guinness Hurling Finals but the rail-line to Claremorris/Westport. There was much money squandered at level crossings and entrances to private houses but that is not any of my concern.

When eventually we were told the final deadline was the end of August 2001, we were more or less reconciled to the idea and really glad that all the anxious days of waiting and hoping were finally over. Four of us decided to take early retirement from the firm: Sean Grogan, Dan Tarpey, John Greally and myself. The six casuals were let go and given redundancy: Joe Burke, Ollie Cribbin, Anthony Freeley, Eamon Egan, Seamus Flanagan and Tony Waldron. Seven others transferred to Claremorris: Padraig Regan, Willie Coyne, Padraig Morley, Freddie Herr, Brian Byrne, Pat Doyle and Tommy Grogan. Marguerite Doyle from the office staff transferred also with the Manager Brian McGroarty, and Tony Gibbons our fitter is employed also, on a contract basis. I mentioned all the old workmates in the last edition of Annagh and indeed another has passed to his eternal reward since then. John Coffey was a great character in his own right and it was so sad to attend his funeral in July but so nice to be able to offer our Guard of Honour of former workmates as a token of our esteem for a much loved former colleague. 'Go ndeana Dia trocaire ar a anam'. The much loved Paddy Egan from Ballinasloe also passed away R.I.P.

I inadvertently left out the name John Ivers from Kiltimagh in my list of Kiltimagh members. He is hale and hearty in



Some of the staff of Irish Ales Breweries on their last day of employment in Ballyhaunis. L-R: Flann Moroney, Murt Hunt, Anthony Freeley, Marguerite Doyle, Brian McGroarty (Manager).

England and is the only surviving member of the Kiltimagh quartet at the Depot in Ballyhaunis during those golden years. The names of several others were omitted but not on purpose I promise you. There were many casuals down through the years who were too numerous to mention but I apologise to Bernard Freyne and Tom Curran and also Kieran McNulty. James Michael Waldron and Bertie Cribbin also come to mind. To the others not named, my humble apologies but there are just too many to be mentioned. My prophecy of the Depot being a thing of the past when Annagh goes to press in 2001 has come to be true. The gates finally closed on the last day of August 2001. Well I am wrong in the sense that the lorries came back for diesel until it was all gone, and Tony Gibbons and Marguerite Doyle stayed on to supervise the moving and the mail but the 31st of August was D-Day. Now the Depot is a thing of the past, The Guinness Ireland sign is gone, the sound of laughter, the noise of the lorries and barrels, the forklifts, the camaraderie amongst the workers is now history. All that is left in the memory of the many wonderful years spent with our workmates, the many happy dinner dances, the children's parties, and the outings to James Gate, Kilkenny and Dundalk. Yes, the beginning of the new Millennium signalled the end of an institution in Ballyhaunis. Yes indeed it was good while it lasted so let us move on the pastures new with the memories of workmates old and new, deceased and living vividly emblazoned in our minds. It was lovely to have known you all and to have worked for the best company in the world!!! God bless you all! Slán agus Sláinte!!!

By Murt Hunt, Lecarrow, Ballyhaunis: Former Foreman/Supervisor at the Guinness Ireland Group Depot, Ballyhaunis.  
(Murt is now an advertising representative for the Western People for the Ballyhaunis/East Mayo area.)

## 'The Depot' 1969-2001

You ask us why we are so sad  
 On this end of August day;  
 And why the tears are in our eyes,  
 Well the depots going away.  
 The truth is it will be missed,  
 Both by you and me,  
 And by all the friends down the years  
 We made at I.A.B.

For thirty odd years it served us well  
 Down here in the West,  
 We had good days and also bad,  
 But still survived the test.  
 We had our rows and arguments  
 And also the odd small fight,  
 But in every well run business,  
 The boss was always right.

I'll never forget when I started there,  
 The year was seventy,  
 I was the envy of many lads,  
 It was the best job in Mayo.  
 My young face it was beaming  
 And my heart it jumped with joy,  
 On that day I became a man  
 And no longer was a boy.

Tom Freeley was the manager then,  
 He was such a lovely man;  
 The Depot was his pride and joy,  
 We all worked to a plan.  
 The work was hard, the hours long,  
 But we loved to hear him say,  
 It's time we knocked off for the night,  
 Rome was not built in a day.

Though the work was hard, the hours were long,  
 And we worked most every day,  
 It did not seem to matter  
 When we drew each weeks pay.  
 Though the wages in those early days,  
 Was only seventeen pounds,  
 A fiver would do one for a week  
 And buy many many rounds.

We travelled all over the place,  
 And covered all the West;  
 The publicans loved to see us,  
 For our service was the best.  
 We called to each and every stop,  
 Not like today alas,  
 Whether just to change a barrel,  
 Or check them out for gas.

The Smithwicks lorries were famous,  
 Known both near and far;  
 Whether making a delivery  
 Or to call in for a jar.

In all the towns and villages,  
 We got our chance for fame,  
 And even the little children  
 Would call us by our name.

During all the happy times,  
 We made many the friend:  
 And memories of those other days,  
 We'll remember to the end.  
 We had so many characters  
 Who would really make our day,  
 But alas some are no more,  
 For many have passed away.

It would not be fair to pick out names,  
 It would not be well intentioned,  
 So I will put them all together  
 That way they will all be mentioned.  
 So many of our dear comrades,  
 Have passed away and died,  
 We stood by their gravesides,  
 And yes indeed we cried.

The technology took over,  
 They say its here to stay,  
 But if I got my choice,  
 I'd prefer the old set way.  
 Our big thing was the telephone and typewriter,  
 Now it's Internet and fax,  
 But we managed then without them,  
 And by God, we were not lax.

Telex and computer now  
 Have replaced biro and pen,  
 But the sad part about it all,  
 It has also replaced men.  
 You call to whom has ordered,  
 And forget about the other lot,  
 The age of chat and chivalry,  
 Really has gone to pot.

In our years together,  
 Men just came and went;  
 Ballyhaunis was always booming,  
 With the money that was spent.  
 But also to all and sundry,  
 This will be no more,  
 For the past year or two,  
 We have known the score.

The fate of our beloved Depot,  
 Twas known by one and all,  
 Claremorris was on the cards,  
 The writing was on the wall.  
 The end of last year was mentioned,  
 Then we got a small reprieve,  
 Till it was finally decided,  
 Today we finally leave.

Six casuals were being made redundant,  
 Four of us other retiring,

All written off at fifty years,  
 Guinness must think we are all tiring.  
 We will give our young management some years,  
 We will give them two or three,  
 'Cause this marriage it won't last,  
 This mixed one with C.I.E.

Of course they don't like that name,  
 They now are Irish Rail;  
 They are prone to work stoppages,  
 One monthly without fail.  
 But I hope our lads work with them,  
 And forget about the strife,  
 They all have one big advantage,  
 And that is – they have life.

So lets close the chapter,  
 On a sad note I know,  
 But lets hope Guinness Ireland,  
 Continues to prosper and grow.  
 Long live the memories,  
 The craic, the years, the tales;  
 Of the glorious years we spent together,  
 All part of Irish Ales.

To all my friends and companions,  
 I bid a fond adieu,  
 To the end of time I will remember,  
 And always think of you.  
 Drivers, helpers, yardmen, and also office staff,  
 Of time you stood the test,  
 I wish you health, wealth and happiness,  
 God bless you, you're the best.

*By Murt Hunt, Lecarrow, Ballyhaunis.*



Seamus and Maureen Clarke, Devlis celebrating their 40th Wedding Anniversary.



Thomas and Anne Heneghan, Tullaughane on the occasion of their 40th Wedding Anniversary.



Aggie Kelly (nee Morley) R.I.P., Devlis and Clare Street.



Mary Daly - Flannery, R.I.P. Tooraree with her grandchildren Veronica and Tanya Thompson.

## Camogie Club

By Mary Donnelly (P.R.O.)

The Camogie Club is now in existence for eighteen months and continues to provide facilities for girls who wish to be involved in the sport of Camogie. It is affiliated to Cumann Camogiaochta na nGael under the auspices of Roscommon County Board.

Last year and this year our under-12 and under-14 teams competed in League Championship games against teams from Co. Roscommon, and they have also represented Mayo in the under-14 Connaught Blitz, where they played against teams from Roscommon and Galway. Being newcomers to the scene they inevitably come up against much more experienced teams and, to date, they have not been crowned with success. However, they have acquitted themselves well and learned a lot from these outings, and we hope that with perseverance in training and determination in defeat, victory is no further away than the next match.

This year we are very happy to announce that Moran's Dry Cleaners, Abbey St., have agreed to sponsor a kit for the club, and we thank them most sincerely for this generous gesture. The Club is also very fortunate to have the assistance of Mr. Tom Fanning as an additional trainer, and we thank him for his efforts in helping to improve our game skills level. We also thank Ballyhaunis Hurling Club and the G.A.A. executive committee for their help and co-operation, and all the parents, committee members and all who support the Club in any way.

Training takes place every Saturday from 1.30 to 3 p.m. at the G.A.A. pitch during the Summer and at the Scout Den during the winter. New players are always welcome and encouraged to join and take part in the exciting and skilled sport of Camogie.

Officers of the Club are as follows:

Chairperson - June Duffy; Vice Chairperson - Tadhg Buckley; Secretary - Tony Duffy; Treasurer - Liz Kilbride; Asst. Treasurer - Breda Murray; P.R.O. - Mary Donnelly; Social Secretary - Agatha Higgins; First Aid Officer - Mary Morrissey; Committee - Sarah Kelly, Susan Hoban, Stacia Carney, Martha Lucey.



Under-14 Camogie Team which took part in the League Championship and Connaught Blitz 2000.  
Back, L-R: Elaine Carney, Rachel Caulfield, Andrina Waldron, Maria Hunt, Elaine Donnelly, Isobel Morrissey; Middle, L-R: June Duffy (Trainer), Louise Kilcourse, Nicola Kilbride, Joanne Hoban, Lisa Freyne; Front, L-R: Aideen Murray, Margaret Cribbin, Avril Feeney, Caroline Waldron, Maura Kelly, Emma O'Connell.



Under-12 Camogie Team which took part in the League Championship and Connaught Blitz 2000.  
Back, L-R: Aideen Murray, Margaret Cribbin, Lisa Carney, Rachel Caulfield, Isobel Morrissey; Middle, L-R: Elaine Carney, Avril Regan, Nicola Kilbride, Lisa Freyne, Maria Hunt, June Duffy (Trainer); Front, L-R: Olwyn Murray, Avril Feeney, Caroline Waldron, Maura Kelly, Emma O'Connell.

## Ballyhaunis G.A.A Club

### Under-8/Under-10

#### Football

2001 was a busy year for our under-8 and under-10 footballers. On Sunday 21st October, forty players took part in the Mick O'Connell Tournament. This year, at under-10 level, we played challenge games against Claremorris, Charlsetown and Michael Glavey's. The Annual under-10 Blitz is held on the August Bank Holiday Monday. This year nine teams took part - Kiltimagh, Charlestown, Castlerea, Ballaghderreen, Éire Óg, Claremorris, Kilmoevee, Michael Glavey's and Ballyhaunis. We were defeated by Kiltimagh in the final. The under-8 team played in the Charlestown under-8 Blitz in September and got a lot of experience from this non-competitive event. In the Mick O'Connell Cup the under-8 section was won by Éanna McNamara's team who defeated Eoin Collin's team. The Captains of the under-10 section were: D. McNamara, A. Ruane, K. Moran and F. Fitzmaurice. In the final A. Ruane's team beat F. Fitzmaurice's team.

Players under-10: D. McNamara, A. Ruane, K. Moran, F. Fitzmaurice, D. Keadin, K. Kiely, I. Carroll, P. Carney, C. Fahey, R. Collins, J. Flynn, R. Moran, R. Worden, P. Waldron, C. Freeley, M. Cherbatji, J. McDonagh, S. O'Rourke, P. Freeley, D. Fitzmaurice.

Players under-8: E. Collins, E. McNamara, J. Carney, P. Kiely, G. Patterson, J. Cribbin, J. Flynn, G. Keans, C. Nolan, S. Murphy, R. Glancy, J. Fahey, A. McDonagh, M. O'Rourke, C. Collins, N. Cherbatji, M. Kezze, J. Fahey, G. Nolan, U. Griffin, S. Nolan, O. McDermott.

Trainers: Barry Butler, Séan McNamara, John Collins and Peter Worden.

#### Hurling

In Indoor Hurling this year A. Lyons' team defeated F. Lyons' team in division 1. In the Shield, M. Maddens team defeated M. Kelly's team. In Division 2 J. Ronayne's team defeated D. Murphy's team.

Players: J. Roynane, K. Grogan, P. Carney, S. Roynane,



Under-8 Football. Back, L-R: Mohanad Cherbatji, Eoin Collins, Robyn Moran, James Cribbin, Conor Nolan, Jarlath Carney, John Flynn; Front, L-R: Mohammad Kezze, Niall Cherbatji, Eamon McNamara, Michael O'Rourke, Patrick Kiely, Cyril Collins, Aoife McDonagh, Barry Butler (Manager).

T. Morley, J. Carney, K. Morley, N. Feeney, D. Murphy, K. Afzal, C. Nolan, F. Javid, S. Griffin, A. Fitzmaurice, S. Webb, N. Byrne, B. Waldron, L. McDermott, G. O'Connor, J. Sloyan, J. Cribbin, C. Freeley, K. Turner, K. McDermott, W. Lyons, B. Hunt, E. Fitzmaurice, J. Lyons, K. Fitzmaurice, J. Lyons, D. Lyons, A. Lyons, D. Herr, C. Mulrennan, J. Lyons, J. Hoban, K. Nazir, F. Lyons, A. Afzal, D. Healy, J. Kelly, S'O Dwyer, R. Freyne, M. Madden, J. Mellett, K. Lucey, L. Cribbin, B. Gallagher, R. Kilbride, M. Kelly, SÓ Kane, P. Kelly, S. Hoban, J. Kelly, N. Kilbride.

### Under-11

#### Football

In the under-11 League we had good wins over Charlestown, Kiltimagh and Moy Davitts. We drew with Swinford and lost to Aghamore.

Team: F. Fitzmaurice, D. Keadin, A. Ruane, I. Carroll, D. McNamara, K. Nestor, B. Hunt, J. Gallagher, J. Maughan, C. Hughes, C. Sumer, K. Moran, B. Waldron, C. Mongan, R. Finan, C. Afzal, S. Nolan, S. Webb, K. Kiely, P. Carney, T. Lawerence, Z. Javid, R. Collins, E. McNamara.

Managers: Michael Gallagher, Matt O'Dwyer and John Griffin.

The Joe Webb Cup this year consisted of four teams Captained by D. Murphy, N. Prenty, R. Freyne, and J. Jordan. The teams were nine-a-side making up thirty-six players. Niall Prenty's and John Jordan's teams reached the final. After a thriller of a game both teams finished 3-10 to 3-10. In extra time Niall's team won out and had the Cup presented to them by Michael Webb, a member of this year's County under-21 team. All players were presented with medals afterwards.

### Under-12

#### Football

This year's footballers went all the way to win the County League title. They remained unbeaten in the competition recording wins in their group stage over Charlestown (twice), Balla (twice) and drawing and then beating Kiltimagh on the second occasion by 4-13 to 3-7.

In the County Semi-final we played Knockmore in Parke and, after an enthralling encounter, we ran out winners by 1-11 to 0-8.

In the County Final we played Ardmoy, an amalgamation of Moygownagh and Ardagh. In a tough, low scoring game we ran out winners by 1-5 to 0-6.

The Cup was presented to the winning Captain Séamus O'Dwyer to great celebrations. Bonfires greeted the team on their return home.

Team: A. Fitzmaurice, A.

Ruane, D. Murphy, N. Cherbatji, K. Nestor, R. Freyne, J. Maughan, J. Jordan, N. Prenty, C. Hughes, J. Gallagher, B. Hunt, B. Waldron, S. Hoban, S. O'Dwyer, R. Finan, D. McNamara, F. Fitzmaurice, P. Walshe, N. Byrne, M. Cherbatji, I. Mooney, Z. Javid, E. Griffin, C. Afzal, É. McNamara.

Managers: Michael Gallagher, Matt O'Dwyer and John Griffin.

### Hurling

In the Blitz held in Padraig Pearse's this year we were invited to participate for the first time. In our first game we played Four Roads who proved too strong and ran out winners.

In the "B" Division we beat Annaghdown and qualified for

the Final. Here we played Belmullet, whom we forced into extra time, but they were too strong and ran out winners.

Team: N. Feeney, N. Byrne, R. Freyne, K. Nazir, K. Grogan, A. Fitzmaurice, S. O'Dwyer, B. Waldron, B. Hunt, T. Morley, M. Kelly, Z. Javid, E. Fitzmaurice, S. Ronayne and R. Kilbride.

### Under-13

#### Football

This year's under-13 team had a great run in the County League, with victories over Kilmoeve Shamrocks and Crossmolina, and narrow defeats by Kiltane and Moy Davitts. Their fate rested in the



Under-12 County Champions. Back, L-R: Matt O'Dwyer (Selector), John Griffin (Selector), Michael Gallagher (Manager); Third Row, L-R: Noel Byrne, Craig Hughes, Stephen Hoban, Brian Waldron, Aidan Fitzmaurice, Robert Frayne, Niall Prenty, John Jordan, Paul Walsh; Second Row, L-R: John Gallagher, Adrian Ruane, Nadeem Cherbatji, Declan Murphy, Seamus O'Dwyer (Capt.), Kevin Nestor, Brian Hunt, Jonathan Maughan; Front, L-R: Enda Griffin, Mohammad Cherbatji, Fergal Fitzmaurice, David McNamara, Ruairí Finan. Absent from photograph: Kamron Afzal, Zaheer Javid, Ian Mooney.



Under-14 Hurlers, Runners-up at Feile. Back, L-R: Joanne Hoban, Niall Feeney, Kieran Lucey, Nicola Kilbride, Joseph Kelly, Jarlath Mellett, Patrick Kelly, Mark Kelly, Fergal Lyons, Conor Mulrennan, Robert Frayne, Kamron Afzal, Tadhg Morley, John Lyons; Front, L-R: Brian Hunt, Sean O'Kane, Stephen Hoban, Seamus O'Dwyer, Jonathan Kelly, David Healy, Austin Lyons, David Herr, Luke Cribbin, Aidan Fitzmaurice, Brian Waldron.

last game with Aghamore and, although leading by three points with time almost up, Aghamore rallied and equalised with a point with the last kick of the game. A victory would have brought a County Semi-final spot, but it was not to be. This is a very talented team and next year's under-14 campaign has a lot of promise.

The panel consisted of the following players: Conor Mulrennan, Stephan Hoban, John Jordan, Declan Murphy, Adrian Brennan, Robert Freyne, Niall Prenty, Neil Jordan, Michael Waldron, David Maughan, David Healy, Kevin Gallagher, Padraig Cribbin, Brian Gallagher, Seamus O'Dwyer, Aidan Fitzmaurice, Sean O'Kane, John Gallagher, Brian Hunt, John Mongan, Rory Finan, James Quinn, Mohammad Cherbatji, Nadeem Cherbatji, Luke Cribbin.

Selectors: Martin Finan, John Prenty.

## Under-14

### Football

In the under-14 league we played Crossmolina, Kiltimagh, Kiltane, Kilcommon, Kilmeena, Mayo Gaels and Balla. We received walkovers from Kilmeena and Kiltane but this was not enough to qualify for the next round. In the Championship we played a strong Kiltimagh team that beat us in the first round.

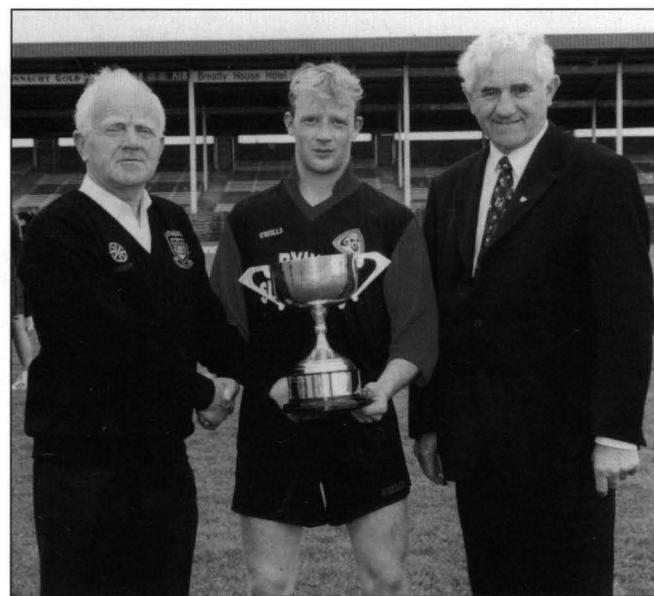
In our division for Féile we beat Ballaghderreen and lost to Charlestown.

Team: L. Finan, C. Mulrennan, A. Brennan, A. Afzal, J.C. Halpin, J. Neenan, D. Healy, M. Kelly, A. Lyons, F. Lyons, K. Gallagher, B. Gallagher, D. Maughan, D. Herr, R. Carney, S. O'Kane, P. Cribbin, M. Waldron, K. Higgins.

### Hurling

In the League/Championship this year in our first game we played Tooren but they proved a much stronger team winning 1-15 to 2-3. In the next round we played Westport and beat them convincingly 1-10 to 0-3.

We qualified for the County Final against Tooren but they were far too strong on the day, running out worthy winners. In Féile this year again Tooren proved victorious.



Presentation of the Genfitt Cup to the Ballyhaunis Hurling captain. L-R: Pat Conlon (Genfitt Ltd.), Pierce Higgins (Capt.), P. J. McGrath (Chairman, Mayo County Board).

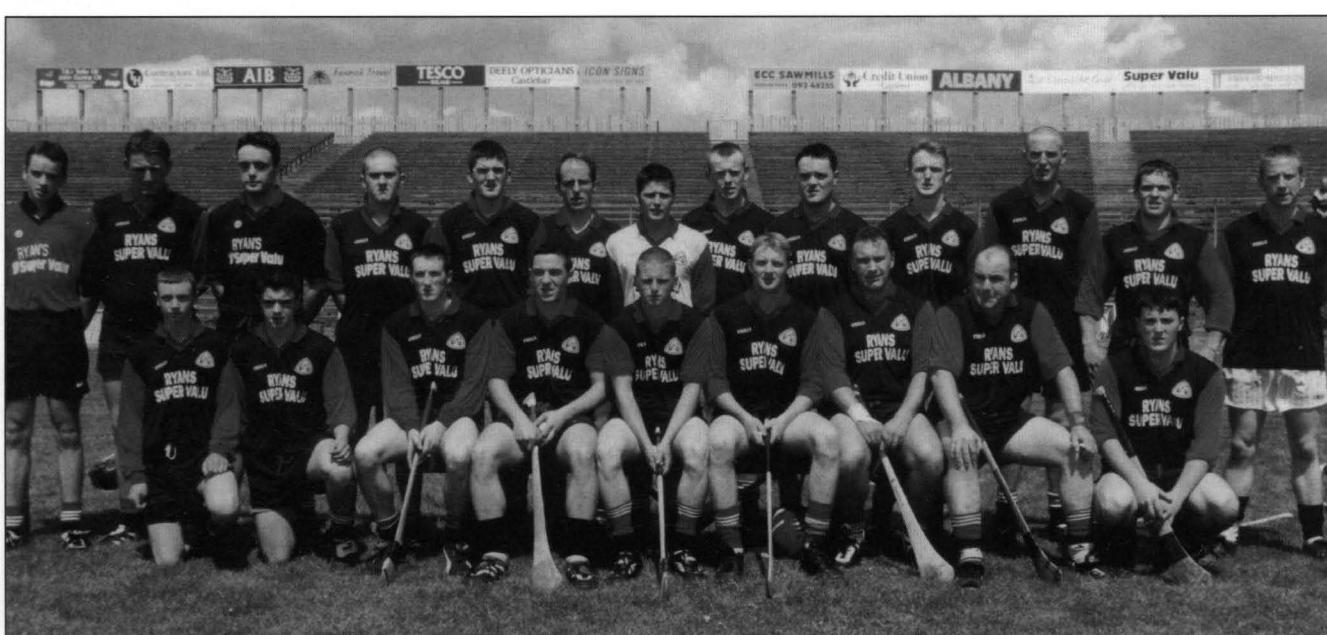
Team: P. Kelly, N. Kilbride, J. Kelly, L. Cribbin, J. Mellett, M. Kelly, S. O'Kane, A. Lyons, C. Mulrennan, S. Hoban, F. Lyons, B. Gallagher, D. Healy, D. Herr, A. Afzal, R. Freyne, K. Lucey, J. Kelly, J. Lyons, K. Nazir, S. O'Dwyer, J. Hoban, K. Grogan, B. Hunt and T. Morley.

## Under-16

### Football

In the under-16 league we played Aghamore, Round Towers, Bonniconlon, Balla, Kiltane and Tourmakeady. With three good wins behind us we qualified for the county quarter final, against Tourmakeady again.

In a titanic battle Tourmakeady came out on top by a point. That was the end of the league. Unfortunately our



Mayo Junior Hurling Champions, 2001. Back, L-R: Paul Lynch, Peter Healy, Michael Regan, Stephen Carney, Jason Powers, Billy McDonagh, Michael Walsh, J. P. Coen, Don Regan, Michael Freeley, Tadhg Buckley, John Burke, Andrew Shanaghy; Front, L-R: Keith Higgins, Patrick Waldron, Hugh Carney, Derek Walsh, Christopher McCrudden, Pierce Higgins, Frank Browne, Tom Phillips, Padraic Carney.

Championship campaign was even shorter with a much under strength team we lost to Kilmoevee in the first round.

Panel: I. Prenty(Capt.), K. Higgins, C. Griffin, F. Walsh, L. Lyons, C. Higgins, W. Nestor, C. Gallagher, D. Warde, D. Connolly, M. Jordan, D. Hannan, D. Doyle, S. Hurley, A. Lyons, J. C. Halpin, R. Grogan, M. Waldron, A. Murphy, H. Kezze and L. Finan.

## **Under-17**

### **Football**

Our under-17 team were beaten by Swinford who scored a goal with the last kick of the game in the County Quarter Final.

The panel was: Shane Buckley, Padraic Carney, Christopher Burke, Cian Higgins, Alan Lyons, Brian Mulrennan, Keith Higgins, Stephen Shanaghy, Patrick Waldron, John Prenty, Paul Jordan, Fergal Walshe, Liam Lyons, Ian Prenty, William Nestor, Ciaran Griffin, Colm Gallagher, Declan Warde, Patrick Heaney, David Connolly, Michael Jordan.

## **Minor**

### **Football**

Our Minor Footballers competed in the A grade this year but they had a disappointing campaign overall. In the League we defeated Kiltimagh and were narrowly defeated by Garrymore, Swinford and Aughamore while in the championship we missed six players through injury and were defeated by eventual East Mayo Champions Ballaghaderreen.

This year's panel was: Shane Buckley, Padraic Carney, Andrew Shanaghy, Brian Mulrennan, Jason Powers, Keith Higgins, Hugh Carney, Patrick Waldron, John Prenty

Stephen Shanaghy, Alan Healy, Ian Prenty, Eoin McManus, Alan Lyons, Christopher Burke, Paul Jordan, William Nestor, Ciaran Griffin, Liam Lyons, Declan Warde, Fergal Walshe.

Selectors: John Prenty, Tommy Waldron, Ann Shanaghy. Congratulations to John Prenty on being selected on the Mayo Minor team that won Connacht this year.

### **Hurling**

In the Minor Championship we faced Tooren in a two-horse championship. The game played in Ballyhaunis gave us home advantage. We took full advantage of this and proved too strong for Tooren on the day. Best for Ballyhaunis were A. Lucey, H. Carney, K. Higgins, P. Lynch, J. Powers, B. Mulrennan, P. Walsh, A. Lyons and P. Walsh.

Team: J. Kelly, A. Lyons, F. Lyons, D. Lynch, E. Nolan, P. Lynch, P. Carney, P. Waldron, J. Powers, A. Lyons, D. Lynch, B. Mulrennan, S. Carney, K. Higgins, S. Gately, H. Carney, L. Lyons, A. Lucey, A. Shanaghy, P. Walsh, F. Walsh, P. Walsh.

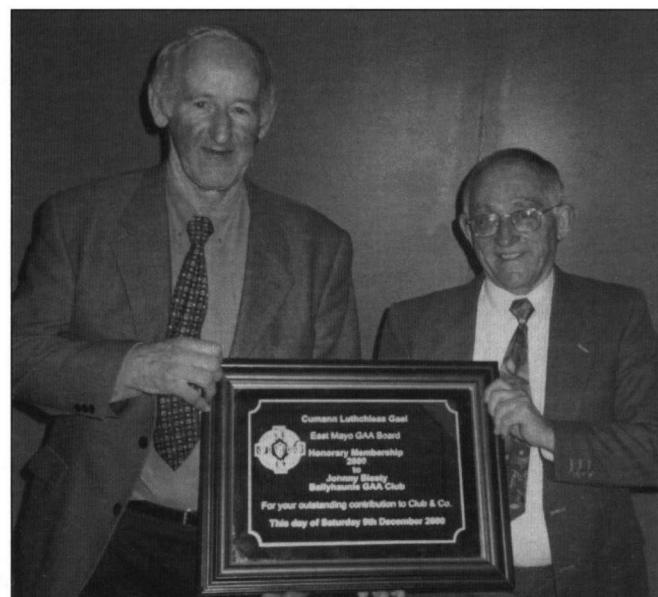
## **Under-21**

### **Football**

We were drawn away to Round Towers in the first round and, despite strong home team support, a late goal by Christy McCrudden gave us a four-point victory. In the next round we were at home to Kilmeena and, with a strong mid-field display by Michael Webb, we ran out winners. The Quarter-final saw us at home to Shrue/Glencorrib and, in what was one of the best games of the Championship, we went down by a point.



Mick O'Connell Cup Winners (Under-10). Back, L-R: J. F. McDonagh, Adrian Ruane, Niall Asilia, Paul Higgins, Craig Hughes; Front, L-R: Shane Nolan, John Gallagher (Capt.), Damien Kedian.



East Mayo Board presentation to Johnny Biesty, for his outstanding contribution to Club and County. L-R: Hugh Rudden (Chairman Ballyhaunis G.A.A. Club), Johnny Biesty.



County Under-18 Champions – Three in a Row captains. L-R: Christopher McCrudden (2000), Jason Powers (2001), Micheal Walsh (1999).

Congratulations to Michael Webb on his selection on the Mayo under-21 team this year.

## Senior

### Football

The year started off very well for us with good victories over Ballaghaderreen, Kiltimagh and Aghamore, which put us into the Centenary Cup Final against Moy Davitts. This game ended in a draw and the replay has yet to be played.

We also had a very good Canon Henry Cup campaign qualifying for the Final but going down by a point to Ballaghaderreen.

In the Senior League Division 2 we started strongly with victories over the Neale, Belmullet and Kilmeena and battled it out at the top of the league for most of the year. However, we lost our last two league games to Balla and Westport and had to settle for fourth place.

In the Championship we drew hot favourites Kilmaine in the opening round and, with an extremely dubious decision by the official in injury time, the game ended with a draw. In the replay we were deservedly beaten after losing two of our central players.

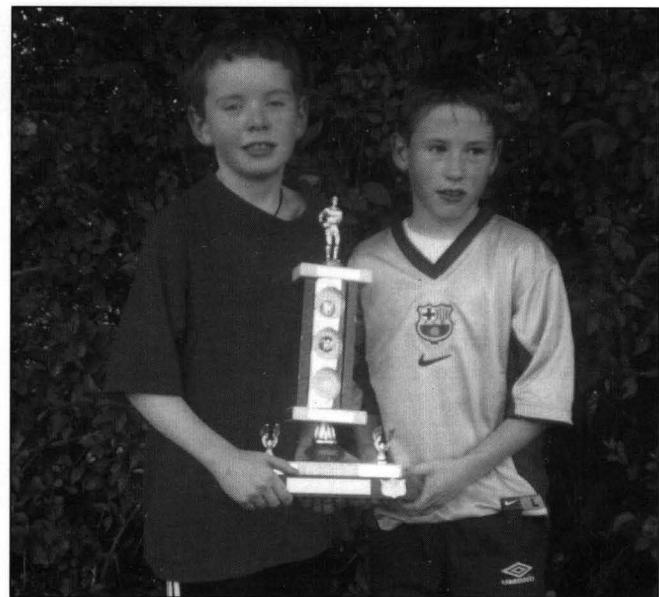
### Hurling

This year we won the Junior Championship. We were defeated by Belmullet in the Senior Championship and this knocked us out of contention.

### Ballyhaunis G.A.A. Annual Dinner Dance

The Ballyhaunis G.A.A. Annual Dinner Dance was a tremendous success. It was a night to remember, Friday 12th January 2001. Outside it was cold and frosty, inside the White House Hotel in Ballinlough, it was the complete opposite, it was just magic!

At 8 p.m. on-the-dot everybody arrived and the fun continued until the early hours in the morning. Special guests on the night included Iar-Uachtaran Cumann Luth Cleas Gael, Seosamh Mac Donncha, agus a Bhean Peig; County Board Chairman, P. J. McGrath; East Mayo Board Representatives: Chairman - Joe McEvey and Secretary - Vincent Walsh.



Niall Prenty (right), winning Captain in the Mick O'Connell Cup, 1999 – the last captain to be presented with the cup by the late Mick O'Connell. John Gallagher (left), winning captain 2000.

Former G.A.A. President, Seosamh Mac Donncha, received a tremendous applause to an inspiring after-dinner speech which revealed his great understanding of how the G.A.A. functions at its core, which is the local and club level.

Thanks to very generous sponsorship by Ballyhaunis businesses, there were loads of valuable spot-prizes. There were two bands. The famous Ray Lynam and the hotel resident band. So, with everybody on floor, there was a great night's dancing, and just when we thought it was all over there was more entertainment by the G.A.A. 'Male Voice Choir' (The Senior Team), conducted by their Manager. Plans are now well advanced for the 2002 Dinner dance.

### Thanks

Cumann Lúthchleas Gael, Béal Atha hAmhnais would like to thank all its sponsors, contributors and helpers during the past year.



The Biesty Clan and relations on the occasion of the 90th birthday of Monica Biesty (nee Regan) of Carrowkeel. Front l-r: Teresa, Monica and Phil. 2nd row l-r: John Regan, Yvonne, Sean and Willie Biesty, Ann, Helen, Kevin Biesty, Jarlath Connolly, Audrey and Lorraine Biesty. Back l-r: Delia Regan, Chris Biesty, Dan Regan and Gordon Biesty.

## A Story About "Guano"

Only the older generation of our readers will have encountered "Guano". Pronounced "Jo-anna" locally, it was the very first commercially available fertilizer available to the farming community in this part of the world. Made up of bird-droppings, it was obtained at wild bird colonies where millions of tons of the stuff had built up over thousands of years.

It was imported from South America, mostly from Peru and, in particular, from islands off the coast of that country. The most important source of guano was the Chincha Islands, where the deposits were from sixty to one-hundred feet thick. From 1853 to 1872 these islands alone yielded eight million tons of the valuable commodity! It was first brought to Europe in 1846, and continued to be used in this part of the country within living memory.

The following is an extract from a rare book entitled "Reminiscences of Sir Charles Cameron, CB", published in Dublin and London in 1913. Sir Charles A. Cameron CB, MD, DPH, CAMB, FRCS, FRCP, was Medical Superintendent and Executive Officer of Health, and Public Analyst of the City of Dublin in the late nineteenth century. He was the first employee of the Corporation of Dublin to become a Freeman of the City of Dublin. The tale in question is entitled by the author "An Early Visit".

The story recounted here relates to incidents that happened in Ballyhaunis, sometime in the nineteenth century. The exact date is not known, but since Sir Charles was eighty-three in 1913 – and was therefore born in 1833, this story could belong to anytime between the 1850s and 1900, when he was active in public life.

### An Early Visit

"One morning in January, shortly after six o'clock, I was informed that two countrymen desired to see me on important business. On interviewing them, I found that they had come from Ballyhaunis, County of Mayo, by the night mail, and that the police had indicated the way to my residence in Pembroke Road. 'Well,' I said, 'you are very early visitors.' One of them replied, 'We feared your Honour might be going out early.' The spokesman then proceeded to explain the object of their visit. Two brothers, merchants in Ballyhaunis, had sold immense quantities of guano to the farmers in the County of Mayo. The usual price was 18/- (90p) per cwt. A general falling-off in the produce of the land manured by the guano raised the presumption that it was adulterated. The farmers who bought it on credit refused payment. They were summoned before the Petty Sessions Courts, and orders for payment were made against them. From the decision of the Petty Sessions Courts several hundred appeals were taken to the Court of Quarter Sessions."

### The Evidence

"The spokesman produced a soda-water bottle filled with guano. 'We want your honour to analyse this guano' (he termed it 'juana'), 'and to do us justice at next Swinford Quarter Sessions.' 'Why did

you keep this specimen of the guano?' I enquired. He replied that he had mixed some of it in water and tasted the solution! 'It hadn't a strong taste, and I thought it might be bad stuff, so I put some of it into this bottle and locked it up.'

I said that it would be expensive to bring me to Swinford, whereupon he produced a bag and poured out of it a large number of silver coins. They were three-penny pieces, six-pences, and shillings, but no larger coin, and in the aggregate exceeded £8. They were the result of a collection made after Mass at the Catholic churches on the previous Sunday.

I agreed to analyse the guano and to attend at the Quarter Sessions, for I knew by the appearance of the sample that it was adulterated. No matter how small the fee I would have taken up the case, for at that time I was analyst to the Royal Agricultural Society and the Anti-Adulteration Association - both long extinct. On parting, the spokesman declared they were money-less. 'Won't your honour give us the price of our breakfast?' said he. I complied with his request, but subsequently learned that he was a 'gombeen' man, or moneylender."

### Court Proceedings

"In the following February I proceeded by rail to Ballyhaunis, where the 'gombeen' man received me. His car was not provided with springs, or, if it were, they were inelastic. The cold was intense, and the nearly twenty miles distant Swinford was reached after an unpleasant journey through a poor, uninteresting country. A large crowd had assembled at the town, and some of them lifted me off the car and carried me to the only hotel there, amid great cheering. I enjoyed the usual dinner of the country hotel of the period, namely, chicken, bacon, and cabbage. I ordered a bottle of claret, which proved to be of excellent quality. Next day I noticed in my bill that only two shillings were charged for the wine. I asked the landlord had he a good stock of the claret. He replied that he had about eighteen bottles, but that I was the only one who had ordered claret since he had taken the hotel over from a former proprietor several years before. I said that I would take his stock of claret at the price charged for the wine in my bill, and he gladly consented. It was a remarkably good wine, and worth more than the price paid for it.

On the following day the cases came before the County Court Judge, who reversed with costs the decisions of the Petty Sessions Courts. I proved that the guano was almost worthless. Only one case was tried, and to the others the principle of 'like case like rule' was applied by consent of the defendants.

It was nearly dark when I started for Ballyhaunis, but light soon radiated from all directions, for huge bonfires had been lighted to signalise 'the victory.' I drove off amidst even greater cheering than greeted me on my arrival the previous evening. The vendors of the guano subsequently took an action against the Liverpool firm who had supplied the adulterated guano. The venue was laid in Galway, and my services were retained for the plaintiff. When the case came on for trial it did not reach a jury, the defendants having agreed to a settlement.

The Fertilizers Act has greatly lessened the sale of spurious and very inferior artificial manures and cattle foods."

## Golden Memories

### A fascinating and evocative account of a nineteenth century emigrant experience

By Agnes Heaney

Sometimes out of the mists of early childhood, certain memories come flooding back in vivid detail. For instance, my thoughts often wander back to the long Winter evenings, before electricity and television invaded our World. When the work of the day was done, Mother lit the paraffin lamps and drew the curtains, and after the supper and rosary, we enjoyed fireside reading, card-playing or story-telling. Some evenings, visiting neighbours would drop in for a chat, smoke their pipes, and tell hair-raising tales of ghosts and fairies.

My grandfather, James Mullarkey, also kept us entertained recounting many colourful incidents from his youth. At the time he was over ninety years of age, still active, and he was blessed with a wonderful memory: many of his stories and recollections of his days growing up in Tullaghane village. He would take us through his childhood schooldays, the house-dances, the first time he met my grandmother, and many little anecdotes from his lifetime experiences. Sometimes he would talk of long-dead neighbours, as if they were vividly present. He liked to reminisce about the troubled times, evictions, rack-rents and landlordism. He recalled the time that he went to Ballyhaunis to meet Michael Davitt, Charles Steward Parnell and some other notables of that period. Though many of these stories were almost ancient history to us, we would not be tired hearing them again and again. Among his precious memories of by-gone days I recall one story that he always re-told, with a tinge of sadness, and it concerned our family history.

### Grandfather's Story

#### Cattle Dealing

After school-days, grandfather stayed at home to help with the farm work. It was an age when the hours were long, and hard physical work was the norm. In later years he started going to fairs with his older brothers and uncles who dealt in cattle. In those far off days there was no transport of any kind, so the cattle had to be 'driven' to Dublin and put on the boat for England. The journey would take at least two weeks, trudging along bad roads and stopping at stage-houses on the way. On arrival at those places, the cattle were put into a yard near the house, and one of the men had to stay up at night to keep guard over them, for those were unsettled times, and their cattle could be stolen. The men's lodgings were dreary and their supper was "Cally" (mashed potatoes with salt), and they drank buttermilk from the saucepans. He said that some of the landladies were mean because they would not give them any butter for the spuds. It was kept for sale at the local markets. After the cattle were sold, the men usually stayed overnight in Dublin, and, on one occasion his two brothers were robbed of their hard-earned



Members of the Mullarkey family in their vineyard, Fresno, California c. 1901

savings – about five-hundred gold sovereigns. As there were banks at the time, money was kept in tin boxes, or in well-worn purses, sometimes around the neck. Of course they were heart-broken, but instead of coming home to start their business again, they decided to emigrate. Next morning grandfather saw his brothers leave on the boat to Liverpool, and he never saw them again.

It seems that they didn't like England, but worked at various jobs until they saved enough money to pay their passage to America. The fare then was about thirty pounds, and the journey lasted about six weeks. During the voyage, passengers came down with disease and many died and were buried at sea. Many dangers faced the early emigrant ships – icebergs, fog and storms – and some of them foundered before reaching port.

#### Passage to America

After his brothers (my granduncles) arrived in New York, they had to live in appalling conditions and worked at the most dangerous of jobs. Most emigrants worked as labourers for about seventy-five cents a day. Girls received room-and-board and a dollar a week as house-maids. About this time "Gold Fever" was sweeping America. There were glorious reports of people finding nuggets and gold dust worth thousands of dollars in the Rocky Mountains of California. Within weeks of the great gold discovery, hundreds of men, mostly Irish, had deserted their jobs to go West and try their luck in the gold mines. As the brothers did not want to spend their youthful years cooped-up in a city, they joined 'the gold rush', hoping to find fame and fortune. Their fastest route was overland across the vast continent. In those distant days most of America was a great wilderness of wild prairies, huge forests and large rivers. Fortunately, for their peace of mind, they were unaware of the hardships they were facing, as they set out in their covered wagons pulled by mules, covering about thirty miles a day. For these early travellers there were many hidden dangers from

hostile Indians and wild animals.

### Across the Prairies

Ahead of them lay many months of travelling in scorching heat, hunger and disease, which many would not survive. For their food they often went fishing and hunting buffalo, and became involved in many enterprises. After a gruelling three-thousand mile trip, they eventually arrived at the Rockies mining camps. On arrival, they had to find a suitable camping place to acquire a 'stake' and to learn the essentials of mining, and the knack of panning for gold. With thousands crowded into areas without proper facilities or sanitation, diseases like Cholera and Typhoid were rampant. Food was scarce and very expensive, and some people died from starvation, others from violence and accidents. While many found a rich harvest in the gold fields, the vast majority were not so lucky: their dreams of great wealth were to remain unfulfilled. According to Grandfather, his brothers' venture was successful, but it took them years of unrelenting hard work to get enough gold to buy property. When they got tired of the prospector's life, they moved to San Francisco where there was plenty of work. Due to the Gold Rush, its population had soared, and there was a variety of entertainment – night clubs, gambling halls and saloons.



Like many 'boom-towns' at the time there was very little law and order. There were con-men and gangsters, and murder was common. The crime rate was very high and sometimes innocent people were hanged. Needless to say the brothers were not happy to settle there, so they headed for the countryside where life was more peaceful.

### Fresno

After a life of adventure and excitement, they finally settled in Fresno, California, where they found that land was sold cheaply – at about a dollar an acre! They liked the freedom of the outdoor life and they decided to try their hand at ranching. In due course they bought about two-hundred acres to grow fruit – vineyards and orange groves. Here they began their new lives. They remained single, always promising to return home, but they never did. But they never forgot Ireland and were proud of their Irish heritage. Many years later, my father and my three aunts went to Fresno, California – but that's another story for another time.

Looking back on the Winter's nights of my childhood, I often think of my wonderful parents and grandparents who lived together in harmony – how they enriched my life, and were a link between me and another time and place.

### Peace

By Agnes Heaney

Whenever I'm lonely  
Needing someone to care  
I find myself quietly  
Saying a prayer

I whisper my thoughts  
To the Lord above  
The words that pour out  
Are filled with love

I'm no longer alone  
I have found a friend  
Who will always be with me  
Right to the end.

### The Unknown Soldier

Do you know the man in the middle? On the left is the late Edward Byrne, son of the late Patsy Byrne, "Bridge Bar", Bridge St., Ballyhaunis – now known as Nicholson's. The late Edward is father of Rita Byrne Webb, Galway and Devilis. The photo is dated August 1920, and was given by the late Josie McGreal - wife of the man on the right Val McGreal – to Rita's son-in-law Seamus Caulfield, Upper Main St. Val McGreal was brother of the late Katie Johnston, Knox St., and Bridie Byrne, Main St. He was a cattle-dealer, based in Rosbeg, outside Westport. The 'unknown soldier' in the middle appears to have served in the Connaught Rangers, since their emblem appears on his tunic collar.

# Ballyhaunis G.A.A. Tour to Boston and New York, 2001

By Gerry Lyons

Much debate occurred after the announcement that a committee was formed to organise a trip to America in April 2001. Doubters commented that the committee formed might not have the experience or drive to organise such an event. This was the challenge facing David Nestor, Chairman of the American Tour Committee and his excellent and hardworking committee. Nine months later after various fund raising activities, coupled with a very generous contribution from the Club, a very enthusiastic crowd gathered on the morning of the 7th April at The Square to witness the departure of the official travelling party. They were dressed in the Club colours of Red and Black, and were representing their families, Club, town and county over the next ten days. Our 'American wake' the night before in the Oak Bar, on the occasion of our Tour Itinerary launch, had every one in good spirits and up for the occasion.

Henry Madden took official photos of the tour party while among those watching on the sidelines were Mick Murray, John Dillon, Michael Waldron and Tom Prenty, members of the 1981 travelling party. Group leaders Jason Morley and Tom Grogan, under the guidance of Stella O'Neill and Becky Morley, organised the party into Moran's coach with best wishes from our Club Chairman Hugh Rudden and President, Peter Meenan. Unfortunately, not making the trip due to commitments with the Mayo Senior team was our excellent Chairman David Nestor. Without his organisational abilities and drive the trip would not have taken place. —

## Boston

On our arrival in Boston we were welcomed by David Burke who had organised coaches for our final location and accommodation at 'Adams Inn' in Quincy. Games in Gaelic Park, Canton against Shannon Blues and St. Columcille's on Sunday the 8th resulted in narrow defeats for Ballyhaunis. But a very enjoyable function hosted by Shannon Blues G.A.A. Club in Florin Hall that night, in which the entire Ballyhaunis party were guests of honour, made up for the defeats on the field. Shannon Blues Chairman Tony Walsh welcomed the Ballyhaunis officials and team to Boston, noting that it was a privilege for him and his club to have a team from Ireland (Ballyhaunis) visit and play games in America, it further charges their goal to continue playing our games in America. He paid a special tribute to Tommy Grogan special Guest of Honour at the function and was in receipt of a presentation from the Club. Tommy was the first player from Ballyhaunis to tog for the Blues and currently David Burke formerly of Devil's wears the club jersey.

John McDevitt, Chairman of the North American Board, made presentations to both teams after the game and welcomed the Ballyhaunis party to Boston. John was actively involved with the Galway club in 1981 when Ballyhaunis last came to Boston. Padraic Regan, Vice-chairman of the club and official spokesperson on behalf of the travelling party thanked the Shannon Blues club for their invitation and welcome. He extended a formal invitation to the Blues to visit and play in Ballyhaunis.

In attendance at the function were Tony Walsh's mother Josephine from the Neale, his wife Olive (nee Biesty) from Holywell, her sister Debby, brother Ivan and Olive's Aunt Patsy Biesty. Sean and Murt Hunt met their Aunt Carmel McDermott (nee Hunt) from Lecarrow. Tommy Glynn met his cousins Michael and Paul Peters (sons of Noreen Glynn); Tommy took an additional few weeks to



Ballyhaunis GAA Club U.S. Tour Party 2001. Front, L-R: Patricia Grogan, Becky Morley, Marian Regan, Maeve Morley, Stella O'Neill, Sheena Kirrane, Sinéad Moran and Niall Tighe. Middle, L-R: David Nestor, Shay Walsh, John Vahey, Karl Lyons, Alan Regan, Fergal Kelly, Tommy Grogan, Jason Morley, Alan Egan, Gerry Lyons, Seamus Mulrennan, Kurt Reinhart, Sean Hunt and Tommy Glynn. Back, L-R: Liam Rochford, Murt Hunt, Johnny Burke, Paul Prenty, Padraic Regan, Shane Tighe, Patrick Keane, Peter Meenan, George O'Neill, Tony Morley, Bernard Waldron, P. J. Fleming, P. J. Moran, Brian Hunt and Mark Patterson.

visit her in Florida. We also met Timmy Lyons of Bekan who trained our current Secretary, James Reidy, in the art of good defensive football. Hugh and Paul McKermitt were also in attendance and wished their folks back home their kind regards. Kevin Comer former Eastern Gaels and Mayo footballer wished the tour success in Boston and New York. Stella O'Neill met Jim and Sheila Burke whose grandmother was Nora Caulfield from Carrowkeel - she would have been an Aunt of Kathleen Morley from Woodpark. The night was completed when we had a host of singers displaying their talents including Mark Patterson singing old favourites under the guidance of entertainment manager Brian Hunt. Brian and Seamus Mulrennan closed the night with a duet - the singing of 'Kevin Barry'.

### Ballyhaunis Exiles

Monday morning the 9th we had breakfast with Niall McGillicuddy and his wife Kathleen. They graciously and generously paid for breakfast for all the players and officials who arrived that morning. It was enjoyable to listen to him speak of times past and the good natured activities that was their fun in their youth (an article from him for a future magazine, perhaps). We thank him for his generosity and time spent with us during our stay in Boston. He sends his regards to Mick Murray (trip of 1981). We were guests that afternoon of Tony and Olive Walsh and family; there we met Patricia O'Grady (nee Cruise), formerly of Knockbrack, and her daughters Clare and Emma. She passed on her best wishes to her parents John and Peggy and also to her brothers Neil and Ultan.

On Tuesday the 10th we were special guests of St. Columcille's G.A.A. in 'Porterbellies'. Tom Kenny (Sligo) and his wife Anne (nee Newell, sister of Mary Prenty), welcomed us to Boston. After the reception Tom McNally (Westport) made a presentation to the Club that Padraic Regan accepted. Tom had kind words to say of the late Padraic Pendergast whom he met in 1981 and asked also of Michael Waldron of Cave. We also met Dolores Nolan formerly of Brackloon, and aunt of Paul. She sent her regards to the folks back home. The night came to a close with songs from Brian Hunt, Patricia Grogan, Kurt Reinhart, Stella O'Neill, Mark Patterson, Sheena Kirrane, Becky Morley to mention a few. Sightseeing tours included a visit to the Prudential Centre (Boston's highest building), Boston Library, the USS Constitution in Boston Harbour, and 'The Littlest Pub'.

### New York

On Tuesday 12th we departed by coach for New York City. We arrived at the 'Shades of Green' and 'Seafarers Int. House' in Union Square. Mary from the 'Shades' and formerly from Foxford organised and settled the complete party into their respective accommodation, she acted as host and tour guide throughout our five days stay and we acknowledge and thank her for her help. We were in contact over the next five days with Ballyhaunis natives such as Paul Timoney, John McQueeney, George Delaney, Enda Murphy, Pat Freyne, John Plunkett and his sister Mary of Curries, John O'Connor, Liam Forde, Tony Greene, Sean Finn, Sean Hession of Brickens, Tommy Rattigan (brother of Val's in Knox St.). We met Bernard Waldron's relations Kathryn Covey Waldron her son Kent, daughter Mary Carol and granddaughter Megan. They sent their best wishes to the Waldron clan. I met my cousin Richard Sweeney (his dad Billy came from Caramore, Brickens) and he sends his regards to all his cousins in Knockbrack and Crimlin. We also met Tommy Byrne and his sisters from Derrymore. Shay Walsh caught up with his cousin Sean Neary and discussed the political scene back home in Ireland. On our visit to Mustang Sally's Jimmy

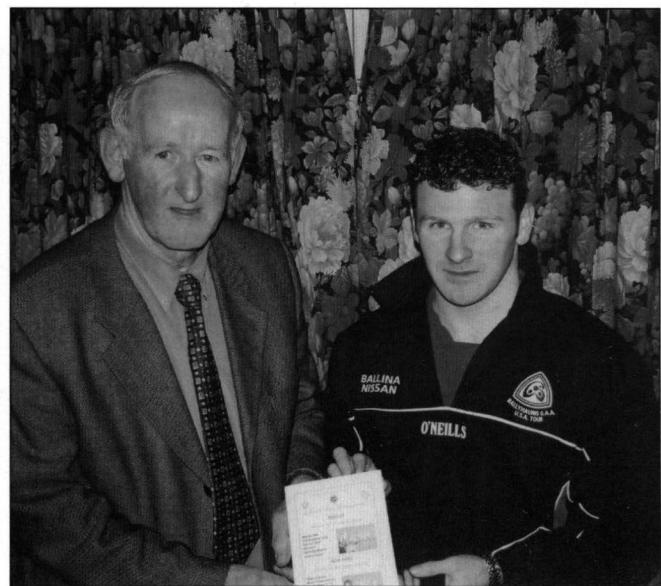


Taken on top of the Twin Towers. L-R: Ger Lyons, Marian Regan, Padraig Regan, Seamus Mulrennan and Tommy Glynn.

Glynn a native of Dunmore greeted us and a fine meal was served for the party.

On the 13th We visited the 'Twin Towers' (scene of the subsequent tragic events of Sept. 11th), The 'Empire State Building', Pier 83 where the 'Intrepid' is on display, 'Madison Square Garden', Central Park and other local hosteries too few to mention. 'Willie McBride's' was the venue on the 14th and, under the stewardship of the very capable Sean Hession, formerly of Liscolman, Brickens, a royal welcome was attributed to the whole party.

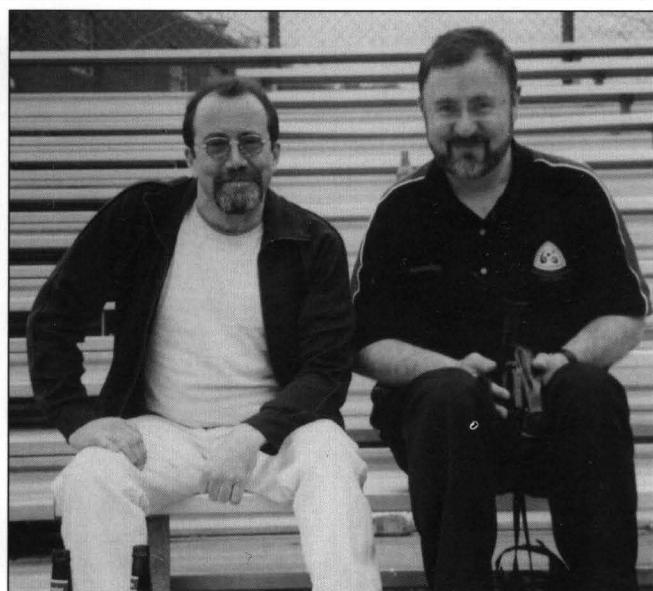
Easter Sunday gave us an opportunity to get Mass in St. Patrick's Cathedral where, I believe many of our Irish exiles contributed to its building. We continued to Gaelic Park where we



Hugh Rudden Chairman of the club and David Nestor Chairman of the American Tour Committee.



Sheila and Jim Burke.



Richard Sweeney and Gerry Lyons.



George O'Neill, Bernard Waldron, Stella O'Neill and Sean Hession.

played a Mayo/New York selection. It transpired that we played a New York selection, most of whom travelled to Ireland a number of weeks later to play Roscommon in the Connacht Championship. The Ballyhaunis team acquitted themselves well under the circumstances, but unbelievably the travelling party and players had to pay at the turnstiles to get into Gaelic Park. Tony and Jason Morley met their relations at Gaelic Park and reviewed the ongoing of the Morley clan.

The following day we met the Moran clan from Hazelhill: Tom, Tony, Enda, Sean and Helen. They showered us with hospitality and kindness and are a credit to their family. Who would have thought that in 2001 we would be travelling through 'Time Square' and up 42nd Street in a trap drawn by 'Neddy the horse'. They had an opportunity to catch up with events back home with their cousins Sinead and P.J. That night we travelled down town to Pier 17 where the proprietor, Austin Delaney from Ballybane, Brickens, made good in America.

#### **Heading Home**

Tuesday morning dawned with the realisation of it being the last day of the trip; time to pack bags, collect presents, etc., and wait for the coach to bring us to Kennedy airport. Mary, who had been a great help to us prior and during our stay at the 'Shades', informed us that they were organising lunch for the complete party prior to leaving for JFK Airport. She said they enjoyed our company; our adherence to discipline and good behaviour were appreciated and they were



P.J. Moran, Sean Moran and Sinéad Moran

delighted to send us away with a full lunch. Padraic Regan, in thanking Mary, also made a presentation to her on behalf of the group. In the spirit of the occasion Patricia Grogan and Sinead Moran, on behalf of the entertainment committee, made humorous presentations to Ber, Niall, Brian, Paul Prenty, Mark and Patrick - all of which added to the spirit and enjoyment of the occasion. At Kennedy Airport, 'Sam' paid us a visit. I hope it is a sign for the future that 'Sam' will visit Ballyhaunis in an official capacity some time in the near future. For me this trip had its special moments: the fact that it showed that with purpose and conviction, a unique and hard working committee under the Chairmanship of David Nestor made it happen and it contributed to the success of the trip.

#### **Many Thanks**

To the Ballyhaunis people who supported our fund-raising activities, gave verbal support and all our sponsors - we thank them most sincerely. I could not leave out the following for their dedication to making the tour such a success, especially the ladies within our committee including Secretary Maeve Morley, Treasurer Stella O'Neill, and committee members: Becky Morley, Sheena Kirrane, Seamus Mulrennan, P. J. Fleming, Tom Prenty and brothers Tony and Jason Morley. We acknowledge the full support of the Ballyhaunis G.A.A. Club and Executive under the Chairmanship of Padraic Regan who was present at its inception, and current Chairman Hugh Rudden who carried it forward to April 2001.

## Donal Toolan

By Mark Godfrey

Respect, adequate income, real jobs, buses we can use, places in college, schools for everyone, laws that protect us, respect. Donal Toolan's demands are so simple that most of us don't even think about them in our own lives. We take them for granted as the normal prerequisites of normal living. Since its foundation in 1996, the Forum for People With Disabilities has fought for these rights for its members.

The Forum, chaired by Donal Toolan, a native of Knockanarra, Ballyhaunis, has been presenting a range of strategies to the Government to end what it describes in its latest report as the "stigmatising and discrimination of disabled people." It has campaigned to have the postal vote provided to disabled people and to have the "offensive" requirement of some disabled people being registered as sane before they were allowed to vote from home. The Forum has also been pointing to the 80% unemployment rate among disabled people and wants the Government to revise its three percent public service employment quota for the disabled. Accessibility to modern buildings is another *bete noire* of the Forum and, in a recent publication, his group argues that most new buildings in renovated urban areas like Temple Bar don't provide easy access to disabled people.

Donal Toolan reckons he pays "at least half" of his salary in taxi fares. Indeed, this writer waited while rush hour taxis halted to a trickle and my interview subject attempted to reach his office on Dublin's Hill St. It's perhaps a reflection on the lot of disabled people and the state of our transport system as a whole that this should be so in our capital city.

### Early Life

Born on a small farm in Knockanarra near Ballyhaunis, Donal began a degree in History at Trinity College in 1988, but before he got to finish he was already presenting and producing programmes on RTE radio and television. Six years working at the station, he was involved in devising, producing and presenting young peoples programmes as well as well – received programmes on the issue of disability.

"I'm one of these people who likes the sound of my own voice and I'm good at communicating. Radio is so democratic, so participative. It gets people talking and exchanging ideas." Most recently he and two other disabled people were featured in an acclaimed RTE radio documentary on the daily lives and tribulations of the disabled in Ireland. Personal problems, attitudes and the attitudes of others were discussed by the participants. He smiles when I talk of his contribution to that series. "It's funny, if you're friendly with someone, you trust them more than you would normally."

In the programme, he discussed life growing up in Mayo. He visits his native county often but he's angry at the state of the county's infrastructure for disabled people. "I made a video in Mayo for a disabled group on transport for the disabled there. I have to say I couldn't live in Mayo. I'd find it very difficult to live purely from a practical point – getting around. Other rural counties too have been robbed of facilities and opportunities for young people to gain better education and employment at home. Mayo is a very low political priority – obviously, that's borne out by the fact that the vote of the principal opposition party there has collapsed." The problems are not specific to Mayo, rather to far-off rural Ireland, says Toolin



Donal Toolan (Left) with Ray Darcy, after receiving their Jacobs Television Awards.

who talks about the "isolation" and the "stigma around disability" that often clings to the families of the disabled.

### Recent Role

Donal has led the Forum for People With Disabilities for the past number of years. He has sat opposite various Taoisigh at Government buildings, arguing the legislative case for those he represents. And he's been a member of the President's influential Council of State. He has spoken aloud and the organisation which he chairs has grown. "I think the Forum needs to develop but not just the forum developing into us being more efficient. We're not very good at planning out, making steps. Certainly I think we're successful. Some of the issues we push out at the moment are listened to, but whether they're responded to is another thing."

Why this fear, this uncertainty perhaps, about his organisation's role I ask. Because, in the aftermath of the 1996 Justice Act, says Donal, and despite lobbying by groups like his, there's been no sign of a Disability Bill. "The Government is more concerned about the abortion referendum than on drafting a law that would stop parents having to drag children all about the place in order that they get an education. We are one of the social partners and the only disability group involved in the negotiations on Programme for Prosperity and Fairness. Potentially we can deliver things but there's a long list of goals to be progressed."

### Human Rights Commission

The Government's new Human Rights Commission is a particular bone of contention in Donal Toolan's camp and this writer watched as he intelligently berated Minister for Justice John O'Donoghue at a recent conference on the foundation of the body. He protested at the appointment process the Government used to staff the Commission. "The way the government responded to the development of a human rights commission is indicative of the absolute disinterest that this government seems to project on to rights based organisations. The irony is that were it not for organisations that have promoted rights issues since the foundation of the state, very few of the politicians would be there today in the Dail. The need is for an independent voice that is directly linked to the people." The commission, he says is "two years behind that of the Northern Ireland Commission and there's a huge agenda that

needs moving on... There's a view in Ireland of human rights that it happens in another country or on the Northern question. But the reality is that human rights have been violated in this state. Look at the detention of people with mental health problems, and the detention people in minimum holding spaces. And right around the country there's people thinking that they do not have the right to challenge this. They do, they must."

### Access to Education

Disabled access to third level education has increased, recent Higher Education Authority surveys have found. Increased, but only from originally paltry figures. According to Donal, "third level is better for disabled people in terms of access, but then it's often too late by the time disabled people get to that stage...It's having to address a whole load of issues that I don't think third level is yet equipped to address. In the competition for resources, the basis is disabled children entering education – their first contact. This needs more emphasis."

"In the fifteen years that I've been in contact with third level education at a personal and political level, the opportunities have broadened", he says. "Colleges are more engaged in providing places and resources but the same problems are there for disabled people, in the materials they need."

Donal's perception of today's student activism is unflattering. "My thinking in terms of having student union politics work is that the issues students engage with are only issues that are within their student body. There are some exceptions. Some student leaders seek to progress social justice issues but the day is gone when students engage in mass protests on the social issues of the day." "They have some opportunity to engage. Much more, compared to people in lower social circles. Students are more and more driven by markets and making money. And even student politics have conformed. It's what sells beer. There's always a sell involved, the showing off of the kind side to a corporation. A number of years ago students would have been very wary of this."

### Student Politics

As someone formerly deeply involved in student politics Donal Toolan's words ring with the disappointment of deflated expectation. "I think there a level of activity within the student body but the very nature of student politics and people within it is its very self indulgent and the structures to change have to emanate within colleges." The Union of Students of Ireland's level of advocacy, he says "generally feeds off an apathy and self – interest that is pervading Irish society right now. This is a society that's still informed by a general view of looking after oneself. There is a level at which students campaigned at other decades which is unimaginable today."

"While there must be mechanisms for student specific issues to be taken on," he suggests, students should become involved in broader social and global issues. "There are specific actions by specific groups of students but it's not a case of the whole student body involved. In terms of ongoing commitment to human rights there's no comparison to fifteen years ago when students were out stopping the demolition of houses and marching for housing rights etcetera." When pressed however, he concedes that "What there may be is a more global focus – for example, when there's an emergency in another country there's an effort to help. It's a pattern of Irish life that the emphasis is often on what problems or disasters happens elsewhere."

Our subject was a very active campaigner himself during

his time in Trinity College. He was driven then as now by an anger he felt at the treatment of disabled people around him. "I do this by and large through circles which firstly as a disabled person I would have grown up with. You see the exclusion and indifference...that exists in Irish society and this indifference is dressed up in a perspective that we as Irish people care. I see this of my parents' generation... where it would be very common for disabled people to be in a back room. A girl I was talking to recently told me of a case in the 50s where no one ever knew that this man was a disabled person. The man was never seen – disabled people found themselves living in the county home which acted as a temporary ground for all sorts of people."

Disabled people, he says, lived lives separate from their communities. "When I began working on radio programmes that started to look at these issues... I came in contact with a diversity of disabled Irish people living in what I'd call cultural apartheid. Apartheid was meant as a system that is designed to keep one group down. What implements apartheid is law – what implements it in Ireland is culture." He illustrates the point: "There is a pattern in Ireland of old people being taken out of their communities when they're seen as having nothing to contribute. There's been an emergence of limited legislation for the disabled but we're competing with a culture that is increasingly "developed", where real worth is seen in economic terms solely."

### Making People Listen

Apart from his work as a broadcaster and campaigner, Donal is an accomplished actor and has spent two summers teaching acting workshops in the United States for disabled people. The theatre he teaches at is custom built for disabled actors, he points out, wistful perhaps thinking of the lot of Irish disabled actors. "Getting up on stage is easier than the other work I do. Sometimes I know what the outcomes are immediately – it's difficult to know and celebrate outcomes in this area."

To this writer, there are outcomes. Donal Toolan has been challenging authority, pushing boundaries and making people listen. His words about the place of disabled people in our society cannot be avoided in a modern age. They deserve deep study and serious action.



Bridie and Ann Waldron, Holywell. Taken October 1937

## From East to West

By Tahira Idrees

My name is Tahira Idrees. I was born in Islamabad, a very overcrowded city in Pakistan. At the age of two years old, my father left the family and came to Ballyhaunis to look for work as it was difficult to find a good job in Pakistan that time. He found work in "Halal Meats" as a foreman. He worked there for the next few years and he sent his earnings back home to Pakistan.

When the time came, our family had to move to Ireland to live. As I was only six years old, I don't quite remember the movement from Pakistan to Ireland very much. At school, I was put into Junior Infants in St. Joseph's N.S. and my brother was in third class and my youngest brother was too young to go to school.

At school I had many good friends and as years have gone by I have got to know the town and its people very well. At present, I am studying for my Leaving Certificate in Ballyhaunis Community School.

### Muslim Community

I am part of a large Muslim community in Ballyhaunis and, as a good Muslim, we have to pray five times a day. First at sunrise,

second time at noon, thirdly at sunset, fourthly at six o'clock and finally at eight o'clock. Time for the prayers varies during the year depending on the sunlight. We fast every year for one month: this fasting is called Ramadam. During the Ramadan period we start the fast from sunrise to sunset. Traditionally, each morning we go to the Mosque and break the fast with the rest of the Muslims. At the end of the month we celebrate a great feast in the Mosque called Eid. All Muslims gather together to celebrate this feast.

I would take this opportunity to thank all our friends, especially the Noone family, Hazelhill, for being so concerned and always being there when needed. As being part of the Ballyhaunis community, the Muslim boys started up the Ballyhaunis Cricket Club (see elsewhere in this magazine). They were not as successful when they started off in 1999 but, as people say 'practice makes perfect', they have come along a long way. This year they won the Connacht Cricket Cup and made it all the way to the finals of All Ireland Cricket Cup but unfortunately they weren't lucky enough to bring it home to Ballyhaunis. We wish them all the best for the future.

The people of Ballyhaunis, at school and of the town were so relaxed, inviting and homely and we were so warmly welcomed by all. I would like to say a big 'thank you' to all the people who have helped me and my family throughout the years.



Brackloon Girls National School, 1930s. Left to Right, from Back Row to Front Row: Lily Jo Morley, Brackloon North; Bridie Fahy, Gurteenmore; Theresa Dyer, Derrynacong; Kathleen Grogan, Tavnaghmore; Daisy Ganley, Lisbane; Rita Fahey, Gurteenmore; Eileen McGuire, Brackloon South; Delia Kelly, Derrynacong; Chrissy Grogan, Tavnaghmore; Kathleen Hanlon, Derrynacong; Margaret McNamara, Brackloon North; Maura Sloyan, Mountain; Peg Dyer, Derrynacong; Anne Nolan, Mountain; Josephine Hunt, Derrynacong; Evelyn Hunt, Derrynacong; Vera Ganley, Lisbane; Betty Sloyan, Forthill; Kathleen Higgins, Forthill; Anne Finn, Mountain; Nellie McNamara, Brackloon North; Margaret and Bridgie Neary, Brackloon North; Sally Fitzmaurice, Lisbane; Kitty Dyer, Derrynacong; Kathleen Hunt, Derrynacong; Mary Frances Waldron, Derrylahan; Lily Freeley, Brackloon South; Angela Sloyan, Forthill; Nancy Fitzmaurice, Lisbane; Maureen Hunt, Derrynacong.

## "A Most Notorious Woman's" Ballyhaunis Connections

Last October saw the performance of a one-woman show - "A Most Notorious Woman" - in the Town Hall Theatre, Kiltimagh. The actress was Molly Lyons, whose grandfather was a native of Skeaghard.

"A Most Notorious Woman" is based on the remarkable life of Grace O'Malley (c.1530-1603) – or 'Granaile' as she was popularly known – the famous pirate queen and sea captain, who dominated life along the western sea board of Ireland in the second half of the sixteenth century. An exceptional woman in any era, Granaile was both feared and highly respected not alone in her homeland in West Mayo and Galway, but all along the western coast, and as far away as England and the continent. She once met Queen Elizabeth of England, whom she regarded as her equal.

Molly Lyons has been a professional actress for twenty-five years, performing at regional repertory theatres and festivals up and down the West Coast of the United States and in such prestigious locations as the Kennedy Centre in Washington D.C. She has her own drama academy in Seattle – the Greenwood Studio Drama School – and, while she prefers the classical stage, has also appeared in a number of films.

She was so impressed after reading Anne Chambers' highly acclaimed biography of Granaile (first published in 1979 by Wolfhound Press) that she felt compelled to adapt it for the stage. In the beginning her dramatisation was purely for work within her own school, but eventually she was persuaded to try and bring it to a wider

audience. Molly contacted her cousin Pat Higgins, Devilis, in her attempts to secure permission from Ms. Chambers to bring the work to the stage, and a remarkable coincidence was brought to light: the author Anne Chambers' mother - the former Kathleen Cruise - was born in Knockbrack, just across the road from the birth-place of Molly's own grandfather Patrick Lyons! Anne Chambers is niece of John Cruise, Knockbrack, and her book "Graniuale" was dedicated to the memory of her grandfather the late James Cruise.

The actress Molly Lyons' grandfather, Patrick Lyons, was born in Skeaghard on the 29th Mar., 1882, son of John Lyons and Ellen Waldron. With three of his brothers he emigrated to the U.S. in the early years of the last century. Having lived in a number of cities throughout the States, he eventually settled in Seattle where he operated a timber exporting business. As well as the Lyons family of Skeaghard, Molly is related to the Webb family of Main St., the Higgins family, Devilis and Knock Rd., and the Egan family of Clagnagh.

Interestingly, there is yet another Ballyhaunis connection in the Granaile story in that some of her descendants (from her second marriage to Donal O'Flaherty) lived in the locality – most probably in Johnstown – in the eighteenth and nineteenth century. Edmund O'Flaherty – Granaile's great-great-great-grandson – is described in records as "Edmund of Ballyhaunis". One of his sons - Dillon O'Flaherty – remained in the Ballyhaunis area, and his son in turn – Henry O'Flaherty – was the local registrar of births, deaths and marriages in this district in the late nineteenth century.

The play attracted considerable crowds in Clare Island, Westport and Kiltimagh, and brought to life the story of one of Mayo's truly remarkable women.



Sixth Class, St. Joseph's National School 1960. (know as the 'class of the Marys'). Front l-r: Yvonne McGarry, Mary Cunningham, Mary Halpin, Mary O'Dwyer, Mary O'Dwyer. 2nd row l-r: Kathleen O'Boyle, Rosary Waldron, Phil Biesty, Bridie Foliard, Mary Dillon and Noreen Flanagan. Back l-r: Marita Rushe, Mary McGrath, Norrie Lanigan, Patricia Tarpey and Mary Toolan. Absent: Mary Grogan, Mary Webb, Mary Joyce, Serene Connolly and Mary Elizabeth Dillon - Leetch.

## Master Tailor Retires

September last (Sat. 30th) saw the end of an era with the retirement of Joe Keane, Master Tailor, of Knox Street. After almost sixty-five years in the business, Joe finally decided to call it a day, having carried out his trade with the touch of a master craftsman for all that time.

Joe started work as a tailor in 1936 when he began to "serve his time" with his father, the late Patrick Keane, a Master Tailor in his own right, and a native of Crossbeg in the parish of Aghamore. Between the two of them – father and son – they catered for the tailoring needs of the Ballyhaunis and wider district for just over one-hundred years – a remarkable record in any trade or profession! The 1901 census lists an eighteen year old Patrick Keane as one of two "tailor's apprentices" in the Cooney household in Upper Main St. (The other apprentice was Michael Ganley, then fifteen years old. He was a native of Drimbane, and went on to become head tailor in Clery's Department Store, Dublin. Pat Cooney, their mentor, belonged to an old tailoring family who came from Clare St., and his brother William carried on the same trade there into the early years of the twentieth century.)

When Joe started working, before the era of mass-production, everything was made by hand, with men and women plying their particular trades alone or in small groups in their own workshops. In Knox Street alone there were nearly one-hundred tradespeople back in the thirties – including tailors, dress-makers, bakers, coach-makers, carpenters, coffin-makers, blacksmiths, harness-makers, nailors and shoe-makers. Everything was made by hand in those days and, if it couldn't be made locally then maybe you didn't really need it. As Master Tailors Joe, and his father before him, were qualified to make a garment from start to finish: to become a Master Tailor called for the ability to 'cut-out' a garment, and required a high level of skill that not everybody had.

The first step in making an outfit was to determine the type and style of garment required by the customer. Measurements were taken and carefully noted. These were transferred to the cloth, allowing for style features here and there (at the customer's request); then the garment was cut out using a paper pattern, and sewed together. The customer was then 'fitted' with the garment to ensure a correct and comfortable fit, and any necessary changes were noted and effected. When everything was to the customer's satisfaction, the tailor got to work in earnest and usually managed to finish a suit in two days. The cost of a suit of clothes in Joe's early days amounted to £22. While his main business was in the making of men's suits, Joe admits that, in his career, he has made every item of clothing from "a bishop's robe to a clown's pyjamas!" To help keep business running smoothly, Joe had a special day for fitting and a special day for delivering clothes.

The arrival of ready-made garments from the 1940s onwards heralded the beginning of the end for the Master Tailor and his trade. Ladies coats were the first to be mass-produced, followed by men's suits and, eventually, every item of clothing could be bought 'off-the-peg'. In recent years Joe's work has been confined largely to alterations, and he made his last suit of clothes in the mid 1980s.

With a career that has spanned eight decades, the last Master Tailor in Ballyhaunis - if not the last in County Mayo – has a well-earned retirement to look forward to. His many friends in and around Ballyhaunis extend a sincere thanks to Joe for his efficient and courteous service over the years, and wish him a long and happy retirement.

Joe is married to Marcella (nee Greene) and they have five sons and three daughters - Pat, Tony, Karen, Joe, John, Robert, Stella and Gillian.



Joe Keane at work

## Post Office Receive Award

Congratulations to Ballyhaunis Post Office which was honoured nationally, at the end of last year (2000) by being chosen as the second best Post Office in the country. Earlier last year, each of the seven regional postal areas in the country nominated one Company Post Office and one Sub Post Office, based on customer service, retailing skills and office appearance. The final round of judging involved an independent "Mystery Shopper" who visited short-listed offices to test customer service, and generally try the patience of even the most tolerant staff members.

The Post Master and members of staff from the Ballyhaunis branch attended the fourth annual Post Office of the Year Awards Ceremony, held recently in the Green Isle Hotel, Dublin, and were presented with their prize for coming second in the prestigious Post Office of the Year contest. The winner of the award was Mullingar, while Westport came in third.

Overall, Mayo was very well represented amongst the prize-winners: not alone did Ballyhaunis and Westport come second and third in the main contest, but Westport also won the award for the Best Postshop in the country, while Charlestown won the award for the Best Sub Post Office in the Western area.

The Post Master and Staff in Ballyhaunis Post Office are to be complimented on the present, excellent condition of the building, and the efficient and courteous manner in which they conduct their business.



*Collette Byrne, Johnstown & Anthony Mulkeen, Tulrahan  
St. Patricks Church*



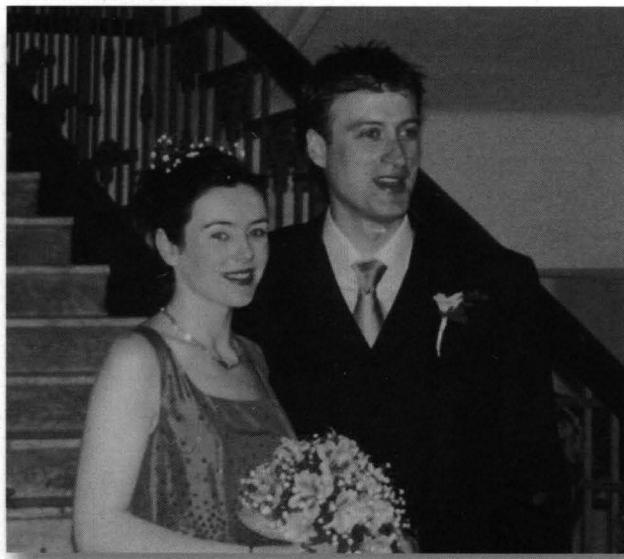
*Mary Jo Fitzmaurice, Tully & Gerard Murphy, Shirle  
Gorthaganny Church*



*Collette Waldrone, Abbeyquarter & Colin Jennings, Cloonfad  
St. Patricks Church, Easter Sunday*



*Julie Goulding, Kiltaboe & Mark Gallagher, Donegal  
Church of Immaculate Conception June 30th 2001*



*Lorraine Leonard, Crossard & Gary O'Neill, Athlone  
The Irish College, Rome May 7th 2001*



*Julia Shields, Cork & Thomas Ruane, Johnstown*



Vicky Fitzgerald, Up'r Main St. & David McNamara, Cork  
St. Patricks Church, August 31th 2001



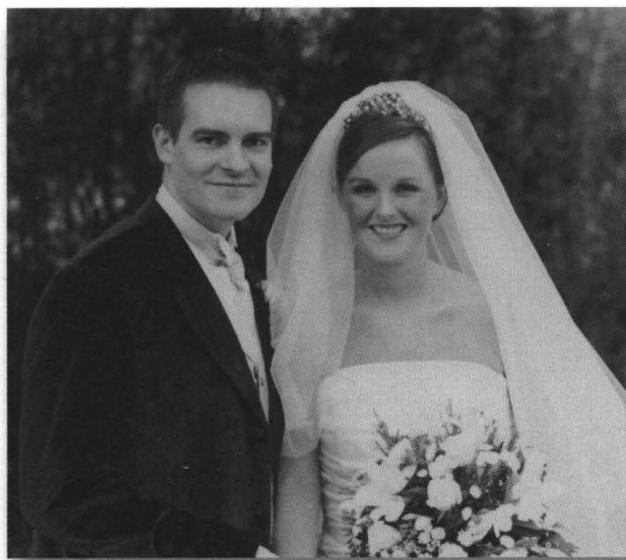
Helen Ryan, Blackrock & John Keane, Knox St.  
Immaculate of Mary church, Wicklow



Angela Cribbin, Drimbane & Griffin McManus, Sligo  
St. Patricks Church



Helen Higgins, Kiltimagh & Alan Biesty, Pattenspark  
Knock Church



Bernice Patterson, Ballyhaunis & John Tynan, Cork  
St. Patricks Church, September 28th 2001



Orla Keane, Ballyhaunis & John Doyle, Wexford  
St. Patricks Church, August 3rd 2000



Sharon Greene, Carrowrea & Gerard Redmond, Dublin  
St. Marys Abbey



Paula Moran, Ballyhaunis & David Doherty, Ballinlough  
St. Patricks Church



Mary Connolly, Brickens  
& Tommy Fitzmaurice, Tully



Olivia Gallagher, Knock Rd & John Guilfoyle, Greenwood.  
St. Patricks Church



Aisling Keogh, Galway & David O'Connor, Hazelhill  
X.U.T. Chapel, Galway, April 21st 2001



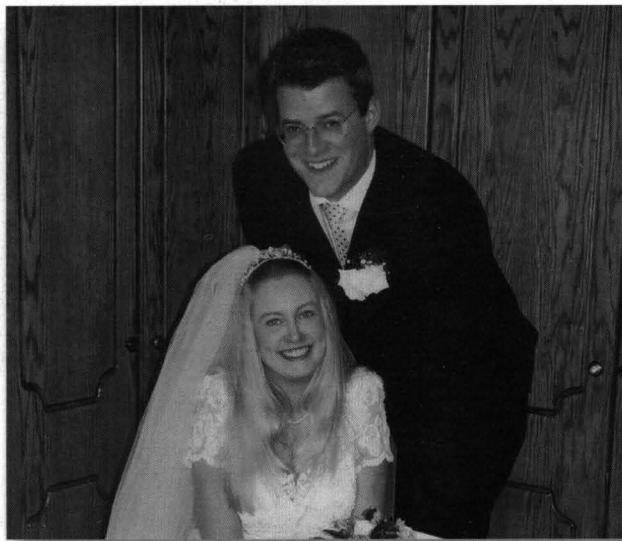
Maureen Crehan, Clare St. & Brian Walsh, England  
married in Prague



*Regina Dyer, Brackloon & Raymond Kirrane, Cloonfad  
Breaffy Church*



*Barbara Dillon, Ballyhaunis & John Hargaden, Carlow  
St. Patricks Church, June 30th 2001*



*Hilary Madden, Gurleen & Morgan Keogh, Dublin  
St. Patricks Church, September 21st 2001*



*Helena Plunkett, Scrigg & John Gill, Crossmolina  
St. Patricks Church, October 13th 2001*



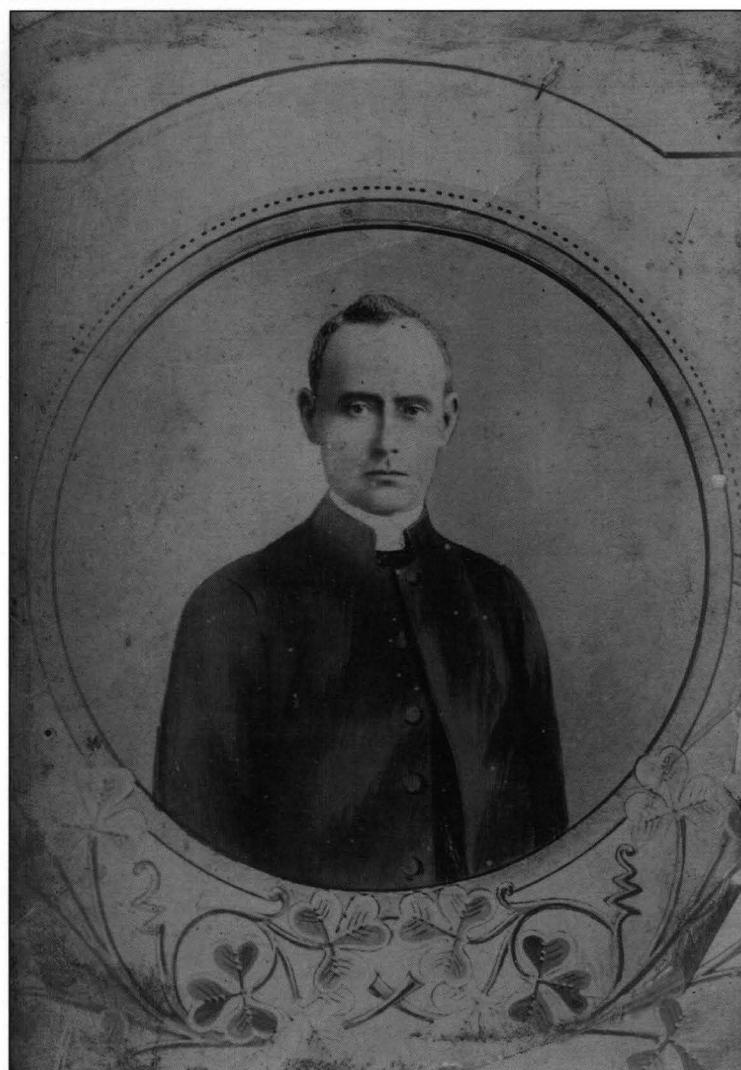
*Churchfield House  
1970's. Mary Waldron,  
Bernie Salmon, Tom  
Jennings, Tommy  
Reilly, Eugene Freeley,  
Noel Armstrong and  
Teresa Fitzpatrick*

**Baptisms****November 2000****October 2001**

Ellen Teresa Phillips  
 Dara James Healy  
 Derek Thomas Maughan  
 Sinead Teresa Ledwith  
 Cathal Joseph Caulfield  
 Patrick Joseph Caulfield  
 Lara Patricia Shannon  
 Casey Marie Clarke  
 Barry Vincent Cribbin  
 Allanah Kate Frayne  
 Eoin Hugh O'Boyle  
 Jason Joseph Reidy  
 Emma Bridget Curran-Cox  
 Micheala Helena Hannon  
 Dylan James Gaughan  
 Martin Denis Sheridan  
 Siofra Mary Murray  
 William Jerome Finn  
 Aran James Rattigan  
 Kevin Francis McHugh  
 Megan Morley  
 Cian Martin O'Mahoney  
 Pierce Gerard Nestor  
 Holly Maria Browne  
 Clodagh Maria Byrne  
 Ailish Maria Henry  
 Zachary Quinn  
 Amy Patricia Keane  
 Ethan Mark Keane

**Deceased****November 2000****October 2001**

Kathleen Barrett  
 Lily Murphy  
 Mary Connolly  
 Mary Hopkins  
 Ellen McDonagh  
 Joan Delaney  
 Michael McCarthy  
 Dympna Moran  
 Agnes Finn  
 Michael Keegan  
 Terence Waldron  
 Margaret Barrett  
 Baby Simone Waldron  
 Christina Kenny  
 Maureen Gallagher  
 Thomas Caulfield  
 Margaret Mulhern  
 Joseph Greene  
 Joseph Conway  
 David Jordan  
 Gabrielle Ruane  
 Baby Emma Morley  
 Annie Meenan  
 John Hanley  
 Mary Hunt  
 Mary Gallagher



**Very Rev. Patrick Canon Lyons, P.P., V.F., Castlebar**

Earlier this year, the parishioners of Castlebar celebrated the centenary of the building of their parish Church – The Church of The Holy Rosary. Central to the celebrations was the commemoration of Very Rev. Patrick Canon Lyons, P.P., V.F., the man who built the church. In addition to the church, Canon Lyons was responsible for much development in Castlebar in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century: he built the Parochial Hall and the Brothers' School, as well as many of the other schools in the parish. He was also responsible for setting up the Bacon factory in Castlebar.

Patrick Lyons was born 10th Mar. 1852, in Kiltybo, Ballyhaunis, where his grand-nephew Jimmy Lyons currently resides. He was appointed to the parish of Castlebar in 1886, and ministered there for quarter of a century, up until his death on 13th Dec. 1911.

An account of his life, clerical career and achievements is deserving of a more detailed article, which is being planned for next year's Annagh, to mark the 150th anniversary of his birth.



Left: Tommy Carroll aged 9 of Carrowreagh, now residing at Station Rise.

**Two views of Ballyhaunis taken by Padraig Kennelly, Tralee  
and produced as postcards in th 1950's. Top photo: Main  
Street and bottom photo: Bridge Street.**



**Photos taken by the late Pat Coyne in his native Gurteen 1920's**



Claire Coyne, Pat Coyne and Kate Coyne, Gurteen 1930



Josie Finn and her grandmother Judy Caulfield



The Finn family, Gurteen. L-R: Delia, Mrs. Mary Ann with Julie in her arms, Tom, Jim, Martin, Josie, Rita and Eileen

## Ballyhaunis People In Boston and New York 2001



Kathleen and Neill McGillicuddy



Curt Reinhardt, P. J. Moran, Enda Moran, Sinead Reinhardt and Tony Moran



Maura Hession nee Flynn, Siobhan O'Connor and Patricia Grogan



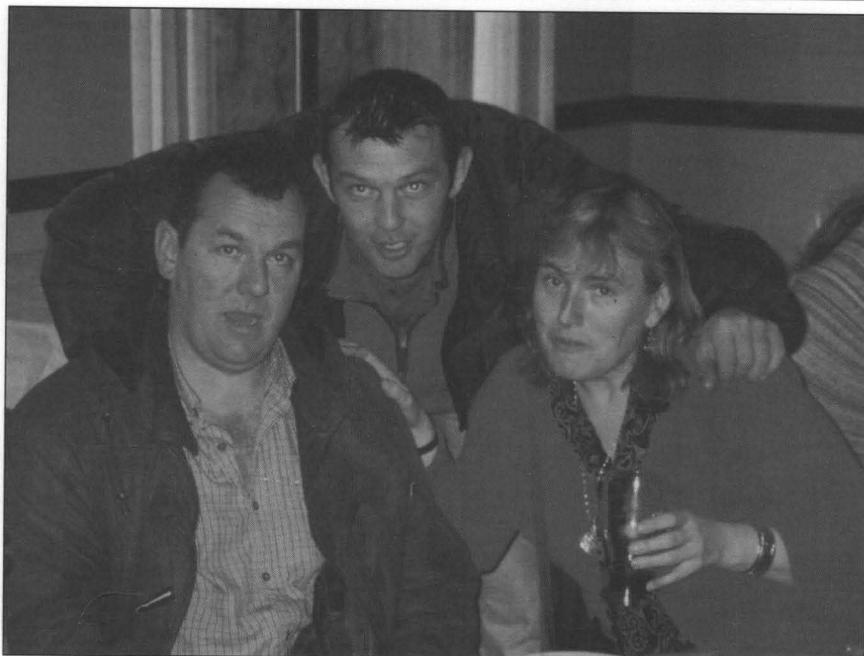
John Vahey, David Burke, John Burke, Hugh McKermitt and Helen Moran



David Burke, Tony Morley, Liam Forde, Ian Cunnane, Kieran Lyons, John Joe Lyons, Martina Keane, Yvonne Byrne and Joanne Byrne



Tony Moran, Curt Reinhardt, P.J. Moran, Tom Moran and Sinead Reinhardt



Tony Walsh, David Burke and Breda Ryan



Martina Keane



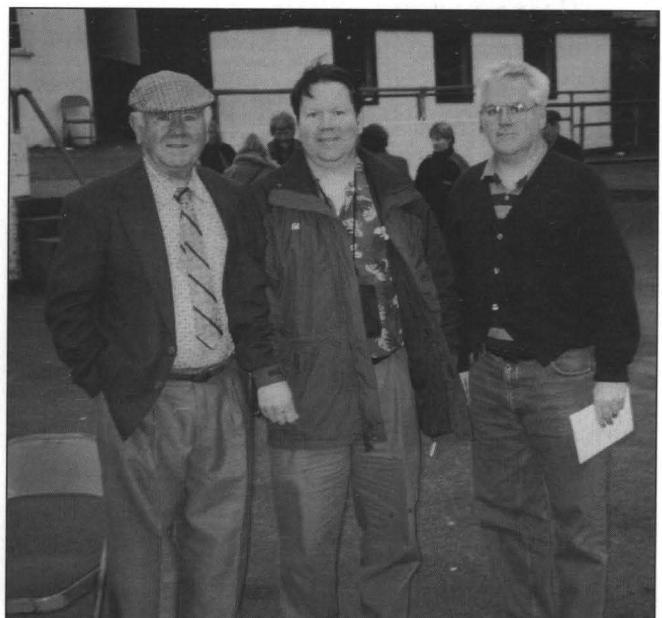
George Delaney, Paul Timoney, Thomas Moran



Enda Murphy, Bernard Waldron, P.J. Moran and John McQueeney



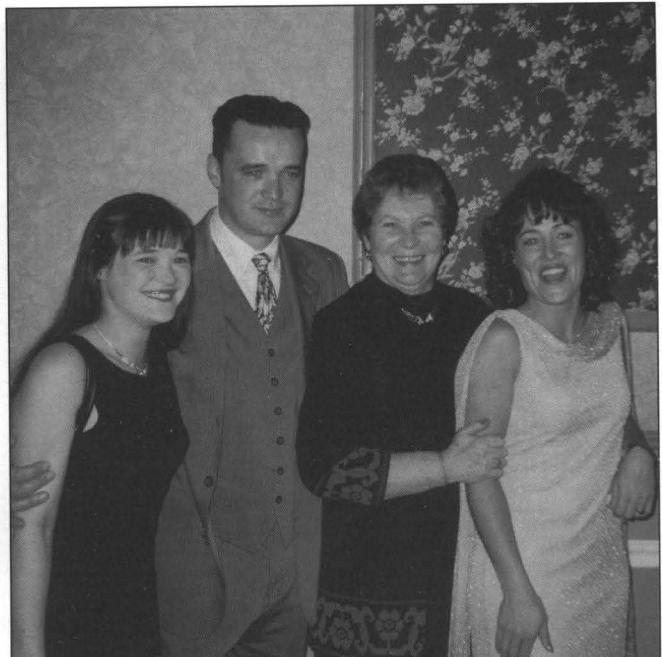
John Waldron R.I.P. with his wife Nell formerly of Derrymore



Eddie Ganley, formerly of Larganboy with his sons Eddie jnr and Tommy



Barbara Moore, Ann Fitzpatrick and Christina Fitzpatrick



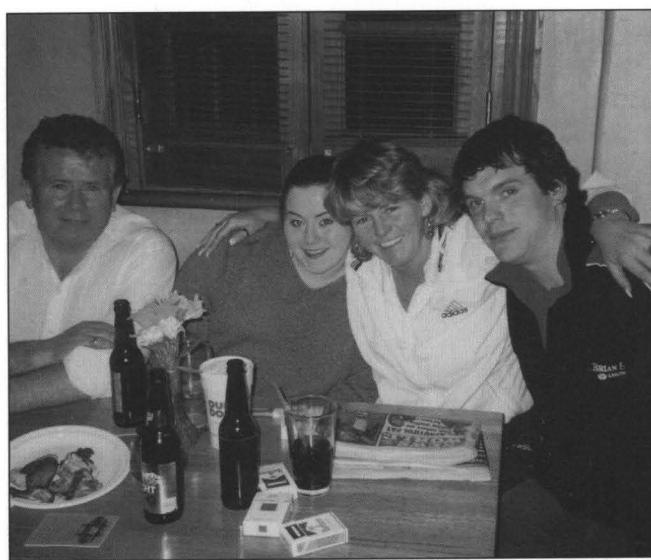
Debbie Biesty, Ivan Biesty, Patsy Teehan nee Biesty and Olive Walsh nee Biesty



Tony Morley, Tony Greene, Jason Morley, Sean Finn and Tommy Rattigan



John O'Connor, Thomas Moran, Georgie Delaney and Jack Munro



Pat Shaughnessy, Bridie Shaughnessy, Dolores Shaughnessy nee Nolan  
Lisbane and Paul Nolan



Linda Rattigan, Tommy Rattigan, Rita Ann Sullivan, Brian and Sean Finn

## Ballyhaunis town in 1901, part two

The 31st of March gone by marked the one-hundredth anniversary of the 1901 census - the earliest surviving complete census of population for the entire country. To commemorate this event the household returns for Main Street were published in last year's Annagh in an edited format. This included the Back Way, Barrack Street, Chapel Street, Upper Main Street and Waldron's Terrace, though these street names are not given in the original returns.

In this year's Annagh we present the household returns from the rest of Ballyhaunis town – from Knox St., Claremorris Road (as it was called in the census), Bridge St. and Abbey St., along with the townlands of Friarsground, Abbeyquarter, Carrownaluggaun, Hazelhill, Devil's and Cherryfield which form the immediate hinterland of the town.

In the extracts given here, the following information is given only: name, age, relationship to head of household; occupation; county/country of birth if born outside of Mayo. Other details – religious profession, ability to read and write, ability to speak the Irish language, details of any infirmities – have been omitted for want of space. The original returns are held in the National Archives, Bishop St., Dublin, while microfilms of them can be consulted and copied in the County Library, Castlebar.

As with last year's contribution an attempt has been made to identify the current (Christmas 2001) occupants of premises. Where this has not been possible, an indication as to where particular houses were is given, as near as possible. Thanks to Gerry Cribbin, Maisin Meath, Joe Keane, Michael Waldron and Cecily Garvey-Moran who helped with this. If anyone can throw light on the locations of houses which haven't been identified, the committee would be interested in hearing from them.

A number of points should be noted: (1) Many of the ages given in this census, as in many other records of the time, are incorrect - there was a tendency to underestimate them or 'round them off' to the nearest multiple of ten.. (2) Generally all school children recorded as "Scholars". (3) Some abbreviations used below are as follows: asst. – assistant; dom. servant – domestic servant; ww – widow; wr – widower; md – married; unm – unmarried; b. – born; O.S. - Ordnance Surveyor.

### Knox Street (West Side)

#### 1. Judge's (Connaught Arms)

Edward Judge 60, spirit & provisions dealer  
Mary Judge 58, wife  
Thomas Sloyan 15, nephew, apprentice grocer  
Mary Lowry 20, dom. servant  
John Tymon 20, farm servant

#### 2. Dyer's (Connaught Arms, part of)

Thomas Dyer 36, labourer  
Ellen Dyer 35, wife  
Patrick Dyer 3, son  
Mary Dyer 2, daughter  
Maggy Dyer 8m, daughter

#### 3. Ruane's ('Tasty Dish')

John T. Ruane 29, merchant  
Mary Ruane 25, wife, b. Roscommon  
Mary Kelly 14, dom. servant

#### 4. Fitzmaurice's (formerly Kenny's)

Patrick Fitzmaurice 45, boot & shoemaker  
Mary Fitzmaurice 40, wife  
Patrick Fitzmaurice 17, son  
Mary E. Fitzmaurice 15, daughter  
Mark Fitzmaurice 14, son  
Maggie Fitzmaurice 12, daughter  
Michael Fitzmaurice 10, son

#### 5. Tarpey's ('The Clock')

Patrick Tarpey 39, shopkeeper, b. Roscommon  
Maria Tarpey 39, wife  
Norah Tarpey 1, daughter  
Mary Ellen Fitzmaurice 20, step-daughter  
Maggie Jane Fitzmaurice 17, step-daughter  
Francis McEvoy 35, O.S., b. Dublin  
Thomas Kieran 27, O.S., b. Dublin  
Patrick Walsh 24, tea merchant, b. Galway  
Bridget Towey 21, servant, b. Roscommon  
Bridget Harte 14, servant, b. Roscommon

#### 6. Gilmore's (Jennings', dentist)

John Gilmore 40, publican, b. Galway  
Julia Gilmore 38, wife  
Kate Gilmore 17, daughter  
Julia Gilmore 11, daughter  
Mary Gilmore 9, daughter

Norah Gilmore 7, daughter

Eliza Gilmore 5, daughter

Bridget Gilmore 4, daughter

Annie Mary Gilmore 2, daughter

Michael Sullivan 20, car-builder

Patrick Tarpey 20, car-builder

James Moran 19, car-builder

#### 7. Snee's (Smyth's)

Timothy Snee 59, clerk  
Ellen Snee 47, wife, b. Roscommon  
Kate Snee 21, daughter, pupil teacher, b. Roscommon  
Ellen Snee 15, daughter, pupil teacher

#### 8. Glavey's (Ruane's)

Thomas Glavey 73, shopkeeper  
Kate Glavey 68, wife  
Bridget Glavey 27, daughter  
Annie Mary Cuddy 10, grand-daughter

#### 9. Fleming's (Ruane's, part of)

James Fleming 34, gen. lab., b. Meath  
Ellen Fleming 36, wife  
Bridget Fleming 7, daughter  
Thomas Fleming 3, son

#### 10. O'Brien's (Kay's)

Matthew O'Brien 28, shopkeeper  
Katie O'Brien 25, wife

#### 11. Waldron's (formerly M. Hopkins')

Sarah Waldron 60, housekeeper [ww]  
Patrick A. Waldron 30, son, teacher  
Katie J. Waldron 28, daughter  
Sarah A. Waldron 20, daughter, seamstress

#### 12. Fitzmaurice's (Ruane's store, part of)

Kate Fitzmaurice 23, dressmaker  
Maggie Conway 15, dressmaker's asst.

#### 13. Byrne's (Ruane's store, part of)

Mary Byrne 27, nail-making [md]  
John Byrne 9, step-son  
Thomas Byrne 3, son  
Patrick Byrne 2, son  
John Woods 50, nail-maker, b. Dublin, [unm]  
Darby Keogh 30, nail-maker, b. Cork [unm]  
Anthony Forkin 55, labourer [md]

Mary Anne Cogan 25, servant, b. England

#### 14. Flanagan's (town side of entrance to car-park)

Anne Flanagan 42, shopkeeper, b. Roscommon [ww]  
Katie Flanagan 12, daughter, b. Yorkshire

#### 15. Waldron's (Campbell's)

Michael Waldron 44, blacksmith  
Bridget Waldron 42, wife  
Michael Waldron 20, son, blacksmith  
Delia Waldron 17, daughter, milliner  
Thomas Waldron 16, son, shop-ass't.  
John Waldron 15, son  
Francis Waldron 11, son  
Mary Agnes Waldron 6, son

#### 16. Mullarkey's (Byrne's yard)

Mary Mullarkey 60, lodging-house keeper [ww]  
Thomas Connelly 55, labourer [unm]  
Anthony Forkan 60, labourer [md]

#### 17. Unoccupied

### Knox Street (East Side)

#### 18. Waldron's (Finnegan's)

Thomas M. Waldron 60, shopkeeper, 'b. in Aughamore'  
Mary Waldron 50, wife, 'b. in Aughamore'  
John Waldron 19, son, 'b. in Ballyhaunis'  
Thomas Waldron 13, son, 'b. in Ballyhaunis'  
Mary E. Waldron 11, daughter, 'b. in Ballyhaunis'  
Patrick Waldron 10, son, 'b. in Ballyhaunis'  
Michael Waldron 7, son, 'b. in Ballyhaunis'

#### 19. Waldron's ('Breffni Arms')

John Waldron 43, shopkeeper  
Ellen Waldron 32, wife  
Mary Waldron 7, daughter  
Delia Waldron 5, daughter

#### 20. Beavans' (formerly Dom Moran's)

Thomas Beavans 33, baker  
Anne Beavans 32, wife, b. Roscommon  
Mary Kate Beavans 12, daughter  
Sarah Beavans 10, daughter  
Eliza Beavans 8, daughter  
Annie Beavans 6, daughter

Margaret Beavans 5, daughter  
James Beavans 3, daughter  
Agnes Beavans 1, daughter

21. **Waldron's** ('The Lantern')  
Walter Waldron 32, shopkeeper  
Nora Waldron 21, wife  
Annie Waldron 13, visitor

22. **Morley's** (Morley's)  
Anthony T. Morley 28, publican  
Margaret Morley 25, wife, b. Kildare  
Patrick Morley 2, son  
Mary E. Morley 1, daughter  
Nora Morley 2m, daughter  
Anne Greatly 19, confectioner  
Emma Collins 20, bar maid  
Kate O'Brien 17, servant  
Kate Kenny 23, servant  
John Loughlin 28, servant

23. **Greatly's** (Johnston's, part of)  
James Greatly 61, shopkeeper [wr]  
Delia Greatly 27, daughter, shopkeeper  
Ellen Greatly 24, daughter, shop asst.  
Nora Greatly 20, daughter, shop asst.  
Lizzie Greatly 22, daughter, seamstress

24. **Delaney's** (Johnston's)  
Michael Delaney 48, merchant, 'b. Castlerea'  
Mary Delaney 44, wife, 'b. Ballaghaderreen'  
Michael Delaney 18, son  
Delia Delaney 13, daughter  
Frances Delaney 12, daughter  
William John Delaney 11, son  
George Delaney 9, son  
James Kelly 44, teacher & clerk, b. Tyrone [unm]  
Mary Waldron 17, servant  
John Mullen 24, servant, b. Galway  
Thomas Kenny 14, shop asst., 'b. Kiltimagh'

25. **McConville's** (Rattigan's)  
Dorinda McConville 50, shopkeeper [ww]  
Mary McConville 26, daughter, shopkeeper  
Henry McConville 24, son, teacher  
Anne Farrelly 22, confectioner, b. Wicklow  
Jane Coffey 18, confectioner  
John Pettit 4, nephew  
John Hurley 15, servant

26. **Murphy's** (Herr's)  
William Murphy 53, shopkeeper  
Margaret Murphy 40, wife  
John Murphy 12, son  
William Murphy 10, son  
Delia Agnes Murphy 4, daughter  
Honor Fitzmaurice 56, mother-in-law

27. **Morley's** (Morley's)  
Anthony Morley 58, publican  
Norah Morley 40, wife  
John Morley 30, son, cattle-dealer  
Mary Anne Morley 18, daughter  
Thomas Morley 15, son  
Martin Morley 10, son  
David Morley 8, son  
Kate Morley 6, daughter  
William Morley 4, son  
Michael Morley 2, son  
Mary Phillips 25, servant  
Norah Fitzpatrick 16, servant  
Patrick Lyons 35, car-driver

28. **Gilmore's** (formerly Tarpey's)  
Patrick Gilmore 42, publican  
Anne Gilmore 40, wife

Thomas Gilmore 16, son  
Mary Anne Gilmore 14, daughter  
Ellie Gilmore 12, daughter  
Delia Gilmore 9, daughter  
Edward Gilmore 7, son  
Katie Gilmore 6, daughter  
Agnes Gilmore 3, daughter  
Monica Gilmore 10m, daughter

29. **Fitzmaurice's** (Bank of Ireland, part of)  
Edward Fitzmaurice 38, publican [unm]  
Ellen Fitzmaurice 25, publican's asst. [unm]

30. **McConville's** (Bank of Ireland, part of)  
Anne McConville 78, grocer, b. Roscommon [unm]  
Henry McConville 73, brother, grocer, b. Roscommon [unm]  
Agnes McConville 21, niece, shop asst., b. Roscommon  
Thomas Quinn 19, general servant  
Mary Anne Harte 16, general servant, b. Roscommon

31. **Henry's** (Forde's)  
Richard Henry 51, merchant, draper, grocer [wr]  
Annie Henry 22, daughter, shop-asst.  
Lilly Henry 20, daughter, shop-asst.  
Sarah Henry 18, daughter, shop-asst.  
Josephine Henry 17, daughter, shop-asst.  
Maud Henry 14, daughter  
James Henry 12, son  
Joseph Connor 23, shop-asst., b. Galway  
Martin Flood 23, shop-asst., b. Roscommon  
Michael Beirns 25, shop-asst.  
James Lydon 20, shop-asst.  
Patrick Cooney 18, shop-asst.  
Tommy Winston 15, shop-asst., b. Roscommon  
Edward Kilkenney 17, shop-asst., b. England  
John Raftery 14, shop-asst., b. Roscommon  
Nora Kenny 22, asst. milliner, b. Roscommon [ww]  
Annie Bruen 19, asst. milliner, b. Roscommon  
Annie Beirne 19, asst. milliner, b. Roscommon  
Bridget Burke 18, asst. milliner, b. Galway  
Agnes Flanagan 18, asst. milliner  
Anne Stretch 30, dom. servant, b. Roscommon  
Mary Loughlin 30, farmer's labourer  
Paddy Cussan 14, messenger, b. Roscommon  
John Bruen 18, shop asst., b. Sligo

### Claremorris Road (East Side)

1. **Cusack's** (Higgins & O'Brien)  
Michael Cusack 48, house carpenter, b. Clare  
Kate Cusack 55, wife, shopkeeper  
James Blackall 60, brother-in-law [unm]

2. **Feely's** (Curley's Bar)  
Daniel Feely 50, publican  
Bridget Feely 45, wife  
Mary E. Feely 20, daughter, bar-maid  
Bridget Feely 18, daughter, bar-maid  
Eliza Feely 16, daughter  
Catherine Keane 45, publican's servant [unm]

3. **Philbin's** (behind house no. 4)  
Catherine Philbin 60 [ww]  
Kate Philbin 28, daughter, dressmaker  
Mary Canny 16, apprentice

4. **Caulfield's** (formerly Kitty Healy's)  
James Caulfield 49, shopkeeper  
Mary T. Caulfield 44, wife, b. Roscommon  
Mary Agnes Caulfield 20, daughter, typist, shorthand & book-keeper  
Elizabeth G. Caulfield 18, daughter, shop asst.  
Patrick Joseph Caulfield 16, son, shop asst.  
Delia Teresa Caulfield 14, daughter

James Francis Caulfield 10, son  
Annie Josephine Caulfield 8, daughter  
John Austin Caulfield 5, son  
Thomas Caulfield 4, son

5. **O'Malley's** (Meath's)  
Timothy O'Malley 63, shopkeeper  
Bridget O'Malley 60, wife

6. **Cooney's** (formerly Smyth's)  
William Cooney 56, tailor  
Mary Cooney 56, wife  
Elizabeth Cooney 90, mother [ww]  
Thomas Cooney 28, son, clerk grocery---- [unm]  
Sarah Cooney 21, daughter [unm]

7. **Hough's** (Alma's)  
Annie Hough 29, shopkeeper  
May C. Hough 6, daughter  
Bridget Killeen 24, sister, housework [unm]  
Michael Waldron 69, police pensioner R.I.C. [unm]

8. **Gilmore's** (Mac Giolla Bhride's)  
John W. Gilmore 42, licensed publican, carp. & builder  
Honoria Gilmore 38, wife  
James J. Gilmore 10, son  
Patrick C. Gilmore 8, son  
John W. Gilmore (junior) 6, son

9. **Byrne's** (Tynan Dillon's)  
John Byrne 41, merchant [unm]  
Mary Byrne 66, housekeeper, [ww]  
Delia Byrne 20, niece, shop asst.  
James Casey 56, baker [md] b. Sligo  
Michael Downs 25, servant [unm]

10. **Judge's** (B. Byrne's)  
John Judge 53, owner of houses [unm]  
Anne Judge 35, sister

11. **Maloney's** (Levins', part of)  
Thomas Maloney 50, shopkeeper  
Annie Maloney 21, wife, shopkeeper

12. Building in progress (Levins', part of)

### Claremorris Road (West Side)

13. **O'Malley's** (formerly Fitzgerald's)  
James O'Malley 62, harness maker  
Sarah O'Malley 60, wife  
Norah O'Malley 24, daughter  
James O'Malley 23, son, harness maker  
Austin O'Malley 22, son, harness maker  
Michael Heyden 19, apprentice, harness maker, b. Dublin  
Christy Doyle 16, apprentice, harness maker, b. Dublin

14. **Donelan's** (Gill's)  
Patrick Donelan 31, merchant, b. Galway  
Mary Donelan 27, wife, b. Galway  
Mary B. Donelan 2, daughter, b. Galway  
Martin J. Donelan 1, son  
Delia McHugh 21, servant, b. Galway

15. **Healy's** (Griffin's)  
Bridget Healy 21, shop & dressmaker  
Norah Healy 17, sister, dressmakers asst.  
Mary Caulfield 19, dressmakers asst.  
Mary Killeen 16, dressmakers asst.  
Katie Fitzmaurice 20, dressmakers asst.

16. **McNamara's** (Grogan's, part of)  
Patrick McNamara 40, boot & shoe manufacturer

Annie McNamara 31, wife  
 Mary McNamara 9, daughter  
 Bridget McNamara 5, daughter  
 Thomas McNamara 8, son

#### 17. Unoccupied (Grogan's, part of)

#### 18. Flynn's (McGarry's civil engineers) Margaret Flynn 45, shopkeeper [ww]

### Bridge Street (North Side)

1. Coyne's (Allied Irish Bank)  
 John Coyne 58, merchant, b. Galway  
 Margaret Coyne 40, wife  
 William Coyne 16, son, clerk, b. Roscommon  
 William Foliard 18, shop asst.  
 Michael Loghlynn 20, servant  
 Honor Rattigan 30, servant [unm]  
 Josie Coyne 10, daughter, b. Roscommon

#### 2. Fallon's (Cribbin's/Daly's)

David Fallon 36, grocer  
 Susan Fallon 44, wife  
 Agnes Lavan 17, step-daughter  
 Bernard Lavan 15, step-son  
 Monica Lavan 14, step-daughter  
 Florrie Lavan 12, step-daughter  
 Michael Lavan 10, step-son  
 Maurice Lavan 8, step-son  
 Mary Lavan 6, step-daughter  
 Joseph Lavan 5, step-son  
 Thomas Cunningham 23, shop asst.  
 Peter Bodkin 20, shop asst.  
 Thady Kelly 22, general servant  
 Michael Hyland 16, general servant  
 Honor Cleary 50, general servant  
 John Grealey 35, Roman Cath. clergyman  
 Catherine Loftus 32, dressmaker

#### 3. Unoccupied (Colleran's)

4. Rattigan's (Crean, O Cleirigh & O'Dwyer)  
 Michael Rattigan 48, shopkeeper  
 Margaret Rattigan 35, wife  
 James Patrick 11, son  
 Mary Ellen 9, daughter  
 Agnes Rattigan 7, daughter  
 Frances Rattigan 3, daughter  
 Eliza Rattigan 7m, daughter

#### 5. Prenty's (Giovanni's)

Patrick Prenty 50, grocer  
 Winifred Prenty 40, wife  
 Mary Prenty 14, daughter  
 Lillie Prenty 12, daughter  
 Agnes Prenty 10, daughter

#### 6. Loftus' (Webb's)

Patrick Loftus 45, publican  
 Mary Loftus 38, wife

#### 7. Fitzmaurice's (Lyons')

Peter Fitzmaurice 60, shopkeeper  
 Margaret Fitzmaurice 50, wife  
 Michael Fitzmaurice 18, son  
 Katie Fitzmaurice 16, daughter  
 Maria Fitzmaurice 11, daughter  
 Delia Fitzmaurice 10, daughter  
 Margy Fitzmaurice 7, daughter  
 Anna Fitzmaurice 4, daughter

#### 8. Unoccupied (Oak Bar)

9. Farragher's (Delaney's)  
 John Farragher 42, hotel proprietor

Helen Farragher 34, wife  
 Mary Farragher 13, daughter  
 Timothy Farragher 11, son  
 Isabella Farragher 9, daughter  
 Helen Farragher (junior) 7, daughter  
 Murtagh Farragher 5, son  
 John Farragher 3, son  
 Marie Feegan 25, servant  
 Catherine Lavan 30, servant  
 Patrick J. Kenny 35, lodger, engineer [md]  
 William O'Gara 20, lodger, bank clerk  
 Peter Christy 26, lodger, bank clerk  
 Robert T. O'Neil 32, lodger, bank manager [unm]  
 John Wynne 38, servant [unm]

### Bridge Street (South Side)

1. Building in progress (Post Office)  
 2. Building in progress (The Gem)  
 3. McDermott's (Freeley's)  
 Bernard McDermott 75, painter  
 Jane McDermott 64, wife  
 John McDermott 36, son, painter [unm]  
 Jane McDermott 32, daughter [unm]  
 Annie McDermott 24, daughter  
 Christopher Jennings 24, boarder, railway porter  
 4. Fitzmaurice's (Fashion Spot)  
 John Fitzmaurice 50, carpenter & shopkeeper  
 Mary Fitzmaurice 28, wife  
 Mary Fitzmaurice 6, daughter  
 John Fitzmaurice 5, son  
 Martin Waldron 17, lodger  
 5. Unoccupied (Eagney Insurance)  
 6. Byrne's (Nicholson's)  
 Patrick Byrne 48, shopkeeper  
 Norah Byrne 40, wife, b. Roscommon  
 John Francis Byrne 17, son  
 Edward Byrne 14, son  
 James Byrne 2, son  
 Michael Byrne 18, shop asst.  
 Catherine Morley 30, general servant [unm]  
 Ellen Philbin 18, general servant  
 7. Webb's (Fitzgerald's)  
 Michael Webb 26, victualler  
 Mary Kate Webb 22, wife  
 Bridget Garvey 16, dom. servant  
 Dominick McGuire 50, butchers servant [unm]  
 8. McGrath's (Curley's Jewellers)  
 Patrick McGrath 31, publican [md]  
 Bridget McGrath 32, sister, publican's asst. [unm]

### Abbey Street

Starting at O'Dwyer's house and working along towards the Railway Bridge. Waldron's house, which was actually in Friarsground townland across the road, was enumerated in along with Abbey St. The convent is given at the very end.

#### 1. Rattigan's

Thomas Rattigan 37, cattle dealer  
 Ellen Rattigan 31, wife  
 Josephine Rattigan 13, daughter  
 Patrick Rattigan 11, son  
 Mary Agnes Rattigan 9, daughter  
 Lily Rattigan 7, daughter  
 Katie Rattigan 5, daughter  
 Thomas Bernard Rattigan 3, son  
 Maggie Jane Rattigan 2, daughter

Frances Annie Rattigan 5 months, daughter

#### 2. Lyons'

Thomas Lyons 62, cattle dealer  
 Cecily Lyons 50, wife  
 Mary Lyons 24, daughter, asst. housekeeper  
 Sabina Lyons 18, daughter, school teacher  
 Frederick Doherty 5, visitor, b. in America

#### 3. Morley's (M.W.R.)

David Morley 72, publican [wr]  
 Fred Coyne 16, grandson  
 Lily Coyne 12, granddaughter  
 Katie Ronayne 20, niece, barmaid & confectioner

#### 4. Smyth's (Trena's)

Thomas Smyth 43, shopkeeper  
 Maria J. Smyth 43, wife  
 Bridie Smyth 14, daughter  
 Mary K. Smyth 12, daughter  
 John C. Smyth 11, son  
 Thomas T. Smyth 9, son  
 James Smyth 8, son  
 Patrick V. Smyth 5, son  
 William Smyth 4, son  
 Annie T. Smyth 2, daughter  
 Joseph Smyth 1, son  
 Michael F. Smyth 2 months, son  
 Maggie Pigott 18, general servant, b. Galway

#### 5. Casey's

James Casey 35, officer, inland revenue, b. Kerry  
 Maysie Casey 28, wife  
 Joseph Casey 3, son  
 Ellen Casey 1, daughter  
 Mary McNally 18, dom. servant, b. Roscommon

#### 6. Hickey's

Pierce Hickey 30, labourer, b. Tipperary  
 Bridget Hickey 33, wife  
 Pauline C. Hickey 7, daughter  
 Patrick Hickey 2, son  
 Pierce Hickey 7 months, son

#### 7. Foudy's (formerly Morley's, demolished)

Michael Foudy 30, egg buyer, b. Clare  
 Mary Ann Foudy 33, wife  
 Patrick Foudy 7, son  
 Denis Foudy 5, son  
 Margaret Foudy 4, daughter  
 Mary Ann Foudy 2, daughter  
 Kate Foudy 1, daughter  
 Mary Dalton 14, dom. servant

#### 8. Giblin's (formerly Dillon's, demolished)

Dominick Giblin 60, merchant  
 Anne Giblin 58, wife  
 Patrick Dillon 29, son-in-law, farmer [md]  
 Mary Dillon 27, daughter [md]  
 Annie Giblin 23, daughter  
 Mary Kate 1 year & 11 months, granddaughter  
 Margaret Annie Dillon 5 months, granddaughter  
 Norah Canny 17, dom. servant,

#### 9. Flanagan's (Delaney's)

Thomas Flanagan 60, egg dealer, b. Roscommon  
 Margaret Flanagan 45, wife  
 Mary C. Flanagan 19, daughter, publican asst.  
 Norah Flanagan 15, daughter  
 William Flanagan 10, son  
 Sarah Flanagan 11, daughter  
 Joseph Nugent 35, boarder, b. Monaghan [unm]  
 Thomas Cunnane 14, servant labourer

#### 10. Waldron's (Formerly G. Lyons', beside Friary Gate)

Patrick Waldron 35, blacksmith

Sarah Waldron 30, wife

Kate Waldron 14, daughter

Mary E. Waldron 12, daughter

John Waldron 10, son

Patrick Waldron 8, son

Michael Waldron 5, son

Richard Waldron 2, son

#### 11. Duggan's

Annie Duggan or Doogan 55, shopkeeper [md]

[House owned by Bridget Heavey]

#### 12. Bruen's

Mary Bruen 20, dressmaker, b. Westmeath [unm]

#### 13. Regan's

John Regan 30, railway porter

Winifred Regan 28, wife, wash woman, b.

Roscommon

John Regan 3, son

James Regan 10 months, son

#### 14. Murphy's

Michael Murphy 50, merchant

Thomas Murphy 16, nephew, shop asst.

James Murphy 10, nephew

#### 15. Luby's

James Luby 25, carpenter, b. Roscommon

Bridget Luby 25, wife, publican, b. Roscommon

Michael J. Moran 28, boarder, clerk, b. Westmeath

#### 16. Flynn's

William Flynn 60, publican

Bridget Flynn 50, wife

Maria A. Flynn 20, daughter

Delia Flynn 17, daughter

Ellen Flynn 10, daughter

Gertrude Flynn 8, daughter

Mary Donogh 18, dom. servant

Patt Jennings 17, yard servant

#### 17. Mullin's

William Mullin 29, signal man, b. Westmeath

Anne Mullin 26, wife, b. Westmeath

May Mullin 10 months, daughter, b. Co .Westmeath

Katie Mullin 16, sister, b. Westmeath

Michael McGarry 28, boarder, fireman, b. Roscommon

John McCabe 29, signal man, b. Westmeath

Joseph Galvin 30, porter, b. Westmeath [unm]

#### 18. Convent of Mercy

Mary C. Carr 50, sister of mercy, b. Galway

M. B. O'Donnell 33, sister of mercy

M. Vincent Gibbons 38, sister of mercy

M. Evangelist Cronin 33, sister of mercy, b. Tipperary

M. Joseph Duane 32, sister of mercy, b. Galway

M. Ignatius Cronin 31, sister of mercy, b. Dublin

M. Scholastica O'Reilly 28, sister of mercy, b. Meath

M. Michael Flynn 27, sister of mercy

Annie Dignan 23, cook

Mary Finnerty 21, laundress

Kate Finnerty 19, laundress

Brigid Hastings 19, pupil teacher

#### 19. Convent National School

#### 20. Female National School

### Friarsground

#### 1. The Priory

James Frost 36, Cath. Clergyman, b. Clare

Thomas Brady 44, Cath. Clergyman, b. Wicklow

Mary Cowmey 22, housekeeper, b. Waterford

Nicholas McGrath 17, servant, b. Tipperary

#### 2. Friary Church

### Carrownluggaun

#### 1. Crean's (Dr. Brogan's)

Charles E. Crean 54, surgeon & physician, practitioner in Ballyhaunis [wr]

Richard J. Crean 25, son, licentiate RCP & SJ

Bridget McNicholas 56, cook [unm]

Kate Brennan 18, house-maid.

#### 2. Costello's

John Costello 35, labourer

Mary Costello 33, wife

Bridget Costello 2m, daughter

#### 3. Uninhabited

#### 4. Moran's

Thomas Moran 42, relieving officer [md]

Francis Moran 13, son

Thomas Moran 8, son

#### 5. Unoccupied [owned by Patrick Smyth]

### Hazelhill

#### 1. Clarke's (Clarke's)

Francis Clarke 35, farmer

Mary Clarke 34, wife

Patrick Joseph Clarke 9, son

James Clarke 8, son

John Martin Clarke 7, son

Bridget Clarke 5, daughter

Kate Teresa Clarke 3, daughter

Mary Ellen Clarke 1, daughter

#### 2. Philbin's (near Clarke's)

Richard Philbin 32, farmer

Maggie Philbin 23, wife

#### 3. Lyons' (near Ryan's)

Martin Lyons 67, farmer

Anne Lyons 40, wife

#### 4. Mongan's

Owen Mongan 64, labourer in railway

Ellen Mongan 64, wife

[house owned by M.G.W. Railway Co.]

#### 5. Mullee's (near Western Proteins)

Thomas Mullee 80, labourer

Ellen Mullee 60, wife

[house owned by James Mulligan]

#### 6. Forde's (across from J. O'Dwyer's)

Thomas Forde 83, farmer, b. Roscommon

Margaret Forde 70, wife

James Forde 20, son

Martin Devany 10, servant

Patrick McDonagh 20, lodger, tea traveller

#### 7. Mulligan's (Mulligan's)

James Mulligan 70, farmer, b. Roscommon

Margaret Mulligan 58, wife, b. Roscommon

Kitty Mulligan 21, daughter

Edward Mulligan 20, son

#### 8. O'Brien's (The Mill)

Patrick O'Brien 37, farmer & miller

Eliza O'Brien 26, wife

Bryan Darcey 20, servant, farmer's labourer

#### 9. Diffley's (Clare Road, west side)

James Diffley 38, policeman R.I.C., b. Roscommon

Mary Ann Diffley 28, wife, b. Roscommon

Teresa Mary Diffley 6, daughter, b. Leitrim

John Diffley 4, son, b. Leitrim

Elvira Diffley 3, daughter

James Diffley 1, son

[house owned by John Byrne]

#### 10. McNamara's (Clare Road, east side)

John McNamara 44, bootmaker

Rose McNamara 30, wife

Mary Frances McNamara 6, daughter

Edward Joseph McNamara 5, son

Eileen Rose McNamara 3, daughter

[house owned by Morgan O'Brien]

(*Cnocán Haicéid*)

The next eight houses were together in the area known as Cnocán Haicéid (Cruckaunhackett), along the road from where the dispensary is now, as far as Gallagher's (Melly's). Houses nos. 11 and 18 were on the north side; all the others were on the south.

#### 11. Cooney's (across road from dispensary)

Peter Cooney 39, farmer

Mary Cooney 37, wife

Maria Cooney 16, daughter

James Cooney 14, son

Thomas Cooney 12, son

Marcella Cooney 13, daughter

Peter Cooney 7, son

Madge Cooney 75, mother [md]

#### 12. Smyth's (at entrance to Aisling Drive)

Catherine Smyth 62, landholder [ww]

Patrick Smyth 22, cattle dealer

Catherine Groark 83, general servant, b. Roscommon

#### 13. Brennan's (west of Aisling Drive)

Catherine Brennan 67, landholder [ww]

Maria Brennan 47, national teacher [unm]

Ellen Brennan 29, dressmaker [unm]

#### 14. Unoccupied [owned by Catherine Brennan]

#### 15. Glynn's (west of Aisling Drive)

Patrick Glynn 53, baker, b. Roscommon

Honorina Glynn 45, wife

Francis Glynn 17, son

Patrick Glynn 16, son

John A. Glynn 15, son

Eddy Glynn 14, son

Annie Glynn 11, daughter

Mathias Glynn 9, son

Mary Kate Glynn 5, daughter

Norah Glynn 3, daughter

Thomas Glynn 2, son

[house owned by Mary Waldron]

#### 16. McDermott's (west of Aisling Drive)

Bridget McDermott 36, dressmaker [md]

Mary Lyons 25, sister, dressmaker [unm]

Maggie E. McDermott 15, daughter

Agnes McDermott 14, daughter

Nora McDermott 8, daughter

[house owned by Mary Waldron]

#### 17. Sullivan's (west of Aisling Drive)

Bridget Sullivan 60 [ww]

Patrick Sullivan 30, son, pig buyer [unm]

[house owned by Mary Waldron]

#### 18. Whelan's (approx. where M. Smith's house is)

Ellen Whelan 30, washwoman [md]

Sarah Whelan 2 ,daughter

Many Forbes 30, lodger, washwoman, b. Galway [ww]  
 Annie Forbes 12, lodger's daughter  
 John Forbes 9, lodger's son  
 Joseph Forbes 7, lodger's son  
 Mary Forbes 5, lodger's daughter  
 James Forbes 2, lodger's son  
 [house owned by Peter Cooney]

## Abbeyquarter

1. **Dillon's** (Beside river, near railway bridge)  
 John Dillon 68, bailiff  
 Catherine Dillon 66, wife  
 John Joe Dillon 40, son [wr]  
 Valentine Dillon 8, grandson  
 Mary Ellen Dillon 6, granddaughter  
 Mary Angela Dillon 9, granddaughter  
 John Grogan 25, farmer's asst. [unm]
2. **Swift's** (vacant, prev. Fahy's)  
 Frank Swift 42, building contractor  
 Mary Anne Swift 46, wife, national school teacher  
 Annie Swift 22, niece, confectioner  
 John Giblin 12, general servant
3. Male National School
4. Female National School
5. **Fahy's** (old N.S. residence)  
 Martin Fahy 43, national teacher, b. Galway  
 Ellen Fahy 42, wife, b. Galway  
 Martin F. Fahy 13, son  
 Ellen McDermott 15, general dom. servant, b.  
 Roscommon
6. **Phillips'** (formerly Phillips')  
 Patrick Phillips 35, labourer  
 Bridget Phillips 30, wife  
 Patrick Phillips 70, father, labourer [wr]  
 Thomas Phillips 10, son, b. in America  
 Edward Phillips 9, son  
 Kate Ann Phillips 9, daughter  
 Margaret Phillips 5, daughter  
 Dominic Phillips 4, son  
 Patrick Phillips 3, son  
 Bridget Phillips 6 months
7. **O'Donnell's** (near Phillips')  
 James O'Donnell 81, farmer  
 Mary O'Donnell 84, wife
8. **Caulfield's** (across from Depot)  
 John Caulfield 40, landholder  
 Bridget Caulfield 40, wife  
 Bridget Caulfield 8, daughter  
 John Caulfield 6, son  
 Thomas Caulfield 4, son  
 Patrick Caulfield 2, son
9. **Murray's** (across from Depot)  
 Francis Murray 73, farmer [unm]  
 Maria Murray 60, sister [unm]  
 Delia Jordan 14, visitor  
 Michael Jordan 50, visitor, gardener [md] b.  
 Roscommon
10. **Mannion's**  
 Mary Mannion 54, farmer, b. Roscommon [ww]  
 James Mannion 29, son [unm]  
 Martin Mannion 27, son, postman  
 Mary A. Mannion 25, daughter, school teacher  
 Ellen Mannion 20, daughter  
 John J. Mannion 18 son, clerk
11. **Unoccupied** [owned by Patk. Fitzmaurice,

Kilmannin]

## Devlis

1. **Plunkett's** (near Coen's monument)  
 Winifred Plunkett 82, seamstress [ww]  
 James Plunkett 41, farmer & carpenter [md]  
 Honoria Plunkett 40, seamstress, wife  
 Thomas Plunkett 7, son  
 James Plunkett 4, son  
 John Plunkett 3, son  
 Michael Plunkett 1, son
2. **Brennan's** (prev. Mannion's)  
 Catherine Brennan 60, domestic serv. [ww]  
 Bridget O'Neil 70, boarder, dom. serv. [unm] b.  
 Galway  
 Mary McNamara 75, boarder, dom. serv. [ww], b.  
 Clare
3. **Jordan's** (near Regan's & Higgins')  
 James Jordan 56, carpenter 'b. Lecarrow'  
 Sarah Jordan 48, wife 'b. Devilis'  
 Maggie Jordan 15, daughter  
 James Jordan 12, son  
 Edward Jordan 10, son  
 Nora Jordan 8, daughter  
 Francis Jordan 6, son
4. **O'Connor's** (Hannon's)  
 Maria O'Connor 65, farmer's widow  
 Mary Killeen 45, domestic serv. [unm]
5. **Waldron's** (Clarke's)  
 Austin Waldron 55, blacksmith  
 Katie Waldron 22, daughter
6. **Atkinson's** (at crossroads)  
 Martin Atkinson 37, special bailiff [unm]  
 [house owned by Maria O'Connor]
7. **Killeen's** (at crossroads)  
 John Killeen 55, labourer  
 Jane Killeen 60, wife  
 [house owned by Maria O'Connor]
8. **Waldron's** (Waldron's)  
 Mary Waldron 65 [ww]  
 Michael J. Waldron 40, son [unm]  
 Bridget Waldron 36, son [unm]  
 James Waldron 23, son, stationer's clerk [unm]
9. **Mulloy's** (on roadside, opposite Statoil)  
 Patrick Mulloy 70, farmer  
 Honoria Mulloy 65, wife  
 Thomas Mulloy 28, son
10. **Sullivan's** (in the fields opposite Statoil)  
 John Sullivan 64, labourer  
 Bridget Sullivan 60, wife  
 [house owned by Patrick Mulloy]
11. **Unoccupied** [owned by Thomas Smyth], probably Hopkins' place, where Feeney's is now.
12. **Barrett's** (beside the road, near McGarry's)  
 Mary Barrett 80 [ww]  
 Kate Grogan 50, daughter [ww]  
 Patt Barrett 36, son, labourer [unm]  
 [house owned by Maria O'Connor]
13. **Griffin's** (Grogan's)  
 Michael Griffin 40, carpenter  
 Mary Griffin 38, wife  
 Anthony Griffin 15, son  
 Mary Griffin 11, daughter

Michael Griffin 9, son  
 John J. Griffin 6, son  
 Margaret Griffin 3, daughter  
 Katie Griffin 3, daughter  
 Patrick Heneghan 19, carp. apprentice

14. **McHugh's** (Freyne's)  
 Bridget McHugh 45, small farmer [unm]  
 John McHugh 26, nephew, driver – railway pump engineer

## Cherryfield

1. **Dawson's** (Texaco Service Station, forecourt)  
 Michael Dawson 48, railway ganger, b. Kildare  
 Margaret Dawson 40, wife  
 Mina Dawson 19, daughter  
 Lillie Dawson 18, daughter
2. **Murray's** (Winston's)  
 Edmund Murray 62, farmer  
 Hanoria Murray 54, wife  
 Patrick Murray 25, son, postman  
 Thomas Murray 23, son, postman  
 John Murray 21, son, labourer  
 Mary K. Murray 17, daughter, milliner  
 George Murray 15, son,
3. **McCabe's** (Connolly's, part of)  
 Joseph McCabe 26, railway porter, b. Longford  
 Kate McCabe 29, wife, b. Longford  
 Bertha McCabe 4, daughter  
 Mary McCabe 3, daughter  
 [house owned by M.G.W. Railway Co.]
4. **Callery's** (Connolly's, part of)  
 Thomas Callery 31, railway porter, b. Roscommon  
 Margaret Callery 23, wife  
 Mary Callery 2, daughter  
 [house owned by M.G.W. Railway Co.]
5. **Carley's** (Station house)  
 Patrick Carley 51, station master, b. Westmeath  
 Margaret Carley 39, wife, b. Sligo  
 Katie Carley 8, daughter, b. Sligo  
 Bridget Carley 4, daughter, b. Galway  
 [house owned by M.G.W. Railway Co.]
6. **Morley's/Coyne's** (Tighe's)  
 Anthony Morley 74, farmer [ww]  
 John Coyne 52, son-in-law, farmer  
 Eliza Coyne 44, daughter  
 Patrick Coyne 21, grandson  
 Delia Coyne 11, grandson  
 Patrick Boyle 29, farm servant
7. **Fitzmaurice's** (west of Tighe's)  
 Peter Fitzmaurice 33, farmer  
 Ellen Fitzmaurice 29, wife  
 Mary Fitzmaurice 12, daughter  
 Peter Fitzmaurice 65, relationship not stated [md]
8. **Unoccupied** [owned by Edward Fitzgerald]

## Patrons

Annagh would like to thank all its patrons, past and present.  
Please Support Local Business and Industry

All numbers are 0907 code unless otherwise stated.

AIB Bank, Bridge St.	Fax 30726; Tel 30464
Alma's Ladies & Gents Hair Salon, Clare St.	30354
Augustinian Fathers (Hon.), St. Mary's Abbey, Abbey St.	30031
Avondale B & B and Holiday Homes, Clare St. (prop. Bridie Levins)	30345
Ballyhaunis & District Credit Union, Main St.	30998
Ballyhaunis Irish Dancewear (Dresses, Shoes, Accessories)	31073
Ballyhaunis Plant & Tool Hire, Knock St.	Mob (087) 2548355; Tel 30979
Ballyhaunis Transport Services (to & from Dublin)	Mob (087) 2549077; Tel 30477
Ballyhaunis Trophy Centre, Knock Rd. (prop. Kay Buckley)	30090
Bank of Ireland, The Square	30073
Beauty For You, Bridge St. (prop. Anita Duffy)	31424
Boyle, Tony, 35 Riverside Drive, Galway	
Bridge Club, Ballyhaunis	
Burke, Tom, M.R.C.V.S., Abbey St.	30225
Byrne, Pat, Victualler and Grocer, Knock St.	30283
Campbell's Auctioneers and Insurance Brokers, Knock St.	30082
Carney's, The Gem (Newsagents, Toys, Jewellery, Grocery), Bridge St.	30840
Carroll, Fr. Declan, C.C., Upper Main St.	30095
Carty, Cllr. John, Carrowmore House, Knock	(094) 88149
Caulfield's Grocery and Newsagents, Upper Main St.	30637
Celtic Stained Glass, Barrack St.	32930
Clock Tavern, Knock St.	30344
Colleran's Pharmacy, Bridge St.	30028
Community School, Knock Rd.	30238
Connacht Gold Trading, Mart & Sales, Cave	30166
Connacht Scaffolding Ltd., Knock Rd.	Fax 30336; Tel 30198
Connaught Arms, Knock St.	31053
Connaughton's Lantern Bar, Knock St.	31174
Connolly's Kitchens, Galway Rd.	Tel/Fax 30327
Cooney, Canon Joseph, P.P., Parochial House	30006
Cribbin, Cllr. John, Knockanarra	Office 30052
Cunniffe Construction Ltd., Tooreen	Mob (087) 2612838; Tel 49035
Cunningham's Londis, Foodmarket, Abbey St.	30730; 30162
Curley's Bar, Clare St.	30077
Curley's Chemists, Main St.	Fax 31191; Tel 30110
Curley's Jewellers, Bridge St.	Fax 31191; Tel 30110
Daly's Electrical, T.V., Domestic Appliances, Bridge St.	30987
Dawn Ballyhaunis, Clare Rd.	Fax 30561; Tel 30555
Delaney's Ltd., Hardware, Paint, Household, Gifts, Bridge St.	30296
Delaney's, Paddy, Select Bar and Lounge, Abbey St.	30024
De-Luxe Cleaning, Carpets, Upholstery, etc., Vincent Higgins	30284
Dillon's Travel Agency, The Square	Fax 30721; Tel 30021; 30269
Doherty's Betting Office, Main St.	30628; 30738
Dolan, Eugene, Long Island, New York	
Donnellan's - Joinery, Undertakers, Funeral Home, Clare St.	30045
Donnellan's Service Station, Devilis (Heating Oil, Motor Diesel)	31157
Eagney Insurance Services Ltd., Bridge St.	Fax 30795; Tel 30793; 30794
Electrical and Pump Services Ltd.	Fax 30761; Tel 30226
Farrell, Kieran, Tyres, Clare Rd.	30573
Finn, Footwear Specialists (Ballyhaunis & Kiltimagh)	30141; (094) 81970
Fitzgerald's Grocery & Confectionary, Bridge St.	
Fitzpack Cartons Ltd., Tooraree, Folding and Laminated Cartons	30808; 30809; 30811; 31120
Flanagan Motors, Tooreen, New and Used Cars	49433
Flatley, Padraig, Design Consultant, Clare St.	Mob. (087) 9580986 31244
Fleming, Seamus & Annette, Lavallyroe, B & B - Cab Hire	Mob (086) 8195500; Tel 46040

Flogas Ireland Ltd., Ballyhaunis	Fax 30040; Tel 30883
Foliard, Noel, Barber, Knox St.	Mob (087) 6415039
Forde Bros., Ballinlough, Alum., PVC Windows & Doors	Mob (086) 8120324; Tel 40525
Forde's Ltd., The Square (The House for All the Family)	30013
4-D's Off-licence, The Square (Best Value Selection of Wines, Spirits, Beers)	30013
Forkan's B & B, Rooms en-suite, Private Parking, Knox St.	30888
Freeley, Terence, Braga, Portugal	
Freyne Ceramics, Hazelhill (For All Your Tiling Needs)	30722
Freyne Garage & Service Station, Clare St.	30043
Freyne, Bernard, Gas Service, Hazelhill	Fax 30040; Tel 30152
Freyne, Nicholas, Concrete Products, Coolnaha	30318
Full Shilling, Carvery Restaurant, Lunch Daily	30443
G.A.A. Club	
Gallagher, Michael, Upper Main St., Building Contractor	30605
Gallagher's Builders' Providers, Furniture, Main St. & Clare Rd.	30020; 30314
Garvey-Moran, C., School Supplies, Knox St.	30079
Gerry's Barber Shop, Barrack St.	31014
Gill's Pub, Clare St. (prop. John and Bernie Gill)	30039
Glynn, Pat, Photographer, Doctor's Rd.	30026; Castlerea - 20094
Godfrey, Michael, Ballinlough	
Golf Club, Coolnaha	30014
Greene, Tony & Pauline, Box 127, Green Drive, Schola, PA 18458, U.S.A.	001-5705597643
Griffin, John, Orthodontist, Knock Rd.	30534
Griffin, Mike, Taxi Service, Clare St./Devlis	30213
Grogan, Austin, & Sons, Concrete Products, Cave	30072
Halpin, John & Breege, Floral Occasions (Teleflorist), Coffee-Dock Inn	30012
Harvest Fresh Fruit & Veg., Main St.	30736
Hazel Bar & Restaurant, Contact Margaret/Michael/Collette, Main St.	30885
Hazelhill Timber Products Ltd., Europallets, prop. Milo Henry	Fax 30825; Tel 30094
Healy, Joe, Registered Building Contractor, Annagh	30481
Helen's Laundrette, Barrack St.	30841
Heneghan's Carpets & Furniture, Knox St. (Car Park)	Fax/Tel 30770
Herr, Fred, Grocer, Knox St.	31305
Higgins O'Brien Business Property Ltd., Clare St.	Fax 31383; Tel 30088
Higgins, Jim, T.D., Devlis	Office 30052
Higgins, Pat, Adult Education Officer, Devlis	(094) 23159
Hopkins, Tom & Noreen, Upper Main St.	
Iris' Florists, Interflora, Main St.	30015
J. B. Heating & Plumbing, Devlis	(086) 6035126
Jennings, Bernard, B.D.S., Knox St.	30315
Johnston's Machinery, Farming Community Specialists, Knox St.	30019
Jordan's Windows, Clare St.	30641
K.F. Antiques, Ballaghaderreen Rd., Ballyhaunis (contact Kieran)	Mob (087) 8037335; Tel 31149
Kay's Beauty Salon, Knox St.	30065
Keane Kitchens Ltd., Kitchen/Bedroom Furniture, Clare Rd.	30038
Keane, Joe, Merchant Tailor, Knox St.	30751
Kearns, Tom, Plant Hire, Lavallyroe	Mob (087) 2528894; Tel 46193
Kelleher's Spar, Grocery, Newsagent, Wine, Main St.	30023
Kelly, Padraic, Furniture Manufacturer, Drimbane	30089
Kelly, Rosaleen, RPN, MIRI, SK, CPP, Kinesiology, Learning Difficulties	Tel/Fax 30022
Lilly, John Joe, Plant Hire, Johnstown	30352
Loughran, Frank, M.V.B., M.R.C.V.S., Upper Main St.	30017
Lyons, Michael G., Agricultural Contractor, Cloonfaughna, Knock	(094) 80249
Lyons, Michael, Coach & Minibus Hire, Lecarrow	30347
Lyons, Tommy, Publican, Main St.	
M. B. Kitchens Manufacturers, Gurteen	30797
M.W.R. fm (96.1 Mhz), Abbey St.	30169; Ads 30553
Mac Giolla Bhride's Pub, Clare St.	31444
Mac Siurtain's, Publicans, Main St. (Live Music)(prop. Stephen Nolan)	30854
Madden, Gerald, Snooker Tables, Gurteen	30228
Mayo Computer & Computer Training, Clare St.	Email: mayocomputers@eircom.net Fax: 30215 Tel. 32843



McGarry Development Consultants, Engineers, Architects, Clare St.	30170
McGarry's Ladies Wear, Main St.	30084
McHugh, Terence, High Class Victualler, Abbey St.	30061
McKay Construction, Lavallyroe	Fax/Tel 46320
McNamara Car Dismantlers, Dublin Rd.	30439
McNamara, Eamon, Car/Tractor Repairs (24-Hour Service)	Mob (087) 2451908; Tel 30386
Mercy Sisters (Hon.), Upper Main St.	30108
Moran Bros. Ltd., Building/Public Works Contractor (6 Year Structural Guarantee Scheme)	30146; 30725
Moran Coaches & Minibus Hire, Knock Rd.	Fax/Tel 30346
Moran, Donal K. & Sons, Building Contractor, Knox St.	30079
Moran, Donal, T.V. Systems, Knox St.	30569
Moran, Tommy, Sweets, Ices, Fancy Goods, Fuel Merchants, Main St.	30493
Morley, Tony & Sons, Exterior and Interior Decoration, Knox St.	30944
Morrissey Distribution Ltd., Cave	Mob (087) 2469441; Tel 30565
Mulhern, Edward, Taxi Service, Knock Rd.	Mob (087) 6961579; Tel 30249
Mulrennan, James & Sons, Ltd., Fitted Kitchens/Bedrooms (Keane Kitchens)	30038
Munroe, Brian & Sons Ltd., Insurance Brokers	30343
Murphy, Eddie, & Sons, Ladies – 'Part Two', Main St.	30651
Murphy, Eddie, & Sons, Menswear Specialists, Main St.	30651
Murphy's Auto Sales, Service Station & Shop, Dublin Rd.	Fax/Tel 30307
Nestor & Co., Accountants, Dalgan House, Oakmount Ave.	Fax 30294; Tel 32000
Nestor's Corner Bar, The Square	31011
Newsround (prop. Pat Freeley), Newsagents/Toys/Gifts, Main St.	30897
Nicholson's Bar, Bridge St.	30357
Noonan, Martin, Tarmacadam contractor, Block Paving, Kerbing, Bekan	(087) 4188046 Tel. (094) 80254
Noone, Moira & Pat, Ard Patrick, Hazelhill	
O'Connor, John, Ronoco Ltd., Doctor's Rd.	30037
Oak Bar, Bridge St. (prop. Niall Delaney)	30099
P & P Plastering Services Ltd.	30144; 30715
Parochial Hall	
Patterson, Noel, M.R.C.V.S., Main St.	30113; 30865
Phillips Clothes Shop, Dalton St., Claremorris	(094) 72020
Phillips, Charlie & Sons, Drapers, Main St.	30368
Phillips, Charlie & Sons, Shoes, Main St.	30368
Phillips, Eamon, High Class Victualler, Main St.	30381
Phillips, Paddy, Publican, Main St.	30118
Rattigan's Bar, Knox St.	30157
Red Square, Fast Food/Restaurant (prop. Seamus Grogan)	30360
Rochford Motors, Main Mitsubishi Dealers, Knock Rd.	Fax 30570; Tel 30350; 30163
Royal Breffni Pub, Knox St.	31078
Ruane, P., Radio & T.V. Dealers/Repairs, Knox St.	30129
Ryan's Supervalu, Main St. (Free Parking at Rear)	30359
Scoil Iosa Primary School, Abbeyquarter	Fax/Tel 30505; Tel 30360
Storm, Movies & Phones, Main St.	32886
Supermacs (prop. John Durkan), Parties/Takeaway	Fax 32860; Tel 32855
Tasty Dish, Restaurant, Knox St.	32963
Timoney, Martin, Carrownedan, RECI, Electrical Contractor	Mob (087) 2398402
Tynan Dillon, Chartered Accountants, Clare St.	30261
Ulster Bank Ltd., Abbey St.	30049
Val's For Food/Accommodation (Live Music Thursday Nights), Main St.	30068
Valerie's Ladies & Gents Hair Salon, Barrack St.	30681
Waldron, Anthony, Excavation Contractor, Clagnagh	Mob (087) 4141462; Tel 31326
Waldron, Austin, Derrymore	
Waldron, Paul, Ballyhaunis Correspondent, Western People	Mob (087) 4114628; Fax/Ans Mach. 32989
Wash Tub, Laundrette & Dry Cleaners, Same Day Service/Ironing Service	30449
Webb, M. J., Master Butcher, Main St.	30003
Webb, T. J., Catering & Retail Butcher, Bridge St.	Mob (088) 679190; Tel 30041
Western Brand Chickens Ltd., Fresh & Frozen Daily	Fax 30834; Tel 30069
Winston, Gerard, Family Grocer & Fuel Merchant, Devlis	30395

You can contact Annagh Magazine by email at the following address: annaghmag@eircom.net

**Photos taken by the late Pat Coyne in his native Gurteen 1920's**

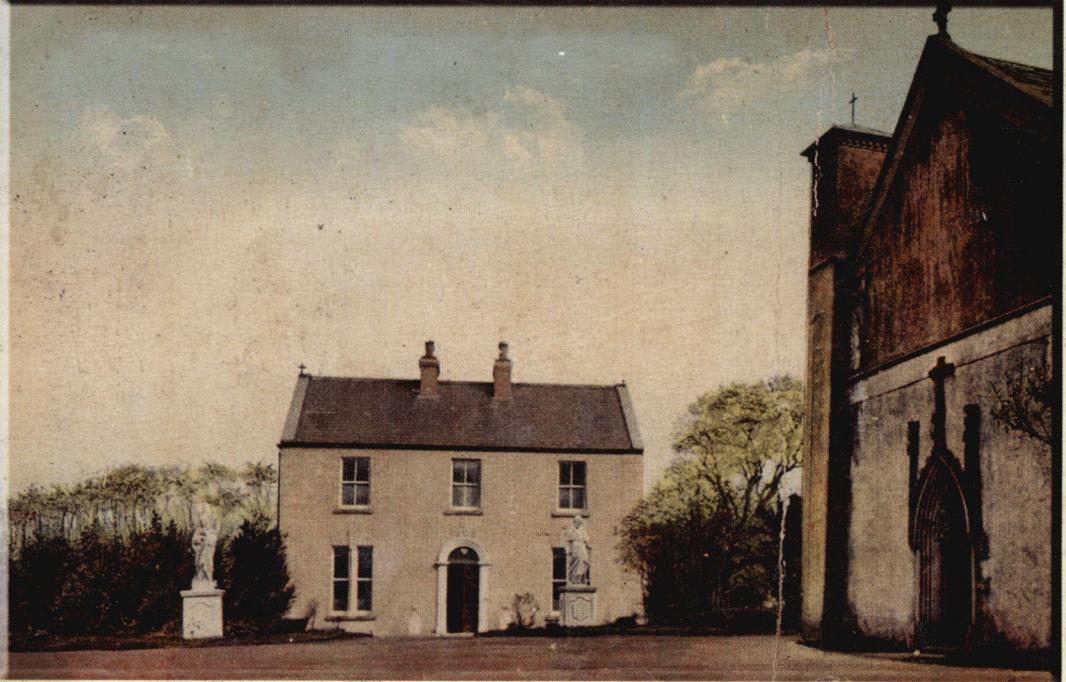


Cutting the meadow. Pat Coyne and Pat Coyne Snr, Gurteen 1930



The Ryan brothers Tom and Pat outside their family home in Gurteen

# Parish Magazine



24th Annual Edition

D Lyons