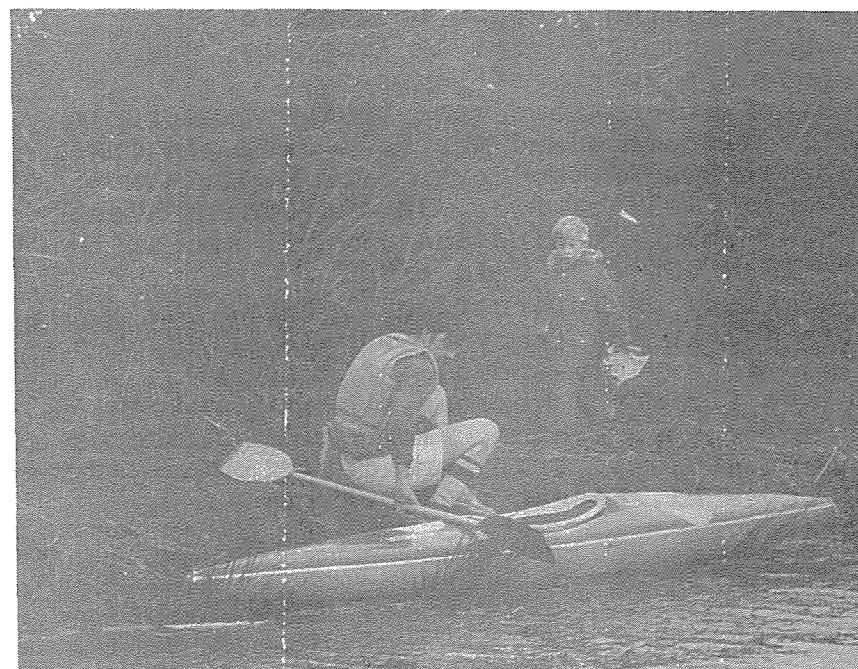




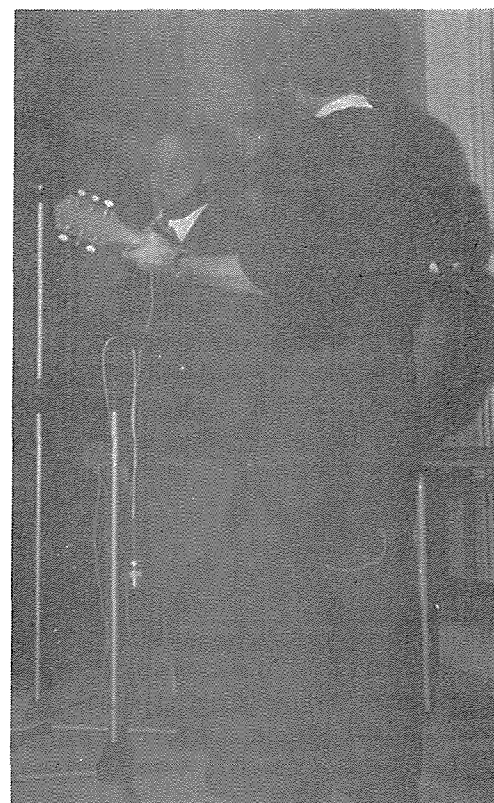
Leixlip, here we come.

Photo: Sean Treacey



Do you want a push, mi-ter?

Photo: Sean Treacey



Patsy Malone singing in the College Song Contest

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MAYNOOTH

NEWSLETTER

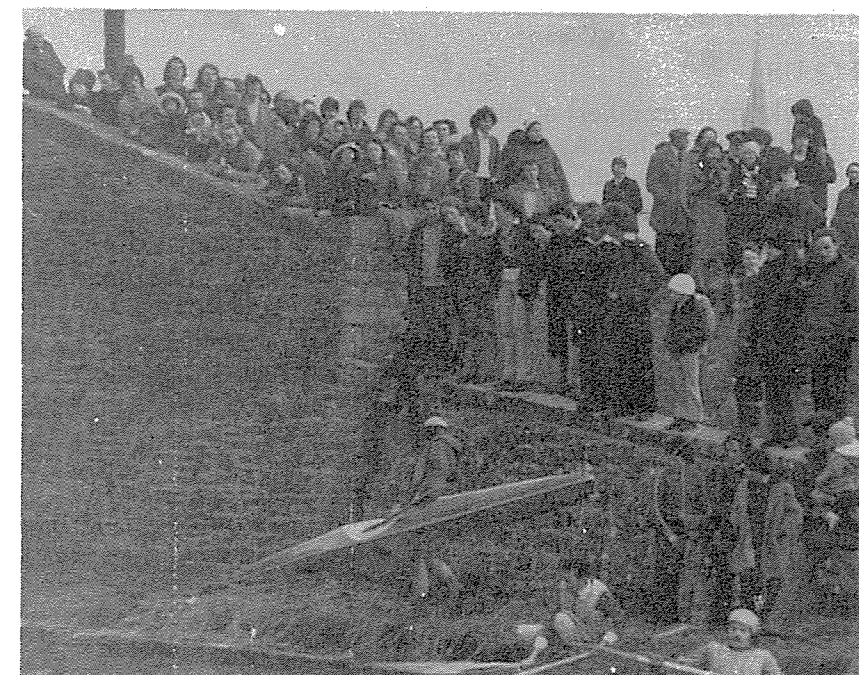
Published by Maynooth Community Council.

APRIL 1976 No. 7

PRICE TEN PENCE.

BOB-A-JOB '76

What's it all about. Well, quite simply it's a chance for the local Boy Scouts to call on your homes and perform some useful task for you. Perhaps you could let them do any job around the house or garden that you have put on the long finger. There is no scale of fees for the task. You decide yourself just how much each job is worth, but I would ask you to remember that while "Bob-a-job" is a nice, snappy and easily remembered phrase modern inflation has made a mockery of the "bob". (Don't we all know it?) As fund raising is generally an adult activity this is an opportunity for the lads to pay their own way by their efforts. Your very generous support in the past is appreciated, can we count on you again? Oh yes! it's all happening during April 14th - 24th but the boys will be calling on you before that to secure jobs from you. Our motto this year is, "Everybody Participates," please give the young lads a chance to do just that and help you out at the same time.



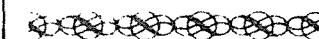
The emigrants farewell?

Photo: Sean Treacey

Support Scouting During

BOB-A-JOB WEEK

April 14-24, 1976



DRIVERS
WATCH OUT
FOR OUR



Catholic Boy Scouts of Ireland

Community Council News

While there were quite a number of matters discussed at the March meeting of the Council, many were of a day-to-day running nature but there were a number of items of interest:-

T.V. MAST

The contracts have been prepared and we are glad to report that even with rising prices, the cost of installation has not been increased and connections can still be made at the old price. Also there has been some discussion with bankers about making available loans to people who might like to avail of same to facilitate connection to the communal aerial. It is hoped to have full details shortly.

YOUTH CLUB

For some weeks past, members of the Council have been attending meetings of the Youth Club. As the Club is, at present, run mainly by students from the hostels and, unfortunately, in holiday time the Club has lapsed, it is hoped that local residents will come forward to preserve the continuity. The Council are anxious to try and contact residents of the town who would be prepared to assist in running the Club. There must be many in the town with various skills and crafts that would interest the boys and girls. Helping out does not necessarily mean attending each meeting week in and week out. You can impart your knowledge in just a few sessions and even this is of great assistance.

CANOE RACE

Final arrangements for the race were made and stewards appointed to control matters. Now, with hind-sight, we know of the huge success of the race

CLEANING THE CANAL

The cleaning of the canal banks was further discussed. The public are reminded that work is continuing each weekend, weather permitting and volunteers are still urgently needed. With the approaching fine weather, it is hoped to see many more workers. Why not organise your own party and combine the good work with a pleasant evening in the open air.

The Council are very pleased and thank C.I.E. for the effort they put on to facilitate us in the cleaning of the canal and the raising of the water level. It is many years since the canal looked so well. Keep up the good work.

JUDO CLUB

A member of the Council mentioned that some people are anxious to form a Judo Club and members recommended a club of this nature. Such a club would provide an excellent 'keep fit' class under expert supervision, whilst providing an excellent sport for the young and the not-so-young. (See note elsewhere in this issue.)

Other items mentioned at the meeting, but not fully discussed were, a possible gymkhana, the Annual Banquets, Community Games, etc. and a further meeting of the Council was called for 30th March to try and catch up.

The usual meeting of the Council will take place on the second Tuesday in April as usual.

DRIVERS MAKE MAYNOOTH A SAFER PLACE TO DRIVE

MAYNOOTH VISTA

by Newcomer

I was away last month and so was unable to give you all the benefit of my usual words of wisdom. Not, I'm sure, that the non-appearance of my column caused any undue hiatus—good word, that!—in the literary life of Maynooth and if after a month's rest from my journalistic endeavours you are anticipating some soul shattering revelations, compose yourselves, you are probably getting nothing of great moment on this present occasion. If silence is golden you got more for your money from me last month than you are likely to get from me this month or in the future.

All of which adds up to precisely nothing.

For that, dear readers, I crave your indulgence because, as I type this, I am in the middle of the vilest bout of 'flu. I hope the mere reading of this does not spread the infection in your direction.

One small incident occurred last week which gave me food for thought. Some members of my local Residents' Committee suggested to me that I should organise youth activities in the estate. I declined. The suggestion appeared to me to have a disruptive and dividing implication. If each of the estates in Maynooth confines its social and cultural activities to estate boundaries we will become a small series of enclaves not worthy to be called a community. Before this trend becomes the accepted norm let us in the name of Christian Charity and Community Concern come together, scrap the existing Residents' Associations and form a Maynooth Residents' Association to back the Community Council, to organise with the Council amenities for the whole of Maynooth and to act as one cohesive body for the betterment of our town.

Maynooth is not so big that we can afford to dissipate our energies and talents among splinter groups. If we can pray together we can play together and we can work together. Or are we looking forward to the day when each of the estates will have an identification tag that residents can pin to their lapels in case anybody should labour under the delusion that they came from elsewhere in Maynooth.

Ni neart go chur le cheile!

I know I'm being waspish—I told you I had the 'flu!

O'NEILLS

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EDITORIAL

The countryside is bare again, but there are indications of approaching Spring, the odd primrose, a little more green in the grass and everything looks hopeful again. Everything? Well, not quite! The lack of covering has shown up the litter again and there seems to be more than ever. The town is bad enough, but each year the whole countryside gets uglier and uglier. It would not be so bad if the litter consisted only of the odd item thrown thoughtlessly from a car window, but unfortunately it is not only this but it would appear that some people are systematically dumping rubbish in large quantities wherever they please. It is impossible now to take a walk on any road out of the town without coming across piles of refuse thrown there by some filthy people. These people are probably quite house-proud and keep their own gardens etc. spick and span. At the same time, they have not the slightest hesitation in dumping their rubbish on somebody else's property.

One would not mind quite so much if the rubbish was perishable, but most of it is tin cans and almost indestructible plastics, including plastic rubbish-bags left as eyesores for years to come.

Can nothing be done about these dirty people who befoul everywhere? Surely, there must be some answer. There is one, of course, each of us can keep an eye open for these dumpers and report them to the authorities. It would be better still if one was to have the moral courage to make a charge against them but everybody has not as much moral courage as this.

One other thing we can do, is to make sure that we, or no other member of our families, young or old, litter the countryside any further. This at least would be a help.

LARGER THAN LIFE!

My mother-in-law was very worried because she kept on seeing giant spiders in her dreams.

"Have you seen a psychiatrist" she was asked.

"Oh no", she replied "only giant spiders!"

DRIVERS — MAKE MAYNOOTH A SAFER PLACE

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LOSING LIFE

As Breda filled the little dropper with warm milk, she shook her head with pity, not for the sick hamster she was going to doctor, but for little Sandra, whom she believed loved Ben, the hamster, more than herself. Since Tuesday, day had stretched into night with Sandra looking after Ben and worrying about her and Breda doing the same with Sandra.

Breda yawned and rubbed her eyelids. Sandra was just now nursing Ben and wanted to be alone, only to share her grief and love with the creature that needed it. She didn't want to let Breda in, and didn't mind because she couldn't yet understand her grief for so small a thing. Breda decided to take a walk, to refresh herself and her mind.

It was a wet evening. The grass glistened from an afternoon's continuous rain. The place looked as if it had just come out of a wash, and was yet to dry. The sky was now a greyish colour, forecasting a change in weather.

Breda strolled alongside a large field and sat on a stile, thinking deeply.

Suddenly a blast from a horn broke into her thoughts. Breda jumped and looked as far as eyes could see, to the end of the sloping field. A blue sky for background, a high bushy sort of fence jutting into it from the damp brown earth. That was her picture then. In half a minute it was completely changed. A great and beautiful horse appeared as if from nowhere and she just saw it as it gave a huge leap over the fence. It was ridden by a big sturdy man wearing a short red jacket and black jodhpurs. "A hunt," Breda thought excitedly. Then her commonsense told her to look for what she hadn't noticed before. She soon found it. The fox was scrambling down a ditch. Breda felt the same panic for it.

"Oh hurry," she said despairing in her mind. She clutched a wooden rail, her mind with the foxes. Some dogs hurtled up. "Quick," she groaned in agony. "Oh no." She buried her head in the palms of her hands and turned. She tried to disentangle herself, her mind from the scene she had just seen. She walked quickly away, but her mind kept looming up on what she had witnessed. It was ... wrong. Robbing someone's innocent life with glory and delight. Unjust, it was cruel, heartless and without feeling at all.

Sandra met her with tears in her eyes. She was holding Ben, dead.

"Why had he to die," she whispered, her voice choking. "I loved him. Why? Had he to go?"

Breda knelt beside Sandra. She gently stroked the girl's hair from her wet eyes.

"Because God loved him, Sandy. He wanted Ben to share his beautiful love," Breda spoke softly.

"But why had he to be killed?" she said bitterly to herself. "Why?"

Geraldine Dillon,
Scoil Iosa, Kilcock.

PARISH NOTES

Auction: Our best thanks are due to Father Supple and his very efficient and hardworking Committee, to Mr. William Coonan, the auctioneer, whose energy and expertise were such an asset, to all the generous donors of all sorts of everything, and to the many keen bidders and buyers on whom the success of the venture ultimately depended. The sum of £1,630 was a fitting reward for their efforts. It will help greatly in reducing the amount to be borrowed when the local contribution towards the cost of extending the Boys' School becomes due.

Boys' School Extension: The work is progressing satisfactorily and the new block looks well. It should certainly be ready for the next school year, but the transfer of the junior boys is likely to be phased—probably first standard in the coming year and infants the following year.

Parish Retreat: A week's Retreat, conducted by two Passionists, Fathers Alphonsus and Hilarion, begins on 4th April. It is for both men and women. There will be two sessions daily from Monday to Friday, at 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. Each session will consist of Mass, Sermon and Benediction. Confessions will be heard after each session and at other times as announced. There will be a special Mass on Saturday afternoon for the Sick and Infirm, with Communal Anointing. Transport will be arranged for those needing it.

Holy Week: The arrangements will be the same as last year.

On Palm Sunday, the sprigs of palm will be given unblessed to the people as they enter the church for each Mass, and will be blessed at the beginning of Mass.

Confessions will be heard all through the week; see time-table in church porches and in the library window at the Post Office.

On Holy Thursday, the Children's Mass will be at 5 p.m. and the Concelebrated Mass at 8 p.m. (Mass at Ladychapel at 9.15 p.m.).

The parish church will be open until midnight for adoration at the Altar of Repose.

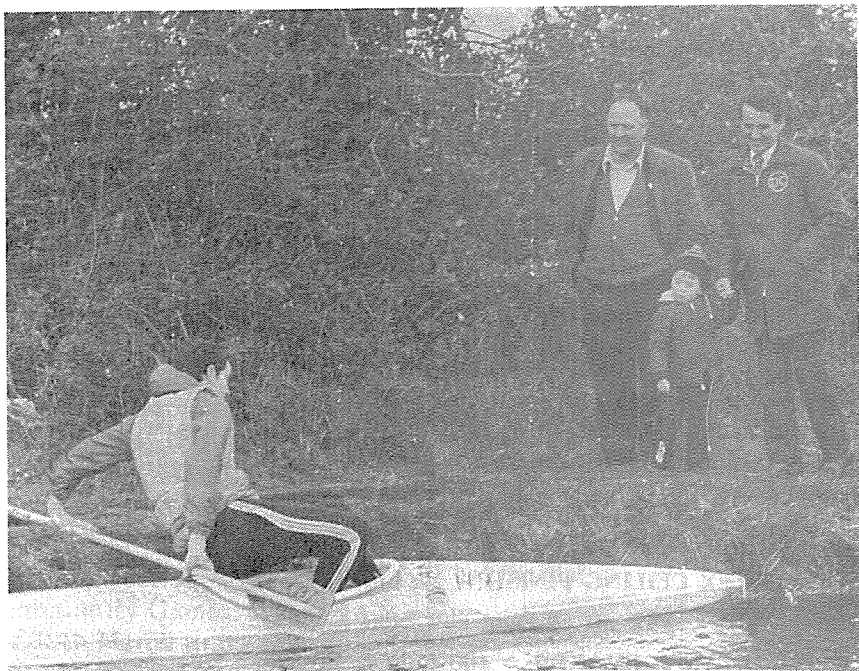
On Good Friday, there will be Stations of the Cross for the children at 12 noon, followed by Holy Communion. The Solemn Liturgy will be at 3 p.m. Stations of the Cross at 8 p.m., followed by Holy Communion (also at Ladychapel at 8 p.m.). People are allowed Holy Communion only once on Good Friday.

The Easter Vigil Mass will begin at 9.30 p.m. on Holy Saturday night. As the first part of the Vigil ceremony is closely linked to Baptism, we hope there will be some children to be baptised during it.

Share Collection (Diocesan Development Fund): As most people know, this collection is necessary because of the rapid growth of the urban areas of our diocese, and the impossibility of each area raising all the money required for churches, presbyteries and schools. This is a responsibility of the whole diocese. Most Catholics realise this, but some have a narrow parochial outlook—they will support their own parish, but not other parishes. However, this is putting the part before the whole. We must not think of the parish as the basic unit of Church organisation, and the diocese as a federation of parishes. It is the other way round. The diocese is the basic unit, divided into parishes for more effective pastoral administration. The bishops are the successors of the Apostles; the priests are the bishops' assistants.

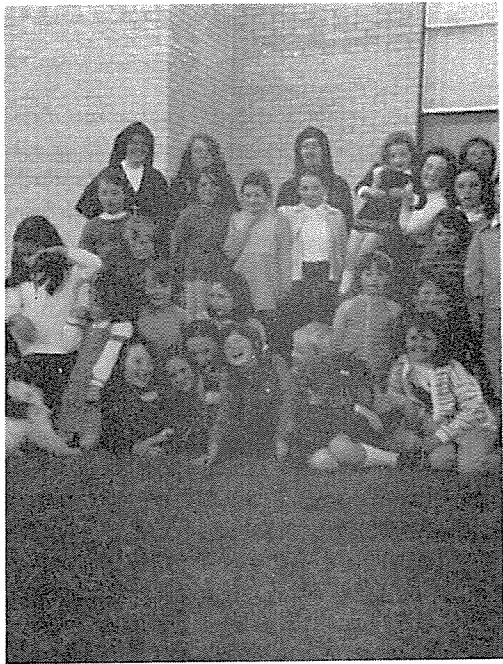
Here in Maynooth, our "Share" collection by means of the boxes at the doors has been averaging a little over £40 per week. We feel that many more people would contribute in a seat by seat collection. That is why we have introduced the new system of two collections at each Mass on Sundays and Holy days. We have tried to minimise the delay and distraction as much as possible. We hope everyone understands. We thank all who have been supporting "Share" and especially those who have been manning the boxes for the past year or so.

Sacrament of Confirmation: Bishop Dermot O'Mahony, Auxiliary Bishop of Dublin, will administer Confirmation in Maynooth on Saturday, 5th June, at 11 a.m. We hope this will not upset Whit holiday plans, but it was the only date available.



Damp Here Only

JOY CLUB—SALESIAN SISTERS



Salesian Sisters with some of their 'Joy Club'.

MAYNOOTH NEWSLETTER
Published by Maynooth Community Council,
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Photo: Sean Treacey

THE ROYAL CANAL —

PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS (2)

By Vincent Duffe

The Royal Canal is waking from the dereliction of the last twenty years and looking forward to partial revitalisation. The revival of traffic—at least of the tourist variety—is now a question of converting those who are sceptical about canals being of any use whatsoever and of waking up canalside people to the opportunities of pleasure that are lying stagnating under their noses. This is being done slowly but surely through the enthusiasm of such groups as the Inland Waterways Association, An Taisce and local development associations.

(Reprinted from: "A New Awareness of the Royal" by B.F.B. Loughheed in "Canaliana" 1975 by kind permission of the Editor)

Since our first mention of the Royal in our November issue some little progress has been made in stimulating local interest in the Canal. The Community Council organised a 'clean-up' of the Canal some weeks ago in preparation for the Canoe Race although it must be admitted that the turnout was much smaller than expected. With the help of the C.I.E. machine however the worst of the weeds were cut away in most places—at least the water is visible now! A word of sincere thanks to those who gave of their time and energy. The start at least was made and perhaps with more publicity and co-operation between people from nearby towns the next attempt will be more successful. The Canoe Race itself got great support locally and extensive coverage on T.V. news bulletins.

Most of you are aware of the plans for the Harbour Field as these have been set out and undertaken by the Development Association—the up-to-date position is reported elsewhere in the 'Newsletter'. This sports-field complex should be envisaged as the "waterside park" to which I made reference last time. The development of the Harbour itself and the banks of the Canal between Pike's Bridge and Newtown Bridge is the natural follow-up from this. The sports field itself is expected to be operational by next year and it is essential that immediate planning be undertaken regarding the Harbour.

Looking at any development from a much wider perspective and taking into consideration the immense appeal that an historical town such as this must have for tourists—then much greater planning must be not only envisaged but encouraged. This point will be looked at again. For the present and from our own purely local viewpoint, taking into consideration the ever-increasing cost of transport and the demands of a growing population for leisure facilities—it is essential to continue the valuable work begun by the Development Association—NOW. Unlike the Grand Canal, there is no Preservation Order in existence as yet in regard to the Royal although representations were recently made in this matter by the Inland Waterways Association and An Taisce. So preservation, as well as development of the Canal, depends on the local communities.



Would you believe it—there's water there somewhere! The bridge over the Royal at the Canal Harbour. —Photo: Sean Treacey.

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ART EXHIBITION

Those who attended the Art Exhibition in St. Patrick's College, were pleasantly surprised at the wealth of artistic talent shown in all sections. Organised by Our Lady of Knock Praesidium of the Legion of Mary, it was, without doubt, a huge success. The exhibits from the University section were of an extraordinary high standard, while the entries from the Post-Primary and Primary Schools showed that there will be no dearth of artists here for many years to come.

Right Rev. Mgr. O'Fiach presented the various awards, as follows:

University

Art Section: 1st Michael Moran.
2nd Pat Farren and Noel Clarke (Joint second)

Crafts Section: 1st Martin McCormack.
Adjudicator's Prize (for wire work): Henry McInerney.

Post-Primary School:

Art Section: 1st John Parkes.
2nd Christina Mooney.
3rd Robt. Morgan.
Over 16 years: John Molloy.

Crafts Section: 1st Cyril Kavanagh.
Adjudicator's Prize: Antoinette Malone.

Primary School:

Art Section: 1st Sean Nyland.
Adjudicator's Prize: Mary Doherty.

Crafts Section: 1st David Grant.
2nd Nuala Kelly
3rd Caroline Gillesby.

Addressing the prizewinners and spectators afterwards, Mgr. O'Fiach congratulated all who received awards as well as all those who competed unsuccessfully. He also commended the organisers for their excellent presentation of the exhibition, etc. and especially thanked the people of the town whose generous contributions helped so much to provide such a fine array of trophies, etc.

Mgr. O'Fiach was especially pleased to see the blend of traditional and modern in the exhibition. This was, he said, as it should be that the past should not be forgotten while looking forward into the future. Like everything else, art should not be static.

Mgr. O'Fiach was happy to see that the competition involved both university and town and he hoped to see a lot more of this co-operation in the future.

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Maynooth Castle

A Focal Point of Local History

Mary Cullen 7



When Henry II returned to England in 1172 the position of the Normans in Ireland had changed. There was no longer the possibility of a new independent Norman-Irish kingdom. Henry had successfully asserted his claim to the lordship of Ireland and had granted some areas to his greater subjects to hold from him as feudal lordships. By feudal theory the king was the lord of all the land and his tenants-in-chief held lands from him on condition that they owed him certain services, including that of an agreed number of knights for stipulated periods of time. Strongbow was granted the kingdom of Leinster, his inheritance from MacMurrough through his marriage to Aoife, to hold by the service of one hundred knights. To balance this huge grant, and because the king was anxious that no one lord should become over mighty, the kingdom of Meath including the modern counties of Meath, Westmeath, Longford and parts of Offaly and Cavan, was granted to Hugh de Lacy for the service of fifty knights.

Strongbow's task now was to secure his grant and subdue any rebellious Irish chieftains. In southern Leinster he made the town of Wexford his base and in northern Leinster he seems to have lived and made his headquarters at Kildare. The Ui Faelain of our own area had been among the leaders of the opposition to MacMurrough and so were unlikely to accept Strongbow without a struggle. The formidable Raymond le Gros raided their territory and seized an enormous amount of booty, including fresh supplies of horses and arms for the Norman soldiers. Later the chief of Ui Faelain, Faelan Mac Faelain, gave hostages to the Normans and he died in 1203 in the newly founded Norman monastery of Connell in the north of the modern county Kildare. Strongbow seems to have been an efficient and relatively conciliatory over-lord, and the only leading Leinster chief to refuse to come to terms eventually and give hostages seems to have been O'Toole.

However there was considerable rivalry among the Normans themselves and in 1173 Maurice FitzGerald returned to Wales because, according to Giraldus Cambrensis, of the jealousy shown by Strongbow towards him. By 1176 Strongbow found he could not do without him and recalled him and made him one of his sub-tenants in Ui Faelain. The accompanying map is based on one published in the *Journal of the County Kildare Archaeological Society*, 1. 3. (1893) to illustrate an article by Lord Walter FitzGerald on "The ancient territories out of which the present county Kildare was formed and their septs." The dotted line shows the modern county boundaries and the other lines the boundaries of the clan or tribal territories. The Norman practice was to allocate to a tenant the whole or part of the existing divisions of the county and many of their names have survived.

Maurice FitzGerald was not the only son of the Welsh princess Nesta to get lands within the modern County Kildare. His half-brother Meiler FitzHenry was granted the territory of Cairbre Ui Ciardha, the later barony of Carbury in the north-west corner of the county. This was the land of the Ui Ciardha, later anglicised as O'Keary and Carey. Here Meiler founded and granted lands to the monastery of Connell where Faelan Mac Faelain, ousted from his territories, retired to die. It may seem strange in the circumstances that he should have done so but it seems to have been one of the accepted, and less sanguinary, methods of getting rid of ex-rulers.

The section of Ui Faelain nearest to Dublin was granted by Strongbow to Adam de Hereford. This included Leixlip, Kill, Celbridge and Rathcoffey. The Latin name of Leixlip, Saltus Salmonis, the salmon leap, gave its name to the later baronies of north and south Salt. The next section of Ui Faelain, the barony of Naas, went to Maurice FitzGerald. This comprised most of the modern Baronies of North and South Naas and also the western part of the modern barony of North Salt which included Maynooth. With this FitzGerald was also granted the cantred of Wicklow which seems to have been the modern barony of Arklow, and he held his grant for the service of twelve knights. In the early sixteenth century the eighth earl of Kildare had compiled the famous *Red Book of the Earls of Kildare*, a transcript of documents in his possession.

The first document dates from between 1185 and 1189 and is, in the words of the transcriber a "gift and confirmation from John son of the kyng of England being lord of Irland to Gerald fiz Morice and his heir on the lordshippis of Omolrow Rathmore Mainoth Larahbryn Teaghto Trachstrapli . . ." Gerald was the second son of Maurice FitzGerald and areas named are Omolrow (?), Rathmore, Maynooth, Laraghbryan, Taghadoe and Straffan.

Having received their grants of lands the Norman lords set out first to make them secure and then to make them profitable and lucrative. Security was usually achieved by the erection of a mote castle or a mote and bailey at a strong defensive position (see illustration with Article I). The next step was to introduce the methods and organisation of agriculture that they were used to. The Norman conquest was not a simple military adventure but depended for its success on the holding and utilisation of land. This did not mean the displacement of the entire native population and their replacement by settlers from England and Wales, but it did mean a sizeable infusion. One of the leading authorities on this period, Professor J. A. Otway-Ruthven says that as early as the year 1200 Norman settlement was effective in the whole of the modern county of Kildare and that English, Welsh and Irish names are to be found among those of the small tenant farmers on the Norman manors.

P. CONROY, M.P.S.I.

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DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

Most of the energies of the Association are, at present, concentrated on the development of the Recreational Centre at the Harbour Field. The whole area of the children's playground and the tennis courts has been laid out and prepared with hardcore filling and the entire surface will be covered with tarmacadam within the next few weeks. We expect the area will be a real amenity for children and their parents and we hope it will be enjoyed by everyone. The major collection held last Whit raised enough money to pay for the equipment but no more.

We are very grateful indeed for the help towards paying for the surfacing which has come from two sources—Maynooth Community Council and Kildare County Council. The Community Council has handed over £800— their entire share of the proceeds of the Sponsored Bicycle Ride and Kildare County Council has given £500. Together they total £1,300 which will pay over half the cost of surfacing. We are grateful both for the money and for the confidence both bodies have shown in the value of the undertaking.

A HOLE IN ONE?

To learn golf one must have an open mind or, preferably, a hole in one's head

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HUGH McNALLY (Manager)

SPORTS PAGE

MAYNOOTH SPORTS STAR STORMS THE ATHLETIC SCENE!

Towards the close of the 19th century Ray Emery from the United States of America, won eight Olympic gold medals. Two extraordinary circumstances surrounded his achievement.

(1) Ray was a sickly child who had a jumping exercise from a standing position prescribed for him by his doctor. This therapy became his sport when he went to Purdue University

(2) He married a nagging wife . . . who according to legend used to nag him to keep him training - frequently ordering him out into the backyard for practice sessions

Our local sports star, Loughlin Murphy, luckily hasn't any of the above ailments but he does have one thing in common with Ray Emery - he too has started stacking medals. A student in the Post-Primary School, Maynooth, Loughlin started his running career last April in the school sports—he also competed very successfully for his school in the Co. Kildare Sports. Then he joined Dunboyne A.C. and since then he has been on a winning trail having to date won twenty prizes which include fourteen medals, three plaques, and three trophies. Probably one of his biggest success stories was that of competing in the International Sports in Belgium early in March - being placed eighteenth in a field of eighty-one which included a top class Russian team. I feel that this was a great achievement for such a young athlete.

Let's hope that now at the age of fifteen he may have many more successes. As an athlete he is on his own as he stands in the jumping arena or goes to his mark, with a two-fold aim; to win on the day, and it possible to record a time, height, or distance, which satisfies him. Obviously weather and other circumstances will affect his performance on any given occasion - but he will always have, throughout the season and from year to year, the added excitement which statistics bring to athletics. As Sir Roger Bannister (Kt. C.B.E.), first four minute miler said "No one can say you must run faster than this or jump higher than that; the human spirit is indomitable."

I hope that many of you young athletes will follow Loughlin and have the courage to at least give the sport a try. Who knows, we may have an Olympic champion in our midst.

JUDO

By Gene Gargan

Judo is an ancient form of self-defence. It is the basic form of many other self-defence arts such as Ju-Jitsu, Savate, and Karate. It is used completely in self-defence as it is a close contact sport. The idea is for your opponent to come forward and therefore be thrown or rendered helpless to your attack. In the present day it is mainly a sport, being accepted as this for both men and women in the Olympics.

Judo is accepted as a sport in Ireland's Community Games where competitors range from 8 to 17 years. For this age group grades depend on weight and height although a very small light person is capable of throwing a person twice his or her height and weight.

The gradings are given in belts from the White to the Black Belt. To gain one of these belts one has to learn certain "throws" or techniques. One also has to learn how to put these techniques into action in combat. Not only is this a very enjoyable sport it is also a very healthy sport from the keep-fit point of view. This is a sport for anyone of any age within reason.

Anyone interested in forming a club in Maynooth would they contact Gene Gargan of 1, Laurence Ave., Greenfields Estate (Ph. 286451) or any member of the Community Council.

NUT-CASE

My mother-in-law has invented a new way to catch squirrels. Just hang upside-down from a tree and look like a nut.

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MAYNOOTH SWIMMING CLUB

A General Meeting was held in the Parish Hall on March 4th. A new Committee was elected:-

Chairman: Owen Byrne.
Asst. Chairman: Ronnie Cassidy.
Treasurer: Mary Begley.
Asst. Treasurer: Ann Power
Secretary: Peig Lynch.

Two members of the Committee attended a meeting of the Irish Water Safety Association, at Naas, where they received some answers to questions which had been bothering the Club. Yes it was possible to receive a grant from the Association, but they would only match £ for £, in other words 'God helps those who helps themselves', so there will be a flag day or some such coming up, as there is nothing in the kitty, and we do need equipment. Agreed it means putting your hand into that ever emptying pocket, but remember it is £ for £ and where else, tell us, could you get those odds?

The Water Safety Association also suggests that the Maynooth Club amalgamate with Athy and send four or five of our best swimmers for a Life-Saving Course, in Naas, with a view to our own Maynooth Swimming Pool opening in a couple of years. (Well, why not. The residents of Maynooth have put years of effort and frustration into getting this project off the ground, it is time they got rewarded.)

At the moment the full quota for the pool (at St. Raphael's)—35—has been obtained, and a waiting list has been opened. The Committee are prepared to try for another hour if they can get the required number. £1 subscription fee will be charged per family, but members must continue to come, or we cannot pay our way. If a Club Member is unable to come, please notify some member of the Committee or ring 286110, and give a child from the waiting list an opportunity of even a one-day swim, and also help the Club to keep up their full quota each week. Note that by doing this you do not forfeit your right to come the following week.

The Committee have lots of ideas, but it will take time to implement them. They even tossed around the thought of an hour for "Mums and Toddlers" (as Gay would say), but how does one reach the mothers to find out if it would appeal to them and what hour would suit them. For the General Meeting, parents of all Club Members were notified but only eight turned up!

If you have any thoughts on the matter, the Committee would love to hear them. If we have a Swimming Instructor amongst us, they would love to hear from him or her too. Yes we will pay the going rate, after all a swimming club is not much use without an instructor.

BEGINNERS GUIDE TO SOCCER By Martin McCormack, S.D.B.

Art of Defence

Hello again all you young soccer stars. As promised in last month's edition I will attempt to give you some ideas on the 'Art of Defence'. The first important principles in defending are twofold. (1) Keep cool. (2) Think before you attempt to dispossess your opponent. As far as possible you should always be looking for the two against one situation: that is two defenders against one attacker. The basis of football is supporting your colleagues when they have the ball or when they are attempting to win it.

So think about defensive football. Never be anxious to push forward in search of goals that you are left without sufficient cover at the back. **Never** dive into a tackle unless you are absolutely sure of winning the ball. Instead hold off and harass your opponent until you can almost make him run where you want him to.

The vital area to protect is the penalty box, so mark tightly. Always have your opponent in front of you. When he runs go with him. **never** give him space to control a pass or turn. Force him out, and away from you until one of your teammates comes back.

"Vision" when I speak of a player with vision I mean any player who can look up and see the possibility of something developing way ahead of his present situation and who can take immediate action. Vision is deciding what to do and when to do it one move ahead of the move already in progress. For example, two players after a 50-50 ball, and a defender sees his winger in space. He will have already decided that he will swing the ball out to his winger, even before his teammate may or may not have won the ball. Another name for vision is building from the back and that means the back four players become involved in moves that spread throughout the team taking in the mid-field players and finally the strikers.

One of the biggest mistakes I've seen with defenders is what we call ball-watching. That is watching the flight of the ball and not seeing what your opponents are doing. **Remember**—no matter how badly you want to win the ball, always be aware of what your opponents are doing. Mark your man and watch for support runs from your teammates.

Defending is a battle of wits, yours against your opponent's. No matter what position you play as soon as you lose possession you become a **defender**. Cover each other, support each other: it is not only good defending but also common-sense.

Do not play a square defence—that is with both fullbacks wide on the touchline. You must cover the two central defenders, by cutting inside. A square defence is a bad defence unless you have mastered the off-side game. Mark tight, deny space and keep awake and on the alert during the whole match.

(To be continued)

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POST-PRIMARY SCHOOL

Congratulations to the following students of the Post-Primary School who received awards at the recent Colm Cill Art Exhibition: John Parks, John Molloy, Robert Moylan, Christine Mooney, Antoinette Malone, Cyril Kavanagh.

All arrangements are now completed for the Work Experience Week arranged by Mr. Gaffney (April 5-9). During this week, arrangements have been made for students from the senior classes to work in various offices, factories, etc. This should give students some experience in various forms of work which they might like to engage in when they leave school.

Open Night will take place at the school, on 13th April, when there will be an exhibition of work in wood and metal, as well as various projects completed by students. Also attending will be representatives from AnCO, National Manpower, CERT, Gardai, Army, St. Patrick's College, Maynooth, etc. The school will be open to everyone on that evening.

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TALENT AND QUESTION TIME

The Talent and Question Time competition is progressing most satisfactorily. The first round has been completed with many very entertaining evenings. The Maynooth Team were unfortunately defeated in the talent end, but the Question Time Team got through to the second round.

The second round commenced on Friday 28th with Kilclone v. Moynalvey in the talent end and Maynooth v. Straffan in the Question Time (we hope to have the result for publication elsewhere in this issue) and the other contests in the second round are on Friday, 2nd April with Kiltale v. Lucan in the talent and Killyon v. Rathmolyon in the Question Time.

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GREENFIELD ESTATE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Yet another year in the life of the Association has begun with the newly-elected Committee in harness. Some new projects are in the planning stages concerned with improving the general appearance of the estate, the most immediate being the landscaping of the green area alongside Greenfield Drive.

One thing that is causing great concern is the condition of the area surrounding the shops on the Estate, litter scattered all over the place which is giving a very poor impression to all visitors. We would again appeal to all, young and old, shopkeepers etc. to make some little effort to remedy this situation.

The Sub-Committee concerned with building maintenance have had consultations with a solicitor in a further attempt to have house maintenance brought up to date. More details of this matter will be published in the next issue of our newsheet.

DONADEA CASTLE - A PLACE FOR YOU TO GO FOR LEISURE: TO PICNIC, WALK, THINK . . .

By Vincent Duffe

Donadea Castle, situated near the village of Donadea, about 6 miles from Maynooth, is a must for those of you who like walking, picnicking - in fact for everyone who just wants to get away from it all and relax in tranquil, peaceful, wooded surroundings. The castle, although somewhat different to our usual conceptions of the castle, has a long history and was occupied by the Alymer family up to a few decades ago. Since then the castle, along with 600 acres of land has been taken over by the Forestry Division of the Department of Lands. During the last five years in particular the forest has been developed into an amenity area to cater for people moving into developed areas of West Dublin and North Kildare. Development of the large estate is planned then along lines considered beneficial for people looking for recreational and leisure facilities away from built-up areas.

For those who just plainly like trees and wild life then the forest is a must. A number of gravelled roadways have been built through the forest with the now dilapidated castle as the focal point - for those who like long, leisurely, peaceful walks. The same roadways hold little problems for prams or go-cars. Near the castle itself a number of timber tables and seats have been provided for picnickers. On one of the walks an old lake has been recently dredged. I'm told that eventually this may be stocked with fish. Within a hundred yards of the castle is the Donadea Church of Ireland which holds the vaults of the Alymer family for those of you who are historically minded.

Whether in the beauty of spring, during the long, hot summer (hopefully) and even in the wildest day of winter, Donadea Castle holds many attractions for anyone wishing to get away from concrete and cars. Children especially love it, for here they can run and play freely and easily it holds a world of new and exciting discoveries for many of them.

It is hoped that this short piece will help stimulate you to go and see for yourself - you and your family will come away after a visit only with regret. Take the road out past Maynooth College gates, turn right at Ladychapel and straight on for a few miles until you see the high wall surrounding the estate on your left. The castle is about ¼-mile in from the roadway with lots of parking-space. Lastly a few words of caution and advice. Beware of

causing fire most of all; and to preserve the beautiful environment for others either take away discarded bottles, tins, etc. or deposit them in a nearby rubbish-bin.

Most importantly, however, enjoy yourself and bring refreshments as the air has a vigour about it. The amenity has been developed for you - use it!

CIVIL DEFENCE NOTES: MAYNOOTH CASUALTY UNIT

First Aid Certificates were presented on Wednesday, 10th to the following successful candidates:-

Mrs. Mary Deane, Mrs. Breda Morrow, Misses Maura Travers, Brigid Lyons, Breda and Ann Deane, Melissa Flood, Messrs. Kevin O'Brien, Ted Kelly.

Capt. Colm Madigan, Regional Officer presented the certificates on behalf of Civil Defence, and Capt. Bill Reid on behalf of Knights of Malta.

Amongst those present also were Capt. D. McKeown, Sub County Warden; Mr. Jim Gallagher, Ass. Sub County Warden; Lt. Michael Brady, Instructor.

A new series of First Aid Classes commenced on Wednesday, 21st March.



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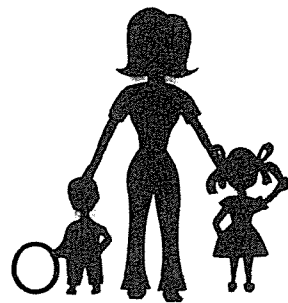
Miss Gertrude Burke, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Phil Burke, Double Lane, had the fine distinction of coming first in her class in a special course at Marlborough St., Dublin, on "Business Management and Book Selling." At a reception on 16th March she was presented with a cheque by Mr. M. O'Leary, Minister of Labour and she also received a further cheque from her employers, Messrs. Veritas, Abbey Street, Dublin, in appreciation.

Gertrude is a past pupil of the Post-Primary School at Maynooth.

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Talent Competition.

The first of the semi-finals in the Talent and Question Time Competitions resulted as follows: Moynalvey beat Kilclone in a very close contest, and there was little or nothing between the two teams. Moynalvey meet the winners of the Kiltale v. Lucan contest, which takes place on 2nd April.

In the Question Time, Maynooth beat Straffan and they will meet the winners of the Rathmolyon v. Kilyon contest also on 2nd April.

The finals in both Talent and Question Time take place on Friday 9th April and there will be a prize winners concert on Sunday 11th April.

Maynooth Athletes.

Just a few weeks ago 180 NACA Athletes flew to Belgium to compete in a top international cross country event in Brussels, and included were Peter Keegan and Loughlin Murphy of Maynooth. Both athletes are of the Dunboyne A.C. of which there were twelve members in all. In the under-16 section, the Club received the following placings: 3rd D. Conroy, 18th Loughlin Murphy, 20th A. McCrory, 39th D. Hutton and 40th Alan Keague - this out of a field of 200. In the Junior event Dunboyne were also 2nd - a mere two points behind the winner, and in the under-17 event Dunboyne were 18th out of a field of 115.

In the senior event, with a galaxy of international stars, the Dunboyne trio - Eddie Reid, Peter Keegan and Tommy McDonnell - finished 38th, 48th and 51st respectively - a very commendable effort.

NACA administrators have plans for more overseas athletic action and coaching has started for many European venues. Members of Dunboyne A.C. are enthusiastic about another athletic trip abroad.

Photo below (bottom right) shows Ml. Keegan and Loughlin Murphy with some of their athletic trophies.



Miss Gertrude Burke receiving her
award from Mr. M. O'Leary, Minister of Labour.
-Photo: by Eddie Tracey.

Final Profession.

On Sunday 24th March last, Rosemary, eldest daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Murphy, Leinster Cottages, took her final Vows in the Association of the Holy Family, at St. Mary's Church, Maynooth. Members of her family as well as a large number of relatives and friends were present for the ceremony. Mass was celebrated by Very Rev. F. O'Higgins (principal celebrant), Rev. J. Duff and Rev. G. Flood.

This is the first time such a ceremony took place in the Parish Church and it was a very simple and touching ceremony.

Congratulations to Sister Rosemary.



Peter Keegan (left) & Loughlin
Murphy - Photo: Sean Tracey.