



MAYNOOTH NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 137

DECEMBER 1988

Price 30p

IN THIS ISSUE

Letters to the Editor

History of Maynooth Series

Childrens Corner

Sports News

Street Talking

Political Party Notes

Maynooth By-Pass

Residents' Associations News



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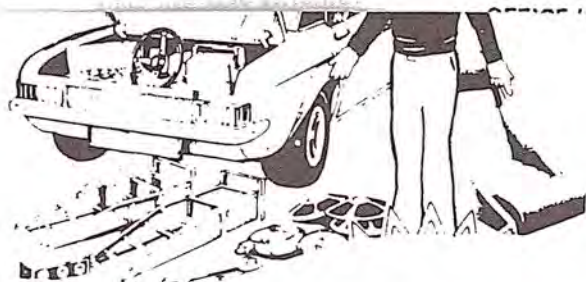
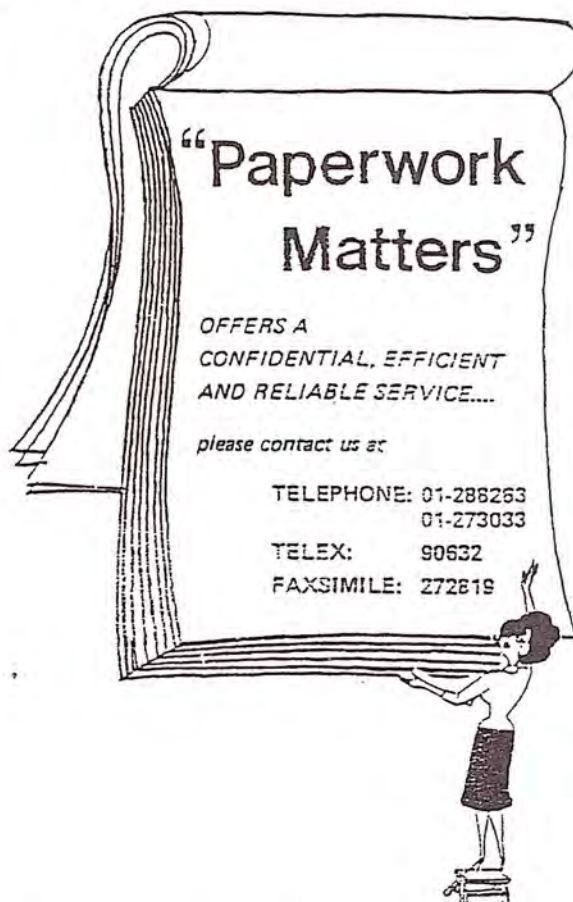
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TIDY TOWNS REPORT

The committee met with the principals of the Post Primary with a view to educating children to keep Maynooth **LITTER FREE**. Projects and posters are planned as part of the campaign and an **ANTI-LITTER WEEK** is planned for Maynooth in the new year. Further news available in a later issue.

Six Social Employment Scheme workers have been allocated in Maynooth for a year to carry out essential work on the Cemetery and other areas within the town which need urgent attention.

YOUTH AFFAIRS

The trophies for the best individual performer and the best family in the Community Games were presented at the American Tea Party on Saturday 22nd October by Hugh Crawford, Chairman of the County Board.

We would like to welcome the new Vice-Chairman Peter Connell onto the Executive Committee.

SOCIAL AND RECREATIONAL

The Christmas Tree is to be erected on the "Thing" as usual by the committee. We would like to welcome John McGinley as Vice-Chairman of the committee.

COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

The date for the festival is set for Friday 16th June — Sunday 25th June. Clubs and Societies within the

town are invited to contact the office about proposed events for the festival. If they would like to be represented on the committee itself, again contact the office, 285922 or write to Maynooth Community Council, Town Mall, Maynooth.

FAS SOCIAL EMPLOYMENT SCHEME

FAS have approved the renewal of the SES to Maynooth Community Council. We would like to thank Mr. Des Murray, the placement officer, for his help and co-operation in this matter.

The SES workers keep the Community Council Office open and provide the services which are invaluable to the general population of Maynooth. The work they do is not immediately noticeable and their dedication and hardwork frequently go unrecognised. But most societies within the town depend on their services and the office has become a nerve centre of activity and information in Maynooth. Perhaps its importance will never be recognised until it closes down. There is no danger of such a disaster in the near future, but a Social Employment Scheme and the office do not fund themselves. Additional funding from the community is essential and therefore the Community Council must fundraise to sponsor the Scheme, and continue to provide employment for nine people. There is an overdraft of £4,000 which must be cleared, outstanding since the inception of the Schemes in '85-'86. The yearly sponsorship necessary is £3,000.

To clear the overdraft and to sponsor the 9 jobs, the following fundraising

events have been planned. Community support is essential to continue this local employment.

1. **A '60's Night** in the Hitchin Post, Thursday 1st December 8 - 11 p.m. Great raffle prizes. Admission £2.

2. The Maynooth Information Directory is to be updated by the Social Employment Scheme workers.

3. **A Daisy Pat** event is to take place in the G.A.A. field hopefully on St. Patrick's Day. This entails marking the field in 50-70 squares. Within those squares another 50 lines will be contained. Each line sells at £1, a full square would sell at £50. A cow is released into the field and wherever it decides to do its "business" — that will be the square within which the possible winners line will be. A draw will be held from the 50 lines that night to decide the eventual winner!

4. A dance in the Parish Hall will be the venue for the draw on St. Patrick's night.

5. Lord Mayor Campaign

Clubs and Societies are invited to put forward candidates for this Campaign and to present them to the town on St. Patrick's Day. The candidate with most sponsorship gathered will be the winner. The money gathered would be divided 50% to the club/society and 50% to the Maynooth Community Council. The winner would be announced during Community Festival. It is up to the club/societies to organise its own fundraising events.

Dear Editor,

I wish to take issue with Bernard Durkan's letter to Maynooth Residents Against Local Charges as published in last month's Newsletter. He attempted to blame residents who have not paid Local Charges for causing Kildare Co. Co.'s current financial crisis. This of course is quite ridiculous as the real culprits for the Council's underfunding has been successive Governments who each year have reduced monies due to the Council. He has completely ignored the fact that when domestic rates were abolished in 1977 PAYE and VAT were increased to compensate for the loss of revenue. Since then those taxes have yielded increases of approx. 400% while support for Local Authorities has been increased by a mere 55%. Indeed for the period 1988/9 Co. Kildare's funding has

Letters.



actually been cut back by approx. £1.3 ml.

More maliciously he attempted to further blame residents who don't pay Local Charges for redundancies in Kildare Co. Co. Such hypocrisy coming from a Fine Gael T.D. whose party is supporting the Fianna Fail Economic Policies which are not only

starving Local Authority of necessary funds to provide services which PAYE workers have already paid for, but also causing job losses and real hardship in Health and Education.

Finally, Mr. Durkan also ignored the tax avoidance evasion etc. which some in the private enterprise sector practise with seeming impunity. I wonder why!

Yours sincerely,
Peter Holand,
72 Maynooth Park.

P.S. I note that Cllr. Gerry Brady says that he is personally opposed to Local Charges but yet he supports water disconnection. Could he please inform us how he can reconcile what seem to me to be an obvious contradiction between these two points of view.

Contd. page 6



expressed understanding and support for those who had been intimidated by the Council into paying part of the charges. The Branch congratulated the Maynooth Residents Against Local Charges and its Chairperson Michael Quinn on their continuing campaign of opposition to the charges.

The Branch also called on the residents of Maynooth to reject the position of the Fianna Fail, Fine Gael and PD councillors on the issue of charges. Immediately prior to the local elections of 1985 Fianna Fail candidates gave a commitment to abolish local charges and to demand that local authorities should receive adequate funding from central government. However, immediately on gaining a majority on the Council they reversed this position and have presided over a rapid escalation in the level of charges over the past three years. Fine Gael, on the other hand, have been consistently in favour of the charges. In addition they have worked hand in hand with the Fianna Fail government in cutting back on support for local authorities.

LIGHT OVER DARKNESS

At the beginning of 1988, Kildare Co. Council, on the proposal of the County

Shortly, if you believe that you may not be on the new register then it is in your interest to check it out.

CELBRIDGE ENTRANCE TO ST. LAWRENCE AVENUE

The Branch has requested Deputy Stagg to fully support the St. Lawrence Avenue Residents in their efforts to make the Avenue a cul-de-sac and thereby improve safety for children in the area.

BACK ENTRANCE TO PHASE 2 AND 3 GREENFIELDS

Arising from complaints from residents, Deputy Stagg has made representations to the Co. Council concerning the deplorable condition of the roadway serving the back entrance to phases 2 and 3 Greenfields.

BOND BRIDGE

Despite repeated calls for action from residents in the area, the condition of Bond Bridge still poses a serious hazard to both motorists and pedestrians. The County Council have applied for a grant from the Dept. of the Environment towards the provision of a new bridge and Emmet Stagg has been active in campaigning towards that end. In the event of that funding not becoming available im-

Report and design
rlier this year and
ted to the Depart-
Environment for Ap-
tract documents
investigation
The cost of
this project could be up to £800,000
and work will be put in hand when
the necessary finance is provided."

2. N4 at Laraghbryan

Deputy Bernard Durkan in a question to the Minister for the Environment asked for the reason for the long delay in the completion of the road realignment on the above — if he will confirm that land acquisitions have been agreed — if there have been any recent changes in relation to land acquisitions and if he proposes to make sufficient funds available to Kildare Co. Council in order to have the work completed during the coming year.

"Phase 1 has been completed at a cost of £804,000. A revised design for Phase 2 has been approved by the Department costing an estimated £500,000. The question of a grant will be reconsidered when the road grant allocations for 1989 are being determined.

The question of land acquisition is a matter, in the first instance, for the local authority and the landowners involved. It is understood that the local authority consider that it may be necessary to make a Compulsory Purchase order in respect of some of the property involved."

Contd. page 16

salt and pepper

GARNISH

1 canned red pepper, finely chopped
1 tablespoon chopped parsley

Heat the fat or butter in a saucepan, add the vegetables and cook for 5 minutes, then stir in the flour. Stir over a low heat for 2 to 3 minutes, then gradually blend in the milk and turkey stock. Bring the liquid to the boil and continue stirring until a smooth sauce. Add the diced turkey, corn, cream and salt and pepper. If possible, allow the mixture to stand for a while so the flavours blend together. Reheat gently for about 7 to 8 minutes. Garnish with red pepper and parsley. Serve with cooked rice, pasta or new potatoes.

THE LIBRARY DIARY

To all groups, associations and organisations etc who organise events for the Maynooth area. We would like to draw your attention to the Diary in Maynooth Library. The Diary is there to be used by all, to log coming events. In this way all groups will know what's on, when and where. By making full use of this Diary we will all avoid clashing dates and this should make for better running of events for all.

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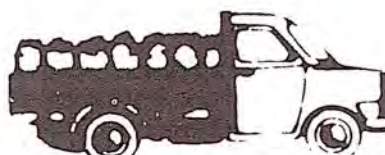
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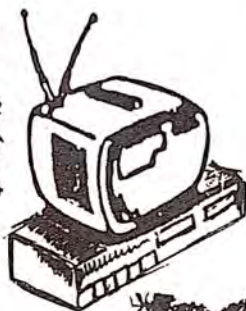
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PART-TIME WORKERS

The use of part-time workers by employers has grown substantially in recent years. This reflects the desperation of many people to obtain extra cash at any price to stave off the threat of outright poverty. At the same time, part-time employment gives employers an excellent opportunity. Martin Lynch and Martin Holohan as well as the Bands who kindly displayed their talent free of charge. Fr. Michael Ross, Don Bosco Trust, pronounced himself delighted with the success of the venture while the President of the Students' Union Eric Gaughran stated, that "the event was a success from an entertainment and financial point of view. To raise £718.00 in this manner and for a course which benefits the people of Maynooth and not just students alone is unparalleled in student history and is another indication of students willingness to involve themselves in the community".

COMING SOON LARINE PLAYERS NO RETURN

LARINE PLAYERS' next production is, "No Return", a new play by Clairr O'Connor. It is set during the three weeks leading up to the Divorce Amendment, June 1986.

This play was given a staged reading in New Dramatists, New York, last Spring, where Clairr O'Connor was the Irish Exchange Playwright for 1988.

The play is about a rural family of three sisters and their reaction to the Divorce Amendment. The eldest sister, Mags, has never left Ireland and is married to Gavin. They both run a knitting business. The middle sister, Ellen, an actress, lives with her musician lover, Seb, in London. The youngest sister, Anne, has lived in America for the past ten years with her husband, Don, a professor, who has recently run off with one of his students.

The play centres on Anne's return to the family home after an absence of ten years. It is not a tension free reunion.

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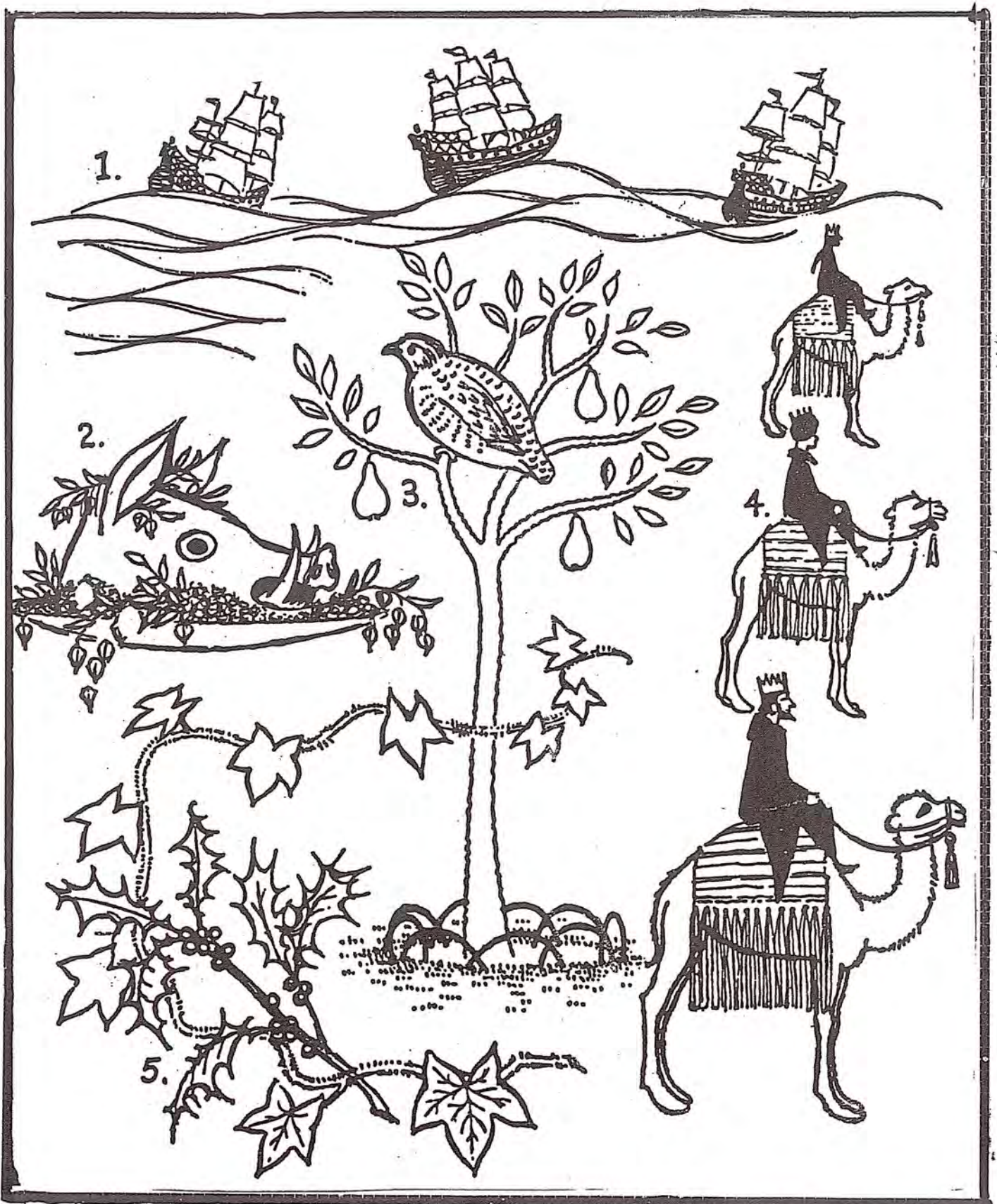
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MUINTIR MHAIGH NUAD

Mrs. Brigid Saults interviewed by Jim Cunningham.

Brigid Saults is a tiny twinkle-eyed woman who lives at No. 9 Parson St. with her daughter Christina and two sons John and Willie both of whom are well known particularly in soccer circles in Maynooth. Although she is not a native of Maynooth, Brigid has lived here most of her life and has for long been one of the town's best-known and respected residents.

Brigid was born in Ballinacagh, near Prosperous, where her father was a land steward. After her mother's death when Brigid was thirteen years of age she spent much of her time in Maynooth where her aunt kept a shop. When her father died three years after her mother she moved permanently to Maynooth to live with her aunt and uncle.

However, in common with many others at that time, as now, she went to England to work. She says that she can hardly believe now how unaware of the big world she was when she headed off to England at the age of twenty. But she did have a sister there and she was anxious to see a bit of the world.



Most of her time in England was spent working as a housekeeper for a family who had jewellers shops. It is a measure of their regard for her that members of the family were in contact with her regularly up until quite recently.

Two events in particular stick out in Brigid's mind from her time in England. One is the famous romance of Mrs. Simpson and Edward whose abdication occurred while she was

there. She remembers different attitudes among English people at the time. Some resented the fact that their King would renege on his responsibilities for the sake of an American divorcee whose main ambition, they thought, was to be queen. Other people presumably the more romantically inclined, regarded the affair as a great love story and had great sympathy for Edward. Brigid particularly recalls the priest at her local church

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asking the congregation at Mass to pray for their recently abdicated King rather than to seek to condemn him.

The other event which Brigid remembers vividly is hearing Neville Chamberlain announce that "this country is now at war with Germany". This proved to be the signal for her to return home as pressure was immediately applied from home for her to come back to the safety of this country. She returned in late October 1939. Indeed, her aunt and uncle had been trying for the previous year to get her to come back due to the deepening crisis in Europe over German expansion. Her sister did come back in 1938, but it took the outbreak of actual war to shift Brigid.

Following her return she worked, again as a housekeeper in Dublin and in Saggart and then spent seventeen years working in the College. Initially she worked in catering in the infirmary and later looking after Professors' rooms. She speaks with great affection of the many students and priests whose acquaintance she made during her time in the College.

Brigid married John Sauls in 1953. John was a well-known figure around Maynooth who spent his working life mainly between C.I.E. and Maynooth College. Sadly, he died four years ago.

It was after John's death that Brigid became interested in a hobby that

had absorbed a lot of her energies in recent times. She had always had a liking for writing, having written a poem expressing her loneliness when she first went to England. But following a course in creative writing which she undertook a few years ago she has been more productive. She has had pieces of prose and poetry published and has had her work read on television. Her interest in writing is probably linked to her great love of reading which has occupied her time since childhood. Her uncle who was rather strict discouraged the reading of novels. However, when Brigid joined the convent library he relented somewhat, presumably, on the grounds that if they came from the convent they couldn't be all that bad.

Another great interest of Brigid's is politics. Her father was always a republican supporter and their house always provided tea or whatever sustenance was required for men on the run during the War of Independence. Brigid has been a life-long admirer of De Valera whom she holds in esteem when she married was always a political household. Her father-in-law, who had fought in the British army during the Boer War, was active during the troubles and on the republican side during the Civil War. He subsequently joined the Labour Party and was a County Councillor

for the party. He was a close associate of William Norton, then leader of the Labour Party. It is probably a measure of Brigid's independent streak that despite marrying into a Labour Party family she retained her loyalty to Fianna Fail, although she was never a member of the party. She will admit though that she has sometimes, for reasons of a particular candidate's personal appeal, crossed party lines to vote.

Brigid also has a fund of stories which he had heard over the years particularly ghost stories. Although she is not a great believer in ghosts herself she recalls a very strange incident at the time of her mother's death for which she can offer no rational explanation. During the time when her mother was very ill, a sheep came into the house and moved up to her mother's bed and then ran out again. Her mother died shortly after. The strange thing was that there were no sheep on the farm. Her father had a notion that the sheep might have been some sort of herald of death. Brigid is not sure but she regards the incident as her closest brush with the supernatural.

Hopefully, she has many years ahead of her in Parson Street before she has any need to worry about the supernatural.

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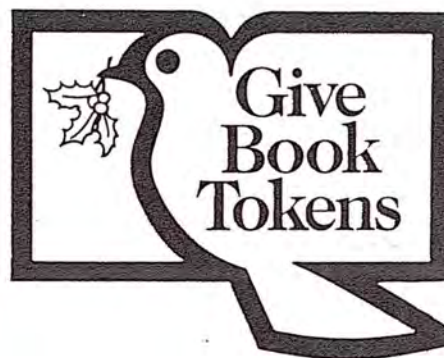
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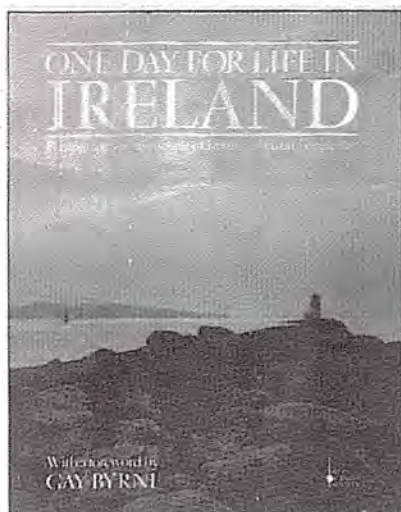
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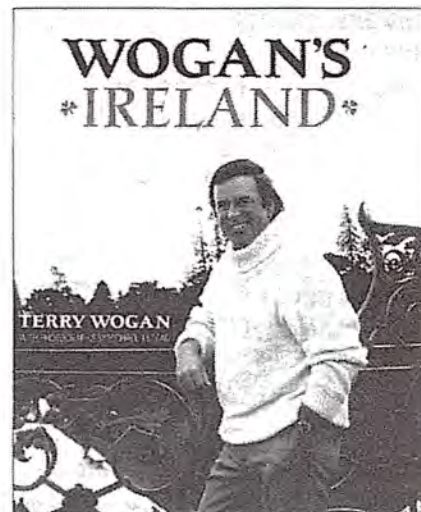
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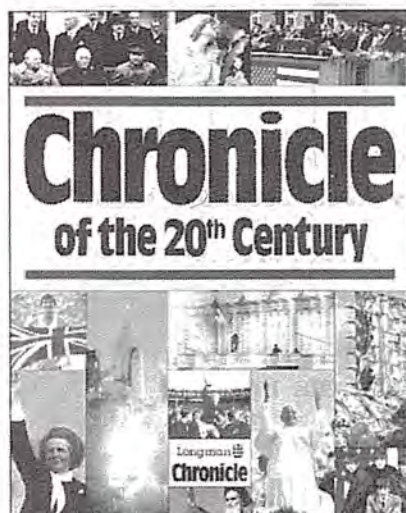
Publisher: Bantam Press
Publication: Sept. 1988 IR£16.95



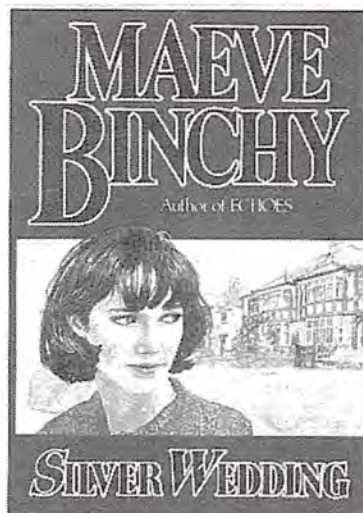
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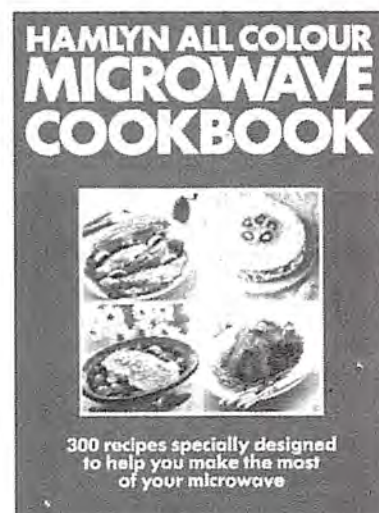
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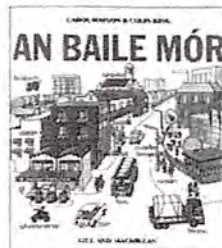
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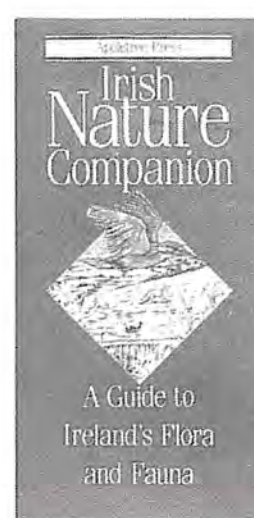


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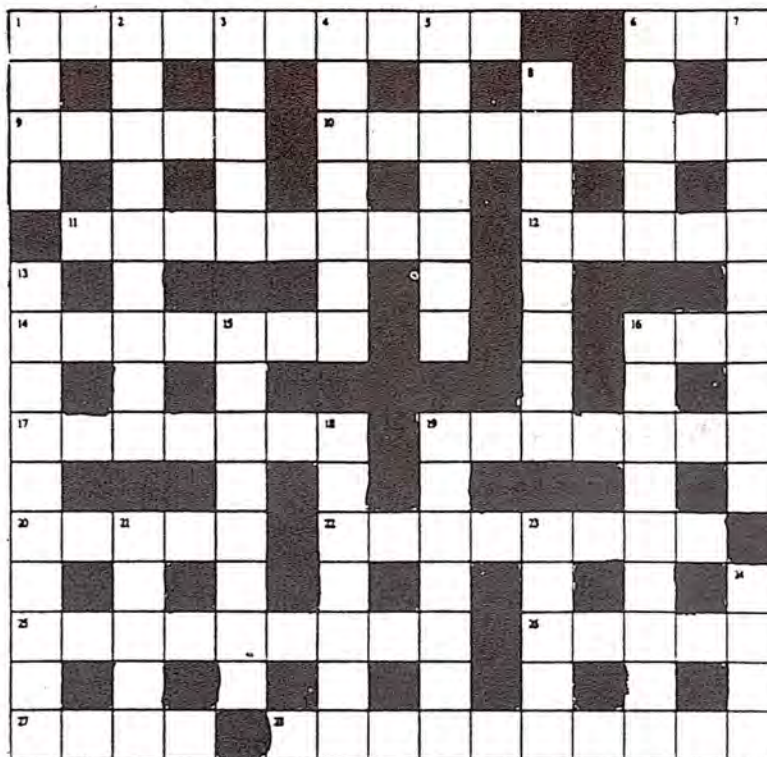
ACROSS:

1. Heavenly expression on the way to Moyglare (6,4)
6. Give a rap about the norm(3)
9. Albert's limb is permissible (5)
10. Ted is troubled - he fell off a cliff (9)
11. Be singular, be extraordinary (5,3)
12. The boy is confused at first, but still plays the ocarina (5)
14. My bib is semi wet as I hit the bottle (7)
16. As a pen, it's not big(3)
17. Trevino drives away from the wind (7)
19. Strategy to finish the diversion (7)
20. A tonic and the facial neuralgia is cured (2,3)
22. It's not real coffee but it may help wipe away things(5,3)
25. The male experts are scarlet, but are they militant? (3,6)
26. I've no fear concerning father (5)
27. Sway in an upset manner(4)
28. Put ten into ten at the beginning of this week (4,6)

DOWN:

1. The vein of ore is unemployed (4)
2. Vera is semi-inanimate but she can acquire Cain's upset brother (9)
3. New York or London, it's not immaterial (5)
4. Attack with the apse now (7)
5. Is e' turfed out and found to be false? (7)
6. Albert, my cherished flower (5)
7. Put rice into radical Edward, and changed course (10)
8. Sid is upset at being rendered defenceless (8)
13. The herb ends in commotion near the long avenue (7,3)
15. Political limbs, sometimes made of paper? (8)
16. The French escort resides beside the campus (9)
18. Ed will announce the girl from the banner county (6)
19. Meet Len in his native state (7)
21. Not tonight, Josie (5)
23. Roll on in the divine round up (5)
24. Speaking semi-candidly, no one should stand like this (4).

CROSSWORD NO. 13 By 'SPRITE'



CROSSWORD - FIVE POUNDS PRIZE

Monday 12th December 1988

Name:.....

Address:.....

SEND YOUR ENTRY TO: MAYNOOTH NEWSLETTER
TOWN CENTRE MALL

SOLUTION TO No. 12 BELOW



CROSSWORD - FIVE POUNDS PRIZE

WE REGRET TO ANNOUNCE THERE WERE NO CORRECT
ENTRIES FOR SPRITE NO. 12



MAYNOOTH ATHLETIC CLUB

The Kildare 10 mile championship was held in Carbury and Maynooth were the winners in the Vet ladies team, they were Patsy McCluskey 1st O/30, Helen Redmond 2nd O/35 and Marie Gleeson 1st O/40. Well done ladies. Peter Keegan was 1st in Vet men O/45.

There were more successes in Dunboyne in the Leinster 10 mile championships with another win for Patsy McCluskey (1st O/35), Helen Redmond was 3rd O/35 and we had

Brian Redmond 1st O/45.

The first round of the Kildare cross country championships was held in Carbury. Michelle Gillick 5th girls U/10, girls U/12. A fine win for Patricia Purcell. Eimear O'Sullivan 4th, Ashling Redmond 8th and Yvonne Reidy 20th. They received 2nd team award with 33 pts. Girls U/14 Fiona Redmond 4th and Emma McCluskey 7th. Boys U/14 Paul Flood 9th. Girls U/14 won 1st team award with Lisa McCluskey 1st, Carmel Noonan 3rd and Catherine Gleeson 10th (14 pts) this was a good start to the season. In the Novice ladies. Helen Redmond had a fantastic race about 800 metres from the finish Helen took the lead and there was no holding her a super finish and well deserved 1st place. Marie Gleeson and Bernie Dunne made up the team which took 3rd place.

In the Novice men our only runner was Brendan Moran. Two of our members were chosen to run on the Irish teams in Ronce Belgium. They were Patsy McCluskey for the Vet Ladies and her daughter Lisa in the Girls U/17 team. We wish them well and know they will give their best. In the club draw held in the Bingo on Wednesday 9th November.

Winner of £100 Brendan Travers, Newtown.

£50 Catherine Fay, Leinster Cottages.

£20 Gerry Martin c/o Liam McNamee.

£10 S. Perry, c/o E.S.B. Kylemore Road.

£ 5 Celine Flanagan, Lady-chapel.

£ 5 Muire Ennis, Daraghs-town.

£ 5 Joan Healy, Smithstown.

£ 5 Maria Kelly, c/o Bingo.

Our thanks to all who continue to support our draw.

B. Tracey and M. Noonan.

TAE KWON DO

Congratulations to members of Maynooth "Tae Kwon Do" School, who passed their grading on the 22nd of September under Master Ki-Ha-Rhee in Tallaght. Also, well done to our most recent Senior and Junior members who all passed their first grading.

Eyes watched and ears listened to Master Rhee as he talked to students about the Art. Nerves rattled as students stood before him to grade. At the end of a long night, everyone did well. On leaving the hall, students

Michael Mullins & Derek Henry

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A selection of Books for Christmas from The Maynooth Bookshop, The Square, Maynooth.

took one last look at Master Ki-Ha-Rhee, a great master of Tae Kwon Do.

We would like to congratulate our Instructor Michael Devereux, who claimed his second degree black belt under Master Ki-Ha-Rhee in September. Well done Sir!

At the National Stadium in Dublin on Saturday the 22nd of October, a competition took place between Ireland's R.I.T.A. team and the United Kingdom's U.K.T.A. team. It was a black belt tournament and was a spectacular night. Instructor of Maynooth "Tae Kwon Do" Club Tom McIlvor, took part in the event, and as usual, was a credit to the club.

Sean Foy has been absent from our club due to an injury caused at work, and we all hope to see him back soon, fully recovered.

Junior classes are now starting on Monday night at 6.00 p.m. and Senior classes on Tuesday night at 8.30 p.m. So we hope to see a lot of people down on these nights to join. **The first two classes are free.** So you cannot go wrong by just becoming fit and learning how to defend yourself using the Art.

P.R.O. C. Traynor.

MAYNOOTH BADMINTON CLUB

The Club would like to welcome both new and old members to the new season. Derek Gleeson has taken over as Chairman from Joe Farrell. Our grateful appreciation to Joe for the time and effort he has given to the Club.

The new season has just started and our immediate congratulations to the 1st Team who got off to a great start with a 7-1 victory over Clane. Good luck to our 2nd, 3rd and Ladies League teams in their forthcoming matches in the Dublin League.

Club nights are Mondays 8.00-11.00 and Thursdays 7.00-11.00. To help beginnings with the basic skills, Sean O'Connor and Dominic Nyland have been running a coaching practice on Thursday nights. At present the club has a limited number of vacancies for players of league standard.

A very successful American Tournament was run by Paul Murphy on 29th Sept. The tournament which received a large entry, was sponsored by "Fosters". The outright winners were Carla Brennan and Fergus McLysaght and the runners up were Carmel Nolan and Joe Moore.

Best wishes to two former members Edel Bean and Joe Moran who were recently engaged and are now employed in Holland. Good luck to Eimear Mangan who now resides in England. Congratulations to Mick and Pauline Martin, Joe and Margaret Moore on their recent marriages.

Finally, a happy and peaceful Christmas to all club members.

Olive O'Shea, Sec.

MAYNOOTH HURLING AND FOOTBALL CLUB

Due to the fact that the P.R.O. is in bed with "flu" there will be no contribution from the G.A.A. in this edition. The chairman would like to wish a happy Christmas to all our members and supporters.

Michael Caden, P.R.O.

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20. Meet Len in his native state (7)
21. Not tonight, Josie (5)
23. Roll on in the divine round up (5)
24. Speaking semi-candidly, no one should stand like this (4).

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CROSSWORD - FIVE POUNDS PRIZE

WE REGRET TO ANNOUNCE THERE WERE NO CORRECT ENTRIES FOR SPRITE NO. 12

PART-TIME WORKERS

The use of part-time workers by employers has grown substantially in recent years. This reflects the desperation of many people to obtain extra cash at any price to stave off the threat of outright poverty. At the same time, part-time employment gives employers an excellent opportunity. Martin Lynch and Martin Holohan as well as the Bands who kindly displayed their talent free of charge. Fr. Michael Ross, Don Bosco Trust, pronounced himself delighted with the success of the venture while the President of the Students' Union Eric Gaughran stated, that "the event was a success from an entertainment and financial point of view. To raise £718.00 in this manner and for a course which benefits the people of Maynooth and not just students alone is unparalleled in student history and is another indication of students willingness to involve themselves in the community".

COMING SOON LARINE PLAYERS NO RETURN

LARINE PLAYERS' next production is, "No Return", a new play by Clairr O'Connor. It is set during the three weeks leading up to the Divorce Amendment, June 1986.

This play was given a staged reading in New Dramatists, New York, last Spring, where Clairr O'Connor was the Irish Exchange Playwright for 1988.

The play is about a rural family of three sisters and their reaction to the Divorce Amendment. The eldest sister, Mags, has never left Ireland and is married to Gavin. They both run a knitting business. The middle sister, Ellen, an actress, lives with her musician lover, Seb, in London. The youngest sister, Anne, has lived in America for the past ten years with her husband, Don, a professor, who has recently run off with one of his students.

The play centres on Anne's return to the family home after an absence of ten years. It is not a tension free reunion.

LARINE PLAYERS.

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OLD FOLKS COMMITTEE

A party was held on Sunday 6th November. There was a smaller crowd than usual as it coincided with Cemetery Sunday. Those that attended had an enjoyable time. The Sale of Work Wheel of Fortune took place in the Parish Hall on Sunday 13th November and was a great success. Thank you to all who helped in any way, it was much appreciated. A special word of thanks to the elderly who had their own craft stall, their work was greatly admired, well done all.

There will be a party in the Divine Word Hostel on Sunday 11th December. As usual anyone over 60 welcome to our morning sessions on Tuesday and Thursdays in the I.C.A. Hall and also to the parties. Best wishes to all for Christmas.

Sheila Jolley, P.R.O.



EIGHT LOVELY LADIES MAKING A PRETTY PICTURE

THE MAYNOOTH BY-PASS: FURTHER DETAILS

Now that the Lucan By-Pass has finally opened, the urgent need for work to begin on the Leixlip-Maynooth-Kilcock By-Pass has been brought into sharp focus once again. As outlined in previous issues of the Newsletter, the latter by-pass will begin where the Lucan by-pass ends near the Spa Hotel, and will skirt around the south of Leixlip, Maynooth and Kilcock, rejoining the Galway road to the west of Kilcock. The road will be built to motorway standards, and the only access point along its entire 17.5 kilometre length will be provided from the Straffan Road, just outside Maynooth. A large amount of land will be required for the project, and, in a previous issue, the Newsletter provided details of the land-owners who will be principally affected.

The Newsletter has been taking a closer look at the detailed plans for the by-pass, work on which should begin in the next year or so. Beginning from the western end, the by-pass begins just west of the entrance to Pitchfordstown Stud. To the south-west of Kilcock, it cuts across the Clane Road at the entrance to Courtown House. At this point, a new stretch of road is to be built curving behind the houses on the north side of the Clane Road, along the edge of Bawnogues Common, passing over the by-pass via a new bridge, and cutting through the Newtown Road before joining the existing Clane Road beyond the entrance to Courtown House. The existing road will be blocked off where it meets the by-

pass. This realignment is necessary for reasons of safety, drainage and visual amenity.

Moving eastwards, the by-pass will go under the Kilcock-Laragh road, which will be raised via a bridge and slightly realigned at this point. Just west of Maynooth, at Laraghbryan, a local road runs south from the Kilcock Road, over the canal and railway, and then splits in two, with one road running via Treadstown to Laragh, and the other running to Crinstown. Both of these roads will be cut off and replaced by a new road running from where they join, over the by-pass, and connecting up with the Laragh-Crinstown Road. Those familiar with the area should be able to follow this!

The Maynooth-Rathcoffey Road will pass over the by-pass via a new bridge at Newtown (just beyond Cluain Aoibhinn). Further east, the lane connecting Rowanstown House to Newtown will be cut off and replaced by an accommodation road running along the by-pass onto the Straffan Road. The by-pass will pass under the Straffan Road between Noone's Garage and Barrett's. The Straffan Road will be raised via a new bridge and slightly realigned. Four ramps will connect the Staffan Road with the by-pass to allow entry and exit in both directions.

Further east, the road from Ballygoran House to Ballygoran Cross on the Maynooth-Celbridge Road will be closed off, as will the present Celbridge Road itself just beyond Barrogstown Cross (where the road to the Obelisk joins the Celbridge Road).

Instead, a new section of road will be built running south from Barrogstown Cross, over the by-pass and then splitting in two, with one spur running east to rejoin the Celbridge Road, and the other running south to join the Ballygoran-Moortown-Kilwogan Road. This will allow traffic coming from the Straffan Road direction via Moneycooley Cross to get onto the Maynooth-Celbridge Road. It also means that traffic coming from Maynooth to Celbridge will have to turn right at Barrogstown, and then left after crossing over the by-pass, in order to get back onto the old Celbridge Road.

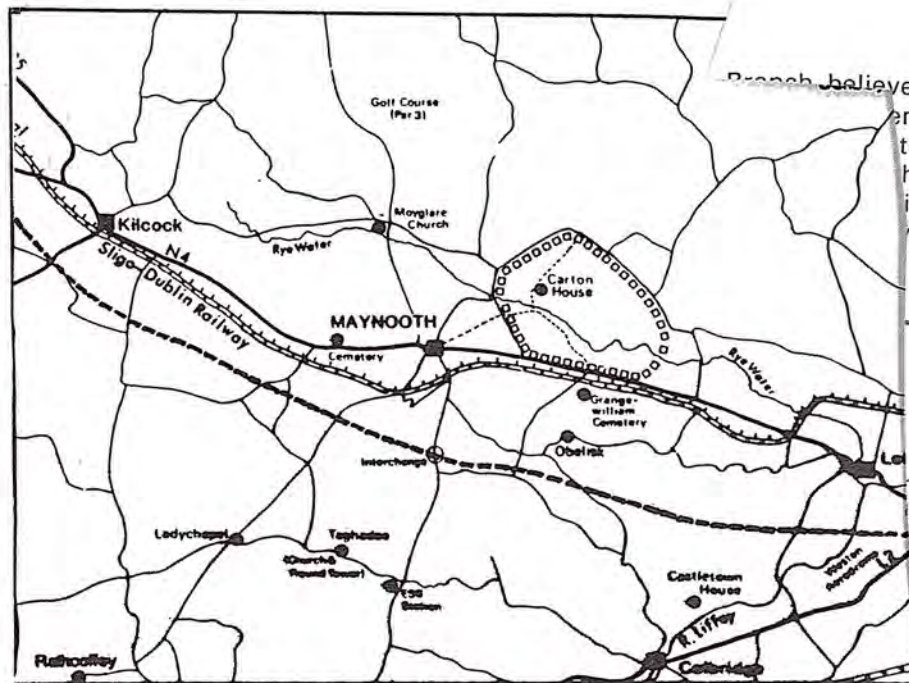
Further east again, a new bridge is to be built to accommodate the lane leading to Castletown House via Leixlip Gate. The by-pass then passes under the Leixlip-Celbridge Road between Leixlip Park Estate and the IMP Meath Factory site, crosses the Liffey, cuts through Cooldrinagh Lane (which runs from the Leixlip-Lucan Road between the Salmon Leap pub and the Springfield Hotel as far as the Lucan-Celbridge Road) and joins up with the Lucan by-pass just beyond the old Tara Co-op premises. Cooldrinagh Lane will be cut off (except for a pedestrian overpass).

A new stretch of road will be built from the junction with the Lucan by-pass out to the Celbridge-Lucan Road. This means that traffic from Celbridge will then have direct access onto the Lucan by-pass, which is not the case at the moment.

Although the by-pass has been designed to minimise disruption,

many landholdings will inevitably be split in two, and provision has been made, as much as possible, to provide links between parcels of land separated in this way. In some cases, the County Council proposes to buy up small pieces of land cut adrift by the by-pass. A number of dwellings standing in the way of the by-pass will have to be demolished; those concerned will be rehoused or otherwise compensated. The by-pass will be depressed into the landscape over several stretches in order to minimise noise, air pollution and visual intrusion, particularly in the vicinity of built up areas.

The by-pass will have two carriageways separated by a median; each carriageway will have two lanes and a hard shoulder. As with motorways generally, there will be restrictions as regards the types of vehicle which can use the by-pass, hitch-hiking and minimum speeds. One wonders how the myriad of hitch-hikers who currently use Maynooth as the launching pad for their journeys west will adjust to this situation!



MAP OF LEIXLIP - MAYNOOTH



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Maynooth Castle

A Focal Point of Local History Mary Cullen

Garret Mór, the Great Earl of Kildare, lived from 1456 to 1513. This was a period when the kings of England ruled Ireland, in so far as they can be said to have ruled it at all, through the agency of a great Anglo-Irish Lord acting as the deputy of a nominal lord lieutenant of royal blood. With a few interruptions Garret Mór was acting governor of Ireland from 1478 to his death in 1513. He was of Fitzgerald stock on both sides. His mother was Joan, daughter of James, the executed seventh earl of Desmond, and his father was Thomas, seventh Earl of Kildare. Garret was most probably born at his father's chief castle of Maynooth, and grew up there with his two sisters and three brothers.

The Great Earl first took office as governor of Ireland during the reign of the Yorkist king Edward IV, and the Kildares, with most of the lords of Ireland, continued to support the house of York throughout its struggle with the rival house of Lancaster for the throne of England. So indispensable did his services in keeping Ireland relatively peaceful and trouble free appear to both rival English houses, that his governorship of Ireland survived not only the downfall of the Yorkists but even his own active involvement in an attempted coup to restore them. In 1485 the Lancastrian Henry Tudor defeated the Yorkist Richard III at the battle of Bosworth and became king as Henry VII. In 1487 a pretender, Lambert Simnel, who claimed to be a nephew of Edward IV, was crowned in Dublin as Edward VI with Kildare's support. An invasion of England to place the claimant on the throne followed and Thomas, brother of the Great Earl, fought and died on his side at the battle of Stoke where Simnel was defeated and taken prisoner. A few years later yet another pretender claiming to be a Yorkist heir appeared at Cork. Again Kildare plotted to help make him king of England though on this occasion he did not go to the length of rebellion.

At this stage the Tudor King Henry VII, not surprisingly, experimented with removing Kildare from power in Ireland. In his place he sent over an Englishman, Sir Edward Poynings in 1494. Poynings held a famous parliament at Drogheda which passed an act limiting the power of Irish parliaments. It also outlawed the war-cries

of the Fitzgeralds and the Butlers, and attained the Great Earl, that is it passed an act declaring him a traitor. He was arrested, sent to England, and lodged in the tower of London. During his long detention in England his wife, Alison Eustace, died of grief in November 1494. From the Tower, Garret Mór, was brought before the king and his Council and accused of many offences by enemies and rivals from Ireland. In an article in the *Journal of the County Kildare Archaeological Society* for 1896, Lord Walter FitzGerald, using contemporary accounts, recounts what happened:

'The Bishop of Meath commenced by accusing the Earl of sundry offences, and amongst others of forcing him from the sanctuary. The Earl answered that he was not sufficiently able to defend himself, as the Bishop was a learned man, and so was not he, and thus he might be able to get the better of him in an argument. Thereupon the King advised the Earl to select a councillor, and any one he choose he would surely get. The Earl replied he doubted he would get the good fellow he would select. 'By my troth, thou shalt,' said the King. 'Give me your hand on it' said the Earl. 'Here is my hand,' said the King, 'choose well, for thou art badly in need of a good one.' 'I will choose the best in England,' said the Earl. 'And who is that?' asked the King. 'Marry! the King himself,' replied the Earl, 'and by St. Bride I will choose none other.' At this the King laughed, and turning to the Council remarked, 'A wiser man might have choosen worse.'

'After finishing with the Bishop of Meath's complaints, the Bishop of Cashel eventually came forward and accused the Earl of having burnt his cathedral on the Rock of Cashel, and at the same time produced numerous witnesses to prove the fact. But contrary to their expectations, the Earl not only confessed it, but added: 'By St. Bride! I never would have done it but I thought the Bishop was inside.' This being said in front of the bishop himself made the King laugh heartily, and he was so impressed with the bluntness and frankness of the Earl, that on the Bishop of Meath irritably exclaiming: 'Your Majesty must see all Ireland cannot rule this man,' the King at once replied: 'Then he shall rule all Ireland.'

And thus the Earl was restored to his honours and estates, and appointed Lord Deputy by letters patent, dated 6th August, 1496'.

Not only this but he returned to Ireland with a new wife, Elizabeth St. John, who was a cousin of the King. After this restoration to the post of deputy Garret Mór ruled Ireland until his death in 1513. He could still use parliament in his own interests as long as he had Henry's approval. He held control over appointments to most of the great offices, in church and state, control over the way in which revenue was spent, and command of the royal forces in Ireland, and of the royal artillery. Apart from all this he exercised great power in his own right as Earl of Kildare and this he built up by judicious alliances. His daughters married into the great Irish and Anglo-Irish families of O'Donnell, O'Carroll, MacCarthy Reagh, Butler and Burke. He was recognised as virtually the 'uncrowned king' of Ireland and historians have speculated as to his chances of success if he had launched an all-out campaign to repudiate the authority of the kings of England and set himself up as king of Ireland. This however he never attempted to do and was satisfied to rule Ireland in the interests of his family and allies, using to the full all the resources available to him as deputy of the king, and representing his actions to the king as being in the interest and defence of royal power. In this he was so successful that Henry VII created him a Knight of the Garter as a reward for his victory in the battle of Knocktoe, or Cnoc Tuagh, near Galway, in 1504, a battle which was the result of long-standing family feuds in Ireland and where, with the help of Irish and Anglo-Irish forces drawn from all over Ireland, the Great Earl defeated a strong rival in the person of his son-in-law Ulick Burke, Lord of Clanrickard.

Garret Mór died at Kildare in 1513 as the result of wounds received in a skirmish near Kilkea with a party of the O'Mores of Leix. He was buried before the high altar of St. Mary's Chapel in the choir of Christ Church. The chronicler, Richard Stanyhurst has left this description of the Great Earl; he was 'a mightie man of stature, full of honore and courage, who had bin Lord Deputy and Lord Justice of Ireland three-and-thirtie years, Kildare was in government mild, to his enemies sterne. He was open and

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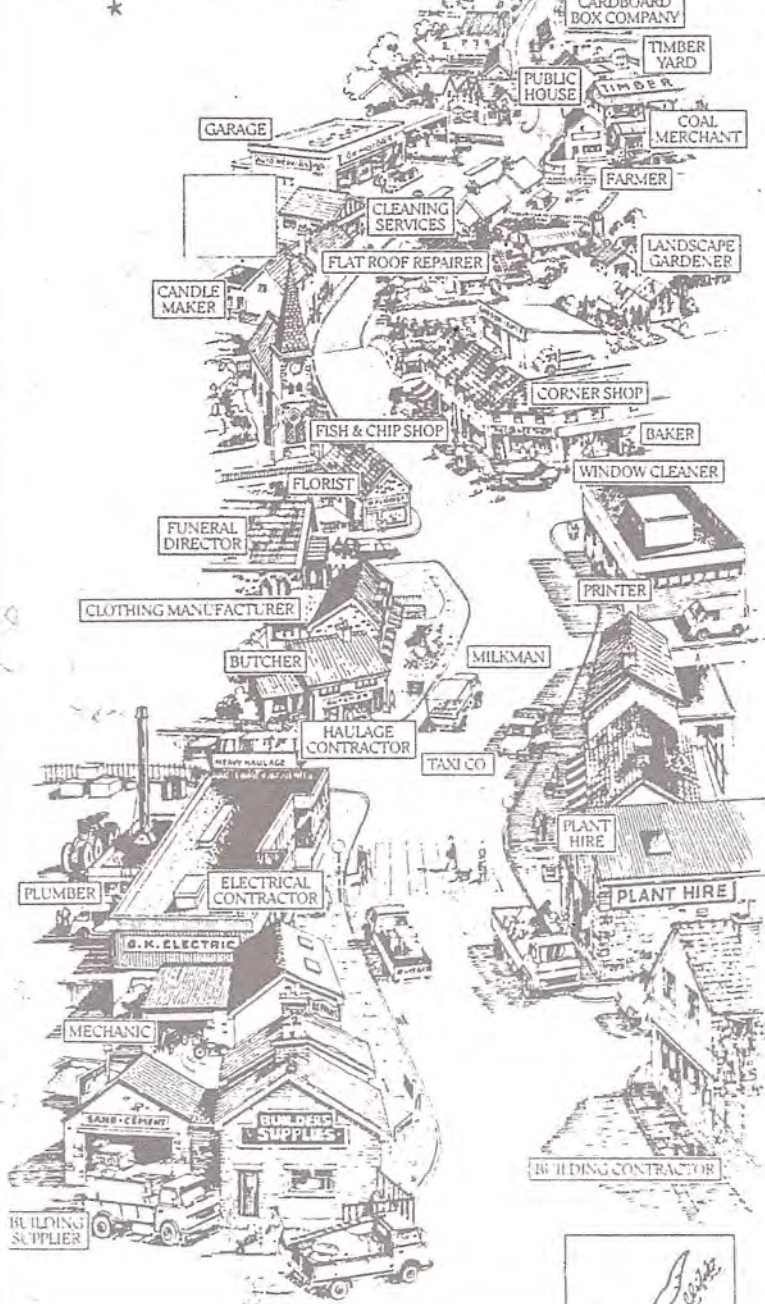
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