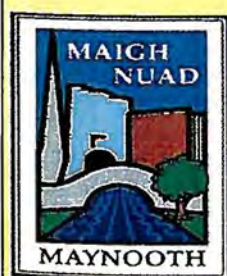


Maynooth Newsletter

Nuachtlitir Mhá Nuad

30th Anniversary Issue

Reeling in the Years



December 2004
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Editorial

In this Special Edition of *The Maynooth Newsletter* we are looking back over the past 30 years and the changes that have taken place in our town. We are indebted to all of those who have worked on the Editorial Board of *The Newsletter* during this period, particularly those who started *The Newsletter* in the '70's, Liam Bean, Ted Kelly and John Read. They did not have the benefit of FAS support and had to use the typewriter instead of the computer, nevertheless they still produced a regular edition of *The Newsletter*.

Population Growth

Most of the changes that have taken place in the town are a follow-on from the massive population growth in that period. Since 1971 the population has increased by 739% as follows:

1971	1979	1981	1986	1991	1996
1,374	3,191	3,388	4,768	6,027	8,528

2002
10,151

The provision of the commuter train service in the early '80's facilitated this population growth. For those of us who had to commute prior to that, travelling to or from Dublin even way back then was a nightmare.

Gone But Not Forgotten

"The Thing" in The Square, O'Brien's Supermarket, Doyle's Mart, Old Straffan Road and Mullen Bridge, the Potholed Footpaths and Overhead Wires on Main Street, Coonan's Field (now The Glenroyal Complex), the Old Pubs, Kiernan's Shop, Barton's Shop and Petrol Pumps, Kavanagh's Mill.

"The Thing" in The Square

Those residents who came to live in Maynooth after the summer of 1995 would not know much about the ugly public toilets building that we had in The Square up until then. This building became known as "The Thing" and a long campaign for its demolition came to a successful conclusion in July 1995. The centre of the town was not a pretty sight in the '90's when apart from "The Thing", we had potholed footpaths, a massive litter problem with very little street cleaning, utility poles with overhead wires, cars parked on footpaths and buildings in bad need of repair.

The removal of "The Thing", the undergrounding of wires and the laying of new footpaths resulted in a major transformation in the town centre. It enabled us to enter the Tidy Towns competition without fear of an embarrassing score.

The Motorway By-Pass

The opening of the M4 Motorway, with the Straffan

Road Interchange, in 1994 led to major changes that some may have forgotten about and which those who arrived since then would not be aware of. The Straffan Road then was only a glorified lane, barely able to take two cars, and with no footpaths. Its hard to believe that Mullen Bridge was worse than Bond Bridge. The remains of the Old Straffan Road can still be viewed between the new road and the Harbour Field. While we still complain about traffic jams in Maynooth, the M4 means that we no longer have to queue from the Carton Demesne gate on the Dublin Road every evening. Yes, it was that bad.

More Recent Changes

At both ends of the town we are seeing major developments.

On the Dublin Road the delightful O'Brien's Supermarket is gone. It later became Quinnsworth and it is now Tesco. The major expansion of Tesco has resulted in the demolition of Doyle's Mart. Sadly we will no longer see the farmers driving the cattle there every Monday.

On the Kilcock Road Kavanagh's Mill is no more and while it gave good employment over the years it was not the most pleasant building to look at. Hopefully the new building will look as good in reality as it does on the website.

In between, on Main Street, all of the public houses have undergone major face lifts. While the newly renovated pubs are nice some would say that they lack the charm of the old ones. Other premises have also undergone major surgery and in most cases the transformation has enhanced the Main Street. The AIB bank building is now rated as a building of local importance and hopefully the other banks will follow their example.

The last ten years has seen more changes in Maynooth than the previous fifty years. This 30th Anniversary Newsletter will give you an opportunity to re-live that period.

Thanks

Great thanks is due to the original Editorial Board and those who have served on the Editorial Boards since then, particularly Kay McKeogh, Peter Connell, Muireann NiBhrolchain and Susan Durack.

Without the support of FAS through the Community Employment Scheme there would be no Community Council Office and therefore *The Newsletter* would become history. Hopefully FAS will continue this support for the community into the future.

Contents

Page	
3	Cover of the 1st Newsletter 1975
4	Foot & Mouth "A Personal View" 1975
6	The Last Newsletter 1999
8 & 9	O.N.E. "One for All" 1998
11	Edel Minogue
12	Editorial 1979
13	Past Newsletter Staff
14	Maynooth Honours its Patriots of the 1916 Rising 1991
16	Leinster Arms Darts Club 1979
17	Points of View 1991
18	Maynooth Boys Scouts March 1976
20	Band Bulletin July 1993
21	First Holy Communion 1968
22 & 23	Tony Mooney—Maynooth Fire Station 2004
24	Old Photos of Maynooth
25	Muintir Ma Nuad—Phil Bray
28	I.C.A. Notes
29	Features May 1994
30	Features November 1997
32 & 33	St. Marys Band March 1991
34 & 35	President Takes Tea with the Old Folks
36	Mahers School of Irish Dancing
38	End of an Era—Maynooth Livestock Sales May 2002
39	Muintir Ma Nuad—Phil Burke November 1991
40 & 41	Jimmy McMahon Retires at the Top February 1995
42 & 43	Maynooth Town AFC Trip to Llandudno May 1994
44	From Maynooth Castle to Carton November 1997
46, 47 & 48	Community Council Notes July 1983
50 & 52	The Years in Maynooth 1920—1960
53	First Communion Day June 1994
54 & 55	Party Political April 1992
56	Maynooth ICA celebrate their 50th Anniversary
57 & 58	Muintir Ma Nuad—Leonard Murphy
60	Mother Teresa of Calcutta visits Maynooth July 1993
62	Maynooth Castle is handed over to OPW November 1991
64	Swan rescued from Royal Canal
66	Muintir Ma Nuad—Ted Connolly
68	Bond Bridge Action September 1997
69	Easy Riding in Maynooth August 1991
70	First Communion Day June 2001
71	Pub Spy 1991
72 & 73	Muintir Ma Nuad—Norah & Phil McDermott 1992
74	Clubs, Organisations and Societies May 1994
76	Maynooth Newsletter July 1993
78 & 79	"The Thing Bites the Dust" August 1995

80 & 81	Muintir Ma Nuad—Geroid McTernan April 1995
82, 83, 84 & 85	The Special Olympics Report July 2003
86	Tributes to Mary Buckley Fitzgerald
88	Muintir Ma Nuad—Dinny Carroll 1992
90	The Late Hanah Flood
91	Tribute to Eugene Fitzpatrick
92	Maynooth Dancers Travel to Slovakia June 2002
93, 94 & 95	The Redevelopment of Carton
96	Recipes from the Olden Days January 2000
97	Local Security Force ICA Hall
98	Tae Kwon Do 1996
99	First Communion Day 2001
101	First Communion Day 2002
102	Maynooth Folklore
103	The Spirit of Christmas—Brigid Sauls December 1995
106	Report of Leinster Cup Final 1936
108	Muintir Ma Nuad—Tommy Ashe
110	Features January 2000
112	Maynooth ICA News
113	Pope John Paul II October 1979
114	Maynooth Golf Society
116	Muintir Ma Nuad—Bridie O'Brien
118	The Year of the Great Jubilee 2000
120	What's in a Name May 2000
122	Features Scoil Ui Fiaich & Party Political
124	Confirmation Day 2002
126	Muintir Ma Nuad—Mrs. Margaret Walsh 1991
128	Servants, Labourers and Traders of St. Patrick's College 1911
129	Tribute to Mrs. Brigid Sauls
130	Maynooth Swimming Club July 1998
131	Kingsbry 7-a-side
132	Confirmation Day 2002
133	Bridie O'Brien—An Appreciation
134	Maynooth GAA Club—Leinster Leader Cup Winners
136	Tribute to Pearse O'Connell June 1996
137	Brady's Clockhouse
138	Unsung Memories and Heroes
140	Maynooth GAA a Short History
142	Tom Ashe Retires September 1997
144	Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee
146	Eye Hear August 1995
147	Fond Farewell to Geroid McTernan
148	Maynooth Families in 1911
149	Past Newsletter Staff
150	The Emergency by Jack Cleary
152	Badminton Club June 1979
154	Ten Ways to Survive Christmas
155	Scor na Nog 2001—2002
156	Miss Royal Canal 2001



NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 1975 No. 1 Published by Maynooth Community Council.

PRICE TEN PENCE.

Community Council News

This is the first opportunity, the Council has had, for communicating with you. It is our intention to keep you informed at all times.

Let it be said right away, that while this newsletter is the product of the Council, it is essentially your newsletter. To this end, all articles, stories, ads big and small, news and letters, are very welcome. These can be sent to any Council member. Do not be afraid to criticise anything you feel warrants it, but let your criticism be constructive.

At this stage, it would seem appropriate, to give a sincere vote of thanks to Ted Kelly, for the effort he has made over the years, to produce the old newsletter. This effort will not be lost to the community as Ted is very much involved with the new Council and newsletter.

Some people are still not fully aware of the role of the Community Council. Our function is to promote the social, cultural and economic welfare of the whole community. That is to say, that if a worthwhile project is brought to our notice, we will give our wholehearted support, physically, morally and as far as possible, financially. On the other hand, should a grievance come to our attention, we will do our utmost to solve or alleviate the problem.

This is not to say that we will do things for people, in fact we will not do things, but we will give advice, assistance and support, to people, in solving their problems or in carrying out projects. We have no wish, or

Continued on Page 2.

New Children's Playground almost completed

Work on the new £4,000 children's playground in Maynooth is now almost completed. This project, which is the first stage of the development of the Harbour Field by Maynooth Development Association is a monument to community effort. The project was part-financed by the proceeds of a public collection and exhibition of the play equipment in the square in Maynooth. The County Council gave a grant of £500 for which we must be grateful but at the same time was not overly generous when the total cost of the project is considered and the saving to the ratepayers in the future.

A spokesman for the Development Association said that the Association was very happy with the response to their collection and wished to sincerely thank all those who subscribed: However, he stated that almost half the householders of the town still had not subscribed and that a subscription from most of these people would go a long way towards clearing the outstanding debt on the project.

This playground is an indication of what a small group of dedicated voluntary workers can do when they have the support of the whole community. If the further development planned for the six acre Harbour Field continue to receive such support from the people of Maynooth together with realistic support from the County Council then within a relatively short period of time Maynooth will have a recreational complex second to none.



Features (May 2001)

FOOT AND MOUTH (A Personal View) by Annette Foran

I cannot pretend to know too much about the current foot and mouth crisis from a veterinary standpoint but having watched my neighbours and friends grapple with the problem for the past number of weeks it would be impossible not to be fully aware of the intense worry and stress it has been causing. I do not come from a farming background as such, but my late grandfather always kept a small number of animals as was the custom at the time. Then as now, big and small farmers existed in harmony. Today most of my neighbours in the farming community have mixed herds, painstakingly built up from generation to generation of animals, 75% of which when it reaches our table would be organic, something much in demand today.

Only a few remember the outbreak in the late 60s as we were all quite young at the time. But as a younger farmer commented to me "it's really a bit like germ warfare, you can't see it, smell, touch it, feel it, but you are aware it could be there". Up until now it has remained within the confines of the Cooley area of County Louth and we have all witnessed the horrifying spectacle of very distressed elderly farmers who in the space of 24 hours have lost everything they have. It can only be imagined how it feels to see everything you have worked for gone in one fell swoop. Of course it is not only the farming community which has been badly affected by foot and mouth. Horse-racing has virtually come to a standstill and many young jockeys are left without an income. It is still unclear how much if any social welfare will be paid to affected people. The cost of feeding and stabling will have added a further burden to an already expensive profession. Tourism has also been badly hit, millions of pounds has been lost. Rural life has taken a bad knock which will not be soon forgotten.

It is also still alarming that in England the number of cases is rising and in cities such as Birmingham not too much is known about the current state of play. The question being asked is Britain doing enough to eradicate foot and mouth and can this county be really safe until this has been done. Minister Walsh has said we are nearly over the line and hopefully by the time you are reading this we will have safely crossed it. It will take a long time for recovery to take place. Especially in Louth the scars and trauma will continue for a long time to come. It is unlikely this crisis will be forgotten in a short time. The sometimes forgotten people in all this who have played a very major part in keeping the disease to only one case are the Army, Gardai and Vets from around the country, some of whom are in England to help are to be complemented on all they have done. Urban and rural Ireland have come together to fight a common enemy and please God we will win. In the meantime I will stand and watch this year's batch of new born lambs in the field next door as I have done for the past 35 years and look forward to seeing the lights in the shed during lambing again next year.

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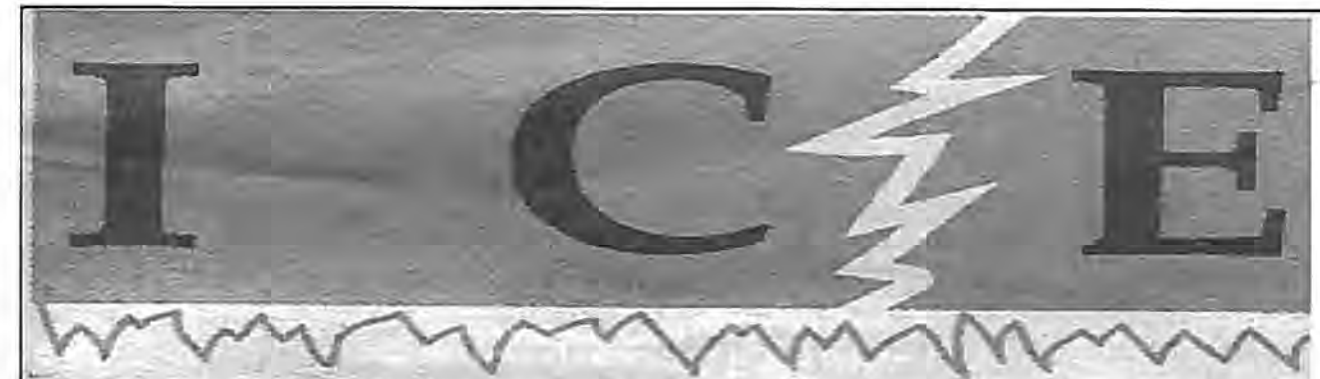
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The Maynooth Newsletter

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APRIL 1999



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The Last Newsletter ?

Newsletter's future threatened by FAS Scheme closure

As most of our readers will be aware FAS has decided to discontinue one of the Community Employment Schemes sponsored by the Community Council. The scheme affected employs office staff who are primarily involved in the production of our monthly Newsletter. Without this scheme the future of the Newsletter is very much in doubt.

Over the past twenty years the Maynooth Newsletter has grown from a series of photocopied pages produced entirely by voluntary effort to a substantial publication covering the news and views of the people of Maynooth. In the last few years employees on the scheme have taken over large parts of the production of the Newsletter and become skilled in a range of computer packages. It is largely down to their skill, enthusiasm and hard work and that of the scheme supervisor, Norah McDermott, that the Newsletter appears every month. The decision by FAS to cut this valuable scheme represent a considerable loss to our community.

The Community Council and the Editorial Board have, over the years, attempted to organise the production of the Newsletter in a professional manner. We have built up a good working relationship with the business community. Advertising by local shops and businesses has represented an important source of revenue for the magazine. Equally, our printers Cardinal Press have been important business partners in the production of the Newsletter. In this context, the decision on by FAS to provide only three weeks

notice for the termination of the scheme is entirely unacceptable and has allowed us insufficient time to plan for the future. Losing such experienced personnel as Norah McDermott and a number of other staff at such short notice means the the future of the Newsletter as currently constituted, is very much in doubt.

The termination of this scheme also has implications which go well beyond the future of the Newsletter. Between now and the end of the year it seems certain that the number of Community Council employees on FAS schemes will be drastically reduced. The impact on the community will be significant. The administrative backup so vital for the staging of such events as the Summer Festival, the Summer Project and the St. Patrick's Day Parade may not be available. It may no longer be feasible for the Community Council to retain their office in Main Street, a location which has become an important focus for local information in a rapidly growing town. All of this marks a withdrawal of support for community activity in Maynooth. And this at a time when additional resources should be provided for voluntary bodies and community organisations struggling to retain our town's sense of community in the face of a rapidly growing population. The Newsletter, we hope, has played some role in promoting Maynooth's sense of identity. It has been your magazine, written largely by the community for the community. Perhaps it is important enough not to let it die.

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"Best Wishes to Maynooth Newsletter on their 30th
Anniversary."

O.N.E. for All May 1988

The St. Patrick's Day Parade in Maynooth is improving in terms of organisation and presentation every year. Among the many groups and organisations which have contributed to the success of the parade is the Organisation of National Ex-Servicemen. They are the smartly blazered men who march at the front of the Parade with the precision which could only be found in the ranks of trained soldiers.

What is the Organisation of National Ex-Servicemen? I had an opportunity recently to find out about the Organisation and its members, when, through the good graces of my neighbour, Seamus O'Reilly, I was invited to visit Cathal Brugha Barracks to talk to some members of that branch of the O.N.E. This is the branch that marches in Maynooth. Seamus himself, is a former soldier who served with the UN Peace keeping forces in the Congo, although you think to look at him, that he must have been no more than nine or ten years old at the time. Other members of the O.N.E. living locally are Ted Connolly who also served in the Congo and Larry O'Brien the NCO's mess in Cathal Brugha Barracks, I met several members including Tom Mc Kenna (Chairman) Joe Brophy (Secretary) Niall D'Arcy (Treasurer) and Jim "Chalkie" White who was the founder of the Cathal Brugha Branch. Most of my time was spent talking to Michael Colton who is PRO of the Branch.

The Organisation of National Ex-Servicemen was established originally in 1936. Its principal function is to provide a system through which former soldiers can maintain the contacts established while in service. People generally leave the service with more of their life ahead of them than most do when they leave their jobs. It is therefore very valuable for them to have an organisation to which they can belong. Apart from the social aspects of it, the O.N.E. also has a benevolent function. In Dublin at present they are in discussions with Dublin Corporation regarding the provision of premises which the Organisation could run a hostel for members who are unable to find suitable accommodation.

Although the O.N.E. has been in existence since 1936 it is in the last ten years that it has really flourished. It has in recent years been allowed the use of barracks for meetings and functions. It has branches throughout the country and has a good relationship with the serving forces. Every barracks now has an NCO designed to act as a liaison officer with the O.N.E. An interesting point is that there are no ranks within the O.N.E. and all members are on an equal footing. The full title of the Organisation now is the Organisation of National Ex-Servicemen and Women but there has been no great influx of female members. Presumably when the women who joined the army in recent times retire they will join up.

The Cathal Brugha branch has many members who saw service overseas with the United Nations. According to Michael Colton, the deployment of Irish troops in UN forces added a new dimension to the job of the Irish soldier. The esteem in which Irish soldiers are held internationally is such as to bestow great prestige on the country. In addition from the soldiers point of view it is in situation of combat and taught them things about themselves which they otherwise learn. Regardless of one's view of warfare there can be no doubt that combat or indeed the danger of it, forges friendships among comrades which endures for a long time. You can learn a lot about someone if your life is depending on him.

The first time that Irish troops went overseas on peace-keeping duties was in August 1960 when members of the 32nd and 33rd Battalions went to the Congo where a civil war was raging. The young men who went to the Congo regarded it as a great adventure. It must be remembered that although it is less than thirty years ago most people would have been far less familiar with what to expect in the heart of Africa than we would nowadays. Television has shown us what the jungle is like and what kind of animals and plant life to expect there. But for those young men it must have been like going to another planet and it is no wonder that they looked forward to it with great excitement.

However they were not long in the Congo when the horror of the situation was starkly brought home to them. On the 8th of November 1960, Irish soldiers on a routine patrol as part of the task of keeping the road to Albertville open were attacked by Baluba tribesmen, numbering as many as two thousand, at Niamba. Nine men were killed but not before they had put up a heroic defence. Eventually they were overwhelmed by weight of numbers. Only two survived the ambush. One was Private Joe Fitzpatrick whom we had the pleasure of

O.N.E. for All (cont'd) May 1988

sitting on the reviewing stand at the St Patrick's day parade in recent years. The other was private "57" Kenny who survived for three days in the jungle before making contact with his unit.

Irish soldiers have lost their lives since then in the various places they have served over the years. The Niamba ambush, however, has a special place in the memory of all ex-servicemen and indeed of the whole country. Michael Colton told me of the great shock experienced by the comrades when the news broke. He knew himself all those killed and had been having a few drinks with some of them the night before. Their bodies were received back in Dublin with such crowds as probably not been seen since on the streets of the Capital.

Another Irishman to die in the Congo was Sergeant Pat Mulcahy, D.S.M. He gives his name to a branch of the O.N.E. based in McKee Barracks. They intend to join in the Parade in Maynooth next year with the Cathal Brugha Branch which places great value on invitations to march and is proud of its association with the Maynooth Parade.

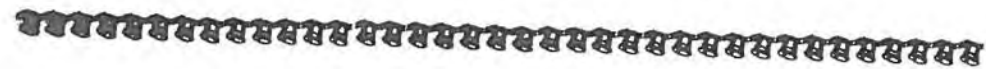
Next year when we see the O.N.E. at the head of our Parade we should give them an extra loud cheer. They have served this country well and have brought it nothing but honour and credit.

Jim Cunningham.



The O.N.E. taking part in the St. Patrick's Day Parade

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GREENFIELDS SUPERMARKET



Edel Minogue Post Primary School Maynooth winner of one of the Euro Language Scholarships with her certificate presented by the Minister for Education, Mary O'Rourke recently. Edel also won a prize in the Texaco Art Competition this year (July 1991)

Editorial

July 1979

The past month has been an eventful one in the annals of Maynooth, in modern times at least. Maynooth has seen many great days in its history, but the month of June 1979 will be remembered for many a year. It is difficult to say which event was the more important but we must start somewhere.

In our opinion really the highlight of the month was the COMMUNITY GAMES. Not so much the actual competitions but the spirit behind the Games, the generosity, the co-operation in fact the wonderful spirit of 'Community' shown everywhere in the preparation and running of the Games. It was a venture in which we may all feel proud - proud of the excellent financial contribution - proud of the wonderful cups and trophies contributed, proud of those who organized the Games and above all proud of the extraordinary spirit of the children who contested.

The spirit of the children was almost breath taking. Every one of them gave their utmost best in competition and whilst there could only be a few winners the losers accepted defeat in the finest possible manner, without rancour or jealousy of any kind. It was most heartening to see small children continue to run and complete the course when they knew that they had no hope of success, something which is difficult even for adults. It reminds one of the motto of the Olympic Games (true spirit that is) "It is more important to have competed than to have won". May the children at future games retain this fine spirit.

To pass by without mentioning the organisers and helpers would also be an injustice. In particular the organisers did Trojan work in running the games, and in this connection we feel obliged to single out Mrs. Peig Lynch, and Mr. Pearse Breslin, who did the lions share of the work.

The spectators at the Games were also great in the way they co-operated with the stewards and in the enthusiastic reception they gave to the winners.

All in all, it was an example of what we can achieve in Maynooth with co-operation and is perhaps a good omen of the future.

Co-operation of another sort gave us the next big event of the month, the election of two excellent young Maynooth Men to represent us on the County Council - Cllr. Bernard Durkan and Cllr. Gerard Brady. To both our heartfelt congratulations - doubly so to Cllr. Durkan on heading the poll. We feel sure that our interests will be well looked after by these stirring young men.



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G. E. R. A.

The Committee wish to acknowledge the help received from the Post Primary School over the past few years with the Printing of circulars etc. We hope to have the pleasure of hearing about the facilities available in the school made known to us by one of the teachers at a General Meeting.

GROUND RENTS :- We have been unsuccessful in many efforts to get a meeting with Mr. Vaughan to discuss the Ground Rents, but we are still trying. Civil Engineers Ground Rents are at present being processed.

LADDER - MOWER :- For those who are unaware of it the Association have a mower and Ladder available for hire. The charge for the ladder is £1 per day and 50p for 1st 4 hours and 50p for each additional 4 hours for the mower. These facilities are available to paid up members only as anyone else would not be covered by our Insurance Policy. Prompt return after use would be appreciated. The Ladder is available at 49 Laurence Ave. and the Mower at 26 Maynooth Park. Our big Mower is out of order at the moment but is being repaired. We hope to have the greens cut before long.

FENCE :- The wood for the fence on Laurence Ave. has arrived. The erection of same will be commencing in the very near future. Any assistance or advice would be greatly appreciated.

SUBS :- There are still some subscriptions not yet paid. We would appreciate if these could be dropped into any committee members as soon as possible.

Past Newsletter Staff



Back Row: Ann Marie Thompson, Nuala Noonan, Michael Murphy, Donal Fitzpatrick, President Mary Robinson Norah McDermott
Front Row: Christina Saults, Fiona O'Connor, Lorraine Tracey



Eugene Fitzpatrick



Peter Hussey and CarolAnn Reaper

Maynooth Honours Its Patriots of the 1916 Rising June 1991



As part of the nation-wide movement to mark the 75th Anniversary of the Rising, the Maynooth Branch of Reclaim the Spirit of Easter 1916, organised two events in the town.

The first was a Photographic Exhibition and Cultural Afternoon in the Parish Hall on Sunday 21st of April which was attended by approximately 300 people. On view was a wealth of photos of street scenes, the leaders, action scenes, etc. of Dublin during and after the Rising, and on special display was local memorabilia, medals, old photos, etc. of the Maynooth men which was supplied by relatives. The relatives present were Barbara Nolan, granddaughter of Patrick Kirwin and Ena Dooley, niece of John and Ned Kenny, three of the Maynooth 1916 men.

Music for the afternoon was supplied by Danny McCarthy of Fiddlers Green and Maynooth Accordion Band with Maher School of Dancing presenting Irish Traditional Dance. A raffle was held with first prize going to Bridie Cretan, Dunboyne (A copy of "Rebels" donated by Connolly Books), 2nd prize to Mick Gill (Box of chocolates from Bridie O'Brien) and 3rd prize by unclaimed ticket to 54 (A gift token from New Waves). The holder of this ticket can secure the prize by contracting the undersigned.

The 2nd event was a commemorative tree planting and plaque unveiling ceremony to honour all the Maynooth men who participated in the Rising. This

was held on Sunday 12th May and took place on the Green in Pound Street, beside the band Hall. A good crowd turned out, including relatives and old neighbours notably Mrs Daly and Mrs Waldron of O'Neill Park and Phil Brady.

St Mary's Brass and Reed Band played a selection of tunes prior to the planting of the tree and unveiling of the plaque by Garoid Mac Teighrmain, Parson Street. The tree was donated by Kildare County Council and the plaque was supplied by Walshe Monumental Works. The names and professions of the men were recalled and also the contributions that they continued to make to our New Republic, from Dail Eireann to community level. Many were members of the band and the G.A.A. The ceremony concluded with the National Anthem.

We believe that our two events will have helped to create an awareness and appreciation of the men and women of 1916, especially of the Maynooth connection, and that their ideals still have a relevance in today's Ireland. We wish to thank and congratulate Fr. Supple P.P. for his support and contributions to both our events and members of the business community who donated so generously to our funds.

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J. Murphy, Chairman, Leinster Arms Darts Club presenting Mrs M Kelly, Secretary, Maynooth Old Peoples Committee with a cheque for 50% of the proceeds of the Sweep organised by the Dart Club fundraising committee. Also included are Mrs B Brady, Old Peoples' Committee; Mrs. T Kenny, S Moran, L. Murphy and D. Horan all of the fundraising committee.

(Leinster Leader 1979)



1964

Points of View - Spanish Interview September 1991

Maria Manueco, a twenty nine year old Spanish student in Maynooth, is doing a PhD. in Sociology studying the everyday relationship between Irish host families and their Spanish students. Maria is from Madrid which has a population of 4 million people. Madrid is a city of contrasts, parts of which date back to the 16th Century. In the old part of the city streets are so narrow that you can touch both sides with arms outstretched.

Madrid like Maynooth swings from extreme cold, -5 degrees Celsius in the Winter to 40 degrees Celsius in the Summer. The very rich leave the city during the Summer and go and live in the mountains in summer houses. They are joined by the 'not so rich' who also leave the city during the month of August, except they usually head for the beaches. Madrid during August is practically deserted. August being the month for family holidays means that most Spanish students arrive in Ireland during the months of June and July. However, for those that remain, mostly the poor, August has three days of Festivals - the 7th is the Feast of St. Cayetano, the 10th is the Feast Day of St. Lorenzo and the 15th is the Festival of "la Virgen de la Almudena".

Madrid's social life is conducted mostly at night. A very popular form of night entertainment is street theatre in a district called "La Carral" where the 'yuppies' dance the night away on "la Castellana", the Leeson Street of Madrid. It is this street night life which Maria misses most. There is late night life which Maria misses most. There is late night shopping every night in Madrid and everybody, young or old, rich or poor, enjoys the night life.

Maria, however, likes Maynooth because of the friendliness of the people here. She also enjoys the college atmosphere. Madrid people are also friendly and generally will help a tourist in difficulty. However, the growth of the city has led to an increase in suspicion among Madrid people. Maynooth for Maria retains the qualities of a small town, friendliness of its people and a more open attitude towards strangers.



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Clubs, Organisations and Societies (March 1976)

Maynooth Boy Scouts

The Kildare Scout Troop, C.B.S.I., has now completed its first year of active scouting in Maynooth. The foundations of the troop were laid during the winter months of 1974, when under the leadership of James St. Leger, S.D.B., Joseph Lofrano, S.D.B., Kieran O'Reilly, S.M.A., and Billy Flood - a teacher in the local National School, a small group of lads were trained in the basic skills of scouting. This first group were invested scouts on February 16th, 1975. The Investiture ceremony followed a Mass in Parish Church, which was concelebrated by Fr. O'Higgins, P.P., Fr. Hicks, S.D.B. - Troop Chaplain and Fr. Putzu, S.D.B. Among those who attended from National Headquarters were Mr. M. O'Driscoll, National Director of Training, and Mr. P. Butler, Unit Leader of the 42nd and 92nd Troops, Crumlin.

In January '75 a further sixteen boys were admitted to the Troop, bringing the number up to twenty. The Troop was divided into four patrols, these patrols form the nucleus of the Troop and all activities centre around them. Throughout the following months the new boys were gradually introduced to scouting through various activities, primarily through the weekly meeting but also through hikes and week-end camps. A second investiture was held on the 27th April bringing the number of invested scouts up to twenty. With the uniforming of the full Troop we were able to take part in many parish functions, among them the Corpus Christi procession. During this month we were joined by another leader - Eugene Gargan from Greenfields.

The major event in any scout year is the annual camp. Last year, because the Troop was still in its infancy, we decided to break the annual camp into two; the first part comprised a three-day patrol camp, in Larch Hill (National Campsite of C.B.S.I.) at the beginning of August, this was followed by a five-day camp for the whole Troop at Ballinakill, Co. Laois.

With the resumption of activities after the summer an extensive programme was carried out, introducing many new skills to the boys. On November 1st a Cub Pack, under the leadership of Billy Flood, Ann Gargan, Fergus Tuohy, S.M.A., and Alfredo Agius, S.D.B., was started. Mr. P. Madden joined the Scout Troop as an officer at this time.

The activities throughout the past year are considered to have been very successful, both by the officers and the boys. Their success is indicative of the enthusiasm amongst the boys for scouting. It is noticeable that in the short time scouting has been established in Maynooth a strong scouting spirit has grown amongst the boys. It is hoped that this will continue to grow over the coming years. Judging by the response of both boys and parents we are confident that scouting has a very bright future in Maynooth.

The Unit wishes to thank all those who gave so unstintingly of their time and energy to help with various functions during the year. A special word of thanks is due to all those who contributed to our various fund-raising activities, in the past and whom I am sure will continue to do so in the future. A final word of thanks goes to Frs. O'Higgins and Supple for their continued support and encouragement.



Wishing all children and families a Very Happy Christmas and continued success to the Maynooth Newsletter
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Clubs & Organisations and Societies (July 1993)

Band Bulletin

June

The rain in Spain stays mainly on the plain but in the words of the immortal Dub "in Oireland in JEUNE Dis year it rained bleedin' everywhere". Here in Maynooth you could take a punt to Parson Street, a kayak to Kildare Bridge or go the 'Hole Hog' and club together, pitch your canoe on Tony Bear's Pitch and Putt course and play "Find the Green". (Sorry Tony, we all felt really sorry for your plight.)

What has all this got to do with the Band you might ask. Well despite all the aforementioned rain we still managed to get through the engagements listed in the June BULLETIN. We even improvised by transforming the outdoor recital in the Square on the Thursday of Community Week into an indoor concert in the Band Hall which was thoroughly enjoyed by those who braved the weather. Thankfully our second recital of Community Week in the Harbour on Sunday was completed in ideal conditions in front of a large and appreciative audience. We were due to play from 2 to 3 o'clock but even though going over our time we felt our listeners would have stayed on much longer.

Leixlip

I'm afraid that due to our busy schedule our Musical Marathon has been deferred until later in the year (watch this space) but on Sunday 6th June we took part in a Marathon of a different kind in Leixlip. The Parade to get their Salmon Festival off to a start began in Confey and we ended (maybe wobbled is the correct word) its way to the Rye Vale Tavern Car Park via (please note v-i-a) Galvins Cross, past the GAA Club, Castletown estate, Celbridge Road, and down the steps behind the Church to the Car Park. It was a heavy humid day - remember the June Bank Holiday? - and I think it was the first time I can remember where the Band managed to have a Parade and a Sauna at the same time.

Dun Laoghaire

We survived through and headed off to the People's Park in Dun Laoghaire on the following Sunday. We were on tenterhooks throughout the day wondering if Mick Dempsey was going to make it back home. Remember last year at the same recital he was carted off to hospital? Well history did not repeat itself and he left the Park in a white Ford Ambulance, much to the relief of all.

Galway Festival Parade

We travel to Galway on next Sunday (27th June) for the annual Feile na Gael Hurling Festival Parade which brings young hurlers from all over Ireland together in competition. I hope to have news on this and all the happenings to date in our next bulletin. See you then.

MAYNOOTH I.C.A.

Mary brings honour to Maynooth ICA Guild

A member of the Maynooth Guild of the Irish Countrywomen's Association, Mary Flynn, has been placed second in the national finals of Nitromors Restoration Challenge, 1993. Nitromor's Marketing Director, Gerry Dennehy presented Mary with two 18th century framed prints and a piece of Cavan Crystal in Newman House, Stephen's Green, on the night of Tuesday night, May 18th.

RTE's 'Live at Three' furniture expert, Gerry Griffin, was the judge at the finals.

Mary, along with Dolores Brophy, Naas, was chosen at the Kildare finals in Ardclough, Celbridge to represent the county in the final against 22 other ICA federations.

Limited in her project choice due to a size restriction of 2.5 cubic feet, Mary finally, after attending many auctions in Celbridge, opted for restoring a 70 year old piano stool given to her by a friend.

Taking a photograph of her 'project' before she got to work, Mary spent two months stripping it down, polishing and reupholstering it.

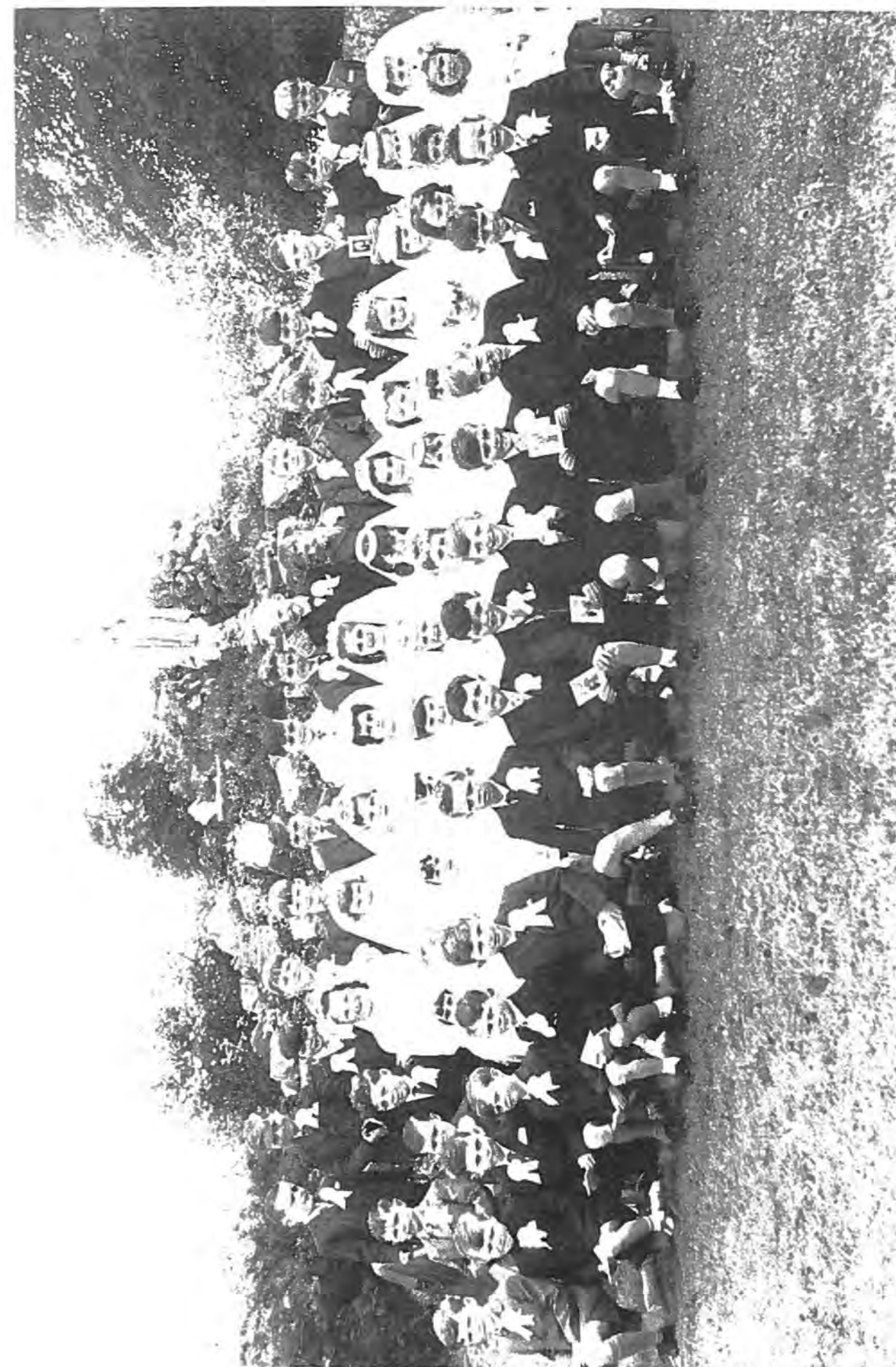
However, the long and dedicated hours of work have paid off for Mary as she now has a piano stool worth £200. All she needs is a piano to accompany the stool!

Mary, who has been a member of the Maynooth ICA

Guild for the past five years is married to Christy. With their four children Damien, Eric, Sonya and Christopher, they live in Derrinstown Stud, Maynooth



Mary Flynn with her restored piano stool



First Holy Communion Class 1968

Tony Mooney - Maynooth Fire Service February 2004

Tony Mooney retired from the Kildare County fire service before Christmas. He had been with the service for over twenty years. Based in Maynooth for all of that time he had seen the service develop into the best trained on call fire fighting and rescue force in the country. When the Newsletter decided to do a feature on Tony it was going to be a first time for both of us. The writer was going to do his first interview and Tony was going to recall his life with the service. He was also going to give his views on some of the social issues that society in general are finding a little difficult to cope with at the present time. Some of these issues like excessive drinking would have seen Tony and his colleagues pick up the pieces, literally, as the fire and rescue service was called out on many dreadful nights to meet the reality of broken bodies and lives. Tony will say that although you will always maintain a professional attitude when faced by this road traffic "madness" it was hard to close your heart to the pain caused to parents and relatives by the loss of their loved ones. Tony labels road traffic accidents caused by drink driving as "madness and carelessness. Tony had also worked and is now back in the Bar trade and his opinions on the proposed smoking ban represents common sense from this quietly spoken man

When Tony joined the service in 1983 they had one fire tender covering an area from the Salmon Leap in Leixlip to Clonard near Kinnegad. The fire service as it was then called also served Celbridge, Timahoe and Jontownbridge amongst others. The fireman was obliged to live and work within one mile of the fire station and was expected to be operational within four minutes of the alarm. They were on call twenty four hours every day, each day of the year. Their retention fee at that time was derisory and only amounted to a few hundred pounds per annum. The call out fee ranged between four and eight pounds, depending on the time of day. During the following years the fire service was to develop into a fire and rescue service. The skills required to provide this service to the people of Kildare necessitated Tony and his colleagues completing many hours of training on a voluntary basis. The type of training was varied but covered situations like rescuing people from submerged cars in rivers and canals. They were also highly skilled in the use of cutting equipment that over the years became easier and safer to use. Tony, a man of great faith, will always speak of the "golden hour". The men in the fire service are convinced that if a person involved in a serious accident is stabilised and brought to hospital within one hour, they will have a good chance of survival with the help of God. Tony would like to see the consequences of road accidents caused by drink placed in front of young people on a continuous basis so that from an early age they would understand the madness of driving while under the influence of drink. This would mean continuous advertising on television and in the press. Tony is also mindful of the hard core of older drivers who continue to defy the law and their fellow citizens in continuing to drive while under the influence.

As a consequence of the development of the Maynooth area, the fire station now has three fire tenders. Tony is happy about the current financial package available to the firemen on the basis that it is far better than when he joined. He believes that it should be improved further in order to encourage and hold the best men in the job. He would also say that the standard of equipment has improved immeasurably down the years and that with some minor reservations the community is well served by the current standard. Tony will also say that the job is subject to highs and lows. Before Christmas the service was on the scene of a horrific accident involving a motorist and a tractor. The details cannot be published here but suffice to say that it was the experience of the rescue service that was a major factor in saving the motorist life. Tony appreciates that the firemen now have a debriefing and counselling service that is so necessary when you have to deal with trauma on a daily basis.

Tony has a great interest in sport. He played underage football in his native Kinnegad. His daughter Antoinette is an all round sports person who plays for the Kildare ladies football team. Tony would like to see a greater interest in sport by the younger generation to take them away from the drink culture that is a growing problem for the community. He has a great admiration for the young people in general and is just concerned by the lack of interest in taking part in sporting activity. While talking with Tony I noticed a photograph of his late beautiful wife, Ann. He freely admits that her death in 1996 after a long illness caused him and his three daughters' great trauma. He acknowledges the great support given by the community and his work colleagues

Tony Mooney - Maynooth Fire Service (cont'd) February 2004

during that time. He will also always appreciate the support given by the local clergy in helping to deal with his great loss.

Before leaving I asked to see the statuette of the universal fireman that was presented to Tony on the night of his retirement party. He can be proud of the contribution that he has made to Maynooth and also be proud of the esteem that he is held in the local community.



*Tony with Jonahan Kelly, Philip Doyle
& Brendan Kelly*



*Michael Riordan, Paddy Nolan, Ned Lyons
& Lenny Murphy*



*Tony with his daughters, Martina, Jackie &
Antoinette*



Dillons Row during Eucharistic Congress 1932



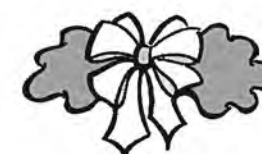
Another view of Dillons Row bedecked for the Eucharistic Congress



Peggy Boyer (nee Edwards), Michael O'Reilly and the late Kay O'Reilly by the canal 1929



18 mth old Michael O'Reilly , The Square in the background. Old railway station building demolished 1979, new one built in 1981



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Muintir Má Nuad (February 1987)

Phil Brady - Publican

Phil Brady has seen Maynooth grow from a population of 1,500 in 1923, when he first arrived here, to approximately 6,000 today. Phil, one of a family of nine, was born in Co. Cavan, January 1907. He left Laragh, Co. Cavan at the tender age of 16 years to serve his time in a bar on Main St., Maynooth. The owner of the bar at the time was Mrs. Pitts, a widow, and at the same time John Neary was the manager. Phil earned 5/- (5 shillings old money) per week for the first year of his apprentice. In the second year he earned 10/- per week and in the third 1 pound per week. In less than a decade he had not only acquired all the knowledge needed for his business, he became the owner and has run Bradys Pub ever since. In 1938 he married Breda from Waterford and since then Breda and Phil and eventually their children have successfully run the business.

Phil has kept in contact with the home house all his life. His Grandfather lived to 101 years of age and his Grandmother to 100 years of age, sister Katie 94 and Matty 92. Maynooth has become his adopted town. He has been involved in all its activities, the Mart, G.A.A. Etc, down the decades. He is President of the local G.A.A club and still enjoys watching a good match. Another interest Phil has is the dogs. He has had many winners and recently sold a dog for over £5,000. Phil has fond memories of the various characters of the town. People like Spot Burke, Syke Doolin, Kidger Reilly and Jack Underwood. Some of our older readers will remember these great characters. Indeed Phil has rubbed shoulders with even Lords and Generals, including Lord Brockett of Carton House and Lord Carew of Castletown House. During the War many high ranking officers graced his parlour. Count John McCormack's son, Cyril and friend Matt McQuade, nephew of the late Archbishop McQuade stayed in his home. Father O' Sullivan, a convert and a relation of the Duchess of Westminster was a regular visitor. He is now blessed, having been beatified. Except for a touch of arthritis, Phil enjoys good health. He gets out and about, meeting the people, which he enjoys doing and visiting his family which are scattered all over. When asked what he thought about life in general today, he felt that the people are losing the art of conversation. We watch far too much violence and sex on the television and he considers it bound to be bad for the young people growing up today. "Today", he continued "one hardly knows your next door neighbour and in general there is not the same sociability that existed when I was younger. On a plus note Phil thinks the young people have better chances of education and have a better life style. Phil enjoys life. His parents and grandparents all lived to a ripe old age, so going on that basis, Phil could very well be interviewed again on his 100th birthday!




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Clubs & Organisations and Societies (July 1993)

I.C.A NOTES

The June meeting of Maynooth I.C.A. Hall on Thursday 3rd June at 8.00 p.m. Our President, Imelda Delaney commented on how nice our hall was looking now and thanked all the ladies who helped with the papering and painting. She also said that she was very grateful to Mr. Padraig Carney who gave so freely of his time to paint the ceiling. Imelda said the Old People's committee has expressed its gratitude to the I.C.A. ladies who helped with the catering and to the drama group who put on their play for the senior citizens party on May 16th for Active Age Week. At that event Josephine Moore presented a hard back copy of the book "Recollections" to our President and thanked the I.C.A. for the use of the hall for their morning club.

Our members have done very well of late in I.C.A. organised competitions. In the Kildare federation final of the Make and Model we got three 2nd places - Mary Bradley for "after six wear", Mary Halton for crochet and Betty Moore in the heavy suit section. We also took home the 1st prize in the novelty section. Well done to Rosemary, Enda, May, Mary, Veva, Kay and Betty. We were represented in the All Ireland old time waltzing competition by Una, Kay, Mary and Veva who did us proud. Mary Flynn did exceptionally well in the furniture restoration competition sponsored by "Nitromors". She was placed 2nd in Ireland for the wonderful restoration work which she did on a piano stool. Certificates of Merit in drama from Kildare I.C.A. federation were received by Ann Broughan and Breda Cronin for their outstanding performances in the play "Summer Belles". Our President congratulated all the ladies who did so well in all the competitions and she also wished Breda Donovan every success our representative in the Sales Person of the year competition.

Some of our members are off globe trotting again this year with a trip to Italy in September and a trip to Paris/Strasbourg in November. Further information on the tours can be got from B. Duffy on Italy and M. O' Gorman on Paris/Strasbourg.

The raffle winners were: 1st T. Mooney, 2nd M. Bradley and 3rd M. O' Gorman. The competition winners were: 1st K. Bums, 2nd I. Delaney and 3rd M. Gee. Next month's competition will be a "tea brack". At the end of the meeting our hostesses treated us to tea with scones and biscuits, while we listened to a talk given by Bernadette on Australia. Bernadette had also brought along lots of Australian memorabilia for us to view, and if all that wasn't enough for one night we also managed to hold an auction to raise money for the hall redecoration. Marion and Kay proved to be excellent auctioneers - so Gerry Brady better watch out! Craft nights and badminton mornings will be ending at the end of June as all the ladies will be taking a well earned rest for the summer. They will resume again in September.

Next month's meeting will be on Thursday 1st July at 8.00 p.m. Anyone interested in joining our very active will be made feel very welcome if they come along to this meeting. Finally, ladies please support our Annual Show on the 9th and 10th July in the Post-Primary school, especially the classes confined to Maynooth I.C.A. members. - **Connie Harpur, PRO**

LARAGHBRYAN CEMETERY

At a recent meeting of Maynooth Community Council one of the local topics discussed was the bad state and condition of Laraghbryan Cemetery. It was decided that a sub-committee be formed to try and organise some way of tackling and dealing with this problem. A meeting was arranged, and a committee formed calling themselves the Laraghbryan Cemetery Action Group.

At present members of the above committee are involved in trying to tidy the entire graveyard and because of the current state of the graveyard, you will appreciate that it is difficult task. We are therefore appealing to the people of Maynooth to come forward and put in some work in the next couple of months so that it can be put into a manageable state. This is not a once-off clean-up and we intend for it to be on-going throughout the year. For those who intend to help in the clean-up, please use the barrels that will be provided to dispose of the rubbish. There are a number of broken headstones lying idle that need urgent attention, please do something about them. If you are interested in helping in any way, you can contact the undersigned through the Community Council Office.-(Dominic Nyland)

Maynooth Tidy Towns

First of all thank you for your support in our recent door to door collection. If we missed you and you would like to contribute, there is a box for donations in The Community Council Office.

Listed below are the criteria on which the best shop fronts/estate/area will be judged.

We are still hopeful that our prizes will be sponsored. If any business would like to discuss this further, please contact the undersigned.

Best Area/Estate 1993 Competition

Judging Criteria

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2. Front Garden Displays
3. State of verges, kerbsides, walls, fences, etc.
4. Shrubbery, trees

5. Appearance of houses
6. General level of maintenance
7. Apparent community effort, especially between times of judging will be ongoing during July and August

Finally, we would welcome some more help at weekends, so if you have an hour or two to spare please contact us.

Richard Farrell, Secretary
PRO

FEATURES (May 1994)

OLD PEOPLE'S EASTER BONNET COMPETITION

The Divine Word was the location for the Old People's Easter Bonnet Competition. The event started with a mass for the club members and after a leisurely repast the music got underway. The entertainment was provided by Josie Moore and Kevin McGovern, who sang some lovely songs while playing the guitar. There appeared to be few contestants for the competition at first but as the music progressed they appeared from every corner of the room. The standard was very high indeed and one must appreciate the hard work these people put into making their bonnets. The thought came to mind that it's a pity the young people don't continue this tradition also as the fun and delight that the older generation get from this occasion cannot go unnoticed.

The competition was judged and prizes awarded for different categories, i.e. most Easterly bonnet, most colour co-ordinated bonnet and even most alluring bonnet.

There were tickets given out for spot prizes and also tickets sold for a raffle for the first prize of a £100 ticket for the Post-Primary School draw where cars, money or even TVs can be won. The winner of this ticket was Kevin McGovern and hopefully it will lead to even greater things for him in the big draw.

The evening appeared to be very successful and the committee, who organised this event should be proud of a job well done.



COLLEGE WINS PRIZE IN DRAMA FESTIVAL

You may remember a review of the play 'Lovers' by Brian Friel, which was performed by The Roscian Players (Maynooth College Drama Society), in the March issue of The Newsletter.

I had said that it was an excellent production and this excellence paid off in the Irish Student Drama Association's (I.S.D.A.) festival in Galway recently where Emma Colohon, who played the part of Mags, picked up the award for Best Actress. I was not a bit surprised at this result, except for the fact that I.S.D.A. has a very high standard and Maynooth's performances in the past have had a tough time gaining recognition. However, in saying this, they did give 'Lovers' its just reward.

The play was also nominated for best production and best direction which was a great feat for the college.

With standards like this I often wonder why more local people don't go to see some of the productions in the College. So all you drama buffs out there, keep an eye out for the future production posters (which probably will not be until October due to exams) and make sure not to miss their very high standard productions.

Once again, well done to Emma. I really feel she will be a name to look for in the future if her performance in 'Lovers' is anything to go by.



Emma Colohon pictured here with Billy McGee, director of 'Lovers' by Brian Friel after their success at I.S.D.A.

GARDA TALK

Beware of Burglars During The Holiday Season

Here under are some snippets of advice which should assist in preventing burglary. Firstly, you should know that burglary can be prevented. Too often people feel that if the burglar wants to break in, he can do so without difficulty. To some extent this is true, and that is to the extent to which some people take no security precautions whatsoever. Even more to the point is the fact that in thousands of burglaries the thief gains access by unlocked windows or doors.

Never present thieves with this "open invitation" to steal. Burglars are opportunists, don't ever give them an opportunity.

Locking Doors

- Use only solid external doors. 'Hollow' doors offer no protection.
- Make sure door frames are in good condition and won't easily give way under pressure.
- Use only good quality locks. Mortice ones are recommended. Mortice

bolts can also be fitted at the top and bottom of the door to give additional security.

Locking Windows

- Fit window locks to all accessible windows. Remember the burglar will be able to enter windows which may look too high or small for him.
- Don't leave windows open for ventilation when you are not at home.
- Prevent easy observation of your house interior by fitting 'Venetian' style blinds, or nylon curtains which are normally always across. This way you do not advertise your absence.
- When you have locks fitted - use them

Something Worth Stealing

Everyone has something worth stealing. Most burglaries involve theft of property under £200! They will take anything from a transistor to the entire house contents.

In addition to financial loss is the mental upset of knowing that someone has invaded your home, and may have ransacked

your personal belongings.

Protecting Property

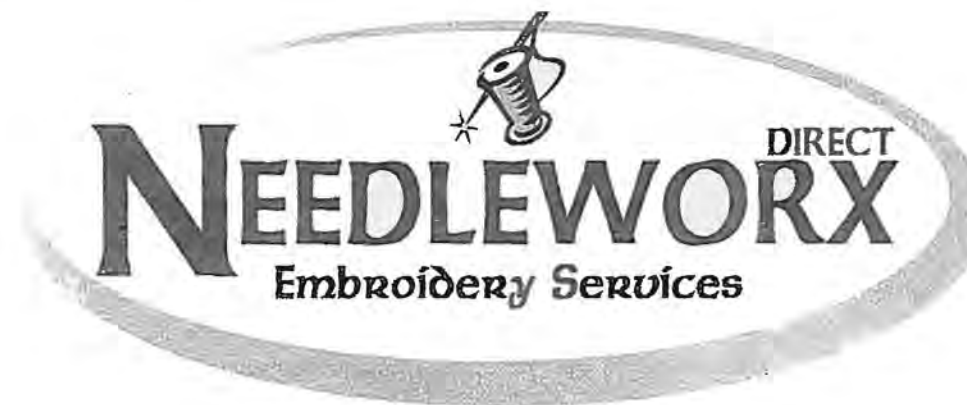
Make your property unattractive to the thief by marking it. Use your initials and date of birth. This makes it harder for him to get rid of property, and easier for us to connect it with its proper owners when it is recovered, or found in suspicious circumstances.

Information on property marking is available from your local Garda Station.

The Best Means of Crime Prevention

This is a good neighbour - someone who will look after your house when you are away and will report suspicious callers before waiting to discover later that they were in fact burglars.

Neighbourhood Watch is aimed at bringing good neighbours together in this way. They realise that, where possible, the Gardai should be alerted before a crime occurs. No one is better able to spot something unusual, or out of place in a neighbourhood, than one of its own alert residents. If you do see suspicious activity - Ring the Gardai NOW!



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***Congratulations to Maynooth
Newsletter on your 30th Anniversary.***

St. Mary's Band Maynooth

Maynooth has many musical assets; the College Music Department with its two choirs and many fine musicians provides much musical fare for the people of Maynooth and indeed far beyond it. There is however an older musical tradition in Maynooth, that of the local Brass Band which has served not only Maynooth but the whole Country since 1796.

It is not, of course, an unbroken tradition of service but it is an illustrious one. The Band that plays on the main street of Maynooth today can trace its origins back to 1796 when a Band from Maynooth entertained the dignitaries present to lay the foundations of the College at John Stoyte's House. It is a Band which time and again provided the musical score to the Nation's History. When the Nation mourned the death of Daniel O'Connell in 1847 and again in 1891 when it mourned Parnell the Maynooth Brass and Reed Band played their heroes to their final resting places. More cheerfully the Band had the honour of being the only one to play at the Eucharistic Congress of 1932 and again when Pope John Paul visited the Phoenix Park in 1979, it was the only band present.

The local history of the Band is also an illustrious one. Punctuating the early days of the Town with the foundation of the College in 1795, the Band has been present at many events of local importance. During the early years of the present century it found itself in the National news when a number of its members refused to play for King George V and Queen Mary when they visited Maynooth. In 1916 four of its members, Paddy Colgan, Tom Mangan, Jack Graves and Johnny Kenny marched to the GPO. The Band suffered at the hands of the Kilcock Brigade of the old IRA,

who fearing a Black and Tan occupation of the Town Hall, set it ablaze. The Band were using it as a home at the time. The music was silenced by the tragedy of the Civil War and it was not until 1932 that the musicians were again heard in Maynooth. This time they were located in the Harbour Field in the present ICA Hall. The Band received a permanent home when it moved into the old National School in Pound Street. In 1955 the Boys Band was founded to augment the Senior Band, and in 1959 history was made, much to the upset of the local Parish Priest, Fr. William O'Brien when women were allowed to play as well. The problem of finance is a constant one for the Band and the cost of instruments and uniforms is enormous. Back in 1970 Fr O'Higgins raised £750.00 by cycling to Armagh and back. In those days new instruments cost £1140. Today the cost could be as high as £20,000.00. The band is at present buying new uniforms costing approximately £9000.00 of which they need to raise £3000.00. The new uniforms should be ready in May or June of this year and

were designed by band members. They are being made by Eugene Fagan of Thomas Street Dublin, and will consist of a concert uniform with an overlay for marching.

The Senior Band today has 35-40 members whose age ranges from 15 to 50 years of age, ten of whom have been in the band since 1954. Nearly all the members are from Maynooth itself. It costs each member £20.00 per year to join and they pay their own transport to appearances outside Maynooth. They have been very successful in band competitions through the years and continue to be so. Last year they won first prize in the marching band competition in Limerick. The band also encourages new talent by running a junior class for 9-14 year olds. It takes three or four years to learn how to play an instrument. It looks as if these dedicated people will continue to serve the community with our support for years to come. The next chance to hear them play will come this month with the St Patrick's Day Parade again being led by the band.



The President takes tea with Maynooth Old-Timers! December 1996



It was a cold strong wind that blew President Mary Robinson to Maynooth on Monday the 4th of November. But the hundreds of girls from the Presentation Convent who lined Dunboyne road ensured she received a warm welcome. and she chose to walk the last few hundred yards of her route taking in their applause and responding with waves, handshakes and that ever present smile. (The President later admitted she was tempted to give the girls the rest of the day off, particularly when she saw the number of Mayo flags waving, but felt that the decision was better left in the hands of their teachers)

Generous Gesture

The purpose of Mrs. Robinson's visit was to officially open the Nagle Court Sheltered Housing and Day Care Centre. The project was jointly funded by the European Union (through the Eastern Health Board) and the Maynooth/Kilcock Lions Club, with the land very generously donated by the Presentation Sisters. (an extremely generous gesture we feel, in these days of spiralling land and housing prices in Maynooth) There were fifteen houses built through the scheme, six in Celbridge, three in Clane and six in Maynooth with the Day Centre also on the same site.

Before the President arrived we called to the houses and spoke to the newest residents of Dunboyne Road.

Rousing tin whistle music floated from the open door of no. 3 and inside, seated and enjoying a glass of Guinness, was Andy Gilligan. (he stressed he was no relation to a certain other Mr. Gilligan currently in the news)

Andy had lived his whole life in Co. Kildare and said he spent the last few years "perished" in a mobile home in Cappagh and so was delighted to get one of the new homes in Maynooth, the town where he remembers making his First Holy Communion. (It was hard to hear Mr Gilligan speaking, what with the din of the tin whistle, but with a deft flick of the remote control, the CD player was quickly silenced)

Tea with Mary

Next stop was to see Margaret Dowling, who was busily preparing to have "a cup of tea with Mary" Margaret has moved to the Dunboyne Road from Old Greenfield and when asked was she enjoying her new home she said "you can be blinking sure I am", describing the houses as being "out of this world" We next visited no.2 where Elizabeth Harrington was applying the finishing touches to her make up, prior to meeting the President. Mrs Harrington told us she is recovering from a stroke and is impatient for her speech to fully return, and is delighted with her "lovely" new home.

Each of the houses consists of a sitting-room, bedroom, bathroom and kitchen and came fully furnished. There are front and back gardens, all with wooden sheds. Betty Farrell in no. 6 has already planted shrubs and flowers in her garden and young trees have been laid out around the estate. Things agricultural are no stranger to Mrs Farrell as she proudly showed us all the RDS medals that her late husband won as a top herdsman.

There was no neighbour for Mrs Farrell yet , the occupant of no. 5 keeping a low profile, but "Sadie" Durack was preparing to take her place in no.4. Mrs. Durack is a long time resident of Maynooth, first moving to Carton Demesne in 1955 and since then has "done a whole circle living around Maynooth" She is very pleased with her new home and commented "sure if the old legs keep going Maynooth is only a short walk away".

Coming away from the houses, we bumped into Cllr. John McGinley, who compared the new houses favourably with all the new apartments being built in Maynooth.

The President's Speech

And so inside for the official business. There were speeches of welcome for the President, prayers from various denominations and then the moment everyone was waiting for, when the President got up to speak. If

The President takes tea with Maynooth Old-Timers! December 1996 (cont'd.)

Mrs. Robinson was using notes, we didn't she her referring to them, and if her speech was prepared, she ad libbed often enough to make it seem as if she was chatting to us. Certainly she had a personal knowledge of the Maynooth Project and spoke highly of the dedication and enthusiasm of the local Lions Club and in particular that of Cecil Lyons who first wrote to her about the homes. The president had been asked to lay the foundation stone, but replied that she preferred to come in at the end to see the finished product. She said that she felt "personally enriched" by projects such as this, and it was she who informed us the site had been presented by the Presentation Sisters. (the Celbridge site was donated by the Eastern Health Board and the Clane site by Kildare County Council. Midway through the President's speech the Centre's fire alarm went off but she continued on regardless(as did the fire alarm) Sixty embarrassing seconds later the clanging was silenced and Mary Robinson was heard to say "táim críochnaigh anois" to much laughter and applause. This was followed by a speech from Lion, Desmond O'Farrell and then the proceedings were closed by Peter O'Sullivan.

Tea Time!

And so outside where Mrs Robinson planted a tree and retired to no.1 Dunboyne Road for a chat with the residents and the long awaited cup of tea. In the end it transpired that she didn't have a cup of tea- claiming that in her early days as President she was permanently on a caffeine high, and so water was had instead. The talk was informal and everybody seemed relaxed, a great compliment to Mrs Robinson who never let her position come between herself and the people who elected her.

All in all a most enjoyable visit - and hopefully after all the hard work by the Maynooth/Kilcock Lions Club they were well pleased with the day's events.



Features (September 1997)

Maher School of Irish Dancing.

Congratulations and very well done to the dancers who travelled to Scotland to compete in the Edinburgh Festival.

Seventeen dancers from the Class travelled together with their families and a great weekend was had by all. The Festival was a great success with dancers from all parts of Scotland, England and Ireland and the standard of dancing was extremely high. In all we won 110 prizes - including the Overseas Championship and the Boy's Championship - a great achievement by all concerned. Many thanks to Enfield Transport and to their driver, Joe for all their help.

Another major event in our dancing calendar is our annual Feile Rince Maigh Nuad which will be held on Saturday 20th September at the Parish Hall. All the proceeds from the Feis go to Our Lady's Hospice - Home Care Team. It is a prestigious event in the Feis Calendar and attracts dancers from far and wide - This year we have a group of dancers travelling from Dundee in Scotland to spend the weekend in Maynooth.

Finally, classes resume on Wednesday 10th September at 6.15 PM at the Boy's National School and on Friday 12th September at Mulhussy Parish Centre at 6 PM

Looking forward to seeing everybody - new pupils very welcome.

Catherine Maher TCRG, ADCRG.



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Sales Ring



A Landmark which will be gone but not forgotten

Muintir Ma Nuad (November 1991)

Mr. Philip Burke

Philip Burke's family have lived in Parson Street, Maynooth for over one hundred years. It was in Parson St. that Philip was born and reared with his four brothers and two sisters. Though the family lived in Parson St. they had a small farm in old Newtown, which is where Beaufield Estate is now situated. The land originally belonged to the college but was taken from it and divided up among a number of local people by the Land Commission.

Philip, when he was not working on the farm, went to school in what is now the Band Hall and he enjoyed school. Because Philip's father had a farm he and his brothers and sisters did not have to collect firewood as did many of his contemporaries.

It was on his father's farm that Philip learned to plough and it was as a ploughman that he got his first job working at Carton. The development of Carton is a good thing, Philip thinks, because it will mean employment and Carton is wasted without the development.

It was while working in Carton that Philip met his wife Sarah to whom he has been married for 30 happy years. Philip is also a life long pioneer. Three years after he married Philip went to work for Creedon Building Contractors as a scaffolder. Creedon's built churches all over Ireland but Philip always liked to come home each night if at all possible. It was because of his job and the travelling it involved that Philip bought a baby Ford which cost £125 new from Dawson's who were agents for Fords. The first baby Ford was owned by "Bully" Weafer according to Philip.

Over the years Philip has contributed a lot of time to Maynooth, and many people will remember the annual talent competition run by Philip during Lent in the Parochial Hall. The competition was in aid of the new parochial hall and it attracted many teams from all over Kildare and Meath. It was a knockout competition and the winners got the Fr. Michael Cleary Perpetual Cup for a year.

Philip and Sarah have lived in the Back Lane for 30 years and have raised five children, two boys and three girls. Philip's only regret is that the house has no proper garden but that has not stopped him putting on a magnificent display of potted plants around his front door. Maynooth has become quite big and Philip no longer recognises all the faces that pass him on the street. Still Maynooth is home and there are enough old friends, like Patsy Malone, left to remember with.



Phil with his wife Sarah

Jimmy McMahon - Retires at the Top February 1995

Boxer Jimmy McMahon, who became the golden boy sensation of Maynooth and its hinterland in the last few years, has had to quit the sport, having reached its high echelons, for medical reasons. This came as a severe blow to the twenty year old pugilist, from Mulhussey, who honed himself into a steely skeletal tower of strength on the brink of sporting glory.

Last October, after undergoing tests, his physicians discovered minor health problems that are present in most people and are normally irrelevant but could be significant in the throes of intense physical combat. Other factors in Jimmy's difficult decision involved insurance and other stringent safety standards in American Boxing.

Shock Waves

News of Jimmy's premature retirement sent shock waves through the Boxing and Irish community in New York. Papers carried headlines like "Requiem for a Welterweight" "a Boxer downed in his prime" and "Meath McMahon hangs up his gloves". What amazed people more, was that in August Jimmy had the World at his feet, when he was lauded for the manner in which he beat top rated Bobby Heath. To show Jimmy's potential Ron Katz, boxing promoter, later noted that Heath went on to beat another top-title contender. Jimmy had given 100% commitment in his efforts to reach the top. Boxing was his life and he was shattered at the prospect of not being able to fulfil his dreams.

Jimmy's Reaction.

Soon after the news broke, a dejected McMahon said "I am devastated I still have a hard time believing my career is gone - that it is all over. I worked so hard and came so far. I get upset just thinking about it"

Tributes

Jimmy's parents Paddy and Norah and family from Mulhussey were the recipients of support, well wishers and tributes following Jimmy's harrowing decision. They have shared in his many victories and now share in his dissappointments. They are upset, not for themselves but for him because they know how much boxing means to him. However, they are delighted that he achieved so much and got out of the sport unscathed and unharmed. The dangers were all around Jimmy. In March 1993 he travelled to fight in Atlantic City with a Russian immigrant Sergei Artemiev only to see his travelling companion knocked into a coma for which he is still receiving treatment.

Top Trainer, Joe Baffi, who developed the young Mike Tyson and helped Michael Moore to the WBA and IBF World Heavyweight Championships said he was proud of having worked with McMahon. He continued "I was proud of him because of his character and because of the way he carried himself. Jimmy made up for what he didn't have physically by being a kid who was very game and very determined" He was subject to many other tributes from the boxing world. Jimmy had many fans in the tri-state area and Boston and his fights in Atlantic City always attracted busloads of followers.

Career

Jimmy's career began at the age of 11, when he joined Kilcock Boxing Club. Before going to America he had won up to 60 bouts including the Kildare Championship and four League Titles. He also won the Leinster Youths Championship in 1985 and 1986.

In America as an amateur he won the Empire State Games as a welterweight. He was also twice finalist in the coveted Golden Gloves Competition. During this day he worked by day in construction with his brother Michael and training with ferocity by night in the famous Glesson Gym, New York. Turning professional in June 1992, out of 16 fights he won fourteen, lost one and drew one.

Proudest Moment.

One of Jimmy's proudest moment occurred when he fought Dave Lovell on September 24th 1993 in Tallaght. This was his last home fight and half of Maynooth and Co. Meath were present when he had an impressive victory over his English opponent despite taking a very heavy blow in the fourth round. But what made this occasion all the more special was the presence of his greatest fan, his Father Paddy, in the audience.

Future

Thankfully Jimmy is now beginning to recover from his setback. He has bought a new house and is working on this at the moment. He is going back to his old profession, working with his brother, Michael in construction. Michael who was home recently, has a partnership with Kilvine Construction N.Y. Jimmy who continues to train as per usual has also been made a very tempting offer by top trainer, Teddy Athlas. Teddy wants to make Jimmy his co-trainer and pass on his wealth of knowledge to him. This opportunity could ensure that Jimmy remains a major force in top class boxing. Meanwhile Jimmy is expected to return home in March.

The **Maynooth Newsletter** has always been proud to carry the stories of Jimmy's successes and we and all his fans in Maynooth join in telling him that we are all proud of his achievements and we all know the difficult decision which he had to bravely make was no fault of his, as he always gave 100% effort. We are also glad that he had so many great experiences, did not get hurt in the process and that he prospered from his career.

We wish him a bright and happy future.

Willie Healy



Maynooth Town AFC Trip to Llandudno



Our club trip to see Manchester United play Chelsea at Old Trafford was the highlight of our season so far. The match result, a rare defeat for United, did very little to dampen the spirit of our party and a great weekend was had by all. Our party left Dun Laoghaire on Friday, 4th March, for Holyhead and right from the start it looked like a torrid time was in store with high winds and rough seas, with the ship getting a fierce buffeting right from departure. Our party of ten adults and sixteen boys made every effort to settle in but not everyone was able to withstand the rocking and rolling of the ship. Many drinks were bought but not all were consumed. With the drinks imitating Torville and Dean demonstrations by skating over the glazed table tops a lot more time was spent catching the drinks rather than consuming them. With so many green faces in evidence our party looked more like Republic of Ireland supporters than Manchester United followers. After the initial trauma our group settled down and made themselves comfortable as possible for the remainder of the voyage. Our courier Micháil Dempsey kept a watchful eye over everything and ensured that everyone was well catered for. The usual card games were often interrupted by toppling glasses and the game was up from an early stage.

Despite the poor weather conditions we arrived at Holyhead on time to be greeted by weather similar to our own, wet and windy. On our coach trip to Llandudno we savoured the beautiful scenery of the Welsh countryside which strongly resembled many similar beautiful areas of Ireland. One striking feature of this road journey was the total lack of potholes. A beautiful smooth road journey which would be difficult to find in Ireland and especially in Kildare.

On arrival in Llandudno we were met by our host at the Craif-Ard Hotel who allotted the various rooms to our party. After changing we went shopping in Llandudno where the usual presents were purchased

for the mams and dads at home who had provided the expenses for their offspring. After the arduous journey it did not take long for the boys to settle down for the night. It was then that the more nocturnal members of our party went into action and took delight in experiencing the various items of entertainment on offer.

The next morning and after a hearty breakfast we set out for Manchester and the high point of our weekend the visit to the Theatre of Dreams, Old Trafford, home of the great Manchester United. Pre-match shopping was done at the massive Arndale Centre which in one of the biggest in Europe. While some had their pre match meal in the inevitable McDonald's the more hardened warriors had liquid lunch in the Neart Crown and Anchor. We made the short trip to the ground at 1.15 where we were met by a cacophony of noise and massive crowds despite being well ahead of kick-off time. The usual souvenirs were purchased from the great array of traders scattered along the approach to the stadium.

Everything was now ready for entry inside the ground and the excitement on the faces of our young party made all the hard work worthwhile.

This was a scene which would leave an indelible imprint on their memory forever. Our seating could hardly have been better, being in the front row of the Lower North Stand with the world famous Stretford End to our right with the score board choir to our left with Peter Schmeichel giving his Malcolm Sargent conductor demonstration during stoppage in the games. Even the less fervent members of our party had to admit that there were scenes which would hardly be evident in any other football stadium in the World. We were in good company as the now world famous "Davy Keogh says Hello" tricolour was prominently displayed in front of our row of seats. The mastermind behind the banner, Davy himself, was in good voice throughout the game and kept the spirits up after the Chelsea goal was scored.

The final whistle brought no relief with United failing to save the game in the dying minutes. The trip back to Llandudno was as good humoured as earlier despite the disappointed lads who were slowly recovering. Late dinner was eaten and various card schools ere littered about the hotel. And early night was being had because of our planned game against Abergele United from the Welsh Schoolboys League next day.

The following morning saw us depart from Llandudno on our way back to Holyhead, taking in Abergele or the schoolboys' match. Despite the hectic schedule of the previous few days our boys put on a magnificent performance to defeat the local side by seven goals to

(Maynooth Town AFC Trip to Llandudno (cont'd))

one. There were many stars on the team which ahs become known as "Gerry Folan's Blue and White Army" but the eventual man of the match award went to the diminutive Charles Gallagher. Half-time entertainment was provided by a number of our senior party who shall remain nameless to protect the innocent. Playing Gaelic football with a soccer ball on a rugby pitch defies description and has to be seen to be believed. After sampling the hospitality of the local club after the game we set off once more for Llandudno on the final part of our road journey. After ensuring that everyone was present we boarded our ship for the sea journey home to Dun Laoghaire.

Rousing sea shanties made for a party type atmosphere with various individuals displaying their individual voice talents. The journey did not seem as long and we arrived at Dun Laoghaire by our convoy of vehicles for our short trip to Maynooth. On arrival home at The Square everyone made their way home to their own abodes to relate their own stories and experiences of a most enjoyable weekend.

Our next club outing takes places in April to Anfield to see Liverpool play Newcastle United who have such a strong Anfield connection through their Manager Kevin Keegan.

PATRICK C. J. NELIGAN, B.C.L.



L.L.B

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From Maynooth Castle to Carton House November 1977

A Focal Point of Local History Mary Cullen

Robert, the Nineteenth Earl, hoped at first to restore Maynooth Castle. When he found that this was not a practical proposition he turned his attention to Carton. He invited Richard Cassels to remodel and rebuild Carton in 1739. Cassels was a German architect who had first come to Ireland to rebuild Sir Gustaves Hume's house in Fermanagh. Later he moved to Dublin and became the most sought after architect of his day. His popularity seems to have been due to his charm as a dinner guest as well as to his ability in his profession. Carton was now remodelled to his design. This involved making the original back of the house the front, lengthening the body of the house and raising both it and the wings an additional storey. They were now joined to each other by open colonnades. Inside there were magnificent state apartments, and the ceiling of the Saloon was decorated in stucco by Paul and Peter Francini. The Francini brothers were Italian artists who made stucco modelled plasterwork, fashionable and popular in Ireland. The ceiling of the saloon at Carton is very ornate and elaborate with little putti, 'sitting in the cornice and dangling their chubby legs over the heads of the assembled company.'

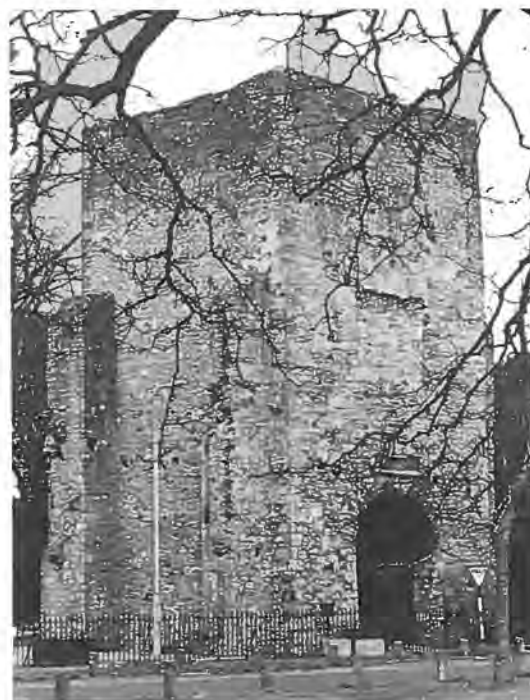
Cassels' design for Carton, as for all his other buildings in Ireland, was in the architectural style known as English Palladian, which flourished during the eighteenth century. Palladianism derived from the buildings and ideas of the Italian architect Andrea Palladio (1508-80) who aimed to recapture the splendour of the buildings of ancient Rome. For twenty years Cassels was the most prominent architect in Dublin. He helped create the new fashion in town houses of cut stone for the nobility in place of the older timbered style. His public buildings included the Printing House in Trinity College, described as a "little Doric Temple", and the College's new dining Hall. One of the best known was the new Music Hall in Fishamble Street opened in 1741. This was very successful. It could accommodate over seven hundred people, though this was only possible if ladies left their hoops at home and the gentlemen their swords. In the next year it was the scene of the first performance of Handel's Messiah, presented 'for the relief of the prisoners in the several goals and for the support of Mercer's Hospital... and of the Charitable Infirmary - Maurice Craig tells how the Rev. Dr. Patrick Delany of Delville, Glasnevin, the friend of swify was 'so transported by Mrs Susanne Cibbers' rendering of 'He was Despised' that he rose in his seat and exclaimed, with more enthusiasm than tact, 'Woman, for this, be all thy sins forgiven'.

Records of the materials used in the rebuilding of Carton survive. These were drawn from

many sources, from very near home and from far away.

They included home-made bricks, and Ardbraccan limestone from the White Quarry which supplied the material for many of Dublin's great eighteenth century buildings. There were also Mountmellick flags, blackstone from the Leixlip Quarry, Portland stone imported from England mountain granite, Palmerstown stone, and stone from the local quarry at Carton, Moygaddy and Maynooth. The beautiful pediment at the front of the house was carved by John Houghton and John Kelly for a charge of £60.00. It is Ardbraccan limestone from Co. Meath and shows the impaled arms of the Kildare and O' Brien families. Robert, the Nineteenth Earl, was married to Lady Mary O' Brien, daughter of the Earl of Inchiquin, and one of the most famous beauties then in the world, he would not take his wedding gloves off to embrace her'. However, they managed to produce a large family of eight daughters and four sons.

The Earl served as a privy councillor over a long period, during the reigns of Queen Anne, and of George I and George II, and also as lord justice. He was a founding member of the Incorporated Society for promoting Protestant Schools in Ireland, the organisation responsible for establishing the Charter Schools. Conditions in these residential schools were later to be the cause of much inquiry. The Earl provided the site and the money for the building of the first Charter School in Ireland at Castledermot, and in his will he left it £500 and another £500 each for the charter schools at Maynooth and Strangford. He died in 1744 and in his will, left resources to his wife for completing the building at Carton.



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COMMUNITY COUNCIL NOTES (July 1993)

MAYNOOTH COMMUNITY FESTIVAL - DAY BY DAY

Senan Griffin, Chairperson of the Maynooth Community Council, on Wednesday 9th June appealed to all residents of Maynooth to come out and support their own festival thereby promoting a good quality community atmosphere here in Maynooth. The opening of the seventh Community Festival took place in the Roost on Main Street, Maynooth and once again it was sponsored by Guinness Ireland Ltd. The Chairperson went on to thank Guinness Ireland Ltd., the G.A.A. Club, the four local pubs and other local businesses for their continued support and sponsorship. The Chairperson also thanked the large number of invited guests to the launch of the seventh Maynooth Community Festival and wished the festival every success.

Guinness Jazz Night - Friday 11th June - The Roost

Ireland on Friday 11th June was reeling under the worst floods caused by torrential rain, which broke all records for June, since records began; the east coast being worst hit. On the same date the Maynooth Community Festival began with a jazz night in The Roost. The weather may have been deplorable outside but it could not dampen the spirits of the large crowd in the Roost. They were treated to the fine music of the Guinness Jazz Band.

Smithwicks Music Night - Saturday 12th June - The Leinster Arms.

Al Brady and his band provided us with delightful music on Saturday night. Again the people of Maynooth came out despite depressing weather conditions. When I arrived the doorman told me I hadn't a hope in hell of taking photographs as the place was packed like sardines in a tin. Sure enough The Leinster Arms had drawn the crowd and with Al Brady playing many popular pieces the crack was 90.

Harp Lager Talent Competition - Sunday 13th June - Caulfields.

If anyone felt that there was no talent in Maynooth, Sunday 13th June in Caulfields scotched that once and for all. From the word go Paddy Doonan set the pace and each competitor thereafter tried to out-do the previous competitor. No one could envy the

adjudicators' task. Under the expert guidance of compere extraordinaire, Maisie Corrigan, each competitor was introduced. To the very end no one could be sure who the winner might be. One thing was certain, Caulfields was the venue to be in that night and for the large crowd attending the Harp Lager Competition everyone was a winner.

Whilst we the audience could relax and enjoy the excellent singing the adjudicators, Liz Monaghan, Hugh Crawford and May Crawford had to come up with the real winners. They eventually emerged after much deliberations and Liz was given the task of announcing the winners.

1st Prize: Alex Wallace, 2nd Prize: Loman Behan, 3rd Prize: Karen Conroy. A word of thanks to Maisie and to David Jolly for doing an excellent job. While we were waiting for the adjudicators to return with their verdict Maisie & David entertained everyone with their fine singing and playing. A big thank you to the adjudicators. Congratulations to the winners. A thoroughly enjoyable evening was had by all in Caulfields that evening.

Mr. & Mrs. Competition - Monday 14th June - The Roost

You could be forgiven for thinking that the Mr. and Mrs. Competition was not taking place in the Roost on Monday evening the 14th June last. The way some of the couples answered brought howls of laughter from the floor. As one person beside me quipped "are they married at all?" and "he should be left to Roost". I thought, very appropriate considering where we were. Some could hardly remember their partners birthdays

Much less the date, month or for that matter year they got married. But sure wasn't that the fun of it all. From the sound of Philip McDermott he hadn't seen his wife Norah for years....I believe there is some truth in that, with the active life Norah leads on behalf of the community. One couple were in no doubt about each others habits etc. That was Tom and Maura McMullon.

They were outright winners - congratulations. Maisie Corrigan compered the show and staff from the Community Council kept a close watch on the scores. A special thanks to all the couples for participating and giving us a great evenings entertainment and giving us a little glimpse into their personal habits - especially in respect of unmentionables!

COMMUNITY COUNCIL NOTES (July 1993)

Old Peoples' Committee Cabaret - Caulfields - Tuesday 15th June.

Mary Nolan, Margaret & John Walshe, Betty Higgins, Maureen & Paddy Malone, Ellen Leavey, Brigid Sauls, Jack Cleary, Anne Kenny, Breed Fortune, Doreen Gafney, Mary O' Connor, and Liz Bennet were some of the large number of young at heart who enjoyed themselves on Tuesday the 15th last. The Committee did a great job organising this event. Tea, sandwiches and cake were provided. One particular lady, Liz Bennett was celebrating her 85th birthday. Caulfields rose to the occasion by breaking open a bottle of champagne and even our esteemed politician, Minister Emmet Stagg T.D. got into the mood of things when photographed with the birthday girl, Liz. A cheque for £1,278 was presented by the Minister to Josie Moore on behalf of the Old People's Committee.

Smithwick's Table Quiz - G.A.A Club - Wednesday 16th June 1993.

The brains of Maynooth were stretched to their limits in the G.A.A. Club on the evening of Wednesday 16th June when they were put under pressure - but don't blame Jack - during the Smithwicks Table Quiz. From general knowledge to sports questions one could almost hear those brains rattling, then like computers spill out their answers and put them on the sheets provided. Mrs Spock's home, Superman's arch enemy, Yogo's Pal, the Black Pearl of Inchicore, Broken Glass, The Berlin Wall, Farewell to Arms, Mien Kampf, Al Capone, event the names of the people running the Community Council. These were some of the topics asked by Peter Hussey who compered the Table Quiz. The winning team with 93 points out of a maximum of 100 was Declan O' Connor, John McGarry, Gen Daly and Paul Daly. (The same group as last year). Second place with 92 points was Noel Morgan, Ciaran Tierney, Tony Clinton and John Nagle.

Irish Dancing, Accordion Band, Folk Dancing and Wet Dancing, Maynooth Brass and Reed Band - G.A.A. Club - Thursday 17th June.

The people of Maynooth and especially the children enjoyed a very pleasant evening on Thursday 17th June in the G.A.A. Club. The children in their beautiful costumes looked splendid and their performance was superb and a joy to watch. The Folk Dancing provided by the Claddagh Folk Group from Dublin was extremely entertaining. The children enjoyed participating in the less complicated steps of some of the Folk dancing which they were invited to join. We were treated to folk dancing from Holland, Poland and Germany to mention a few. Some of the choreography was sheer gentleness in its execution

whilst others demanding extremely aggressive steps was executed with skill in its interpretation. One particular Folk Dance from Holland called "Throwing Away Your Wife" demanded great foot work and execution. The Irish set dancing which followed the Folk dancing was also enjoyable and it was interesting to see the common steps and movements the Irish set dances have with our European Folk Dancers.

Car Treasure Hunt Results

1st Team John, Mary, Cian McGinley, Willie Sauls
2nd Team Paul & Eileen O' Brien & Family.

Maynooth Barperson 1993 - The Roost

Sunday night 20th June saw Mel Farrell of The Roost winning the Maynooth Barperson of the Year 1993 with 885 votes. Joan Healy of Caulfields got into second place with 620 votes. Third was Ben Mee, GAA, with 310 votes, and Annie Chandler of The Leinster Arms came 4th with 186 votes.

EUGENE IS BACHELOR OF THE YEAR

One of the highlights of the Maynooth Festival must be the Bachelor of the Year Award and going by the large crowd that packed into Caulfields on Friday night proves just how popular this event is. The participants were dressed to kill and watching each one of them being escorted by one of the fair sex I could not help but wonder how they had not already been "nabbed".

Maisie was once again the compere and in her capable hands everything went like clockwork. Each participant was questioned closely about "What they looked for in a woman?" or "What hobbies, if any?" depending upon the answers to these questions and after rendering a few verses of a song or telling a joke, the judges awarded points. The judges were Ann Carey, Anne Naughton, Mary O' Melia and Maurice Byrne who was the representative for Guinness, our main festival sponsor. Not unlike the Talent Competition earlier in the week the adjudicators had their work cut out. There was very little between any of the participants. However, when the winner was announced, the crowd roared their approval of the Judge's decision for the Bachelor of the Year Award went to none other than Maynooth's own Eugene Fitzpatrick.



Gaelic Finals

Conway Diggins Trophy—Sunday 20th June

An internal match was played by two teams of underage players (8-12) on Sunday afternoon at 2 p.m.

Hurling Final—Garda Perpetual Trophy

This was also an internal match by two under-age players. A good crowd attended both games and was enjoyed by all. Trophies were presented to the respective captains by Pat Nevin, Chairman of the G.A.A. under-age committee and medals were presented to all the teams.

TUG O' WAR WINNERS

The Maynooth Festival Tug O' War Tournament was held on Sunday 13th June. The weather was perfect for the occasion and there was a large attendance as eighty contestants battled it out for the honours. There was a substantial assortment of prizes up for grabs, provided by the generous support of the Leinster Arms, Caulfields, the GAA Club, Bradys and The Roost. The referee for the occasion was Mr. P. J. Bennett who did an excellent job. The day was organised to provide a bit of fun for local people. If the spirit of the occasion was marred in any way it was due to unforeseen circumstances and I take my share of the blame for that.

The winners of the untrained section were the Leinster Arms B Team of Larry McEvoy, Mark McEvoy, Martin Murray, Mick Bergin, Jim Heffernan, Liam Fitzharris, Jack Dumphin, Paudi O' Sullivan and Frank Kilrane. Only two or three of this team were local while some of the others pulled for the famous Bradys team of the late 70s and early 80s. They claim that they have not trained in recent years. Runners-up in this event were the Brady's B team. In the women's section, the winners were the Green Army of Helen Finnan, with the Brady Bunch of Rachel Cassidy as runners-up. This competition showed the true spirit of the festival with no stalling or delaying tactics. In the trained section there was a varied assortment of outfits. Sean Hyland entered a relatively young and inexperienced team. There were some great battles with the Leinster Arms B team winning outright. Runners-up were Brady A team of George Gallagher, Brendan Canley, John Gallagher, John O' Mahony, Anthony Mooney, Tony Dempsey, Aidan Mulhall and Sean Darcy. It is interesting to note that the winners were not facing the best of Maynooth as our talent was spread throughout three teams. The Leinster Arms A team were in third place. I leave the last words to John Gallagher, who a month ago said "When it starts, it starts - it's only a bit of crack - who a month ago said "When it starts, it starts - it's only a bit of crack - who knows what will happen". When I asked John O' Rourke did he hear about the Tug O' War, he said "It wasn't on the six o'clock news anyway".

Mick Scanlon nominated Nicholas Donovan for the Oscar. Finally, to the friends whom I can count on for their support - thanks. The mission goes on.

Willie Healy



Back row L—R Danny Casey, Tony Dickinson, Donal Finnan and Martin Tarpey. Front Row: Dave Heslin, Tony Holloway, Martin Fahy and Nicholas Donovan



The Green Army
L—R: Back row, Martina Finan, Grainne Farrelly, Helen Finan (Capt.), Jene Redmond and Ann Finan. Front row: Patricia Nevin, Breda Murphy, Sinead Hickey and Hillary Donovan.

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Features January 2000

THE YEARS IN MAYNOOTH 1930 - 1960 January

In the Thirties the village and residents had some similarities with the town of 1999.

Tower, I.O.C. and G.S.R. buses served the village. Boys and girls travelled to secondary schools and men and women travelled to their employment in Dublin. Then as now the G.S.W. Railway served Maynooth en-route to and from Galway, Westport and Sligo. The Dublin terminus was Broadstone at the top of Dominic Street, a five minute walk to O'Connell Street.

Horse drawn canal barges regularly traversed the Royal Canal. Hour old morning and evening newspapers were carried on the G.S.R. buses, which in their latest news panel, usually carried the result of the 4.30 race at some track or other to be read at 5.45 on arrival at Geraghtys or Caulfield shops fresh off the Longford bus. A far cry of the evening paper of today, arriving shortly after three o'clock. Morning papers would carry a report of a boxing match in New York at 3.00 a.m. complete with radio pictures.

Education in the Convent and Boys School was top class. Alas for the scholars, particularly the girls, as the many sisters and small classes of ten or twelve pupils, meant personal and uncomfortable attention to everyone.

Despite the U.S. and British depression, there was little unemployment but wages were low. Chief employers were the College, Carton Farms, Convent Laundry, Kavanaghs Mills, Dawsons shops and many flourishing trades people.

Entertainment consisted of ceilis, dances and films in Nolans Hall, occasionally supplemented by a film show for charity in the Convent, which also operated a lending library every Sunday morning. Variety concerts organised by the band usually held on Easter and Whit Sunday nights. Carricford and Daniells Travelling shows, indeed Stephen Brennan and Robert Carricford went to school in the town. Radio reception for 2RN Athlone and 2LO London plus short wave stations.

Electricity from the E.S.B. arrived in the early thirties, taking over from D.C. supplies to some houses and public lights from the College, Dawsons and Tom Carrs. Water supplies were from hand pumps on wells in The Square, Dublin, Straffan, Moyglare and Newtown Roads and other locations in the village. Some houses in the Main Street had wells and pumps in their back gardens. Many a tanner was earned by school boys pumping water into overhead tanks each day after school. Mail was delivered every morning by four postmen on their bicycles around the village and outlying areas. Mail was collected at the Moyglare cross-roads box every evening at 4.30 p.m. Fresh milk was delivered daily by three local dairies. Many residents had their own cows in the many paddocks either side of the Dublin Road.

Recreation and sports consisted of the G.A.A. long established, rugby, cricket and tennis in the North Kildare Club. Fishing on the Rye Water and Canal. Tennis was later available in Leinster Street, now the Health Centre. Snooker, billiards and table tennis later in the thirties at the C.Y.M.S. club now the Geraldine Hall. Boxing in the Old School in the late 40's. Music at the Bank Hall now the I.C.A. Swimming at the Canal sand banks, Black Lane and College, Jackson and Bond Bridges. Popular walks, Celbridge, Straffan, Rathcoffey, and Kilcock Roads. The four mile circuit Moyglare Road, Moygaddy, Dunboyne Road ever popular but more dangerous today. Carton Avenue, Lovers Lane, now known as the Mont Lane and atrocious to walk. Circuit was



Phil Brady, President, N.K.C.C. presenting Kildare Grand Prix Cup to winner B. O'Brien, N.K.C.C. (Sun. June 29th 1957)

very popular in Spring and Summer evenings. Pre war Carton Demesne was open to the public on Sundays. Greyhound racing and coursing had many followers. Breeders, trainers and competitors apart from the local farmers, most of the greyhound fans dwelt in the eastern end of the village. The Square then as now had its traffic jams. Easter Monday punters from the south enroute to Fairyhouse, Cunningham Cup Day at Puncherstown, days at Naas and the Curragh with punters from the North.

In the late thirties, early forties D.U.T.C. Dublin United Transport Company superceded the I.O.C. and with war clouds gathering over Europe, many accepted routines changed.

In September 1939 the greatest of all Carnivals was held in the Convent Grounds, now the site of the Girls School. The theme song of that carnival was, Vera Lynns rendering of "Its a lovely day tomorrow". The last night of the event a Gala

Cont./



J. Murphy, Chairman, Leinster Darts Club, presenting Mrs. M. Kelly, Secretary, Maynooth Old Peoples Committee with cheque. Also included are Mrs. B. Brady, Mrs. T. Kenny, S. Moran, L. Murphy and D. Horan. (1979)

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THE YEARS IN MAYNOOTH 1930 - 1960 (Cont.)

Dance was held, where many of our youth said goodbye and some were never to return, as they left for England to work and later serve in the allied forces.

The Army occupied Carton House and consequently the gates closed on the public access for the last time, never again to open on a full-time basis. Everyday life continued on a lower key. Coal became scarce, so a Parish Council was set up and plots or the bog were cut for turf. Allotments were made available to landless and Gorderlery residents at Kilcock Road, present day car park and Pebble Hill. Entertainment such as dances, ceili, concerts, film shows every Saturday and travelling shows in Nolan Hall. Band, L.D.F. and L.S.F. marches on St. Patrick's Day, plus the regular Band Parades.

Children, boys and girls alike took to the whipping top craze each spring, many becoming experts of endurance i.e. keeping the top going non stop, another pastime was wheeling hoops.

Arising from the latter, an enterprising young schoolboy obtained many used car and bus tyres and formed a make believe bus service, each tyre correctly branded with its number and destination. Every afternoon boys could be seen rolling these tyres to various points around the village, the most popular route was Aston Quay - Maynooth i.e. a stream at Manor Court to Castle View opposite the Garda Barracks. The most unpopular one was Cork route, i.e. Twomeys gate on the Crinstown Road.

All this activity amongst the coming and going of turf trucks ferrying turf to the Phoenix Park and the Tuesday cattle drives to the Market for the North Circular Road with never an accident.

For the curious yes the boys were paid a 1d a week on condition that they attend a film show at the cost of 1d every Friday night at entrepreneur home. Needless to say the film show came first. The entrepreneur, a very successful business man retired in England.

However all was not sunny as the war wore on, brown envelopes bearing the crown, revealed we regret to inform you - missing or killed in action to some homes including this scribe however many thankfully were premature with happy endings, others were not so lucky.



The hostilities ended, but the village never returned to pre war status. Right enough the men gathered at their usual corners. There were five along the Main Street, and others at a one time shop on whose big step they listened intently to the residents revelations of down country places he had visited during his travels that day.

Seven-a-side football competitions were a regular summer game. Daniels film shows ceased, and later the Convent Laundry was converted each weekend and continued until the advent of T.V.

As the Forties passed into the Fifties people became more insular. A lot of the innocence of the Thirties was gone forever. But some of the good things carried on via the wit of certain brothers. One who on boarding the double decker at the old Kiemans shop, particularly on a wet dreary Monday morning, hat on the side of his head, Woodbine smoking on his lips, would greet everybody with, "good morning master", and proceed to tell funny yarns and stories which would raise a laugh out of everyone and have the bus in uproar before reaching Leixlip.

The highlights of the twenty-five years 1930 - 1955 must be:
The Eucharistic Congress 1932
Donal U Bucalla - Governor General
Mains water supply - 1947
British Prime Minister - Clem Atbe journey through Maynooth to the West. Hundreds lined the street - 1949.
Michael Nolan winning the Irish Billiards Championship - 1953.

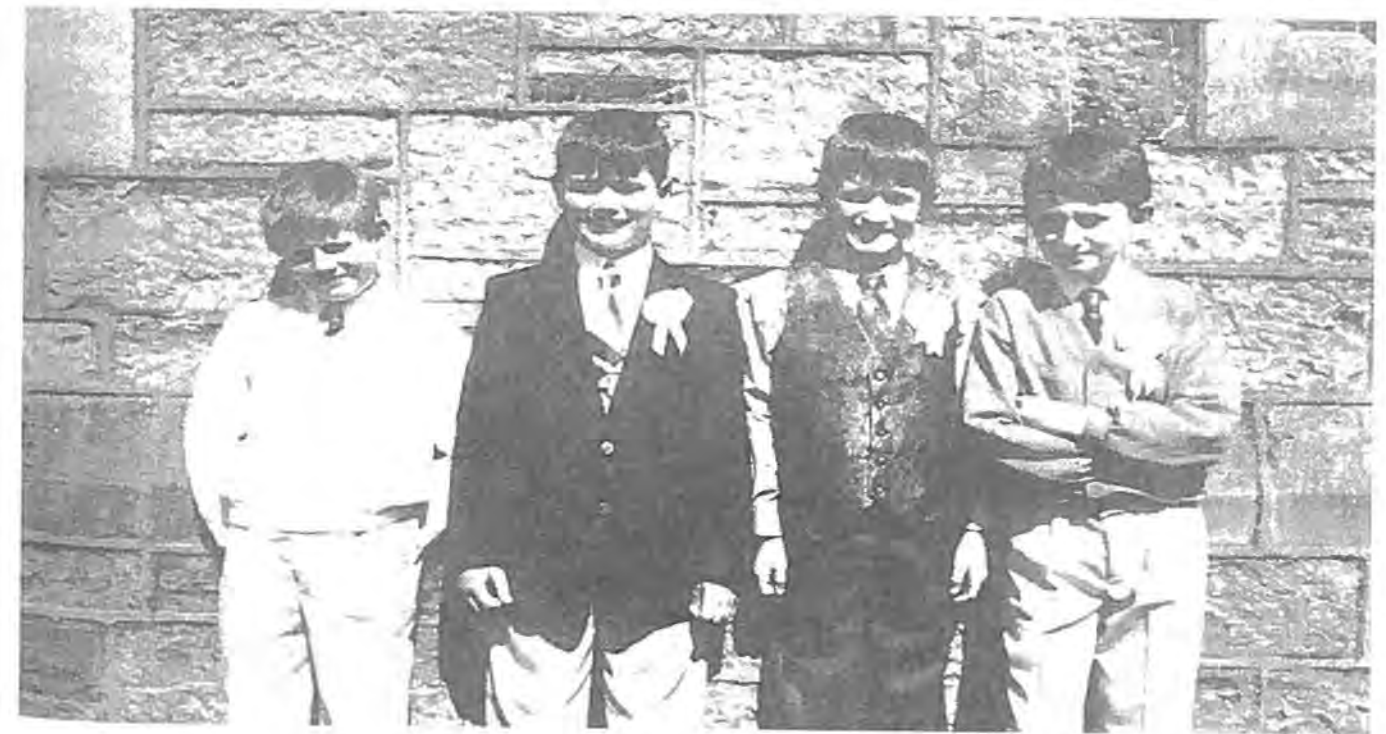
Characters, a very witty painter, who with a comic story and wit, brightened the gloomiest of mornings on the first bus out of time. A retired butcher, who could turn a story of a five minute walk from the College to the Main Street into an hour long saga, not missing a single action or confrontation on that stroll. Unlike the seanachi his tale was factual. Another gentleman would outshine Jimmy Magee with his revelations and expertise on every sport, world wide. Ever rich in talent in business, entertainment, trades and sport. Many local people reached the pinnacle of success world wide, Britain, Australia, U.S.A. and South Africa. Indeed five participated in the Boer War and returned and lived into the late 50's. Others had success on the stage and music.

A group taken in Maynooth College awaiting the arrival of Bishops from their June meeting in the College. They are: (from l-r) The late Paddy McDowell, Michael Kelly, the late Michael Nevin, Frank Spring. (now Brother Finbar OSA) Leo McGlynn and Paddy Devaney

Communion Day June 1994



Teachers Mrs. Boylan and Ms. Kennedy
Left to Right: Rebekah Holmes, Gemma Hawthorne, Joan Whelan, Amy O'Connor, Caroline Hayes



Left to Right: Norman Dunne, Dwayne Cawley, Lorcan Maher, John Kelleher

PARTY POLITICAL (APRIL 1992)

New Agenda Notes

New Agenda is the working title of a new political party being launched by Proinsias De Rossa and five other members of Dail Eireann. New Agenda is a democratic socialist party committed to the principles of equality of opportunity, women's and civil rights, justice, peace and democracy. New agenda believes that, with proper planning of the country's resources, we can bring an end to mass unemployment and poverty. We also believe in the concept of a health and education system available to all. We are committed to the separation of church and state and the creation of a tolerant and pluralist society.

Above all, New Agenda is about involving people in controlling their own lives, as workers, consumers and citizens. We aim to provide a vehicle whereby all those struggling for dignity, rights and fair treatment can work together to transform the privileged and unequal structures of Irish society. Our own party will itself be member-centred, governed by democracy from the bottom up, and with special provisions to ensure a fair representation of women members in the party structures.

Carton

It was with great reluctance that New Agenda, through Councillor Catherine Murphy, voted in favour of the proposed development of Carton Estate as a hotel and leisure centre. However, we were concerned at the absence of any firm alternatives, and the possibility that, if this proposal was turned down, a less attractive project might, in time, be allowed to go ahead. We were also greatly influenced by the prospect of creating over 400 long term jobs in the area. However, New Agenda, wishes to dissociate itself from the outrageous and offensive attacks which have been levelled against those who have been opposing the proposed development. We fully accept the good faith and genuine concerns of the opponents of the project. Indeed, we share most of these concerns ourselves. Catherine Murphy will be doing her utmost to ensure compliance with the rigorous planning conditions which are to be applied if the project secures planning permission.

Housing Crisis

There are now over 1,000 families on Kildare County Council's waiting list for public housing. Over half of these have an income of less than £5,000 a year (i.e. £100 per week). There are at least four members in almost 400 of the families in question. Between parents, children and other dependants, there are now 3,361 people looking for housing in the country.

In response to this huge waiting list, Kildare County Council intends to build the grand total of twenty houses this year. This would be ridiculous if it weren't tragic. There has been a lot of talk about the right to life in Ireland in recent times. But for thousands of people in Kildare, the life they have is increasingly becoming hardly worth living. It is these kinds of conditions which New Agenda aims to eradicate from our unjust society.

Fine Gael Notes

Top Performer

To those of us who know him, it comes as no surprise that Bernard Durkan should figure so prominently in a survey of Dail performance carried out by the Irish Independent between October and December 1991, the results of which were published on the 3rd and 4th March. Not only did he top the list of those submitting written questions to Ministers, but he was also ranked among the top contributors to Dail debates following hard on the heels of such prominent people as Bertie Ahern, Charles Haughey and Dick Spring. It is notable that, with the exception of his colleague Alan Dukes no other Kildare T.D. appeared in these rankings which covered the top 16 - 20 performers. These results taken in conjunction with those from a similar survey carried out in 1990, in which Bernard's performance was equally good are proof, if proof was needed, that while others are talking about what they are going to do, Bernard Durkan is getting on with the job.

Roses By Other Names

With all this talk of "New Beginnings" and "New Agendas" a visitor to this country could be forgiven for believing that some fresh political forces had burst on the scene. Nothing could be further from the truth. With his "New Beginning" Mr. Reynolds is attempting to conceal the fact that he and most of his senior ministers e.g. Ahern, Flynn, Brennan and Walsh were members of the Government which was responsible for controlling, or more correctly not controlling, the various businesses now subject to investigations. So nothing has really changed; just the logo. Similarly with New Agenda. Having gone from Sinn Fein to official Sinn Fein, to Sinn Fein and the Workers Party, to the Workers Party the Chameleons of Irish Politics seem to think that another name change will make people forget their origins, philosophy and associations. They, like a shady businessman opening and

PARTY POLITICAL (April 1992)

(Fine Gael Notes cont'd)

closing companies to hide his tracks, overlook the fact that regardless of the change in title the names and faces are the same.

FIANNA FAIL NOTES

Councillor Gerry Brady has received the following letter from Kildare County Council.

Re: Kingsbry Residents' Association, Maynooth. I am to refer to your recent letter regarding work outstanding in the Kingsbry Estate and I wish to report as follows:

1. Public Lighting.

The seven lights referred to are connected to the electricity system since before Christmas. With regard to the inadequacy of the lights the developer will be required to provide lights in accordance with the standard set down by the E.S.B. before the estate is taken in charge.

2. Landscaping

The developer will be required to complete all landscaping to the satisfaction of the planning authority before the estate will be taken in charge. No application for taking in charge has been received so far from this developer.

3. With reference to the pedestrian walkway linking Kingsbry Estate with Beaufield Estate, this walkway has planning approval under Permission No. 343/89 for Beaufield Estate. The Council is making contact with the developers about other outstanding matters which require attention within this estate. Damage caused to the front of the estate by the contractor due to drainage work will be made good by the contractor.

Yours sincerely,

J.G. Ward, County Manager

LABOUR PARTY NOTES

Post Primary School

The post primary school Parents' Association has asked Deputy Stagg to pursue the matter of extra classrooms at the school. Deputy Stagg has written to the Minister for Education pointing out the acute shortage of space in the school and requesting immediate action,

National School

Last September the Department of Education terminated the school transport system for children in the Old Carton and Carton Estate areas. Following representations by Deputy Stagg to the Department the service is being reinstated.

Kingsbry Estate

Following a meeting with the Kingsbry Residents' Association, Deputy Stagg has asked the Co. Engineer to investigate the matter of pedestrian access between Kingsbry and Beaufield estates. Deputy Stagg has also requested the Co. Engineer to provide the Residents' Association with a copy of plans for underground cables and services in the estate. The provision and repair of public lights on the bridge at Straffan Road and the obligation of the sewer contractor to repair the road and restore the green area along Straffan Road are issues which have been brought to the attention of Kildare County Council by Deputy Stagg.

Straffan Road Plans

Kildare County Council have still failed to provide detailed plans for the widening of Straffan Road and also whether a cycle lane is planned. These plans were promised before Christmas. This matter will continue to be pursued by the Maynooth branch

MAYNOOTH NEWSLETTER



*Maynooth ICA Celebrate
their Fiftieth Anniver-*



*See Photographs
inside*

Issue No. 308
September
2003 Price €

Muintir Ma Nuad May 1994



Leonard Murphy

Leonard Murphy, commonly known as Lenny, is a true blue Maynooth man. He is sub-station officer of the Local Fire Brigade and is one of the main driving forces behind Maynooth Town A.F.C. He was born on 1st March 1943 and was reared at Lough House Laraghbryan. His father Joe was from Maynooth and his mother from Enfield.

Lenny's education began in the Convent School before going to the B.N.S. After leaving Primary School, Lenny worked in jobs for short periods here and there. At that time there was no shortage of work. He became an Apprentice Barman in Kiely's of Donnybrook. Among his clientele were writers Myles Na Gopaleen and Patrick Kavanagh.

Around this time in 1964 Lenny married his wife Lilly, a native of Carlow in Donnybrook church. They have a family of six, including, Anita, Fiona, twins Leonard and Orla, Elizabeth, Michael and two grandchildren Daryl and Lauren.

In 1965, Lenny and Lilly returned to Maynooth and he began working in the old Corner House (now The Roost). He later worked in the Leaf Chewing Gum factory in Kilcock before being made redundant in 1978.

Joined Fire Service

Lenny became a part-time fireman in 1979 where he had the unusual distinction of working alongside his father Joseph for six years. Joseph retired aged 64 after giving twenty seven years to the Maynooth Fire Service. In those days firemen were summoned by a siren placed on the top of a pole. There were also bells in houses before the present bleeper system was initiated. As a fireman he always remembers the tragic events, but there were also good days when they performed their job

well minimising damage, helping to save lives of rescuing people from traffic accidents. Ever involved in the development of Maynooth Fire Service, Lenny attained a certificate in Fire Engineering. This was a mammoth achievement considering that a lot of aspects of this course were not part of his former education: such as science, mechanics and hydraulics. He had to study very hard.

He is now sub-station officer, which involved taking charge of certain situations, making initial decisions as to how incidents may be handles. To him the Fire Brigade means being involved in a local service where at times he has to deal with some very dangerous situations.

Worrying Times

Presently in Maynooth, all the Fire Officers are married men. When they get a call-out during the day or night their families also experience and share in their worries for their safety and well being.

Love of Soccer

Lenny had a great love of soccer: while he is also a fan of the native game of Hurling. In the late 1950's he was involved in the formation of a soccer club in Maynooth which was based at the rear of what is now Leinster Park. He had the pleasure as a minor of playing against Shelbourne Minor Tony Dunne who later won a European with Manchester United in 1968 and was capped by Republic of Ireland. Lenny regrets that he didn't reach these dizzy heights, but feels that if he had, he might have missed out on so many happy memories that he has experienced. He played at Junior Level with a number of clubs such as Beechill Utd; where he played at right half back.

He received a bad shoulder injury which curtailed his involvement in football at a serious level. To keep in touch with the game he sat for the Referees Exam in Dublin which he passed. He retired from refereeing league matches in 1990 as this post prevented him from being a member of a club. He had earlier become involved in coaching the School Boys team in 1982. He later became involved with the Senior Team and is now club PRO.

25th Anniversary

This year along with his colleagues he will be celebrating the 25th anniversary of the club as it is presently constituted. Their target is to own their own grounds eventually, if land becomes available at the right price. Every day of his week is taken up by some aspect of the game. (For a number of years he was chairman of the North Kildare Guinness Darts League.) Manchester Utd. Is his favourite team and he generally makes a point of travelling to Old Trafford at least once a year.

Muintir Ma Nuad May 1994 (cont'd)

World Cup

He feels that if we qualify for the play-off stages of the World Cup, it will be a great achievement as many of our players are nearing the end of their international careers. He expects that the hype and glamour created by the Americans will up-lift and boost his beloved sport.

Musical Interests

Lenny played the Clarinet with the Maynooth Brass and Reed Band from his 'teens to his early twenties. He enjoys military music and light opera of the Gilbert and Sullivan mould.

Early Memories

Nowadays the students of the College mix freely with local people. Lenny remembers a time when students were taken out for supervised walks by clerical staff. He also recalls that Ordination Day was a big event in Maynooth, when young and old gathered at the 'College Gates' to get a blessing from the newly ordained priests.

His philosophy in life is that if you make a decision, stick to it. His community spiritedness stems from the influence of his late father, Joseph, who was a great friend and adviser to him. He derives a soft spot for the Royal County from his mother. He is a committed local man who does Maynooth proud.



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Buckley's Lane, Maynooth, Co. Kildare

Mother Teresa of Calcutta Visits Maynooth July 1993

Gloria in Excelsis Deo

The above Latin jubilation is the only way to describe how the people of Maynooth felt after they had been honoured by the visit of a legend, some say a saint, in her own time on Tuesday the first of June last. It is poignant to note that on this occasion her visit took place on the day following the feast of the Visitation of Mary the Mother of God.

Whilst Mother Teresa's visit has been planned for months her recent fall had put the whole visit in doubt. though frail looking she may be, a little thing like three broken ribs was not going to deter such a determined person as Mother Teresa of Calcutta.

To the casual visitor passing through Maynooth that day nothing unusual appeared to be occurring. there was the usual traffic jams, people were doing their shopping and everything was normal. but behind the scenes the Gardai were very busy as were the staff in St Patrick's College preparing for their distinguished visitor.

Each year the students at Maynooth College organise the Trocaire annual talk, inviting a dignitary to speak on a Third World issue. This year the students invited Mother Teresa to give a talk. despite her recent illness, already mentioned, Mother Teresa agreed to continue with her visit to Ireland and particularly to be present in Maynooth on Tuesday June 1st. The format was somewhat different than in previous year as the event was planned to be an evening of prayer with Mother Teresa during which she addressed the congregation. The students put great effort into planning the event and it proved to be a beautiful liturgical occasion.

Mother Teresa and her entourage were escorted by Gardai outriders, arriving at the side entrance of the chapel at approximately 6 PM. she was received enthusiastically by Cardinal Daly and a number of bishops and clergy from all over Ireland. upon entering the building Mother Teresa kindly consented to allow the press to take photographs after which she met Trocaire members at the side of the chapel. Upon entering the altar she was greeted by tumultuous applause from an overcrowded college chapel. For the congregation which had participated in the liturgical music and meditations at 5 PM were now joined by Mother Teresa in reflection, blessing and lighting of the commemorative candle and intercessions read in several different languages from Croatian, Italian, Kiswahili, to Russian. The congregation with their candles held aloft created the atmosphere of a pilgrimage gathering in Lourdes. The local Gardai who were guarding Mother Teresa became involved in the ceremony. they began assisting with the lighting of the candles.

Her address to the congregation on the need for prayer was quietly spoken. Prayer, she said, was the path to love and peace in the family and the

community. Her short speech to the congregation was followed by questions from two Maynooth students. One of the two questions asked was she concerned about the fall in numbers of vocations. she replied that she has spent much time thinking about this issue. "I have thought very much about this but I believe it is going to increase again. She asked the congregation to pray for families and individuals who do decide to take up vocations.

asked what she feared most she answered simply "sin".

When the evening of prayer had ended Mother Teresa made her way out of the college chapel. By the time she had got to the side door a large number of the original 1000 plus congregation had made their way around to the side of the chapel hoping to catch a final glimpse. Some began to run down towards the main gate thinking that the cavalcade would shortly arrive. However Mother Teresa had a few further engagements prior to leaving the college.

Her first call after the evening of prayer was to the students of Maynooth College. There she spoke on Third World issues. Later Mother Teresa met a group from Amargh led by Cannon McDonald and Cardinal Daly.

For those of us who were fortunate either to meet her face to face or even just got a glimpse, the occasion was one of deep spiritual and joyful emotion. Many people with whom I spoke to after the evening of prayer were filled with a great sense of joy having been privileged to be in the presence of a living saint.



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Maynooth Castle is handed over to OPW November 1991

Castle Restoration Committee

At a ceremony at Maynooth Castle on Sunday 20th October 1991 at 2 PM, Maynooth Castle was given as a gift by the Honourable David Nall-Cain to Commissioner John F Mahony, Chairperson of the Commissioner of Public Works and will be dedicated as an amenity to benefit the people of Maynooth and Ireland.

Maynooth Castle was started by Maurice Fitzgerald in 1176 after he had aided Strongbow in the successful siege of Dublin.

From 1176 to 1647 the castle was the principle home and fortress of the Fitzgerald family, first four Barons of Offaly, then 16 earls of Kildare.

From 1647 to today(345 years) the castle has been in ruins.

It is a remarkable fact, as stated by a good authority on our Norman architecture, John Henry Parker of Oxford, that although this castle was enlarged at various times, yet, which additions have largely disappeared, the greater part of the original work still remains. this may be accounted for by the durable character of the massive early Norman masonry" quoted from the Journal of County Kildare Archaeological Society 1894.

Maynooth Castle Committee ,started in 1990, has to date:

- Arranged the survey of the castle by the Department of Surveying and Architecture in the College of Technology Bolton Street Dublin
- Commissioned the definitive History of Maynooth Castle by the History Department of St Patrick's College Maynooth
- Co-ordinated the work of floodlighting the castle by the OPW and Kildare County Council.
- Solicited the sponsorship of landscaping to the adjoining mills by Edward Kavanagh &Co.
- Liased at all stages with the Office of Public Works to promote the status of the project of restoring Maynooth Castle with emphasis on the appropriateness of funding by the European Cultural Heritage Fund.
- And now has used the goodwill of the Nall-Cain family to see the most significant Norman castle in Ireland placed in the hands of the Irish people

The next phase for the Maynooth Castle Committee is to assist in the development of the project by the Office of Public Works. the restoration work of the castle will be a major project of the OPW during the next decade.

The use of the restored Castle is the subject of studies being carried out by a Social Employment Scheme, sponsored by the Maynooth Castle Committee. These researches cover such aspects as : the Fitzgerald Clan and Clan meetings, leaflets and postcards, guided tours, genealogy centre, medieval banquets, historical pageant, community meeting rooms, summer schools.

Maynooth Castle Committee represents all local organisations and committees with interests in the development of the area



The Hon. David Nall-Cain, (left) Owner of Carton Properties handing over the keys of Maynooth Castle to Mr. Vincent Brady, T.D., Minister of State of the Office of Public Works, watched by Mgr. Michael Ledwith, (second from left) President of Maynooth College and Chairman of the Maynooth Castle Committee and Brigadier Denis Fitzgerald (cousin of the Duke of Leinster) at the ceremony held at Maynooth Castle on Sunday 20th October 1991

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SWAN RESCUED FROM ROYAL CANAL

The Royal Canal, Maynooth, hardly seems a likely setting for a dramatic attempt to rescue a distressed swimmer. Especially when that attempt takes place on a freezing cold Thursday afternoon in early February. However, when the distressed swimmer's water wings are capable of breaking a man's arm with one blow you know that this is not your run of the mill dramatic land/sea rescue attempt. This is not the stuff of headlines, but of hypothermia.

While walking by the canal on my way to Oscar's Coffee Dock (see attempted restaurant/coffee guide in last month's issue) I noticed a family feeding bread to some of the swans in the harbour. One of the younger swans was taking no part in the feeding frenzy but was drifting aimlessly towards Bond Bridge. As I walked past I noticed that a piece of twine was tangled round its beak. On further inspection I saw that a stick was tied to the end of the twine and was trailing in the water just below the swan's neck. Pressed for time and shivering from the cold, I kept going, but decided to return by the canal to see if the swan had managed to work the twine loose.

I had only been gone an hour but when I returned I could see that the swan was considerably more distressed as it appeared to have swallowed some of the twine while trying to free itself and the stick was half way up its neck.

From the Newsletter offices on Main Street I rang Paul Dempsey of the Kildare Animal Rescue. Within three-quarters of an hour, Paul had joined myself, Colin Meade (also from the Newsletter) and a member of the R.C.A.G. who had noticed the swan's plight.

At this stage the swan had been joined by the rest of the family, who complicated things by snatching the bread intended to entice the stricken swan to shore. Eventually we split our forces, with Colin being despatched

further up the canal with orders to keep the others away, by any means necessary. In the end this turned out to be through the thoroughly unimaginative process of hurling bits of bread at the other swans, as hard as his frost-bitten fingers would allow.



"IceCube", the Cool Swan.

I myself was stationed close to Paul to catch the dramatic grab attempt on film, but not too close as the flash from the camera would frighten our quarry (which I had named Ice-Cube after the rap artist and my last memory of my fingers). As it became clear the Ice-Cube wasn't going to stick his head in the grab pole's noose, Paul waded into the water and began slowly to reach for the stick. This was the moment that every photographer dreams about — a dramatic on-the-spot action shot. I could see it so clearly, the swan rearing up majestically, its wings spread and silhouetted against the winter sun as Paul wrestled it to the bank and freed it. As I lined up my lens and planned the frame for my picture Paul struck. Making a grab for the stick, he just reached it and as the swan pulled back the twine snapped . . . about two seconds before my shutter did!

So my shot was gone, but how about Ice-Cube himself? With the stick gone and following the shock of Paul's lunge, Ice certainly seemed to have defrosted, the lethargic sufferer of a few moments previous was gone to be

replaced by Ice the Angry. Mute swans normally live up to their name, but Ice was having none of it, and made his displeasure known. Paul assured us that this was a good sign.

As he surveyed the broken twine he asked us to check on Ice the next day. When a swan is alone or lethargic or has dropped its head onto its body for a long period, it is in trouble. I am happy to report that the following day Ice was in fine form and had not forgotten the previous day's events, something which I noticed as the fifth slice of bread I threw to him floated past his disdainful gaze.

Back at the car park Paul took off his dripping waders and prepared to follow up a call about a horse seen in a very distressed condition near Naas. The K.A.R. are kept busy throughout the year answering calls from the public, according to Paul they get three or four calls a year about the swans in Maynooth. Some of his more bizarre calls, which occur regularly, at least once a week, are to rescue swans stranded on the motorway.

Apparently, the swans see the motorway from the air as a suitable landing site, especially when there is some surface water on it, but once they land they find it impossible to take off. Usually by the time Paul arrives the birds are so frightened that capturing them and releasing them on water is easy, keeping them away from motorists isn't and there have been some injuries.

Thankfully, however, Ice-Cube appears to be getting over his ordeal, the hope is that the twine will gradually decay enough for him to be able to free himself of the remainder. If that doesn't work it'll be back to Bond Bridge and the old bread bait. Or maybe Q could invent a gadget to capture swans, remove twines and take that elusive action shot photograph.

Kildare Animal Rescue (K.A.R.) can be contacted at: 045 522929

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Muintir Maigh Nuad



Ted Connolly

Most families in Ireland are run fairly well to routine: get married, have children, work, educate them, see them get jobs - everyone happy, no problem. There are exceptions to the rule and Ted's family would be one of them.

Ted was born on the 14th April, 1929, into a family of nine other children at Convent Lane, Maynooth, or indeed the rest of Ireland was not very prosperous at that time so the chances of richness were very slim. They were totally shattered when in 1933 Ted's father died. Left with no option, their mother Annie had to put some of her children into care. So started Ted's excursion through life. To us who have lived ordinary family lives Ted's history is very different.

Ted was sent to the Sisters of Charity in Drogheda in 1934. At the age of 4, a very traumatic move for a child. His memory of that institution is very mixed. Some of the nuns were very kind but as usual some were right bitches. Ted was there until he was 10, then worse was to follow. The sisters did not keep anyone over that age so he was sent to Artane. Anyone who read Patrick Toughey's book "Fear of the Collar" may have a little insight into the life in Artane but Ted had it first-hand.

The Newsletter would not print some of the words Ted uses to describe this kip. His mildest word on the place is "prison", where punishment was dished out at random and for no reason. You were lashed just for the pleasure of those perverts dishing it out. Ted did not encounter any of the perversions that we read so much of now but he thinks they got their thrills from just beating kinds.

Ted was assigned to the cobbling shop where along with mending shoes and harnesses he also had to make the straps used by the punishers.

At 16 years of age Ted was taken, if that be the operative word, by a cobbling family in Tullow, Co. Carlow. I suppose it was the nearest thing to slave trade as we have seen in Ireland. For two years he worked about fourteen hours a day for 5 shillings a month. This is now 32c, so that was a good month's salary.

Army Days

After two years of close enough to torture he absconded and joined the Irish Army on St. Patrick's Day 1947. After 6 months training in the Curragh he was transferred to the Hibernian School in the Phoenix Park. This barracks was later to become a hospital for the Gardaí. Ted kept himself to general army duties so his trade from Artane and Tullow were forgotten. Then through a list of barracks, Cathal Brugha, Portobello, Griffith on the South Circular and Gormanstown. Ted was sent to the Curragh for the 'fifties' internment. He was not too pleased to be guarding fellow Irishmen interned without trial but that was his job.

The Congo

In early 1960 the army looked for volunteers to go to the Congo for the U.N. Peace Keeping Force. Ted was one of the first to put his name in so on the 28th July 1960 he and his companions from the 32nd Battalion of the Eastern Command headed off. After a series of flights they landed in Goma. Their duty was to get refugees to safety from the Balooobas in the jungle. Three days and three nights of train travel through the jungle to their destination where they met up with Belgian, French, Dutch, British and even Indian soldiers.

The main danger according to Ted was the poisoned arrows but they thwarted many threatened attacks by giving the native their sandwiches. Being cannibalistic, it was easier to give them your food than be their goodies, later battalions found out to their folly.

On returning after six months Ted believed the greatest enemy in the Congo were the mosquitos; the danger of malaria was very high. He returned to general duties at Clancy Barracks in Islandbridge where he spent two years. Next stop was Collins Barracks, again for six months.

Ted applied again for overseas duties. He thought the Congo was a bit more exciting than square bashing in Collins. He was refused on health reasons. Now fed up with the job, he decided to retire.

Ted returned to Maynooth and worked for 8 months at the Mart. He then moved to O'Reilly's Garage for a while washing and polishing cars.

Next move was his best. He got a job in Kavanagh's Mills and for the first time in his life he thought he was getting a fair deal. Working for a decent family and getting good wages and most of all respect he spent a very happy twenty two years.

Ted retired in May 1995 and has since enjoyed many a pint in the local hosteleries until his recent illness.

Ted will be greatly missed by his family and many friends, young and old.

(July 2003)

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Clubs, Organisations and Societies

Bond Bridge Action Group

the Committee of the Bond Bridge Action Group wishes to express it's grave concern at the recent development in the campaign to have Bond Bridge, Maynooth re-aligned. The amount of inaccurate information that has been supplied to the residents of the Newtown area and the whole issue of the handling of these special development levies in the last number of years must now be subject to a public inquiry. The details of information supplied to our group is as follows.

May 1996 - cost of re-alignment of Bridge £750,000

Levies paid or due to 2/2/96 £353,776

Monies spent as of 2/2/97 £120,000

Monies available to fund project £233,776

8th November 1996 - cost of project £900,000

Increase due to C.I.E. height requirements.

13th November 1996 - cost of project £1,500,000

Increase due to cost of Meadowbrook Link Road.

This attempt by County Officials to include the Meadowbrook Link Road with this project was firmly rejected by the Celbridge area committee and the following was agreed with the County Officials at the estimates meeting on 18th November 1996:

- That special levies would be set at £22,000 per acre on the 29.7 zoned residential and undeveloped. This would raise £660,000 and with the £233,000 already in hand the cost of the project would be at the Council's disposal.
- The Bridge would be a stand alone project i.e. the Meadowbrook Link and Newtown Road improvements would not be part of it.
- That detouring during construction would be agreed by the Celbridge Area Committee.

At the Area meeting on 16th May 1997 the Area Committee were advised the cost of the project was now £1,381,000.

Cost of Bridge £850,000
Rathcoffey Road £231,000
Meadowbrook Link £300,000 (Half the original estimate)

At the area meeting on the 11th July 1997 there was a further revision of costs:

Cost of Bridge £1,500,000 (C.I.E. requirements now cost nothing extra)

Rathcoffey Road £385,000
Meadowbrook Link £400,000

Having received this information from the Area Committee prior to the granting of planning permission on the two developments currently under way in this area this committee publicly stated that they would not appeal the decision to grant this permission.

This decision may have influenced others to follow the same line. We must therefore assume that the actions of Kildare County Council Officials may have had a direct bearing on the the outcome of the appeal decision of an Bord Pleanala.

The image that this fiasco portrays to members of the public can only have a negative effect on all our local and national representatives. The Committee of the bond Bridge Action Group will be asking all our local elected representatives to approach the relevant department and request they seek a full and detailed explanation for the way in which this matter has been handled. This is no longer just a matter of the handling of the Bond Bridge project but the credibility of our system of local government.

A public meeting will be organised in the coming weeks for this committee to seek guidance from the residents of the Newtown area as to what course of action should be taken to resolve this situation.

John Doogan (Chairman)
B.B.A.G.

SEPTEMBER 1997

Easy Riding in Maynooth August 1991

Dreams do come through with "Harley" as Mr Enda Breslin of Leinster Park discovered recently. For Enda, a local musician of note, won a Harley Davison 883 Sportster in a competition held in the Irish Independent and the Evening Herald.

Enda is a native of Maynooth and attended the national and the secondary here. He is now a keen musician, playing lead guitar and vocals with "Running Scared" band who won the battle of the bands in this year's Community Festival. It never rains but it pours, but the skies for Enda are turning blue.

"Running Scared" will be appearing in the Baggot on the 13th of August. Enda however has promised to leave the bike at home. The bike valued at approximately £11,000 was the prize Enda won for correctly identifying Mount Rushmore and creating the slogan "discover the American dream and Harley ever walk again". Despite his success, Enda, who is unattached romantically, has no ambitions to become an advertising executive and intends to concentrate on his musical career.

This was Enda's first competition and he was so surprised at winning, he phoned about six times to confirm his win. He received his prize on July 1st outside the Central Bank from representatives of Independent Newspapers PLC and of Marketing

Network. It was not until July 5th that he took possession of the bike.



Organising Committee of Maynooth Post Primary School Debs Ball in Hotel Keadeen.
Front: Paul Reidy, Catherine Fitzpatrick, Niamh Brady, Siobhan Bennett, Alan Brady.
Back: Dominic Nyland, Kathleen Mcatamney, Mona Murphy, Colin Walsh, Liz Dunbar, De Lourde Scallan, Clare Martin, Senan Griffin (May 1985)



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First Communion Day



Fiona Jermain



Garvan Dowling, Brian Murray,
Niall Byrne and Tom Donohue



Johnny Curran & Family



Mary Teresa Stokes, Ann Marie Lawrence,
Martina Lawrence and Ellen Marie Lawrence

They came because they 'eard about the 'Arp, and they left because they couldn't afford it! That is the sorry excuse offered by the reconnaissance party, which was entrusted with the role of reporting on conditions in the public houses of Maynooth in May, for reneging on their promise to deliver an early report on the pillaging and plundering possibilities of said sleepy dormitory town. However, our intrepid editor has now returned triumphant from a retaliatory raid on Scandinavia, clutching one confidential report from Thor, Ragnar, Hagar the Horrible, Broomhilda and Valkyrie on their brief raid on the four public houses in Maynooth.

"Following a perilous journey by longboat up the Liffey, we jumped ship at the Salmon Leap and courageously mounted the 66 bus to Maynooth. It was a dark, rainy night, providing ideal cover for our mission. Inside the Roost public house we felt at home, t hinking we had reached Valhalla. The rain cascaded through the glass dome in the roof, which may explain why the sacred fires were extinguished, and we shivered. Broomhilda's gin and tonic was served with ice and a slice (£1.82); Valkyrie's pint of 'Arp was not as cold as we in Scandinavia are used to (£1.77); Hagar the Horrible's bottle of Kaliber (he was responsible for navigating the Longboat homewards) likewise was unchilled - even room temperature as it existed in the marble hills would have sufficed (£1.17); mighty Thor's white wine was served in a glass, somewhat sweet, nicely chilled (£1.60); while Ragnar sipped his glass of Guinness and pronounced it grand, just right (.88p). Total bill £7.24. The outhouses and middens were in good shape with toilet paper, and soap but no hot water. Hand driers worked, but not effectively.

Onwards, at 10.25 pm to the Leinster Arms, where the damage came to £7.51. Broomhilda's gin and tonic (£1.87), contained some debris (from the last raid?) ; Hagar's Kaliber was still not chilled to his liking but somehow tasted better than the Roost (£1.18); Thor's white wine (served in a small bottle - Cuvee Special) was dry, chilled and O.K. (£1.82); Ragnar found his glass of Guinness to be inadequately chilled, and no beer mats supplied; Valkyrie's 'Arp was cooler than the Roost's but bland. Hagar recommends an eye specialist for the interior designer, while Thor discoursed on the role of dissonant patters in the Sagas. Tables remained uncleared for some time; the outhouses and middens had not improved since previous raiding parties reported in the *Newsletter*. Lighting was inadequate, but it was possible to view the toilet rolls on the floor, the cigarette butts on the floor and in the handbasins. The gents had however, improved slightly on last year. The bar was not crowded and it appeared that no cleaning troops had taken the bog detail since lunchtime.

At 10.50pm the loyal band moved on to Brady's for a round which cpst £6.49. The Kaliber (£1.09) was chilled; the gin and tonic was served without lemon, although when threatened with a rendition of the entire forty verses of Ragnar Rowed the Boat Ashore, the barman yielded up one slice (£1.85); the 'Arp was not cold enough, once more but pronounced O.K. (£1.68); the glass of wine (£1.00) was fine; and the glass of Guinness (.87) was lovely, the best so far. The decor is basic, but plenty of bar stools; no lock on the door of one of the toilets, paper in one cubicle, but not in all. No peanuts on sale, but Sam Spudz Hunger Busters provided an excellent substitute.

And so to Caulfields at 11.15pm where the round cost £7.28. Kaliber was £1.05 and properly chilled; gin and tonic served with the ubiquitous ice and a slice without asking was £1.86; the Guinness was held to have been poured too fast, and was not a great half pint; the 'Arp was good and cost £1.70; the wine was Calvet in a bottle, and cost £1.80, and was regarded as 'nice'. Outhouses were clean, but no hot water. The hand drier worked. Service was slow, with three staff flying between three bars, but we got what we wanted. Valkyrie requested that the cigarette machine be mentioned in despatches; it is placed at such an altitude that Valkyrie would need to grow another two feet to be able to reach it.

The Verdict

	Roost	L.A.	Brady's	Caulfields
Price	£7.24	£7.51	£6.49	£7.28
	8	6	10	8
Ambience	2	5	8	7
Service	5	7	7	6
Toilets M	7	5	2	4
F	5	2	4	8
Cleanliness	8	7	7	9
Decor	3	5	6	7
Total	38	37	44	49



Muintir Má Nuad (March 1992)

Norah and Phil McDermott

Reading this month's column will come as a total shock to Norah and Phil McDermott as they were completely unaware that it was being compiled. It was recently their 25th Wedding Anniversary and the Newsletter decided to surprise them with this profile. As Norah works in the Newsletter offices, this feature had to be compiled under a great deal of secrecy and a lot of cloak and dagger activity! Thanks to all who gave photos, information and anecdotes and who kept quiet about it for a month!

Norah and Philip McDermott now live in Leixlip, having previously lived in Kellystown, Maynooth. They are both firmly involved in Maynooth life, serving on a host of local organisations has been well documented over the past year by the regional and national media when two significant things happened to her. The first of these was the culmination of seven years of action on her behalf: she won her case against the state in the European courts when, along with Mrs Anne Cotter from Dublin, she campaigned for the equal treatment of married women in the payment of unemployment benefit. Norah's second claim to recent fame is the result of her being nominated as one of ten Persons of the Year for Kildare and winning an award as such last year.

Both Norah and Philip work in Maynooth and both are supervisors. Philip oversees work on the Royal Canal Amenity Group project while Norah manages S.E.S workers in the Community Council/Newsletter offices on Main Street. They became involved in community organisations in 1979 when their oldest daughter, Anna Marie, was 13. There weren't many activities for teenagers and young children in Maynooth then so the McDermotts, along with other interested parents, founded the Athletic Club and were instrumental in bringing Community Games to the Maynooth area. Since then, they have between them been involved in the Citizens Information Centre, the Summer Project organisation, the I.C.A., the Community Council, the Maynooth Newsletter, the R.C.A.G., Community Games (at regional and national level), Athletic Club, youth clubs, the Planning and Development Committee and various national organisations such as the National Cultural and Athletic Association of Ireland (of which Norah is International Secretary). Of their three children, Tanya is the youngest and is still at school while the only son, Darren, is currently working in London. Philip was born in Monaghan and moved to Celbridge with his family when he was still very young. He has one sister and a small, closely knit family group. It therefore took him years to get used to the fact that Norah came attached to six brothers and sisters, various lodgers, umpteen in laws and outlaws and assorted cats and dogs!

Her family had always kept lodgers so there were always people coming and going through the house at a startling rate. Norah's large family come from Maynooth where she went to the convent school, winning a scholarship in sixth class to attend St. Wolstan's Secondary School in Celbridge. From there she joined the Civil Service, working in the Department of Education. Her responsibilities included paying the wages for all the teachers in Dublin and Cork: half of her work had to be conducted through Irish as the Cork teachers all taught through the medium and in gaelscoileanna. Philip meanwhile was busily engaged at home in Celbridge and working on the Bog of Allen (work he had been doing since he was eleven).

The couple met by accident in a flurry of snow in 1961 at the bottom of a hill near the Ryevale in Leixlip! It was an icy, cold winter's day when Norah was 17 and sliding down the hill on a tray with her friends. She cam a cropper at the bottom of it and a young, dashing 16 year old plucked her out of the mound of snow into which she'd crashed. Her gallant knight was to become her 'toy boy' husband five years later. After their marriage they moved to London where Philip worked with Heinz. Anna Marie was born in London and when she was a year and a half they moved back home to Kellystown.

Both Norah and Phil were hugely interested in rally driving (as anyone who has ever sat in a car with them will testify!!) and when their children were younger they spent Sunday's travelling to Mondello to watch the racing. When they were courting they both drove mopeds and they travelled all over the country on these.

In her wilder days Norah and a gang of friends spent weekends going to dances all over the locality. This was no mean feat as many of the dances were six or seven miles away. However, they had an ingenious method of getting there with only two bicycles between six or eight young women. Two of them would cycle along for a mile,

leave the bicycles on the side of the road and walk on. When the main group came to the bicycles two more would take them, cycle a mile, leave them and walk on. Eventually both the bicycles and the women got to the dance but not without some small difficulties. For example, cycling while wearing your dancing outfit was absolute hell as the huge black skirts had to be gathered up and at the same time you had to prevent the wind doing as little damage as possible to your new hairdo. Often, sorry specimens arrived at the dances but nevertheless they greatly enjoyed themselves.

Ferocious religious fervour used regularly break out amongst the young women in Maynooth when Norah was a teenager it seems. When the mission came or when benediction was taking place on Monday nights the older teenagers took unusual steps to be in attendance for as many nights as was possible. We have since learned that this behaviour had more to do

Muintir Má Nuad

Norah and Phil McDermott (contd.)

with the fact that the 'boys' would also be in attendance than it had to do with the fear of God: many a snatched conversation and a forcible impression was made outside the gates after the service and with the shortage of dances, this often happened to be the only venue where one could dress to impress!

Philip was heavily involved in sport as a youth. He has many Kildare and Leinster medals in hammer throwing, discus and the shot. Many people will attest to the fact that when it comes to playing the harmonica Phil can make the flagstones want to dance! Last year during the Community Festival he entertained about thirty people outside the Roost after the pubs closed in a rare musical treat from which no-one wanted to leave.

Probably one of the best known couples in Maynooth and undoubtedly one of the most loved, Philip and Norah McDermott have continued to add to the improvement of the town's social, recreational and environmental life since they first became involved in it. We wish them continued health and happiness for another twenty five years (at least) of successful marriage and spirited community involvement.



Norah and Phil on their wedding day in 1966



CLUBS, ORGANISATIONS AND SOCIETIES (May 1994)

Maynooth Parish Folk Group

Once again Maynooth Parish Folk Group appeals for new members from all you singers and musicians out there.

Feedback from the congregation suggests that you continue to come to 9.45 am Sunday Mass because you enjoy participating in this particular form of celebration.

Apart from attendance at this Mass, the only other commitment you would be asked to make is on Wednesday evenings at 8 o'clock in the Convent Primary School for selection and practice of material. We look forward to a big response at either Mass or practice in the near future.

Patricia Harkin
Maynooth Folk Group

Maynooth Gliding

Maynooth glider pilot Michael O' Reilly, of Dublin Gliding Club, has been active lately. In spite of the rain-sodden conditions which have not favoured flying in recent months, he squeezed out the year's first bit of soaring in January with a fifty minute flight from his club's airfield near Naas. And with two other Kildare-based pilots, Ciaran Sinclair of Straffan and John Finnan of Athy, he has bought an IS-28 Glider, a metal two-seater of which great things are expected this season.

This is just one of a number of new aircraft. The club has recently added an extra two-seater training glider to its fleet, to cope with the steady interest of new members from all over Leinster. The Dublin Gliding Club is the most active gliding outfit in Ireland. In spite of its name it caters for members from all over Ireland, some of them coming from as far afield as Limerick for instance. The club has a long association with this area. It started at Weston over forty years ago, before moving to Baldonnell, and then to its present home at Gowran Grange next to PuncHESTOWN, where it has been for nearly fifteen years.

Anyone from the age of 14 can start learning to glide - and there's no upper age limit! Why not visit the club some weekend, and perhaps take a trial flight with an instructor? Better still, the club will be offering week-long courses this summer in mid-July and early August - an ideal way to experience the delight and challenge of controlling an aircraft in silent flight. For further information, contact Peter Denman at Leinster Park
Peter Denman

Maynooth Athletic Club

Maynooth club were well represented in the indoor championship in Nenagh and took home 12 medals with pride of place going to John Campbell with 3 gold medals in the (O.35's).

Results as follows:-

(O.35's) John Campbell (1st) (200) (800) (2000)m.
(O.45) David Jolley (3rd) (800) (1500m).
(U.13) Karl Ennis (1st) walk.
(U.13) Conor Diggins (2nd) (300)m.
(U.13) (4x 250 relay) C. Diggins, K. Ennis, P. King and D. Campbell (2nd)
(U 15) Declan O' Rourke (60m) (300m)
(Junior) Martin Cunningham and Christopher Byrne (1500m)

Road Walks - All Ireland

(U11) 1st Philip Campbell
(U13) 1st Karl Ennis (2nd) David Campbell
(U15) (1st) Michelle Gillick who beat the two girls who were 1st and 2nd in indoor.

Bohermeen Cross Country

(O.35) 2nd John Campbell

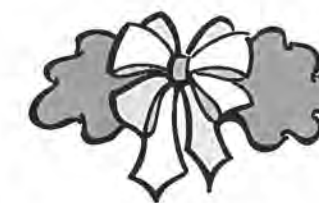
Lusk Road Races

(U10) (1st) Philip Campbell (U14) 2nd David Campbell
6th Conor Diggins.

Kildare Primary Schools Cross Country Senior



John Campbell



*Wishing the people of Maynooth
a very Happy Christmas and a
Prosperous New year*

Brid Feely

Contact: 087 2052649 or 01 6286094

E-Mail: feelygorey@eircom.net

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1993 Harp Lager Bachelor - Eugene Fitzpatrick

Festival Report . . . Page 4 • Clubs, Organisations & Societies . . . Page 14
Features . . . Page 24 • Muintir Má Nuad . . . Page 48

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The Maynooth Newsletter

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AUGUST 1995

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At Last - 'The Thing' Bites The Dust

July 14th has been a significant day in history for many years. On July 14th, 1789 a mob stormed the infamous Bastille Prison in Paris and so started the French Revolution. To the very day 206 years later in Maynooth's town square another mob - this time comprised of construction workers and publicity conscious local politicians - stormed the toilet block, otherwise known as 'The Thing', and Maynooth's Main Street will never be the same again.



A Blight

For nearly 25 years the public toilets in the Square have been a blight on the Maynooth landscape. As a building it was a product of the 1960s school of architecture which, in Dublin and elsewhere, produced some of the most ugly buildings ever built. The materials used in the Maynooth's toilet block proved difficult to maintain and for many years 'The Thing' had a weather

Minister of State Emmet Stagg TD and Cllr. John McGinley oversee the demolition

beaten, down at heel appearance.

Campaign

Several groups in Maynooth have campaigned over the years to have the toilets demolished including the Community Council, the Tidy Towns committee, who organised a very successful petition, and the local Labour Party. However, it is only with the opening of the motorway and the need to construct a link road from Main St. that the fate of 'The Thing' was finally sealed. Already some residents have commented that the

heap of rubble presently in the Square is a big improvement on what was there before. Certainly there is a greater sense of space and light in the area since the brooding presence of 'The Thing' was removed.

According to Kildare Co. Council's plans Maynooth's Main Street and the Square will be transformed in the next year. With the redevelopment of the Square, new footpaths and new street lighting we could have a town centre of which we can be proud.

The Thing Before and After





Geroid McTernan

If Maynooth is to have a living legendary figure it will have to be Geroid McTernan, a Leitrim man with a republican background, a strong faith, a deep sense of duty and an innate understanding of the local community, which he has served faithfully, both by newspaper reporting and active involvement, for up to fifty years.

Following in his father's footsteps

Geroid, or Gerry as he is known, was born in Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim, in Easter week 1916 and grew up in the formative years of the new Irish State. In 1932 he joined Irish Railways as a Boy Porter at the young age of 16 years. His father was a foreman in the goods dept., his eldest brother was an apprentice fitter, so in effect Gerry was following in his father's footsteps. In those days the hours were long, working from 10am to 8pm, six days a week, he earned the princely sum of 7^s and 6^d. At 21 years he was paid off and worked in various jobs as a shoe salesman, a vacuum cleaner salesman and in his aunt's shop in Ballinamore.

The road to Maynooth

He was recalled to the railway and appointed to Killeshandra in 1940. He was later appointed to District Relief work at Mullingar in 1943. This work took him to Leixlip station in 1944, when he took lodgings in Maynooth. Around this time he met his wife to be Ita Burke. After working in various parts of the Midlands, he was appointed signaller at Maynooth station in January, 1947. Gerry and Ita got married in September of the same year.

Many Involvements

As soon as he settled down, Gerry got involved in his local community, where he helped out with the Annual Children's sports day in the Convent grounds. As well as helping the local handball club, he became a member of the G.A.A. grounds committee. He then became involved with Brady's Dart Club, the North Kildare Cycling Club, BLE Athletics, the local Drama Society and the Church Choir. He helped with various events, too numerous to mention, including helping to decorate the town for the Annual Corpus Christi processions and for the arrival of Pope John Paul II in 1979, when he was one of the stewards in the college grounds. He presently keeps up a busy schedule and is involved with the Community Council, the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee, the Mortality Society

and is a member of Maynooth Peace Reconciliation and Justice Group.

Great Cycle Era

In the 1950's Gerry was made secretary of the North Kildare Cycling Club. Tom Flood was chairman and Phil Brady was president to name but a few. In conjunction with Maynooth Festival week, between 16th and 23rd May 1954, they ran a big cycling rally every evening which drew large crowds. In his event Barney O'Brien who was then a leading Irish cyclist won the 90 mile Grand Prix of Kildare and was crowned with a laurel wreath. Also in this event 17 year old Johnny Thompson won the admiration of the large attendance of spectators by putting up a daring performance in the 3 mile novice.

Formed BLE Athletic Club

Gerry has also been involved in both athletics and soccer as Vice-Chairman of Kildare BLE and treasurer of Maynooth Boys' Soccer Club, when it was reformed in 1976.

"The Leader Man"

Gerry became a correspondent for the Leinster leader for over 30 years, when he contributed to the North Kildare news and was known locally as the "Leader man". It all began in 1954, when in those days journalists used to gather news by visiting local pubs, such as Bradys - the Clock House. Gerry, then secretary of the Cycling Club, was introduced to Leader journalist, Myles O'Mahony. Gerry became an influential voice and the main local contact of many journalists in the years ahead.

Michael O'Toole, Evening Press columnist and ex-Leinster Leader reporter, gave Gerry a big write up in his book, "More Kicks than Pence". The following extract from the book sums up Gerry's immense contribution and central role in Maynooth society. It begins, "My first port of call on Mondays was to Maynooth, where our correspondent Gerry McTernan held court in Phil Brady's Lounge Bar. Not only did he have good news sense but he was a parish institution and involved in a huge range of activities from meals-on-wheels to the G.A.A. Nothing escaped him and he had a genuine feel for village life in all its moods and subtleties. He was particularly assiduous in covering weddings, calling on the home of the bride to write down the details of the trousseau. He rated these weddings 'one bottle', 'two bottles' or even 'three bottles' affairs, signifying the number of bottles of stout he had been treated to as he took down the details".

There is no doubt that being a local correspondent must have taken up a lot of time and effort on Gerry's behalf. He makes little of this and still contributes to the **Maynooth Newsletter**, announcing deaths, births, etc.

Missionary Collection

In 1977 Gerry, along with Dan Newton, the late Jimmy Horan, Larry Begley and Paddy Sheerin, organised an exemplary missionary collection in support of the work of Fr. John Nevin. They held the "Fr. John" collection in all local pubs at weekends and over a number of years raised thousands of pounds in direct aid of Fr. John's missionary work in Pakistan.

Family

Gerry and Ita have six sons who are all doing well for themselves and living locally; Larry (Kilcock), Peter (Dunboyne), Gerry Jnr. (Old Greenfield), Tony (Silken Vale), Martin (Laurence Ave.) and Raymond (Moyglare Village). Like Gerry they all have some form of community involvement and he has 13 grandchildren whom he and Ita enjoy babysitting.

Politics

It is hardly surprising that a Leitrim man, born in Easter Week 1916, would become a true blue republican. He was secretary of the local Sinn Fein Cumann for a number of years before its decline but still remains a Sinn Feiner. He has attended Guards of Honour over Wolf Tone's grave in Bodinstown and Anthony O'Reilly's grave in Celbridge.

In May 1991 the Revive the Spirit of 1916 committee held a memorial ceremony in honour of the Maynooth men who marched to Dublin and fought in the Easter Rising. Gerry was given the privilege of planting a tree in honour of the occasion. Gerry also attended the memorial ceremony for the late John Joe McGirt, in his native town of Ballinamore, in May 1994. Presently, he is a member of the Maynooth Peace, Reconciliation and Justice Group who recently made a submission to the Forum for Peace and Reconciliation at Dublin Castle.

Musical Tastes

Gerry enjoys traditional music and often regrets that he didn't learn to play a musical instrument. He particularly likes traditional songs which relate to the heartbreak of emigration, such as Mother Mo Chroi or Danny Boy. He recalls some great sing-songs in Brady's many years ago. In those days every one listened respectfully and in turn received their "noble call".

Philosophy

As Maynooth marches on into a new era in its developmental history, Gerry who has done so much and is not content to rest on his laurels, continues to play an important role in the shaping of its future. This is a great tribute to his enduring kindness, his political astuteness, charisma and strong commitment. All civil minded citizens would do well to model themselves on the life of Geroid McTernan and when you see him enjoying a pint in his beloved Brady's - the Clock House, you should stop for a moment and remember his deeds.

We wish him, his wife and family many years of contentment and success to come.



Sally Ann O'Reilly with her Family
on Confirmation Day 2002



Grace Oxley
on Confirmation Day 2002

MAYNOOTH NEWSLETTER



The Torch Run In Maynooth



Issue No. 306
July 2003
Price €2

Clubs, Organisations & Societies

Special Olympics Maynooth Host Town Programme

On Saturday June 15th a group of 35 complete strangers arrived in Dublin Airport and were taken on a relatively short bus trip to Maynooth. Tired and weary after, for some of them, 3 days travelling, they were greeted by a host of Maynooth volunteers outside the Glenroyal Hotel. Their natural exuberance came instantly to the fore as they hugged and kissed the assembled volunteers and realised, far more than the volunteers themselves that the absence of language is not at all a problem if your hearts and minds are open and genuine. Thus began what can only be described as a love affair between celebrated in English and Portuguese brought the team and the wider community of Maynooth into contact and the warmth of the atmosphere was palpable. Lunch in the Coffee Mill preceded an open party in the Square. St. Mary's Brass and Reed Band paraded the team from the Glenroyal Hotel to the Square. Those of us who saw the looks on the faces of the members of the Brazilian Special Olympics team and their host town of Maynooth.

Everywhere the Brazilian team went they brought their special magic with them. On Sunday morning a special mass the Brazilian athletes when they realised the Band were coming to the hotel for them will not easily forget those expressions. In the Square the team was introduced to the people of Maynooth and was presented with bags, T-shirts, baseball caps and badges specially designed and produced by the VPTP students of Maynooth Post-Primary School. The gifts went down a treat. Then, in glorious sunshine, the team and the crowd danced their hearts out.

The Brazilian Embassy offered a trip to the Lambert Puppet Theatre on Monday but it must be said that for many of the Brazilian team the highlight of the outing was their first view ever of the sea at Monkstown! We do tend to forget how much we just take the sea for granted in this island nation. Vodafone in Sandyford provided a memorable lunch complete with a specially designed Special Olympics cake. The Leinster Arms was the venue in the evening for a delicious dinner in a relaxed atmosphere.

On Tuesday the primary schools in the town opened their doors to the Brazilian team. Displays of sport, music, singing and dancing greeted the athletes in the schools and they came back full of praise and delight. You didn't have to understand the words to know what the visits had meant.

Donadea was the next stop and a gallant band of volunteers had set up picnic tables and chairs, had sorted food with the help of the Coffee Mill and had

set up a treasure hunt in the forest. The weather was again on our side and we all ate in bright sunshine. The treasure hunt proved an enormous success and the Brazilian athletes adored the Leprechaun who kept popping out from behind trees to fill their goodie-bags!

The G.A.A. provided a demonstration of Gaelic sports on Tuesday evening and greeted the Brazilians with a guard of honour complete with fire engine sirens. Some of the Brazilian team looked like they were born to wield a hurley after just a few minutes practice. Indeed there is now the makings of a hurling team in Brazil as the G.A.A. sent each member of the team home with a hurley and a sliothar.

On Wednesday volunteers got a chance to see the athletes in action as they got down to the serious business of training and the volunteers were impressed. By this stage we had got to know the team, the backgrounds they came from, the problems they had faced getting here at all and the praise they deserved for overcoming so many obstacles and all of this without any complaint and with constant good humour. The bond between the coaches and their athletes was extraordinary they were parent, friend, carer, as well as trainer. They deeply appreciated the genuine fuss that was being made of the athletes, many of whom come from very impoverished backgrounds and they, like us, could see many of the athletes growing in confidence and responsiveness as the week progressed.

Wednesday evening saw a gathering again in the G.A.A. Club which those who attended will long remember. For the second evening in a row Donovan's Londis in Greenfield provided the food but this time it included a magnificent B.B.Q. The team were greeted by Masamba whom people who attended the St. Patrick's Day Parade will vividly recall. The smell of cooking steaks, chicken and fish wafted over the club grounds and the parking area was strewn with bales of hay, with a space reserved for the dancing that was to follow. Rita Doyle's dancers gave a display of Irish dancing, samba dancers from Dublin displayed Ceili and in general young and old, Irish and non-Irish had an unforgettable night of fun and camaraderie. Indeed many Maynooth people there that night wondered why we didn't do this kind of thing more often and if perhaps we had forgotten how pleasurable simple, homemade entertainment can be. It must be said also that, as with all Special Olympic activities, it had to be alcohol free but I think we were all just drunk on the euphoria of it all!

Thursday morning was training sessions again as the athletes did need to be kept in trim for the week

Clubs, Organisations & Societies

Special Olympians Contd...

The afternoon was spent in Dublin Zoo in sunshine yet again. It was a leisurely, but animated visit which the Brazilians thoroughly enjoyed as indeed did the volunteers who accompanied them.

The final party was held on Thursday night in the Glenroyal Hotel and the dancing was once again non stop. The Brazilian team all wore the fantastic bright yellow T-shirts that the VPTP students from Maynooth Post-Primary School had made and they really looked stunning. Everybody was included and everyone participated in the entertainment but there was touch of sadness as the evening drew to a close. This group of people had come into our lives only six days beforehand, just names on a sheet of paper. Now they were living, breathing, special individuals with distinct personalities, quirks and idiosyncrasies. They had greeted us with smiles and hugs numerous times a day, they had held our hands, they had tugged at our heartstrings and brought us out of ourselves and our own little worlds. They had brought us into contact with people in our own community and had provoked extraordinary acts of generosity and friendship and they kept thanking us! If only they could realise how much they had given to us. Now their visit to us was coming to an end and by the time the team left to go to bed that evening there were very few eyes in the room that were completely dry.

Friday morning was tough as the bus pulled up in front of the Glenroyal Hotel to carry the Brazilians to Belfield for the duration of the games. Brave smiles adorned many faces but the tears were never far away. Yet the mood was not one of sadness it was one of warmth and joy, it was one pleasure in human contact, in giving, in receiving, in sharing. As the bus pulled away, amid a sea of waving hands, people turned to each other and hugged and smiled and wiped their eyes. Perhaps we had learned to appreciate each other just a little bit more as well.

As with the rest of the week the sun broke through just in time to greet the Olympic Torch as it made its way to Maynooth. The Torch bearers entered by the Straffan Road with children from all the primary schools joining them from Silken Vale to the specially prepared stage in the Square, where the entertainment had already commenced, ably hosted by John Byrne and Tony Bean. Our local silver medal winning special athlete, Mark Smith, and Trevor Walsh of TV3 welcomed the Torch to Maynooth and members of the international police force team carrying the Torch addressed the crowd before the Torch was whisked away to its next destination in the North Kildare Club. Noel Brady and Maynooth's traditional music group had entertained the large crowd in the Square before the

arrival of the Torch and Brush Shields kept the party going until 2pm.

But the story did not end there. One of the Brazilian athletes did have his parents in Ireland for the Games but none of the others had any supporters at all. So many of the Maynooth volunteers decided that they would be their "families" for the next 10 days. In Croke Park for the truly amazing opening ceremony the Brazilian flags were waved high on the Cusack Stand and immediately attracted the attention of the Brazilian team, located in the central seating area. The joy was obvious even at that distance. The atmosphere in Croke Park was charged with emotion. Host towns from all over the country were doing exactly what we were doing trying to make eye contact with the teams they had grown to care about and love. Family members watched with pride as their special athlete paraded on to the pitch. To see Mohamed Ali, despite all his own difficulties, waving and smiling to the crowd; to hear your own president welcome such warmth these special athletes; to hear the founder of the Special Olympic movement, Eunice Kennedy Shriver, speak of her mission and her joy at being in Ireland; to hear Nelson Mandela, a man of such integrity, speak of his respect for the assembled community of Special Olympians who could not be deeply moved. The World's largest sporting event of 2003 was taking place on our soil and we were part of it.

The progress of the Brazilian team became the subject of constant phone calls and text messages for the next weeks as volunteers tried to attend as many events as possible, sometimes moving between several venues in the one day. The athletes gave us many thrilling moments, not just when they won medals but when they were "brave in the attempt" as the Special Olympic oath states. The atmosphere at the venues was amazing and efforts of the athletes who came last in an event were rewarded with as hearty a cheer as the person who came first. It was all about participating: the winning was of course an added bonus!

The closing ceremony was not to be our last time to see the Brazilian team. Again in Croke park, though seated in different areas, the volunteers all made contact with the team. The team themselves made the front page of the Irish Times on Monday 30th June carrying their placards spelling "Thanks" but what the paper didn't show was the second line of placards saying "Maynooth". We all thoroughly enjoyed the party atmosphere in Croke Park but we knew that we had one more party yet to go.

The Brazilians were not due to leave until Tuesday July 1st so on Monday evening June 31st they came once again to Maynooth.

Clubs, Organisations & Societies

Special Olympians Contd...

Due to various generous donations during the intervening week we were able to take the team to the Sports Locker and allow them to pick sporting items for themselves to bring back to Brazil they were thrilled. The staff of the Sports Locker were fantastic to them: very patient and very understanding. Meanwhile another group of volunteers were getting everything ready for a party in the Glenroyal Hotel balloons, food and drink all appeared as if from nowhere and once again we all danced till we dropped. Medals and place ribbons were admired, stories told, hugs given, smiles exchanged and the delight of the moment was savoured. The goodbyes of that night as the team returned to Belfield were more final but everybody was determined to remain as bright and as cheerful as possible and give them the send off they deserved.

A small group from Maynooth made their way to Dublin Airport to see the team off on their long journey home. They had not seen their families for over two and a half weeks so there was the joy for them at the thoughts of that reunion. Some would be returning to situations as far removed as is possible from the life they had experienced in the two weeks they were here but they all left with fantastic memories. The final farewell was tearful but they were not tears of sadness. They were the tears that come when something good has happened and the immediate source of that goodness is about to be veiled from sight. But the feeling that goodness has given and the impact it has made will live on in our minds and hearts.

There are so many people who should be thanked for the experience of what was the Maynooth Host Town programme and the danger is of course the someone will be left out, so apologies in advance. Firstly all the volunteers who gave so freely of their time, talents and energy deserve special praise. It would not have been possible without them. The management and staff of the Glenroyal Hotel were outstanding. Nothing was too much trouble for them and everything was done with such grace and courtesy. They made everyone feel at ease and showed a genuine interest in all that was going on.

We express our deep appreciation to Donovan's Londis, the Leinster Arms, Vodaphone and the Coffee Mill who catered for functions outside the Glenroyal. Again everybody went out of their way to make the Brazilians' stay as special as possible. Thanks to Willie Kiernan for providing public address at our outdoor functions. Thanks also to Larine Court for their help in creating all the flower baskets and tubs which added so much to the appearance of the town. Grateful appreciation also to all the schools in the area, the Tidy Towns Committee, the G.A.A., members of the Maynooth Flower Club, the Public Library, Sr Alphonsus for her guided tour of the town, the businesses who decorated their premises and indeed to anyone who contributed in anyway to the creation of what was a very unique event in Maynooth. Let us hope that the volunteer spirit and the goodwill that was present during the Special Olympics will long continue to be a part of our lives in this community.





Mary Buckley Fitzgerald
(Fitzer 9/5/33 to 22/12/01)

Mary...She liked cats, plants, people and dogs... and not necessarily in that order. The eldest of seven boys and seven girls, her nursing career began in Dublin. She returned to her home in Tipperary at nineteen following her mother's death, which initiated the motherly instinct that lasted throughout her life.

Emigrating to Birmingham in the fifties like so many of her time, she became involved in Irish societies, especially through the seventies and eighties, when it was neither profitable nor popular to proclaim ones Irishness in Britain.

Returning in 1987, she quickly adapted to a changing Ireland. Her politics were local, and while never a Bond girl, she could shake and shape without stirring - too much! She particularly enjoyed St. Patrick's Day, and warmly celebrated birthdays and other special occasions.

Mary's Religion was personal, with a strong Christian ethos. The privilege of reposing in Maynooth College chapel and a Garda Escort was no more than she deserved.

Proud to be from Tipperary, Mary was a Tip-Top person and a Top Tipp Person. Not just with fellow adults, but with younger generations. Her words of encouragement and practical support have impacted strongly not only within her own family, her nieces and nephews, but on the lives and careers of many other young people.

A kind word, a soothing plaster for every lame cat, broken branch or troubled spirit was always available at number ten, on the footpath, or in the local supermarket. When it came to giving out, giving out heart, honesty and humour, Mary was very generous. Giving was her forte. She enjoyed it; it was acceptable, largely because her agenda was to always to provide for someone else.

Last Christmas you gave your presents and good wishes away. This year you brought cheer and some tears, many will miss you and remember you now, and in Christmas to come.

This year's for you Mary. Happy Christmas and Thank You Mary.

Dr. Christopher O'Rourke.

We would like to pay tribute to our friend and neighbour Mary Fitzgerald who died on the 22nd of December. The shock of her passing has left our community here in Parklands numb. Mary was a dynamic woman with tremendous character who gave up her time freely to become involved in community affairs. I got to know Mary when the first residents association was set up in 1996, and Mary continued her involvement throughout all the years making enormous contributions. Her latest project was the installation of flowerbeds, which now can be enjoyed by the residents of Parklands Square and anyone who uses the walkway between Parklands and Rock. Mary was Parklands PRO for the Community Council and was our link to airing concerns and issues and getting solutions for our community. Mary was also a person who could be counted on when it came to the organization of socials and raffles and anything else that would crop up in the line of committee work.

In essence, she was an absolute rock, who will be missed dearly.

Mary Carter,
Chairperson,
Parklands Residents Association.



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MR. DENIS CARROLL

Mr. Denis Carroll was born in Maynooth 73 years ago and has lived in Maynooth for all of his life, except for a few years in the 1940s when he worked in England. He remembers his early years growing up as being very tough, especially in the late 30s when the depression began to bite. There was no Social Welfare at the time, and sickness benefit was limited to 7/6 per week no matter what the size of the family was. Housing conditions at the time were very bad and T.B. was rampant. From the mid 1930s onwards, housing conditions began to improve as new houses were built in Greenfield and later in Newtown. The first houses in Greenfield were being built at the same time as Mussolini launched the Italian invasion of Abyssinia. A dole system was eventually introduced in the late 1930s. In order to get this a man had to work 9 hours a day 3 days a week with the wages being 4/6 per day, at a time when the average wage was £1 to 25/- a week. This work was near Barberstown Castle and men had to walk or cycle there, and if they were late they would have to wait until 10 am to start and they were then docked a quarter of days wages.

When Mr. Carroll was going to school in Maynooth, it was a two teacher school with about 60-70 pupils. Pupils stayed in school until they were 14 and during the summer holidays more local children went to work on Carton Estate cutting thistles for 7/6 a week. Among the amusements which the children had were fishing and swimming in the canal or following the Kildare fox hunt which met every Saturday in the Square, and hunted on the Carton Estate and on the land bordering the Straffan Road.

The life of the town at that time was dominated by Carton and the college. The college students used to go for a walk every Wednesday through the grounds of Carton, marching in military formation with a Dean in front and behind. He can also remember the students arriving back from their holidays,

in special trains when a lot of local people would meet the trains and hope to get paid for helping the students to carry their luggage. He can also remember the weekly "Fairs" in the college when shopkeepers and tradesmen such as cobblers and tailors would be allowed in to trade with the students. Many local youngsters also carried on an illicit trade with the students smuggling in banned goods such as chocolate to students in the playing fields by the Canal. The games played by the students at the time were Gaelic games, croquet, tennis and handball. The college also sold dripping to local people at 6.30 a.m. in the morning. The cost of was 6d. per 1lb until a woman in Kilcock started buying it in bulk and the price went up to 1s per pound. As people began to have more money the demand for dripping died out since they were able afford butter and margarine. Among various other jobs Mr. Carroll worked in the college from 1968 to 1980 and helped to unionise the workforce, a move which was not welcomed by the college authorities at the time.

One practice which Mr. Carroll remembers well was the division of the seating arrangements of the Parish Church into three separate groups. In the North transept would be a half dozen or so wealthy people such as large farmers or doctors who would pay 6d at the door. In the South transept would be around 20 middleclass people such as shopkeepers or tradesmen who would pay 3d at the door and in the main church was the proletariat who would pay 1d at the door. This practice was stopped in the 1950s. The only exception to this would be during retreats when these restrictions would not apply. During these retreats there would be Mass at 7 a.m., followed by a sermon. During one retreat the sermon was very long and the college staff were late for their 8 a.m. start as a result. Upon being informed of the reason the then bursar Fr. Maguire, told the workers that they should pray on their own time and not the colleges. It was ironic that the Carton Estate, which was not Catholic, did not expect their workers to be in until 9 a.m. during the retreats. The only time which the staff from Carton and the college would get off was during the Punchestown Races which was then a two day festival. Most people cycled there, although it was possible to get a lift on an old Ford model T truck owned by Fullams who would charge a fare of half a crown. Mr. Carroll's abiding interest has been in hunting and gun dogs although health problems have restricted his activities in the last few years. He was founder member of the Maynooth Gun Club and is a well known breeder of English Springer Spaniel Gun Dogs. He can remember helping to arrange shooting rights for local enthusiasts with land owners in the area, and helping to breed pheasants in order to maximise the hunting potential.

Overall, Mr. Carroll thinks that the quality of life in Maynooth since the 1920s with the present town being a lot different and bigger from the Maynooth of his youth.

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The Late Hannah Flood



The mother of the well known and respected Flood family in Maynooth died at the age of 81 years.

Mrs. Hannah Flood, Ivy House, The Square, passed away quietly and peacefully in Griffeen Nursing Home, Lucan, at 6.45 a.m. on Monday, 31st July.

Widow of the late Tom Flood, a turf accountant, keen cyclist and footballer, who died in 1973, Mrs. Flood, like her late husband, was a prominent and active member of the local community. Until succumbing to illness over 2 years ago, she had been involved in many charitable organisations both local and further afield. In recent years, her most vigorous campaign involved the future demolition of the public toilets outside her home in the square. To this end, she remained alive for 2 weeks after this building was torn down. There are not too many people or businesses around the town who did not know it was coming

up to Daffodil Day as Hannah was on the prowl well in advance, making her collection, in aid of the Irish Cancer Society - then on the day itself dare anyone refuse the Daffodil clad woman their 50p or £10!

For many years in the 70's and 80's Hannah was the driving force behind the Sale of Work in the Parish Hall in aid of both the Old Folks' Committee, of which she was a member, and the Fr. John Nevin, Pakistan Fund. Both were very dear to her and she would spare no time or effort to further their cause.

Hannah also had a lot of time for the Cheshire Home in the Phoenix Park, where she visited weekly. From here she tirelessly tried to make it easier for people to be admitted and for the unit to be expanded - she had many a heated discussion with Dr. Rory O'Hanlon to prove this point! She will be sadly missed for many a year.

She is survived by her six children Edward, Liam and Tom, who all followed their father's career path; Aidan, who is in the taxi business; Gerry, proprietor of Maynooth Photo

Centre and Ann, wife of Maynooth Maxol Station Owner, Peter O'Connor; sister Nancy (nee Kiernan) O'Rourke; daughters-in-law Margaret, Olive and Ann; son-in-law, Peter; ten grandchildren, nephews, nieces, her old and dearest friend Tess O'Flynn and a wide circle of friends.

Having spent over two years in the care of the nurses and staff of Moyglare and Griffeen Nursing Homes, Mrs Flood returned home one final time to be waked by her family.

On Tuesday evening (1st August) she was brought to St. Mary's Church where several hundred mourners congregated to pay their respects to the Flood family.

Despite the Galway festival, many members of the racing fraternity attended the funeral.

Mass was celebrated on Wednesday morning (2nd August) at 10a.m. by local curate and good friend of Mrs. Flood, Fr. Dennis Cogan.

Mrs. Hannah Flood was then laid to rest in Laraghbryan Cemetery.

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EUGENE FITZPATRICK - A TRIBUTE

As we all know by now the greatest winner in Maynooth in May was not a politician but our own Eugene Fitzpatrick from Maynooth Park - one of the town's characters. His Ireland World Cup song to the tune of Smokey's "Alice" was the winner on Pat Kenny's Late Late Show on May 3rd. It was exciting enough for him to reach the final 5 songs and appear on the show but it was clear that the studio audience loved his song immediately and that it was a winner.

Eugene is not well and he is still in the Mater Hospital. So the Newsletter conducted an interview with him over the phone. I asked him what his reaction was to his win: "delighted, I couldn't believe it!" was his understandable response. There were 2,675 songs sent into the competition and he sent in two. When he heard nothing for weeks he had nearly forgotten all about it. Finally, a week before the big night, the phone call came through to the hospital and the representative for the Late Late Show said that Eugene was a hard man to find.

Eugene, who had been in hospital for weeks at this stage, told him that he was very easy to find considering that he could not move out of the place! He didn't believe them either, thinking it was one of his friend's pulling his leg. When the phone call was over, he rang the number back and got the Late Late office. At that stage it dawned on him that this was no joke. The representative of the show said that he never wanted to hear another World Cup song but when he heard Eugene's he played it over and over again. Eugene reckons, by the way, that the second song got lost in the post, but as we saw, he gave it a lash during his second appearance on the show.

He and his sister Catherine were brought to the studio in style - a black stretch limo no less.

I then turned the conversation to the famous people he met including Jimmy McGee and Paul McGrath. But better than that he got a kiss from Liz Bonnin! Later, he received a visit at home from Bertie Ahern, Charlie McCreavy and Paul Kelly. Bertie told him that he was watching the show on the Friday night and when he went to the office the following day he was telling everyone about it. One of the women, a neighbour of Eugene's, told him that she knew him. "I have to visit him" said Bertie and sure enough he did during his election visit to Maynooth.

Other people had hired orchestras and went to great expense when entering the competition. Eugene bought a blank tape in the local supermarket and sang the song in his bedroom without any accompaniment at all. True talent will win out in the end as was proven when he won with an overwhelming, runaway vote from the public on that Friday night.

Photographs appeared in the Sunday World and Mirror and there were many letters to the papers applauding his courage and bravery. Eugene is on dialysis and cannot take up the prize of going to the World Cup. Eircom then offered him a cash amount of £10,000. When I asked him what he intended to do with it he said "enjoy it and give some of it the Kidney Association".

On his visit to Bradys and Caulfields everyone was out to celebrate for him. The lads in Bradys sang "Simply the best" and Caulfields hung a huge banner over the bar saying "Well done Eugene". The nurses in the Mater also lined up and sang for him when he returned to the hospital.

Unfortunately he cannot record the song because the copyright for "Alice" belongs to his favourite band Smokey. He has tried to get in touch with the band's management but has not got a response so far. Then I asked him if he thought he would be home for the World Cup and he wasn't sure. I ventured to say that he might have good crack in the hospital watching the matches. But it costs €2 for two hours of television and it can switch off at any time. It did just that recently as Manchester United were about to score in a match they were watching.

Finally I asked him if he wanted to mention or thank anyone and he wanted to thank everyone who voted for him and all his friends at home in Maynooth.

Eugene shows great courage and heroism in the face of serious adversity as he always has. He worked for the Community Council for a number of years and was a most cheerful, happy employee who never seemed to be downhearted. This is a well-deserved win for a man who has written many entertaining songs for us over the years and has sung them in Bradys, Caulfields and at various functions and talent competitions over the years. Way to go Eugene! You are - simply the best.



Clubs, Organisations and Societies (June 2001)

MAYNOOTH DANCERS TRAVEL TO SLOVAKIA

On the 22nd of June seventeen dancers from Scoil Rince Uí Dhubhaill are travelling to Slovakia to represent Ireland at a European Nations Folk Dance Festival. They will be joined by members of the Whelan School of dancing in Rathfarnham. The two schools of dancing will form the Junior Irish Folk Dance Team.

The group will fly from Dublin to Prague and take a connecting flight to Koisce, and then a bus journey to Poprad where the girls will be staying with families for the 10 days. Poprad is situated north of Slovakia in the Tatra mountains. It is a beautiful scenic town.

The girls will travel around Slovakia and perform at various locations. They will also take a day trip to Poland.

This is the first time a group from Ireland has travelled to Slovakia to take part in the festival. It is also the first time that Rita Doyle (dancing teacher) has brought a group away with her. She herself has danced at many folk festivals abroad, representing Ireland in France, Germany, Cyprus, Sweden and England. Having seen the fun and enjoyment these trips brought to her, she has decided to instil her love of dancing, into her pupils. As they say, "Travel broadens the mind" and I hope that the seventeen girls will remember this trip forever. This is a great chance for them not only to travel but also to be able to show our now world famous culture and Irish Dance abroad.

This trip would not have happened without the sponsorship and donations from many local business, shops and local people. May we thank everyone who has made this trip possible for us.

We hope to give you a full account of our travels in the next issue of Maynooth newsletter!!!

Maynooth Dancers win all in Kildare Fleadh

On Saturday, 19th of May, 22 dancers from Maynooth travelled to Clane to take part in the Kildare Fleadh. We had a great day, taking home many medals and trophies. Our youngest dancer, Emma Collins, is five years old and the eldest is thirteen.

The highlight of the day was when eight musicians arrived in to play for the set-dancing competition. The average age of these musicians was sixty! It was great to see young and old performing together - our Irish culture is alive and well and thriving.

Well done girls, who are all members of Rita DoYLES School of Dancing.

Rita Doyle T.C.R.G



Features (May 1991)

The Redevelopment of Carton

The intended future of Carton House and its Demesne was announced at a lavish press conference and launch on Thursday, April 11th in Carton House. The launch was attended by the Minister for Tourism Mr. Seamus Brennan. A consortium, consisting of the Guinness owned Gleneagles Hotel Group, PGA European Tour, MacInerneys, Lee and Mary Malahan and Guinness Ireland, outlined their detailed and far-reaching plans to turn the Demesne into a massive leisure resort. This will include a hotel, conference centre and Country Club, three golf courses, an Equestrian Centre and some forty private residences.

Wooing the sceptical

The publicity exercise provided by Murray's was designed to woo the sceptical. The hard sell included Guinness carriages to ferry us to the front of the house, a piper to serenade us and a first class bar and lunch. The Scottish connection with the original Gleneagles Resort was emphasised by the wearing by the hosts of the traditional insignia to distinguish them from the guests. The English and American accents and presence were immediately obvious. On a cold, wet, dreary and windy Thursday all was confidence, promises and good-humoured banter in Carton House. From the outset, there was great emphasis on the benefits and spinoff to the local community and its hinterland. There was an obvious anxiety to allay any fears that we might have as regards the development. Every speaker stressed that we would benefit greatly from this development in every possible aspect. During the long lunch, Seamus Brennan welcomed the project which, he said, had been planned for the last four years with the blessing of the Government. It need hardly be noted that the local community only heard of it in the last number of days! It was a very hard sell, with a gentle iron touch, which tends to make the cynic in me even more cynical! The Minister also added that some finance would be forthcoming from the European Structural Fund. May we dare hope that this funding will extend to repairing the roads and footpaths in the vicinity of the town if only to facilitate the future residents of the resort?

Outline of the Plan

The outline project promises virtual open access to the house and bridle paths, along with the legally bound 'restricted' housing development. They guaranteed long term employment and spinoff prosperity to the area. If the Planning Permission is achieved, work will begin later this year to be completed in 1994. The total cost is estimated to be £65 million.

*Carton will be the location for the first ten Gleneagles Resorts to be situated worldwide. Guinness Ireland will be the major shareholders in this venture.

*The house is to be preserved and restored to its former glory. The repairs to the stonework, roof, dry rot etc. coupled with restoration will cost £1.5 million. All interiors are to be preserved and are to be used as originally intended. A small number of suites will be provided for guests in the existing bedroom area. It is asserted that the Chinese Bedroom and old kitchen will be preserved as a museum piece.

*A 200 bedroom Five Star Hotel and restaurant are to be built to the north-east of the house where there are modern farm buildings. The existing kitchen 'courtyard' will be adapted to provide public areas to the hotel. This will be screened by a wooded area. The downstairs east wing will be transformed into a long gallery connecting the main hall to the new foyer in the kitchen yard.

*The Country Club will be situated to the south-west of the house, incorporating a swimming pool, a spa and club facilities for the Gleneagles Golf Club. Positioned in the coachyard, it will be covered by a glass roof. The coachhouses are to be restored without major structural alteration to the buildings. It is maintained that the Coachhouse will be transferred to the Equestrian Centre as originally intended.

*The Conference Centre will be built to the east of the house, it will include the existing belltower and related buildings. There will also be 29 corporate lodges serviced by the hotel. This will also be covered by glass.

The double story bedroom block will lead to the south of the house from the Restaurant and will be screened by existing trees. There are no buildings in place here currently. It is asserted throughout that the original vista of the house, front and back, will be preserved and that none of these buildings will be visible.

*Effectively the grounds of the house will become one large golf-complex. A full threequarters of the land will be covered by the three Golf Courses with the PGA European Tour Course encompassing a third of the estate. This will be situated in the north-eastern section of the demesne and will be designed by Peter Townsend. A new clubhouse will overlook the course and it will be intended to be the focus of future European events. The Gleneagles course and the 9 hole course will be available for corporate entertaining and to the local communities through membership as well as the guests and residents. We have been assured that women will have equal access.

*There will be 119 Golf Villas constructed in the woods on the northern section of the estate, close to the PGA Golf Course.

*An all weather Equestrian Centre will be built north-east of the house with 40 livery Stables. It will contain an indoor area of 2,148 square metres as well as outdoor arenas and equestrian trail throughout the estate.

*There will be 40 demesne residences costing approximately a quarter of a million pounds. These are envisaged as holiday homes for Europeans and Americans.

Features (Redevelopment of Carton cont'd)

*The boathouse will be used as a bar, but it will also revert to its original intended use.

*The Shell Cottage will be used for informal dining, similar, apparently to its original use.

It is asserted, in accordance with the Environmental Impact Statement, that the wood will be restored, a planting programme will be implemented along the walls, the river, around the Dunboyne Gate and in the environs of the house itself. The Rye river and the lake are to be drained, cleared and re-developed for fishing and boating. The deer herd is to be preserved.

Jobs Promised

It is stated that there will be 250 skilled construction jobs during the construction phase and that when the resort is fully operational that there will be 460 employed, many from the local community. Gleneagles maintain that they will train the necessary staff and they will liaise with CERT and FAS. It is also asserted that the payrolsupplies and services will provide £15 million annually and that most of this will stay in the local community and the greater Dublin area. It is said that the additional spin-off is expected to generate £30 million annually.

If all these promises are to be believed the Future for Maynooth and its hinterland is indeed rosy. The preservation of the house is a cause for hope. However, there are some major questions, concerns and reservations which we should consider and address.

Causes for Concern

The answer given by Robin Harding, Development Manager of the Guinness Enterprises and the Gleneagles group attempts to alleviate this concern. He says "The developers propose to enter into a number of covenants with Kildare County Council which will restrict and control the development within the Demesne". However, exactly how binding these covenants will be and how they can be enforced is very unclear. Significantly they do not exclude the possibility of further building and development. For example, will the forty private houses in the proposal expand to 400 in 5 years time?

The second linked concern is the preservation of the woodlands. Can we trust these owners of holiday homes not to interfere with the existing trees and woods? Are these covenants sufficiently binding in this area? It seems difficult to believe that such strictures may be placed on people paying such a sum for a holiday home. They assure us that the covenant is placed on the land itself and that it will last in perpetuity. Again this needs careful and detailed investigation.

The issue of public access is addressed in the Carton Committee report. Given the exclusive nature of both the proposed housing development and recreational facilities one wonders just how free the public will be to wander around.

It is asserted that there will be a snowball effect of an annual £15 million in income to the Maynooth area. Could it not also be envisaged that the resort would exist as a totally self-sufficient entity generating its own resources? This would have a limited influence on the local infrastructure.

In addition, it is possible that the prices in the resort will be so prohibitive that the general public will not be able to avail of any of the facilities, bar, restaurant or general amenities. This would discourage people from visiting the estate at all.

It is also possible that Gleneagles will import the workforce, and that the lower paid unskilled labour will be provided by the local employees. This is not an acceptable scenario.

The overriding fear remains that Carton House may become the domaine and the preserve of the super-rich and that the general public will be, de facto, excluded.

Safeguards

The community must not allow itself to be lured by the carrot of "possible" employment and spinoff income. We must insist that the safeguards are legally binding and that these are included into the Planning Permission. If necessary, a Trust may be established as a guardian and a watchdog. Once building commences behind the high walls of Carton, what guarantees are there that these covenants will be respected? Promises are cheap and money can buy anything and anybody if there is enough of it. £65 million is enough. The Government has given this project its unreserved backing, realising that the responsibility for Carton may now pass into the corporate section. The people of Maynooth, and indeed Leixlip, owe it to the Irish public and to future generations that access to the demesne becomes permanently open. We must take responsibility for ensuring that the estate is not sold piecemeal.

The Community Council is arranging to meet with a representative of Guinness to ensure that all these points are answered and firmly elucidated to the satisfaction of the local community and the Irish public in general.

Muireann Ni Bhrolcháin



Pictured at Carton to announce details of the project were (from left to right) Carton's owner Mr. Lee Mallaghan, Mr. Peter Townsend of the P.G.A. European Tour, Mr. Seamus Brennan TD, Minister for Tourism & Transport and Mr. Brian Slowe, Chairperson, Guinness Ireland.

SOME RECIPES FROM THE OLDEN DAYS

When we are tired of all the turkey and plum pudding we could try some of the recipes that were used by our grandparents and by their grandparents. How about some boxty, cally or flummery. They are all low in fat and in calories. Potato cakes and brothan are the ideal food for the cold winter evenings after a hard day at the Christmas and New Year sales.

Recipe for Flummery: Oatmeal Water

Mix oatmeal and water in a large bowl. Leave for twelve hours. Pour off the liquid. Cover with plenty of fresh water. Leave for twelve hours. Pour off the liquid. Cook until it boils and thickens. Pour into dishes. Leave to cool. When cold put on plates. Traditionally flummery was served with honey, sugar or jam as a dessert or supper dish. It was sometimes accompanied by a glass of cider or beer.

Recipe for Brothan:

500 grams winter vegetables
100 grams oatmeal
Litre water or milk and water
500 grams bacon (optional)
Knob of butter
Pinch of seasoning

Cooking time: Simmer for one hour.

Traditionally brothan was eaten with a dish of potatoes when milk was scarce. The bacon was eaten at another dinner time. Nettles were used if vegetables were scarce.

Recipe for Apple Jelly: 1.5Kg. Cooking apples (crab apples or windfalls)
Sugar 1.5L. Water 12 Cloves.

Wash and chop the apples. Low simmer until soft. Strain off liquid. Add 750 grms. sugar to each litre of liquid. Boil mixture until sugar dissolves and liquid gels when a spoonful is tested on a cold saucer. Allow the jelly to cool. Put in clean dry jam jars and seal while still warm.

Farm House Scones: 500 grams flour baking powder
1 egg, pinch salt, sugar
250 grams butter
Milk preferably fresh home made butter milk.

Cooking time: 15-20 minutes in a pre heated hot oven. Sieve the flour, baking powder and salt. Rub in the butter. Beat the egg and milk together. Add the sugar, then the egg and milk to form a loose dough. Knead lightly. Flatten out to about half an inch thick. Cut in circles. Bake at the top of the oven. They are delicious with home made butter and apple jelly for afternoon tea.

Recipe for Boxty: 250 grams raw potato 250 grams of freshly boiled mashed potato.
Pinch of salt. 125 grams butter
125 grams flour.

Cooking time: 3 minutes a side on a pre heated frying pan until brown both sides.

Grate the raw potato. Squeeze the pulp into a piece of cloth to let the liquid ooze. Mix the pulp, mashed potato, flour, butter and salt. Roll out thinly on a floured board. Cut into shapes. Cook.

Recipe for Potato Cake: 500 grams freshly boiled mashed potato.
125 grams flour, knob of butter
Pinch of salt.

Cooking time: 3 minutes a side on a pre heated frying pan until brown on both sides.

Mix the ingredients. Knead well. Roll out into a circle. Cut into quarters. Cook. Potato cakes or farts are delicious with bacon, egg and black and white pudding.

Recipe for Oaten Bread: 250 grams oatmeal. Pinch of salt. Hot water.

Cooking time: Cook on a pre heated pan or griddle until firm. Mix the ingredients. Make into a large flat cake. Cook.

Traditionally oaten bread was made around the turf fire on cold winters nights. It was taken off the pan and let stand up against the fireplace to dry. The people brought it to the fields, to the fairs and markets and the children took it to school.

Recipe for Cally: 1 kg. potatoes scallions
300 ml. milk, seasoning

Peel, boil and mash potatoes. Chop scallions. Cook them lightly in the milk. Then mix with mashed potatoes. Serve hot with a knob of butter in the middle of each plateful. Traditionally the potatoes were cooked in a big pot over the open fire in the kitchen. Each house had a twenty inch long plank of wood called the "pounder". The potatoes were mashed with the pounder. It was a child's treat to be allowed to scrape the pounder and eat the scrapings.

**Local Security Force - I.C.A. Hall****Front Row L-R**

Dos Caulfield, Mick Kelly Snr., Ned Smith, Mattie Weafer, Phil Brady, Sergeant Donnelly, Larry Keely.

Second Row L-R

Tom Rossiter, Mick Carey, Stephen Keane, Paddy Frayne, Sup from Naas, Davie Lawlor, Dr. Osborne, Jack Keyes.

Third Row L-R

Mick Murphy, Joe Coyne, Sean Byrne, Jim Fay, John McLaughlin, Tommy Kearns, Jack Bennett, Joe Weafer, Mick Dempsey, Micky Boyd, Christie Coyne, Mr. Matt Burke, James Tracey, Mr. Kilduff.

Front Row Standing L-R

Jim Carney, Garda Johnny McDonagh, Johnny Byrne, Ger Caulfield, Peter Farrelly, John Carey (J.C.), Ted Smyth, Paddy Carr, Dick Leavy, Tipteen Waldron.

Back Row L-R

Tommy Murphy, Paddy Kennedy, Jack Murray, Peter Smith, Jimmy Horan, Scar Doolan, John Saults, John Barnwall, Paddy Plunkett, Paddy Nolan, Jack Thompson, Tom Waldron, Garda Eugene O'Sullivan, Ned Kenny.

TAE KWON DO NOTES

Maynooth Tae Kwon Do school has been very busy in the past weeks. The senior instructor Mr. Gerard McClelland 4th Dan has recently received his Certificate of International Instructor and Referee. This is a very important certification and is only given to instructors who have shown the qualities necessary to hold this title.

Mr. McClelland has been studying Tae Kwon Do for 17 years of which he has spent 10 years with the Maynooth School. He is one of the founder members of the school and is very much part of the day to day running and coaching of the school.

The photograph shows Mr. McClelland on left receiving his certificate from Master Robert Howard 7th Dan. The presentation of the certificate was done after Mr. McClelland had completed an instructors' course under the founder and most senior Master of Tae Kwon Do General Cho of Korea. Both the course and certificate are a great personal achievement for Mr. McClelland.



Mr. Gerard McClelland 4th Dan receiving his Certificate of International Instructor and Referee from Master Robert Howard 7th Dan.

Following on from his recent certification Mr. McClelland completed his first full grading of Maynooth students on Monday 13th May in which 7 members were examined for progression to their next grade.

Meanwhile Mr. Cian McGinley travelled with the Irish Tae Kwon Do team to the European championships in Italy. The event was a four day competition based on the various components of the Tae Kwon Do training - Sparring - Patterns - and Destruction, with both individual and team competitions in the above sections. With over 30 countries taking part Ireland did very well and it was a great

opportunity for Cian to expand and develop his skills amongst the best in Europe. The knowledge and experience gained both in training for and participating in major events are indispensable to the participants and by spin-off the school in which the participants are involved also benefit.

Congratulations are due to Andrew Rowan on achieving the coveted black belt grade at a recent grading in the Spa Hotel.

This is a special event in all Martial Arts students' lives and the culmination of much hard training and dedication.



Cian McGinley 2nd Dan and Andrew Rowan 1st Dan

Congratulations are due also to Theresa Mac An Airchinnigh and Vicky Draper who took first and second in the patterns section of an Open Competition held in Old Bawn, Tallaght.

Classes are held Monday and Friday 7 - 8 p.m. in Maynooth Parish Hall. Enquires to Mr. Sean Foy (2nd Dan) 6289476.



First Communion Day 2001



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Aimee Nelson, Aoife Doonan & Michelle O'Connor



Jordain Greer & Julie Condon



Katie McEvoy & Family



Monsignor Stenson & Caitriona Crowe



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Ciaran Kearney



Paul Barrett & Darragh Fitzgerald



Cormac Clinton



Conor Saults with his parents John & Louise

MAYNOOTH FOLKLORE

In the late 1930s the Irish Folklore Commission undertook a huge project which involved recording local customs, history, cures and ghost stories from children in schools right across the country. The Presentation Convent in Maynooth participated in the project and the notebook used to record the folklore of Maynooth can be viewed in the Folklore Department in UCD. The children were supervised by Sister M. Borgia. In many cases the names of the adults from whom the stories originated are recorded. Below are some extracts from this notebook.

The Fairies

In Tagado, about two miles from here, and near the Maynooth - Naas road, stands an ancient building like a tower. This old ruin is supposed to have been built by the fairies. During the time of its erection a turf man who happened to be passing one night saluted the fairies, saying, "God bless the work". The fairies answered him, uttering blasphemy and so the building was never completed.

At a certain time of the year music of the fairies can be heard near Crewhill, this is also supposed to be a lucky omen. Crewhill, a favourite haunt of fairies, is situated on the Moyglare Road about three quarters of a mile from the town of Maynooth. The narrator of this, herself heard the fairy music on one occasion.

Theresa Monahan, Double Row as told by Mrs. O'Sullivan Main St.

Ghost Story

I was told that on the Doctor's Lane, Maynooth, there is to be seen a big black dog and a little woman dressed all in white. One night my mother was throwing out water and a black dog came up beside her. When she turned round to come in the dog disappeared and my mother came in and fainted. She was confined to bed for three weeks after it.

M. Lettis, Greenfield

The Big Wind

There was a big wind in the year 1903. The slates were blown off Carton House like paper. Lots of the trees were blown down and the crows that were in their nests had not time to fly out. Some of them were killed and others were going about with their wings broken.

Edward Waldron, Leinster Cottages

Cures

The cure for a sty in your eye is to pluck ten gooseberry thorns, point one to the eye each morning, throw away the tenth.

Mrs. C. Duffy, Maynooth

An old cure for the whooping cough - give an ass a piece of bread and the crumbs that fall from his mouth pick them up and give them to the person who has the cough.

Mrs. Clancy, 7 Leinster Cottages

This is a cure for the whooping cough I had myself. The cure is to get a bit of bread from a woman whose name did not change when she married.

Mrs. Reilly, Greenfield Cottage

A cure for headaches. There is a well in Ladychapel. You have to put your hand in the well three times and then rub it on your head.

Mrs. Nolan, Newtown

The cure for consumption is to boil the roots of primroses....Another cure for whooping cough is to get water from the Rye River and drink a little each morning for nine mornings.

B. Duffy, Dublin Road

A black snail is a cure for a toothache. Bog water is good for corns. To carry a raw potato in your pocket is good for rheumatism.

M. O'Neill

There are quite a lot of cures that doctors do not give. For St. Anthony's Fire get the comb or blood of the cock and rub it to it. For corns, put the poker into the fire and get a piece of washing soda and when the poker is red put it to the soda and hold it over the corn and let it drop onto the corn. This is to be done for nine nights and the corn will be cured. For whooping cough, cure by holding the child over boiling tar.

Essie Fox, Grangewilliam



L-r Derek Horan, Eileen Nolan, Peter Finnan, all from Greenfield. (August 1986)



Cllr. Emmet Stagg hands over cheque for £760 to the Chairperson of the Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee. Mrs. Brady. The cheque was the outcome of a sponsored walk organised by Maynooth Labour Branch. The walk is to continue on an annual basis and is to be known as the Tony Smith Sponsored Walk in memory of the late Tony Smith. (July 1982)

The Spirit of Christmas Past December 1995



Christmas has always been a time for remembering. Mrs Brigie Saults has a lot to remember. During her eighty years she has seen more than her fair share of joy and sorrow around this period. Born near Donadea in 1915, her earliest memories of Christmas are of newly whitewashed walls, Christmas mottoes, freshly picked holly and ivy. Even in those days of course, the thought of Santa's arrival was uppermost in the minds of the children. The toys were more simple, the sweets less plentiful, but they tasted just as good nonetheless. Peggy's leg, liquorice whips, the names of the old sweets trip off her tongue with a certain relish, the memories made all the sweeter through the passage of time. Often the biggest treat was the trip to see the crib in the nearby church, the children had to be on their best behaviour or they would be barred from going. Brigie's father worked as a steward on an estate owned by a British officer, and she still remembers the shilling he gave her and her youngest brother with some pride, a shilling was a lot of money for a young child in those days.

Christmas day was a day for family; aunts and uncles would come to share the day. In a family of eight, a few more faces at the table were still welcome to join in with the festivities. Brigie remembers one incident when she was reprimanded by her father for sitting on the steps outside the door of her house. This was Christmas morning and one did not move past the threshold as it was a special day.

Mass on Christmas morning was a family occasion, where the whole family dressed in their best. Older family members assisted the younger children to speed their departure. On the road to mass, friends and neighbours gave their Christmas greetings and wishes for the Holy day, while children stole whispered conversation about the contents of their Christmas stockings and made plans for Wren day.

"The wren, the wren, king of all birds....". After the solemnity of Christmas day the antics of the 'mummers' and 'wren boys' provided a more exuberant feel to the season. And old tradition that

barely survives today, it is a part of Christmas that Brigie fondly recalls.

Those earlier Christmases passed as one for Brigie, until 1925. In that year, two of her brothers died on April 25th and October 25th. It was also the year that her Christmas changed forever. On Christmas morning her older sister May, died as the family were preparing for mass. That morning for once the old tradition was broken as the house was filled with grieving friends and neighbours. Christmas for Brigie was never the same after that.

Brigie moved to Maynooth in 1930, two years after her mother died. She went to stay with her uncle and lived in a large house, where Parson Court stands today. Maynooth changed everything, as her life before that was so familiar with tragedy and death. She remembers the local band marching down from the Minstrel Gate to the church on Christmas morning. She also remembers coming back from mass to find her uncle having prepared the table for dinner. Her first taste of wine was at her uncle's insistence. "Don't talk about Confirmation pledges on Christmas morning", he said. Her uncle believed, because our Lord's first miracle was to turn water into wine, it was only proper to toast his birthday with a glass.

She spent several years in England and recalls her first taste of champagne, which was nice, but made her walk crooked! When she returned to Ireland after the outbreak of the war, there was no more champagne. The Emergency and rationing meant that Christmas became a test of ingenuity. Brigie's banana soufflé, made from dry boiled parsnips, sugar and banana essence was one example of the lengths to which people went to retain the element of celebration associated with Christmas.

This is perhaps what one would associate most with Brigie. Despite the tragedies of the past, she looks forward to Christmas, to old friends and new visitors dropping in for a chat and a slice of cake.

These days Christmas is associated with the hustle and bustle of shopping and the whirl of the social round. Brigie Saults represents the spirit of a Christmas that has passed us by, a more simple but a some how more celebratory Christmas. And one whose spirit is kept alive in someone like Brigie.



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MAYNOOTH'S GREAT VICTORY

REPORT OF LEINSTER CUP FINAL 1936 SATURDAY 4TH DECEMBER 1937 SCENES OF ENTHUSIASM

"Maynooth is the last team in the world that I expected to be handing the 'Leader' Cup to." So declared Mr. T. Lawlor, Chairman of the Co. Kildare Board of the G.A.A., in Naas on Sunday after Maynooth had annexed the 'Leinster Leader' Cup of 1936 by defeating Ellistown by five points to four in the final played at the Father Brennan Memorial Park. And no wonder he made that remark, for there is a touch of romanticism attached to Maynooth's meteoric rise to fame. When the draw was being made last year for the 'Leinster Leader' Cup it was discovered that another team was necessary to complete the panel. Maynooth, who had won the junior championship that year, immediately volunteered to fill the vacancy as a kind of stop-gap. So others thought "God help Maynooth if they meet Raheens (senior champions) in the first round," remarked the Chairman at the draw. The draw was made and sure enough Maynooth was drawn against Raheens. The latter, of course were very confident of victory and agreed to play Maynooth on their own grounds. Then came the sensation. After a gruelling game Raheens had to admit defeat from the junior champions. And to prove that the win was no fluke Maynooth then went on to beat Leixlip, Newbridge and other fancied teams and defeated Ellistown on Sunday. Thus ended one of the most glorious chapters in the history of Maynooth.

Mr. Lawlor, in representing the team recalled the old days when he played against the Crom Abú and added that the team he saw playing that day was as good as any that he ever played against (cheers). He congratulated them heartily on their great victory.

The game is described in another column but suffice it to say that the Maynooth defence were the heroes of the day. They played like trojans and specially in the last quarter when Ellistown pressed desperately for the equalising point, and all but got it. Both forward lines were erratic and Maynooth especially missed enough chances to have won the game three or four times over. Ellistown also could have won the game and missed opportunities as a couple of goals went abegging. Seamus Burke, however, with his staunch henchman, held the fort with wonderful determination, and he was ably supported by Joe Murphy, Joe Moore, P. Cahill, P. Reilly, Nolan, Dunne, McGovern, Delaney and all the others, everyone of whom gave of their best. Scenes of great jubilation were witnessed at the close of the game, and 'Josie' Murphy, the hero of the day, was carried shoulder high from the field. Thus for the first time the name of Maynooth is inscribed on the "Leinster Leader" Cup.

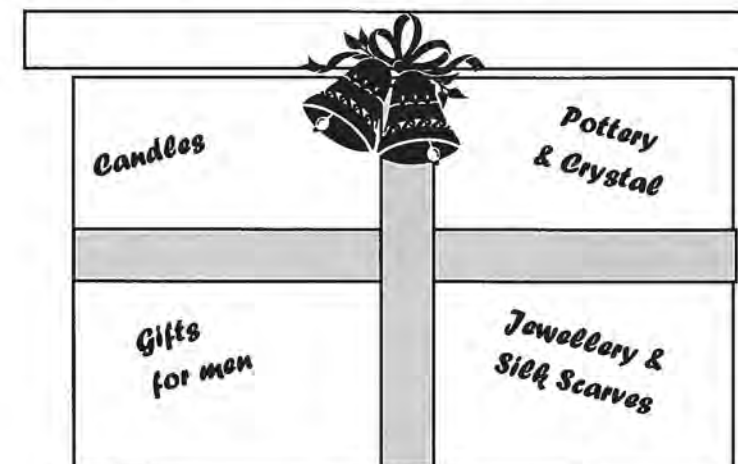


Victorious U14 Team from the past.

Back row: l-r M. Ryan (Selector), A. Noonan, A. O'Shea, P. Hogan, E. Mitchell, D. Fleming, M. Meally, M. Donnelly, P. Garvey, A Killoran (Selector).

Front row: l-r J. Nevin (Selector), S. Noonan, C. Browne, H. Nevin, K. Killoran (Captain), P. Lacey, P. Burke, M. Halley, G. Kelly, L. Lacey (Selector).

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Muintir Má Nuad (May 1993)

Mr. Thomas Ashe



Thomas Ashe
Principal of Maynooth Post-Primary School.

Born in Listowel, Co. Kerry he attended the local national school where he was taught in 3rd class, by the playwright Brian McMahon and then completed his secondary education in St. Michael's College. Before attending U.C.D. he worked for 3 years with A.J. Hogan, a bookmaker for whom he has nothing but praise, describing him as "A most kind and generous man" - a label not usually ascribed to those working in that profession!

On moving to Dublin he shared digs with twelve other students - a slight culture shock from living at home with his parents, two brothers and two sisters. When asked why he went to U.C.D. and not Cork, the simple answer was that at that time there was a direct rail link between Listowel and Dublin, and therefore was a natural choice. After graduating Mr. Ashe taught in Tallaght for 5 years, a much smaller town in those days with only one secondary school. From there he was appointed principal of Maynooth Post-Primary School, the position he holds to-day. His first impression of the town was the beauty of the tree-lined Main Street and the great support and help he received from the townspeople. At that time there were only 120 pupils in the school, but with the expansion of Maynooth this number has greatly increased. It is a major disappointment to Mr. Ashe that this growth was not properly anticipated by the Dept. of Education when they sanctioned the extension to the school in 1982 to cater for the needs of 500 students.

The present roll-call stands at 600 and another extension is urgently needed if the students are to compete on equal footing in the new Europe where the future employment prospects lie.

Mr. Ashe firmly believes in giving his students a strong work ethic with which they can tackle their studies and brings to them the hard work and commitment necessary for success. With the instilment of this work ethic he believes that grinds outside of school are unnecessary and in an informal survey discovered that the best results were obtained by students who, in conjunction with their teachers and their parents, brought this commitment to their work. Whilst stating that the points system is fair and free from outside influence, he, at the same time, contends that it has taken a lot of fun out of learning but as the system is in place it will just have to be worked with. The Green Paper, he sees, as being high in aspirations but possibly without the resources to back it.

Mr. Ashe views the siting of the Post-Primary school in the town as vital to the town's development and the manner and style of running the school as an influence on the town itself, with students aspiring to 3rd-level education and various branches of employment. Maynooth has benefited in the past and will benefit

in the future from the well-balanced and solid citizens emerging from its school and contributions they will make to society. As the school has an open entry policy students come from a full cross-examination of society and each child is treated individually and if necessary, positive discrimination is practised in order to bring the child up to the desired level.

Mr. Ashe would like to pay tribute to the very valuable contribution made to the school by the parents association which was put in place right from the foundations of the school. He would also like to acknowledge the help and co-operation given to the school by the College authorities with the shared use of facilities e.g. the swimming pool and looks forward to even closer co-operation in the future.

With Monsgr. Ledwith he shares the view of Maynooth as a unique university town - akin to Heidelberg - and hopes that it will be treated as thus by the relevant authorities in charge of this development.

Although being an exiled Kerryman Mr. Ashe still supports the kingdom in matters of sport with Kildare and Dublin following close behind. The Dublin connection is of course provided by his wife and with four children all reared and educated in Maynooth - Tomas, Fergus, Catherine and Cormac, he would fail to support Kildare at his peril. Indeed he sees his future as being permanently sited in Maynooth and looks forwards to the future development in tandem with the school and town.

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ST MARY'S (CHURCH OF IRELAND) MESSAGE FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM

If you are reading this magazine you are a very privileged person indeed! It falls to very few people in the history of the world to witness the dawning of a new Christian Millennium. Reputedly the last time this happened many people were worried that it meant the end of the world and feared the day so much that some even committed suicide! We are not so pessimistic these days and many people have planned parties or special events with friends and family to welcome in 1st January 2000.

However not everyone will be celebrating this change of date. There are those for which it holds relatively little significance. Members of the other great world religions operate on different religious calendars, some of which are very ancient. This reminds us that it is a Christian Millennium we are celebrating, 2000 since we officially date the birth of Jesus Christ.

There are also those even in Christian countries that have little to celebrate. Their lives are made very difficult because they live in the developing world where massive debt repayments mean that their governments have little to spare for health care or education. They are caught in a cycle of deprivation and poverty out of which they will never break

free as long as these debts remain. Sadly those who took out these loans were often military dictators who spent the money on arms to suppress their own people. Even after the dictators are gone, their people are still oppressed by this legacy of debt. That is why all the main Christian churches have called for this calendar change to be marked as a year of Jubilee. This idea from the Old Testament calls for a time when the slate is wiped clean and debts struck off in order to give people a fresh start. The Churches have called on western governments and financial institutions to meet this challenge in a creative manner.

A newspaper article earlier in the year on the topic of Millennium babies asked an important question. Its headline read "what will their future be?" In reality it said that the real millennium baby will probably be born in a part of the world where there is no clock to record the time of its birth and it may not even live long enough to be given a name. This fact is a challenge to all people of differing religions and none to make the world a more equal place for all its citizens.

May I take this opportunity to wish all the readers of the "Maynooth Newsletter" a happy and hope filled New Year.

Rev. Adrian Wilkinson

NATURE'S WEATHER FORECASTS

We are all used to hearing at the end of each news bulletin "Here is the weather forecast". But it was not always so. In the days, before modern technology and the weather forecasts on radio or television, people looked to the sky for their weather forecasts.

Weather forecast: Men could gauge the weather forecast by seeing how high or how low the clouds hung in the sky. In the mornings when the mist hung low, fog lingered near the water and the sheep scattered out over a wide area on the commons they made their plans to go out working.

*Red sky in the morning is the shepherd's warning
Red sky at night is the shepherd's delight*

The animals could sense a change in the weather. When the farmer saw his sheep come together on the commons and look for shelter under the trees, the dew stay on the ground or a heavy coat of frost he knew that it was time for him to make sure that his shelter was secure and that he had plenty of turf in against the miserable weather that was coming. The moon and sun governed their days and seasons. If St. Swithun's Day was wet it would be wet for forty days afterwards. "The north wind doth blow and we shall have

snow" while blowing from the west was a sign of good weather. A ring around the moon or a rainbow in the sky was the sign of heavy rain. Rays in the sun were misleading as they were the sign of long periods of rain. Not only was the sky observed but behaviour of the fowl was also noted. Hens pecking themselves or going to bed early were signs of a bad night. The turkeys going in along with the hens meant it was time to take in the clothes off the line and the hawthorn hedges because a wild night was on the way.

Here are some weather signs from the birds in the air, on land and in the water.

Fine weather:	Crows and swallows flying high.
Wind:	Swans on the land.
Snow:	Birds looking for shelter.
Frost:	Geese coming in to land.
Wet weather:	Crows and swallows flying low.
	Curlews whistling.

The animals and birds could sense a change in the weather. We, too, could watch them and try to decide for ourselves if the old weather signs were more reliable than what the meteorologists tell us.

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Clubs, Organisations and Societies (May 2002)

Maynooth I.C.A. News

Caoga bliain

The April 2002 meeting of the Maynooth guild of the Irish Countrywomen's Association was in the ICA Hall Maynooth Harbour. Holiday time is fast approaching. The Council of the ICA hold their Annual General Meeting at Sligo on Wednesday 15th May. There are a few vacancies on the Kildare Week at An Grianan Adult Education College County Louth, 17th - 21st June. For members who would like to go further afield - The ICA plan a trip to Scotland next September, to China in 2003, and to the Association of Countrywomen of the World (ACWW) conference in Tasmania in 2004.

It is our Golden Jubilee year. Members regale new members with their stories of the prominent part the guild played in local life down through the years. In 1986-7 Maynooth Guild was the AIB Guild of the Year. We would love to hear from former members of the guild as we prepare our commemoration.

Thank you to Marian O'Donnell and friends who treated us to enjoyable evenings of Archaeology, Art, History, Music and Sculpture at Tuesday night talks at St. Patrick's College over the past six months. On 9th April all had a treat when sculptor Marian discussed her work on three continents - some of her designs were based on her interpretation of indigenous west of Ireland stone-walling techniques. Proceeds from the talks went to the Alzheimers' Society. Betty Farrell will host a Tea Day

Bring and Buy on Alzheimers' Society Day 3rd May. Members of the guild in Maynooth on Daffodil Day were pleased to accept your donations of £3612 towards very essential cancer research. Thank you to Betty Moore for her gift to the guild. Congratulations to Elaine Houlihan on her success in the Ready-Brek competition at county level.

Prizewinners:

- 1 Mary O'Gorman
- 2 Rosemary Hanley
- 3 Imelda Delaney



*Margaret Houlihan, Secretary, Dave, Fair City, Mary McNamara, President
Launch of Daffodil Day*

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Pope John Paul II October 1979

It is understandably a cause of great joy to Ireland that his Holiness Pope John Paul II will be its guest from Sept 29th to Oct 1st. For the first time in history a reigning Pontiff will step on Irish soil and speak to the Irish people in their own fields and churches, pray with them and bless them in their own homeland. Regrettably his stay of three days will not permit him or the people to make the sort of contact that I am sure both would wish. Many cities and areas of Ireland would clearly like to have the Holy Father to visit them even for a very short period; but it is not possible is indeed a privilege for us all in Maynooth that the Pope will most likely spend part of his valuable Irish time in our mists.

John Paul II is a man of peace who has known the horrors of war. His homeland, Poland has suffered from partition, religious persecution, centuries of conflict. Time and again since he became Pope, this man "who has been called from a distant country" has appealed for peace in the world. His visit to Ireland should mark the occasion for us to renew our prayers and efforts for peace in our own troubled country. Of one thing we can be certain; Pope John Paul understands what it is like to live with conflict, and his prayers on behalf of Ireland will be the prayers from a sincere and understanding heart.

It would be superfluous here to dwell on his career as a student, professor, president of a seminary, archbishop. His intellectual ability and strong personality have been rightly stressed by commentators on television and in the newspapers all over the world. During the past year I have had the privilege of meeting him twice and attending his mass several times. A man of God, prayerful and profound, he is also clearly a man at home in the world, a man of humour and humanity. We talked briefly about Maynooth: he was well aware of the proud tradition of the college as one of the world's greatest Seminaries.

He was very pleased when I presented him with a copy of one of the periodicals published by the college, the Irish Theological Quarterly, which contained a learned article from his pen, written in 1976 when he was Archbishop Karol Wojtyla of cracow. He expressed the wish to see Maynooth someday; little did I think that within a few months that his wish would be realised, and the College which has received so many distinguished persons during the course of its long history would in 1979 be given the supreme honour of receiving the Holy Father himself.

Details regarding the Papal visit have yet to be completed. Because of his tight schedule his visit to

the college will be inevitable brief. I am very sensitive to the fact that, while in the college, he will be in the parish of Maynooth. I hope to make every effort to ensure that the people of the parish will have an opportunity of seeing the Holy Father and hopefully joining him in prayer. Accordingly as more information concerning his visit is made available I will keep the parish informed. Meanwhile let us pray that his visit to Ireland and to Maynooth will be a joyful one. Through his presence amongst us may blessings come upon our country, north and south and in a special way may God's favour rest upon the parish and the college of Maynooth.

Rt. Rev. Michael G Olden
President,
St. Patrick's College,
Maynooth.



Serdecznie Witamy

Maynooth Golf Society



The Matchplay 1987 Winners

L-R: T. Dunning, T. Sheehan pictured with Maynooth Golf Society Captain Joseph Moore (centre) and the runners up R. Delamere and T. Flatley

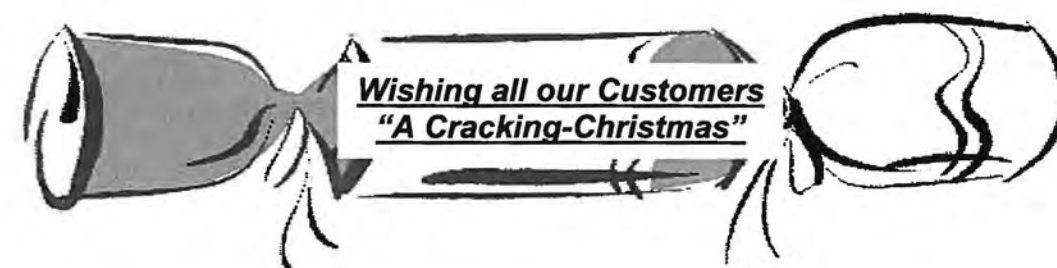


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Muintir Mhaigh Nuad February 1988

Bridie O'Brien interviewed
by Jim Cunningham



Everyone knows Bridie O'Brien and no wonder, for Bridie has been involved in much community activity in recent times. Her first venture was as secretary of the Trees Committee. She has also been involved with the Scouts, been an active member of the Community Council and is currently chairwoman of the Council's Social and Recreational Sub-Committee.

Bridie was born and reared in Maynooth and is of old Maynooth stock. Her father was a Dubliner but her mother's family has been in Maynooth Town for at least 200 years. She numbers among her ancestors a famous pickpocket of the eighteenth century who mixed in high society in London, was deported to Australia but ended up as the prison governor.

Except for 5 years spent in England and a brief stay near Belfast, Bridie has lived all her life in Maynooth.

During her time in England she trained as a nanny and worked first in London and then Blackpool looking after the children of the famous footballer Stanley Matthews. She has very fond memories of the Matthews family who were lovely people.

After returning to Maynooth, Bridie worked in the College for thirteen years, initially cleaning the chapel and later looking after the Professor's rooms. She had the distinction of being the first woman to be entrusted with this sacred task. While having affections for individuals whom she met during her time in the College she is quite critical of the relationship or more accurately the lack of it between the College and the Town.

While still employed in the College, Bridie also began working in Caulfields Bar on Saturdays. She has worked in Caulfields for 21 years.

Obviously Bridie has never been afraid of work and it is probably not surprising that she should

have become involved in voluntary activities. She has seen Maynooth change from being a country village to a major dormitory town and feels that an effort was, and is still necessary to integrate the new residents into the life of the community. She is quite philosophical about the influx of people to the town saying that people must settle somewhere - so why not Maynooth.

Although, she says, that the expansion was, in general good for Maynooth, you still detect a great nostalgia for the Maynooth of her youth where you could whip a top up and down the middle of the Main Street. There wasn't much to do, but as everywhere in those days, people made their own fun. The Town was quiet and despite its proximity to Dublin, there was very little traffic to the city.

Bridie has had her share of hard times and tragedy in her life. Her mother died when she was only two years old. Her daughter Catherine was killed in an accident and she herself had a heart attack some years ago. But there is a lot of steel in Bridie O'Brien. She has survived and, no doubt will be around for a long time yet, making her contribution to the development of the new enlarged community.

Maynooth, which would be a much poorer place without her, has reason to be grateful.



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MILLENNIUM 2000 - THE YEAR OF GREAT JUBILEE

I would like to thank the Maynooth Newsletter for their kindness in inviting me to share some thoughts at the beginning of the Third Millennium, 2000 AD - the Year of Great Jubilee.

In May 1998 there was a G8 meeting in Birmingham, England, where the leaders of the eight richest nations discussed world finances. Outside and around the building, 100,000 Christians joined hands and asked these leaders to cancel or at least seriously reduce the international debts of poorer countries. To give an example: Ethiopia spends 50% of its national income repaying its international debt. In that country 64% of the people are illiterate, 54% are without any health care, 75% without access to safe water and 600,000 babies die within their first year. And all this is still happenings in 1999! These people were making the point that the issue was not simply economical but had serious ethical implications. Indeed the Pope's recent meeting with Bono again focused on this very appeal.

What many may not realise is that such an appeal is deeply rooted in the very idea of Jubilee which had its roots in Judaism. For the Jews, the number seven was particularly significant to them. In their Creation stories, had not God created the world in six days and rested on the seventh - the Sabbath? (cf. Gn. 2:3). Every seventh year was a sabbatical year when "the land would be rested" (Lv. 25:4). Even more significantly, every seven weeks of years (i.e. 7x7 or 49 years) was followed by a 50th or Jubilee Year, when they were instructed to "let the land lie fallow, that is, you shall practice Sabbath: you shall forgive debts, letting forgiveness in; you shall free captives and proclaim liberty; you shall find out what belongs to another and give it back; you shall hold a great feast; learning to sing the canticle "Jubilate" (cf. Lev 25:8-19)". This thinking reflected their deep conviction that the land is God's and therefore given for the benefit of the whole community, for the good of all. Moreover, their Jubilee Year was a time for "tikun olam", for making a fresh start for restoring and repairing the world. Debts were cancelled, slaves set free and those driven off the land by poverty had a chance to return home. It was a Year of Grace - a Year of God's Favour. It was ushered in by the blowing of a ram's horn - a *Jabel* - the origin of our word Jubilee.

For Christians celebrating this Jubilee Year, we recall that approximately 2000 years ago, God in Jesus Christ newly entered our world. When he first began to preach at the synagogue in Nazareth, his message was replete with Jubilee themes: "He has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives and to the blind new sight, to set the downtrodden free, to proclaim the Lord's Year of Favour" (Lk. 4:18). It was a message that met with opposition. Indeed it was so powerful that his hearers wished to kill him that very day! (cf. Lk. 4:29)

It is again JUBILEE time, a time for celebration, and for reflection on our past, present and future. Pope John Paul II sees the Jubilee Year 2000 as a 'SPRINGTIME' for great social change. He identified many 'seeds of hope' in the scientific, technological and medical progress being made, means whereby our world can be repaired and restored. He recognises that ecologically and environmentally there is a far greater awareness today of Creation as God's 'gift' - a gift which we must protect and nurture rather than destroy. Similarly, with the commitment and struggle for justice and peace, for reconciliation among communities, so particularly noticeable in our own land in recent years and months, he acknowledged the impulse of the Holy Spirit. And on a wider scale, the movement towards Christian Unity and towards genuine dialogue with all religions and none, give him and indeed all of us further grounds for hope and optimism. All these seeds augur well for the new Millennium and help reassure us that the Holy Spirit is powerfully active in our world.

Individually, for each one of us it is also a time for celebration and for reflection on our past, present and future. As with any Golden (50th) Anniversary, it is an occasion when past events are recalled, friends again gather, old ties restored and hopefully, old wounds healed. May it be for each one of us such a time of healing, of restoration and of repair.

My prayer for you at this time is that wonderful ancient Jewish blessing: "May the Lord bless you and keep you; may He let his face shine upon you; and may He fill you with his peace".

Alex Stenson, P.P.



Back row l-r - M. Leavy, M. Mulready, T. Nolan, K. Brady, K. Dunne, A. Kenny, M. Maher, F. Bennett.
Middle row - l-r Miss Barton, L. Nolan, Mrs. Galvin, Lili Doyle, B. Edwards, M. Boyd, N. Connolly, K. Tracey,
Gretta Corraway. Front row l-r - M. Kiely, M. Nolan, M. Tracey, M. Dunne.



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WHAT'S IN A NAME

Are you living in Maynooth? Would you know where to find Back Lane or Double Lane or Cross Lane? What about Mill Street or Leinster Street. If you know all these answers, then how about Stable Lane or Chapel Lane or Lime Kiln Row? Where would you find Bridge Street or Canal Place? The former 5 names are all taken from the most recent O.S. map of Maynooth while the latter 5 names are former names for the aforementioned places. Placenames change with time and sometimes old names may be of greater historical significance than the current names. Maynooth Local History and Civic Forum along with Maynooth Action Strategy are presently working with Kildare County Council to erect street signage in Maynooth. We hope the Maynooth Action Strategy are presently working with Kildare County Council to erect street signage in Maynooth. We hope the result will help local people as well as visitors answer the questions posed above, and perhaps provoke an interest in the origin and layout of the streetscape in Maynooth. We are also looking for any information that you may have on the street names of alternative names to the ones we are proposing. Please send any information to the address indicated below by mid May and we will publish the definitive list in the next addition of the Newsletter.

The present lay out of the centre of Maynooth owes much to the Fitzgeralds, who were earls of Kildare and dukes of Leinster. The Fitzgeralds resided in the Great Castle off main Street and later Carton Demesne.

The centre of Maynooth is characterized by a wide tree lined straight Main Street. This forms the central axis for the different lanes that run parallel to the Main Street and lead off it at right angles. This layout was first conceived by James Fitzgerald, 20th Earl of Kildare in the mid 18th century. Together with Peter Bere, estate manager at Carton, they sought to develop Maynooth as a model village in a rectilinear pattern that was the height of fashion at the time. Building along the Main Street, which at that time was called Leinster Street, began in the mid 1750's. By 1757 a row which still stands, of seven two-storey, slate roofed houses fronting Main Street with walled gardens and stables to the rear has been erected on the North side of the Street adjacent to Carton Avenue. This was shortly followed by the building of 28 slate-roofed labourers' cottages that were laid out in 2 blocks to the North of the two storey houses. These cottages called Leinster cottages after the earl was promoted to Duke of Leinster still stand to-day. By 1773, the year of the Duke's death much of the village to the East of the

Square had been developed. A new inn (site of Leinster Arms) was added in 1777. To the West lay the castle as well as two distilleries and several cabins in what was referred to as 'part of the old town'. Traffic from Dublin to the west passed along the Main Street, across a small bridge (still extant) over a tributary stream, the Joan Slade and through the old castle gate before crossing the Lyreen and reaching the road to Kilcock.

This was all to change in the 1790's when a new bridge, Williams Bridge, was built to the east of the castle. This allowed long distance traffic to be diverted away from the castle and be turned out of the village over the new bridge and past the mill. A new north south axis was thus created and became known as Canal Place (now Leinster Street) to the South of Main Street and Bridge Street (now Mill Street) to the north. Stoyte House, further to the west was also built around this time. This subsequently became the nucleus for the Catholic Seminary, St Patrick's College established in 1795. This development had the effect of closing and enhancing the vista at the western end of Main Street.

The 19th century saw continued growth in the power of the Catholic Church. The Presentation sisters established a convent and school for girls at the East End of the village on the site of the charter school. The building of a new parish church on the West side allowed for the establishment of a boys' school in the old chapel (now Band hall) in Chapel Lane (now Pound Street).

In the mid 19th century when the poor law and tenement valuations were being compiled, many of the lanes were given names associated with developers or prominent citizens occupying the sites. Thus on the north side Miss Kelly's lane (now Kelly's Lane) was associated with Miss Martha Kelly site owner and Coate's Lane with John Coates stonecutter. Coffey's lane on the south side was associated with Andrew Coffey site owner. The lanes parallel with the Main Street had also seen development and now assumed their present names of Back Lane and Pound Lane on the north side and Doctors Lane after Dr. Edward O' Kelly on the south side.

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Democratic Left Notes

Pothole Misery to Continue

North Kildare has one of the busiest networks of local roads in the country. This is due not only to the growth of the residential population, but to the amount of through traffic passing west Dublin. The volume of traffic passing through Maynooth grew by no less than 40% between 1988 and 1989 alone. How many times have readers encountered big trucks on local roads which were never designed to take them? Is it any wonder that the local roads around Maynooth are falling into a state of disintegration? Of course, matters have been made worse by the awful and prolonged winter we have just suffered.

What has been Kildare County Council's response to the deteriorating situation? Well, believe it or not, spending on local roads in north Kildare is to be reduced by 25% in 1994 - from £314,000 in 1993 to just £233,000 this year. This is to cover Maynooth, Celbridge and Leixlip. This feature is supposed to cover footpaths and street lighting as well as road repairs. So it is clear that anyone who hoped for some decent footpaths in Maynooth's can just forget about it.

It is clear that the Government has no idea how much suffering is being generated throughout the country due to the collapse of the local road system. Public anger at the neglect of this key element of everyday life is palpably growing. Those who thought that having a local Minister in the Department of the Environment might lead to an improvement in the situation have had their hopes dashed. Road repairs provide loads of employment and use mostly native material. It is high time the government reversed its priorities on this issue.

Service Charges: More Broken Promises

In their 1987 General Election campaign, Fianna Fail promised to abolish services charges if elected. They were duly elected (remember their slogan: "There is a better way") but of course reneged on virtually every promise they made their campaign, including the abolition of services charges.

In 1991, the Labour Party circulated a strongly worded leaflet around Maynooth, attacking Fianna Fail for going back on this promise, and committing Labour to abolishing service charges when returned to power. Now both Labour and Fianna Fail are in power together. Emmet Stagg, who used opposition to service charges to launch his political career, a Minister in the government department responsible for levying charges, they have been extended to the new Dublin County Councils.

Is it any wonder people are becoming increasingly disenchanted with the so-called "democratic process" in this country, when even the most loudly proclaimed promises are quickly discarded once the chauffeur-driven Ministerial Mercedes has been delivered to the door.

Features

December 1995

SCOIL UÍ FHIAICH

Bhain thuismitheoirí Scoil Uí Fhiaich lán taitneamh ón gcruinneadh is an oíche chaidreamh ina dhiadh le gairid. Thug an choiste achoimre ar an obair go dtí seo, tá an chuma ar go bhfuil siad fíor-ghnóthach ag ullmhú na sonraí go léir le haghaidh oscailt na scoile.



L-R: Geróid O'Longáin, Coiste; Betty O'Hare, Asteoir; Colm O'Cearúil, Cathaoirleach; Maire Ní Ghúil, Rúnaí and Johnathon Meade, Oif. Cad. Pob.

The parents of Scoil Uí Fhiaich's, Naionáin beaga '96-'97, Maynooth's Gaelscoil recently attended and enjoyed a very successful meeting and social evening. The parents were brought up to date on the details of preparation for the school's opening date on Monday 2 September 1996. A 'Choiste Chomhairle' an advisory committee was set up consisting of Noel Reilly, Ger Scanlon, Bernadette Murray, Angela Brady and Mary Geraghty. This committee shall formulate school policy, school ethos, code of discipline (based on a value system), uniform, and extra curricular programme. A cairde Scoil Uí Fhiaich committee was also set up consisting of Betty O'Hare, Denise McCarthy, Paul Coyle, Ger Uí Cheardail and Catherine Coyle. This committee shall be engaged in fund raising to help defray the short fall in State funding.

All involved enjoyed the night and were reminded to speak the occasional word of Irish to their children in preparation for September. Bhí níos mó ná cúpla focail le rá ag Bridie Marcello as Litir Mhór i gConnemara.

Beir bua,

Jonathan Meade
Oif. Cad. Phob.

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FEATURES (September 1991)

MUINTIR MA NUAD Mrs. Margaret Walshe, The Green, Maynooth

Though a native of Co. Mayo, Mrs. Walshe has come to look upon Maynooth as home. Mrs. Walshe is a quiet spoken gentle woman who came to Maynooth so that her son John could have a place in St. Raphael's school in Celbridge. It was Mrs. and Mr Walsh's commitment to family life which made them decide they would rather leave Mayo than be separated from John. It was a tremendous upheaval for Mrs. Walshe to be separated from her family and friends but Maynooth proved to be a very welcoming and friendly place, especially towards John. Mrs. Walshe has managed to keep in touch with all her friends and family in Swinford, Co. Mayo, to where she and her family return at least once a year. Friends, however, are easily made in Maynooth and Mrs. Walshe has many here, especially Leo and Rosie Bean. Social life for Mrs. Walshe now centres on the Old Folk's Committee, especially the monthly parties at which the atmosphere is great. She particularly enjoyed this year's annual outing to Bray. Memories are treasured of a country dance 39 years ago when Margaret O' Neil from Boholla met and fell for Mr. Walshe from Straide.

Romance continued to visit the Walshe family when their son met his American wife while she was studying in Maynooth College. There are no grandchildren yet but Mrs. Walshe is hopeful. Michael's brother Frank, the monumental stone mason, stayed closer to home marrying a local woman, Irene Mc Cluskey.

After 21 years in Maynooth, Mrs. Walshe has seen many changes in the town, for instance the greatly improved bus services. Not that Mrs. Walshe has much need for the bus, preferring as she does to do all her shopping in Maynooth itself. Maynooth she feels now offers everything a person may need in the way of shopping. And there's nothing she enjoys more than going around the shops being greeted by her own friends and those of her son John.

Keeping busy is second nature to Mrs. Washe, rising at 7 o' clock each morning and regularly attending morning mass. Her day is filled with housework and her flower garden, and with baking delicious soda bread and tarts. But there is always time to stop and receive a visitor with the easy graciousness which is the mark of a truly gentle woman who has lived her life at peace with herself.



Mrs Margaret Walsh with her son John in Mayo



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SERVANTS, LABOURERS AND TRADESMEN OF ST. PATRICK'S COLLEGE MAYNOOTH, 1911

This piece is the edited result of a more detailed project that was completed in 1996. It is particularly appropriate for the millennium issue of the Newsletter because it looks back to the beginning of the 20th century Maynooth and because it highlights links between the St. Patrick's College and the wider community of Maynooth.

St. Patrick's College was established by an Act of the Irish Parliament in 1795 through representations of the Irish Hierarchy. In 1869 it was established as a Pontifical University and it has been recognised as a College of the National University of Ireland since 1910. Now it comprises three institutions, the National University of Ireland, Maynooth, the pontifical University and the Seminary of St. Patrick's College.

In addition to Stoyte House, built at the end of the eighteenth century, new buildings were added over the years - St. Joseph's Square was completed on three sides by 1839. Logic House and Rhetoric House were built in the 1830s. A grant was received to permit the building of St. Mary's Square in 1845. The College Chapel and Spire were completed by 1902. The living quarters comprised seminarians' rooms, servants' rooms, kitchens, pantries, senior and junior refectories. In 1911 there were 551 seminarians present. Seven Sisters of Charity looked after the infirmary, kitchens and pantries.

The census return shows that there were game fields, ball alleys, and a swimming pool, fourteen stables, coach-house, harness room, calf-house, twelve cow-houses, eleven piggeries, boiling house, two barns, one turf house, one potato house, two workshops, three sheds, two stores and one laundry.

There were sixty-eight servants in St. Patrick's College at this time, sixty-five of whom 'lived in'. There were twenty-seven labourers and eleven tradesmen employed by the College and all except one came from Maynooth itself or within a half mile of it. Three female labourers worked in the vegetable garden on a seasonal basis. A female servant was also employed to clean the new College Chapel.

All 'live-in' college servants were male, single and Roman Catholic. Two higher servants, the cook and butler, lived in Leinster Street and Main Street respectively. The birthplace

of the college servants shows that they came mainly from Meath, Kildare and the City of Dublin. This is also the pattern for those servants who had left the College in that year. The policy of recruiting non-local labour was in keeping with the pattern of servant recruitment in general - for example 39% of country houses had no local labour and a further 35% only had one local person. Recruitment was by word of mouth mainly, but references would have been required. The majority of the servants in Maynooth College were under thirty years of age. There was a high turnover of servant staff in the College - seventeen had left the College between May and September 1911 (these were replaced along with twelve extra). The frequency of changing their job was a commonplace occurrence for servants in Ireland.

The Census Report for 1911 show a population for the town of 886 (435 males and 451 females). This was a decrease on the 1901 figure of 948. There was a reduction in the number of houses from 227 to 207. Horner (1995) states that 'the early twentieth century stimuli that sustained the town over much of the previous century were weakened'. College building work was completed. Carton Estate owned by the Duke of Leinster was in decline. Dawson's shop was expanded and became a general store but most of its staff - three assistants, two apprentices, two domestic servants did not come from Co. Kildare. The manager Thomas McGloin came from Co. Donegal. Other employment would have come from Maynooth Manor Mills, Laundry (established in 1887) and local farmers (Horner, 1995).

The occupations of servants within the College, classed in terms of 'professor's servant', '1st delfman', 5th kitchen boy' and 'corridor servant' reinforced boundaries and a hierarchical structure. The rates of pay for servants were comparable to the national average. A general servant was paid £9 - £20 per year, this range is reflected in the wage range for servants within the college, the lowest pay being £2.10.0 per quarter up to £5.4.0 per quarter. The average wage for a 'superior' cook was £30 - £40 per year between 1910-20. The College cook (non live-in) was paid £50 in 1911. The characteristics of servant employment in the college reflected those of general servants in country houses in rates of pay, frequency of change of employment, occupational hierarchy and recruitment practices.



Breda Flaherty, Kilmacredock, who was conferred with the B.A. degree in Maynooth on November 11th 19 . Breda is the daughter of Seamus and Máirín Flaherty. (Dec. 1987)



Larine Players, Carol Barton and Mary Burke, rehearsing for "Womberang"

The community of Maynooth and indeed much of the surrounding area was saddened by the recent death of Mrs. Brigid Saults. Affectionately known as Brigie by her large circle of friends, she resided at No. 9 Parson Street, and passed away on May 1st at James Connolly Memorial Hospital, Blanchardstown. In her 82nd year, she possessed a wealth of local information and history which she was always willing to impart to the many people who sought her advice and guidance on local matters. Her ability to retain memories of history and past events was a unique distinction which very few could emulate. She had a great love of verse and prose and this was only surpassed by the deep love she had for her late husband John, her sons Willie and John, her daughter Christina and grandson Conor. Whilst not a native of Maynooth her love for the local community knew no bounds and she was always ready to defend the good name of her adopted town whenever it was threatened. Having worked in St. Patrick's College for many years, the high esteem in which she was held by the college Authorities was hall marked by the large number of College priests who were present at the arrival of her remains at local St. Mary's Church.

The great sense of grief felt by the whole community was aptly displayed by the large gathering of mourners at her internment in Laraghbryan Cemetery and was an indication of the great respect in which she was held by all who had the privilege to know her. Indeed it was a pleasure and a wonderful experience to have known her and to have savoured her many sayings and anecdotes.

Being the writer of several poems and articles of local interest, she will leave behind a legacy for which the community will be forever indebted.

Her passing leaves a great void which will be most difficult to fill and we will be all the poorer for her passing. She has now departed for a life among all the other great characters who have gone before her. Being one of great love and affection we can rest assured that she will leave the Great Gates Open for those of us worthy to join her.

She is survived by her sons Willie and John, daughter Christina, grandson Conor and her brother Bill.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a hanam.

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Club, Organisations and Societies (July 1998)

MAYNOOTH SWIMMING CLUB

We are now in the last term for this year. Fees are now due and be made payable to any committee member or supervisor on the bus.

Our AGM will be held on June 24th in Caulfields back room. It is important that as many parents as possible attend this meeting for the on-going success of the club which is run on a voluntary basis.

We would especially like to have parents of children on the lengths bus will have to be discontinued as from September. This is our 30th year running successfully, and we hope with the co-operation of parents and Committee members we can continue to run for the next 30 years.

Hope all our members have a great and safe summer and we shall see you all in September.

P.S Family swim is on 27th June. There will be no transport for this swim.

Application forms will be given to the children to fill in for September 1998 and need to be returned as soon as possible if they wish to keep their places.

Patricia Moynan
P.R.O. Outgoing



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MAYNOOTH NEWSLETTER



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CONFIRMATION DAY IN MAYNOOTH 2002



Lisa McDonald with Family.



Marie, Ann Louise and Bridget Stokes
with Family.



Gerry Healy with Family.



Niall Higgins and his father Keiran.

Issue No. 291

March 2002

Price

Tributes (October 2001)

Bridie O'Brien – An Appreciation

The recent death of Bridie O'Brien of Leinster Cottages, Maynooth was a shock to the community of Maynooth who had come to respect her for her work on behalf of others and for her genuine commitment to improving the quality of life for the people of the Town.

A lifelong member of Maynooth Labour Branch, Bridie's work on behalf of the Labour Movement was acknowledged when she was elected Honorary President of Maynooth Labour Branch in 1985. On many issues her opinion was sought because of her practical straightforward outlook. Her guidance and advice along with her comradeship will be sorely missed by her comrades in the Branch.

Bridie's involvement in community work is well recognised. A founding member of Maynooth Community Council and Maynooth St. Patrick's Day Committee, Bridie was also an active member of the Maynooth Trees Committee and Carton Avenue Action Group.

Bridie O'Brien was above all else a dedicated Mother and her love and attention for her children Olive, Kenneth and the late Catherine was evident in the happiness of her home in Leinster Cottages. Bridie's love of her children extended to her grandchildren Stephen, Tara, Jason and Donal and to her great-grandchildren, Aoife and Antonia.

Their's is the greatest and most immediate loss and I pray God to grant them the strength to bear the cross that they have been given. I offer them my deepest and most profound sympathy in this their time of great sadness. Bridie's work for Maynooth, which she carried out unselfishly, is widely acknowledged and she has set a standard for all of us. Her work must be continued with the same grace and dedication that were her hallmarks. We have lost a good friend and dear neighbour.

Ar deis Dé go raibh a hanam.



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MAYNOOTH G.A.A. CLUB

Founded 1876. One of the oldest clubs in the country. The club helped to found the Association in the country and have been there ever since. They captured the senior title in 1913. Since then they have made a lot of attempts to stop in senior ranks but without success. They have won the Intermediate final on five occasions. They have also shone at hurling and won their first titles at the turn of the century. Their black jerseys with white sash commemorate a great Gael! Thomas Cullen, killed while playing for them in 1889. In 1966 they officially opened their new club grounds and their new social centre in early 1995.

Most prominent players who have served our club and country well include: Josie Murphy, Peter Delaney, Jim Nolan, Tom Nolan, Tim Twomey, Dan Buckley, Eddie Dunne,

Fred Leavy, Brendan Edwards, Liam Farrelly, Joe Nevin, Eddie Kavanagh.

In 1990 a committee was set up to promote hurling in their club. This has shown to this day as they are fielding teams in all grades, and in 1992 they won an under-sixteen hurling league and in 1993 won a minor 'B' hurling championship, so the future looks good for the hurlers.

Back in 1984 when they won a junior 'B' championship and junior league. Before that back in 1976 when they won the Jack Higgins Cup. That year they beat St. Kevin's in the final.



Maynooth 1936 Leinster Leader Cup Winners

Back row: Mick Gaynor, Paddy Dunne, Barney Masterson, Joe Moore, Dick Underwood, Peter Delaney, Tim Tyrell (Captain) Joe Murrin (sult).

Front row: John Jo Cahill, Benny Farrelly, Jim Nolan, Sonny McGovern, Jack Connolly, Seamus Burke, Tom Connolly, Paddy Reilly.

Sitting: Paddy Cahill, Michael Mulreid (mascot), Josie Murphy.



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Tribute to Pearse O'Connell (June 1996)

From the drumlins of Monaghan to the Esker of Lucan, ending up in the plains of Nuada, M. P. O'Connell journeyed through two generations of Maynoothites. These 35 years have seen an enormous change from the mainly rural to present urban satellite town of Dublin.



Just as the College campus is divided in two, the four-teacher school of 1961 was also divided, with young Mr. O'Connell taking second class in the hall, now Barry's newsagency — while Frank Walshe and his two cohorts held court up the Moyglare Road. The streetside schoolroom had its disadvantages, especially in the lack of playground facilities. You could set your clock by the procession of Second Class boys marching around Pound Lane up Buckley's Lane, returning to the Main Street. It had the advantage of a dance hall next door, where drill and P.E. were introduced.

Pearse's interest in music and singing is reflected in his dedication to choral work and voice training. The grá he instilled and the perfection he encouraged is echoed in the harmony he achieved.

The fruits of his deep, varied interest in sport was soon to be reaped by the youth. His influence in sporting achievements in Maynooth extended through successive decades. This interest was not confined to the *crème de la crème*. His sport for all philosophy shone through. His interest and dedication to sport was national, varied and embracing of all codes. He was the theorist and the constantly active participant and motivator. This ethos is evident in the school and its hinterland, as past pupils continue to utilise leisure time usefully.

Tempus fugit — the years rolled on. From 1961 to 1971 Maynooth B.N.S. was unique — as it was a lay secondary top school — in which children continued their education in primary school to Leaving Cert. In 1965 the first pupils sat Leaving Cert. In 1971 Maynooth Post Primary opened — product of the Free Education Revolution. Mr. Walshe resigned, having indelibly left his educational mark in Maynooth. Mr. O'Connell took over the onerous post as Principal — assisted by Mr. Patrick O'Connor and Joseph McBride.

From 1971 to 1996, during his tenure, Maynooth has expanded. The school was extended in 1975 and now boasts a 16-teacher staff. Mr. O'Connell proudly and efficiently steered his teaching career through the exciting waters of change in education.

During those years, he worked in close co-operation with Fr. O'Riordan, Fr. Duff, Fr. O'Higgins, Fr. Supple, Fr. Walshe and the present chairman of the Management Board, Fr. Cogan. He always received the full support and confidence of his school staff.

I am sure everybody would wish to associate themselves with the sincere wish that he enjoys years of health, happiness and success. Good wishes are also extended to his wife Eén, his ever-supportive pillar of support, and his four children. His two sons are David, aged 26, and Ronan, aged 25. His daughters are Shauna, 21, and Fiona, 13.

PRESS RELEASE!!

COONANS ACHIEVE PRICE OF £106,000 FOR BUNGALOW IN KILCOCK

Coonan Estate Agents, Maynooth, achieved a record price of £106,000 at auction last week for a detached 4-bed bungalow at Dollanstown, Kildare, Co. Kildare. The bidding began at £70,000 and the property was placed on the market at £100,000. This strong price reflects the unprecedented increase in demand for property in the general area since the advent of the M4 motorway and easy access to Dublin. Coonans report a price increase of between 8% and 10% for property in the Maynooth area and their recent sales reflect this. They are currently looking for a similar property for a disappointed under bidder who is relocating to the North Kildare area.

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Features (June 2002)

BRADY'S

Bradys "Clock House"



In the recent past we have seen the closing of the Mill and the Mart but with Bradys "Clock House" having been recently sold Maynooth is losing one of its oldest and most popular families.

Established in 1896 by the Pitts family the pub has traded since. Mrs. Pitts took on a young apprentice in 1923. That was when Phil Brady came on the scene. A teenager from Laragh Gcadone, Co. Cavan "of which he was very proud" was to become one of the best known and liked members of the community. Phil, still a very young man, took over the pub in 1923 and this started a long and cordial relationship with the local community. The clubs including the G.A.A., Soccer, the St. Mary's Brass & Reed Band and many other organisations owe a lot to Phil for their being and survival.

Not alone in Maynooth but all over Ireland, especially the West, Bradys was the landmark most known in the town. No! It was not the college, the Mart or the Mill, but mention Maynooth and the first thing you were asked was how was Phil and mammy, as his wife Breda was affectionately known. A teacher once preached that if you went to Paris and not to the Bastille then you were not in Paris. To visit Maynooth and not go to Bradys then you weren't in Maynooth.

Then in 1935 a young domestic science teacher Breda came to the College. From Ardmore in Waterford "of which she was also very proud" she married Phil 3 years later and formed the basis of the Brady family. Phil and Mammy had 9 children, one of whom died tragically in a cot death. Ann, God rest her soul, also died tragically in a road accident in England leaving two young children. Eileen, Claire and Angela are very successful in their professional careers.

The young menfolk make their living in the business end. John owns a thriving pub in Waterford, Jim likewise in Wexford. Ossie has just retired having sold his ham processing business in Straffan and now Noel is retiring with the sale of the home base in Maynooth.

The kindness of the Brady family will never be forgotten in Maynooth. Phil who died in December 2000 just short of his 94th birthday and Breda died in 1998 at the age of 79 R.I.P.

Any child entering Bradys will remind you that they were first presented with a glass of lemonade, bag of crisps and a bar of chocolate. Phil regarded them with respect as he would say rubbing his hands "my future customers". No one left Bradys hungry or thirsty whether they had money or not. Mammy who was always proud of her culinary craft would set up food at the shortest of notice. The stories Phil and mammy had over the years would take books to cover. As Joxer would say "they were a darlin family" and Maynooth will be, despite prosperity, a much poorer place with their leaving.

All that is left now is to wish Noel a long and happy retirement with his golf, his daughter Mandy and his new grand daughter Rebecca.

Good luck and best wishes to all The Brady Clan and thank you for a long and loyal service to the community. Silim nach mbeidh a leithéid áris ann.



When two fond fools together meet,
Each look gives joy each kiss so sweet
Pleasures the burden of the song
Toying and playing all day long
When wed how cold and cross they'll
be
Turn upside down and then you'll see



Unsung Memories and Heroes (April 1999)

If published, this Newsletter may well be the last of this series. We hope not.

From the first 2 page pamphlet produced by the late Ted Kelly and his team, to the black and white issues of the first Community Council, to the issue of today, introduced by the reconstituted council. So just in case I would like to reflect on the people scenes and events of years gone by, many of which did not merit mention in Cannon Balls and Croziers.

Many residents will recall the weekly Cattle Drives from the area and through the Village. Every Tuesday evening cattle were driven on foot to the Cattle market on the North Circular Road in Dublin. The many talented drovers, "Tipperary Tim" being the most notable, who drove through the night. The weekly parade of "Turfmen" with their ponies and carts, from Donadea, Coolcarrigan and Timahoe, the Hynams, Gills, Dempseys, and many more. Some delivered locally, other to the western suburbs of Dublin, where early morning travellers witnessed the scene of the carts tipped up under which these men spent Friday night on the disused Tramline on Cunningham Road before continuing their deliveries and return on Saturday night. The old square was crammed with much relieved ponies while some of the turfmen partook refreshments in the local hostelrys.

One omission that cannot go without mention is Stillorys R.C. choir and choir master Frank Walsh, who in the years 1945 - 1949 made five live broadcasts on Radio Eireann, a mighty achievement in those days.

Many will recall the Horse Racing achievements of the late beloved Dr. Paddy Osborne and his Horses Alice Maythorn and Prince Blackthorn at Fairyhouse and Punchestown.

The wartime parish Council instituted by the Late Rev. John Flynn C.C. this co-op provided allotments at the Parish Hall and pebble Hill for those without gardens, and Turf Plots on the bog. On page 130 of Croziers and Cannonballs mention was made re the impact of World War I I on the people of Maynooth, but nothing of our many pre war emigrants, and indeed those girls and boys who emigrated to Britain for work in those days, joined the army, Navy and R.A.F., others the U.S. or Canadian armies and served with valour and distinction in Burma, Italy, Normandy and on the North Atlantic convoys. Some alas lie today where they died. There were in those days, unsung good Samaritans, who were generous to all without monetary gain. Three in particular who rowed in with their help in all emergencies voluntarily. One elderly small holder awoke one morning whilst her husband was in hospital, to find the cow milked, the milk cooled and canned, cow and calf, pigs and hens fed, firewood prepared, later in the evening found the hay which had been cut, cocked and other chores done by persons unknown, afterwards to be identified as Paddy Burke. To Sue Harte who had cycled six miles from Kellystown and Joe Murphy, all now sadly deceased. These chores were completed before they began their work, and again afterwards.

People today are generous, but there is not to be found the equal of these unsung heroes and there were many more like the above.

There is so much more to recall, neither time or space or perhaps no Newsletter to publish them.

Perhaps this scribes efforts may encourage others to remember and relate what I have omitted in some future local publication.

Robin O'Reilly

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Features (July 1998)

MAYNOOTH GAA CLUB CUMANN LUTHCHLEAS GAEL MAIGH NUAD CROM ABÚ

A SHORT HISTORY

Maynooth is one of the oldest clubs in the country. Hurling was played in Maynooth in 1875, nine years before the founding of the GAA in 1884. Maynooth won their first Kildare Championship in 1896 and represented Kildare in the Leinster Championship that year. The team captain that year was Domhnall ua Buachalla, who subsequently took part in the 1916 Rising and afterwards he was sent to Knitsford Jail and Frangoch Camp. He was elected to the first Dáil in 1918 and he was the last Governor-General of Ireland. He died in 1963 at 98 years of age. The playing of Gaelic Football in the town can be traced back to the same year that hurling started in the town. A number of challenge games within the parish have been recorded before the foundation of the GAA and since the start of official games within the county the club has never failed to affiliate a team. The footballers had to wait much longer for success than the hurlers, and did not achieve their first success until winning the County Junior Football Championship in 1913, a year in which the hurlers also succeeded in winning the Hurling Championship. This team went on to win the Club's only Senior Football Championship in 1914. Further success was denied to the club until they won the Minor Football Championship in 1927.

Team Colours:

The Maynooth Club jersey (black with a white sash) originated from a tragic accident in 1889. A young Maynooth player, Tommie Cullen, was fatally injured in a game against the "Blunts" of Monasterevan on 21st May, 1889. A monument to Tommie Cullen was erected by the club over his grave in Laraghbryan and the club jersey was changed in his memory.

The Geraldines

In 1958 Maynooth GAA Club set up a separate club - the Geraldine Schoolboys' Club - to cater for boys aged 10 - 16 years in football and 10 - 18 years in hurling. The Geraldines won the County Juvenile Hurling Championship in 1963 and County Minor Hurling Championship in 1965. Three of that Minor team (Pat and Michael O'Brien and Brendan Edwards) won Leinster Minor Hurling Medals for playing for Kildare in a special championship for weaker counties.

Recent History

1976 was one of the most successful years for the Maynooth Club. The Club won the Junior Hurling League and the Junior "B" Football Championship. The footballers then went on to shock the Junior "A" championship, St. Kevins, in the Jack Higgins Cup final taking this trophy to Maynooth for the first time. The hurlers were beaten in the Junior Hurling Championship Final in 1976 and 1977 and finally won it in 1978, beating Moorfield 5-4 to 0-4 in the final.

The next major success came in the GAA Centenary year, 1984, when the Club again won the Junior "B" Football Championship and the Junior Football League. In recent years, until 1994, success in both hurling and football was confined to the Juvenile players. In fact for many years the club failed to field a Junior or Minor Hurling team. 1993 was a resurgence of hurling the Club with both a Junior and Minor teams being entered in both League and Championship. The Minor hurlers won the Minor "B" Championship, bringing a Minor trophy to the Club for the first time in twenty eight years. 1994 was a very successful year for the Club. Our footballers contested three championship finals, junior, junior "B" and under 21. The highlight of 1994 was the winning of the County Kildare Junior Hurling Championship. This victory moved our hurlers up to Division 2 Senior League and into the Intermediate Championship.

1995 brought long awaited success in football with the winning of the Junior Football Championship, and elevation to intermediate status.

The priority for the club in the coming years is the acquisition of additional pitches to cater for the growing number of youngsters interested in playing hurling and football. The club is anxious to play its part in integrating newly arrived residents to Maynooth.

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SHARON OR YVONNE

Features (September 1997)

TOM ASHE RETIRES



After twenty six years of service to Maynooth Post-Primary School, Mr. Thomas Ashe has announced his resignation from his position as principal of the school. He has taken us all by surprise. His extraordinary achievement in turning around the fortunes of this technical school to one of the best educational establishments in the country has been remarked upon continually during my seventeen years in Maynooth. However, I first got to know Tom Ashe through my work with the Community Council when we collaborated on a common project shortly after I became Chairperson in 1987. The Community Council has met in the school for most of its life also. On behalf of the Council I would like to thank him for this facility. During this initial period, his ability to work, his directness and getting to the point became increasingly clear to me. I was very impressed by his total dedication to his school, students, staff and parents, a quality which became more obvious to me as my children later attended the school. His energy knew no bounds and his interest never waned. During the last six years the addition of further rooms and a huge hall to the school are a measure of his outstanding devotion.

On a personal level, selfish level, I am sad to see Tom leaving before my second daughter completes her studies. I admired and concurred with his educational philosophy and his emphasis on the total development of the student. The introduction of the Transition Year was a welcome expansion within the school. His devotion to students was often well beyond the call of duty. The small number of rules, the openness of the staff with the students and the maturity with which problems were dealt with were, I believe, due to his influence. He knew his 650 students well, something which never ceased to surprise me. The measure of his achievement culminated in the Irish Times education correspondent recognising Maynooth Post-Primary School as one of the best schools in Ireland. I was delighted, proud and lucky to have my family educated there. I hope that in the future his philosophy will continue to bear fruit. The school is a monument to his love of education, students, staff and parents. I wish him a wonderful retirement. I shall miss him tremendously. I do not think I will be alone. I hope his successor will have the maturity to continue with his legacy.

Thanks for everything Tom, on behalf of the Community Council, the town, my children and myself.

Muireann Ní Bhrolcháin
(Secretary Maynooth Community Council)

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HAPPY NEW YEAR



MAYNOOTH SENIOR CITIZENS COMMITTEE

With Autumn well underway most people's thoughts turn to the depressing, long Winter nights, but not us. No, we look forward to our club re-opening, party trips etc. Our morning club is in full swing since September and our Halloween party and fancy dress parade will take place on Sunday October 17th in the Post Primary School at 3.30 p.m. So on with the thinking caps and come up with something spectacular. This shouldn't prove too difficult as there is a lot of food for thought in the news at the moment. With "pillars of society" making such entertaining "gaffes" at the moment the choice is wide and varied. So make an effort, give us a good laugh and we'll give you a good prize. Don't forget everyone in the area from sixty upwards is welcome to take part in all our events.

Speaking of Halloween, may I remind those of you living alone that this is also a great time of excitement for our younger folk. It can be very noisy with "Bangers" and Bonfires". If you have pets keep them indoors as they can get very frightened and run away. Now a word to our young people. Do let older people living alone know what's happening, as the unknown can be very frightening. If you are calling to houses of older people living alone just keep your Grandparents in mind. Somebody like you somewhere is calling to their door. Would you like them to be frightened?? Have fun, but please temper it with consideration of others.

And while I'm at it may I remind our older people and their Carers and once again about safety and security in the house. We continue each Summer to put smoke and personal alarms in place as the need arises. However the system will only work with care and co-operation. So please ensure that all open fires are protected, chimneys are kept clean and newspapers and clothes are kept well away. Avoid smoking in bed. Test smoke alarms and make sure they work. If they are ringing occasionally, the battery needs changing. Safety chains should be on doors before they are opened to callers, but they should not be left on in case someone needs to gain entry in an emergency. Never admit anyone to your house unless you know them. If you are unsure phone someone. Remember the motto, "if in doubt, check them out". Avoid climbing, as bones are easier broken than mended. Keep your larder well stocked with imperishable foods, as our winters can be unpredictable. Stay warm, room temperature

should not drop below sixty five degrees (65°) which is clearly marked on your "room temperature guide". Hypothermia is a real danger at this time of year. This advice is intended to instil caution, not fear. Safety and security is just common sense. With a little forethought, many incidents and accidents could be avoided.

Our "Sale of Work" takes place this year on Sunday November 21st. More about that next month. Just remember the date, our survival depends on it.

A reminder to our Committee members, including our new members, that our monthly meeting takes place on Tuesday October 5th at 8 p.m. in the Health Centre. (Beside fire station).

Finally may I wish Agnes Murphy and Ted Connolly, both of whom are in hospital at the moment, a very speedy recovery and hope to see them both back with us very soon.

*Josephine Moore,
Chairperson & P.R.O.
Tel. 6285206
(October 2000)*



Betty Tracey and Florrie Wansboro relaxing after the Summer

Bank of Ireland Maynooth



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS



FROM

**The Manager ,
Peter O' Reilly
And Staff**

**would like to wish all our customers
a Merry Christmas and a Happy New
Year**

Tel: 01 6286 811

FEATURES

EYE HEAR (August 1995) Award

A local barman received an award of almost £5,000 in the Labour Court during the month from a local publican. After a long-drawn-out case he was successful in his case against unfair dismissal.

Great Machine

While watching a modern machine laying kerbs at great speed on the new road, I was reminded of something that happened two years ago in the Main Street. I was having a pint in the local when my friend's young son came in very excited, calling his father out to see a combine harvester laying far on the street. Versatile machines those combines.

Local Muggings

Earlier in the month our well loved character, "The Guy" was attacked and robbed of £15 as he walked along the canal.

Two youths were attacked in Pound Lane last week and were lucky to escape when some friends arrived on the scene. This town is getting pretty rough and we cannot blame the students at this time of the year.

On a very serious note, locals are disturbed to hear of the recent muggings in the town of some very popular and decent people. Anthony Malone was robbed of money in the vicinity of Harbour on Monday, June 19th. Many people were equally abhorred at the mugging of a College Green resident on Sunday, July 9th. He was set upon and relieved of a sum of money and his keys. Sheila Munzor also recently had to take refuge in her car, at The Square, as a gang followed behind her. They hung around briefly and left empty-handed. All we can say is may these thieves have no luck out of their dirty deeds.

John Can't Say "knees Up"!

The very active committed local Councillor, John McGinley, appears to have run up so much mileage in the service of his clients that he was worn out a knee joint. John, who is presently using a crutch, has had all the fluid drawn from his left knee and has had all sorts of micro-examinations performed. It sounds like a case of the wounded helper. We wish John a speedy recovery but now we know his weak spot.

Mattie's Noble Mission

The ever-busy community activist Mattie Callaghan will miss the opening of the same day. Mattie is not one to put his own satisfaction first and the fruits of

his labours might bring a bit of luck our way.

Pitch and Putt Against The Clock

To say that Martin Fahy, Timmy Lovely and Donal Finnan could turn what is supposed to be a relaxed game into a pitched battle would be putting it mildly. Apparently they were trying to iron out some internal disagreements. On Sunday, July 9th they whipped, clanged, swung, hammered and battered their around Tony Bean's course with growing ferocity as Sunday closing time approached. In fact the nearer the 2 p.m. deadline came, the more anxious they became, as fear of NOT dropping pints loomed over them. Despite their rivalry they "welcomed" Martin' win, as it finally enabled them to wedge their way inside the door of their favourite hostelry.

THE ONE THAT GOT AWAY!

You might think from our photograph that you are looking at Sunset Boulevard - yet in actual fact it is the Main Street in Maynooth. During the mini-heat-wave we experienced at the beginning of the month, the staff of the Community Council were startled to see a white limousine pull up outside on the street.



Norah decided to investigate and on stepping onto the street thought she saw the "Godfather" himself - Marlon Brandon! Hoping she could get THE interview of the year, Norah made a B-line for the car. Sadly, the chauffeur drove away too soon and Norah just managed to get this picture - which she has entitled, the one that got away!

Tributes (October 2001)

Fond Farewell to Gearóid Mac Teighrnáin (1916-2001)

At the funeral services in the College Chapel on 10th and 11th August, fulsome recognition was given by Fathers Stenson and Sinnott of Gearóid's role as husband, father, grandfather, Christian, railway worker, gardener and community activist. Complementing these qualities was Gearóid's commitment to Irish Republican ideals. Born on Easter Monday 1916, he was influenced in his native Leitrim by the then leading Republican, John Joe Mc Girl. Gearóid became an active member of Sinn Féin in Maynooth during the mid-1900s and often recalled with pride the occasion when he was chosen to deliver an annual Easter 1916 commemorative oration at the Republican graves in Celbridge cemetery. He counted among his friends many of the Maynooth men who fought in the 1916 Easter Rising and supported efforts in the town to mark their contribution. During the recent Troubles in the North he did not support the activities of the IRA but never wavered from his principles and continued to proudly wear his tricolour badge in his lapel.

In the 1990s he was an active member of the Winchester Three Support Group; Maynooth Miscarriages of Justice Group; Maynooth Peace, Reconciliation and Justice Group; and the local contributions to mark the 75th anniversary of the 1916 Rising and the bi-centenary of the 1798 rebellion. More recently he supported the Local History and Civic Forum and contributed many nuggets of knowledge to the booklet *Exploring Maynooth - Five Self-Guide Historical Walks*.

A quite-spoken man, Gearóid's style was not to push his views, but rather to support and encourage those with whom he chose to work.

Sincerest condolences to his six sons, their wives and families.

Gearóid, may the good earth of Laraghbryan rest lightly upon your breast.

Gan dabht, ní fheicimid do leithid arís.



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Christmas Market
Tuesday 21st December 11.00 am - 4.00 pm (no entrance fee)



MAYNOOTH FAMILIES IN 1911

Main Street: Carroll, Dawson (grocery and hardware), Dawson staff, Redmond (hotel), Dawson, Bagnall, Pitts (pub), Corrigan and Hackett (grocery), McGowan (spirit grocer), Mooney, Martin, Weafer (carpenter), Cleary, Fitzgerald, Green, McMahon (tailor), Blake (grocer), Keeley, Lyons (dressmaker), Carr (painter), Farrell, Connolly (grocer), Cahill (butcher), McGuire (governess), McCarthy (dressmaker), Kennedy (cycle/motor engineer), Doran, James Coughlan (butler) & Margaret (district nurse), Glennon (boot and shoe maker), Domhnall ó Buachalla (ceannuidhe), Haughton (victualler), Matthews, Keely (lodging house), McDermott, Fulham, Caulfield (draper), Fagan, Keane, Mullen, Magee, Meade (confectionery shop), Bean, Murtagh (lodging house), Smith, Caulfield (post office), Keely (barber's shop), Printers, Swithwick (tailor), Matthews and curham (bootmakers), Keely (bricklayer), J.P. Keys (ex N.T.), Patrick McDonnell C.C., Fulham (carrier), Caulfield (draper), Fagan (butler), Keane, Mullen (harness maker), Magee (jarvey), Meade (shopkeeper; dressmaker; A. Wilson - postman; James Murphy railway porter), Bean (carpenter), Murtagh, Caulfield (sub post master).

Doctor's Lanes: Leavy, Newman, Fleming, Broad, Lettices, Dempsey.

Double Lane: Scully (tailor), Dunne, Mulligan, Reilly, Sullivan (fish dealer), Kirwen, Bristley, Costelloe, Murphy, Leavy (shoemaker), Fahy, Mullen, Hanlon, Bourke, Keaney, Dowling, Donnelly, Nolan, Sherry, Weafer (carpenter), Waldron.

Dillon's Row: Gorman, Brady, Dunphy, Caffrey, Mahan, Bailey (groom), Connolly, Murphy (slater), Doyle (butler), Doyle.

Dublin Road: Shaw (gate lodge), Duffy, Fulham, Kiernan (farmer), McConnell, Finnerty (watchman), Reilly (carrier), Murphy.

Fagan's Lane: Sherry (dressmaker), Keane, Kirwan, Kelly, Murphy (carpenter), Berns, Magee, Meaney.

Leinster Street: Canning, Fox, Little, Raleigh (blacksmith), Dempsey (coachbuilder), Flood (carpenter), Coyne (postman), R.I. C. barracks - sergeant and constable, Finnegan, Buckley, Fitzsimons (grocer), Maguire, Brady, AcArdle (mill manager), Carney (chemist), Kavanagh (cook), Wogan (coach bodymaker), Kavanagh (miller and corn merchant).

Daniel Mannix was President of St. Patrick's College, 767 persons in seminary, seven Sisters of Charity.

Railpark: Dixon, Grady, Kiernan, McGovern, Regan, Byrne, Kelly, Dempsey, Cassidy, Chambers.

Parson's Street: Flaherty, Farrell, Wallace, Sauls, Dunne, Hynes, Dunne, Mooney, Holbrook, D'Arcy, Kelly Doolan, Agnes Smith (housekeeper in the Rectory: the Rector and his family were in Portugal), Gallagher, Kelly, Gibson, Burke, Reilly, Reilly, Kearney, Leavy (blacksmith), Delaney (slater/plasterer), Sauls, Nolan (blacksmith), Kearns (coachmaker), Costelloe (railwayman), Murphy (tailor), Thornton, Hyland, Kenny (lodging house), Kenny.

School Lane: Newman, Rourke, Mullen, Conway, Boyde, Conway, Bennett (shepherd), Dempsey, Quinn, Farrelly (shepherd), Keaveney, Carroll, Farrelly, Dignam (butcher), Harley, Donovan, Kelly (lodging house), Horan, Thompson, Fallon, Gray, Kelly, Edward Browne N.T.

Back Lane: Murray, Hyland, Waldron, Higgins, Boyd, Finnerty, Sheridan, Fitzgerald.

Convent Lane: 22 Presentation Nuns and 3 servants. The oldest nun was Sr. Ann McNamara (92) from Co. Meath and the youngest was Sr. Bessie Cagney (20) from Co. Cork. Cogan (tailor), Moss, Shadwell (dressmaker), Mooney, Neill, Doyle (shoemaker), Conway, Fleming, Mangan, Dowling (groom), Finn (blacksmith), Doran, Kearney, Coyne, Boyd, Bagnall (coach builder and dressmaker), John J. Martin ex N.T., Gough (engine driver).

Court House St.: Constable Michael Nolan, Perry, Keane (carpenter), Dr. Stanley Moore (surgeon and physician).

Newtown: Nolan, Fay, Thompson, Greene (farmer), Mahon (farmer), Farrell (farmer).

Mariaville: Coyne, Dempsey, Craughwell (victualler), Weafer (carpenter), James Hunt P.P., Walsh, McGrath (farmer), Ward, Treacy, Dignam.

Greenfield: Nolan, Dowling, Reilly, O'Neill, Reilly, Coughlan.

Other people who were not householders:

Hannah Roache (milliner), Angeal Scanlan (typist), Emma Bagnall (teacher), Lilian Fitzgerald (Queen's nurse), Peter McMahan and Elizabeth Tully (post office clerks and telegraphists), James Greene (shoemaker), John Green (insurance agent), Margaret McCaffrey (lace instructress), James Keely (hairdresser), John Boyd (postman), Annie Carr (teacher in convent).

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Originals in National Archives.

MILLENNIUM EVE MASS

At sunset on the last day of the 20th Century the Maynooth Community assembled at 4.00 p.m. in St. Mary's Church to celebrate the ending of the century. Millennium candles were lit at sundown. St. Mary's Brass and Reed Band, all choirs and children from the local schools participated.

On New Years Day a yew tree was planted in the Church grounds.

Past Newsletter Staff



Back Row: Ann Marie Thompson, Donal Fitzpatrick, Lorraine Tracey, Fiona O'Connor
Front Row: Michael Murphy, Nuala Noonan



Left to Right: Edna Horton, Alan Monahan, Michael Hughes, Greg Stevenson, Mary McMechin, Pius



Left to Right: Collette Flynn, Nancy O'Neill, Sheila Charles, Anne Wakeman

The Emergency by Jack Cleary



Jack Cleary
Second in Non Literary Section
of Essay Competition

The 31st September, 1939 was a day to remember, when world War 11 broke out and was to continue until 1946. Anybody who remembers that period will never forget it.

By way of rationing and ration cards, all household goods and hardware of every kind. Petrol too was very hard hit. Only one coupon to the gallon very month per HP was all you were allowed, after that it was black market, at £1.00 per gallon, when it was only 3/6 at the pump.

Groceries were worst hit, especially the 1/2 oz grain of tea, very little to do, for a week cigs were very scarce. There was always a rush when they were seen coming to the shop and it was under the counter from there on, unless you were prepared to buy American ones and they were terrible. Nothing escaped rationing from the bit of soap down to the polish on your shoes. I knew of one blacksmith who used to make bootnails, necessary for men working in the mines.

Fuel was always hard to get. The bogs were very much in demand, as they had to supply all institutions and as for coal it was like gold. Hardware and building material were also hard hit, you were lucky if you could get a pound of nails and cement was very bad on ration too. I knew of one landlord who tried building a mud house, but after spending a lot of money on thatching etc., it collapsed. Labour was very cheap then, I built a a bungalow and the carpenters wages were 10/.

per day without food. I found it hard to sell afterwards to £600 in 1946.

Security was very important during those years, there was the LSF and LDF. It was necessary for the LSF the local security Force to do night duty in the event of paratroops being dropped from enemy planes. Damfile had some bombs dropped on a cemetery and in Dublin at Fairview and Eastwall, suffered very bad.

One funny incident I will never forget, as being a great follower of the GAA to get to al the matches was so important, whether it was the old bicycle, if you were lucky enough to have a good pair of tyres.

Anyway a few of us decided to ask one local man, who possessed an old Model T Ford. He was fairly bulky, about 16 stone. Once he was installed behind the wheel was hard to shift. He did all his direction work with a referees whistle. He obliged us by driving us to Kilkenny, (any port in a storm) but on our way there, Tom blew the whistle and announced we had a puncture. All had to get out only to find there was no spare, he had a brain wave, we had to go to the side of the road and pull a bundle of grass and stuff same under the tyre, all well again, Tom blew the whistle again, but I regret to say the final whistle had gone at the match when we got there.

Electricity wasn't heard of until 1926, when the Shannon scheme started, but it took years before it reached the general public. Where could we be without it today, everything is done by pressing a button now. It was very hard to see the departing of the horse from the farm who, for so many years kept us in our abroad and butter, what a contrast today, are we happier or better off? There was nothing better to look at than a harvest scene, the twine binder in the golden field of corn.

Next to go was the lovely old thrashing set, how we enjoyed the days thrashing, big shopping had to be done to cater for about 25 men for the day including 1/4 barrel of porter and minerals.

So to finish wouldn't be complete without old accordion and knock sparks out of the floor with a dance.

Jack Cleary
3, the Square, Maynooth

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Toy Sale Friday 3rd December '04 - Lots of Bargains for Christmas



The Maynooth Badminton Club first team, winners of the League & Cup in the Dublin district League.
 From left, front row : - Nora Feeney, Olive Guest (sub) Maura Feeney, and Michelle Guest
 Back row:- Michael Doyle, John Kennedy, Kevin Tracy, and Declan Quigley.
 Missing from the photo is Elizabeth Kennedy who in fact played in all matches but could not be present for the picture.



June 1979

Right: On the occasion of his retirement.
 archdeacon Fisher and Mrs Fisher receiving a
 presentation from Mrs Kinahan



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WISHING ALL OUR PATIENTS A PEACEFUL CHRISTMAS



TEN WAYS TO SURVIVE CHRISTMAS

1. Don't drink. Let me rephrase that - don't drink that goddam awful alcohol free lager. There's enough 'no-alcohol' in five pints of that stuff to wreck your stomach for life. It has been scientifically proven that the 'no-alcohol' reacts with the lining of your stomach to produce a substance not unlike paint stripper. After five pints of 'no-alcohol' lager your head is as clear as a whistle but your guts feel like a pound of raw mince in a food mixer. You have been warned.

2. This Christmas sexual harassment at the office party is out. The Judge Thomas case has brought the whole thing out in the open to such an extent that an unsolicited pinch on the bum is likely to be met with an unsolicited punch on the jaw. So girls, keep your hands to yourselves or suffer the consequences.

3. Avoid relations - of the family kind. Mental breakdowns reach a peak at Christmas time and it all has to do with being cooped up in the house with snobby sister-in-law, boring uncles and aunties of marauding kids intent on replaying Desert Storm in the front room. They'll drink your whiskey and smoke your cigars and sometimes even worse.

4. Drinking and driving is not funny so use public transport. And getting the old train out from Connolly can lead to all sorts of adventures. Like last Christmas Eve after the office party I caught the Sligo train at 6.30, settled down for a little snooze and work up at 9.35 in Collooney. Luckily I was able to hitch a ride back to Maynooth with Santa Claus on his sleigh and arrived home at 5.30 a.m. on Christmas morning. At least that's my story and I'm sticking to it.

5. Remove some vital component from the TV very early on Christmas morning. This is guaranteed to give you a few days' relative peace and you won't have to watch "Murder on the Orient Express" for the eighth time. "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang" for the seventeenth time and RTE's Christmas Special for the first time. This year it is rumoured to feature Hal Roach and Daniel O'Donnell though

there may be some comedians and singers performing as well.

6. In the quiet days after Christmas take some long walks. Around Maynooth there are some seldom trodden paths which are well worth exploring - Kingsbry to the pub, Cluain Aoibhinn to the pub, Greenfields to the pub, Moyglare Village to the pub, Railpark to the pub ...

7. Socks for the men, silky black underwear for women. Anyway I find it useful to have a simple list when going Christmas shopping. That way you avoid confusion and you can buy all your presents in one or two shops. Make sure to label your presents clearly. Unfortunately, last year some slight confusion arose in the distribution of my presents and Uncle Jim hasn't been the same man since.

8. Three days before Christmas carefully assemble all your credit cards, Banklink cards, Pass cards etc. and systematically cut them up into little pieces. That way you will have an interesting jigsaw to play with over Christmas and, as a bonus, you'll save yourself from going bankrupt.

9. Don't presume you should be having a good time. That's not what Christmas is about. But in the old days people made their own entertainment at Christmas. Sitting around the cosy turf fire they played cards, told stories and bored each other to death. Of an evening they would sit around the wireless and as a special treat on Christmas night they might even turn it on ...

10. Finally, and most important, some special advice if you happen to meet Santa Claus on Christmas Eve. First of all, do not offer him a bottle of stout and a mince pie. By the time he gets to Maynooth he will be completely flustered and is likely to have eaten several thousand mince pies. He may however, accept a glass of Andrew's Liver Salts. This year there have been strong rumours that Santa may retire and indeed a few weeks ago he survived a 'no-confidence' vote in Toyland at the North Pole when 22 very bold elves voted against him. All that is behind him now but it still might be best not to mention the word 'retirement'.

Clubs, Organisations and Societies

Maynooth County Champions

Scór na nÓg 2001 - 2002

Maynooth GAA Club created history once again by winning the Scór na nÓg Club of the Year Trophy for the first time ever!!! We are now the proud holders of the Junior Club and the Senior Club of the Year. This just proves that not only can our members play football, hurling, camogie or handball, but they are talented dancers, singers, musicians, actors, and full of knowledge!!!

Six out of the eight competitions at the County Final were won by Maynooth which was held in Allenwood before Christmas. We then travelled to the Downs GAA Club for the Leinster Semi-final, where Maynooth represented Kildare in Céili Dancing, Solo Singing, Recitation/Solo Singing, Novelty Act, Question Time and Set-Dancing.

We were up against some very stiff competition. However, Caitiona Higgins, our recitation representative, and our Céili Dance team qualified for the Leinster Final. We are now one step away from an **ALL IRELAND FINAL**. We now travel to Ballinakill, Co. Laois on January 19th to once again keep the Maynooth and Kildare flag flying. Hopefully we will have some good news to report in next month's newsletter.

Senior Scór

We are now busy preparing for Senior Scór. Anyone over 17 years of age are eligible to take part. Can you dance, sing, tell a story, play Irish music, answer questions on G.A.A. and General Knowledge??? We **need you** to be part of our Senior Scór team. We will be having our version of "popstars"!! Irish style up in the GAA Club in February where we will be "talent spotting". (Don't worry, Louis Walsh won't be there!!!) Watch out for posters around the town and come along to the GAA Club. I am sure that there is a wealth of talent waiting to be discovered!! Ring Rita Doyle at 01 6286169 if you would like to know more details. Remember, we need **YOU** to help us retain our Club of the Year Trophy.

Rita Doyle
Maynooth Scór Co-ordinator



Dominic Nugent GAA, Rita Doyle Scór Co-ordinator with Dance Champions



Céili Dance Champions



Rita Doyle Scór Co-ordinator presenting Scór na nÓg Club of the Year Trophy to GAA Chairman Fergus Devereux



Céili Dance Team - County Champions



County Champions

MISS ROYAL CANAL 2001



Miss Royal Contestants November 2001



Matt Kennedy & Norah McDermot presenting the Winner's Trophy to Emily Gunn



The Overall Winner
Emily Gunn representing
The House of Bali



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Tracie Burnell representing
The Straffan Court Hotel

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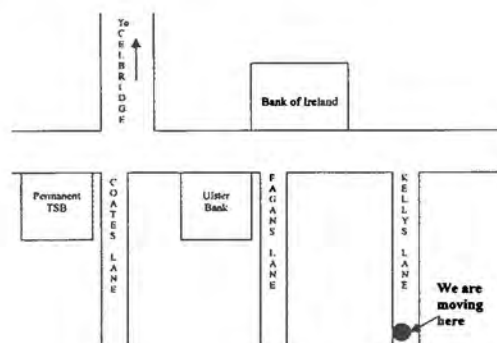


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