

THE LEADER

ImL. 1 Uimh 3

SEPTEMBER 1988

S
L
I
E
V
E

F
O
Y



S
H
O
W
B
A
N
D

THE SLIEVE FOY SHOWBAND IN THE SIXTIES.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Leo Brennan talks about the Slieve Foy

Sport

News/views

Children's Page

Gossip

Women's World

Features

Guess Who?

*****A MAGAZINE FOR ALL THE FAMILY*****

M

EAGARFHOCAL

As a community magazine, it gives us great pleasure when we get feedback from the readers. As a result of that feedback, this month we bring you part one of an excellent short story from a very creative young writer from Dunfanaghy, Martin O'Hara. Martin is a member of the extremely popular band "Sugarfoot". Also in this issue, we include a "comment" column where a member of the public expresses his opinion on important issues. This month's contributor is Sean Gallagher from Letterkenny, who has many interesting things to say. The message is - Carry on writing.

Our next edition will go on sale on September 30th. The last date for receipt of all material is Friday September 23rd. Again, we'd like to thank you for supporting this magazine, and to thank our advertisers, without whom it would not be possible.

L'ESPRIT DE JOURNALISTE

The Earwigger doesn't just keep his ears open, he also keeps his eyes on the going ons of this wee country. He recently noticed with amazement a pornographic magazine based in Belfast entitled ESPRIT. The magazine is very interesting as it features many girls from Northern Ireland (Donegal included ??) in many strange positions with almost every item of clothing removed from their saintly bodies. The Earwigger noted with what can only be described as amazing amazement that one of ESPRIT's enthusiastic hacks (the media slang for journalists) spent a weekend in Dublin compiling a report on the forty massage parlours in the city. What is so amazing about is that, I hear you ask, my faithful reader? The fact is that this reporter (???) visited all forty massage parlours during his weekend and also availed of the services provided by those estab-

lishments. Now for those of you who don't know, most of Dublin's massage parlours are nothing less than houses of disrepute where dirty old and young men go to get "unwound" (nice word that). In the report featured in ESPRIT, the reporter gave each massage parlour a star rating and wrote comments about his experiences at each one. Among his comments were "a grotty little dump", "this place would be great if you were into old women", "the girls here can give you a really good rub-down", and "I was well-knead there" (I'm lost too). The ESPRIT hack also had time to visit some of Dublin's most respectable drinking establishments. The Earwigger feels that the reporter must have great esprit himself to be able to last out the whole weekend. Forty massage parlours in one weekend, phew...

EARWIGGER



Meet Twins Ciara and Ciaran MacCormack. The cute little pair belong to Eileen and Paul MacCormack, Ard O'Donnell, Letterkenny and were one year old on August 28th.

TEAGUE — — DIVER

Canal Road, Letterkenny

"Let's Go Renault"

Excellent Deals



Tel: (074) 22600
(075) 31153

(L/Kenny)
(Gweedore)



Eugene Gallagher, Thorn Road, Magherannon, Letterkenny, pictured with his 1964 Ford Anglia Super Deluxe. This lovely little blue car is still in use and motoring strong after 24 years. She had one careful previous owner and Eugene who runs Gallagher Electric acquired her when she was traded in against a washing machine and a gas cooker. "The back seat's a bit rough", says Eugene, "but that's to be expected from that era". "By the way", he added, "I'll loan her out to any couple wanting a second honeymoon". They just don't make cars like this anymore!

ACHTUNG ATTENTION
AIRE... Students of the local Regional Technical Colleges and Post Primary Schools are invited to contribute articles, photographs, gossip, cartoons, news, etc. to the LEADER, Lower Main Street, Letterkenny. By the way, welcome back to academic life. Happy studying.

APOLLO
window blinds
ALL TYPES OF BLINDS
CUSTOM MADE
LOUVRE, ROLLER, VENITIAN
**Port Road,
Letterkenny**
(074) 24555

DO IT YOURSELF WITH...

Paint Timber Screws Nails
 Handles Knobs Curtain Rails etc.

Everything for the Professional or Handyman or Woman from

D.I.Y. Centre, 18 Lr. Main St., Letterkenny
Phone (074) 21485

Wall Tiles - Floor Tiles

See our fantastic display of ceramic wall & floor tiles for
 Bathroom Shower Kitchen Hall Porches etc.

Special offers now on all tiles
 No. 1 for Wall & Floor Tiles

TILE CENTRE, 18 Lr. Main Street, Letterkenny
Phone (074) 21485

SUCCESS FOR SEAMUS AT THE PETERBOROUGH COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL

Following his triumphant performance at the "Peterborough County Music Festival '88", singer-songwriter SEAMUS MCGEE is tipped by Country Music critics as a singer on verge of success on the major British country music circuit. The popular Gweedore vocalist is already firmly established as a major box office attraction on the home circuit, following success with hits such as "Come Home Danny Boy" and "Ireland '88".

SEAMUS MCGEE and his band first came to prominence when they won the coveted "Newcomer's" accolade in the RTE Radio "Keep It Country Awards" several years back. Since then Seamus has enjoyed success on the recording front with titles such as "Tonight Mary-Ann", "Slán a Ghra", "Lonely Women Make Good Lovers", "1982" etc. He appeared as guest artist on RTE shows from "SBB" to "Trom agus Eadrom" and appeared several times with Derek and Thelma on "Live at 3". The versatile performer has appeared on stage with such legendary country names as Slim Whitman, George Hamilton IV and The Bellamy Brothers.

Last year's SEAMUS signed a new recording contract with Unicorn Records. His debut single for the label, a co-composed number "Come Home Danny Boy" made the Downtown Radio playlist and zoomed into the Radio 2 na-

tionwide charts. His follow-up "Ireland 88" is enjoying likewise popularity. To coincide with his forthcoming British tour, Unicorn Records will be busy promoting "Wake Up", a track from his forthcoming album. Following his "Peterborough" appearance SEAMUS MCGEE is causing a buzz of excitement on the country music scene and winning many new friends as a result.



Seamus meets George Hamilton 4th
 at the Peterborough Festival



Well the Summer's over (what Summer says you) and we're all looking for something to do to pass the long dark nights. This year's Letterkenny Folk Festival Queen Sabine Voordeckers has the right idea because she includes among her hobbies; squash, swimming, socializing and a bit of crack. Sabine who is a legal secretary with O'Gorman and Cunningham speaks fluent French and gives grinds to Leaving Cert. students - in her spare time. The lovely Sabine is, believe it or not, a Letterkenny girl - honest; but her dad hails from Belgium, which explains the not too-Donegal sounding name.

but a great range of other weapons and gunners equipment was also recovered.

The Armada Exhibition was officially opened by H.E. Dr. Jose Antonio de Yturriaga Barbaren, Ambassador of Spain, and Mr. John C. Nolan, director of the Ulster Museum, on Tuesday September 6th. The exhibition will run for one month only - SEPTEMBER - after that the material will return to the Ulster Museum, where a major exhibition is being staged in October 1988 to January 1989.

Donegal County Museum opens from Tuesday to Saturday 1.00pm to 6.00pm. School groups should arrange special visits. Admission is free. Make use of this opportunity to see this great exhibition!

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

ARMADA '88

GEOLOGY IRELAND WEEK 12-17 SEP.

ARCHAEOLOGY IRELAND DAY 24 SEP.

KEEPING THE PEACE - A PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE OF IRELAND EXHIBITION

CARDINAL O'DONNELL EXHIBITION - A HUNDRED YEARS.

THE ARMADA RETURNS

DONEGAL COUNTY MUSEUM, High Road, Letterkenny, is showing in September an Ulster Museum special exhibition on the Armada. The objects on display in this unique exhibition were retrieved from the Spanish galleons - the Girona and La Trinidad Valencera, the latter ship-wrecked off the Inishowen Peninsula. A commemorative plaque was unveiled on September 4th at Greencastle, to the men and crew who perished when the ship sank after heavy storms in September 1588.

At least five Armada ships were known to have been wrecked off the Donegal coast, as they were trying to make their way back to Spain after their defeat by the British.

A brief description of the Armada Exhibition at the County Museum is as follows:

The Armada ships were fitted out with every aid possible to the 16th century sailor, such as navigational dividers, astrolabes and sounding leads. They also had a complete range of equipment to deal with military and day-to-day needs.

A wide range of upper and lower decks tableware came from the Girona and La Trinidad Valencera. Silver forks, Silver-gilt dishes,

pewter plates, silver jugs, and candlesticks were provided for the Girona's commanders. The ordinary sailor and seaman had pottery and wooden crockery and cutlery.

Apart from the items expected on board ship, the Armada yielded some magnificent pieces of jewellery and clothing. These artifacts, recovered from the Galleass Girona and La Trinidad Valencera, provided a wealth of information on the Coins, jewellery, clothing and attitudes of the 16th century. A wonderful treasure of 405 gold and silver coins and splendid examples of Renaissance jewellery came from the Girona. From La Trinidad Valencera came leather shoes and 600 pieces of textile including silk ribbons and braid, a gold velvet collar and woolen gaiter.

From the wreck of La Trinidad Valencera came brilliant evidence of the fittings of 16th century sailing ships as well as all the equipment needed to carry out all maintenance work.

On board the 130 Armada ships were 2,431 guns of all types and sizes, cast from bronze and iron. The most impressive were the giant siege guns from La Trinidad Valencera,

Leo Brennan's contribution to the music industry, both locally, nationally and internationally could not be described fully in one book, never mind a few pages of this magazine. As the most popular member of the Slieve Foy Band, and the father of three members of the internationally known Clannad, he has done his fair share for music. In this, the first of a two part interview, he talks to Ronan MacCormaic about his family and the Slieve Foy Band.

Where did your family come from ?

Well, we were touring around Ireland at that particular time. I'd started in 1939 with my parents when I left school. I was born in Sligo and I went to school in Ormeath, County Louth. My parents bought a place and I went to school there. When I left school we went on tour. I came up to Donegal around the mid-forties. We toured the county as the Connacht Concert Company. At the end of the concert we'd have a wee dance. It was an extra added attraction for getting people to come. It was kind of Ceili and old time. My parents then rented this two storey house at the end of the road (in Min na Leice) It was the start of the organised dance band business in the area. There was little or no dance bands in the area. We were the first of the organised bands.

Why did you call it the Slieve Foy band?

We called the band teh Slieve Foy because that's where we went to school, in Ormeath County Louth. The Slieve Foy mountains are there. That's where we got the name.

Who was in the band at the start ?

My father Harry, my mother Minna, and two brothers Lala and Tony, a sister Rosemarie and myself. That was at the start in the mid-forties. It became popular. We played old time and ceili, but also playing popular tunes of the day as well. I always got the popular music of the day, the tunes that would be hit tunes of the day. There was always a couple of siege of Venices and plenty of old time waltzes and maybe a highland or a barn dance, things like that. They were all part of the bands playing then.

What instruments did you play ?

I played the accordion, we nearly all played accordions, my mother the drums, my father the piano and Lala the trumpet. Rosemarie played the accordion and sang. Rosemarie and I did most of the singing at that stage. During lent, the first year or thereabouts, there were no dances during lent so Tony went off to Scotland to work during that period and never came back. My dad, he actually died playing at a dance in Middletown, he had a heart attack and he died that night.

Did you take charge then ?

Shortly after that I took over the band. My mum retired and I took on three local lads, Paddy Joe O'Donnell, Danny Ward and Johnny Gallagher. Danny was drumming, Paddy Joe was doing bass and Johnny was playing sax-

ophone and accordion. That would be coming into the fifties. The band took off very big then all around the country. So much so that eventually the emigrants were talking about the band and the promoters over in Scotland and England came looking for us to go over and play to them there. That was in the late fifties - we started going to Glasgow, London, Birmingham, Coventry, places where the Irish were.

Was the music still the same ?

Well, at this stage we had two Saxes, trumpet, bass, drums and accordion. I got married in the 50s in Gweedore to Hughie Doogan's daughter, Maire, and my wife was playing piano in the band in the early years until the family came along. I'm sure you heard people talking about the band, it became quite popular in a way. One year we played for 285 dances alone in one year. There were six weeks of lent that there were no dances in the county.

How much would you get paid ?

The money was very small. You'd be talking about £12 for the whole band. I managed it, booked it, I had the telephone in the house and looked after it in every way. My brother Lala, he did the transport. We divided up the money, left money for transport and a bit extra for myself for looking after it. You'd be talking about one pound ten shillings in the early stages. Actually in the early years, in my mother's and father's time we were playing for six pounds to eight pounds a night. In our early days, Mum gave us pocket money at the weekend, there was no such thing as pay, were were only young fellows running around. Times were very bad here that time, everybody was away working.

Did you work at anything else or were you living off your music ?

Yeah, I lived off my music all the days of my life, which could be very lean at times. In the 50s, then it took off fairly big and as I say, each year as we grew along, we'd revise the prices and raise it maybe a pound a gig or something like that.

How much would it cost to get into a dance in those days ?

In the early days, we played for as little as a four penny hop in Ardara on a Sunday night, from 8 till 12. I remember one night in Amagry playing at a dance and because our band was a wee bit above the average band, they put up the price to one and six, and they boycotted it outside and they wouldn't come in until they took the price down to a shilling again. The prices moved up to half a crown and then up to five shillings - that was in the sixties. Then they priced themselves out of business like. The big commercial dance halls like the Fiesta and St. Mary's in Dunkineely came along then. All the wee dance halls closed down so there was no living for us then. At that time, about the mid 60s, the singing in the hotels to the visitors became quite popular and i would go out and play there. It started to pick up as the other thing faded. Eventually in 1966, the band didn't come out after Easter at all, it disbanded and I went straight into entertaining in places like hotels and lounges. I realised then that it was going to be the new thing. I was a couple of years solo entertaining when i decided that if I would find myself a place and anchor and retire out of it. That's when I bought Meenalect in 1968, and started entertaining here.

Was it successful ?

It was the first singing pub in the area and at night you couldn't get in here, the people used to come here at half seven and eight o'clock from all over, as far as Dunfanaghy, Dungloe, Letterkenny... all over the county, and then there were the visitors in the area. It became very, very popular. It carried on until...the same thing is really happening now in the pubs as happened in the dancehalls - it's being priced out of business. At that time, I think the price of a pint would be about 2 shillings and nine pence. That would be a rough quick scramble to landing where we are today.

(End of part one - next month, Leo talks about Clannad, their early years, their influences and how they became international stars)



Leo behind the bar in LEO'S TAVERN, MEENALECK.

THE MUSIC MAKERS

BY MAGGIE MAY

FlowerPower Returns

Following their sell out concert in the R.D.S. recently, Hothouse Flowers return to the chart race with the release of their new single "Easier in the Morning". Vocalist Liam O'Maonlai and the boys have had a busy touring schedule since their Eurovision Song Contest appearance. Both single "Don't Go" and Album "People" enjoyed chart status throughout Europe, now let's hope that "Easier in the Morning" will show that the Hothouse Flowers are no one hit wonder group.

Daniel On Tour

Country megastar Daniel O'Donnell heads off this month on a major three month British Concert tour. Daniel will be joined once more by Mary Duff as his special guest. To coincide with the tour, Telstar Records will issue a sixteen track album of "Country 'n Irish" favourites, and will be spending over £300,000 on television advertising alone in the U.K. Next month Daniel will be featured on a special edition of ITV's "Highway".

Paperback Edition

"Unforgettable Fire - The Story of U2" is issued in paperback format. Compiled by Eamon Dunphy, it traces the success of the fab four from their early days at Dublin's Mount Temple school, to their current world-wide success. The book issued in hardback last year was a best seller, and this updated paperback edition will enjoy likewise appeal for all fans of Bono, The Edge, Adam and Larry.

Meet Ego Minefield

Letterkenny's latest contribution to the pop scene are a new four piece known as Ego Minefield. The group - Mark Bradley, Martin McElroy, Danny McTaggart and John Lafferty - have been together for some nine months, and have composed some twenty songs between them. Ego Minefield have recorded a five track demo disc with songs like "Just a Day" and "Overload" included. A group with much potential!

End Of The Line

After more than a decade on the one night stand circuit, Pluto have decided to call it a day. The pop outfit enjoyed moderate success, but last year founder members Paul and Mary B quit, while Jody Gallagher and Shaun Deehan revamped the band, adding Dub Paul Ellis as vocalist. Sadly, it seems that live venues are few and far between, and for Pluto the end of an era. The Playboys are our only pop survivors left.

A Hit Song

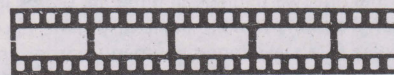
Radio na Gaeltachta will broadcast live the final of "Mol An Óige", and Irish language song contest. The committee would like to invite composers in the 17 to 26 age group to enter the event. Offering a prize fund of £800, the closing date for entries is October 14th. For further data, write to: An Biuro Óige, 7 Cearnóg Mhuirfeán, Baile Atha Cliath 2. Eight songs will be selected for the gala final in November.



VIDEO TOP TEN

1. Masters of the Universe
2. Big Foot
3. Inner Space
4. Flight of the Navigator
5. Dirty Dancing
6. Beverly Hills Cop II
7. No Way Out
8. Cop
9. Full Metal Jacket
10. Sleeping Beauty

Courtesy of Video King, Letterkenny.



THE BOY WHO COULD FLY

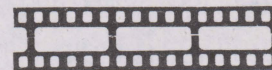
A very special love story from CBS FOX. Amelia moves into a strange new house. She can't believe the boy living next door. He won't speak and spends most of his time on the roof pretending to fly. Then the miracles begin to happen. No one believes their eyes.

Top quality family film with buckets of Charm and entertainment. Cert PG

DISORDERLIES

Rap artists The Fat Boys share the acting honours with Oscar Winner Ralph Bellamy in this funny funky farce. The plot is the tubby trio being employed to look after a bed-ridden millionaire. Unknown to them, his nephew is determined to bump him off in order to inherit his fortune. The gut inevitably manage to save the millionaires life time and time again. WARNER BROS FILM PG

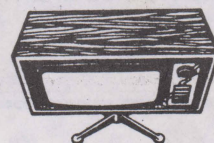
Hilarious Fun.



WHITE GHOST

Starring William Katt. Feared by Viet Cong Patriots who have named him "White Ghost", Shepard can kill a man in the time it takes to blink, and then vanish back into the jungle. When the Pentagon discovers he is still alive, a hardened elite squad of mercenaries are given 48 hours to get him out. But the team's leader Walker has his own reasons for going back, Shepard knows too much about Walker's past and must be silenced.

Virgin Films (18) It is one of the best Vietnam films ever made. Well worth watching.



6

RÓISE RUA

RÓISE RUA,

*Padraig Ua Cnaimhsi.
Sairseal O Marcaigh.*

197 pages, paperback £4.95

This is an Oireachtas prize-winning book which gives an insight into life on Arranmore Island during the first half of the present century. Unlike the islands of the Connamara and Kerry gaeltachts, very little has been written about the daily toil of the Donegal islanders. Only one book as been produced, posthumously, by an Arranmore writer, school teacher Barney Gallagher.

Although the story of Roise Rua is a personal one, we can see in it the life of any islander. To many used to the luxury of modern life, Roise Rua's existence seems to border on the barbaric in it's lack of comfort, it's accounts of exile in Scotland and her periods of separation from her husband. In her tribulations she shared much with her fellow islanders.

There was another side to her life. She was reared in atmosphere which was steeped in traditional lore; storytelling, singing and the various other facets of living which lead to relief from the misery of daily existence. This was the release people had from the drudgery of hardship which so necessary for living. Today, we

use different forms. We have television, bingo and the National Lottery. Roise relied on her own skills to help her through her toil and loneliness. This ability was greatly appreciated by her neighbours.

Although it now appears to us to belong to an age which is lost in the mist of time, it is not that far removed from our great civilisation. In our wisdom we seek to forget the poverty, of spirit and of material matters, of the previous generation. We must be thankful that Padraig Ua Cnaimhsi, in his time as a teacher on Arranmore Island, appreciated the store of lore which Roise Rua held and that he had the understanding to record it.

Writing is a lonely task. Writing on a windswept Atlantic island in the depth of winter is a daunting proposition. Yet the writer continued and we have, today and for future generations, a unique account of Roise Rua, not only of Roise but of the island community. Padraig Ua Cnaimhsi has woven the tale of the island round Roise. This has been a splendid concept. It would not be worth writing an account of Arranmore if it were not for her people. The book gives a wonderful account of life on Arranmore. It will be deeply appreciated by the people of the island and all who are interested in the social history of our people. AN understanding of our ancestors, the pre-occupations

and hang-ups of daily life as well as the humdrum toil they indulged in, gives our generation an insight into our own psyche. We are not an invention. We have been moulded out of the granite and bog of Donegal. The life of our ancestors, Roise Rua and her like, has laid the foundation for our existence. Padraig Ua Cnaimhsi, in his account of Roise Rua, has helped to cast light on that background.

He has done it in a sympathetic manner. He has a great respect for his subject. He uses a language is pleasant to read and leads us to empathize with Roise and through her with the whole community. As well as being a pleasant read, the book offers this insight. The publishers, Sairseal and O'Marcaigh, have produced an excellent book. There is a considerable number of photographs and maps. The initial reports are that the book has been selling very well throughout, but that it has been in heavy demand in the Rosses.

It was launched at a reception on Arranmore Island and the Minister for Finance, Ray McSharry T.D., was in attendance. The book would make an ideal present for the Arranmore Islander living abroad. Put in on your list of Christmas presents and buy it now as it may well have sold out by the time you come to make your purchase. A hardback edition will appear later.

"AN MHAOL MHOR"

Be Careful Of The Stones That You Throw

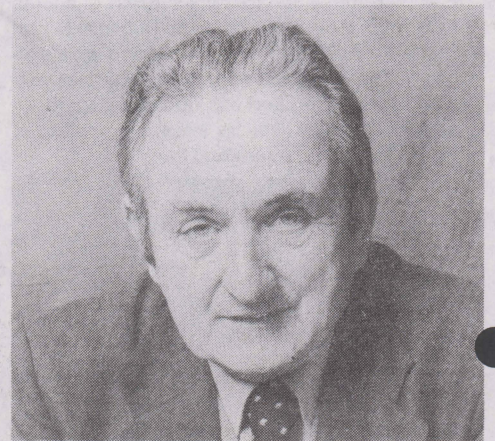
*A neighbour was passing by my front garden one day
She stopped and I knew right away
What was on her mind wasn't flowers
She said you know that bad girl that lives down the street
She drinks and she talks quite a lot
She knows not to speak to my child or to me
My neighbour then smiled and I thought...*

Chorus (dedicated to S.O'D and M.G.)

*A tongue can accuse and carry bad news
The seeds of distrust it can sow
But unless you've made no mistakes in your life
Be careful of stones that you throw.*

*Just then a car speeded by and the screaming of the brakes
A sound that made my blood chill
For I saw my neighbours only child
Being pulled from it's path
And saved by a girl lying still
The child was unhurt and my neighbour cried out
Oh who could that brave girl be so sweet
I covered the crushed broken body and said
That's the bad girl that lives down the street.*

Chorus



Padraig Ua Cnaimhsi.

McDEVITT OIL CO., LTD.
Annagry, Co. Donegal.

Distributed from Ardara to Rathmullan

**SUPPLIERS OF DERV, GAS, OIL
and KEROSENE**

Tel. No. (075) 48122

GET IT OFF YOUR CHEST

I read last month's "Leader" with interest. It's not bad for a start I suppose, but I hope you can improve it and speak out about some of the things that are happening around North West Donegal, something like "Guth agus Tuairim" perhaps, although this seems to be a better quality effort.

There are plenty of topics a paper like this could shout about. I'll just mention a few here and hope they'll be followed up at some stage:

(1) The forgotten west - how North West Donegal is completely forgotten about by the powers that be. No motorways here - just busy, potholed, twisty, bumpy roads built for horse and cart and badly tarred over occasionally by the County Council

(2) Udaras na Gaeltachta - scrap this Irish language pretentious joke,

get off your backsides, stop squandering money and start creating jobs. Leave the language out of it or else bring in the I.D.A. and leave Udaras na Gaeltachta out of it.

(3) Raidio na Gaeltachta - make a few programmes that people will listen to, apart from Deaths. Also, what's wrong with our own Irish, or is Connemara Irish superior? Lastly, if you're going to play pop songs (and it seems that's what the young people want) play them in Irish or English, not in bloody French, German and Swahili.

(4) Who are and where are our T.Ds and County Councillor's and what the hell are they doing for this area, have ever done or will ever have the competence to do ? (but then who voted them in ?)

(5) If there's public money (yours and mine) available for a swimming pool build a public pool that this and future generations can use and enjoy. Built it in Bunwack or anywhere, but make it available for the ordinary people.

(6) Scrap this stupid dole scheme which has men out pretending to be working. Give them a decent wage and something worthwhile to do.

That folks is only the tip of the iceberg. I hope future editions of this paper (magazine ?) delve deeper into every one of the above and also many other scandals that abound in this little old forgotten outpost.

"GLEANN CEO"



The Footpath that could give you a sore head



Sports day in Mullaghduff a few years ago

What is Good Shopping?

- * GOOD VARIETY
- * GOOD QUALITY
- * GOOD PRICES
- * GOOD SERVICES
- * GOOD PARKING

ALL THE BEST FROM
The Builders Providers
"IN STOCK" SPECIALISTS

Where Can You Get It All?

the
COPE

DUNGLOE
(Founded 1906)

Templecrone Co-Op Society, Dungloe

Tel. (075) 21022 Open: Mon. - Sat. 9 - 6



Foireann Ghaoth Dobhair traidhfil blianta o shoin

**Anthony
O'Donnell & Sons**

Annagry, Co. Donegal Tel: (075) 48132/ 48331

**Agents for Finn Valley
Dairy Ltd.**

Lime, Cement, Coal, Briquettes,
Flo Gas Agent



Fashion Show in DUNGLOE six years ago



CORAS SEARACHAIS A DHITH I nGAOTH DOBHAIR

Ta baol mhor ann do shlainte mhuintir Chaoth Dobhair cionnas nach bhfuil coras searachais mar is ceart ins an pharoiste. Cuirtear leis an fhadhb mar go bhfuil na ceadta dabhach searachais ar fud na paroiste agus an chuid is mo acu ro chlosailte do cheile. Ta feachtas ar bun le cupla mi anuas ag iarraidh go rachadh Comhairle na Contae ar aghaidh go prainneach le coras searachais a phleanail siad choir a bheith deich mbliana a shoin. Ni dheanfadh an coras seo freastal ach ar chuid den pharoiste - o Chnoc a Stoilaire go dti 'n Charraic. Tuigtear do'n "Leader" nach bhfuil anseo ach leigheas gearrthearmach ar na deacrachtaí agus go mbeadh fadhb leis amach

anseo coinnas go bhfuil se i gceist fuíollach a chuir isteach san fharrage i bpiopa, rud a dheanfadh dochar do thurasoireacht soicair go dtoicfadh leis an fuíollach theacht arais ar na traionnai.


Chomhghairdeachas le Dinny McGinley, T.D. a ceapadh ina urlabhairi Gaeltachta ag pairti Fhine Gael ar na mallaibh. is ardu mor ceime don Uasal Mhac Fhionnghaile a seo agus is cinnte go ndeanfaidh se an Ghaeltacht a chosaint achan uair a bhfaighidh se seans.

Tuigtear do'n "Leader" go bhfuil caint ar siul i gCeantar Ghaoth Dobhair fa Choiste Cosanta na Gaeltachta a bhunu go h-aitiul. Ni raibh eagraíocht ar bith mar seo sa cheantar ariamh

SAM SPUDZ

CRISPS
SNACKS

Burger Bites
PEANUTS



Irish Snack Foods Ltd.
100% pure & fresh ingredients.
Déanta i nGaoth Dobhair



Ag an Seo
Faisiun i
nGaoth Dobhair
Ar na mallaibh



taobh amuigh do Chearta Gael agus ta gluaiseacht iontach gníomhach ag Feidhmiu i gConamara.

Fair play to Charlie and his team for organising the very successful Back a Bus recently. Congratulations also to Michael Og Hanlon who was crowned King of Maghery. No better man.

Is it true Timmy's getting a job with D.C.R. ?

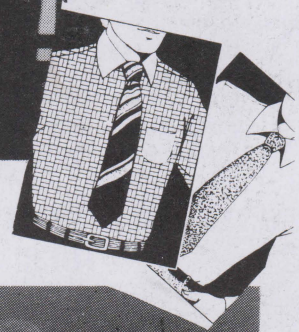
FOR THE FUTURE



PARADE



Club foróige Na DEAGOIRI
cupla bliain o shoin.



The king & Friends



Cool Dudes!



**DOHERTY'S
HARDWARE SHOP**

DIY MIDDLETOWN,
DERRYBEG.
Tel: (075) 31172 **DIY**

D.I.Y. Products, Electrical Fittings, Kitchen Fittings.
Garden Products, Potted Plants and Fresh Flowers.
Typing and Photo Copying Service,



Dedicated Followers Of Fashion

NOISEAIN

Noleen D. agus Eamonn G.
 Sandra S. agus Piaras C.,
 Roisin S. agus Anthony R.,
 Jackie D agus Darren,
 Sarah G. agus Jason S.,
 Mary G. agus Georgie D.,
 Roseanne G. agus Rodney S.,
 Cathy D. agus Ciaran S.,
 Dinny agus N. Rosie,
 Gracie McC. agus Steven B.,
 Annette D. agus Pol McC.,
 Nora F. agus Barney G.,
 Michelle G. agus Seamus O B.,
 Bridgena C. agus Danny B.,
 Brid R. agus Andrew B.,
 Darina L. agus Sean H.,
 Mairead B. agus Maurice (rally driver
 extraordinaire),
 Harold D. agus Caroline R.,
 Geraldine D. agus B
 Gina Q. agus Peter G.,
 Josaphine McF. agus Dan McF.,
 Theresa agus Seamus McG.

**NEVER SEE ONE WITHOUT THE
OTHER**

Tricia W. agus Sarah G.,
 Jimmy T. Mhoir agus cows,
 Niall Mor agus Barra Rotha,....
 Ellen agus Clodagh,
 Eddie agus Pol.



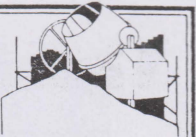
Fancy Dress Parade during the recent very successful first ever Feile Dhobhair.



Cuid den slua ag FEILE DHOBHAIR.

Bunbeg Tool Hire & Equipment Sales (B.T.H. Teo)

SUZUKI



Lawnmowers, Hedgetrimmers, Carpet Cleaners, Mixers, Kango Hammers, Generators, Water Pumps. Power Tools including Angle Grinders, Sanders, Drills etc. for Sale and Hire.

KEY CUTTING SERVICE

Main Agents for Suzuki outboard engines and STIHL Chainsaws.
 Also Stockists of General Hand Tools, Electrical Equipment, Plant Goods

COSHCLADY, BUNBEG, CO. DONEGAL Tel: (075) 31373

LA BREITHE

Kathleen Greene, Loch on lui - Sept 28.
Imelda Sweeney, Dobhar (15)
Michelle Gallagher, Gweedore (16)
Steven McLean, Falcarragh (4)
Carla Devenney, Rann na Feirste (18)
Ciaran Charles McGee, Arduns (1) Sept 27
Elaine Conlon, Gweedore (6)
Paula Whoriskey, Arduns (6) Sept 15.

Sidelines

Kim's advice for someone with a hang-over - "If you play with fire, you'll get your fingers burned".

We wish Marie McFadden who's going to Bolton and Frances McGee who's going to Glasgow the best of luck.

Hello to Suzy, Paddy and all the boys.
 How's the blinds now, Gracie ?

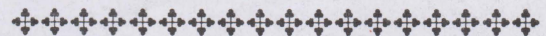


Members of the Donegal Mountain Rescue Team stretcher "Donegal Mary" Anne-Marie O'Donnell off the roof of Letterkenny General Hospital in a fund raising event during the Letterkenny Festival.



Part of the crowd watching the Mountain Rescue Team.

BROGA SNASTA
&
AN GREIM GASTA



BUAIL ISTEACH -
BEIDH FAILTE ROMHAT

THE ATTACK OF THE GIANT LASAGNE

by Martin O'Hara

11

PART ONE: ARRIVAL

The moon hung pale and wan amidst the dark sorcerers cloak which was the sky over Dunfanaghy that night. A large Malayan leaf-nosed bat, which had been blown into town that evening on the wings of a wayward south seas wind current, hung pale, and was just contemplating getting a little wan, on the bow of a tree. The bat sensed a sort of malcontent in the air. No stars shone save one, the North Star, whose benevolent gaze had an almost tangible forlornness about it.

Preserve this scene in your mind, good reader, and allow me your indulgence whilst I explain something of the geology of Donegal, an item which is pertinent to my tale. The geology of this area is a somewhat peculiar thing. In fact, if you were to ask a geologist to describe the area to you, he might liken it to a rather large lasagne. To all intents and purposes then, Donegal (in geological terms) is nothing more than a giant lasagne.

With this in mind, let us then return to the night in question. Dunfanaghy is a quiet town nestling on the rugged shores of Sheephaven Bay on the North West coast of Donegal. Two miles along the bay shore from town, the "Half Moon" disco is doing business.

It was just another night for Andy. Another nice wee crowd, another cellar full of drink sold, all in all he had a lot to be pleased with. He had arrived six months previously with nothing but the transit van that he stood up in, and

now he was the owner of the hippest little disco in the area. Andy had become a well-respected member of the community. Active in all the pertinent debating societies and much in demand at all the most prestigious gatherings. Now, with the bar closed, all that remained to do was to get the crowd out. Andy knew all the tricks, i.e. ear-splitting shouts of "timenow-please"; the grinding whine of hoovers etc. However, Andy's biggest weapon was a massive re-conditioned prop-jet engine he had picked up in a Glasgow scrap yard (his home town). Turning this on produced two quite pleasing effects a) deafening everyone b) plunging everyone into sub-zero arctic temperatures (due to gale force winds expelled from the huge turbines).

With the hall cleared, his employees paid and his tie loosed, Andy strolled towards the back door of his now silent hall. He intended to take a peek at the gathering dawn outside. A little treat. Reaching his ample hand towards the door, an ample hand that was attached to a substantially ample body, Andy turned the handle. Was that a little pressure he felt behind the door? Suddenly Andy found himself wishing he was not alone. Some deeply buried, irrational feeling of dread gnawed at the back of his mind telling him that he shouldn't open the door. "Get a grip Andy", he told himself, his weak voice losing all conviction as it echoed around the dormant black corpse that was his deserted dance hall. He pushed harder this

time and the door, reluctantly, opened. In the three seconds it took Andy's retina to become accustomed to the gloom, his uneasy feeling was transformed to one of indescribably awe-struck horror. In front of him existed the full hideously oozing presence of a 647 ton, blue, yellow and red lasagne. Steaming mince gushed towards his legs, bubbling and convulsing around his knees. Huge layers of undulating pasta quivered above his head. Tiers of tomatoe puree cascaded like blood from the severed jugular of a tyranasaurus, splattering off the ground and engulfing the whole building in it's warm viscous sickliness. Andy reeled and retched tons of ransed cheese erupted out of the ghastly vision in front of him, instantly boiling his jibbering body which was slowly becoming part of the horrible Italian dish.

At that very moment, two miles away in town, the palely hanging (and by now totally wan) Malayan leaf-nosed bat heard a peculiar ghostly humming noise settle in the sky above him. He folded his little bat wings over his head and cursed the world in his own battish way.

To Be Continued.

LITREACHA

RACHEL ATTACKED!

I would like to inform you of my disgust when I read the Rachel Phaidi Hiudai column in your magazine recently. It was one of the most sexist, insulting articles that I had ever read, and to think that this is supposed to be a woman's column. It is nothing less than insulting to women to whom she chauvinistically refers to as "the fairer sex". The women's column should feature items of interest to women, not the kind of trash you printed.

Yours etc,
AN ASHLAWN READER

EDITOR'S NOTE: Fair enough, but what exactly do the women want? Please write in and tell us!



'HIGH NOON', in LETTERKENNY



DONEGAL - GALWAY - DONEGAL COACH TOURS

Ideal for University & College Students

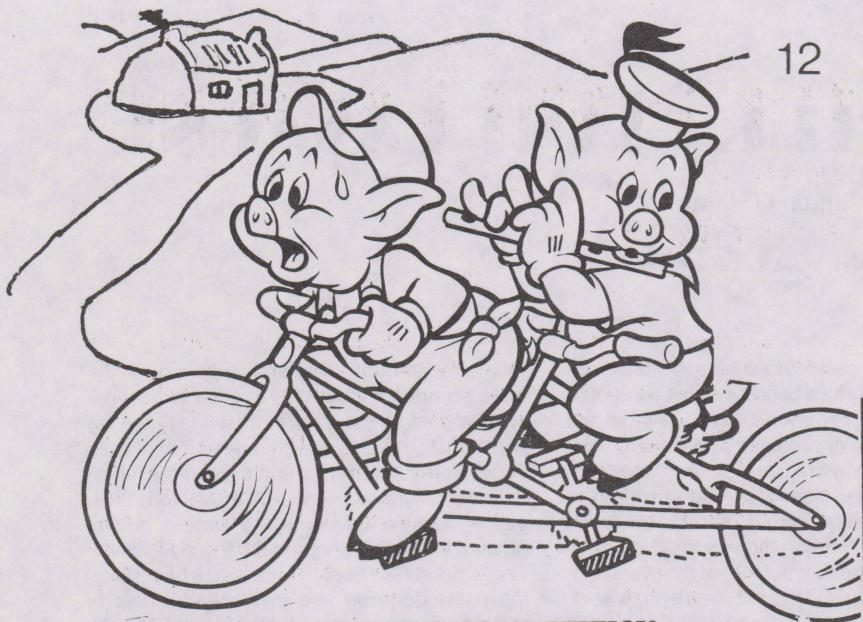
From Letterkenny: (Mon. - Thurs. 9.00 a.m., Fri. 10.30 a.m. & 4.30 p.m. Sun. 3.30 p.m.)

From Galway: (Mon. - Thurs. 4.00 p.m., Fri. 5.30 p.m., Sat. 10.00 a.m. & Sun. 8.00 p.m.)

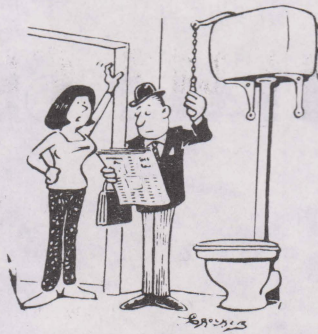
Ideal for Daily Trips to SLIGO and KNOCK

Booking and Enquiries: (075) 48114 or (091) 68421/61656

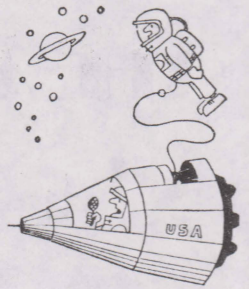
FEDA O'DONNELL COACHES



12



You're home now, dear



'He's just gone out.

Can I take a message?

UNDER TEN PAINTING COMPETITION

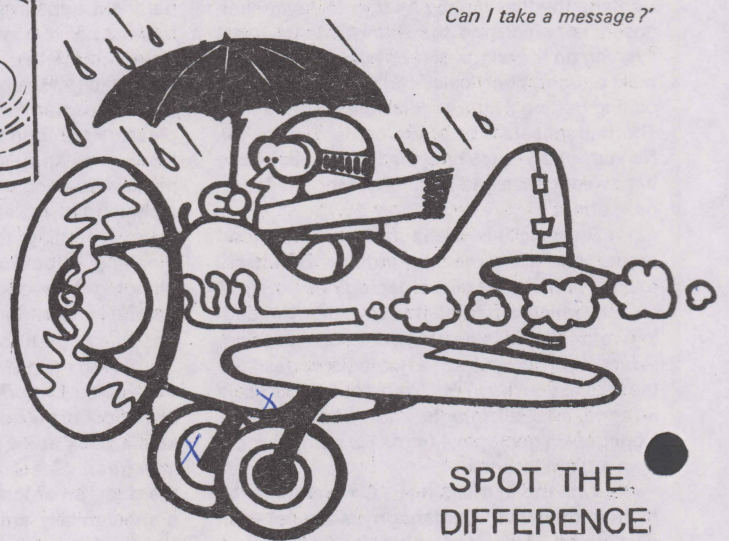
NAME:

ADDRESS:

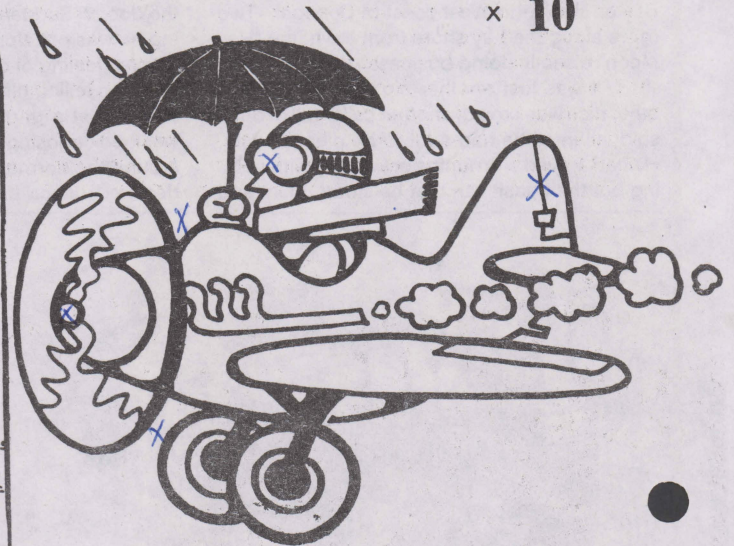
AGE:

Last month's winner: Katrina McCollum (Aged 6), 11 Ashbrook/ Ballyboe, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal. Winner receives Pencilcase, crayons, markers & coloured pencils.

Seoladh: "The Leader", Lr. Main St., Letterkenny.



SPOT THE DIFFERENCE
x 10



SHAPING the EARTH

To combat carnivorous mammals, certain animals develop a **HARD SKIN** or **HORNS**. Some became fast runners.

ANIMALS GROW DEFENSES AGAINST BEASTS OF PREY!

In the last 70 million years, mammals have grown from animals originally **THE SIZE OF MOLES**. Bats grew **WINGS** and have changed little over the last 50 million years. **BEASTS OF PREY** learned to consume both **ANIMAL** and **VEGETABLE FOOD**. Gradually, more and more turned to eating other animals.

The horse, for example, **INCREASED** in size and **LOST** 4 of its 5 toes. It now moves about on the widened top of the center toe and can run much faster than formerly. It also developed a **LONG NECK**, enabling it to spot danger at greater distances.

VIDEO KING
(Opposite Dunnes Stores L/K)
Free Membership

Video tapes for all the family * * * * * Video tapes from 75p nightly

See our new selection of golfing tapes

Special Offer: Three 3 hour blank tapes - 9.99
Maxell E180 - 4.99 3 Maxell LI90 - 3.99

Free Video Magazines for all our Members

STARSCOPE *Le Angelina*

VIRGO (AUG 24 - SEPT 23) Your actions over the past few weeks may not have been what was expected of you and you may have to change your routine to suit the circumstances. You will hear news which will either surprise or shock you. Lucky colour - red.

LIBRA (SEPT 24 - OCT 23) You have probably been feeling very depressed lately but this is just a phase and will pass soon. There will be occasion for a celebration in the near future. Lucky date 6th.

SCORPIO (OCT 24 - NOV 22) There is a journey in store for you which will be a very joyous occasion. You may be troubled regarding the health of a close friend or relative, but have faith and patience. The initial "I" has special significance to you within the next few weeks.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV 23 - DEC 22) You need plenty of work and activity to take your mind off your troubles. But if you compare them with a friend or acquaintance who really has troubles you will realise they are not so bad after all. Do not be afraid to voice your opinion.

CAPRICORN (DEC 23 - JAN 20) There's an indication that an older person may have the solution to a question which has been bothering you for some time. You may be asked to do a favour for a friend concerning someone of the opposite sex. Lucky colour - Orange

AQUARIUS (JAN 21 - FEB 19) A comment which you overheard recently has begun to get out of all proportion and is starting to cause trouble. This matter should be dropped as no harm was meant. You may meet someone who has a lot in common with you. Lucky date 26th.

PISCES (FEB 20 - MAR 21) You are tempted to do something which you don't really want to do. Do not be forced. Make your decision and stick to it. You receive a present which you do not expect. The source may lead to a romantic interlude: Lucky date: 19th

ARIES (MAR 22 - APRIL 20) You may have a visitor in the near future which will upset your routine at home. But it will be a pleasant disruption. Cash is not too plentiful around this time but you could use your imagination and make the most of what is available to you. Lucky colour - Violet.

TAURUS (APRIL 21 - MAY 21) Ups and downs on the romantic front - maybe an unhappy love affair, may have caused you to withdraw from the whole scene. Money matters are lucky just now. Wear blue for luck.

GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21) If you are taking a late holiday you can expect a very happy time. You may be offered some part-time work. Think hard before you decide. Ignore some rumour which may be passing around, don't pass it on. Lucky date - 20th.

The Voice Of The Fairer Sex

Rachel Phaidí Hiúdaí



Well, a chailini, I'm still here. yes, despite the continuing insulting fan mail from so-called "feminists", the editor has decided that I should continue writing (myself and the editor get on like a house on fire, y'see). "Be a little more sensitive" he told me, "we don't want to hurt anyone's feelings". But sure my God, a chailini, I don't want to hurt anyone's feelings. I'm as much a feminist as the rest. I think that we should stop being so serious about sex and all that jazz, let's have fun (and I don't mean anything immoral there!) Let's face it, most of us love men, so why in God's name would we try to conceal the truth. Let's be open about it all, it does the world of good.

THE TOP TEN SEXIEST MEN IN DONEGAL !

This is our chance to get back at the men for insulting us females when we walk by them. Let's whistle at the opposite sex a change. Next month, we'll feature the top ten sexiest men in Donegal as voted by you, the readers. So start scribbling ladies, compile your own top ten (and tell us why you think he's sexy). Also, while you're at it, tell us what you would like to be included in this column, and send ideas, recipes, news, photos, gossip, crack. The address is: Rachel, c/o "The Leader", Lower Main Street, L'Kenny.

Until the next time, bigi maith.

CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23) Usually a thrifty and cautious person, you may buy something on impulse and live to regret it. You must make an important decision concerning some old condition. You could come out poorly if you challenge authority. Lucky colour Pink.

LEO (JULY 24 - AUG 22) A relationship could be terminated which could prove fortunate in the long run. Unusual opportunities through friends and business can help you reach delayed goals.

STAR OF THE MONTH

(Virgo- August 24th to 23rd September)

What is your Zodiac sign ?

How often have you been asked this question. You might be less offended, startled or surprised by the reactions of your friends and acquaintances if you know their signs. After all, you were born with certain personal characteristics which make you a typical Leo, Virgo, Capricorn or Scorpio.

Have fun and enjoy this study of hidden characters of this month's sign:

VIRGO:

Virgos are highly intelligent with great mental powers and they prefer to gain knowledge through their own experience. They are the most practical sign but also the biggest worriers of them all. Virgos are perfectly suited to occupations which require attention to detail. They love to give and serve, but open thanks and praise make them feel awkward. Most Virgos are concerned with health and diet. At some stage, Virgos suffer from stomach disorder. Virgo has a very sensitive stomach. They are the perfectionist of the Zodiac and are critical of others, but even more so of themselves. Virgo might appear emotionally cold at times, but there's a white heat to Virgo. Love, once it is ignited, it can put the passion of other signs to shame by its very intensity. Igniting it may take some time however !! Virgos are good listeners, the Virgo person often stays alone in life or marries at a late age. They never forget birthdays, anniversaries and special occasions.

Virgo is compatible with: Libra, Scorpio, Capricorn, Taurus, Cancer and Leo.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS

1) To prevent tea leaves floating to the top, add milk first. 2) Keep stock cubes in the fridge so they crumble into a fine powder instead of becoming soft and lumpy as they do when left in the cupboard. 3) When you need to take a break from painting, wrap the bristle of your brush in kitchen foil. This keeps them soft and saves you washing and drying them.

CARROT CAKE (serves 8)

1 Cup Brown sugar 3/4 cup corn oil 2 eggs 2 cups flour 1 teaspoon baking powder 1 teaspoon baking soda 1 teaspoon cinnamon 1/2 teaspoon salt 1.5 cups grated carrots 1 cup desiccated coconut & chopped nuts

METHOD: 1) Mix carrots, sugar, coconut and nuts in a bowl (large) 2) Add baking powder & baking soda to flour and sieve into the mixture in bowl. 3) Pour in oil and mix well. 4) Add eggs, one at a time. 5) It is important to use same size cup throughout recipe. Place in well greased sandwich tins. Bake at 350, gas mark 4, for 40 mins.

FROSTING: 8oz Philadelphia Cream Cheese. Enough icing sugar to achieve dropping consistency

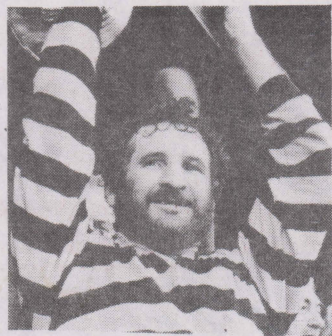
METHOD: 1) Beat cheese and icing sugar 2) Use 1/3 of mixture in centre of sandwich 3) Pour remainder over cake and decorate with walnuts.

GUESS WHO 14



FOCUS ON ALLEN McCREA

LETTERKENNY R.F.C.



Full Name: Allen McCrea
Birthplace: Londonderry
Height 5" 11'
Weight: 14.5 st
Position: Wing Forward
Previous Clubs: Larne, Ballyclare, Luxembourg, Ashbourne
Married: Yes, to Sandra
Favourite Players: Willie Duggan, Colin Patterson
Favourite Other Team: Ballyclare
Most Difficult Opponents: Donegal Town
Most Memorable Match: Forster Cup Final
Biggest Thrill: Winning Forster Cup
Biggest Disappointment: Losing in the 3rd round last year
Best Place Visited: Greece
Favourite Food: Lasagne
Miscellaneous Likes: Coaching Courses, Coaching youth in general
Miscellaneous Dislikes: People who talk about things which they know nothing about.
Favourite T.V. Shows: Emmerdale Farm and Glenroe
Favourite Musician: Noel Sweeney
Favourite Actor/Actress: Steve McQueen
Best Friends: My wife and rugby players
Biggest Drag in Rugby: Cancelled matches and unsociable teams
Honours: Captain of Forster Cup winning team Captain of Letterkenny 5 times Picked for Junior Ulster Trial
Biggest Influence on Career: John McCarroll, ex-capt of Rugby club
Football Ambitions: To play until I'm 45
Personal Ambitions: To be rich
Which Person in the World Would You Most Like to Meet?: Mike Gatting, captain of the English Cricket Team
Signature:

Allen McCrea

GUESS WHO?

1. The Baikie Clan. 2. Look left. 3. Ownie's Bar, Aug. '79. 4. Photographer. 5. Who is this young lad? 6. Geisha girls. 7. Candid camera. 8. I like the style. 9. At the hop. 10. Mary II giving me a hand or taking a hand at me? Angela and Pauline. 12. Hello Dolly! 13. Music lovers. 14. Cailini R. na F. 15. THE best hockey players in town! 16. Brian and Customers. 17. To cap it all, Mrs. Sweeney and O'Donnell read "The Leader". 18. Gotcha! You got me and I got you. 19. Sally and the Bonners. 20. Michael having a wee snooze! 21. Neil and Dinny not speaking. 22. Ted is hungry and would love a Mars Barr! 23. Ah! ha, ha, ha 24. The ladies love Charlie! 25. Young Doherty. 26. Mrs. McD. & Co. 27. Five having fun. 28. Way back when. 29. Now, now, Marie! 30. Happy helpers. 31. True Love? 32. Mary, Pauline at School Disco, 12/2/82. 33. Charlene and Nicholas five years ago. (Some things never change!) 34. Windyhall Ladies. 35. Scorpio Revellers. 36. Keadul 1982. 37. Miss Stephen Roche! 38. Gra mor i gceist?

RESTEX BEDDING CENTRE

Pinehill Industrial Estate, Mountain Top,
Letterkenny. Tel. No. (074) 23009.

RESTEX

Manufacturers of Top Quality Bedding invite you to our Bedding Centre where you can view a complete range of our products.

STANDARD :: LUXUREST

ORTHOPAEDIC

MICRO-QUILTED ORTHOPAEDIC

MICRO-QUILTED POSTUREPAEDIC

See our range of Mahogany, Natural Pine and Honey Pine Beds. Also our Safety Bunks in Mahogany and Pine and our L-Shaped Bunk in Honey Pine. We also have a large selection of Headboards in stock in Pine, Honey Pine, Mahogany and Velour.

Any size of Bed or Mattress available.

Donegal's Only Bedding Centre

OPEN 6 DAYS

"Excellence Through Experience" 9.30 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.

FREE DELIVERY THROUGHOUT DONEGAL.

SPORTS QUIZ

SPORTS

QUIZ

1. What was the score in this year's All-Ireland Hurling Final
2. With which sport do you associate Billy Walsh and Kieran Joyce.
3. Who is the manager of Charlton Athletic F.C.

Answers on a postcard or on the back of an envelope to: "The Leader", Lower Main st., Letterkenny. Prize - £5 Last month's winner - Harold O'Dochartaigh, Machaire Loisce.

MORTGAGE ADVICE CLINIC

If you require a Mortgage to purchase a House or Commercial Property, extend or repair your Existing Property, raise money for University or College fees, re-finance existing borrowings

**Then we may be able to help,
by arranging a Tax Efficient Endowment
Mortgage.**

TO ARRANGE A PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL
INTERVIEW - Contact: DERMOT RAINEY, JNR.

DERMOT RAINEY

& SONS
M.I.A.V.I.

Auctioneers : Valuers : Estate Agents
LETTERKENNY 074 - 22211

RYAN CARPETS

1 PEARCE ROAD, LETTERKENNY. Tel. No. (074) 22888.

No. 1 FOR QUALITY - No. 1 FOR PRICE!

FOURTH ANNUAL ANNIVERSARY SALE

STAIN MASTER As seen on T.V. Our Price: £9.99 yard	Bedroom Tweeds Coice of 4 Colours Our Price: £3.75 yard	American Shadow Carpet - 25 Rolls in stock Ranging from: £3.95 sq. yd.	Symphony Heavy Industrial Carpet 13ft. wide - Our Price: £5.50 yd.
BERBER Suitable for Heavy Wear - Our Price: £5.75 yard	Floral Bedroom Carpet Choice of 4 Colours Our Price: £3.95 sq. yd.	Wool Twist 80/20 Wool/Nylon Our Price: £13.50 sq. yd.	Wool Axminster Grade 4 Carpets 80/20 Unbeatable Price of: £18.95 sq. yd.
Industrial Carpet Suitable for Office, Pubs - Our Price: £2.75 yard	Washable Kitchen Carpet Choice of 12 colours Our Price: £3.95 sq. yd.	Bathroom Carpet Fully Washable Ranging from: £6.50 sq. yd.	Pattern Canvas Baked Carpet Normal Price £6.75 Our Price: £3.50 sq. yd.
Modern Striped Carpet Choice of 4 Colours Our Price: £3.75 yd.	Plain Bedroom Carpets Choice of 8 colours Our Price: £3.25 sq. yd.	50 Rolls ARMSTRONG VINYL Ranging from: £2.95 yd.	Large Selection of Carpet Ends & Remnants Always in Stock UP TO 50% LESS

From Monday, 12th Sept to Saturday, 24th Sepy.
(9.30 a.m. - 6.00 p.m. - Mon. - Thurs. & Sat.)
(9.30 a.m. - 7.30 p.m. Friday and Sun. 19th Sept.: 2 - 6 p.m.)

3 PIECE SUITES from £199.00
Just arrived! - Container load of 3 pc. Suites & Carpets
Latest Colours - Never seen before!

COMMENT BY SEAN GALLAGHER

Economists inability and short sightedness to see economic activities within an ecological context prevents them from seeing the most important economic problems of our time, amongst them unemployment and inflation.

Real wealth is based upon natural resources, energy the quality of them, and how they are used. Society must be seen as an organic whole, which in turn gives real meaning to a saying which is generally used in the wrong context: "no such thing as a free lunch".

"Economic growth" in the present way of doing things is linked with hard technological growth. Individuals and institutions believe that every problem has a technological solution - be it political, psychological or ecological. To take three examples

Wasteful energy consumption is met by nuclear power

Lack of political insight is compensated for by building more missiles and bombs. Poisoning of our natural environment is remedied by developing special technologies that in turn effect the environment in still unknown ways.

If we take our main industry - agriculture - a natural resource which somehow has mythically got a clean image internationally, we can see how we are going completely wrong.

Farming productions achieved through energy-intensive machines, heavy doses of oil-based fertilizers and pesticides (which lead to further of the same) are destroying the organic balance in the soil, which pollutes our waters and lands - which produces poisonous chemical substances in our food.

It diminishes returns, thus leaving farmers the victims of inflation (e.g. it forces small farmers off the land). The food industry turns the products into over-processed food with large doses of "the bad Es" (overpackaged, over-advertised), then transported to be sold in large supermarkets - all of which requires excessive consumption of energy, and thus fuels inflation. For example: 60% of the price of food can now be defined as the cost of petroleum - an agricultural base that has changed from soil to oil!

Also animal factory farming, heavily promoted by petro-chemical industries and which consumes most of the grain, leads directly to malnutrition and famine in the third world. It takes ten times more fossil-fuel energy to produce a unit of animal protein, that a unit of plant protein, in this system. People therefore suffer from an unbalanced diet, leading to obesity and illness, which contributes to inflation in our health care. Similar patterns can be found throughout the present economic system.

Private profits are made increasingly at public costs in the destroying of our environment and generally the quality of life.

As was once said: "They tell us about the sparkling dishes and clothes but forget to tell us about the loss of those sparkling rivers and lakes". By the massive use of chemicals, we are seriously affecting the natural process of nitrogen in the soil's bacteria - which in turn sweeps into our rivers and lakes. Half of the pesticides are mixed with petroleum substances, which all in turn, through the food on our table, destroy the natural immune system of

humans. Others contain substances which are related specifically to cancer.

To conclude, the agribusiness runs the soil which our very existence depends upon, perpetuates social injustice and world hunger, and seriously threatens global ecological balance.

A way of life which could be nourishing and life-sustaining for all, has become, due to the mad, monstrous mentality of capitalism, a major hazard to individualism, social and ecological health.

Marx once said: All Progress in capitalist agriculture is progress in the art, not only of robbing the labourer but of robbing the soil.

We must not only consider the future welfare of our community, our planet, but by strenuous practice, give principled leadership and show the way forward out of the impasse. What is happening today has accelerated the destroyed part of the ozone layer surrounding the planet, which should spell out the urgency of the matter.

We as a people will rapidly become aware that all aspects of politics, ecology, sciences and philosophy, in no matter what field, are totally inter-related.

We cannot be part of the patriarchy concept of attempting to dominate nature, we must learn to work with nature. This is not a limitless source of materials and food.

"LEADER",
Lower Main Street,
Letterkenny.