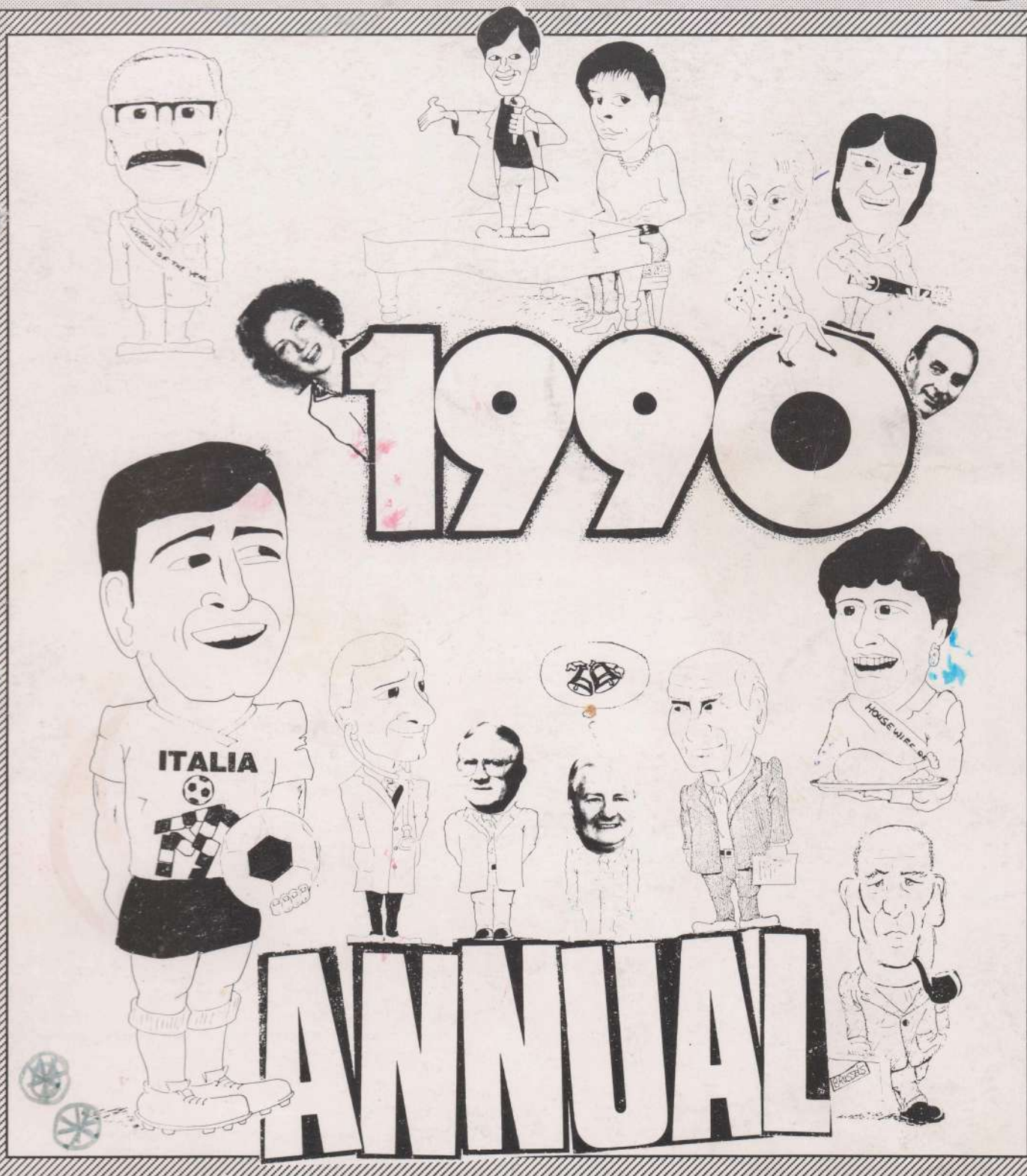


THE LEADER

£1.00



il



Ireland's No. 1 Entertainer - Daniel

Why Wait ?

**Magees have your Films
ready when you want them**

HAVE YOUR FILMS DEVELOPED AND PRINTED ON KODAK PAPER IN ONE HOUR WITH KODAK EXPRESS QUALITY CONTROL.

	1 Hour	4 Hour	24 Hour	48 Hour
12 Exp.	£4.99	£4.79	£4.25	£3.99
24 Exp.	£5.99	£5.49	£4.49	£3.99
36 Exp.	£6.99	£5.99	£4.99	£3.99

Including: **FREE ALBUM**

ENLARGEMENTS in by 10 am ready by 5 pm same day
-at NO EXTRA COST

7 x 5	£1.50
10 x 8	£3.50
11 x 14	£7.00
12 x 16	£7.50
16 x 20	£9.00

Old Prints copied and enlarged with or without negative

MAGEES

MAIN ST., LETTERKENNY Tel: (074) 21409

ONE HOUR PHOTO

Kodak Express
Quality control service

GROVE FURNISHINGS

The Grove, Letterkenny Tel: (074)
(Opposite U.N.I.F.I. Factory) 21064
& Port Road, Letterkenny

Open: Monday to Thursday 9.30 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Friday: Late Night 8.00 p.m.

**THE LARGEST DISPLAY OF TOP QUALITY,
IRISH MADE FURNITURE SEEN
ANYWHERE IN IRELAND**



CARPET

Over 200 Rolls
in Stock

— Prices too silly to print —

BEDROOM CARPET

as low as **£2.50** sq. yd.

— LAMPSHADES —



LARGE SELECTION OF
REMNANTS

— VINYL —

Over 60 Rolls in Stock
Krommante — Armstrong
Nairn — Tarkett

— BEDS —

3'0" — £79.00
4'0" — £95.00
4'6" — £105.00



FOR THE PRICE
THAT'S RIGHT

100 CHESTERFIELD SUITES
ON SHOW
Prices from — £235

Easy Payments
can be arranged over
12 Months, 18 Months
or 24 Months

FULL RANGE OF
READY-MADE CURTAINS

Welcome to the first "Leader" Donegal Annual edition. Inside you'll find interesting features on a host of subjects as well as a great collection of fascinating photographs from the distant and not so distant past. Just like in our monthly editions over the past one and a half years, there's something here for all the family, so put the feet up and enjoy this inimitable introduction to the 1990s.

I'd like to sincerely thank all the people who have made this Annual possible, from the contributors of features and photographs to all those who have purchased advertising space. Thanks also to Peadar McDaid for designing the cover, to Michael the typesetter, Terry the printer, Louis for the tea and all those other people too numerous to mention who have offered assistance and encouragement. Tá mé fíor-bhuíoch. Guíom ádh mór oraibh uilig ins na 90s.

"An tEagarthóir"

CONTENTS

Another Bloody Good Idea - John O'Brien	4
Profile of Enya - Maggie May	6
Bet You Didn't Know That	8
Book Review "The Great Irish Famine". Reviewed by Maitiu O Murchú	10
The Class of 1990 ("The Leader" survey)	12
Was Lú Lámhfhada a Donegal Man - Paddy Tunney	14
Protect Ourselves Against the Ravages of Fire in the Home	16
Bring Back the Railway ?	18
Computers - Seamus McKenna	20
Strange Accident Explanations from our Top Drivers	22
The GAA in Donegal (an early history)	24
Recipes	26
Bands to watch out for in the 90s	28
Courage is not enough if you are Disabled in the Gaeltacht - Donal K. O'Boyle	30
Crime Prevention is your Business	34
Crossword	35
The Dance - Bernard J. Byrne	36
Jailers of Pretence - Brendan Fanneran	36
Cleendra Calling - M.M.F.	36
Quiz Time	37
A few thoughts on Racism	38
Mar Crochadh an Baoilleach - Pádraig Mac Gairbheith	40
Aids	42
An inland Waterway Without the Crowds	44
Look Good, Feel Good - Ursula & Maura Mc Hugh	46
A Wedding in the Early 60s - John O'Brien	48
Young Poets	51



TONY'S BARBER SHOP

Port Road, Letterkenny.



**GENTS & YOUTHS
HAIRDRESSERS**



Open:

**Tuesday and Wednesday 9am to 6pm
Thursday, Friday and Saturday 9am to 8pm**

THE DOLLAR

BAR AND LOUNGE

Port Road, Letterkenny.
Tel: (074) 25159

Music



Pool

Darts

**Big Screen
Sky T.V.**

PATRICK GRAY

HAIRDRESSING

18 Academy Court, Letterkenny.

Phone: (074) 22795

Another Bloody Good Idea...

by John O'Brien

Our present so-called Donegal Roads started life as horse and cart tracks in the early eighteen hundreds. In those days there was no heavy machinery for building roads and there was no heavy traffic using them. The roads followed the natural landscape, up hill and down valley. Any obstacle which was in the way was not removed but simply circled and so the roads meandered merrily through the countryside. But they were certainly sufficient to meet the needs of the time.

Now as we head into the 1990s these self-same road which have changed very little in two centuries (apart from acquiring a coating of tarmacadam are ill-equipped to meet the challenges ahead. Our roads - and especially those in West Donegal are simply not capable of carrying today's traffic. And if we are not to be a forgotten outpost on the edge of Europe this problem has got to be tackled - and urgently.

It all boils down to money of course. Road building costs a lot of money. Up until now Central or Local government could not or would not make that money

available. The E.C. promised and delivered a little glimmer of hope - the new dual carriageway outside Letterkenny for example. During the coming decade however two major obstacles stand in the way of progress as far as Donegal's roads are concerned. Number one, it is stated government policy to bring major improvements to the National Primary Routes, i.e. between the country's big towns and cities. Naturally, this will be at the expense of the secondary routes, in other words, most of Donegal's roads.

Secondly, I can envisage E.C. funds being increasingly channelled to other needs, particularly the development of Eastern Europe in the aftermath of the fall of Communism. We could simply be left behind. Unless, perhaps it is time we rediscovered Arthur Griffith and his "Sinn Féin" theories of the early 1900s. Here' show Donegal's problem could be tackled by Donegal people! The Government via Local Government (Donegal County Council etc.) should hand the business of improving our infrastructure to private enterprise. In France private investment has built a major network of toll motorways

throughout the country. But instead of tolls I'd like to see a system whereby the Council could offer a guaranteed income for years as well as attractive tax incentives to individuals or companies who would invest in road-building.

HOW IT COULD WORK

Take a winding stretch of road like the one going through Crolly village. Local companies like Patrick Doherty or Liam Gillespie could negotiate a price with the Council for straightening out and improving that road, providing footpaths, etc. The work would be carried out by contractors who would be re-imbursed from road-taxes over an agreed number of years by the Council. Banks and other investors could be encouraged to get involved in road-building as well and even individuals could tender for small improvement projects like removing a bad bend or widening a stretch of road.

We can go on exporting our young people, we can keep crying about unemployment figures, we can pay out millions of pounds annually to keep people on the dole. Perhaps it is time we got up off our backsides and tried new ideas like the one above. You can call it Capitalism or you can call it Socialism, but if we don't start using radical new ideas in the 90s we will surely remain "Ireland's forgotten county".



Mr. Gabriel Larkin, Letterkenny, pictured with his first car - a Ford Prefect many years ago.



3 generations of the Molloy family outside the original shop in Derrybeg where Molloy' supermarket now stands. This building had actually been the first school in Derrybeg. In the photograph is Josie Molloy, present owner as a wee boy with his father and grandfather and also Hughie Nóra.

The Talented and Versatile Enya Enjoying International Acclaim.

Few Irish female recording artists have enjoyed the acclaim and success enjoyed by twenty-eight year old Enya. Since the release of her chart-topping single "Orinoco flow" last year, she has enjoyed a busy schedule, appearing on television shows throughout America, Britain, Europe and Japan. Collecting numerous Silver, Gold and Platinum Discs for sales of both "Orinoco Flow" and her debut WEA Records album "Watermark". On the homefront Enya was awarded "Best Newcomer '88" in the National Entertainment Awards and "Best Female Recording Artist" in the recording industry's IRMA Milk Music Awards, such is her popularity.

A Star is Born

She was born Eithne Ní Bhraonáin, in Dore, Co. Donegal back in 1961, the middle child among a family of nine (she has four brothers and four sisters). Her father Leo Brennan was leader of the Slieve Foy Showband who enjoyed popularity during the 50's and 60's Big Band era. So music was Enya's first love, and like the rest of the family she won countless musical awards during her childhood days. After leaving Dore National School, where her late grandfather and grandmother were her teachers, Enya decided to study classical music.

In 1980 she joined forces with her sister Maire, her brothers Ciarán and Pól, and uncles Noel and Pádraig Duggan in the ranks of Clannad. Touring Germany extensively, featured on two of their albums and enjoying several RTE and BBC TV guest spots as the groups keyboard player and co-vocalist. Following Clannad's management split in 1982, Enya elected to pursue a solo career under the musical guidance of producer Nicky Ryan.

"I'm more influenced by classical music, than by the bodhran and thin whistle. I needed to get away from the group scene

she recalls. For her solo career, Enya began working from Aigle Studios in Dublin and within two years she got her first break.

The Frog Prince

Nicky and Roma Ryan sent demo tapes to film and television producers. Among them was the award winning film producer David Puttman, who was so impressed with her unique style that he commissioned her to compose the musical soundtrack for "The Frog Prince" which required that dreamy, romantic score, with a 60's era feel. The movie was screened by Channel 4 some months back and is now also available on video.

While Enya was completing the recording of the "Frog Prince" she was commissioned by the the BBC for an epic project: the score was for a major six part documentary series "The Celts" which was televised by BBC2 and RTE and also last year in America. The programme trace the history of the proud and vivid Celtic civilization over 2,700 years and the score involved Enya for over ten months. Not only did Enya compose the work but also recorded all the vocal and music herself, overdubbing herself as many as 80 times to create a distinctive multi-layered sound. BBC TV made a television special "Enya - the making of The Celts", and BBC Records "The Celts" album made the Irish top 20 and also lower regions of the British charts.

From BBC To WEA Records and Success

It was while attending the IRMA Milk Music Awards of 1987, (she composed the theme music for the show) that Enya was introduced to WEA Records international boss Rob Dickins. He enjoyed her album "The Celts" and invited her to join the WEA stable of stars. After spending many

months composing and recording in the Orinoco Studio in London, Enya's debut recording for WEA records was launched with a fanfair of publicity. Within a matter of days "Orinoco Flow" was zooming up the British charts and with several major television guest spots on shows such as "Wogan", and a superb promo-video the single made the coveted number one spot, where it remained for three weeks. The single was also a chart-topper in Ireland, most European charts and in Japan. The single also made the American top 50. Her debut WEA album "Watermark" enjoyed greater success, collecting a "Double Platinum Disc for Irish British sales. The album sold in excess of 800,000 in Britain and remained in the charts for fifty-six weeks.

Since the release of "Orinoco Flow" and "Watermark" plus her current single "Storms in Africa" (Part Two), the singer has toured the globe, with television appearances in Britain, throughout Europe, America, and in Japan where she was featured on the cover on the top fashion magazine Vogue, and was recently voted "Top International Artist" there. Now the Donegal born singer-composer has returned to the recording studio and is busy composing and recording with a little help from Nicky and Roma. A new single and follow up album is due early in the New year and plans are in motion for several live concerts from Enya both at home and overseas.

Enya is only the third Irish female recording artist to top the coveted British charts (Ruby Murray in 1955, and Dana in 1970). Her music has universal appeal, and is one of the few classical trained musicians to enjoy fame and popularity in the pop market. Like Clannad, Enya has made her mark on the recording market, and the critics feel that the best is yet to come from this extremely talented and versatile performer.

John McGinley Coaches

Falcarragh Co. Donegal

Donegal - Dublin - Donegal

* Luxury Coaches to and from
DUBLIN 7 days a week *

Phone: Donegal (074) 35201
Dublin: (01) 513804

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

Distributed from Ardara to Rathmullan

SUPPLIERS OF DERV, GAS, OIL
and KEROSENE
Tel. No. (075) 48122



LANTERNS

Fast Food

Letterkenny

* * *

Buncrana

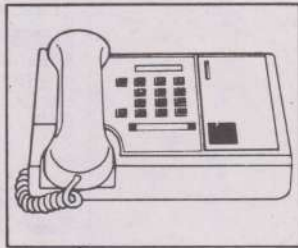
* * *

Now Open at Port Road,
Letterkenny



Bet you Didn't Know That...

in Co. Donegal, Telecom Eireann
 have 140 vehicles on the road.
 have a workforce of 350
 working telephones in Co. Donegal
 business 6,352 (approx)
 residence 15,666 (approx)



total 22,000 plus
 approx. 31,500 household in the County at the last Census
 annual applications for a telephone - 2,800 approx (going on present
 trends)

telephone kiosks in Co. Donegal - 200 plus
 additional units being installed this year, so the figure is approximate)

1st town in Donegal to become automatic for telephone service -
 Bundoran

last town/area to become automatic - Arranmore Island (approx 2
 years ago)

Eircell (i.e. in car phone) now working in parts of Co. Donegal as from
 1989 (Sligo - Letterkenny main road - good coverage. More informa-
 tion from T.E.I.S. sales office)

Eirpage (i.e. Bleeper system) - working in Co. Donegal from 1989.
 types of pocket unit in use.

a) voice message (b) numerical (c) Tone/bleep only
 combination sets also (e.g. tone/voice)

Town & Country Restaurant

Pearse Road, Letterkenny.
 Tel: (074) 21049

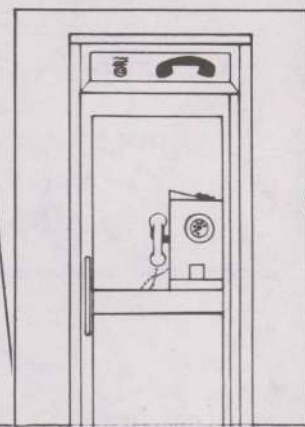
CAFE & TAKEAWAY FOODS

*Breakfast • Lunches
 Evening Meals • Tea & Snacks*



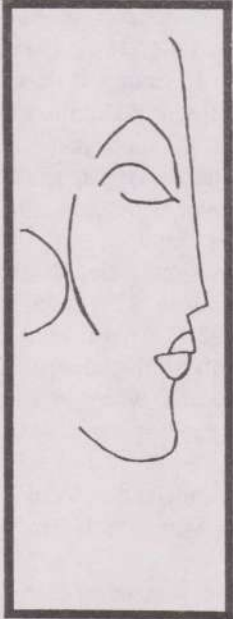
Mon. to Sat. - 7am to 7pm

Wine Licensed

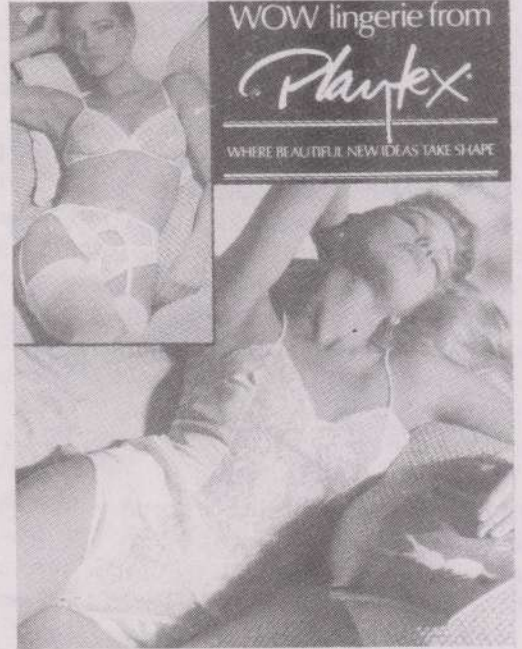


Some young Letterkenny lads who got scholarships to go to St. Eunan's in 1963.

PORTFOLIO CLOTHING 075-31476 BUNBEG



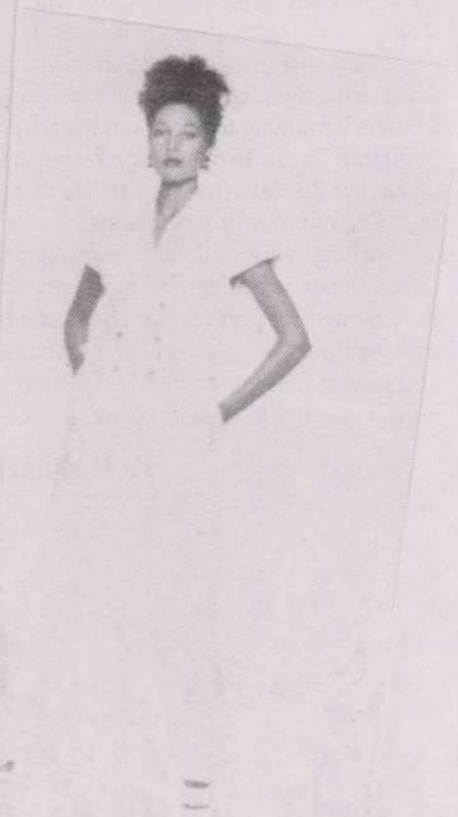
*Exciting ranges of ladies
casual wear, separates,
dresses and after six. We
also stock a beautiful range
of lingerie and accessories*



For clothes that make a definite fashion statement, choose...

PORTFOLIO CLOTHING - BUNBEG

Focus on
FASHION



Bibi

Some outfits from the "Bibi" international
collection available at Portfolio Clothing, Bunbeg
- 075-31476

The Great Irish Famine,

Canon John O'Rourke. Veritas, 300 pps., hardback. £24.95.

To say that this book makes depressing reading is an understatement. We would expect a book about a famine to be a source for discomfort. This is, but it has the added dimension, for those of us who have only read school textbooks on the subject, of bringing to light the British government's prevarication and deliberate impedance of efforts to help the afflicted.

The mass of people, dying of starvation, on this island, were of little significance to those who wandered the corridors of power in London. The disregard shown was callous and it can only re-enforce our believe in Sinn Fein.

We have a duty to care for our own. We must not leave it to the politicians or the bureaucrats. Our duty is towards those around us and only after we have fulfilled that duty can we move abroad. The duty to care means we must not wait until the last moment. We have a duty to speak and act when we become aware of the error. The Irish people, unlike others, depended on the potato. They were not to blame, as the author shows. Landlords turned to grazing as their salvation and the native workers were left with the potato, an excellent food as it was fecund and had a high food weight ratio. The mistake was that the people depended on this food almost totally and the folly of doing so was not transmitted to them.

The author deals with the arrival of the potato in Europe and Ireland. It's universal importance among the poor and the advent of blight. The lack of scientific knowledge about the disease and the result of the blighting of crops in succession.

He deals very well with the prolonged Government machination and provides documented support for his observations. It is obvious, with a number of notable exceptions, that the landlords did little to alleviate the plight of their tenants.

The importance of the laws governing imports and exports to Britain is traced and adds greatly to the sense of despair we must feel on reading this work.

Canon O'Rourke, who concentrates to a large degree on the Famine as it unfolded in West Cork and Mayo, has the advantage of having had close contact with people who were alive during that miserable episode in our history. Because of the manner in which he approached the work, the stories of the suffering of the people are used as backing for his arguments and they fail to have the impact a personal account of the famine from one who suffered might have. They add weight to the argument but the author's thesis is a serious attempt, by a historian, to show that people in positions of power cared little for the people who were suffering. Famine is as old as history and we must take the "great" in the title with a pinch of salt. Not only have we had great famines but we have also had "great" wars and we have not seen the end to war or famine - witness Ethiopia and Sudan, today, to name only two countries in the midst of starvation.

Witness the wilful disregard of officialdom in those countries for the poor.

Look at Britain, her disregard for the native Irish in the last century is no different from her deliberate sacrifice of the Vietnamese Boat People or her betrayal of the people of Hong Kong.

Let us remember that the violator need not be a foreigner - look at the Philippines or Haiti. If we carry our responsibility too lightly we will be abused and manipulated.

This book contains little information on County Donegal. It's details on Donegal rely on the reports of James Tuke and other Quakers to the Religious Society of Friends. The famine appears to have effected the west of the county and as there was no local press in the area we have no

contemporary accounts for the area other than official documents.

There is this interesting reference to Mullaghderg - from this Report - (of the Relief commissioners) we learn, that there were, at the time (1847), 2,049 electoral divisions in Ireland; and from a later one that Blackrock, near Dublin, was the smallest electoral division, consisting of only 257 acres; that the largest was Belmullet, in County Mayo, which contained 145,598 acres. The extremes in the valuation of electoral divisions were, - Mullaghderg, in Glenties Union, #331 10s. Od.; South Dublin, #402,515 3. 4d. so that a shilling rate levied off Mullaghderg would produce just #16 12s. 6d, which in all probability would not pay for the time necessary to collect it.

We are indebted to Veritas for republishing this work which first appeared in 1874.

It teaches that we all carry the responsibility of ensuring that justice is done. That we must play a role in doing and a negative role in opposing when we witness injustice.

It is heartening to see those who kept the flame alight in Central Europe for so many years reaping their reward at present.

The famine should not have happened. The man on the city street and in the country lane was powerless. The landlords who were both rich and powerful ignored the plight of the common man and women.

Could it happen to-day. This book helps to direct our minds. Nothing is impossible. The Great Famine could visit us again. It may not be a food shortage. It could be a housing shortage or it could be a lack of medical facilities.

The book is preposterously priced at almost £25, for the hardback version even if the royalties on the sales will be donated to Action from Ireland's Great "Famine" Project.

Maitiu Ó Murchú

BOOK REVIEW



The Book Centre

Tel (074) 31992

Stockists of:

- A wide range of Books • Children's Books • Stationery
- Art and Craft Material • Maps and Guides • Traideireann Gifts
- Second-hand Books • Educational Supplies • School Books • Exam Papers

PHOTOCOPYING SERVICE

The Book Centre - Open 6 Days. Late Opening Saturday 8pm
For all your reading and writing needs

NÍL BRONNTANAS NÍOR FEARR NÁ LEABHAR



Mr. J. Jackson of Jackson's Hotel, Ballybofey presenting the U 14 F.A.I.S. Donegal Area Cup to Danny Gallagher, Capt. of Rosses Community School in 1983.



Official Opening of New C.Y.M.S. Snooker Hall in Letterkenny on 22nd September 1982 by his lordship; Dr. Seamus Hegarty D.D. Bishop of Raphoe.
 (Seated from left) Johnny McCollum, President, Mrs. May McClintock, Chairperson, Letterkenny U.D.C., His Lordship Most Rev. Dr. Seamus Hegarty, Mr. Paddy McGettigan "Lord Mayor", Mr. Jimmy Herron, Ulster Snooker Referee.
 Standing ; C.Y.M.S. Committee Noel Mc Ginley, Martin Collins, Patsy James, Michael Duffy, Harry Deehan, Frank McCarron, Dan McLaughlin, A chie James and Pat Bonnar.

"THE LEADER" SURVEY

The Class of 1990

Emigration has been a way of life for Rosses people for many, many years, and its said to be as bad now as it ever was. So would the class of 89/90 in the local Community School continue that tradition?

The Leader carried out a survey of Leaving Certificate students in the Rosses Community School in Dungloe to find out what were their plans and hopes for the future after they completed their secondary education in June 1990.

Of 41 students, male and female, who completed the survey, 31 indicated that they were to attend a 3rd level institution, they would do so in Ireland. 3 said they would prefer to attend in Northern Ireland, 3 more opted for Britain, while 4 said they would not go on to 3rd level education.

When seeking employment, 9 indicated they would like to work in their home area, 8 stated they would like employment in County Donegal, 16 wanted to work elsewhere in Ireland and 8 had no preference.

The vast majority (37) said that were they to fail to gain employment they would not live at home on the dole, 2 said they would, and 2 were uncommitted.

Faced with emigration, 19 would choose Britain, 11 would travel to the United

States, 5 to another E.C. country, and 4 would go elsewhere. 2 had no preference.

Not all the students had decided on the type of work they would like if they were to emigrate, but there were clear indications that nursing, childcare, catering, office or secretarial and construction work were to the fore in the students' choice of work.

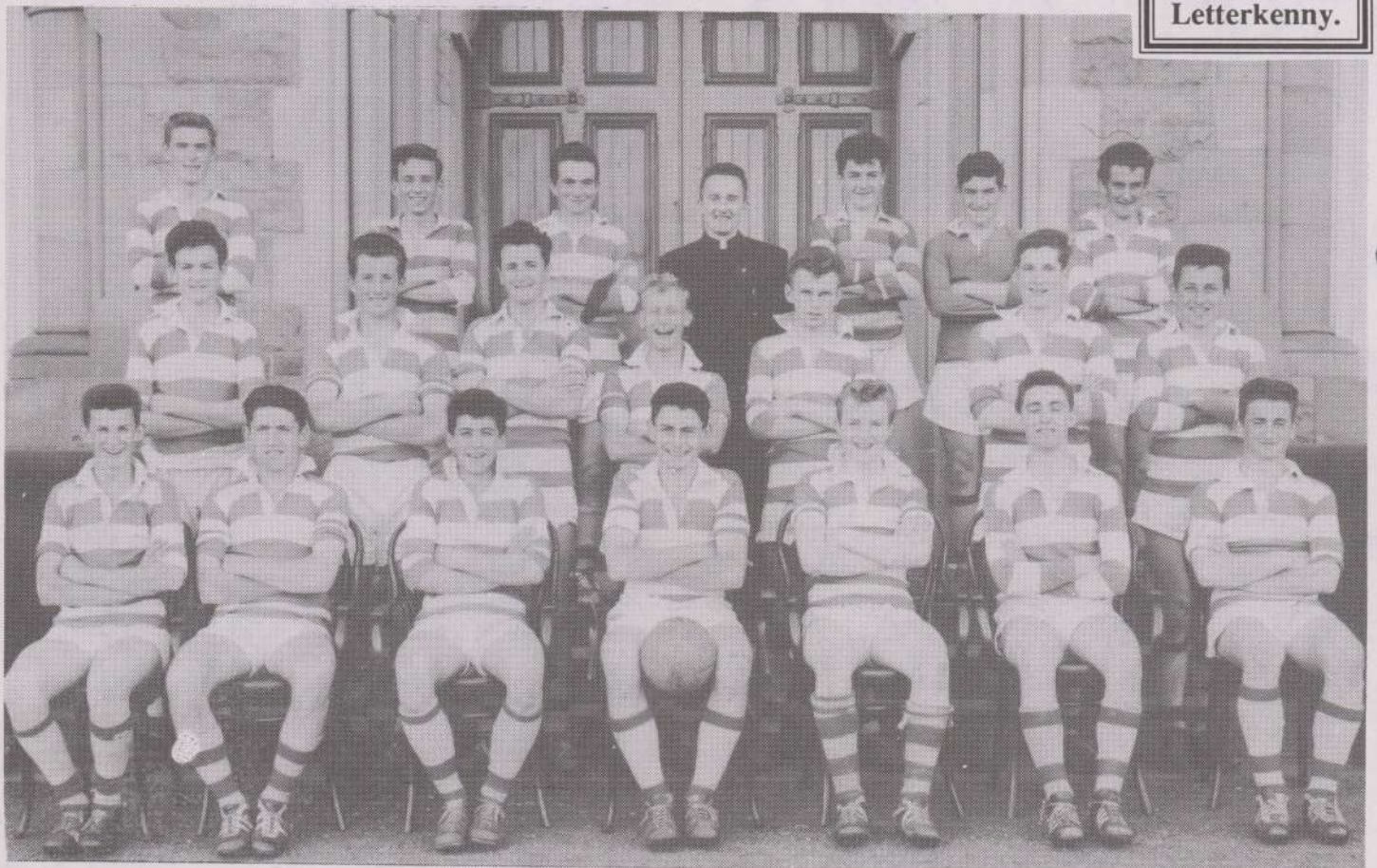
There was a clear simple message from the students - they would emigrate to find work.

When asked why they would emigrate, the students gave answers like "lack of jobs at home", "no job prospects", "higher standard of living abroad", "my aim in life wouldn't be staying at home looking forward to dole day", "change of scenery", "experience of working in different countries", "more opportunities abroad", "There's no other choice", "see the world", "I couldn't live on the dole", "no jobs at home and the dole is an insult and impossible to raise a family on it".

SAM SPUDZ
CRISPS
SNACKS
 Burger Bites
 PEANUTS
 Irish Snack Foods Ltd.
 Déanta i nGaorth Dobhair

JUN
1990

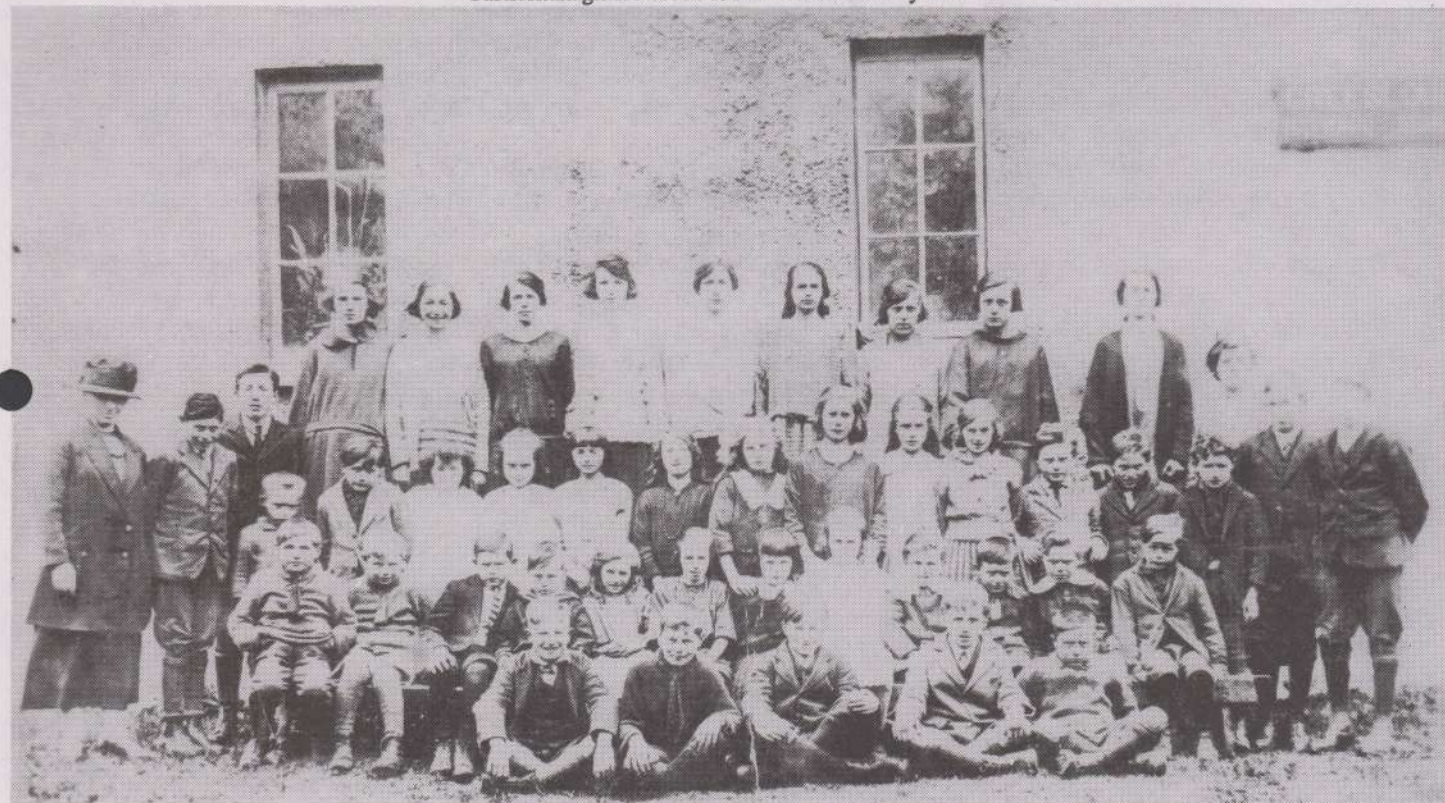
THE LEADER
 ★★★★★
 Lower Main Street, Letterkenny.



St. Eunan's College Senior Team in 1961/2. Front Row (L. to R.): B. McBride, E. McLaughlin, J.D. McMenamin, M. McLaughlin (Capt.), Peter Carr, C. Gallagher, J. McNally. Middle Row (L. to R.): E. Murray, H. Friel, N. McKelvey, J. Patton, D. McBride, E. Gallagher, S. McGee. Back Row (L. to R.): A. Bradley, F. O'Loughlin, F. McMenamin, Rev. C. Cunningham (Trainer), N. Bradley, G. Thomas, C. O'Donnell.



Castleshanaghan N.S. in 1956. Where are they now ?



CREESLOUGH NATIONAL SCHOOL - 1923

Front Row: William Moore, Robert Moore, Matthew Wilkin, Thomas Hay, Sammy Campbell.

2nd Row: William Moore, James Moore, Willie Wilkinson, Tommy Moore, Mammie Moore, Olive Hay, Maggie Campbell, Frances Moore, Sandy Hay, Charlie Campbell, Sandy Moore, David Moore.

3rd Row: Miss Annie Wilkinson (Teacher), David McElhinney, David Wilkinson, Peter Moore, Maggie Wilkin, Sarah Moore, Matilda Moore, Gretta Wilkinson, Rebecca Wilkinson, Martha Moore, Mary-Ann Moore, Lizzie-Ann Moore, George Moore, Eddie Moore, William Wilkin, John and David Wilkinson (twins)

4th Row: Rebecca Hay, Elsie McElhinney, Jennie Hay, Bessie Wilkinson, Jenny Moore, Bella Moore, Annie-Jane Moore, Kathleen Mary Moore, Miss Maggie Wilkinson (Teacher).

Was Lú Lámhfhada A Donegal Man ?

by Paddy Tunney

Perhaps the most colourful god of the Celts, both on the continent of Europe and here in Ireland, was Lú Lámhfhada or Lú of the Longarm. He was patron of craftsmen, musicians, high places and of course, warriors.

His skill as a blacksmith and a sword-maker has never been questioned, as a gifted musician he was unsurpassed in his day and even at this point in time we pay him homage when we gather for the great feast of music and song that is Fleadh Cheoil na h-Eireann in the month of Lúnása. Lú's month.

As a warrior he'd have put our own great Cuchulainn or Derry's Cú Rí Ard Mac Dáire to bioran a mbrollaigh. He was also a goldsmith and was reputed to have wrought some of the precious gold ornaments still to be seen in the National Museum.

Last but not least he was a renowned athlete and held both the long-jumping and high-jumping titles for many years. What an asset he'd be to Brian McEniff as a high fielder against Larry Tomkins or Denis McCarthy in his forthcoming tussle with Cork in the National League tie !

And he was born in Tory, then a small kingdom but today classified within the geographical boundary of county Donegal. Therefore he would have been eligible to play for the Donegal Gaelic Football County team.

The story of his begetting, birth and rescue is as strange as it is true.

Balor Béimean or Balor of the Evil Eye, was a Cyclops or one-eyed giant who reigned as king of the Formorians and had his stronghold on Tory Island. He was a sea raider and land plunderer and a terrorist of the deepest dye, who had scared the day-lights out of the mainlanders.

Easy for him too, when one beam from the evil eye could turn an enemy into a granite pillar or a paling post ! This eye he kept covered except when on the field of battle or when it was guarding his treasured possessions.

He was also possessed of other magic powers which led him to believe he was a god and therefore immortal. To confirm this belief he approached his spey-woman or bean-draoi and asked her if he could be killed. She replied that he could only be killed by his own grand son. To make sure this would never happen he imprisoned his only daughter in a tower on top of Tóir Mór in the eastern end of the island, where she

was guarded and waited upon by five lady attendants.

This evening there was a Tory fisherman out fishing in a curach in Tory Sound and on coming ashore he met with a creature not of this world called Giall Dubh. He asked the man in the curach to go in with him to the tower where Ethnea, Balor's daughter and her five waiting maids were held in durance vile. The fisherman agreed to go with him.

It was most difficult and dangerous to attempt to reach the tower unknownst to Balor's henchmen. It was impossible to go across between Porta's Dúin agus Porta Chala for Balor had sprinkled this route with powdered flour so that he could trace the tracks of any intruder who had the temerity to make the attempt. There was only one way to solve the problem. Giall Dubh guided the Tory man to the top of Ard Irisl and both of them leap across Port A' Chala and into the great tower. There is mention of this mighty leap among Tory folk to this day when they are relating the exploits of the past.

In the fullness of time every one of the young girls in custody had a child. The Tory man had spent the night joyfully with Ethnea, Balor's daughter, while Giall Dubh had amused himself with her five waiting-maids.

Giall Dubh gathered his five off-springs in a blanket and drowned them in Tory Sound. It appears that any off-spring begotten by a creature of the other world will not live anyway. You see to kill a mortal you must be a mortal and this accounts for Giall Dubh's taking the Toryman with him to mate with Balor's daughter. Fear struck Balor for he knew right well that he could be killed only by his own grandson. He went round the six girls and squeezed their nipples. All of them were giving milk so he was uncertain which of them was the infant's mother and he didn't know if his grandson had been drowned or not. Giall Dubh brought the child to the safety of the mainland and when he grew to man's estate placed him under the apprenticeship of Gabhidín Gaghla in Drum' a Tinney who was the greatest craftsman smith in Ireland then.

One day he revealed to Gabhidín that he was Lú, the grandson of Balor and the he was faoir gheasa or under taboo to kill his notorious grandfather.

The smith told him, "When you find him shout on me". Lú came on his hated grandfather stealthily one day in Dunlewey

at the top of the Poisoned Glen and engaged him in combat. Balor was pressing him hard with his sword and the Evil Eye.

"Gaibhidín Gabha, Gaibhidín Gabha, who promises but does nothing", shouted Lú.

"Gaidhidín Gabha, Gaibhidín Gabha, who promises and who does", replied the smith at his shoulder.

He reached Lú a red-hot iron spit, who drove it through the evil eye of his grandfather and then cut off his head.

Balor implored his grandson to put back his head on the trunk and that he would give him all the magic and special powers he possessed. Before Lú could do anything the smith seized the iron spit and stuck it through Balor's skull and deposited it on a flat stone, saying:

"Three dhoimhne Loch Feabhail
I Loch Barra Gaoth Dobhair".

And so the three Loughs of Dunlewey were formed.

For those of us today who visit the Poisoned Glen there is a brooding stillness about it that would seem to suggest the spirit of Balor was still hovering around.

Else where it is told that Lú Lámhfhada slew his savage grandfather with a sling and cut off his head at the second Battle of Moytura. As soon as the eye fell out of the skull it burned a hole through the earth resembling the orifice which would be made in the ground if an overheated nuclear reactor were to get out of control completely and burn its way to the core of the earth.

I'm told scientists refer to this possible calamity as the Chinese Syndrome, but they have assured us that it has not yet happened.

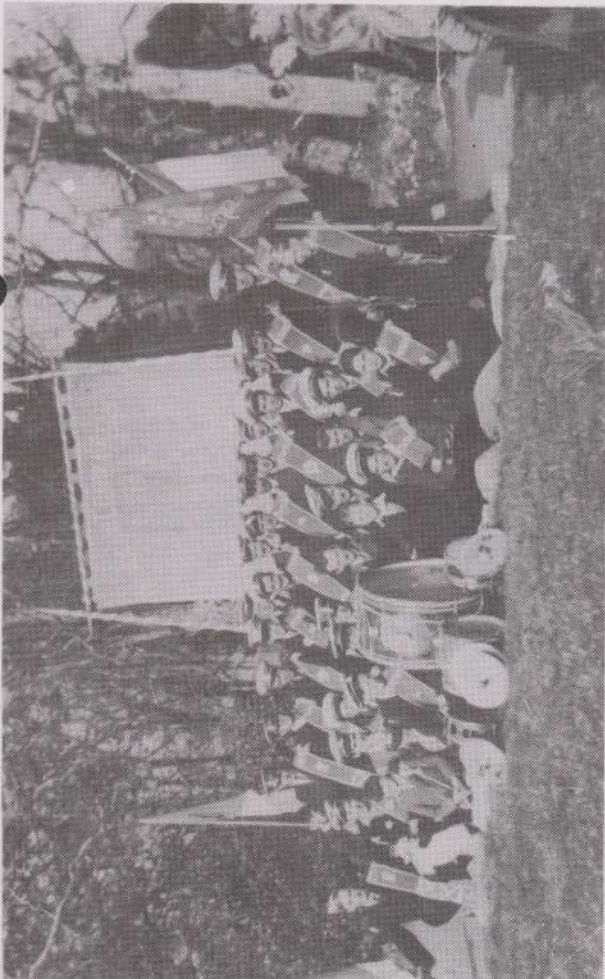
It is interesting to speculate that Balor may have carried in his skull a nuclear energy plant and that he killed his enemies by subjecting them to intense radiation !

Be this as it may, the hole said to be made by Balor's evil in the ground at the site of the Second Battle of Moytura, in South Sligo is today filled with fresh water and forms a small lake known as Lough na Súil ! It dries up periodically and is surrounded by mystery and legend.

It would seem that Tory eye sucks up as much water as the famous cow called Glas Gaihlín used to drink when she came back from Tory for a good slug of fresh water from Lough Salt ! Could it be that when she next goes on a drinking spree the Letterkenney public water supply may run short ?



Mullaghduff Senior Fife & Drum Bank in the early 1960s. Leader: Francie Gallagher.



Falcarragh Flute Band in 1955.



Annagry Band about 60 years ago.

Protect Ourselves Against the Ravages of Fire in the Home

What could be more disastrous than to lose your home by fire?

Take positive steps to ensure that unwanted fire does not occur and ensure that your household is equipped with some degree of protection/detection if a fire does actually occur.

Most people pay an Insurance premium to protect against financial ruin in the event of a fire, but experience shows that much more than money is lost in a fire in the home - so as well as your Insurance policy, do take some further steps.

Have your electrical wiring and fittings checked and certified by a competent electrical every few years.

If your house is wired in old rubber sheathing insulation - rewire it.

Have your boiler serviced and your chimney cleaned every year at least.

If you have an open fire use a sparkguard when the leaving the room unoccupied.

Keep flammable decorations away from naked flames.

If your Christmas tree lights or other electrical decorations are over 5 years old - replace them.

If using candles, use solid non-combustible holders and keep them away from curtains and other combustibles (300mm at least)

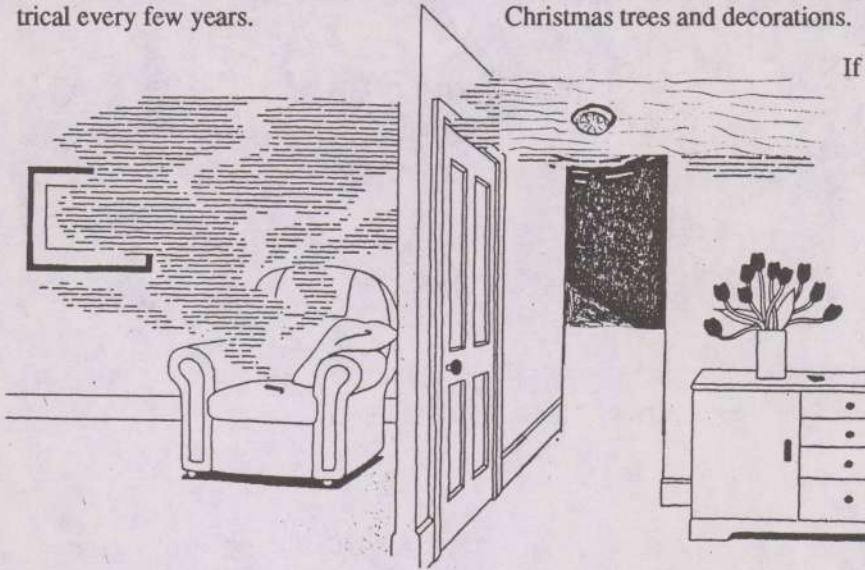
Don't use highly flammable sprays on Christmas trees and decorations.

If insuring your house, check if your policy covers the cost of calling the Fire Brigade to protect the house in the event of a fire occurring, even a small one.

Give a good quality fire detection/alarm form a present.

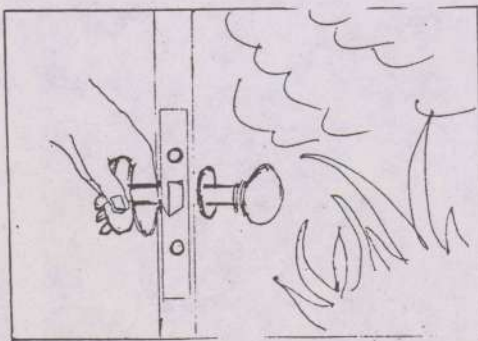
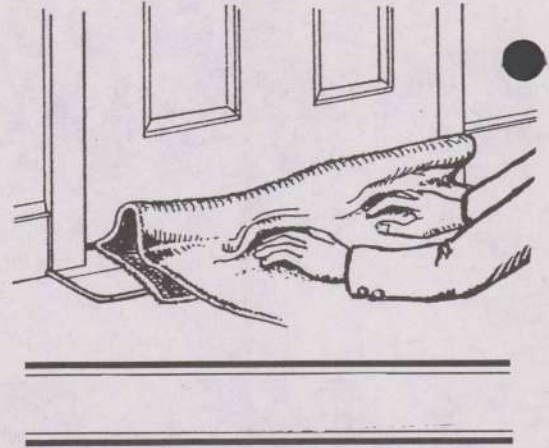
If is advisable for every household to have at least one fire extinguisher and fire blanket and that you know how to use them - read the instructions on them before an incident occurs - like now.

F. Kerrane
Chief Fire Officer,
Letterkenny Fire Station.

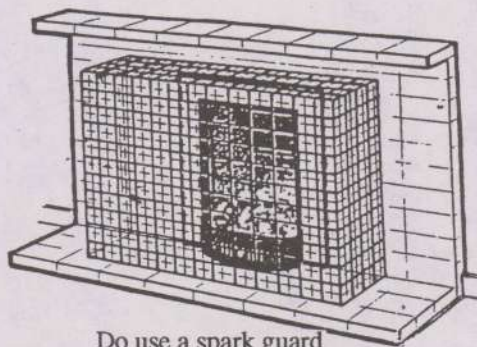


Smoke detector located in Hallway, for single-storey dwellings.

If trapped in your bedroom, try to stop smoke entering and open the window to escape or call for help.



When fire alarm is raised, check door handles for temperature before opening any door.



Do use a spark guard if leaving fires unattended.



How to use a fire blanket

EVELYN DOHERTY

Hardware shop & Florist

Middletown, Derrybeg.

Tel: (075) 31172

General Hardware and DIY Supplies • Cabinet Fitting • Tools •
Housewares and Electrical • Glass and Mirror cut to size •
Key Cutting • Typing and Photocopying Service • Flogas Agent •
Full range of Garden Products • Pot Plants • Fresh Flowers •
Seeds • Bulbs, etc.

FLORIST - WEDDINGS, FUNERALS, ETC.

Memorials

John Daly & Sons

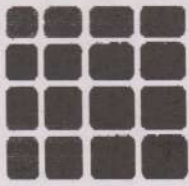
Tonagh House,

Ballymacool,

Letterkenny.

(074) 22742





Information Technology Centre

Ard O'Donnell, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal, Ireland.
Tel: 074-24795 Fax: 074-24806 Telex: 42043 ITC EI

*Providing expertise in Information Technology,
Electronics and Advanced Telecommunications...*

- Walk-in Fax, Telex and Electronic Mail Bureau
- Computer Courses
- Computer Bureau
- Consultancy
- On-line Information
- Videoconferencing
- Design and Customisation of Software

Co. Donegal Vocational Education Committee

Brendan McGlynn & Co.

Assurances

Market Square,
Letterkenny,
Co. Donegal.
Phone: (074) 21289

- ◇ *Life Assurance*
- ◇ *Savings Plans*
- ◇ *Pensions*
- ◇ *Endowment Mortgages*
- ◇ *Investments*



"The Factory" chimney in Middletown, Gweedore, smoking for the last time before it was knocked down a few years ago. In the picture - Dom Barr, Glenveagh Hotel and Barney Beag.

BRING BACK THE RAILWAY ?

This article which calls for the revival of the Donegal railway first appeared in the West Donegal edition of "The Leader" in February 1989 (Vol.1 No. 8).

Since then Údaras na Gaeltachta elected representative Pádraig Ó Dochartaigh from Gaoth Dobhair has taken up the issue and due to his efforts, the Udaras board recently voted to undertake a feasibility study to find out if parts of the line could be restored as a tourist attraction.

The first steam train weaved it's way from Letterkenny in through Creeslough and Dunfanaghy, past Falcarragh, along the foot of Errigal Mountain to Gweedore and on through Crolly to the fishing village of Burtonport on March 9th 1903. All along the route, people stood in amazement and cheered "an mhuc Dhubh" - Colmcille's prophecy had at last come true. From then until after the Second World War (known here as "the emergency") the railway played a significant part in the development of North West Donegal. Up until that time, this corner of the country was pretty well isolated, but the train brought tourists in large numbers to the area for the first time, and as Pádraig MacGairbhgh said in his recent article in "the Leader" - "Teach na Muice Duibhe", it also brought jobbers from Termon to the fairs, anglers to Loughanure, Irish students to Rann na Feirste, it brought new goods (like Brewster's Bread) from Derry, it brought the first newspapers, and during the war it took away the turf whose production kept people in employment. It also took away the many emigrants from here to the tattie hokin' in Scotland, to Glasgow's Gorbals and to other cities in Britain and the shores of America.

The Londonderry and Lough Swilly Railway Company was authorised in 1852 and opened it's Derry-Letterkenny line in June 1883. That same year, a Government Act was passed to promote railways and a line to Burtonport was eventually approved. The chief purpose of the line was to open up the fisheries of Burtonport harbour which it did quite successfully. The Board of Works was closely involved in its construction and incredibly it was completed in four short years, 3 years to build the track and another year for skilled workers building bridges, viaducts, station houses, gatehouses and

laying the railway line, which as narrow gauge (3' wide). The L&LSR company ran the service, but down through the years it always had a bad reputation for trains being late or cancelled. Yet, in spite of bad management, the owencarrow Viaduct accident and acts of sabotage during the War of Independence and the Civil War (Sinn Feiners are said to have thrown 240 yards of track with sleepers into a lake at Crolly) the railway continued to play an important part in the life of North West Donegal until the 1940s.

By this stage, buses and lorries offered serious competition to the railway, and the Lough Swilly Company actually had put its own fleet on the road. The line from Burtonport to Gweedore was closed down on June 3rd 1940, although there was considerable opposition here. By the time all the formalities were cleared, however, business had picked up on account of the petrol shortage and the line from Gweedore was reopened. Goods trains continued to run until after the war, with the engines actually burning turf as well as transporting it. The last train left Gweedore Station on January 6th 1947.

But was it a mistake to close down the railway? Many people, to this day, claim that it was shortsightedness on the part of the Government, the County Council and the Railway Company that led to its demise. There is no doubt that it would be of tremendous benefit to the area if we had it today. The next question that must be asked is could the railway be restored? I think it could and I think the advantages of bringing it back after almost half a century would be so great that we should seriously start talking about it now. The railway line running through some of the most ruggedly beautiful mountains anywhere would put us on

the tourism map. I remember some years ago going by train from Glasgow to Mallaig in the Scottish Highlands, enjoying some breathtaking scenery en route. I could visualise a major new tourist industry springing up around the railway to provide the visitor with indoor and outdoor entertainment - Hotels, guesthouses, shops, pubs, holiday villages... outdoor activities to include mountaineering, rock climbing, hill walking, horse riding, fishing and water sports on the many lakes, miles and miles of sandy beaches within easy reach. Hundreds of obs would be created directly and indirectly. Significantly, the railway line passes very near to Glenveagh National Park, which could be included in package tours bringing people here on holidays. Donegal could certainly be made a very attractive proposition for the tourist.

The railway would also stimulate industry here and put the markets of Europe within easy reach. It would (again) give a much needed boost to the fishing industry, it could help to develop a forestry industry and it would of course provide a fast, efficient means of transport for the people of Donegal themselves.

At this stage, the cynic will say "but sure, a lot of the track must be destroyed by now. After all, it's 42 years since the last train disappeared through the Gap!". Well, recently I walked along part so the old railway line in the company of Fred Coll (ex Co. Councillor and champion of many a cause in N.W. Donegal). We stood on the platform at Gweedore Station (the platform is still mainly intact) and imagined the hustle bustle when the train arrived there in its heyday. Indeed the sadness when people boarded with their suitcase bound for Derry and the emigrant boat. We inspected the "Muinchille Mhor" - the huge tank from which trains filled up with water on every journey. We walked over a huge stone bridge just off the main road at Meenacung, handbuilt and still in perfect condition after almost 90 years. (Jimmy Coll's father is said to have worked on building this bridge). We spoke to Jimmy and Madge Boyle who fondly remembered the train which passed within a few yards of the back of their

house. Jimmy told us that the Derry train went out at 9.30 every morning and the first train from Derry at 12.30pm, passing another outgoing train - the 1.00, at Gweedore station. Another train came in at 4.30 and passed the outgoing 5.00 train again at Gweedore station. The last train came in at 9.30 at night. The service didn't run on Sundays and everybody grazed their cattle along the line. The train gave a great service, said Madge, who added that "you're stuck now unless you have a car because public transport is not catering for us at all".

Amazingly around Meenacung/Gweedore at least, most of the track is still intact after all these years, and it certainly wouldn't take a fortune to restore the line. Certainly, it would be far less than it would take to build a decent road to Letterkenny.

So is it practicable to be talking about bringing the railway back? I believe it is and I believe it would be a viable proposition now. A proper feasibility study would have to be undertaken of course, but I think the people of Donegal should start discussing the idea. With 1992 not so far away, with E.E.C money definitely out there (if you fight for it), with S.E.S. and other schemes available, with unemployment at record levels, it might be better to be kicking this particular football about than to be

sitting idly by, watching the sad exodus of our young people to London and New York.

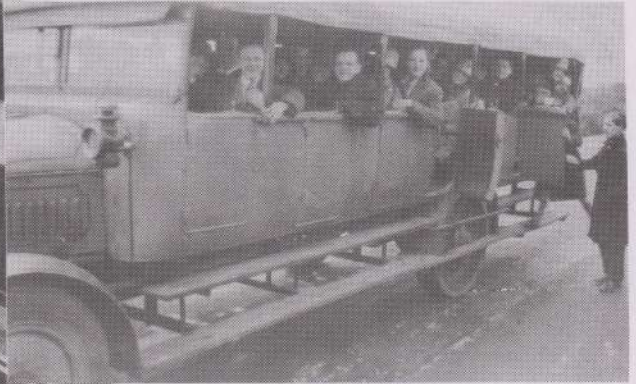
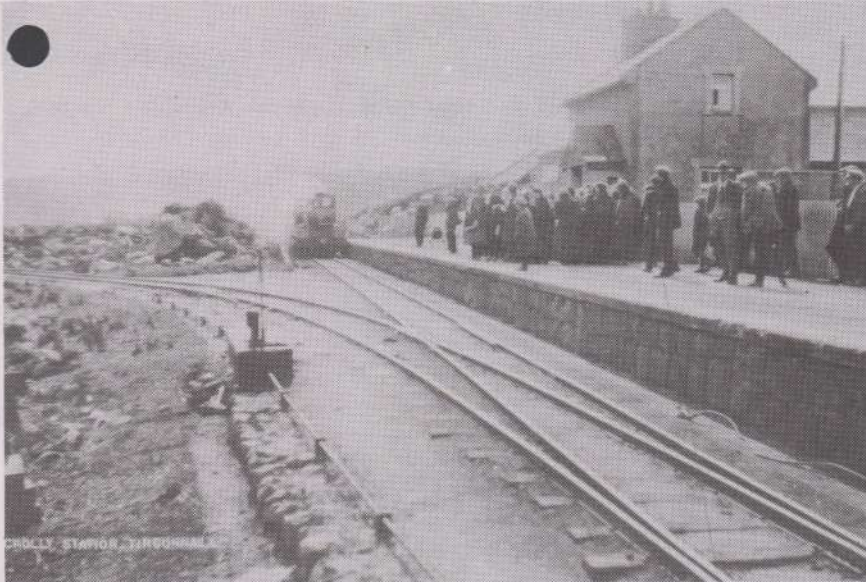
But do our present crop of politicians have the foresight and the imagination that their predecessors obviously lacked? Or would they rather dwell on parish-pump politics and talk about helicopters for offshore islands - while another "island" - the most densely populated rural area in Western Europe lies isolated on the edge of the Atlantic.

The Swilly Train arriving at a station in West Donegal many years ago.
But do any of our readers know which station?

Crolley Station



Also somewhere in West Donegal - an early Lough Swilly Bus
(Yes, they have improved slightly since then!)



BAKEHOUSE

MAIN STREET, LETTERKENNY
PHONE (074) 22072



All our products are made from the highest ingredients available. In fact we are one of the few Home Bakeries in Ireland who use only fresh eggs in all our products. No liquid, frozen or egg substitute are used in any of our cakes, sponges or other products.

We are approved Granary Bakers.

All our granary breads and sodas are made from top quality malty wheat grains which are high in dietary fibre and made only from real granary flour, in short, healthy wholesome breads which are a must for you and the family.

Restex Bedding Centre

Mountain Top, Letterkenny.
Tel No.: 074-23009

Restex Manufacturers of Top Quality Beds.

...

Bedroom Furniture now in stock.

...

Any size of Bed or Mattress available.

*Where quality comes first and
our reputation matters most.*

DONEGAL'S ONLY BEDDING CENTRE

FREE DELIVERY SERVICE

Computers

by Seamus McKenna

*Anyone can make mistakes,
This fact is true indeed.
But to really foul things up
A computer's what you need.
Anon.*

While computers have been around for some time now, it is only since the launch of International Business Machine's Personal Computer (the IBM PC), less than ten years ago, that they have entered into the daily lives of most people. Since then a great many

earned their living from them. Most often one and the same thing.

And so it seems with computers. Our most abiding image of a computer user of of a youthful, bespectacled, totally preoccupied individual whose conversation consists entirely of bits, bytes and baud rates. This, if course, is partially true. Youngsters have taken magnificently to computers, mainly because they missed the generation that was conditioned into believing the myth that to even be in the same building as one required an hon-



computer manufacturers have adopted the IBM standard and this has led to a dominant range of computers known collectively as IBM Compatibles.

Computers, as we enter the 1990s, have something of the same status that motor vehicles had in the early part of the century. We find it hard now to envisage life without the internal combustion engine, but the plain fact is people had to exist without it for thousands of years up to the very recent past.

Not everybody in the year 1890 would have felt at home with a "horseless carriage". Indeed a lot of people felt they were very undesirable things indeed. Many an indignant demand was made to have them banned, not least on the grounds that they frightened horses as they were propelled down the street at outrageous speeds, sometimes approaching twenty miles and hour flat out. In fact, reading the early history, it becomes apparent that the only people who could be found to have a good word for cars were those enthusiasts or who

degrees in mathematics.

There is, however, another computer user. He or she is just an ordinary person who has discovered how a computer can remove the drudgery from doing small business accounts, VAT returns and wages. Publishers now know that a microcomputer system which costs only a tiny fraction of a conventional typesetting machine can prepare a magazine like this one for publication. The very same computer can then be utilised to help the manager run the business; keep records of correspondence and other dealings with customers and suppliers; connect into the telephone system to get written details of a whole range of things from market and weather reports to the latest bargains in holiday destinations; play chess (some really hard to beat chess programs now exist) and make use of other diversions such as very realistic aircraft simulations.

The modern micro computer consists of a screen, a keyboard and the computer unit itself, with built in storage for the programs and data. Most often a printer will also

be attached. The information from the user goes in through the keyboard. Calculations, and the filing or other manipulation of information is carried out in the computer unit and the results appear on the screen or more permanently on the printer. Basically, that's all there is to it.

At this level, the micro computer as used now by a great number of small, medium and large businesses is well developed and would be recognisable to a large number of people. Ordinary, largely non-technical people with a wide range of diverse requirements.

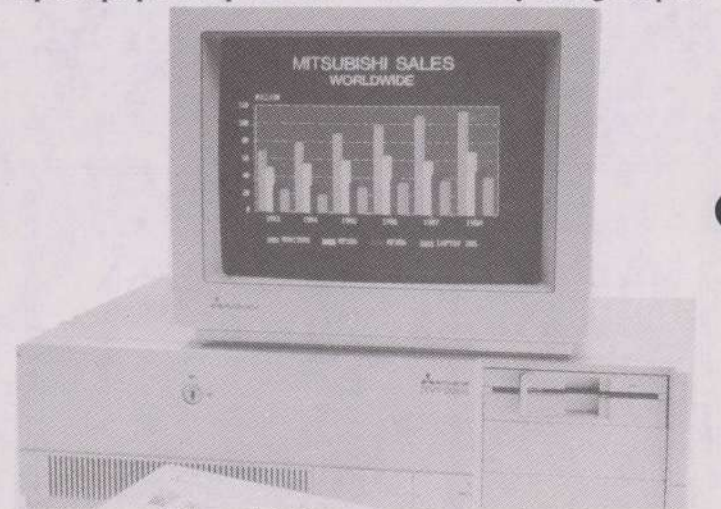
So where does the bespectacled, jargon propounding youth come in? The answer is that somebody has to develop computers and the software programs that make them do the things that are useful, just as mechanical engineers, designers, test drivers, mechanics and sundry other beings are required to bring modern motor vehicles to the consuming public.

It is interesting to look behind the scenes at what these computer developers are preparing for our delectation in the future. Talking computers that can distinguish their owners' voices from those of other humans. Computers that will be combined with other devices such as the hydraulic ram to create machines for use in automated factories. Computers are already used to assist visually and vocally impaired people to improve com-

applications to be discovered and perfected. Of course, the consumer, whose only interest in these matters is whether or not they will be of benefit to him or her, cannot be expected to absorb a disproportionate part of the cost involved. For this reason, it is important to keep one's feet on the ground and examine carefully the reality as against the promise of the claims being made for computers. The aficionado, whose enthusiasm knows no bounds, will find it difficult to understand why the small business person looking for a solution to his PRSI problems is not all excited by the latest high resolution graphics program to be described in the specialist computer magazines.

As an absorbing hobby, computers will hold their own with any other. In terms of the expense involved, they fall somewhere in the middle. Not as cheap as, say, skittles, but a lot less expensive than motor rallying or sky diving. It is possible to lose all idea of time as concentration is demanded to solve the latest in a long line of tricky programming problems. The satisfaction to be gained when it is solved, often more by intuition than by conscious thought, is very, very real indeed.

There is one thing to remember, however. Those who lose themselves in pursuit of the ultimate multi-layered, all encompassing software routine are very much in the minority among computer



munication, and the real indications are that these applications will increase and will also become cheaper than they are at present.

As with all new developments, whether in mechanics, medicine or any other science, progress is really a series of probing steps in a lot of different directions. Some of these, indeed the great majority, do not lead anywhere, but they are necessary for the good ideas and

users in general, and the proportion gets even smaller as these machines become more inherently useful. After all, the great majority of motor car drivers rarely, if ever, feel the need to look too closely or for too long at what goes on underneath the bonnet.

Seamus McKenna is managing director of Flite Computer Systems Ltd.



A Visitor from Another Time: Miss Lucy Walsingham, a 1930s girl from London, visits the Victorian world of St. Bride's.

DONEGAL TILE CENTRE LTD.

*For the largest range of Ceramic
Wall and Floor Tiles at
keen, keen prices!*

★★★★★

Also see our Extensive Range of
Bathroom Suites & Showers

★★★★★

RAMELTON ROAD, LETTERKENNY
Tei. (074) 24770.

Donegal's leading Tile & Bathroom Centre
Call in and let us advise you.



Domestic Appliance Services Ltd.

*Fast, Efficient Repair Service
for
Washing Machines, Cookers,
Fridges etc.*

Also Large Range of Spares
in stock for all makes.
Tel. No. (074) 22155.



Port Rd.
Letterkenny.

074-24555

Bring new life to your windows
with our wide range of Rollers,
Louvres, Venetian, Festoon,
Austrian and Sun Blinds.

FREE ESTIMATING - DISTANCE NO OBJECT

Joe Mangan Travel

— GORTAHORK —

* Coach & Mini-Bus Hire *

**Donegal / Glasgow / Donegal
Airports, Tours and Party Outings**

Tel: 074-35362 Glasgow: 041-4232644
or direct from overseas 01-03-5374-35362

Alan Gibson Insurances Ltd.

10 Lower Main Street, Letterkenny.
Tel: (074) 21414/22027

We hold agencies with ALL the leading insurance companies and we are therefore in a position to obtain the most competitive quotation available to you.

If you are unhappy about your existing Premium or Policy (or both) please tell us and we will endeavour to obtain alternative quotations.

We specialise in arranging insurances for:
**HOUSES • SHOPS/PUBS •
MOTOR - PRIVATE AND COMMERCIAL**

If you become disabled through accident or illness and cannot work, how would you cope financially ?

You can provide for an alternative income, in such circumstances, through a personal accident and sickness policy.

Call us today for a free quotation on
(074) 21251/22790

Hickey Clarke & Langan Insurance Brokers



Lr. Main St., Letterkenny.

Strange Accident Explanations from Our Top Drivers

Yearly car insurance firms receive thousands upon thousands of claims from drivers involved in road accidents. Some of the explanations provided by drivers to the cause of such accidents are most entertaining, to say the least. Explanations that read as follows:

I was thrown from my car as it left the road, and I was later found in the ditch by some stray cows.

Coming home I drove into the wrong house, and collided with a tree I didn't have.

The other car collided with mine, without giving a warning of its intention.

I thought my window was down, but I found it was up when I put my head through it.

I collided with a stationary truck, coming the other way.

A truck backed through my windshield, into my wife's face.

A pedestrian hit me, and went under my car.

The guy was all over the road, I had to swerve a number of times before I hit him.

I pulled away from the side of the road, glanced at my mother-in-law, and headed over the embankment.

In an attempt to kill a fly, I drove into a telegraph pole.

I had been shopping for plants all day, and was on my way home. As I reached an intersection a hedge sprang up obscuring my vision, and I did not see the other car.

I had been driving for forty years when I fell asleep at the wheel and had an accident.

I was on my way to the doctors with rear end trouble when my universal joint gave way causing me to have an accident.

To avoid hitting the bumper of the car in front of me, I struck the pedestrian.

My car was legally parked as it backed into another vehicle.

I was sure the old fellow would never make it to the other side of the road, when I struck him.

I told the Gardai that I was not injured, but on removing my hat, I found I had a fractured skull.

I saw a slow moving, sad faced old man, as he bounced off the roof of my car.

As I approached the intersection a sign suddenly appeared in a place where there was no "stop" sign had ever appeared before.

I was unable to stop in time to avoid an accident.

The pedestrian had no idea which direction to run, so I ran over him.

An invisible car came out of nowhere, struck my car and vanished.

The indirect cause of the accident was a little guy, in a small car, with a big mouth.



He seems to be rather interested in selling us that encyclopedia!

I recently overheard Séamus Doherty telling this yarn in Peadar's Pub in Letterkenny.

Séamus - "I was walking down the street the other day with a dog walking in front of me. I met a friend of mine and he says "does your dog bite?". I said "no he doesn't". He puts out his hand to pat this animal and it nearly bites the hand clean off him. "I thought" he yells, "you said your dog doesn't bite". "No, he doesn't" says Séamus "but that's not my dog!".



IT says in the paper that these pickpockets are getting bolder and bolder.



22 It's not that hard to tell the difference! The ones with the beards are men!



Scoil Mhuire Convent, Buncrana - who are taking part in "The Leade4r" girls post-primary Gaelic Football competition which is being sponsored by Kelly's Korner, Shopping Centre, Letterkenny.



Letterkenny Vocational School Girls Gaelic Football Team who lost to Scoil Mhuire in "The Leader" competition.



Annagry N.S. Gaelic Team in 1983.



Keadue N.S. Gaelic Team in 1983.



Cloughaneely - Junior League Champions 1938/9.

THE GAA IN DONEGAL

This article on the early history of the GAA in Donegal appeared in Ireland's Own many years ago.

The 50th anniversary of the founding of the Gaelic Athletic Association in 1934 found Donegal in a very strong position as a unit for the Association. From very small beginnings - from the time when it had to count the hearts and not the heads - the lands of the O'Donnells had slowly but surely progressed.

In 1905 a gallant little band succeeded in forming a committee and getting the movement under way. The first president was Very Rev. Canon Maguire, D.D. of Carrick. The first Sec. was Alec McDyer, N.T., Glenties. On the committee, with others whose names are not recorded, was the Town Clerk of Bundoran, Edward Daly, who afterwards was chairman of a committee of the Association in South Donegal and was county representative on the Ulster Council.

The newly-formed county committee organised championships in football and hurling. The football champions in 1905 were Lámh Dergs, Letterkenny and in 1906 the winners were the Bal Dergs, Donegal and the runners-up were Killygordan. In hurling the first champions, in 1906 were Hibernians. Burt, and the runners-up were Old Celts, Ardagh. In 1907 Sinn Fein Bundoran were champions, and Burt were their opponents in the final.

In September, 1906, the chairmanship of the county committee became vacant when Canon Maguire then curate in Ardagh, was appointed president of St. Ewan's College. The parish priest of Tamney, Very Rev. Canon Gallagher succeeded him in Ardagh, and was President of the county committee in 1906 and 1907. Séamus MacManus was president in 1908 and 1909.

The championships were not completed after 1907 and activities were confined to interteam competitions. There are few records relating to the period from 1909 on. They were lost during the war of independence.

The generation that followed honoured the memory of the pioneers of the movement in the county and the Dr. Maguire Memorial Cup was set up for annual competition among the senior football teams of the county.

A move towards re-organisation was made in 1919 by General Eoin O'Duffy, who was then secretary of the Ulster council. A meeting held at Letterkenny was attended by representatives from Burtonport, Letterkenny, Bundoran and Killygordan. The late S. O'Flaherty, who was later secretary of the County Board of Health, was elected president, and Sean Curran, Letterkenny, was appointed secretary.

The first match was played at Dungloe on June 29, 1919. The next match was at Killybegs between Burtonport which included players from Glenties, and Bundoran who were the winners. The newly-organised committee revived the championships, which were completed annually.

It is interesting to compare the finances of the Board in 1920 with those for 1933. In 1920 receipts were £3.11.9d and expenditure stood at £42 odd, compared with £740 and £469 in 1933.

In 1922, Sean Cassidy, N.T., Ardara, was elected chairman and Sean Connaghan, Glenties, treasurer. The organising ability of these two men was mainly due the success that attended the reorganised county committee.

In all, including 1905, sixteen co. championships in football were decided up to 1933 as follows - Ardara, 3; Ballyshannon, 2; Bundoran, 1; Castlefin, 1; Donegal, 2; Dungloe, 3; Kilcar, 1; Killygordon, 1; and Letterkenny, 2. Dungloe held the title in 1933-34.

The hurling championships - ten were held up to the GAA Golden Jubilee year - were decided as follows:- Burt, 1; Bundoran, 1; Ballyshannon, 2; Letterkenny, 4; Finner Camp 12th Battalion, 1; and Newtowncunningham, 1.

Three junior football championships were decided, Glenties getting two and Stranorlar one. Later minor championships were organised, Letterkenny winning once in hurling, and once in football.

The question of organisation caused much worry to successive committees. The fact that the county is over 80 miles in length and over 50 in width was a problem but by dividing the county into four well defined areas and forming committees for each, with a special committee to cater for hurling, the Co. Board, ensured the proper carrying out of the competitions and helped to spread the movement to the remotest parts.

By 1934 there were 37 clubs in the county. The county championships were usually decided at Glenties or Ardara, and the hurling finals were generally held at Letterkenny.

Between 1919 and 1934 the county figured in inter-county contests, and had many victories. In 1923, the county selection with representatives from Inishowen, the stronghold of hurling, Letterkenny and Ballyshannon, won the Ulster championship, to be defeated by Limerick, representing Munster in the All-Ireland semifinal. Again in 1932 after a great game with Antrim, holders for nine years, the Ulster championship came to Donegal.

When the county was graded junior at its own request in 1930 it won the Ulster title and the North Eastern section in the National League.

1933 saw wonderful enthusiasm in the county, as the team, winning out in Ulster and defeating Cork, the Munster representatives in the semi-final, figured in a great game at Croke Park in the final with Mayo, who won.

In all other branches of GAA activity the county has been well to the fore, organising handball and camogie competitions promoting Irish dances, registering its players and advertising its matches in the Irish language, and supporting Irish manufacture.

THE GOOSEBERRIES

The Gooseberries

The Gooseberries are made up of:
 Kevin Doherty: lead vocals, acoustic guitar, songwriter (Buncrana)
 Percy Robinson: Pedal steel guitar, steel guitar (Letterkenny)
 Laurence Doherty: Drums (Buncrana)
 Michael Boyce: Bass (Letterkenny)
 Martin McGinley: Fiddle (Derry)
 Sean McCarron: Saxophone (Buncrana)

The Gooseberries have been on the road for about a year now and the unique blend of country music has ensured them a local following wherever they play.

Kevin Doherty on lead vocals and acoustic guitar is not only a talented songwriter but also has one of the best country voices singing in Ireland today.

Percy Robinson on pedal steel has played on the TV programme *The Session* with John Prine, Nancy Griffith and he also features on Terence Trent D'Arby's new album.

Laurence Doherty and Sean McCarron are both ex Quarterdeck, a former Donegal band of note, well respected in music circles.

Martin McGinley's roots are traditional but he certainly has a feeling for good country fiddle as well.

Michael Boyce, a former drummer, knows what good tight bass playing is all about.

The band has appeared on RTE's programme *The Bibi Show*, and has very recently appeared for three consecutive nights as the basement band on the much acclaimed *Nighthawks* TV programme.

Both "Course of Time" and the B-side track "Everytime I Call You" were written by Leslie who plays keyboards alongside John Doherty on drums, James Boyce on guitar and Mark McConnell on bass. Tony Gillespie takes the lead vocals spot. For further information on the band contact Sean O'Byrne at (073) 39133.



Blue Moon Cafe

MOUNTAIN TOP, LETTERKENNY.

OPEN 7 DAYS

Mon. to Sat. 8.30am to 8.30pm
 Sunday 2.30pm to 8.30pm

Breakfast 8.30-11.00
Hot Meals All Day

GOOD FOOD • FAST SERVICE



NEROS NITECLUB

FRIDAY
DJ BIG JOHN

SATURDAY
DJ KEITH

SUNDAY
PAT McGRATH

TUESDAY
DJ PAT McGRATH

WEDNESDAY
STUDENTS NITE
DJ BIG JOHN

THURSDAY
DJ IAN




PORT ROAD, LETTERKENNY.

TEL. (074) 22689

Courage is not enough if you are disabled in the Gaeltacht

by Donal K. O'Boyle.

I find it unbelievable and indeed shocking that there are not comprehensive statistics of the number of permanently disabled persons resident in the Gaeltacht areas. Despite recent legislation and an increase in community care, all too often the disabled person and his family have to fight their way out of isolation and neglect.

In the Gaeltacht the dice is loaded against the handicapped at every throw. From an early age most are herded off into Special schools, buses or homes, labelled different, because the facilities are not available in the Gaeltacht areas. Udaras na Gaeltachta feel sorry for them, but has failed to honour the commitment to achieve a quota of three per cent of jobs for the disabled. Buy our goods, but don't complain if we have on convenient toilets. Come to our social, sporting and entertainment venues, but don't moan if you can't climb the steps. The attitude of the Government seems not much more enlightened.

FIGHTING FOR THEIR RIGHTS

The handicapped suffer medical problems and housing problems; problems of education and training; of employment and income; mobility and access; of leisure and equipment. The problems are more severe in Gaeltacht areas, as the services provided by various Health Boards, local councils and voluntary organisations show an uneven geographical distribution limiting the services and benefits provided in such isolated areas. This economic and social isolation must be a strong factor in many people's uneasiness with disabled people. The fact this uneasiness, even now, only too often hardens into revulsion or prejudice is simply a sign of ignorance. It is a vicious circle, and at its centre is poverty. The present lack of allowance for anything but occasional local travel, or small luxuries, inflicts great misery on many of the disabled who must live entirely off mean-tested allowance. Such poverty only serves further to isolate them from the rest of the community and the consequent loneliness is a chronic problem.

FEW STATISTICS AVAILABLE

According to the "Green Paper on Services for Disabled People - Towards a Full Life", there is no comprehensive source of information on the number of disabled people in Ireland. Information is available in relation to the mentally handicapped and mentally ill; the main difficulty arises in relation to the physically disabled. The total figure for Ireland would be in the region of 160,000. For the Gaeltacht few statistics are available. According to the various Health Boards, they estimate that the number in receipt of the Disabled Persons Maintenance Allowance was as follows:

Donegal	1840
Mayo	1920
Kerry	1880
Cork	1890
Waterford	630
Meath	460

Such figures do not include disabled people under the age of 16 or over the age of 65, or persons in receipt of any other disability allowance. Nor does it include handicapped people in hospitals, institutions, or in full or part time training and employment. A figure of 13,000 would probably be closer to the true number of handicapped resident in Gaeltacht areas.

A LOCAL SURVEY

A survey compiled to cover the area of North-West Donegal revealed Mentally Handicapped

	Non-Residential	Residential
Mildly	85	1
Moderately	42	26
Severely		31
Profoundly	1	2

Further mildly handicapped attend:

The North Western Health Board Training Centre, Gweedore -	35
The Day Centre in Annagry -	8
The Special Class in Dungloe National School -	7

According to figures, the number of physically handicapped from the Gaeltacht areas who attend a rehabilitation unit were as follows:

Donegal	9
Mayo	17
Galway	18
Kerry	15
Waterford	10
Meath	7

No details were available of the number attending the FAS Training Unit, or the number of handicapped who received full time or part-time employment as a result of their rehabilitation training. There is an urgent need for comprehensive information on the numbers of disabled people and their special needs. Towards this end the Health Boards, along with the local authorities, including Udaras na Gaeltachta, County Councils, The National Rehabilitation Board, should endure the development of an efficient information system.

LACK OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

People disabled from birth or before they reach working age are particularly badly off. Their horizons are low and bleak. They can expect to face poverty and loneliness. Disabled children still suffer from inferior education. It seems no more than common sense when the body is disabled to foster the growth of the mind. The Department of Education says more young physically handicapped should and could be educated in ordinary schools.

The trend to educate the handicapped in ordinary schools is an international phenomenon. Outside the Gaeltacht there is an increasing tendency towards the view that since the basic needs of all children both handicapped and non-handicapped are the same. The educational service must reflect this similarity.

But in the Gaeltacht, handicapped suffer from transport problems to get to school, and at most National Schools throughout the region, few have provided access or indeed toilet facilities to meet the special needs of the handicapped. So as a result, both physically and mentally handicapped are herded off into special schools outside the Gaeltacht. Not alone is the child separated from its parents for weeks or months

(continued on page 32)



Pictured at a Gweedore United F.C. Dinner Dance a few years ago.



Leitir F.C. who were playing in the Donegal League 3rd Division in 1981.

on end, but they also face the added language barrier. Irish at home, and English in the special residential schools. Children attending such schools are in some cases not entitled to benefit from the annual "£10" language allowance, and this is because they are not attending a school in the Gaeltacht, say the Department of Education. It is rather said to note how few disabled children from Gaeltacht who are handicapped in one way or another have attained an educational standard above Primary Level, over the past decade. It seems that handicapped children are educated in Irish, at home, but when they require hospital treatment, the education system is in English.

Young handicapped students who wish to visit the Gaeltacht to improve the "Irish" find that the "summer schools" are not equipped to cope with their needs, and the organisations who organise such courses freely admit, they have no information on accommodation or transport available for the handicapped attending the Gaeltacht. Another hit or miss affair.

THE DREAM OF EMPLOYMENT

When it comes to employment it seems there is little or no liaison between the National Rehabilitation Board and organisations who employ the disabled such as Udaras na Gaeltachta, local authorities etc. The NRB have produced several excellent books intended to help employ physically and mentally disabled people to the best mutual advantage, both by recruiting suitably-qualified disabled people and by making the most of the abilities or existing employees who are disabled or who become disabled. The NRB say the experience of many employers is that disabled employees performance at work equals that of their colleagues, and their attendance and work record is first class. Yet the number of unemployed among the employable disabled residents in the Gaeltacht is four times the national average. Udaras na Gaeltachta have yet to honour their commitment to achieve a quota of three per cent of jobs for the disabled. Udaras and their associated firms have no figures on the number of disabled employed upon their various industrial estates, or how many of their factories are accessible to the handicapped? The County Enterprise Fund

(operated by the County Council), established with the assistance of the International Fund for Ireland, have yet to fund a project for the benefit of the handicapped, and have no records to show if any handicapped are even employed full or part-time in such a funded project.

The basis of a clear policy for employing disabled people:

1. Full and fair consideration for all types of vacancies.
2. Retention of newly-disabled employees whenever possible, following rehabilitation or training.
3. Equal opportunities for training, career development and promotion.
4. Modifications to equipment, the use of special employment aids, or job-restructuring where appropriate.
5. Premises adaptations where necessary.
6. Close co-operation with the NRB Resettlement Officer.

Most disabled people can be readily fitted into the workforce, with the minimum adjustment on either side. In many cases, disabilities are more apparent than real.

A FAMILY AFFAIR

Due to the mass emigration in recent years many handicapped people in the Gaeltacht live alone or with ageing parents. They are in most cases cut off from the rest of the community, in houses that were not built to cater for their special needs and serve only as prisons; homes in remote areas, in some cases without electricity or inside toilets. Their only contact with the outside world is via Radio na Gaeltachta. While RTE Radio 1, have introduced programmes as "Not so Different", "Listen and See" and the return of "Hospital Requests". But despite increased broadcasting hours and a budget in excess of £1.5 million, Radio na Gaeltachta have yet to introduce a magazine programme to inform the handicapped of their rights and provide them with information and how to contact the various groups involved in the Gaeltacht. Such a programme would educate and entertain in the language they understand best.

Many handicapped are not informed of grants or benefits available to improve their homes etc. County Councils could do much in this area, but they are keen to pass the buck. Due to transport and access prob-

lems, not just by their exclusion from public buildings, but even from hotels, pubs, social and sporting centres, and entertainment venues. Steps without handrails or ramps, awkward doorways, often bar wheelchair cases, and people with mobility problems. Opening such doors to the disabled is of fundamental importance to improving their social status. Forced exclusion from such places of work, entertainment, social gathering etc, make the handicapped feel they are a race apart. County Councils must ensure that all footpaths have kerb-slants to aid the handicapped person confined to a wheelchair. The National Rehabilitation Board have published three excellent books on "access" into hotels, guest houses, etc. The Department of the Environment have promised new legislation to ensure that disabled people have equal rights in the workplace, educational establishment, places of worship, and in general places open to the public on payment or otherwise.

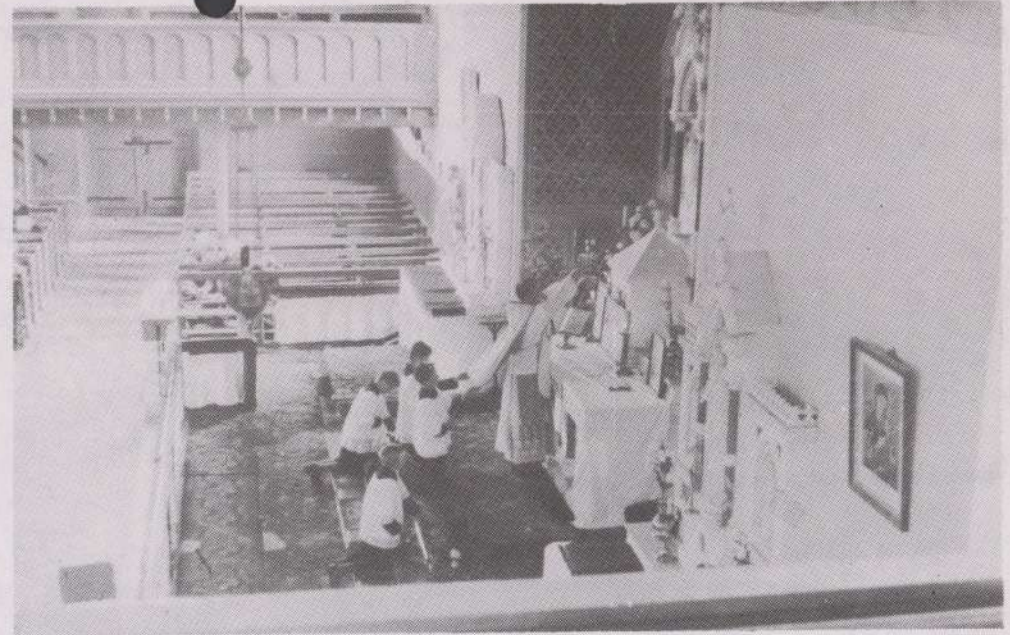
A CHANGE OF HEART

Unless urgent improvements are made, the old sad tale will be repeated, of disabled who have no prospect of work, and consequently no prospect of an income that will allow any real measure of independence; inadequate means-tested benefits leave the disabled in the Gaeltacht tied by poverty to ageing relations until he or she is forced into an institution.

We have two compelling and related needs. The first is to obtain full identification of all the handicapped resident in the Gaeltacht and the number from the Gaeltacht who are in homes and residential centres outside the area. Without such information policy-making by the various Government Departments, Udaras na Gaeltachta, local authorities etc, is a hit or miss affair. The second is to provide higher standards of services from education to employment, and from day care to home care, that will enable the disabled to live with dignity in society and the comfort of their homes. Public awareness must be increased at all levels. It is cheaper, as well as more compassionate to allow people the means to look after themselves rather than to force them into a humiliating dependence little better than an unpleasant, everlasting childhood!



Cloughaneely - Junior League Champions 1959.



Aifreann a léamh i dTeach Pobail Mhuire
i nGaoth Dobhair blianta fada ó shin.



Murlough Bridge & Factory, Annagry, more than half a century ago.



Murlough Bridge & Factory, Annagry, today.
Photo: Eoin McGarvey, Loughanure.

Crime Prevention is Your Business

"I have nothing worth stealing" or "no need to worry, the insurance will cover it" are typical remarks made when the subject of home and personal security is brought up. So you have nothing worth stealing?...are you sure? You have adequate insurance on your personal property?...are you sure?

Almost everybody has something worthy of a thief's attention. To lose or have property removed without your permission can be distressful. If such a crime is perpetrated by the violation of your private residence, then the distress will be magnified. So what can I (The individual) do? Bearing in mind that most thieves look for easy pickings the following suggestions will cost you only a few extra minutes of time.

HOME SECURITY

- Secure all windows.
- Secure all doors
- Use locks of recommended standard.
- Never leave keys under door mats or on string behind letterboxes.
- Check identity of callers to your house.
- Leave lights on at night.
- Secure sheds and garages.
- Secure all tools and ladders.

Do not advertise your absence (milk, papers, notes)

Mark all property.

If you have considerable property you may have to incur some expense which in the long run will be small in comparison with the loss or distress which could otherwise be suffered, in

- installing an alarm system.
- purchasing of a safe for protection of papers, cash, jewellery.

CAR SECURITY

- Always remove ignition key.
- Lock all doors and windows.
- Do not leave valuables exposed in car (place in boot)
- Fit anti-theft device.

What can we (as a community) do?

- In urban areas the setting up of a Neighbourhood Watch could be considered.
- In rural areas the setting up of Community Alert would be beneficial.

Further information and advice in relation to personal, home or business security or the setting up of Neighbourhood Watch of Community Alert is available by contacting your local Garda Station or the Crime Prevention Office at Letterkenny Garda Station (Phone: 074-22222).

A picture to colour. .



"Oh well, £75,000 you nicked and buried is pretty safe - they've built a block of flats over it!"



Blake's Bar - winners of the Letterkenny Darts League in 1973.

CHARLIE DUFFY & SONS

COACH TRAVEL

DONEGAL - DUBLIN - DONEGAL DAILY

NEW TIMETABLE:

Dept. time from Letterkenny (Mon. to Sat.) 9.00 a.m.

Extra Service: Fri. 1.15 p.m. & 5.15 p.m. (Letterkenny)

Sunday: 1.00 p.m. & 5.15 p.m. (Letterkenny)

Dept. time from Dublin daily (Mon. to Sat.) 6.00 p.m.

Friday: 4.30 p.m. 5.00 p.m. & 6.00 p.m.

Sunday: 6.00 p.m. & 9.00 p.m.

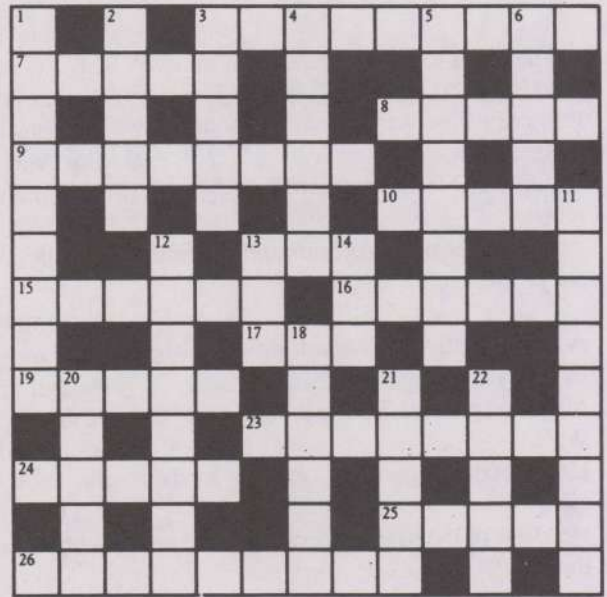
Monday AND Saturday morning: 9.30 a.m.

ROUTE 1: Departs Annagry - Gweedore, Falcarragh, Creeslough, Kilmacrennan, Letterkenny, Lifford daily.

ROUTE 2: Departs Annagry - Kincasslagh, Burtonport, Dungloe, Cloughan, Twin Towns, Killygordon, Castlefin, Lifford daily.

Bookings & Enquiries: Tel: (075) 31118

**Extra special fare for students
with current student cards**



Crossword



ACROSS

DOWN

- | | |
|--|--|
| 3 Accommodation providing bed and all meals (4, 5) | 1 Hold-up for motorist (9) |
| 7 Excessively fat (5) | 2 Fruit-flavoured dessert (5) |
| 8 A cooker (5) | 3 To assume fictitiously (5) |
| 9 Hard working (8) | 4 Built-on shed (4-2) |
| 10 End of needle (5) | 5 Conforming to accepted standards (8) |
| 13 Quiet or soft (3) | 6 Large black bird (5) |
| 15 A discount (6) | 11 To put an end to (9) |
| 16 Pressure line on map (6) | 12 Sling-shot (8) |
| 17 Choose (3) | 13 Sign of the zodiac (3) |
| 19 A fragment (5) | 14 Clever humour (3) |
| 23 Success at soccer forecasting (5, 3) | 18 Double-quick (6) |
| 24 Haughty (5) | 20 Unusual, collectable article (5) |
| 25 Crouch down (5) | 21 Near (5) |
| 26 To act or proceed independently (2, 2, 5) | 22 Dreadful (5) |



Cloughwally Band in the late 50s.

Photo: Josie O'Donnell.

Freagraí

ACROSS: 3 Full board; 7 Obese; 8 Stove; 9 Diligent; 10 Point; 13 Low; 15 Rebar; 16 Isobar; 17 Opt; 19 Scrap; 23 Pools win; 24 Proud; 25 Squat; 26 Go it alone.
DOWN: 1 Roadworks; 2 Jelly; 3 Feign; 4 Lean-to; 5 Orthodox; 6 Raven; 11 Terminate; 12 Caput; 13 Leo; 14 Wit; 18 Pronto; 20 Curio; 21 Closet; 22 Awful.



Mr. John Friel, coach with Pobailscoil Ghaoth Dobhair Basketball Team six years ago.

ARTEX DESIGNS

Beautify your Ceilings with an Artex Texture Finish

★ OVER 12 PATTERNS TO CHOOSE FROM ★

- Eliminates Cracks.
- Enhances Interior Decoration and adds value to your home.
- Eliminates Wallpaper Stripping — especially staircases.

CORNICES AND CEILING ROSES FITTED

- Existing patterns can be changed.
- Gyproc Coving fitted.

Telephone. P. P. Sweeney at
(075) 31037

The Dance

On the road to Meenamarach, in the twilight long ago,
Past cosy lime-washed cabins, with tilley lamps aglow.
A dog on Oileán Treorach, baying to the moon,
And someone playing a hornpipe on a fiddle out of tune.

A sobbing little south-wind, with raindrops in it's eyes,
Mountain pools reflecting the sparkle of the skies,
Little brooks a gurgling, jubilant in their glee,
Heedless of the hazards between them and the sea.

**"The Leader 1990 Annual
© 1990 The Leader
Lower Main St., Letterkenny**

Cleendra Calling

(This is a copy of an old press cutting, 51 years old, re a radio broadcast of "Paddy The Cope", 5th January, 1938).

Sir - It was interesting to sit at a distance of some hundreds of miles this evening, listening to Paddy The Cope telling his story of "The Miracle of Templecrone". You could just imagine yourself on the "airnal" in a house in Cleendra.

A few of us sat throughout his talk listening attentively, not daring to speak for fear of missing something; but at each of his anecdotes, the older members of the company nodding their heads in acquiescence, exchanging knowing looks and smiles and suppressing a desire to supplement his remarks.

When he finished, we heard more stories from some of his old neighbours. I believe that (like most pioneers) the birth of his project met with much opposition.

Speaking at a meeting on one occasion, he was heard encouraging membership by reading out the names of members who had already formed the nucleus of what is now "The Templecrone Cooperative Society". He read: "Paddy Pat" number one (his father); "Roger Dougan", number two "not much forcin' needed there", said Paddy.

Before his praiseworthy efforts bore fruit, he earned for himself many forms of unflattering nomenclature (e.g. "Old Moses from Cleendra") before the now popular one of "Paddy the Cope" supervened and survived the others. If we could hear more about the Rosses from Athlone, such items could have a universal appeal.

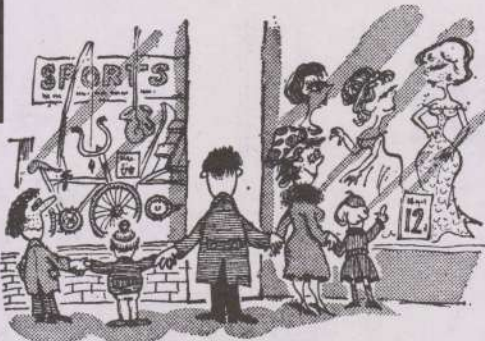
Yours faithfully,
"Dubhcean Maconuladh", Scotland

M.M.F.
To his neighbours, Paddy was "Paddy Pat Bán" before "Paddy The Cope" days.

Coming home by Meenamarach, weary from the dance,
Darkness and the dawning, and a townland in a trance,
But I was young and agile then with blithe and youthful stride,
Who cared for day or darkness, with his sweetheart by his side ?

To stroll by Meenamarach to night, would bring me pain,
Neither cottages or tilley-lamps will ever be again,
A dog on Oileán Treorach, may serenade the moon,
But the hornpipe is over, and it's me that's out of tune.

Bernard J. Byrne



How would they feel if we studied their mating habits ?



"There's no point in continually muttering grace. Dinner won't be ready for 15 minutes"

My husband has only one interest - discussing politics.

Jailer's Of Pretence

By Brendan Fanneran

Pity not the past for it is harmless, like an ageless dream. Cry not for the present, for it is like a meaningless puzzle that was invented for the sole purpose of avoiding having to find an answer to the future. Pity the future, for it would be eternal, were not man's love for self-destruction so easily denied.

Mourn not for me, but for yourselves and your inability to appreciate the beauty and simplicity of life that surrounds you. You work and strive to make a life for yourselves, but fail to see the abundance of life around you. You hear the birds sing, but do not listen. You see the trees, but do not notice. You look to the stream, but see no life. You see the flowers, but do not smell.

Cry not for me, but for yourselves and your children. You have taken away their childhood and their times of pretend, and made them into clockwork images of yourselves. No, you cannot play, if you don't learn, you won't be grown up like me. No, you can't pick flowers, you might catch something nasty.

Pity not me, but your children's children and their world your greed has destroyed. For they shall become like patchwork dolls, in a community of the living dead, you shall bequeath to them a world of empty dreams, a future of devastation and sorrow. Let not their tears be forgotten for the grief they will feel at the memory of a smile that should never age, but will long be forgotten.

So pity the jailers of pretence and the fools of time, for the spirit is only free when he who knows how to love and share has no room for sorrow to enter.

QUIZ TIME

1. Who is the President of the Football Association of Ireland ?
2. The title of Dr. Gay Byrne's autobiography.
3. Name the two Donegal entertainers who were presented with the IRMA MILK Music Awards.
4. Who won the title of "Champions of Champions" in the marching bands competition ?
5. Are there more males or females in Donegal ?
6. Name the Chairman of the Donegal County Council.
7. The name of Daniel O'Donnell's original backing band ?
8. Before joining RTE, Bibi Baskin was editor of which newspaper ?
9. Who is the longest serving T.D. in Dáil Éireann ?
10. Can you name the Donegal family featured in the RTE series "I live Here" ?
11. Who is the Chairman of Údaras na Gaeltachta ?
12. Where will Donegal Highland Radio be based ?
13. Name the American who compiled a book entitled "Stories from Tory Island" ?
14. Who is the current holder of the "Mary from Dungloe" title ?
15. Who is the current title holder of the "Donegal Person of the Year" ?
16. Name the local team which Packie Bonner began his career with ?
17. The Donegal GAA team are enjoying a successful run, name their manager ?
18. Before the arrival of Loganair, which company provided the daily service between Carrickfinn Airport and Glasgow ?
19. Which Donegal singer celebrated 25 years in showbusiness ?
20. Who teamed up with Clannad on the hit single "In a Lifetime" ?

(answers on Page 46)



St. Patrick's Day. But where, when and who were the band ?



"Tonight we have in the studio a gentleman who has built a replica of Westminster Abbey from beer bottle tops ..."

REMEMBER

THE RASCALS ?

A Few Thoughts on Racism

For those people who deem themselves in some way superior to people of a different skin colour and for those who have grown dissipated with such an attitude, let them ponder this statement by the Universal House of Justice, the supreme body of the Baha'i Faith, as contained in its remarkable and revealing document published in 1985, *The Promise of World Peace*:

Racism, one of the most baneful and persistent evils, is a major barr to peace. Its practice perpetrates too outrageous a violation of the dignity of human beings to be countenanced under any pretext. Racism retards the unfoldment of the boundless potentialities of its victims, corrupts its perpetrators, and blights human progress. Recognition of the oneness of mankind, implemented by appropriate legal measures, must be universally upheld if this problem is to be overcome (pp. 12-13).

Just what rewards or significant benefits does one racial group ever attain by exalting itself over another? None, if the strife-torn fabric of the modern civilisations of both East and West is anything to go by.

In this century, all the human sciences - whether anthropology, physiology or psychology - have confirmed the stunning yet beautiful spiritual truth revealed over 100 years ago by Baha'u'llah (the Glory of God), the Prophet-Founder of the Baha'i Faith, of the oneness and the wholeness of the entire human race.

Should such a "baneful and persistent" prejudice as racism - the anti-religious and

unscientific notion that white is greater than black or that yellow is lesser than brown - be allowed any longer to shape the minds and control the hearts of the members of one global family? Indeed, can such a prejudice, which has impeded mankind's true spiritual progress and social advancement, be allowed any longer to prevail in a world of organically unified and interdependent nations and peoples?

A gradual acceptance of the truth of the oneness and the wholeness of the entire human race followed by a whole-hearted love (that transcends the colour of a person's skin) for all the earth's citizens are clearly capable of banishing from our midst the age-old and destructive prejudice of racism. One has only to examine the extraordinary way in which Christianity and Islam long ago succeeded in uniting infinitely diverse and formerly warring peoples to realise the concept of unity in diversity.

In the Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-39), Christ told a poignant story that demonstrates vividly the futility of prejudice (in the responses of the priest and the Levite) and the necessity, after having eliminated the antagonistic divisions of race, nation and religion (on the part of the Samaritan), of becoming one.

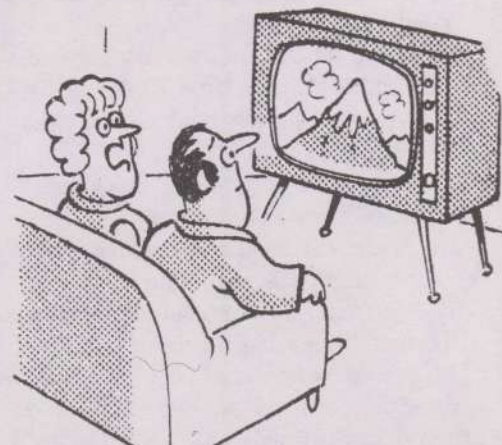
For further information on the Baha'i Faith and a free copy of the 28-page booklet, "The Promise of World Peace", please write to:
Fergal and Agnes Megannety,
20 High Road,
Letterkenny.

Even cartoons can go out of date - as the one below from an old newspaper illustrates



"He used to be the East German pole vault champion—now he's the West German pole vault champion."

When I was in Africa I got up one night and shot an elephant in my pyjamas - how it got into my pyjamas I'll never know
(Marx Brothers)



"Is this one of those peak viewing periods?"

DÖNBERG-ELECTRONICS LTD.

"Vorsprung durch Erfahrung"
(AS THEY SAY IN GERMANY)

SATELLITE SYSTEMS NOW AVAILABLE

GOOD QUALITY SECOND-HAND TELEVISIONS IN STOCK
RENT A COLOUR TV FROM £2.50 PER WEEK!

Call and see the Latest Range of TV's, Video and Audio Products

EASY PAY SYSTEM AVAILABLE!

TV · VIDEO · AUDIO · AERIALS · ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS · WASHING MACHINES · INDUSTRIAL ELECTRONIC COMPUTERS

DÖNBERG-ELECTRONICS

SCHOOLMASTERS HOUSE
RANAFEST, ANNAGRY, CO. DONEGAL

TEL. 075-48275



BUÍÓN CHEOIL CHLOICH CHEANN FHAOLA

Major achievements: The Band was founded in 1983. It became All-Ireland champions in 1986 to 1987 in the Junior Mixed Section of Féiladh Cheoil na hÉireann. The Band entered the Senior Mixed Section this year and became All-Ireland Champions again as a Senior Band. In 1988 the Band released a 20 track cassette tape entitled "*The Best of Cloughaneely Junior Band*" This tape was a great success and is still available from the Band Chairman or any member of the Committee.

Mar Crochadh an Baoilleach

Bhí fear de Baoilleaigh pósta ar bhean de chionn Uí Chobhtaigh as iarthair na hÉireann agus comhnaí orthu i gcomhar-sanacht Ailt an Chorráin i Rosa Thír Chonaill. Bhí siad beo bocht, ach iad sona seascair agus gan focal searbh na salach eatorra ariamh. Sin go dtí go dtainig deartháir díthe - sa anuas as Co. Mhuigheo ar chuairt chuca. Chaith sé seal amisire ag spais-teoireacht thart fa iochtár tíre, agus é mar gach stráinseoir éile ag déanamh iontais de na rudaí éagsula fa na cladaigh, nach rabh a leithéid le feiceáil sa bhaile aige. I gcionn na h-aimsire stad na h-iontais agus bhí sé ag tuitim i ndruim-duchach.

Ba ansin a mhól an Baoilleach dó a dhul leis-san suas fa na sléibhte ar lá seilge. Ba é sin an guth a fuair an freagra agus ar maidin lá ar na mhárach theann siad ortha, agus níor stad siad go rabh siad thuas i n-aice Thulaigh na Gréine. Chaith siad an lá ag seilg, ach is cosúil le teacht an trathnóna go dtáinig iomarscáil éigin eatorra agus go deachaidh siad i ngreimeanna cruidhe corraideachta le chéile. Is cosúil go rabh an Baoilleach ró-láidir ag an fhear éile agus cé aca de thaisme na de aon-turas é sul ar luigh an ghrian, bhí mac Uí Chobhtaigh na luí marbh an an léana chois na h-abhna, an áit a dtearn an Baoilleach uaigh agus ar chuir sé an corp. Is beag siúl daoine a bhí fan áit sin 'san am.

Phill an Baoilleach ar an bhaile, agus nuair a chuir a bhean cheist air ca rabh a deartháir, dúirt sé gur bhain sé suas an baile amach, nuair a bhí siad reidh leis an tseilg. Mar go rabh daoine siúlach an t-am sin, níor chuir sí groin ar bith sa scéal, agus ní rabh lá iomra ar na gnóithí ó sin amach. Ach is

cinnte go rabh an dún-mharbhú ag déanamh imní dón Bhaoilleach. Bliain 'ón am sin chuaidh sé suas fa na sléibhte arís agus chuaidh a d'iascaireacht ar an abhainn, an áit ar chuir sé deartháir a bhean-chéile. Tráthnóna bheir sé ar easconn mhór agus thug a agaidh ar an bhaile. D'iarr sé ar an bhean an t-easconn a rósadh ar an mhaide-briste fa choinne an dinnéara. Rinne sí sin agus le linn díte a bheith ag rósadh an eascoinn, bhí an t-easconn ag dul tré theine leis an mhéid ola a bhí ag sileadh aistí. "Dhia a Shéamus", ar sise, "nach meith (fat) an t-iasc í sin?" "Is beag an buíochas sin díte, agus í beo ar fheoil Chobhtaigh le bliain" ar seisean. Níor dhúirt sí dada san am, ach fa choinn seachtaine theann uirthi agus bhain sí siar an baile amach. Fuair sí amach, nach dtáinig an deartháir na bhaile ariamh. Bhí fhios aici ansin caidé a tharlaigh dó'n deartháir.

Chuaidh an scéala thart, agus chuaidh sé i gcluasa Ghráinne Ní Mháille, Bainríon an Iarthair san am agus ar a dtugtaí Gráinne Uaile. Dúirt sise le bean and Bhaollaigh go mbainféadh sise éiric amach as bás a deartháir agus ar ndoigh níor chuir sí sin, ina h-éadan. Bhí go maith, chruinnigh Gráinne slua da cuid saighdiúr agus thug a h-aghaidh ar chladaigh gharbh na Rosann. Thaing an sceala go rabh sí ar an bhealach agus chruinnigh an Baoilleach cuid da chuid leanúna féin agus bhí reidh le cogadh a chuir ar Ghráinne nuair a sheol sí isteach go Port an Chaisleáin (Castleport) i n-aice Ailt-an Chorráin. Bhí troid fhíochmhar éadar an dá dhream, ach tráthnóna an dara lá, bhí fhios ag an Bhaoilleach, go rabh arm Ghráinne ró láidir acu, agus scab sé a lucht

Pádraig Mac Gairbheith
Loch-an-lúir, Nollaig 1989

tachaoícht' féin agus théith sé féin agus cupla fear éile isteach fa na portaigh. Ach ní tháinig Gráinne Ní Mháille an bealach uilig as Muigheo gan díoltais a bheith aici. Lean sí féin agus a cuid fear an Baoilleach fríd phortaigh lom na Rosann go dtí go dtáinig sí suas leis sa lag-chaorthann, idir Loch-an-lúir agus an Clochán Liath. Cuireadh cúirt "Kangaroo" air ansin agus daoradh chun báis é. Bhí stachán cloiche na seasamh i lár an phortaigh agus cuireadh sealán ar mhúineál an Bhaollaigh agus crochadh é le solas na gealaí. Deir daoine go bhfuil lorg an rópa le feiceáil sa chloch sin go fóill agus na dtearn callach ingilt fa na bun, áit atá de shíor glas. An áit a bhfuairas cnámha Uí Chobhtaigh ag corradh na h-abhna, níor tugadh d'ainm ar ariamh ó shoin ach "Corradh Cobhtaigh". Agus an ceantair thart ar an áit ar crochadh an Baoilleach ar an strachán cloiche sin, bheirtear go dtí an lá inniu air "Croich-Uí Bhaill". Chonnaic mé féin an stacán cloiche seo agus tá lorg ar a barr mar bhéadh lorg rópa ann agus is cinnte go bhfuil an portach "síor ghlas" fa na bun. Mas fíor go dtéarnadh an dá ghníomh ghránna seo i Rosa Thír Chonaill i n-aimsear Ghráinne Ní Mháille, is doigh gur é an dara cionn an "crochadh poiblí" amháin a bhí ariamh sa taobh seo tíre. Is cinnte gur fhág an dá eachtrá dha lag-aimn fhileánta againn, nach mbéadh againn muna bpósaídh an Baoilleach ar bhean an Iarthair agus mura dtiocfadh a deartháir ar chuairt na Rosann.

DONEGAL-GALWAY-DONEGAL

— COACH TOURS —

Ideal for Students to and from Galway & Sligo

	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday to Thursday
Depart Letterkenny	10.30 a.m. 4.30 p.m.	—	3.30 p.m.	9.00 a.m.
Dep. Sligo for Galway	12.30 p.m. 6.30 p.m.	—	5.30 p.m.	11.00 a.m.
Dep. Galway	5.30 p.m.	10.00 a.m.	8.00 p.m.	4.00 p.m.
Dep. Sligo for Donegal	8.00 p.m.	12.00 p.m.	10.30 p.m.	6.00 p.m.

Ideal for Daily Trips to Sligo and Kneek.
All Galway departures from Cathedral except
Sunday evening departure from
Eyre Square 8.00 p.m.

Bookings & Enquiries: (075) 48114
(091) 68421 (091) 61656

FEDA O'DONNELL COACHES

Now On Sale
EXCITING NEW BOARD
GAME
"From A to B"
in all local shops



shamrock lodge GUEST HOUSE
Traditional Music Every Wed. & Sat. Night
neart ceól agus
craic. gac oíche saturday
agus oíche cheadaoine
Fáilte agus aoióct



Illistrin U-11 Football Team - U-11 League Runners Up in 1981/2.



Meenaleck (Crolly) N.S. on 29th June 1957.

AIDS

THE FACTS

WHAT IS AIDS

The letters A.I.D.S. stand for Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.

WHAT CAUSES AIDS?

AIDS is caused by a virus called the Human Immuno-deficiency Virus (HIV). This virus directly attacks and damages the body's immune system.

HOW IS AIDS DETECTED?

There is no test to see if a person has or will develop AIDS. There is however, a test to detect antibodies to HIV which are specific substances that the body produces to fight germs and viruses. From exposure to the virus to developing the antibodies, it takes about 3 months, during which an infected person may transmit the virus.

DOES H.I.V. MEAN AIDS?

At the moment, evidence shows that about half of those with HIV will develop AIDS within 10 or 12 years. It usually takes several years before the most serious symptoms occur, a healthy lifestyle and reduction of stress can slow down the progression.

WHAT DISEASES OCCUR WITH AIDS?

PCP. Pneumocystic Carinii Pneumonias, which has symptoms like those of pneumonia.

KS. Kaposi's Sarcoma, which is a form of skin cancer that leaves large darkish marks on the skin and sometimes inside the body.

CAN AIDS BE TREATED?

At the moment anti-viral drugs such as AZT can halt the progression although there is no specific cure, however research is continuing.

AIDS IN IRELAND

As of April 1989, 88 people in the 26 counties and 10 people in the North have developed AIDS, of these 43 have died, 814 in the south and 55 in the North have been tested positive but the true figure is likely to be as much as 4000. This figure doubles every 10 months.

WOMEN AND AIDS

Women can transmit the AIDS Virus to unborn children during pregnancy or dur-

ing birth, through infected breast milk or through sexual activity such as abuse and rape.

It is important to remember that AIDS can affect any person of any age. It is not what you are but what you do that puts you at risk.

THE FACTS

HIV or the AIDS Virus is not easily transmitted and can only be spread by:

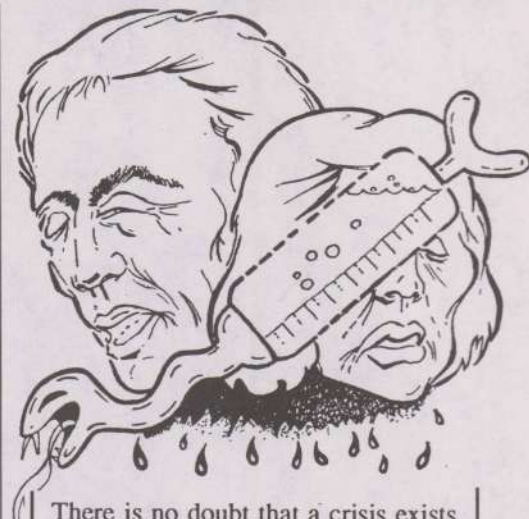
1. Direct blood-to-blood contact.
2. Exchange of sexual fluids of the body.
3. By using dirty needles when injecting drugs.
4. Infants born to women infected with the Virus can contract it through pregnancy, birth or possibly breast milk.
5. Through the transfusion of blood, or blood products that have been infected. (Since 1985, the Blood Transfusion Board have been screening all blood samples and donations. Any found infected are not used and there is no risk whatsoever in donating blood).

HIV OR AIDS IS NOT SPREAD BY:

1. Any form of social contact such as work, home, swimming-pools, restaurants or any other public place.
2. Contact other than sexual with infected people.
3. Touching, hugging, kissing, coughing, sneezing, sharing of bathrooms, toilet seats, cutlery, dishes, communion cup, clothes, food or glasses.

According to the Irish Haemophilia Society, of the 106 members infected, all had been treated with plasma imported from the States as there was not enough plasma in Ireland to fulfill the total needs. 9 of these people have died and 8 have developed full blown AIDS.

However, all Factor 8 and 9 is now produced from Irish blood donations, which have been screened and treated. There has now been a trust fund set up to aid those who had been infected with imported products.



There is no doubt that a crisis exists. AIDS is reaching epidemic proportions. The crisis goes deeper than just number crunching.

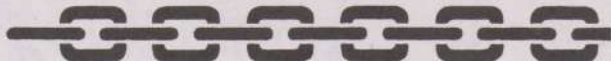
AIDS testing and treatment should be recognised as an integral part of our health service. However much ambivalence surrounds this issue, there is just one Dublin hospital committed to treatment, St. James. The Church is emphatic in recent guidelines, condoms are morally wrong.

There is no structured sex and drug education in our schools. The media misinterprets and misinforms leading to prejudice and discrimination.

It is up to all sectors of society to put the AIDS crisis on the national agenda in an informed and enlightened fashion.



*The Great Irish Famine
Mother and child search for potatoes.*





A funeral procession somewhere in Donegal many many years ago.



Can any of our readers supply us with details about these interesting photographs ?

An Inland Waterway Without the Crowds

Co. Fermanagh is probably the least well-known of our Northern neighbours. Us Donegal folk are usually much more familiar with Derry and Tyrone, but Fermanagh has a lot to offer the visitor, so let's pay a visit...

The beautiful county of Fermanagh is a visitor's paradise - wide stretches of island-dotted waterway and secluded bays surrounded by a patchwork of greenfields, soft undulating hillsides and fresh forests.

Here is the most attractive inland waterway in Europe, as yet largely undiscovered by the crowds, so it is not surprising that many visitors spend as much time on the water as on the land.

Hiring a cruiser is one of the best ways of exploring beautiful County Fermanagh. There are seven cruiser hire companies dotted along the shores of Upper and Lower Lough Erne and they can all offer you a luxurious floating "home from home".

Cruisers range from 2-4 berth to the larger 8-9 berth, all are very comfortably furnished with all the "mod cons".

The only thing you must remember to bring is yourself and a change of clothing. Everything else is available on board - cutlery, crockery, cooking utensils, bedding and tea towels. You can even arrange to have the galley fully stocked with food before you embark. Once you have cast off from the shore there is plenty to see and do. There are miles and miles of shimmering water to cruise on, and you only have to step ashore to discover some of the many tourist attractions which are accessible by cruiser.

There is the 300 seat Ardhowen Theatre with its restaurant and very convenient jetty. The sports complex, the Fermanagh Lakeland forum is just a stone's throw from the water's edge.

Take a swim in the heated indoor swimming pool or a game of squash or badminton or take a leisurely walk from the Forum to the centre of Enniskillen with its excellent shopping facilities. And as you approach Enniskillen from Upper Lough Erne you will not fail to be impressed by Enniskillen Castle and the famous Watergate - this ancient Maguire stronghold now houses the regimental and County Museums, brimming with relics of ages gone by.

If you are an admirer of delicate hand-made craftwork then make sure you pay a visit to the famous Belleek Pottery. Guided

tours are available where you can see at first hand how the delicate parian china is created. A visit or a holiday in Fermanagh would not be complete without seeing some of the most spectacular historic islands - one of which is Devenish. The twelfth-century round tower looms up in the distance as you make your way to the island. There are also the remains of a priory and ancient graveyard and a Celtic Cross. The whole county abounds with reminders of the historic past. But for those of you who prefer to keep your feet on "terry firma" you can choose to stay in beautifully appointed lakeside hotels, guesthouses or chalets.

Bring your car and explore the picturesque villages and forest parks leading to magnificent views over the whole countryside and lakeland. In the countryside in the shade of Cuilcach mountain you will have to go a bit deeper to discover a fascinating underground work - the Marble Arch Caves. A guided tour of the showcave, including an underground boat journey, transports the visitor through a wonderland of huge caverns, underground lakes and breathtaking formations. Other attractions include historic homes like Castlecoole and Florencecourt and you can explore the ruins of Castles at Monea, Tully and Castlebarfour.



If you are looking for something a little more active, then a visit to the Lough Melvin Holiday Centre in Garrison is a must.

Here you will find a luxurious 50-bed hostel with dormitory and individual bedroom accommodation. Caravan and camping facilities are also available. The centre is suitable for families or groups who wish to avail of its superb facilities.

You can spend a weekend or longer windsurfing, canoeing, mountaineering, caving or sailing, all under expert tuition. The Centre is also an ideal base for the keen angler for Lough Melvin is a game fishery par excellence and the early salmon season attracts many an enthusiast. Further details on all the holidays offered by the Centre are available from the Warden, Lough Melvin Holiday Centre, Garrison

There's a lot to see and do in Fermanagh, spend a day or two, or a holiday or two in the County. Fermanagh caters for all tastes and all ages - a perfect family destination.



McGINLEY MOTORS

PEARSE ROAD, LETTERKENNY. Tel: (074) 23170



**TEST DRIVE THE NEW ROVER
214 & 216 RANGE OF CARS**



Main Peugeot Dealers

**FULL RANGE OF NEW
PEUGEOT CARS IN STOCK**

Good Selection of Guaranteed Used cars
Personal loans & Leasing available

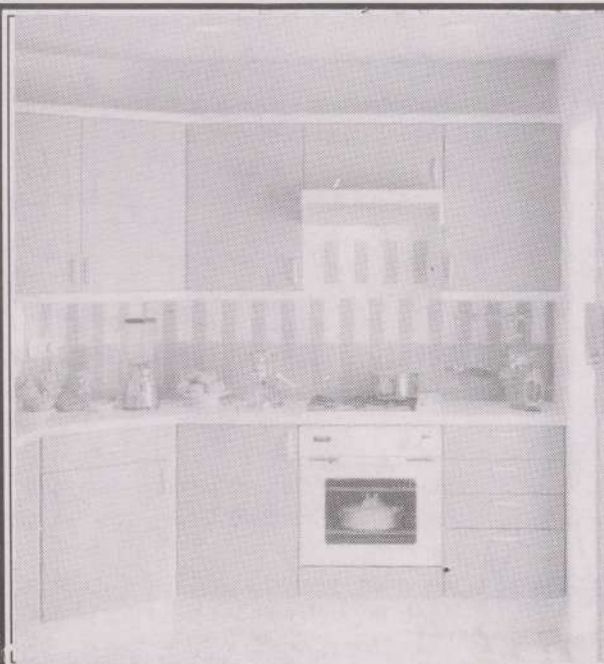
Computers for professionals - supplied by THE professionals

We have a very simple philosophy regarding our customers. We just do whatever is required in order to satisfy their needs. That means good expert advice in advance of purchase, prompt delivery and installation, and then excellent attention after the sale has been made.

Don't just take our word for it. Let us send you our client list. It contains representatives of all the important businesses, schools and professional practices in County Donegal, and quite a few outside. Ask THEM what THEY think of our service.



Flite Computer Systems Ltd.,
Pearse Road,
Letterkenny.
Phone (074) 24764
Fax (074) 24780



Fitting a New Kitchen ?

See the Complete Range of Zanussi
Built-in Appliances from

Ben Sweeney,
Letterkenny.



Ph: (074) 22954 - Free Delivery

ZANUSSI

Look Good, Feel Good

*Relax and Enjoy Life
Help Yourself to Master Anxiety
and Stress*

Yoga is ancient and originated in the East. Thankfully, however, it has been adopted to benefit us in modern day Western society.

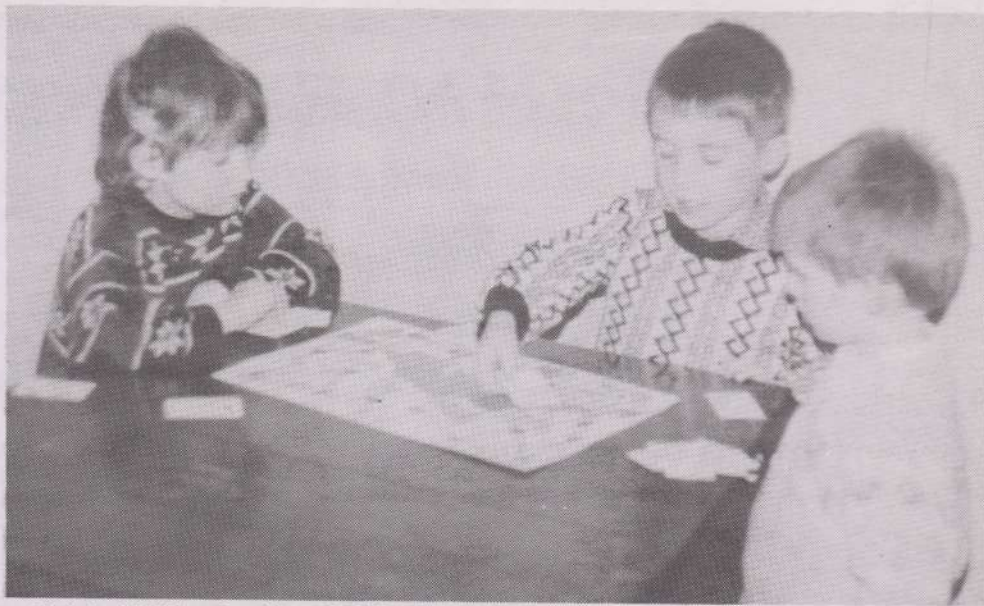
Physical or Hatha Yoga is a series of well thought out postures that move and improve the whole body. Sometimes the word Yoga conjures up pictures of weird men tied up in knots, meditating at the foothills of the Himalayas. So before I go any further I would like to help dispose of any misconceptions that one might have about yoga.

It is not a religion. It is not always standing on your head. It is not an automatic cure for all sorts of imaginary illnesses. If Yoga does nothing else, it's ability to teach complete relaxation makes it the best bargain you can find in the modern world. Living with too much tension in your life is a bit like driving your car with the choke on. You're using up more energy than you require. Inevitably our bodies and minds will suffer. Some of the symptoms of stress are: stomach disorders, tension headaches, back pain, migraine, constipation, neck and shoulder problems, heart disease, asthma to name but a few.

Anyone can practice Yoga. There is no barrier of age or sex. Yoga is a process by which you can change your life. There is only one special qualification for Yoga, you must really want to do it, that is all.

It is simply making the best of what you have and you can be surprised just how good is the best that is hidden inside most of us. Once you begin to practice Yoga regularly, a subtle change begins to take place in you both physically and mentally as you become aware of yourself.

by Ursula and Maura McHugh



Deirdre Ní Dhomhnaill and Neil Paul McBride playing the new Board & Card Game - "From A to B" which was launched recently by Donegal company Altan Games. Conall Ó Domhnaill looks on.



Rann na Feirsde 50 bliain ó shoin.

The Gaelic Tongue.

Hither, little nun, bereft, forlorn,
Pilgrim of the barren wastes, with bleeding
feet, and tears,
Pearse's bride were you, and in the morn,
Gave to you the love of his growing years.
Was it not of you he murmured at St. Enda
His dreamy eyes your comely face por-
trayed,
As gazing over the roof-tops of the city,
Yearned to see your coming, and delayed.
Sweet cynosure of a hero's pity,
Wherefore had you strayed?
His watch was long, his cheeks grew pale in
waiting,
And he's gone; dismayed.

No more to saunter in the sea-sad air,
Where frantic billows pound the Connaught
strand,
Whose beauty spurred his earnest love for
you,
And barefoot children on the rolling sands.
And it's for his sake, I love you just the
same;
His voice I hear in song of wind and wave,
While my sigh is in the wind that blows,
Across his grave.

Bernard J. Byrne.

The late Johnnie McFadden (Johnnie John Thaidhg) started the Garage business in Bunbeg which is now run by his grandson Noel. Johnnie was one of the great characters in the Parish in days gone by as this story I heard recently about him illustrates.

The Parish Priest in Gweedore at the time called into the garage one day with a flat tyre and said to Johnnie "hurry up and fix this puncture - or I'll put a pair of horns on you!". Priest or no priest, Johnnie replied, quick as a flash, "if you do, you'll be the first one I'll thump with them".

QUIZ TIME ANSWERS

1. Fran Fields.
2. The Time of My Life.
3. Enya and Daniel.
4. Banna Ceoil Rann na Feirste.
5. According to the 1986 Census of Population we have 65,723 males and 63,705 females.
6. Sean McNelis.
7. The Grassroots.
8. "Anois".

9. Neil T. Blaney, T.D. and M.E.P.
10. Leo Brennan and family.
11. Dennis Gallagher.
12. Mountain Top, Letterkenny.
13. Dorothy Harrison Therman.
14. Carmel Kelly.
15. Fergus Cleary.
16. Keadue Rovers.
17. Brian McEniff.
18. Malin Air.
19. Margo.
20. Bono.





Rannafast Cup winners 1955/6.



A Wedding in the Early 60s

by John O'Brien

During 1990 hundreds of couples throughout Donegal will be getting married and chances are they'll nearly all go for a big wedding. There'll be no expense spared and the cost of "tying the knot" will run to thousands of pounds. The "big splash" wedding became popular in the 80s and they're likely to continue into the 90s. But let's go back in time and have a look at what things were like at the beginning of another decade - the so-called swinging sixties.

When George Joseph McDermott from Mountain Top, Letterkenny married Mary Patricia Doherty from Cloughfin, Ballindrait on Wednesday 4th October 1961, their wedding was very typical of what Donegal weddings were like at the time.

George and Mary met at a dance in Lurgybrack School and they remember the date well - 18th November 1956. Was it love at first sight I asked and Mary laughed. She recalled telling her friend that night when she saw George "I'm going to marry him!". His cousin danced her first and they George danced her and Cupid must have been there that night with his little arrows...

What were the dances like in those days? Well there was no word of the Lounge Bars of course and the dances were all "dry" dances in little halls scattered

around the country. George says "3 or 4 of us might go in a Ford or an Austin 7 - or maybe cycle or walk on a Friday or Sunday night to the Milford Hall or to Tarntagh or Foxhall or the local Devlin Hall, or maybe go to Castlefin or further. Paddy McGroarty and his Band might be playing or Willie Ponsonby's Band. John Kerr was going that time too and Eileen Reid and the Cadets were an up and coming popular band." George remembers going to the Butt Hall in Ballybofey to hear the Slieve Foy (Leo Brennan, father of Clannad and Enya's family band). "You'd pay 2/6 into the dance, which usually lasted from 9 to 12, and you might get tea and sandwiches afterwards". The dances sound like they were great fun - you'd get a bit of ceili, the Siege of Venice, a couple of Foxtrots, Highlands, Tangos and Barndances (and they think they can dance nowadays!). But of course during Lent the Halls all shut down - there were no dances during Lent at all.

George and Mary were courting for five years and they decided to get married in 1961. George was working for quality cleaners in Ballybofey at the time after spending a number of years going over and back to Glasgow like many of his generation. With Quality Cleaners he was earning the princely sum of £12 a week!

They were married in St. Patrick's Church, Murlog, at 10.00am by Fr. McKeague, now deceased. William



After a few years there was the patter of little feet.

- Geraldine, Mary and Gerard in 1971.



George and Mary today.



George and Mary on their Wedding day.



1/2 Price Bridal Gowns
Bridesmaids Dresses
from £10

SALE STARTS DEC. 30TH

PROM DRESSES 1/2 PRICE

AT DOMINIC BARR'S HOTEL GLENVEAGH

Dominic will meet you at the door and then look after all your needs, guide you through all aspects of your wedding including those dreaded speeches. No-one is left out, nothing left to chance - in short, you are left to enjoy the day with your guests.

THERE IS MORE:

- You get a free video of your special day
- Free floral arrangements for all tables.
- Free Accommodation for your Wedding Night
- Free cake stand supplied
- Free microphone supplied
- Special rates for your guests staying overnight
- A wishing well specially designed for your photography background
- Five menus to choose from, all at unbeatable prices.
- No deposit needed.
- No fee for cancellation - to make sure of your date provisionally book it.

All this is based on a lifetime experience as a Reception and Toastmaster Guild Member 1959-1981.

Don't take our word for it - borrow our specially compiled video and judge for yourself.

For further details please call Cliona at **075-31551** or write to Hotel Glenveagh - better still, call in for a chat.

Invitation
To the
Wedding
Of Your
Dreams

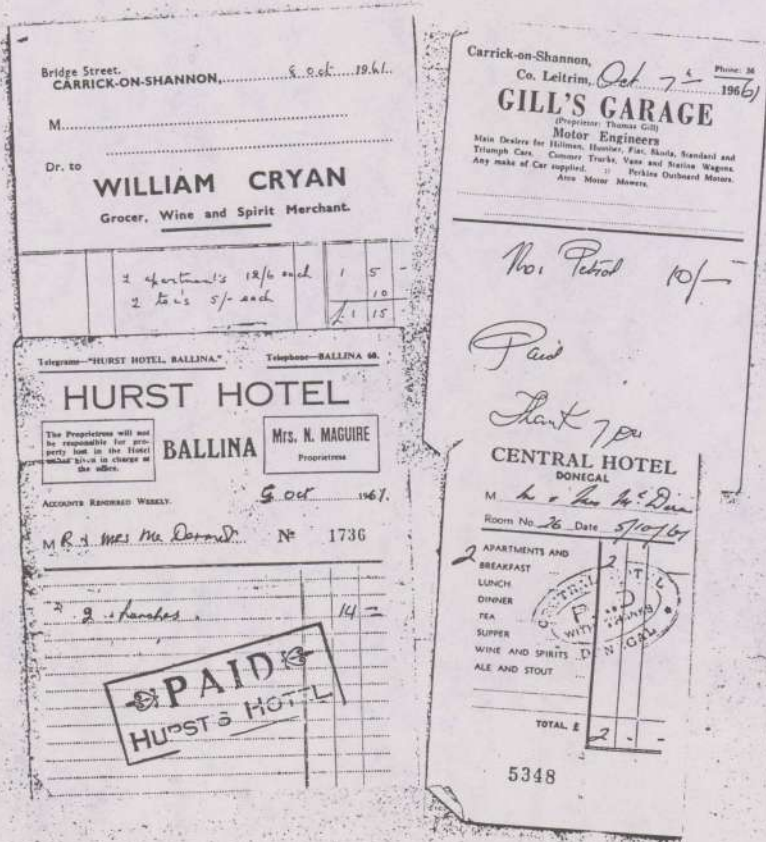


Doherty was best man, Rose McDermott was bridesmaid and Mary recalls being driven to church in a Morris Oxford car. The wedding photographer was Kelly from Letterkenny who is now in America. Incidentally, there was an election on Wednesday, 4th October and Mary was carried over to the local school to vote while they wondered if it would be a spoiled vote as she was now Mrs. McDermott. Then, as was the tradition at the time the wedding party which was comprised of members of both families and close neighbours - between 30 and 40 in all, went back to the bride's house for breakfast which had been prepared by neighbours. After breakfast they celebrated with a few drinks and then everybody packed into a few cars and went for a run to Bunrana. After that outing it was back to the bride's house again for a hooley which lasted two or three hours before the happy couple headed for their honeymoon. The McDermott's hired a Ford Anglia from Mulligan's Garage in Ballybofey for their honeymoon and they still have a receipt for 10 shillings worth of petrol they put in it in Carrick-on-Shannon - probably the equivalent of £10 worth today. They stayed in the Central Hotel in Donegal Town the first night and went from there to Galway where they spent a few days in St. Ann's Guesthouse (which is still going). Then it was back home for Sunday night via Athlone and Carrick-on-Shannon. They young

couple lived in a rented house in Ballybofey for a time but moved to Mountain Top in Letterkenny after a few years.

Listening to George and Mary reminiscing about those carefree days it's obvious that today's Lounge and Disco generation have missed out on something. The

McDermotts have 3 of a family and are now proud grandparents. We wish them many many more happy years of married life ! Pictured below are some of the receipts from their honeymoon which make interesting reading.





At the wedding of Danny O'Donnell, Cúl a Choic, Annagry and Maggie Doherty, Gweedore, which took place in Glasgow about 30 years ago.



Night out in a Letterkenny Pub about 20 years ago.

I'm a little bat

I'm a little bat
That flies around at night.
I can't see any rats
Because I have bad sight.

It's scary when I fly at night,
Whenever the noons so bright,
Beyond the cloudy sky.

Trevor Robb
Ballyraine N.S., Letterkenny

Sammy Squirrel

I am Sammy Squirrel,
My mind is in a whirl,
People think I am a boy
But really I am a girl.

I climb tall trees to gather nuts,
I line my bed with nice soft tufts,
People all say that I am rough
And I always look a scruff.

I really think this is enough
I'm not a boy nor am I tough,
Don't you think that this is unfair,
Would it help if I permed my hair?

Timothy Johnston, Age 11
Ballyraine N.S., Letterkenny

Ozone

The ozone layer,
We must keep intact.
And here's a few ways
We can do that.

We must not use,
The dreaded CFCs,
There must be better
Ways than these.

We must try to halt,
The greenhouse effect,
And prevent the earth,
From certain wreck.

So if we want,
To keep our poles,
France, Venice and many more,
Public co-operation we must enrol.

So next time you go shopping
Remember to buy,
Only the products,
That will not damage our sky.

Jayne Russell, Age 11
Ballyraine N.S., Letterkenny

Music

Music has changed
All down through the years,
Love songs and melodies
Can often bring tears.

Kylie and Jason,
And Sonia too,
Much better music
Than boring U2.

Way back in the sixties,
The Beatles were known,
For some of their records
Hit the charts, it was shown.

Daniel O'Donnell,
And all of the rest,
Put them together,
And you've got the best.

Sharon McKinley, Age 11
Ballyraine N.S., Letterkenny

Christmas

Christmas is a time of joy,
Fun for every girl and boy
Frost lying on the ground,
Snow-flakes falling with no sound.

Putting up the Christmas tree,
Going on a shopping spree,
The warm Fire blazing bright,
And the New Year is in sight.

Santa coming on a sleigh,
Bringing toys so we can play,
Eating cookies all night long,
Joining in the Christmas song.

Joanne Kennedy, Age 11
Ballyraine N.S., Letterkenny.

Birds

Birds are big,
Birds are small,
Birds are sometimes
In your hall.

They fly and fly
Round and round
Till they land on
The ground.

Cuckoo and Wren,
And eight brown hens.
Count them all
And you end up with ten.

Miranda Malseed, Age 11
Ballyraine N.S., Letterkenny

My Little Rabbit

O what a wonderful sight
To see him run and play
He jumps around the garden
In his shiny coat of grey.



I love to watch him growing up
As all young rabbits do
And that is why I love to tell
This story of my rabbit Snowbell to you.

by Maura McGee
Acres N.S., Burtonport.

The Policeman

He walks down the road.
To get the boy that is bad.
And taken him down town
To the Police Station.

Patrick S. Bonner
Acres N.S., Burtonport.

The Dark Moon

I walked along the path,
and looked up on the hill.
I saw someone standing,
So dark and very still.

The shadow, it came towards me,
I didn't know what to do,
So I started running quickly,
And I lost my favourite shoe.

Out of sight behind a tree,
Thinking of the fate for me.
When suddenly I realised,
'Twas my Dad looking for me.

Avril Johnston, Age 11
Ballyraine N.S., Letterkenny

The Blackbird

I see a blackbird in my garden.
I feed it every day.
It sings so sweetly I open my window
And listen to his song.
He puts my sister off to sleep.
So Mammy will not have trouble.
So we sing with him every, every morning.

by Sinead Sweeney
Acres N.S., Burtonport.

The Bee

I saw a bee on the window sill.
Buzzing around like a boiling kettle.
He took nectar from the flower
And flew away like an old tin kettle.

by Noreen Boyle
Acres N.S., Burtonport.



Uncompromisingly
HONDA[®]



The new Honda Civic Saloon and the new Honda Accord
at Tony Kelly's, Letterkenny.

QUALITY USED CARS IN STOCK — ALL MAKES

TONY KELLY RENT A VAN — Tel: 074-21140

TONY KELLY CAR REPLACEMENTS — Tel: 074-21140

TONY KELLY CAR SALES
LETTERKENNY — Tel: 074-21140

Honda Range

starts at . . .

- CIVIC 1.3 3-Dr. £10,685
- CIVIC 1.4 GL 3-Dr. £12,595
- CIVIC 1.4 GL 4-Dr. £11,595
- CIVIC 1.4 GLS 4-Dr. £13,395
- CIVIC SHUTTLE 5-Dr. £13,925
- **JUST ARRIVED** —
- CIVIC 1.6 Twin Cam 3-Dr. Black
First in Ireland. £14,965.

-
- CIVIC CRX 1.6i 2-Dr. £16,895
 - ACCORD 2.0 EX 4-Dr. £18,995
 - ACCORD 2.0 EXi 4-Dr. £21,045
 - ACCORD 2.2i £26,725
 - PRELUDE 2.0i £22,245
 - PRELUDE 2.0i 4WS ALB £26,695
 - All Prices Ex-Works —

Gas Central Heating and Appliances



YOUR LOCAL DEALER

CALOR KOSANGAS

BEN SWEENEY,

Port Road,

Letterkenny.

Tel: (074) 22954