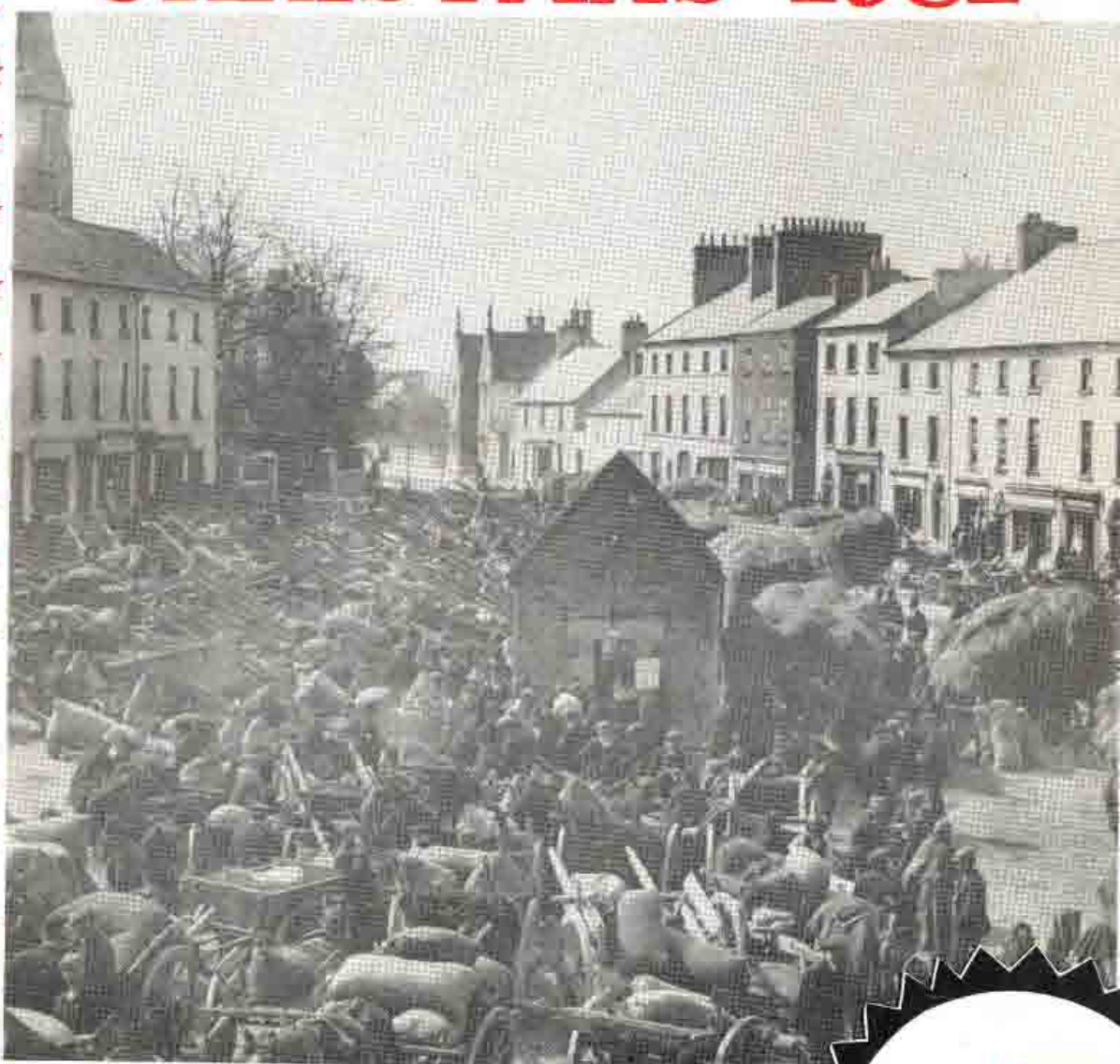


# QUAIRE

## CHRISTMAS 1982



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# GUAIRE

## CHRISTMAS 1982

Guairé is a community-based magazine and depends on community support and involvement.

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\* Letters and comments will be greatly appreciated.

\* We thank all our advertisers for their support. Without this help Guairé would not exist.

**Editor:** Peadar O Conaire

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A Very Happy Christmas  
and  
A Peaceful New Year  
to all our Readers.



*Greetings*

To:— \_\_\_\_\_

From:— \_\_\_\_\_

# Out and About

## GORT I.C.A. GUILD

Gort Guild is one of the oldest Guilds in Co. Galway and a special birthday party to mark the 35th year of its existence will be held in March '83.

At the moment our Winter Programme is in full swing in the I.C.A. Hall. We have just completed a First Aid Class and Dress Making & Craft Classes are in progress every Monday night. This will be followed by an Upholstery Class in The New Year with Cookery and Woodwork included.

Our meetings are held on the second Monday of each month where we also have a guest speaker. Recent guest speakers included representatives from The Western Health Board, Social Services, Drug Squad, Crime Prevention and the Samaritans.

If there are any of you ladies interested in joining, you are very welcome. What better way of making new friends, developing your skills and furthering your adult education.

## GORT & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

The members of the Club are, if we judge by the attendance at meetings, Lectures, Demonstrations, etc. a very united group. It is not always easy to preserve and maintain the loyalty we are so proud of when we require an extra effort to make the Show the success it has proved to be, to carry out the Educational Programme to everybody's satisfaction. I suggest that our progress is based on the appreciations of Community Involvement.

## THE ANNUAL SHOW:

To attract members from Kinvara, Ardahan, Ballinderreen, Kilbeacanty, Peterswell, Kiltartan, Lough Cutra, Tubber, Barefield and other parts of North Clare in times when travelling is so expen-



sive is a tribute to our visiting Lecturers who contribute so much to the Growing Care and successful Production of Flowers, Fruit and Vegetables. Mr. Michael Cullinane Deputy C.A.O. who performed the Official Opening of the recent Horticultural, Home Produce and Crafts Annual Show was very complimentary of the quality and Presentation of the Exhibits.

We are not so naive as to imagine that we will make a wonderful impact on the Fruit & Vegetables Market but at least we are now more concerned about the seriousness of the £100,000,000 market we Provide Annually for foreign growers. It must be admitted that Politicians, Trade Union Officials and farmers make an occasional bit of noise for the right reason but usually at the wrong time, but for some unknown reason we never have a follow-up to these occasional outbursts of Patricotism. What a pity?

## JUNIOR SECTION

We would dearly love to attract a junior section to the Club, as we have received some encouraging news from the Youth Employment Agency regarding possibilities of jobs being made available if our approaches to the Dept. of Lands are successful in having a "Lady Gregory Garden Centre" in her old home stead

Coole, which she loved so dearly. Finally we are always very pleased to invite and welcome new members to meetings, lectures and demonstrations which are held in the Vocational School on the first Wednesday of the month, all for the Annual Subscription of £2.00

## GORT YOUTH CLUB

On Friday, the 15th of October, Gort Youth Club held its Annual General Meeting at St. Colman's Vocational School. From the attendance of over sixty youths supervised by Fr. J. Walsh, and the outgoing committee, the following new officers were elected for the coming year.

Chairperson: James Fahy  
V. Chairperson: John Roache  
Secretary: Noreen Corcoran  
Treasurer: Enda McInerney

As of yet no P.R.O. has been appointed. The meeting then continued to discuss the forthcoming Halloween Disco, and other activities for the coming year. Some of the activities proposed include: Drama, Cookery, Badminton, Tabletennis, etc. None of these or the other activities have yet been given the go ahead, and to prevent any further delay the above Committee would welcome any volunteers to help with any of these. (We would particularly like some parents to get involved.)



# Out and About

## GORT & DISTRICT MUSICAL SOCIETY present

### "LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD"

On the 6th September last the Society held its first committee meeting following the Summer recess. The main item on the agenda was the forthcoming pantomime, which will be staged at the end of January.

A sub-committee had been formed previously with the difficult task of finding a suitable pantomime for this year's production. After much debate and thought, "Little Riding Hood" topped the bill. With the help of our script writers, who have done a super job, we now have a hilarious fairytale set in our own locality.

Over 70 people attended our public meeting on the 4th October. Everybody came willing to do their bit for the society in order that this year's show would be as successful as last years "Sinbad the Sailor". A week later the chorus convened and auditions were held in order to cast the show.

At the moment, both the cast and chorus are deep in rehearsal under the capable supervision of Mary Keely, our Musical Director, H. Lahiffe, Director of script and Michael Cahill as producer of script. Meanwhile, our backstage crew (too numerous to mention) are making the appropriate sets and painting the wings. All our other stage effects will soon be complete.

Our super-efficient Chairman, John Finnegan, along with his aides Eileen Brennan and Damien McGrath, are keeping watchful eyes on the administration side of the society as well as the show's progress.

"Little Red Riding Hood" will first be staged as a Matinee on the 16th January in Our Lady's College. The following week we will hold four night performances at the same venue. 20th, 21st,

22nd, and 23rd. Tickets for the show can be booked by contacting Mrs. Bridget O'Regan, The Square, Gort. Phone: (091) 31320

Finally, on behalf of the Musical Society, I would like to extend to you all a warm invitation to this our second production. We thank you for your support and help and look forward to seeing you.

## RUGBY BLOOMS AGAIN

With Dubliner Denis Bloomer coaching the mob and two young players in training with Corinthians in Galway and four convincing wins to their credit, Captain Kilroy was feeling confident yesterday at his home in Lough Cutra Castle. So confident was this year's Captain, a Kilroy steeped in rugby traditions, that he said his squad of forwards were so good, they could almost play without backs - indeed sometimes he said they do.

The R.F.C. this season has a very hard working President in Tom O Quigley and with Coach Bloomer the outlook for the season is bright indeed. The pitch with its complete set of floodlights is in great shape and training is going well, with many old and several new faces. With the return of Aidan Murphy and the appearance of Carty and Piggott, the panel has gained much strength.

Apart from objectives like winning the Junior 'B' League and Ard-na-Creg Cup, the club looks forward to participating in its annual Lord Mayoral Campaign, possibly with some partners. Also on the horizon is a weekend trip to the Isle of Man after Xmas to play some extra games in preparation for The Cup.

As usual the club welcomes all its new players and looks forward to the support of the people of Gort in 82-83 season.  
Secretary

\*Sr. Colman Roche who has been on the Missions in New Zealand for many years, recently spent a long holiday at home in Gort, where she stayed with her brother Ollie and his family, at Bridge Street.

\*Tommy and Birdie McGovern, Ennis Road, Gort, spent a very enjoyable 2 weeks holiday in America recently, with Tommy's nephews.

\*Three members of the Furlong family, who operated a very successful business at Barrack Street for some years, and in recent times at Ennis Road, have emigrated. Noel and Martin went to Birmingham, and Reg. left for America. The people of Gort were sorry to see them go.

\*Gort was represented in the Dublin City Marathon on 25th October, by Michael Gallaher, George's Street, and John Lally, Kilmacduagh. Both runners knew the agony of it - Michael suffering cramp after 12 miles, while John brought his blistered feet in and collapsed after crossing the line. But Oh! the ecstasy of having conquered those 26 miles and 385 yards.

\*Gort Gun Club have pioneered a restocking scheme, which could become very popular throughout the county. Basically the scheme is this; a large number of young wild duck were bought by the club. They were then given to farmers in different parts of the parish, who provided them with foster mothers. The farmers were provided with bags of meal for the birds. Initially the young birds stayed together and when they took to the wing they invariably returned to their home base. If this habit continues when the ducks start to breed (and in all probability it will) the whole Gort area should have a fine stock of wild duck. The club also wishes to announce that there is now a new Sanctuary at Newtown.

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# Out and About

\*Gort Soccer Club has been in existence for two years now. It was a tremendous help to the Club in its first year that the Barry family gave permission for their field to be used as a playing pitch. It was also a nice gesture on the part of the G.A.A. Club to offer the Dressing Room facilities at St. Colman's Park to the club.

One of the 'cribs' the club has at the moment is the method of notification of matches - the only notice the club receives is that printed in a sports page in The Connacht Tribune! However morale is high in the club. Two matches were played (so far) and won. The officers elected at the A.G.M. are,

President: M.P. Barry  
 Chairman: Fred Smith  
 Secretary: Dave Carty  
 Treasurer: John Lawlor  
 Asst. Treas: Robbie Porter,  
 Team Capt: P. Crowley  
 Team Manager: C. McInerney

**GORT BRIDGE CLUB**  
 reopened on September 14th.  
 A.G.M.

President: Mrs. Darien Coen  
 Sec: Miss Bridie Burke  
 Treas: Mrs. Bridie Murray  
 Tournament Directors:  
 Joe Muldoon/Mrs. Joan Griffin  
 Committee: Mrs. S. McInerney  
 Mrs. C. O'Shaughnessy,  
 Michael Byrnes  
 Mrs. M. Fennessy  
 Fr. G. Glynn  
 Pat Cunningham  
 Beginners classes are held every Wednesday night in I.C.A. Hall.

**GORT P.T.A.A.**  
 The A.G.M. of the Gort P.T.A.A. was held recently. Officers elected were as follows:

President: B. Costelloe  
 Chairman: Joe O'Dea.  
 Secretary: Norman Rochford  
 Treasurer: John Lawlor  
 P.R.O. Attracta O'Dea.  
 The Centre intends to hold monthly meetings. New members are welcome.

## GORT APOSTOLIC WORK SOCIETY

Gort Apostolic Work Society was founded in 1968, by the late Rev. Dean Hynes. From a very small membership, it has grown in the fourteen years to a very successful Branch. And each year holds a Display of members work. Articles made in Gort, have gone to far away places, and it is gratifying to hear priests, back from Africa, India and South America, say they had worn Vestments made in Gort. New members are always welcome, and a special thank you to the people of Gort for their generosity over the years.

Since the last issue of 'Guairé' Gort was saddened by the untimely death of two young people Goretti Hanrahan, The Square, and Christina Halvey, Circular Road. The neighbouring parish of Shanaglish also suffered the loss of young Brendan Nestor, a student in Our Lady's College.

We extend our sincerest sympathy to the families, relatives and friends. Do dtuga Dia suaimhneas siorrai na bhFlaitheas da n-anamnacha.

Tom Kennedy, Tullira, Ardrahan being presented with a cheque for £50 by Mr. Frank Shaw, Manager Bank of Ireland, Gort.



### TIDY TOWNS COMPETITION

Tom Kennedy 13 year old Vocational Student was the most successful Competitor for the £50 cheque presented by the Bank of Ireland.  
 The standard of the Community

Involvement in this year's Tidy Towns Competition was very high and the adjudicators were very complimentary on this aspect of our efforts, which earned 34 marks out of 35.

# Out and About



## JAMES LEE'S TEAM

(above) defeated Pat Quinn's team in the final of the Q & L(A) Tournament held recently in Kilbeacanty

## GORT BOXING CLUB

As winter is here boxing clubs around the country become active again after the summer recess. Gort Boxing Club is no exception and training is in full swing under the watchful eye of coach and trainer Jimmy Reagan. Training starts at 7.30 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays in the Assembly Hall of Our Lady's College, and all ages from 8 years upwards are catered for. Since the club started 2 years ago, our numbers have increased steadily and over 40 are in training this season. During the year we will have boxers in Galway and Connaught competitions at all ages as well as taking part in various Boxing Tournaments in Galway and Clare.

High point of our year has been our annual Tournament at the end of each season and we would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have supported us, to our sponsors and to all who enjoyed the Boxing Club Disco! Colm Ward, Sec.



## PAT QUINN'S TEAM

**GORT G.A.A. CLUB**  
 The Annual General Meeting of Gort G.A.A. Club was held in Sullivan's Hotel on Friday, 15th October, with over 40 members attending. Mass for deceased members of the Club had earlier been celebrated in St. Colman's Church by Fr. Power C.C.

Officers elected for the coming year are:

Life President: J.P. Hehir  
 Hon. President: Fr. J. Walsh C.C.  
 Dr. Marlborough  
 Chairman: Matt Murphy  
 Vice-Chair: M. Linnane  
 Secretary: P. Cooke  
 Asst. Sec.: G. Finn  
 Treasurer: E. Fahy  
 Asst. Treasurer: D. Spelman  
 Sen. Hurling Capt: Joe Harte  
 Vice-Captain: John Nolan  
 Junior Captain: John Cummins  
 Vice-Captain: Gabriel Piggott  
 U.21 Captain: Patrick Neilan  
 Vice-Captain: Martin Kerans  
 Minor Capt: Tim Gleeson  
 Vice-Captain: Michael Helebert  
 After a long discussion it was agreed to hold a further meeting to elect selectors for all teams for 1983.

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## TWO IN A ROW FOR GALWAY ROAD



Street League Winners, Galway Road.  
Front: Colin Casey, Stanley Cahill  
Barry McNevin, Irial Conroy

and Raymond Williams  
Back: Enda Kerans, Sean O'G  
Duffy, John Loughnane and  
David Casey.

The boys of Galway Road won the Gort Street League football Competition for the second year running, when they beat the boys from George's Street in final. who were forced to play without regular goalkeeper Noel Mullins, stretched the Galway Road

defence to its limits in the opening minutes with Anthony Coppinger and Derek Hallinan linking up in some good moves. Scores didn't come however, and as the minutes ticked by, Galway Road put their game together gaining the upper hand at centrefield,

and taking any scoring chances that came their way. At half-time the score stood, Galway Road 1 goal and two points, George's Street, 2 points.

Those in the large attendance who expected a close contest in the second half were disappointed as Galway Road piled on the pressure from the word 'go' and were rewarded with three goals and 2 points. George's St. failed to raise a flag in the entire second half. It wasn't for the lack of effort however. Time and time again they surged forward only to register wides when scores were there for the taking. While the Galway Road victory was a fine team effort, special mention must be made of their flying corner forward, Barry McNevin, who tortured the George's Street back line with splendid soloruns and accurate shooting. He finished the game with a personal tally of 3 goals and two points.

The winners were presented with a cup and a set of medals. The losers also got medals. Mr. Frank Lally was referee.

June 1982

Deputy Mayor of Galway  
Mr. Tom Brown & Lady Mayor  
of Gort Teresa Moloney.

Interview with Teresa Moloney  
(Mayoress of Gort)

I visited the home of Mrs. Teresa Moloney (Mayoress of Gort), to interview her for our magazine. In the pleasant setting of her kitchen we sat and talked over a cup of tea. I found her very helpful, and can well understand why she was voted into office with such a large majority.

Question: What made you go forward the first day ever?

Answer To help raise funds for charity, as a lot of those charities depend on such people as ourselves for a helping hand. They get little or nothing from government sources.

Question: How many votes did you get at the last election?

Answer: 27,000

Question: Has it made any change in your family life?

Answer: None whatsoever.

Question: Would you go forward this year?

Answer No, I think I have done my bit, and would leave it up to someone else to go forward, but if I can help out in any way, I am ready.

Question: Who would you like to see going forward this year?

Answer No comment.

Question: What functions did you



attend during your office as Mayoress.

Answer Well I attended nearly all functions, but the outstanding ones were, the opening of the festival, the drawing of the winning ticket for the Masda Car, put up by the G.A.A. Club in Kilbeacanty, also the placing of a wreath on the grave of Lady Gregory on the fiftieth anniversary of her death, and the presenting of medals to the winners of the boxing tournament in Gort. Question: Do you think it does anything for Gort having an election for Mayor (Mayoress) every year.

Answer: It helps to put Gort on the map, I suppose, and makes people realise how well off they were compared to other misfort-

unate people.

Question: Is Gort R.F.C. having the election again this year?

Answer: I think it has been handed over to the Gort Community Centre Committee to raise money for their project?

Question: I believe you sent greetings with Tommy Minogue to the Mayor of Bordeaux when he went on his fishing trip.

Answer: Yes, I thought it was a fitting thing to do, as we were very proud to put forward our man from Gort.

I spent a nice evening in her company and can really understand just why she received 27,000 votes. May God grant her health, in the remainder of her term of office.

Sean Leahy.

## ADVENT TO EPIPHANY

Fr. Jimmy Walsh

### ADVENT — A GROOMING FOR REDEMPTION:

"In the days to come....they will hammer their swords into ploughshares, their spears into pruning hooks....There will be no more training for war...."(Isaiah).

As we stand in Ireland on the threshold of another Advent and Christmas, we are painfully aware how much we can make Isaiah's longing for Redemption our own. Advent is not just for us a memory of the past, but rather a portrayal of the present too. Christ has come, and yet he is still to come. Darkness and light is the constant motif of the Advent Readings. Our lives are lit by the light of the star of Bethlehem, and yet are always threatened by our own darkness. Ring out the old, ring in the new Ring out the darkness of the land Ring in the Christ that is to be" (Tennyson).

So when we cry out with Isaiah for redemption we are not playing. There was an Advent then, and there is still an Advent now. The division between 'before Christ' (b.c.) and 'after (a.d.) is not a line dividing history into one shining half and one dark half, but it is a line that runs through our own hearts. We are before Christ if we live in darkness selfish and shut in on ourselves. Our Advent prayer is that we may be neither before him nor after him, but truly with him.

### ADVENT — WAITING FOR GOD

A number of scripture readings from the Advent liturgy describe our existence in relation to God as one of waiting. We never really have God; we have him — strange as it may seem — only by not having him, by waiting for him.

It has been suggested that some genuine seekers after God reject Christianity because of the apparent claim of Christians to possess God. As the Protestant theologian Paul Tolleir writes: "The theologian thinks he has him in a doctrine; the Scripture scholar has him in a book, the

Churchman wants to enclose him in an institution". The same writer points out that, even in the most intimate communion among human beings, there is always an element of not having and not knowing; we have to wait for another person. So too with God.

### CHRISTMAS — A TIME FOR GIVING

Our heads are full of a thousand things to do at Christmas time. There are many items to be bought in the shops, and there is a long list of friends who will expect a card. There is a real possibility that he whose birth it is will have very little place in our hearts.

Christmas is a time when we remember that God has gifted us — the gift of himself (Emmanuel). The word became Flesh and pitched his tent among us. We recall God's gift of himself by giving gifts to one another. There are two things to be remembered about giving gifts at Christmas time:

1. When God gave, he gave himself. What people most need is not the gift of something, but the gift of somebody; we all have a very deep human need to be loved — simply for our own sakes.

A child's greatest need may simply be that his parents may spend more time with him. "Wasting time" with somebody is perhaps the best assurance of love — the giving of one's time is the best way of giving oneself.

The greatest gift that a father can give his children?...Not the super doll's house, nor the latest in electric trains. It is not any of these things. The greatest gift a father can give his children is to love their mother. It was that love that gave them life in the first place; it is only in the shadow of that love they can truly grow. Far more than any material gift, children need the security of a home where parents deeply care for each other.

2. The second point to be learned is from the Christmas story itself. But men have been slow to learn it. We send our Christmas Cards and receive others in return. We give gifts to get back even more. Christmas giving has become a kind of tit-for-tat — a kind of profitable exchange. Indeed, the growing practice of so many Mass Bouquets at Christmas is highly questionable — a "cheap" gift?!

The Lord looks for something more from us. In the first Christmas night God became man in order that we might share in the very life of God. He who is infinitely rich chose to share everything with us who have nothing. Let us remember our friends by all means. But we will draw nearer to God this Christmas if, like him, we give our gifts also to those from whom no return of gifts can be expected. Let me give myself, O Lord, give me "the larger heart, the kindlier hand". (Tennyson).

### EPIPHANY — JOURNEY TOWARDS MEANING

Epiphany is probably the part of Christmas which has most appeal to many people of our time. Let us single out some aspects of the story which have a very pertinent message for our own day.

It is the story of the long journey of those wise men from the East, perhaps from far away Mesopotamia across long stretches of desert to Jerusalem to find the Infant Jesus.

The story has a great appeal for so many, because they find in it the story of their own lives. There is an increasing number of men and women today who do not find God easily like the shepherds. They fail to find him in those structures wherein their parents and the people of other generations found him so readily. God does not speak to them in the institutions of their elders — in our churches, or our theologies, in our worship or our piety.

A Happy Christmas from

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# ADVENT TO EPIPHANY

Fr. Jimmy Walsh

Fr. Walter Burghardt, celebrated American Jesuit, says that many, like the Magi, have a long journey to make before they find their God. If the 'new man' does not find God, where the 'old man' found him, where can he look, where can he find God?

Fr. Burghardt says there is no easy answer, but he suggests four aspects of contemporary experience which have helped many people to come to a new experience of God's presence.

(i) Some people find God when they are brought face to face with their own insufficiency. When I know my own inadequacy, when bended knees have become a last resort, when life piles on me too much to carry, then I know that agonising need for someone who can carry me, who can fill me with his fulness. I rise from my sinfulness and my selfishness only because someone greater is lifting and carrying me. I know the power is not mine.

(ii) Many find God in their relationship with others. This may happen in the liturgy in perhaps not so much in his real presence on the altar — but in his real presence on the face of a little child after Communion, in the smile that two strangers exchange at the sign of peace, in the love and concern that thrills through a congregation that is spontaneously one. (Though, tragically, all this is often lost through meaningless unplanned liturgy, which is devoid of feeling and warmth, and which, in far too many parishes, has declined into a ritualistic minimalism!).

Others find God in the extraordinary people of our time — men and women like Teresa of Calcutta, Jean Vanier or Fr. Roger of Taize, whose sheer presence is for ever so many a lift of the heart, a sign that God has not forsaken his children.

(iii) There is a great upsurge of the Charismatic Movement within Catholicism since Vatican II, creating a fresh awareness of the

Holy Spirit, the 'unknown' God in the life of the Church — and giving a profound impetus to prayer — prayer together, prayer alone, spontaneous prayer.

(iv) Across the world many turn today to search for God in the Great Eastern Religions.... a search for a new star in the East? "People in the West", says Carmelite Monk and Author Fr. W.C. McNamara, "are being fed stones" instead of bread in Churches and Schools. They know nothing and are told nothing of the deep mystical traditions of their own Christian faith. They hear there is a mystic tradition in the East, and they seek it there."

We have betrayed our ageless tradition: "Be still and know that I am God." (Ps.46) That God is to be found in solitude is a tradition that goes back to Jesus, alone with his Father in the desert, on the mountain, in the garden. It is a tradition that goes back to the medieval mystics, down to the contemporary Trappists — all those men and women who find God because they know how to waste time with him in prayer.

In his famous poem "Journey of the Magi" T.S. Eliot suggests that the journey in search of God is always a difficult and hazardous one:

"A cold coming we had of it,  
Just at the worst time of the year  
For a journey, and such a long  
journey.....  
At the end we preferred to travel  
all night

Sleeping in snatches,  
With the voices crying in our ears  
Saying that this was all folly...."

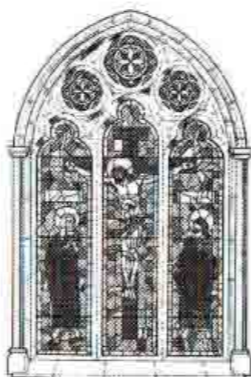
The hardest frontiers crossed by the Magi were not political lines or maps. They had to haul themselves through weakness, doubts, and the quirks of grumpy camels. In their long search they discovered that travel does more than broaden the mind. It exercises the soul.

God is to be found only by those who seek him with all their heart. The Christian life, the Magi remind

us, is a pilgrimage through the deserts of life with all its changes. It is not so much a pilgrimage of the feet as of the heart:—

"Set out, my heart,  
take up the journey!  
The star shines.  
You can't take much with you  
on the journey.  
And you will lose much on the  
way — Let it go!  
Gold of love, incense of yearning  
myrrh of suffering — these you  
certainly have with you.  
He will accept them.  
And we shall find Him"

(Karl Rahner).



# THE OLD GORT FORGE

by Sean Leahy

Carved on a limestone plaque, on the wall of Toor Ballylee, is the following verse,

I the poet William Yeats  
With old mill boards  
and sea-green slates  
and smithy Work, from Gort  
forge,  
restore this tower,  
for my wife George.

And may those characters remain  
When all is ruin once again.

Gort can boast of its historical buildings, churches, bridge etc. but aren't we forgetting one building? It is the old forge in Georges Street, presently owned by Kevin Burke. Kevin has told me often enough about it, and is very proud of having it in his family for so many years. It was the first built by Kevin's great grandfather Ned Burke in the year 1800. In that time part of Georges Street and Loughrea Road was known as Carron Row. Most of the buildings were thatched and a lot of the tradesmen of the town started their businesses there. There were tinsmiths, nailors (made nails) and a coachhouse where the coaches stopped for Limerick and Galway. So the enterprising Mr. Burke opened up his smithy to accommodate both horses and coaches, and did a roaring trade.

## GOOD TRADE

When he died the business passed on to his son by the same name (Kevin's Grandfather). The trade continued to flourish, and all kinds of ironwork was carried out there. And when Kevin's grandfather died the business came to Thomas Burke, Kevin's father, who was a master at the trade. There was about this time in Gort a Mr. Rafferty, whose son still lives in Glenbrack. This man was a master builder. Both Thomas Burke and himself were responsible for most of the big houses being built, Mr. Rafferty doing the buildings, iron work supplied from the Gort forge. People came from near and far to get work done at the old forge. Among them was William Butler Yeats, when he was restoring the old tower in Toor Ballylee

## NEW ROOF

In 1912 the thatch was got rid of and a new roof of flags put overhead. When Thomas Burke's son retired from the Irish Guards Regd. he went immediately into work in the forge (most people in Gort at the present time remember Paddy Burke, When he died in 1963 brother Liam



Kevin Burke stands at the door of the Old Forge

took over, but by this time the motorcar had taken the place of the horse (pity). Forge work became impossible to get, so the whole family business was closed down after almost two hundred years. Earlier this year Kevin re-roofed the forge and with a bit of luck it may be opened again. People from all over the world have shown a deep interest in this building. Should we who live in Gort not think more of it?

Would it not be lovely to place a plaque on the outside wall stating that this was the place W.B. Yeats got the smithy work for his tower. Moved by this thought I write a few lines of my own poem with deepest respect for the Burke Family.

It stands today, like days of yore,  
With fortress walls and sturdy doors  
This monument of striking work,  
to immortalize the name of Burke.

# Gort C.P.A. Centre



Orchard House, Queen Street, Gort.

In 1980, the Brothers of Charity purchased their first premises in Gort; and Orchard House, our first Gort hostel was opened. In pursuit of the policy of decentralisation plans were immediately put in train to develop our "Gort C.P.A. Centre" and a contract was entered into with a local contractor to build a Training Centre and a second hostel in the Gort Area. Both Centre and hostel were completed in September of this year and the necessary staff under the direction of Area Manager, Miss Mary Kealy were appointed at the same time.

A third hostel, to accommodate a further six trainees for the Gort Centre, was purchased in Loughrea and this will be brought into service in January, 1983. The Gort C.P.A. Centre located in Queen Street will provide

training and social and vocational skills for thirty mentally handicapped persons. The social training programme will include domestic training, activities of daily living, community orientation, current affairs and recreational activities. The vocational training programme will include hand press printing, horticulture, sewing, stool seating and paper bickets. We hope to expand this programme later on and perhaps eventually set up sheltered work programme within the centre or adjacent to it.

We are also hoping to organise socials which will be run in the evening time in the Centre in the near future. Anyone interested in assisting at the socials should contact "The Friends of Orchard House".

by a Special Correspondent

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a Happy Xmas



# GORT & DISTRICT SHOW SOCIETY



Mr. John Redahan, Area Sales Representative, Calor/Kosangas presenting a special prize of a Bompani Gas Cooker to Mrs. Maureen Martin, St. Cleran's, Craughwell, who was the most successful

exhibitor in The Home Produce Section of Gort Show. On left, Mr. Michael Bermingham (Chairman), and on right, Mr. Padraic Giblin (Hon. Sec) Gort & District Show Society

There were over 850 entries for this years Horticultural, Home Produce & Craft Show held on 28th August, at St. Colman's Vocational School.

The Show was again blessed by having a very fine day, and this, together with the high standard of the exhibits and the Dog Show, organised by Mary Carey, made it a very enjoyable day for the large attendance.

The prizewinners of each Show Class have already been published and the following is a list of Special Prizewinners, who were the most successful exhibitors in the various Sections of the Show.

Home Produce: 1st Mrs. Maureen Martin, St. Clerans

Craughwell, Gas Cooker presented by Calor/Kosangas. 2nd Mrs. K. Fahy Gianattallin, Loughrea (prize presented by Ranks (Ir.) Garden Produce

Kieran Finnegan, Kilmacoluagh (G. Keane & Sons Ltd.) Collection of Vegetables: Kieran Finnegan (Mrs. Elizabeth Taylor, Ardahan).

Flowers: Harold Herligy, Ennis (Whitegate Nurseries) Most Outstanding Floral 'Exhibit' Mrs. Mary O'Reilly, Crowe St (Mr. Noel Mullins, Classic Ballrm) Handcrafts:

Mrs. Mim Moloney, Kinincha (Kinvara Handcrafts Ltd.)

Childrens Section: 1st Christina Me Allen Ballyaneen, (Coens Drapery & Footwear) 2nd Siobhan O'Doherty, Ardahan (Mrs. M. Moloney) Post Primary Maura Greaney, Lavallyconnor, Ardahan (Mrs. Ita Clandillon, Loughcutra) The prizewinners in the Weight Judging Competition were.

1st Mr. Miceal Forde, 44 Moseley Ave. Coventry who guessed the correct weight of the bullock at 662 kg.

Joint 2nd: Tommie Lambert, and Christy Fennessy, and Niall Finnegan (prizemoney presented by Gort Mart).

Ladies Prizes (sponsored by Gort Gymkhana) M. O'Shaughnessy, Ashfield Ctg. Mrs. Ciss Fahy, Tullira, Ardahan Mrs. Mary McConnell, Cahertum Mrs. Mary Keane, Crannagh Mrs. K. Frazer, Church Street, Mrs. Eileen Egan, Kiltartan Cross.

### RAFFLE

1st Sheena Fallon Clarenbridge Lawn Mower presented by B. Coen & Sons Ltd. Gort 2nd Elaine Cannon, Chessy, Kinvara Set of China of Royal Tara 3rd: Mrs. R. Lahiffe Cloone House, Gort Electric Table Lamp by Christy Fennessy, Gort. 4th: J. Wilson, St. Clerins, Craughwell 5th J. Donoghue, Loughrea 6th Mrs. Fahy, Fiddane, Ardahan

The Show Society is most grateful to all the Cash Subscribers and the presenters of Special and Raffle Prizes.

The Show has turned out to be a bigger event than what was originally planned.

Most people are welcome to become involved in planning and running the Show. New members are invited to attend the A.G.M. of the Show Society which will be held early in the New Year.

# The Best Gort Hurling Team.

by Hurler on the Ditch

There I was, sitting in the snug, minding my own business and cradling a hot whiskey in my hand when in walks the Editor of this famous magazine. "Here" sez he "I have a bit of a job for you". "Is it worth much" sez I. "Nothing monetary" sez he, "but instant fame and possible martyrdom if your identity ever becomes known". "Not interested" sez I "a live coward is worth more than a dead hero any day." "All right so" sez he "but you'll have another one of those while we're waiting." Oh the guile of the man! and we got to talking of hurling and great players and teams and before I knew where I was, what with his soothing palaver and the help of several further hot whiskeys, I had promised him that I would pick the best Gort Hurling Team over the past 50 years

Mind you, when I realised next morning what I had committed myself to, I nearly had heart failure on the spot - but being a man of my word - even when given in dubious circumstances - I had to keep the family honour intact.

In selecting the team, I have gone back with some gentle reminding from friends over 50 years to the year of the Congress 1932, - mind you I can go beyond that but I was only a gasur then and at that stage had as much time for the caillin as for hurling. That was before I took the long walk to the altar, just in case the Boss happens to read this. Anyhow where was I - sure the exercise brought back great memories, and fond recollections as I recalled the great '34 team and the teams of the '40's and '50's down to more recent times. Names floated before me like bubbles - Gallagher, Cooney, Devlin, Kelly, Piggott, Linnane, Howard, and many other great tussles with Ardahan, Ballindereen, Kilbeacanty, Loughrea - and the Legions of matches played - lost, fought over, discussed down the years.

Eventually with deadline past, and this cursed Editor breathing down my neck the selection is completed - but so many great

hurlers left out - we could pick several teams to equal or better this one!

Mattie Brennan	Joe Keane	Colie Cooney
Tommy Walsh	Jack Hardiman	Tadhg Kelly
Sylvie Linnane	Wally O'Connor	Cyril Piggott
Paddy Icklam	Sean Devlin	Jack Deeley
Michael Regan	Steve Gallagher	Josie Gallagher

I can see thousands disagreeing with this team - and with reason - Maybe you'd like to send your own selection to this damn Editor of mine and we'll get a panel to select the best Gort Team ever.

There's a fiver first prize to whoever gets it right. Before I go, say a prayer for my safety.

Hurler on the Ditch

### YOUTH AND THEIR EXPECTATIONS by M. Bermingham

Youth Unemployment will always be a problem until a concentrated effort is made by a local caring community to solve the problem. The Seminar on Youth Employment held last July which was attended by a total of 55, including Niall Greene, Chief Execuvite, Youth Employment Agency, Bill Bronson, Planning Division I.D.A., Charles Lynch, Co. Development Officer, Oliver Hynes, C.E.O., Co. Vocational Education Committee, Sean Healy National Manpower Services. Micheal Breathnach Chairman Chamber of Commerce, Mrs. Teresa Moloney, Lady Mayor and Michael Bermingham, who presided, was very successful and indicated a number of guide lines.

The time is now in my opinion to suggest a follow-up under a title acceptable in Local and Official Circles such as:-

### THE GORT & DISTRICT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & EMPLOYMENT COUNCIL Aims and Objectives of the Council

1. The Gort & District Community Development & Employment Council is a community based Council set

up in order to identify, study and understand employment needs and promote employment opportunities for local young people between the ages of 16 and 25.

2. To ensure the relevance of Work Opportunity Programmes to local circumstances and giving Central Authorities reliable information on possible employment openings with which to work.
3. To co-operate in the field of creating a positive climate for Industrial, Agricultural, Horticultural and Services Development and attracting New Industries to Gort.
4. To establish a Youths Registration Centre away from the Labour Exchange atmosphere
5. To promote/initiate familiarisation courses for girls on subjects on non tradition careers, such as engineering and broader familiarisation courses for boys be promoted with the co-operation of the Local School Authorities, in addition to preparing school leavers for the possible traumatic problems of the movement from the classroom to the first whole time workshop.



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## Michael Killeen

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# FIRST STEPS INTO THIRD LEVEL EDUCATION

R.T.C., GALWAY  
Irene Gill

My very first impression of third level education was not very satisfactory, to say the least. The Regional Technical College in Galway does not present an attractive picture to a prospective student on a wet and windy day. This was how I felt on the initial interview day. Little was I to know that I would, in fact get a place on the course of my choice and within three weeks I would have settled in to College life as if I had been there for many years. This is not to say that there is not a major difference between second level and third level education. At first one finds the ocean of new faces, the absence of old ones, the huge college campus, the new rules and regulations to be observed, a great change from second level and from St. Joseph's when I have spent many of the happiest days of my life. Third level education is also different from second level in that one is not compelled to study, there is nobody to force one to actually attend class or to do assignments. The onus is entirely on oneself. A third level student must have a great degree of dedication to being successful, otherwise he or she may sink into the depths of countless other students over the years who found the freedom and also the great pressure exerted at exam time just too much. The vast majority of students are ordinary people with a desire to get a satisfactory third level education. In my three weeks at a third level college I have come to know and be friends with many new people and also with people I had known only barely before.

U.C.G.  
Niall Shaw

I have not been in the University long enough to be able to give a clear picture of what University life is like. All I can do is outline the differences between second and third level education, and let

you form your own opinions. The first day here is a daunting experience. From being a fifth year in a school of two hundred pupils you are back to being a first year in a school of five thousand. You don't know where you are, or where you should be. You find yourself in the library when you're looking for the toilet, and nobody seems in the least bit inclined to direct you. Nobody asks you why you're wandering around, or what class you're supposed to be in. In fact, half the time, nobody even notices you. In here, you are entirely on your own. You can come and go as you please. You can study, or you needn't bother. Its up to you.

But its easy enough to find your feet and settle. You begin to find the theatres and rooms, and get to know when you're meant to be in them. You meet people through outside activities, as well as through class, and you begin to take more of an interest in the social side of University life. You join clubs and societies, and soon enough you begin to find the rhythm there is always something on, each night of the week, if you're interested, so its hard to become bored. All in all, things are looking good.

ST. PATRICK'S COLLEGE,  
MAYNOOTH  
Pol MacEachmarcaigh

Whereas Maynooth is considerably smaller than any of the other Universities in the country, the initial reactions to University life are not at all less dramatic than anywhere else. The timetable is one huge change from secondary school. In the University, lectures are usually well spread apart from each other so the phenomenon of free time during the day comes into existence. No-one cares if you study or not, no one cares if you come to lectures or not. So it tends to be a very impersonal place. But a good mixture of work and play is

recommended and both are catered for very sufficiently. Libraries of varying shapes and sizes are to be found all over the campus with class halls, lecture theatres, tutorial rooms, language labs, science labs, and the list goes on. Sports and recreational facilities are also catered for very adequately, with Clubs and Societies catering for every type of person.

So although my first impressions of Maynooth were of awe, wonder and even fear, these soon dissipate leading to the getting used to the place which comes much sooner than I expected it would on my first day there.

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# CHILDREN'S CORNER



## A CHRISTMAS STORY

It promised to be a starry night and daddy's turn to care for the sheep with Matthias from the other side of the valley. Simon had been hoping for many days now that the weather would stay fine tonight because Jacob, his Daddy, had promised that on his next turn, to stay out he'd bring Simon along for a treat. Now Jacob knew that the night would be long and tedious, but Simon was very excited because, being only 8 years old, he was never allowed out at night before.

Jacob packed some bread and cheese in a towel and gave it to Simon to carry while he himself brought along the largest rug from Simon's bed. "I bet he thinks I'll be tired" said Simon to himself, but he had every intention of staying awake all night just to show how grown-up he really was.

The pasture hill wasn't too far away and after chatting with the day-time shepherds for some time Jacob and Matthias sat down and watched the sheep graze, it seemed, eagerly. It was not yet dark although the sun had set and animals seem to eat faster just before darkness sets in. Then they would herd all of them into a group to watch for the night. Simon, of course, couldn't sit but played with some of his little lamb friends and ran and leaped with them.

When Jacob and Matthias called the sheep they seemed to know each of them and the flock all settled down to rest. The two men and boy had bread and cheese and drank from the goat skin water container, his father always carried. Suddenly Simon felt chilly and his father, seeing the shiver, wrapped the rug around the boy, and settled him in a sheltered corner. He could hear his father and Matthias chatting as he thought about home and how cozy it was there, even in the dark, and how little Miriam, the baby, used creep into his bed in the middle of the night. He loved little Miriam.....When Jacob looked over, he smiled, seeing his little boy fast asleep,

It was about midnight when Jacob himself was beginning to feel very drowsy. Matthias was already dozing. He had been watching the stars and felt that they seemed very close, especially one really bright one that seemed to glow. Now, was he seeing things or was this another glow and getting bigger? He nudged Matthias who sat up with a start and he went over to Simon and held him in his arms, still wrapped in his rug. Simon awoke and without speaking all three of them saw angels appear from the glow and they seemed to sing - something strange but beautiful. One Angel told them of a little baby born in a stable that night. The stable was not far away; just outside Bethlehem. The baby's name was Jesus and he was to be the Saviour. Then the Angels sang louder 'till they seemed to fill the whole sky. Slowly they faded away and Jacob and Matthias stood staring for some time where the Angels had been. Simon thought it the most wonderful thing that had ever happened and thought everywhere dark and cold again now they were gone.

Jacob and Matthias wondered "could it be true"? They both read the Holy Book with their families regularly, and knew of the Prophecy of the Saviour. They would go and look, they decided,

as they should reach the place in about a half hour. Simon felt very wide awake again and marched along steadily with the men. Naturally the sheep followed

As they came over the brow of the last hill just outside Bethlehem they saw a stable in the shelter of large rocks. Somehow they knew that this was the correct place, as the star Jacob noticed earlier was directly above the stable and seemed to envelope it in light. There was a warm inviting glow in the stable and Simon felt it inviting him to come. He suddenly started to run before his father noticed and only stopped at the door of the stable. He saw a man older than Daddy and a lady holding a tiny bundle. Just then the lady looked up and smiled and told him to come on over. She looked so beautiful and kind that he didn't hesitate although he was aware that Daddy and Matthias were at the door by now. She opened the folds of the blanket to show Simon the little baby and the baby opened his eyes and looked straight into Simon's and Simon felt such wonder and joy that he could have stayed there forever. It was some time before he realised that Jacob and Matthias were kneeling in adoration.

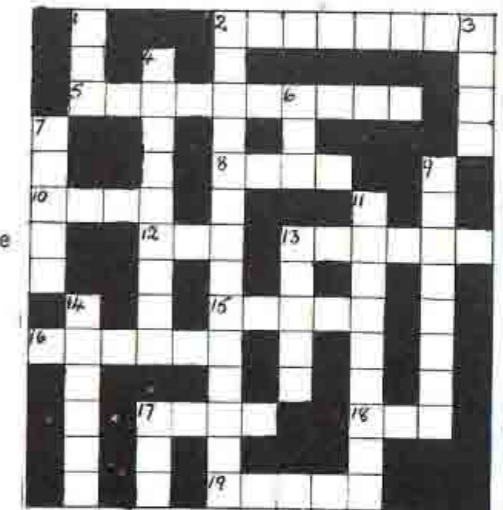
END

## CLUES ACROSS

2. He can do almost anything.
5. She didn't like ashes.
8. The wolf was after them.
10. This Nancy solved problems.
12. Little Red .....
13. Charlie Brown's friend.
15. A little dear!
16. He loves a green vegetable.
17. This number thought they were musicians.
18. The surname of Popeye's girlfriend.
19. He gets everything backwards .....even his name.

## DOWN

1. Number One Dwarf.
2. A hundred years was like a nap to her.
3. Pinocchio's kept growing.
4. A sister to Rose-Red
6. Humpty Dumpty had this shape.
7. He lives in Toytown.
9. She had very long hair.
11. He was handy with the low and arrow!
13. He was simple.
14. This Jack liked pies.
17. Mrs. Sprat was .....





# DOWN MEMORY LANE



MARIAN YEAR 1954  
His Excellency Most Rev. Dr.  
O'Hara, The Papal Nuncio  
visited Gort on February 3rd  
1954



Opening of Our Lady's College,  
Gort, September 1956



Mrs. Mai Cahill R.I.P.  
seated outside her shop at  
Crowe Street, Gort.  
Photo: W.M. Quinn

## JUNIOR ROOM IN KILTARTAN SCHOOL '53

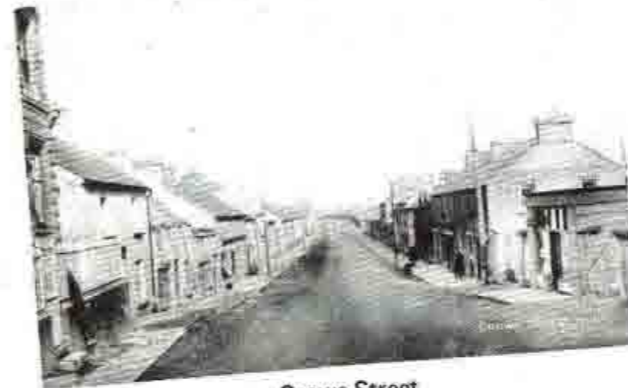
Back Row: (L to R) B. Keane, A. Diskin,  
M. Regan, R. Forde, T. Fahy, D. Regan,  
C. Forde, A. Cunningham, J. Coppinger, N. Coen  
B. Downey  
Centre Row: (L to R): A. McLoughlin,  
M. Donohue, N. Regan, S. Forde, E. Diskin,  
B. Quinn, M. Monaghan, T. Flanagan, G. Keane,  
B. Flanagan, N. Coppinger.  
Front Row:  
V. Keane, Regan, N. Diskin, A. Cahill, M. Cahill,  
D. Forde, E. Fahy, P.J. Downey, D. Regan,  
A. Cahill, P.J. Baldwin.



CONFIRMATION IN GORT  
1958

## GALWAY HURLING TEAM 19.....?

Back Row: 5th from left is  
Josie Gallagher  
Middle Row: Second from right  
is Tadhg Kelly.



Crowe Street



This photo was taken at the Boys' N.S. Gort  
over 75 years ago.  
Front Row: William Moloney, Jimmy Sullivan,  
John Gaffogue, Bernard Coen.  
2nd: Thomas Glynn, John Burke, Joe Quinn,  
Tom Blake, Jack Sylver, Thomas Mitchell  
3rd Pat Hynes, Mick Ward, Martin Rock,  
John Flaherty.  
Back: Paddy Murray, Jimmy Ramplin,  
Willie Leach  
Teacher: Michael Tuohy

# FOREIGN LANDS TO ROAM

by Tom Hannon

A cousin of Pierce Piggott's, Tony Staunton, while researching in Sydney, became interested in military history, and came across the following reference to a man who was awarded the Victoria Cross about 1857. Following are the details,

Name. Thomas Loughnan (maybe Loughnane).

Rank. Gunner

Unit: Bengal Artillery, Indian Army (British)

Deed for which award received: Connected with Indian Mutiny 14th-22nd Nov, 1857.

Place & Date of Birth: Kilmacduagh, Gort, August 1824.

Place of Death: Galway 23rd July, 1864.

A space which records 'Place of Memorial' does not indicate if memorial existed. Tony Staunton is anxious to know if any trace of this Thomas Loughnan can be established. Many other Irish names were in the same records as Loughnan, including Lord Gort.

Today there is actually no one living in the townland of Kilmacduagh, although some new families are coming back to the nearby townlands. It is known that between 1831-41 about thirty one families lived where the Lally family now lives, near

Tiernevan. By 1851 there was only one family left. Up till comparatively recently the area had two or three families.

The late Alfie Kerans told me many years ago that some of the families of this particular area were soldiers families. A military hut existed near Tiernevan Church also barracks (now a private house). The hut may have been of timber. It is said that South Galway was a very turbulent area in the eighties of the last century. A list of population and number of houses in the Gort Area (Census) in 1841 might be of interest, when compared to 1861/71.

Population		
	1841	1871
Kilmacduagh 31	3	3
Cappmapisha 37	3	3
Knockantouk 76	33	33
Castlequarter 144	7	7
Newtown 82	4	4
Newtown Glynn 81	5	5
Newtown Regan 85	11	11

Houses		
	1841	1861
Gort	306	272
Crannagh	28	19
Killamoran	13	14
Roo	25	21
Rinneen	22	5

Houses		
	1841	1861
Rinrush	6	6
Shrah	4	5
Ballybaun	16	9
Ballinasteig	19	10

Popul. of Gort 1841 - 1735  
Popul. of Gort 1861 - 1369  
Popul. of Gort 1875 - c 1000

The almost total clearing out of Newtown, Newtown Glynn and Newtown Regan suggests evictions but it is difficult to be certain about this. Emigration played a big part as well, as did cholera. It's interesting that when Fr. Frank Quinn of Roo went to New Zealand over fifty years ago he found many relations from Kiltartan and other places there, Curleys, McAllains, Geoghans, etc. They had been there for a long time.

This man that I mentioned at the outset, Thomas Loughnan from Kilmacduagh, could have joined the British army, like many others did at that time. If anybody can throw light on the subject, I would be delighted to hear from him/her.

# CHRISTY O'CONNOR Jnr. TALKS GOLF (in this interview with Gina Cahill & Connor.)



Christy O'Connor Jnr. — enjoying the game.

Q. When and how did you start playing golf?

A. I started playing golf when I was about six years old, because I was born next door to the Galway golf-course and it was the only fun we had at those times, so everybody played in the area.

Q. When you were an amateur did you intend to become a professional?

A. Yes, I think I always wanted to be a pro. golfer. It was my uncles wish that I should take it up, because I used to play fairly good as an amateur.

Q. Why did you want to become a golfer in the first place?

A. Well like I said in the first instance we were born next door to the golf-course and because we all used play every day and evening and it was our sport.

Q. Was it a big step from amateur to professional?

A. Yes, I think it is always a big step for somebody to turn pro. no matter what sport, because of the expense and travelling and so on and so we had to think about, but I have enjoyed it.

Q. How many hours a day do you have to spend at your game?

A. I have to practise four or five hours a day.

Q. What golfer did you admire most in your earlier days of golfing?

A. Well in my earlier days of course, my uncle, because he was so good at that time. He won all the major tournaments and he was the reason that I turned pro.

Q. What was your first big win?

A. My first big win was the Zambian Open.

Q. Could you tell us about some of your most memorable games?

A. Well I suppose playing in the Ryder Cup for Britain Ireland and America, was certainly one of my biggest moments and playing in the Masters' in August, in America. I am still the only Irish Pro. that ever did it.

Q. Which win gave you the most satisfaction?

A. Winning the Irish Open on my home ground in front of my own people, was the biggest thrill of my life.

Q. Could you tell us about the places you have visited?

A..Venezuela, America, Japan, Hong Kong, Bahamas, Bermuda, Jamaica, Britain, Continent (is that enough).

Q. Which tournaments are most important for you to win?

A. Well all tournaments are very important to win no matter how big or small they are. A win is always very important for one's morale but naturally the big ones are the better ones to win. But a win in any tournament is a great feeling.

Q. Do you enjoy playing in other countries?

A. Yes, I enjoy playing golf, I don't really enjoy the countries because it is not really like a holiday. It is one's work. You, don't get to see very much. I prefer the home countries where the food and the language are the same as our own.

Q. Which of your opponents do you admire most?

A. Well, I played with Jack Nicholas, Lee Travino and Tom Watson and they are the best in the world. I have enjoyed all the top players.

Q. What was your greatest disappointment of this year?

A. Being beaten in the German Open. I led the German from start almost to finish, till the second last hole when Bernard Langer the local beat me by one shot.

Q. Did you ever have a really bad round?

A. Oh yes, every pro. will have a bad round often a bad year. Weather conditions, bad putt-putt, anything like that can contribute to a bad round and I have had plenty.

Q. Who in your opinion is the greatest golfer that Ireland has at the moment?

A. Well there are lots of good players at the moment in Ireland. Des Smith, Eamon Dorcey, David Feherty, John O'Leary, who won the Irish Open this year. It is running between about six of us.

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# CHRISTY O'CONNOR Jnr. TALKS GOLF (in this interview with Gina Cahill & Connor.)

Q. Are there any changes that you would like to see in professional golf?

A. Well it is becoming very very big and the only change I'd like to see is that Ireland would have its own golf circuit but that would take an awful lot of money and I think it is quite impossible at the moment.

Q. Could you tell us something about your sponsors?

A. Well my sponsors are Celtic International from Galway. I carry the name of the company Celtic International where ever I play, so that is a nice connection with that company.

Q. What is your greatest ambition for the year to come?

A. Well, I would like to play Ryder Cup. Ryder Cup is a team event (which I have played in already) every second year between Britain, Ireland and America and that happens

next year. I would like to be part of that team.

Q. What advice would you give young golfers today?

A. Well if they are interested, they must do an awful lot of practice, nearly every day winter and summer, and when they become really good as amateurs then only is the time to turn professional. But you must be very good as an amateur first.

Q. Do you know what you are going to play in next? (Competitions).

A. Yes, this week I am going to play in the Irish match-play which I won three times, and I will play a Portuguese Open which will finish the European Tour in three weeks time.

Q. Could you tell us something about the cost of the equipment?

A. Well the equipment like every

thing else changes. You can get a cheap set of clubs for a hundred pounds, but for a pro. set of clubs, golf gear, bag, shoes and gloves, it would cost about a thousand pounds.

Q. What golf-clubs do you use?

A. I use Australian golf clubs. They are called PGF most pro's use different golf-clubs, all to their own liking, but I just prefer the set I have.

Q. Could you tell us about some of the Clubs you have played for?

A. I used to live in Holland. When I came back to Ireland I played out of a club in Carlow for seven years, and out of Shannon for 6 years both very happy times. Now I have moved to Gort because the company that sponsor me are in Galway. The reason I picked Gort, is that it is half way between Shannon and Galway.

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# COMMUNITY GAMES

by our Athletics Correspondent

Community Games were first organized in Galway in the early 1970's and quickly caught on in most parishes from Portumna to Clifden and Gort to Dunmore. The games offer a wide variety of events that include Basketball, Volleyball, Hurling, Gaelic Football, Soccer, Rugby, Swimming, Athletics, Lawn Tennis, Camogie, Table Tennis, Draughts, Art, Judo and Gymnastics. While all of these activities have their own competition within their own organisation, the games in effect are really bringing together all the activities of the Community at Parish, County and National level.

At an early stage due mainly to the efforts of Sean Gleeson, Gort became involved in these games. While hurling, football camogie, etc. had their own associations to look after their needs, athletics in the parish of Gort did not have the benefit of a club at that time and it was for that reason that probably more emphasis was placed on athletics. A special day

was set aside for competitions under the various age groups 8 to 17 years for the purpose of selecting competitors for the county finals. The winners of the events go forward to the County Finals of the Community Games now held annually in July at the Sports Ground, Galway.

### 1982, A GOOD YEAR FOR GORT

Patrick Nealon, Glenbrack was the first winner of a County Games., Gold Medal for Gort in

1974 when he won the long puck competition, since then Gort have won a number of Gold, Silver and Bronze medal each year. This year 1982 was one of the most successful years to date, when both the Boys Under 12 and Girls Under 12 relay teams won their way through to the County Final against strong opposition from 49 areas. The boys team of C.Casey, G.Burke, M. Coen, D. Casey and G. Piggott winning out the event, while the girls team of A. Clabby, E.



GORT U.12 RELAY TEAM that won the County Community Games Final

Front: Gerry Burke, Colin Casey Back: Michael Coen, Garrett Piggott, and David Casey



Colin Casey, Gold Medalist in Mosney.

Egan, C. Linnane and S. Burke after a great performance finished 4th in the final. In the individual events, C. Casey and G. Burke won Gold Medals in the 100 metres and 200 metres events, while Sheila Burke and Niall Clabby won silver medals in the 100 metres and Discus events, Niall Clabby being edged out of first place by a mere 15 c.m. All the competitors from Gort who took part in his years county finals reached the semi-final stage.

### MOSNEY

At the National Finals in Mosney, Colin Casey won the Gold medal in the Under 10, 100 Metres and

Gerry Burke finished 4th, in the final of the under 10, 200 metres. The under 12 boys relays team gave a great performance failing at the semi-final stage. Considering that Colin Casey and Gerry Burke are under age for the relay team for the next two years, other relay teams in the county must make a super effort if they are to prevent Gort from getting to Mosney for the next two years at least.

Gort can look forward to very successful years ahead in Community Games Athletics. The talent is obviously there and the necessary support from parents and officials is forthcoming.

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# To Bordeaux and back!

Peadar O Conaire talks to  
Master Angler, Tommy Minogue

Tommy Minogue has been interested in fishing since he was seven years old. He recalls with obvious delight and nostalgia the times he fished the Gort and Beagh rivers, and Cooke Lake. He relates fascinating stories about big ones he landed and the proverbial 'ones that got away.'

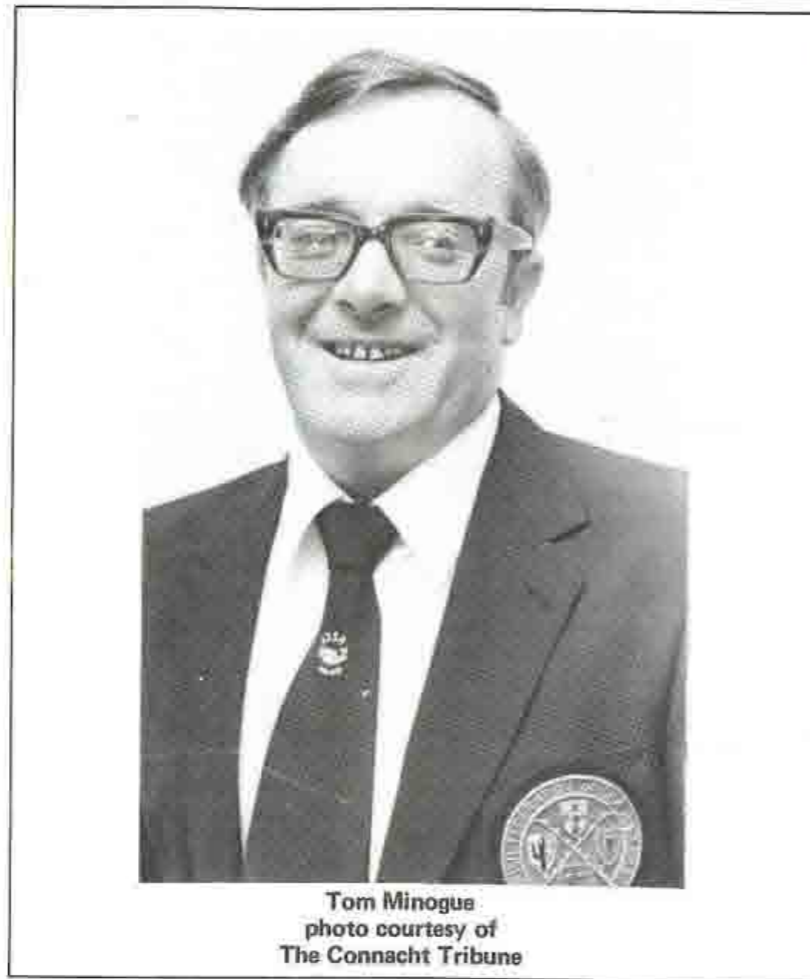
I talked to him recently about his trip to Bordeaux, to represent Ireland in the World Angling Championships. This is how the conversation went, as we sat in the comfortable livingroom of Tommy's home, enjoying coffee and biscuits served up by his son Shane.

P.O.C. How did you become a member of the Irish team

Tommy First of all I had to become the Master Angler of my own club. To put it simply, I had to have the highest number of points, accumulated over a twelve month period, from various competitions. Master Anglers, representing all thirty two counties, met in a competition at Ballycotton, Co. Cork. The top five in that competition were chosen to represent Ireland in Bordeaux. I was lucky enough to be one of them. Incidentally I represented Carna Club in Cork.

P.O.C. Tell me about the actual trip.

Tommy The party (fourteen in number) assembled at Rosslare on Sat. 24th September. We boarded The St. Patrick and set off in a force ten gale. Twenty three hours later we arrived at Le Harve. From there we travelled by coach to Caen where we stayed overnight in Hotel Gourmet. The following morning we resumed our journey travelling via Le Mans, and



Tom Minogue  
photo courtesy of  
The Connacht Tribune

Tours and eventually reaching Bordeaux (a five hundred mile trip) at 10.00 p.m. on 26th Sept. We were shown to a complex of magnificent chalets in the middle of a pine forest. I needn't tell you we slept soundly that night. The following morning we had our first fishing practice. Forty anglers representing, France, Belgium, Portugal, Germany, Spain, Luxembourg, Holland and Ireland failed to catch a single fish that morning! Next morning we were off to Landes for the start of the comp.

The Mayor and other dignitaries were there. The teams lined up behind their national flags. There was a steady downpour at the time, so it was decided to cancel the playing of the Anthems.

We were fishing for two nights from 6.00 - 12.00 p.m. and for one morning from 8.00 a.m. - 2.00 p.m. On our last night there we had a marvellous banquet attended by France's Minister for Sport, who presented each angler with specially minted medallions. One member

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# To Bordeaux and back!

Peadar O Conaire talks to  
Master Angler, Tommy Minogue

of the Irish team, Walter Kane from Waterford, who came third, received his medal at the banquet. Luxembourg won the top team award and Ireland were placed sixth

The following morning at 9.00 a.m. the homeward journey began. We stayed overnight in Nantes (Hotel Le Presedente) The following evening we reached Cherbourg. We had a very pleasant crossing to Southampton (where we stayed overnight). We journeyed by coach to Fishguard where we managed to get on the Rosslare ferry after a long delay.

P.O.C. Was the competition a success?

Tommy Well, it was a marvellous experience. We struck up

great friendships while we were there. There was no language barrier, - fishermen have their own language! One thing that disappointed me was the size of fish caught, the average being about 9 inches in length. They were mostly bass, wever fish and turbot. Even these small specimens were very scarce. The holder of the Individual title, a Spaniard caught no fish at all! No wonder the Continentals come here on fishing trips.

P.O.C. Were you well looked after?

Tommy Indeed we were. The French are excellent hosts. We got the very best to eat and drink. Mind you French food doesn't agree with all

palates! There was a meal provided for us on the beach every night, consisting of a bottle of wine, portion of chicken, various chocolates, and a jar of pate.

P.O.C. One final question. What was your overall impression of the trip?

Tommy The trip of a lifetime! Very tiring (don't forget we covered 2,250 miles in all!) but well worth it. It is always a great honour to represent one's country in an International Competition. By the way I'd like to take this opportunity of thanking all those who made the trip possible, clubs and individuals. I'll be forever indebted to them, and I thank them all very sincerely.



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# DEATH OF A MOST UNUSUAL CONNAUGHT RANGER

by W.M. Quinn



John Ramplin  
War Vetern  
and a Great  
Pioneer.

Photo: W.M. Quinn.

The Connaught Rangers, one of the British Empire's most fearless regiments, was founded by the Earl of Clanricard in 1793. Its war cry 'Fag a' Bealach' (Leave the way) was fitting to its fearless soldiers.

Recruited mostly from West Connaught, Viscount Gort, of Lough Cutra Castle was a general of the Regiment, thus many from South Galway joined up, craving a warm uniform, dry boots, or the thrill of travel and combat — at ten pence a day. In its first recruitment year, over 30,000 enlisted.

### THE WESTERN FRONT

During the First World War of 1914-18, it had three Battalions on the Western Front and in Palestine. Thousands paid the supreme sacrifice.

In 1911, John Ramplin, then a tough 16 year old youth, joined the forces at Renmore Barracks, Galway. On the outbreak of War in 1914, he was shipped overseas to France, scene of the great holocausts. After just two weeks combat he was invalided back to Great Yarmouth for a three month convalescence, rejoining his regiment (or what was left of it) at Kinsale, Co. Cork, and thence to the Dardenells in Turkey.

His next stop, Macedonia in the Balcans, where he soldiered

for nearly three years; then to Egypt, crossing Suez to the Holy Land.

### THE WALLS OF BERSHIBA

He was in the taking of the Walls of Bershiba, and later saw action in the Gaza Strip, Java, Jericho, and was also one of those on the march to Damascus, when they were relieved by the 3rd Lahore Division and brought back to Alexandria and thence to France.

He was in the first line of trenches when the cease fire came in November 11th, 1918. John recalled that it was 11 a.m. for he could never forget the joyous roar of his comrades.

### INVALIDED FOR THE SECOND TIME

Suffering paralysis of the hand, from the atrocious conditions he was once again invalided back to England, this time to the infirmary at Perth in Scotland. In 1919, he was declared fit, and got a one way ticket complete with civvy attire back to Ireland, where he spent his remaining years in useful employment as a mill worker at O'Connors in George's Street, Gort, always strictly honest and of impeccable rectitude. He gave drill instructions to the I.R.A. He was a lone, but happy widower before his passing at the age of 87 in July 1982.

### UNUSUAL ?

John Remplin's ancestors fled from the French Revolution of 1789, escaping in a fishing boat. Half way across the channel they were picked up by an English vessel, and landed in England.

Later his protestant grandfather came to Ireland, obtaining a post as warden at St. Nicholas Collegiate Church of Ireland in Galway City, and some years later was transferred to a similar posting at Saint John's Church in Limerick where his remains are interred.

His family then moved to Gort, embracing the Roman faith. So this is the chequered tale of the French refugee who brought such a worthy grandson to the small peaceful town of Gort in mid-west Ireland.

Unusual ?? Despite his tribulations, travels, and woeful hardships he never touched a drop of intoxicating drink. He always passed his rum rations to a pal. There is a lesson there for us, pampered people, who can't make the local Disco without a few jars.

### DISBANDED:

Most momentous event in the colourful career of a Ranger happened in far off India in June, 1920, when 68 soldiers mutinied against Black and Tans atrocities back home in Ireland — brave heroic and unselfish men — which precipitated the total disbandment of the Regiment at Windsor Castle, presided over by King George V, on June 12th, 1922.

So ended 129 years of heart breaking service and suffering to the Empire.

Amongst the mutineers was Pateen Donoghue of Gort. A fitting, but belated monument was erected to him at the round tower of Kilmacduagh in 1973.

'All praise to those Connaught Rangers  
Far away neath the Indian sun,  
who pledged their thrall with Ireland  
and threw down the alien gun.'

# AN NOLLAIG i nAiteanna Agus Laethanta

le Brendan O Longaigh

### Eile

Saoire Lua: Theadh na Braithre Criostula ar Chursa Spioradalta ar an gcuigiú la deag den mhí agus mar gheall ar sin gheibhimis Saoire na Nollag an la roimhe sin. Toisc gan aon cheachtanna a bheith againn leigti duinn bheith nar sui deanach amach san oíche — chaitheadh na cailini bochta dul a chodladh ar an uair sin airithe fos go dtí go mbeadh saoire acu fein.

### Ullmhuchan don Nollaig

Dar ndó bhíodh muintir an tí gnothach um a dtaca so ag allmhu i gcoir na Nollag, ag cur an tí i dtreo, ag glanadh ag peinteail agus ag feistiú. Bhíodh mearog na Nollag deanta agus beirthe cheana fein agus i ar crochadh ar síleail na cistine. Nach dtugaimis cabhair do Mham chun an mhearog a dheanamh. Dheanaimis na risíní a dhi chlochadh. Thugaimis lámh an mhearog a mheascadh i mbabhla, i a chur isteach i mala eadaigh agus i a chrochadh. Ba mhór an tsuim a chuirimis in ullmhu na ge, nuair a bhíodh Mam a glanadh amach feachaint ceard a bhíodh na goile ceard a bríodh ite aice sar a maraíodh i ! Ba mhór an sport a bhíodh againn ag barrloscadh na ge le fagoidí paiper lasta, nuair a bhíodh se plucaíthe ag Maidhcí Caife — Beannacht De leis, do maraíodh an fear bocht aimsir na Triobloide i Scannraiti sinn nuair a bhaineadh Maidhcí gogail as an nge marbh le bru ar a scrugall!

Agus maidir leis an teach a chur i dtreo. Cuirtí peint dhearg ar fhalla an tinteain agus "brící" air le peint bhan. Amas i narbh cheart go mbeadh an chuid sin den teach go deas le failte a chur roimh San Nioclás anuas an tseimlear le breagain agus feiríní deasa duinn a chuireadh se nar stocai a bheodh crochta againn ar thaobh an tinteain. Thagadh se i lar Oíche Nollag agus sinne nar samh-shuan, agus nuair a theadh (a deirtí linn) gach ainmhi cheithre-chosach ar a ghluine

mar omos don tSlanaitheoir Og. Nosanna:

Bhíodh coinneal mhór dhearg Nollag i bhfuinneog na cistina. Ba mhór agus ba shollunta e lasadh na coinneal muintir an tí ar a ngluine ag guí ar Iosagan sa Mhainsear treoir mhaith choir a chur orthu. An te ab oige sa teach a lasadh an choinneal. Bhíodh an teach, go mhór mhór an chistin maisithe le cuileann na gcaor dearg agus le h-eidhnean. Nach dteimis na mílte o bhaile trasna na Conrach le haghaidh an chuillinn — go dtí an Choill Mhór ait na raibh an cuileann ba bhreatha ag fas go fluirseach ! Sea agus uaireacta trasna an chuain go dtí Baile na Ghoilín — ait conaithe Jimín ! — mar a raibh coilte breatha go himeall na mara. Is minic a gheibhimis dalladh agus an ghaoth nar gcoinnibh gach fear againn ar a mhaide ag sa an bhaid ramhaíochta agus an saile. Ag teacht isteach thar ghunail ! Nach orainn a bhíodh an mortas . Ag filleadh abhaile leis an seilg. Bhíodh gach duine idir og is aosta go geal-ghairitheach La Nollag. An teaghlach go leir ag an gcead Aifreann moch ar maidin cluig a thais a mbualadh ceol an orgain mhoir peob, le cloisteall agus an cor ag canadh Molta De na daoine ag beannu da cheile d'eis Aifreann agus Siochain De na gcroí. Muntir an tí bailithe timpeall an bhoird ag an dinnear. Daid ag gearradh na ge agus Mam a riaradh amach. Bhíodh faobhar faoi leith ar ghoile gach duine tar eis troscaidh agus treanais an lae roimhe sin. La troscaidh agus treanais ab ea Vigil na Nollag an uair ud agus ní ithí ag an dinnear ach iasc leasaithe agus prataí.

### Spraí agus Sport

Ba mhór ar fad an seo e La an Dreoilín — la grinn agus spóirt gach duine sa "Dreoilín" feistithe i nreadaí deoranta, aghaidh fidil air i dtreo is na bhaithneofaí e — ceol agus rinne san aer-splanncanna a mbaint as an talamh age broge troma tairní gach fear lan de ghíodam, fear

an chapail maide lan de chleas-aíocht ag cur an chroí trasna ar leadanna oga le sciúird futha an capall agus a bheal ar leathadh aige ag tabhairt seaip futha faoi mar a bheadh se chun duine a alpadh siar agus an diabhlíocht go leir a hoibriú ag an "mBuachaill" a bhíodh ag iompar an chapail! Frama latai a bhíodh sa chapall agus e cludaithe le brailín ban — maírg do nBhean tí a fhagfadh a brailín a thriomu ar an sreang tuartha oíche roimh, an Nollaig ! Bhíodh gleas a oibriú le corda ag fear an "chapail" i dtreo is go bhfeadfiadh se beal an chapail d'oscailt agus a dhunadh go tapa. D'iompraíodh se an capall ar a ghuaile agus a cheann saite aníos !

Bhíodh cleasaí eile agus lamhnan muice ar corda aige agus e ag bualadh gach duine a thagadh trasna air. Scannraíodh se na paistí agus theithidís uaidh le na nanam.

### Aith bhliain

Oíche Choille theadh an banna ceoil feadog agus drumá timpeall ag cur failte roimh an mbliain nua — agus ag fagail sláin leis an sean-bhliain — foinn cheolmhara traidisiunta a seinnt ag no feadoga agus cnap-chualadh na drumá ag coimead buille leo. Bhíodh laindear ar tosach coinneal ar lasadh ann agus "Old Year out and New Year In" scríofa trasna aghaidh an laindeir. Lastaí coinneal i bhfuinne og na cistine an oíche seo freisin — Coinneal Mhór bhan na Bliana Nua. Bhíodh suile mhuintir an tí dirithe uirthi feachaint conas a bhíodh aici — solas geal uaithe no leath-sholas duch scamallach ! Da theadh an chainneal in eag-comhartha bea e go gcaillfi duine sa teach i rith na bliana ! La Coille bhedis ag faire conas a bhíodh an ghaoth. Da mbeadh sí ag seideadh aniar is ag Eirinn a bheadh an bua ach faraíodh da mbeadh gaoth anoir ann is 'ge Sasana a bheadh an bua! Cuirtí an-shuim ar an duine ba thuisce a thagadh thar thairseach an tí maidin Lae Coille — bhíodh

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## AN NOLLAIG i nAiteanna Agus Laethanta

le Brendan O Longaigh

suil acu le fear dubh ach! da bur bean rua an te ba thuisce a thagadh — mo lean gear - tubaist! Ni scuabfai amach an turlar an chead Luan den Bhliain Nua, ar eagla an t-adh a bheadh curtha amach acu! Oiche Choille freisin bacaltaí caca mor cuirini agus sar a mbeadh se fuar cuirti isteach! mala mor garbh e agus buailti i gcoinne an dorais e on dtaobh istigh ar dtuis ag fogairt amach an donais agus ansin on dtaobh istigh ag failtiu isteach an sonais! Seoltaí an donas go dtí Tir na dTurcach agus an sonas go Tir na hEireann!

Oiche a Dhothain Mhoir a tugtaí ar an oiche sin agus da níthead duine a dhothain an oiche, sin bheadh a dhothain ite aige i gcoir na bliana ar fad. Faid chois ceim coilligh a thagadh sa la, La Coille.

Oiche Nollag Beag no Nollaig na mBan mar a tugtaí uirthi lastai tri choinneal mhora in onoir do na Tri Rithe — an choinneal i lar nios aoirde na an da cheann eile — a bhíodh ar chomhairde. Deirte go ndeanfaí fion den uisce na oiche sin agus go ndeanfaí síoda den fhear ach faraoir da dteadh duine amach feachaint ar

tharla a leithead b'shin deire leis — ní fhilleadh se go deo!

Biti ag cuimhneamh is docha ar Bhainéis Chana, ní folair nuair a deineadh fion den uisce — Cead Mhíriuilt losa! Faid "bheirbhíu spola" a thagadh sa la La Nollag Beag a deirte.

Is baolach go bhfuil faili deanta in alan de's na sean-nosanna san la ata inniu ann agus is trua san.

## GORT ARTS GROUP

by Kitty North

Members and friends of the Gort Arts Group have enjoyed a busy and rewarding summer, starting with an illustrated lecture on Baroque and Gothic Art by Dr. Burke, lecturer at U.C.G. and his brother Brian Burke. This lecture was given in the Library, a lovely setting for such events and everyone went away with a greater knowledge and appreciation of Baroque Art than they may have had prior to the lecture. Dr. Burke is at present in Germany studying other forms of Art and we hope that he will be able to give us another treat when he returns to Ireland. Soon afterwards the painting group enjoyed a stimulating "Workshop" under the expert guidance of Anne Tallentire. Annie has been here several times and the group has benefitted from her expert advice and from the demonstrations which she freely gives, making the difficult business of painting a picture appear quite easy!! We look forward to her next visit.

### ANNIVERSARY

The 50th Anniversary of the death of Augusta, Lady Gregory took place on the 23rd May this year and the Gort Arts Group commemorated this occasion in

various ways. Firstly by planting a tree in Coole Park immediately opposite the front of the house. Also members together with friends attended a service at her graveside in Galway, conducted by the Rev. L. Forrest, during which a pupil from Kiltartan School laid a wreath on the grave made of foliage gathered from Coole Park.

Shortly after this the author Colin Smythe journeyed from England to give a very entertaining and enlightening lecture on the life and works of Lady Gregory. This lecture also took place in the Library, it was very comprehensive, covering members of her family and intellectual friends and, including the venue, was a very fitting tribute to the memory of Augusta, Lady Gregory.

### SUMMER SCHOOL

During July the Art Group invited Professor Louis Muinzer from Belfast University to conduct the W.B. Yeats' Summer School. This in an annual event greatly enjoyed by everyone and we owe a debt of thanks to Miss Frances McNally who kindly allows the students the use of her study at the Tower for the whole of the course which covered the poems and plays of

Yeats, the folklore tales and plays of Lady Gregory and the poems of the blind poet Raftery. During the course we had an entertaining evening with the "Wind Children" from California. Also during July the Gort Arts Group mounted an exhibition of students' pictures in the Library and we are busy working in the Old School House in Tierneevin on pictures for next years Exhibition.

The Gort Arts Group is now looking forward to a visit from the Irish National Opera Company to present "Don Giovanni" in the Auditorium at St. Joseph's Secondary School, an appreciation of which will appear in the next issue.

From the foregoing you will have seen that the Arts Group, which is sponsored by the Galway/Mayo Arts Council and the Regional Development Organisation, is very active in encouraging the Arts in Gort including music, literature and the visual arts. New members interested in the Arts will be gladly welcomed.

## WALSH'S BAR AND LOUNGE

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Season's Greetings to all Our Customers

For shopping in a relaxed atmosphere, pay a visit to

## JORDAN'S SUPERMARKET

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Good service and the keenest of grocery prices.

Greetings to all Our Customers

## The Church Street Artist

Otherwise sedate Church Street, Gort, is today a haunt of visitors and locals, who come to view the Line Drawings and paintings, executed by my great friend, photographer, poet, philosopher and entrepreneur extraordinary, Willie Quinn for he has decorated the front wall of his studio with some of the many charms of the district — "The Round Tower of Kilmacduagh" "Lady Gregory's Coole House" & "Toor Ballylee", home of poet William Butler Yeats.

When I, like many other admirers called, he was most co-operative and allowed me take this photograph as he quickly portrayed Lady Gregory's Coole House on the wall.

When I remarked on his "Genius" he quickly dispelled my adulation — "No way" he replied, "what I do is within the compass of any ordinary individual — I'm no Artist, my only regret is, that our great scenic attractions are not Highlighted all over the Country.

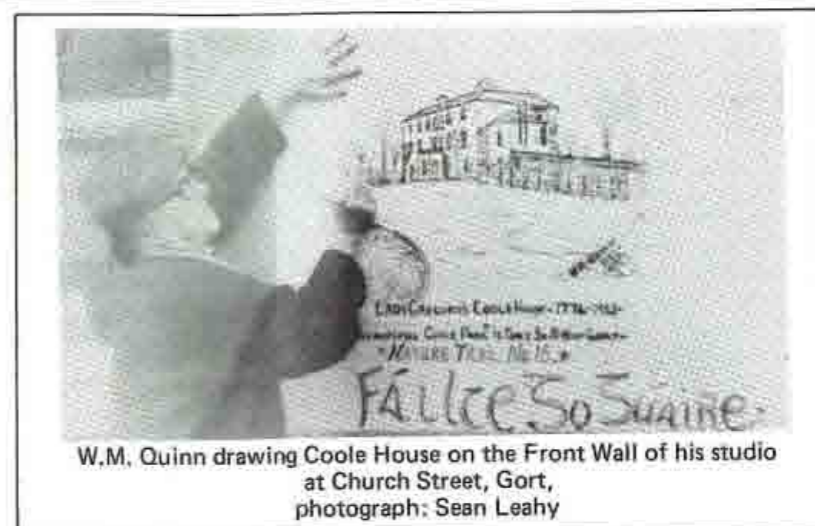
### SERIOUS SNIPPETS OF GORT by Sean Leahy

#### BANK RAID

Raiders got away with an undisclosed sum of money from a Gort bank during the week. The Gardai were alerted while the raiders were still in the bank. Gardai sealed off all the exits, but the raiders escaped through the main entrance.

#### SHELTER FOR BATTERED HUSBANDS

At a meeting last week in Glynn's Hotel, it was stated by the chairman that £1,800 had now been collected for the battered husbands association. A motion was put forward, that the money should be put to a useful purpose, such as bandages, sticking plaster and crutches, to aid those that had suffered through the hands of their vicious wives. The motion was not seconded. A second motion was then put forward, for a shelter to be erected, so as any tormented husband could find a bit of peace away from the fangs of their vicious wives. It was seconded, and passed. Now they are looking for a suitable site. A church gate collection was suggested, to try and bring in more money, so also was a cake sale. The cake sale was turned down as none of the husbands were bakers. Self defence classes are still being taught at Glynn's



W.M. Quinn drawing Coole House on the Front Wall of his studio at Church Street, Gort, photograph: Sean Leahy

It would attract more Tourists to Ireland" The Tourist Board spends millions on Brochures, and Ambassadors, far better if they Commissioned people like myself to project them on Hotel and Business House Walls. If interested parties write to me:-

W.M. Quinn, Gort, Co. Galway. (Enclosing stamp), I will be helpful" but added Willie "No personal callers, as I'm committed for months ahead." Thank you Willie for a most elevating interview.

Sean Leahy

### LEO CALLING

Man with farm, T.T. R.C. own bike, morgage, H.P. and all the other commodities that go to make up a succesful life, aged between seventy five and eighty, would like to get in touch with young females, aged between seventeen and twenty one, with the intention of getting married. Interests are: Skin Diving, Motor Racing, Disco. Only interested parties may apply.

### EASE FOR THE GARDENER

Many people are plagued with greenfly in their gardens. They cover your roses, ruin your most precious flowers, and leave you with empty pockets after trying to get rid of them with all sorts of fly spray. Bur Hark. A new method has been discovered to wipe out this pest. It has been designed by me, and it goes on the market next month. It is called Greenfly Crunch Kit. The kit consists of, one piece of flat flag(moher) seven inches by four, white cloth soap, and a block of wood seven inches by four inches. When the greenfly is spotted, place the flag under him, holding it in your left hand, then on the count of three bring down the block of wood squarely on his head. This soon will get rid of your pests, the cloth and soap is for washing your hands afterwards.

### SAVE MONEY

Second hand headstone for sale, slightly worn, would suit someone with the name of Smith, aged 48 years. Apply to this magazine.

### CHICKEN LOVE

Bought at a leading Gort Supermarket, one chicken, when opened the usual plastic bag was found with the usual chicken offals, heart, liver, neck, etc. etc. But this chicken was different. It boasted of three necks, two hearts and no liver. I enquired from Dr. Joyce, could this be possible. The answer of course was no, so I assume she was a very nousey chicken with a lot of neck, who could fall in love very easily.

# MILESTONES.

## BIRTHS

Congratulations to the following on the arrival of new family members.

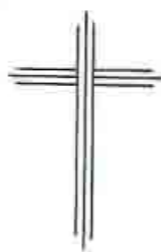
1. Eugene & Pauline Glynn, Ballylee, on the birth of their daughter Teresa Martina.
2. Gerard & Pauline Gavin, Blackwater, on the birth of their daughter, Carol Christin
3. John and Lucy Fahy, on the birth of their son, Gerard Patrick.
4. Michael and Eileen Quinn, Roo, on the birth of their son, Cormac Gerard.
5. James & Brigid Dolan, Crowe Street, on the birth of their daughter, Louise Rita.
6. Michael & Martina Harte, Guaire Park, Gort, on the birth of their son, Patrick Martin.
7. John & Maura Cummins, Kilmacduagh, on the birth of their son, David.
8. Gerard and Catherin Downes, Corker, Gort, on the birth of their daughter, Karen, Christina.
9. Martin & Ann Murphy, Tubber Road, Gort, on the birth of their daughter, Jennifer Ann.
10. Patrick and Ann Nevin, Travelling Community, on the birth of their daughter, Ann Teresa.
11. James and Ann Walsh, Garryland, on the birth of their daughter, Claire Ann.
12. James & Mary O'Donoghue, Ennis Road, on the birth of their daughter, Caitriona AnnaMaria.
13. Sean and Mary O'Grady, Killamoran, on the birth of their son, Declan Patrick.
14. Christopher & Rosaleen Doherty, Garrabeg, on the birth of their son, Colm Patrick.
15. Gerard & Mary Hallinan, Ballinamanton, Gort, on the birth of their daughter Teresa Mary.

16. Oliver & Maura Kerans, Roo, Gort, on the birth of their son, Martin Vincent.
17. Val and Joan Hearty, Galway Road, on the birth of their daughter, Eimar Maria.
18. Josie & Karen Harte, Bridge Street, Gort, on the birth of their daughter, Aileen Una.
19. Greg & Rita London, Crowe Street, Gort, on the birth of their daughter Jane.

## MARRIAGES

Heartiest Congratulations and Best Wishes to the happy couples who were married in the parish since the last issue of 'Guaire'.

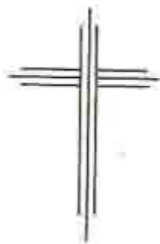
1. Mary Crealhan, Ballinastagine Gort, who married Michael Helly, Ardahan.
2. Mary Nolan, Corker, Gort, who married Peter Fahy, Claregalway.
3. Catherine Flaherty, Garryland, Gort, who married Martin Carey, Ballinakill, Gort.
4. Anne McMahon, Garryland, Gort, who married John Linnane, Kinvara.
5. Mary Rose Killeen, Church St Gort, who married Michael O'Sullivan, Kildare.
6. Mary Kelly, Killamoran, who married Gerard Fitzgerald, Roscommon.
7. Esther Roche, Seehan, who married John Mahon, Gurt-eenboy, Gort.
8. Gerard Wallace, Galway Road who married Teresa O'Reilly Ennis Road.
9. Mary McCarthy, Ennis Road, who married Patrick Gerard Nugent, Galway.
10. Elizabeth Kilroy, The Square Gort, who married John Neylon, Boston, Co. Clare.
11. Josephine Flaherty, Tiernevan, who married Anthony Connolly, Kinvara.



## DEATHS

Since our last issue of 'Guaire', we have been sadly bereaved. To the families, relations, friends and neighbours of the following we extend our sincerest sympathy Ar dheis De go raibh a n-anamuacha.

1. Ellen Burke, Loughrea Road, died 5th May.
2. Agnes Diskin, Carrabane, died 10th May.
3. Christopher Gillane, Glasson, Athlone, formerly of Rine-rush. Died 19th May.
4. Fergus Casey, Tarmon, Gort. died July 10th.
5. Goretti Hanrahan, Square, Gort. died 6th July.
6. Christina Halvey, Circular Rd. died 24th July.
7. Brigid Moylan, Ballymulfague died 24th July.
8. John Ramplin, Garrabeg. died 28th July.
9. Mary O'Connor, Knockauncoura, died 28th July.
10. Elizabeth Kelly, George's St. died 11th August.
11. Richard Burke, Church St. died 9th Sept.
12. Mary McNeill, Ballyhugh, died 6th October.
13. Elizabeth Leahy, Gorrabeg. died 11th October.
14. Bridie Barry, Bridge Street, died 12th Oct.



# POET'S CORNER.

## MIDSUMMER SUNSET, 1982 Kitty North



Wide-eyed we gazed  
As the sun emerged from its veil of clouds  
Large, orange-red,  
With only seconds to spare  
Before sinking behind the Midsummer rain-drenched hills.  
In silence we stood, ankle deep in sweet scented Clover  
Paying homage to the shining Disc,  
God's gift to life on Earth  
While the storm clouds gathered for yet another lightning flash  
With thunder rolling overhead  
And knowing that it would take a long unpredictable year  
For the Sun to traverse the line of hills  
And return to that far North spot again  
Sadly, we turned towards the house  
And went to bed.

## CHRISTMAS

by Mark Scully

A moment; and the universe is but a darkened room,  
Fast curtained by the heavy gown of night,  
And save the myriad stars to quell the gloom,  
Nought else suggests a particle of light.

Eutopian the dreams of life's success,  
And fading now the memories of joy,  
As lunar light grows more, and sunlight less;  
Ambition, but another broken toy.

Summers gone; what use are all these winter days  
That paint the dullest canvas of the sky,  
Where black clouds pass fast fingers through the light of day,  
And how alone, forsaken, lost, am I.

Alone; a thought comes to my vacant mind,  
And over time a miracle appears,  
A tableau; a fantasy, I find,  
A happiness, a love, to last for years.

## RESOLUTION 1983 by W.M.Quinn

New Year Resolutions  
Are very short to live  
But the greatest resolution  
Is to give.....give.....give,  
A helping hand  
A kindly word  
To enemy or friend  
For charity on earth  
Is our alpha and our end.

Wishing everybody a Happy Christmas  
and a good New Year  
from

**HARTE'S PUB**  
Bridge St.

**LOOK NEW**  
**DRY CLEANERS**  
THE SQUARE GORT,  
(opposite church)  
Same Day Dry Cleaning Service  
Season's Greetings to all Our Customers

THE  
**CLASSIC**  
**BALLROOM**  
GORT

A Feast of Christmas Dancing  
with

The Champions, Bagatelle, Maurice Mulcahy

The Conquerors, Joe Dolan

and

All the thrills of Classic Disco

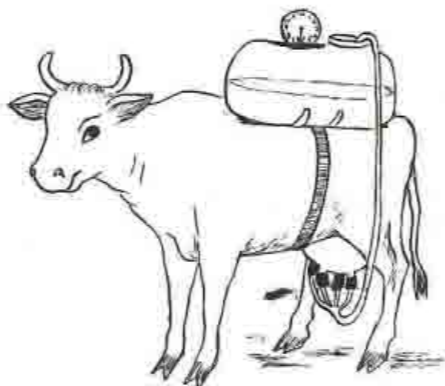
The Best in Band -  
The Latest in Disco

DALLAS  
by Geraldine Killeen

Every Saturday night around eight,  
Irrespective of family state,  
All the women of Erin,  
Who spent their week sparin'  
Their emotion for this awful Spate  
Of rubbish and rot unbeheld,  
Since the first family battle was held,  
Sit down to the sight,  
Of this rich family's 'plight',  
And their hearts are so easily felled.  
My friend, 'tis of DALLAS I speak  
And as I do, my whole body goes weak,  
For I'm far from impressed,  
And I do more than suggest  
That these R.T.E. blokes have a cheek!  
It's an insult to wit and to brain  
And it has all our judgement in chains,  
But you'd never know,  
That the quality was so low  
When you see all the cash that it gains.  
I find myself lost for an answer  
When 'Pam' and 'Bobby' started to meander,  
Round the courses of 'Love'  
— Oh God above —  
The script writer's one mighty chancer!  
"I love you but you are a Ewing"  
Someone tell me what this lot are doing?  
And Ireland's mothers and daughters  
Go like lambs to The Slaughter  
As they flutter, are billing and cooing.  
This J.R. is a pain in the face,  
(Or another less lady-like place!)  
With his cheating and stealing  
And swift double-dealing  
He's an absolute terminal case!  
And Sue Eilan, his one time 'beloved'  
Is so blatantly stupid I'm moved  
But the way that she puckers  
Makes us all look the suckers  
As we fall for it. And nothing improves.....  
Miss Ellie's a mighty old laugh  
As she struggles along on behalf  
Of her husband, now gone,  
— As the show must go on —  
And the family fattens the calf.  
I had thought my deliverance nigh  
But it was just pie in the sky,  
When it finished in June,  
I had spoken too soon.  
And my hopes were left high and dry.  
And the people of this land are cooned.  
While some Yank puffs cigars there beyond.  
Can ye not see the shame  
Oh come on! In God's name,  
Get some sense and throw it in the pond!  
I'm devoured by the blackest depression,  
At our nation's mental regression,  
Someone let this scourge in  
And now we can't win,  
It's polluted us all in succession!  
Oh DALLAS is going to be  
The absolute death of me!  
The world grinds to a halt  
for this awful assault  
All I'll say is:  
GOD HAVE MERCY !!

## POET'S CORNER.

A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS COW  
(Sung at a meeting of the I.C.M.S.A.  
at Gort Town Hall, last week)



Now the Bankers draw the curtains,  
and speed home for Christmas Day,  
and the pub itself is bolted  
for the Staff is all away.  
The girl that types the letters  
gets the cover on somehow —  
Yet no clever lad invented yet  
A Special Christmas Cow

God Bless the cow that gives such milk  
is a very kindly prayer  
for those who dwell in Cities  
for the devil a hare they care.  
It comes to them in bottles  
and is left beside the door —  
they never think of Farmer Browne  
as they mellow "maith go leor.  
They gorge on goose or turkey  
Never see with their minds eye  
the cow that moos for milking  
be the Farmer, wet or dry.

The Scientists speak of marvels  
and of wonders we'll see soon,  
they claim synthetic milk will come  
and boast they've reached the Moon  
But I'd rather if they'd find some way  
to coax the cow from milk to stay  
for just that one free Christmas Day  
and let me snooze the goose away —  
Oh! what a heaven sent boon.  
(Sung more slowly)  
Now my advice to Dairy men —  
put an engine in each cow —  
But then we'll hear the Minister  
with sneer so sly and sinister  
say "I'll tax them here and now"  
for no matter what the Farmers do,  
No matter how they try,  
You'll get some city slicker —  
Who'll want to milk'em dry

W.M. Quinn.

The Christmas cards upon the shelf  
and chains that hung from beam to beam,  
The rattling of the Christmas plates  
and walls that sported holly green.  
Our neighbours came, to wish us well  
my father passed around the glass.  
That was the time of holiness  
When Christ was in Christmas.

WHEN CHRIST  
WAS IN CHRISTMAS

Our Christmas Mass, a holy scene,  
was said by Father Murrey.  
My mother said, he lingered on,  
she was always in a hurry.  
Poor ma had all the work to do,  
as she hurried home from Mass.  
But that was quiet a while ago,  
When Christ was in Christmas.

As time goes bye, and people change,  
forgetting what is right.  
I still remember days of yore,  
and that lovely Christmas night,  
With a present in my stocking,  
and the love of those long past.  
Meant God was in our household,  
and Christ was in Christmas.

by Sean Leahy

## CLOTHES LINES SHOPPING CENTRE GORT

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for the young and trendy

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Casual Jackets  
Slacks, Jeans, Cords  
Skirts, Knitwear  
Gloves, Belts, Shoes

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a sound future—  
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