

QUAIRE

CHRISTMAS 1983



GORT, COUNTY SENIOR HURLING CHAMPIONS 1983



GUAIRE

CHRISTMAS 1983

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

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Editor: Peadar O Conaire

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

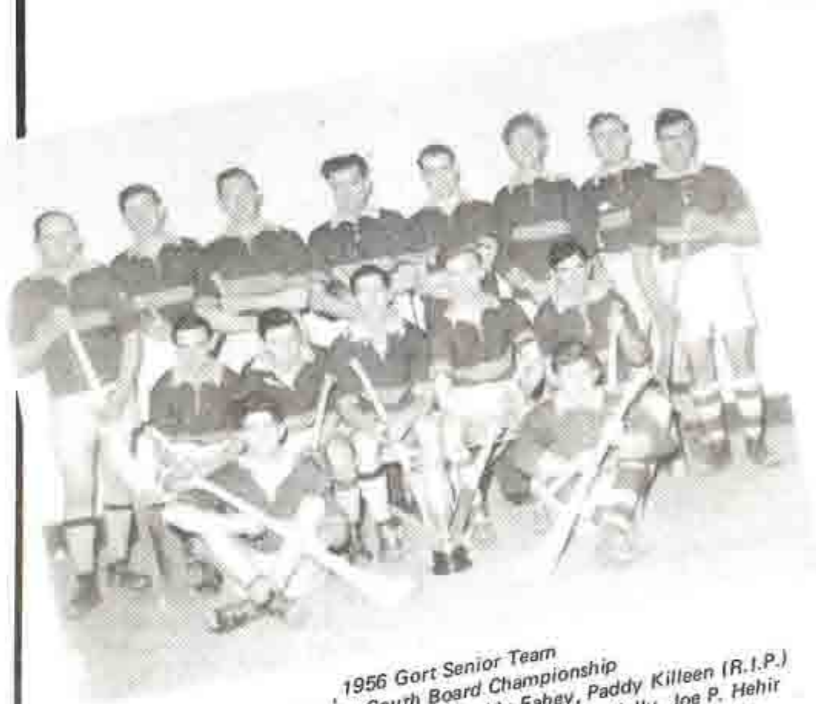


Greetings

To: - _____

From: - _____

DOWN MEMORY LANE



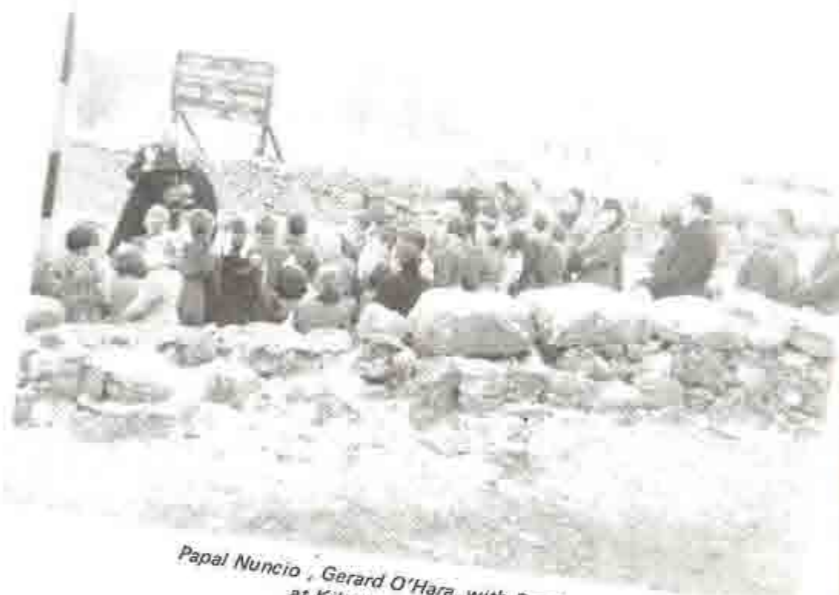
1956 Gort Senior Team
 Winners South Board Championship
 Back: L. to R: Eric O'Shaughnessy, Paddy Fahey, Paddy Killeen (R.I.P.)
 Tom Nolan, Flan Considine, Paddy Mullins, Paddy Kelly, Joe P. Hehir
 Middle: Cyril Glynn, Sean Cooke, Ronnie Burke, Tommy Walsh
 and Cyril Piggott
 Front: Gerry Cahill, Padraic Cahill.
 Missing from photo: Josie Gallagher
 Beat Ballindereen in final at Ardrahan



Sean Devlin and Ray Canning
 with supporters after Gort had
 won the Minor Championship
 in 1958.



Can you identify this building
 (now demolished) £5 to the first
 correct answer received by editor.



Papal Nuncio, Gerard O'Hara, with Dr. Browne
 at Kiltartan Cross, 1953



GORT GROUP - 1900



TAKEN AT SERGEANT'S HOUSE, BARRACK STREET, ABOUT 1901
 John H. Glynn, John J. Keane, Tom Cook, Tommie Mack, Paddy Finnegan
 Ned Kennedy, John Cook, Sam Glynn ??
 Pat Halvey, Nestor, Tom Fahy, M. Cook, Finnegan, Eddie Kane,
 Ralph F. Keane, Pat Barrett, Sonny Forde, Joe Huban, A. N. Other,
 Chris Griffin.



The late Joe Dooley at the Dog's Graves, Picnic Park, Coole.
 Photo: W. M. Quinn.



Donkey riding outside "Tiger" Daly's
 in Crowe Street (J. Griffin & C. Piggott).

**ORIENTEERING COMES TO
COOLE PARK, GORT.**

Coole Park, originally the home of Lady Gregory and now owned by the state, is one of the most beautiful forest parks in Ireland. Immortalised by Yeats in his poem - *The Wild Swans at Coole*:

"The trees are in their autumn beauty,
The woodland paths are dry,
Under the October twilight the water
Mirrors a still sky;
Upon the brimming water among the stones
are nine-and-fifty swans."

It was the centre of the Irish literary revival and besides appealing to the environmentalist, should also appeal to the historian and the student of English. The park is for everyone, both young and old.

The Forest Park, as well as being a wonderland of nature, with its many types of flora (Beech, Hazel, Holly, Common Privet, Norway Spruce, Scotspine, Chestnuts, Wild Hyacinth) and fauna (fallow deer, squirrel, pheasant, woodcock and mallard) is now host to a relatively new sport imported into Ireland just fourteen years ago. Orienteering which originated in Sweden, where it enjoys a popularity similar to that of soccer, can now be enjoyed by the people of Gort only a mile away in Coole Park.

The sport can be described as the art of finding one's way with the aid of a map and compass in undulating wooded terrain. Coole Park with its fine network of paths and tracks, is an ideal place for beginners to try the sport. Consequently Galway Regional Technical College Orienteering Club has surveyed the forest and produced a five coloured map, specially for introducing newcomers to the sport.

The object for the participant, is to navigate himself (herself) round an ordered series of check-points, he copies down on his own map from a master map near the start. He also carries a control card and a sheet with a description of each control. A check-point is identified by a triangular prism marker with

each face about one foot square coloured orange and white. The participant verifies that he has been to a point by marking his control card and with the randomly symbolled pin punch, which is attached to the marker.

For the beginner or wayfinder, the greatest pleasure of the sport is the joy of discovering the various check-points and completing the course or just enjoying the walk in the woods, pausing to absorb the beauty of the bare branches of winter trees or standing quietly to watch a deer feeding in a clearing. For the competitive Orienteer success is getting round the course in the shortest possible time. Courses vary in length and difficulty for young and old, male and female. To prevent following, competitors are generally started at one to three minute intervals.

No special equipment is needed to start orienteering. Ordinary outdoor or walking clothes - or a track-suit and training shoes - will do well enough, until one decides to compete more regularly. About the only type of specialized equipment needed is an orienteering compass - Silva and Swinto - are the best makes. Do not buy a prismatic compass. In fact many beginners courses can be completed without a compass and one is not needed at all in Coole Park. A red ball point pen (biro) is needed for marking course on to map and a cheap plastic whistle is recommended in case of emergencies. A plastic bag helps to protect map from rain or showers.

Orienteering is like a car rally, but done on foot, with the individual being the driver and providing the power as well. Through Orienteering you can learn how to use a compass, read a map and choose a suitable route, how to measure the distance you have to travel and how to find your way in terrain you have never seen before. It is an art that's quickly acquired.

Orienteering can be enjoyed by either sex, young and old, fit and

unfit. Because you make your own pace in Orienteering, its an ideal sport for the whole family to compete as a group. As orienteering events are usually held in a most pleasant forest environment, dont forget to pack a picnic lunch or bar-b-que, to cap off your earlier exercise and make your day's outing a complete outdoors experience.

You're interested in orienteering and you'd like to give it a try. How do you go about it? A pack containing basic information on orienteering, a coloured map of Coole Park with a permanent course marked on it and instruction sheet is available from Frank Ryan, Physical Education Teacher, Regional Technical College, Galway. Tel: (091) 53161 work, or (091) 62029 home. On receipt of this package a person can visit the forest park and navigate from point to point, working out his (her) route between them and can get a good idea of the principles of Orienteering. Alternatively, you can join Western Eagles Orienteering Club - Hon. Secretary, Paul Monaghan, 38 Crescent View, Riverside, Galway Tel: (091) 61927 home, (091) 24411, ext. 726 work, will be delighted to hear from you and will give you any assistance necessary.



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ISLANDS & HIGHLANDS

to Iona. The boat is a small ferry and the journey takes just a few minutes.

First impressions approaching Iona are of a delightful seaside village, fronted by white sandy beaches. Lodgings here are in a small hotel, The Argyll, where the food is good, the drink is good and the temptation to stay a second night, is too great to resist. At a guess, the island is about three miles long by one mile wide. It is a small permanent population and a Parish Church complete with resident Minister. Iona is of course famous for its association with Ireland's St. Columba or St. Columcille and there are numerous interesting features. Quite a number of foreign visitors are on the island even in the month of May for it is easy to get here by ferry and bus from the mainland. There is a hill to the South called Carn Cul Ri Eirinn, translated as the rock with its back to Ireland. Apparently the good Saint sent one of his companions to this hill on his arrival, about the year 563, to make sure that Ireland was out of sight before he would settle on the island. Probably the item of most general interest, is the Abbey Church of St. Mary. This is a magnificently restored cathedral type building, with adjacent monastic buildings. It houses a permanent Community and is also used by visitors for conferences and retreats. In the grounds outside is St. Martin's Cross, much like the high crosses that can be seen at Kilmoneira. Fine carved grave slabs depicting various warriors and churchmen who were buried in nearby Reilig Odhrain are now carefully preserved and stored indoors.

From Iona a short day trip leads to Staffa Island, famous for its caves particularly Fingals Cave and for its rock formations, so like those at The Giants Causeway in Antrim. On Monday the ferry back to Mull leaves Iona at 6.30 a.m. Secondary School children are up for this, as they attend school in Oban on the far off mainland. The now revived cyclists detour to Salen adding about 10 miles to the journey back to Craignure for the ferry to Oban. Alas, although there is bright sunshine, the wind is now from the North East and once again into the teeth of the cyclists. Back at Oban, there is time for some refreshment before another ferry departs for the Outer Hebrides

arriving at Castlebay on the Island of Barra about 7 p.m.

Castlebay is well named. The entrance to it is dominated by a small island, covered entirely by the very fine looking Kissimul Castle, restored in 1937 by an American. Accommodation is hard to find but with the help of the Tourist Office an excellent guest house is located 6 or 7 miles distant. The cost of bed and breakfast is £7.00 per person. There is quite a lot of Scottish Gaelic spoken here and indeed broadcast on radio. The man of the house had been a Merchant Seaman during the last war and described the terror of the mountainous Atlantic waves as he waited for four days in an open boat and prayed for rescue.



By Air from Barra

His ship had been sunk by a German Submarine off Rockall. There is a standing stone nearby and a graveyard in which can be found a few headstones relating to Irish Seamen who were less fortunate. This lovely island, said to be named after St. Finbarr of Cork, justifies a second day. Back at Castlebay there is time for a visit to nearby Vatersay Island, a bleak place, before continuing the 14 mile journey around the island. Hunger and thirst dictate a stop at licensed premises where the order of the day is Gaelic, pints of beer, games of pool and general good sport. Next morning a walk up Heavel (1260 feet), somewhat hampered by the activities of the previous night, provides splendid views of Barra and surrounding Islands far out to sea. Onwards now to the ferry, too small for cars, for South Uist, with a stop on the way at the unique Barra Airport, where planes land and take off on the beach when the tide is out. Passengers must walk across about 25 yards of sand between terminal and plane. The terminal, which has on an inside wall a mural of

shells depicting a wide variety of birds, is a hive of activity for a few minutes before and after landing and is then deserted. There are countless cockles on the beach which can be gathered and eaten.

A small ferry boat makes the journey to South Uist and a fairly short cycle leads to Lochboisdale and a night in a posh hotel, which to judge by the conversation, the expense, photographs and numbers of stuffed fish on the walls is frequented by fishermen. The following day involves a journey Northwards of some 60 miles, a bit too much for one day, through Benbecula and into North Uist to Lochmaddy. There are virtually no trees on these islands and the wind is now from the North and will so remain for the rest of the journey on the Islands. The place abounds with lapwings and quite a few oystercatchers. The roads

through the Islands are single lane with frequent passing places, not unlike Coole Avenue, although much smoother. There are a number of thatched cottages and turf is saved for fuel on some parts. After a meal in Lochmaddy, the cyclists failed to agree. One is for the safe option and a night in the hotel. The other is for taking a chance on finding lodgings near the ferry port and proves to be right, although the accommodation is provided more as a kindness for weary travellers than as a commercial enterprise.

In the morning, another small ferry takes two bicycles, two cyclists, a District Nurse and a couple of others to Harris, stopping briefly en route at Berneray. One of the passengers, a retired gentleman, has travelled with his wife by train from Penzance to Edinburgh to visit his daughter. He journeys alone to the Isles leaving the ladies to the delights and shops of Edinburgh. Gannets, those fine white birds with black wing tips, are diving from incredible heights into the sea. This is Harris, the original home of Harris Tweed. The

HISTORY REPEATED

a bonus. His seven points total in the Final, brought him past leader John Murphy (Mullagh) to top of the Leading Scorers in the Championship Table. The Fahy Travel-Connaught Tribune sponsored Top Scorer Award is a tribute to Gerry's striking and accuracy from different angles and distances.

DISAPPOINTMENT

After clear-cut victories over Maree-Oranmore, Castlegar, Carnmore and Loughrea, Gort U.16 hurlers had hopes of winning their County Final against Killimoredaly, but in Athenry on Sunday 25th. September, this very good team went under by 1-8 to 2-3. Disappointment for a team which did not play to its potential, but defeat can be a better teacher than victory.

COMMUNITY GAMES ATHLETICS - 1983 by Luth-Chleasai

Gort Community Games Athletes had their most successful year yet in 1983, when they won 20 medals (10 gold, 3 silver and 7 bronze) at the County Finals of the Galway Community Games at the Sportsground, Galway, on July 17th. This was a marvellous performance considering that 53 areas took part in the finals and this would leave an average of roughly two medals per area. Gort's huge collection of twenty medals was by far the largest collection of medals by any area in the County. It shows the very healthy condition of athletics in the Gort area and considering the small population, they have to select from, in comparison with areas such as Mervue, Renmore, Salthill, Newcastle, Tuam, Ballinasloe and Loughrea.

The following are the Gort competitors and medals won in the various events:-

Girls U.8 - 60 metres
Siobhan Gillane - Silver

Girls U.8 - 80 metres.
Sinead Walsh - Gold
Girls U.10 - 200 metres.
Siobhan Walsh - Gold
Girls U.14 - Long Jump
Mary Stanford - Gold
Girls U.14 - Long Puck
Suzanne Burke - Silver
Girls U.12 - Relay
Caroline Linnane, E. Cunningham
Aideen Hickey, Martina Egan
Jennifer Coen - Bronze
Boys U.10 - Hurdles
Irial Conroy - Bronze
Boys U.12 - 100 Metres
Gerry Burke - Gold
Boys U.12 - 600 Metres
Colin Casey - Silver
Boys U.14 - Shot
Joseph Gleeson - Bronze
Boys U.16 - Discus
Niall Clabby - Gold
Boys U.12 - Relay
Colin Casey, Richard Landon
Leonard Forde, Gerry Burke
David Linnane - Gold
Indeed a large number of the other Gort competitors gave trem-

first's recorded by our young athletes.

- * The boys relay team were the first Gort relay team to retain the County Championship.
- * Colin Casey and Gerry Burke were the first members of a Gort relay team to win Gold medals on successive years.
- * For the first time, Gort boys and girls relay teams won medals at the County Finals in the same year.
- * Mary Stanford was the first Gort competitor to win the Long Jump.
- * Niall Clabby was the first Gort competitor to win the Discus.
- * Suzanne Burke was the first Gort girl to win the Long Puck medal.
- * Sinead and Siobhan Walsh were the first sisters to win Gold medals for Gort on the same day. This was really a Community effort in every sense of the word this year. With all of the 35 competitors at the County Finals qualify-



Girls from Gort A.C. who won medals in the County Community Games.

endous performances in winning their way through heats and semi-finals. Some appeared to be the victims of poor judging decisions while others found themselves in the hit and miss predicament associated with the technical events. However, they gave heart-warming performances and the majority of them will be under age for the particular event again next year.

An interesting part of this year's competition was the number of

ing in their heats, the children and their parents again turned up for the finals and with one voice cheered and encouraged each Gort participant. As only the outright winners of the County Finals qualify for the Finals in Mosney, the number travelling there was greatly reduced. However with nine competitors, their parents the Secretary Mary Coen and family making the journey to the famous holiday resort, the community spirit was very evident among the

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**THE SPORTING LIFE
OF COLIE CONNEY**
as told to Peadar O'Conaire



When one mixes in hurling or racing circles in Gort or South Galway, the name of Colie Conney invariably crops up. Colie is seventy-eight years old now, but doesn't look a day over sixty. He enjoys a smoke, a jar when he's in the humour and a game of cards, but nothing gives him more pleasure than to recall his experiences as a jockey and a hurler.

In Colie's case, the old cliché 'you could write a book on him' really applies. The following is a resume of a long conversation I had with him recently, when he related many experiences he had and feats he performed in the pre-war years.

"I was born in Crowe Street, Gort, in 1906. I was brought up with ponies you could say. My father always kept two Connemara Stallions and up to ten horses. We were always 'dealing' in them, buying and selling throughout the country and farther afield at times. I had developed a great love for the animals even as a child. I rode ponies at home when I was only very small, but the first race I ever competed in as a jockey was at Coxtown when I was sixteen years old. I rode for Annie Forde (Rabane) and John Brady (Crowe Street) that day and in the Farmer's Race, I rode my own horse 'Sandiman'. There were big jumps put up for the Farmer's race, but even though I was only a youngster I managed to stay in the saddle to win by a few lengths.

There was a song made about it. "On Easter Sunday morning in the year 1924, to Labane Races I did go, where I never was before. The first race was at 2 o'clock, I'm sure I'll tell no lie.

It was between Claregirl and a horse called Cowboy. When we went up to the start, he said "are ye ready there" and then he let the flag down. The leader was from Clare. But when we went a mile or so, then the race began.

Sure Cowboy went out for the

lead and flew just like a swan. The next race sure was just as good "Clare Girl" and "Distant Shore" and for this race 9 horses went and all nice horses too, but "Distant Shore" he got the start and all the way he flew. Its not worth my while to finish for I have to tell you more.

The next race was a farmers race for farmers they got it up, and one horse that ran for this, was the winner of the Chester Cup. But when the finish it came near, you'd hear each woman and man, 3 cheers, 3 cheers for the Gort Boys, and poor old Sandiman. Prize money wasn't very big in those days, £5 - £7 for the winner in a pony race, £10 - £15 in a horse race.

I concentrated on pony races for a while, doing the local 'circuit' mainly, places like Gort, Loughrea, Oranmore, Ennis, Ballinasloe, Cladagh, Kilmihil, Kilrush, Ahascragh, Labane, Portumna, Ballymacward, Ballyvaughan and Lahinch. When I had made a name for myself on the local scene riding ponies, I started riding bigger horses and going farther afield to meetings in Tipperary, Cork, Kerry, the midlands and into Ulster.

By the time I was twenty, I was a pretty experienced horseman, and was well able to take care of myself in any company. I got offers to join the 'Big Time'. One such offer sticks in my memory, because it came from non other than Jimmy Frost, Chairman of the Racing Board of Ireland, who offered to get me a licence within two days to ride for him in Punchestown. I also got offers to ride abroad, but I was always a shy individual and because of that, and the fact that I was hurling for Gort and for the county, I declined all the offers.

Flapper Races: I should stress that there were two types of race meetings in those days - ordinary meetings and Flapper meetings. At the ordinary meetings, there had to be a registered owner for every

horse, trainers had to have licences and jockeys also needed licences to ride. Flapper meetings had their own rules, and the horses were unregistered.

There used to be a very famous meeting in this area - Newtown Races. They had died out by the time I started riding, but I remember going to the races at Newtown as a child. I lost one of my new sandals the same day! Gort used to be packed for the Newtown Races. Musicians, fortune tellers and all kinds of hawkers used to come. The races were always held in Summer as the race-course would be under water at other times of the year.



There was hardly a village or town in Ireland, I didn't visit in the twenties and thirties. Dingle was one place I was always welcome. There was free bedding and feeding for the horse, provided there, something I rarely came across elsewhere. Some of the meetings I attended up north were memorable too. I remember heading off for Buncrana one time with 'Crown' Donoghue. 'Crown' was very anxious to be back in two days. As it turned out, we were away for a whole week, as we attended several meetings along the way.

The Good and the Bad: I rode many fine horses in my time and some damn bad ones too. I met the finest of gentlemen and some real rogues. I saw a lot of trickery. I remember having a good horse for the Lahinch meeting one time, and I was tipped to win. Some people from Corofin brought a horse up from Limerick trying to beat me. There was a false start and I pulled up my horse very quickly, breaking its girth in the process. As I made my way back to the starting point, the flag went down, and off they went again. I was very annoyed at this, which made me more determined to win, which I did, despite the trickery.

I remember another time, I went down to Knocknagree in Cork, to ride in a Flapper Race. I was very

**GORT AND DISTRICT
SHOW SOCIETY**

The third Annual Horticultural, Home Produce, Crafts & Dog Show was held in St. Colman's Vocational School on 27th August.

While the number of exhibits was down slightly on the previous year due mainly to the extra dry conditions in the Garden last Summer, the Judges commented that the standard of exhibits in all Sections was very high.

The Dog Show was, once again, expertly organised by Mary Carey and proved to be a major attraction for the large attendance.

The names of the successful exhibitors in each of the seventy-five Show Classes, have already been published and the following is a list of the Special Prize Winners in each section of the Show.

Home Produce (Bag of Flour presented by Piggotts, Gort) - Mrs. Maureen Martin, St. Cleran's, Craughwell.

Garden Produce (Bag of 7-6-17 plus S.P. presented by Gerard Keane, Gort) - Michael Kelly,

Glenbrack.

Flour Section: Noel Mullins Perpetual Cup for Best Exhibit - Harold Herlihy, Ballaghboy, Doora, Ennis.

Overall prize for the Whitegate Nursery Prize - Marie Cahill, Gregory View, Coole, Gort.

Handcraft Section: Kinvara Handcrafts Prize - St. Martin's Day Centre, St. Brendan's Home, Loughrea.

Children's Section: Coen Drapery Prize - Marie Giblin, Glenbrack. Post Primary Section: Carol Kosangas cooker - Bernadette Cooke, Kilbeacanty.

Collection of Vegetables: Mrs. R. E. Taylor, Prize - Ian Cahill, Gregory View, Coole.

Raffle:

1st Prize: Brid Fawl, Mulcar House, Lahinch.

2nd: Teresa Power, Peterswell.

3rd: Michael Rodgers, Derrybrien

4th Joseph Jonoghue, The Hill,

Loughrea.

5th Maura Deely, Caherbroder, Gort.



A snapshot of part of The Show's Handcrafts Section. On left is a Crib - 2nd Prize in Class 56. "Something new from Something old" - exhibited by Mrs. Nancy Casey, Ballyturn. To the right is a church made from used match sticks by Patrick Niland, Ballyhugh (3rd). The reading lamp made from a bottle and shells was exhibited by

Mrs. Anne Cusack, Cloone. The first Prize-Winner exhibit in this Class by St. Martin's Day Centre, Loughrea, is not in this photo.

On the extreme right are some of the exhibits in Class 57 "Any article in Rushwork". Also in the photo is an interested exhibitor of the future !!



Bernadette Cooke, Kilbeacanty, with her 1st Prize of a Gas Cooker for her Dessert (Post Primary Section). On left is Michael Ber-

ingham, Chairman of the Show Society, and on right is John Redahan, Calor Kosangas, who presented the Cooker.

During the past three years, the Show has discovered a wealth of local talent in Homecrafts and it has proved that more emphasis should be put on home-industries when we talk about job-creation.



Ian Cahill, 'Gregory View' Coole, who won first prize of a Jig Saw for his Home-Made Ornamental Window Box (Class 73).



Mr. David McConn, Bank of Irl. presenting their Perpetual Trophy to Mrs. Josephine Helly, Tullira, Ardahan for her Best Ornamental Garden in the Competition, organised by Gort and District Gardening Club. Centre is Mr. Paul Connaughton, Minister of State at the Department of Agriculture who officially opened the Show.



Sharing a joke about the "Two Toddies of South Galway", Toddie Byrne (left), Kinvara, presenting his Perpetual Trophy to Toddie Lahiffe Peterswell for his Best Vegetable Garden. Centre is Mr. Paul Connaughton, T.D.

Out and About

GORT GOLF CLUB

Officers for 1983 are:

President: Sean Murphy
 Captain: Paddy Moloney
 V. Captain: Christy Fennessy
 Secretary: Paddy Grealish
 Treasurer: Bob Forde.

Ladies Section:

Captain: Clare Coen
 Secretary: Bernie Commins.

The principal events of the year were:

Sunday 10th April: Two free subs.

Winner: F. Shaw & V. Hoarty.

Sunday 24th April: Club Cup
 winner - P. Jordan

Sunday 8th May: Coen Cup.

Winner: Bernie Brennan

Sunday 22nd May: Milk Trophy

Winner: P.J. Brennan

Sunday 29th May: Phoenix Trophy

Winner: J. McInerney

Sunday 12th June: Jun. Scratch Cu

Winner: S. Doyle (Shannon)

Sunday 10th July: Captain's Prize

Winner: John Moylan

Runner-up: Christie Moran

Sunday 24th July: O'Hara Cup

Winner: P. Jordan

Sunday 14th August: President's

Winner: Johnny Cummins

Runner-up: Christie Moran

Sunday 11th Sept: Nolan Cup

Winner: P. Moloney

Golfer of the year:

Paddy Jordan

1983 was a remarkable year of

success in Inter-club competitions.

The most successful team was the

Independent Mixed Foursomes consisting

of Mary Noone and Enda Moloney,

Frances Spellman & Enda McInerney,

Sheila Duffy & Gerry Cooney,

Marie Fennessy and Chris Nestor,

Eithne Bermingham and Paddy Jordan.

They were beaten in the Connacht

Final at Athlone by Ballaghaderreen.

The club wishes to thank all who travelled to

Athlone that day to support them.

The Connacht Shield team consisting

of Paddy Jordan, Val Hoarty Sean Devlin,

Enda Moloney, Enda McInerney, Niall Finnegan,

Gerry Cooney, Frank Shaw, Noel Mullins,

were beaten in the Connacht Senior

Final by Strandhill.



FIRST UACHTARAN OF ARDRAHAN

John Fahey of Caherduff, Ardrahan, was recently elected 'Uachtaran of Ardrahan'. Our picture shows Fr. Joe Kelly, P.P. admiring John's Chain of Office, also in the picture is Mrs Mai Fahey (Mr. Fahy collected £6,035 for restoration work on Loughnane Memorial Hall).

Other teams, Pierce Purcell, Cecil Ewing and Jimmy Bruen also did well in winning various stages of their respective competitions.

Youth Policy:

About four years ago, the club embarked on a policy of promoting golf among the youth. The policy had been most successful and four years on some of these young lads are playing a major role in the clubs successes even in Men's Competitions. We are most anxious to promote golf among young girls. Schoolgoers can join the club for as little as £5 so finance need not be a deterrent. We hope to see many new juniors next season.

Recent improvements to the course was the extension to the 3rd and 4th fairways, so the course is now one of the longest and toughest 9 holes in the country. The scratch of 67 and par 66 bears witness to this.

Since the move to its new home 8 years ago, a tremendous amount of work has gone into improving the course and it is now in top class condition and is an outstanding asset to the town and district.



REFLECTIONS by Fr. Jimmy Walsh

Tom and Mary are getting on a bit now. They've retired to a bungalow on the edge of a small town. All their life, they have had to work hard, scraping and saving through many bad years and a few good ones, so they could have a place of their own to go to. Mary, as well as working long hours in the business, had her son to look after, and until she died, a daughter too. The son is now married with three children and living in New York. Well now they've made it: Their own house and plenty of leisure. There were various problems they hadn't bargained for - like Tom being about in the house much of the day; and having to make new friends after living somewhere else for over sixty years - but they are a sensible couple and in the main, enjoying retirement. But sometimes they wonder - well, you know, what's it all really for? All those years before they had something to live for - earning a living, building up the business, bringing up the children and educating them. What now is there to live for? And perhaps for quite a long time? Twenty years with luck - if it is luck. The old litany used to pray, 'From battle, murder, and sudden death, good Lord, defend us,' and sometimes Tom jokes that it ought to be changed to, 'From old age, incontinence, and senile decay, good Lord, defend us'. But so far, their health has been good and they look on the bright side of things.

Part of the underlying pain and ache of being alive is caused by the fact of growing old. Sometimes, the pain is a stab thrust home by the sight of two seventeen-year-olds in love, or reading how a younger man has been promoted over you, or by the sound of babies crying when you know it is too late now for you to have any. Most often, there is simply the dull ache that all is passing and I, yes I, am passing too.

DEATH IN VENICE'

You may perhaps have read Thomas Mann's classic 'Death in Venice'. It is set in Venice at the turn of the century. The expensive hotel is crowded with holiday-makers eating, drinking, chattering, the rooms are encircled with bowl upon bowl of exotic flowers. But outside this privileged bower, there is the tang of death; some mysterious plague is about. To Venice at this time a man comes to die; and becomes obsessed with a beautiful

Polish boy. The sight of this golden youth brings painfully to mind all that the older man has missed, and all he hasn't achieved. The youth has life to live, he only a few weeks. The dying man covers his face in make-up, to make himself appear younger - a grotesque pretence which only highlights the true situation.

If this was the whole story about old age, it would be a depressing theme indeed. But it isn't. When visiting on my First Friday calls, I have often been struck by how a particular personality has achieved such stature that it shone like a light in a room otherwise dark and dingy. I have often come away with a sense that it was I who, was the beneficiary of the visit. Not always of course. There is no automatic relationship between growing old and growing spiritually. If it is possible to grow old gracefully, it is also possible to grow old with bitterness and resentment, clinging to illusions and isolated in a hood of pride. Eliot once wrote:

Do not let me hear
 Of the wisdom of old men,
 but rather of their folly,
 Their fear of fear and frenzy,
 their fear of possession
 Of belonging to another;
 or to others, or to God.

The only wisdom we can hope to acquire

Is the wisdom of humility;
 humility is endless.

Yes indeed. And how starkly does old age reveal whether or not we have acquired this wisdom.

A LAUNCHING PAD FOR THE SOUL

Life is not just a process of physical growth, followed by physical decay. How depressing if it were. It is a process of physical growth followed by the possibility of further growth as a moral and spiritual being. Physical growth in the early stages of our life provides as it were a launching pad for the soul. When Malcolm Muggeridge went to Lourdes, he went in a very sceptical frame of mind, expecting nothing. He found in fact, a great inward peace amongst the thousands who came and what he described as 'The miracle of faith and the miracle of hope endlessly Repeated'. At one point, he was asked to visit someone who was dying. Later he wrote, 'Like any other glib child of twentieth-century, enlightenment I had nothing to say, until I noticed in the most extraordinarily vivid way,

as in some girl with whom I had suddenly fallen in love, that her eyes were quite fabulously luminous and beautiful. What marvellous eyes! As I said this, the three of us - the dying woman, her sister and I - were somehow caught up in a kind of ecstasy It was as though I saw God's love shining visibly.' What did he see in those eyes? I can only assume that there looked out at him a soul that had enlarged in proportion as the physical frame had declined; a person in whom God had truly come to dwell. I am reminded of some marvellous words of Yeats:

An aged man is but a paltry thing,
 A tattered coat upon a stick, unless
 Soul'clap its hands and sing, and
 louder sing

For every tatter in its mortal dress

CREDO

Nobody grows old merely by
 living a number of years,
 people grow old only by deserting
 their ideals;
 years wrinkle the skin, but to give
 up enthusiasm
 wrinkles the soul. Worry, doubt,
 desl-distrust, feat and despair,
 these are the long, long years
 that bow the head and turn the
 growing spirit back to dust.

Whether seventy or sixteen, there is in every being's heart, the love of wonder, the sweet amazement of the stars and the starlike things and thoughts, the undaunted challenge of events, the unfailing childlike appetite for what next, and the joy and the game of life.

You are as young as your faith, as
 old as your doubt, as young as
 your hope,
 as old as your despair.


So long as your heart receives
 messages of beauty, cheer, courage,
 grandeur and power from the earth,
 from man, from the infinit,
 so long you are young,

When the wries are all down,
 and all the central place of your
 heart is covered with the snow
 is pessimism and the ice of
 cynicism, then you are grown
 old indeed,
 and may God have mercy on
 your soul.

(General MacArthur)



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Out and About



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Since the A.G.M. of the Chamber on October 8th, 1982, a variety of issues have been brought to the Chamber for publicity clarification and support. Many of these issues have been solved, including the re-designing and rehabilitating of the dump, though it has been pointed out by intelligent people that the design was badly engineered in so far as there is only one roadway to the actual dumping point with no return route —

- (a) The Chamber were highly commended in their efforts to light Gort at Christmas and on 8th December last, some 70 trees were turned on — there is still room for further numbers and on application request will be met as soon as possible.
- (b) The Autumn Festival which for many years was the highlight of the Chamber was again this year, donated to the Community Council, endeavouring to raise funds for the new building which is about to start.
- (c) The Chamber convened a rather large meeting with all public rep's of the area at the end of last year and a number of people met the County Manager to discuss items such as,
- (1) Proper Water Supply.
 - (2) New Boys' School.
 - (3) New Voc. School.
 - (4) Public Toilets at Coole.
 - (5) New Sewerage System.

- (6) Extension to Cemetary
 - (7) Footpaths
 - (8) Street Lighting.
 - (9) Playground
 - (10) Welfare Home.
 - (11) Fire Brigade Site.
- (d) The Chamber are more than pleased to be instrumental in having the old Cemetary completely restructured, all overgrown cut away and removed, new footpaths laid throughout, making easy access to all parts. A new appearance is indeed very evident since the monumental restoration has taken place.

As a result of the work, a number of new graves have become available and if you have not already inspected the project, I would ask you to take time to do so, and hope it will meet with your approval. The Chamber wait the results of County Council Grants for tidy and cleaner towns — It is hoped Gort will shine out somewhere when the results are published, though we have far to go to the top because of our high litter problem. Would you the people of Gort please co-operate with the voluntary workers who try so hard to make Gort a nicer, cleaner place to live.

Regarding Industry, we are happy to report, that further staff are being employed at Lisk on the Ennis Road — Though Fast-tap has closed recently, the other factories are striving hard to retain the numbers employed.

The I.D.A. are more than anxious that small industries would be created and they invite inquiries from any person who may have any plans in mind to discuss with them. Every assistance is available, from these sources — all you do is think of the project and every assistance will be forth coming.

GORT COMMUNITY CENTRE

The idea of a Community Centre for Gort was launched on 5th April, 1982, at a meeting in Sullivans Hotel. The meeting was attended by 100 people, of the Gort area and district. The theme of the meeting was, that Gort badly needed a Community Centre, and the only way of achieving that aim, was if all the people of the area worked as a unit.

The building in mind would have to be big enough to cater for all the Associations and Societies in the town (36 in all). There were 7 sites put forward — V.E.C. site, Hurling field site, Circus field site, College site, William's field, Boland's Lane site, Old Cinema and Lariffe's field; all these sites posed problems on being investigated. Rynal Coen offered Rita William's field for free, if the tenants agree agreed. The V.E.C. site was offered to Michael Walsh for a nominal fee of £100 with the influence of Toddie Byrne — he being a member of the V.E.C.

A committee was formed during the year 1982-83:

Chairman: Michael Walsh
 V. Chairman: Shelia Duffy
 Secretary: Teresa Moloney
 Ass. Secretary: Mrs. Mary Keary
 Treas. Paddy Moloney and Paddy Grealish.

President & P.R.O. Fr. J. Walsh
 After a lot of inspection of other Centres, a plan for the Centre was drawn up. There was a great amount of time spent on the selection of the site and it was decided to use the V.E.C. site. It was estimated that £250,000 was needed to build the complex. The biggest problem facing the Committee was fund raising. It was decided to start a 500 Club

RESULTS

with you wading through a bowl of raw mince meat.

As you eat, you know that all over South Galway, mothers are gathering in two's, in three's but never more than thirteen (the maximum allowed in a witches coven). They sit vulture-like over their cups of steaming broth. Slowly and with the grace of a doctor performing brain surgery, with a chain-saw, they begin to dissect and compare results with a joy that has not been seen since the Leaving came out a few weeks before. As the results begin to filter through the scene in many a kitchen is like the Today-Tonight, Studio on General Election Night. Woe betide any poor unfortunate resultee who falls into their clutches as he or she will be beaten to within an inch of his or her life to find out what results they themselves got as well as the results of everybody who did the Inter in the whole of the seven parishes. But why begrudge them their simple pleasure, after all what is life if you know not who got four "A" and five "B" in the Inter and then went on and rammmed the Leaving Cert. A suggestion was made a few years ago, that the Inter Cert should be

abolished. On my bended knees I beg you, don't do it as it would be the greatest crime against humanity since Gemma Hussey abolished the free bus scheme. What — I ask you, would the mothers of Ireland have to talk about in the lull between the Leaving coming out, and the University repeat, results being announced. As an exam the Inter may be useless but as an excuse for a good well broadcasted juicy gossip, there are few things that can beat it.

COOKERY CORNER by Noirin Ni Chorcorain

Many people get tired of cold turkey, here are a few delicious ways of using it up.

CIDERED TURKEY

- 1-1½lbs. Turkey chopped
 2 Onions
 6 Cloves
 1 lge. carrot, peeled and sliced
 Salt & Pepper
 Juice of ½ Lemon
 Sauce
 2 ozs. Margarine

- 2 ozs Flour
 ¾ pint Chicken Stock
 ½ pint Cider
 ½ level teaspoon nutmeg
 3 onions, chopped and blanched
 4 ozs. Mushrooms
 ½ pint cream
 6 oz. streaky rashers, chopped and devinded.

Method:

1. Stick 3 cloves into each onion and place in a saucepan with carrot seasoning and lemon juice. Add the chicken stock. Bring to boil and simmer for 30 minutes.
2. Melt marg. and add flour, stir over a low heat to make a pale roux.
3. Blend in the chicken stock and cider. Bring to boil, whisking all the time and add nutmeg. Simmer gently for 10 mins.
4. Fry the rashers, add the blanched onions and fry until lightly coloured.
5. Add onions and bacon to sauce Fry mushrooms in remaining bacon fat. Drain and add to sauce.
6. Add turkey to the sauce. Meat through gently and simmer for 5 - 10 mins. Stir in cream just before serving and garnish with parsley or watercress.
7. Serve with boiled rice or creamed potatoes. Serves 4-5

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Out and About



MICRO-LITE LANDING

Aerial photographer Anthony Murphy, who is married to the Duke of Devonshire's daughter, and lives in Kilconnel, landed his micro-lite in Greg London's field lately. The machine ran out of fuel. It was a bumpy landing, but no harm came to the airman or his machine.

Anthony Murphy beside his Micro-lite. With him are some enthusiasts who witnessed the bumpy landing.

GORT R.F.C.

President: Billy Kilroy
 Captain: Michael O'Connor
 Secretary: Charles Foley
 Treasurer: Jimmy Heneghan
 Fixture Secretary: Greg London
 Trainer: Tim O'Driscoll

The club has adopted a policy of giving its youthful members a chance and hopes to have something on the sideboard by season's end, to make up for the disappointment of the last few seasons. Training is conducted under lights every Tuesday and Thursday at 8.00 p.m. at St. Colman's Park, and any budding young Lion of the future will be welcome with open arms.



Work continues on Gort's new dump. When completed it will be one of the most modern dumping sites in the West of Ireland.

MAN'S BEST FRIEND OR IS HE ?

In some cases, a dog does not seem to be man's best friend? Especially the person responsible for dumping 6 lovely black Labrador Pups, in a black plastic bag, tied with twine, in Gort's New Dump, on Thursday 30th June last. I hope the person who did this, now has a guilty conscience reading my article!

Luckily for the pups, there are some decent people left in the world! Not that this person seems to care, as he left them, at least 6-10 days old, to suffocate to death. But all six were rescued and we have found good homes for all of them, one of which are the pups is actually going to Manchester for a months holiday at Christmas! Surely people who



don't want animals, could put them out of their misery at birth! and in a more human manner. As God only knows how many animals are dumped and left to die in this way.

**Signed: "Animal Lover"
 (Real name with Editor)**



This fine bird (a Norwegian eagle) is in Gerard Keane's possession for many years. It was shot by Paddy Brady in Lakeland shortly after the Second World War.

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CROWE LANE (STREET)

- 50 YEARS AGO

by Paddy Cooke

"The old order changeth, yielding place to new". This line from Tennyson's 'Passing of Arthur', came to mind very forcibly recently while listening to 2 former natives of Crowe Lane now both in their sixties, as they reminisced on their childhood days together some 50 odd years ago. One of the more noticeable items, which kept recurring throughout the evening, were the references to individuals and families whose names were unfamiliar and unknown to me, and who had either died off, or left the area. Present day residents may find the following listing of the families then living in the street of interest. (a) (Starting at present day Sullivan's Hotel, going towards Galway on left hand side).

HOUSE OCCUPIER/OCCUPATION

John O'Connor Carpenter
 Paddy McNeill Co. Co. Employee.
 John Brady Farmer
 Ned Treston Leather Shop/Saddlery
 Bridie Cooney Shop-Provisions
 J.C. Kerin Porter Store
 D. Buckley G.S.W. Railway Porter
 Ned Kennedy Sol. Clerk.

(Hogan & Shields)

John Connolly Labourer

Nonie Fox

County Council Fire Engine Shop

and Station.

P. Hughes Tailor

Mrs. Farrell Housewife

John Williams Co. Co. Employee

Pat Cooke Postman

B. Walsh

Michael Coyne (Sharp) Shoemaker

REVENUE BARRACKS LANE

(Now knocked down)

Pasty Martin Shoemaker

Pasty Niland Retired

M. & Paddy Rooney Labourers

Martin Jordan Butcher

(Here street intersects with

Bolands Lane).

Peadar & M. Jordan Labourers

Pat Glynn Carpenter

Jim Kempsey Farmer

Ptk. Niland G.S.W. Railway Porter

James Hynes Motor Mechanic

John Keane Farmer

John Murphy Church Sexton

Colie Cooney Farmer

Paddy Daly Labourer

Honor & Mary Fahy

Johnny Geraghty Labourer.

Michael McQuaid Butcher

Josie McNeill Co. Co. Employee

Josie Williams Co. Co. Employee

Pa. Glynn Co. Co. Employee

Glynn Labourer

Josie Rock Farmer

Gerard Piggott Oil. Co. Salesman

Liberty Hall (now knocked down)

Thomas Connaine Co. Co. Emp.

Bridget Ballinger Housewife

(End of street - junction with Gallaghers Lane/Road to Galway).

(b) (Starting at Sullivans Hotel present day on right hand side of street going towards Galway).

HOUSE OCCUPIER/OCCUPATION

P.J. Piggott Shopkeeper/Eggler

Martin Flanagan Draper

John Nolan Publican

Joe Doherty

Mrs. Glynn Shop

Theresa French

George French Carpenter and

Coffin maker.

Patrick Icklam Tailor

Thos. Spelman Shop & Miller

(Junction with lane/road to

Kininch).

A TRIBUTE TO SR. M.

DE LOURDES FAHY

by Sinead Keane, Catherine Cahill and Cora Killeen



It is a great honour to be asked to write this well deserved tribute to our past principal Sr. M. de Lourdes Fahy. Sr. de Lourdes was the principal of St. Joseph's Secondard School from 1977-83. Throughout her seven years as principal, Sr. de Lourdes has been loved and respected by all. She is held in high esteem not alone by past and present pupils, but also by staff and people of the locality.

Her deep interest in local history is "noted" by all, why, all who wanted to make an enquiry on some local name or place had to do was to ask Sr. de Lourdes and within seconds, with a quick flick through her files, the information was at hand. Even though Sr. de Lourdes had many commitments, she always found time for every-

There were only 4 further houses/buildings between here and Ballingers Corner/Bothar Cam at the junction of Gallagher's Lane/Road to Galway.

Mrs. Duggan Midwife

Cinema (owned by Gerard Keane)

Ml. Grealish Labourer

Patrick Macklin Gas Works Super-

visor.

It should be emphasised that there may be some omissions and errors in the above listing as memory can be fickle. Some older residents may be able to add further flesh to the above skeleton of facts. Hopefully over the Christmas period, similar reminiscences may inspire further articles on other streets in the town for inclusion in future editions of 'Guair'.

one. On compiling all of her information together, Sr. de Lourdes successfully published her book "Education in Kilmacduagh in the Nineteenth Century".

During her period as principal of this school, Sr. de Lourdes produced many fine debating and public speaking teams who successfully competed in local and regional competitions. With constant encouragement and concern for all pupils, she established a fine school spirit within St. Joseph's.

Sr. de Lourdes was a prominent member of the local Pioneer Total Abstinence Association. She was involved in adjudicating and compiling debating teams and drama groups for this Association and on many occasions has hosted such activities within the school Auditorium.

Sr. de Lourdes love and enthusiasm for sport is reflected in the outstanding teams which have emerged throughout the years, from St. Joseph's. She boosted inter-class and inter-parish sport competitions from which developed a strong spirit within the school.

Her keen interest in music was the basis for the formation of school choirs which were quite successful, in both Slogadh Competitions and Department Examinations each year.

It is impossible to sum up all of Sr. de Lourdes contributions and achievements within and for the benefit of this school, all of which have proved invaluable.

Sincere Thanks and Best Wishes in your new school from both pupils and staff. Many thanks from all boarders, whose appreciation and gratitude to you is neverending.

God Bless you always.

Out and About



Frances Spellman & Eithne Bermingham with Lancome director M. Jean-Claude Bonnefoi

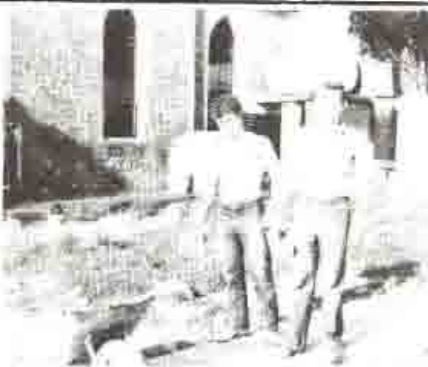
LANCOME LADIES NATIONAL OPEN SCOTCH FOURSOMES 1983 National Final - Killarney

The ladies Scotch Foursomes was held on 24 Championship Courses throughout Ireland. The winning pair from each course qualified to play in the National Final in Killarney on September 25th. Eithne Bermingham and Francis Spellman were the winning pair in Lahinch Golf Club, with 36 points and

under unfavourable conditions of wind and rain.

On their arrival in Killarney, they were welcomed by the Lancome director, M. Jean-Claude Bonnefoi, Mrs. P. Fletcher, President of the I.L.G.U. and the Lady Captain of Killarney Golf Club.

Eithne and Francis came a credible 5th, with 36 points having lost 4 shots since their qualifying round.



MAGNIFICENT WORK

Gort Chamber of Commerce, with the help of the Youth Employment Agency started major restoration work at Gort Graveyard in the Autumn. Photo shows supervisor Tony Connors with Gerry O'Donnell, one of the young men employed. (Summer '84 issue of this magazine will contain a full article on the history of the Graveyard).

CONGRATULATIONS



Martin Killeen (Beagh) and John Cummins (Gort) hold the All-Ireland Minor Cup. Both starred in Galway's great victory in the All-Ireland Final.

KILTARTAN P.T.A.A.

Spiritual Director: Fr. O'Halloran
President: Richard Burke
Secretary: Aileen Egan

Meetings are held on the first Monday of each month. New members are enrolled on the first Sunday of each month after the 9.30 a.m. Mass.

Many of the members of this branch took part in the 'Readoiri' Competitions last year, and are hoping to compete again, this coming winter.

KILTARTAN YOUTH CLUB

Kiltartan Youth Club, re-opened on Friday 9th September. The former committee resigned and a new committee was elected. They are: Thomas Melville, Chairperson; Thomas Linnane, Vice-Chairperson; Carmel Burke, Secretary; Ann Murray, Treasurer and Aileen Egan, P.R.O.

At present, tournaments are being organised in various activities within the club. Preparations are also being made for "Tops of the Clubs" competition, which is due to start in the near future.

We would sincerely like to thank our adult leaders for their interest and co-operation within the club.



John Hynes holds his very interesting 'find'

WINE JAR

While working in Coole, ten years ago, John Hynes dug a very old wine jar. He has made many enquires about it, but nobody has been able to throw any light on the subject. The jar bears the inscription "From M. Moloney's, Wine and Spirit Stores, Gort."

WHEN THE PENNY BAR COSTS TWOPENCE!

carats new, or in a refuse sack as a 'second hand'. I was ready to give up and continue the to and fro. (which was swiftly becoming a sacrificial pilgrimage!) on good old Shank's mare.

THE RIGHT ONE

By accident, though we stumbled on a bike, of the exact kind I wanted; rust free, black, swift and unpretentious! Prayers of thanksgiving were offered up. I had a model that I could mount without fearing its collapse and which was down market enough to go unnoticed by those who might lay hands on it, and quaint enough to

be endearing. I fell in love with the thing at once and the discovery that I wouldn't have to apply to the Central Bank to buy it, was a hymn in its favour. (It was also a first).

I felt at last that I had coddled the system that thought to defeat me, the system that has the nation by the seat of its pants, the system that destroys, capital, morale, enterprise, and which is fast altering childhood!

Yes, for you see, we had, as an intrinsic part of our growing up, the chewing enigma of the penny bar. It was a symbol of wealth the six bars, six pence. It was a unit of currency, a module for trade, that artefact which taught us all more business sense and basic arithmetic

than any freobel system could ever do unaided! But it seems that the great men have forgotten their roots in these bad times, and are about to put the final nail on the coffin lid of the failing penny bar, thus altering the course of history and causing, I am convinced, irreparable psychological damage to future generations of children whose growth will be incomplete, a direct result of a society where the penny bar costs twopence!

But I have my bike and perhaps there is some hope left for this nation yet.

The only thing is, how does one cycle in safety in a city, where pedestrian and motorist alike are out to get you?.....

LIFE IN A SEMINARY by Joe Roche



J. Roche

and was opened in 1965 by the present Archbishop Dr. Thomas Morris. (The contractor was from Galway, Mr. Malachy Burke).

At present there are 88 students in the College, there are a few from around Gort:

Martin Keane, Oranmore,
Michael Leonard, Flagmount,
James Fahy, Loughrea,
and myself, there are also quite a few students from around the area:

FIRST TASTE

At first the whole thing was new and the place was exciting in many ways. My first experience of what the next few years were to be like was on the 15th September, 1981, when class started with Philosophy. The class I went into, was small, only 9, and it did not take long for us to come together and form friendships. Philosophy in a Seminary is geared to help us in our life ahead, when I will be a priest to the people of Galway diocese. We had Psychology, Logic, Ethics, Liturgy, and many more subjects. Now I am in my third year (that is first year Theology) doing many strange but interesting subjects.

Normally our day begins at 6.30 when we rise. Morning prayer is at 6.55, followed by Mass at 7.30, breakfast at 8.15. Class begins at 9.10, goes on until 12.45 when we have mid-day prayer, this happens for four days. On Wednesday, and Thursday, we have Mass at 12.00 and rise at 7.15. On some days we have a class from 2.15 until 3.00, free then until 4.45.

There is a good blend between prayer, study and leisure, the College has facilities for all sport and is in the heartland of Tipperary and has produced a few good Tipperary County Players. They play in the Higher Education

League and also Inter-Seminary Competition in Football and Soccer

Life in St. Patrick's College is good and happy. We all know we are "On the One Road" to becoming Priests at home or abroad and to preach the Word of God to people who have a need for Priests. This need for Priests is still there, Gort Parish and Kilmacduagh in general was well known for the numbers sent, but this has lapsed in recent years, so lets hope and Pray that Gort will send more men to Galway Diocese and abroad.

Pray to St. Colman for this need.

- Gerard Flatley, Kinvara
ordained 1941 N.S.W. Australia
- James Naughton, Leighort, Caher,
o. 1965, Motherwell, Scotland
- Thos. Fondy, Inagh, Co. Clare
o. 1967, Miami, Florida.
- Jeremiah O'Brien, Tuamgraney
o. 1968, Arandel & Brighton, Eng.
- James Quinn, Tulla
o. 1967, Miami, Florida.
- Ml. Francis Mannion, Gort,
o. 1973, Salt Lake City, U.S.A.
- Martin Mulqueen, Ruan, C. Clare
o. 1974, Orland, Florida.
- Michael Hogan, Barefield, Co. Clare
o. 1974, Orlando, Florida.
- Ml. Reilly, Caherlistrane, C. Galway
o. 1975, Galway.
- John K. McCarthy, Liscannor
o. 1975, Tuam.
- Martin G. Glynn, Claraglaway
o. 1978, Peterson, New Jersey
- Kieran Gardiner, Kinvara
o. 1977, Arandel & Brighton, Eng.
- James Walsh, Ennistymon
o. 1978, Galway.
- Martin B. Glynn, Killeneena, Gort
o. 1979, Galway.
- Martin D. Forde, Claregalway
o. 1978, Galway.



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Out and About

GORT APOSTOLIC WORK SOCIETY

Gort Apostolic Work Society was started in November, 1968, and in the fifteen years of its existence has provided Mission Goods for several countries. Its membership has grown and in spite of the pressure for time of young married mothers, many of these mothers do sewing and knitting for the society in their own homes, and find it very rewarding, when in May of each year, a display is held of this work. More members are needed and the President appeals each year for new members.

GORT BRIDGE CLUB

Gort Bridge Club held their A.G.M. on Tuesday, October 18th. The following officers were elected
 President: Joan Griffin
 Hon. Secretary: John Moylan
 Hon. Treas: Chris O'Shaughnessy
 Tournament Directors:
 Joe Muldoon, Fr. Glynn
 Committee Members:
 Charles Foley, Damien Coen
 Outgoing president thanked all who helped her during her term of office. Many tributes were paid to the outgoing Secretary, Brid Burke, who had held the post for three years and did it so well, also outgoing Treasurer: Bridie Murray was thanked for her good work in preparing her statement of accounts

FISHING

(by a special correspondent in an interview with Tommy Minogue)
 "To fish is to relax" might well be the reason why this sport has millions of adherents of all ages, throughout the world. Originally, a necessity for man in his quest for food, fishing (excluding commercial fishing) has evolved into one of the most absorbing and popular past-times. Ireland being an island nation, and also being endowed with thousands of lakes and rivers is in many ways a fisherman's

dream. Offering game and course fishing in abundance. In the Gort and South Galway area, followers of the sport are particularly lucky as they have the opportunity to practise all aspects of fishing within a short radius. There are several fishing clubs in the area, the most prominent being those in Gort and Kilbeacanty, both of which follow a progressive line of cleaning and restocking the local rivers and lakes on a continuous basis.

The most commonly fished areas locally, are Lough Cutra, Coole Lake, Kilmacduagh, Lough Burry, Lough Grarey and Ballyturin Lake and the Cloone, Beagh, Kiltartan and Gort Rivers. Pike, Perch, Roach and Brown Trout are the most common catches in these lakes and rivers.

For the more ambitious, Beach costing is available at New Quay and Fanore and Rock Fishing from Black Head. Here your catch is likely to include Conger eel, dog fish, bellhuss, pollock, skate, ray and bass, the latter being especially plentiful at Fanore.

For the young boy or girl, who wants to take up this life long sport, you will need a fishing rod (a fibre glass 10 ft. rod is a good one to start with and is relatively inexpensive), a spinning reel, hooks and approximately 100 yards of nylon line, plus a reasonable amount of patience. It is recommended that you join your local fishing club, where the older and more experienced members will be only too happy to help and assist you with the many questions that spring to mind. Initially, you should also accompany an experienced adult fisherman until you have the knowledge and confidence to venture on your solo trip. Finally, you can really regard yourself as having come of age, when you can recount tales of the 'one that got away'. Until you reach that stage, we will be offering useful hints and advice on different types of fishing in future issues of 'Guaire'.



GORT ARTS GROUP Kitty North

After another very successful summer season, the Gort Arts Group, is planning its winter/spring programme, which will include, amongst other interesting events, an invitation to the Kilkenny Chamber Opera to perform Donizetti's 'DON PASQUALE'. This is considered to be Donizetti's best opera and the cast will include Joan Merrigan, Sean Mitten, John Brady and George Vaughan. The musical director and pianist will be Colette Davis.

The Group will also be inviting John Osborn, the well-known contemporary artist, to give a lecture explaining his painting methods, illustrated with colour slides of his beautiful pictures.

The dates of these events will be advertised locally, well in advance so that everyone interested in the Arts will have an opportunity to enjoy them and also to help support the promotion of the Arts in Gort.

GORT TIDY TOWNS COMPETITION

The winner of this years competition is Imelda Kelly, Newtown, Gort, who receives £25.

Second is Christopher Piggott, The Square (£15) and Eamonn McGann, Aughavinane, Bellharbour was third and he receives £10.

The competition is judged on the correct placing of eight slogans re tidy towns in order of importance and is sponsored annually by Bank of Ireland.

EDWARD MARTYN OF TULIRA Sr. M. Damien

Edward Martyn of Tulira, whose sixtieth anniversary we commemorate this year, was born at his mother's house in Masonbrook, Loughrea the 10th January, 1859. He was one of the Great Irishmen who were born in the Nineteenth Century. His contribution to the development of National Consciousness and his contribution to the Celtic Renaissance, both literary and artistic was enormous. Martin has been called many things, writer, mystic, misogynist, art critic and benefactor of worthy causes. He was all this and more.

He was the last in the line of Martyns who lived at Tulira. He never married, much to his mother's distress. Ann Josephine Smith, daughter of a wealthy business man, John Smith, who on her wedding day, gave her a personal gift of her weight in gold. The household and tenants were assembled at Tulira where her proud father had his daughter, seated in the bucket of the farm scales, while he poured in gold sovereigns in the bucket on the other side till the beam balanced.

UPBRINGING & EDUCATION

John Martyn of Tulira had two sons, Edward and John, but he died while the children were very young. Mrs. Martyn strove to give the boys a good upbringing, so she went to live in Raglan Row, Dublin, while the boys attended Belvedere College, and then to Christ College, Oxford. John was gay as Edward was withdrawn. The latter felt the education he had received was wrong for him. John joined the army while Edward returned to Ireland and Tulira. His mother continued to invite personable young ladies to Tulira but to no avail.

Edward, however, established ties of friendship with neighbouring landlords, with Lord Gough at Lough Cutra, his cousin Count de Basterot at Duras on Kinvara Bay with Sir William Gregory at Coole Park and with William Butler Yeats who had come to live in the area.

During his college days and the Continental Tour which followed them in the company of his cousin George Moore, he became fascinated by Modern Art and by good Church music. This interest led him to fund and to persuade Archbishop Walsh of Dublin to do the same, the Palestrina Choir for boys where John McCormack first attracted the attention of Vincent O'Brien and so was launched on

his career as a singer. He bought original Impressionist Paintings from artists like Monet. He admired Ibsen and used Ibsenian theories in his own plays. He believed that the theatre should stimulate and educate as well as entertain. Perhaps his best play was "The Heather Field" which portrays not only the feelings of one obsessed with one idea but also took a critical look at some current aspects of the Land War.

Edward Martyn was a landlord who shared the fears of his class but was also sufficiently Nationalist to be made first President of Sinn Fein. He resigned his position as Resident Magistrate when local Unionists objected to the absence of "God Save the King" on a concert programme in Tulira. He also resigned his position as Deputy Lieutenant for the County. He it was who paid the bill for Arthur Griffith's Resurrection of Hungary. He was also a member of the Coiste Gnotha for the Gaelic League. He learned Irish from Thomas Fahy of Ballyaineen (Sr. de Lourdes father).

LOUGHREA CATHEDRAL

His appreciation of Art and of what was fitting in Church decoration, led him to persuade Dr. Healy of Clonfert to build a beautiful Cathedral at Loughrea, built and decorated throughout by Irish Artists and Craftmen. He rejected the shoddy and thought that it should have no place in Church decoration. To-day the Cathedral stands as a monument to his inspiration, a gem in its beautiful interior, a compendium of all the Irish Arts.

With W. B. Yeats and Augusta Lady Gregory, he founded the Irish Literary Theatre and again he helped out financially. He interested Irish Actors in the project as he felt instinctively that they could interpret Irish themes better than any others could.

An eccentric Gentleman in old age, he dined daily at Kildare Street Club and when that select body tried to expell him because of his nationalist principles, he took them to Court and won. He willed his body to be used for Medical Research and at his own request was buried in a pauper's grave (still unmarked) at Glasnevin. He died in December 1923, but the Palestrina Choir of the PRO-Cathedral, Dublin gave of their best to bury him with dignity.
 "Ar Dheis laimh De go raibh a nam."

MILESTONES

BIRTHS

Congratulations to the following on the birth of their new family members.

1. Jeremiah and Mary Kelly, Tarmon - a daughter, Maria Patricia.
2. Christopher and Bridget Moran Corker - a son Diarmuid Christopher.
3. Dan and Claire Casey, Glenbrack - a son, Karl.
4. John and Ann Nash, Cloughnacava - a daughter Aoife Marie.
5. John and Lucy Fahy, Crowe Street, - a daughter, Pamela Marie.
6. Joe and Mary Cahill, Coole, - a son, David Colman.
7. Michael and Catherine O' Connor, Tarmon - a daughter Karen Ann.
8. Colm and Josephine Ward, Cloughnacava - a son, Sean Michael.
9. Michael and Carmel Fallon, Tarmon - a son, Ciaran Gerard.
10. Billy and Olive Kilroy, Tubber Road - a son, Eoin Colman.
11. Frank and Agnes Kelly, Tarmon - a daughter Mary Margaret.
12. Brian and Ursula Jennings, Ennis Road - twin daughters Ruth Anne, Sarah Louise.
13. Peter and Mary Linnane, Tiernevan - a daughter, Louise Mary.
14. Bernard and Helen Cunningham, Castletown - a son, Clement Anthony.
15. Martin and Mary O'Donoghue, The Square - a son, David Anthony.
16. Hugh and May Ferguson, Ballyhugh - twins, Eoghan David and daughter Emma Marie.
17. Gerard and Ann Kelly, Seehan - a daughter, Triona Marie.
18. Michael and Sally Linnane, Garryland - a daughter, Claire Bernadette.

MARRIAGES

Heartiest congratulations and best wishes to the happy couples who were married since the last issue of 'Guaire'.

1. David McCarthy, Crowe Street to Jacqueline Kearney, Corofin on 10th June, 1983.
2. Anne Coen, Bridge Street, to James Kelly, Dublin, on 2nd July, 1983.
3. Richella Treston, Ballyhugh,

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Out and About

GORT YOUTH CLUB

The A.G.M. of Gort Youth Club was held in September, when the committee of:

Chairperson: James Fahy
 Ass. Chair: John Roche
 Treasurer: Enda McInerney
 Secretary: Noreen Corcoran
 P.R.O. Fiona Hickey

stepped down and a new committee was elected.

Chairperson: D. Kenny
 Ass. Chair: Gerard Mahon
 Treasurer: Tomas O'Driscoll
 Secretary: Niall Clabby
 P.R.O. Mary Deely and
 Caroline McGann.

In the year 1982/83, the Club got involved in the Federation of Youth Clubs (South Galway). In the games held by the Federation, Gort Youth Club represented South Galway in Basketball U.16, Tabletennis U.19 and Girls U.16 and a quiz team. The quiz team won and then were put forward to represent South Galway in Basketball South Galway in the National Federation of Youth Clubs. Due to very high costs and the long distance to travel to Letterkenny, the team were unable to travel. The club were asked to represent Galway in the R.T.E. Youth Quiz. Due to the lack of facilities, the Club in Gort are restricted to Tabletennis, Badminton and Video films. The Federation of Youth Club games which took place last year, will be taking place again this year and are of great interest and hopefully, Gort will get on as well this year, as they did last year.

GORT DRAMATIC SOCIETY

Gort Dramatic Society are well into their season at Boland's Lane. The Society members have almost completed renovations to their premises. They are hoping to get water installed in the next few months. The club's plans for the year are:

1. One Act A.D.L. All-Ireland Qualifying Festival in Nov-

ember, with groups from: Douglas Cork; Cellbridge, Kildare; A.I.B. Galway; Mountbellew; Kiltulla; Headford; Ballinasloe; Ardahan; and Gort. Gort's play is "Molly's Choice" by Sean Leahy. Our adjudicator is Garry Hynes, Druid Theatre, Galway.

2. Variety Night before Christmas.
 3. School's Festival in mid-March
- A presentation was made recently to John Flannery, a dedicated member of our group, who was transferred to Borrisokane. This year's committee is: Seamus Robinson (Chairman), Aine Fahy (Secretary), Kieran Reddy (Treasurer), and Treasa Ní Chonghaile (P.R.O.).



GORT BOXING CLUB

The recent A.G.M. of the club saw the following officers elected for 1983 - 84.

President: Sean Gleeson
 Chairman: Gabriel Piggott
 Treasurer: Mossy Clabby
 Trainer: James Reagan
 Asst. Trainers: C. Molloy, M. Quinn
 Secretary: Colm Ward
 Committee: A. Coen, M. Coen
 M. Coppinger, T. Connors,
 M. Ronghan, J. Hanrahan
 P. Grealish, P. Donovan
 B. O'Connor.

The Club reviewed last year as one of our finest which saw our boxers win championships at County and Connaught level in Juvenile, Junior and U.19 Comp-

etitions. Indeed one of our boxers James Fahy, gave an excellent performance in the final at U.19 in the National Stadium, Dublin, against an up and coming Belfast Boxer. Added to this is the large number of our boxers who did so well in tournaments throughout Galway and Clare.

The present year sees an even greater number for training at Our Lady's College on Monday and Wednesday nights, under the watchful eye of trainer Jimmy Regan.

Already this season boxers have carried the club colours successfully at County level.

Spring will see our Annual Tournament take place again and the club wishes to thank all those who supported our tournament, last year, and made it such a great success. We look forward to entertaining you again with good boxing this year.

GORT P.T.A.A.

Officers 1983/84

President: David Curley
 V. President: Tomas Flaherty
 Secretary: Ingrid McGrath
 Treasurer: Mrs. Mary Coen
 P.R.O. Norman Rochford
 Delegates to South Council:
 David Curley, Robbie Porter
 Norman Rochford
 Councillors:

Dermot Flaherty, Billy Glynn
 Ann-Marie Coen, Michael Gormally, Christopher Piggott
 Cyril Glynn, Bernie Costello
 Martin O'Connor, Dan Casey
 Spiritual Director:
 Fr. James Walsh C.C.

The Centre's first activity will be Temperance Week, where different events will be held on the week further details later. Pioneer Quiz will be held around Christmas time. Pioneer Games will have a wide range of activities ranging from Recitation to Sport Games held in February or March. The Centre will also be trying to raise membership and make an all out effort to raise it by a 100% from last year. Meetings are held every month.

POET'S CORNER.

ODE TO SINGLE BLISS by 'Starry Eyed'

Last night was one like the others
 We had laughter and joking and drink,
 And we choked on the smoke in O'Hearas,
 And called the lot crack between friends.
 But my head did a spin in the morning,
 And my stomach to churn did pertain.
 I got out of bed, on, hungover,
 And swore to myself, never again.

My pockets are drained of resources
 My overdraft swelling each day
 I'm the subject of neighbourly gossip,
 They say I'm a spinster to stay.
 The Solara is parked in the driveway,
 The rent on the house overdue,
 My phone has been disconnected,
 I'm at my wits end what to do!

My friends have left me and married
 While I did the rounds with such glee,
 Wining and dining with vigour,
 But where did it all leave me?
 The married say they envy my freedom,
 My money, the jobs and the clothes,
 They think I'm a really high flyer,
 But that's not the real me anymore.

I'd like to find me a husband,
 A man to bolster my life,
 Who would give me a shoulder to lean on
 And be proud to call me his wife.
 We'd build a fine house in the country,
 And have children, 2 boys, maybe 3,
 We would give them the best education,
 And all grow up, contented, happy.

I'd care for my man with exception,
 Iron his shirts and also be cook,
 Curl close when watching the telly,
 Not disturb him when reading his book.
 But where does one find such a creature,
 I've tried all the places in Gort,
 The Red Rose and Classic both failed me,
 Did God plan my being left in the lurch?

DOWNTRODDEN by Frank Lally

I stood on an apple,
 and felt it mash.
 Beneath my foot,
 Juicy, disintegrating,
 Lying about,
 More of the wind torn fruit.
 It will rest there to rot,
 I passed by,
 carefree, effete.
 Storm, stripped tree, rotting food,
 Encroaching thoughts,
 of the Third World's elite.

MAKING A HAPPY CHRISTMAS by Sean Leahy

On Christmas day, as you eat your dinner, are you sure that
 somewhere in your own town, somebody is not hungry.
 He or she could be too proud to ask, too weak to look,
 or too tired of asking.

On behalf of the Guaire Magazine and myself,
 I am asking you, to please look around.
 It is better to give than to receive, and so let yourself
 have a real Happy Xmas.

How green is our holly, that grows on our hills?
 How pure is the snow, on our Window Sills?
 How cosy our homes, with chains on the walls?
 But please think of those, with nothing at all.
 Xmas day as you eat, your turkey and ham,
 And many wash it down, with a glass of champagne.
 Please ponder a little, and try to recall,
 Is there anyone near, with nothing at all.

A long time ago, in a stable out east.
 Was born a baby, kept warm by beasts,
 Covered with straw and placed in a stall.
 He was born a King, with nothing at all.

What point is this grabbing, its better you gave,
 You can't take it with you, to that lonesome grave
 No shroud has a pocket, so before you are called,
 Think of those people, with nothing at all.

DESTINATION by Seamus Breathnach

Let man unto themoon ascend,
 And the Milky Way explore
 Or beneath the Arctic ice descend,
 And chart the ocean floor.

Let man's inventive wonders show,
 Some problems solve and more create;
 Machines yet more important grow,
 While idle men degenerate.

Let science probe the inner man,
 And increase life expectation;
 Or seek, to thwart the Great God's Plan,
 In the field of man's creation.

Give me the world that first I knew,
 With all its cares and strife;
 When man-made luxuries were few
 But how meaningful then was life.

Give me the old-time country road,
 Unharrassed by noise or speed
 And neighbours ready to share the load,
 Whenever there was need.

Alas for the sane and simple way,
 And progress, from regress free,
 Far less display in things of clay;
 More mindful of Eternity.

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THE GORT FIFTEEN GO BRACH By Longach

We'll sing a song of The Gort Fifteen,
The men of the Gold and Green
As fine a team in all the land,
As ever yet was seen.
From Galway South they sallied out
And it was plain they would go afar,
And for the County Final, they were cast,
To meet the heroes of Castlegar.

Chorus:

Then hurrah! my boys for the Gort Fifteen
For victory nobly bought,
your praises high once more we sing,
The Gort Fifteen go brach!
Great Castlegar staunch stalwarts all,
Brave men both tried and true,
Keen hurlers rare who could compare,
With the prowess that is your due,
To your County Team you have always been
A source from which to draw
Proud Castle men you have proved your worth
Nuair a bhi libh dian, Geargha.
In Baile Locha Riach they met
Those teams both of great fame,
And on a pitch so heavy and wet,
They played an outstanding game,
Victory as always rolled and rolled
Now Gort, now Castlegar,
And as the final whistle told
Ni raibh laochra'm Ghoirt ar cearr.

Chorus

Our goalie was a keeper sure.
Our midfield pair were sound.
Our backmen were a stout defence
And made the ball rebound.
Our wingmen were the guiding leads
Through which the sliotar came
Our forwards keen and accurate
And always found their aim.

Chorus

John Commins was that goalie sure
Josie Harte a captain bold
Linnane Sylvie and brother Gerry
A pair that were hard to hold.
With Michael Brennan a blessing sure
And a shield should things go wrong,
And brother Brian centre forward full
His eye e'er his target on.

Chorus

John Nolan full and Joe Regan left
A defence so firm and fierce
With Piggott P. half centre back
Oh! who could dare to pierce!
Midfield Colie a solid rock,
And Micheal Cahill so strong a force,
With Patsy Hehir great half forward mid
And Gerry Lally a scoring source

Chorus

Matt Murphy strong left forward full
A man of brawn and brain
With matching right John Crehan there
Who played with might and main
To complete the Linnane Brothers three
Came Martin on as sub
With Patrick Neilan a comh-oibri
another member of Gort Club

Chorus

These two we name have now won fame
As they stepped into the breach
They played the game, their aim the same
For victory dear to reach.
So, all combined and left behind,
A story that has been
An inspiration to all who play the ball
The seventeen becomes fifteen.

Chorus

For some tradition played a role
As in Nineteen Thirtyfour
Their fathers played in the team that won,
Of which they were the core
So history again repeats itself in Nineteen Eight Three
The game is strong and will go on
Le neart agus le mor-chroi!

Chorus

Then rally round the Banner boys!
Our colours Gold and Green
True colours that so proudly held
And have often victory seen,

Is seo libh comain 's amach libh ar bhan
As Cuchulain did of yore
And bravely dash mid't the clash of the ash
And yet many triumphs score!

The Storm.

O, wild impassioned fury which thou art,
That rages o'er the land in wanton glee;
Who fashioned you, and from what dreadful parts,
That bravest man and wildest beast must flee,

So gentle in your cloudy coat you seem,
And then, with lion-like roar the heavens split
To tear the sky apart with fiery scream,
And rake the world below with teeming sweat.

Calm water, lashed by you to raging tide,
Seethes down, devouring, searching for its prey;
And scours its fluid bosom far and wide,
To cast its final violence on the clay.

Unleashed are you, by He who reigns above—
Poor mortal beings of this earth to warn,
That if they cannot learn, to live and love,
Much greater force has He, than you the storm.

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



Greetings

To: _____

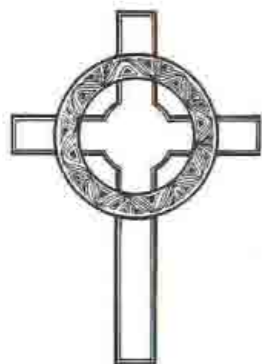
From: _____

- to Padraig Nelly, Ballyboy on 3rd July, 1983.
- Sile Breathnach, Ennis Road, to John Killeen, Corofin, on 21st July, 1983.
 - Cynthia Piggott, the Square, to Seamus Noone on 3rd Aug. 1983.
 - Patrick Mulcaire, Cloughnacava to Bernadette Gilligan, Lakefield.
 - Niall Finnegan, the Square, to Rose Murray, Castledaly.
 - Helen Gillane, Glenbrack to Bernard McDonagh, Ballyshrule.
 - John Counihan, Crowe Street, to Mary Roberts, Leenane.
 - Richard Joyce, Galway Road to Elizabeth Ryder, Headford.
 - Mary Helebert, Kilmacduagh to Stephen Linnane, Kinvara.
 - Pat Cradock, Vocational School to Anne Marie Murray, Lough Cutra.
 - Robert Coen, Bridge Street, to Mary McFarland, Athlone.

DEATHS

Since our last issue of "Guairé" 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-anam-nacha.

- John Nestor, George's Street, buried in Doon, Ballinruan.
- Martin Coppinger, Crannagh, buried in Kilmacduagh.
- Mrs. Brigid Fogarty, Crowe Street, buried in Kilmacduagh.
- Patrick Ryan, Georges Street, buried in Corofin.
- John Burke, Loughrea Road, buried in Kilbeacanty.
- Mortimer O'Loughlin, Kiltartan, buried in Kiltartan.
- Colman Moran, Ballyaneen, buried in Kiltartan.
- Mrs. Murray (formerly Marie Hehir) Coole, buried in England.



BIRD CALLS IN LONDON TOWN by W. M. Quinn

I heard the Cuckoo in Cambden Town
And the Corn Crake in Cricklewood
Coo - Coo - Crick - Crick
Cooo - Coooo - Crick - Crick
They carolled away
Clear in my emigrant ear
Aloof in the City's Din;
And I bowed my head
And shed a tear
And thought of my Kith'n Kin
And the small sweet meadow
In the Couty of Galway
Hemmed in by frail stone walls,
With the Rocky Hills beyond,
And those loved Birds wond'rous calls
Coo - Coo - Crick - Crick
Cooo - Cooo - Crick - Crick
Like a Bounteous Breeze in the arid air,
How I wished to be back at home,
Where the Buttercups Kissed
And burnished my boots
As happily I'd roam —
Replacing a stone on those frail walls —
How I longed —
To be back at Home.

LIFE Kitty North

Wandering along the lanes of life,
Sometimes uphill,
Sometimes down,
We chance upon a field of flowers,
Friendly faces,
Full of charm.
With outstretched hands we grasp a few
And nurture them with tender care,
As the field will never bloom again,
With the flowers that have passed.
Walking on.
We enter a wood,
And rustling the leaves beneath our feet,
We tread with care amongst the roots
That stretch across the sunlit path.
Suddenly, a storm blows up,
We brace ourselves,
And shoulder on,
Turning in triumph towards the light,
As the trees will never be bent again
By the storm that has passed.
We stand beside a joyous stream
And watch the water dancing by,
Rippling and shining in pure delight,
We bend and cup it in our hands,
To capture it forever,
As the stream will never flow again,
With the water that has passed.

Out and About

HISTORY OF GORT A.F.C.

Gort Soccer Club was formed in 1980, it joined the Galway District League for the season 1980/81.

Our first competitive game was against St. Colman's in which we were beaten 6-2. Our first season was not very successful.

We played 9 Games
Won 1 Game
Drew 3 Games
Lost 5 Games

Registered players for 1980/81 were: K. Nestor, D. Foley, M. Kilroy, S. Fahy, N. Finnegan, G. Fahy, M. Carty, J. McInerney, E. Fennessy, P. Crowley, V. Mullins, B. Long, C. Monahan, Solomon Ori Orison, D. Smith, H. McCarthy, G. Wallace, D. McCarthy, J. Nolan, P. Piggott, K. Fahy, M. Murphy, C. Crowley, D. Spellman, G. Lally, S. Linnane, J. Lally, G. Linnane, P. Fahy, A. Waters, N. Shaw, J. Harte, A. Brennan, P. O'Connor, P. Cox, P. Higgins, R. Cotter, M. Gallagher.

The Committee:

President: P. Barry
Chairman: J. McCarthy
Vice Chairman: S. Fahy
Secretary: H. McCarthy
Asst. Sec.: A. Forde
Treasurer: J. Lawlor
Ass. Treasurer: R. Porter
P.R.O.: J. McInerney
Others: N. Finnegan, F. Smith, C. Monahan, G. Wallace

The following season saw a big improvement in results and our final position in the league in which we finished:

Played 18
Won 10
Drew 1
Lost 7

Registered players for 1981/82 were:

N. Shaw, J. Cummins, G. Walsh, M. Donohue, P. Crowley, Solomon Ori Orison, J. McInerney, F. Crowley, G. Wallace, M. Carty, E. Fennessy, G. McInerney, K. Reidy, R. Burke (R.I.P.) D. McCarthy, N. Finnegan, C. Crowley, G. Niland, M. Monahan, A. Waters,

P. Fennessy.

The Committee:

President: P. Barry
Chairman: F. Smith
Secretary: D. McCarthy
Asst. Sec.: K. Reddy
Treasurer: R. Porter
Ass. Treas.: J. Lawlor
Others: J. McInerney, N. Finnegan, P. Crowley

Last season was our most successful to date. We finished 2nd in the Second Division, but only one team got promoted so Gort were left in the Second Division:—

Played 12
Won 7
Drew 4
Lost 1

£5 to the first person to correctly answer the 15 questions hereunder. Answer to D. McCarthy, Church View, Square, Gort, Co. Galway.

- Who scored 2 goals for Manchester United in the 1968 European Cup?
- From which team did Liverpool buy Kenny Dalglish?
- Who scored N. Ireland's goal against Spain in the last World Cup?
- For which team does Liam Brady play?
- Who captained England to the 1966 World Cup?
- Who is the present manager of Celtic?
- In what year did Gort A.F.C. join the Galway League?
- Which football club took Johnny Giles to England?
- Which famous club formed as Newton Heath?
- Which club has won the English F.A. Cup the most times?
- The Imps. is the nickname of which English Club?
- Who was 'Super Mac'?
- For which team does Mario Kempes play?
- Who are the sponsors of the Irish and English Leagues?
- Who did Pat Nolan play for?

GORT I.C.A.

The ladies of Gort I.C.A. got back into action in September, after the summer recess. After carefully drawing up a Winter Programme, the first class English and Italian quilting got under way. This proved to be a delightful craft with beautiful pieces much in evidence.

Next class was 'Soft Toys' which led to the idea of a sale of work and was arranged for December. The preparation for the Sale of Work brought out many hidden talents and the overall show for the Sale was indeed something to be proud of. It also proved very successful. The funds taken from same will help to defray costs in installing water in I.C.A. Hall in Bolands Lane.

Class in Christmas Decorations proved to be one of the most interesting classes ever. It showed that with a bit of imagination and time, so much can be done to brighten up our homes for Christmas.

In the New Year dressmaking and lampshades are among the classes on offer. So if there are any ladies who would like to join, you are always welcome.

GORT & DISTRICT GUN CLUB

Chairman: Fr. L. Power
Treasurer: Oliver Roche
Secretary: M. Clabby

The club has 40 members at present. The club's most recent success was the holding of a Big Clay Pigeon Shoot at Sean Quinn's in Prospect.

The Club has a policy of fostering good will between gunman and farmer, to the benefit of both. In 1980, the club initiated vermin control in South Galway. This idea was subsequently taken up by Ballindereen, and Kilbeacanty this year. Another major achievement has been the setting up of a Bird Sanctuary in the Kilmacduagh Triangle to preserve the pheasant stock. This year, shooting is being confined to three days a week, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

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THE SQUARE,
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GORT DOG SHOW
by Mary Carey

The first Dog Show held in Gort took place in Sullivan's Car Park in 1978 and was the brainchild of Dolores Oakley of Garrabeg. The Judge on that occasion was Mrs. Martina Murray from Galway. There was a great turnout and it is thanks to the high standard set by Dolores when first organising this event that the Show has retained its popularity.

The 1978, 1979, 1980 and 1981 Shows were run on behalf of the Gort Autumn Festival, the Judge in 1979 was Tony Donnellan then of Loughrea, now of Tubber Road, Gort, and in 1980, Ascinta Kilroy.

The 1982 Show and this year's Show were run on behalf of the Gort and District Horticultural Society at The Vocational School. The Judge for 1982, was Chris Logue, 'The Kennels' Bunnratty, assisted by Tony Donnellan, who incidentally sprained his wrist only minutes before the Show and who soldiered on in the blistering heat only mentioning the fact when the Show was at an end. He had his wrist set in plaster an hour later. At this year's Show there were 152 entries and 12 classes and although everyone cannot win, it is hoped

that the entrants enjoyed the day. The following is a list of First Prize Winners for the past 6 years, and it will be noted that there is an absence of Gort Dogs in the latter years and it is hoped that if there is a Dog Show next year, that there will be an Any Variety (Confined) Class for Dogs from Gort. It is participation which makes a success of any event.

1978 — I am unable to recollect the winners of this except that Jimmy Molloy won the Labrador Class and Jimmy Lynskey (Clounacava) won the Terrier Class.

1979 — M. Dempsey (Kiltulla), J. Lynskey (Gort), P. Hehir, J. O'Loughlin (Newmarket on Fergus), Dolie Molloy (Gort), Brian Kilroy (Gort), Jimmy Molloy (Gort), Johnny Moran (Gort).

1980 — D. Casey (2 classes) (Gort), Jack Greene (Newmarket on Fergus), Frances Carey (Gort), P.J. Broderick (Loughrea), Johnny Moran (Gort), (3 Classes), Ann Clabby (Gort).

1981 — Mrs. Carpenter (Ennis), Mrs. Skehill (Kilchreest), P.J. Mescall (Ennis), Mr. Rynne (Kilnamona) J. Moran (Gort), Neil Carey

(Gort), F. O'Donnell (Galway), Nancy Donnellan (Kilkishen).

1982 — S. Curley (Galway), Jack Greene (Newmarket on Fergus), Roger Carey (Gort), J. O'Loughlin (Newmarket on Fergus), Frances Carey (Gort), Mrs. F. Maguire (Castlegar), Sheila Mullally (Ballyalla).

1983 — Elizabeth O'Connell (Six-milebridge), Jack Greene (Newmarket on Fergus), Stephen George (Ennis), Sean Dixon (Clarecastle), Grainne Molloy (Gort), Pat Donnellan (Kilkishen), Mrs. Gwynn Jones (Lough Cutra), Johnny Moran (Gort).

The helpers with the Dog Show through the years have been: Vera Killeen, Mrs. Enid Carty, Jean Leahy, Tony Donnellan, Agnes Dumas, Mary McNevin, Ann Carey, Patricia McNevin, Jimmy Regan, Roger Carey Snr. A grateful thanks to all and our sponsors: John C. Murphy, Jack Spelman, Mrs. Hanrahan, Nigel Oakley, Bill Kelly, Donal Connolly, Colman Sherry, Johnny Moran, Chris Logue, Luke Kelly, Milo Killeen, Sheila Duffy, Gerry Burke, our supporters and anyone I have inadvertently left out.

that they may never get what they really want and are forced to look for alternatives. They have not enough say in our Community, neither are people understanding or caring enough to sit back and try to be patient and supportive of them.



In every generation, the brain gets more complex and people begin to question more and reconsider norms which have been accepted in the past. Youth of Today, see further and are more aware of options and different paths which one may take. Many believe they are not good enough to do certain things which is rubbish. They have the ambition to be good at what they do. But its always possible to acquire a knowledge/skill adapt to the atmosphere or learn what must be done. If ones self-concept is high enough, one can do almost anything.

Also, anything you learn is never gone to waste, and though most are beginning to reconsider education, I believe, in the long term, it is never lost, or a waste. The mind is occupied and extending its capacity and alertness. With education, one is capable of furthering oneself and is better able to see the world as it really is. Travelling, taking a year out of school, or the study atmosphere can open your eyes. If it's money you want or a simple job you would enjoy, you either need a skill or education but we must find this out personally before it sinks it.

Young people are forced to accept

YOUNG PEOPLE HELPING THEMSELVES
by Geraldine Moloney

On leaving school, many of us are very undecided what we would like to do. And, I believe, those who haven't worked in the 'Big Bad World' are at a loss. It isn't nice to think we'll all have to go our own ways, but that's reality!

Also, listening to the news of reading the papers doesn't help in giving us self motivation. We know there is wide spread unemployment and unless you are in a position to do something about it (besides buying Irish), we must realise that life is going on, however.

Drinking, to excess, smoking or joining a 'way out' group is not the answer, a fact some of us discover in time and some don't.

One thing, I believe is that Youth of Today are more optimistic and concerned than the last generation. When people of 17-20 leave home, they must open their eyes to a lot because they are going to have to settle their own principles, difficulties and beliefs. They see people for who they are, not what they are or what Social Class they are from. Equality and freedom of opinion are our practice

Out and About

CAMOGIE
Ann Murray

There is a great tradition of camogie in the parish of Gort, and it was no wonder, therefore, that all of Gort's teams advanced far in their competitions, but sadly no trophies came our way this year.

The nearest we came to success was reaching the under 12 county semi-final. This was the first year ever a team was entered in this particular age group. After four games, they remained unbeaten, and had only conceded one goal mainly due to the outstanding performances of Caroline Linnane and Suzanne Burke, along with their faithful team members. Unfortunately, they were beaten by Mullagh in a thrilling game played in Peterswell.

However, the enthusiasm and love for the game generated by their success is bound to pay dividends and we look forward to this young team emulating much success in year's to come.

Panel Susan Murray, Caroline Linnane, Christina Kelly, Martina McGrath, Gina Cahill, Majella Melville, Suzanne Burke (capt), Colette Burke, Ann Corbett, Lorretto Conners, Rena Egan, Martina Egan, Rose Kelly, Marie Burke.

This was a memorable year for Kiltartan N.S., for this was their first time to enter in the National School's Competition. This was a very popular move and the dedication and response from the girls involved was tremendous. This team looked good, when they defeated Mervue N.S. in their first game and even better when they held Moycullen N.S. almost scoreless. Their next game proved to be the toughest when they were to meet Beallachlea N.S., last year's winners. But thanks to the urging and roaring of their faithful supporters, victory came their way. But alas, on a windy day, at St. Thomas pitch, they were overcome by a strong contingent from Coolagh N.S., last year's runners-up, even

though, they were in contention up to the last few minutes. Then Coolagh went on a scoring spree, and Kiltartan had no answer.

I would also like to take this opportunity in congratulating Lurga N.S. for also reaching the Semi-Final in this competition. Panel: Susan Murray, Sheila Burke, Elizabeth Kelly, Geraldine Gill, Suzanne Burke (capt.), Gina Cahill, Martina Egan, Subs: Marie Brennan, Martina McGrath, Ann Corbett, Collette Burke, Majella Melville, Rena Egan.

U.16 AND JUNIOR

This was not the year of the older age teams, though they trained hard success eluded them. However, with such dedication, their reward will surely become a reality if they have but patience.

It is with confidence, therefore, that we look forward to 1983-84 when I predict that the different cups will return to their rightful home in Gort.

I would like to take the opportunity on behalf of Gort Camogie Club, in sincerely thanking the following people for their encouragement and support during the year. Peadar Burke, Treasa Burke, Una Murray, Rosaleen Cahill, Ann Linnane, Michael Cunningham, Nicholas Cafferty, etc.

Major honours will come our way next year. We have the talent, the skill and the ability as well as the facilities. It is up to the camogie players, themselves, to decide whether the goal of success is worth working for.

Good luck and success to all who try, from your Camogie Correspondent.

GORT AND DISTRICT MUSICAL SOCIETY

Preparations are well underway for the third production of the lately revived Gort & District Musical Society. This year the pantomime chosen is the well loved "Cinderella". The well known fairytale receives a slightly "slanted"

adaptation from the usual, but we hope our version will provide you with plenty of entertainment to brighten up those long winter nights.

The Pantomime opens on Sunday 29th January with the matinee and continues with evening performances from the 2nd to the 5th of February inclusive.

Cinderella is played by Attracta O'Regan and Prince Charming by Pat Flaherty, a promising new member of our society. This year it is hoped to provide a larger slice of music and song in the show and this coupled with a more sophisticated approach to choreography will we hope result in a more vivacious and exciting show. Most of this years comedy comes from Jimmy Lynskey, as Cinderellas stepmother, and Kevin Glynn and James Hannigan as the Ugly Sisters "Steak and Kidney". We also see the welcome return of the larger than life personality of Tom Mc Nevin as the genial "Buttons".

For this year's show, Colman Sherry is back as producer to team up with Mary Kiely as Musical Director, and their combined talents will I'm sure, provide the Society with another "winner".



Our congratulations to Fr. Liam Power, who recently celebrated the Silver Jubilee of his Ordination. Ordained 1958

Glencorrib, Co. Mayo	58-61
Wembley, London	61-63
Craughwell,	63-69
Regional Hospital	69-71
Castlegar, Co. Galway	71-75
Lisdoonvarna	75-77
Gort	77-?

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**WHEN THE PENNY BAR
COSTS TWOPENCE I**
by Geraldine Killeen

For the sake of my feet, and the sparing of same, I set about to purchase a bicycle some time ago.

The horrendous experience, which prompted such an outlay of cash as to near my personal coffers to insolvency, is likely to visit me in my less wholesome dreams till my dying day! I, being not unlike herds of others, sailed off in pursuit of the dream of further education, and, more importantly, did so oblivious to the many demands the step would make on me. One such demand was a daily journey from the place wherein I am domiciled to the Alma Mater. After a week of such comings and goings, and after the use of some several gallons of Sloan's liniment, I noted that the strain had not confined itself to my muscles and (fallen!) arches, but also that the soles of those shoes I had most favoured for the hikes in question were well nigh giving up the ghost. As the shoes were rather a faithful pair, and because I did not fancy the task of breaking in a new pair of walkers, and primarily, because the wretched things had just become really comfortable themselves, (and I was not about to let them off that easily), I resolved to sole and heel the things anew, thinking that was the most amicable, practical and frugal solution in the end. But was I in for a very rude awakening!

I sailed forth with the footwear in a poliothene sack intent on a shoe repair shop of some repute in Galway. I plonked them on the counter when I got there, and accepted the totally expected diagnosis of the specialists: That new soles must go on! The assistants were free with sympathetic looks and comforting little nothings such as "The uppers aren't bad at all!" Then I was informed that it was customary to give a deposit. Naturally I acceded, enquiring how much the operation would cost, adding that I only wanted rubber. When the lady said £6.50, I nearly collapsed! The shoes had only cost £6.00!

Recollecting my faculties, I left the place with a mortal dread of what leather soles might have cost and with the firm resolve that something would have to be done to curtail that financially crippling wear and tear. I mean, I thought to myself, here's a case of a penny bar, costing twopence. Something's got to give.

A BIKE, A BIKE I

"A bike", said my Mother in her infinite wisdom, I had to see her point. The only way to truly retrench in time and effort and leather, was to get some means of transport and get my sub-efficient feet off the sidewalk, and me to the college in half the time.

So off I went, bank balance in mind, to price the newly minted item. One look was enough to decide me on buying one second hand. Any possibility of buying a new bike today, without a term loan, seems impossible, with any little tricycle of a thing being three figures a throw. I sulked home for further counsel, clearly seeing, by this time, how solving a shoe could cost an arm and a leg.

Thus began a search of the papers and everywhere else for anything that moved on two wheels. I was so cheesed off with the economy and it's having encroached on me so rudely and after a short time I concluded that anything more than two wheels and a brake would see me courting the loan sharks. I could see nothing for it but being shod at a blacksmith's and soldiering on, on foot. I spent nights awake thinking over the small wonder it was that the nation was in such a state, when even the very shoes were at risk of disappearing from under our feet. I had visions of soup kitchens, of loaves costing £100, of a general revolt, or worse still, a military coup. I thought of the irony of so many Ard Fheiseanna along the political line and of the proletariat cheering their respective leaders and I truly wondered would we ever see the day when even the commuter buses would run on time!.....

THE ELUSIVE DREAM

With the country's state of chassis on my mind, I passed several days, hopes of a bicycle quickly fading. But all was not lost, and my faith that Someone up there likes me, was once again restored. I pattered along to yet another cycle merchant after finding out that 'immaculate condition', when written in print meant a florid example of the cohesive properties pure unadulterated rust has when it assumes an impressionist shape of a two wheeled moving vehicle. Very artistic, but I was not impressed and even less amused at the looseness of the terminology. I spoke meekly of my search for what was now nearly an illusive dream. But this time, I was not made to feel that I should apologise for my limited resources. Here was a man

who was willing to accept that the concept of a functional bicycle was not confined to the new model and who had heard of bikes other than racers. Heretofore, to ask for a bike was to ask for a racer, and to ask for other than a racer was akin to a public declaration of leprosy. I had no interest in a racer, none at all. Cost aside, the things are uncomfortable, easily punctured in everyday use, and too close to the hearts of the cycular thief. But this was a gent who had a place for everything and who had not suffered a metamorphosis with the new trends in bike fashion like the rest of his trade.

I then began to get confidence that the end of my search was nigh when he said that he actually had 'second hand' items on the premises other than racers (ALL HAIL THE MIRACLE!) and offered me a look. I told him, as we neared that most dismal corner, of his place of business, that I was not possessed of unlimited funds, but, as we stopped before that file of long forgotten bicycles, he assured me again that something he had might suit and we were bound to come to some arrangement.

So, there I found myself, in the midst of a fairly moth eaten collection of near bicycles looking, for something to take the weight off my feet, and, mind you, at first glance, nothing he had looked like, it could take any weight other than that exerted by the pressure of the atmosphere.

Well, I waded in and rooted through and found this and that model, that might do, if the wheels were round, or the handlebars faced straight ahead! I had visions of myself coasting down that chicane that leads to the salmon weir bridge the bike and I turning to cross the bridge, but the front wheel scooting out behind the courthouse and away from us forever.

More than ever, the cloud of gloom descended over me. I went back to the abode and took a good look at how the £6.50 worth was standing up to the rigours, and mourned the fact that the self same pesky soles looked little better at that point than they did prior to repair. I thought of public transport ... for about thirty seconds, I thought about it! The prospect of the thing costing 80p a round trip with a sterling guarantee that I'd never be on time was discouragement enough.

So it was that I returned to the small ads, amazed at how anyone was expected to believe that things on this island would ever get better while such a simple means of transport was either sold in

Out and About

**THE RED CROSS
By Band Aid**

In the year 1859, a Swiss Citizen, Henri Dunant, was travelling across the North Italian plains with a message for the Austrian Emperor Francis Joseph I. After much effort he caught up with the Emperor in a small town called Solferino. The day before he arrived, a great battle had taken place between the Austrians and the French and Italian forces of Napoleon III. Thousands of dead and wounded lay on the battle field, receiving no medical attention or any kind of comfort. Dunant horrified, by what he saw, gathered together a small group of volunteers and went about the battle field giving whatever aid they could to the wounded of both armies. From this small acorn the great oak we know as the 'Red Cross' grew.

The 'Red Cross' is a non-political, neutral, International Organisation, dedicated to the alleviation of human suffering. It is made up of National Red Cross Societies and has its base in Geneva, Switzerland (the Red Cross Flag, Red Cross on a white background is actually the reverse of the Swiss Flag, white cross on a red background). This fact symbolises the organisations neutrality as both it and Switzerland have taken a neutral stance in all the major armed conflicts of recent history). There is no set programme for Red Cross activity and thus where you find people suffering, be it the result of a famine or on a battle field, you will find the Red Cross.

RED CROSS IN GORT

A branch of the Irish Red Cross Society, was formed in Gort, over a year and a half ago. Since then, it has provided numerous services, like providing first aid at matches, rally's and other sporting events, in the locality, running three courses of lectures on first aid and representing both Gort and Galway with distinction in various Red Cross Competitions. In light of its

contribution to the Community in general, the Western Health Board, recently decided to provide the branch with an Ambulance which will be used whenever the Unit is on duty or in the event of an emergency in the locality. Three courses in basic first-aid, have been organised by the Branch, and there has been a large attendance at each. At the end of each course, successful participants have been presented with a Certificate which shows them to be qualified in Basic First Aid. As it is now law, that any business employing eight or more must have at least one person qualified in First Aid for every eight people employed. Employers might take advantage of these courses by getting some of their employees to do them and so take precautions against any mishap that might happen at work. There is no charge for the courses, and a new course is being organised for the New Year (anyone interested should contact: Mr. Liam Higgins, Loughrea Road, for further details). Some who complete the course stay on and join the Unit, going out on duty as well as taking part in any other Community Project, decided on by the Branch. Whereas it is not necessary to do so, anyone who has completed the course is invited to join the Unit and further their knowledge of first-aid by gaining experience in the field as well as making a very real contribution to the Community as a whole.

THANKS

As a charitable and non-profit making organisation, we are dependant upon the support and goodwill of the people of Gort for our survival. We would like to thank most sincerely, all those who have contributed so freely and generously to us since our formation and we hope they will continue to support us in the year's to come. A special work of thanks to the Sisters of Mercy, Fr. M. Carney, President of Our Lady's College and Gort Credit Union Ltd., for allowing us use their facilities for

training, lectures and competitions. To these and all who have helped us, we wish a Very Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

**CANDIDATES IN KING/QUEEN
OF GUAIRE ELECTION 1983
(in aid of Gort Community Centre)**



Fr. Jimmy Walsh



Aggie Jennings



Michael Cunningham



Christy O'Connor, Jnr.

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COOKERY CORNER

SWEET 'N SOUR TURKEY

Ingredients
 1½ lb. chopped Turkey
 15½ ozs. Chopped Turkey.
 8 ozs. grated raw carrot
 2 green peppers de-seeded and sliced.
 1½ pints Chicken Stock.
Sauce:
 2 heaped tablespoons cornflour.
 2 tablespoons brown sugar.
 3-4 tablespoons soy sauce.
 3-4 tablespoons vinegar.
 4 tablespoons oil.
 Salt and pepper.

Method:

1. Open tin of pineapples and drain. Keep juice. Cut the pineapple chunks into smaller pieces.
2. Grate the carrots finely.
3. Make the pineapple juice up to 2 pints with chicken stock. Simmer the carrots and pepper in the stock until tender.
4. Blend all the sauce ingredients together and add to the stock. Bring to boil, stirring all the time.
5. Add turkey and pineapple chunks to the sauce. Simmer 10 - 15 minutes.
6. Serve with Fried Rice. Serves 8.

CURRIED TURKEY MAYONNAISE

1 lb. long grain rice.
 2½ pints Chicken Stock
 4 ozs. Raisins
 1 Green Pepper diced
 2-3 oz. cooked peas
Filling:
 1½ lbs. Chopped Turkey
 ½ pint Mayonnaise.
 2 level tablespoons Curry Paste
 2 level tablespoons Chutney

Method:

1. Bring rice to the boil in the chicken stock, reduce heat to a simmer. Simmer very gently until stock is absorbed and rice is tender (about 15 mins.) add slightly more stock if necessary.
2. Add the raisins, diced green pepper, peas and seasoning. Allow to cool.
3. Arrange rice in a border ground the edge of a large serving dish.
4. Mix mayonnaise with curry paste and chutney and fold in turkey.
5. Pile into centre of dish. Garnish with green pepper rings. Serves 8.

GOLDEN TURKEY BAKE

12 oz. Frozen Broccoli or French Beans.
 4 oz. Irish Cheddar Cheese, grated
 1 lb Turkey, cut into ½ inch cubes
Sauce

3 oz. Marg.
 3 oz. Flour
 ½ pint Milk
 ½ pint Chicken Stock
 2-3 Tablespoons Dry Sherry
 Salt & Pepper.
 4 Tablespoons Cream.
 Oven Temp: Pre heat to Gas Mark 4, 350 F, 180 C.

Method:

1. Cook the broccoli or beans until tender. Drain and arrange in a lightly greased 2 pint oven-proof dish. Sprinkle with 1 table-spoon of Cheese.
2. Melt marg and add flour. Gradually blend in the milk, then add stock and bring to the boil. Add seasoning and simmer for 2-3 minutes.
3. Stir in cream, bringing just to the boil and remove from heat.
4. Stir in Sherry. Spoon half the sauce over the broccoli or beans. Arrange turkey on top and cover with remaining sauce. Sprinkle with the rest of the cheese.
5. Bake for 30-40 minutes until golden brown.

Out and About



COMHALTAS CEOLTOIRI EIREANN

Gort can boast of being one of the most successful and progressive branches in the County. There is a large membership and though you may not know just how the branch operates - let me tell you. An Irish Night of music and dance is arranged every two weeks, which gives much pleasure to quite a number. For a very modest fee, they can dance and participate if they wish, in a Cultural Atmosphere and from time to time some talented artistes are invited and brought along. A Music School under the direction and teaching of Vincent Griffin has been operating in the town for almost two years now and this is greatly subsidised by the Local Branch.

At the end of 1982, a concert tour was organised by the Branch to London, Manchester and Liverpool. This proved to be a very successful venture. Many requests have been received for a return visit and a visit to U.S.A. and Scotland. This may come about in time. For this tour, the branch created a tour fund, and if another one is undertaken, the same will apply.

The branch have had rep's at many competitions during the year, namely, Scor, Ceol and Gheimhridh Pioneers and are glad to report that a group got through to All-Ireland level.

All musicians and dancers enjoy performing at such events and let me remind you they do so free of charge, which indicates how much they enjoy and embrace our culture at a time when Commercial enterprise is very apparent all around.

1982 County Fleadh was hosted by this branch and was successfully run. Members of the branch have an invitation to go to Germany next Easter and it will be nice and interesting to compare the cultures and customs of each country.



*Champs again! The Galway Road team.
 Front (Left to Right) Irial Conroy, Barry McNevin (capt),
 Tonra Spelman, Raymond Williams.
 Back: Colin Casey, John Loughnane, Sean Og Duffy,
 Stanley Cahill and Stephen Killeen.*

THREE-IN-A-ROW FOR GALWAY ROAD

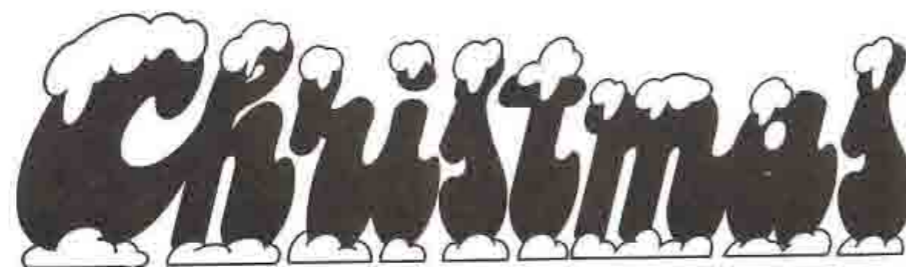
Galway Road, made their own bit of history on Sunday, Nov. 6th when they became the first team ever to win the Gort Street League, three years in a row. The game was won and lost in the first half, when Crowe Street, playing with the aid of a stiff breeze, wasted chance after chance, while Galway Road capitalised on the few chances that came their way. Galway Road led 1-1 to nil at half time.

The introduction of Gregory London strengthened the Crowe Street attack, and when Pat (Dag) Donovan, crashed home a goal and added a point within minutes, halfway through the second half, the large number of spectators present, anticipated a close finish. But this was not to be, as Colin Casey sent the ball to the net after his penalty was blocked down. Before Crowe Street had a chance to recover, Irial Conroy sent the ball between the posts, for a point and shortly afterwards Irial again linked up with Stephen Killeen, who sent a rasper to the corner of the net, from a narrow angle. The game was over, bar the shouting, and shouting there was,

when Frank Lally, blew the final whistle with Galway Road, the clear winners, with the score of 3-3 to Crowe Street's 1-1.

Galway Road's victory was a fine team effort, with vigilant goalkeeper Sean Og Duffy playing a blinder, John Loughnane and Stanley Cahill giving nothing away in defence, Stephen Killeen and Colin Casey solid in the centre of the field, and Irial Conroy and capt. Barry McNevin making life difficult for their opposite numbers. Crowe Street played well, but poor finishing, especially in the first half, let them down. After the game, both teams were presented with plaques. Barry McNevin, received the O'Conaire Cup, on behalf of the Galway Road boys.

Peter Walsh was complimented on producing a lovely programme for the game.



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RESULTS
by Niall Clabby

There is only one thing worse than doing a State Exam and that is waiting for the results. There is only one thing worse than waiting for the results, and that is actually getting them.

A hushed silence falls over the room as the 'fourth years' are summoned to come down and get the results of their Inter Certs. These few words dispel instantly all the "they'll be out to-day" rumours which have been circulating for weeks beforehand. They also bring back memories of the questions you forgot to answer, the 'T' you forgot to cross and the 'I' you forgot to dot and numerous other experiences which begin to haunt you like a drunk Banshee. You proceed along the corridor muttering prayers to the Patrons of Lost Causes until you arrive before the doors of the Holy of Holies from whence a voice bids you enter and closing the door behind you, you are left alone with your results and God (and of course the Principal). Slowly you accept the piece of paper, slowly you unfold it, slowly you start to read and (depending on whether St. Jude has heard your prayers or not) you either start to smile or get



sick. You leave the office with a load off your mind or two loads on your back depending on the contents of that little piece of paper. As soon as you stop outside the door a bush telegraph goes into action that would put the K.B.G. or C.I.A. to shame. If you receive your results at 12.30 you may be sure that the news of what you've got, will have reached the heights of Derrybrien, the depths of Kinvara, the extremes of Clarin-

bridge and the darkest corners of Interior Tubber (In area about the same size as Grenada in the Caribbean). (not to mention the Convent). By 12.31 proving that only exam results travel faster than light, after congratulating or commiserating with your fellow victims, you set off home to face the severest test of all — Mother. Needless to mention the neighbours by now are lying in wait and on the few yards home, you are ambushed so many times, that it makes Tom Barry and The Flying Columns look as dangerous as an I.C.A. All Night Vigil at Knock. Some hours later when you finally reach home (having detoured to the Secondary School, with the highest number of the opposite sex in the town) you arrive home to see on the table a huge steak. You rub your eyes, yes, its' real alright, a look at you-know-who's face, tells you that its for you. You sit down, but just as you are about to plunge your knife, into this marvellous specimen of the butchers art, a sharp blow of the Field Marshalls baton (i.e. wooden spoon) across the knuckles reminds you to present your results for inspection. After a few seconds, you will know whether you can touch the steak or whether it will be put back into the fridge, to await the results of the Leaving,

Out and About

Draw and it was got under way immediately. Thanks goes out to all of the Sponsors of the Super-Draw in 1982-83 and in 1983-84. Money was collected and is still being collected in other ways. Gort Youth Club made a presentation of £1,000 to the Community Centre to finance the building. A deputation went to the Minister Mr. Bermingham who gave his undivided attention and urged them to continue with the project and to come back when they were ready to build. £15,000 was presented to the Community Centre by the Old Swimming Pool Committee. Tenders were put out for the various sections of the building. The Committee was changed during the Summer at the A.G.M. and the new Committee was elected:

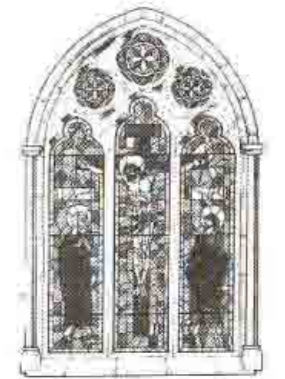
Chairman: Michael O'Grady
V. Chairman: Teresa Moloney.
Ass. Secretary: Mary Fahy
Treasurer: Michael Breathnach and Eamon Fahy
President and P.R.O. — Fr. J. Walsh
The Committee have to date raised over £52,000 and work has now begun at the site.



John Roche (Gort Youth Club) presents a cheque for £1000 to Mr. M. Breathnach (C. Cent. Committee), also in the picture are Jimmy Regan, James Fahy, Mrs. Teresa Moloney and Michael O'Grady

RESULTS OF WEEKLY DRAW FOR COMMUNITY CENTRE FOR WEEKS ENDING:

- 4/9/83
1st Prize £100. Mrs. D. Carty, Crowe Street
2nd Prize: £50 Mr. Roger Fahy Ennis Road
3rd £25: Mr. Mattie Cooly, Tiernevin
4th £25. Mrs B. Long, Church St. 11/9/83
1st £100: Mr. P. Murphy, Ardahan
2nd £50: Mr. Noel Nestor, Church Street.
3rd £25 Joe Tannion, Roxborough
4th £25. Jimmy McNamara, Ennis 18/9/83
1st £100: B. Spelman, Galway Rd.
2nd £50. Martha Rees, Ennis Road
3rd £25: Miss M. Rock, Garryland
4th £25: Michael Walsh, Firpark 25/9/83
Super Prize sponsored by B. of Irl.
1st Peter Huggard, Waterville
2nd £50, Brendan Spellman, Galway Road
3rd £25. John Nash, Cloughnacava 4th £25;:
4th £25: Mrs. K. Murray, L'cutra. 2/10/83
1st £100 Miss S. Shinnors, B'sloe
2nd £50. Miss Mona Joyce, Ennis R
3rd £25. Mrs. Frank Kelly, Tarmon
4th £25. Joe Halvey, Cloughnacava 9/10/83
1st £100 P.J. Carr, Kilmacduagh
2nd £50 Mrs. Tony Larkin, Galway Road
3rd £25. Mrs. Pattie Cahill, B. of Irl
4th £25. Mrs. Cusack, Crowe St. 16/10/83
1st £100. Mr. Paddy Kelly, Killamoran.
2nd Prize: £50 D. O'Keefe, Limerick
3rd £25. Mrs. T. Larkin, Galway Rd
4th £25. Miss M. Gibbons, Tuam 23/10/83
1st £100. Patsy Heiher, Clough'cava
2nd £50: P. J. Nelly, Clough'cava
3rd £25. Mrs. B. Moorhead, L'rea
4th £25. John Carr, Ballymulfog 30/10/83
1st £100 Mick Lally, Lisbrien
2nd £50. J. Hennegan, A.I.B.
3rd £25. Tom Murphy, O'Grady Construction
4th £25. Mrs. Joe Fallon, George St.



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GORT FAIRS
by Bob Noone

The days of the fair are long since past. There isn't a fair in any part of County Galway, except Maam Cross, at any time of the year. Marts have taken over, and in a way, it's not a bad thing, but they certainly lack the atmosphere of the fairs.

The fairs of Gort were famous throughout the country. There were fairs held on March 17th, May 10th, August 11th, and November 5th, 6th and 7th.

Of course fairs were held in the country areas in years gone by. Many years ago, there used to be fairs in Kiltartan. The Fair Green in Kiltartan was the field on the left hand side on the way in to the graveyard. It was also a pound. There was a public house right beside it, (opposite the graveyard). There is a bit of the wall still there. Indeed the licence of that pub hung in the hall of Coole House, right up to the time it was dismantled. Nobody seems to know what happened to it. The coming of the railway finished Kiltartan Fair, as people came to Gort Station to load and unload. There used to be a fair at Esserkelly as well. They say a faction fight put an end to that one. The old people used to talk about a fair that was held at Turlough na hEan (Ballybane), but that would have been in the distant past.

There was great excitement attached to fairs for every member of the family, but especially for the boys. (Women never went to fairs, except maybe the odd widow.) The boys had to drive the cattle to the fair with their fathers and mind them if they were sold. If they weren't sold, they had to drive them home again. You'd be praying that they'd be sold anyhow so that you'd get your reward of a half crown. Half crown was big money in a boy's fist in those days, of course, and no sooner had he it got, than he was off buying a penknife, a nutcracker, or some toffees (I still remember the 'Rainbows' and the NKS's very well) periwinkles used to be in great demand as well as were the buns and mugs of tea Mrs. Connolly used to serve up for six pence. She had a shop where Gerard Keane's is now. The 'Sean Saor's' used to be there too, of course and they did a good trade, as did the publicans.

THE MAY FAIR

The May Fair was traditionally a big one in Gort, with stud horses and stallions as well as cows. People walked from places as far



away as Ardrahan and Ballyvaughan. Of course those coming long distances got a 'stand' for their cattle somewhere along the way the night before the fair, and drove them the rest of the way in the morning.

By seven or eight o'clock in the morning, the town was really cluttered, with jobbers, walking around arguing with farmers about prices. All the tricks of the trade would be brought to bear on the farmer by some of these jobbers but the farmer was used to them and often had the odd trick up his sleeve too. Many's a time the beast that looked fine in the light of a flashlamp turned out to be less than healthy in broad day light. A buyer would give a farmer a ticket with the price of the cattle on it. The farmer mightn't be inclined to sell, so the buyer would tear it up telling the farmer that he'd never get a better price. (Cattle prices have risen a good bit in recent years! I remember, around 1935 13/14 c.w.t. cattle were sold for £11-5;0, sheep for £1-£2.) Of course, he'd be back after a while and give the farmer another ticket with a slightly higher price on it. Three or four tickets might be torn and a few hours gone by before agreement was reached. If the farmer needed the money to pay for manure or the rates, he'd not argue too much. Sold cattle were driven to the station for the 'Specials' (and what a job that was). The First Special (train) left for Sligo at around 7 a.m. with cattle for the North. The second 'Special'

carrying cattle for shipment abroad which left shortly afterwards went to the North Wall, Dublin. There was never a shortage of loaders at the station. They were usually travelling people who got a few pints for their work.

THE CUSTOM GAP

There were Custom Gaps on all main roads leading to the town. There was one on the Galway Road, near John Anthony Keane's house 'Custom' was a kind of a levy on all animals passing through. I remember paying 2 pence per head for sheep at the custom post on the Galway Road. As far as I can remember, the money collected went to the Gort Improvement Committee. Many's the argument arose at Custom Posts especially when strangers refused to pay.

Most people had their own 'ground' at the fair, where they normally stood with their animals. There was a lot of cleaning up to be done after the fair, and often you'd hear words between towns people and farmers over damage and nuisance caused by cattle. Usually, however this was not serious as the business people appreciated the extra flow of cash brought to the town by the farming community. Public houses and eating houses did particularly well on Fair Days. Indeed boarding houses as far away as Ardrahan would be full for big fair days in Gort.

Like so many other things, the Fairs disappeared and somehow Gort is all the poorer for that.



"It's a deal!"

KELLOGG'S YOUNG REFEREE OF THE FUTURE



Left to right: Paddy Buggy, President, G.A.A. Norman Rochford, Brian Moore, general sales manager, The Kellogg Co. of Ireland Ltd.

This competition is organised by Coiste na nOg and by Kelloggs (Ireland) Ltd. The purpose of the competition is to help young people with the interpretation of the rules in Gaelic Football.

In this competition, there are three stages. There is the School Stage. The first stage is where a winner is picked by the school to go forward to represent the school. The Provincial stage is where the winners from all over Connacht come to see who is the best young Referee in the province. The winner is picked by Inter-County referees and he goes forward to the National Stage to represent the province in the All-Ireland Final of the competition, which is held in Croke Park.

I was selected the winner in our school and I was also fortunate to be selected as Connacht Representative in the National Final in Croke Park. I had to fill up a five-part entry form which had a total of six questions. Four of these questions had three answers to every question and I had to pick the correct one. Then they were two other questions which were partly answered, and I had to write an essay stating the good qualities of a Referee and why I would like to be "Young Referee of the Future".

I won the Connacht Stage and received a beautiful trophy plus

£50, which I used as travelling expenses to the All-Ireland Final in Dublin. An extra £50 was given to my school, St. Colman's V.S. Gort, to purchase Sports Equipment.

THE BIG DAY

On the day of the final, it was on in conjunction with the Dublin v Cork All-Ireland Minor and Senior Football Semi-Finals. I had stayed in Dublin for the weekend for final preparation. On the morning of the final, I went to Mass and had my breakfast and left the hotel at 10.30 a.m. to head for Croke Park. The competition was to start at 11.00 a.m. I got there and met the rest of the competitors. All teachers and escorts and the rest of competitors were brought into the new Ceannarus Building, built by the G.A.A. for Centenary Year, and all of us were briefed on the way the competition would run. The first test was to be the Written test. I had to answer seven questions on various rules.

Next test was the practical test. I had to referee a match out on Croke Park. As there were four finalists, we had each fifteen minutes to show our skill, on the field. I did feel nervous out on the field, as Croke Park can be a nightmare for some Referees. Next was the oral test, where a panel of adjudicators asked me questions

on how I should think the rules should change and asked my views on different points. That completed the test. The adjudicators were John Monoley (Tipperary), J.J. Landers (Waterford) and Pat Lane (Limerick).

We were told that it would take an hour for the result, but all competitors were called during half-time of the Minor game and photographs were taken with the President of the G.A.A. Mr. Paddy Buggy and Mr. Brian Moore, General Manager of Kelloggs (UK) Ltd. presenting our Provincial Certificates. Then they announced the National Winners and runner-ups. The winner was John Kavanagh from Meath and I finished runner-up. I was disappointed but you can't win them all. I received 298 points out of 300 second while my opponent received the full 300 points.

In Paddy Buggy's speech, he hoped that those that won awards would soon be turning Inter-County Referees and that they would be trying to influence more young boys into the art of refereeing. It was a privilege to meet Mr. Buggy and Mr. Moore the sponsor of the competition. I would like to thank sincerely Mr. Winston, who put all his spare time into preparing me for the final as we went to see many football matches to judge referee's interpretation of different rules.

I also had the privilege of meeting some top referees who gave me some helpful advice. The referees were Paddy Collins (Westmeath) Weeshie Fogarty (Kerry) Noel O'Donoghue (Dublin) and P.J. McGrath (Mayo).

I would also like to thank Mr. Breathnach and Mr. McEoin of the School for their help.



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COMMUNITY GAMES

Gort contingent there.

At the Finals, the boys U.12 relay team gave a tremendous performance in winning the bronze medals. While some of the other competitors may have been a little disappointed at first, the gale force wind and rain sweeping the athletic arena during the days of the competitions reduced them to a mere game of luck and chance. Indeed the skills they had acquired and perfected were literally thrown to the wind as they tried to judge the strength of the gale severely affecting their performances. However their disappointment was short



Gort Boys who were successful in the County Community Games.

lived and the children quickly made their way to the amusement centre where they all had a good time. But one parent who joined them was

not so lucky, he is now firmly convinced that "Big Wheels and Roundabout Chairs" are for children only!

A LOOK AT GORT by Sean Leahy

T.P.U.

Turkey plucking in Gort is in full swing, feathers fly from many bars, but it is feared that the quantity of birds in this year's contest, is down slightly compared to other years. Gort pluckers are competing, but on a non-competitive basis.

BEST FLY FISHER

Tommy Minogue (expert Fisherman), while fly fishing on Tulla Lake, last Sunday, caught himself a winner. Tommy landed himself a two pound fly, the biggest fly caught on that lake in history. It is thought that the fly will be stuffed and preserved under glass!

UNUSUAL THEFT

The Garda toilet was taken at a break-in at the local station. No one has seen apprehended as of yet. The local sergeant said "we still have nothing to go on", what a disgrace.

B.A.S.H.

Battered and shattered husbands held a meeting in Sullivan's Hotel, on Saturday night, to elect a new president. Judo is now taught to husbands who so wish it, as a protection against their wives. We would like to take this opportunity to wish all those unfortunates a peaceful Christmas.

THE SPUD

Again this year, the poor spud came under severe attack from the

wireworm, it has baffled our greatest brains, why Ballyhugh should be plagued with this scourge. Some say they like the kind of people that live up there (friendly type). One of our outstanding citizens, has come up with an idea which goes into operation next year. When the stalk of the potatoe is about eight inches high, cut a small hole in it, pour a sup of oil down each one, so making the potatoes underneath slippery. When the wireworm tries to saddle the potatoe, he slips off. After many tries, he gives up, and leaves committing suicide in the next field (special oil can be got from M. Roche Garage, Gort.)

THE SPORTING LIFE

suspicious of a particular mucky-looking horse ridden by a stranger. Coming into the home straight, he was catching up on me. As he was passing me out, I grabbed the reins out of his hands and threw them over the horse's head. That finished him and I went on to win the race. I found out afterwards that the horse was a registered race horse that was 'mucked up' for the Flapper Race to look like any common horse. The jockey's name was Tony Fletcher.

Another incident that stands out in my memory happened in Kilbeacanty. I knew there was a good bit of money on me the same day. My brother Paddy Joe came late and found that he would have to leave three to win one on the horse I was riding, so he asked me to change horses. I was riding one of Tom Neill's horses. I changed horses down at the far end of the course. My new mount was four to one. I won the race, so Paddy Joe got a few bob!

I wasn't the only member of the family to ride horses. My brother Tom who went to Australia in 1924 had a successful career as a jockey 'down under'. He won the Melbourne Steeple Chase in 1932,

before leaving for the U.S.A. He came home to hurl with the U.S. team in the Tailteann Games. He went back and owned some very successful horses there. He is now retired.

I'll always remember 1924, for apart from the fact that it was the year Tom left for Australia, it was also the year I got a few nasty injuries, the worst being broken ribs and damaged lungs. It was also the year I won the race in Ballinasloe on Johnny Sylver's pony, but never got the prize. There were nineteen ponies in the race. One of them 'Spicy', owned by Josie Corry was regarded as being the best in Ireland. I beat them all. The Bookmakers threw up their stools. There were objections that my mount wasn't the required 14/2, which she definitely was.

Hurling:

I played a bit of hurling too! I played in all grades for Gort and was on the team that won the County Championship in 1934. I was also on the Galway team that contested the All-Ireland Junior Final in 1927, on the Senior team in the final of 1929, and I played in the Semi-Final of 1931. The match that stands out in my memory was a club match played in Loughrea around 1930. Gort were playing Castlegar and it was possibly the best game I ever played

I played at centre half back for the county. My biggest draw-back was my shyness and my lack of confidence in myself. I remember being very reluctant to line out against Tipperary once because I was to mark the great Phil Cahill. I agreed to play but not in my customary centre half back position. After a while I had plucked up enough courage on the wing to switch over on Cahill and by God I made a fair job of marking him too! There were some nice hurlers in Gort at that time, men like Paddy Icklam, Stephen Carty and Peter Howard.

Somehow, horses were always closer to my heart than hurling. The fact that I was involved so deeply in both, made heavy demands on me at times. Being a non-drinker stood good to me, however. Looking back on it all, now, I can honestly say I would do it all again. I had a great time, dancing, playing the accordion, hurling and riding horses all over the country. It was a sporting life surely! I gave it all up at the age of thirty three (my last race was in Castleisland, Co. Kerry), got married and settled down on the farm I had bought in Newtown, just before the war. It has been a happy, fulfilling life and I have no regrets."

ISLANDS AND HIGHLANDS by Justin Sadleir



Arriving on Harris

The scene was a licensed premises in Gort. The hour was late; the topic geography. It was all perfectly simple and logical. The prevailing wind is from the South West. Well isn't it? The outer Hebrides extend from South West to North East. A glance at an atlas will show. The decision was made. This tale is about two innocents who thought to travel by bicycles through the Outer Hebrides and some other parts of Scotland. Nothing could be simpler, they thought. Start at the South West, get up on the bicycles and the

wind will do the rest. Well won't it?

It is a Friday in the month of May 1983. The journey from Glasgow is by rail along the Clyde Estuary and as the train speeds Northwards, there are fine views of Loch Lomond to the East. Westwards now, through the Pass of Brander at the foot of Ben Cruachan (3,693 feet) and at last into Oban. The intention is to cross the Isle of Mull to Iona this evening. Alas, the final ferry of the day leaves Oban half an hour before the train arrives. Could this be a conspiracy

by the Oban Authorities? It means an overnight stay, an evening meal and breakfast in Oban, all of which are first class. It also leaves time for a look about Oban including a visit to Dr. McCaigs folly. This is a colosseum type structure on a hill dominating the town. It is unfinished because the good Doctor's efforts to perpetuate the memory of himself, led to financial ruin.

The following morning, the boat, a fairly large car-ferry, departs Oban on the 45 minute journey to Craignure on the Isle of Mull. Craignure is a small port with just a few buildings, including one shop. Now it is Eastwards into the wind and drizzle, a distance of about 40 miles to Fionnphort. This is the first real test and after 30 miles mostly uphill and without sight or sign of a shop or refreshment house of any kind, the two innocents are beginning to wilt. What a relief to reach the hamlet of Bunnellan with its choice of two shops and an eating house. After a rest for the bicycles, and some refreshments for the cyclists, Fionnphort is reached in time to catch the ferry

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HISTORY REPEATED
Frank Lally

Men like the Hayes's, the Fahy's, Pat Cooke, "Sergeant" Stack and Paddy Joe Cooney were to the fore when last Gort contested two County Finals in the space of three years. It was early in the century when those stalwarts led by Captain John Hayes won the Championships of 1914 and 1916.

A long wait, broken by the victory of the great team of '34, was over, as the men from South County took the field in the 1983 Final, hoping to recapture the glory of their 1981 triumph.

Impatiently the supporters waited for the end of the "curtain-raiser." To them only one match mattered; the 1983 County Final between Gort, captained by Josie Harte and sixteen times champions, Castlegar, captained by Tom Murphy, in St. Brendan's Park, Loughrea, the unusual venue.

CLOSE AND HARD

The parade of the teams over, the National Anthem played, Gort found themselves about to face a fresh wind and a team including five Connolly brothers, among them the legendary John. Referee Michael Hedderman threw the ball in to start a first half, that had much hard and close hurling. In the early stage, both defences were on top with Pierce Piggott and Sylvie Linnane dealing in no uncertain manner with early assaults on their half line. When 'Cashel' did get near the Gort goal, John Nolan and Josie Harte were not giving way. As fifteen minutes approached, it was 0-2 to 0-2, the first score of the game being a morale boosting point by Piggott after a run through the middle (Pierce on his way to possibly his best ever game for Gort Seniors), while goalkeeper John Cummins had confidently held John Nolan's deflection on a ball from Michael Glynn.

BREAKTHROUGH

Suddenly a Castlegar defence that had looked strong, cracked, as a Gerry Lally free, having dropped in the goal area, was goaled by Brian

Brennan, an important breakthrough.

Gort were more settled now and a nice outward pass by Matt Murphy, found Gerry Lally, who pointed. A fine overhead stop by Colman Rock ended an attempted attack, but as the half wore on, Tom Murphy's men put on pressure however, missed chances of pointing, especially from frees and some determined defending, including a fine catch by Pierce Piggott, left the Corribiders trailing the men from St. Colman's Parish. Half time - Gort 1-5; Castlegar 0-4.

It had been hard but Gort had lived with it.

STYLE

After an early second half, pointing chance was missed by 'Cashel', Gort turned on the style to run up six points to their opponents one and lead by 1-10 to 0-5. It was looking good, but the Cup was not won yet. A Joe Connolly goal, must have stilled a few victory cheers, but bringing back memories of his goalscoring opportunism against Kiltormer in 1981, Gerry Linnane was there to send the ball to the net when goalie Tommy Grogan knocked down a ball from Brian Brennan, which was going wide.

BACK ON COURSE

Back on course 2-10 to 1-5. Patrick Neilan signalled his arrival on the field by clearing after a '65' had been conceded; Gerry Connolly had earlier gone off injured to be replaced by Ray Long. Gort's blocking-down in the game was of a high standard and at times made life difficult for their opponents. Gerry Lally pointed an angled free and the lead was nine points. Surely now. A Castlegar goal dis-allowed ... Relief ...

TIME PLEASE

Time is running out and the Westerners must shoot for goals. Martin Linnane on as a sub. A point from a John Connolly penalty is followed by a Michael Costello goal, the lead is down to five points. A Gerry Lally free stretches

it to two goals. Surely the hour is up. Seamus Fahy has improved in the second half, but immediately on his scoring, a last gasp goal, Michael Hedderman blows the full-time whistle and Gort are the deserving winners by 2-12 to 3-6.

County Champions for the second time in two years. The fruits of a fine team effort.

HERE ARE THE CHAMPIONS of 1983

John Cummins

J. Harte (capt) J. Nolan J. Regan M. Brennan P. Piggott S. Linnane M. Cahill Colman Rock G. Lally Patsy Hehir J. Crehan M. Murphy B. Brennan G. Linnane Subs: Patrick Neilan, Martin Linnane, Desmond Kearns, Martin Kearns, John Lally, Michael Mulcair Kevin Nolan, Gerard Fahy, Dermot Duffy.

Scorers: G. Lally (0.7), B. Brennan (1.1), G. Linnane (1.0), M. Murphy (0.2), P. Piggott (0.1), P. Hehir (0.1) Gort Officials: President: Joe Pete Hehir, Chairman: Matt Murphy; Vice-Chairman: Michael Linnane; Secretary: Paddy Cooke; Ass. Sec: Gerry Finn, Treasurer: Eamonn Fahy; Asst. Treas: Declan Spelman. Team Officials: Trainers: Michael Cahill, Martin McGeough.

Selectors: Josie Harte, Dick Ryan, Patsy Kearns, Paddy Fahy.

Joycullly the cup was brought to Gort. Captain Josie Harte "surely no more dedicated player could lead this Gort team" said his hopes of seeing Gort among the leading clubs in the county had been fulfilled. Chairman: Matt Murphy, Michael Cahill and Paddy Fahy addressed the crowd. There was singing and music and happy faces.

THE CUP IS BACK IN GORT:

The Castlegar Team: T. Grogan, P. Connolly, Ted Murphy, G. Glynn T. Murphy, M. Connolly, M. Glynn J. Coyne (0.1) S. Fahy (1.0), F. Grealish, John Connolly (0.3) one from penalty, Joe Connolly (1.1) M. Costello (1.0), G. Connolly (0.1), M. Murphy. Subs: T. Connors, J. Cody, M. Connolly, S. Murphy, P. Collins, R. Long, J. Connor.

TOP SCORER

For Gerry Lally, right half forward, on the Gort team, there was

ISLANDS & HIGHLANDS

Islanders here and on Lewis, are strict Sunday observers, running no ferries or other public transport on that day. Time will not permit a stay until Monday, thus the pressure is on with almost 60 miles to be covered into the relentless wind, before reaching Stornoway and the boat back to the mainland. There is a choice here; the West coast road is chosen, with its beautiful beaches and scenery, instead of the road to the East where the landscape has been described as being like the surface of the moon. Harris is connected to Lewis, a much larger island, by a narrow neck of land at Tarbert reached in time for lunch which proves to be great value. A fine meal for two consisting of three courses with a bottle of wine, coffee, and pleasant service, all for less than £10.00. There is a possibility of diverting to the Isle of Skye, at this stage, but there is no ferry to-day, Friday, so the journey continues to Stornoway. This is the only significant town on the Islands with a population of 5,500 and a fine harbour. It is an important fishing port and is the centre of the Harris Tweed Industry, although itself on Lewis. It is also the Headquarters of Comhairle nan Eileann (The Isles Council). Lack of time and energy rule out a visit to Callanish, some 13 miles west, with its famous standing stones and other antiquities. The boat is due to leave for Ullapool on the mainland at 4.00 a.m. This is Good Bye to the Hebrides but not the end of the journey. The bicycles and baggage can be put on board and a cabin booked for the night. There is time for a meal and a few drinks before retiring.

Ullapool, where the boat ties up early on Saturday morning, is a lovely port. A fine breakfast is consumed in a pleasing quayside eating house and the day's journey begins. There is some mist but thankfully little wind. For the first time since Oban, there are fine

trees, to be seen in all directions. The route is Eastwards for Inverness with a stop at Garve for lunch, a rest and a look at the Scottish Cup Final with victory for Aberdeen. There is heavy rain now, but happily the journey can be continued by train. Inverness is where the Caledonian Canal which leads from Fort William on the West and continues through Lough Ness enters the North Sea on the East of Scotland. Lough Ness of course is famous for its monster and on Sunday, there is time for a cycle along the North shore as far as Urquhart Castle, before taking the train from Inverness to Glasgow. This is a considerable train journey

and the cost per person, bike included, is a mere £5.00. C.I.E. take note! There was the added delight of scaling the highest point on the British Rail Network, Drumochter at 1484 feet.

The night is spent in Glasgow leaving a six or seven mile cycle to the Airport. But where is the Airport? Everyone knows, but can't explain how to get there, except by the motorway, where no bicycles are allowed. After leaving Glasgow with time to spare, washed and presentable, the heroes arrive at the Airport, exhausted, bathed in perspiration and hassled to dismantle the bicycles, get on board and home.

J. J. NOONE.

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PENPALS

for 10 days, we met briefly again in London in 1982, and now this October, Harriet was in Ireland again (mostly in Dublin) for a week. It was good to meet, because now as we write, we can visualize each other, our respective families, homes and friends. The more we meet, the closer we become and I know our letter-writing has tied us in together forever. We have been keeping our letters to each other which are indeed "the Chronicles" of our adolescent years. We occasionally threaten to embarrass one another by showing each other letters received some 5 years ago!

I have gone into some detail about our friendship, with Harriet, but it shows clearly that something can become of penfriendships, and indeed that they can become friendships rather than penfriendships. I have learned a lot from Harriet and she from me. I know and understand a lot about the British Education System e.g. A-Levels and entrance into Universities and Polytechnics. We have discussed our two religions — I have been to a Barmitzvah and she has been to Mass in Gort (she was very surprised by the turnout!)

MY RUSSIAN HOLIDAY by Rena Naughton

Having wished to find out more about the Russian way of life, I recently spent two weeks on holiday there. A group of 29 departed from Dublin on Aeroflot flight to Moscow amid speculation that we might not be travelling, as two days previously a North Korean Airline was shot down by the Soviets.

At Moscow Airport, our luggage was systematically searched and we had to fill in reams of questionnaires. We were met by our Russian guide who was to accompany us for the duration of our stay. Our hotels were of the highest standard with every modern convenience. The food was excellent, mainly similar to our own.

Our trip started with a three day

I would advise anyone who likes to write letters, to get a penfriend because you really can learn a lot from them. But if you would like to go one step further and eventually meet your penfriend, then from the communication and practicality point of view, British penfriends are the best. It would be hard to entertain a Spanish penfriend with the language barrier, (although to tell you the truth, there is sometimes a language barrier between Harriet and myself). Another big advantage in having a British penfriend is that letters take no time at all in arriving!

I better bring this article to a close, but my advice to those of you who enjoy letter-writing, is to seek a penpal and your horizons will most definitely be widened. Of course, a big disadvantage in having a penfriend is that it can be costly but one can alleviate the costs by requesting note paper as Birthday/Christmas presents! But before you seek a penfriend, you should make up your mind that you are going to keep up the writing. Who knows, where you will be going on your holidays!!!

tour of Moscow. It's a beautiful city, with a population of 8½ million. 2 million tourists are reported to be there each day during the summer. Moscow's metro system is one of the most efficient in the world. Its unusually adorned with beautiful chandeliers, paintings and sculptures.

STANDARD OF LIVING

Russians generally appear to have a lower standard of living than Irish people. There is nothing especially fancy or stylish about their dress but they keep up appearances. Western manufactured clothing was in short supply. We were approached by teenagers who offered us large sums of money

for jeans, runners, tights, etc. Russians may queue for two hours each day to buy basic food-stuffs. Fruit and vegetables seemed to be scarce. In general there was very little variety of goods. There are special tourist shops where hard currency only is accepted and Russian people are not allowed in these shops.

THE COUNTRY AND ITS PEOPLE

Unemployment is virtually unknown, as all employable persons are guaranteed a job. They enjoy the benefits of low cost housing, free medical service and subsidised University education. Therefore it is not surprising they prefer their socialism to the life style of Westerners.

Russian people possess a great love of their country and this is evident in their knowledge of history and culture, which they were eager to relate to us. They ensured that we departed with a good impression of the country and its people. We were anxious to find out their attitude to certain events such as the Korean Aircraft incident. When we broached the subject, initially they claimed they did not know about it. However, later they admitted they were aware of the incident and claimed that their country was fully justified in shooting down the plane as it was on a spying mission.

Entertainment was mostly live theatre, folk dancing, ballets and of course the Russians are famous for their circus. While at home you were aware that our flight was not coming on schedule due to the Irish Government ban on Aeroflot flights, we had no such knowledge. Three hours before our departure time, we were informed of the ban and that the prospects of returning home that day were slim. However, at 6 p.m., the following evening, we boarded a plane not knowing its final destination. It transpired that it was bound for Havana, via Shannon. We arrived home 8 hours later, tired and weary.

COLMAN MAC DUAGH by Tom Hannon



"There appeared to him a venerable bearded figure"

St. Colman is reputed to have died on 29th October, 632, when Honorius I was pope. He had retired to Oughtmama to spend his last days. It is possible that many bishops of Kilmacduagh died there. Many of them had gone there to seek safety from marauding Danes, Normans and the local chieftains the O'Briens, who raided and burned monasteries. For instance in 1207, Mortough O'Brien is recorded as burning the following places, Gort Inse Guaire, Rue, Kilmacduagh, Cahermore, Kinvara, Cloughballymore, Kilcolgan, Dunkellin, Athenry, Ardrahan, Aran and Dromacco.

Again in 1225 the area was raided by another O'Brien with the help of Normans and it is said, not a four footed animal was left from Island Eddy to Athenry, to Derrybrien. We can see from that, how important it was for monks to have a place of safety to retire to, so Colman being so fond of Burren, went there at the end of his days and died at Oughtmama.

He was buried in Kilmacduagh and it is said, the O'Shaughnessy's took his body with them to the Battle of Aghrim. It is not known if the remains were re-interred in Kilmacduagh, but tradition says they were. The grave is near the round tower and Bishop French is also interred there. Many stories and traditions concerning St. Colman spread among the people after his death.

STORIES AND TRADITIONS

The right of Sanctuary was perhaps one of the most interesting aspects of Kilmacduagh and other monasteries. This meant that a criminal taking refuge there couldn't be arrested for a certain period. When in the seventeenth century, Kilmacduagh was deserted local people used to put their cattle in the enclosure near the monastery for safety during lawless times. One night a band of robbers came to steal cattle etc. They entered the place where the animals were, and heard them moving at the other end. When the robbers went there, they heard animals back where they had left. This went on for a while, until they got tired and realised that something beyond understanding was going on. They left empty-handed. Another story about St. Colman concerns a protestant farmer named Faircloth who lived near Ardrahan. He had a large area of wheat ready to sow on 29th October. Wheat was planted early in those years, probably 18th century. His Catholic workmen wouldn't work on St. Colman's Day, so he borrowed workers from a neighbouring parish. Although heavy rain fell that day, the work was completed. The wheat had grown into a fine crop by the following harvest, but not a grain of wheat was harvested from it — the ears of wheat, contained no grain whatsoever!

Another interesting little story,

tells of an old man in Kinvara, who for forty years, never failed to visit St. Colman's Well on 29th October. On the forty first year, the old man lay dying on St. Colman's Day, when close by his bedside, there appeared a venerable, bearded figure. The figure spoke and said, "You haven't forgotten me for forty years. Now I come to you". The old man died peacefully that day.

PENPALS by Elizabeth Joyce

Many young girls and indeed some boys, look for penfriends. I was no exception and I have had penfriends from France, Korea and Iceland. Such a penfriendship has many advantages, not least the knowledge and broader insight to be gained from learning about the native land of your penfriend. Also by comparing and contrasting the two countries (e.g. the education system and the system of government) your awareness of your own country is heightened (i.e. your appreciation of what it has and has not to offer). Another advantage of having a penfriend is the delight you get at receiving personal post!

Quite a few penfriendships fizzle out, which is a pity. But I have a success story to inspire would-be penfriends! I have been writing to Harriet from Merseyside for nearly 7 years, since we were 12. We have not much in common: we both study law and we enjoy letter writing, and we are both 19, that is where the similarities end. I am a Catholic (one of a majority), she is a Jew (one of a minority). I come from a big family, she has just one sister. I am tall, she is small! There is no way we would have met in the normal course of things, but we have met many times because of our penfriendship. We used to write weekly (the zest of youth!) We write less often now, but still write regularly.

I went to Liverpool for a week in 1978. She came to Gort in 1980

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