

# Milltown Newsletter

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Christmas  
Edition  
1994

PRICE £1

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*A Joyous Christmas and a  
Prosperous New Year to all our readers*



## Editorial

Welcome to the Christmas 1994 edition of the the Milltown Newsletter which happens to our fifth production in all. This time of the year always generates mixed emotions both in individuals and communities with the joy and celebration of the spiritual side of the season, the holidays, the presents, the winning and dining sometimes offset by the absence of loved ones who passed on since the previous Christmas, the memories of sad events at this time of year in times past or the inability of family members to get home.

It is generally speaking though, a pleasant, positive and enjoyable occasion when most of us can look back with good feelings about the previous twelve months and find something to be happy about and to thank God for. In this, the parish of Milltown and its hinterland, mirrors the mood of its people.

During the past year the exploits of one of our most talented natives, the world famous astronomer John Birmingham, have belatedly been recognised; our Scor na nOg Quiz team of David Boyle, Adrian Kennedy and John Murphy won the All-Ireland Final of their event; Milltown achieved its highest ever placing in the annual Tidy Towns Competition; the Summer Festival, Gymkhana and Dog Show were again an outstanding success; a town twinning with the Welsh town Llanddarog was initiated and our magnificent new Day Care Centre was officially opened.

On the debit side another very famous Milltown man, M.J. Molloy, went to his eternal reward as did our oldest citizen, 102 year old Thomas Kirrane and several others from the community as well. An event which also caused much regret was the retirement after many years of loyal service of Sergeant Martin Mulroe who is our guest in the 'Hot Seat' feature in this issue.

We hope that you will enjoy that and the many other items that we have included in the latest Newsletter. Don't forget that all advice and suggestions from readers will be gratefully received and considered and written contributions for the next edition would be very welcome.

Finally may we, the Newsletter committee, wish all our readers, contributors of photos and information, the business out lets who sell each edition free of charge and anybody who helps out in any way a Happy and a Peaceful New Year. Special greetings go to people from this area who are away from home both in Ireland and overseas.

Nollaig Fíor Shona díbh go léir from (in alphabetical order) Noel Carney, Pauline Larney, Deirdre McGrath, Michael Oates and Trudy Varley.



# The Hot Seat

*Full Name:* Martin Mulroe  
*Place of Birth:* Tourmakeady, Co. Mayo.  
*Occupation:* Retired Sergeant  
*Favourite Pastime:* Cycling, Country Music and any sport  
*Favourite T.V. Programme:* Current affairs



*Favourite Actor/Actress:* Joe Lynch, Spencer Tracey and Jane Wyman  
*Earliest Memory:* Heavy snowfall in 1947, which lasted from mid-February to May.  
*First Job:* Postman for 1½ years in Tourmakeady in the years 53/54. I joined the guards in 1955.  
*Favourite Book:* Newsweek, Current Affairs Magazine, and The Big Sycamore.  
*Favourite Songs:* Daughters of Deine agus Bárr na Sráide.  
*Favourite Sports:* Gaelic Football, Hurling, Soccer, Rugby and Motor Sports.  
*Favourite Food:* The Pan! A good Irish Breakfast.  
*Favourite Drink:* Smithwicks.  
*Person you most admire:* My wife Bríd comes first and Cardinal Daly.  
*Most Embarrassing Moment:* Turning up in court and discovering that I had forgotten all my notes.  
*If you had won the Lotto:* I would give at least half to charity and share the remainder with my family.  
*Definition of happiness:* Peace of Mind and Peace in the Home.  
*Motto:* If something goes against one today put it off until tomorrow.  
*Memory of first dance:* At the age of 19 years I went to my first dance at Tourmakeady. Admission was 1/6. Music was by Pakie Varley's Céili Band from Maam Cross. Ladies sat on one side of the hall and gents on the other. I was too shy to ask a girl out for a dance.  
*Have you seen many changes over the years:* Oh Yes! A lot of them aren't for the better! People's lives have changed, drinking habits at a younger age.  
*Do you have any regrets:* Been deprived of promotion to higher ranks in the forces.  
*If you hadn't gone for the Garda what would you have been:* A motor mechanic or emigrated to U.S.A.  
*Happiest moments:* The day I got married, the day I got my first new car, and the day I came second in the Circuit of Ireland Car Rally in 1959.  
*Favourite Quotation:* The purpose of every journey in life is to arrive at a destination.  
*Memories of Milltown:* Enjoyed my 26½ years very much at Milltown. I will always be a Milltown man!



Martin now lives in Tuam with his wife Brid. They have four daughters Mary, Eileen, Carmel and Paula and two grandchildren, Emma and Sarah..

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you, the people of Milltown for your co-operation through the years and for the appreciation and generosity shown on my recent retirement from An Garda Siochana.

Go Rabh Mile Maith Agaibh.

Martin Mulroe.

## M.J. Molloy

*Part four of a series on the well-known Milltown Playwright who died this year. This was intended to be the final episode but we publish instead this tribute from one of his greatest admirers, Prof. John Maglone*

The passing of playwright M.J. Molloy occasioned a sudden, albeit tardy, remembrance by the Irish arts community of his contribution to Irish Theatre. You could almost hear them saying, "I thought he died long ago." Largely ignored in recent years by the Dublin theatrical cognoscenti, two decades of this lyric author's work remains unknown outside of Tuam Theatre group productions.

The Irish Times turned to Garry Hynes to recall for their readers the work of the ignored genius (Wednesday, June 1st, 1994). No surprise, since Hynes' Druid Company had one of its greatest popular successes with Molloy's *Wood of the Whispering*. Her memoir of working with Molloy was as carefully constructed as her uproarious production of his play. She relates the dangerous strategy of cutting his script without consulting the writer, and the inference is that she saved the play from its creator. "His successes," she writes, "with the Abbey Theatre in the forties and fifties were followed by a long silence (not that Michael ever stopped writing, but increasingly his plays were not produced) and there is no doubt that he sometimes felt forgotten and ignored."

Imagine! The man who wrote *The King of Friday's Men* and *The Wood of The Whispering* could not get a new play produced at Ireland's National Playhouse. And the reason? The Artistic Directors didn't



think they were up to snuff!

Hynes tells us that Molloy's richness of language "often seemed made by God or the devil." She finds it telling that "one of his greatest creations was the character of Sadie in *The Wood of the Whispering*. She is an elective mute, and in the whole long play he gives her one line and one line only, and that line is in response to an offer of love." Anyone who saw the Druid production of *Whispering* could not fail to recall the extended, almost tortured, panto mimic emphasis placed upon the character of Sadie. In another Molloy obituary, the Abbey's Literary Manager, Christopher Fitz-Simon, obviously influenced by Hynes' production concept, found Molloy to be an original, "a kind of precursor of Beckett in the way he dealt with solitary and grotesque figures."

M.J. Molloy appreciated the creativity of the Druid Company and Hynes's inventive staging of his play. But, on more than one occasion, he complained to me that elevating Sadie to a leading figure à la Samuel Beckett was a distortion of his own artistic vision. And there, it seems to me, is the crux of the current Irish theatrical problem. Where the theatre is controlled by directors, playwrights suffer. Where the spoken word is second to action — mime — gesture, the director becomes the playwright. It seems clear to me that Hynes and the Abbey Directors have become surrogate playwrights. Lacking Molloy's eloquence, elegance, harmony and song in their words, they deride this poetic language and ignore or "develop" the playwright's script without regard to his intentions.

The irony of all of this is that Garry Hynes, a woman of considerable talent and skill, found her most popular and celebrated theatrical successes in two of Ireland's greatest literary stylists, Synge and Molloy. Molloy's genius as a playwright is in his magnificent gift with language. Therein is embodied the deep affection he had for the forgotten folk of western Ireland. Sanbatch's eloquent love of place, the vibrantly imagined *Wood of the Whispering*, his fierce independence, the old codgers' last fling at the pub with their dying friend is filled with their love of life, and their gallantry in the face of poverty, sickness and injustice. And most of all, Molloy showed us in *Mickle* and *The Verb To Be* in their *Visiting House*, in *Bartley Dowd*, *The King of Friday's Men*, in *Nan of the Leaves*, *The Bachelor's Daughter*, and her



courting ghost, and Kit and Tul' Higgins tricking home their *Daughter From Over the Water*, his own unquenchable, mischievous, ebullient, hilarious love of laughter. These theatrical characters cannot fail to touch the heart of his readers. And that's what you must be to audit his plays, because the National Theatre of Ireland has consistently refused to produce his work.

M.J. Molloy's brother, Christy, said it best: "His monument will not be in granite but in print." The Artistic Directors can't alter that now, can they?

I like to think of M.J. Molloy's last days in the mirror of his own creation, Mickle, from *The Visiting House*. Visiting Houses were like little theatres, playhouses of the poor. Now, after all of Molloy's Visiting House pranks have been played, the poetic stories have been told, all the songs, lusty and sad, have been sung, the blind old seanachie is left before the fire to ruminate his future.

Mickle: Corry, did you let that advice to you? Corry, answer up and don't be disorderly. Corry (finally he pokes out his stick, finds the form empty and smiles) He's at large; he is, ashore .... (turns back to fire cheerfully.) No matter; now you'll have two half barrels, and the finest wake since the time of the gentlemen; now you can die away for yourself, ashore ... (Gravely) For the first while right enough you'll be lonesome for the village; and lonesome for the Visiting House, too. (Nodding.) You will, in throuth, ashore .... but wance you have the lonesomeness and your purgatory over, you'll be right; ( in great humour) you'll be as snug as a lamb in a shed; you will ashore .... ashore.

A gallant theatrical comrade is gone, and it's lonesome without him. We can be grateful that much of his work remains in print. And we can wait impatiently for a publisher to bring out a collected edition of all of his plays, especially those that never made it to the Abbey stage.



## *Peter McGrath Remembers*

**DANCING:** Dances were held in many houses and were, not surprisingly, very popular as there was little organised entertainment in the area until the opening in late 1939 of Milltown C.Y.M.S. Hall. It was built in what up to then had been Grogan's garden. It is always dangerous to name individuals who took part in such ventures as there are always arguments as to who did and did not play active roles. One man who was definitely a builder on the job was Peter O'Brien, Ardnagall, while another builder at the time Mick Byrne was one of the musicians who played on the opening night. The first dance took place in the C.Y.M.S. Hall on a Church Holiday, December 8th, 1939. For a time Tea Dances were held with tea being served at Willie Burke's house (?).

**DALGIN:** Dalgin to the north of Milltown had its own thriving community for most of this century possibly due to the influence of the local landlords the Kirwans. A barrack was situated in Johnny Martin's house next door to Michael Curran. It didn't have full Post Office facilities but it did have a pick-up point mail while at one stage Dalgin had two shops run by the Kiernan and Feeney families. These shops finally closed in the early seventies.

**MILLTOWN (itself):** A number of tradesmen practised their art in Milltown itself and in various parts of the parish. Mick Silk who was known far and wide as a great story teller and character, had a forge at Cartron, where the O'Donnel family now live and Mick McCormack, whose grandson Michael now runs a butcher shop in the town had one forge in Kilgevrin and another down the lane (behind Glynn's Supermarket) beside Cunnane's Hall. Also, in that lane which was then a hive of industry was a carpenter Tom Burke who had his workshop at the house owned by the father of James Francis Slattery. That lane incidentally also had the home of P.J. Conlon who later became one of the great musicians of his time. Most of his life was spent in the U.S.A. where he died in the early 50s after a distinguished career as a musician, having made over fifty records. Another man who lived in that lane was Pat Cruise who made a living as a peddler, buying and selling various items. Nurse Annie Clarke the local midwife also lived in that lane near Tommy Begley's



house for many years and in a time when home births were popular would have brought many people now reading this newsletter into the world.

Two other men who had local business at the time were Pake Donnellan, Carrarea, and Pat Connelly, Illaune who were well known carpenters. Willie Diskin, Conagher and John Clarke, Dillonbrook were well established as blacksmiths at the time while Dennis Flannery had a small one oven bakery at his pub and produced enough bread to supply his own customers and possibly some other shops in the town as well.

Mick Flynn and Mick McCormack had farrier workshops. Vital services at a time when the era of the tractor had not yet arrived and horses and donkeys were in plentiful supply and crucial to all kinds of farm work such as tilling, reaping and transporting.

It is interesting to take a look back at some other buildings in the town. The old Post Office owned for many years by Kevin and Delia Feeney also housed the Dispensary where Dr. Cooke arrived from his home in Dunmore on certain days to tend to the needs of his Milltown-based patients. It had a door in the gable in those days which opened out towards Flannery's Pub. The dispensary was later switched to Mullarkey's where it stayed for many years until the modern health centre was built.

The Relieving Officer, a Mr. Walsh from Claddagh near Lavalley also had his office in the old Post Office at one time. He would arrive and depart on a motor cycle. He made small payments to the really needy but the Welfare system in those days was of little use to most people. Court sittings were held at regular intervals also in Mullarkeys where local cases, mainly Petty Crimes, were heard and justice was dispensed.



# *Opening of Milltown Day Care Centre*

*C. McGagh*

Greetings to everybody at this time as we move closer towards the Christmas season. How short the past year has been or seems that way to the majority of us.

There are milestones and events happy and sad though they are, that serve as reminders for many people of the year gone by, such is life's destiny for each of us.

Talking the rough with the smooth and with many blessings to be grateful for we confidently look forward to the biggest event of our times with the ending of the millennium and the beginning of a new century.

Speaking of events, the opening of new Day Care Centre was a happy occasion for the parish when it was opened by his Grace Arch. Joseph Cassidy on a bright and beautiful day in October. It was a day to be remembered by those who attended and one happy memory of the present year. Special thanks to Clare Ryan, Milltown for her catering skills. The day also marked the close of many years of service to the Parish with the retirement of Sgt. Martin Mulroe. His retirement party was held at the centre on the night.

The Senior Citizens Party was renewed this year on December 8th. Beginning with Mass at 2.30 p.m. at the new Centre. This is an event most people can happily enjoy with a ready mix of ceoil, caint agus craic.

Bingo was started two weeks ago on a Sunday afternoon. The idea is primarily based on a social concept where people can come out and try their luck at Parish level. It cannot compare in prizemoney stakes



with the Big Bingo outlets that are all around but hopefully bigger checks are on the cards as the game progresses.

The next meeting is billed for Tuesday night, January 3rd, 1995 starting at eight o'clock, this allowing for New Year celebrations on the day.

The mother and toddler group is now using the centre one day a week for their meetings and prospects are for a playgroup to start in the New Year if sufficient youngsters are available by then.

The Apostolic Workers Association hold their fortnightly meetings there too and a chiropodist attends at the second Thursday of every month from 2 p.m to 5 p.m.

Last but not least the regular customers come on each Thursday for three hours from 3 to 6 p.m. and these meetings are proving very convivial and relax for everybody concerned.

Playing cards is the main activity on this day and sharing reminiscences of past times. It is regretted in this case that there is not as yet any form of transport available to take those people to the centre knowing that there are some people who would love to attend and cannot for that reason.

Having already thanked those people who were so supportive and helpful through out the whole process of the structure and completion of the building, particularly the fundraisers, there are a few who singularly deserve to be mentioned such as Maureen McCormack, Kilgevrin, who made a signal contribution in many ways. Jarlath Molloy for his thoughtful gesture in donating prizewinning tickets to our cause on two occasions and coming up trumps and Padraig Ruane, Paddy McGagh and John Brogan for their unstinting efforts in preparing and setting the parking lot around the building.

Nollaig Faoi Shéin is faoi Mhaise do gach éinne.

— C. Mac Gagh.



# Woodcarving

By Sarah Oates

Anyone who has crossed the Salmon Weir Bridge in Galway City will have noticed the tree-stump carved in the shape of a salmon. This is the work of Yoram Drori, an Israeli national who lived in Galway and was commissioned by the corporation to carve this and other works in the area.

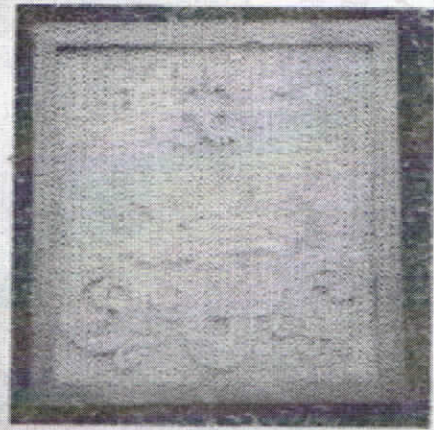
His work can also be seen at the main entrance to the Eyre Square Centre in the form of a Jewish Doorway, which according to Jewish tradition, the bride and groom walk under, after their wedding ceremony.

Unfortunately this talented man has moved to other shores, but, before he left he passed on much of his knowledge of wood carving to those who attended his classes.

Two Milltown men, Michael Collins and Michael Oates, attended Yoram's classes and received certificates from Galway Craft Centre for their work. They both enjoy the art of carving which is a traditional craft in many countries, having been passed down through the generations, from early times. Many of the pieces they have completed are based on drawings from the Book of Kells and the Book of Durrow.

Many people who have seen their work have expressed an interest in learning the craft. We hope in time Milltown will have its own Craft Centre where people can learn this and many other traditional crafts. Anyone who has a knowledge of any craft work and is interested in passing it on through craft classes, please contact Trudi Varley at Milltown Post Office.





PHOTOGRAPHS OF WOOD CARVINGS BY MICHAEL COLLINS AND MICHAEL OATES



# Milltown National School



Back row, left to right : Bridie Long, Delia Kelly, Nellie Fitzpatrick, Mae O'Donnell, Molly Hession, Nora Duggan, Mary Margaret Keane, Ciss Singleton, Annie Varley, Monica Reilly and Sarah Hughes.  
Middle row, left to right: Bridie Feerick, Una Healy, Nora Hughes, Mary E. Shaughnessy, Mae Duggan, Lizzie Healy, Freddie Monaghan, Eileen Lohan, Kathleen Monaghan, Tessie Healy, Freddie Kirrane, Delia Mullaney.  
Front row (left to right): Kathleen McGrath, Kitty Duggan, Mary E. Mullin, Mary Burke, May Connell, Kathleen Rhattigan, Maureen Dolan, Catherine Fitzpatrick, Mary Mannion, May Connolly.



# *What Milltown means to me!*

By Colin Cadogan

There is a lovely song that begins with these words. This is my homeland a place where I was born. I am about to tell you now about a place I was not born in and indeed did not know it even existed until a few years ago when I met an Irish man who I class not as a friend but, as a dear brother. The name of this fine man is Joseph Coyne, eldest son of Peter Coyne known with love by old and young alike, as Cosie. I met Cosie three years ago and immediately knew I was home.

The words of that lovely song are now changed in my heart and mind. The place I hold so dear is Milltown in the County of Galway, and a twenty minute drive from the Shrine of Knock.

I walked in to Cosie's house along with Joe and his eldest sister Mary. The warm welcome I got from Cosie, his son Pdraig and Pdraig's beautiful wife Anne, and not forgetting their lovely son Anthony was about eighteen months at the time. The moment I stepped in to that farm house I knew I was home. I met, that night, the whole of the Coyne Clan including all the Dublin relations, Cosie's daughter Pauline, her husband Noel and their three children were soon over to say hello. It was not long before we were off to the Blue Pig, a great little pub ran at the time by Pdraig and Anne. There I sipped my first pint of Guinness pulled in Milltown, and mighty good it was indeed.

Some folk may wonder why I am going on this way, you probably say sure, it has been this way in Milltown for centuries, that maybe so but what you take for granted as everyday life is something that is very unique and a grace that has been bestowed upon you by God.



The way the young and older folk intermingle and the respect and genuine affection, the young show for their elders.

Even more fantastic was the friendship and affection shown to me by people I had never met before. Every one shaking my hand and bidding me welcome to Ireland. What made this even more momentous was the fact that I am coloured. I never got the slightest hostile look which I would have got in a strange place in the U.K. The one thing that threw some folk and it made me smile with pride, was when I overheard folk enquiring from Joe Coyne how come this black fella from Wales knows more Irish songs than we do. The answer is that this black fella has an Irish grandmother on my mother's side. My wonderful mother sang Irish songs which I picked up from the age of three. They were locked not in my mind, but in my heart. We arrived at Cosie's farm on a Friday evening. We left the next Sunday afternoon. I cried so much leaving, it aged me two years. Although I own my own house in Cardiff, South Wales, I was not going home. I was leaving my home in Milltown, my new family and friends.

That is why I say and sing in my heart. Milltown is my home town and the place I belong in. I feel a great longing when I'm far away. To jump on a ferry that's going to Ireland and head straight away for Milltown in the County Galway.

I hope with permission to write in your newsletter at a later date how I came to be in your part of Ireland in the first place and the divine feeling I have for Knock. My prayers go with you all from Colin Cadogan, alias, Danny boy!



## *Milltown Friends Reunion in Philadelphia*



Back row, left to right: Terence Godwin, Gary Kirrane, Noel Farragher, Tom Donnelly, Tom Garvey, Evan Kirrane, Joe Farragher, Jack Gilmore (Dunmore).

Front row: Bridget Godwin, Cathy (a friend from Germany), Evelyn Donnelly, Clarissa Garvey, Agnes Farragher.

We would like to wish a very Happy Christmas to all our families and friends all over the world.



# *Our Woodland Heritage*

By Philip Comer

In Ireland long ago great forests of Oak, Ash, Scots Pine and Birch together with other minor varieties of native trees covered the land. Before the arrival of the first settlers, about 8,000 years ago the only part of the landscape that did not have tree cover were the wet areas and higher mountain peaks. Today, however, less than 1% of the country contains any of the old native woodlands. There are two main reasons for this:-

1. Climatic Change: Higher rainfall and cooler summers favoured the development of the blanket bogs now so prevalent throughout Ireland, but, especially along the Western seaboard.
2. Exploitation: When the first settlers arrived here, (thought to be along the Antrim Coast) they started clearing the woods in order to start farming. This was continued in one way or another down to the present day, where until recently, for example, some of the great Oak woods in Coolatin, Co. Wicklow were being felled and exported.

## **FORESTRY IN IRELAND TODAY**

There are over one million acres of forest in Ireland. This is almost entirely man-made as distinct from the natural native woodland, mentioned above. This represents 8% of the total land area. Although this is a great improvement on the situation we are still at the bottom of the league when compared with the rest of Europe. The average E.U. figure is over 20% — Germany has 30%. There are about 45,000 acres of new forest planted each year. About half of this is done by Coillte Teo (The State Forestry Co.), the remainder by private companies and farmers. The increase in private planting is largely due to the very attractive grants and premia now available. The grants range from £500 per acre up to £1,000 per acre depending on the type of tree planted, and location. The premia range from £60 per acre per year up to £100 per acre per year for 20 years.

The first great experiment in reforesting Ireland was in 1892 when the Parish Priest of Carna organised the planting of about 1000 acres of bog in nearby Knockboy. Although not a success in terms of estab-



lishing a plantation, it was, nonetheless an important innovation at the time, and many useful lessons were learned from it. It also provided much needed income for the local people, who lived in appalling conditions at the time. The main reasons for it not being successful were:-

- (a). There was no reliable expertise available at the time.
- (b). There were no land drainage machines in existence then.
- (c.) Neither Sitka Spruce nor Lodgepole Pine had been "discovered".
- (d.) Rock Phosphate — which is vital in these conditions was not then available.

The Parish Priest in question was a Fr. Thomas Flannery. I had the pleasure of attending a commemoration of this Knockboy experiment in 1992, which began at the church in Carna where Fr. Flannery is buried. It may well be that Fr. Flannery had Milltown connections. Perhaps, some reader could enlighten me on this. It can be said, fairly, that this project was the beginning of modern Irish Forestry.

A lot can be learned about the presence or otherwise of woodland in a region by the townland names e.g. Derry=Oak Wood, Coill=Wood (though this may be confused sometimes with Cill which was the old Irish name for a Church), Ross = Wood, Dair is the Irish for an Oak Tree. Oak was the most common species and the anglicised form is included in many townland names. There are about 62,000 townland names in Ireland, and about 1,600 contain derry in one form or another, either as a prefix or suffix, and in some cases the name stands alone.

An indication of the types of tree that were once widespread in an area can be guessed at from the hedgerows. For the Milltown area this would almost certainly have been Ash with some Whitebeam also present. Birch was widespread in the peat type areas.

Beech, though very common around homesteads, is not native and was introduced to Ireland in the late 1700s. Sycamore is not native either, although it has become naturalised. It was introduced to Ireland by the Normans.

Did you know that :-

The tallest tree in the world is 370 ft. ( a Sequoia in California).

The tallest tree in Ireland is 170 ft. ( A Sitka Spruce in Co. Waterford).

Trees filter and purify the air by removing carbon dioxide, they stabilize water levels and prevent flooding.

Tree cover worldwide is shrinking at a rate of 100 acres every minute.



# THE FITZGERALD CUP

by C. Murphy

The Fitzgerald Cup is a nine-a-side tournament for schools in the North Galway/South Mayo region. Milltown N.S. were determined to win this year having been narrowly beaten last year. All the team were also part of the u-12 team, with the notable exception of team captain Kieran Healy.

In the semi-final we met Garrafrauns, the team that beat us last year. In dreadful conditions, both teams gave it their all. A beautiful Fergal Nicholson lob set Milltown on their way, although some very erroneous shooting from their full forward Ciaran Murphy let Garrafrauns back into it. The score at half-time was 2-3 to 0-3. Milltown started like lightning in the second half, scoring two goals in quick succession and after that a point. But again Milltown let Garrafrauns back into it. They got three goals and a point to make the last few minutes a very jittery affair but Milltown survived on a scoreline of 4-4 to 3-4. We were through to the final.

The final was against Ballindine N.S. Milltown had a bit of a psychological edge over their opposition because Milltown had beaten Davitt's in an u-12 encounter a few weeks before. Milltown started brilliantly with a goal and a point from John Devane, playing in the forwards with Ross McEvoy coming into midfield. Ciaran Murphy added a further two points and a gap was developing. But Ballindine came back strongly getting a goal and two points. After a time of concerted pressure from Ballindine in which the backline, and in particular John Feerick, did superbly. Ross McEvoy came back with a fine point and then a goal. The score at half-time was 3-4 to 1-3. After the break, Milltown came out inspired and John Devane, another who had a great game, got an opportunist goal and Milltown were on their way. Ciaran Murphy got three points.



Ballindine came back briefly and got three points in a row, but it really was over. Dermot Forde got a nice goal, Murphy sidefooted another and John Devane got a magnificent point from 35 yards out. Ciaran Murphy got another point to cap a satisfying performance for him. Ballindine added a point but it was only a consolation. Milltown had won with a great performance. Ecstatic celebrations followed the final whistle and Kieran Healy proudly received the handsome cup.

Brendan McGrath and his backline did superbly well, the goalkeeper making one particularly spectacular save. The midfielders and forwards did exceptionally well scoring-wise, scoring 9-14 over the two games.

Semi-final team: B. McGrath, J. Feerick, K. Healy, D. Herson, D. Blake, J. Devane, F. Nicholson, C. Murphy, D. Forde.

Final team: B. McGrath, J. Feerick, K. Healy, D. Herson, D. Blake, R. McEvoy, J. Devane, C. Murphy, D. Forde.

U-12 team: As I mentioned before almost all the team were part of the u-12 team, but there were also others playing not from Milltown N.S. like Paul Farragher, Daniel Farragher, Keith Nestor, Brian Diskin, David Kelly and Barry Brennan. These helped the u-12 team to beat Corofin, Tuam and Dunmore and to win four games in the league.



*Prizewinners — Milltown Summer Show 1994*





## 50 years Married



50 YEARS MARRIED Pictured are Martin Walsh and Kathleen (nee Higgins), Liskeavy who were married 50 years ago in Kilbannon by Fr. Cruise with them are the bestman and brother Michael Walsh, Liskeavy, bridesmaid Winnie Scully, Foster Place, Tuam and family Margaret Kitching, Claremorris, Michael Walsh, Clonmel, Frank Walsh, Liskeavy and Mary Gardiner, Swinford.

### Social and Personal

#### *Weddings:*

Enda Varley, Carnageehy and Claire Dalton, Mullingar  
Caroline Godwin, Belmont and Barry Redmond, Dublin  
Noreen Donnelly, Emeracly and Padraic Noone, Clogherboy, Tuam  
Caroline Hannon, Belmont and Martin Colleran, Roundford  
Gerry Casserley, Conagher and Geraldine Reilly, Shrule.  
Cathal Sheridan, Milltown and Helen Corcoran, Tuam  
Christina O'Donnell, Cartron and Joe Lynch, Kilmaine  
Michael McCormack, Kilgrin and Tina O'Connor, Tuam.  
Joe McCormack, Kilgevrin and Una Hynes, Belclare  
Martha Burke, Ardnagall and Stephen Fordham, Kinvara.

#### *Births:*

Mark Walsh to Nina and Peter Walsh, Russelstown.

#### *Engagements:*

Bina McHugh, Belmont and Padraic Jennings, Claremorris.  
Joe Brogan, Dillonbrook and Assumpta Dowd, Kilconly.

#### *Deaths:*

Una Higgins, Stripe  
Mary Nevin, Cloondroon.  
Tom Molloy, Cloonacurry.  
Dora Kelly, Belmont.  
David Devanney, Kilgevrin.

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Just before going to press, we received the sad news of the death of our former P.P., Fr. John Lowry. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.



# COILLTE

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