

QUARTERLY



No. 6

Autumn 1991.

CLONMEL & DISTRICT HISTORICAL & ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
WINTER PROGRAMME 1991-'92

- Monday **URBAN RENEWAL IN CLONMEL**
Nov. 4 Speaker: Mr. S. Keating, Borough Engineer.
Venue: The function room Hearn's Hotel. Admission £1.00.
This talk on the development of our town should have a wide interest and non-members will be particularly welcome.
- Monday **"THE RIVER SUIR"**
Dec. 9 This lecture, to be given by our Patron, Col. S.J. Watson, was to be part of "Caring for Creation Week" and had to be postponed. It is now the feature of the Society's pre-Christmas get together. The usual light refreshments will be provided. Venue: The Fintan Kennedy Hall, Anglesea St. 8.15 pm. Admission £1.00.
- Monday **"THE MAIN GUARD"**
Jan. 20 The rediscovery of a seventeenth century court house. Our lecturer, Ms. Margaret Quinlan, is a Clonmel Lady, being, daughter of Jack Quinlan. A practicing architect, she made a special study of the Main Guard for a thesis.
Venue: Fintan Kennedy Hall, at 8.15 pm. Admission £1.00.

A NEW BASSETT

Co. Tipperary 100 years ago. A new Bassett. For over 100 years Bassett's Directory of Co. Tipperary has been a valuable source of information on every aspect and every corner of this county. Used by historians, social and economic commentators and writers, and even (in recent years) by pupils of first and second-level schools engaged in school projects, Bassett's 400-plus pages of detailed data on the Co. Tipperary of 1888 has been so widely used that it is now a prized "antique" and book-collector's item, often fetching a high price at book sales all over the country. Now in association with the Co. Tipperary Historical Society, a Belfast publisher, Friar's Bush Press, has reprinted Bassett to make it available to readers 100 years after the original edition. This Belfast firm has already successfully published similar directories of the late 1800s for several Ulster counties, and makes the new Bassett available at the modest price (for a book of well over 400 pages) of £8.85 sterling, i.e. under £10 Irish. This is an exact reproduction of the 1889 Bassett,

with all the quaint contemporary drawings of every town & village in Tipperary, with lists of shops, business firms, local officials, etc. Launched jointly at the recent launch in Dundrum House of the 1991 Tipperary Historical Journal, this book is now on sale in bookshops & newsagents all over Co. Tipperary.

The Diary of Mary Matthew.

The Diary of Mary Matthew. Edited by Maria Luddy. This, the first book published by the Co. Tipperary Historical Society, was recently launched by Theresa Ahearn TD at a function held in the Co. Library Head Office in Thurles. This unique publication is an exact copy of a diary kept by a lady of the famous Co. Tipperary landed family in 1772 -- almost 220 years ago. The book also includes over 30 years of household budget accounts kept by the same lady. This document was located in the Manuscript Department of the National Library of Ireland by Maria Luddy of Clonmel, a member of the Co. Tipperary Historical Society now a lecturer in the University of Warwick in Coventry, UK. Ms. Luddy had fully edited both documents, with a long explanatory introduction, footnotes, glossary of rare words, a Matthew family-tree and a full index. There are black and white illustrations by Niamh Ahearn of Clonmel, who designed the cover. This fascinating book is now on sale in bookshops in Co. Tipperary and elsewhere -- £7.95 paperback, & £9.95 hardcover. For further details contact the Editor of the Tipperary Historical Journal, Marcus Bourke, 17 Brooklawn, Dublin 3 (01-331051) or Tom Deegan, c/o Co. Library, Thurles (0504-21154, 21156, 21555, 21102).

Tipperary Clans Office

During 1990, in response to the expressed interest of its members, Tipperary Town and District Heritage Society proposed the establishment of a Clans Office in the town.

This committee has now obtained the use of an office on a temporary basis from the Tipperary Chamber of Commerce. It is hoped to provide an information service in relation to all Irish Clan names, the emphasis being on County Tipperary Clan names of which we have 32 already listed out of a total of 150. It is hoped that people would forward their family histories to the office so that we would be able to match them up with families of similar origin.

A file on each Clan will be held in the Central Office and will include the following:

Clan History (McLysaghts); Information on how to trace family tree; Brief copies of different family trees; Correspondence from Clan Associations over seas; Pen Pal Register; Lists of members from different countries and Clan Contacts; Lists of Clan and information on same; Tourist information and brochures, etc.

Anyone seeking further information or wishing to register Clans should contact Mrs. Anne Moloney, Secretary, Clans Office, Chamber of Commerce Building, James Street, Tipperary.

A Treasurer of Story and Verse

This is a rich sample of poetry and prose from the prolific pens of some fifteen local writers from the vibrant Nenagh Writers Group.

It consists of a collection of 44 pieces with an array of themes from the past. Among the contributors is committee member Martin Power. Retails at £4.95.

Sheela Na Gig.

To celebrate reproduction of Sheela Na Gig, a valuable Sheela na Gig carving was taken from the church of Kiltinen near Fethard. Mr. James O'Connor has been instrumental in producing a replica limestone carving of Sheela Na Gig. This year the local Fethard Historical Society marked the occasion by launching a Sheela Na Gig booklet.

Tipperary : Mairtin O Corrbui

The author travelled the highways and by-ways of the county from Redwood down to Carrick-on-Suir researching the book, exploring the landscape, buildings and ruins as well as the folklore and legends of his beloved Tipperary. It's an excellent guide to the towns and villages of Tipperary. Cost £6.99.

"The Cost of Education" Eileen O'Donnell.

Historians look to the past and depend on the written word for its sources. The 3 R's might have been difficult for our forbearers to achieve, however the cost of educating a child to Leaving Certificate now is in the region of eight thousand pounds. This booklet on the "Cost of Education" was launched by the Minister for Education Mary O'Rourke whose author is Mrs Eileen O'Donnell Tipperary Town a member of the Parents Association for Vocational Schools and Community Colleges.

The National Schools Centenary Book

Poulacapple N.S. Book entitled " Centenary of A Rural School" is an excellent production and is a must for all past pupils and local historians. Its publication represents 100 years of schooling around "The Sweep" as the old school there was opened in 1891. Books can be obtained from the author Ms. Nora Larkin N.T. at the cost of £5.00.

Hollyford N.S. Book traces the history of schools in the area from 1826 to present times. The book relates the life style of the locals over a hundred years through various articles on teachers and memories of pupils capped with John Ryan of Gurth the oldest pupil's recollections born in 1892. In November 1900, John Treacy (Sean Treacy) a farmers son from Solohead enrolled in this school. It was probably in these hills that the love for Gaelic Ireland was instilled in this famous freedom fighter. Editor Michael Ryan (K) Mienvee, Hollyford. Price £7.00.

Donaskeigh/Curraghpoor The history of education from the hedge schools days to modern times is well documented in this fine book by Donnchadh O'Duibhir, the present school master. Traditions and folklore of the area are also recorded. The school records from 1893 show many distinguished pupils and leaders of society including Dinny Lacey, Sean Hogan, War of Independence Leaders, Sean Kelly, former I.C.M.S.A. leader, Dr. Tom O'Dwyer, Director General, commission of the European Communities.

The Diocese of Killaloe in the 18th Century.

Author Fr. Ignatius Murphy.

This is a chronological documentation in depth of a local church during a century which began with the intense persecution and ended with the repeal of most of the penal laws. The book examines the work of the religious orders (Franciscans & Dominicans) as well as the connection between Catholic Ireland and France in the 18th century.

Note: The Diocese of Killaloe incorporates most of Upper North Tipperary Ex - Nenagh/Borrisokane/Hinterland. This is hard back volume of 374 pages and costs £30.

Renegade - : Marjorie Quarton

This novel is based on a historical figure Henry Fulton a rebel and clergyman in 18th century Ireland. He was a member of the United Irishmen of Wolf Tone and was one time Vicar of Monsea (outside Nenagh) close to the author's home. The story is set in the general area of the Silvermines, Templederry and Newport.

Poets

Catherine Conlon formerly Tobin from Coolquill Killenaule had her first book of poems called "View" published in Dublin on August 21st.

In May, Oliver Murray of Nenagh, former All-Ireland Minor Football winner with Roscommon in 1951, launched his first book of Poetry entitled "The Welcome Rain".

Roscrea Heritage Centre

The Centre remains open throughout the year.

The Monastic Midlands Exhibition which includes the fine art Facsimile of the Book of Kells will be in place for the coming season. New exhibitions include landscapes and water colours by Jenny Boelens which John Fehan officially opens on November 1st and paintings by Tom Ryan, President of the Royal Hibernian Academy which will be opened on November 15th.

Cashel - Historical Society

Lectures

24/10/1991 Rock of Cashel
By Mrs. Eighleann O'Sheachnassy

21/12/1991 Irish High Crosses
By Hiliary Richardson

Both Lectures at Cashel Palace at 8.00 pm.

Nenagh Heritage Centre

Art Exhibition (Watercolours) By Mrs. Judy Fahey from Doon.

Date : 1st November to 10 November.

Admission Free.

REMINDER

The 1991 County Tipperary Historical Journal was launched on Friday 25th October by Dr. Tony Ryan. Any members who have forgotten to renew their subscription should do so immediately and the Journal will be forwarded to them.

Newsletter

Items for the next Newsletter should be with the treasurer by March 1st. John Kelly, Treasurer Co. Tipperary Historical Society, Hillview, Chadville, Cappawhite, Co. Tipperary.