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NEWSLETTER

PATRIOTISM AT ITS BEST IN OUR TIMES

The tenth Tipperary Historical Journal was launched, on May 17th last, with the enthusiasm and eloquence one associates with any presentation by Roscrea historian, George Cunningham, and the Society was delighted to

have one whose passion for all things Tipperary is renowned the length and breadth of Ireland.

"It is a privilege and an honour to stand here today at the very heart of Tipperary study and scholarship and launch officially the 10th Journal of the County Tipperary Historical Society. Cuireann sé áthas agus gliondar croí orm an Irisleabhar iontach seo - Irisleabhar Staire Thiobraid Árann - a chur os bhur gcomhair. "Um a dtaca seo" arsa an tÉagarthóir, san céad irisleabhar sa bhliain 1988, "is féidir a rá: tús maith leath na

hoibre". Buíochas mór le Dia mar gheall ar an obair gealánta atá déanta agus Rath Dé ar gach éinne a bhí páirteach leis.

How well the 10 issues sit together on any shelf and how valuable they are. How justifiably proud the founders, the committee, the contributors and the editor must be, and should be, of this major contribution to the heritage of Ireland in general and to Tipperary in particular. Disastrous to dip in - the whole day goes: car owners in 1906; fulachta fias and guerilla warfare; Tipperary newspapers and farm accounts; convicts and bishops; politicians and shopkeepers ... all will entrance you and provide "many unexpected and incidental pleasures". Yeats' words "We work to add dignity to Ireland" may well be repeated concerning all who are involved with this worthy

work. If Holycross, Cashel, Kilcooley, Athassel, Monaincha, Lorrha, Terryglass, Doirenaflan, Ahenny, Donaghmore, Killodiernan, Liathmore and Toureen Peakaun, to mention just a few of our Christian treasures, can be spoken of as "Enduring Sermons on the

Landscape", so too will this Journal become an enduring source for future research into the place we are proud to call home. This is patriotism at its best in our times: living and working to the best of one's ability for one's native health. And we have in our editor, Marcus Bourke, a great patriot of commitment, integrity and high ideals. How lucky we are! And the harder he works, the luckier we are. But the very minimum that I can say about him, but I think it says it all, is that the Journal will be part of Marcus' monument. Its timely appearance



At the launch of the 1997 Tipperary Historical Journal: Seated: Martin Maher, Carmel Cunningham, George Cunningham, Willie Nolan, Liam Ó Duibhir & Michael Hall

Back: Martin O'Dwyer, Séan Guilfoyle, James O'Connor, Anne Ryan, Kitty Barry, Willie Corbett, Michael Fitzgerald, Fr. Christy O'Dwyer, Donal O'Regan, Des Marnane & Jess Codd

every year, its interesting, varied and wide-ranging contents, its superb presentation and judicious editing all bear the hallmark of his stick or whip. A quality end product which only comes about because of hard work. It is commercially sound which ensures its survival. The mix remains excellent with many noteworthy strengths; for example, the range of articles on the Famine, and the pioneering work on the Troubles and the War of Independence are outstanding. A North/South balance is becoming evident. With ten years under your belt can an index be far behind!

I compliment the committee, the outgoing Chairman, Martin Maher, - our energetic and ever helpful County Librarian; and the new incumbent, Willie Nolan, a man whose name is synonymous with

local study, hard work and high standards; and the officers of the committee. The contributors, not just to volume 10, but to all the volumes, deserve special praise. Without them, and their 220 articles of genuinely new research and 104 book reviews, the editor could not have filled the 2,100 pages. Indeed, as President of the S.W. Midland branch of Crann, I am happy to say that the trees cut down to make the paper served a most useful purpose! And what good value the 500 members of this Society from three continents receive.

I cannot let this opportunity go without mentioning Denis Marnane's well researched and lengthy paper on "*Writing the Past: Tipperary History and Historians*". It could well have been subtitled *Profiles in Courage*. For, indeed, it took not only great scholarship but great courage, too, to publish such an assessment. The dead won't bite or bark but I suspect some of the living might. The challenge to all of us is to respond if we feel that the emphasis, the omissions or indeed the assessment are not to our liking. Denis has done a great service in stimulating such a debate".

George concluded with words of Yeats:

*"Why does my heart beat so,
Did not a shadow pass,
It passed but a moment ago,
Who can have trod on the grass*

By our work and the work of this Society we honour those who have trodden Tipperary's rich and proud ground. Our heartbeats, shadows, footsteps and footprints all will echo, and re-echo too, from Ros Cré to Cluain Meala, from Barnán Éile to Slievenamon, from Coillte Rua to Tubbrid".



George Cunningham and the Society's new Chairman, Dr. William Nolan

Saturday, March 22nd, 1997

The Society's Annual General Meeting was held at the County Library at the end of March; as you will have gathered from our main story the Society has welcomed a new Chairman, Dr. William Nolan, and a new committee:

Vice-Chair: Kitty Barry & Willie Corbett; Hon. Secretary: Des Marnane; Hon. Treasurer: Jess Codd; PRO: Willie Corbett

Séan Guilfoyle, Michael Hall, Bidy Condon, Mary Guinan-Darmody, Martin Power, James O'Donoghue, Anne Ryan, Peter Meskell, Séan Watts, Donnchadha Ó Duibhir, Martin O'Dwyer, Fr. Séan Fennelly, Fr. Christy O'Dwyer, Michael Fitzgerald

You can find the Society accounts for the year 1996/1997 on the next page, but the bottom line is that, thankfully, the Society continues to thrive and is in a healthy financial position facing into our 11th Journal. Membership continues to rise and is soon set to break the 600 barrier.

A NOTE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Our Society is now ten years old. It was founded to provide a forum for research publications on the two administrative counties of Tipperary North Riding and Tipperary South Riding. So, in effect, we are the only historical society representing two counties! I presume that the division of the county in 1838 is the reason why no umbrella society previously existed to bring together the harvest of history. However, as Des Marnane's survey in the Journal for 1997 demonstrates, the absence of a county society did not deter research and publication. That the Society has survived in the early years is in no small measure due to the unselfish service given it by its officers, committee and members; we are particularly fortunate that our editor, Marcus Bourke, has remained at the helm, keeping the good ship well victualled on course and always on time. Our first Chairman, Eddie Dalton, and Treasurer, John Kelly, helped us through the early years and Martin Maher, County Librarian, continued in the position for six critical years. We are grateful to him for his time and effort and for putting the excellent facilities of the County Library in Thurles at our disposal. Our Treasurer, and producer of our Newsletter, Jess Codd, has kept finances, membership and the overall well-being of the Society in good order.

Looking back it strikes one that Tipperary has been very fortunate in the contribution made by so many to research, publication, and, what I would term, the dialogue of history. Almost every town in the county has been enriched by the work of dedicated individuals. Their

IT IS NO ACCIDENT THAT AMONG OUR MEMBERS ARE MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE GIVEN MUCH UNSELFISH SERVICE TO THEIR COMMUNITIES

mark is not only evident in the published page but in creating culture and fostering pride. Go to Cashel, Cahir, Roscrea and Nenagh and you will find that the sense of history has been harnessed to enrich the present. It is no accident that among our members are men and women who have given much unselfish service to their communities. Michael Fitzgerald was one of the few who kept alive interest in Young Ireland and, in particular, the significance of the "War House" at Farrinrory, Ballingarry. Hopefully the Society will suitably mark the 150th Anniversary of the insurrection. Martin Power published his local journal *Cois Deirge*, Jim Condon reconstructed nineteenth-century Thurles; Michael Hall researched Drangan; William Corbett organised "*Tipperary Remembers*"; Liam Ó Duibhir and his brother Michael chronicled Emly; Donal O'Regan was busy in the Templemore region; Kitty Barry fostered Tipperary-Australian links through Clonoulty; Áine Bean Ní Riain researched Cappawhite Hunts and graveyards and John Hassett has created his own marvellous archives of Tipperary ballads - I could go on.

All these currents of ideas and research come together in the Society and they are linked to the many people throughout the world who represent the Tipperary diaspora. Indeed the Society, through its Journal, brings us all around the open fire to listen to the stories, to argue and criticise in that objective fashion which is our hallmark. It is my hope that the Society will continue to please old members and attract new ones, that the Journal will maintain the high standard for which it is noted and that we can develop the other objectives for which the Society was established.

Willie Nolan

County Tipperary Historical Society

Accounts 1996-1997

Annual General Meeting
Saturday, March 22nd, 1997

THE FRENCH CONNECTION

Every schoolboy/girl knows who the Wild Geese were - the officers and men of the defeated Irish Army who left Ireland with Sarsfield after the Treaty of Limerick and joined the armies of several European countries, mostly France. But for most of us the story ends there; we were never told who these men were, where they came from, or how they fared in Europe. Now, in a fascinating analysis, by Eoghan Ó Hanracháin in the 1998 Journal, of records kept for 300 years in French military archives, we get details of 65 Tipperary soldiers who were admitted as veterans to the famous Hotel des Invalides in Paris. Covering the 25 years 1692-1717, the following four samples of the tabulated details will give a flavour of what many readers may regard as one of the most interesting articles to appear in the Journal so far.

OPENING BALANCE **£4,808.81**

Current Account £270.34
Deposit Account £4,538.47

£4,808.81*

Income

a. Paid Membership £1,783.00
b. Direct Debit Membership £1,161.60
c. Sterling Membership £214.49
d. Dollar Membership \$1,052.00
e. Punt Sales £4,152.21
f. Bank Interest £7.37
g. Sterling Sales £172.00
h. Dollar Sales \$570.00

Punt £7,104.18 [a, b, e, f]
Sterling £386.49 [c, g]
Dollars \$1622.00 [d, h]

£8,407.65**
Total **£13,216.46 [***]**

Expenditure

1996 Journal £3,587.50
1997 Journal £1,860.00
Newsletters £417.45
Postage £1,384.35
Stationery £379.51
Sundry £654.13
Bank Charges £54.26
Memberships £27.00

Cash on Hand

Current Account £227.74
Deposit Account £4,624.52

£4,852.26**
Total **£13,216.46 [***]**

CLOSING BALANCE **£4,852.26**

25294 Pierre Woilsche [Peter Walsh] 29/6/1714

Aged 57, native of Feder [Fethard], County d'Abredan [Tipperary], soldier of Sieur de Butler in the Irish Regiment of Galmoy, where he served 23 years, as shown on his certificate, is maimed in two fingers of the left hand from a gunshot which he received at the combat of Luzzara which, added to his poor sight and other disabilities, make him unfit for service. 26 February 1716, he died.

22681 Jean Pourcelle [John Purcell] 26/05/1713

Aged 45, native of Lockmore [Loughmore], Co. Tuperary, Brigadier of Sieur de Prendergasse Lieutenant Colonel of the Irish Regiment of Nugent, formerly Scheldon, where he served 22 years, as shown on his certificate, is very incommoded by a hernia which, added to his wounds, makes him unfit for service, married at Valenciennes.

29536 Richard Stokes, 11/02/1717

Aged 53, native of Moncarthy [Moycarkey], County Tuperary, soldier of Sieur de Bourke, Irish Regiment of Lee, where he served 28 years as is shown on his certificate, is disabled in the right arm and shoulder by two gunshots he received, one at the siege of Turin and the other at the Combat at Cassan, which make him unfit for service, married at Douay. 19 January 1919, he died at Ardres on detachment.

7704 Guillaume Morisse [William Morrissey] (called "La Couture) 12/8/1694

Aged 50, native of Cassel [Cashel] in Ireland, trooper of Sieur Coxe, Royal Regiment of Irish Cavalry of the King of England, where he says he served 5 years, is very incommoded in the left leg by a gunshot which he received last year when escorting a munitions convoy in Germany which, added to his other wounds, et que le fondement luy sort, and his poor eyesight, render him unfit for service, married, he has brought his wife to Paris, he is a tailor by trade. 2 February 1709, he died.

THE AUSTRALIAN CONNECTION

In Dundrum House Hotel, on May 20th, Clonoulty Historical Society organised two lectures to celebrate Tipperary-Australian connections. In the first lecture, Dr. Ruan O'Donnell, an authority on '98 in Wicklow and the fortunes of Irish rebels in Australia, outlined the activities of James Meehan and Philip Cunningham, two very important members of the United Irishmen who have been forgotten in their native country. James Meehan, a native of Shinrone, was one of the most active '98 men in the midlands. A teacher by profession and highly respected in his locality, he was finally arrested for his rebel activities, tried in Birr, and sentenced to transportation to New South Wales. There he achieved great success as an explorer and surveyor and a number of places and streets were named in his honour. It was Meehan who acted as sponsor for Ned Ryan, the famous Clonoulty exile. Philip Cunningham, a

native of Moyvane, Co. Kerry, came to Clonmel where he worked as a publican and a mason. He was a key figure in the reorganisation of the United Irishmen and, in October 1799, he was convicted for sedition and sentenced to transportation for life. In June 1800 he was transported to New South Wales. Although earning a good living as a mason, he was always a rebel and, on March 4th, 1804, he led a mainly Irish convict rebellion in north western Sydney in which over twenty rebels were killed. He was tried for his part in the rebellion, sentenced to death and hanged at Windsor. Both Cunningham and Meehan deserve to be remembered.

Fr. Max Barrett, historian of the Clonoulty exiles in Australia, described the events at Ballagh which resulted in the death by hanging of one of the participants and the transportation of thirteen others. The economic and social conditions of the

period left decent people no option but to rise up against an unjust system which denied them both civil and religious rights. In Australia, when given their freedom, the former convicts made a great contribution to the development of the country and forged links with their homeland which are still as strong as ever. *Clonoulty Historical Society* is to be congratulated for organising a very interesting evening and for inviting two outstanding lecturers to share their knowledge with the people of West Tipperary.

Liam Ó Duibhir

THE BOOK COLUMN

A listing of titles of Tipperary interest recently added to stock in the Local Studies Department of the County Library. If you'd like to try and purchase any of these titles, John Butler at Bookworm may be able to help you - write [enclose SAE], fax or ring John first for availability and pricing details at Bookworm, 5 Liberty Square, Thurles; (0504) 22257 [fax number as well]. Every title noted in the Book Column since Newsletter #5, Summer 1995, is listed on the Books page on our Web site.

- ◆ A Return of the Names of All Persons Committed under the Insurrection Act, from the 1st of January, 1823 to the 1st of February, 1824 in Each County, Specifying the Nature of the Offence and the Dates of the Commitments...
- ◆ An Act Concerning Fines in the County Palatine of Tipperary/Andrew Crook, Dublin "Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty", 1695, 4 pages
- ◆ An Act for Granting Tales on Tryals, to be had in the Court of the County Palatine of Tipperary, before the Seneschall/Andrew Crook, Dublin "Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty", 1695, 4 pages
- ◆ An Gorta Mór: The Great Irish Famine [VIDEO]/Cashel Arts & Heritage Society (2 hours 10)
- ◆ Anacarty/Donohill History/Anacarty-Donohill Cultural & Historical Society, 448pp, h/b, £10
- ◆ Anderton, Peter; Before I Forget/F.P. Anderton, 260pp, p/b, £12.00
- ◆ Betit, Kyle J & Radford, Dwight A; County Focus: Co. Tipperary IN *The Irish At Home & Abroad - A Journal of Irish Genealogy and Heritage* Volume 3, No. 4, p163-171
- ◆ Brown, H.M & MacDougall, J.S.; The Morphys of Morphy's Falls: An Ontario Family History/ Author Published
- ◆ Cappawhite N.S.: Ceiliúradh Céad Bliain 1897-1997/Cappawhite School Centenary Committee, 224pp, p/b, £6.00
- ◆ Cashel Writers Circle; The Gathering: A Collection of Poems and Short Stories/Tentmaker Publications, 109pp, p/b, £5.00
- ◆ Clower, Michael; Mick Kinane: Big Race King - The Authorised Biography/Mainstream, 223pp, h/b, £15.99
- ◆ Discovery Series Maps 1:50,000 No's 66, 67, 74, 75 (all including parts of County Tipperary)/ Ordnance Survey Office, £4.20
- ◆ Dunne, Katie [Ed.]; Grangemockler Church and

People 1897-1997/Grangemockler Centenary Committee, 197pp, p/b, £10.00

- ◆ Hall, Eamonn & Hall, Michael; Drangan Co-Operative Creamery Society Ltd: A Century of Success 1897-1997/Drangan Centenary Committee, 168pp, p/b, £6.00
- ◆ Holzapfel, Rudi; Tipperariana: Being notes, pointers and current market prices of Tipperary books for scholar & collector/Fethard Historical Society, 38pp, £2.95
- ◆ Imeachtaí an Aonaigh: Nuacht Litir Eanáir-Márta 1997/Conradh na Gaeilge
- ◆ Jenkins, W.; The Origins and Development of the Creamery System in South Tipperary 1880 - 1914/M.A. Thesis, 1995, 157pp
- ◆ Lewis, S.; A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland [2 Volumes & Atlas, 1995 Reprint]/ Kennys, Galway
- ◆ Local Agricultural Prize System: Report for the Years 1891, 1892 & 1893/Agricultural Experiment at Nenagh
- ◆ McCarthy, Samuel Trant; The MacCarthys of Munster: The Story of a Great Irish Sept/Gryfons Arkansas
- ◆ MacEwan, Michael; Ten Great Irish Hunts/ Punchedown Books, 160pp, h/b, £24.00
- ◆ McHale, Conor; Patron of Partition: Bishop Thomas Quinlan, 1896-1970/Rednal, 1995, 133pp, p/b, £7.00
- ◆ Mansergh, Nicholas; Nationalism and Independence: Selected Irish Papers/Cork University Press, 264pp, h/b, £45.00
- ◆ Meskill, Peter; Suir View Rangers 1895-1898: A History/Suir View Centenary Commemoration Committee, p/b, £4.00
- ◆ Nolan, W./McGrath, T; Tipperary History & Society: Interdisciplinary Essays on the History of an Irish County/Geography Publications [Reprint 1997], 493pp, h/b, £40.00
- ◆ O'Brien, Jacqueline & Harbison, Peter; Ancient Ireland: From Prehistory to the Middle Ages/ Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 255pp
- ◆ O'Carroll, Rev. Thomas; The O'Carroll Diaries: Diary for the Year 1846 of Rev. Thomas O'Carroll (C.C. Anacarty-Donohill & Clonoulty)-Profiles of Priests-Diary for the Years 1862-1864 of Rev. James O'Carroll (C.C. Clonoulty)
- ◆ O'Curry, E. & O'Sullivan, W.K. [Ed.]; Manners and Customs of the Ancient Irish: A Series of Lectures/DeBurca Books, 3 Volumes, £135.00
- ◆ O'Keefe, Dr. Tadhg; Fethard, Co. Tipperary: A Guide to the Medieval Town/Fethard Historical Society, 30pp, £3.00
- ◆ O'Keefe, Dr. Tadhg; Fethard, Co. Tipperary: An Archaeological and Historical Survey/National Heritage Council, 1995
- ◆ O'Riordan, Edmund; Historical Guide to Clogheen from earliest times to early 20th century, includes a guide to genealogical research/O'Riordan, 76pp, £5.00
- ◆ O'Rourke, Kevin; Currier and Ives: The Irish in America/Abrams NY, 144pp, h/b, £30.00
- ◆ The Patrician Brothers in Fethard 1873-1993/ Fethard Historical Society, 70pp, p/b, £3.00
- ◆ The Rock of Cashel, Co. Tipperary: being extracts from the 76th Annual Report of the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland, 1907 - 1908/HMSO, 1917, 9 pages
- ◆ Trench, Charles Chenevix; Grace's Card: Irish Catholic Landlords 1690-1800/Mercier, 319pp, p/b, £12.99
- ◆ Tipperary NR County Draft Development Plan/ Tipperary NR County Council, 2 Volumes

Discount Offer from Relay Books

AVAILABLE: 7 Nov - 20 Dec

Clearing 50 sets: Thomas MacDonagh's *Literature in Ireland* with additional profile; *The Two Tipperarys* - the definitive story of the division of the county and aftermath; plus **NEW** *Guilty or Innocent? The Cormack Brothers: trial, execution and exhumation* - now, for the first time, the full story

Published Price Total: IRE28.90

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CALENDAR

The Newsletter is a bit early for Autumn schedules to have been finalised; check local press for details

Sr. Aine Historical Society, Templemore

- October: Talk on Fr. Theobald Mathew
- November: Talk on The Great Southern Railway

Further details: John Lanigan (0504) 32061

Tipperary S.R. County Museum

- "Through Irish Eyes: Australian and New Zealand Images of the Irish, 1788-1948": exhibition through to November
- The museum will move to a new building, sited on Suir Island, on the strength of a grant from the Department of Arts, Culture & Gaeltacht; readers are encouraged to write to the Curator regarding any opinions they might have about appropriate future displays/objects.

Contact: County Museum, Parnell St., Clonmel (052) 25399

Fethard Historical Society

- Society were recently awarded £2,000 grant from the Heritage Council to be used to catalogue/print three sets of photos from the *Kenrick Collection of Glass Plates* taken around Fethard & Grove House in the late 1890s/early 1900s; project completion 21 November, presentation of photos at Abymill Theatre that night at 8.30 p.m.
 - Tipperariana '98: Sunday, February 8, 1998: popular, annual Book Fair; stalls can be booked now at £10.00
- Further details Terry Cunningham (052) 23402/ Dóirín Saurus (052) 31936



This Newsletter is published twice a year, Winter/Spring & Summer/Autumn issues
All correspondence should be addressed to the Society at: County Library, Castle Avenue, Thurles, Co. Tipperary, Ireland.
(0504) 21555 / Fax (0504) 23442 / e-mail: tipplibs@iol.ie / <http://www.iol.ie/~tipplibs/Welcome.htm>