

ROSCREA

REVIEW

No. 53

Newsletter of the Cistercian College, Roscrea, Union

Spring 1989

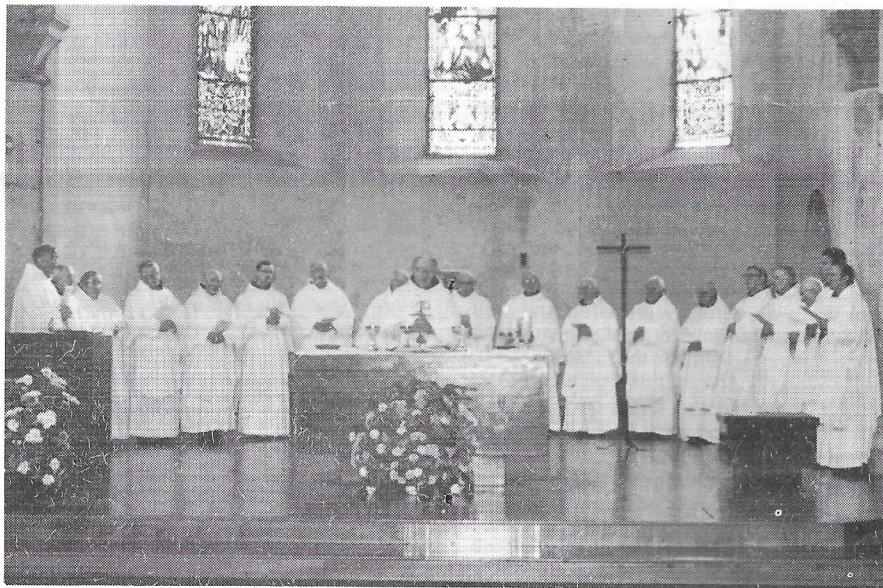
SILVER JUBILEE OF ABBOT COLMCILLE O'TOOLE

Tom O'Toole from Clogher, Claremorris, Co. Mayo finished his five years in CCR in June 1945. In August of the same year he entered Mount Saint Joseph Abbey. He took Colmcille as his religious name when he received the monastic habit.

After five years of probation, during which he pursued his clerical studies, he made Solemn Vows. Two years later he was ordained to the Priesthood.

He led a prayerful life. He worked in the gardens, and on the farm, he made vestments, and taught in the College — Irish, Latin and German. He spent a short period as Bursar in the Monastery, and was sent back to the College as Dean of Studies.

Following the death of Dom Eugene Boylan, Dom Colmcille was elected Abbot of the monastery on 21st February, 1964. On Sunday, 12th April he received the Abbatical Blessing. He was 38 years old, at the time one of the youngest Abbots in the Order.



JUBILEE HIGH MASS

Dom Benedict, Abbot of Bolton community was chief celebrant.
Excerpts from the Homily are given below.



12th April, 1964

"1989, the 25th year of Dom Colmcille's abbacy, offers the Mount Saint Joseph community yet another opportunity to thank God in joy and to reflect on the past and present and especially on the future. 'Go and tell the people all the Lord has done for you', Christ himself has said in the readings we have just heard. 'Let us therefore praise God in return for all he has done' — for his goodness and kindness and mercy and love and tenderness and compassion. Let us thank God 'for the gifts given us through Christ'; the gift of *faith* which enables us 'persevere in witnessing to Christ', and the other lesser gifts and charisms given to each of us for the good of the other members of our community.

One such charism is the vocation and commitment of an abbot. But we cannot speak of the abbot in isolation from his community. Without a community, the word abbot has no meaning. This year therefore we celebrate the perseverance of Dom Colmcille in exercising his charism for the good of this community as abbot and likewise the perseverance of the individual monks in living under a Rule and an abbot, and in exercising their diverse charisms down the years for the good of all

Because our Cistercian ideal in itself does not change from century to century, a complacent satisfaction with inherited express-

ions of fidelity can prevent us from generating in ourselves any great enthusiasm for new ideas, new experiments, new risks, new experiences, new emphasis, different nuances and modes of expression, or different presuppositions underlying our monastic spirituality.

And when new things are no longer tried, joy and success are diminished; we no longer get the most out of life, and growth is stymied

Jesus came to bring us life. And life entails growth and development and progress. We are not meant to stagnate or to deteriorate. But neither are we guaranteed success as the world interprets it, but only in the context of those three virtues which remain: faith, hope and love.

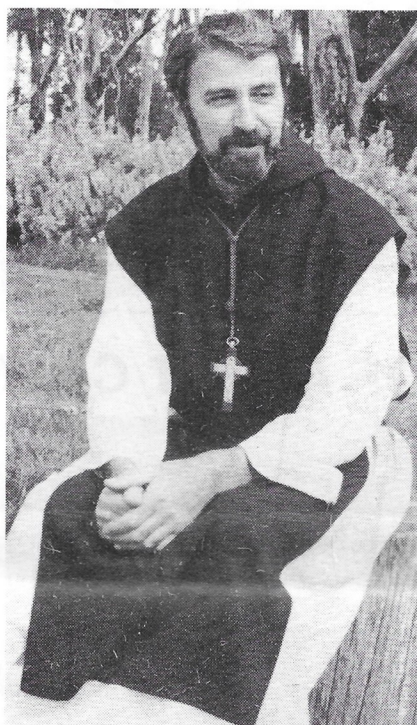
What I have said brings to mind the coat of arms of Mount Saint Joseph, 'You are meant to be contemplatives, but make sure to keep your feet on the ground', or 'You may have to keep your feet on the ground, but don't forget you are contemplatives'. In the generous measure you are already doing things as described, we thank God for all this, with simple, joyful hearts.

The celebration today is the first of many this year I believe, so this sermon need have no ending".

OUR LADY OF TARRAWARRA ABBEY AUSTRALIA 1954 – 1989.

A new phase in the history of this Abbey founded from Mount Saint Joseph by Dom Camillus Claffey commenced on November 12th, 1988. On this day the monastery's first Australian born Abbot was blessed in the presence of a big gathering of friends by the Archbishop of Melbourne, Most Reverend Francis Little. The new Abbot, Dom David Tomlins was born in Northern Queensland. Following his profession and ordination at Tarrawarra, he studied Spirituality in the Gregorian University at Rome, and while there visited Ireland several times. He was lecturing on monastic history and spirituality, and had the care of the junior professed monks, at the time of his election. On the day of his Abbatial Blessing, Dom Colmcille remarked in a talk to the Community that he now felt assured that the Cistercian life had fully taken root in Australia. In this way the many years of prayer and work of the monks who left Roscrea in 1954 to make a new beginning of Cistercian life are now bearing fruit.

The monastic foundation at Tarrawarra is one that was carefully prepared and well thought out. A previous foundation in Australia in the Kimberly district in the far North West, had been unsuccessful and the monks returned home, so the community here at Mount Saint Joseph were taking every care to forestall a similar happening. Interestingly, when the news of the election of Dom David became widely known, a link emerged with the early foundation at Beagle Bay when an elderly woman, a close relative by marriage of an Irish emigrant who had entered that community, wrote to congratulate him. To prepare the way for the Roscrea foundation Fr. Eugene Boylan who was then at the height of his powers was sent by Dom Camillus to Australia to search for a suitable site, and to make the Cistercian life more widely known through a series of lectures and retreats. The search for a new home proved a long one, commencing in the Archdiocese of Sydney where we had an invitation from Cardinal Gilroy, and moving to Victoria where Archbishop Daniel Mannix was then such a remarkable figure in the Catholic life, not only of Melbourne which was his see, but of a much wider sphere. In Melbourne Fr. Eugene was joined by Dom Camillus and Fr. Carthage O'Dea, and it was in this Archdiocese that their choice finally fell on a site for their new home. Providence surely played a large part in that decision, because this new Cistercian monastery in the beautiful Yarra river Valley, about an hours drive from Melbourne, is in one of the loveliest settings in the whole Order. To the east the mountains of the Great Dividing Range commence their long journey up the coast of Australia, to the west a smaller range of hills picturesquely known as the Christmas Hills form a boundary, while north and south there are lovely vistas through hills and valleys extending as far as one can see. It is a scene one never tires of because the colours of the hills and mountains are continually changing in the bright Australian sun. It is a scene well calculated to raise the mind to God as visitors to the Abbey constantly attest.



Dom David Tomlins, Tarrawarra Abbey 1989

Over the past decade there has been a marked change in the countryside around Tarrawarra. Many people attracted by the beauty of the Yarra Valley have built new homes there, while on the other hand some of the larger properties have been subdivided for market gardening and hobby farming.

Most noticeable of all however is the number of vineyards and wineries that have sprung up, reviving an old tradition of wine producing introduced by the early Swiss settlers. The high quality of the Yarra Valley wine is now fully recognised, and a French firm was busy developing a new vinyard on the hillsides opposite the Abbey at the time of the Blessing of Dom David.

Those who visit the locality love to call to the Monastery and since its foundation it has opened its doors to people of all denominations, and touched the lives of many many people. For all of this, God be thanked. The Community at Tarrawarra were very fortunate in the choice of its first superior Fr. Cronan Sherry (Brendan). Coming from a family that had close links with Mount Saint Joseph and the College, he was a man of warm, outgoing personality and great charm and he quickly won the hearts of the Catholics of Melbourne both lay people, religious and priests, and these were to prove sincere and generous friends in the crucial early years. To the young community he showed himself most kind and understanding, and also a man with a clear vision of the direction the new foundation should take, and accordingly the community grew rapidly so that within four years it was ready to be erected into an Abbey and elect its first Abbot. The choice fell on Fr. Kevin O'Farrell who was then novice master at Mount Saint Joseph, and he was blessed Abbot by the Coadjuter Archbishop of Melbourne, Most Rev. Justin Simmonds on 19th January, 1959.

Just at this time a remarkable revival of studies was occurring in the Cistercian

Order and indeed in the whole monastic world. These studies in our case paid particular attention to Cistercian history and Spirituality. The community at Tarrawarra and its new Abbot were quick to appreciate the value and importance of these studies for the enrichment of the quality of our monastic life. Practical steps were taken, sending monks for advanced studies mainly to Rome, but also to Louvain, and to spirituality centres in the U.S.A. The library was also enlarged and enriched as means allowed. This emphasis on the study of our Cistercian Heritage has proved to be a very wise move, because while Tarrawarra Abbey is small and remotely situated it is respected throughout the Order for its contribution to and understanding of a Cistercian spirituality suited to our times.

When the pioneering monks were preparing to leave Mount Saint Joseph plans were drawn up for the building of a great Abbey and Church in traditional style. As it happened, the shortage of funds did not permit the undertaking of this building programme. This in fact proved providential, because with the fall in the number of vocations in recent years and changes in the manner of Cistercian living it became clear that a smaller more compact monastery would be more suitable. Such a monastery, and one very much in harmony with the Australian countryside, is what is now being built as the need arises.

In 1979 the Abbey celebrated its Silver Jubilee with much rejoicing. The principal celebrant of the Jubilee Mass was the auxiliary Bishop of Adelaide, Most Rev. Philip Kennedy who had been a novice at Tarrawarra in its earlier years. Seeing him then in vigorous health, none could have guessed that he was to die not long after of a brain tumour. Fr. Cronan Sherry who had been at Mount Saint Joseph came back to Tarrawarra for the Silver Jubilee, and he lived there until his holy death, being a great support to the community, and immensely popular with those who visited the monastery in need of advice or consolation as he was one of the most sympathetic and understanding of men.

With a young Abbot of great talent, and a community now two thirds Australian born, Tarrawarra has been clearly blessed by God, and all Past Students will join with us in wishing it every grace and blessing in the years ahead.

Past Students of C.C.R. in Tarrawarra:—
Dom Kevin (Patrick) O'Farrell, 1936.
Fr. Finbarr (Michael) Lenihan, 1932.
Fr. Carthage (Patrick) O'Dea, 1945.
Fr. Maxime (John) Palmer, 1952.
R.I.P. Fr. Robert (Denis) Sheeran, 1927.
R.I.P. Fr. Cronan (Brendan) Sherry, 1936.

P.S.

There were several Past Student priests among the Melbourne clergy who welcomed the monks to Australia, Fr. Eddie Sherry a Columban Father, Fr. Tom Murray and Fr. Jim English R.I.P. who died some time ago. These proved very good friends, and the Tabernacle in the Abbey Church is a gift from Past Students across Australia. There was also an Australian Bishop, who studied philosophy at Mount Melleray seminary — this was Bishop Henske of the Diocese of Wagga, indeed he even hoped that the Cistercians would come to his diocese and had land ready for them, but his offer came after the purchase of the Tarrawarra property.

THE KENMARE WEEKEND

If there had been a slight fear during the past year of the Annual Weekend in Kenmare spluttering out for want of adequate support, it was well and truly dispelled in November when the Park Hotel was bursting at the seams with revelling Roscrea people and their friends who were there only because they had had the foresight to make early reservations and so didn't suffer the disappointment experienced by many who applied too late.

We were blessed with wonderful weather yet again and the autumnal sun smiled down on a large number of enthusiastic participants on the sporting programme. For the golfers, Pat O'Shea devised a scramble which would ensure that even the high handicappers like Kevin Dwan and Tom Ambrose would not feel left out of things, and, adhering to the spirit of our last A.G.M. women were welcome to join in and many did to the edification and enjoyment of all.

"Class will out" says the old adage and this was borne out by the Gerry Meehan Trio clinching first prize in the golf competition. On a night of witty speeches, when the presentation of prizes was made after dinner on Saturday, Gerry made a very pretty speech indeed, and went as close as dammit to reaching the same standard of eloquence as our President, Sean Murphy. Sean held centre stage in his own modest, but very effective way and is, obviously, enjoying his tenure of office as much as his recent predecessors have done.

Since the tennis competition was inaugurated by Aidan McNulty a few years ago, two of the keenest — not to say the most fetching — competitors have been the husband and wife team of John and Helen Comerford. Every year they have striven to overcome the talented competition they invariably have encountered, but have never quite reached the pinnacle to which they aspired. Well, this time they succeeded. Battling gamely from start to finish, they eventually came through to be the most popular winners of this intensively competitive tournament.



THE PRESIDENT'S TABLE

Sean Murphy at the head; Masie Ambrose on his right, Noreen Murphy on his left, Tom Ambrose front right.

The usual, loyal band of bons viveurs were there as expected, that group without whose existence the Kenmare weekend would have long since foundered: the O'Colmains (headed by our own urbane Fr. Dermot) the Sherrys, Noel Windle, who took time to meander gastronomically down, the O'Sheas, Comerfords, Ambroses, Dwans, Kennys and the Wexford Murphys, one of which clan, the elegant Jim, was largely responsible for the inception of the Park Weekend.

As usual, the conviviality was omnipresent and the bonhomie infectious. There had been talk recently of changing venues for future National Weekends, but the success of this weekend has firmly put the kibosh on that notion. Egon Ronay voted the Park the outstanding hotel in any category in the entire British Isles, and Francis Brennan puts all this style and perfection at our disposal for a very reasonable charge and

we are extremely fortunate to be able to avail of such sumptuous surroundings and Michelin-starred cuisine for our annual couple of days.

Because of the popularity of the Kenmare break, about twenty people failed to get a reservation last November. It will be the same next year. So, if you want to be there, book early.

NOTE: The date of this year's "Weekend Away" at the Park Hotel, Kenmare is Friday 10th November to Sunday morning 12th November. For those who are interested, the Hotel will be open the week before — unlike last year. We are assured by the management that they can take 88 guests. Make sure to be one of those by booking early direct to **Mr. Francis Brennan, Park Hotel, Kenmare, Co. Kerry. Phone: 064 - 41200.**

BRANCH OFFICERS

RECENT CHANGES

DUBLIN:

Chairman: Conor Massey, Wynberg House, Stradbroke Road, Blackrock, Co. Dublin.

Secretary: Simon Coyle, 8 Bayview Crescent, Killiney, Co. Dublin.

Treasurer: John Irwin, 40 Milltown Grove, Milltown, Dublin 14.

SOUTH TIPPERARY:

Chairman: James Doyle, Cooleeney House, Moyne, Thurles, Co. Tipperary.

Secretary: Noel McCormack, Main Street, Killenaule, Co. Tipperary.

Treasurer: John Purcell, St. John's Park, Dublin Road, Thurles, Co. Tipperary.

GALWAY/MAYO/SLIGO:

Chairman: John Sherry, "Lissane", Rockbarton Nth., Salthill, Galway.

Vice Chairman: Michael Keohane, Easky, Sligo.

Secretary: Pdraig O'Maille, Galway.



John Sherry - Chairman Galway/Mayo Branch, in deep discussion with Noel Windle, Hon. General Treasurer of the Union.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday, 7th April: Galway/Mayo/Sligo Branch, Dinner Dance, Ardilaun Hotel, Taylor's Hill, Galway.

Friday, 27th April: Midland Branch, Dinner Dance, Bridge House Hotel, Tullamore, Co. Offaly.

Central Committee Meeting P.P.U. Sunday, 21st May.

Sports Day and Summer Holidays in the College, Sunday 4th June.

End of Summer holidays in the College, 4th September.

Central Committee Meeting P.P.U., Sunday 10th September.

Golf Championship, Abbott's Cup, Roscrea Golf Club, 23rd September.

UNION DAY — Sunday 24th September. Union Mass, Abbey Church 11.00 a.m. Union Lunch, Guest House 12.45 p.m. followed by A.G.M.



NEWS ABOUT PAST STUDENTS



BRYAN McCOY of Bantry wrote before Christmas telling us how he and his brothers were getting on. More of these letters would be very welcome. **EAMONN** (1979) qualified as a doctor in U.C.C. and is now working in the Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast.

DIARMUID (1983) is in his fourth year of medicine at U.C.C. and is doing well. **BRIAN** himself (1984), is marketing manager of Rowa Pharmaceuticals Limited in Bantry.

MAURICE POWER (1940) of Kilmallock, recently completed forty years of service as State Solicitor for Co. Limerick. He qualified in 1945, and four years later was appointed State Solicitor — the youngest ever at that time to be appointed to such a post. He was 27. He still carries an extensive private business in Kilmallock assisted by members of his family. He was President of the State Solicitor's Association from 1986 to 1988, and is a former member of the Incorporated Law Society.

SIMON COYLE (1972) was recently appointed a partner with Chapman Flood, Chartered Accountants. He joined the practice in April 1982. He has developed corporate finance assignments in France and Spain for a number of multinational companies. He is at present Hon. Secretary to the Dublin Branch of the Union.

PATRICK McMAHON (1960), has been appointed banking director of the Ulster Investment Bank. He has been with the bank since 1973. Paddy now lives in Dublin.

MIKE O'LEARY (1982) of Cahirciveen qualified as a Vet last summer. The then new President of the Veterinary Council was Frank O'Leary, and his first official function in the Veterinary College, UCD was to register his eldest son Mike as a veterinary surgeon. Mike was House Captain in his final year.

CONOR O'HARA (1957), originally from Cork, now living in Dublin, has been making the business headlines over the past year as Managing Director of Airmotive Ireland. This is a jet engine refurbishing plant on the Naas Road. It was set up in 1980, an offshoot of Aer Lingus, at a cost of £33 millions. Airmotive handles some seventeen jet engines a month, at the cost of \$1 million each. Some 80% of the business is in the export category. The engines are shipped in from all over the world to be overhauled or refurbished by a staff of nearly five hundred people.

PATRICK E. RAFFERTY (1953). To most of us Pat's name is synonymous with Tipperary Town where he has the headquarters of a very successful travel agency. His eldest son **BRIAN** (1978) got his B.B.S. in the N.I.H.E. Limerick, and is working with Rafferty Travel. **NIALL** (1984) is a rep. for a branch of Maguire and Pattersons business, Jade Cosmetics, Wilkinson Sword Products. **EIOIN** (1988) is a trainee in Hotel Management. We now look forward to the fourth generation, and remember **TIM** (1925) who began the line.

GEOFFREY COMAN (1977) was the first of a long line of brothers who passed through C.C.R. during the next decade. Geoff returned to the family business — Wholesale and Retail Wine and Spirit Merchants — in

Terenure, Dublin. He was followed by John who took Law when he left. Then came the twins who presented some identity crises to teachers but none to themselves. **DENIS** took up Hotel Management, and **PAT** went into the home business. **TOM** went to U.C.D. and took a B. Comm., while **WILLIAM** is studying Hotel Management in Shannon.

KEVIN KELLY (1980) was a distinguished show jumper while still at school, afterwards he took up pharmacy and is now working in Waterford.

EDWARD KELLY (1983), brother of the above, is farming at home in Clogogue, Camolin, Co. Wexford.

JIM KELLY (1986), another brother, is an Engineering student in Bolton Street, College of Technology, Dublin.

PETER GAVIGAN (1980) who came from Mullingar, is now working a Telecom Technician with I.T.E.L.E.C. in Paris and lives at 85, Quai D'Orsay, 75007, Paris.

JAMES GAVIGAN (1981), another European like his brother. He has married a Spanish girl — Pepa — and settled down in France at 64A Rue Stalingrad, Dame Gauche 38100, Grenoble CEDEX. He is working in the "Centre National Recherche Scientifique".

DR. BRENDAN KEANE (1943) originally from Griffith Avenue, Dublin, called to see us last Autumn. He would like to hear from any Past Men in New Zealand where he now lives at 138A, Kings Street, Whakatane, Bay of Plenty, North Island, N.Z. . . . Anybody out there?

MICHAEL LYNCH (1977) came from Ennistymon. He now lives at 27 Goldmoher Estate, Limerick. He is a Chartered Accountant and he is Manager with Stokes Kennedy Crowley International in Shannon, Co. Clare.

JOHN GEARY (1981) at Rathkeale, Co. Limerick and **FEARGHUS O'CONNOR** (1986) of Ring, Co. Waterford are both in Oxford University.

John is doing a post graduate study on "Industrial Relationships" and Fearghus is reading English.

SHANE FINNEGAN (1975) has returned from the U.S.A. to manage the home business, Barrack Street, Loughrea, Co. Galway. He is married to a Galway girl.

JOE O'CONNOR (1979) of Shamrock Lodge, Cahir, Co. Tipperary is engaged to be married in April 1989.

KEVIN DALY (1977) is in the family business at Carnaseer, Kiltoom, Athlone, Co. Roscommon.

DAVID DALY (1981) brother of the above, did Hotel Management and is with the Post House Hotel, London Road, Ipswich.

MARTIN O'BOYLE (1978) from Kenagh, Co. Longford took his B. Comm. and is working in the home business. He was the first of six brothers in C.C.R. Peter is still here — in 5th year.

BERNARD O'BOYLE (1981) got his B.A. and is teaching in Loreto School, Dalkey, Co. Dublin.

PATRICK O'BOYLE (1981) is an engineer at present working in Longford.

RAYMOND O'BOYLE (1985) is farming at home in Kenagh.

EIOIN O'BOYLE (1987) is doing Business Studies in Rathmines.

DR. MARTIN DALY (1980) came from Ballygar, Co. Galway. He did Medicine and is now a G.P. in Westport. He is a son of **DR. JOE DALY** (1953) and a nephew of Fr. Kevin (Martin) Daly (1953) now President of the College. Two others of the family were **PETER '83**, and **LUKE '84**. The former did his B.A. and is in Business Management. The latter is in his final year in the N.I.H.E. Limerick.

DR. MARK GREALY (1977) was married last May. He is at present in General Practice in Preston, England.

TERENCE DOYLE (1984) from Rathvilly, Co. Carlow, recently took his final Law exams with Honours. Congrats Terry.

BRENDAN BALL (1980) from Louisburgh, Co. Mayo, has his B. Sc. and H. Dip. Ed. and is now working in England. He is a consultant with Phoenix Computer Recruitment, 44 Northcote Road, West Croydon, Surrey CRO 2HU. He says he is looking for suitable persons qualified in working Computers. (Phone: 01 - 6833422).

DR. PAUL NOLAN (1970) originally from Loughrea is now in practice in Ballina, Co. Mayo.

PASCHAL NUGENT (1982) who comes from Roscrea now has his own business in Templemore.

ALAN CARR (1982) is now married, living in Ennis and in business there.

VERY REV. DERMOT O'ROURKE P.P. (1928) from the parish of Katoomba, Sydney, Australia called to see us last Autumn to mark the 60th year since he left C.C.R. He was originally from Drombane, Co. Tipperary.

JIM McNAMARA (1967) is a Chartered Surveyor originally from Athlone. He is now living in Westville, Woodbourne Road, Douglas, Isle of Man.

ANTHONY FROST (1971) came from Loughrea and is now settled in England. He is very keen to help with the London Branch of the Union — Paddy, Michael, John please note! His address is: 45 Oakwood Road, Hampstead Garden Suburb, London NW11 6RJ.

Some University News:
Tony O'Grady got final Law in U.C.C.
John Bates got 1st Medicine in U.C.G.
Jim McCormack got 1st Science in U.C.G.

WILLIAM O'CONNELL is the eldest of six brothers. He had to come home in December 1966 to take charge of the family business in Cullohill, Portlaoise. He is married and has three children.

DAVID O'CONNEL (1969) is an Auctioneer and also involved in the home business in Cullohill. He is married and they have three children.

AIDAN O'CONNELL (1970) is an Accountant and now lives in Dublin. He is married with three children.

THE DUBLIN DINNER

Following on the success of last year's dinner, the decision to return to the Hibernian United Service Club in St. Stephen's Green was unanimous and a full house of a hundred and twenty was assured days before we donned our soups and fishes on November 4th last.

This was the final year of Matt Hyland's enlightened chairmanship and this added to the auspiciousness of the evening. We had Fr. Kevin gracing our table for the first time in a few years, Prof. P.J. Bofin as our guest speaker, the Presidents of kindred unions, eminent guests and Roscrea men — all in all a representative gathering of Irish life and thought.

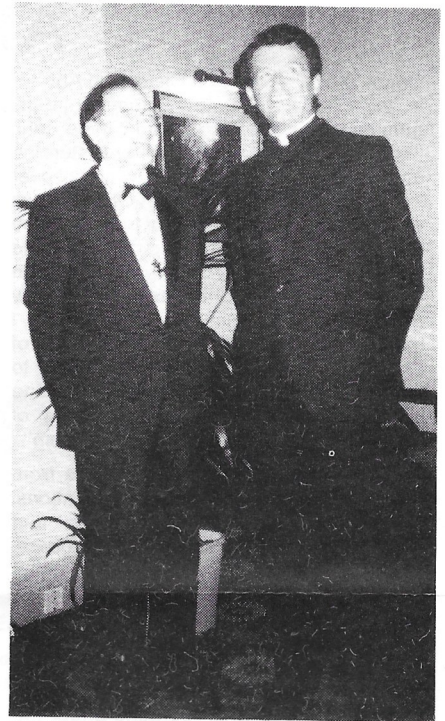
As usual, decorum and propriety set the tone of the evening and sartorial snappiness was very evident with the returned exile Sean Mackey in the vanguard with a snazzy silk jacket straight from a leading firm of bespoke tailors in Hong Kong. Ailbe O'Meara, who has had a distinguished career in medicine on the west coast of America, added to the pot-pourri of pastmen, along with the inimitable Tom Ambrose who was

deputising for our President, Sean Murphy, who had to be at Thurles for their Annual Dinner Dance — an unfortunate clash of dates, the blame for which can in no way be attached to Kevin Dwan or his committee who did their utmost to avoid the coincidence.

Amongst the group of eloquent after-dinner speakers, Prof. Bofin was outstanding and was given the rare accolade of a standing ovation. One regret felt by most was that the amplification system failed just when Tom Collins wanted to say a few words. Tom is always worth listening to, so it was a pity that he couldn't be heard despite the best efforts of Simon Coyle to repair the faulty electronics.

A presentation of a splendid, inscribed crystal decanter was made to a very appreciative Conor Massey and amid a rising decibel count, the evening reached its peak just as individual constitutions were beginning to creak under the pressure.

The date of next year's dinner has already been decided upon: November 3rd. (South Tipperary Branch kindly take note!)



Fr. Kevin, President of the College, with Matt Hyland who has completed a very successful term of office as Chairman of the Dublin Branch

News of Past Students Cont.

TOM O'CONNELL (1972) did Hotel Management when he left C.C.R. He has worked on the Continent and in the States, and is at present in the Park Lane Hilton in London. He is married and lives at 2 Bateman's Court, Forest Field, Furnace Green, Crowley RH10 6PS, West Sussex.

RICHARD O'CONNELL (1977) took Accountancy and is at present in Newry.

RORY O'CONNELL (1977) took up catering as a career and is at present a Chef in Cork.

ROBERT McCARTHY (1981) from Loughrea joined the Naval Service. He is one of the four members of the Irish Naval Service selected to join the 21 strong crew which will compete in the Whitbread Round the World Yacht Race which begins in Portsmouth next September.

DR. AIDAN O'COLMAIN (1974) is in charge of Gort Ard, the University Students Residence in Rockbarton, Galway. He also practices medicines in Abbeyknockmoy, Co. Galway where his father is the G.P.

TIM O'COLMAIN (1976) is in the Foreign Division of the Bank of Ireland, Baggot Street, Dublin. Recently Tim captained the Bank of Ireland team which won the Silver Cup in the Dublin Junior Football League.

PAUL MURPHY (1980) came from Roscrea town. Now a Lieutenant in the Army stationed at the Curragh. He lives in Castleknock, Dublin. He is married and they have one baby boy.

MUIRIS MURPHY (1982) now lives in Dublin where he is a business rep. He keeps fit playing Rugby for Clontarf.

LOUIS J. CULLITON (1935) joined the Army in 1939 and served with it until 1973, when he retired with the rank of Lt. Col. He settled down as a farmer in Rosenallis with his wife. His three sons came to C.C.R.

RORY CULLITON (1968) After studying farming and animal husbandry at home and abroad he settled down to farm in Rosenallis where he has been very successful. He is married with three children and lives at the Watch Hill, Rearymore, Rosenallis. He is at present organising a reunion of his colleagues of the 1968 class.

PAUL CULLITON (1971) qualified for the Army through the OTC. He now holds the rank of Comdt. at the Curragh. He is married with two children and lives in Portlaoise.

DAVID CULLITON (1976) went into finance when he left C.C.R. He was with Avonmore until recently, when he undertook the position of Financial Controller to a business firm in Castlecomer. He is married with two children, and lives in Kilkenny.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Contributions to the Union have been received from the following:

John Phelan, Ballyraggett.

John O'Shea, Croydon.

John Fennessy, Vienna.

Justin Phelan, Ilford.

Fr. Enda Cunningham, Dublin.

John Stokes, Dublin.

Dr. Ailbe O'Meara, Dublin

Noel Ryan, Dublin.

John Littleton, Tulla.

Martin Kelly, Aberdeen.

Gerard Moroney, Saskatchewan.

Noel Kilmartin, Ballinasloe.

Oliver O'Shea, London.

John Cody, Dublin.

Des O'Brien, New York.

CLASS REUNIONS

1959 CLASS

Past students of C.C.R. who finished there in 1959 are asked to get in touch with Andy Galvin or Tom Maher who are organising a get-together of this group of men. A notice of this has been sent to the present known addresses or original home addresses of each one, accompanied by a photograph of the class, taken in their final year. So far they had a 75% response which after a lapse of 30 years is not bad! Perhaps you can provide a lead to contact some of the missing persons listed below.*

The date fixed for this gathering is Saturday, 23rd September, 1989. For all details of the programme consult:—

Andrew Galvin, 'Cillarde', Arden, Tullamore, Co. Offaly. (0506) 21856

Tom Maher, Firmount House, Clara Road, Tullamore, Co. Offaly. (0506) 21663.

See elsewhere in this issue for details of Golf for the Abbot's Cup and Union Day in the College.

*Pat O'Shea, Tramore, Co. Waterford.

*Dan O'Connell, Dublin? Kinvara?

*Tom Curtin, Newcastlewest, Co. Limerick.

*Michael Smyth, Birr, Co. Offaly.

*Brendan Mackey, Dungarvan.

*Tom Roche, Lifford, Ennis.

*Brian Butler, Goold's Cross.

NOTICE TO THE 1968 CLASS

A group of Pastmen from the Class that finished in the College in 1968 are organising a 21st Reunion to tie in with the UNION DAY. Any of that class or anyone who has the address for one of that Class are asked to make contact as soon as possible with:— RORY CULLITON, Rearymore, Rosenallis, Co. Laois. (0502) 28145 or 28065.

ABBEYS AGAIN

Conor Brady's article on Cistercian Abbeys in the "Roscrea Review" Summer 1985, generated a lot of interest. In it he said, "Today there are perhaps thirty Cistercian abbeys in passable shape. They are all over Ireland and the Stationery Office publishes an excellent monastic map of Ireland which identifies them all clearly. No part of Ireland is more than 25 or 30 miles from a Cistercian remains. You'll get the map through any good bookshop or stationer for about £3, I think. Most of the abbeys are in the hands of the Office of Public Works and are safe to explore. Why not make a picnic outing during some of the long warm days of Summer and take in two or three of them".

The two abbeys pictured here come from very different backgrounds and locations, Dunbrody from the sunny south east and Corcomroe from the wild Atlantic sea board. They represent two strands of history of the order. To quote Conor Brady again: "one was Old Irish, its members drawn from the old race, Irish-speaking and loyal to the local Irish chiefs and princes (Corcomroe). The other was Anglo-Norman, French or English speaking and operating under the protection of the new Norman rulers along the East Coast and throughout the Pale" (Dunbrody).

In contrast to Dunbrody, the Abbey of Corcomroe is founded in the bleak terrain of northern Clare. The limestone hills, and mountains which enclose the monastery are devoid of vegetation, and on dull misty days, so common in that area, the walls of the abbey almost merge with the rocky surroundings. The grey bare flags of the Burren can be seen on the left of the picture. No wonder the monks named their home "Petra Fertilis" when it was founded in 1195 from Inislounaght, and endowed by the O'Brien clan, kings of Thomond. It was one of the few Cistercian houses founded on the poorer soils of the west of Ireland — a bleak setting, desolate enough to satisfy the cravings of an Egyptian anchorite.

In 1554 the abbey was granted to Murrough O'Brien, earl of Thomond, the site thus reverting to the same family who gave the original endowment over three hundred years before.

Today some of the abbey lands are owned by Gerard Kerin, who lives in Abbey House, Bellharbour.

Dunbrody - established in 1182 on land given to the Cistercians by Herve de Montmorency, a feudal Anglo-Norman baron who accompanied Strongbow in the initial invasion of Leinster. The official title of the monastery was Portus Sanctae Mariae, and it was founded from St. Mary's Abbey in Dublin. This abbey had the first Cistercian school for boys in Ireland. Dunbrody was a typical fortress monastery on the perimeter of what was to become the "Pale", it looked out over the upper reaches of Waterford Harbour from its green Wexford fields. No Irish monk was welcome within its walls. It lasted for over three hundred and fifty years until Henry VIII handed it over to Sir Osborne Etchingam.

Roger Stalley says, "the austere ruins of Dunbrody form one of the most imposing Cistercian monuments in Ireland".



Dunbrody Abbey, Co. Wexford

MESSAGE FROM THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Last year we topped the 2,000 mark on the Union Rolls. This steady upward trend will remain with us for some time, with God's help. The Union is sixty years old this year and we should mark the occasion in some special way. If you have any suggestions, the Central Committee would welcome them. Write to: General Secretary, Cistercian College Union, Mount Saint Joseph Abbey, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary.

This year is also the Silver Jubilee of the Abbot, Dom Colmcille O'Toole, Patron of the Union.

We need to husband our finances. Three Branches failed completely in the drive to raise money some time ago, leaving us short £6,000 of the goal we had hoped to attain — it is still a case of the willing horses pulling the heaviest loads!

As you know, our biggest expense is the "Review". It costs about £2,000 per annum to publish and post just two issues. Briefly, this wee paper costs 50p You would get the daily newspaper for that!

Finally, please let us know if you change your address.



Curcomroe Abbey, Co. Clare.

"IT SEEMS LIKE YESTERDAY"

from an article in 'An Fiolar'
by Fr. Neil Kevin (C.C.R. 1916-'20)

Whenever I go back to Roscrea now my first impression is that all the boys look very small. I am told this is the common experience of men on visiting old school, and that it is entirely an illusion to think that the former giants have passed away, or rather that there ever were any. Be that as it may I always think what giants they were on the Senior Fifteen, when I went to the College in 1916. I recall Mick Moloney making his way along the wing with several Rockwell players on his back. But Mick's superhuman effort failed to bring a score, and Rockwell won that day.

The match was played in the field above the stream, which we always regarded as a most unlucky ground for us. Of our early efforts to play Rugby, with a ball on a reduced scale, I can remember best of all the part played by Father Ailbe when he left the senior game and came across to give order and meaning to our frenzied and frantic movements. He moved in and out through us with the speed and driving force of an east wind. The keenness of his eye was a legend that had already been adequately — if inelegantly — commemorated amongst us. Nothing escaped him. Even when we had raised the confusion to the nth power, by the sudden decision on the part of sixteen forwards to go "winging" — even then he managed to see some of us do

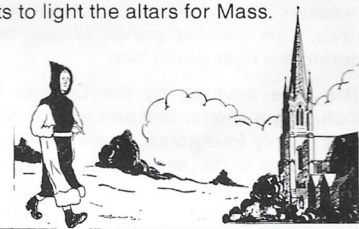
something, which he always applauded with a quick "Beautiful, beautiful...".

In that juvenile training ground of the "kid's team", I remember that every player graduated the scrum. As a result of this some of the new boys would try to find an excuse for not donning their new togs and jersey. One such endeavoured to impress Father Ignatius with something his local doctor had said about not playing Rugby. It sounded fictitious. Anyway Father Ignatius was in a hurry, so he just gave the boy a hurried message for that doctor, and then the boy was seen to run very quietly for his togs and jersey!

But I have used up my pages and have no space left to tell of those fairly far-off days, which seem but yesterday, before the proud pavilion reared its head, or the new ball alleys; before the days of Gilbert and Sullivan opera, and before so many other modern things at Roscrea of which I know not. We lived between the Junior, Middle and Senior grades in those days — Preparatory Grade had just lost its status. But it was not all hard going. Possibly times were better than they are now. At all events the Educational System of those days did not make so much noise, or have so much noise made about it as now. No one thought of a campaign to abolish home-work and the study-hall. Were we lazy fellows, I wonder... We did not have the magnificent ball-alleys of to-day; but the

problems presented, and the feats accomplished, by tossing to the door (even to the door-knob) in the old alley are not likely to emulated anywhere else.

But there is no time to continue those reminiscences of a place always changing, yet always the same. Our College stands in the shadow of a monastery whose life has not changed in a thousand years. Our memories of the College are all dependent on our memories of the Monks. You will think of one thing in their life and I of some other thing. I am thinking now of the permanence of that scene at the High Mass on Sundays, of how historic as well as impressive it was; and always there moves through my memory of it a brother (now dead) who carried the thurible, and genuflected with an ease and gracefulness that utterly belied his seventy odd years. With this memory there goes another of serving Mass for Father Ignatius at six o'clock in the monastery chapel, when all was dark and the lights of torches shot here and there as brothers walked before priests to light the altars for Mass.



ACROSS THE IRISH SEA

For some time now the number of our students who go to Great Britain to continue their studies, do post graduate courses or take up jobs has been increasing. Many of these young men have asked us to put them in touch with colleagues so that they can "get together". The following list may help. Could we have phone numbers please?

Aniel Cole, 43 The Orchard, Lightwater, Surrey.
John Byrne, 84 Torrington Drive, Potters Bar, Herts.
Anthony Frost, 45 Oakwood Road, Hampstead Garden Suburb, London NW11 6RL.
Gerry Enright, 13 Queenhill Road, South Croydon, Surrey CR2 8DV.
David Cummins, 5 Duke Road, Chiswick, W4 2BA.
John Brophy, 'Carlovia', St. Vincent's Road, Torquay, TQ1 4EH, Devon.
Rev. Michael Campion, St. Charles Church, Church Road, Goshforth, Newcastle on Tyne, NE3 1TX.
Rev. Raymond Collier, 28 Reddington Road, Hampstead, London NW3.
V. Rev. B. Donlon, St. Bernadette's, 40 Warren Place, Brownhills, Walsall, W. Mids, WS8 6BY.
V. Rev. Edmund Dobson P.P., 60A Victoria Road, Maldon, Essex, CM9 7HF.
Dr. George Egan, 276 Birchfield Road, Widnes, Lancs.
Ciaran Folan, 7 Ashley Close, Winchester, Hants, SO22 6RL.

Ray Gibbons, 8 Pinewood Rd., Branksome PK., Poole, Dorset BK13 6JS.
Brian Maher, 5 Gough House, Windsor St., London N1 8QA.
*Michael McCormack, 8 Barnet Way, Mill Hill, London NW7 3AN.
Vincent Maguire, 59 London Road, Chelmsford, Essex.
Joseph Mellotte (Snr.), 5 Bosworth Road, Bounds Green, London N11.
Dr. Manus Moran, The Old Forge Hs., Marston Mesey, Swindon, Wilts, SW6 6LQ.
Ulick Nolan, 8 Britten Crescent, Chelmsford, Essex.
Dr. Patrick J. O'Connor, St. Benedict's, Backombe Lane, Wendover, Bucks, HP22 6EQ.
**Patrick Moriarty, Tre Newydd, Shirenewton, Chepstow, Gwent, NP6 6RN.
Thomas O'Driscoll FRCS, Calvert House, Greenway, Hutton Mount, Brentwood, Essex.
John O'Shea, 57 Warham Rd., South Croydon, Surrey CR2 6LH.
John Perrott, 'Casana', 237 Leeson Hill, Chislehurst, Kent.
Richard Quealy, 86 Rock Avenue, Gillingham, Kent SW5 1SU.
Murray Reid, 1 West Green Road, Sth., Tottenham, London N15 5BX.
*Michael Ryan, 39 Estelle Road, Hampstead, London NW3.
Chris Sherry, Fernleigh, Park Road, Bolton, Lancs.
Dr. Vincent Sherry, 17 Herondale Avenue, London SW18.
John Yurky, 35 Buckingham Avenue, London N20 9DM.

Aiden Watson, 57 Pulteny Rd., South Woodford, London E18 1PR.
James F. Geary, 15 Wellington Road, Caterham, Surrey.
Brian Flynn, 31 The Stewarts, Bishop's Stortford, Herts.
John Feehan, 12 Egremont Road, Berastead, Maidstone, Kent.
Owen Corrigan, BDS, 7A, Gibson Road, Heaton Moor, Stockport, Cheshire SK4 4JK.
Conor Irwin, Flat 2, 18 Ashburton Road, Southsea, Portsmouth.
Joe Mellotte, 34 St. Crispin's Close, Hampstead, London SW3 2QF.
Patrick Curtin, 9 Down's Avenue, Chislehurst, Kent.
Paul Irwin, FRCSI, 29 Bryn Glas, Thornhill, Cardiff CF4 9AA.
Brian Kelly, 10 The Grange, Church Road, Old Windsor SL4 2PS.
Martin Kelly, 28 Craigpark, Wellington Road, Aberdeen AB11 4BD.
Enda Carthy, 263 Hertford Road, Edmonton, London N9.
Oliver O'Shea, 7 Saxon Drive, West Acton, London W3 ONY.
Brian McClean, 7 Hamilton Drive, Worpheston, Crawford, Surrey GU2 6PL.
Alex Brown, 149 Fulham Road, Chelsea, London SW3 6RT.
Cormach O'Modhrain, General Manager, Post House Hotel, Canterbury Road, Ashford, Kent TN24 8QQ.
Paul Keoghan, 21 Line Tree Road, Mainslaw, Middlesex.

*Union Officers London Branch. **Chairman

THE MODEL FARM

Earlier this year the bulldozers were out in Roscrea, removing the last vestiges of the Model Farm. Buildings, sheds, henhouses, barns, walls, all were reduced to rubble and scrap. Trees and stumps were uprooted, hollows filled in, and the whole area levelled. A solitary drinking trough broke the smooth surface. Soon nature took over, and what was once a farmyard and paddocks was covered with grass which soon merged with the surrounding field. The shelter belt was gone and the monastery spire peeped over the crest of the hill. The model farm was gone — a memory in the minds of an older generation.

Established in 1916 when Fr. Ailbe became President of the College, the Model Farm, as it came to be called, was part of a new curriculum in practical Agriculture. Another aspect of the same course was that each student in the Farmer Class was allotted two square perches of ground and on this he had to prepare and cultivate a garden. Fourteen of these plots were laid out between the College and the Back Avenue. There is a photograph taken in 1918 of eleven shirt-sleeved students, each tending his patch of potatoes and vegetables set out in neat rows. This was the period of "dig or die" during the First World War.

The area covered by the College Farm, including a shelter belt and tree plantation, was twenty four acres. Twelve acres were given over to permanent pasture — which was subdivided into six plots and grazed in rotation. The remaining area was cultivated; in addition to roots, grain and hay, catch crops were grown for Spring, Winter and Autumn feeding of stock.

A small dairy herd was built up from the beginning. The aim was the production of a dual purpose type of cow suitable for milk production and breeding of marketable stores.



Where the Model Farm was.

The cows were pure-bred dairy shorthorns — some with high sounding names: Grand Duchess VII, Roscrea Rose, Broadhooks Maid. But does anyone remember humble Lily, who is recorded as having given 930 gallons of milk with 4.9% butter fat in forty five weeks.

The course of the original farmers' class was essentially vocational in character. It concentrated on teaching farming to boys who had both some previous knowledge of the subject and experience of work on the land. It improved their understanding of the principles underlying the ordinary farm operations, and taught them the elements of the business side of farming. They learned how to husband cattle, pigs and poultry, and to cultivate grass, roots, grain and catch crops.

The system lasted into the early thirties, but the two square perch plots had gone and shadow hung over the Farmers' Class. The Department of Education had devised a new syllabus for Secondary Schools called Agricultural Science. Under Fr. Benignus this was taught in the College up to Leaving Certificate level, but the Model Farm had only a secondary role. It supplied milk, eggs, poultry and bacon to the College right through World War II and into the '50s. When Fr. Ailbe died the image of the Model Farm waned, and the retirement of Fr. Benignus marked its early demise. Farming methods in the modern world rendered the twenty four acres around the hill an uneconomical proposition. The Monastery Farm took over, and "The 1904 Model", as Fr. Benignus called it with a sniff, died without a whimper.



VERY REV. THOMAS CANON BOWDEN, P.P. Clough, Co. Kilkenny. 1930. Came to C.C.R. in 1927, a native of Urlingford. He did his ecclesiastical studies in St. Kieran's Seminary, Kilkenny and was ordained in June 1937 and ministered for a time in St. Adrew's Cathedral, Edinburgh. He returned to the Diocese of Ossory when war broke out. He was an enthusiastic supporter of Gregorian Chant. He was elected President of Cistercian College Union in 1964. R.I.P. His brother Michael (1928) is a merchant in Urlingford.

We featured Comdt. MICHAEL CUMMINS in the last issue of the Review as one of the oldest surviving past students. Sad to say he passed away after a brief illness a couple of months ago. He left C.C.R. in 1911. He was one of three brothers who came to the College from Dublin in the very early days. May they rest in peace.

JOHN MULCAIRE, 1914, came originally from Kilmeady, Co. Limerick. During the "trouble times" he served with the West Limerick Brigade of the old I.R.A. He died in Caherconlish in January of this year. He donated his body for medical research. May he rest in peace.

OBITUARY LIST

DANIEL LYONS, 1930, was a native of Tipperary town, and after taking a degree in U.C.D. devoted his life to Vocational teaching in Carrick-on-Suir. In his time he was a prominent member of Macra na Feirme. He died at home in Carrick late last year. May he rest in peace.

GEORGE B. FRISBY, 1934: he came to C.C.R. from New York, U.S.A. in 1929. He took his B.A. in Dublin and taught in Ilford in England for many years. He was very proud of his association with the Sodality of Our Lady in the College and in his voluminous correspondence over the years to members of the community in Roscrea, always added E. de M. to his signature. He returned to Ireland when he retired, and died in Cill Airne Nursing Home, Tipperary last Autumn. May he rest in peace.

DR. THOMAS RYAN, 1934, originally came from Trim, Co. Meath. He graduated in Medicine in U.C.D. and spent most of his professional life in Dublin. He died late last year after a long illness. R.I.P.

RICHARD DOWD, 1942, was a native of Birr. He qualified as an Engineer in Dublin. He became involved with the Union at an early

age and served as an Officer with the Dublin Branch for many years. R.I.P.

HUGH O'CONNOR, 1932, came from Tull Co. Clare. He taught for many years in Roscrea town. Two of his sons, David and Kevin, are past pupils in C.C.R. We extend to the family our deepest sympathy.

FR. MICHAEL KEATING (1937) was a native of Killimer, Co. Clare. Ordained for the Dioceses of Killaloe in 1944 he was sent to Oklahoma where there was a scarcity of priests at the time. After long service in the U.S.A. he returned to Killaloe and died in Kilnamona, Ennis, Co. Clare a short time ago. May he rest in peace.

RICHARD CONDON (1933) from Newcastle-west spent three years in C.C.R. He left before the Inter. R.I.P.

VERY REV. ROBERT (BERTIE) CAREY (1937) a native of Coolderry, Co. Offaly, was ordained for the Diocese of Killaloe in Maynooth 1947. He was Parish Priest of Sixmilebridge at the time of his death. May he rest in peace.

