

Tulsk History Society

Newsletter No. 13

June 2024

Tulsk History Society historytulsk@gmail.com



Members: Mike Lennon (Chair) Marese Feeney (Secretary) John Higgins (Assist. Chair) Mary Kelly (Assistant Secretary), Catherine McGuire, Eileen Beirne (Archivist), Noel Sheerin (Treasurer), Jim Dockery, Jody Moylan (PRO), Therese Hanley, Joe Donoghue, Manus Tiernan, Edward Flanagan, Milo Lowry, Marty Brady, Mary Conry, Michael Jones.

Welcome to our second newsletter of 2024 and our first since our AGM, which saw some changes of position on our committee (as reflected above). Overall the annual meeting in April was a positive one. A thorough review of the year took place, and a general desire to attract new members was a key takeaway point. Also since March THS have been successful in gaining grant aid under the Local Enhancement Programme (LEP). Though the sum is less than 50% of what we applied for, we do recognise that the competition was stiff this year, with so many community groups applying for the same aid. The funding this year will go towards our Heritage Week Project, which we will advertise closer to the date. In the meantime, if you wish to look at our back-catalogue of newsletters or any edition of our Tulsk Morning Howl bulletin, you can do so by visiting our website at tulskhs.com

In this month's edition Mike Lennon concludes his excellent series on the schools of the parish with a look at the history of Rathnagly school (our cover photo, as the building exists today). Bernie Conry makes a special contribution to this month's issue with a poem he wrote in memory of Rathcroghan's Vincent Galvin. We also publish Part 1 of our natural heritage feature on the lakes of the parish, with THS exclusive aerial photography. Manus Tiernan concludes his two-part compilation on the journey of St Patrick in the region, while Noel Sheerin writes an anniversary special on the 1984 events that took place in Tulsk to celebrate the centenary of the GAA. Our Wells of the Parish series continues with the lovely well at Carrowtoosan. We hope you enjoy the read!

THS

Rathnagly School 1872-1965 by Mike Lennon

The Ordnance Survey map of the early 1840s shows a schoolhouse in Rathnagly townland. However, it is not mentioned in the 1826 list of hedge schools in the parish and neither is it listed in the mid-1850s Griffith Valuation survey. As no other record of it exists, we can only assume it operated in the 1830s and '40s and then closed. The next reference to a school in Rathnagly was the publication of this advertisement in the Roscommon newspapers in November 1872.

RAFFLE
In Aid of the New Schools
At Rathnagly,
NEAR TULSK,
TO THE EDITOR OF THE JOURNAL.

DEAR SIR—I beg to announce, through the columns of THE JOURNAL, that the raffle in aid of the Rathnagly schools, which was to be held on the 18th inst, is postponed to Friday 27th December. On that day the business of the Raffle shall commence at 11 o'clock, a.m., at Mr Hill's Hotel, Tusk.

Two schools—male and female—each capable of accommodating more than one hundred children, are now erected on an eligible site, freely given by D N O'Connor, M.P. The cost of the schools is £245, not including the necessary furniture. Of that amount not more than 100 pounds could be raised in the district of Rathnagly. With the view of liquidating the debt (£145), still pending, the munificence of a gentleman in the vicinity of Tusk has enabled me to institute a Raffle, which however successful, shall still leave a margin for further demands. It is with the hope of being enabled to meet those demands that I now appeal to the friends of Education in this county and else where.

I return most sincere thanks to those who have already sent subscriptions to the fund for the Rathnagly schools. Any further contributions shall be thankfully received by James Lynam, Esq., Tomosa, Tusk, or by myself; and, with those already received, shall be gratefully acknowledged in the TUS JOURNAL and Messenger.

I remain dear sir,
Your obedient servant,
H NANGLE, C.C., Tusk,
8th Nov. 1872.

When the application for funding the teacher's salary was made to the Commissioners of National Education in November 1875, Rathnagly school had been set up three years earlier as evidenced by Fr. Henry Nangle's letter in the local newspapers. The site was given by Denis M O'Connor, M.P. and £100 was donated by clergy and gentry from mid-Roscommon. Fr. Nangle was holding the advertised raffle to raise the remaining £145 owed on the construction of the school. The two-roomed building was slated and had boarded floors. While Tusk parish priest Fr. Tom Ryan, was the nominal patron and manager, the inspector noted "he has left all to his curate." John Donlon, then aged 48, was the nominated teacher. According to the inspector's report, Donlon had trained in Dublin in 1853 and taught in Kiltristan N.S. (1853-1858), Carnaska N.S. (1858-1859) and Strokestown N.S. (1859-1873). Following an accusation of being drunk, he resigned from Strokestown in September 1873 and took up teaching in Rathnagly.

John Donlon moved to Curraghroe school in 1878 and was replaced by John Holmes who was previously at Kinnard N.S. Bridget Dufficy from Clooneigh was appointed a 'workmistress' (needlework teacher) in April 1878. In 1880, John Holmes went to Boheroe N.S. and a local Rathnagly man, Peter Feeney, was appointed principal. Peter and Bridget Dufficy got married in 1881. Inspection reports during this period urged that the construction of 'outoffices' (latrines) be finished. In June 1882, a loan of £183 was sanctioned and tenders were invited for the building of a teacher's house. By 1884, Joseph Croghan was working as a monitor in the school. Peter Feeney died in March 1886 from phthisis (tuberculosis) and his widow Bridget was refused a pension because Peter was aged under 30.

The next principal was Stephen Dockery, a native of Clooneragh, Strokestown, who transferred from Cloonfree N.S. Bridget Feeney was forced to leave in September 1888 due to low numbers learning needlework. Over the following thirty years, there were ongoing inspection comments about the need for repairs to the school and outoffices which were in front of and too near the school itself. The principal's daughter, Charlotte Dockery, was appointed a junior assistant mistress in 1912. Also in 1912, a Miss O'Kelly conducted at six weeks night course in domestic science for the ladies of the district. In 1915, Miss M. Kennedy gave instruction in butter-making over six weeks. Charlotte

Dockery married RIC Constable Frank McAllister in 1916 and moved to Galway. She was replaced as the junior assistant mistress by her sister, Alice Dockery who later married Harry Smyth in 1925. A file note in 1919 stated that “desks are being altered to suit small pupils.” Stephen Dockery retired in November 1922 after 36 years as the Rathnagly principal. He died February 1936.

The next principal was Pat Filan from Mullygallon, Castleplunkett. His stay at Rathnagly ended in 1927 when he married Katie Judge from Bohola and moved to



Mayo Abbey N.S. Tuam native William (Bill) McHale was appointed the next principal. During his tenure, the ongoing poor conditions at the school continued to be aired and put on the long finger. The arrival of Fr. P. J. McGowan as manager in 1940 finally saw a series of grants totalling £56 being approved towards an expenditure of £84 for improvements to make the school “serviceable for a few years.” Bill McHale transferred to Castleplunkett N.S. in 1941 and John P. (Jock) Shannon took his place.

In March 1949, the Roscommon Herald reported “it is expected that work will soon commence on the building of a new National School at Rathnagly, Tulsk.” However, that never came to pass. Dr. Michael Flynn, County Medical Officer, repeated the call for a new school in 1954, but that also went unheeded. Alice Smyth left Rathnagly in 1952 to take up an assistant teaching role in Clooneyquinn/Killina N.S. Six years later, Alice and Jock Shannon swapped schools when he took up the principalship at Killina and she replaced him as principal at Rathnagly, thus replicating her father’s (Stephen Dockery) role of seventy years earlier. When Alice retired in July 1965, the Department of Education saw it as an opportunity to close the school, which was announced the following September. The remaining pupils were bused to Tulsk N.S. This caused some local controversy as the parents were charged a contribution of one shilling per child per week towards the cost of the transport. The 150-year-old school still stands while fewer and fewer of its past pupils are around to remember it.

Footnote – I wish to acknowledge Mary Gormley’s Tulsk Parish in Historic Maigh Aí for some of the information in this article. Jody Moylan’s stark, but beautiful photo, shows the now deserted school. This ends the series of articles on the history of Tulsk Parish schools. This is a listing of the articles in the series:

The Hedge Schools of Tulsk Parish	Newsletter No. 1
Clashaganny National School 1858-1980	Newsletter No. 2
Kilmurry National School 1858-2019	Newsletter No. 6
Caddlebrook National School 1871-1967	Newsletter No. 7
Flaska National School 1853-1905	Newsletter No. 8
Clooneyquinn/Killina National School 1849-Present	Newsletter No. 9
Tulsk National School 1863-Present	Newsletter No. 10
Rathcroghan National School 1937-2015	Newsletter No. 11
Castleplunkett National School 1865-Present	Newsletter No. 12
Rathnagly National School 1872-1965	Newsletter No. 13

A Poem In Tribute by **Bernie Conry**

The following poem was composed by Bernie Conry of Ballyglass in a tribute to Vincent Galvin of Moneylea (of the Galvins of Rathcroghan) who emigrated to America in 1955. The poem was composed circa. 1960s. Vincent died in New York in 1997 and was a keen sportsman in his youth. As Bernie states 'he was a gentleman as well.' Thanks to Bernie for contributing to this edition of our newsletter

Last night I had a lovely dream in a city far away
I dreamed that I was back again in dear old Moneylea
I thought I climbed Rathcroghan Royal Fort
That's famed both near and far
I stood there on top and watched the traffic
As it flowed between Tusk and Ballinagare
I gazed down along the valley
At Mantua's lovely vales below
They seemed to not have changed a bit
Since I left there long ago
I then came down and took my bike
And with my pals I cycled to Elphin
To play a game of football, all hoping we could win
The ref then blew the whistle and I heard it far away
It woke me from my slumber just at the break of day
And I then found out I was in New York City
There one thousand miles away from all my friends
In Ireland and my home in Moneylea



Late Mr. Vincent Galvin
Mr. Vincent Galvin, who died recently in Yonkers, New York, was a member of the famous Elphin team of the 1950's. He, with his brothers, Gerry and P.J. (R.I.P.) were valued members of that team. Vincent left for the U.S.A. where he became an accountant with I.B.M. Corporation in White Plains. He was due to return on holidays in July when he died suddenly at his home. He is survived by his brother, Gerry (Scotland), and his sisters, Kathleen Finnerty and Tess Galvin, both of England. The Elphin G.A.A. Club wish to extend sympathy to them and to his sister-in-law, Eithne Galvin, Rathcroghan. In his memory the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be celebrated on September 20th in Mantua (Kilmaryl) Church at the request of the members of the 50's team.

1997 obituary of
Vincent Galvin



THE LAKES OF THE PARISH: PART 1

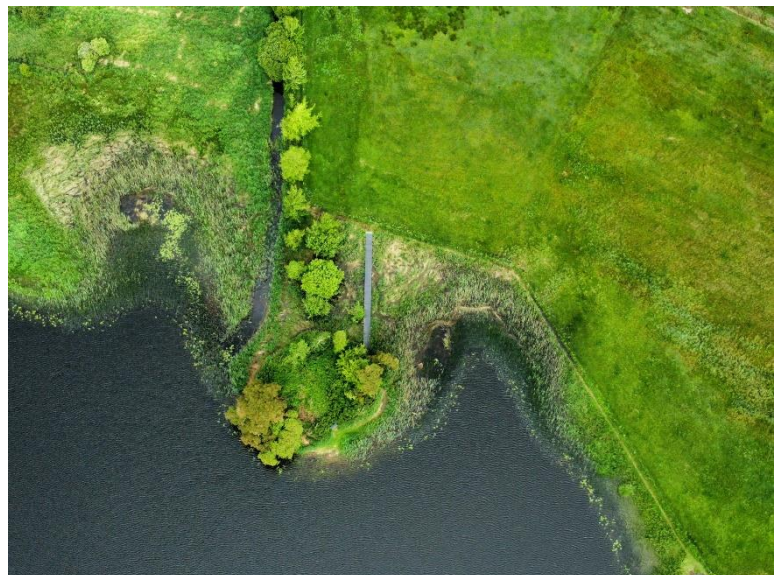


IN THIS NATURAL HERITAGE SPECIAL ARTICLE, we look at (literally!) the Tusk parish lakes with the help of our own aerial photography. There are 24 lakes in Tusk parish, all lying east of the N61 Roscommon to Boyle road, with the majority of those in the section of the parish north of the N5. Known to many as the White Lakes for the limestone plains they are set in, these loughs are well stocked with Rudd (in particular), Bream, Perch, Pike, and Eel. Our main picture here shows (from partial at bottom to top, west to east) Lough Rogers, Lough Connymore (Lower), Lough Connymore (Upper), Lough Conny Beg and Lough Gal. The narrow lake in top left quarter is Lough Leim. The small round lake to its right is untitled. Lough Gal (small image, right) is on the east side of the Blackstick Road.





Lough Patrick is one of Tusk parish's most accessible lakes with a modern fishing stand, walkway and seating bench, making this one a haven for shoreline fishing. The bench is placed on the medieval crannog that today is easily reached 12 months of the year with the (relatively) new composite walkway. In 2010 archaeologist Michael Moore recorded that the old crannog – which was fully water-bound in the 1800s Ordnance Survey maps – was the site of uncovered ancient animal bones. The lake, in the townlands of Cloonmahaan, Foxborough and Corrabauan, is known to yield good Rudd, Pike and Eel, and is now approximately 11 acres in area.



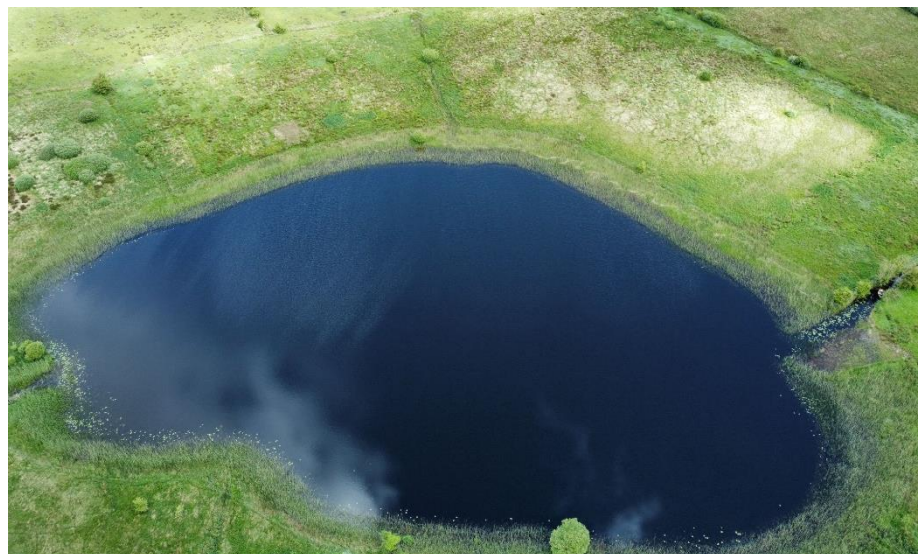


Lough Connymore, in Clooneigh, Carrigeenagappul, Corrabaun and Foxborough, is a pleasing U-shaped lake that is known for its Pike, Rudd, Trout and Perch. One of the largest in the parish, Connymore is an easy walk from the bridge and stile on the Blackstick Road (Carrigeenagappul). This is a lake where the limestone of the region is easy to see and one can understand why these lakes are also known as the 'white lakes.' The image to the right is on the west bank of the lake and was taken last winter.





The above image shows Lough Annee and Lough Rogers. The small lake 'Loughanduff' in the old maps, is in the townland of Foxborough and is well served for fishing with a new fishing stand (the older wooden one is still there too). The larger Lough Rogers is well known for its Rudd, Pike and Eel and is sizeable at over 15 acres. The lake in the right image is Lough Acrann, and though only 5 acres it has parts in four townlands – Corragarve, Correagh, Moneyboy and Clooneigh.



Retracing the steps of St. Patrick in Magh Ai. Part 2

Compiled by Manus Tiernan

Introduction:

This is Part 2 of the article, *Retracing the steps of St. Patrick in Magh Aoi*, written by the late James J. O'Donnell of Castleplunkett to commemorate the Patrician year of 1961. We saw in Part 1, St. Patrick arrive on the plain of Magh Ai, set up court in Rathcroghan, baptize the princesses of the High King at Ogulla and take on the druids in contest. In Part 2, we continue Patrick's journey through the plains of Magh Ai.

Greeted Patrick.

According to O'Flaherty's History of West Connaught, Brian, son of Eochy had twenty-four sons and all lived in Rathcroghan when St. Patrick arrived there. Owen, the oldest son, refused to meet St. Patrick and he tried to influence his brothers not to receive the saint. The youngest son was named Duagh Galagh because he was dark-haired and very brave. He is known as 'Duagh the Valorous' in the old records. This young prince waited on St. Patrick and courteously saluted him and tendered him respect and obedience. The saint blessed him saying "you and your posterity shall be kings over your brethren" and so it came to pass for the descendants of Duagh were known as Siol Murry and every King of Connaught down to Cathal Crove Dearg (13th century) belonged to the Siol Murry. (The chieftains of Connaught - the O'Connor's, the McDermott's, the O'Flanagans, the O'Hanleys, McBrennons, and O'Duffys and others were all of the Siol Murry, descended from Duagh Galagh). Kilmurry, a townland in the ancient parish of Baslic, occupies the center of the territory over which the Siol Murry ruled until the confiscations by the Tudor Monarchs.

Duagh Galagh became King of Connaught after the death of his kinsman Oilil Molt. He had become a Christian by this time and an ardent follower of St. Patrick. The saint presided at his inauguration on the



mound of Carnfree, now called the Cairns of Carn. Carnfree may still be seen as a small stone-enclosed mound on the summit of elevated ground once known as Cnoc na Dala, meaning the 'hill of the assembly', a short distance south-west of Tulsk Village. Here on Cnoc na Dala the ancient tribes of Connaught held their meetings and here they inaugurated their Kings with many ceremonies handed down from time immemorial. In preparation for the inauguration of Duagh

Galagh, St. Patrick revised the code of ceremonies and deleted those which were not in accordance with Christian faith.

Suitable Pulpit.

There is no record that St. Patrick preached at Rathcroghan, but he certainly did on Cnoc na Dala. This hill was the traditional assembly hill of the tribes of Olnmeacht or ancient Connaught. It is natural to expect that the great apostle did not miss the opportunity of addressing the host gathered for the inauguration of Duagh Galagh. A tradition exists that he celebrated Mass and preached from a hillock near the mound of the inauguration. This hillock is known as Dumha Selca. Dumha is the name given to any burial mound raised over some hero of the bronze-age and Selca may be a proper name. At all events, Patrick found at Dumha Selca a very suitable ready-made pulpit and made full use of it. We learn from the records that Patrick baptized nine brothers, princes of the Ui Bhrian afterwards the Siol Murry, at Lough Selca now identified as Shad Lough. He also converted the learned druids Caplait and Maol, and afterwards he

ordained them priests. He blessed the assembly from the summit of Dumha Selca. He also blessed three pillar stones nearby, which were greatly honoured by the people, and he wrote or inscribed upon them the names 'Jesus, Soter, Salvator', the



Hebrew, Greek and Latin names of the Saviour. Thus he changed objects of pagan worship into Christian monuments. The inscriptions were not of the kind to resist the passing of time for there is no trace of any such marks on the pillars now. One pillar about 12 feet tall stands today as straight as it did in St. Patrick's time. But the second is lying flat and the third is low, perhaps the upper part may have been broken and the piece removed.

Made Many Converts.

St. Patrick certainly made many converts around this area for when he succeeded so well with the nobility, others were sure to follow. Leaving the vicinity of Rathcroghan, Patrick continued his journey westwards towards the holy mountain which now bears his name - Croach Patrick meaning the reek of

Patrick. A story is told of an incident which happened at the outset of his journey as the saint and his company came to a small lake in south Airteach, now thought to be Loughlynn Lake. The surroundings of the lake were heavily forested but there was a clear open space on its bank resembling a playing field. There was a crowd of people gathered in this space, and in the centre was a ring in which two armed men faced one another prepared to engage in combat. It was a custom at that time to ask the first stranger of importance who would come on the scene his opinion in matters of dispute. Patrick's appearance at once placed him in a position to express his views. The saint was informed that the two young men were cousins and that each thought that he should be appointed Tainiste or Tainist, making him the successor of the chieftain, their uncle. The matter was about to be settled by 'Comhraic aon Fhir' or personal combat. St. Patrick closely viewed the two young fighters and paused as if offering a prayer. He then stepped forward between the young men and spoke to one of them thus, "you are to be chieftain of this territory after your uncle, and you are to rule your people with justice and let your rule be kindly." The other warrior shouted in anger, "What am I to get if I cannot inherit?" Patrick placed his hand on his shoulder and smiled into his eyes and said, "I call you to a higher destiny and a more important charge. You are to come with me and prepare yourself to rule and guide the hearts and minds of men."

First Bishop of Baslic.

Thus we hear of St. Sochell, the first Bishop of Baslic. According to Professor Owen McNeill, St. Patrick gave the young man the name Sochell which means noble holy youth. This story indicates the steps St. Patrick took to establish a native clergy. His vast mission could not be accomplished by himself and the priests who accompanied him to Ireland, so he was continually on the look-out for suitable young men to teach and train for the priesthood. There is no doubt he was remarkably successful in securing them. St. Patrick, like St. Paul on his missionary journeys, re-visited the places where he had already preached and taught. He also made the very long journey to Rome to give an account of the progress of the faith in Ireland. When he returned to Ireland, he brought with him certain relics, amongst them were relics of St. Peter and St. Paul.

At Oran.

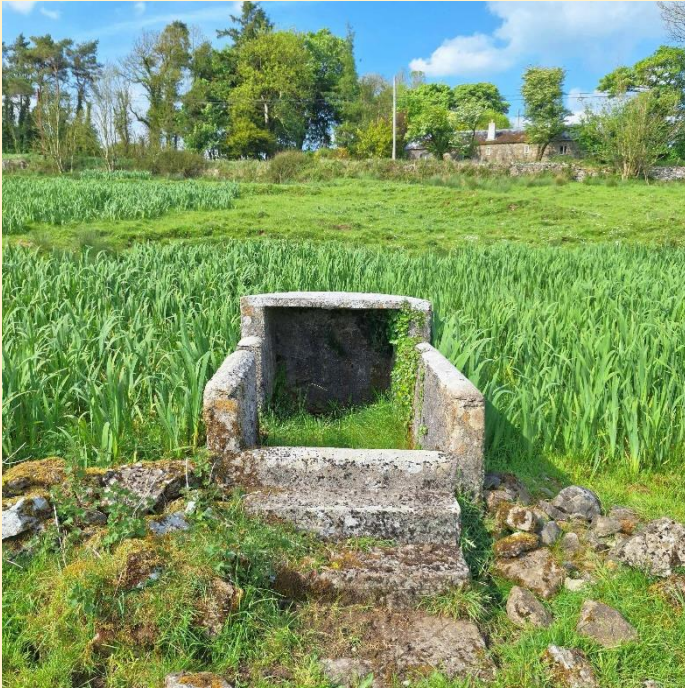
We next find Patrick ministering at Oran, a short distance west of Roscommon Town. Uran Gar or Urann Garach was the original name from which Oran is

derived. Urann means a clear pure spring well and gar possibly means pleasant or kindly. It is thought that St. Patrick caused a spring to burst forth at Oran and this spring is venerated on the last Sunday of July. People go there to make traditional stations around the holy well and pray before the statue of St. Patrick erected there some years ago by the late Very Rev. Michael Keane P.P. of Oran and Cams or, as some people call it, the parish of Clooneygormican. Patrick was very attached to Oran and there is mention in the records that he had at one time the intention of making it an ecclesiastical capital. It is related that the saint and his company were viewing the countryside from the hill of Oran on one occasion. It was a beautiful evening, and the sun was shining down on the smiling wide plain northwards from the hill. St. Sochell had at this time been ordained a priest and as he stood beside St. Patrick, he expressed admiration of the beauty of the territory. Patrick agreed and added that since Sochell admired this country so much, he would make him bishop over it and give him the spiritual care of its people.

Basilica Sanctorum.

In time a church was founded in this area and St. Patrick bestowed upon it some of the holy relics he had brought from Rome. For this reason the church got the name Basilica Sanctorum, and from Basilica we have the name Baslic, once a parish in itself but now joined with Ogulla on account of the decline of the population. The ancient cemetery of Baslic probably marks the site of the Basilica, and many years ago St. Sochell's feast day on 1st of August was celebrated there. Very Rev. Thomas Dillon, P.P. of Ballintubber who died in 1873, when interviewed by Sean O'Donovan in 1838, gave it as his opinion that the name Baslic came from two Gaelic words, Baws meaning death and Leac, a flagstone, thus Baslic would mean the death stone to indicate pagan human sacrifices carried out there. However, O'Donovan doubts this interpretation, and other authorities since are of the opinion that the resemblance between Baslic and Baws Leac is only coincidence. The present church at Kilmurry, which serves the parochial district of Baslic, is properly noted as St. Paul's church. It may be that the title comes from the fact that the first church of Baslic enshrined some of the relics of the great apostle of the Gentiles.

Wells of the Parish #6: Carrowtoosan



Co-ordinates: 53.7920964, -8.2826584

Townland: Carrowtoosan

Condition 2024: Sound structurally, water present with overgrowth, not in use

This structurally sound old well, build circa. 1950s lies in the small townland of Carrowtoosan which today has no residents. Old maps show a spring on the spot with a well having likely been present for some time before the 20th century structure was built. The townland is just under 3km from Tulsk village on the Ballinagare road. Griffith's Valuation shows that one John Busby was the sole resident of the townland in the 1850s, owning its entire 111 acres, being an immediate lessor 'in fee'. There were eight residents in 1901 in one abode (three surnames), while in 1911 that number had fallen to two (shepherd Michael Noone and wife Kate). The well is a nice example of this type of structure, of which there are a few, around the parish. An opening on the west facing wall gives the well a second point of access along with the main, stepped entrance.



Lá na gClub - GAA Centenary Year 1984 by Noel Sheerin

In the history of Tusk Lord Edwards GAA Club, 1984 is best remembered as the year the club captured its second county Intermediate football title after a thrilling replay in October against neighbouring St. Croan's in Hyde Park. However, less spoken about locally, perhaps, is the fact that the same year also marked the centenary of the founding of the GAA in Thurles in 1884. One of the major events inserted in the GAA calendar that year was an invitation from HQ in Croke Park to clubs all over the country to organise a community-based day of celebration on Sunday July 29th, entitled Lá na gClub (day for the club).

In response, Tusk Lord Edwards executive committee, excited by the idea, discussed in depth the options available and then started to put together one of the most wide-ranging series of local events involving the whole community to mark this very special occasion. Thankfully, it really turned out to be a fantastic celebration of what the GAA meant to the people of Tusk over previous decades.

The day began with 12.30 Mass at Ogulla Well, concelebrated by local clergy and former players who entered the priesthood, during which deceased members and supporters were remembered fondly. This was followed by a large and colourful flag-bearing band-led parade from Ogulla to the old Handball Alley in Tusk (site of Rathcroghan Visitor Centre). Participants included surviving members of victorious parish teams of the past - St. Brendan's (Killina) 1951, St. Mary's (Kilmurray) 1946 & 1959 and Lord Edwards 1930, 1923/24 & 1976. The parade also included underage boys and girls club and school teams.

An action-packed parish sports began at 2.30 in the McCormack family field opposite the Macra Hall with a large crowd in attendance to watch the various activities in action, including a fiercely competitive five team local inter-pub tug-o-war event (Kellys, Tusk Inn, Simpsons, Flanagans and Plunkett Inn).

It is worth noting that the club invited children in the local primary schools to submit in art form ideas for a new Tusk Parish Crest. The entries went on display in the Macra Hall on this day. Subsequently Bernie Chapman, the late Strokestown artist, was commissioned by the club to design the crest and to take into consideration the artwork of the school children. The club crest today is generally used as the parish crest also and is the outcome from that process which began during that memorable centenary year.

In Quigleys Field (Ballybroughan) Cic Fada and Puc Fada competitions were held while at 5pm, the final of the primary schools parish league was played after which a special under 16 tournament game was held. The U16 teams were as follows: Team A M. Kirrane (Capt), M. Greene, M. Kilkenny, J. Harte, P. Hession, T. Britton, G. Shelley, R. Connor, P. Hanly, F. Egan, S. Raftery, S. Kilkenny, M. Fahy, D. Kelly, J. Mannion, F. Connor, K. Cassidy.

Team B: M. Feely (Capt), A. Waldron, P. Beirne, T. Fahy, M. Moylan, G. Miley, P. Keaveney, G. Keane, M. Hanly, P. Egan, J. Lenehan, E. Donoghue, L. Mannion, D. Mannion, B. Dobey, M. Noone, E. Beatty.

To round off the football, a ladies match between Kilmurry and Tulsk/Killina took place which really stirred up the passion of the crowd and brought a fitting end to a fantastic sports event.

Later that evening, a handball competition took place. This too proved a real attraction with a series of single and double events, showcasing some fantastic skills for which Tulsk Handball Club was well renowned down the years. Earlier a 4-mile road race started outside the Macra Hall at 7pm with a significant number of competitors from local and surrounding areas involved.

Finally, a social event took place in the Tulsk Inn where the participants and winners of the days' events were applauded and presented with their medals. The highpoint of the whole day had to be the presentation of specially commissioned plaques to the two survivors of the victorious Tulsk Lord Edwards 1924 senior county football championship team, Tim Shannon (Simpsons Cross) and Pat Doyle (Kilbeggan, formerly Tulsk Garda Station). The music played into the night before bringing the curtain down on a most memorable and historic day for the entire parish community. It was a fitting tribute to the GAA movement in general and more specifically to its contribution to the welfare, culture and identity of young and old in Tulsk parish.

The late Paddy Kearney, Ballyglass and Tom Callaghan, Rathmoyle, having qualified for the Connacht finals of Senior Scor in Instrumental Music, made a special appearance on stage playing some fine traditional music before John Crummy and the Emeralds continued.

Not surprisingly, another football event took place on the previous day, due to time constraints on the Sunday itself. This was the Centenary Parish League in which semi-finals and final were played in Quigleys Field, home of the club for a number of years before our new pitch opened in 1985. The four teams involved were as follows:

St. Eithne's

T. Hynes (Manager), P. Fahy, R. Rafferty, S. Collins, L. Callaghan, F. Kearney, B. Greene, C. Hand, O. Dufficy, M. Donoghue, S. Donoghue, M. Conlon, J. Kearney, John Vesey, Liam Cunnane

Cuchulainn's

J J. Burke (Mngr), B J. Conlon, S. Robinson, P. Dufficy, J. Brady, G. Beatty, M. Conroy, S. Kelly, G. Beirne, M. Kennedy, P. Burke, N. Sheerin, J. Flanagan, G. Earley

St.Fidelma's

S. Raftery(Mngr), M. Farrell, M. Connor, V. Beirne, Joe Vesey, G. Vesey, P. Flanagan, L. Collins, P. Conway, G. Fahy, M. Dufficy, O'Callaghan, M. Cunnane, J. Beirne, P. Vesey

Queen Maeve's

M. Hunt (Mngr), P. Egan, J. J. O'Connor, J. Hession, H. Beirne, T. Farrell, S. Conway, J. Kenny, P. Kelly, T. Conway, Tommy Farrell, J. Mannion, F. Beirne, E. Raftery, M. Tiernan

It is wonderful to still see the great tradition of high levels of participation in Tusk GAA activities both on and off the field, where inclusion for all is a priority. The great work in progress is further testament of the dedication of those who freely volunteer their time as has always been the case in the parish. Hopefully, the next centenary celebration will be another great event for the people of Tusk. All the indicators are looking good.

TULSK HISTORY SOCIETY

Membership

We hope you have enjoyed the June 2024 edition of our newsletter. New members are most welcome to join the Society. If you wish to do so, please email us on historytulsk@gmail.com. Annual fees are €30 for adults and €10 for students. For those wishing to read our latest Tusk Morning Howl; you can do so by visiting our website at tulskhs.com. Until the next issue; enjoy the summer season and let's hope this one has plenty of good weather!

