Journal of the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society

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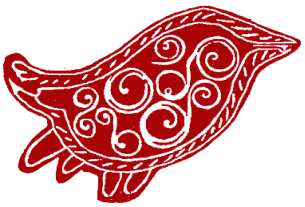

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The Society's Outings

By D.B. BUCKLEY
(*President, 1969-70*)

INTRODUCTION

For the earliest outing, as described by James Coleman in 1914, members travelled by wagonette to Great Island and Carrigtwohill. Since then the Society has visited most of the well-known (and quite a few of the lesser-known) sites of historical and archaeological interest throughout Munster, Leinster and Connacht. Members have journeyed on bicycles and on foot during the 'emergency years'; by bus, train and private cars in more affluent times. They have crossed Cork harbour by boat to Spike Island, voyaged upriver on the Blackwater from Youghal to Villierstown, and further abroad to Scattery and Inis Cealtra on the Shannon, to Church Island and Beginis, even to storm-girt Skellig Michael.

Joint outings have always been of frequent occurrence. We have profited from a sharing of speakers with many groups from all parts of Ireland — ranging from the Cork Preservation Society to the Belfast Naturalists' Field Club — all of whom have in common a love of their native land and its rich heritage.

The Society has always been fortunate in the diversity of interests and the wealth of talent shown by its members. There are those ordinary members who have an interest in the history and/or archaeology without special expertise. Then there are those more serious but still amateur historians and archaeologists, and those with University appointments in history, archaeology, geology, geography, botany and zoology. There are members who are interested especially in old castles, churches and houses, members who know about old roads, customs, old glass, old silver. The result is that on outings there is always someone who is going to make a special contribution of some substance to the topic that has been the subject of discussion. Expertise is especially necessary where archaeological sites are concerned. In this respect the society has had over the years the assistance of the University Professors of Archaeology and their lecturers and assistant lecturers. Revd Prof. Canon Power and Prof. S.P. Ó Ríordáin were before my time. When I joined in 1959 M.J. O'Kelly was their successor and currently Prof. Peter Woodman is the office holder.

The Society wishes to thank the various landowners, farmers, etc., who have so willingly given us access to their properties to see historical or archaeological remains. We are also indebted to private house-owners, ecclesiastical authorities, universities, museums, libraries. etc.

Various members of the Organizing Committees are to be warmly commended for the time and trouble they have always taken to visit sites well in advance of the date of the outings to see possible parking sites, how accessible sites may be (especially for more elderly members), places suitable for picnic lunches, shelter areas for wet weather, etc. Our Press Officers also deserve our grateful thanks

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because without them there would not have been records in our *Journal,* or in the local press, of sites visited and this narrative would not have been possible. The following are the names of some members who have been responsible for organizing the many excellent outings during the writer's association with the Society: Mr P. Hartnett, Mr C.J.F. MacCarthy, Miss Cliona MacCarthy, Dr E. Fahy, Mr R. Henchion, Miss Rose Cleary, Mr S. Bohan, Miss B. Doran, Mr P. O'Leary, Miss Philomena McCarthy, and Miss Patricia McCarthy.

What follows is to be regarded as a limited, personal selection of places visited with no possibility of detailed descriptions (due to pressure of space and cost) — and the names of some prominent speakers. It cannot do justice to all the places visited or the many people who have spoken on outings. However, anyone who has access to a set of *Journals* will readily appreciate this fact.

Up to 1959, when I became a member myself, extracts had to be taken from the Proceedings of the Society, published in the *Journal,* and also from the Minute books. Neither has the narrator attended all the outings since 1959 and so has had to depend again on details in the *Journal.*

OUTINGS

1892. It was suggested at an early meeting and recorded in the minutes that 'an effort should be made to organise excursions for the summer session'. Nothing came of it for some time.

1893. At the May meeting the programme for the forthcoming visit of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland was arranged. This took place later on 25-27 July. Mr R. Day, Vice-President, presided and a letter of welcome from the President, V. Revd Bishop R.A. Sheehan, was read by Mr John Paul Dalton. Places visited included Kilcrea Abbey and Castle, Blarney Castle, monuments and churches in the Timoleague area, and places of interest in Youghal and Ardmore and their environs. Many of the original members of our Society would have been members of the RSAI.

1904. Resolved at a Council meeting that 'a subcommittee be formed to meet the Field Club and Photographic Society with a view to having a joint meeting to be held in the city'. It is likely that in the early days of our Society small groups of members met and visited places of interest in the city or suburbs as there would have been travel limitations.

1908. There is an account of Mr Day and Lady Carbery visiting Killeenreenring Church, situated on high ground to the north of Castlefreke. Also in the same year we read that T.J. Westropp spent two days at Kilcrea. The Society was invited to join the Cork Field Club on a Whit Monday railway excursion to Timoleague and Courtmacsherry. Perhaps some members went, but no further details are given.

1914. Mr James Coleman was constantly advocating at Council Meetings the need for the holding of regular outings and in 1914 (107) the following item is recorded. 'Until Whit Monday last, ours was probably the only Irish Archaeological Society that had not so far included in its operations a formal excursion to places of interest from a historical and archaeological point of view, within the area. But on Whit Monday, June 1st, a first and fairly successful effort was made in this direction when a party consisting of members and their friends started by wagonette from the Dublin Railway Station and proceeded thence to visit the now completely ivy-covered Wallingstown Castle on Little Island, Barryscourt Castle near Carrigtwohill and Belvelly and Ballymacshanroe Castle both on the Great Island of Cobh'. Coleman spoke at all the sites and photos were taken by Dr Philip Lee. The names of twenty-two persons who took part in this pleasant outing are recorded. A second outing took place on the August Bank Holiday when a party of 14 (including Mrs and Miss Ward and

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Miss Gaffney) travelled by wagonette to visit six Cork harbour castles — Dundanion, Ringmahon, Monkstown, Barnahely, Carrigaline and Aghamarta. James Coleman spoke at each site and at the final one the members were entertained to tea by Miss O'Grady.

1916. On 22 June a small party of eight members braved the inclement weather to walk the old parts of Cork city and to hear Michael Holland discourse on the remains of the city wall at Kyrl's Quay, also at St Peter's, Christ Church, St Nicholas', St Stephen's Blue School and Red Abbey.

1918. A party assembled at Capwell Station and at 9.30 a.m. proceeded by train to Macroom where cars were provided. The tour was conducted by Council Member C. Cremen who spoke at most of the sites — Carrigaphooka Castle and an adjacent stone circle, Kilnamartyra and Macroom Castle. Mr Cremen's 'intimate knowledge' of the history and traditions of the locality from Irish sources 'greatly enhanced the pleasure of the outing'.

1926. On 22 July 1926 the AGM was held at Brideweir House, Conna, the home of Dr and Mrs Eaton Waters. Col. Grove White was the President at the time and the meeting was preceded by a visit to the most important archaeological and historical sites in the Conna and Mogeely districts. The Cork members proceeded by motor bus and met the others at Leary's Cross Road. Sites visited included Castlelyons Castle, chief seat of the Barrymores, Castlelyons Abbey, and the ruins of two small churches. The party proceeded to Conna Castle which stands perched on a limestone rock, rising almost sheer out of the River Bride on its south bank. Its chief interest is said to be that it was the birthplace of the Sugân Earl of Desmond and the home of his boyhood. Then on to Mogeely Church and Castle and Aghern Castle situated on the north bank of the River Bride.

The whole party was afterwards hospitably entertained to tea by Dr and Mrs Waters.

In the same year the Fr Mathew Memorial Tower near Dunkettle was visited. Hogan's model, in concrete, of the life-sized figure of Fr Mathew was said to be in good condition and the two oak trees, planted at the opening ceremony by Fr Mathew and Mr R.D. Beamish in 1846, were said to be in a healthy condition. The tower was erected between 1843 and 1846 by the munificence of a Wm O'Connor, a city merchant, to commemorate the enthusiastic reception accorded by the citizens of London to Fr Mathew in 1833.

Earlier in April, Mr C. Cremen, Hon. Sec., records an outing to the MacCarthy Monument on the Blackrock road which had been partly vandalized, to the Ballinlough Stone and to the kitchen midden at Ballintubbrid on the northern shore of the harbour inlet, about two miles from Carrigtwohill.

1928. Annual excursion to ancient remains in the Mallow area. Names of the Cork members on the outings are recorded. President at the time was Col. Grove White. The first site was Mourne Abbey where in the 13th century a preceptory of the Knights Templars was founded but on its suppression in the following century it passed into the possession of the Hospitallers or Knights of St John of Jerusalem, who added a castle and other fortifications. In the parish of Kilmaclenine at Knockaunavaddreen there was a stone circle.

Ballybeg Abbey. This was founded by Phillip de Barry in the 13th century for regular canons following the rule of St Augustine and was dedicated to St Thomas. In 1928 it was said to be 'still in good preservation' which is not so today. Adjacent there is a columbarium.

Kilcolman Castle. The ruins stand on the site of an ancient Irish fort. Originally it was a fortalice of the Earl of Desmond which subsequently passed into the possession of Edmund Spenser. It is said that he lived here for about 10 years and here he composed some of the poems now famous in English literature. He

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CJF SPEAKING AT SITE (1980s)
(*Photo: Eileen Lynch*)

was also visited here by Sir Walter Raleigh. During the rebellion of 1597 the castle was burned down and he was lucky to escape with his life.

1930. On Easter Monday a party visited the historic and prehistoric remains in the districts of Glanworth, Ballyhooley, etc. Dr P.G. Lee (Hon. Sec.), Dr J.J. Fitzgerald, Miss G. Lee, Miss M. Fitzgerald, Messrs M.F. Cogan. M.J. Lavallin, D. MacPherson, C. MacCarthy, M. Holland and C. Cremen were joined at Glanworth by Dr Eaton Waters and J. Harold Barry. This was the first outing where the name of C. MacCarthy (better known as C.J.F.) was mentioned. He is still happily with us, displaying all his usual enthusiasm, attending meetings, researching, lecturing and always willing to communicate his considerable knowledge of city and county to all. For many years he has been our representative on the National Monuments Advisory Board. He has occupied all the important offices of the Society including the Presidency in the years 1965-6 (75th anniversary). He has been one of the strongest links in the affairs of the Society over the past sixty-two years. He was also the first president to wear the chain of office, donated to the Society by Dr J.B. Kearney. Miss Grace Lawless Lee (daughter of the Hon. Sec. mentioned above and remembered for her book *The Huguenot Settlements in Ireland* published in 1935) poked a certain amount of fun at the antiquaries at that outing as recorded in the poem published in 1930, 48.

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THE ANTIQUARIES AT GLANWORTH

A Leprecaune, plying his fairy trade
Of cobbler, deep in the ferny shade
Of the Laibhe Cailleach, or Witch's Bed,
Peered out from the stones and 'Good Day' he said,
'Did ye meet them ones that was visiting here?
The maddest folk that ye'd see in a year!'

'What folk?' said the Cluricaune he addressed,
'Is it Con and Lavallin and all the rest
Of the Antiquaries? Why man' said he
'I met them all. There was Dr. Lee,
With his quare wee box on its three straight feet;
And the heartiest man you'd like to meet,
John, son of Gerald, I think his name,
But I misremember: And with him came
Mr. Holland, the man who knows the flowers
Of wood and field — he's a friend of ours!'

'There, too, was a man who from Scotland hails,
Like the Galloglasses of bygone tales;
And Mr. MacCarthy, with a tape to measure
Biteens of stones; And, as if our treasure
Were hidden there for him to find,
One Waters, with a rake, I mind;'

'And Mr Barry, the earnest man,
A terribly keen antiquarian;
And Mr Cogan, and sure that's all —
A dacent lot, taken short and tall!'

'And will you tell me' the Leprecaune said,
'Are any of them folk right in the head?
For such fuss to make over bits of stone?
And crumbling castles and mouldrin' bone!
Tisn't sense at all, bedad,
Tis unnatural nonsense' the Leprecaune said,
'Whist a while' said the Cluricaune, 'Give them their due,
They're as sane as me and more sane than you,
And a great deal more sensible, too, than them,
That like to call themselves Irishmen
But break and spoil these "bits of stone"
'That tell the history of days long gone.'

1932. Excursion to Mourne Abbey, Greenhills and Drominane Castle. Also visited was Barrett's Castle, a well known landmark on the Mallow Road and visible also from the train. It is built on the summit of a ridge on the banks of the Clyda which separates the baronies of Barretts and Muskerry. In 1932 (96) there are photographs of rubbings taken from two ogham-incised pillar stones, one on the farm of a Mr Jones, Greenhill, Mourne Abbey, signed and dated by C.J.F. MacCarthy, 17 March 1929; the second stone was said to 'have been taken from Rath an Tótáin and built into the foundation of the Cork Opera House in 1853'.

1933. This year was notable for the Society because it was the year that J.T. Collins became a member. John T. was a genial benevolent, rotund, grey-haired man with a rich West Cork accent, and a fund of local knowledge of people and places stored in his remarkable memory. He was always very fair in his presentation of history: 'Yerra wouldn't we have done the same if we had been in their position'! Thanks to the foresight of J.B. Kearney we have many tapes of John T. speaking at outings. (Obit. 1971, 85).

Other well-known speakers in these years would have included E.W. Waters, M.J. Lavallin, F.C. Long, C. Cremen, M. Holland, M.F. Cogan, J.J. Fitzgerald, C.J.F. MacCarthy, M.V. Conlon.

1934. A visit took place to Tracton, Ballyfeard and Carrigaline areas. Photographs and measurements were taken 'of the ruins at Ballingarry, one of the last clay-walled and thatch-roofed chapels in the South of Ireland' where Mass was said to have been celebrated as late as the 1870s.

1935. In August members met at Castlelyons and enjoyed 'a delightful change from the heat of the city'. From the ruins of the great Barrymore mansion they would have seen the one-time parochial house of the great Irish scholar, Canon Peadar Ó Laoghaire.

1936. Seán Ó Ríordáin was appointed to the Chair of Archaeology at UCC and soon after the affairs of our Society began to engage his attention. He arranged summer outings, field days and a series of Spring and Autumn lectures. He was also a prime mover in the

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S.P. O RÍORDÁIN SPEAKING AT CARRIGTWOHILL 1941 (*Photo: S.A. Murphy*)

organization of bicycle outings when petrol was scarce during World War Two.

1937. Two very successful outings were arranged, one to Kinsale where the antiquities of the town were explained to the party by Revd P. McSwiney and Séamus Breathnach and the other to Kilcrea and then on to see the excavations at Garranes. The speakers included P. Hartnett, Prof. D. Corkery, Seán Conlon and Seán P. Ó Ríordáin.

1938. In May 60 members visited Youghal where the party listened to Denis O'Sullivan speaking on the monastic foundations. The North Abbey (1268) was a Dominican Foundation endowed by Thomas FitzMaurice Fitzgerald. It was an important foundation and many general chapters of the Order were held there. The original site of the South Abbey was in South Abbey Street. It was the first Franciscan Friary in Ireland and was founded in 1224 by Maurice Fitzgerald. St Mary's College Church (1250), the town wall (some parts well-preserved) and Sir Walter Raleigh's house were also visited. Also active in the Youghal tour was Justin C. Condon who acted as guide to other local antiquities.

In June a party of members with those from the Thomond Archaeological Society and Field Club visited Ballybeg, Buttevant, Kilmallock and Lough Gur. S.P. Ó Ríordáin had been excavating the latter site for several seasons. Sites seen included the large stone circle near the main Bruff-Limerick road, the neolithic houses on Knockadoon, and a habitation site on the eastern side of the lake. A selection of finds and drawings was on view in Lough Gur Castle. At the stone fort on Carrigalla, excavated in 1938, Revd M. Moloney gave a talk on the history of the district.

1940. Despite the wartime conditions this was still an active year for outings. A visit to East Muskerry on 25 May 1940 was organized by Miss S. Murphy and P. Hartnett and the party travelled by special bus. Paddy Hartnett had recently completed an extensive field survey of the barony. Places visited included Lisnaraha (one of the finest ringforts in the country), Coolicka Megalithic Tomb, Souterrain and Stone Circle at Kilmartin, St Olan's Well and Ogham Stones, and other antiquities in the parishes of Aghabulloge and Donoughmore.

On 30 June members of the Society, in conjunction with the Thomond Archaeological Society and Field Club, visited Athassel, Cashel, and Holy Cross, travelling again by special bus. Very Revd Dean Talbot conducted members through the Deanery and gardens. Talks on the Rock, its history and antiquities were given by Revd J. Ryan, SJ, Revd M. Moloney and Seán Ó Ríordáin. Hore Abbey and Well Cross were subsequently visited.

On 18 August members visited the archaeological excavations at Ballycatteen Fort near Ballinspittle, where again, P. Hartnett was conducting excavations.

1941. As this marked the Society's 50th anniversary, a special Commemorative Week was arranged in May. (1941, 71-2). It included visits to Cork churches, Nano Nagle's grave, UCC, etc. At a supper following a lecture in the Victoria Hotel, the toast to 'Our Guest' — Prof. Eoin Mac Neill — was proposed by his old comrade, Liam de Róiste.

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Seán P. (seated, centre) at Brick I. near Carrigtwohill 1941. Agnes O'Neill on his r., J.J. Stanton on l.

JOHN T. COLLINS SPEAKING AT MACROOM CASTLE 1944

An October outing to Carrigaline took in St Rónóg's Well, Carrigaline castle and church, and Ballea Castle where Mr and Mrs Dorman entertained the visitors to tea. In November the Shandon area of the city was explored, and Bro. Byrne in the North Monastery provided tea for over 60 members.

1942. For the Whit weekend, 50 or so members returned to the Youghal area where on Saturday they examined the town records. A Sunday morning boat trip to Villierstown was followed by an afternoon visit to Ashton Court, the residence of Mr and Mrs Justin Condon, where a collection of articles for the proposed regional museum was on view. Ardmore was visited on Monday.

1943. Belvelly Castle, Fota Demesne, Ballincollig Castle and Ovens Caves were among the sites visited. The Whitsun weekend at Tralee was a great success, largely due to the co-operation of the Co. Kerry Field Club.

About twenty members cycled to Tracton in September. The first stop was at the ruined pre-reformation church at Kilpatrick where Mr David Barry, NT, acted as guide and speaker. The site of the old Cistercian abbey, founded in 1224 and flourishing until its suppression in the 16th century, was seen.

In October about thirty members cycled to the district around Blarney and Cloghroe where P. Hartnett spoke about standing stones at Loughane, the double-ramparted fort at Lisnaraha, the rectangular enclosure at Monaister and the remains of the castle built within a fort at Cloghroe. John T. Collins outlined the history of the Cloghroe branch of the Mac Carthys. In November at the invitation of Mr R.B. Beamish and Col. J. Cummins, members visited the premises of Beamish and Crawford in the South Main St. to be shown relics of old Cork.

1944. In April the venue was Monkstown Castle, where tea was provided (it being the clubhouse of the Golf Club). J.J. O'Shea, H.H. Hill and Eoin O'Mahony spoke, the latter giving an entertaining account of notable local families. Members later visited the gardens of 'Fairyhill', former residence of deceased Vice-President, Denny Lane.

At Whit, 30 intrepid cyclists set off for Macroom where their guide was Mr P. Desmond, NT, Macroom. Sunday was spent in Ballyvourney. On Monday John T. Collins spoke at Macroom Castle (now demolished) while Dr O'Donoghue of Macroom brought the members to a large cist grave at Bealick, in which pottery fragments were found over 30 years earlier and presented by him to UCC where a cinerary urn was reconstructed.

1945. *4 April:* Members attended the

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VISIT TO DRISHANE HOUSE, CASTLETOWNSHEND, WHIT 1946
(*Photo pres. by S.A. Murphy, standing left*)

opening of the Cork Public Museum by Mr P.J. Little, Minister for Posts and Telegraphs. M.J. O'Kelly, the curator, spoke on the various exhibits.

May: First of the summer outings to Currabinny where the more active members travelled by bicycle and others by bus. The cairn, excavated in 1932 by S.P. Ó Ríordáin, was inspected, and on the return trip Barnahely Castle was visited.

Whitsun: A successful outing to Fermoy despite poor weather conditions, led by Revd Fr A. Wilson. In the townland of Manning a particularly interesting type of souterrain was visited — two almost beehive-shaped cells connected by a narrow creep-hole, the entrance to the outer chamber being a low opening some six feet up the face of the hill. Inside, the chamber had corbelled walls which (in 1945) were said to be in a perfect state of preservation.

June: Visit to Camp Field and Collins Barracks, Cork (built in 1806), where J. Busteed and C.J.F. MacCarthy spoke.

24 June: Owenabwee Valley. Lios Rátha Diarmuda, a double-ramparted ringfort which had been explored by Windele in 1844, was visited.

July: Upton District. The party which cycled from Cork was met at Crossbarry by D.J. O'Donoghue, who acted as guide. Ballyhandle Castle, Knockavilla Church and Graveyard and Cashel Hill, a hilltop fort, were visited. Members were entertained at Cashel House by D.J. O'Donoghue and his wife.

1946. For the Whit weekend of this year Glandore and Castletownshend were visited. On the Saturday at Drishane House members were entertained to tea by Dr Edith OE. Somerville and Brigadier D. Somerville. Sites visited included Glen Barrahane and the stone

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fort at Knockdrum. (Miss Sheila Murphy, who was then Hon. Sec., still has the letter of invitation to Drishane House and its studio, written to her by Dr Edith Somerville, then aged 88 but still writing a beautifully clear hand).

29 Sept.: At the invitation of the Rt Revd Dean of Cloyne, the Society members visited the Cathedral and Round Tower where Liam Ó Buachalla spoke on the early history of the diocese.

1 Dec.: At St Finbarr's South Parish Church Revd T.J. Walsh spoke on the various phases in the history of the church since its foundation in 1766, and referred to the earlier thatched church nearby which preceded the present one. He also mentioned famous priests connected with the parish and showed an early church register dating from 1750. Not far removed one sees the tower of the Red Abbey, all that remains of the medieval foundation of the Augustinians in that area. Fr Walsh was an authority on the life of Nano Nagle and the history of the Presentation and Ursuline Convents. John T. Collins and Denis O'Sullivan, the medievalist, were great friends of his and to hear the three of them discussing historical affairs together was an education in itself.

1947. Among this year's outings was one to Garryduff ringfort where the members were shown over the excavations then in progress by M.J. O'Kelly. This was later followed by another visit to Cork Public Museum to see on display finds from Garryduff, the outstanding among them being a small gold ornament like a bird, now the emblem of the Society. There were also stone trial pieces with Celtic patterns, pottery and glass. The findings tend to date its occupation to the 7th or 8th century approximately. In December 1947 there was a visit to the Cork City Library to see the Society's books which E. Carberry, the Librarian, displayed to the members. Some of the more important volumes included a first edition of *Pacata*

M.J. O'KELLY SPEAKING IN CO. CLARE, WHIT, 1949 (*Photo: S.A. Murphy*)

Hibernia (1633), George Storey's *History of Occurrences in Ireland* (1693), and Keating's *Foras Feasa* (1723). Most of these books had been donated to the Society by the late J.J. McAuliffe of Bradford in 1943.

1948. In May the Cork Public Museum was again visited to see the collection of pottery. M.J. O'Kelly and E. Fahy spoke on the history and development of pottery. This was the first of many subsequent mentions of Eddie Fahy, a valued colleague and archaeologist.

For the Whit weekend a party went to Bantry. Bantry House was visited, home of the Shelswell-White family, a Georgian mansion built for Richard, 1st Earl of Bantry. Sunday was spent on a tour of the Béarra Peninsula. At Dunboy Castle, Mr Mort O'Shea gave an account of the siege of 1602 and the group then moved on to inspect stone circles at Finnaha, Ballycrovane and Ardgroom. Passing through the Dirreen estate they returned by the Healy Pass to Bantry. In the course of this weekend, at a function in Vickery's Hotel, a presentation was made to Miss Sheila A. Murphy who had recently resigned as Hon. Secretary.

In October, the members visited Lismore, in conjunction with the Fermoy Field Club. By kind permission of the Marquis of Hartington, Lismore Castle was visited and the group entertained to tea in the Banquetting Hall.

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Documents from the muniment room including patents and grants from the reigns of Elizabeth I, James I and Charles I were shown, as were others bearing the signatures of Walter Raleigh and of the great Earl of Cork. The famous Lismore Crozier was seen — said to have been made for Mac Aeducáin, Bishop of Lismore at the beginning of the 12th century to enshrine the original oak-shaft of St Carthage.

1949. This year was notable for the Whitsun outing based at Limerick and shared with members of the Thomond Archaeological Society. On the Sunday there was an all-day trip through the County Clare to Dysert O'Dea Church, Kilnaboy Church, the Tau Cross, Leimaneigh Castle, Corcomroe Abbey and Kilfinan Church. A drive through the Burren and along the shores of Galway Bay was much enjoyed.

1950. In 1950 there was a visit to Carrigadrohid Castle where Dr Cohalan, Bishop of Cork unveiled a plaque to commemorate the death before the castle in 1650 of Boetius MacEgan, Bishop of Ross. The memorial plaque was sculpted by our late esteemed member Séamus Murphy. Speakers included Revd D. Connolly, Seán Ó Coindealbháin and D. Corkery.

The Whitsun weekend was spent at Kilkenny, one of this Society's favourite areas. About forty travelled by bus and private cars. On the Sunday, five societies took part in the outing — Kilkenny, Cork, Carlow, Wexford and Waterford — at which over two hundred people were present and which probably represented one of the largest groups with similar interests in history and archaeology ever assembled in the Republic. The members were welcomed by Mr J. Monahan, the Mayor of Kilkenny, and conducted through Kilkenny Castle by Revd Fr J. Clohosey.

1951. The Whitsun outing was to Wexford. On the Sunday morning the outing was conducted by the late George Hadden, founder of the Old Wexford Society, on a tour of the town, visiting Selskar Priory, the West Gate, the town walls and St Patrick's Church. The whole party was entertained to tea at Campile by the Old Wexford Society. Tintern Abbey was then visited where Drs Hadden and Sinnott spoke. On the Sunday night an official welcome was extended to the party by the Mayor of Wexford, Councillor M. Flusk, and members of the Corporation. An enjoyable concert of Irish songs and dances followed.

GEORGE HADDEN OF WEXFORD 1964
(*Photo: S.A. Murphy*)

I did not know Dr Hadden myself until some date later than 1959 when I had joined the Society. He was a remarkable man in many ways. Very tall, and very broad-shouldered with a long beard, he looked like G.B. Shaw,

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John T. Collins (hand to head) speaking at fallen headstone of Brian Dillon (80th anniversary, Oct. 1952) at Rathcooney. W. McGrath on right. Also present: J.J. O'Shea, Pres., Máire Ní Chuill, Máire Ní Thuama, S.A. Murphy, J.P. and Mrs O'Brien, Violet and Gus Lynch, K. O'Flynn, J. McCarthy, Larry Egar, Dill family, etc.

but with much broader shoulders. An erudite man, he could talk with equal facility about music, history and archaeology, and as he had travelled extensively he knew many lands. At one time he had been a medical missionary in China. Complimenting him once on his walking ability he informed me that thirty miles a day was his best distance but he could not keep it up for longer than six consecutive days. On a cold wet March day, he, Eddie Fahy, J.B. Kearney and myself had been invited by the late Dan O'Brien down to the Castletownbere area to see some recently discovered and unrecorded archaeological remains, on the side of a steep hill. We were all suitably garbed for the weather conditions. But not so George Hadden. No coat or hat, and, as he had broken one of the bones in his right foot, he was wearing a plaster cast with a walking iron and toes exposed. He seemed completely unaware of the weather conditions and the trauma to his foot and could have stayed quite happily on the mountainside that day when the rest of us were almost suffering from exposure.

1952. The Whitsun weekend was to the Dingle Peninsula. Sites visited included Dunbeg promontory fort, clocháns at Fahan, Gallarus Oratory, Kilmalkedar Church and Castle and a promontory fort at Ballyferriter.

On 22 June the members went to Castletownbere for the commemoration of the Siege

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WHIT OUTING TO KILLARNEY 1957
Denis O'Donoghue, Pres., in centre, with Prof. O'Kelly on his r. and V. Lynch on l. Prof. J. Busteed, Vice-Pres. (with beret). (*Photo: D. Moriarty, Killarney. Pres. by the late Mrs K. O'Flynn, standing near sign.*)

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of Dunboy (1602). In the Autumn there was a return visit to Lough Gur.

The Whitsun outing was to Galway. In June members went with the Fermoy Field Club to Glanworth, Labbacallee, Moneen and Manning and later with the Charleville Historical and Archaeological Society to Charleville, Moatville and Kilmallock areas.

In June also the Society welcomed members of the RSAI to Cork on their four-day tour. The Society, in conjunction with the President of UCC, gave a reception to the visitors and members of the Council conducted them on their visits in the city and county.

1954. The Whit weekend was spent in Waterford where there was a reception by the Old Waterford Society. Places visited included Tramore, Dunmore East, Crook and Geneva Barracks. On the Sunday there was a reception at the City Hall and an inspection of city charters, etc. On the Monday morning and afternoon antiquities of the city seen included Christ Church, Blackfriars, Greyfriars, Chamber of Commerce and Reginald's Tower.

1955. For the Whitsun, the outing was to Waterville. On the Sunday: Ballinskelligs Prior, Ballycarbery Castle, Cahergal and Leacanabuaile stone forts and Valentia Island. On the Monday: antiquities in the neighbourhood of Waterville. On the Monday afternoon: Derrynane House and Staigue Fort.

1956. The members visited Gurranes Fort, Castlelack stone alignment, Ballycatteen Fort, where P. Hartnett's excavations of 1940 were now again grass-grown; on 27 May a party visited Spike Island in Cork Harbour and on 1 July Coppeen district, including the Round Tower at Castletown Kinneigh and field monuments in the neighbourhood.

1957. *12 May.* Members visited Burnfort and Mallow in conjunction with the Mallow Field Club.

19 May. To Innishannon and Kinsale in conjunction with the Irish Association for Cultural, Economic and Social Relations.

J.P. O'Brien, Hon. Sec., S.A. Murphy, Hon. Treas., Prof. J. Busteed, Vice-Pres., Art O'Connell, Counc. member, at Staigue Fort, Whit 1955.

8-10 June. Whitsun weekend at Killarney, visiting Muckross Abbey, Ratass, Tralee, Ardfert, Rattoo, Ballybunion, Ross Castle, Innisfallen Island, Aghadoe and Dunloe Castle.

1958. The Whitsun outing was to the Boyne Valley. Here in the 'Bend of the Boyne' are the three great passage tombs of Newgrange, Dowth and Knowth, one of the great archaeological sites of this or any other country. Members assembled on the Hill of Tara where talks were given on the various ancient structures and on the excavations carried out by the late Prof. S.P. Ó Ríordáin. Whit Monday was spent entirely in Dublin. In the forenoon, the National Museum Silver, Glass and Pottery Sections were of great interest to members. In the afternoon, the Cathedrals of St Patrick and Christ Church were visited. Speakers included P.J. Hartnett, B. Ó Ríordáin, C. Ó Cuilleanáin, M. Ó hEochaidh and M.J. O'Kelly who spoke on the sites on the Sunday. (A good photo of this group may be seen in 1958, f.p. 35).

4 May. Drishane. The outing was well attended by over 70 members. They followed the old 'butter road' over Mushera Mountain,

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J.T. COLLINS SPEAKING AT BARRYSCOURT CASTLE, JULY 1960
On left: F.C. Long, Seán Ó Coindealbháin, Maureen Sheehan, Agnes O'Neill. Centre: Eoin O'Mahony. On right: J. Stanton, C.J.F. MacCarthy (in doorway), Mr and Mrs Ryan, etc. (*Cork Examiner photo*)

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visiting Rylane and Keel stone circles, the 'Kerryman's Table' and Lackdotia megalith en route. Revd Mother and Community entertained the party to tea at Drishane and F.D. McCarthy-Morrogh and J.T. Collins spoke on the history of Drishane Castle and the MacCarthy family.

22 June. Carraig na bhFear and Island. Visits were paid to Tobbereenmire well and ogham stone, Island megalithic tomb and Castle Barrett.

14 Sept. A party went to see the archaeological excavations at Drombeg, near Glandore, Co. Cork where members of the Society were joined by members of the West Cork Field Club under their President, H.N. James. The party was conducted over the site by the excavator, E. Fahy, who explained the results obtained during two seasons' excavation at the stone circle, hut and cooking place.

1959. *16-18 May.* Members travelling by special bus and private cars took part in a tour of Tipperary. Headquarters was at Hearn's Hotel, Clonmel, formerly the HQ of Charles Bianconi's Stage Coach system initiated in 1815 when the first coach route between Clonmel and Cahir marked the beginning of the system which later was extended to every part of the country. Bianconi (1786-1875) was a devoted friend and helper of Daniel O'Connell in the struggle for Catholic Emancipation. We visited Longfield House where we met Mrs M. O'C. Bianconi, his great grand-daughter.

1959 was also notable for two other arranged tours by the Society. One at Easter, on behalf of the Belfast Naturalists' Field Club, to Cork City where visits were made to Shandon, the City Hall, Blarney Castle, St. Finn Barre's Cathedral, the Collegiate chapel at UCC and the School of Art. The speakers were Very Revd Dean H.R. McAdoo, Revd C.A. Salter, S. MacCana, and M.J. O'Kelly. On the Sunday Michael Mulcahy spoke at Kinsale Courthouse and at the French Prison. All historians must acknowledge Mr Mulcahy's dedication to Kinsale, its Museum and its history generally.

The other 1959 event was the visit in July of the Éire Society of Boston whose members were conducted on a tour of the city; the speakers included J.J. O'Shea, J.T. Collins, A. Fleischmann and E. Fahy.

1960. There was a total of eight outings this year. It is not however intended to list them all, interesting as they may have been. Many were repeat visits to areas within a range of thirty miles and which have been subsequently visited many times since.

For the Whitsun weekend Prof. M. Duignan of UCG hosted a party to the Galway region visiting Doonalour ring-fort, Ballintubber Abbey, Burriscarra Abbey, Moore Hall, Inishmaine, Dunowen ring-fort and Cong Abbey. Ballintubber has always been one of my favourite abbeys. It was founded in 1216 by Cathal Crovdearg O'Conor, King of Connacht, in the barony of Carra near the church founded by St Patrick and near the well, where, according to tradition, he baptized many converts.

18 June. E.M. Fahy conducted members on a visit to his archaeological excavations at Reenascreena stone circle, near Rosscarbery. It contained a single cremation burial.

3 July. Members toured the Carrigtwohill area under the guidance of Liam Ó Buachalla, visiting Ballyvodock Castle, Ballyannon, Barryscourt, etc.

27 August. We visited the archaeological excavations then being conducted by M.J. O'Kelly on a complex of earthworks at Knockea, near Ballyneety, Co. Limerick. At that time, a stone-walled burial enclosure and the remains of a palisaded ring-fort of early Christian date had been revealed.

4 Sept. The Monard Shovel Mills near Blarney were visited. Here a dam across the glen supplied water power to three hammer-mills where for the previous 170 years Irish spades,

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CHAS group at stump of round tower on Ardpatrick, Co. Limerick, 25 June 1961 (*Photo: Dr J.B. Kearney*)

shovels, turf sleáns, garden forks, etc. had been produced for the trade in the south of Ireland. The party was received by Mr T. O'Leary who gave practical demonstrations of the working of the mills and summarized the history of the industry which regrettably had closed down.

1961. The Whitsun outing was again to Kilkenny. The recorder of these outings is always envious when it comes to visiting Kilkenny to see what a lot the town has to offer in its ancient churches, castle, buildings and its own splendid headquarters in Rothe House. Everything is so well organized and the fabric of buildings has been so well preserved. We visited Kilkenny Castle, the Black Abbey, St Canice's Cathedral (I went back to this on a later occasion when the cathedral was empty except for a visiting organist and the sound of music and its reverberations in the building was a wonderful experience), Rothe House and other sites in Kilkenny and on to Jerpoint, St Mullins, Ullard, Kells, Graiguenamanagh, Kilfane, Gowran, and to Carrick-on-Suir Castle. The society was very much indebted to Mrs D. Phelan and Mrs Lordan and their colleagues of the Kilkenny Historical and Archaeological Society for their lectures, their organizing ability and hospitality.

In June an outing was arranged for Ard Patrick, Co. Limerick to commemorate the Patrician celebrations, 461-1961. As some of my own, not very distant, relatives, are interred on the Hill of Ardpatrick, the journey for me was a nostalgic one.

1962. On 6 May once more we went to Adare under the expert guidance of our good friend, the late Tom Pierce of Adare, secretary of the Thomond Archaeological Society. The Whitsun weekend was to the Dingle Peninsula.

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AT DRIPSEY CASTLE, 5 JUNE 1964
1991 President, John A. Murphy, and family in front row (*Photo: S.A. Murphy*)

Headquarters were at Dingle and many of the sites visited ten years earlier were revisited.

1963. In May, Prof. O'Kelly conducted a large party on another tour of Lough Gur to see the sites excavated by the late S.P. Ó Ríordáin. For the Whitsun the Athlone area was chosen. On the Sunday the party toured the area north-west of Athlone and were afterwards entertained at the home of the O'Donoghue of the Glens. On Monday, visits were made to Clonmacnoise, Clonfert, Béal Ború, St Flannan's, Killaloe, and other sites. These areas have always been favourite sites for our Society.

1964. *Whitsun:* To the Wexford Area. On arrival, members were accorded a civic reception and were entertained to supper by the Old Wexford Society. The Sunday tour, to the north of Wexford, embraced a variety of motte and bailey structures and moated platforms, and ended with a visit to Enniscorthy museum. Monday's tour included visits to Clonmines and Dunbrody and concluded with afternoon tea at the home of Col. and Mrs Price at Kilmokea. Our president, Dr J.B. Kearney, conveyed the thanks of the Society to Dr George Hadden and his wife, to Col. and Mrs Price, and to members of the Old Wexford Society for making the visit such a memorable one.

7 June: A large party toured the Lee valley. At Dripsey Castle the members were entertained by Mr and Mrs J.A. O'Shaughnessy.

14 June: Killavullen, Castletownroche and Ballyhooly. Castlewidenham was visited at the invitation of Sir de Laval and Lady Eveline Cotter.

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VISIT TO SKELLIG MICHAEL, WHIT 1965
(*Photo: S.A. Murphy*)

1965. This was the busiest season ever for the Society. In addition to our usual programme of outings, we also catered for visiting groups from the Wexford and Kilkenny Societies. Working from Kinsale, both groups in turn toured the area between Timoleague and Glandore, visiting a wide variety of archaeological sites. In Kinsale visits were made to the Museum, to Charles Fort and to the site of the Battle of Kinsale. In Cork, visits were made to UCC, the Honan Chapel, the Museum, Shandon and Blarney.

This year was the 500th anniversary of the foundation of Kilcrea Friary (1465-1965), founded and originally endowed by Cormac MacCarthy on the bank of the River Bride. The first Autumn weekend tour, to the Killarney area, attracted an attendance of 75. D. Ó Murchadha spoke at Ross Castle.

1966. On May Sunday we went to Ballintubber House, Mount Long Castle, Ship's Quay, Gortigrenane, Kilpatrick, Tracton Abbey and Ballymacus.

19 June. A party went to west Waterford, visiting Affane battle-site, Dromana House, Kilterra and Kilgreany cave.

7 August. Tablets to the memory of Cormac Láidir Mac Carthy and Bishop Thomas O'Herlihy were unveiled at Kilcrea Friary. Bishop O'Herlihy was consecrated Bishop of Ross in 1561 and had the distinction of attending and speaking at the final session of the Council of Trent in 1562.

1967. *June weekend.* Sligo district, under the guidance of the Sligo Field Club, visiting megalithic sites in the area and also including visits to Drumcliffe and Lissadell. Field Clubs

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JUNE WEEKEND AT SLIGO 1967
Front: Mrs Kirby, Helen McLoughlin, Mrs Walsh, S.A. Murphy (Pres.), Eileen Hornibrook, Violet Turnbull. J.J. Ahern, Hon. Treas., at rear. W. Kirby on r. Also present: Máire Ní Thuama, N. Kilbride, B. Uí Thuama, Cita Murphy, S. Twomey, M. Ahern, Mrs O'Brien, Mrs Stuart, A. Moore, Una Riordan, Prof. C. Boyle, R. Good, Dr C. O'Connell, Dr D.P. O'Mahony, C. Finnegan, Dr J.B. Kearney, etc.

co-operating on the year's outings were: Duhallow Group, Buttevant Field Club, Sligo Field Club and Clondrohid Archaeological Society.

1968. There was another visit of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland to Cork (President, Miss Helen Roe) during the presidency of Miss Sheila Murphy, first lady president of the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society. An excellent commemorative booklet was prepared for the occasion by Mr C.J.F. MacCarthy.

1969. *Bank Holiday Weekend:* Kerry — areas north and south of Tralee.
15 June: Youghal town.
29 June: Muintir Bháire Peninsula.

This year we lost one of the Society's stalwarts in the person of Con. A. Finnegan, a one-time Vice-President, long-time member of the Organizing Committee and our Press Officer for many years. A polite well-spoken man who lived in the heart of old Cork, the North Main St., Con livened up many of our social evenings with his recitations or songs.

1970. *5 July:* Full day outing to Duhallow barony. The sites visited included Knocknaclashy, Drishane Castle, Dromsicane Castle and Fort. The Society was entertained to tea at Lyre National School.

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FR T.J. WALSH SPEAKING AT DUNMANUS CASTLE 1969 (*Photo: S.A. Murphy*)

14 Sept.: Afternoon outing to part of the northern city environs.
Autumn Weekend: West Cork Archaeological sites in the Skibbereen district visited, as well as Rosscarbery Cathedral.

1971. *Whit weekend:* To Athlone district at the invitation of the Old Athlone Society.
12 Sept.: Cork — the Old Jail at Sunday's Well, St Anne's Church and Skiddy's Home, restored and refurbished thanks to the actions of the Cork Preservation Society and other interested bodies.
1 Oct.: By train to Dublin to see the Winetavern St. excavations, National Museum and Dublin Castle.

1972. *Whitsun weekend:* To Co. Louth at the invitation of the Co. Louth and Old Dundalk Societies, visiting Newgrange, Castleroche, Donaghmore, Faughart, Proleek, Carlingford, Dromiskin, Greenmount, Monasterboice, Mellifont, Slane and Drogheda. (See p. 154).

1973. *Whitsun weekend:* Castletown/Bearhaven. The site where the Siege of Dunboy had been enacted in 1602 was graphically described by E. Fahy who had been excavating there.

1974. *19 May:* Carrigaline area and Currabinny. It included a visit to Ballea Castle, one of the few tower-houses in Ireland still inhabited.

1975. *18 May:* Christ Church — the church itself and excavations.
29 June: Duntryleague, Moore Abbey, Peakaun Church, and Glen of Aherlow. Speakers included M.J. O'Kelly, Mrs M. Carey, Dr E. Shee, D.C. Twohig, P. Holohan, T. Manning, C. Moore and C.J.F. MacCarthy.
Autumn weekend: To Kilkenny area.

The year 1975 was a sad one for the Society in the loss of our two esteemed members,

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E. FAHY SPEAKING AT CLONMACNOISE 1971
(*Photo: S.A. Murphy*)

D.J. O'Donoghue and E.M. Fahy. Eddie Fahy made his first acquaintance with archaeology when in 1944 he joined with M.J. O'Kelly in the setting up of the Cork Public Museum. For his MA degree Eddie excavated and reported on many sites in the Lee Valley area which were to disappear because of the ESB hydro-electric scheme. His well-known model of the Mashanaglas horizontal mill still attracts attention at the Museum. Some of my happiest memories of the Society were the days when as members of the Organizing Committee we went on reconnaissance trips to seek out the next sites for the outings and to have the benefit of his considerable experience about them. He was a quiet, very friendly, unassuming person whose casualness belied his scholarship.

Mr D.J. O'Donoghue had a splendid speaking voice and was always brief and apposite in his talks on outings. He was a gentleman of genial disposition and held many offices in the Society, including that of President in 1956-1958 and to him we owe the splendid index to the *Journal* for the years 1892-1960.

1976. *Whit weekend:* Nenagh area, visiting on the way Killaloe, Inis Cealtra, Roscrea, Leap Castle, Monahincha, Gloster House, Nenagh Castle and Friary, Shanballyedmond and Baurandomeeny. Inis Cealtra (Holy Island) in Lough Derg has ruins of St Caimin's church, an incomplete round tower and the shaft of a 9th century cross The island ceased to be monastic c. 1200.

30 June: Excavations at Christ Church College, South Main St., Cork.

1977. M.J. O'Kelly was president for the year 1977-8.

Whit weekend: Dublin-Meath area. Visits to

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BOAT TRIP TO CHURCH I. FROM WATERVILLE, AUTUMN 1977 (*Photo: Lee Snodgrass*)

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Marsh's Library, St Patrick's Cathedral, Christ Church, Bective Abbey, Loughcrew, Trim, Tara, Fourknocks, Newgrange, etc.
17 June: Doneraile Court Benefit evening organized by the Irish Georgian Society, Cork Preservation Society and the CHAS.
26 June: To Sherkin Island and Friary; also Castletownsend, Knockdrum, and Portadoona.
6 July: Tour of UCC led by M.J. O'Kelly, viewing the Honan Chapel, Aula Maxima and the Ogham stones.
17 Aug.: Cork City Walk sponsored by C.J.F. MacCarthy, the late Alec Day and the late Revd E. May. Walks in different areas of the city became popular features of half-day outings in the subsequent years.
Autumn Weekend: Waterville. Speakers included Prof. O'Kelly (Church I.), Prof. John A. Murphy (Derrynane), Dr E. Shee Twohig and Mr D.C. Twohig.

1978. *Whit weekend:* To Wexford. Speakers included M.J. O'Kelly, P. O'Flanagan, Ms Beatrice Doran and Tony Candon.
19 July: Visit to Elizabeth Fort and St Fin Barre's Cathedral, Cork. Very Revd Maurice Carey and Ms Margaret Gowen were speakers.
29 July: Musical evening. Wine and cheese party at Fota House.
Autumn outing: To Tralee and North Kerry. Mr P. O'Leary, Ms Lee Snodgrass and Mr Aidan MacDonald.

The death occurred of Miss Violet Lynch, a long time member, Vice-President and one of the most regular attenders at all outings and meetings. Her conversational wit and good company enlivened many an outing and social evening.

1981. In June a field trip to Kilmurry was led by John Sheehan. In July Denis Power and Maurice Hurley of the Dept of Archaeology, UCC, led a tour of the medieval walls of Cork.

This year we had to record the death of Pádraig Ó Maidín (1919-1981). He was from Co. Limerick, but a Corkman by adoption whose daily column in the *Cork Examiner* for many years added interested facets of local history. I had an interesting evening with him at Doneraile Court when we were entertained by an American couple who had unsuccessfully tried to obtain title to the estate. They were very friendly, hospitable people and had already started limited repairs to the outside fabric of the building.

1982. In July 1982 we visited Lisleigh Ringfort near Mitchelstown, which was being excavated by Ml Monk, UCC. Prof. Smyth led the tour through the Clogheen-Burnfort area.

On 28 July there was an evening walk to the Blarney area led by Aidan McDonald, Seán Duggan, whose knowledge of tower house architecture showed us Blarney Castle in a new light, and Colman Ó Mathúna, who had studied in detail the industrial history of the area.

In August, we went on a tour of East Limerick led by Mainchín Seoighe. The de Valera Museum in Bruff was first visited, then to Knocksouna earthwork where he spoke on the history of Dromin-Athlacca. Other sites visited included Dísert Oengusa, Croom Castle and Monasternenagh.

1982 was the year of M.J. O'Kelly's death. Brian rarely missed any of our outings so that we were always very sure of a considered opinion when we visited some archaeological site. He had a great facility of lecturing to us without appearing to do so and his pertinent comments eventually got through to us. When I first met him from 1959 onwards, his wife Claire and his daughters were also always on the outings and with members of other families we became quite a community. One always felt the outing was complete when he was there and without him something was missing. He made a great contribution to the understanding of archaeology for the ordinary member.

1983. This was a busy year. East Muskerry,

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Walter McGrath speaking at the Towers, Lismore, 1983. Dick Henchion on right. (*Photo: Eileen Lynch*)

Paddy O'Leary speaking at site of Dunboy excavations. Una Riordan and the late Bruno O'Donoghue seated in front of the speaker. (*Photo: Colman O Mahony*)

Youghal (Miss C. Power), tour of UCC (Dr Pettit), trip to Spike and Haulbowline Islands (N. Brunicardi), the Bride Valley (Seán Duggan), Bandon District (Maurice Hurley), Waterford district (Mr Tracey), Annestown and copper mines at Bunmahon, (Mr Des Cowman), Tramore megaliths (Prof. P. Woodman), Waterford City's history and development (Mr Cassidy). Mr A. Thornton, Keeper, Reginald's Tower, and Mr N. Moore, Director of urban excavations at Lady's Lane, also spoke.

1984. (Pres. Mr W. McGrath). *Whit weekend:* To north Tipperary/Clare district. Places visited included Holy Cross Abbey, Ballymahon Castle, Nenagh Castle, Franciscan Friary, Ashley Park Cist Grave, Monahincha, Damer House, Roscrea Castle, St. Cronan's Church and Round Tower, St. Flannan's Church and Oratory, St. Lua's Oratory, Brian Boru's Fort in Killaloe. Members of the Nenagh and Roscrea Heritage Societies were amongst the speakers.

27 June: Evening walk in Cork led by Mr W. McGrath: St. Nicholas's Church (the late John Hornibrook), Red Abbey (C.J.F. MacCarthy), Nano Nagle's grave (Revd T. Clancy).

9 Sept.: Crosshaven district, led by D. Ó Murchadha — including Aghamarta Castle, Templebreedy Church, Crosshaven House.

Autumn weekend: Schull area, led by Paddy O'Leary.

1985 (Pres. Prof. P. Ó Riain). *15 May:* Evening walk of Shandon area led by J. O'Keeffe.

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On the slopes of Mt Gabriel, 1984. Jim Redmond, centre; Dr J.B. Kearney on left. Also: Hilda Buckley, H. McLoughlin, Mgt Casey, Seán Duggan, P.J. Healy, etc. (*Photo: E. Lynch*)

Conducted tour of St Ann's Shandon led by Canon G.A. Salter.

Whit weekend: Tour of Bantry and the Béarra Peninsula. Sites included Bantry Abbey, Kilnaruane Pillar stone, Bear Island, Dunboy Castle, Puxley's Mansion, and Allihies copper mines.

19 June: Evening trip to St. Fin Barre's Cathedral led by Very Revd Dean Carey and D. Ó Donobháin.

17 July: Evening visit to Cork Public Museum. Talk on special 'Cork 800' exhibition of the Derrynaflan Chalice.

25 Aug.: First 'treasure hunt' by car, organized by D. Ó Drisceoil — parts of the city and its immediate environs.

1986. *Autumn weekend:* To Kilkenny. Sites included Ahenny High Crosses, Kilree Church, Round Tower and High Cross, Jerpoint Abbey, Kilfane Church, Kilkenny Castle, Rothe House (reception for members of CHAS who were somewhat envious of the historic and very suitable headquarters provided for themselves at Rothe House by the Old Kilkenny Society), St. Francis Abbey, Black Abbey, St. Canice's Cathedral and Freestone Hill. Speakers included Mrs M. Phelan, Mrs K. Lanigan, Miss M. Hegarty, Miss P. McCarthy, Revd Dean B. Harvey and Fr S. O'Doherty.

1987 (Pres. Mr K. Gordon). *3 May:* Field trip to Youghal led by Mr J. Sheehan. Places visited included Castlemartyr House, Inchiquin castle, Youghal Brickyard, Rhincrew Church (approached by a climb up an almost perpendicular wooded hill! Proceedings interrupted by approach of grazing cattle, bravely dispersed by R. Henchion). Speakers included J. Sheehan, R. Henchion, T. Breslin and Miss C. Power.

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Ken Gordon, Pres., at Emly, 1987, with Prof. P. Ó Riain, previous pres., and Phil McCarthy, next pres.

17 May: Half-day trip to Bandon led by Dr P. O'Flanagan.

14 June: East Limerick: Knocklong Castle, Emly Church, Hospital Church of the Knights Templars, St. Patrick's Well and Aglish Cormick. Led by Prof. P. Ó Riain.

1988. *Whitsun weekend:* Wexford. Visited Dunganstown, Tintern Abbey, Clonmines, Ferrycarrig Castle, National Heritage Park, Wexford Town, Vinegar Hill, Enniscorthy Museum, St. Aidan's Cathedral, Carley's Bridge Pottery, the graveyard at Killann and finally, the Rackard Licensed premises, where we joined in the chorus of 'Kelly the Boy from Killann'!

1989 (Pres. Miss P. McCarthy). *7 May:* Joint outing with the Cloyne Literary and Historical Society. First we visited Castlemary Estate by kind permission of Mr & Mrs Hurley. Mr D. Ó Drisceoil spoke on the Castlemary Dolmen and Mrs P. Lyons, President of the host society, spoke on Castlemary and the Longfields.

Mr R. Henchion spoke on Carrigacrump Cave and quarry complex which we visited by permission of Mr D. and T. McCarthy of Aghada. Later in the day we had a splendid tour of Fort Davis (previously Fort Carlisle) on the Whitegate side of the entrance to Cork Harbour. The speaker was Lt. Seán O'Brien of the Naval Service.

Whitsun weekend: To Wicklow, based at Avoca; Ml Dwyer's cottage was on the itinerary. Mrs K. O'Flynn, who always derived great enjoyment from our outings, died peacefully a few hours after returning home from this one.

14 Sept. Cuairt ar Bhaile Bhúirne — our first all-Irish outing led by Diarmuid Ó Murchadha; our second was to Uíbh Laoghaire on

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VISIT TO DŪN AN DĀIBHISIGH, CORK HARBOUR, MAY 1989 (*Photo: D. Ó Murchadha*)

9.9.90, and our third proposed for Oileán Cléire on 8.9.91.

1990. *2 May:* Centenary fund-raising event at Cork Public Museum. On view was an exhibition from the Irish Folklore Division of the National Museum of Ireland entitled 'Common Clothes and Clothing'. The Society must acknowledge the help given to it by the present Curator, Aodh Ó Tuama, and his predecessor, Séamus Ó Coigligh, over the years on many visits to the Museum.

13 May: Dunmanway and its environs (Fanlobbus, Togher Castle, etc.). (P. Ó Riain)

23 May: Evening outing to the Gunpowder Mills at Ballincollig; guided tour led by Mr D. Lucey.

2-4 June: Whitsun outing to the Iveragh Peninsula based at Caherciveen, led by local man, archaeologist John Sheehan. Talk at Kells by W. McGrath.

13 June: Evening visit to Elizabeth Fort (speaker D. Ó Murchadha) and its environs (R. Henchion).

24 June: Barryscourt (Shane Lehane, Curator); Midleton College (B.D. Cairns, Headmaster); Midleton Workhouse, (S. Horgan); Midleton Distillery, (B. Crockett).

4 July: Evening outing to Sunday's Well — City Gaol (W. McGrath) and St Vincent's Church (Fr T. Casey).

15 July: Adare Manor and its environs. We visited the early 14th-century Augustinian Friary founded by John Fitzgerald, Baron of Offaly in 1316, and the 13th-century Trinitarian Priory or White Abbey. The Trinitarian Order was founded on the continent in 1198 to ransom and liberate Christians captured by the Mohammedans during the Crusades and Adare was the only foundation of its order known to have survived in Ireland. The members also visited the parish church of St. Nicholas of Myra (13th century). In the afternoon the sites

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GUAGÁN BARRA, 9 MEÁN FÓMHAIR 1990 (*Photo: D. Ó Murchadha*)

were Croagh Medieval Settlement, Cappagh Castle (late 15th-century and built by the Knights of Glin) and Cappagh House, recently restored.

1 Aug.: Evening visit to Dunkathel House, Glanmire.

12 Aug.: Fermoy and district. Talks were given at Fermoy (Christy Roche), Ballyderown Castle (D. Ó Murchadha) and Glanworth (Paul Cotter, NT).

23-24 Sept.: For the last outing of our first century about fifty members travelled by minibus and car to the county of Clare (based at Ennis). The weather was generally bright and sunny with some showers interspersed. On our way we stopped at Bunratty Folk Park to see various exhibits reflecting the folk-life of 18th-century Ireland. It was an interesting reflection on its popularity to see so many Europeans, North Americans and Asiatics there. A brief visit was made to the castle itself. At both places, Mr Tom Cassidy gave a most informative talk. We then travelled to Dromoland Castle where we were met by Mr Conor O Brien, 18th Baron Inchiquin, who detailed his family's history and who was able to trace descent from Brian Boru. He has the entitlement to be referred to as The O'Brien. He gave an account of the castle (where he spent some of his own childhood) and its various owners over the years until its current development as one of the country's most exclusive hotels. We admired the grounds, well-kept lawns, the surrounding afforested area and made a short and discreet tour of the castle itself.

Magh Adhair. As there was a heavy shower when we were about to visit this site, the Hon. Organizer, Ms Patricia McCarthy, gave a short

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talk on it while we were still sheltering under the trees at Dromoland. She informed us that it was the inauguration site of the kings of Thomond, including Brian Boru. She mentioned that Donal O Brien, the last king of Thomond came here in 1552 to be inaugurated when his kinsman accepted an Earldom and, after a ceremony at Limerick Cathedral, had renounced the crown of Thomond.

Quin Abbey. Mr Seán Duggan spoke briefly on this structure, pointing out salient features. The abbey was founded about 1350 by the MacNamaras. It became a Franciscan Friary about 1430.

Ennis Friary. We visited this on the Sunday morning but did not have entry to the inside. The friary is splendidly preserved under the care of the Dept of Public Works and must be an impressive sight at night when floodlit. Mr Seán Spellissy detailed its history.

Ballyalla Crannóg. This was viewed from the lakeside. It has been said that it may have been inhabited up to the early 16th century. On our outings we do not see many such structures. Mr Spellissy spoke about its construction and the history of the area. Ballyalla House was an 18th-century mansion originally built by the Stackpooles and now in the ownership of the Costello family who run the Ballyalla Stud.

Kilmacduagh. St Colman Mac Duach founded a monastery here in the 7th century on land given by his kinsman, King Guaire. Around 1200 AD, it became a bishop's see. There is a complex of buildings on the land — Heyne's Abbey, Glebe House, the Cathedral and O'Shaughnessy Chapel, St John's Church and a Round Tower which leans about two feet out of perpendicular probably because it was constructed (about the 10th century) on soft ground. Its overall height is 111 feet 10 inches and it is probably the tallest such tower in Ireland.

Clarecastle. Here the speaker was Mr Joe Power. The castle was built about 1251 by Robert de Muscegros on an island on the River Fergus. At one time, this area was the ancient capital of Clare. About 1248 it became a Norman settlement but was later occupied by the O Briens and subsequently at different times attacked by British forces. In previous years the river was navigable, as far as the castle, for small sailing vessels but is now silted up and its importance has declined. Where the present modern, functional bridge spans the River Fergus there used be a splendid, multi-arched one.

Moghane Hill-Fort. This was the last site visited on the Sunday afternoon and the speaker was Mr John O Brien. The triple ring hill-fort was situated in part of Dromoland Wood and is one of the largest in the country, occupying an area of about 27 acres. It was probably a defensive settlement and may have been built c. 300-400 BC. It has never been excavated but it was visited and described by Westropp in 1893. There is a splendid view of the surrounding countryside from the top. Two small stone forts were built into the hill-fort at some later stage. During the building of the Limerick-Ennis Railway in 1854 one of the largest associated finds of Bronze Age gold objects in northern or western Europe was discovered, about three-quarters of a mile from the hill-fort.

The thanks of the members were conveyed by the President to the speakers from the Shannon Archaeological and Historical Society — Mr Tom Cassidy, Mr Sean Spellissy, Mr Joe Power and Mr John O'Brien. The members are indebted to the President, Ms Philomena McCarthy, Mr Sean Duggan and Ms Patricia McCarthy to whose organizing ability the success of the weekend was due. This was indeed a notable outing with which to end our 99th year.

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EDDIE FAHY SPEAKING AT GREENMOUNT MOTTE, CO. LOUTH, JUNE 1972 (*Photo: S.A. Murphy*)

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