

EAST WALL FESTIVAL



**JUNE 13th
to
JUNE 20th
1976**

price 15p

Editorial

Why should we in EAST WALL/NORTH STRAND have pride in ourselves, in our homes, in our area. Why should we care if motorways displace neighbours on the West Road or bulldoze through Fairview Park or jut our Capital City.

In case you don't know why we should have pride in ourselves, in our homes, in our area, the simple explanation is that without this kind of pride the rot sets in and there is no need to have a powerful opponent waiting in the wings to redevelop or knock down our church as they did St. Barnabas and put a Carwash in its place. Any attack would be unnecessary they would only have to wait while we devalue ourselves and undersell our Area.

In the Old Testament when Jericho became a city without pride or faith in itself all Joshua and his followers had to do was to march around it seven times blowing their horns and the walls fell down. Well, the Corporation Road Planners are, to coin a phrase, doing a Joshua on EAST WALL/NORTH STRAND. They think all they have to do is put some lines on a map showing where they want to put motorways and the EAST WALL will come tumbling down.

Well, how you may ask do we show the Engineers, Planners and City Councillors that we

are a living community with traditions and pride in ourselves, in our area, in our city and that we have no intention of allowing our area to be gutted and dissected by a motorway. The answer is as Evelyn Waugh said of the Chinese General who when he heard that he had lost the first leg of a battle told his men to "...Put out more flags."

That should be our answer to those who would dismiss our area and think that if they draw lines on a map that we will fold our tents and silently steal away.

Let the EAST WALL FESTIVAL of 1976 be the answer to them. Let our pride in our area be shown by the buntings and flags from every house in every Road and Street. In this way the T.V., the Newspapers, the Public representatives, the Officials of the Corporation and the rest of the City of Dublin will know what we who live here think of the EAST WALL/NORTH STRAND.

One thing for sure - on June 13th I will have my flags out on St. Mary's Road, like the rest of the Community of EAST.WALL.

Alderman Kevin Byrne

INTRODUCTION

Dear Friends,

It is with great anticipation we look forward to the Second East Wall Festival which this year takes place from 13th - 20th June.

Last year "Involvement in the Community" was the theme adopted for our initial festival week and the response received from everyone was a great source of delight and encouragement to the organisers. We were blessed with tropical weather which enabled us to complete a full programme of events for the week - a week which brought to East Wall a wonderful community spirit and holiday atmosphere and brought amongst many distinguished visitors, among them Uachtarán na hÉireann, Cearbhall Ó Dálaigh.

This year, heartened by the response received and the experience acquired, we look forward to even more participation and greater enjoyment for everyone.

The organising body, The Voluntary Groups Association, is an umbrella organisation representative of every organised group in East Wall and the North Strand. Therefore, a festival such as ours cannot but bring good to our community. It helps to bring us all together and makes us aware of our collective strength as a community.

Again the threatening axe of Official Planning looms darkly over our community and from all appearances it would seem we are going to have a fight on our hands for many years to come to ensure that East Wall and the North Strand survives as a fitting place for our families and the generations to come.

Our festival can help engender in our community the spirit which is needed to preserve the quality of life we wish for our families and their children.

This year, once again, we have a full programme of events, cultural and sporting, designed to reach into every home in East Wall and the North Strand with something for everyone.

We extend a special welcome to returning exiles and visitors. We hope your stay amongst us is a happy one and that you will carry further happy memories with you when you leave.

Christy Elliott
Chairman of the East Wall
Voluntary Groups Association

FOCAL FAILTITHE

A Chairde Ionúine,

Is mór atá sinn go léir ag tnúth le Dara Féile an Phoirt Thoir a bheidh ar siúl ón 13 go dtí an 20 Meitheamh.

"Rannpháirteacht na Muintire sa Phobal" a bhí mar théama againn anuraidh don chéad fhéile agus ba mhór an spreagadh agus an t-ábhar misnigh don lucht eagartha an comhoibriú agus an tacaíocht a fuarthas go fial ó gach duine. Bhí an aimsir geal brothallach don ócáid agus d'éirigh linn imeachtaí uile sheachtain na Féile a chur i gcrích go hiomlán. B'iontach go deo an spiorad comhair agus an mothú aermaíochta a bhí le brath sa Phort Thoir an tseachtain sin. Ar na daoine cèimiúla a thug cuairt orainn bhí Uachtarán na hÉireann, Cearbhall Ó Dálaigh.

I bhfianaise na cabhrach agus nà taithí a fuair sinn anuraidh táimid ag dréim go mbeidh i bhfad níos mó daoine páirteach san fhéile i mbliana agus go mbeidh sí níos taitneamhaí dá bharr.

Feidhmíonn an comhlachas eagraíochta, i.e. Comhchumann Saorálacha an Phoirt Thoir, mar éagraíocht cheannais agus páirteach ann, tá gach ceann de na gasraí eagraithe atá sa Phort Thoir agus i dTrá Chrionáin. Dá bhrí sin, ní fhéadfadh gan toradh fóna a theacht as an bhféile seo dár bpobal. Nascann an Fhéile le chéile sinn mar phobal agus braithimid ár gcomhneart féin dá bharr.

Tá duibheagán trom na Pleanála Oifigiúla mar chrann smola os ár gcionn i gcónaí agus tá an chosúlacht air go mbeidh machaire righin le comhrac againn go ceann blianta fada lena dheimhniú go mairfidh an Port Thoir agus Trá Chrionáin mar áiteanna oiriúnacha dár dteaghlach féin agus do no glúine le teacht.

Spreagfaidh an Fhéile seo againne meanma sa phobal chun go gcaomhnófar gréasán ár ndúchais agus na saíochta is áil linn dár dteaghlach agus dár leanaí.

I mbliana, freisin, tá clár iomlán d'imeachtaí leagtha amach againn i gcúrsaí cultúir agus criléise agus measaimid go bhféadfaidh gach teaghlach sa Phort Thoir agus i dTrá Chrionáin taitneamh nach beag a bhaint as imeacht éigin díobh.

Fearaimid fáilte ar leith roimh dheoraithe agus roimh chuirteoirí. Tá súil againn go dtaitneoidh a gcúairt leo agus go mbeidh gealchuimhne acu ar an bpobal seo ag fágáil díobh.

Críostóir Mac Uileagóid.
Cathaoirleach Comhchumann Saorálacha an Phoirt Thoir.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE

HUBERT FULLER

Hubert's involvement in the workings of the Parish can be traced back to his very early teens. While still a pupil at O'Connells School he was an Altar Boy in the Old Tin Church as it was affectionately called. When he grew too big to be an altar boy, he undertook the training of new boys. This was the time when the Mass was in Latin, so he had a much more difficult task than if he was doing the same work today.

When the late Fr. Larry Redmond came as a young curate to St Joseph's, he became very friendly with Hubert, they had so much in common, namely their concern for the youth and how to involve them in some worthwhile pastime. With this in mind, and with the help of the Mens Section of the Legion of Mary, who were all C.I.E. Bus Drivers or Conductors, Hubert and Fr. Larry formed The Famous Streets League. Every street was canvassed for boys of all age groups who were interested in playing Soccer. After much hard work and planning, Teams were formed from the different streets including the North Strand Area, as the Railway Wall never presented any problem for the youth and of course, Fairview Park was always available for practice and for Matches. As a result of this early training, and the keen competitive spirit among the teams, it was only natural that some very good players emerged. Talent Spotters were quick to take notice and before long, several of the youths were playing for the more advanced clubs, and later went on to play International Soccer.

Another very interesting club was formed about this time to cater for boys who had an interest in music namely St Joseph's Boys Club Band. Fr. Redmond obtained the services of Sergeant O'Rourke from the Army School of Music. The boys average age was about 12 years and were all local lads. They had their practice sessions in the Boys School and before long, the strange sounds that flowed over St Mary's Road became sweet music indeed. The Band was a familiar sight in Fairview Park as the Semi Finals and Finals of the Street Leagues were fought and won, like the young footballers who achieved such success,

several of the Boys Club Band became Semi Professional and Professional Musicians.

As the Parish grew in years, so too did the youth, this meant a lull in youth activities, but Hubert did not rest on his laurels and they were many. He acted as an adviser to the boys and girls of school leaving age, and he was instrumental in obtaining positions for many of them.

A few years ago, due to early retirement, Hubert found he had plenty of free time, so he looked around to see where help was needed. About this time Basket Ball which was fairly new to the area, was going through the usual growing pains. So he turned his thoughts towards this new sport. Before long, with the help of many willing workers, the game grew in popularity, and Hubert could be seen several evenings each week, in the grounds of the Youth Club training the girls and arranging the teams. During the Festival of 1975, he spent the best part of the week with the Basket Ball events, and his only appearance on the Platform was for the presentation of prizes on the last day.

No article on Hubert would be complete without mentioning his keen interest and love for the Church.

When the Church Choir which had lapsed for many years was reformed, a few years ago, he was in the forefront as usual, and helped encourage several former members to come back. Thanks to his enthusiasm, the Choir is flourishing today.

Never one to look for praise, many of his good deeds remain unknown except to his personal friends. His real happiness was in knowing that he helped in so many ways to make life a little brighter for the people with whom he spent the best part of his life.

With the plans for Festival Week 1976 forging ahead, he name is often mentioned, it is rather sad to think he will not be with us, but his memory will live on in East Wall for many years.

This is the finest tribute that could be paid to any man.

Mrs Alice Feeney. P.C.

THOMAS CAULFIELD IRWIN LIVED IN EAST WALL

Over the years the genius of the poet, Thomas Caulfield Irwin, has received some of the recognition due to it. Before Christmas, I unveiled a plaque in Warrenpoint Town Hall in a ceremony attended by representatives of the local authority, the Warrenpoint Historical Group and all religious elements in the community.

Irwin had many associations with the East Wall area and he was living at 4, Malachi Place when he married Esther Mary Tallon. The house was demolished in recent years. In one of his poems, he describes a railway accident which must have taken place on the East Wall line. His wife's family lived at 6, Lower Buckingham Street and her father was a tailor.

Although Irwin has always appealed to the discerning, he should be better known. Unfortunately, his books are very scarce, but an excellent selection of his work is to be found in Geoffrey Taylor's "Irish Poets of the Nineteenth Century". His mysterious neglect resulted from the eccentric nature of his character and the extraordinary events of his life.

A poet always, he never degraded his art for fame or wealth. He published where he could, in the *Dublin University Magazine* and in the Fenian organ *The Irish People*, but did not subordinate his verse to their opposed viewpoints.

Born in Warrenpoint, County Down, in 1830, he came to Dublin with his widowed mother at the age of eight. His education was private but expensive and he toured most of Europe. He was twenty-two when his mother died and a few years later he lost his fortune.

The combined misfortunes affected his mind and, like Swift, about whom he wrote one of his best poems, he suffered attacks of insanity at intervals. Irwin earned a meagre living by his pen but in 1860 he took a post as a tutor to a family named Tallon.

The poet impressed this man by his belief, real or imagined, that he was heir to a great fortune. This influenced Mr Tallon to give his consent to the marriage of his daughter, Esther, to the poet. An extraordinary feature of this union was that Esther was scarcely fourteen while Irwin was forty-two.

The marriage took place at a Dublin Registry Office, a fact which was to have strange consequences.

It was in fact a marriage in name only, as Irwin looked on Esther as a daughter and not as a wife. She grew to womanhood and supplemented their income by teaching.

When she was twenty she met a young barrister from Athlone named Edward Patrick Sarsfield Counsel, handsome, brilliant and wealthy.

They fell in love at a time when Irwin was suffering frequently from bouts of insanity, being detained once or twice in mental institutions.

The emotions of the young people were completely involved and it was a cruel privation that the intangible but absolute barrier of the Registry Office ceremony should stand between them.

Counsel, who was a Catholic, realised that in the eyes of the Church this was no obstacle to his taking Esther as his wife for it was morally null and void. In a private Church ceremony on the Continent, he married Esther.

Irwin went on writing, sad elegies of his mother, wonderful evocations of the Irish landscape and climate which he used to symbolise his own melancholy feelings.

Counsel dabbled in politics and stood as Nationalist candidate for Trinity College in 1886. At the public nominations the proposal of his name caused violent scenes. Missiles were thrown at the platform and the Provost was unable to control the meeting.

In the end his association with politics was indirectly to ruin Irwin.

When the Parnellite split came the peculiar position of Counsel, who supported the Irish leader, became the subject of a whispering campaign.

To establish the moral validity of her marriage to Counsel Esther sued for an annulment of her legal union with Irwin.

She lost her case but the shock and revelation were the final blows to the weakening health of the poet and he died in 1892.

Everyone who knew him respected and admired him for his gentle kindness and sincerity.

In his own day his poems received critical acclaim and he was known as the 'Irish Keats'.

D.J. O'Donoghue in his *Dictionary of Irish Poets* concludes that Irwin was one of our best poets.

But while Esther lived - and she did not die until 1931 - his work was neglected and almost forgotten.

He deserves better and it is to be hoped that more readers will become acquainted with his work.

Tony Butler

GAA & THE STARS OF YESTERDAY

Ninety years ago with the emergence of Dublin's first clubs East Wall and its adjoining districts became one of the early strongholds of the G.A.A. in the capital city. It was from the parish of St Laurence O'Toole, which at that time included the Church Road area that St Mary's and O'Toole's won the famous three in a row during Dublin's golden era of football in the twenties. During that period St Laurence O'Toole's parish could boast five senior football teams, namely, O'Toole's, St. Mary's, St Brendan's, Emeralds and St Joseph's competing in Dublin competitions.

The Brian Boru's, one of Dublin's oldest hurling clubs, held their inaugural meeting at 23 North Strand Road in March 1887 and having acquired a field at Church Road erected two club rooms there. They were one of the foremost clubs of their day fielding both hurling and football teams. There were also first-class weight throwers, runners and jumpers among their members. Dick Curtis, winner of four All-Ireland medals with Dublin between the years 1891 and 1897 and who was also a wrestler of renown, captained the Brian Boru football team in 1890. Jem Reynolds, one of the leading weight throwers in Dublin during the nineties was also a member of the Brian Boru hurlers. In September 1893 an exhibition hurling game was organised by the Brian Boru club and played at Glasgow's Celtic's headquarters at Parkhead. A large party of Dublin Gaels, including James Boland, county chairman, travelled to see the game. In 1894 the club disbanded but the majority of its members formed a new club called the Celtic Hurling Club which continued to compete until about 1907.

The Mandeville Volunteers, another early East Wall Gaelic club, was founded in 1888 and also had a ground at Church Road. They named their club after John Mandeville of Mitchelstown, an Irish political prisoner who had died as the result of prison ill treatment.

The Thomas Addis Emmet club of the North Strand who sported all green jerseys were also founded in 1888 and had their pitch on West Road. Like a number of other Dublin clubs the Emmets disappeared from the scene around the time of the Parnell split. The Goldsmiths also hailed from the North Strand area and they too were disbanded in the early nineties.

There was a great spate of juvenile teams playing in the area in the mid nineties although there were no properly organised juvenile competitions

operating under the auspices of the County Board at that time. Pat 'Cocker' Daly began his football career with the Hawthorn's Football Club from Church Road about 1894 and the following year he joined the Rovers juveniles from the Sheriff Street area.

The Saint Laurence O'Toole Gaelic football club was founded in 1888 and Frank McCabe, with an address at 1 Irvine Cottages, was their first secretary. They had a field on East Road and continued to function as a juvenile club until 1896. The present O'Toole's club was founded as a branch of the Gaelic League in 1901. A newspaper report of a juvenile football game between St Laurence O'Toole's and Rovers, played in the Phoenix Park on Sunday 15 September 1895 stated that this was the latter's first defeat in five years. O'Toole's won two goals to nil. The O'Toole players mentioned in the report were: M. Curley, J. 'Red' Byrne, J. Reddy, J. Hannen, J. Sweetman, T. Murphy, S. Healy (captain), M. Reddy, M. Murphy, T. Tucker and Cumiskey. The Rovers players included: A. Meyler (captain), J. Daly, P. 'Cocker' Daly, Hunter, Duff, McGuirk, Farrell, Kenny and Brien. The Strandville juvenile Gaelic football team played their games in Kennedy's field, Charleville Avenue, and the North Stars and Charlevilles also came from the same district.

A number of new clubs were organised in the area around the turn of the century and these included the St Mary's club, the Emerald club and the already mentioned O'Toole's. The Emeralds began as a juvenile club in 1902 and had a ground at Fairview. They graduated to minor and won the junior football league of 1912, beating the Round Tower team, Clondalkin, in the final. The following were the 1912 junior panel of players: Paddy Carey (captain), Stephen Synnott, James Synnott, Denis Murphy, James McDonnell, Edward Purtell, Joseph Carroll, James Sheils, John Byrne, Peter Boyle, Thomas Reilly, Thomas Traynor, M. Callaghan, Patrick Flanagan, John Kennedy, Tom Carey, Thomas Reilly, John Synnott captained the Emeralds when they won the minor football league of 1914. When Dublin won the All-Ireland Junior Football Championship of 1914 the Emeralds had eight representatives on the panel. They were: Paddy Carey, Stephen Synnott, Peadar Smith, Tom McAdams, Tom Carr, M. Nolan, Josie Synnott and Simon Foran. In 1917 the Synnott and Carey brothers threw in

their lot with the O'Toole's club with whom they had been playing hurling.

Dan Head was the Emeralds minor team goalkeeper in 1920 and the following year he died heroically in action as a Volunteer in the Custom House raid. The Emeralds, aided by such stalwarts as the Casserlys, McRory, Tierney, Bradshaw, Chaney, Kinsella etc., played into the late twenties when they finally faded from the scene.

St Mary's club, Church Road, was founded about 1901 with J. McDonnell of Aldborough Place as secretary. In 1902 they won the junior league beating Balbriggan Wanderers, who were captained by Jack Reynolds, a noted cyclist, in the final. The St Mary's 1902 team was as follows: B. McGuirk (captain), - McGuirk, J. Byrne, Hunter Baker, Flanagan, Tully, Murphy, J. Carroll, F. Kennedy, C. Daly, Johnston Hilly, J. McDonald, McCormack, Coughlane, Brougham. This team also won the Fingallians Tournament at Swords in 1902. About 1905 St Mary's club was disbanded to re-appear for a short period around 1910 and being re-organised again in 1915 they entered for the junior C league of that year.

Going from strength to strength they annexed the junior football championship and league of 1919 and were also successful in three tournament finals. They became intermediate champions of 1920 and in the following year, having sensationally defeated O'Toole's in the senior championship semi-final, went on to beat Kickhams 1-5 to 0-3 in the 1921 final. The team was: Christy McGuirk (captain), James Graham, Edward Carroll, Martin Shanahan, Alex Balman, Mick Bradshaw, Joe O'Grady, James McDonnell, Pat 'Cocker' Daly, Chris O'Toole, A. Dixon, Willie Fitzsimons, T. Considine, P. Considine, Chris McDonnell.

Pat 'Cocker' Daly was then in his twenty-seventh year of football having started in 1894 with the Church Road Hawthorns. One of Dublin's greatest players in the early 1900s he won All-Ireland medals in 1901, 1902 and 1908 and was on the losing side in 1906. 'Cocker' played with the Parnells around the turn of the century and went to Geraldines in 1905 and won several Dublin championship medals with that club.

In the 1921 All-Ireland football decider Dublin (St Mary's selection) accounted for Mayo in the first of the famous Dublin three in a row of the twenties. The Dublin team of that year was led by Eddie Carroll and other St Mary's men who did duty in the final were: Charles McDonald, Alex, Joe O'Grady and Willie Fitzsimons.

The St Joseph's club of East Wall was founded in May 1919 with John Cunningham from Upper Oriel Street as secretary. The winning of the north

county Dublin football league of 1922 was the club's first success. Winning the junior football championship of 1929, the 'Joey's' went on to take the senior football championship of 1930 beating the great O'Toole's in the final re-play. The drawn game played in Croke Park on May 28 1930 was considered to be one of the greatest in the history of Dublin finals. The following lined out in the final: Peter Moore (captain), Chris Coughlane, Joseph Macken, Vin Macken, John Mulhall, Mick Curley, Paddy Mulhall, James Mulhall, Mickey Wellington, John Byrne, Tom Newman, Charles Duffy ('Yarra'), Stephen Moore, J. Mohan and Chris Rochford.

One of St Joseph's brilliant forwards on that occasion was the late Mickey Wellington who for many years gave service as a player and later as a mentor and representative to the county board. In the same year St Joseph's, who had been unbeaten for two years, failed at the final stage to take the senior league title and had to wait until 1936 to win this competition. The last championship won by St Joseph's was the junior championship of 1959 when they beat St Callins in the final. Larry Sweetman had the following 1959 junior team: O'Shea, W. Ryan, Ryan, D. Byrne, J. Downes, L. Barber, D. Stanley, F. Black, P. Archibold, P. Foley, D. Meyler, P. Kavanagh, L. Sweetman (captain), Donohoe, J. Reid, J. Tyrell, V. Brunton, Fitzsimons, Whelan, W. Rothwell, Riordan and J. Ward.

Another parish club - St Brendan's - was founded in 1918 and according to Jack Teeling of Artane, an old player, 20 hacks were needed to carry players and supporters from Sheriff Street on Sunday mornings during the team's heyday. The Brendans won the junior football championship of 1920 and also the Elvery Cup and Templeogue Tournament with the following team: C. Hendrick, T. McKane, Chris McAuley, T. Cullen, P. Carrick, C. McAuley, L. Coombes, J. Nolan, M. Hampson, J. Sheils (captain), P. Sheils, J. Mahony, J. Teeling, P. Duffy and T. Whelan. They won the Howth Tournament and inter championship the following year and went into senior ranks and remained so until the club was disbanded in the late twenties.

The Clann O'Toole's began playing in 1918. Having gone out of football they were re-organised in 1930. Their players were all ex St Laurence O'Toole's men including Frank Teeling, the Kilmainham jail escapee. The Clann O'Toole's won the north county league and junior championship of 1931 with the following players: T. Mulligan, J. Mulligan, J. Mulligan, P. Maheddy, M. Smith, J. Teeling, F. Teeling, J. Maher, A. Maher, C. Gaughran, P. Byrne,

J. Kirwan, P. Cooney, N. McDermott, S. McDermott and J. Brennan.

The team went on from intermediate to senior football and went out of the game about 1935.

The Parish Gaels was also a team comprised of ex-O'Toole's players, a number of whom went on to make a name for themselves in Irish and English soccer during the forties and early fifties. The Parish Gaels won the junior and intermediate championships during the forties and their players included: Paddy Reilly (son of Jack of O'Toole's and Dublin fame), Murty Sullivan, Frank Ellis (of Marine Port and General Workers Union), George Foley, Charlie Bellew, Billy Gavin, Kevin Bermingham, Charlie Mullally, Paddy Brennan, Sean Reilly, Mickey Banks and Kevin Matthews (both Dublin Hurling goalkeepers), Sean O'Sullivan, Joseph Loughran, Jack Lawless etc.

The story of St Laurence O'Toole's club is indeed almost a book in itself. During the golden era of parish football they won 10 Dublin senior championships between 1918 and 1931 and on the inter county scene 'parish selections' appeared in five All-Ireland finals between 1920 and 1924, winning in 1921, 1922 and 1923. The following names spring to mind when the 'Larriers' reigned supreme in Dublin: Paddy and Johnny McDonnell, Paddy, Jack and Tom Carey,

Stephen, Josie, John and Peter Synnott, Jack Reilly, Willy O'Reilly, Billy Robbins, Joe and Jim Norris, Willie Maher, Charlie Grace, Mick 'Ginger' O'Brien, Willie Rooney, Tom Fitzgerald, Tony Gibbons, Mick Lennon, Joe and Peter Styne, Morgan Durnin, Jim Molloy, Billy Manifold, Alex Perkins, Dave Smyth, Jim Mohan, Jack Ebbs etc.

The club has won every Dublin competition with the exception of a junior hurling championship. They won their first senior hurling championship in 1969 when, led by Noel Doolan, they defeated Faughs in the final 4-8 to 2-9. The team was as follows: T. Dowd, J. Wren, M. Cunningham, C. Clarke, N. Fahy, N. Doolan (captain), D. O'Donnell, J. Kirwan, J. Wallace, F. Murphy, J. O'Meara, D. Sheehan, W. Wallace, M. McWhinney, P. Wallace and J. Gilsenan.

The aforementioned and some other clubs long since forgotten have kept Gaelic games alive in this area through the years. Credit is due also to Christian Brothers and teachers who have fostered the games in such schools as St Laurence O'Toole's, East Wall, St Canice's and O'Connell's. It is indeed encouraging to find such clubs as O'Toole's, St Joseph's and O'Connell Boys going strong today and carrying on that proud tradition that was set in the parish so many years ago.

Jimmy Wren

ST. MARY'S TEAM 1919-1920 Winners of Junior Championship & League



Top Row-E. Considine, J. Davis, J. Graham, J. McDonnell, C. McDonnell, J. O'Grady, M. O'Grady [Trainer].
2nd Row- M. Bradshaw, P. Daly, A. Belmaine, C. McGuirk [Captain] E. Carroll, T. McDonnell, E. Dickson.
Front Row-M. Shanahan, C. Toole.

"THE FOURPENNY RUSH"

The Fairview Grand (Ireland's largest suburban cinema) is no more. It has closed down, suffering the same fate as its sister cinema, The Strand, down the road. Many happy hours were spent there in the 30's, 40's and 50's with the famous stars of the past who delighted and brightened our childhood years.

Buck Jones ("duck the bullets"), Bill Boyd ("Hopalong Cassidy"), Gabby Hayes ("you're darn tootin', you young whippersnapper"), Johnny MacBrown, Fuzzy Knight, Roy Rogers, Gene Autry, Smiley Burnette, Joel McCrea, Randolph Scott, Wild Bill Elliot, Charles Starrett as the Durango Kid, Bob Steele, Andy Devine, and many more who played either the "Chap" or "The Chap's Pal". Of course, the leader of the outlaws was always "The Head Crook".

The days of "The Fourpenny Rush", the hurriedly eaten Sunday dinner, and the mad dash across Fairview Park to join the queue for the three o'clock show. Sometimes the terrible disappointment of reaching the box office only to be told "House Full". Another mad dash down to the Strand cinema which more than likely was also full, which would leave us with one more hope - "The Elec" (now the Capitol) in Talbot Street.

A big attraction in those days was the "follyin-upper". Among the more popular ones were "The Clutching Hand", "Junior G-Men", "Burn-em-up Barnes", "Flaming Frontiers", "Jungle Jim", "Don Winslow of the Navy", but by far the most popular were "Flash Gordon" and "Buck Rogers", both starring Larry "Buster" Crabbe, whose arch enemy "Ming" ("Bring the prisoners forward!") must have been the most booed man of his time!

And what great comedians there were in those days! Laurel & Hardy, Abbott & Costello, always referred to of course as "the fat fella" and "the skinny fella", Our Gang, Joe E. Brown, Old Mother Riley, Leon Errol, Hugh Herbert ('woo woo'), Edgar Kennedy, The Three Stooges, The Marx Brothers, George O'Hanlon as Joe McDoaks, (behind the eight ball), Bob Hope and many more.

Many funny incidents occurred going to the pictures in those times. Although four old pence doesn't mean much nowadays, it was often hard to come by then. A member of the "gang", one "Skinner", was often broke. He decided one day he would "bunk" in for nothing. Slipping around to the back of the cinema he pushed his coat through the bars of the toilet window. He pulled himself up to the window and then discovered he wasn't so skinny after all because try as he might he couldn't squeeze through the bars! Then followed an agonizing wait until a legitimate patron entered the toilet and pushed his coat back out to him. On another occasion having graduated

to long trousers and so technically an "adult" he rolled up the legs of his trousers under his overcoat and got in for half price! Then there was Ritchie who never believed in queuing. His favourite game was to drop on all fours at the tail end of a queue and crawl through the legs of the people in front until he reached the head of the queue. Few objected because he was a big lad for his age. Another gang member, Tommy, entered Wrights Fishmongers in Marino Mart, which displays the notice "If it swims, we have it", and asked for Ester Williams. Harry was a lad who struck it rich by finding a girl friend who baked apple tarts to eat while watching the pictures. (They later married.)

The Fairview showed all the famous stars of the time. The Greats! - Humphrey Bogart, Spencer Tracy, Edward G. Robinson, Paul Muni, Charles Laughton, The Barrymores, J. Cagney, George Raft, Gary Cooper, Clark Gable, our own Barry Fitzgerald, Robert Taylor, William Powell as the "Thin Man", Chester Norris as "Boston Blackie", George Sanders as the "Saint", and his brother Tom Conway as "The Falcon". Lloyd Nolan, Mickey Rooney as Andy Hardy, Judy Garland, Lon Chaney as "The Wolfman", Claude Rains, Bing Crosby and Bob Hope in the "Road" series, Nelson Eddy and Jeanette McDonald, Boris Karloff, Bela Lugosi, and many, many more.

It's sad to think that this building will no longer echo with the sweetest sound in the world, the laughter of children and their cries of wonder. Can anyone imagine the children of to-day looking back from the year 2,000 with nostalgia for the Kung Fu violence of to-day's films?

Kit Byrne

MR. AND MRS. P. KANE

79, Church Road

Grocer

wish success to the East Wall Festival

SUNDAY

- 10.30 a.m. Folk Mass
 11.30 a.m. Mass - Fr. Kavanagh's Choir
 2.15 p.m. Ecumenical Service -
 Rev. Mr. Dalton & Fr. Malone
 3.00 p.m. Official Opening - Councillor
 Joe Connolly
 Chairman Dublin County Council
 Parade around East Wall, Bands,
 Floats etc.,
 4.45 p.m. Race around the houses - boys &
 girls under 12, 15, 18 years.
 6.15 p.m. Soccer Five-a-Side Under 16 yrs.
 (Boys' School)
 8.00 p.m. Good Old Days, Main Hall, Senior
 Citizens, Stella & Sue Millar,
 Des Brady

MONDAY

- 6.45 p.m. Gaelic Football, Fairview Park
 1. East Wall v North Strand
 8.00 p.m. 2. St Joseph's, East Wall v Kilbride
 Meath (Senior)
 7.00 p.m. Soccer Five-a-Side Under 9-12 yrs
 (Playcentre)
 7.00 p.m. Soccer Five-a-Side Under 16 yrs
 (Boys' School)
 7.00 p.m. Soccer Five-a-Side Under 23 yrs
 (Fairview Park)
 7.00 p.m. Soccer (Girls Under 16, 18 yrs)
 (Strangford Road)
 7.00 p.m. Basketball 12-15 yrs & 15-19 yrs
 (Strangford Road)
 7.45 p.m. Open Snooker
 16, 18 yrs
 (Strangford Road)
 Open Chess Competition & Draughts
 (Boys School) Over 16
 8.00 p.m. Exhibitions of Arts & Crafts,
 Photography
 8.00 p.m. Darts - Ladies & Gents Semi-Finals
 (British Rail Club)
 8.00 p.m. Grand Variety Concert (Main Hall)
 East Wall & North Strand Ladies'
 Clubs

TUESDAY Exhibitions Continue

- 7.00 p.m. Swimming Gala (St David's Pool,
 Artane). East Wall S.C., Tolka S.C.,

- 9.00 p.m. Finglas S.C., St. Joseph's S.C.,
 Soccer Five-a-Side Under 23 yrs
 (Fairview Park)
 7.00 p.m. Soccer Five-a-Side Under 9, 12 yrs
 (Playcentre)
 7.00 p.m. Soccer Five-a-Side Under 16 yrs
 (Boys' School)
 7.00 p.m. Basketball, Boys & Girls 12-15 yrs
 15-19 yrs (Strangford Road)
 7.00 p.m. Soccer, Girls under 16, 18 yrs.
 (Strangford Road)
 7.00 p.m. Ladies Soccer Five-a-Side
 (Fairview Park)
 7.45 p.m. Open Snooker
 16, 18 yrs (Strangford Road)
 8.00 p.m. Snooker Finals *
 (Seaview Club)
 8.00 p.m. Bowling (Main Hall)
 8.00 p.m. Senior Citizens Night Out at
 Clontarf Castle
 8.00 p.m. Arts & Crafts (Girls' School)
 8.00 p.m. Platform Church Rd. Ceile Band,
 Gráinne Ni Cormac Irish Dancers

WEDNESDAY Exhibitions continue

- 6.30 p.m. Mini Olympics East Wall v O.L.O.R.
 Harolds Cross
 7.30 p.m. Soccer Five-a-Side Under 23 yrs
 (Fairview Park)
 7.30 p.m. Soccer East Wall United v League
 of Ireland Selection
 (Fairview Park)
 7.00 p.m. Soccer Five-a-Side Under 16 yrs
 (Boys' School)
 7.00 p.m. Soccer Girls Under 16, 18 yrs
 (Strangford Road)
 7.00 p.m. Basketball Boys & Girls 12-15 yrs:
 15-19 yrs (Strangford Road)
 7.45 p.m. Open Snooker Under
 16 yrs, 18 yrs (Strangford Road)
 Open Chess & Draughts Competition
 (Boys School) 9-16 yrs. Over 16 yrs
 8.00 p.m. Main Hall - Cookery Demonstration
 - Paula Daly
 8.00 p.m. Platform Church Road.
 Rising Stars Singers
 Poetry Reading - Kevin Lindsay
 10.00 p.m. Draughts Final, Wharf Tavern
 EAST WALL FESTIVAL PIGEON
 RACE - DUNDALK TO DUBLIN

THURSDAY Exhibitions continue

- 7.00 p.m. Athletics - East Wall v Castle Rothery (Tallaght)
City Quay (Fairview Park)
- 7.00 p.m. Soccer Five-a-Side Under 16 yrs (Boys' School)
Soccer Five-a-Side Under 23 yrs (Fairview Park)
- 7.00 p.m. Soccer Five-a-Side Under 9yrs, 12 yrs - (Play Centre)
- 7.00 p.m. Soccer Girls Under 16 yrs, 18 yrs - (Strangford Road)
- 7.15 p.m. Basketball Boys & Girls 12-15 yrs, 15-19 yrs (Strangford Road)
- 7.00 p.m. Main Hall - Table Tennis
Girls Under 17 yrs. East Wall v St. Kevins
Boys Under 17 yrs - East Wall v St Mary's Youth Club
Open Finals
- 7.45 p.m. Open Snooker & Draughts Under 16 yrs, 18 yrs (Strangford Road)
- 8.00 p.m. Darts - Ladies & Gents Finals (British Rail Club)
- 8.00 p.m. Platform, Church Road, Ladies Club Choir & Kevin Lindsay
- 8.00 p.m. Arts & Crafts Exhibition
Girl's School, East Wall Road

FRIDAY Exhibitions continue

- 5.30 p.m. Soccer Five-a-Side Under 9 yrs, 12 yrs (Play Centre)
- 7.00 p.m. Soccer Five-a-Side Under 16 yrs (Boys' School)
Soccer Five-a-Side Under 23 yrd (Fairview Park)
- 7.00 p.m. Soccer Girls Under 16 yrs, 18 yrs (Strangford Road)
- 7.00 p.m. Basketball Boys & Girls 12-15 yrs 15-19 yrs (Strangford Road)
- 7.45 p.m. Open Snooker Under 16 yrs, 18 yrs
- 8.00 p.m. Grand Variety Concert - Strand Cinema. Artists: Joe Cuddy,

Tony Malone, The Values, The Twisters, Gráinne McCormack
Rising Stars

8.00 p.m. Main Hall - Dance 14-18 yrs

SATURDAY

- 10.00 a.m. Film for the children - Main Hall
- 11.00 a.m. Volley Ball, East Wall, Donabate
Aughrim Street - (Boys' School)
- 3.00 p.m. Exhibition continues
- 3.30 p.m. East Wall Celtic v 'Sheriff United (Fairview Park)
- 1.00 p.m. Basketball Girls' Tournament
Strangford Road
- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| SECTION I | SECTION II |
| St Joseph's C Team | St Joseph's A Team |
| Fr. Eamonn All Stars | Killester |
| Sutton Bay | Kylemore |
| Final Winner Section 1 play Winner Section II | |
- 4.30 p.m. Karate Kenpo Exhibition - Main Hall
- 4.45 p.m. Treasure Hunt for Young & Old
- 3.00 p.m. Children's Fancy Dress Parade, followed by Pram Derby
- 8.00 p.m. Main Hall - Youth Club present
Sketches Junior Boys
Sketches Intermediate Boys
Exhibition - Ballroom Dancing by the Junior Boys & Girls

SUNDAY

- 11.00 a.m. Soap Box Derby -
Johnny Cullen's Hill
- 2.30 p.m. Family Sports Day Novelty Races
Mothers & Fathers Races
(Egg & Spoon, Sack Races, Tug-a-war, etc., etc.,)
Ladies Five-a-Side Final
- 9.00 p.m. Festival Dance
Presentation of Prizes
CLARE MANOR HOTEL
9 p.m. - 1 a.m.

EVENTS & ENTERTAINMENTS

The Sports Committee have laid on a big programme of events for the festival and are appealing to all the boys and girls in the Parish to compete as much as possible in all the open events.

Gaelic Football:-

St Josephs G.F.C. have arranged a very good game for Monday night at Fairview Park between their selection which will include some of the Dublin team and Kilbride the Co. Meath champions. A junior game East Wall v North Strand will precede the big match.

Soccer:-

Five-a-sodes under 9, 12, 16, and 23 will run throughout the week with the Finals on Friday night. East Wall United will play a League of Ireland Selection on Wednesday night at 7.30 and it is hoped that it will be as good as a game last year when it was one of the highlights of the Festival sports week.

A schoolboy game East Wall v O.L.O.R. will be played at 6.30.

East Wall Celtic play Sherrif United at Fairview Park on Saturday, kick-off 3.30. There will also be ladies football during the week with the finals in Fairview on Sunday.

Swimming:-

A Gala will be held in Artane pool on Tuesday between East Wall and three visiting clubs and it is hoped that we will keep the trophy at home as we did last year.

Basketball:-

An invitation tournament will take place on Saturday starting at 1 p.m. between six clubs at Strangford Road and again as this is one of the parish's strong sports we hope the home team can win. Open Basketball for girls and boys will be played during the week.

Volleyball:-

Volleyball will take place on Saturday morning in the Boys' school and as this is a very good spectator sport it is hoped that good support will be present.

Table Tennis:-

This sport will take place in the boys' school on Thursday night and as the standard of play in the parish is very high a good evenings entertainment is assured.

Athletics:-

The races around the houses will open the sport week taking place on Sunday after the parade. On Thursday a match between East Wall and two visiting clubs will take place at Fairview and on Sunday a family sports day will take place in Fairview Park with open Races for boys and girls and novelty races galore for the Mammies and Daddies.

Open Snooker for under 16 and 18 will take place each evening at the Youth Club, Strangford Road and the Boy Scouts are having a soap box derby on Johnny Cullens Hill on Sunday Morning.

Chess & Draughts Competition for 9 - 16 years and over 16 years will take place in the Boys' School, St. Mary's Road.

All Boys and Girls wishing to take part in the above events contact any committee member for details of entry.

One of the many successes of last year's Festival was the Senior Citizens Show, which took place in the Boy's School on opening night.

This year, we are again presenting the Senior Citizens in a show called 'The Good Old Days'. We hope that all patrons coming to the show will enter into the spirit of the 'Good Old Days' by wearing period costumes.

MONDAY NIGHT will be Ladies' Club Night, with a full Variety Show. The Exhibition will be officially opened on this night.

On TUESDAY NIGHT St Joseph's Bowling Club will be host to a Visiting Club and will explain the basic rules of the game. Also on Tuesday night, the Rising Star Singers will be at home to entertain you from the Platform on Church Road. This local group have appeared on TV many times.

Tuesday night we take the Senior Citizens for a light meal and Cabaret Show in Clontarf Castle. Buses will be provided for them.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT we have pleasure in presenting a Cookery Demonstration by Paula Daly from McDonnells Good Food Kitchen. Paula herself needs no introduction, as she has been

with us before. No children will be allowed into this Demonstration.

On Wednesday Night also Gráinne Ni Cormack's dancers will again grace our Platform. Gráine is well known to all in East Wall for the professional standard of her dancers. Our local children, through Gráinne, represented Ireland with great success at the International Festival in France last year and will, undoubtedly, be very popular in a similar Festival being held in Belgium during July of this year.

FRIDAY NIGHT the Strand Cinema re-opens for our main concert. We sincerely hope that the 'Woodeners', as we knew them, will be packed.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON Children's Fancy Dress Parade, an event to be looked forward to by young and old, followed by the Pram Derby. This was one of the funniest events of the week and was enjoyed by all.

New to the scene this year is an exhibition of Kenpo. This Club was founded by Joe Teeling who is a qualified instructor. Married to a local girl, Joe is comparatively new to East Wall.

SATURDAY NIGHT is the Youth Club on stage in the Main Hall, with sketches and Ballroom Dancing Exhibition.

SUNDAY NIGHT is our Grand Festival Dance in the Clare Manor Hotel, 9.00 p.m. - 1.00 a.m. Buses leave Church Road at 8.00 p.m. Subscription £1.50, including transport, without transport £1.00.

Tickets for all Functions will be on sale each night in the Boy's School from 31st May onwards at

EVENTS COMMITTEE

Athletics	:	B. King
Basketball	:	T. McGovern, V. Little
Chess	:	Fr K. Clarke
Draughts	:	James Lee
Gaelic	:	
Junior	:	N. Doolin
Senior	:	R. Reid

Soap Box Race	:	M. O'Connor
Soccer	:	
Under 9 & 12	:	P. Kavanagh, F. Fitzgerald.
Under 16	:	P. Malone
Under 23	:	J. Greene Jackie Carey, Joe Grant
Girls' Soccer	:	
Ladies Soccer	:	Mrs B. Doolan
Swimming	:	J. Martin, J. Fitzgerald, A. Little
Table Tennis	:	B. Powell. Fr. K. Clarke, C. Kenny
Treasure Hunt	:	M. O'Connor
Volleyball	:	P. Malone, V. Little
Snooker	:	Joe Duffy

ENTERTAINMENTS COMMITTEE

C. Elliott, M. Feeny P.C. B. Doolan,
M. Horgan.

15th DUBLIN CBSI

This Unit consists of Venture Section for boys 15 to 19 years, a Scout Troop boys 11 to 15 years and a Cub Pack 8 to 11 years.

There are vacancies in the Scout and Venture Sections. There is, however, a waiting list for Cub Scouts.

The Unit has 1 Venture Leader, 2 Scout Leaders and 3 Cub Scout Leaders and the Unit Leader.

Meeting Night: Wednesday, 7.30 p.m.,
Boys' School - Scouts
Saturday, 3.00 p.m.,
Boys' School - Cub Scouts

Membership at the moment is 100.

The Scout Parents' Committee has a membership of 20.

Boys or Girls who are over 16 ½ years and would like to become Cub Scout Leaders are asked to come along and talk to us at the Boys' School.

The Cub Scouts go on holiday to Larch Hill in July and the Scouts go this year to Limerick.

WHARF TAVERN SOCIAL CLUB

The Wharf Tavern Social club is affiliated to the Association of East Wall Voluntary Groups and is one of the member groups organising the festival.

The Wharf Tavern Social Club was formed to organise a social life for the patrons of the Wharf Tavern and its chief aim is to provide a social centre for its members.

Each member is entitled to attend the annual Dinner and Outing. The club members believe that their club is one of the largest of its kind in the country with a membership of over 300. The club committee would like to hear of a bigger club.

All regular patrons of the Wharf, on reaching pension age, are made full honorary members.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW ?

Wharf School, East Wall—Circa 1939



THE ISLAND OFF THE EAST WALL

It is hard for any East Waller under twenty years of age to realise that at one time the sea ebbed and flowed at the top of the Church Road and that their fathers may have learned to swim from either the 'Middle Arch' of the railway embankment or from the 'slip' near the girls school. It is equally hard to realise that their grandfathers may have sailed at the wharf sailing club on the East Wall Road and perhaps even swam out to the island.

The island - no trace of it remains today - was situated between East Wall and Clontarf. As it existed long before East Wall was reclaimed from the sea it was called Clontarf Island. Before East Wall became dry land the island lay far out to sea from any point of the mainland when the coastline ran from Ballybough Bridge by Amiens Street, Beresford Place and Strand Street to the site of Essex Bridge. This may easily be checked by looking at the interesting map of Dublin in 1673 in *Halliday's 'history of the Scandinavian kingdom of Dublin'*. The old wide harbour of Dublin contained no more prominent landmark than the island.

Such a place, set in deep water of the Tolka current where it joined the greater Liffey Current, must have been a splendid point of vantage in the battle of Clontarf in 1014 A.D., which, we are told by historians, raged most fiercely around the mouth of the Tolka. The sea forces of the Danish Vikings probably occupied the island during the battle. In 1538 the Prior of Kilmainham granted a lease of Clontarf, naming also the island, to Matthew King. Although the island was granted in 1600 to Sir Geoffrey Fenton and in 1608 to his son William, the King Family continued in possession. Carte in his *'Life of Ormonde'* states that in 1641 Sir Charles Coote burned most of Clontarf town and George King's house, laying waste to the island. Mr King had been a supporter of Charles I and lost his estates in Clontarf including the island, when Oliver Cromwell came to power.

The island was granted to a Captain Cromwell, a kinsman of Oliver and was occupied up to the middle of the last century by members of the Cromwell family, indeed, the island was often called 'Cromwell's island' by Dubliners at that time.

Christopher Cromwell built a wooden house on the island at a cost of £45 and often stayed there for a week at a time, using it as a sort of summer residence. This habit had a tragic ending. On the night of 9 October 1844 the greatest storm recorded in 'the annals of the Port of Dublin' raged. The cellars on the North Wall were flooded. The sea encroached once more on the extensive

tract of reclaimed land which had once lain under it. The road on the East Wall was impassable and the waves washed over the roof of the Wharf Tavern which in those days was an old house, standing where the East Road met the sea. The Wharf, now modernised, still stands on the same site but no longer overlooks the sea as it did in 1844. The constable on duty saw the light go out in Cromwell's wooden house on the island at 10 o'clock. Next day when the storm subsided, the bodies of Cromwell and his son William, a boy of ten, were found on the island shore. The bodies had been retained there by the heavy fishing boots which they wore. But the boats has been carried as far as Annesley Bridge; while the wooden house, demolished by the storm, had been dashed against the embankment of the Great Northern Railway where it crossed the sea. The embankment had been made only in the preceeding year (1843) by Sir John McNeill, whose 'Skew Bridge', where the railway crosses the sea at Clontarf was then regarded as a triumph of engineering. So the railway line endured its worst trial when it had just been constructed. The ownership of the island seems to have become vested in the Vernon family in the late 1600s. In the early 1700s there was a controversy and litigation between the Vernon family and the Corporation of Dublin concerning a tract of stand referred to by the Vernons as the 'pool and island of Clontarf'. The Corporation claimed that it was within their franchise and was their property. But Captain John Vernon, in a speech in 1733, which was printed by George Faulkner, stoutly asserted his right to the island and reminded the Corporation that the Liberties of the city on the north were bounded, according to their charter given to them by King John, 'by the lands of Clonliffe, by the Tolka, and by the church of St. Mary, Oxmantown'. Vernon claimed that the island was outside the city boundary and therefore could not be claimed by the Dublin Corporation. His claim was made about the time of the reclamation of East Wall, when the island lay a hundred yards or so off the coast at the 'slip' on the East Wall Road. By this time it could have been, more appropriately, re-named East Wall Island.

The island was of use to the city as far back as 1650 when it was made an isolation place for those afflicted with the plague which then raged in Dublin. Eighteenth-century maps show the 'Island' as a ribbon-shaped piece of land with one end facing the 'Wharf' and the 'Island House' apparently a more ambitious structure than the

later wooden house of the Cromwells which was destroyed in the next century.

The Island House is described in a book published in the late 1700s as a place of recreation for the citizens, and the island as a conspicuous object on a journey by land to Howth. The Ordnance Survey maps of Dublin list both the Island the Bathing Pool. A Valuation Blue book of 1850 list the 'Bathing Island' of which Mr Vernon is returned as landlord and Mrs Toole as tenant. As late as my grandfather's time in East Wall the Bathing Island Ferry Barge brought people from the 'Wharf' to the Bathing Pool where swimming with corks was practised. But the island has disappeared. This is the result of the continuous removal of its sands for manure at low tide. By 1883 this removal had become so bad that the Port and Docks Board had several notices displayed along the 'Wharf' Road and Clontarf Road, prohibiting under penalties the removal of sand from the 'Island of Clontarf'. This

prohibition seems to have had little effect and my father remembers that by 1912 or 1913 all that was visible of the island at high tide was the top of a few posts or stakes, the runs of Cromwell's wooden house. In my father's young days the men and boys of East Wall swam from the 'slip' on the Wharf Road out to the 'sticks' at high tide. At the turn of the last century the bathing pond in the sands and the ruins of the slippery causeway leading from the Ferry Barges landing-stage to the Island House could still be seen when the tide was out.

It is a pity that no efforts were made to preserve the 'Island' which had such historical associations dating back to Viking times. If we are going to lament its passing we should also lament the passing of the estuary of the Tolka which has been reclaimed to the point that East Wall is now almost an inland community.

Kevin Byrne

THE RISING STAR SINGERS

The Rising Star Singers in their beautiful new Kelly-Green uniforms who recently participated in the 1976 St Patrick's Day Parade for the 4th successive year.

The above-named Group have made numerous appearances on R. T. E. (Late-Late Show, First House, Outlook, Tallaght T.V. etc).

They have won many awards, not just for singing, but for style and presentation - one of their Super-Awards was the 1974 St Patrick's Day "Arklow Pottery Award" for the "most outstanding Exhibit in Ireland".

They are currently performing at Wedding Masses and Cabaret throughout the City of Dublin.



35

35

1976

PUNS FROM THE EAST WALL

PUNSTER KIT "NERO" BYRNE

- * Is the Berlin Wall red bricked?
- * Do those who emigrate from Meath keep their muscles in Trim?
- * Is it because of too much mountain dew that McGillicuddy Reeks?
- * Is there a drink in Clontarf call Brine Brew?
- * Was the Bold Thady Quill known to his friends as "His Nibs"?
- * Will hugh traffic jams predicted for Dublin make the Minister for Transport Syrup and take notice, or are jams really his preserve?
- * Is it true you can lead a horse to water but a pencil must be lead?
- * Did the first leg of this year's Ras Tailteann end in Athy?
- * Are there many Lapps to the mile in the human race?
- * Is it true one must acquire some orgy data before attending a grocers party?
- * Was Christopher Robin a bird of prey?
- * Are poets averse to payment? Surely it stanza to reason they get what they are ode?
- * Does the annual report of the Dublin Corporation Cleansing Dept., contain any sweeping statements?
- * Is Kuala Lumper a Malayan bricklayer?
- * Is it true that in time of emergencies Big Ben has a guard right around the clock?
- * After a strike do musicians get Bach money?
- * With suitable alterations could a rambling old house become a walk-around store?
- * Do you get your just desserts if you are scourged with indigestion after taking lashings of whipped cream?
- * If a man was offered work with so many unemployed nowadays, would he get a start?
- * Before they charged Crippen with murder did they try his patients?
- * Is it true that when visiting a cinema showing "Jaws" one can see an usher et?
- * Are there fences in Swords for stolen goods?
- * When he overran Ireland did Cromwell take Liberties with the Pale?
- * Does an Eskimo get husky when he shouts for his dog?
- * Was it the turn of the century when Houdini appeared on the stage?
- * Should lorry owners have no truck with unscrupulous mechanics?
- * Is employment in the Irish Met. Office confined to Gaels? Is it likely to continue in this vane and who is raining champion there?
- * Is it true that over-wrought iron is caused by bad tempered steel or is it alloy?
- * When Abel was killed did Adam raise Cain?
- * Would it serf a Russian right if he fell down the Steppes and got a stair in his eye?
- * Having climbed Everest did Hillery go in search of other climes?
- * When learning music by Braille does one feel the strain?
- * Is it true that some night clubs have a "no cover charge" rule for streakers?
- * Is it true that Alice Springs in Australia is out of bounds for kangaroos?

REMEMBERING THE GRANDMOTHER

East Wall like many of the older areas of Dublin had over the years its fair share of mild eccentrics. For fear that I give offence by commenting on others' relations in East Wall let me first say that there is (or should I say, was) plenty of eccentricity in my own family and my Grandmother Polly had her fair share of it.

Coming from a family who spent their time in either fancying dogs or birds, she would not really have qualified for the term eccentric had she stuck to the traditional animals, but she insisted on keeping, in the early part of the century, a fox in the house.

The fox who turned out to be a vixen, and a pregnant one at that, indulging in its natural instinct to burrow, dug a tunnel which came up in the next door neighbours kitchen. After lots of shouting and threats of legal action by the next door neighbour the grandfather had to fill in the tunnel and then he, quiet man that he was, put his foot down, so the vixen was sent off to the country where it no doubt dug dens to its satisfaction and reared a family the descendents of which may now be terrifying the chicken population of County Dublin; and so East Wall lost its only fox inhabitant.

The grandmother then graduated to keeping a monkey which apparently was a great success with her children, and indeed a rascally son of hers called Mat would let the monkey loose over the rooftops of the district and charge the grandmother for catching it. The monkey who was neither female nor had any instinct to dig tunnels into the next door neighbours house, grew fat, and as it aged, settled down to sitting by the fire on the fender while the grandmother and her various lady visitors snuffed their 'Goodbodies' snuff from Coleman's mustard tins. This state of bliss might have gone on indefinitely for the monkey if its brains had not been knocked out with a poker by one of the visiting snuff-taking ladies. I have never been able to discover why the lady (or, no lady, that I, nature lover that I am, consider her), despatched the monkey. It apparently had been guilty of some heinous crime against the person of the lady in question. A succession of animals followed but there seemed to be a decrease in the mammals in favour of birds. The multi-coloured macaw, a south American parrot of gigantic proportions - have a look at them in the zoo, if you don't believe me - had a perch in a commanding position at the end of the hallway and as the doors in those days

were never closed, could keep a watchful eye on 'goings-on' not only within the house itself, but on the street as well.

The macaw had a sailor's vocabulary - the grandmother's brother having brought him home from sea - and the choice words which delighted the children caused the grandmother some apprehension, especially when the 'Canon' paid his yearly visitation.

The macaw lasted for many a long year and like Goldsmiths chest, had a double debt to pay. It acted as a watchdog by night and day and kept callers away by its raucous screams of 'She's not in' and 'Get to hell out of that'. But all in all the parrot was well remembered by the family even though it had a tyrannical disposition.

By the time I came on the scene the grandmother's taste had mellowed and apart from the permanent dog and odd goat, her sole pets of distinction were a rather regal pair of Bantams. The cock and hen were more like family pets than domestic fowl and the diminutive egg which the hen produced could in no way compensate for the grain they consumed. I remember as a boy their daily ritual, the cock would stand at the back door - which always used to be open - and take up the position of a fussy sergeant major, strutting back and forth, comb erect, while the hen flew up on the wooden dresser and laid its minute egg on a saucer. The grandmother was very taken by the whole performance and it became rather a party piece, with the grandmother as ringmaster and the Bantams as performers.

But time brought changes and as the grandmother neared her eighties she was shanghied from her little cottage at the 'Back of the Church' and brought the four or five hundred yards to St Mary's Road. This change though small in distance was as wide as the ocean in attitude.

From the ever open door to the closed hall door, from the tin bath, which could almost be called communal through being loaned so often, to the house with the bathroom at the top of the stairs.

Even with her new found comforts she hankered after another way of life and our brass knocker never shone so bright as when she lived with us and would spend an hour each morning polishing the brasswork which also allowed her an hour of chatting with the neighbours and friends passing by.

Her last few years were very nearly marred by the news that a certain protestant graveyard in Dublin, was to close. Her family were all buried in this graveyard and she had receipts to show that she owned ten graves there. Why a predominantly Catholic family like ours should have been traditionally buried in a protestant graveyard I have never been able to discover. Perhaps Ecumenism started much further back among the average people of Dublin than the churches are aware of.

On hearing the news that the graveyard had closed and that no more burials were to take place there, she put on her special black hat with the veil, and armed with her silver handled large umbrella, set off to deal with the 'Corpo'. The corporation had acquired the graveyard for road-widening and closed it up. When she returned she had received a written undertaking from the corporation that the graveyard would be

closed but that she would be allowed to be buried there - the last person.

She lived on for about five years after that and when she died she left specific instructions in her will, that the coffin was to enter the churchyard by the front-gate.

The front-gates of the Churchyard had not been opened for more than ten years and the lock had rusted solid so the family had to remove the churchyard gates to meet her wishes, and need I say it, there was thunder and lightning on that day.

I think it might be appropriate to end by misquoting T.S. Eliot:-

'That's how the Grandmother went
That's how the Grandmother went
She went with a bang
Not a whimper!'

Kevin Byrne



EAST WALL VOLUNTARY GROUPS ASSOCIATION

The East Wall Voluntary Groups' Association consists of two representatives of each of the following groups in the Parish:-

East Wall Credit Union Ltd., Wharf Tavern Social Club, House Committee (School), St Mary's Youth Club, St Joseph's Bowling Club, East Wall Ladies' Guild, Management Committee - Girls' School, East Wall Residents' Association, Senior Citizens' Committee, East Wall/North Strand Mini Olympics Committee, North Strand/East Wall Rd. Residents' Association, East Wall Troop Catholic Boy Scouts of Ireland, East Wall United A.F.C., The Dublin North Road Pigeon Club.

COMMITTEE

Chairman:	Christy Elliott
Vice-Chairman:	Jack Carey
Secretary:	Mrs. Alice Feeney P.C.
Treasurer:	Joseph Harwood
Minute Sec.:	Richard Hynes
Editor & PRO.:	Ald. Kevin Byrne T.C.
Parade Marshall:	Michael O'Connor

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mrs. B. Doolan	James Murphy
Mrs. M. Horgan	William Nugent
Mrs. E. Fay	Joseph Grant
Mrs. M. Phillips	Des Brady
Jimmy Martin	Christy Brown
John Mulholland	
Paddy Kavanagh	
Pat Malone	

Our thanks to the following:-

Dublin Corporation
Thomas Stafford & Sons
William Cusack
B & I Line
Roadstone
Smith & Pearson

Wiggins Teape
Hammond Lane
House Committee Boys' School
East Wall United A.F.C.
North Strand/East Wall Road
Residents' Association.

Asahi Chemical Industry Ltd.,
East Wall Residents' Association
Smyth's, 5B East Road
St. Joseph's Bowling Club
Merchants Warehouse
McMullen Bros
East Wall Credit Union Ltd.
Alderman Kevin Byrne, T.C.
Jim Quigley
Patrick Dillon
A.H. Masser
Stewarts & Lloyds

Our thanks are also due to the local artists who rendered their services, the advertisers in the magazine and to all others too numerous to mention who gave of their time and energy.

ROUTE FOR PARADE

Assemble Church Road, turning right St. Mary's Road, right to West Road, turn left at the top of West Road, on to East Wall Road, turn left Annesley Bridge on to North Strand Road, turn left in to Leinster Ave., turning left at Hope Ave., on to East Wall Road as far as the Wharf Tavern, turning right on to East Road right through to Church Road.

.....
**PRESIDENT O'DALAIGH WILL BE A
WELCOME VISITOR TO OUR FESTIVAL
DURING THE WEEK.**
.....