NAME: LEO CODY, AHENNY

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 1 Subject: The Ormond and Victoria Slate Quarries

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: February 2007

Time: 55:26

Description: The story of the slate quarries is passionately told by Leo Cody. His family owned the land where the quarries were sited. These quarries created great economic activity in the area. Our journey finishes at Knockroe passage tombs, a prehistoric burial area, which is illuminated by the

winter and summer solstices.



NAME: JOHN DANIELS, RAHEENARRAN,

KILMORGAN

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 2

Subject: The Black Bog Races Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: February 2007

Time: 50:45

Description: On the way to the farm of John Daniels, I was accompanied by Leo Cody, and the conversation started at the Viewing Tower, from which Leo pointed out and described much of the landscape and the events which took place there in the past. Now in the company of John, we continued down the boreen to the site of the Black Bog Races, in the parish of Windy Gap. Fond memories were recalled regarding the great gathering of people at the races, the fine spectacle of the gentry, the buying and selling, the three-card trick, and other activities of that nature.





NAME: JIM AND ATTRACTA BURKE, LACKEN

DRIVE, KILKENNY CITY (Part I)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 3 Subject: The business of tailoring and dairying

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: February 2007 Time: 1:04:30

Description: Jim's wife Attracta began by relating memories of her father, Richard Norris, from the village of Lamogue. He was the manager of the old creamery in Kilkenny city and was involved in award winning butter making. Cheese making was also recalled. Jim's vivid memories of the old shops, shopkeepers and the premises of the town created a picture of how Kilkenny's trading was conducted in the past. He spoke at length about his own family's tailoring business. Amazingly his ancestors were stonemasons who came to the city to be involved in the building of the church.





NAME: JIM AND ATTRACTA BURKE, LACKEN

DRIVE, KILKENNY CITY (Part II)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 4 Subject: A visit to the site of the old Kilkenny

creamery

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: February 2007

Time: 58:15

Description: The conversation started in the Burke home, where Jim showed me some of the old family shop ledgers, and spoke about the Palatines, in Castle Grange, Kilcooley. The interview continued with a visit to the site of the old Kilkenny Creamery, which Attracta had not visited since her father Richard Norris was manager. We toured the grounds and spoke to the Glanbia manager, John Cahill, who showed us old photographs of the place as it was, and old ledgers belonging to the former creamery.





NAME: DAN MOLONEY, DAN MALONE AND OWEN

DOYLE, GRAIGUENAMANAGH

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 5

Subject: A tour of Graiguenamanagh Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: February 2007

Time: 50:23

Description: We walked through the streets of Graiguenamanagh, discussing the old commercial businesses such as John A Murphy and Sons, General Merchants, who were the main employers in the town. We also spoke about the former hostelries including Hughes Hotel and the Anchor Hotel. Walking down by the canal, we talked about the great employment which the boats provided for the people of Graiguenamanagh. A visit to the 13th century Abbey in the town was the main attraction of this tour through a town of timeless charm.



NAME: JOHN JOYCE, GRAIGUENAMANAGH (Part

I)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 6

Subject: A local historian's reminiscences

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: January 2007 Time: 1:19:42

Description: A visit to the Joyce home, built in 1733, and lived in one of the principal leaders of the 1798 Rebellion, provided the perfect setting to record John's stories. The conversation began with John's own genealogy. A business in the town, established in 1860, was run by his father and mother and continues today under the same name. In this interview John talks about the starch factory in Graiguenamanagh, the first in Ireland, established in the 1840s. He also spoke about the great importance of the canal in the development of the town. It was known locally as 'The Hatchery'.



NAME: JOHN JOYCE, GRAIGUENAMANAGH (Part

II)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 7 Subject: A historical look back at the town of

Graiguenamanagh and its vicinity Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: January 2007

Time: 44:21

Description: In this interview, John Joyce spoke about many of the highlights of the town's history in a chronological look at the story of Graiguenamanagh, from the arrival of the monks in the 13th century and including its vicissitudes over the years. He mentioned the 1798 Rebellion, the Whiteboys, the Famine, local evictions, trades people in the town, abductions in the early 1800s, and the massive drop in the population after the Famine. All of this makes for fascinating listening.



NAME: RICHARD CODY, TULLAHERIN

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 8

Subject: Dry-stone walls

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: January 2207

Time: 45:55

Description: Richard Cody took early retirement from farming and took up the craft of dry-stone wall building, taking after his father who used to do similar work in hedging and fencing. Richard's background is interesting in that his parents' marriage was arranged and he explains how it came to pass. The area is steeped in history, with a round tower nearby and a stone fountain built by the local landlord for use by the tenants of the area. We toured the Cody farmyard, a deserted, sad and lonely place now.



NAME: PAT McDONALD, GRAIGUENAMANAGH Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 9

Subject: A Barrow man

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: January 2007

Time: 59:55

Description: The McDonald family is steeped in the tradition of working on barge boats. From a very young age, Pat wanted to be involved in this work. A clear description is given of how the work was carried out, all its terminologies and its ethics and the lifestyle associated with the barge boatman. Pat's own home is a repository of model barges and tug boats. Pat recalled many of the anecdotes relating to his days on the canal.



NAME: RUDOLF HETZEL, PATRICK STREET,

KILKENNY CITY

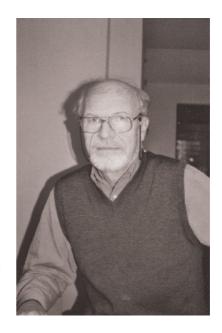
Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 10

Subject: A silver- and gold-smith Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: January 2007

Time: 45:40

Description: Rudolf Hetzel grew up in Berlin and went to Sweden to learn the craft of silver- and gold-smithing. He travelled to Stockholm to study design. At that stage he was recruited by the newly established Kilkenny Design Workshops, to come to Kilkenny and set up a silverware and metal department. In a very short time, he had started his own business. This interview covers his building up a clientele, his perseverance with the business, his observation of how the people of Kilkenny city lived, worked and worshipped, as well as his integration into the community.



NAME: JUDGE PETER SMITHWICK, INISTIOGE (Part I)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 11

Subject: A family history

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: October 2006

Time: 46:56

Description: Peter Smithwick's ancestors originally came from the north of England, and later moved to London. In the 1620s Robert Smithwich came to Ireland as a business manager for the 1st Earl of Cork. His son joined the Cromwellian Army and after the conflict was given lands in Cork and Carlow. His son Henry settled in Kilkenny having married into the Grace family. This interview covers many events which took place in the lives of Peter's grandfather and father. He also spoke about the gentry of Kilkenny and their lifestyles and he went on to speak about the Country Club.



NAME: JUDGE PETER SMITHWICK, INISTIOGE (Part II)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 12

Subject: A family history continued Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: October 2006

Time: 33:34

Description: This interview forms a resume of Peter Smithwick's own life. He was born in 1937 and went to school at Loreto Convent in Kilkenny at the age of three. When he was six he went to a boarding school in Co Wicklow. He entered third level education in UCD, joined the Debating Club in the Law Society and at the age of 21 became a solicitor in his father's practice. He was also involved in the Smithwick's brewery. This interview also mentions his own involvement in politics and with a Tribunal of Enquiry.



NAME: JUDGE PETER SMITHWICK, INISTIOGE

(Part III)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 13

Subject: Family history continued Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: October 2006

Time: 52:55

Description: Peter Smithwick continued to talk about his extended family, including one of his uncles, who was one of the first people to read the diaries of Sir Roger Casement. Peter's position as President of the Knights of Malta here in Ireland is discussed, as is the history of the Knights, the rules and regulations, its different ranks and its role in present-day society. We finished with a nostalgic look back at Kilreen House, built in 1660, his ancestors who lived there and the memories captured within the four walls.



NAME: JUDGE PETER AND MRS DEIRDRE

SMITHWICK, INISTIOGE (Part IV)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 14

Subject: A family history

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: October 2006

Time: 59:47

Description: Deirdre Smithwick grew up in Markree Castle, in Co Sligo. She was sent to boarding school in England at a very early age. She grew up with a love of ponies, and to this day is involved in the breeding of horses. This recording gives an insight into the formalities of a lifestyle which included the strict behaviour of her parents, a formal dress code, pampering by servants and butlers and an insistence on proper manners.



NAME: LADY PAMELA BLUNDEN, KILKENNY Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 15

Subject: A lady of the manor Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: February 2007

Time: 41:53

Description: Lady Pamela's mother was born in Belfast and her father was a professor of Civil Engineering in Trinity College. She was born in England and joined the WRENS during the war. She met her husband and after the war years returned with him to their estate at Castle Blunden. She speaks about managing the estate and trying to make ends meet in hard times. The land, tenants and staff were very important to her. This is a very enlightening recording showing how the different social classes lived at the time



NAME: PADDY DALY, THE OLDTOWN LODGE,

MOUNTJULIET

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 16

Subject: A gardener's life Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: January 2007

Time: 52:05

Description: In Paddy Daly's family there was a tradition of working for the McCalmonts of Mount Juliet. Paddy spent 37 years gardening for Major Victor McCalmont. This recording involves a tour of the grounds, starting with the rose garden, continuing on to the glasshouses. In this conversation, Paddy created an image of how the garden would have looked in Victorian times.



NAME: LIAM BOLGER, KILKENNY CITY (Part I) Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 17

Subject: The oral history of Kilkenny City

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: January 2007

Time: 55:25

Description: Liam Bolger discusses the genealogy of the Bolgers, back to the 16th century, and recalls how his ancestors came to the outskirts of Kilkenny City as farmers. An incident with his grandfather and the Whiteboys and emigration by Kilkenny people to Montana and Newfoundland, were described to me in great detail. Stories relating to the boot factory and the 1916-1922 period were discussed, as were the Gaelic League branch in Kilkenny and Kilkenny as a market town. This conversation also includes stories about the Tithe Wars.



NAME: LIAM BOLGER, KILKENNY CITY (Part II) Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 18

Subject: Old records and photographs Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: January 2007

Time: 51:07

Description: Liam Bolger describes his time spent as manager in Delahunty's shop, which was a hive of activity for many years. It displayed many of its wares outside the shop, as did many of the other merchants on the street. While looking through old photograph albums, Liam spoke about local characters, the tinsmiths, the ballad singers, the blacksmiths. An old shop ledger from 1847 gave a fascinating account and provided an insight into the social history of the town. The basket weavers from Castlecomer were also recalled.



NAME: DANNY HEARNE, RED GAP, HUGGINSTOWN

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 19

Subject: A countryman's reminiscences

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: February 2007 Time: 1:01:25

Description: Danny Hearne is a bachelor, and in his 87th year. This recording was made in a very relaxed atmosphere, beside the old range while drinking cups of tea. Danny's earliest memories were of the old Castlemorris Estate where his father worked. He talks about the break-up of the estate by the Land Commission. Danny's landholding is part of the former estate. He joined the Blueshirts at a young age. He recalls the Economic War, when the skin of a calf worth ten shillings, made more than the calf itself. He discusses his work in breeding and rearing horses, and his great success in selling them. He pointed out how he sold two mares to the Duke of Beaufort.





NAME: JIMMY AND DANNY HEARNE, RED GAP,

HUGGINSTOWN (Part I)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 20 Subject: The game of Gaelic football and of hurling

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: February 2007

Time: 47:26

Description: I met Jimmy Hearne at his brother Danny's house where Danny's dogs joined the company. Jimmy is now in his 91st year, and his passion for football and hurling was clearly evident in this recording. Jimmy was fostered out to his aunt at a very young age. He played football with a local team, Kilmoganny. He spoke about many of the great players of that time. Jimmy recited a song associated with the Kilkenny football team of 1904 and he continued with another ballad on the Battle of Carrickshock. Jimmy's stories are mostly from recollections of what he heard at meeting-houses. He finished by showing me sheep-shearing shears used by his grandfather and father, and spoke about the rearing of sheep.



NAME: JIMMY AND DANNY HEARNE, RED GAP, HUGGINSTOWN (Part II)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 21

Subject: Reminiscences of the countryside Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: February 2007

Time: 44:08

Description: Jimmy and Danny Hearne had stories to tell about Castlemorris House, its former owners and the bailiffs. A discussion took place on the political situation nationally and locally throughout the last century. Traditional music and dance was another interesting topic. Finally, Jimmy's observation on how hurling has changed in its skills, was recorded.



NAME: PHILIP KELLY, FRIAR'S HILL,

THOMASTOWN (Part I)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 22

Subject: A Wheelwright's life recalled Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: January 2007 Time: 1:18:53

Description: Philip Kelly grew up in Millstreet, Thomastown, where all the local people were employed by Pilsworth Mill and Farm. The local people were also fishermen, working with the cots. At the age of 15, Philip started work in the mill as a carpenter, under the guidance of his father. A very comprehensive account of how the milling was carried out is given in this recording. Finally, the changing economic climate forced the mill to close down. Also discussed in this interview was Philip's father's involvement in the Troubles and old photographs were used to illustrate the lives of the local people and their home places.





NAME: PHILIP KELLY, FRIAR'S HILL,

THOMASTOWN (Part II)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 23

Subject: A labour of love

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: January 2007 Time: 1:14:25

Description: This interview starts with the story of Jerpoint Abbey over the last century. A small bridge has disappeared, as have two cottages, built against the gable wall. Across the road, in Deedy's old mill, Philip describes its former workings in great detail. The conversation turned to the very frugal lifestyle of people in the old days. A very good account was given of all the merchants in Thomastown and their



occupations, also of the street names and their origins. He finished with a very clear account of the Great Flood of 1947, and its effects. A photograph was shown of some of the workers in Pilsworth's Flour Mills. These included Tom Walsh, James O'Neill and his son Paddy, Jim Power and Joe Devoy. The recording ends with an old song, handed down through the Kelly family, about the river and Grennan House.



NAME: MICHÉAL O DÍARMADA, DANESFORT Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 24

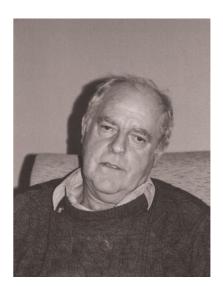
Subject: A folklorist

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: February 2007

Time: 1:00:27

Description: Michéal O Díarmada is a native of Croballey. His grandfather was born in 1849, and left with Michael a legacy of folk memory dating back to that time. This recording is about the customs, beliefs and traditions of South Kilkenny, its traditional healers, pisheog workers, folk beliefs, stories about the supernatural, the festivals and their celebration, the place-names and their meanings. This recording gives a clear account of the country people and their beliefs.



NAME: BILLY KIRWAN, INISTIOGE

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 25

Subject: Recollections of Inistioge Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: February 2007

Time: 36:46

Description: Billy Kirwan's father was a Welsh coalminer, and his mother's surname was Miller. He went to school in Inistioge but left at a very young age to work with the Forestry Commission as a lorry driver. Billy spoke about the brass band in the village and about all the members of the band. Growing up in the war years, Billy experienced rationing and food coupons. Even though they had very little, there was contentment in Billy's family. He muses that his mobility as a lorry driver gave him the opportunity to make many acquaintances.



NAME: EAMON DOYLE, KILKENNY CITY

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 26

Subject: A lifetime in the Garda force Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: January 2007

Time: 51:18

Description: Eamon Doyle, now retired from the Garda Siochána, grew up in New Ross, Co Wexford. He came to Kilkenny in 1964 and lived through the Conroy Commission. Policing the city of Kilkenny was recalled. He lived for two years in Killmaganny at a time when the Garda Siochána worked with the Department of Agriculture, visiting the farmers and integrating with the local community. Eamon also talks in this interview about his involvement with young people in difficult circumstances, which is part of the Garda Youth Division Project, linked to the Ossory Youth Centre.



NAME: JOHN KEANE, KILKENNY CITY

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 27

Subject: The Kilkenny People Newspaper

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: January 2007

Time: 32:46

Description: John Keane was born in Listowel, the son of author and playwright John B. Keane. He spent some time working for Kerry County Council and for *Kerry's Eye* newspaper. He moved to Kilkenny and has spent 20 years there working with the *Kilkenny People*. In this interview John talks about the history of the *Kilkenny People* newspaper. The importance of impartiality in dealing with different political groupings in the reporting of news was emphasised, as was his support for the Kilkenny farmers. His admiration for his predecessor as editor, John Kerry Caine, is clearly evident in this interview.



John Keane's father John B. Keane

NAME: TOM HALPIN, KILKENNY CITY

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 28

Subject: A life in brewing

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: January 2006 Time: 1:06:29

Description: Tom Halpin grew up in Dublin, and joined the Guinness brewery firm at 15 years of age. He worked as a laboratory assistant, and for years won first prize in competitions for chemical analysis in the brewing industry. Tom moved to Kilkenny in 1967 and joined Smithwick's brewery. He lived in Vicar Street and later moved to Steven Street, previously known as Orphanage Lane. Tom has written extensively on the history of the brewery, and spoke to me about all aspects of its activity. In this recording other smaller breweries, which used to exist around the country, are recalled.



NAME: PHIL LARKIN, THE VILLAGE, KILKENNY

CITY (Part I)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 29 Subject: A community steeped in the tradition of

hurling

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: January 2006 Time: 1:13:53

Description: Phil Larkin runs a corner shop and bicycle repair business. This recording includes many stories associated with the local hurling clubs, and the great rivalry between them. His close relationship with his father, with whom he worked repairing bicycles since he was a boy, is mentioned. He talks about the people of the Village, its

characters, its places and its close-knit community.



NAME: PHIL LARKIN, THE VILLAGE, KILKENNY CITY (Part II)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 30

Subject: A place apart

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: February 2007

Time: 59:48

Description: Phil Larkin's bicycle repair shop is situation at the corner of the Village, and beside the family's grocery business. While repairing a bicycle wheel Phil spoke to me about his school days, growing up in a place very different from today. This recording was special in that it captured the real story of how the villagers lived, worked and played in days gone by.



NAME: JIM "DOTTY" POWER, THOMASTOWN Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 31

Subject: A mill-worker remembers Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: January 2007

Time: 42:55

Description: Jim Power was born in 1916, and grew up through difficult times because of the economic and political climate. His father worked in Mount Juliet for a while, and then as a ploughman for the Pilworths. It was Jim's destiny to follow in his father's footsteps into the Pilworth milling business at an early age. Jim explains the camaraderie of the people at this work, as a helper on one of the delivery trucks. His dialogue was heavily influenced by the slang of the milling community.





NAME: CON O'SHEA, FRAN LARKIN AND SEAMUS DELANEY, THE VILLAGE, KILKENNY CITY

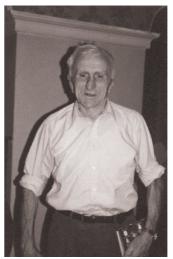
Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 32 Subject: Enthusiasm for hurling in a community

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: June 2004 Time: 46:33

Description: When Con O'Shea's granddaughter was crowned the Rose of Tralee it was the perfect opportunity to record his stories, and the memories of his companions, Fran Larkin and Seamus Delaney, in one of Kilkenny's famous hurling pubs. In this interview the foundation and the success of the Clan na Gael Football Club were discussed. Phil Larkin's great success at playing in nine All-Ireland hurling finals, and winning five medals, are also recalled as he spoke of playing with some of the best hurlers Kilkenny produced.





NAME: TOM BOYLE, KILKENNY CITY (Part I) Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 33 Subject: Kilkenny County Council from 1947 to 1994

remembered

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: January 2007 Time: 1:15:52

Description: Tom Boyle's grandfather was an RIC officer in Kerry, before his transfer to Kilkenny. After leaving school at the age of 17, Tom was employed by Kilkenny County Council as a Clerical Officer in 1947, until he retired in 1994. It was a long career, during the course of which he saw many changes. Among the topics discussed in this interview is the development of housing just after the war years. At that time the Council employed 800 people, most of them part-time. While working in the accounts department Tom came across an old diary dating from 1914, which gave an account of the financial transactions of the time. He spoke about the changes in the social welfare system, gave an account of the Famine years, the poorhouses and the Anti-TB campaign.



NAME: TOM BOYLE, KILKENNY CITY (Part II) Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 34 Subject: Kilkenny County Council from 1947 to 1994

continued

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: January 2007

Time: 26:26

Description: This part of the interview includes a description of Tom Boyle's work in administration in the County Council. He also talks about the County Council's previous building, the Infirmary and the collection of rates over the years, old work practices with the Council, the role of the manager, policy decisions and his position as Acting Manager. A discussion on industrial development and planning brought this interview to an end.



NAME: BILL TOWNSEND, JERPOINT,

THOMASTOWN

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 35

Subject: A stable-boy's memories Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: January 2007

Time: 1:01:27

Description: Bill Townsend began work as a young boy in the Mount Juliet estate, in 1958. He was involved in the stud farm and the hunter yard. He worked under stud grooms O'Neill, McRobert and



Bolger. Bill's father and mother also worked for Major Victor McCalmont, his father in the hunter yard and his mother as a cook. He spoke about the many great horses which the stud produced. The management and running of the stud and the hunter yard were explained in great detail. The hurling, the cricket and the hunt were discussed. Tom was a member of the Mount Juliet Band, and played in many venues around the country.



NAME: CON DOWNEY AND PAT BRETT,

TALBOT'S INCH

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 36

Subject: Talbot's Inch remembered Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: January 2007

Time: 57:33

Description: Con Downey's father was in the Army and was stationed in the barracks locally. When houses in Talbot's Inch became available in 1937, his father moved in. Pat Brett, a villager, provided some background to the design and construction of the village. The industries associated with the village included a woollen mill and flax and tobacco growing. Con spoke about playing in the soccer team. There were also a hockey team and cricket team in the village. Tom and Pat's fond memories of growing up and living in Talbot's Inch are clearly evident in this recording.





NAME: NICHOLAS MOSSE, BENNETTSBRIDGE Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 37

Subject: Nicholas Mosse pottery Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: February 2007

Time: 59:07

Description: The Mosses arrived in Dublin just before Cromwell, and then moved to Queen's County (Co Laois), north of Ballyraggett. In the 1800s some of the family came with the Pilworths and the Browns to Kilkenny; the Mosses to Bennettsbridge, the Pilworths to Thomastown and the Browns to Kilmacow. All three families were millers. Nicholas was brought up in the Quaker tradition. His memories of the mill in



Bennettsbridge were of a very active place, exporting flour by rail in the 20s and 30s. Nicholas spoke about the local buildings and the local boat, known as the cot, which was used for netting and commercial fishing until the 60s. He pointed out a depression in the field caused by a canal which was designed and begun for the area in the early 1700s but was never completed. He gave an account of first getting into the pottery business, where the clay came from, production work in the building, which was once the mill and the vital role of the workforce at the pottery.

NAME: SISTER CARMEL DALY, MERCY

CONVENT, THOMASTOWN

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 38

Subject: Sixty five years of religious life

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: January 2007

Time: 50:41

Description: St Carmel grew up in Ballydehob, in West Cork. She entered the Mercy Order at an early age, initially in Callan. She spoke about the routine in the convent in those days, her time in Ballyraggett Convent, which was one of her most trying times, and finally her assignment to the convent in Thomastown, which housed some local orphan children. Also discussed in this interview are changes in convent life, and Sr Carmel's experiences in adapting to these changes.



NAME: JOE DUNPHY, THOMASTOWN

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 39

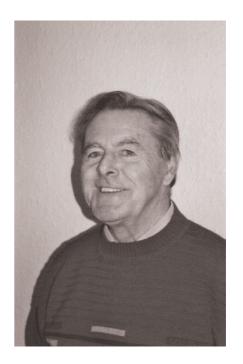
Subject: A retired schoolteacher's memories

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: January 2007

Time: 1:05:02

Description: The earliest evidence of the Dunphy family in Jerpoint is seen on a headstone in the local graveyard dating back to 1750. Joe Dunphy taught for 29 years in the parish of Ballyhale and two years in Ballyraggett. His father was a gamekeeper in Mount Juliet, as was his grandfather before him. Joe's passion for the game of hurling is evident in this recording, as he mentions the local players and their great skills. He is proud of the fact that they won seven County finals. He himself played in the first two finals. Included in this interview are stories about poaching and snapnet fishing. This interview finishes with a recitation by Joe of one of the poems he wrote himself, taken from his great repertoire.



NAME: PADDY CUMMINS, FLOODHALL

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 40

Subject: A family history

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: February 2007

Time: 42:33

Description: Paddy Cummins's father farmed 180 acres in Cuaraghmore, Piltown and in the 1950s he exchanged that land through the Land Commission for 108 acres in Floodhall. When the Cummins moved into the Floodhall Estate, all that was left of the Big House was the servants' quarters where Paddy and his family live today. Paddy describes his regret at the loss of the Big House glasshouses and the beautiful garden. Paddy's father, being a cultivator, was interested in the land and in the development of its potential. Paddy was one of 15 brothers and sisters, many of whom emigrated, others ran farms which his father bought locally. Paddy was always destined to continue the farming, taking over from his father. He explains in this recording how the husbandry was conducted. His drive for success left him no time for leisure. He was milking cows for 66 years, and worked in England in the early 50s for the demolition squads. That happened each year for 3 months after the harvest had been brought in. Also discussed in this interview was the great influence of hurling in the family. The conversation finished with the changing practices in farming now, and his disappointment at the run-down in Irish agriculture, which will very soon mean the outhouses of the farm will be converted into apartments.







NAME: JACK CAHILL, GRAIGUENAMANAGH Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 41 Subject: The introduction of rural electrification

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: January 2007

Time: 59:38

Description: Jack Cahill was born in 1909, and remembers his days growing up and showing black

and white films in the local cinema in

Graiguenamanagh. He joined the ESB in 1942, and, using his pushbike, travelled around the countryside, persuading farmers to accept the new electrification system. It was interesting to hear Jack's stories about the general reluctance to accept this new concept initially. His daughter Kay also prompted her father's memory on many occasions in this interview.





NAME: PHILIP AND NELLIE LYNCH, CALLAN (Part

I)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 42 Subject: A farmer looks back at the history of the

locality

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: February 2007

Time: 29:12

Description: This interview begins with an account of the Lynch ancestors, and their arrival in Callan in the 1700s. Nellie's maiden name is O'Gorman, from Castlecomer. She is one of a family of twelve, and talks about the farming way of life in her own place. The recording includes Philip's stories on folklore and folk memories from the time of St Bridget in the 6th century, through the wars of the chieftains to the Famine. He also spoke about the introduction of crafts and other work skills in the area brought in by the monks.



NAME: PHILIP LYNCH, CALLAN (Part II)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 43 Subject: A farmer looks back at the history of the

locality (continued)

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: February 2007

Time: 48:22

Description: In this recording, Philip Lynch tells how the farmers were always the backbone of the community. His own farm is today a testimony to this. Philip, Nellie and their family continue to work their farm, and are passionately connected with the land. The interview continues with a discussion of the turbulent events of the 19th century locally, and the events of 1916-1922 period was also discussed.





NAME: EDDIE WALLACE, JERPOINT,

THOMASTOWN

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 44

Subject: A caretaker remembers Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: February 2007

Time: 53:14

Description: Eddie Wallace, now in his 84th year, became caretaker of Jerpoint Abbey when he finished his work with the Irish Army during the Emergency period. He spoke about employment on the Deady's estate, tilling the land, on the farm, tending sheep, and working in the mill, which he describes in great detail. He also spoke about his love of horses, and his days spent in Thomastown at the dances and in the pubs, where there was great entertainment to be had.



NAME: EDDIE CODY, INISTIOGE (Part I)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 45

Subject: Reminiscences of a local historian

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: February 2007

Time: 46:22

Description: Eddie Cody lived all his life in the village of Inistioge. His father was manager of Woodstock Estate and in later years was a water bailiff. Eddie befriended an elderly man, Mr Roberts, who lived to be nearly 100, and who passed on to Eddie much of the local oral history. Many subjects were spoken about in this recording, including coach building, poaching, emigration, the Black and Tans, and the burning down of Woodstock mansion.



NAME: EDDIE CODY, INISTIOGE (Part II)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 46

Subject: Reminiscences of a local historian

(continued)

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: February 2007

Time: 31:01

Description: Eddie Cody continued to talk about salmon fishing in the river. Eddie explains that the existence of some people depended on the fishing, and recalls that at one time his water-bailiff father's life was threatened. Music was an important part of local family life and his father was a fine fiddle player. One of the grand old songs handed down to him was recited in this recording.



NAME: JIM WALLACE, STONECARTHY (Part I) Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 47 Subject: A retired farmer's nostalgic look back

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: January 2007

Time: 50:26

Description: This interview begins with a look at Jim Wallace's family tree. He gives an account of how his ancestors arrived in Stonecarthy, his father's close encounter with the Black and Tans, and the circumstances leading up to this attack. A story was told about a double-barrelled shotgun given to his grandfather, William Wallace, by the local landlord, Lord Mountgarrett, a Butler of Kilkenny Castle. Later, the origins of local place names were explained.



NAME: JIM WALLACE, STONECARTHY (Part II) Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 48 Subject: A retired farmer's nostalgic look back

(continued)

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: January 2007

Time: 25:51

Description: A second visit to the Wallace farm proved to be a worthwhile experience. We walked up a narrow boreen to a place called Knockdrinagh Hill, a place which is mentioned in the *Annals of the Four Masters*. Jim remembers when this area was covered with furze, it was then part of the Floodhall estate. It was taken over in 1937 by the Land Commission and planted by the Forestry Commission. In this recording, Jim points to a field on the foothills which was exchanged for one sack of yellow meal during the Famine. This story was told to Jim in the 1940s, by a elderly woman who was then in her 80s, and who had known the family involved. Our conversation ended with the story of the seven wells.



NAME: JOHN BOLGER AND NANCY BOLGER,

GRAIGUENAMANAGH

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 49

Subject: Life on the river boats Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: February 2007

Time: 45:07

Description: A visit to the home of the Bolgers provided much information about life spent working on the river boats. John worked with his brother, his uncle and his father. Previously his father had worked as skipper on the steam-ship "Nasse" and the "Lady Annetta". His father was the only person to get a pension from the Barrow Navigation Company.



Both John and Nancy had many stories about their father, including one involving two local Volunteers to whom he gave shelter during the War of Independence. Nancy showed me a photograph taken in 1904 of the local football team, the year they won the County Championship. Most of the team were local Barrowmen. This was a very enlightening and entertaining visit.

NAME: JACK AND BRIDIE BURRIS, THOMASTOWN

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 50

Subject: Recollections of a mill worker

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: January 2007

Time: 51:23

Description: Jack Burris grew up in Mill Street and started working in the mill at the age of 14½, as his father had done before him. Two of Jack's companions in the mill are also included in this Collection (Bob "Dotty" Power and Philip Kelly). Jack remembers the old boss, Bob Pilworth, and spoke highly of him, and he also worked for his son in later vears. He described the many trials and tribulations of the business. Jack then introduced me to Bridie who was born in a thatched cabin in Jerpoint. She spoke about the impoverished conditions in which she grew up. The interview finished with Bridie telling that he husband had always come home covered in flour, first from the mill and later from the Comerford's Bakery! This was a fine interview, coming from a great couple, now in their eighties.



NAME: TONY PATTERSON

Title: Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 51

Subject: Watergate Theatre Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: January 2007

Time: 56:18

Description: In this recording Tony Patterson introduces me to the manager of Watergate Theatre, Jerry Cody who told me about its recent history. He spoke about the great performances, including those by the many travelling companies. We walked around the building, and Tony told of his own input there. He retired from the Castlecomer National School, after teaching there for 40 years, from 1957 to 1997, and many stories from some impoverished years were recorded.

