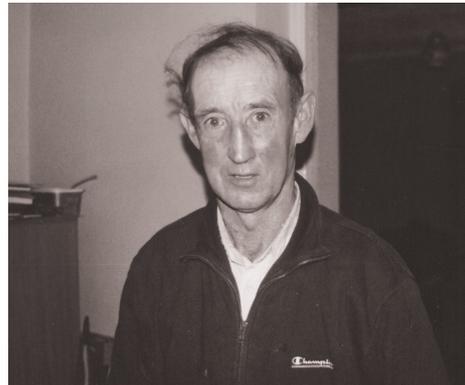


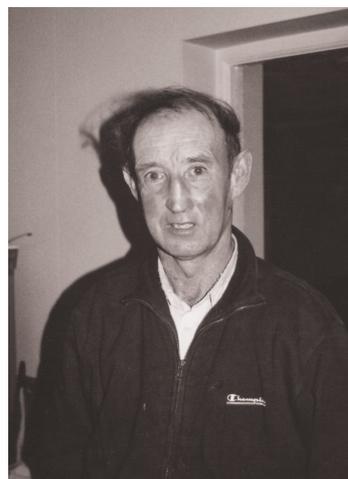
NAME: MARGARET HOGAN, BIRR
Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 1
Subject: A historical account of Birr
Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe
Date: March 2007
Time: 39:18
Description: With a background in the study of historical literature, Margaret Hogan, with the help of Joe Shortt, a local collector of oral history, worked to form a Historical Society in the early 1970s in Birr. We discussed the district poorhouse, formerly one of the largest buildings in the area and the conversation concluded with a discussion on the Gospel Book of Macregol of Birr which was the subject of Margaret's research.



NAME: MATT MOONEY, LYNALLY (Part 1)
Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 2
Subject: A local historian's account of his own place
Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe
Date: March 2007
Time: 49:10
Description: Matt Mooney's ancestors arrived in the area in the late 1600s and lived beside a 6th century monastery connected to St Colman. The 19th century Celtic scholar, John O'Donovan, called to the area and met Matt's grandfather, and having recorded his memoirs, wrote in a footnote in one of his books, "How could a man know so much, be so accurate, and go back so far?" Matt's own ability would match that of his grandfather. His ancestors were involved in transporting all sorts of goods for the merchants before the advent of the railways, and he had many stories to tell about this.



NAME: MATT MOONEY, LYNALLY (Part 2)
Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 3
Subject: A return visit to the home of the Mooneys
Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe
Date: March 2007
Time: 47:02
Description: On this occasion Matt Mooney walked through his lands with me. Our first stop was at the monastery, which we discussed at great length and also discussed a motte, which was a very distinctive feature in the landscape. We spoke about local historical events down through the centuries. Matt also recalled the soldiers who settled in the area after the Battle of Kinsale and the march back to the north of the O'Neills, as well as the Wexford rebels in the 1798 rebellion. This conversation continued into part 3.



NAME: MATT MOONEY, LYNALLY (Part 3)
Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 4
Subject: A continuation of Matt Mooney's account of historical events in the area
Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe
Date: March 2007
Time: 38:29

Description: Matt Mooney pointed out places of historical interest, and we ended our walk back in Matt's home, where he proudly showed me his father's military medals, as well as ancient coins which his father found while working on the land.



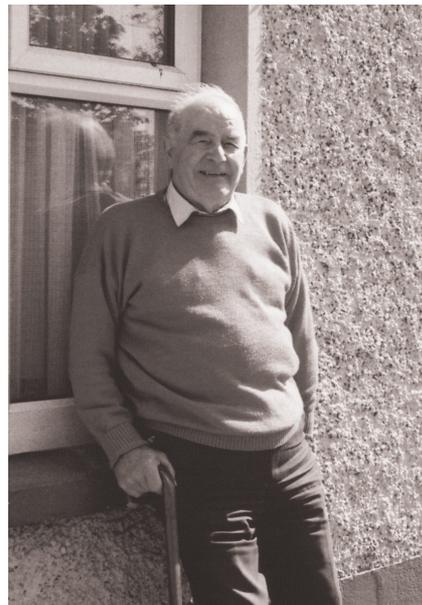
NAME: KATHLEEN FOX, DOORY
Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 5
Subject: recollections of rural life in the early part of the twentieth century
Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe
Date: May 2007
Time: 40:55

Description: This conversation was recorded in the nursing home in Tullamore, where Kathleen Fox was keen to talk about her days growing up, and living in a thatched farmhouse cottage before the advent of running water, electricity and radio. Her memories stretched back as far as steam threshing with horses, and to the local women-folk making clothes out of flour bags from Goodbody's factory in Clara. All of these memories made for a fascinating interview.



NAME: TOM LONGWORTH, BALLINAHOWN (Part1)
Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 6
Subject: The oral history of Ballinahown
Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe
Date: May 2007
Time: 57:05

Description: Tom Longworth worked for many years with Guinness's, as a sales representative. When he retired he took over his uncle's public house in Ballinahown. In this first recording, Tom discusses memories of his childhood, and the local landlords in the area, the O'Donoghues of the Glen, originally from Kerry. While sitting on the wall in the village, Tom provided an insight into a way of life long gone from us now.



NAME: TOM AND FRANCES LONGWORTH,
BALLINAHOWN (Part 2)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 7

Subject: A tour of an ancient trackway through the bog

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: May 2007

Time: 20:16

Description: A return visit to the home of the Longworths began with an interview with Frances, who spoke about her days growing up in her ancestral home near Athlone. Her father was an agent working for Lloyd's Properties. She also spoke about her time spent with the Civil Service in Tullamore.



NAME: TOM LONGWORTH, BALLINAHOWN, (Part 3)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection CD 8

Subject: A Journey through the Boglands.

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe.

Date: May 2007

Time: 57:53

Description: Tom and I went on a journey along a track across the bog stretching as far as Clonmacnoise. This track formed part of the ancient trackways of Ireland and during the journey Tom pointed out many derelict homes and spoke about the families who had lived in them. These homes included a sod wall house and many thatched cabins. He also related the stories of two murders which took place in the 1890's which related to land disputes.



NAME: TOM LONGWORTH, BALLINAHOWN, (Part 4)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection CD 9

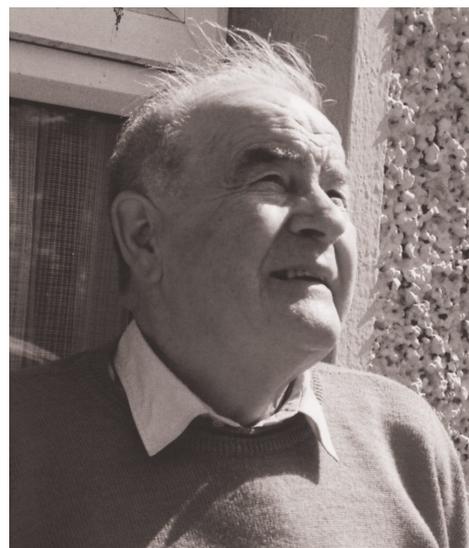
Subject: A Journey through the Boglands.

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe.

Date: May 2007

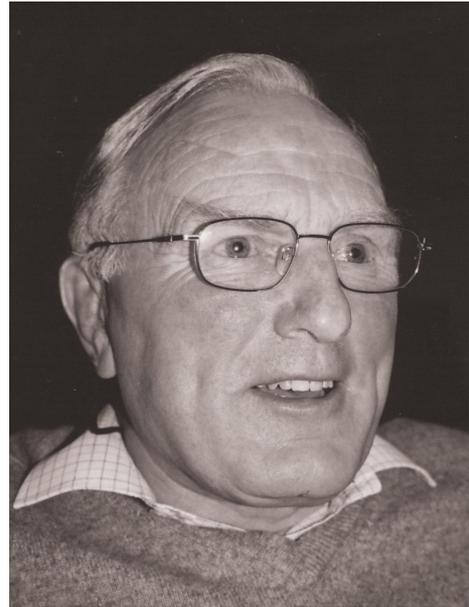
Time: 60:02

Description: Tom and I went on a journey along a track across the bog stretching as far as Clonmacnoise. This track formed part of the ancient trackways of Ireland and during the journey Tom pointed out many derelict homes and spoke about the families who had lived in them. These homes included a sod wall house and many thatched cabins. He also related the stories of two murders which took place in the 1890's which related to land disputes.



NAME: STEPHEN McNEILL, TULLAMORE
Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 10
Subject: A townland on the banks of the Shannon
Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe
Date: May 2007
Time: 64:12

Description: Stephen McNeill grew up in Cork city. His father was in the Garda Siochana, and his mother was born in Philadelphia, her siblings were wiped out by the Spanish flu and she and her parents returned to Cork. Stephen's father was born in Curraghbee, between Athlone and Clonmacnoise, on the banks of the Shannon. This recording focuses on the way of life in a place where hardship was prevalent. The families there included the Hunts, the Ryans, the McNeills and the Duffys, many of whom inter-married. People used boats continuously for their work. They were self-sufficient because of their isolation, but co-operated well. The population in the early 1900s was 61 people, but only one person lives in Curraghbee today.



NAME: MAURA WHITE, GLOSTER HOUSE, BIRR
Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 11
Subject: A lady who worked as cook in the big house
Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe
Date: February 2007
Time: 74:12

Description: Maura White grew up in Wexford, and at the age of 14 arrangements were made for her to work for General Lloyd in Gloster House, then known as Glass Derrymore House, Brosna, Kings County. When she arrived in 1950, her first duty was working as a helper in the kitchen. This interview involves a look back into life in the Big House. We toured the house, visiting all the rooms and speaking about how life was lived through the eyes of the cook.



NAME: PADDY GORMAN, GLOSTER HOUSE, BIRR
Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 12
Subject: A gardener in the Big House
Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe
Date: May 2007
Time: 46:18

Description: Paddy Gorman grew up in the Brosna area, and followed in his father's footsteps into Gloster House. He worked there from 1932 to 1992, for the Lloyd family, and later for the Salesian Sisters. Paddy showed me around the garden, pointing out all the different vegetable plots and the front garden, and he spoke about his great interest in providing fruit crops. He spoke about the other employees of the Lloyds, and all their different tasks, beginning when



the time the bell struck at 8 o'clock each morning on the estate of an old country gentleman.

NAME: WILLIE CONNORS, AGE 80, GLOSTER HOUSE, BIRR

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 13

Subject: A butler in the Big House

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: May 2007

Time: 77:25

Description: Willie Connors grew up in Sharavogue, on a small farm which was originally part of the Hastings estate. His father was a groom working for Brigadier General Lloyd in Gloster House, and part of his daily routine would involve practising the game of polo with the Brigadier. Willie began as a footman for the Brigadier and his nephew. In this recording, he describes how the Brigadier's militaristic attitude created an atmosphere which made life difficult for the butler, and is a nostalgic look back into Gloster House, which he had not revisited for 40 years. He went on to talk about his years working as a butler for the Earl of Rosse at Birr Castle. We later spoke with the present owner of Gloster House, Tom Alexander. He spoke about the restoration work being carried out, in the company of Maura White, Paddy Gorman and Willie Connors, who gave their comments on this magnificent Georgian building and grounds, which are now being overseen by Tom Teahan, the resident gardener for the last 25 years.



NAME: BETTY O'DWYER, BIRR

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 14

Subject: Growing up in Birr town

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: April 2007

Time: 51:33

Description: Betty O'Dwyer grew up in O'Connell Street, one of Birr's most interesting places for the collection of folklore. The activities of past times and the colourful characters of the area were discussed. The conversation covered the emigration fare of ten pound to England in 1948, which encouraged people to go abroad. Betty emigrated to Manchester, but stayed there only a short time and when she returned, she worked in Dooley's Hotel as a waitress and barmaid. She also spoke about some of the businesses in Birr and their long history.



NAME: P. J. GOREY TULLAMORE

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 15

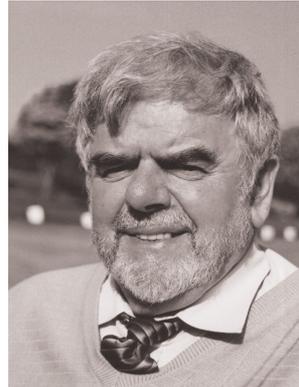
Subject: The Grand Canal

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: April 2007

Time: 53:59

Description: This recording was made at the Round Lock, also known as Boland's Lock. P. J Gorey's own background in inland waterways has made him very knowledgeable about this topic and all his uncles were boatmen working on the canal. P.J. himself came home on the boats from school in his young days, and would listen to the boatmen singing and yodelling. He recalled many of the characters who worked for the Grand Canal Company. Tullamore was a centre of commercial activity in the midlands due to its position on the canal. P.J. gave a great account of the footbridges and other structures associated with the inland waterways and he drove me to Tullamore Nursing Home to introduce me to Nan Boland, once the lockkeeper at Round Lock.



NAME: NAN BOLAND, TULLAMORE, AGED 89

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 16

Subject: Boland's Lock

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: April 2007

Time: 44:33

Description: With the assistance of P.J. Gorey, I recorded Nan Boland, the lock-keeper for many years at the Round Lock. She took over the job from her father at a young age because of his ill health. A woman of great stamina in her day, she worked around the clock to ready the lock by regulating the flow of water into it throughout the day and night. She found time to look after a few cows, pigs and hens by the lock bank, and also made butter for the market place. She had a great rapport with the boatmen, including the McDonalds, the Gills, the Bolgers, the Moloneys and P.J Gorey's uncles, the Dunnes.



NAME: ANNE MARTIN, TULLAMORE
Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 17
Subject: Growing up in the Round Lock
Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe
Date: April 2007
Time: 20:35

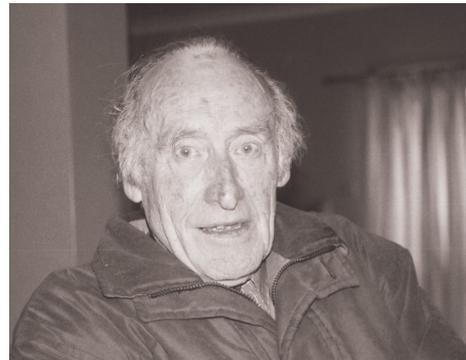
Description: Anne Martin grew up with her aunt, Nan Boland at the Round Lock. She had fond memories of watching Nan make butter and brown bread. Nan had four cows, which she named Dick, Dotty, Betsy and Snowy. On many occasions the boatmen would come in for a chat and a cup of tea, and on cold winter evenings would be treated to a mulled porter, when a hot poker was put into a glass of Guinness. Anne recalled that one day she saved the life of a little boy who had fallen into the lock, when she quickly reacted by putting a ladder down the bank, throwing a rope and pulling him to safety. My recording with Anne was the final part of a trilogy about life on the canal at the Lock gates.



NAME: JOHN CLARK, TULLAMORE, AGE 78 (Part 1)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 18
Subject: Recollections of the Clark family
Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe
Date: April 2007
Time: 49:38

Description: John Clark's father, with his two brothers, was involved in the War of Independence. Michael Collins referred to the brothers as the "Tullamore Hounds." John's father was a hairdresser and John himself spent some time hairdressing in the 1940s, and went on to join the Salt's factory as an overseer for one year. Order and regularity reigned in the factory. Work would commence at 8 a.m and finish at 5.45 each day. John left because of health problems and ran a shop in Harbour Street from 1946 to 1956. John's father was a Field Marshal with the LDF and was also very involved with the GAA in Tullamore. This recording concluded with a fascinating story about the rescue of John's two uncles by a British Army officer during the Black and Tans campaign.



NAME: JOHN CLARK, TULLAMORE, AGE 78 (Part 2)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 19

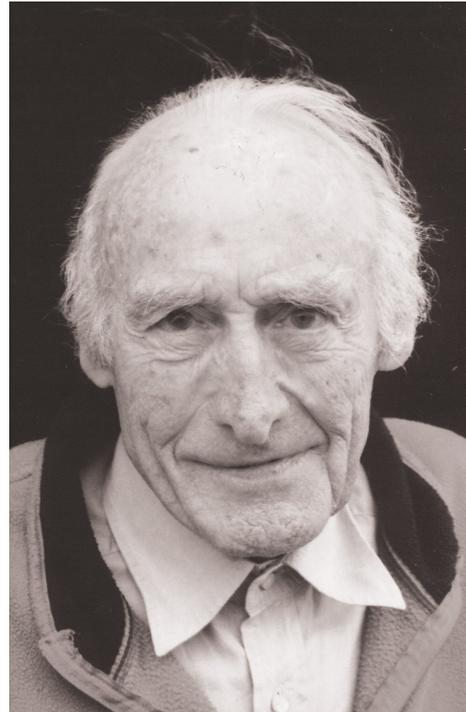
Subject: Recollections of the Clark family continued

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: June 2007

Time: 48:02

Description: On a return visit to John Clark's home the recording began by recalling John's father Jimmy who was jailed, first in Tullamore Barracks and then in Kilmainham, just before the Rising in 1916, and was released afterwards. John told me many stories of time spent working in the barber's shop, and the many characters who would frequent the place. The Grand Central Cinema was the hub of entertainment in the town. The old laneways were spoken about, and the row of thatched cottages in Clontarf Road, one of which was the Clark home. This recording finished with stories about the barge boatman, the Sinn Fein courts, the religious way of life and the fairs in Market Square in Tullamore.



NAME: DANIEL EDMUND WILLIAMS, AGE 78

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 20

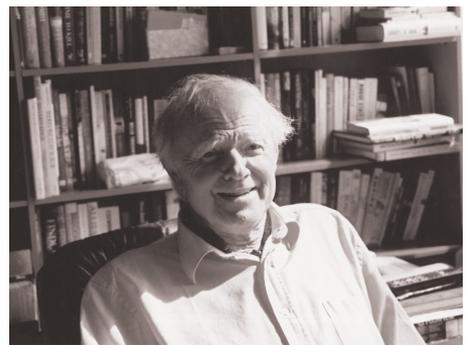
Subject: The Williams family and Tullamore Dew

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: May 2007

Time: 63:57

Description: This recording took place in the comfort of the Williams home. Edmund Williams first spoke about the history of the distillery, and its many developments and inventions over the generations. His brother Desmond was responsible for the invention of 'Irish Mist' and Edmond himself was made Managing Director when he first started with the firm. The workforce then was 350, and later grew to 1300. Edmund's boarding school days were discussed at great length. Because of family problems in the early days, he had to make firm decisions. He abolished family privileges and introduced three outsiders into the management. They were William Ralph, Frank McCann (finance) and Mick Murphy (sales). His relationship with Hardress Waller, who had a malting business in Bannagher, was good. Edmund still has a bottle of an 1861 malt brew, which he regards as a family heirloom. He passionately loved the Tullamore Dew business, in which he spent 47 years. He spoke about his travels around the world after Desmond's death, and he got a very warm welcome everywhere because of his association with Tullamore Dew. He spoke about the disbandment of the Williams Group, during which time he took advice from Garrett Fitzgerald. Edmond showed me his prized book



collection, and some early photographs of the P. E. Williams Group buildings and workforce. This recording captures an important part of Tullamore history for posterity.

NAME: WILLIAM G. JAFFRAY (Part 1)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 21

Subject: The driving force behind Tullamore Dew

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: April 2007

Time: 43:56

Description: This recording was made in the Tullamore Dew Heritage Centre. William Jaffrey's father came from Aberdeen, Scotland in 1913, to work for the Williams Group, in charge of transport. William himself started work in 1944, following in his father's footsteps in the transport department. He detailed for me the company's huge transport organisation. The barge boat was an important lifeline during the war years and he spoke about the company's activities during those years; the packing of tea, the bottling of Guinness, and the manufacture of soft drinks. The name 'Tullamore Dew' came from 'D' for Daniel, 'E' for Edmond and 'W' for Williams. While looking at a map of Tullamore, William pointed out the malting and distilling buildings, explaining to me the process of distilling, as well as the blending and the bottling, and the making of the wooden casks. This brought us to the end of part 1 of this two-part recording.



NAME: WILLIAM G. JAFFRAY (Part 2)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 22

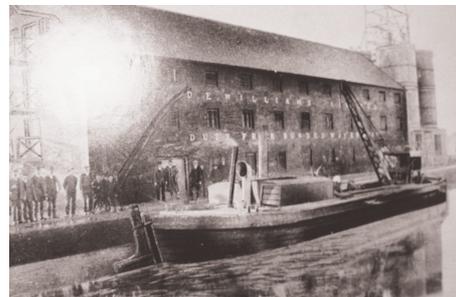
Subject: The driving force behind Tullamore Dew continued

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: April 2007

Time: 44:34

Description: This recording began with a discussion on how the 'Irish Mist' liqueur was invented; a product whose brand name was sold to John Power and Sons, and then to C and C. William Jaffray spoke about the marketing techniques which were used by the distillery. Because of his position in the company, he was able to speak about the personalities and responsibilities of each of the brothers in the family. He provided a brief account of the history of distilling in Ireland, and with great enthusiasm and pride he spoke about each one of the staff members featured in an old photograph, and their backgrounds and positions within the group. This recording provided a great insight into many aspects of the distilling business in Tullamore.



NAME; JOHN FLANAGAN, TULLAMORE

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 23

Subject: Recollections of Tullamore Distillery

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: May 2007

Time: 44:19

Description: This recording was made in the home of John Flanagan who is now retired from his work with the County Council and with Tullamore Dew. He spoke about his time working in administration in the maltings section of the distillery and described in great detail the work which was carried out in the premises. He recalled the Williams family and the great loss to the town when the distillery closed down. John went on to work with the County Council and retired some years later.



NAME: KATHLEEN AND TED MAXWELL,
SCREGGAN

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 24

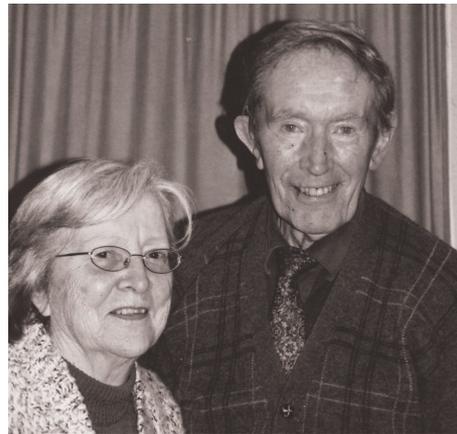
Subject: The work of the ICA

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: April 2007

Time: 70:00

Description: Kathleen Maxwell is a very prominent member of the Irish Countrywomens Association. Her speciality is the making of porcelain dolls and dolls' clothes. The conversation began with her memories of her schooldays in Mullingar. Her husband Ted spoke about working in the local garage after a short period of emigration to England, where he met Kathleen. The ICA Guild locally was started in 1964. Kathleen was very proud of her collection of embroidery, some of it Mountmellick work and her dolls which were made of wax, wood and porcelain. This was truly a fascinating insight into the fine crafts created by an ICA member.



NAME: MARTIN ("ALO") O'CONNELL, AGE 78,
TULLAMORE

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 25

Subject: A lifetime in Salt's Woollen Factory

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: March 2007

Time: 51:41

Description: Alo O'Connell spent forty years in Tullamore Textiles. He was first employed at the age of 14 as a bobbin-setter, and he explained in great detail the atmosphere in the workplace. The workforce got on well with the managers and he recalled how, in common with many of the other workers, he met his future wife there. In 1943 the wage was one pound and two shillings, and at that



time 5 Woodbines cost threepence. His other income came from cutting turf, which he sold around Tullamore. Allo's story is an important link with the old factory traditions.

NAME: BRIDGET QUINN-McDONAGH, AGE 82,
TULLAMORE

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 26

Subject: Traveller traditions

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: March 2007

Time: 42:36

Description: Bridget Quinn-McDonagh grew up in Mullingar. Her mother was Nan Power, who came from a farming background. Her husband's people were the Quinn-McDonaghs. She was born in Burgess Lane. Her father died young, her mother reared a large family with little money. During the Black and Tan campaign in Ireland, two of her mother's brothers were arrested, and one was shot. Bridget spent some time in England with her husband before they came back to Ireland, travelling from county to county on the road. Her husband was a carpenter by trade, and built their wagon and he was also adept at repairing electrical machinery for the farmers. She spoke about how, after the death of a member of the family, all his or her possessions would be burnt. On the day I recorded Bridget, her grand-daughter got married, but Bridget did not attend the wedding, because a member of the family was not yet one year dead. In this interview she also spoke about the scarcity of money in earlier times and how she would pick spuds, pull beet and cut turf, and not one penny would go astray. I spoke also to her son and daughter, who described the class distinction among the travellers. This was an important account of a traveller's life, recorded in the fine atmosphere of one of Tullamore's oldest pubs.



NAME: EAMON FOX, TULLAMORE

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 27

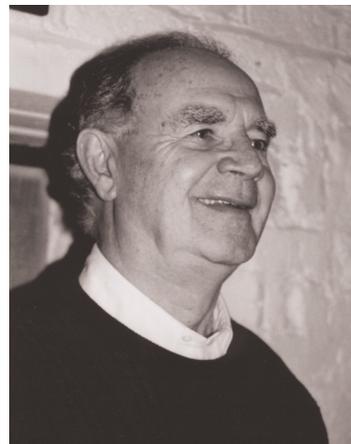
Subject: Two generations in Salt's Factory

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: March 2007

Time: 47:42

Description: Eamon Fox's father came to Tullamore in 1928, to work in Jack Diggin's grocery and bar business, now known as Eugene Kelly's, on the Kilbeggan bridge. In the early days of Salt's, Eamon's father was one of six local men who travelled with the management to Yorkshire to learn the craft of textile weaving, in order to begin work in this new factory, located in the grounds of the prison in Tullamore. In the early fifties, at the height of its



production, the factory was employing 987 people. Eamon was now employed there himself, and spoke about the working conditions. He was involved in promoting sports and pastimes for the employees, taking over from his father, who was one of the founders of the Factory League. There was a great GAA following, creating a fine camaraderie amongst the workers. This recording provides another point on view of the history of Salt's Factory.

NAME: OLIVER FLANAGAN, AGE 86, TULLAMORE

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 28

Subject: The oldest surviving employee of Salt's Factory

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: May 2007

Time: 37:24

Description: Oliver Flanagan worked all his life in Salt's factory. He joined the company at the very beginning, in 1938, and experienced all the ups and downs of the business over the decades. Work was very irregular during the war years. Towards the end of the existence of Salt's factory in Tullamore, he left to join Goodbodys in Clare for two years, and afterwards joined a branch of Salt's in Mountmellick. He worked his way up from apprentice, to foreman, to chief production manager. Oliver showed me, with great pride, a photograph taken in 1962 of the management team, which included Michael Dowling, Martin Fox, Michael Hennessy, Joe Connolly, Jacky Lambe and a Mr Dewar, as well as Oliver himself, the only one of them surviving now.



NAME: PADDY LOWRY, AGE 88, SLIEVE BLOOM

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 29

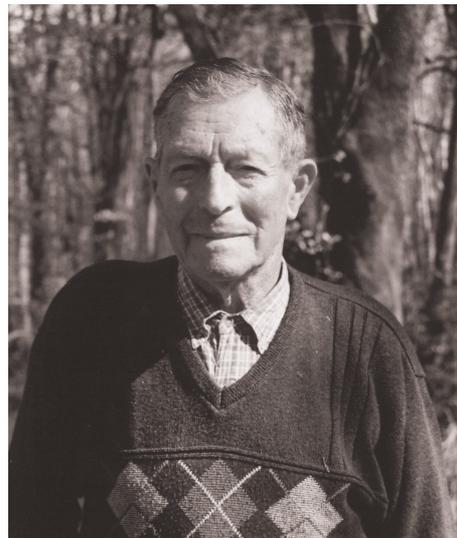
Subject: A great collection of stories from Slieve Bloom

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: April 2007

Time: 48:09

Description: On a return visit to the foothills of Slieve Bloom, at a place called Forelacka, Paddy Lowry began by telling me some of the local place-names, and their meaning. In the 1600s, a historical event took place in his own townland, when O'Donnell from the North began his famous march over the frozen hills, and set up camp in Forthlacka. Paddy recited a rare ballad about the town of Kinnity, and spoke about his own background, recalling the twenties, when his father had a small farm on bad land, and was barely able to exist. He spoke about the local



landlords and their agents, who evicted many people in the area. This resulted in the shooting of an agent by two local men during the Land Agitation period. Paddy went on to speak about the importance of water, and how everybody had a spring well. This explains the name Fortlacka. The well was a prized possession, and to refuse anyone a drink of water or to pollute a well, were crimes worse than murder.

NAME: JIM KINSELLA, CLASHROE, SLIEVE BLOOM

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 30

Subject: A musical family, with a love for the land

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: March 2007

Time: 54:42

Description: Jim Kinsella grew up in Wexford in a farming background. Over 25 years ago he exchanged a farm there for a 300 acre sheep farm in the Slieve Bloom mountains and during this time he opened a very successful quarry business on his land. Music plays a big part in the lives of all the members of Jim's family and Jim was always interested in collecting rare old songs, some of which he sang for me in this recording. Every song collected is one with a historical content and this was a traditional way of handing on stories about events in the past.



NAME: WILLIE JOE BERGIN, AGE 80, CLASHROE, SLIEVE BLOOM

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 31

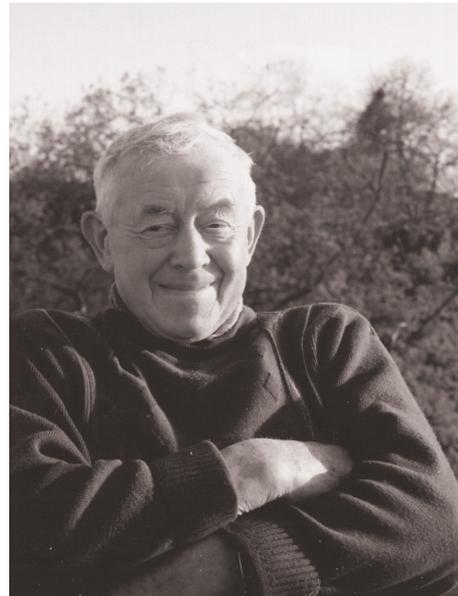
Subject: Farm traditions from Slieve Bloom

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: March 2007

Time: 44:06

Description: The story starts with the eviction of Willie Joe Bergin's father and his uncle by the agent of the local landlord, Mr Bernard, at the end of the 19th century. They moved in with Willie's other uncle onto the land which is still being farmed by Willie Joe. Walking through the land, the field names, which were those of local families who lived in thatched cottages, were spoken about, namely the Dunnes, the Makens, the Feehans and the Cordals. He pointed out the changes in the landscape over the last 70 years, with the development of forestry. Also described in this recording are the crossroad dances, the pitch-and-toss games, and the local characters.



NAME: JAMES CORRIGAN, AGE 88, CLONLEE

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 32

Subject: Country life in the early 20th century

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: April 2007

Time: 70:22

Description: I met James Corrigan at his ancestral home. Also in the company was his good friend, local man Paddy Lowry. James by recalling the early part of his life which included stories of the Black and Tans. Because of the death of his mother when he was young, he was brought up by his aunt. James' people on both sides of his family were blacksmiths. He himself worked at this trade, shoeing horses, ponies and asses. He recalls Sunday mornings when families from the Slieve Mish mountains would descend to Kinnity town on their asses and carts. This recording details the customs, traditions and beliefs of the local people.



NAME: LIAM HANDY, PETER NOLAN, TOM FLEMING AND KEVIN FALLON, CLARA

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 33

Subject: Life experiences during the mid 20th century in Clara

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: March 2007

Time: 41:47

Description: This interview took place at the Resource Centre in Clara, in a session of questions and answers, which also involved the 5th and 6th classes from the Girls National School. The subjects spoken about included working in Goodbody's jute factory, the RAF during the Second World War, the Emergency period at home, transport, the First World War, great local heroes, the Big House and its workers, and the Famine.



NAME: LAURENCE BRACKEN, AGE 82, KIRTEER AND TOM FLEMING, AGE 80; CLARA

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 34

Subject: A reminiscence of the Big House in its heyday

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

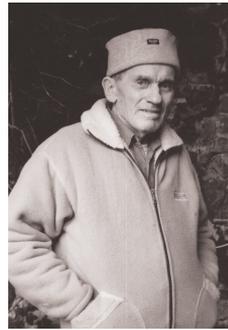
Date: April 2007

Time: 63:41

Description: On an early spring morning, Tom Fleming brought me to Clara House, which now stands in ruins. It was over 60 years since he had visited this place, he started work there as a lad of 14.



We met the new landowner, Laurence Bracken, who was born and grew up in the locality, emigrated to the States, and became an entrepreneur in the building business. His one ambition was to return to his native place. Eventually he bought the land and house, which has had a long line of occupants, and was the stronghold of the Rutledge family in the 1700s. It was sold to the Armstrong family, then to the Odlum family, and later still to the Wyers. Laurence purchased the land in 1971 from Larry Wyer. He recalls many of the stories associated with the house. Tom Fleming showed me around the grounds of the house, recalling many stories about the place. This recording finished in Clara, where we talked about the people and the houses we passed on the journey to the town.



NAME: PETER NOLAN, AGE 80, Church Hill, CLARA
Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 35
Subject: Growing up in Clara
Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe
Date: April 2007
Time: 47:48

Description: This recording began with an account of the history of the town, and how the name Clara originated. Peter Nolan's grandfather and father both worked as fitters in the Goodbody jute factory. Peter himself was educated by the Franciscan Brothers, and emigrated to England after the Second World War. He recalled how difficult it had been for his mother to bring up a family in very primitive conditions, in a house with no piped water or electricity, and very few furnishings. His mother also worked in the jute mills. Peter gave a great account of the town itself, its shops and businesses, and the general customs and beliefs of the people in the town.



Peter Nolan's mother

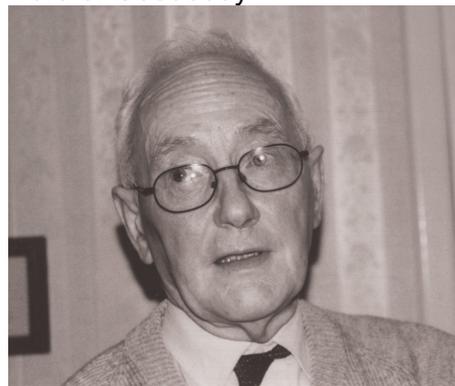
NAME: LIAM HANDY, Raheen, CLARA
Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 36
Subject: A legacy of historical memories
Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe
Date: March 2007
Time: 63:41
Description: Liam Handy's cousins were Volunteers during the Troubles and his cousin Leo Handy was one of seven who escaped from Athlone Jail during the War of Independence, and fled to the USA. Liam recalled more stories of the Black and Tan War relating to the involvement of all his family. He told me a story about the shooting of a local landlord's agent, and then showed me a flintlock pistol which had been used in the shooting. He told me that this weapon had been hidden in a thatched roof in a town cottage once owned by his aunt, who had told him the story. Liam spoke about many more interesting stories handed down to him by his father. This recording provided me with an amazing collection of stories, a valuable resource for future researchers.



NAME: ROBERT GILES, AGE 79, CLARA (Part 1)
Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 37
Subject: A lifetime in the Goodbody jute factory
Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe
Date: March 2007
Time: 49:31
Description: Robert Giles originally came from Drogheda. He started work with the Goodbody Company in Dublin, in a distribution centre, in 1949. He explained the background of the Goodbody family and the reasons why they first set up a factory in Clara. Goodbodies were the main employers in the area, who kept cottage weavers occupied locally. When Robert joined them in 1952, the sacks would be hired out to maltsters and farmers for a charge of 1 1/2 pence a week per bag and there was also a repair service. There were other bag merchants operating, and the name of each company was clearly printed on its bags. Robert's position was in the sales department, processing orders. He joined the company when it was at its peak, and workers were brought to the factory in double-decker buses and there were 350 weavers working. Robert also explained that the Goodbody family took a personal interest in their staff. This was the first in a two-part interview with Robert Giles.



Bord of Goodbody



NAME: ROBERT GILES, AGE 79, CLARA (Part 2)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 38

Subject: The Goodbody jute factory; an overview

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: March 2007

Time: 53:50

Description: The Goodbody family had a number of sizeable houses in the area, both for themselves and for the management. They had 14 houses for staff. Robert Giles spoke about the winding-down of the factory in the 1980s, and the reasons for this. It was taken over by an American management team, who continued with 90% of the workforce at that time. They were now trading with carpet companies and with Irish Ropes but this venture also came to an end and after 49 years working with the firm, Robert retired. He showed me some interesting photographs of the Goodbody management, and spoke about their personalities and their places within the firm.



NAME: EAMON COONAN, GLASSHOUSE,
SHINRONE

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 39

Subject: A local discovery

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: May 2007

Time: 26:23

Description: While collecting folklore in Shinrone, I called to the home of the Coonans. There I met Eamon Coonan who informed me of the great wealth of history associated with the area. Four generations of his family had farmed the land there. Much of his historical information came from his father, who remembered the landed gentry, the Rolleston-Spunner family, who lived in the area in former times. Eamon's father had told him that finely cut stone was taken from the Big House after it was vacated, to build Mount St Joseph Abbey, Roscrea. We toured the area, visiting the graves of the local gentry.



NAME: HENRY KENNY, AGE 85, CLYDUFFE

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 40

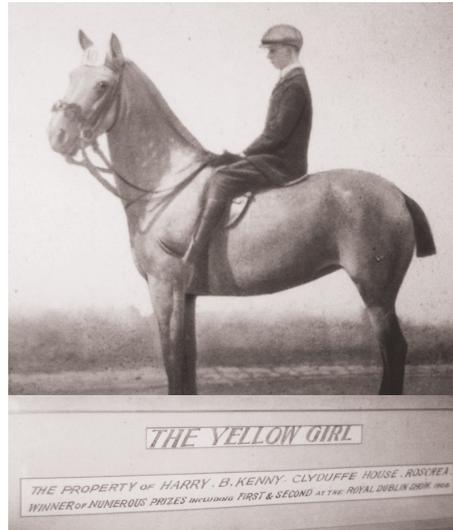
Subject: The life of a country gentleman

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: May 2007

Time: 66:13

Description: On a visit to the home of a long-established family, the Kennys. I recorded Henry Kenny's memories of his days growing up there, and his deep interest in his ancestral background. He mentioned his uncle's time spent with the fire brigade in New York; the tragic death of his grandfather following a fall from a horse. Henry Kenny spoke about his own association with the Ormonde Hunt - horse-breeding was a major part of his life. Some of his major successes with horses included 'Brown Jack', the winner of the Grand National and 'Temple Beg' and 'Ballybrack', winners of the Foxhunter Chase. The recording also took in the Troubles of the 1916-1922 period. In a most informative interview which gave a great insight into a gentleman's way of life in former days.



NAME: PAT STONES, AGE 80, KILBRIDGE, CLARA

AND TOM FLEMING, AGE 80, THE GREEN, CLARA

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 41

Subject: Recollections of Clara in the mid 20th century

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: April 2007

Time: 53:42

Description: This recording took place in Pat Stones' council house, where he was joined by his friend Tom Fleming. Both men had interesting stories to tell about their working lives. Pat had spent a lifetime in Goodbody's jute factory, and Tom worked as the yardboy in Kilclara House. An fascinating picture emerged of the town as it was during the Emergency period, and other topics discussed included entertainments, sports and other pastimes.



NAME: FR NIVARD KINSELLA, MOUNT ST. JOSEPH'S ABBEY, ROSCREA

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 42

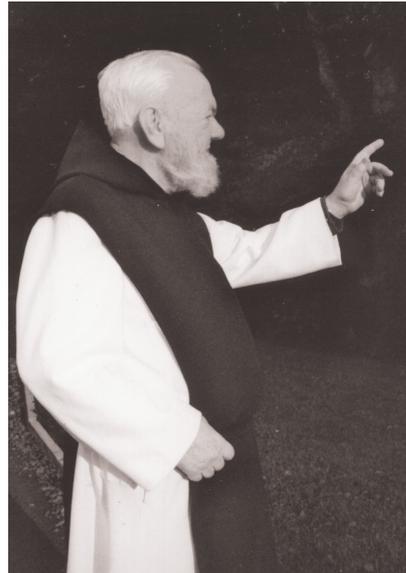
Subject: Recollections of an Irish Abbot

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: October 2006

Time: 26:23

Description: While walking through the woodlands in the grounds of Mount St Joseph Abbey, Roscrea Fr. Nivard Kinsella spoke about the arrival of the Cistercians in Ireland and about his own pilgrimage to the Middle East. He continued with stories from the Old Testament, talking about the first historical figure, Abraham, who lived in 1850 BC., the Noah's Ark story, and his own interpretation of the supernatural. Finally, the church, or house, was discussed, as it was used in tradition.



NAME: TOM LAWLESS, AGE 72 AND MAY LAWLESS, AGE 71, TULLAMORE

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 43

Subject: A remarkable family story

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: June 2007

Time: 48:15

Description: In the comfort of the Lawless home, I spoke to Tom and May Lawless about how the Lawlesses first came to the area, establishing a shop/grocery/pub/hardware merchant's, in a place known as Blueball, which was a half-way house. Tom's grandfather came from Ballygar, Co Galway, where he was an R.I.C sergeant. He quickly established the business, after his marriage. Tom - the grandfather - married again after the death of his first wife, and altogether had 19 children. The eldest son Tom came to Tullamore town and married into the Moran shop and hardware business. He was deeply involved in the 1916-1922 Troubles. He had a very successful hurling career, winning four championships in Dublin, and one All-Ireland with Tullamore. His eldest son Tom married May, who grew up in Edenderry. Tom and May now ran a very successful pub and undertaking business in the town with their son Tom running the undertakers.



NAME: JOHN JOE COYNE, AGED 86, CLONAVOGUE

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 44

Subject: The family tradition of pig-buying

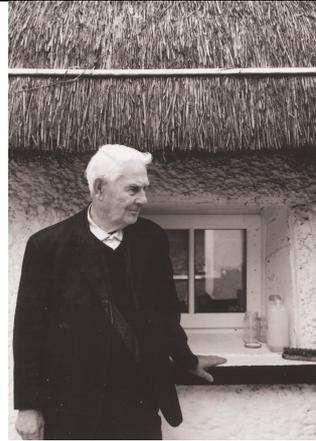
Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: June 2007

Time: 71:17

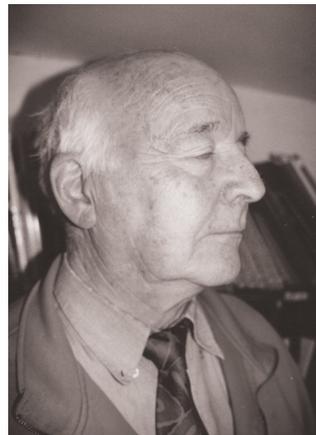
Description: In a remote part of North Offaly, in the

350 years old thatched ancestral home of the Coyne family, I met John Joe Coyne, and many of his memories of cattle jobbing around the county fairs of Ireland were recalled. John talks about the Cromwellian forces which played havoc with the local people, burning down their houses. He recalled an important event which took place in 1848, during the Famine (information handed down to him by a 102 year old local woman). Finally, he spoke of the effect of Bord na Mona on the people locally when it was first established there. We met John Joe's neighbour, Danny Geogan, who also spoke about his experiences in the bog



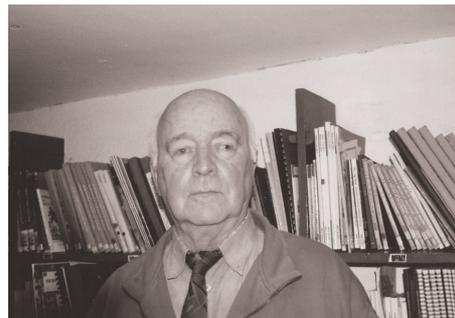
NAME: JIM KENNY, AGE 79, TULLAMORE, (Part 1)
Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 45
Subject: A wealth of information
Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe
Date: June 2007
Time: 72:45

Description: Our meeting took place at the Archaeological and Historical Society building in Tullamore. Jim started by telling me about the early part of his life, going to school in Bothar Fada, and after winning a County Council scholarship he attended the Christian Brothers' school in Tullamore. Before his final exams he contracted tuberculosis which resulted in a total change in career opportunities. After a period of convalescence at the small farm which was his home, he spent some time in various jobs, finally settling down with the Adams firm of solicitors while at the same time working with the Council as a rates collector. He was also an assistant officer with the Social Health Board (now called the Community Welfare Officer). After he retired, he went about recording the people whom he had befriended during the course of his work. That resulted in the collection of a vast treasure of oral history. All these recordings complement greatly the Irish Life and Lore series of recordings made within the county.



NAME: JIM KENNY, AGE 79, TULLAMORE, (Part 2)
Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 46
Subject: A local historian's account of his own area
Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe
Date: June 2007
Time: 74:12

Description: Jim Kenny began by telling me the story of the Kennys' arrival in Ballincumber in the early 1800s. Carpentry was their craft and Jim's father worked locally in the Hackett Estate, his expertise lay in engineering, and he was very well equipped to



handle the steam engines for threshing. He operated these machines far and wide for the Hackett Estate. He was involved in the Labour Movement, and was a great admirer of Jim Larkin. He was to lose his job at the Hackett Estate because of this involvement. He later went on to work with the County Council. Jim's vivid memories of the Blueshirts were recorded., and the recording ended with the history of the street and the house in which Jim now lives.



NAME: JOHNNY CUMMINS, AGE 95, AHARNEY, TULLAMORE

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 47

Subject: Memories of the early part of the 20th century

Recorded by: Jim Kenny

Date: 1995

Time: 46:11

Description: Johnny Cummins came from a farming background and in this recording he discusses his earliest memories of his school days, when he wore a bib coat, knee breeches and clogs. He goes on to talk about his confirmation, his work on the land, sowing crops, and the severe effects of the Economic War. He also describes the hurling matches played locally, as well as Fair Days in Tullamore, Ballincumber, Ballinasloe and Banagher. The Night of the Big Wind, a description handed down by his grandfather, is also recalled as are the 1916-1922 Troubles in the area.



NAME: MICHAEL DOWLING, AGE 91, TULLAMORE (Part 1)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 48

Subject: Tullamore in the early 20th century

Recorded by: Jim Kenny

Date: 2000

Time: 46:04

Description: Michael Dowling grew up in Church Street and his first job was with Frank Hirst in 1925, earning ten shillings a week mending punctures in a garage. He later went to work at the distillery.

He speaks about the activities of the Black and Tans in 1921. During the Second World War many emigrants left the town. A special train would leave at 3.30 pm, with many young lads joining the British forces. It was known as the "Troop Train". Michael Dowling continues his reminiscences in part 2.



NAME: MICHAEL DOWLING, AGE 91, TULLAMORE
(Part 2)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 49

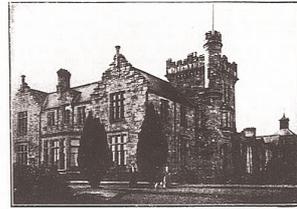
Subject: Tullamore in the early 20th century,
continued

Recorded by: Jim Kenny

Date: 2000

Time: 12:24

Description: Michael Dowling continues to speak about the Troubles in this interview. He gives a great account of the thirties and forties, when emigration was part of everyday life. He discusses Salt's textile factory and explains that the other main employers at the time were Egan's, Williams's and Goodbody's. The streets and the people of the town were also discussed in this interview.



BRITTAS
(Dunne).
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NAME: MICHAEL DOWLING, AGE 91, TULLAMORE
(Part 3)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 50

Subject: Tullamore in the early 20th century,
continued

Recorded by: Jim Kenny

Date: 2000

Time: 22:33

Description: Michael Dowling continues to speak about the Troubles in this interview. He gives a great account of the thirties and forties, when emigration was part of everyday life. He discusses Salt's textile factory and explains that the other main employers at the time were Egan's, Williams's and Goodbody's. The streets and the people of the town were also discussed in this interview.



NAME: TOM HIGGINS, AGE 77, CLONASLEE

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 51

Subject: The oral history recorded

Recorded by: Jim Kenny

Date: 1994

Time: 62:06

Description: In this recording Tom Higgins began with the history of the town, the evictions which took place "up the mountain side" in the 19th century, and orders given by the Dunnes to the bailiffs to use the battering-ram. He gave an account of the Penal Laws, and the turbulent lives of the Catholic priests in the area. Also in this recording are mentioned the old cures, the traditional arranged marriages; "Marry a mountain woman and you marry the mountain." There were also stories about the supernatural. Many other subjects were touched upon, including the Famine Relief Scheme and the barter system.



NAME: KATHLEEN THOMPSON, RIVER STREET,
CLARA (Part 1)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 52

Subject: One woman's story

Recorded by: Jim Kenny

Date: 1995

Time: 46:28

Description: Kathleen Thompson was born in Cootehill, Co Cavan, and was from a farming background. She attended boarding school in Celbridge, and spoke about her experiences during the Troubles. A most interesting account was given of her father's flax-growing. She went on to talk about her teaching career, and her first teaching appointment in Clara in 1926. She had never seen so many women wearing shawls, all working for Goodbody's. She spoke about their lifestyle and their dwellings in vivid detail.



NAME: KATHLEEN THOMPSON, RIVER STREET,
CLARA (Part 2)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 53

Subject: One woman's story, continued

Recorded by: Jim Kenny

Date: 1995

Time: 46:29

Description: Kathleen Thompson continued to recall manner in which upper-class society socialised in the area. She described the chapel in the town, and recalled that it had previously been a thatched building, financed by Edward Armstrong, Clara House. She described Clara House, and how its fine architecture had been changed over the years.



NAME: JIM FLANAGAN AGE 91, AND SEAN
FLANAGAN AGE 90, BALLINCUMBER (Part 1)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 54

Subject: Long memories recalled

Recorded by: Jim Kenny

Date: 1993

Time: 39:48

Description: Jim Flanagan grew up in Leabeg, and clearly recalled the great excitement locally during the threshing, when all the people of the area would get involved. Wedding and marriage customs were also spoken about, as were the house dances, with all the fun and music played there at the time. This part of the conversation finished with the story of how local farmers acquired land at the time of the Land Act, and the Land Commission.



NAME: JIM FLANAGAN AND SEAN FLANAGAN,
BALLINCUMBER (Part 2)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 55

Subject: Long memories recalled

Recorded by: Jim Kenny

Date: 1993

Time: 49:25

Description: In this recording, Jim Flanagan continued to speak about the Hackett Estate in Castletown. He also mentioned the fact that some farmers would use bullocks for ploughing, and their frugal way of life in earlier days. Sean Flanagan finished this interview with Jim Kenny by discussing the Spanish Civil War, and he related how he had witnessed some of the events which took place at Gibraltar between 1929 and 1933, while he was there as a student studying Spanish.



NAME: MOLLY KELLY, AGE 80s, BOHERFIELDS
(Part 1)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 56

Subject: A rural woman's way of life in the first half of the 20th century

Recorded by: Jim Kenny

Date: 1999

Time: 45:47

Description: To exist on the farm in the early part of the 20th century was to be self-sufficient. Living under a thatched roof, all the cleaning and washing was carried out with a scrubbing-board., and life was hard. The work was not confined to the house, and Molly Kelly would sow oats and rye by hand. Even the drawing of water from the well was left to Molly as was soapmaking with caustic soda and dripping. The hands of all the women were wrinkled from working with this soap recalled Molly in a fine and detailed recording.



NAME: MOLLY KELLY, AGE 80s, BOHERFIELDS
(Part 2)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 57

Subject: A rural woman's way of life, continued

Recorded by: Jim Kenny

Date: 1999

Time: 33:44

Description: Molly Kelly continues, in this part of the recording, with stories associated with the many local customs and beliefs, one of which relating to curses, and she describes how the curse would be used in anger against some unfortunate person. Molly's stories and memories contain a wealth of information about the rural woman's way of life in days gone by.



NAME: JOHN CAHILL, AGE 81, CLONARD, CO LAOIS

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 58

Subject: A tailor's son

Recorded by: Jim Kenny

Date: 1999

Time: 61:26

Description: John Cahill grew up in Clonard, near Portlaoise, the son of a merchant tailor. There was a long tradition of tailoring in the family. This recording contains many interesting stories, including one about the hijacking of a train during the War of Independence. John himself survived on a smallholding, and has memories of corn being cut with a sickle. All the local customs were recalled, including pisheogs, and the custom of taking local farmers' milk during May Eve.



NAME: ROY MOONEY, AGE 85, DOON (Part 1)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 59

Subject: The Mooneys of the Doon

Recorded by: Jim Kenny

Date: 1999

Time: 64:23

Description: In this recording, Roy Mooney talks about the long lineage of the Mooney family, his family's involvement in helping victims during the Famine period of the 1840's and his own memories of continuing with the family farming business on the land which his ancestors had owned for the best part of 1,000 years. Roy continues with his reminiscences in part 2 of his recording.



NAME: ROY MOONEY, AGE 85, DOON (Part 2)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 60

Subject: The Mooneys of the Doon

Recorded by: Jim Kenny

Date: 1999

Time: 18:00

Description: Roy Mooney recalls his memories off the 1916-1922 period, the Economic War in the 1930s, the threshing days with the steam thresher, and finally land reclamation, and the effects of intensive farming, effects which included tuberculosis and brucellosis in his herd of cattle.



NAME: JACK LALLY, AGE 83, FERBANE (Part 1)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 61

Subject: Historical recollections

Recorded by: Jim Kenny

Date: 1994

Time: 62:08

Description: This fine recording includes stories from Pullagh, Ferbane, Tarran and Derries, with many fascinating tales relating to local people. Several recitations relating to local events can be heard performed by Jack Lally in the first part of this recording.



NAME: JACK LALLY, AGE 83, FERBANE (Part 2)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 62

Subject: More historical recollections

Recorded by: Jim Kenny

Date: 1994

Time: 22:03

Description: Jack Lally's grandfather fought in the Crimean War and Jack makes reference to his Australian connections. Many stories associated with the barge boats on the canal in Pullagh and all Jack's own experiences of working on the barges as an engine-man, were recalled in this recording.



NAME: MICHAEL POWER, AGE 85, TULLAMORE

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 63

Subject: A maltster's memories

Recorded by: Jim Kenny

Date: 1994

Time: 62:13

Description: Michael Power recalls many of the families who lived in the laneways of Tullamore, including Tea Lane - one of the most fondly remembered places. He provides a running commentary on his day's work in the malting house and he fondly recalls the brass band, the fife and drum band and the pipe band, each of which gave great entertainment at the dances and on the streets.



NAME: TOM BRACKEN, AGE 95, PULLAGH
Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 64
Subject: Working on the barge boats
Recorded by: Jim Kenny
Date: 1994
Time: 70:22

Description: The conversation begins with a description of Tom Bracken's school days after which he went on to work as a farm hand and later on the canal boats. Tom gives a great account of life on the barges, and all the work involved. The interview continues with a discussion on the Emergency period and on his time cutting turf and building bog roads. He finished with a story about the local priest, a story which contained a supernatural element.



NAME: JIM KENNY, AGE 83, BUNN
Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 65
Subject: Tug-of-war
Recorded by: Jim Kenny
Date: 1993
Time: 17:00

Description: This interview is primarily about the game of tug-of-war, which was very popular in the first half of the last century. Jim was born in 1924. He used to pull with his county team, which won many major contests, many of which would take place at Feiseanna and carnivals. This interview also contains information about his school days and growing up in Bunn.



NAME: BOB EVANS, EDENDERRY
Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 66
Subject: Migration in 1928
Recorded by: Jim Kenny
Date: 1994
Time: 41:27

Description: This interview focuses on families such as the Evanses, of which there were two, the O'Connors and the Fitzgeralds, all of whom took advantage of land re-appointment, which came about because of the Land War Agitation, which in turn led to the breaking up of large estates in the Midlands. The Land Commission made it possible for families to swap their land, and Bob Evans clearly remembers the day when his family took a special train from Castlemaine in Co Kerry to Portarlinton Station. He continued by explaining how the family integrated over the following years.



NAME: PADDY HEANEY, CADDAMSTOWN (Part 1)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 67

Subject: A local historian

Recorded by: Jim Kenny

Date: 1994

Time: 63:53

Description: This interview was recorded on the Slieve Bloom Mountains. While driving around the mountain roads, Paddy Heaney pointed out the many historical sites, and spoke about the mountain people, and their existence down through the ages, in a fascinating and informative recording.



NAME: PADDY HEANEY, CADDAMSTOWN, (Part 2)

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 68

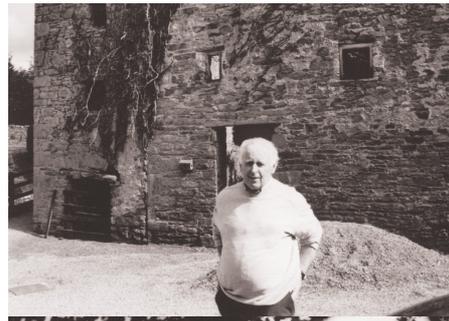
Subject: A local historian, continued

Recorded by: Jim Kenny

Date: 1994

Time: 29:07

Description: This recording continues with a commentary by Paddy Heaney on the many and diverse aspects of life lived in the Slieve Bloom Mountains down through the ages.



NAME: PETER NOLAN, AGE 91, BALLYCUMBER

Title: Irish Life and Lore Offaly Collection, CD 69

Subject: Memories from a local historian

Recorded by: Jim Kenny

Date: 1994

Time: 62:13

Description: Peter Nolan, better known as P. Nolan, gave an account of local history down through the ages. This recording provides a very fine view on the local way of life in the early part of the last century.

