



CROSSHAVEN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION'S

# *Christmas Newsletter* 2020

## WHAT IF 2020 ISN'T CANCELLED?

What if 2020 is the year we've been waiting for?

A year so uncomfortable, so painful, so scary, so raw — that it finally forces us to grow.

A year that screams so loud, finally awakening us from our ignorant slumber.

A year we finally accept the need for change.  
Declare change. Work for change.  
Become the change.

A year we finally band together, instead of pushing each other further apart.

2020 isn't cancelled, but rather the most important year of them all."

Leslie Dwight

This year has been a year of challenges courageously faced by our beloved Crosshaven. All was going well until we were hit with Covid 19, and the way of life we were used to changed forever. Our community spirit was once again called upon and I am glad to say that we were not found wanting. Club Members came to the fore to deliver much needed medical and grocery supplies to senior members of the community. Everyone put in a great effort to comply with our national medical advice which in turn reduced the effect of the Virus in Crosshaven. Our sincere thanks to everyone for their continued efforts and help to one another. Our congratulations to our sports clubs and schools who continue to provide excellent opportunity for our young people. Fort Camden unfortunately

closed due to Covid 19 but work is ongoing and will once again be a great asset to Crosshaven when it reopens. We thank all the CE workers for their commitment to the project. It was great to see the Camden volunteers helping out the Templebreedy SOS in cleaning the graveyard, and work is now well under way in saving this iconic landmark. We are forever grateful for all our volunteer community groups, schemes and council workers who keep our village clean and tidy, while also organising fun community events. Our Garda and emergency services for all their work and the peace of mind we have knowing they are there. We thank all who helped complete the Christmas lighting which looks amazing. Our thanks to Bernard Lynch of Centra for his continued sponsorship during the year. To all involved in producing and distribution of our newsletter. Looking forward to the coming year we can report the long awaited Tourist Office will be completed early in the new year. We welcome the new owner of the Boatyard Mr. Flynn and his plans to have Crosshaven as a base for his wind turbine maintenance project, which will create much needed local employment. In conjunction with Cork County Council we are working on plans for the foreshore project and are hopeful of a positive outcome. Hopefully with the prospect of a vaccine we will return to some normality in the year ahead. We wish all our businesses, clubs and organisations every success. On behalf of the Board of Management we extend our sympathy to all the family members who have lost loved ones during the year. We are thinking of you. **We wish everyone a peaceful and safe Christmas and New Year.**  
**M Desmond**

## Christmas Message

God's Not Deaf

Two young boys were spending the night at their grandparents' house the week before Christmas. At bedtime, the two boys knelt beside their beds to say their prayers. The younger one began praying at the top of his lungs:

"I PRAY FOR A NEW BICYCLE..."

"I PRAY FOR A NEW X-BOX..."

His older brother leaned over, nudged him and said, "Why are you shouting? God isn't deaf." To which the little brother replied, "No, but Grandma is!"

What is God trying to tell us this Christmas, in light of the coronavirus pandemic? During this time of upheaval, we may want things to go back to how they were before but let us resist the urge to go back to

normal. Let this be a time of soul searching and growing closer to God. No matter what the source of a crisis, remembering some things can help us draw closer to God at the time when we need him most.

### God has not abandoned you

It is easy to feel like no one understands the true depth of your pain and that heaven does not care- when you are struggling to



keep your business and home; when you can't visit the nursing home or hospital and hug your loved one; when you are locked in your home in an abusive relationship; when a loved one has died; when your loved one can't come home for Christmas... God loves you and has not abandoned you despite your desperate circumstances. Some of his most loved servants constantly

faced difficult situations and He brought them through. Do not despair.

### You are not being punished, but you may be being shaped

It would be naive to think that all of our crises are spontaneous - we usually have at least a small part to play in their development. But it would be equally silly to think that your crisis is a punishment from God. Sometimes bad things happen to good people. And sometimes bad things happen to the rest of us to give us the chance to grow into being God's people. Choose whether your crisis will make you meaner or kinder. Use this hardship to grow into something beautiful. It is completely optional to learn from our trials and to have an open heart; and because it's not mandatory many people don't choose to travel that road. They become resentful

and cynical. Be kind to yourself and those around, especially those have had the virus- nobody sets out to get it.

Choosing to have an open, loving heart will allow you to better love others, and it will allow you to better receive love from others even in times of great distress.

### It will not last forever

Although some trials may last longer than others, no crisis lasts forever. That's because this life is not the sum total of our existence. At some point, things we suffer here will be made right. Betrayals will be paid for. Broken bodies will be fixed. Broken hearts will be mended. Until then, take a deep breath and remember that everything will be alright in the end - if it's not alright, it's not the end.

See the good all around you, even in the thick of hard times. It's easy to let the crisis become the centre of attention, and some-

times rightly so. But it's also important to come up for air. There is God-given beauty, life and joy all around us, but we have to set aside our worries and fears long enough to enjoy them. If you are having a hard time seeing the good around you, try keeping a gratitude diary, spend more time in nature, serve



some-one outside of your home, or listen to uplifting music. The true message of Christmas is one that brings a new light into the world, a light that will grow and will encompass the world. It speaks of hope, at a time when the world needed hope and into the darkness and despair of the world around us, a child was born. And with

the birth of the Christ Child, a light that can never be extinguished began to shine. It was and is a light that brings hope and promise to all mankind. When we turn to the Christ Child and give him our hearts, our burdens are lifted, and we are able to keep going and keep growing.

Let us be holy people, a light for the world to see.

"MAY THE BLESSINGS OF CHRIST-MAS BE WITH YOU, MAY THE CHRIST CHILD LIGHT YOUR WAY, MAY GOD'S HOLY SPIRIT GUIDE YOU, AND KEEP YOU SAFE EACH DAY."

**Christmas Blessings to you and yours, take care!**

**Rev Isobel**



## A Christmas Message from Fr Pat Stevenson

2020 ..... How very strange it has been!

A few years ago, 2018, we were brought to a 'stand-still' by snow in early March, we thought that was bad; wwe cancelled masses for a period & thought it was shocking. This year, 2020, has surpassed all that we could imagine. Churches closed for weeks on end, the over



70's told NOT to go outdoors, deprived of neighbourly and family visits. The community came up trumps, arranging for messages and medications to be collected and delivered. It has been frustrating for all, the 'at risk', those laid off work while businesses were closed, Children at home getting bored, for us priests not being able to publicly

worship and visit with Communion, lack of provision for confessions (social distancing problem); no Holy Week/Easter celebrations. It certainly is a year that will be remembered. Throughout it all, I've got to use and enjoy 'Zoom' masses and the chats before and after. All that helped to keep me sane! Thanks to the "Zoomers". Each day at mass, I've led a "Pandemic Prayer", How true is the phrase from that prayer; 'Jesus taught us how live should be lived: in homes and schools; at work and play; with family, relatives, friends and



the community at large". How true that we as a community depend on each other respecting the 'guidelines' to prevent the spread of the virus. Never before has it been stressed that our christian and human responsibility is to respect and protect each other. There have been down the centuries, viruses, pandemics and plagues before; during this time we

can and should turn to God, praying for his protection and reflecting on all that is good in life. It will be a 'strange' Christmas, not the usual big family gatherings, but being mindful of the fears of those we might visit and respecting those fears. We are not sure yet what Christmas masses will be possible – with the restricted numbers and how to

manage that. I will be 'Zooming' masses on Christmas Day and there will be extra masses over the Christmas period, so that no masses will be over crowded. I will let you know as soon as a decision is made.

*I pray God's blessing, health, peace, protection from the virus, over the Christmas and the New Year. Let us pray for each other.*

## Street Angels

### Shoe Box Appeal for the Homeless

Collection: Pier House in Crosshaven

Toiletries: Shower gel, deodorant, shaving cream etc.

Treats: Chocolates, gift sets, torches, batteries

Other: Hats, gloves underwear etc.

*Thank you for your Generosity*

## CROSSHAVEN GAA NOTES YEAR END 2020

2020 has certainly been a year like no other, this pandemic has certainly tested people in all sectors of life. We managed a condensed season with new rules and regulations to follow, as a club we carried out this to the highest of standards we could with all teams, coaches and club officials following guidelines. Massive thanks to all Parents for your cooperation. We were thankful and lucky that we were able to have a successful albeit short season.

### **Under 12**

We won the U12 hurling league for the 3rd year in a row beating Blarney in an excellent final and in the Premier 2 Football



league final, came runners up losing out to a good Eire Og side. Both players and coaches can be proud. Well done.

### **Under 14**

We won the hurling league against Kinsale. Lost out to Killeagh Itas in the Premier 2 Football final having recovered from a nightmare first half to put in an outstanding 2nd half display. Credit to coaches and players.

### **Under 16**

We came runners up in the Div 1 League losing out to St. Nicks in a high scoring league final, hard luck lads.

### **Minor**

We played in a championship, round robin system but were unlucky not to qualify losing out narrowly before losing the plate semi-final to Donoughmore, good effort all round.

### **Under 21**

We played losing to Coursey rovers and Ballinhassig.

### **Junior A**

We had a tough season but put in some spirited performances, they were beaten by both Shamrocks and Ballymartle in the championship but there's a good squad to work with.



### **Junior Hurlers**

We had a short season with both league and championship playing games over a short period but it was great to see some new and past players along with some of our minors to give hope and optimism for next year.

### **Nursery Section**

Our nursery section didn't get a chance to play many games. So we look forward to the New Year. Thank you to our covid officers without whom there would have been no training or matches.

### **Ground Updates**

Off the field we managed to get some small upgrades done with dugouts on our new pitch and new netting and re-sodding



of goalmouths on the old pitch. We also facilitated work nights, to keep our grounds in the splendid condition. Big thanks to all volunteers throughout the year.

### **Covid Volunteering**

During the 1st lockdown we had a great band of volunteers who linked up with Lynch's Centra and Crosshaven Pharmacy, co-ordinated by our

club sec Pat Murphy to give a great service to the most vulnerable in our community, delivering groceries and medicine.

### **Thank you for the weeks of service and commitment.**

Also thanks to Centra and Crosshaven pharmacy for your kind token to the club. It's great to see the local spirit still alive in our community.

### **Bereavement's**

Sadly in 2020 we lost so many people in our Parish and unfortunately due to restrictions we weren't fully able to pay our respects and give those who passed away the farewell they deserved. To all the families who lost loved ones throughout





the year we send our deepest sympathies especially to two of our club stalwart who passed away Joe Casey(rip) and Tom Bermingham (rip) who gave great service to the club as officers ,coaches/selectors , players and supporters over the years. Ar dheis De go raibh a n-anamacha In these strange times

Crosshaven GAA would ask you to shop local and support as many local business as possible. Keep safe and keep a lookout for your neighbors and the elderly. We hope to see you all again soon in the new year and ask for your support in any upcoming events. GAA would like to wish everybody in our Parish , Family &

Friends abroad whom can't get home for the festive season A Happy , Peaceful and Safe Christmas and we all look forward to a prosperous new year. Nollaig Shona dhaoibh.

**Sean Middleton  
Chairman,  
Crosshaven GAA**

See our Website/ Facebook page for Info and updates.



## Caroline's Beauty Haven



Thank you for your support during this challenging year. May 2021 bring you love, joy and happiness.  
Nollaig Shona Duit

## CROSSHAVEN TENNIS CLUB

**1990**

- Crosshaven Tennis Club was inaugurated in 1990 and three courts were built on the grounds of Crosshaven House.
- First President – Dennis Duggan
- First Captain – Marion Riordan. R.I.P.

**1995**

- Our Clubhouse was built on the grounds and opened by Bernard Allen, Minister for Sport on the 1st October, 1995 together with Club President at the time Carol McDonnell.

**2004**

- The three courts were upgraded to savannah. This was a big undertaking for the club and brought

the courts to a new level and enjoyed by all.

**2011**

- A new Lighting system was installed in the club with upgraded lights on all courts and token boxes in the Clubhouse

**2013**

- The Club held its first affiliated Open Championships. This open was a great success and is being run annually with large numbers from all clubs taking part.

**2013**

- A new patio/mini court was put in place on the front of the Clubhouse. This was a great asset to the Club and is a wonderful viewing area for all

three courts and can also be used as a mini court for junior members.

- We also developed our club carpark this year.

**2015**

- Celebrated 25 Years Club President – Paul Hannon, Club Captain – Catherine Griffin

• Over the past twenty five years the club has gone from strength to strength. Our Club is always very busy with Junior Coaching and Summer Camps for Juniors and our adult members keep our courts busy with social tennis and training. Over the years our members have been very successful in Winter Leagues, Summer Cups and all Open Championships. Crosshaven Tennis Club

Celebrating 25 Years 1990-2015

Roll on the next 25 !!!!

**2016**

The club undertook a major overhaul of our tennis courts which included the



re-positioning of Court 2 (away from the dreaded Orchard Wall) , improving court drainage and resurfacing of all three courts. This was enabled through a major fundraising event called The Cube which took place in the Carrigaline Court Hotel and was supported superbly by the Club Members.

### 2017

Was a very exciting year with our bottom courts being re-surfaced. CTC joined the Tennis Ireland School Initiative Programme with Colaiste Muire Transition year



students in 2017. The club was also accredited with the Tennis Ireland Clubmark bronze.

### 2018

We have now submitted our Sports Capital Programme application for 2018. The goal is to carry out alterations and renovations to the

existing Clubhouse to meet disability requirements and facilitate community groups, local schools, and increase our membership. we also replaced our lights on court 1 to L E D lights.

### 2020

This has been a very challenging year for our Club, just like so many others, but tennis was one of the fortunate sports to be able to resume in May; all be it in a very much restricted format. It was great to be back out playing! Much hard working went into reopening the Club, making us Covid compliant. Thankfully, like always, there was no shortage of volunteers to help make this



possible.

In a year of few positives, an uplifting trend was the huge amount of new members we saw join our Club.. These new members gave us all a welcome boost, joining in on all our events, and some even going on to represent the Club in Munster team events. We were very lucky to be able to still hold our Club Championships, in August, our longest running annual event.. Always a very popular event in our Club calendar, with our host of eager new members participating, it became our

biggest championships to date. A great 10 days was enjoyed by all, for which we are grateful to have had the opportunity. The second lockdown saw all tennis for adults suspended. Luckily, our junior coaching programs have been able to continue. Thank you to all those who helped facilitated this by putting in place all the

necessary safety measures in place.

We eagerly await a return to the court in early December, in whatever format that may take!

Finally, a huge thank you to all our members, your patience and support during this most challenging and unprecedented year has been immense. Let's hope for a healthy and sporting year in 2021.

**Merry Christmas to everyone, and a Happy New Year from all at Crosshaven Tennis Club.**





## Crosshaven Rugby Football Club

Crosshaven Rugby Football Club was formed 01/10/1972. The minutes record the proposal of the club, the name of the club and the club colours. Officers elected were Ted Murphy President, Billy McCarthy Secretary, Tom O'Kelly Treasurer and PRO and the following week 08/10/72 a further meeting was held with the election of Michael Dempsey Vice President, Peter Murphy Captain, Jim Riordan Vice Captain, and general committee members elected Michael Murtagh, Des Morrissey, Tony Murphy, Maurice Barry, Rodger McGrath, Richie O



O'Halloran And so it began. The first ever game of rugby for Crosshaven RFC was on Sunday 19/11/72 against Cork Con which Crosshaven won. Crosshaven played 19 matches in their first season and won 15. With out having any ground on which to call home all training used to take place in Dempsey's Field or the front lawn in Pine

Lodge and all matches had to be played away on the opposition's home ground. The Juvenile section started in the 1975/76 season and has grown from strength to strength with teams from minis U6's to U13's and Juveniles U13's to U18's. It hasn't always been easy and its success has been down to the tireless efforts of their coaches who year in year out have kept it together when times were tough and enjoyed the good times when all was running smoothly. We have had many players capped for the Munster and Ireland representative teams and a few



have gone on to play professionally in France, England, Ireland, Italy, Russia, Samoa, and America. These have been very proud moments for such a small club. On a few occasions we have had female teams start up and have also had success with a few capped for the Munster representative teams but maintaining the numbers has proven difficult each time. The next time you are in the clubhouse cast your eye along the photos on the wall of some of our capped players both male and female. We have won much Silverware at all levels but our most accredited



achievement to date was being the first Munster team to win the All Ireland Cup after beating Monivea in an exciting nail biting finish in April 2011. This match took place in St. Mary's in Dublin and was a huge win for Crosshaven. It was a great day with a convoy of three coach loads and many car loads making the journey to support the team. The celebrations went on long into the

night and for a long time after. There are plenty of photos of this great occasion up on our Facebook page if anyone would like to take a trip down memory lane. We have had many successful tours from Juveniles to J1's and have been a popular club for hosting visiting teams back at Myrtleville Cross. These away tours are often responsible for the making of lifelong memories and source of much material for stories to be told time and time again which are cherished for life. Physically we have a set up to be proud of and the envy of many. Having acquired the land we built our







main clubhouse which was officially opened when my father Conor Crowley was president in 1980/81. I can remember being up there that day and there was a Welsh touring team over to mark the occasion. It was a huge day for the club.

The completion of purchase of the playing pitches in 1984 The extension of clubhouse with dressing rooms showers and then the gym.

More recently we had lighting put in around the main pitch in 2018 allowing us to join other clubs in bringing back the social side of rugby and having matches under lights on Friday and

Saturday evenings. Our next project is to get proper drainage for the pitches and to develop the gym for our players.

The club has prospered in its 48 years but only because of the support and dedication of the friends and sponsors of the club and along with all of its members and volunteers who work away be it coaching, on the committee, maintenance around the club etc and of course the supporters who come up in the rain, hail, sleet or snow and occasionally sunshine shouting and cheering on the teams. We look forward to celebrating our 50 years in existence and plan to celebrate in

style.

If there is anyone out there who has a love of rugby and would like to be involved in the club, please come up and make yourself known. You don't need to be a player or a parent of a player. The love of the sport is all you need. There is no fear that if you stand still long enough we will find you a job that will keep you coming back again and again! Finally Crosshaven RFC would like to wish everyone a happy and safe Christmas. For 2021 we look forward to having everyone back on the pitch and on the side lines enjoying some rugby.

**Mia Crowley**  
**Hon Secretary**  
**Crosshaven RFC.**



## Crosshaven/Coláiste Muire basketball review 2020

The Covid pandemic has had a profound effect on sport, especially indoor sport. Basketball has been halted in Crosshaven since March. 2020 had started out very promising for the Club and School teams with

when restrictions allow. We were very sad to see the passing of a great supporter of basketball in Crosshaven, Catherine Walsh. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a hanam.

### **Under 16 girls reach All-Ireland final**

Coláiste Muire girls,

supporters, the girls lost out to Abbey Vocational School from Donegal. The girls had an amazing season, reaching the Cork final and narrowly losing out to Dingle in the All-Ireland League play-offs.

### **Under 12 Boys win double**

Having beaten Skibbereen in the Championship final in December 2019, the boys went on to win their League, remaining unbeaten for the season. The boys, led by coach James McSweeney overcame a Skibbereen side looking for revenge to seal the League in February.

**Well done lads.**



the under 12 boys winning their league, making it a League and Championship double for the season. Our under 16 girls made the Hula Hoop All-Ireland Schools' cup final in the National Basketball Arena. Our under 14 girls made the Cork "A" final. We were anticipating more success when activities were suspended. We look forward to getting back up and running

led by coach Catherine Griffin reached the All-Ireland final in the National Basketball Arena in January. Joined by over 100



## **Memories of Crosshaven**

After over 80 years on this planet, it's very natural that memories of one's birthplace will always be part of one's life.

Even though I have been in the United States for over sixty years the memory of where I grew up and spent fourteen years is still one of my cherished memories. Born in Graball Hill in 1938, I joined a family of four sisters and another sister and brother joined this growing family after me. We had a three bedroom cottage overlooking empty fields and a magnificent view of the little village of Crosshaven. At the end of the road to our house was Kelleher's farm where we played, climbed trees and ate the apples from their orchard. Like most youngsters everyone knew everyone. One of my best friends JJ Kelly along with Oliver and "Gussy"

Doran living in "The Point" and the Patton Brothers.

After spending some years going to the convent, I graduated to the Boys school. Mr Murphy, from Myrtleville, was the teacher and he was later joined by his son to teach. The school was located where the trains turned around on their trip back to Cork City. We often played ball in the school yard after school and one memorable evening, we went into the school room and found Mr Murphy's stick that he used on our hands to teach us a lesson. That was the end of slaps with that weapon, however in no time a new and more sinister stick was acquired by our teacher. All in all it was a happy time in our lives.

Before starting secondary school, I was so proud to get a job in the summer as "Telegraph Boy" working out of the

Post Office which was close to Kennefick's Pub. I must have broken the poor lady's heart that managed the Post Office as she spent more time looking for me to deliver telegrams. Course I was up in "Pipers" with the boys. I also secured a little job in "The Merrie's" mostly working with DD Ward. I recall each Christmas, being the man of the house, so to speak, I'd secure a Christmas tree. Well, the last time I went to the woods to get the most fantastic tree you have ever seen, I had completed the cutting of the tree when I was startled by someone behind the bushes. Suddenly, appeared this gentleman grabbed my saw and tree and indicated I would end up in court. Later that evening My father was contacted by Mr Nicholson, who owned the woods out the Carrigaline road and indicated a summons would be issued. Talk about the

United Nations, my father indicated to Mr. Nicholson that would leave a big stain on my record if he went ahead with the court case. After days of negotiation, the case was settled, out of court, for a fee of two pounds and I went on to study at Rochestown College. When I wasn't working I spent many happy days at "The Pipes" in Graball bay swimming and having fun. I always went to the beach in just and came home many an evening with bloody toes having cracked them against one of the many rocks I had to navigate to reach my favorite spot on the beach. After spending fourteen years in Crosshaven, my father purchased a house in the South side of Cork city. It's strange when you think about it and the modern conveniences we now enjoy. For a number of years we had no running water or electricity.

We used oil lamps, primus stoves, no indoor toilets, wood burning ranges and of course used the newspaper to clean ourselves. No nice soft toilet paper that we now enjoy. But we were happy. It was a time for family and then everything was rationed during the second world war. Being poor had so many more benefits than having everything. It was a good time, now that I look back we had the simple life which was so much better. In this modern age I'm so happy to be able to keep up with what is happening in Crosshaven by using the Internet and Facebook. The

population has increased with many modern homes however I must admit that there are many talented people now in Crosshaven. The pictures posted on Facebook are so beautiful and the many changes are a compliment to the many organizations that do a great job. Congratulations to Audrey Buckley who has worked so hard to make my hometown such a wonderful place. Congrats to all the hard workers that help so much. I have wonderful memories for one of those that left Ireland when things were tough. Many thanks to all.  
**Happy Christmas.**  
**Richard Archer**







# Shop Local this Christmas

## FOOD & DRINK

Anchor Inn  
Buckleys Bar  
Bunnyconnellan Bar & Restaurant  
Centra  
Chef Grizz  
Chish n Fips  
Cronins Bar  
Fitzys Bar  
Green Towers Ireland  
Hong Kong Chef  
Rivers End Cafe  
The Drake  
The Oar  
The Lighthouse Micro-Bakery  
The Lodge Bar & Kitchen  
The Pastry Fork

## ART & PHOTOGRAPHY

Carmel Smyth  
Crosshaven Creatives  
Facebook Page  
Deirdre Cichosz  
John Jermyn Artist  
Kira O'Brien Ceramics  
Mandy Dale  
Siobhan Russell  
Photography  
Susanne Leutenegger  
Ted Murphy  
Photography

## GIFT

Carrighoun  
Subscription  
Cork Sea Safari  
Crosshaven Calendar  
Crosshaven Computers  
Helen O Leary  
LinnPops Créa  
McWilliam Bags  
Murphy Brown Designs  
Power's Shop  
Roser Perez Jewellery  
Silverhaven Jewellery  
The Merries  
HAIR  
Ashley Louise Hair  
Imij  
Tina Bushe Hairdresser

## HEALTH

Anam Turas Natural  
Mindfulness & Wellbeing  
Crosshaven Yoga with Deirdre Desmond  
Derval.ie  
Funktown  
Libra Coaching & Training Services  
Move Well with Eleanor  
Olive Hughes Health & Nutrition

Olivia Stack Fitness  
Run with Ros  
Soul to Soul Holistic Health  
Susanne Leutenegger  
Temple Yoga & Meditation  
Tennis Coaching with Siobhan  
Willowherb Healing

## BEAUTY

Caroline's Beauty Haven  
Crosshaven Pharmacy  
Heavenly Nails  
Crosshaven  
Nadurtha  
Rejuvenate

## PETS

Dog Grooming  
K-9 Kutz  
Paws Haven  
Premier Kennels & Grooming Parlour

Charity Donations  
R.N.L.I. Crosshaven  
S.V.P. Crosshaven

## Nibbles to Graze

Based in Crosshaven, Co. Cork, Nibbles to Graze are specialist curators of artisan grazing boxes offering a variety of cheese, charcuterie meats, preserves, fresh fruit, nuts, delicious crackers and other yummy nibbles.

We offer a choice of grazing boxes, boards and tables to suit different tastes and budgets. We source locally and our products are seasonal and may change from time to time. In keeping with our sustainable approach, all packaging and utensils included are biodegradable.

Delivery available in Crosshaven and Carrigaline. Additional collections points in Mahon Point and Ballincollig. Please order 48 hours in advance.

T: 086 841 4820  
E: [nibblestograze@gmail.com](mailto:nibblestograze@gmail.com)

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Merry Christmas  
&  
Happy  
New Year

from all at  
Crosshaven  
Carrigaline  
Credit  
Union



## LOOKING FOR A LOAN?

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LOAN

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BORROWERS  
LOAN

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LOAN

LOOK NO FURTHER THAN  
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COMPETITIVELY PRICED LOAN WITH NO  
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Web: [www.croscarcu.ie](http://www.croscarcu.ie)

**SUPPORT LOCAL BY BORROWING  
FROM YOUR LOCAL CREDIT UNION.**





## **I REMEMBER WHEN...**

In this edition we are including a number of interviews which were done by Transition students of Colaiste Muire in 1995 and 1996. They interviewed some of the elders of the community on their memories of when they were younger. It was a great exercise and put on paper memories, which might otherwise have been forgotten. Here we have five of those interviews and thank you to the families of the interviewees and to the interviewers for their permission to include them in this Christmas newsletter.

### **Pub Life**

#### **Story told by:**

#### **James Kidney**

The idea of an ice cold beer did not exist in the early twentieth century as there was no refrigeration in pubs. Women rarely went to the pub and when they did, they would have to go to a separate room

known as a snug. Their husbands would have their drinks sent into them, and remain talking to the other men in the bar.

Like nowadays, there were three types of stout sold which were Beamish, Murphys, and Guinness. Murphys stout was nicknamed the unemployed stout as it was slightly cheaper than the other two. Lager beer was sold on draught, but unfortunately most of it was imported from Britain and was known as Bass. Lager at that time was known as ale and was also sold in bottles with crown corks. On many an occasion a barrel, now known as a keg, would lose its tap and it would possibly rain stout.

Many of the pubs in the 1900-1950 era were not owned by individual families but by breweries such as Beamish and Guinness and were known as

Tied Pubs.

On Sundays localers were strictly forbidden to enter their local pubs - they had to travel three miles, normally to the next village. This law was strictly enforced and many localers would stay in the next village on Saturday night so they could travel 3 miles to get home to their local pub.

Localers would often ask each other the question "where did you sleep last night! To measure spirits each pub had a special scale, which had to be approved every year and could be examined any time throughout the year. Drinks such as Bacardi and Tequilla were not sold in this era, but drinks such as sherry and port were extremely popular and were largely drunk by women after events such as funerals.

Interviewed

by Niall Cogan

### **The First and Last Visits of The "Kathleen and May" Story told by Una O'Halloran**

I remember the first time the "Kathleen & May" was due to come into Crosshaven. It was during the war, and before this the pottery shipping agent had great problems in chartering ships to transport the clay, due to the danger to ships off the south coast of Ireland. At this time the "Kathleen & May" was the property of Captain Tommy Jewell who hailed from Appledore which, incidentally, was the port from which she usually sailed.

Despite the intense risk of sailing to Crosshaven, Captain Jewell agreed to shipping the clay. The journey from Appledore to Bideford was uneventful and once she had her cargo of 191 tons aboard she set sail for Crosshaven. She managed to make it safely to Crosshaven and the sight of her

entering the estuary at Camden was one that will remain with me for a long time. As soon as she came into view there was a scurry as the local men headed out to meet her in an attempt to get the job of piloting the topsail schooner into the dock. Because of the sheer size of the boat, big money was being paid to whoever was lucky enough to get this job. The risk was substantial but the men who set out to meet the "Kathleen & May" knew the area like the back of their hand, and showing the boat the way would pose no problems for them.

After a long and nerve-wracking journey, the boat finally docked just in front of where Dunphy's shop is today. Back in those days, there was sufficient depth for boats of the "Kathleen & May" size to stay at all stages of the tide, but today, however, silting of the nearby

river means that only the smallest of boats can get in there, and that is only at high tide as the area is completely dried out at low water.

The "Kathleen & May" stayed in Crosshaven for only four days. During this time the clay was unloaded by men of all ages working around the clock to unload her cargo of 191 tons of clay. The demand was so great that as many men as possible were employed, earning for themselves an average of between two and two and a half pence, the more experienced and those who worked the longest hours earning the most except for a few people who did not have to pay for a pension. As with all the ships that the pottery chartered, the shipping company, Fitzpatrick & Co., paid the charges that were owed to the port authorities, which were something similar to the following:

Tonnage dues, 95 registered tons at 1-6 per ton = £7-2-6  
 Cargo dues, 191 tons, 13 cwts at 1-101/2 per ton = £17-19-4.  
 The dangerous journey undertaken by Captain Jewell and his crew, however, did not go unnoticed by the pottery and it resulted in an unbroken friendship between the pottery and Captain Jewell. As well as paying him the normal fee for the charter, they rewarded him by telling him that they would definitely keep him in mind when chartering for future imports. I remember her coming into Crosshaven until 1960 and I also remember the day on which she departed for the last time. It was a sad

occasion as Tommy Jewell bade farewell to friends he had made and cast off from the familiar pier. He sailed to Ballinacurra, near East Ferry, to load a cargo of timber before setting sail for Newport.

Interviewed by David Venner

**Footnote:**

As the UK's last working wooden hulled three-masted topsail schooner and the only one of this construction still in operation, between 1999 and 2002 the "Kathleen and May" (originally "Lizzie May") was restored to her original build of 1900 and is now based in Liverpool near the Merseyside museum. She has attended many maritime festivals and visited Crosshaven in 2001



The full history of Kathleen and May can be found on

<https://www.nationalhistoricships.org>.

**Butter Making  
 Story told by  
 Etta O'Flynn.**

When the cow was milked and the milk was strained, the milk was put into pans and left to settle. When the cream rose to the top of the pan it was skimmed off and put into another container. Sometimes, a separator was used to do this. The separated milk was used to feed the calves and pigs along with other food. After five or six days all the cream was put into a churn. The churn was usually a wooden barrel with a handle, mounted on a stand. There was a glass square at the top of the churn.

The churn was turned with the handle and this moved the cream around. After a while the fat in the cream began to stick together and small pieces of butter began to appear,

floating in a milky liquid, which was called butter milk. This could be seen through the glass section at the top of the churn. The butter milk was then drained out of the churn, and the butter was washed several times in cold water until every trace of butter milk was gone. The butter was then pressed with wooden pats to make sure all the butter was removed. Then, some salt was added for flavour and to make the butter keep longer. The butter was always wrapped in greaseproof paper. It takes 2.5 gallons of milk to make one pound of butter. The butter milk that came out of the churn was used for making soda bread, brown bread and also used for feeding the pigs. The butter was stored in safes which were made of wood and mesh which allowed the air to go through to keep the butter cool. The yellow colour of

the butter was due to carotene, a substance in milk caused by green foods eaten by cows. In winter when cows are fed mainly on hay and cattle cake, butter is pale in colour. During spring and summer, when cows are feeding on grass, the butter is a deep yellow colour and very rich, but it tends to be rather greasy. The butter would sometimes be sold in bulk in The Old English Market on Grand Parade in Cork or sold at home to people, in pounds or 1\2 pounds. An old superstition was that thunder and other weather used to effect the sticking together of the butter in the churn. Interviewed by Daphne Farrell.  
**The Yacht Club  
 Story told by  
 Eileen Keane**  
 I lived in Crosshaven since I was six years old and I worked with the Irish Dunlop Company since I was sixteen. However, my

brother John and sister Mary worked in the Royal Cork Yacht Club all their lives and I was always on hand to help them.

I remember the yacht Club in its very early stages when there were very few boats. There were no yacht marinas and we knew the names of every boat on the river. Of course, at this time it was known as the Royal Munster yacht Club, before it merged with the Royal Cork in 1970.

In the olden days they had sleeping accommodation and dormitories in the club itself and there was always great excitement before the big races to Kinsale, Cobh, 'West Cork and around the Fastnet at August 'Weekend and other big weekends. Sometimes there would be "Sweeps" on the races and we would all buy a boat. The dining room would be packed every Saturday night for dinners and I



remember my sister would always make sure that everybody was catered for. Over the years we cooked dinners for many famous people including Sir Francis Chichester and Sir Alec Rose who both sailed around the world single-handed. There was no such thing as a starting or finishing time because if there was a race due in during the night my brother would make sure we stayed on to cook meals for them and in the morning when we woke up and saw a lot of boats having arrived in during the night, we would have to go to work early to cook their breakfast. We did not mind doing this as the people we met were always very appreciative and grateful. Of course the club progressed over the years and the first addition to the original building was the upstairs bar. The different classes

of boats were 18's, one designs, 505's, 14's, enterprises and big cruisers. All the different classes had their own party at Christmas time and they usually had a fancy dress St. Stephens Night. The end of the sailing season was November. There was always a laying up supper which was traditionally known as the Tripe Supper because the menu was tripe and drisheen. This was an all male night and was always packed to capacity. When the main meal was over, the piano was brought into the kitchen and the night always ended with a sing-song in the kitchen until the early morning and everyone did their part. In the olden days, of course, we only had the old wooden slipway. There was no such thing as ferrys or ferryboys and people rowed out to their boats. In 1970 the first leg

of the marina was built and from there it progressed over the years. I was the first manager of the marina and I looked after all the berths and the fees for visiting boats who berthed there. Over the years I saw the young cadet members learning to sail and growing up to be some of the most famous yachtsmen in the world and now I see these same people coming back with their own young children learning to sail in the optimists. Some of the earliest yachts in the club were "The \_Marchwood. Maid, "The Colleen" and "The Gull. These would be hauled out in Jack Keating's boatyard for the winter and the first sign of Summer was to see them being launched again and getting their masts put in in his boatyard nearer the village. Although I never took to sailing myself, I always took an interest in the various races

and all the different classes. Over the years the club was made famous for offshore racing and this led to the start of Cork Week during the eighties which is now known as Ford-Week and is one of the biggest yachting events in the world. Since we retired in 1979 I have watched the club grow even further adding great facilities such as dinghy parks and parking facilities. I look back in enjoyment at all the many happy years we spent in the club and we loved every minute of it.

Interviewed by  
Clodagh Fitzgerald

### ***Lace Making in Crosshaven Story told by Ann Sugrue***

My mother began lace making at a very young age, and continued this creative craft for a number of years. My Grandmother was

also involved in this art and also passed it onto many of our neighbours. Having learnt from my mother, one woman in particular even managed to complete a lace bedspread. My aunt was also interested in this craft, however, she was not as involved in it as my Mother. The main items made by my mother were collars and cuffs. She also made many smaller detailed pieces including bunches of grapes, roses, thistles, shamrocks and torytops, which were barred together to make these collars and cuffs. Even though an awful lot of time and effort went into it, she once made parts for a bedspread as well as four blouses - one each for my two sisters and one for myself. Once she was asked to make a long sleeved blouse for a lady living near us. It took a very long time but she managed to complete the blouse containing magnificent

detail of roses and other elaborate pieces barred together to fulfil her creation. In order to make lace a steel coated implement called a "crochet needle" (crochet hook) was used. There were two types of needles. One was just an ordinary steel coated crochet needle and the other was a bone crochet needle. Threads of different thickness, 20 or 30 (grams) were used for the making of lace. The "30" was a very fine thread and the "20" was a small bit thicker. It was bought in Roches Stores at the time and was known as "Chain Mercer Crochet Thread". Most of my mother's work was done in white, however, smaller pieces that were used as decorations or for collars were done in colours such as coffee, rose, cream, pink, yellow, red and also purple. All of the coloured threads were various shades

of the one colour e.g. going from yellow to primrose and from purple to mauve. Although there are two methods of making lace by hand my mother only used one. She could have used either a bobbin or a needle but chose to make her pieces using a needle. This was known as needle point. She began at the inside and worked out to complete her product. It took approximately two days to make a collar depending on the intricate design required. Different pieces of all shapes and sizes were arranged very carefully on a piece of brown paper so that no space was left uncovered. They were then taken off the paper and the collar was complete. Most collars were made from a row of roses barred together, however, others were made from shamrocks that were joined by a lace rope. Another of her popular pieces

was a row of snow white torytops barred together which gave a very elegant look to a black velvet dress. At this time the approximate price for a collar with a simple design would have been between 25 and 30 shillings (1.25 -1.30). These simple designs would not have been as extravagant as other designs such as bunches of grapes and thistles barred together to give a more exquisite look. Many of my mother's items were bought by both neighbours and friends. Much of her produce was sold in Cobh and many people going to America would purchase a collar or a detailed piece of lace prior to their departure. The shamrocks were very popular as they symbolised Ireland. Most of these pieces were bought as presents for family and friends. My mother gave up lace making for quite some time. But in

the 1960's when she was in her seventies, she took it up again due to great demand. Although she did it mainly as a passtime, it was quite popular with many folks in the village. My mother was not the only lace maker in Crosshaven. Mrs. Goggin, Mrs. Kearney and Mrs. Noonan were also very keen on the craft. At the time it was a very expensive item to buy and it was only used on special occasions. But because she made lace purely out of enjoyment she would not have charged a lot of money for her work. Unfortunately, she was forced to give it up again at the age of seventy - nine when she became ill. When she took it up again in her seventies she made quite a number of important pieces. She made a confirmation bag and beret for my daughter, Norma. The bag was made from snow white lace with lace roses in various shades of

pink barred onto the bag. The beret was snow white with a plain design and when worn with a dress or blouse it contrasted beautifully and looked very elegant. Due to the fact that she was so familiar to the craft, she could hold a conversation while making the lace and did not need to concentrate while she was working. During the summer she would often sit out in front of the house and almost everyone that passed by, took a huge interest in what she was making. Twenty five years ago my mother created an empire

line communion dress for another of my grandchildren, Tracy. The upper part of the dress was a combination of differently designed pieces such as bunches of grapes, roses, thistles and torytops barred together very neatly so there were no gaps. The lower part of the dress was a more plain, wavy design, but it was one that looked just as extravagant. This creation took a very long time but seeing the finished product made all her work worthwhile. One family in particular used to ask my mother, on

regular occasions to make different pieces for them. These were mainly collars made for the dresses belonging to the children or different pieces they could bring as gifts to family and friends in America and England. In her later years she began a collection of her own designs which she intended to barn together to form a pillowcase for herself when she was laid out. Unfortunately, the pieces were mislaid at the time of her death and were found when it was too late.

***Interviewed by  
Sinead Buttimer***



***Child's crochet collar and two pieces : a bunch of grapes and a shamrock by Teresa Condon***



***Lady's crochet collar crocheted by Teresa Condon, mother of Ann Sugrue***



## A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE

### Crosshaven Village in the 1950's

A biblical age of seventy, or three score and ten, was, in days gone by, regarded as the typical span of a human life. When set against the full vista of human existence that might be regarded as a very fleeting presence and yet within that limited time scale a whole lot can change. Seventy years ago Crosshaven was a very different place, not just in its physical appearance but in the way that it functioned as a community. Thankfully some people have lived longer than that time allotted to them by the Bible and while their memories are still fresh and vivid it might be a good time to look back at how life was in 'Crosser' in the 1950's to take a stroll down memory lane. What becomes immediately apparent when you talk to those who lived at that time is that commercial life in Crosshaven

was far more vibrant. Many more businesses existed and far more needs were met at a local level than is the case today. Back then the village was a hive of activity, it had a whole range of small, family run businesses which met people's daily needs, only rarely was a visit to Cork city required. In the 50's, if you wanted to buy clothing many people dealt with Ray Murray, a door to door salesman who sold goods on HP, Hire Purchase. Many a child's Holy Communion or Confirmation outfit was as a result of the weekly payments their parents made to Ray or his representatives. If you wanted clothes made or altered you had a choice, in the gate lodge to the Hodder estate by the Glen you had Jack Harrington. Jack, who was married to a lovely lady called Eileen, was born with one leg shorter than the other, was a great tailor and his skilled hands altered pants, skirts and coats. For many it was a 'make do and mend' era and it wasn't unusual for clothes to pass down through the children and indeed the generations. Crosshaven had two other very capable seamstresses and dressmakers, Mrs. Ellen Cogan [nee Burns] on the chapel steps and Mrs. May Noonan at the bottom of Dennehy's Lane. Dry cleaning and laundry was another service that was on offer in the village, Chris Kingston had a newsagents and laundry depot in what is the lounge of The Oar Bar today, clothes for cleaning could be handed in there and would be delivered to the Metropole Laundry in Cork city on a Thursday. Thankfully, the proprietor of that shop is still alive and well today. Shopping for a pair of shoes was possible

at Lemasneys. Their shop was run by Pat and Bridie and was adjacent to Pier House. It had a good range of footwear which could be bought on the 'never never' if money was tight. They also sold cigarettes and coal with their depot being next to where Chish N Fips is today. If your shoes required repairs then you had a choice of two cobblers, Richard Dick Coote had a workshop below the road opposite today's Anchor Bar, his chimney being a frequent target of pranksters who liked to put a wet bag over it and wait for Dick to come running out. Not far away was another cobbler, Mr. Jack Conway, on Hayes Lane, a rich smell of leather and polish would greet any visitor to that establishment - he was also a great source of local news. If food was what was needed, then you had a whole host of shops to choose from,

directly above the Hugh Coveney Pier in the detached house recently renovated by Lulu Walsh, you had Urells general store with its Victorian style counter and shelving and it was run by Eileen Urell. Next door attached to Pier House you had a butcher shop with the famous logo 'Kidneys for Meat' as its proprietor was one Mr. Jimmy Kidney. Another butcher shop was found on the Middle Road; it was run by Margaret Canty, daughter of Mick and Julia. Pier House was home to a Tea Rooms, run by Mrs. Desmond. Most of the drivers of delivery lorries to Crosshaven went there for their lunch, regulars were Thompson drivers Johnny Duggan and his occasional but much better known relief driver Billa O'Connell, the comedian. She also kept lodgers and for a time it served as the local library. Next door in

what later became Fitzgibbon's you had a shop run by Mr. Bill Bluett, who had another store where Rivers End Cafe is today. Further down the Lower Road in what is now the lounge of the Drake Public House you had Kellehers Shop. In the 50's this was being run by a Mr. Bob Paterson, their speciality was home cooked and cured hams. Two doors down you from that shop you had Watson's, the first shop in the village to sell Choc Ices and famous for their very generous wafers, my favourite being banana. Watsons also had a wide selection of loose sweets which you could buy by the quarter and biscuits. It was a popular shop with anglers who would call to stock up with refreshments before a day's fishing. They also sold general groceries as did the shop immediately next door, Powers. Powers, still successfully





trades as the Anchor Bar. In the 60's this was the first bar to introduce a television, we regularly stood on the window sill to watch and it was there that I first heard news of the assassination of JFK on Friday November 2nd 1963. If you wanted your hair seen to then the Lower Road, Pier View House had a Hairdresser while on the Middle Road, you had one of two barbers: Henry Murphy and on the Camden Road Richie Chandler. Richie's stock phrase for anyone who arrived with extra long hair was 'you'd need a reaper and binder to tackle that lot', while if you were willing to discuss GAA with Henry he'd keep cutting till you were bald. Crosshaven also had a Chemist shop run by Mr. John Dunphy. It was known as Medical Hall and was located where Imij Hair Stylists is today.

On the Middle Road, where the Austin Family later lived, you had a Dispensary. This was tended to by a Dr. Doody, who lived on Camden Road. This dispensary provided public health for the village and acted as a surgery. Crosshaven also had a garage run by the Sisk family where Centra is now and next door was a bus depot. Between it and Kenneficks was the local Post Office which was run by Catherine Wall and May Desmond, sister to the well known T.D. Dan Desmond. Across from Sisk Garage, where Rivers End Cafe is, was a green, galvanised iron clad building which was 'Ma Murphy's 'Chipper, her chips and fish were absolutely beautiful. Some people said it was down to the goose grease that she used, others claimed it was the Cork Examiner wrapping but whatever it was, the food was delicious.

Ms. Peg Murphy was a bit of a character. I have no doubt that she could easily have commanded a regiment in the British Army, during WW2 if asked, she had the ability to quieten large groups of unruly drunk men with a simple raised eyebrow, if she had to open her mouth it was certain you were going to be barred, she rarely had to resort to the latter. Peg died recently having passed the century mark. RIP. Of course Peg did very well from the many customers who came her way from the ever popular Merries which were directly across from her shop as well as from the many summer residents and day trippers. Pipers is still run by the same family and continues to entertain locals and visitors alike. Another business which did well at this time was the La Scala, today an Amusement Arcade back then it had a few different incarnations,

it was sometimes a cinema, a dance hall, a concert hall and occasionally a badminton hall. It also functioned as a theatre on occasions. Space doesn't permit looking at the social activity in the village or indeed the whole other world of business associated with the bays. An indication of how busy the village was at that is given by the number of Guards stationed here, five, they were Gardas Moroney, Foster, Ryan, Byrne and Sergeant Power. Due to the impact of the motor car and centralisation that all embracing sort of village life is not going to return, but thankfully some of those businesses survived and they have been augmented by some new ones as well. What happened in Crosshaven is just a reflection of what happened in many towns and villages throughout Ireland during this time frame. However in

Crosshaven we are somewhat lucky in that an influx of new blood drawn by the construction of new homes is beginning to inject life and vitality back into the village and restore some of the vibrancy that was there in decades past. Thanks to Catherine Levis, Domenic Meade and John Sugrue for their great memories.

**Gerard Fitzgibbon..**

### **The Tower**

(From Snail Mail to Email)

A well known historian, when discussing the communications and transportation revolution used to start with this story: In early August 1815 a rider, on a sweat soaked horse, thundered into the town of Lockinver, in Scotland, shouting excitedly, bearing news of the wonderful victory of the British army at the Battle of Waterloo, the greatest victory since the Battle Of Trafalgar, where

gallant British soldiers, led by the Irish Duke of Wellington, Arthur Wellesley swept the army of Napoleon Bonaparte aside and ended the long running Napoleonic Wars. The reason why he recounted this tale was to illustrate the difficulty of communication at that time, the decisive battle to which the rider refers took place six weeks earlier on the 18th of June on fields south of Brussels, in Belgium, less than nine hundred kilometers from Lockinver yet news of that event took weeks to reach even fairly accessible parts of Great Britain. Today in an era of almost instant communication it can be difficult to appreciate how slowly news travelled two hundred years ago. The transition from 'Snail Mail' to EMail was a long and difficult one with many successes and setbacks along the way. One of the

great strides forward was made with the development of the electric telegraph and in this Crosshaven played a small part. In 1858 the first transatlantic submarine cable was laid linking Valentia Island in Kerry and Trinity Bay Newfoundland and shortly after in 1862 Queenstown, now known as Cobh, was linked to St. David's Head in Pembrokeshire, Wales via a submersible cable beneath St. George's Channel and so rapid communication between continents and countries was possible for the first time. Queenstown became an important link in this chain and subsequently Crosshaven contributed to this. In 1870 a signal station was built at Weaver Point, Church Bay. It gathered information from ships entering and leaving the harbour and it was transferred

onwards by telegraph line to Queenstown and hence to the world beyond. This information was of importance to many, including the British Admiralty but also to another British Institution, Lloyds of London. This company which was established in 1686 in a coffee shop in Tower Street London had become the biggest marine insurance company in the world and tracking the movement and indeed the faith of ships was a very important part of their business. On April 29th 1885 Lloyds of London appointed a Mr. Cummins of Queenstown as their Agent and his private signal station at

Weaver Point, Church Bay, became a Lloyds Signal Station and was to remain so for a number of years. Probably on the strength of this Walter James Cummins, on the 3rd of January 1888, bought three acres, three roods and two perches of land, formerly occupied by the Noonan family, from one Reverend Robert Eyre Maunsell. It was on this land that the signal tower had been built, he also purchased one acre of land at Crosshaven Hill, near Graball Bay and secured the rights to launch and haul up boats at Graball and indeed Crosshaven. The Cummins Signal Station is illustrated by the sketch of



Roland May. It was a two story structure with a deck topping the second floor, this deck was made of timber and caulked and tarred like the deck of a ship so as to render it waterproof. From this platform, somewhat similar to the Bridge of a ship, vessels entering and leaving the harbour would be identified by telescopes supplied by Lloyds and then contacted by flag signals from the deck. This information was then relayed to Queenstown via cable which ran under the harbour from Ringaskiddy to Whitepoint on Great Island and from Queenstown on to the ship's insurers and owners in London. If the ship was overdue and feared lost, then the bell would toll in Lloyds to let all and sundry know that there had been a loss at sea.

On occasions cutters could be launched from Graball Bay from

a slip constructed for that purpose. These cutters could make contact with vessels moored off the harbour mouth waiting for favourable winds and tides. If the ship had mail or a passenger with urgent business they would disembark and be transported onwards from Crosshaven. Lloyds cutters were allowed to contact vessels but not to board. The remnants of the sheds that were used for boat storage are still visible today adjacent to the remains of the now derelict Graball Bay Swimming Club Clubhouse as are some indications of the original slipway.



These facilities were also used by Pilots who lived in cottages adjacent to the signal station which are still known by some as the 'pilot cottages'. These Pilots rowed out and boarded vessels to help them safely navigate the harbour to their destination in Queenstown, Cork City or elsewhere. Telegraphy was a fast changing technology and any entrepreneur involved was under constant commercial and other pressure, in the case of Mr. Cummin's he had competition from a signal station at Roches Point which was actually built by Lloyds and from Kinsale as well as from



Queenstown itself. A one stage Cummins Brothers wrote to Lloyds suggesting that they take over the station directly and put forward a Mr. Bill Watson, a retired Coastguard as a suitable person for the position of signalman. He had previously worked for Cummins in that role for 15 shilling a week and a supply of coal, he now offered his services and that of his son for 30 shillings a week. Cummins Brothers offered Lloyds the use of two bedrooms and a sitting room plus the instruments for 12 pounds per annum while the rest of the signal station was to be let to a gentleman from the city for the six months of the summer. As new wireless technology developed the role of the signal station declined almost as quickly as it arose with a lot of its work being transferred to the newly built Templebreedy Fort at the turn of the

20th century. In subsequent years the signal station was extended and became a private residence, and was known locally as The Tower. It was purchased in 1962 by Commander Edward Sweeny and his wife Alma Beatrice, unfortunately Edward didn't get to enjoy it for long as he died prematurely in 1971 of cancer. His wife continued to live there with her children and at times ran it as a Guest House, she remained very happily there until her death when it was left to her son who lived in London who in time decided to sell it on. Its new owner didn't have much luck with it as it burned to the ground on 26th June 2008. As a commercial activity it was short lived but it had the unintended consequence of opening up Church Bay to residential development as the road to the station improved access. It wasn't long before

some well off Cork city residents began to build summer homes to take advantage of the wonderful sea views.

It's sad to see such a familiar structure gone but connections remain: relations of the Watsons still live in the village and would go on in time to play an important part in its commercial development. Further consolation can be taken from the fact that in Alma and Edwards surviving daughter, Jaci, its history as a Signal Station and as a family home lives on. Jaci Szymanski and I'm sure her children will continue to maintain the archive of material that she has gathered over time so that future generations will know something of this formerly well known landmark. Thanks to Jaci Szymanski for her help with this article, any errors of fact are mine alone.  
**Gerard Fitzgibbon.**



## Royal Cork Yacht Club

This year the Royal Cork Yacht Club celebrates its 300th anniversary, having been founded in 1720 on Haulbowline Island by William O'Brien, the 9th Lord Inchiquin, and five of his friends. Originally called "The Water Club of the Harbour of Cork", they based themselves in a castle on Haulbowline Island, and by 1806 moved to Cove as the British Admiralty decided that they had a greater need for Haulbowline Island than the club. By 1806 the Water Club of the Harbour of Cork had started to refer to itself as the Cork Harbour Water Club. During the 1820s, following the fashion of the few other clubs that had emerged by then, it changed its name to include the word "Yacht" and dropped the word "Water" and became known as the



Cork Harbour Yacht Club. Later on that decade it dropped "Harbour" and became the Cork Yacht Club. In 1831 King William IV granted the club the privilege of using the prefix "Royal" and it became known as the Royal Cork Yacht Club. By the 1960s changing economic and social patterns made Cobh less and less attractive as a base for the club. In 1966 the Royal Cork and the Royal Munster Yacht Clubs agreed to merge and the Royal Cork moved to its present premises in Crosshaven assuming the title "The Royal Cork Yacht Club, incorporating the Royal Munster Yacht Club". Minister of Foreign Affairs and of Defence Simon Coveney TD marking the



300th birthday at a small ceremony on Haulbowline Island in August. He was joined by the Chief of Staff of the Irish Defence Forces, Vice Admiral Mark Mellett, Flag Officer Commanding Naval Service Commodore Michael Malone, and the Admiral of the Royal Cork Yacht Club Colin Morehead.

All good yacht clubs require three key ingredients to flourish and it's these three ingredients that have been the key to ensuring the Royal Cork has survived through war, famine and pandemics.

### A Clubhouse

Following the merger of the clubs, the clubhouse in Crosshaven and its facilities have continuously improved and today the modern facilities are the envy of the country hosting National and International sailing events annually. In

2021, over 200 young sailors are expected to compete for the Toper World Championships and in 2022, the International 505 class are expected back for their World Championships having last held them here in Crosshaven in 1982.

The clubhouse as it was in the early 1970's

### Boats

Over the years, boats of all shapes and sizes have been based in and visited the Royal Cork in Crosshaven. The club's newest boat is in fact now their oldest boat, following the arrival of 'Jap' earlier this year. This Cork Harbour One Design was originally built in 1897 in Carrigaloe and has been very generously donated to the Royal Cork by UK based Mr. David Sheriff.



Here she is seen competing in the Cork to Blackrock race in September 2020.

### Members

Members by definition come together for a common purpose and while sailing and boating is of course the foundation of the club; it's the fun, friendship and camaraderie amongst its members which has been key to its longevity. The warm welcome in Crosshaven has also been a draw for many International events such as Cork Week. While sailing may be the forte, member's at one stage challenged CADS in their acting skills through the 'Royal Corkers', a group of likeminded individuals who regularly entertained crowds at the many social events throughout the 90's and early 00's. Didn't they scrub up nicely – ready to



remind and ridicule the unfortunates of perhaps their seasonal simple lapse we have the following. David O'Brien, Liam (a dó) O'Connell, Dom Long, Marie Crowley, Paul Hassett, Brenda O'Mahony, Sinead Dwyer, Liam (a Haon) O'Connell, Louie Hegarty, Amy Mockler and in the center the Royal Corker's skilled, and their make everyone look good, accompanist, Rose Moore. While celebrations may have been restricted in 2020, the Royal Cork Yacht Club will continue to celebrate their Tercentenary through a number of events in the coming years including Cork Week 2022 from 11th – 15th July 2022, which is envisaged will see up to 300 boats competing.



St. Matthews Church, Templebreedy, was completed in 1779 on or near the ruin of the old Teampall Bride, or St. Brigid's Temple. It is said that the spire on the church was kept whitewashed and acted as a landmark to sailors.

In a bid to save this iconic landmark the 'Templebreedy Save Our Steeple' project was started and has been a labour of love for a number of very dedicated volunteers for the last few years. This is a small community group working with Cork County Council and the Department of Heritage to secure St. Matthew's structure from further disrepair. This year has seen major advances in

# **TEMPLEBREEDY S.O.S.**

the work .

Due to the Covid 19 restrictions the planned fundraising events had to be cancelled so the attention turned to the cleaning and clearing of the graveyard instead. The paths and graves were so overgrown that it was almost impossible for people to visit graves or even find some of the headstones. The challenge to clean up the old graveyard was taken on this summer starting with a very hungry team of goats who got the clearing underway. Apart from the great work they were also a big attraction for children and adults alike and created a huge interest in the project.

In late June a team of

volunteers also came on board with trimmers and clippers and took on the job of helping the goats with the clearing. The results have been very rewarding and a whole new interest in the graveyard and its history have begun to emerge.

The names on some of the headstones bring back memories of the wonderful people who walked these paths before us and each one has its own story. The graves, some of which date back to the early 1700's, are visible once more and remind us of long forgotten stories of those who lived, worked and were laid to rest in this beautiful spot. The Hayes and Hodder families who lived locally along with Murphy, Sisk, Jeffords, Halloran, Harrington, Barry and Driscoll to name but a few.

We are also reminded of those who died far from home and family and who are interred

in this historic site.

Jonathan Magrath worked for the city gas company. His work sometimes took him to England and Wales on business. He was a civilian passenger on the 'R.M.S. Leinster' when it was torpedoed off Dublin port in 1918 by a German Submarine. Lieut. Henry Francis Daukes a member of the Royal Engineers based in Fort Camden had been stationed in Hong Kong and was taken ill with a severe fever. He was sent back to England to recuperate and when he was well he was sent to Fort Camden for active duty. An avid biking enthusiast he went for a trip on Christmas Eve 1906. On his return he told his Valet he felt unwell and was going to bed. On Christmas morning his valet went to call him and found he had died during the night. He was 46.

The Royal Engineers Obelisk which was erected in memory of 5 men who lost their

lives in the line of duty in Fort Camden. Sgt. Thomas, Sapper Stevens, Lance Corp. Moorehouse, Sapper M. O Leary and Lance Corp. J. Mc Combe There are 4 Commonwealth Graves Commission headstones which commemorate soldiers who died in, or as a result of injuries received in WW1. Let us not forget the Famine grave and the numerous unfortunate souls buried there without a trace or a name.

In September a new side of the project was taken on by 14 volunteers along with Eachtra Heritage. This involved numbering, photographing and listing all the visible headstones. At present 406 headstones have been identified and can be viewed on [www.historicgraves.com](http://www.historicgraves.com) If additional headstones are found they will be added at a later stage.

This project is ongoing although slowed down for the winter months,

the work will continue in finer weather. Meanwhile the research continues in the background and if you have any interesting stories or history on any of the deceased in Templebreedy we would love to hear from you. You can send details to [patricia.soulsby@gmail.com](mailto:patricia.soulsby@gmail.com) The great news as this year comes to an end is that work has now started on the saving of the steeple thanks to a grant secured by Cllr Audrey Buckley who has worked tirelessly on this project and deserves great credit for her work. However we do need additional funding to see this project through.

We would like to take this opportunity to inform you of our progress with the TemplebreedySOS project. We have secured €40,00 from the Department of Housing/Heritage Fund for our Beloved St. Matthews Church to consolidate it and protect the



building from further disrepair so it can be saved for generations to come.

This project was started 4 years ago by a core group of community

volunteers. We would also like to remember the late Pat O Callahan, one of the founding volunteers for his contribution to the project. Work involved

filling out application forms, heritage reports and engineering reports sought, and liaising with a contractor for heritage planing. We undertook the environmentally friendly approach of clearing the overgrown graveyard



using the 4 goats from West Cork and would like to thank Norah de Bara for

trusting us with their care.

News of the goats received nationwide interest in

our project and helped us secure the majority of the funding.

The graves have been cleared and have been documented by a

group of volunteers. The

wealth of history tying the graves with surrounding forts and historical events of

Cork Harbour.

Supporting us always, Mary Sleeman from Cork County Council Heritage Department and Pat O Sullivan from Carrigaline

Council and Minister Michael McGrath.

We will need to fund-raise for the last €10,00 to €15,00 to complete the works on this iconic church.. If we all could give whatever we can afford we can complete the consolidation by early next year.

**Please go to our Facebook page or Go Fund Me page for details on how to donate. Crosshaven Credit Union Templebreedy S.O.S. Or GoFundMe campaign \*Save Our Steeple @ Templebreedy, Crosshaven, Cork. <https://www.gofundme.com/f/save-our-steeple-templebreedy-crosshaven-cork>**

Thanking you all for the wonderful support and help we've received from all the community and businesses of our village, we would like to wish you a happy and peaceful Christmas.



## Goats Can Fly!

The Goats make a very special return for Christmas to Crosshaven They will provide a welcome relaxing carrot break for Rudolph and his reindeer sleigh team and escort Santa over Cork Harbour to Visit all the Children in Crosshaven.



## Crosshaven Development Committee

### **Despite two lockdowns Crosshaven Development Committee have been busy this year.**

The Tidy Towns group were busy clearing old plastic from many areas, creating new flower beds and providing tender and loving care to the many existing plants needing attention. Work of this nature will continue into 2021 and beyond. Wildflowers are being planted as biodiversity is a priority to enhance the sheer beauty of Crosshaven, bringing variety and coats of many colours to the place we love best. The community garden was transformed with much planting and

harvesting going on. And the container was spectacularly painted with flowers and butterflies by a local volunteer. Thank you to all the sponsors, volunteers and Colaiste Muire transition year students who kept the village flourishing during the year.

Without a doubt our 2020 celebrities were the temporary residents, the goats, Oscar, Harris Keane and Breedy who worked tirelessly to clear the ground in the Templebreedy graveyard. They even starred on national television with many articles written featuring them as an environmentally safe and green initiative

in the community. Again, thanks to all the volunteers who made this possible. We were also fortunate to receive a grant from the Department of Heritage to start the restoration of St Matthews Church, Templebreedy. The weathervane, found locally is to be replicated and replaced on the church spire. Recently 14 volunteers were contracted to register over 1400 graves soon to be available on [www.HistoricGraves.com](http://www.HistoricGraves.com).

Future planned projects include a sculpture at the entrance to Crosshaven with work on this already underway. The Point area is to be remodelled with new planters and seats, including a wheelchair accessible picnic table. We are hoping to start work on the grassy area between Point Road and Camden, dependent on funding approval. Our 2021 calendar is



now in its 14th year of production! This year our calendar is a celebration of our beloved local community with many photos taken during lockdown. Please support your local Crosshaven community by purchasing the 2021 Calendar. <https://calendar.crosshaven.ie> All funds go directly into community projects.

As always none of this progressive work would be possible without the fantastic local volunteers who work away in the background. Please consider joining us in 2021. Wishing you all a happy and healthy

2021

Crosshaven Development Committee

Head for the hills, and see the furze burst out a maize of golden yellow, Pick its mustard petals from amongst the thorny bush, Watch the yeoman cut and scythe his lush green meadow.

Walk to the hilltop, and there is all of heaven sent and shimmering sea, Camden Fort on lookout for those long lost souls of long ago, Titanic on my mind, and I am nearer my God to thee.

John Buckley, from his poem Crosshaven Morning, October 2020.

### **HOPE AND SORROW (COVID 19)**

I was born where the red robin sings  
Where the streams are flowing aplenty  
Where the mountains rise up through the mist

And the sun starts kissing gently

But now dark clouds are on the wing

And for some there's no tomorrow

Hard times are lingering 'round my door

I am bleeding tears of sorrow

But there will still be butterflies at play

Daisies dancing

'round my way  
Green fields growing on the hill

I will place my hope in the joys of spring.

**John Buckley,  
Brightwater,  
Crosshaven .**



### **Crosshaven Community Garden Update: (by Eleanor Fitzgerald)**

Since last Spring, the Crosshaven Community Garden, behind Crosshaven House, has had some rejuvenation. This wonderful facility was instigated over 10 years ago, with much effort and investment by the Tidy Towns, and is a testament to them, a remarkable space.

There are fruit trees & bushes, several vegetable beds, a greenhouse, shed and various tools available. There are currently a few growers using the prepared beds for vegetables, and the Caterpillar Montessori bring the children for valuable outdoor activity.

During the past few months, a water supply has finally been installed, which is quite a gamechanger, as water was previously being carried in, which limited possibilities. A high raised bed has been renovated in recent weeks, this would be very suitable

for anyone such as active retired, or with movement issues, who would love to do some growing, but are unable to get down low. If this sounds like an opportunity for you, get in touch!

The greenhouse produced a good crop this year, despite the water issues, so will be on track for next year with our new tap!! Several trips to carry seaweed and manure have enriched the soil greatly. An experiment is beginning with some grapevine planting against the old wall. Planting for pollinators, a herb garden, seating area, wormery and other ideas are hatching. There has been some very hard work undertaken by volunteers to clear

weeds, nettles and brambles, and restore the gravel paths.

There is an amazing opportunity here for any individuals or groups who would like to do some growing, all that is asked is some contribution of your time to help maintain the facility also.

Maybe you wish to grow a few vegetables or flowers? Or you have ideas for children to learn about nature or food production? Would you like to contribute a few hours here and there to your community, spending enjoyable and productive time in a beautiful space?

**Contact via Crosshaven Association, and Tidy Towns**



### **A Christmas message from Councillor Audrey Buckley**

Let me take this opportunity to wish a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous 2021 to all of Crosshaven residents.

As 2020 passes and 2021 begins, we look back at a year that continues to make the community stronger and a better place to live, work and visit. Whilst the coronavirus has not been easy, Crosshaven Community has come together to help each other in these strange times. May I offer the very warmest of Christmas greetings to all residents, businesses and visitors of Crosshaven and surrounding areas. And may we look forward to a brighter, stronger, more prosperous 2021.

### **TIDY TOWNS 2020**

It has been a special year for us and a very active one. Out of adversity came opportunities. We increased our numbers and local help enabled us to create a new flower bed at the entrance to the village. Thank you all so much. We did complete makeovers of a number of areas and biodiversity was at the forefront of much of our work.

The benefits of all of this will be seen in years to come. Strange times visited upon us but still the roses bloomed and custard coloured daffodils came out to play. We enjoyed our chats with locals and visitors alike and we know they appreciat-

ed the new look at the start of the walkway. New members are always welcome, come and talk to us, we are happy to allocate a task to you that you can do in your own good time.

A great big THANK YOU to our sponsors, transitional students, our many helpers and the villagers who donated plants that will soon adorn Crosshaven, the lovely place that we call home.

**Have a lovely Christmas and New Year and very soon spring will bring new life and a host of tiny multi-coloured flowers will be there for all to see and enjoy.**





## Crosshaven Boatyard

With new owners in place, Crosshaven Boatyard is assured to continue to be a vital strand in the rich fabric of Crosshaven and Cork harbour – in this post Richard Leonard fills us in on its origins, development, people and boats. It's a fascinating tale...

It could be said that Crosshaven Boatyard has its origins in West Cork. In 1942 Skinners boatyard on Baltimore pier had a devastating fire which resulted in some of the local shipwrights seeking work further afield in Cork harbour. One of these shipwrights was my Dad, Dick Leonard who went to work in the naval dockyard in Haulbowline. From there he teamed up with Jack O'Driscoll and George Bushe in

a waterfront premises now displaced by the Ringaskiddy deepwater berth reclamation.

Soon after the war ended in 1945, Dick Leonard was asked to 'travel' to Crosshaven to carry out some repairs on Commander George Crosbie's yacht which was laid up by the point slipway in Crosshaven. One project led to another and within a couple of years Dick had secured a leasehold title on a waterfront site at Scotchman's Point. Before that project got underway an Englishman, Donald Sessions, arrived in Crosshaven with far more ambitious plans to start a yard and marine business. He founded, with some state aid, the Shamrock

as boatyard manager whilst he concentrated on marketing.

Sessions bought the Scotchman's Point site from Leonard and built his family home there – the original 'Thunder Rock'.

Construction of boatyard facilities commenced with the black round-top steel sheds being acquired from Northern Ireland where they were previously used as military aircraft hangers during World War 2.

Sessions embarked on importing steel hulled motor cruisers for finishing and fit out at the boatyard, for the leisure market. They exhibited one of their finished cruisers 'Shamrock 1', at the London Earls Court Boat Show in the late 1940s. They also built some IDRA 14s and exhibited one of them at the RDS Dublin Boat Show.

Another one of Session's projects was building catamaran 'peddle boats' for

marine leisure parks which sadly did not work out. In the mid 1950s the Shamrock Cruiser Co. went into receivership and was bought by Crosshaven Boatyard Co Ltd., a newly founded company with Dick Leonard as Managing Director and Denis and Tom Doyle as co directors.

Initially the boatyard concentrated on building fishing boats with a number of fifty-footers completed in the late 1950 including the 'Ard Mor' and 'Ard Casta', which I recently saw 'in retirement' in North Harbour, Cape Clear. The uplift in the economy in the early 1960s saw CBY expanding in terms of

new builds, repairs, yacht maintenance and storage. Boats were mostly of wood construction with varnished superstructures and undercover winter storage became much in demand. The boatyard's storage sheds quickly expanded to their current size.

In these pre-'travel lift' days the boat hauling and launching process was a very skilled and labour intensive process. Boats were conveyed on steel and timber 'carriages' travelling on train tracks which extended to the low tide mark on the beach. This whole process could involve perhaps up to four workers over a

day and a half. Denis Doyle had four yachts built for himself by the yard. Querida (1963) and the Moonduster pictured (1965) were both engineless.

In 1963 the boatyard began collaboration with Robert Clarke a successful yacht designer based on the south coast of England. The first Clarke design, Querida, a 38 ft racing sloop, was built for Denis Doyle. Querida was followed a couple of years later when the keel was laid for the 1st of three Moondusters to be built in Crosshaven. This 'Duster' was a 48 foot – 20 tonne engineless sloop, in which Denis competed in several Cowes Weeks, RORC offshore races including a number of Fastnet Races.

During these golden years for Crosshaven Boatyard the workforce grew to over fifty, comprising shipwrights,



Ard Casta had a very long fishing career in West Cork – last summer she still looked in great shape in North Harbour.



apprentices, painters, riggers, mechanics, metal workers and administration staff. Several Crosshaven families including the Midletons, Lakes, Meades and others started 'serving their time' as apprentices in the yard and went on to have long careers there.

The next Clarke design to be built by the boatyard was Longbow II, a 40' cruiser / racer with an unusual canoe stern. Longbow was built for an Englishman David McCauley as a contender for a place in the 1969 British Admiral's Cup team. In the event she made reserve boat in that year. Longbow II is still going strong and

is a frequent visitor to West Cork during summer seasons. Sir Francis Chichester was quite a celebrity and the new Gypsy Moth V was the subject of a Sunday Times sports graphic. The final and best known Clarke design to be built in the boatyard was Gypsy Moth V, for Sir Francis Chichester. This build presented new challenges for the

skilled shipwrights as she was built using a multi-skinned glued-up hull rather than the traditional horizontal hull planking on vertical frames or ribs. She was also the first yacht built by CBY with fin & skeg profiled underbody rather than the traditional long keel profile.

A very high standard of internal fit-out was also part of the specification for Gypsy Moth V. The polished mahogany bulkheads and joinery were indeed a credit to the joinery skills of the boatyard. Appreciation of this fine workmanship was short lived however when Lady Chichester



The launch of Longbow II in 1968, one of the Robert Clarke design collaborations with the yard

came for a progress visit and decided that the interior 'looked a bit dark' and ordered the French polish to be rubbed down and the joinery re painted with a white painted finish! Another aspect of CBY activities comprised the servicing of the RNLI lifeboat fleet. For many years the boatyard had roll-over contracts with the Lifeboat Institution for the maintenance of the south coast fleet from Kilmore Quay in the South East to Valentia in Kerry.

Side by side with the more high profile yacht builds, CBY completed a number of work boats and sea angling boats during the very busy 1960s. Work boats, designed by Jack Tyrrell of Arklow and Brian Malone of Skerries, were built of larch or iroko planking on oak frames. A number of these were commissioned by the Stoa family from Cobh, who had a contract with

Whitegate Oil Refinery to run lines ashore from the berthing tankers.

In the mid 1960s Sea Angling became very popular in Kinsale with the Trident Hotel having its own Angling Centre, managed by the very capable Mrs. Peggy Green. CBY built their entire angling fleet over a few years with such names as 'Raparee', 'Moonlighter' and 'Dromderrig'. Some of these craft are now back in Cork Harbour, still fishing.

Around this time the Shannon waterway was opening up for cruiser tourism and CBY won contracts with Emerald Starline to build a number of motor cruisers for their charter fleet. These craft looked a bit more like caravans than sea going vessels with their high superstructures, patio doors, etc.

In the early 1970s trawler building enjoyed a revival at

CBY and a number of 50+ footers were built for Clogherhead and Donegal skippers.

One of these was 'Boy Evan' which in more recent years is back fishing from Crosshaven

The next significant yacht build project was the 'blue' Moonduster for Denis Doyle. This 'Duster' was a 47 footer to a Sparksman and Stephens design and, like Gypsy Moth, had a multi skinned mahogany, glued-up hull. Unlike her predecessors she was fitted with a diesel auxiliary engine. This Moonduster competed in a multitude of international events and races including Admirals Cup, Fastnets, round Britain and Ireland races, etc. The building of 'Moonduster' was followed by 'Sululu ya Pili', a Laurent Giles designed fifty-eight foot cruising ketch. This ocean going yacht was built for Englishman John Hunter and his 'live



aboard' family Golden Apple was originally built in 1980 for a Norwegian customer – she returned to the yard in the mid 1990s to be restored for her round the world voyage with the Covenys.



This nice photo of the leather St Brendan in Boston harbour reads – “To Crosshaven Boatyard ‘Brendans birthplace’, with all good wishes, Tim Severn”. A project at the boatyard that attracted international attention was the construction of the currach, ‘St. Brendan’, by explorer Tim Severn. This was in preparation for his voyage in tracing St.

Brendan’s trip to the new world centuries ago. In the late 1970s CBY entered a new chapter with the retirement of Dick Leonard. His interests in the boatyard were acquired by R. A.

Burke, Ship Brokers. A few years later the Doyle family took over R. A. Burke’s business including the boatyard. Shipwright skills were maintained and enhanced throughout the management restructuring and soon the ‘lofting’ of the next ‘Moonduster’ project got underway. ‘Lofting’ is the in-house name for drawing the

longitudinal and cross sections of the yacht full size on the loft floor. From this, templates and frames are cut and fashioned to create the hull shape. The frames are then erected on the back bone of the boat and are clad over in planking to form the hull.

Pat Lake was the foreman shipwright with overall responsibility for the Moonduster build. He subsequently went on with Donie Curran to start Castlepoint Boatyard in the mid 1980’s....

This ‘Moonduster’ was the iconic Frères designed varnished 51 footer which, with her skipper, enjoyed a long and successful career in offshore racing. In another first for the boatyard, this Duster’s hull was multi layered strip planked, built upside down. When this process was completed she was moved out of the build shed and turned upright for deck and



internal fit out.

‘Moonduster’ was the last significant yacht building project at CBY. The boatyard embarked on a large foreshore reclamation including developing the marina, hauling dock and travel lift facilities. This revolutionised boat storage and handling. The Majorca Ballroom in the top photo used

to draw massive crowds to Crosshaven from the city – now it is crowded in a different way! In an era that saw traditional boat building convert to a mechanised factory type process, CBY moved with the times and became agents for a number of premier brands such as Oyster, Jeanneau

and Dufour and so changed and adapted to the modern and sustainable business model. Skilled trades in woodworking, grp repair and metalworking are now mostly specialist sub-contractors hired for specific projects as demand arises. After over seventy years, I am sure that Dad would be proud to see that Crosshaven Boatyard is still thriving and providing a comprehensive service to all boat users in the harbour and further afield.

## *Imij Hair Salon*

**0214833957**

**Tricia and Sarah would like to wish all our customers a very happy Christmas and a peaceful and Better**

**New Year!**

*Opening times.*

**Monday 21st to Wednesday 23, 9:30 - 5:30**

**XMAS EVE, Thursday 24th 8.30- 4.00**

**BACK Tuesday 29th.**

**All Covid Restrictions Apply As Before**

*Stay Safe Everyone!*



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for our cover photograph, If you would like to contact her for events:  
087 983 3660

siobhansrussell@gmail.com

or Siobhan Russell Photography on facebook







## *Christmas Hours*

**Thursday 24th: 7am-8pm**

**Friday 25th: Closed**

**Saturday 26th: 9am-7pm**

**Sunday 27th -Thursday 31st: 7am-9pm**

**New Year's Day: 9am-8pm**

**Saturday 2nd - Sunday 10th: 7am-9pm**

**PHOTO: SIOBHÁN RUSSELL**