

KNOW YOUR VILLAGE!

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Featuring Today:

KILL VILLAGE, CO. KILDARE

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INTRODUCTION

This magazine was put together by Laura Cahill and Lily Guerin for our last project in 6th Class 2015.

Our teacher Ms Moynihan gave us an open topic and we chose to do it on Kill Village.

We would like to thank Olive Reddy for giving us the time to interview her. After talking to Olive we never thought the little village of Kill had so much history behind it. Olive told us about the magazine Kill Village had called The Link and we went to Fr. Willie the parish priest of Kill Village and thankfully he had a copy of the 1997 Edition and was kind enough to give us a lend of it, so Thank you Fr. Willie.

We also would like to thank Martina Behan for lending us the 1993 Link Magazine & the 1998 Official Opening programme of the GAA Club.

And Thank you to Mary Cocoman for lending us the 1992 Edition of the Link Magazine. This one was the first edition.

Thank you to John Cahill (Laura's Dad) for printing out our magazine, Thank you to Christina Guerin (Lily's Mam) for helping us put the magazine together, Thank you to Gerry Guerin (Lily's Dad) for proof reading and finally last but not least Eileen Cahill (Laura's Mam) for meeting me after school with my computer to do our project.

CONTENTS

History of Kill Parish	page 4
Reeling in the years at Kill School	page 5
Buildings of Kill Village.....	page 6
History of Kill GAA Club	page 8
Kill GAA Teams throughout the years.....	page 9
Roadstone: Kill Pit.....	page 10
Arthurstowns Landfill.....	page 11
Palmerstown House	page 12
Kings & Queens.....	page 13
Medieval History.....	page 14
Iris Kellet of Kill Equestrian.....	page 16
ICA in Kill Village.....	page 17
Tidy Towns.....	page 18
Fame in Kill	page 21
Muintir na Tire.....	page 23
Famine in Kill.....	page 23

The History of Kill Parish

The general shape of Kill has not changed that much since 1800's and many building that were there then are still to be seen in the village today.

Two churches can be seen in the village of Kill. A catholic church dedicated to St. Brigid and this church was built in 1821. There is also a protestant church dedicated to St. John. There was a well dedicated to St. Brigid and this lies in the town land of Hartwell.

Although Kill was such a small village there were at least three different schools. There were two catholic schools and one Protestant school.

In 1841, the total population of Kill parish was 508 people, living in around 80 houses. Then in 1845 the famine struck. It took a great toll on Kill, reducing the population to 428 people in 1851 which was a total loss of 80 people.

The population started to slowly increase after the dramatic decline during the famine. It rose from 428 in 1851 to 464 in 1910. In the 1950's the population picked up. A new housing estate, St. Patricks park, was built and also a new national school. Since the many more housing estates have been built.

According to the census the population of Kill parish was about 2,931. Approximately half these people lived in kill. The last recorded number (2011) was 3,095.



Reeling In The Years At Kill School

Kill National school is also known as St. Brigid's or Scoile Bhríde situated in the village of Kill. In the 1800's there was three different schools, two catholic and one protestant. Now in 2015 there is one catholic school and the school built in 1950 is now used by an organisation called the Saplings school for children with autism.

In 1883 was when kill school first opened up, they first had their school in the old building beside the church. There was only one classroom for the whole school. In the back of the classroom there was a fireplace to heat up the room because they had no central heating. Each child would have to bring in a piece of turf or coal to keep the fire going throughout the day.

In 1950 they finished building a bigger school which was just across from it. The original school was built in 1950. It was built as a four-roomed building, three classrooms and a cookery room. Obviously this building did not suffice for very long and the first of five prefabricated classrooms were added in 1967. In 1976/77 the school was extended. Four new classrooms, a general purpose room, an office and staff room were built.

The principal or also known as the headmaster back then was Liam O'Flynn. His son also named Liam O'Flynn or sometimes called Liam Óg Ó Floinn is one of the best Uilleann Pipers and he came from kill. He has played with some famous musicians like Christy



The First School Built in 1883



The Second School Built in 1950



The Third School Built in 2011

Moore, Sinéad O'Connor and The very famous band Planxty.

In 1992 the school had many fundraisers aiming to get many parts of the school done up. With all the money they got, they updated the roof on some of the buildings, replaced and repaired windows, resurfaced the school yard, fixed the drainage system, updated the heating system, replaced some furniture and put carpet down in some classrooms. Other small jobs were done like fixing the school fencing.

With the school rapidly growing they opened a new school in 2011 this school is at the top of the village. The school has 22 teachers, 6+ learning support teachers,

12 special needs teachers and 2 teachers for children with autism. There are more than 600 pupils in the school. In the school there is a library, a full sized hall, An AstroTurf Pitch, Basketball courts, Music and a Science Room. We are soon adding a Computer Room to the school.

The current principal of the school is Mr. Brendan Kelleher and the deputy principal is Mr. Pat Gallaher.

Buildings of Kill Village



The Catholic Church

This is a very attractive, early 19th century barn-church. This type of church was becoming increasingly rare. Not only because they were built before the famine, but also because over the years they have been superseded by new buildings.

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The Old School

Beside the church, on the corner, is the old school. It was built in the same period as the church. Around the building are cast-iron railings on a low wall. As well as being a building of considerable architectural interest.



The Old House

The current owners are the third generation Lawlor Family. The Old House was first built in 1794. The Building was originally a thatched house. The Old House burnt down in 1942 and was built back up a year later. In 2009 the building was extended and went under major refurbishment.



The New School

The new school was built in 2011. It was built because the old school could not hold the capacity of pupils. It is based at the top of the village. The school has 22 teachers, 6+ learning support teachers,



The Dew Drop Inn

The dew drop inn used to be called do drop in before it was changed to its current name. This is an attractive building which is strategically placed when seen from the Rathmore road. The main feature is the great sweeping roof of Westmoreland slate with two dormer windows.



A house of some age

Opposite the Parochial House is a house of some age. Perhaps 18th century in date. It has good windows with small panes of glass and raised granite coigns on the walls. Unfortunately, a glass porch has obscured the original door. In front is an

attractive cast iron railing. At the west end of the house are barns, one of which has rather unusual round windows.



Palmerstown House

The original house was burned down during the troubles. It is said that a human skull, from which the flesh had been boiled, used to be one of the exhibits at Palmerstown house. The skull belonged to Richard Southwell.



The Cottages

South side of the street from the west end, beside the Rathmore road, is a terrace of five very neat, and obviously much loved houses which were built in the 1800s. They have porches, gardens and garden walls which have been decorated, painted, polished and planted until they shine like the proverbial new pin!

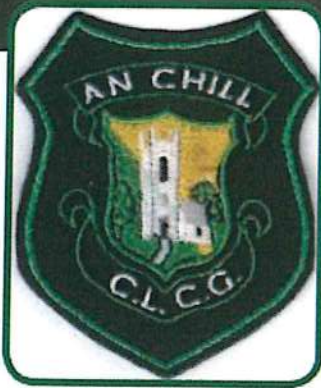


Kerdiffstown House

In Kerdiffstown house in the ruins of an old church. Only the gables and part of the side walls remain. In the adjoining graveyard is a tombstone of the Kerdiff family, dated 1702. The Kerdiffs were the old owners, and from them came the name Kerdiffstown. In the same graveyard are three old stones fixed in the earth, two of them about two feet high, and the third about three feet high.

2015 recycling signpost





The History of KILL GAA Club

Kill Gaa is based in the village of Kill Co. Kildare, it was established in 1926 and is bigger than ever. In 1933 hurling teams first started up in the village. Then after 4 years kill hurling went on to win the junior 'A' Final. In 1938 the club did not affiliate meaning that the club stopped. Two years later in 1940 the club reformed training up all teams again.

The club had been very successful from then on. Three years later in 1943 the junior football had made it into the final and the U-14 football won the championship.

In 1960 was our current Gaa field was purchased, and in 1971 the dressing rooms were built, the showers and toilets were then added on in 1975.

In 1979 the planning started to create the social and recreational centre they were added onto the dressing rooms and in 1987 the centre officially opened.

The Gaa club was officially opened on the weekend of the 27th, 28th and 29th of May in 1988.

Thank you to Martina Behan for giving us a lend of her copy of the Official Opening Programme of 1988



KILL GAA Teams throughout the years

When the hurling first started in Kill GAA no one really knew what to expect from the team, but they had quite a big panel to choose from. Kill had good victories over Broadford, Coill Dubh, Ardclough and Leixlip. They went on to reach the final, beating Coill Dubh in the semi-final. However the final did not go their way, Getting beaten by Naas who showed some great hurling skills on the day.

The Ladies football team was formed in the early months of 1993. After a single phone call and a short meeting the football team was finally formed for girls. There was many willing candidates (all men) that stepped forward to be the coach of the ladies team. Tommy Merriman was the 'chosen one' picked to do the hard job of training the bunch of eager women and girls. Every nights training saw more improvement in the girl's football skills.

The time was drawing near for the women's football team to play their first match. After a lot of searching a set of jerseys were found to fit the team (well almost fit!). On the night of the match the

dressing room was full of nervous ladies. Although the women didn't win the match or any match throughout the season it was the start of something great. Still to this day Ladies football is played and the only difference is, is that many matches are won in lovely sets of jerseys that fit!

The junior section has always been quite big in Kill GAA. In 1993 was a very busy year for all age groups. Hosting U-8's, U-10's, U-12's, U-14's and U-16's. The U10's and U-12's teams both made it into the final that year. Juvenile football is still a great hit in Kill GAA Club.



The Under - Age Scene



Teaching Supremus... Michael Quaid and Eddie Julian look after the tests at Primary School level - Under -10, under 11, and under 13. Eddie was secretary of the club in 1980 - 81 and Pres. in more recent times. Doesn't Michael's new wedding ring look good?

The Boys of the Future



The Under - 13 Team Back Row (l to r.) Nann Burke, David Quigley, John Traynor, Eamonn Kelly, Ian Keenan, Colin O'Donovan, Ambruse Finnerty, James Savage, Joey Burke, 2nd Row Jim McCormack, Ian McDonald, Tony Spain, Brian Kelly, James Gaffney, Darren Kelly, David Morrissey, Derek Devine. Kneeling: Padraic O'Connor, Owen Walsh, Robert McAuliffe.

30

The Executive Committee 1988



Back Row (left to right); Mick Gavin, Michael O'Donovan, Denny Malley, John Carr, Noel Murphy, Pat Reid; (middle row) Larry Creighton, Kevin O'Neill, Baran Hackett, Joe Kelly, Liam Kelly, Paul Delahunt (Vice-Chairman), Sean Ruddy, John Butler (PHD), Sean Bohan; (Front row) Denis Brown and Rhona Brennan (Treasurers), Kieran Savage (Chairman), Tommy Murphy (Secretary), Arthur Corrigan (Assistant-Secretary).

The controlling body of Kill GAA Club is the executive committee. It meets every Monday evening at 8.30 in the club premises. All business and other club activities are under the management of this committee.

The officers and committee members are nominated and elected at the Annual General Meeting and hold office for one full year or until the following AGM, whichever is sooner.

The function and responsibilities of this Committee are outlined as follows:

- (a) To discuss, plan, co-ordinate and control the day-to-day, short term and long term affairs and activities of the Club.
- (b) To appoint, define and control the duties of any sub-committee set up to carry out specific activities of the Club.
- (c) To administer and look after the financial business affairs and property of CLCG Chill as laid down in the Constitution of the Club.
- (d) To appoint Honorary Membership, Full membership, Social Membership, Juvenile Membership to CLCG Chill.

11



Roadstone: Kill Pit

In 1945 the 'Sand Castle Company', which was the original roadstone company, was started with a capital of €5,000. Alan Lyons was the founder of Kill Pits and spent fifteen years there as a manager. Johnny O'Grady was also there from the very beginning. In 1945 work had commenced on the first ever washing plant in Ireland. Dick Cullen joined the fold in April that year while Kit Sergeant and Dan Walshe came in November. In 1946 was when the plant first came in to production.

Early costumers in Kill were T.J Moran, who used the material for the concrete runways in Dublin Airport. Kill material was also used to make the Leixlip Dam. Approximately 200 tons would be delivered involving six runs by the trucks. C.P.I Ltd. Was also an early customer using fine sand for the making of their tiles. However, this presented quite a number of problems in the early days as there was no adequate separating equipment at the plant.

The investment in the pit in 1946 consisted of a second-hand, 3cu. Yd. Dumper, A Smith 2-10 digger, which Johnny O'Grady handled, and the Goodwin washing plant.

Two Fodens driven by Frank Phelan and Gerry Hume made up backbone of Kill Transport, along with a red V.S and a 2 diamond T. Trucks capable of carrying 18-20 tons and probably the largest truck on the road at that time.

By the end of 1947 things were really going a bomb' for all types of material and double shifts had to be taken on. Bobby Hill was in charge of the first night shifts. Mick Donnelly took over the night shift from Bobby. The canteen was erected in 1950 with Peg Dunne in charge and later taken over by Mrs. Dillon.

Under the guidance of Mick Donnelly, appropriate garages were built in 191 and shortly afterwards in the spring of 1952 the Parker Washing Plant was installed to supplement the Goodwin. Charlie Maybury was appointed manager in 1954 and from then until 1961, many major improvements and extensions were done to keep the methods used in the pi as modern as possible. Noel Lawlor who was in Kill since 1948, took over as manager in 1961. Ready Mix Production began in 1966.

Kill Pit was closed in 1980 and Ready Mix finished up in 1982.



Outside The Dump
in Kill Village



Arthurstown Landfill

Arthurstown Landfill is situated in Kill, Co. Kildare.
An Internationally regarded baled waste management facility producing green electricity.

Arthurstown Landfill

Arthurstown Landfill is the largest Landfill gas to Electricity generation facility in Ireland and is located approximately 1.6 km south east of Kill, Co. Kildare.
4.8 million Tones of Baled municipal waste is landfilled here.

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The site was operated by South Dublin County Council and is now closed. Although the void space was not completely filled the closure of Arthurstown Landfill took place on 21st December 2010 due to the expiration of the planning permission from Kildare County Council.

The Landfill is now in its Monitoring and Aftercare phase which may last between 30 and 50 years. The dump can be still smelled from Kill on certain nights. Falcons, Hawk and other birds are kept there to minimize scavengers like seagulls and rodents. There is also a strong population of deer, Foxes and native birds up at the dump.

The people of Kill were very unhappy when they heard that plans to put a dump into Aurthurstown and set up an anti-dump group. To try stop the dump they had things such as marches and got people to sign a petition. The people in the group tried to give valid points to Dublin County Council telling them that the effect of the dump would have on the village of Kill. The anti-dump group were very disappointed when they saw the plans for the dump was official. One of the reasons Dublin County Council placed the dump in this location was 'anticipated lack of local opposition'.

Quote from 1993 Link magazine:

(Thanks to Martina Behan lending us it)

'I never thought that it would become a dump because when Roadstone started they said they would put it back into land again. A lot of gravel from Kill went into building Dublin. Now they're going to come back and dump their waste on us!'
- Joe Behan





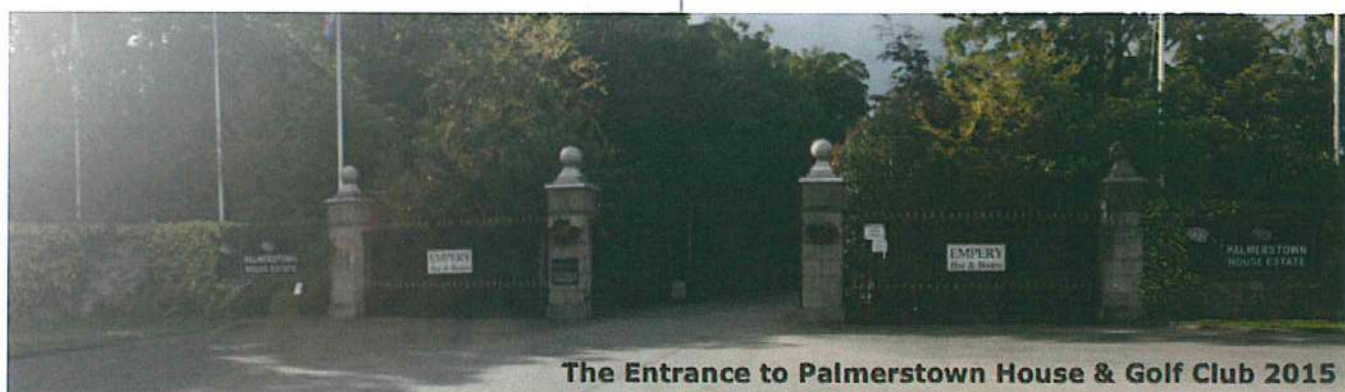
Palmerstown house

Palmerstown house is located about two miles away from Kill. The original house was burned down during the troubles. It said that a human skull, from which flesh had been boiled, used to be one of the exhibits at Palmerstown house when it was the country home of the Earls of Mayo. The skull was supposed to have been of an Afghan convict who was hanged for stabbing Richard Southwell Burke to death. He was the sixth Earl of Mayo and Viceroy of India, in 1872.

Richard was six feet tall and massively built. It is told that that a pint sized Fenian, having been dispatched to kill him he decided not to take the risk when he first caught sight of his prey strolling around the farm lands of Palmerstown. When the Tories came into power in 1852, they gave Richard chief secretary in Dublin Castle. In other words he was virtually made ruler of Ireland at age 30. He chose a plot in Johnstown graveyard to be buried. This is just across the road from Palmerstown house. For years he was remembered as the man who read out, at the

dinner party in the castle, a note just received from his Stewart at Palmerstown house not perceiving its comic element "The prize of the hen has laid an egg but will not hatch, so Your Lordship being in Dublin, I put under the goose".

Palmerstown house is still at the site and a lovely 18 hole golf course is also on the grounds. Inside the house an egg encrusted with silver diamonds can be seen.



The Entrance to Palmerstown House & Golf Club 2015