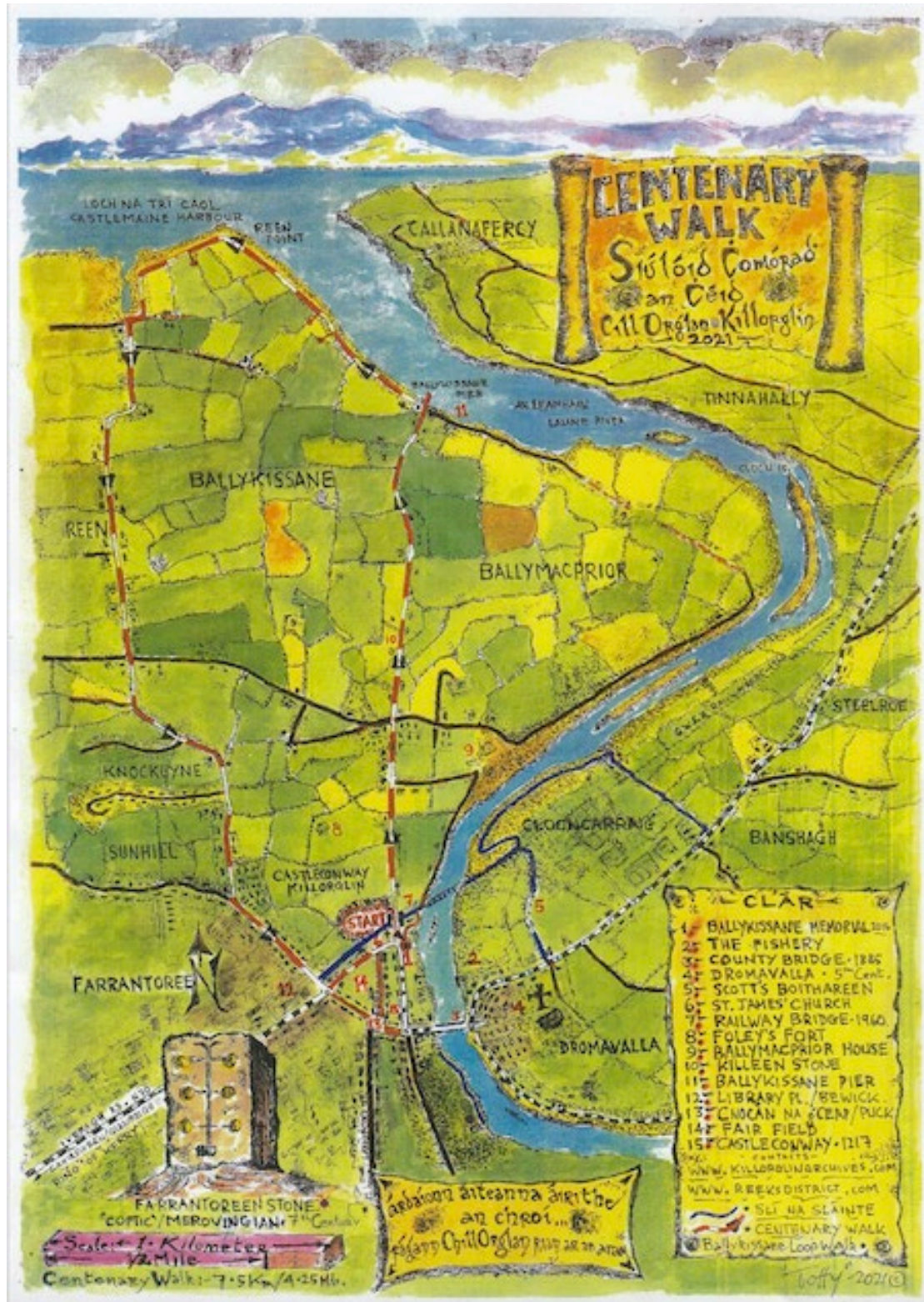


# CENTENARY WALK

## *Siúlóid Chomóradh an Chéid*

### Ballykissane Loop Walk ... Killorglin

2021



Start Walk at Fair Field Mapboard

**CENTENARY WALK**  
*Siúlóid Chomóradh an Chéid*  
**Ballykissane Loop Walk ... Killorglin, Kerry**  
**2021**  
**Introduction**

A Loop Walk from the Mapboard, at the Fair Field, Killorglin ... then onto the Ballykissane Road ... onwards to the Ballykissane Pier, 1.5 miles ... the walk continues **Left** along the foreshore, past Reen Point ... onto the concrete ramp ... to first **stile (1)** onto the tidal bank. Then to another **stile (2)**, thirty yards further on ... and along the grassy bank to **stile (3)** ... continue to the end of the Reen road, via the grassy bank ... along to the Reen crossroads ... walk straight through ... *careful crossing!* Up Knocklyne Hill ... to the T-junction toward Sunhill ... bear **Left** downhill to Library Place and Killorglin town centre. It was said that in olden days that the road to the Ballykissane Pier was the ‘town-people’s traditional walk’ on Sunday evenings.

There is a weighty tome of history associated with this walk, breathtaking divergent landscapes of ... river, bay, seascapes ... foreshore and mountain backdrops, hidden valleys, glens ... flora and fauna and a wealth of story ... the cultural, historical and mythological ... ‘*sense of place*’ ... to ‘while away’ two or three hours through Killorglin’s environs.

The research for Centenary/Ballykissane Loop Walk began in 2016 and the inspiration for the name was to commemorate the Irish Revolutionary Period ... the *War of Independence* and the *Civil War*, in the years (1916 – 1923). Distance **4.25 m./7.5 km.**

**Start of walk ... Fair Field Mapboard.**

*Ó bár Loch Léin go Loch na dTrí gCaol,  
Ag gaiseadh, ag taisteal ‘s ag líbarndíl síos,  
On riasc, ón sliabh, ón gleann go síor ...  
Abha deas álainn an Leambain.*

From the top of Loch Léin to the Lake of the Three Sandspits (Dingle Bay),  
flowing, travelling, and meandering down,  
From the marsh-bog, the mountain, from the glen ... westwards,  
The beautiful River of Laune.

... Laune River, along the floor of the Beaufort Valley ... from Loch Léin, majestic 'Leamhain of the Elm' with attending tributaries of Cottoners, Gweestin, Gaddagh and Loe. Fourteen miles meandering through the stunning backdrop of the MacGillycuddy Reeks, *na cruacha dubha* ... Corrán Tuathail's personified panorama, lord of all he surveys, from the Paps to Drung Hill ... dipping into the Atlantic Ocean.

Killorglin's original meaning unknown but we can only surmise and unlock secrets of history. Theories abound about the name ... *Cill Fhorgla* 1215, saints name ? ... *Kell Orglann* 1261 ... *Church of Orgin or Forgia, Glenorgulan* 1302 ... origins of early Christianity associated with ... *Cill Lorcan*, called after St. Lawrence the Martyr. The name still shrouded in mystery, *Cabirlon*, from Norman times ... *Cill Thar Gleann*, or *Cill Thar Leamhain*.

Selection of fishing pools on the Laune, eg. Pouldubh, Máithaireach, Gorteloge Lúb, Poulfatt, Garraí etc ... *see* P. 22.

The following is a sketch of a historical narrative with points of interest 1 – 15, relating to the Centenary/Ballykissane Loop Walk.

## **1. BALLYKISSANE MEMORIAL ...**

*... at the top of Crow's Road and Ballykissane Pier.*

*Toward the hill of Garrane, Sunhill and Knocklyne,  
heron and otter feed on the seashore by Reen;  
At Ballykissane, history's etched on the Pier ...  
three heroes drowned there, to set this land free.*

As part of their preparations for the 1916 Easter Rising, the Irish Republican Brotherhood (IRB) decided on a plan to seize a wireless transmitter from the Atlantic College in Cahersiveen to contact the *Aud*, the German vessel which carried arms for the Irish Volunteers, which was due to arrive at Fenit on Easter Sunday, 23 April. A 'radio team' of Irish Volunteers who had been sworn into the IRB was assembled in readiness for the mission: Denis Daly, 30, of Main Street, Cahersiveen, Co. Kerry, Con Keating, 22, from Renard, Cahersiveen, Co. Kerry had trained as a Marconi radio operator at the Atlantic College Dónal Sheehan, 30, from Ballintubrid, Newcastlewest, Co.

Limerick, Charlie Monahan, 37, from Riley Place, Belfast, and Colm Ó Lochlainn, 24, from Drumcondra, Dublin.

Daly's five-man team boarded the mail train at Kingsbridge (now Heuston) Station on Good Friday morning. In the early afternoon two cars, driven by IRB men — Tommy McInerney and Sam Windrim — left Limerick to meet the 8pm train at Killarney and convey the five Volunteers to Cahersiveen. McInerney, 24, drove a grey Briscoe, a 20-horsepower touring car with a distinctive single Cyclops headlight and Windrim drove a Maxwell. Daly and Ó Lochlainn got into the lead car driven by Windrim, while Keating, Sheehan and Monahan travelled with McInerney. The cars became separated between Killarney and Killorglin. Daly's car passed through Killorglin at about 9:15pm. In Cahersiveen, later that night, Daly and Ó Lochlainn encountered a police checkpoint and aborted the mission. Keating's group travelled to Killorglin via Beaufort and at about 9.30pm McInerney's grey Briscoe crossed the junction at Lower Bridge Street/New Line and pulled in opposite Taylor's Hotel. Monahan, the front seat passenger, asked 17-year-old Elizabeth Violet 'Daisy' Taylor for directions.

There were three roads at the junction near Saint James' Catholic Church, a minor road to the right closest to the river, the centre road leading to Ballykissane and the road to Cahersiveen on the left. In the darkness the Volunteers mistakenly chose the Ballykissane road. At around 9.45pm the car went on to Ballykissane Pier, a mile from Killorglin, and plunged into 25 feet of fast flowing water.

Timothy 'Thady' O'Sullivan lived beside the pier and heard the Briscoe's engine followed by an ominous silence. Carrying a candle aloft, he went to the water's edge and on hearing shouts for help directed a man ashore. This was Tommy McInerney, the driver of the ill-fated car, whom O'Sullivan brought into his house. At low tide on Easter Saturday morning, with the aid of a tractor, the police recovered the car from the base of the pier but found no bodies inside. The remains of Sheehan and Keating were recovered during the afternoon, those of Monahan were not found until October. The bodies of Keating and Sheehan were brought to Killorglin Courthouse where an inquest was held there on Easter Monday. Keating's remains were subsequently returned to his family. He was buried in Killovarnogue Cemetery, Cahersiveen. Sheehan's remains were interred in Dromavalla cemetery,

Killorglin. In October Monahan's remains were buried in the same plot. After Easter Week, McInerney, Daly and Windrim were charged with being part of an insurrection and transferred to Frongoch internment camp in Wales, where they remained until a general amnesty was introduced in December 1916.

Some thirty yards below the Ballykissane Memorial stands one of Killorglin's first Street Sculptures ... 'The Ring'.

## 2. THE FISHERY ...

*... across the river ...*

*We'll fish to Knightly's Island  
And from that down to the quay,  
And our boats will be at anchor,  
At the dawning of the day,*

Callinafercy fisherman's song

In 1849 a partnership of salmon buyers was established at the Fishery, Killorglin comprising of Keays of Cork, Ronayne of Youghal and Dodd of Killorglin, trading as K.R.D. The initials were stamped on the boxes where Laune salmon was exported all over the world. The scale of this operation between 1872 -1892, Killorglin nets caught an average of 8,500 fish per year. In 1870 there were up to fifteen boats on the water, but this increased dramatically to eighty boats ... 'all fishing with draft nets drawing them to the shore, or onto the sandbanks bared by the falling tide'. The 'Fishery' ... now, a relic of bygone, bustling, commercial life on the Laune River.

**KRD's Fishery Smokehouse ...** One of Ireland's most unique and historical smokeries. Its history dates back to 1782 where the ancient practice of 'draft netting' to fish for the elusive Wild Salmon continued. KRD Smoked Salmon is one of Ireland's most unique delicacies and has graced the tables of many world-renowned establishments. With over two and a half centuries dedicated to perfect the art of curing and smoking, a craft and knowledge passed down from generation to generation of the traditional time-honoured methods of hand curing and oak smoking to create a balance of rich blended flavours with a velvety texture.



Two ice houses were built close to the town at nearby Farrantoreen Lake to preserve fish. Ice houses were dug twenty-five feet into the ground, stone-lined and thatched. Entry was through a small opening where the ice taken from the lake as required, thereby preserving salmon in transit boxes. The Fishery at that time employed a full-time boat-builder, net-maker, weigh-master and manager.

... *wisha, straining water a chroí ! ...*

A secretive Dan Barry's retort when asked as how the fishing was going.

**Pearl Fishing Tradition on the Laune ...** Local tradition has it that women used to pick Pearls on the Laune. These Pearls in fact were called Margaritifera, a freshwater bivalve mollusc/pearl. Their larvae, called glochidia, are inhaled by passing salmon and would snap shut on their gills. After a time they would drop off of their host.

**Killorglin Rowing Club ...** Founded in the early 1990s, Killorglin Rowing Club (KRC) is situated on the banks of the river Laune. A state-of-the-art boathouse was completed in 2004 and the excellent facilities also utilized for land-based training. KRC are the hosts of the Munster Branch Head of the River, held on the Laune in February and March each year and unlike most rowing clubs in Ireland, it's all year round. When the Regatta and Head season finishes, then begins the strong coastal and offshore seasons. KRC was the first club in Ireland affiliated to both rowing unions, the Irish Amateur Rowing Union (IARU) and the Irish Coastal Rowing Federation (ICRF). KRC has grown from a small number of dedicated members, eager to revive local traditional rowing, to one of the fastest growing rowing clubs in Munster.

There was a vibrant rowing club in Killorglin in the 1950s and in 1914 local men, Dodd & Murphy won the prestigious Leander Trophy for the Cork Rowing Club. In 2019 alone, KRC rowers represented Ireland at Home Internationals, Coupe de la Jeunesse, Junior World and Senior World levels. Moreover, Monika Dukarska (KRC) and Aileen Crowley (ex-member of KRC) competed in the Women's Pair during the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo (held in 2021).

### 3. THE COUNTY BRIDGE ...

A visitor to Killorglin in 1758 wrote that crossing over the Laune by boat only as the river was fordable only at low tide. An earlier bridge was built before 1778, a timber structure only eight feet wide and this was described in 1869 as 'a crazy and patched-up many-arched structure'. Twelve years later, a watchman took up duty to warn the public that all who used this bridge did so at their own risk. A new bridge was soon being constructed with Steelroe quarried limestone and was opened in 1885, designed by William Henry Deane. A temporary wooden bridge had been erected while the work was in progress. In 1910, the first motor car crossed the bridge, a car owned and registered in Kerry by a local solicitor Girwan. 'This bridge is officially called "The County Bridge" ... serving all those that pass to the 'Gateway to Iveragh and the Ring of Kerry'.

**King Puck Bronze Sculpture ...** At the east of the bridge sits King Puck, 'King of Na Cruacha' and acting as ferryman aiding those to cross the Laune River in safety. The sculpture was designed by Alan Ryan Hall and incorporates the Puck Poets with their celebration of the three days of Puck ... Gathering Day, Fair Day and Scattering Day. The other crossings of the Laune are the Laune Bridge at Beaufort and Ferry Bridge at Tomies.

### 4. DROMAVALLA ...

*By the lush fields of Anglont, Dromavally in view,  
a cross at each head, the tombs lay there mute ...  
leave the Monks to their matins, by the Arches repair,  
to the Lord of Castle Hill, up that long winding stair.  
Through the thicket of Annagh on to Farrantoreen,  
a Knight in repose there by the Triple-Cross stream,  
the meadows of Meanus by the banks of the Laune,  
Cnoc Árd Dearg entombs, a ship in the mound.*

From 1398 the Augustinian Monks of the Priory of Killagha, in nearby Kilcolman were responsible for the spiritual welfare of the people of Killorglin. They didn't perform any parochial duties themselves but set aside a portion of their income to pay a secular

priest at Dromavalla Church. Around the year 1205, the Augustine Order from the Abbey of O' Connell in Kildare had been granted ten Carachutes of land at Killorglin, which became the Abbey of Kilcolman. Killorglin ... Cill Lorcan, coming under the Augustinians ecclesiastical jurisdiction, which would have given them rights to collect tithes and appoint clergy. It was not intended to establish a town in Killorglin but in the medieval world a castle and a church acted as a magnet for the population in times of temporal and spiritual strife. In 1302 'Glenorgulan' was valued at 6s 8d for tithes. Ecclesiastical records for 1398 note that Killorglin vicarage was in the patronage of the Augustinian Prior at Killagha.

The church at Dromavalla ... *back part of the town* ... dates from the later 13th century. The east window suggests a Romanesque style and Dromavalla served as the Killorglin parish church up until the 1580s. Following the Desmond Rebellion, Thomas Spring was granted the Abbey and lands at Kilcolman and Dromavalla Church would have been included in his property portfolio. Deprived of financial resources of the Augustinian Order, Dromavalla Church fell into disrepair.

**Coptic Stone/Farrantoreen Stone ... *Archaeorglan* ...** Located a short distance at Annadale on the boundaries of Farrantoreen and Ardmoneel townlands, lies an inscribed cross slab known as the 'Farrantoreen Stone'. Identified by Macalister (1906) as being derived from a Coptic (Middle Eastern) design, suggests Merovingian Gaul (Western France) as a more likely source of inspiration for its Irish stone carvers. Dating from the 7<sup>th</sup> century, the cross slab is by far the oldest artifact/field monument testifying to the introduction of Christianity into the Killorglin area. The slab has no apparent historical or monastic context, though its proximity to the Laune ford crossing and nearby Dromavalla Church may be significant. There has been suggestion that the Knights Templars were in existence in Killorglin via the influence of the Norman, Geoffrey De Marisco.

Oldest archaeological source from Killorglin, is the Laharn Cauldron 2,500 B.C., which was apparently part of the Dublin Exhibition 1858. The Dromin Ogham Stone - one of the few of its kind - is now on exhibition at the National Museum.



## **5. ST. JAMES' CHURCH ... Fr. Tom Lawlor Sculpture ...**

Thomas Lawlor was born at Irribeg, Lixnaw in 1842. He studied for the priesthood at the Irish College in Paris and was ordained there in 1866. Upon returning to Kerry he served as curate in Tralee, Castletownbere, Dingle and Ballybunion prior to being appointed parish priest of Valentia Island in 1879. While there he was involved in the Land League serving as President of the Caherciveen branch, a role he would continue in Killorglin between 1885-1889. Fr. Lawlor assumed responsibility for Killorglin in January 1884. At the time the parish was a by-word for neglect, a consequence of his predecessors' inability to provide for, or maintain the parishes stock of church and school buildings, which in the mid 1880s still languished at pre-famine levels. On arrival to Killorglin, Fr. Lawlor's immediate priority was the provision of a network of schools evenly distributed throughout the district, making primary education accessible within walking distance of every child in the parish. Appreciating the value and importance of education in providing a good start in life, tenders were sent out early in 1885 to build six schools and teacher's residences at Killorglin, Cromane, Caragh Lake, Dungeel, Douglas and Glencuttane which were all completed and in use by September 1887. At the same time, Fr. Lawlor devoted his attention to the provision of a new parish church. In October 1886, he embarked on an ambitious fundraising tour in the USA, visiting emigrant communities in Boston, New York and Chicago. On returning to Killorglin in July 1887 he received a tumultuous welcome. While the American trip was a financial success, it fell far short of the amount needed for the complex of buildings (the church, parochial house and convent) that Fr. Lawlor wished to bestow on Killorglin. Further collections at parish and diocesan levels brought in valuable donations. The foundation stone of the new St. James' Church was laid on the 6th of September 1888 and the building was completed and opened on 3rd of May 1891.

## 6. SCOTT'S BOTCHARÍN ...

A walking route from the disused railway track to the Main Road, N70 near Dromavalla Churchyard. The botharín was named after a Duncan Scott who was a railway engineer with the Great, Southern and Western Railway (1885).

## 7. RAILWAY BRIDGE ...

*The Last Train Ghost Whistle o'er the old Metal Bridge,  
along the path to Stealroe, climb up steep Curragh Hill;  
look over your shoulder, between earth, sea and sky,  
on the Battlefield of Mis, Queen Scotia did lie.*

Alfred Dickinson Price, the designer of Killorglin's Railway Bridge was born in Wicklow, (1857-1934). He graduated from Trinity College Dublin in 1878 and in 1881 was appointed resident engineer under Kennett Bayley for the Killorglin branch of the Great Southern and Western Railway. Price was posted back to Kerry as resident engineer for the Great Southern and Western Railway's Killorglin to Valencia extension, which included the Gleensk and Valencia viaducts and a new wharf in the Valencia Estuary.

The **Farranfore-Killorglin** ... railway line took two and a half years to complete and was officially opened on January 15<sup>th</sup> 1885. Some days previously the Metal Bridge was tested by running a 100-ton freight engine over it at speed. By 1893 the line had been extended to Rinard, Valentia Harbour. The Railway greatly contributed to the social and economic life of Killorglin and environs, with markets and fairs took shape at this time. On the other hand the railway station was the scene of countless sad farewells to mass emigration.

Interesting story is that of a Michael Sugrue of Milltown. He stated that he was brought to Milltown Halt with his classmates in the Presentation Monastery on January day in 1885 on an excursion to Killorglin. But on another fateful day on January 30<sup>th</sup>, 1960, he boarded the Last Train to Killorglin Station ... a seventy-five-year span of Michael's life, witnessing the birth and demise of the G.S & W. Railway. Down through its short history, the train was part

of the commercial fabric of Iveragh and of its many functions being ... goods train, animal stock trains for fair days and was especially famous in the ferrying Kerry supporters to Croke Park on All Ireland day. This was known as the 'Ghost Train', as it travelled throughout the night with candlelight in the windows to its destination at Heuston Station.

## **8. FOLEY'S FORT ... on Knocklyne**

Forts are circular earthen structures with enclosed ditches or banks up to ten feet high. These forts, rath, lios or cathair are dated 500 A.D. and were isolated farmsteads and farm huts of straw and mud. At Kilderry in Milltown, a fort was excavated during the recent bypass roadworks, called Lisaniska ... *lios an uisce*, fort of the water. A local persistent story went that on nearby Bleach Road, the McCrohans grew flax, produced linen cloth, grew 'woad and madder' for dyeing and exported the linen goods to Europe in 1,200 A.D. The archaeological findings at Lisaniska Fort in 2019 included an ornate wooden vessel, some flints, there was a full sheaf of flax deep inside the fort preserved in water and there were circular troughs constructed at the fort's periphery evidently for the steeping of the flax ... called *retting* the fibres. The artifacts were carbon dated to 800 A.D. There is a 'platform fort', ogham stone, hut sites and a huge three-ringed fort, Poul na Ratha (Fort Agnes) nearby. Lisaniska, according to archaeological researchers, was a flax and linen industrial complex in operation during medieval times, deemed to be one of its kind in Ireland.

The names of forts were sometimes associated with particular townlands or chieftains ... eg. Dunmaniheen ... *Dún Manachín*. Other major forts by the banks of Leamhain around Killorglin are ... Foleys, Ruth's Fort, Faillnagower, Keelbroc, Coombeg, Farranawilliam, Lismoyle and Ardraw ... being a very developed three-ringed fort.

## **9. BALLYMACPRIOR HOUSE ...**

On the Right turn to St. Joseph's Home was Ballymacprior House, residence of the Blennerhasset and Dodd. During the war years, Mother Ignatius Conlon of the Sisters of Annecy opened an Irish Juniorate in 1943, purchased Ballymacprior House from Alf Dodd

and four Sisters soon followed. In the mid-60s a drop in vocations resulted in the closure of the Juniorate and, following consultations with the Southern Board, the present St Joseph's Home was built. It was completed in 1971 with accommodation for thirty-two residents and in recent times it was expanded in 2020.

## **10. CILLÍN STONE MEMORIAL ...**

Cillín ... Children's burial ground or Famine Graveyard refers to unconsecrated place where stillborn and unbaptised children were buried. The mass graves were usually buried without headstone or markings. Most of the Cillíns date back to the Great Famine. On the left-hand side halfway to Ballykissane there is a Memorial Stone in honour of a nearby Cillín close to Keelbroc Fort, Reen.

## **11. BALLYKISSANE PIER ...**

At Ballykissane Pier today with the lone wistful sounds of gulls and waders, in contrast to the tranquil atmosphere to the bustle of the commercial life of the 1850's ... where the buoyant rising of tidal waters beckoned big ships to port and pier ...

'This town has really become a seaport ... vessels that have cast anchor here from 120 to 300 tons ... many from south of Europe with foodstuffs, timber, coal and metals. In fact, our small town but rising town has been overrun with merchants, agents and sailors ...'

An old name for Ballykissane was *Gort an Iarainn*. ... land of iron.

**The Cliff** ... across the estuary is the Cliff at Callinafercy Home of the Callinafercy Rowing Club and boathouse. 'Pouldubh', a famous fishing pool where the fishing rights were primarily owned by the monks of Killagha at Kilcolman, Milltown. There was an ice house near the Cliff for the preservation of fresh salmon.

## **Sliabh Mis Goddesses & Cú Roí Mac Daire ...**

... panoramic Sliabh Mis Mountains on the Corca Dhuibhne peninsula view spread across the bay lies the ancient name, Loch na d'Trí gCaol, the three sand spits of Inch, Cromane and Rossbeigh, jutting out on the bay where can be heard the Tonn

Tóime, that of the loudest roar of the waves of all Ireland. Sliabh Mis ... home of the *Bandia* is very rich in her mythologies ...

*Mis* : Queen of Sliabh Mis, gives the mountain its name. She was daughter of Daire Donn, leader of the invasion of Fionntrá where he was slain. Mis then drank his blood, became demented and lived at Gleann na Gealt of the mad people and killing all before her. She was captured by the king's harper Dubh Rois, who treated her with watercress thereby restoring her beauty and her sanity.

*Scotia* : She was a Pictish Queen, daughter of Pharaoh of Egypt and wife of Milidh of the Milesians. She was slain in the Battle of Sliabh Mis and is buried at Gleannaskaghín known as Scotia's Grave.

*Fas* : Travelled with Scotia to Sliabh Mis where she aided her in battle against Banba of the Tuatha de Danann. After the battle she lived in Geannfash in Aunascaul and had a seven-fold love affair with the land.

*Scál* : Called Scál Ní Mhurnán, defended by Cuchalainn against the Giant, who later killed him with a huge boulder from the mountain across Anascaul Lake after a week-long battle. Scál was so distraught that she threw herself into the lake and drowned.

*Scéine* : Sgene Davilsir, goddess and wife of Milesian Amergín Glúingeal of the White Knee. She drowned as the Milesian fleet was approaching Kerry from Spain. The harbour was named in her honour as Inbhear Scéine, Kenmare.

*Cessair* : Her name means ... 'shower of hail and keeper of knowledge'. She landed in Ballinskelligs Bay with the Partholans forty days before the Flood, with fifty women and three men. It is said that she brought the first sheep to the land of Éire. Ladra, the pilot, died of an excess of women, Bith died when an oar penetrated his buttocks and Fionntán, the only survivor spent some time in the rivers of Éire as a one-eyed salmon. Cessair is said to have dined on eagle's breasts, drank but deer's milk and drove a chariot drawn by the great Irish Elk. When Fionntán died, Cessair, sometimes known as Garbh Orgh, died of a broken heart

and is buried at Inis Tuaisceart in Dingle Bay ... *bandia mór ina codladh* ...

*Blathnaid* : Cú Roí Mac Dáire captured Cú Chulainn's wife Blathnaid and carried her to his fortress at Caherconree on Sliabh Mis. She alerted Cú Chulainn when Cú Roí was away quarrying stones for his fort. She then sent a signal, by pouring milk into the Fionnglas River near Caherblath.

### **Loch Trí Caol ...**

*Knockboola, Garrahadoo from Ownagarry,  
arrive at the foot of Ceannowree,  
hear Diggin the Piper sound the 'bolg is buinní',  
on his Stone plays the wailsome, ceol of the sídhe.  
Through a gap in the ditch see Caherconree,  
from his Fort, Mac Dáire declares he is Árd Rí ;  
Loch na dTrí gCaol all shimmering there, squats,  
fracturing the skyline ... the Three Narrow Spits.*

... as you climb up Knocklyne Hill, towards Sunhill, its former name being *Slieve Shurriheen* of the 'Commons' ... translates as the 'hill of the rivulets'. Incidentally a local person remarked that when the heavy rains come thundering down from Garrane Hill, one can see many little streamlets flowing and cascading from the top.

There is a poetic and ancient name describing Dingle Bay or Castlemaine Harbour and the convergence of the Laune and Maine Rivers called *Loch Trí Caol*. This is quite a vivid description of the harbour of the three 'sand-spits' ... of Cromane, Inch and Rossbeigh ... being the mythical, loudest roar of the sea called Tonn Toime. Another piece of local lore is that of the *Coorán Bán*. This phenomenon being a 'white frothy current' that flows on the middle of the waters of the bay, licking the three sand-spits onwards to the Atlantic Ocean.

### **MacGillycuddy Reeks ... na Cruacha Dubha ...**

*Up on to the brow, a great vista appears,  
the Paps to Crohane, then Torc and Strickeen,  
from Tomies, Cruach Mór, Corrán and Seefin,  
the spine of Iveragh fades out at Drung Hill.*



As one trundles up along Knocklyne Hill a fine vista appears, that of the MacGilycuddy Panorama ... the spine of Iveragh. Magillicuddy ... east to Paps of Anú, the Tuatha De Danann Queen/Mangerton/Tomies & Purple Mountain/Corrán Tuathail/Seefin to Drung Hill and Cnoc na dTóbar of the Lughnasa Mountain assemblies to Valentia, Iveragh, jutting into Loch na Trí Caol ... the Great Ocean ... Atlantic. MacGilycuddy, from ... *mo giolla chudda* ... slave of St. Mochudda who was prominent in these parts. The MacGilycuddy sept, originates from O'Sullivan Mór, Eoghán who sent his son MacGiolla, Mac-Gilla-Mochada, 'Servus-Mochudii' to be educated by St. Mochuda of Lismore, Cartach-Mochuda of Kiltallagh, Castlemaine, (650 A.D.)

**Corrán Tuathail ... *Tuathal Techtmhar* ...** called after Corrán Tuathail ... inverted sickle of Tuathail, Ireland's highest peak in the old Parish of Tuatha (Tuogh). Tuathal kept possession of the northern of Ireland and the southern half was given to Mugh Nuadat of Eoganacht. Tuathail's mother was Eithne was a river goddess and his father Lugh, another connection with Dunloe via Dún Loich/Lugaid.

**Gobnait's Land of Tuath ...** Gobnait, goddess of learning, poetry and fertility came to Kerry by the Laune River from Inis Óir on the Aran Islands. She asked the King of Ireland for a parcel of land to build her clochán settlement. He said her wish was his command and to take any amount of land she needed but Gobnait only needed wanted an area the size of her mantle, called the *brat*. She then spread it along the ground after the seventh full moon, with an incantation. Out onto the four corners so the land began to undulate and spread out up the hills of the Cruacha Dubha, to Loch Léin and to the banks of the Laune. This would then be called ... the Lands of the Tribe of Tuath, Kilgobnet.

The lore of the Biddy, a folk tradition embedded in Kilgobnet, Coolcummisk, Alohart, Dunloe, Black Valley, Shannera, Carnahone, Cooleanaig and Glencar along the foothills of the Reeks. The Biddy is a celebration of the Celtic Imbolc Festival, a vernal feast attributed to the sowing of the crops and more especially, intrinsic to cows and bees in that land of milk and honey. The Biddy Boys would travel the byroads, from house to house often in inclement weather dressed in white uniforms,

sashes and ornate stray hats. This was done under the strict supervision of their Captain who carried an effigy of Brighid represented by a straw-doll called a Brideóg.

**GPS on the Reeks ! ...** A visitor looking for directions for Killarney town, asked a man from Ballyledder, with the answer ...

*Well, Sir! ... Go up here ... back above ... down behind and over below !!!*

**Killorglin Archive ...** Downhill on the right, at the Old Sean Scoil is the office of Killorglin Archive Society ... *Preserving our Past for the Future*. The aim of Killorglin Archive Society is the collecting, collating and archiving of old photographs, audio and video recordings that capture the essence of life in Killorglin town and parish over the last century. This will greatly enhance our knowledge and understanding of the history and folklore of our place. At present over 15,000 photographs have been archived with some going back over 100 years.

These photographs and documents are scanned and archived, with the originals returned to their owners. Undoubtedly there are many interesting photographs, documents and recordings in the possession of the people of Killorglin parish at home and abroad stored away in attics and drawers. The Killorglin Archive Society (K.A.S.) wishes to preserve this information for the purpose of sharing it with present and future generations. If you would like to become part of this exciting project we would be delighted to hear from you. You can help by bringing your own photos (with accompanying information e.g. date, location, people/place pictured), maps and written documents to the K.A.S. office located in the Sean Scoil, Killorglin. These items will be digitized and returned to the owners.

We are also seeking to engage with people who live or have spent time in our parish in the past to sit down with us and share their memories about days gone by. K.A.S. intends on interviewing local people whose first-hand accounts of special events and day-to-day life in early-mid 20th century Killorglin will serve as invaluable sources of information. Take a look at our extensive gallery of videos, audio clips and pictures. All pictures are available for purchase through the Archive. Think of Killorglin Archive as a reserve for your memories. Feel free to contribute images and stories. We would love to hear from you.

[www.killorglinarchives.com](http://www.killorglinarchives.com)  
[killorglinarchivesociety@gmail.com](mailto:killorglinarchivesociety@gmail.com)  
(066)9790720

## 12. KILLORGLIN LIBRARY ...

Visit **Killorglin Library** to peruse the fine collection of local publications and reference material eg. Griffith Valuation etc, local and national daily papers and internet facility free of charge.

[www.kerrylibrary.ie](http://www.kerrylibrary.ie)  
[killorglin@kerrylibrary.ie](mailto:killorglin@kerrylibrary.ie)  
(066)9761272

**Millennium 400 Puck Fair Time Capsule, 2000 ...** Was set up at Library Place on the eve of 2000 with artifacts of Killorglin included in the Millennium Capsule representing various artifacts representing the greater Killorglin Community. Also included is a very impressive marble information plaque on the History of Puck Fair.

**Pauline Bewick ... ‘Seven Ages – Kerry Collection’ ...** For more than 80 years Pauline Bewick has represented her life in sketchbooks, sculpture, paper, canvas, tapestry, glass and the written word pouring her thoughts and emotions into whatever medium she chooses to master. Pauline is one of Ireland’s most acclaimed artists and has become an integral part of Ireland’s cultural legacy. She has travelled extensively throughout Europe, Asia and Pacific Islands bringing her own style into exotic vistas. She donated her Kerry Collection to Killorglin Library comprising of 250 works that can be viewed at the Kerry Council Buildings, Library Place, Killorglin. On the street in Library Place can be seen, ‘Niamh of the Golden Hair’ ... Pauline Bewick’s Valentia Slate Street Sculpture, inspired by the Legend of Oisín and Tír na nÓg ... (see P. 40)

*Niamh lies under the great waves between Rossbeigh and Inch, a place called  
Tír na nÓg, the land of everlasting youth.*

**Old Oak Tree ...** A recent exquisite street wooden sculpture on Iveragh Road upon and part of a Sessile Oak. Let’s call her ‘Biddy’ of Killorglin complete with purse, hat and assorted suitcases loaded on an old CIE truck. ... Looks like that Biddy always

resided there and took root in the Oak Tree. The inscription reads ...

*Emigration for too many is a bittersweet truth ...  
The sorrow of leaving, the hope of new horizons  
and the longing for home.*

**The Railway Memorial Sculpture** (1885-1960) ... the Great Southern & Western Railway memorial, includes all the railway stops and halts from Farranfore to Renard Point. This is situated opposite the original railway buildings, now the FEXCO offices at Iveragh Road.

Street Art abounds in Killorglin and includes ... the Puck Goat on CYMS Hall in the Fair Field, Brigid Goddess and Kingston's Wall at Lower Bridge Street. This flowering of artistic endeavour and achievement is part of the inspiration of KFest which has an emphasis on emerging artists and musicians. The festival uses unoccupied spaces in the town to become bespoke pop-up galleries over the annual festival on June Bank Holiday weekend.

### **13. CNOCÁN NA gCEAP & PUCK FAIR ...**

*Whist ... !!! do you hear, on the wind from the west?  
the Laune of the Elm, carries sound I attest,  
Lugh's Gathering attends, with flute, fife and drum,  
at Cnocán na gCeap, Puck Fair has begun ...*

Enclave of Rí na gCnoc ... his domain at the foothills of the Magillicuddy Reeks reigned supreme at Cnocán na gCeap on August 10<sup>th</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. *Ceap* translates as the 'hill of the blacksmith's 'last' ... or a tree-stump, a sturdy base for the anvil to mould his artifacts of reddened and hammered steel. The word 'ceap' came to mean the place where one was secure and nurtured or the head of the tribe ... very apt for King Puck's throne.

The origins of the fair have thus been lost in the mists of antiquity and evidence suggests that Puck Fair existed long before written records. There are two early 17th Century references that were found in relation to the Fair. The first was when granted Jenkin Conway, a local landlord at the time, the right to collect a sum for every animal brought to the August Fair. This would suggest that

the Fair was something already well established in the local community. The second reference is a charter from 1603 by King James I granting legal status to the existing fair in Killorglin.

The first theory simply suggests that it is linked to pre-Christian celebrations of a fruitful harvest and that the male goat or “Puck” was a pagan symbol of fertility, like the pagan god Pan. Another story associates King Puck to English ‘Ironside’ leader Oliver Cromwell. It is related that while the ‘Roundheads’ were pillaging the countryside around Shanara and Kilgobnet at the foot of the McGillicuddy Reeks, they routed a herd of goats grazing on the upland. The animals took flight before the raiders, and the he-goat or ‘Puck’ broke away on his own and lost contact with the herd.

While the other goats headed for the mountains, ‘Puck’ went towards Cill Orglan on the banks of the Laune. His arrival there in a state of semi-exhaustion alerted the inhabitants of the approaching danger and they immediately set about protecting themselves and their stock. It is said that in recognition of the service rendered by the goat, the people decided to institute a special festival in his honour and this festival has been held ever since. And still another theory relates back to the time of Daniel O’Connell who, in 1808, was an unknown barrister.

It seems that before that year, the August Fair held in Killorglin had been a toll fair, but an Act of the British Parliament empowered the Viceroy or Lord Lieutenant in Dublin to make an order, at his own discretion, making it unlawful to levy tolls at cattle, horse or sheep fairs.

Tolls in Killorglin at this time were collected by the local landlord – Mr Harman Blennerhassett – who with fallen graces with the authorities in Dublin Castle and as a result the Viceroy robbed him of his right to levy tolls. Blennerhassett enlisted the services of the young Daniel O’Connell, who, in an effort to reverse the decision decided that goats were not covered by the document and that the landlord would be legally entitled to hold a goat fair, and levy his tolls as usual.

Thus the fair was promptly advertised as taking place on August 10th, 1808 and on that day a goat was hoisted on a stage to show to all attending, that the fair was indeed a ‘goat-fair’ – thus Blennerhassett collected his toll money and Killorglin gained a King.

*... where the goat is the king, and the people act the goat ...*

Whatever of its origins, the fair has long been and continues to be the main social, economic and cultural event in the Killorglin Calendar.

*It is a time when old friends meet, when new friendships are forged and the cares of everyday living are put on hold.*

.....

*The litigants, he said, local congsmen and donalds, kings of aran and the dalkeys, kings of mud and tory, even the **goat king of Killorglin**, were egged on by their supporters in the shape of betterwomen with bowstrung hair of Carrothagenuine ruddiness, waving crimson petties and screaming from Isod's towertop.*

James Joyce, *Finnegans Wake* (1939)- p 85

.....

#### 14. FAIR FIELD ...

In the 18<sup>th</sup> Century the Blennerhassets lived at Castleconway Mansion, the area consisted of three acres behind the House serving as a buffer separating Killorglin town. The family relocated to Ballykissane Cross called Reen Lodge. The Fair Field as we know it, was part of the Mansion's Orchard and a story tells of archery contests were held there and other ascendancy games. Of corse it was a hive of activity on Fair Days, especially the iconic Horse Fair at Puck. In more recent days there was a Toll House, Weigh Station (demolished in 1990's) and two Smithys.

#### **Blennerhasset Obelisk Memorial ...**

Capt. Townsend Blennerhassett (1829-1867) of Ballymacprior, near Killorglin, Co. Kerry and a local boat boy named Costello both drowned on 20<sup>th</sup> June 1867 in Castlemaine Bay. They were in Townsend's sailing boat with family and friends and the party intending to picnic on the sandbar at Inch. They presumably departed from a mooring on the river Laune below the Blennerhassett home, Ballymacprior Lodge near Killorglin and it is likely that the drowning happened between Inch and Cromane and that he was brought ashore at Cromane. Townsend is buried in the main graveyard in Dromavalla.



## 15. CASTLECONWAY ...

Around the year 1215, a Norman named Maurice Fitz-Thomas built a castle in Killorglin. This was the first castle constructed in the area and was situated where Kingston's Bar/The Castle now stands. Locally it became known as 'Killorglin Castle' and from its construction to its destruction (caused by various attacks and fires), its rebuilding and demolition, the castle stood as a symbol of power for over 600 years. The first title of the Earl of Desmond was created in 1329 and Killorglin Castle although not a primary seat of power for the Earls, was used as a main defense, especially to any enemy who would travel up-river. Eventually the Earls became as Irish as the Irish themselves and when the Desmond Rebellion ended in failure, Killorglin Castle and all its lands were confiscated and became the property of the throne. For those loyal to Elizabeth I, lands and estates were granted and Captain Jenkin Conway along with Sir William Herbert, Sir Edward Denny and Robert Denny to benefit. In 1587 Elizabeth I granted Jenkin Conway over 5000 acres of land along with the seigniorship of Killorglin (a title which stayed synonymous with the castle up until the nineteenth century). Conway built his castle on the ruins of the earlier Norman castle and his title was confirmed in 1592. The castle itself is said to have been 44 feet long and 30 feet high with a 'bawn' or enclosure of 320 feet in circumference. However by 1682, a visitor noted that the castle was in ruins. The Blennerhassett Family became the custodians of the land and title and built a residence with massive walls and chimneys on the foundations of those ruins. This fine house with its beautiful, terraced gardens that went all the way down to the Laune, was a feature of eighteenth century Killorglin. Thomas Mullins bought Castle Conway in 1795, though he resided in Dingle. As a result of this, Castle Conway deteriorated further as Mullins had no use for it and the last known occupant was Fr Luony P.P. who died in 1844.

**The Secret Vault ! ...** Castle Conway had its own private chapel and under this lay a family vault. The first to be buried within this vault was Jenkin Conway in 1614 along with his wife and family. Later the vault was used by the Blennerhassett family in which John 'Blackjack' Blennerhassett (1665-1738) erected a marble monument in memory of his wife Elizabeth Cross (1669-1732)

and others of their family. The Chapel, its vault and monument are now lost. However many years ago, contractors digging a foundation to a house in the general area of the Castleconway grounds uncovered an opening that may have been a vault or tomb.

## **Lore & Legends of the Laune**

... from Corrán Tuathail, panorama personified, lord of all surveyed in the Beaufort Valley ... Loch Léin drained by the Leamhain River of the Elm, with tributaries Cottoners, Gweestin, Gaddagh and Loe. Dingle on the western skyline ... Sliabh Mis with her attendant goddesses to the north ... Scotia and Fas, Scál and Blathnaid. Loch Léin of Killarney and Anú of the Paps, Tomies to the east and the tucked mountains of the Black Valley stretching to Neidín of the Roughty River to the south.

In 1650's the Cromwellian General Ludlow mustered together ship-parts in Kinsale, assembled them at Killagha Abbey, Kilcolman on the mouth of the Maine estuary and set sail up the Laune toward Loch Léin to attack the fortress of the Castle of Ross. It was the stuff of legend that Ross Castle would never be taken by water on the north side ... being superstitious to a man, they laid down their arms when they saw the ship riding on the ghostly lake of Léin. Ross Castle was surrendered to Ludlow in 1652, an old prophecy proclaimed ...

*... Rosse may all assault disdain,  
Till on Lough Léin strange ship shall sail ...*

**Story of the Mermaid of the Laune** ... Hundreds of years ago pearls were seen along the strand of the river Laune. Every evening at about sunset a lovely young girl used to be seen picking them. It seems that she was not a real girl at all. She was half a girl and half a salmon. She was called a mermaid. One day an old woman was sitting on a stone near the river when she heard a lovely song being sung. She did not see anyone until she looked into the water, when she saw a beautiful maiden splashing among the waves with her tail. The foolish old woman put her hand into the water trying to catch her but the mermaid pulled her in and she was drowned. That night three or four men went looking for the old woman. The maiden saw them coming and she began to sing, but they struck her with the oar and killed her. She was never seen again.

It is said that pearls of price were obtained in great number from the Laune in olden times and that many graced the fair necks of the wives and daughters of the gallant Desmond chief. Edward Walsh alludes to the richness of the Laune pearl fishery in his poem of *'Aileen the Huntress'* ...

*A circlet of pearls o'er her white bosom lay,  
Erst worn by thy proud queen, O'Connor the Gay.*

### **Spideóg River ...**

The Spideóg river flows into the Laune at Gurrane. A local Chieftain owed a debt, made a bargain with the Devil to get a loan from him and if it was not paid back at a certain time the devil himself, would claim his soul. The appointed day came and the chieftain hadn't the wherewithal to pay up, but the devil had pity for him and gave him another chance to pay. He gave him a sieve at the bank of the stream, he told him to fill it with water. The Chieftain tried in vain, he was about to give up and surrender to the Devil. Then a robin appeared on a branch of an oak tree at the bank of the stream. He whispered to him to smear the inside of the sieve with clay and then he could fill the sieve and escape the claws of the Devil. The Chieftain was so grateful and he named the stream, An Spideóg ... the Robin's stream.

### **The Hermit at 'Sgarrive a Kuilleann' of Lios 'a Phúca ...**

There was a holy man, living as a hermit in Sgarrive a Kuilleen ... the Holly Ford, near Beaufort Bridge. In those days there were no bridges and people were content to wade bare foot through the water. The Hermit was a blessed man and there were a number of people from far and near seeking cures from all kinds of sicknesses, especially from the 'blasts' fairies. He was in such favour with God that he was fed by the blessed angels who brought him bread from heaven. One stormy night he was looking out of his hut and being sleepy he forgot to say ... 'Glory be to God', which was a grave mortal sin for him so much so that the angels didn't bring the 'bread of heaven' for him. He despaired and to think of what penance he should do for his sin. He got hold of his walking Holly-Stick, he ran down into the middle of the river, planted the stick in it and vowed never to leave the spot until the stick would grow green shoots.

After some time a noted thief came driving cattle over the ford and wondered why the hermit was standing in the river. The holy man said to the thief that he forgot to say his aspiration ... 'Glory be to God' and that he made a vow to not leave the spot until the holly stick would begin to grow. When the thief heard of this, he was struck with great sorrow for his own sins, he resolved to make restitution and like the hermit's example he cut a holly stick and vowed to stay there until there were green shoots. Suddenly his stick began to grow shoots and he knew his sins were forgiven. However, the hermit drowned when the flood waters got deeper and with sweet music his soul ascended up to heaven ... *'Glory to be God'*.

### **Cnocán Rua Dearg ...**

There are many fables associated with Cnocán Árd Dearg ... high red hillock. One is, that a Milesian/Viking ? ship is buried there close to Brigéis Pool. Another story has it that Fionn, while viewing the Laune from Dromin Hill, saw an invader approaching up river ... then filling his huge

fist with a clod of red earth at Poll Dearg near nearby Dromin, Knockavota and flinging it on the ship's broadside, thereby burying it at that very spot. Actually it is believed that the Cnocán Rua Dearg itself was man-made and that the red earth is not native to the area of Meanus.

Another story has it that Fionn Mac Cumhaill and a giant had a contest to jump off the MacGillycuddy Reeks. Fionn's opponent had a sister and she travelled all the way across the Laune to Dromin at Poll Dearg for sand to put under her brother's feet to break his fall. She had the sand in her apron, but when she reached Meanus, she heard that her brother had jumped down on a stone off the mountain and he was killed. She was so grieved that she let the sand fall and it formed a hill there, called Cnocán Árd Dearg.

### More Laune Lore ...

**Dunloe Castle ...** Beautifully located behind the towering McGillycuddy Reeks backdrop, Dunloe Castle was built by Norman Fitzgeralds in 1215. It is believed that the castle was built as part of the overall Killarney defense strategy, used to patrol and dictate the passage across the Gap of Dunloe river.

**Ballymalis Castle ...** This castle was built in the early 16th century by the Ó Muircheartaigh (O'Moriartys). It later passed to the Ó Fearghuis (Ferrises), who renovated it in the late 16th century. In 1677 the manor was confiscated by the Crown and granted to Francis Brewster, who granted it to the Eager (Eagar) family.

**O'Sullivan Mór ...** seat of O'Sullivan Mór from Tomies, on the mouth of the Laune.

**Tobarchríost ...** A Holy Well in the woods of Dunloe Castle, dedicated to Gobnait/Brigid where Good Friday Rounds are held.

**Innisfallen Crozier ...** found in Laune River, downstream from Beaufort Bridge by boatman Denis O'Sullivan in 1867, exhibited in the National Museum, Dublin.

**The Big Houses of Beaufort ...** Beaufort House, Cullenagh House, Banclune/Whitefield of MacGillycuddy of the Reeks and Churchtown House of the Blennerhassets.

**The Old Mill/St. John's Mill ...** was owned by Wm. Williams of Dunloe with its gigantic water wheel fed via a tributary of the Loe River. It was said to have been the largest wheel in Ireland and was used to grind grain throughout a vast area of Kerry.

The O'Connells of the slender swords,  
Dwelt in bushy forts between the Laune and the Maine.  
*Ó Conghaile of the slender swords,  
Was over the bushy-forted Magh Uí Coinchinn*

## ‘FISHING FOR POOLS ON THE LAUNE’

### LAUNE RIVER FISHING POOLS

From Ballykissane/Laune & Maine Estuary to Loch Léin, Killarney

*Ó bár Loch Léin go Loch na dTrí gCaol,  
Ag gaiseadh, ag taisteal ‘s ag líbarnáil síos,  
Ón riasc, ón sliabh, ón gleann go síor ...  
Abha deas álainn an Leamhain.*

From the top of Loch Léin to the Lake of the Three Sandspits (Dingle Bay),  
flowing, travelling and meandering down,  
From the marsh-bog, the mountain, from the glen ... westwards,  
The beautiful river of Laune. 2016

Roscullen Point (holly wood)  
*Slieve Shurriheen* (Sunhill) / old name/The Commons/Gurrane/  
Lurriga (to find ... ag lorg?)  
Poul a Curran (Coolinch?) (hole of the weir)  
Tinnahally (Callinafercy Store & Pier)  
Botteaux’s Creek (Rev. Botteaux drowned)  
Myles’s Point/Moylis?  
Cool Trag/Trá (Swimming Place)  
Down Cosh  
Con Caitlín  
Pointasharraig (holly headland)  
*Callinafercy Castle ... De Marisco, 1217?*  
Pointalabo (cow’s headland)  
Black Point  
Laibe  
& Lúb (Knightly’s Pool) (the turn)  
& Locán na Muice/Loughane/Laukaune Myckye (pig’s lake)  
Reenaclogh  
Reenacanna (Reen Point)  
Reen/Ryne Mac O’Shea ... old name for Reen  
Pointshanacurran (old weir)  
**Ruth’s Fort** (Callinafercy House)  
Fort Gap  
& Morgadh (Rotting?)  
*Ballykissane Pier*  
Ballykissane(Gurtaneran/Gort an Iarainn/land of iron)  
Poulfatt/Fatt’s Pool  
Pointalauna (Laune headland)  
Bankanapheepa (pipe bank)  
Pointín Daighin (tough headland) 3  
Bankinroe Island (red bank)

Pouldubh (black hole)/Killagha Priory fishing rights, 1217

Dromgorm Point (blue ridge)

Poulfluich (wet hole)

Pat's Sod

*The Cliff* (Callinafercy)

*Ice House* (Cliff)

Cliff Pool

Bár na Fola (Cliff)(top of the blood/battle?)

Poulagower (Callinafercy, Cliff) (goat's hole)

Clieveduff Island? (black ditch)

Con Caol? (narrow!)

Dan Doon?

& Poul na bhFód (hole of the sod)

### **Farranawilliam Fort**

Blennerhasset's Weir

& Gortaharig? Nr. Clash Island

Gortahahie (Nr. Cloon)(field of ?)

Gerteloge?/Gortnalóga/Gort Itloage (Ballymacprior) Lepers' House?

Bailenamogt/Baile na mBocht/(poor)/Leppers' town/Hospital

Field/Tinnahalla

Gortarelig (Tinnahalla) (field of the grave)

Farran Clochaighie/Ferranclohie /Cloghny? (Steelroe) (stony)

Farrancloghny?(stony land)

Inchacloon (Cloon Island) (meadows)

Clash Island (Innie Cloon) (trenches)/Gortarelig

### **Coombeg Fort** (Ballymacprior)

### **Lismoyle Fort** (Reen) (bald fort)

& Máithaireach (Steelroe) (abundant in fish)

Cloonmurray (Cluain Mhuire/Cloonmurrán) (meadows)

Castleconway 1217 ... Pool?

Pota (Nun's Pool)

*Castleconway Pier*

*Railway Bridge, 1885?*

\*\*\* Oughirmowran/Cathair Fheorann/South of Castleconway

*Dromavalla Church* Dromavally Pool?

*County Bridge, Killorglin, 1885*

*The Fishery 1849*

### **Faillnagower Fort** (goat's fort)

*Coptic Stone/Ardmoneel/Farrantoreen Stone, 6<sup>th</sup> Century*

1. Cottoner's River/Tributary (Uncaire ... weaver)

Cot Pool (Cottoners)?

*Cnocán Árd Rua*/Red Hill?/Viking?

& Brigéis Pool (Joys)(trout-fish?)(Viking)

Cnoc na Fola /Viking battleground?

Plás na Sleatha?(place of the battle)



Coll Tharraigh?

*Mount Laune House*

Annadale Pool

### **Ardraw Fort/Joys**

*Altavilla House?*

& Garraí Pool (Coolnaquicka, Gortnascarry)

*Dungeel Church/McCarthy Mór 7*

Inse Liath (grey strand)

Glasheenasheeafree Stream (fairy trenches)

Tullynascally/Weaver's Stream

Johnson's Beat/Flat Strand

Whirlpool (Cormac Roche)?

### **2. Gweestin River/Tributary (Ghaoistin)**

Bánclune House/Pool (Whitefield)

Breen's Stream

### **Tullaghaun Fort**

### **Lissnarallaha Fort**

Poll na Halla ?

Dookawn

Sheep Gap

Concrete Pool

Hazel Pool

Hut Pool

Island Pool

Point Alanna

Poulnahalla (cliff-hole)

Paul Connors/Pat? Breens

Columns

Bridge Stream

Castle Pool

& Pickett's Pool

*Ballymalis Castle*

Tullachán

Aill an Tarbh (bull's cliff)

Gort an Cholpadh

Cnoc na Gamhna (calf's hill)

### **3. Gaddagh River/Tributary (Geadach ... cow's star on the forehead ??)**

Liag an Duibhe Stream (black rock)

Castle Point

Castle Pool

Rock Pool

Concrete Pool

Christian's Pool

& Collinanodes /Colonore? (Paul Connors)

Featha (Pool) (boggy)

Border's Inch  
 Strand Pool  
 Búile Mhic  
 Criora / Criothrí?  
 Lan Mór (Cormac Johnsons)  
 Stookán  
 Ferry House/Pool  
 & Tobarascreen (Coolbane)  
**Cummer Fort**  
*Kilbonane Church*  
 Kilbonane Cloons/Island  
 Glebe Pool, (an tuath)  
 Lios Ruadh (red fort)  
 Lissahalla? 11  
 Spideóg Tributary & Legend  
**Lios a Phúcha Fort** (Lios Álainn/Beaufort)  
*Laune Bridge* (Beaufort/dr. scairbh an chuilinn)  
 Bothar na gCrann (tree road)  
**Árdfergus Fort**  
*Beaufort House* (Crosbie/Cameron)  
 Stump Pool (Beaufort House)  
 Island Pool  
 Bridge Pool  
 Rhododendron Pool  
 Lime Tree Pool  
 Summer House Pool  
 Wall Pool ... Dr. Roy Craig, Beaufort House  
 & Carraig na Roan(Seal Rock)  
**Lissduff Fort** (Beaufort House)  
 & Scórna Dunloe (Battle)  
*Dunloe/Coolmagort Ogham Stones*  
*Tobar Chríost Well/Dunloe*  
**4. Loe River/Tributary (Loich)**  
*Grenagh House*  
*Dunloe Castle/O'Mahony/The Keep*  
*St John's Mill*  
*Tobarcríost Holy Well/Brighid?/Gobnait?*  
*Dunloe Crozier 1861?*  
 & Bunloe, Loe Tributary!  
 Caol River at Pallas  
 Pallas River  
 Bán Tomies  
*O'Sullivan Mor's house/ruins*  
 Ferry Bridge/Culnane Bridge  
 Fossa Way

Lyne's Pot  
**Lissmongane Fort**  
*Innisfallen Island 14*

*We'll fish to Knightly's Island  
And from that down to the quay,  
And our boats will be at anchor,  
At the dawning of the day,  
Callinafercy fisherman's song.*

\*\*\* Oughirmowran/Cathair Fheorann/South of Castleconway  
St Bennan 619 AD ... founder of Moriarty Sept/Cnocán na gCeap?  
St Mochudda said ... *'it lay beside the fish abounding River of Laune'*

**The Manor Fishery of Killorglin**  
*M.J. de Courcy Dodd*

\* Old names from article ... Pools/Headlands/Ploughlands /Fields on or about the River Laune.

Gortnarahy/field of rushes?  
Gortnecriehy  
Keamnabuhy /yellow place  
Ribband  
Lismuilleen/fort of the mill  
Mill Field  
Marsh Faddane (Fiddane)  
Clashbane/ white trench?  
Play Mauds  
Gort Iclareshoarie  
Gort Iganiff /sandy field  
Glane Ikrar/Ikeardi  
Gortnytubbred /well field  
Gort Ileynan/Lyne's field  
Gortinclassie  
Gortgeare/ sharp field  
Acretraeiehine  
Gortinhallimone/field of the bog cliff?  
Powle Ikealigher /Kelliher's pool?  
Gortmore/big field  
Gortimoantine/bog-field  
Cappaghorlen

Gort Itearnu  
Clonthimagh/the plains?  
Gortgarrve /rough field  
Inish Iclanie  
Farentymuckine /pig's land  
Gortarahie  
Cloghanlieghe/grey stone

*Reference/ Contributors ...Augustus Grimble: Salmon Rivers of Ireland 1908, Patrick V. O'Sullivan/John Johnson/Seamus Griffin/Karl O'Sullivan/Don Cameron/Tim Kearin/Tim Kelliher/George Kelly/Eanna O'Malley.*

Pool names were associated with adjoining Forts/Castles/Big  
Houses/Bridges/Fields/Headlands and Family names ...  
MacGillicuddys/Coffeys/Cliffords/N. Foleys/Kelliher's/Twomey/ Heffernan's/Strand

*Townlands associated with the Laune River ...*

Reen/Callinafercy/Knocklyne/TulligBeg/More/Ballykissane/Garrane  
Ballymacprior/Tinnahally/Stealroe/Clooncarraig/Castleconway/Banshagh  
Dromavally/Dunmanaheen/Anglont/Lismacfinnan/Meanus/Farrantoreen  
Annadale/Ardmoniel/Groyne/Dungeel/Owenagarry/Gortnascarry/Tubrid  
Mweelcaha/Coolbane/Coolroe/Whitefield/Tullig/Ards/Ballymalis  
Kilbonane/Carhoobeg/Churchtown/Gneeves/Lahard/Cullenagh  
Coolmagort/Pallas/Dunloe/Gortreagh/Grenagh/Lismongane/Tomies



Inspector J. Hensey, Notebook in hand Stripping, Weighing and Marking at the Killorglin Hatchery ... The Fishery 1908 ... Grimble 'Salmon Rivers of Ireland'.

## Life cycle of the Atlantic Salmon

The extraordinary life cycle and the migratory patterns of the salmon are not still completely understood. The salmon begins life as an egg, laid in gravel in a fast-flowing river. Around ninety days it develops into an alevin with yolk sac attached, when that is absorbed, is called a salmon fry and when a finger length, called a parr. After a year or so the parr turns silver and then called a smolt and starts its descent to the sea. Far out in the Atlantic it feeds and makes rapid growth and after a year it returns for spawning to its natal river ... to leap up the rapids and waterfalls to the spawning beds where the male ejects milt, fertilizing the eggs released by the female. After spawning, salmon of both sexes are called kelts and drop downstream in a weakened state where most die of disease or fall prey to predators. Those that regain sufficient condition can return after one or more years for a second spawning.

*Toward the hill of Garrane, Sunhill and Knocklyne,  
heron and otter feed on the seashore by Reen;  
At Ballykissane, history is etched on the Pier ...  
three heroes drowned there, to set this land free.  
Whist ... !!! do you hear, on the wind from the west?  
the Laune of the Elm, carries sound I attest,  
Lugh's Gathering attends, with flute, fife and drum,  
at Cnocán na gCeap, Puck Fair has begun ...*

## References / Publications ...

**'Cois Leamhain' by Killorglin Historical and Folklore Society**  
**'Cast a Laune Shadow' by Pa Houlihan**  
**'History of Killorglin' by Kieran Foley**  
**'Killorglin's River of Memories' by Killorglin Archive Society**  
**'Ballykissane Tragedy-1916' by Tom Doyle**  
**'Kerry Dreamtime' by Thomas O'Sullivan**  
**Patrick V. O'Sullivan & Callinafercy Lore**

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[kerryonwalking@gmail.com](mailto:kerryonwalking@gmail.com)  
**087 9807122**

Killorglin Archives ... [www.killorglinarchives.com](http://www.killorglinarchives.com)  
Reeks District ... [www.reeksdistrict.com](http://www.reeksdistrict.com)  
Puck Fair ... [www.puckfair.ie](http://www.puckfair.ie)

## ANAMÁIT

### *Spirit of Place*

The Last Train Ghost Whistle o'er the old Metal Bridge,  
along the path to Stealroe, climb up steep Curragh Hill;  
look over your shoulder, between earth, sea and sky,  
on the Battlefield of Mis, Queen Scotia did lie.

Up on to the brow, a great vista appears,  
the Paps to Crohane, then Torc and Strickeen,  
from Tomies, Cruach Mór, Corrán and Seefin,  
the spine of Iveragh fades out at Drung Hill.

By the lush fields of Anglont, Dromavalla in view,  
a cross at each head, the tombs lay there mute ...  
leave the Monks to their matins, by the Arches repair,  
to the Lord of Castle Hill, up that long winding stair.  
Through the thicket of Annagh on to Farrantoreen,  
a Knight in repose there by the Triple-Cross stream,  
the meadows of Meanus by the banks of the Laune,  
Cnoc Árd Dearg entombs, a ship in the mound.

Knockboola, Garrahadoo from Ownagarry,  
arrive at the foot of Ceannouvree,  
hear Diggin the Piper sound the *'bolg is buinní'*,  
on his Stone plays the wailsome, ceol of the sídhe.  
Through a gap in the ditch see Caherconree,  
from his Fort, Mac Dáire declares he is Árd Rí;  
Loch na dTrí gCaol all shimmering there, squats,  
fracturing the skyline ... the Three Narrow Spits.

Toward the hill of Garrane, Sunhill and Knocklyne,  
heron and otter feed on the seashore by Reen;  
At Ballykissane, history is etched on the Pier ...  
three heroes drowned there, to set this land free.  
Whist ... !!! do you hear, on the wind from the west?  
the Laune of the Elm, carries sound I attest,  
Lugh's Gathering attends, with flute, fife and drum,  
at Cnocán na gCeap, Puck Fair has begun ...

## Amamáit

*Spirit/Sense of Place ...*

... is a poem dedicated to Killorglin/Cill Orglan ... Church of Forglann and environs, a phantasmagorical walk through its landscape ... engaging with its history, mythology and placename ... in which the present and the past share a common timescape conveying a '*sense and spirit of place*'.

*The Last Train's Ghost Whistle o'er the old Metal Bridge,*

The railway closed with the Last Train leaving Killorglin station and passed over the Metal/Railway Bridge on Saturday 10.45 p.m. January 30<sup>th</sup> 1960. The Great Southern and Western Railway was constructed 1885 from Farranfore to Renard, Valentia and as it were, lasted but one human lifetime. Michael Sugrue and Br. Nicholas O'Sullivan, Milltown were passengers on that train and were indeed passengers on the first train in 1885. Down through its short history, the train was part of the fabric of Iveragh and of its many functions ferried Kerry supporters to Croke Park on All Ireland day on what was known as the Ghost Train, travelling throughout the night toward its destination at Heuston. Stealroe ... *Stial Rua* townland lies at the western side of Curragh Hill ... another name for Dromin Hill with spectacular views of the Laune Estuary and the Sliabh Mis mountain range as far as the Blasket Islands. Queen Scotia, a Pictish queen was killed at the Battle of Sliabh Mis 3500 B.C. .... gives her name to Scotland and Nova Scotia ... the lands of Scotia. On the brow of Dromin Hill looking to the south, a magnificent panorama awaits. From the Paps of Anú, Queen of the Danann, to Drung Hill of the Pilgrimages at the end of the Iveragh Peninsula. The other mountain names include ... Crohane, Torc ... hill of the wild boar ... Strickeen ... the little peak. Tomies ... grave of Mis, Cruach Mór ... high peak ... Corrán Tuathail ... Ireland's highest peak ... inverted sickle of the god Tuathail and Seefin, *Suí Fionn* ... his vantage point overlooking Rossbeigh and Inch.

*By the lush fields of Anglont, Dromavalla in view,*

Anglont ... difficult to translate save that there existed there an old burial ground and perhaps an old church. Dromavalla ... back of the town .....Arches refer to the eight arches spanning the County Bridge on the entrance to Killorglin ... the gateway to the Ring of Kerry and fast becoming the gourmet capital where fine hostelryes and restaurants abound. Lord of the Castle refers to Jenkin Conway of Castleconway who was granted a tract of land as part of the Munster Plantation. Annagh, a corrupted form of Annadale, a leafy road on the Beaufort side of town. Farrantoreen ... Fearrann Tuairín ... land of the flax bleaching and where

lies a 'triple cross stone' known as the Farrantoreen Stone/Coptic/Merovingian, with Knights Templar associations. Meanus ... meaning a mine and Cnocán Árd Dearg ... high red hillock ... where it is said that a ship is buried there or another story has it that Fionn, while viewing the Laune from Dromin Hill saw the invader approaching up the river Laune, filling his huge fist with a clod of red earth at Poll Dearg near nearby Knockavota, flinging it at the ship on its broadside, thereby burying it at that very spot ... actually it is believed that the Cnocán itself was man-made as the red earth is not native to Meanus.

*By Knocknaboola, Garrahadoo from Ownagarry,*

Knocknaboola, Garrahadoo and Owenagarry ... very poetic, musical placenames and Ceannouvree, difficult to translate ... yellow hillock ? ... is mentioned in a local song, the Maids of Ceannouvree. The next reference is to Diggin (O'Duibhgín) the Piper from nearby Caragh Lake and made his living playing for the local aristocracy in the Big Houses ... having the Ceol Sídhhe or Fairy Music and the nearby ... Piper's Stone is attributed to him. Bolg 's Buinní, ancient name for Uilleann Pipes. Caherconree, part of the Sliabh Mis mountains is the site of the highest promontory fort in the land and has numerous mythological references. Among these is of Cú Roí Mac Dáire, King of Munster (Árd Rí) in his revolving magic Glass Castle. He is also associated with Amergín, the shaman poet of the Milesians who wrote Dán Amergín ... the first Irish poem on setting foot at Inbhear Scéine, Kenmare. Loch na dTrí gCaol is the ancient name for Dingle Bay/Castlemaine Harbour ... well named as it translates as the Lake of the Three Narrow Sandspits ... namely Cromane, Inch and Rossbeigh.

*Toward the hill of Garrane, Sunhill and Knocklyne,*

Garrane, Sunhill, Knocklyne and Reen ... more placenames of a poetic nature. Ballykissane is particularly famous in that on Good Friday, April 1916, a car called the Briscoe Cyclops with four revolutionaries on board took a wrong turning and drove over the Pier. Their names of the men who were drowned were Con Keating, Charlie Monaghan, Donal Sheehan. Tom McInerney survived but died some months later. This tragic event was the 1<sup>st</sup> casualty of the 1916 Rising and if it had a different outcome, the theory is that it may have changed the course of Irish history.

Whist !!! is a localized Irish expression to mean shush!/ silence! to call attention. The word Laune ... Leamhain in Irish meaning Elm, possibly on account of a preponderance of elm trees in the area at one time. Lugh is the god of the harvest ... Celtic Féile Lughnasa, falling in early August which coincides with Puck Fair, held in Killorglin ... 10/11/12<sup>th</sup> annually where a wild mountain goat is put on a stand at a place called Cnocán na gCeap on the Gathering Day of the Fair ... *never died a winter yet nor never missed a Puck !*



# PUCKATHON

2015

(See Accompanying Map Sketch below)

## Self – Guided walk for Mayday!

*In 2015 when this project was being designed ... the Centenary Walk was not in existence and is now part and parcel of the Puckathon project.  
Also, the Tarmac Walk at Iveragh Road was completed in 2018 and fits very well, coming from Laharn Hill to the last leg of the Puckathon to Killorglin.*

**Puckathon** is the particular name to describe the circumnavigation of Killorglin ... a Marathon, if you wish, traversing all directions through the varied landscapes, seascapes, riverbanks, boglands, valleys and hilltops ... verily, a tour of King Puck's Kingdom in all its splendour from Ballykissane to the North, Dromin to the West, Owenagarry to the South and Laharan to the West.

A Marathon by definition consists of 26 miles 386 yards / 42.19 Km. and the Puckathon distance totals 42.72 Km. The name *Marathon* comes from the legend of [Pheidippides](#), a Greek messenger. The legend states that he was sent from the battlefield of [Marathon](#) to Athens to announce that the [Persians](#) had been defeated in the [Battle of Marathon](#) (in which he had just fought), which took place in August or September, 490 BC. It is said that he ran the entire distance without stopping and burst into the assembly, exclaiming [νενικήκαμεν](#) (*nenikekamen*, "we have won"), before collapsing and dying.

*While looking at the Killorglin mapping of the Seacht Slí na Seachtaine (2015) and scaling the routes, the totaling distances of the four routes realized the magic number of 26 and a quarter miles, that of the traditional 'Marathon' distance.*

*Puckathon* can be a **Walking, Cycling, Running** experience, be it the competitive or for leisure, entirely up to one's own decision or fitness !!! It essentially comprises of four sections or *circuits* ... or *cúaird* ... in the poetic-speak, where the revered bard went journeying throughout the land reciting newly composed verse and poetry. The four Circuits/*cúaird* include :

- 1 ... Dromin Circuit or Cúaird ... Eastwards.
- 2 ... Owenagarry Circuit or Cúaird ... Southwards.
- 3 ... Farrantoreen Circuit or Cúaird ... Westwards.
- 4 ... Ballykissane Circuit or Cúaird ... Northwards.

*Puckathon* can be completed all at once for the adventurous or in sections and at any stage one can ‘kick for home’ as *Puckathon* is so designed that any one of the sections are proximate to Killorglin.

The *Half - Puckathon* or ... *Nanathon* ??? is also catered for and the official distance being ... 13 miles / 21 km.

This circuit entails the completion of the **Dromin Section No.1** ... then continuing along the **Farrantoreen Section No.2** on Annadale Road to reach Groyne, on toward Garrahadoo and Knocknaboola (i.e. 2<sup>nd</sup> turn to the R.), **R.** turn on to Caragh Lake road heading for Killorglin town, on to Langford Street **L.** at Roundabout, **R.** to Old Railway Walkway to reach Metal/Railway Bridge, along track to reach Riverbank, on to Banshagh, heading for town, over County Bridge, **R.** to eventually reach the Finish at Fair Field ... this last section re Railway Route is a repeat of Start of *Nanathon*.

*The Last Train Ghost Whistle o’er the old Metal Bridge,  
along the path to Stealroe, climb up steep Curragh Hill;  
look over your shoulder, between earth, sea and sky,  
on the Battlefield of Mis, Queen Scotia did lie.  
Up on to the brow, a great vista appears,  
the Paps to Crohane, then Torc and Strickeen,  
from Tomies, Cruach Mór, Corrán and Seefin,  
the spine of Iveragh fades out at Drung Hill.*

## **1 ... Dromin Circuit ... cúaird an chnoic ...**

Beginning at the Fair Field, proceed to the Nun’s Road, on to the Railway Bridge over Laune River (L.&R. views). Continue along the pathway, about-turn at Astellas to the riverbank (See otter, heron, duck). Continue along bank **R.** toward Banshagh, **L.** along Footpath to Stealroe Estate ... Continue on Main Road (N70) ... **Careful Here as there is a little stretch of Main Road ... 50 yards !!!** , see (Cloon Is. and Callinafercy Cliffs) veer **R.** toward Dromin, **R.** to Killorglin Golf Course, veer **L.** to Dromin via *Poll na gCat* ... **R.** to the top of Dromin Hill (Curragh Hill ) ... spectacular views and of Sliabh Mis, Caherconree and Laune/Maine Estuary. Continue to the top of the hill where a panoramic vista awaits with the splendour of Magillicuddy Reeks ... from the Paps to the east through Killarney and Torc, on to Corrán Tuathail, Mullaghanattin to Drung Hill/Valentia in the far west. Proceed downhill, veer **L.** toward Lismacfinnan, on toward Anglont, **R.** to Dromavally to reach the Main Road (N70), **L.** on to Dromavalla Churchyard and proceed toward Killorglin, over the County Bridge (1885) to Bianconi Corner. This completes **Circuit No.1** of the *Puckathon*.

Comprises of Orange/Railway and Green/Heritage Routes of Seacht Slí na Seachtaine. Distance: 5.9 miles/ 9.4 km.

*By the lush fields of Anglont, Dromavally in view,  
a cross at each head, the tombs lay there mute ...  
leave the Monks to their matins, by the Arches repair,  
to the Lord of Castle Hill, up that long winding stair.  
Through the thicket of Annagh on to Farrantoreen,  
a Knight in repose there by the Triple-Cross stream,  
the meadows of Meanus by the banks of the Laune,  
Cnoc Árd Dearg entombs, a ship in the mound.*

## **2 ... Farrantoreen Circuit ... cúaird an dúchais ...**

Continue along Annadale Road (Pathway parallel to Annadale Rd. ... Coptic Stone/Farrantoreen on Laune bank) ... Continue toward Meanus, **R.** turn before Meanus Bridge and **R.** toward Owenagarry ... to junction and bridge **R.** turn and **R.** again on to slip road to Groyne and Gorman's Cross. Turn on 2<sup>nd</sup> **L.** on to Garrahadoo and continue along bog road to Knocknaboola (bog flora abounding ... heather and bog-cotton) ... **R.** turn to Caragh Lake Road and **L.** to sharp bends toward Quarry. **R.** turn to Rangué, past Car Breakers Yard on to Old Rossbeigh Road and foot of Laharan hill ... turn **L.** here on to Laharan Cross ... completing **Circuit No.2** of the Puckathon. Comprises of Indigo/Farrantoreen and Violet/Piper's Stone Routes of Seacht Slí na Seachtaine.

Distance: 8.1 miles/13.0 km.

*Knocknaboola, Garrahadoo from Ownagarry,  
arrive at the foot of Ceannouvree,  
hear Diggin the Piper sound the 'bolg is buinni',  
on his Stone plays the wailsome, ceol of the sídhe.  
Through a gap in the ditch see Caberconree,  
from his Fort, Mac Dáire declares he is Árd Rí;  
Loch na dFrí gCaol all shimmering there, squats,  
fracturing the skyline ... the Three Narrow Spits.*

## **3 ... Ballykissane Circuit ... cúaird na farraige ...**

From Laharan Cross take slip-road, **L.** to Main Road (N70) ... **At this stage there is a stretch of Main Road (N 70) to Cromane Cross ... Careful !!!** ... turn **L.** at Cromane Cross and continue toward Cromane. ... **R.** at Cromane/Tullaig junction, continue toward Reen and Garrane and

turn **L.** to Ballykissane Pier. This brings you on the newly designated ... **Centenary Walk (2021)** (See fine views of Castlemaine Bay/Callinafercy, Laune Estuary and Sliabh Mis Mountain / Sea Flora and Fauna). Along way see Cillín Stone, Well Pump and Ballykissane history associations re 1916, First Casualties of War of Independence/Memorial Commemorative Sculpture 2016. ... completing **Circuit No. 3** of the Puckathon.

Comprises of Violet/Piper's Stone and Yellow/Harbour and Blue/Sea Routes of Seacht Slí na Seachtaine.

Distance: 5.1 miles/ 8.2 km.

*Toward the hill of Garrane, Sunhill and Knocklyne,  
heron and otter feed on the seashore by Reen;  
At Ballykissane, history is etched on the Pier ...  
three heroes drowned there, to set this land free.  
Whist ... !!! do you hear, on the wind from the west?  
the Laune of the Elm, carries sound I attest,  
Lugh's Gathering attends, with flute, fife and drum,  
at Cnocán na gCeap, Puck Fair has begun ...*

#### **4 ... Laharan Circuit ... cúaird an phiobaire ...**

From Ballykissane Pier ... continue the **Centenary Walk** Continue **L.** on foreshore, then past Reen Point, onto concrete Ramp, **Stile 1/Stile 2** onto grassy bank to **Stile 3** and onto the Reen Road. Continue along the Reen road to the Reen Crossroads ... **Careful through crossroad !!!** ... and on up to Knocklyne Hill and at top, **R.** at Sunhill to walk westwards along ridge of Garrane Hill. **Note** ... at the top of Garrane Hill is a rest-place and old Well Pump ... *Lig do Scíth !* **L.** turn toward Main Road Junction (N70) ... bypass the Main Road and continue along the **New Tarmac Track** to Laharn, **R.** turn up Laharan Hill ... **Careful crossing the Main Road (N70)...** Spectacular views of Dingle Bay, Cromane, Inch and Rossbeigh. **L.** turn along narrow road, **L.** turn downhill to Old Rossbeigh Road, **L.** to travel eastwards to Iveragh Road ... use footpath on left opposite Boyle's Hardware ... **Careful crossing the Main Road (N70)** ... and finish at Fair Field to complete the Puckathon **Circuit No. 4.**

This completes the Four Circuits of Killorglin Puckathon. See Map.

Comprises of Blue/Sea; Yellow/Harbour and Violet/Piper's Stone Routes of Seacht Slí na Seachtaine.

Distance: 7.5 miles/ 12.1km.

Total Distance of Puckathon : ... 26.6 miles / 42.7 km.\

## Song lines and The Dreaming Tracks

*Reference to the Aboriginal Song lines ... an Irish version !!!*  
*Siúlóid na n-Dán ... Walk with the Lore, Legends and Poets.*

When the Australian Aboriginal peoples journeyed through their tribal lands, across hostile territories and over vast distances, they accessed their song tradition called *Altjerinja* ... the Song lines. These verses were composed throughout thousands of years of observations by the elders, outlining the 'walkabout' from the departure point to their destinations, hard-wired into the lyrics of the song ... Aboriginal Sat-Nav?. Song lines were committed to memory as part of the narrative guiding them through the deserts of the interior, seeking out of waterholes, dangers on their journeys and pointing out prominent features of the trail ... a cognitive map interacting with the landscape, via the melodic contour of song.

*Siúlóid na n-Dán*, Walk with the Lore, Legends and Poets of Na Chruacha Dubha, MacGillycuddy Reeks, is the Kerry Dreamtime ... akin to the *Aisling* of the Kerry Poets in the tradition of Eoghan Rua Ó'Súilleabháin, Piaras Feiritéar, Aodhagán Ó Rathaille and Geoffrey O'Donoghue, the Spéirbhean Poets, a compendium of the lore and legends, songs, poems and music that inhabit the land, a cultural tapestry of the Dreaming Tracks of Kerry. The Irish song tradition featured the beauty of landscape, glories of mountain, river, lake, valley, glen, and the journey, *an turas*, thematic of the song ... *Brosna Town* perhaps, a song line from a Kerry tradition ...

*Back to the Peaks of Cuddy's Reeks, from Killorglin by the Laune,*  
*From Castlemaine to Coolnagrein and home by Brosna Town.*

... the lay of the landscape. *Siúlóid na n-Dán*, Kerry Dreamtime is an extension of the *sense of place*, an important determinant of culture from Loch Léin to Kate Kearney's over the MacGillycuddy Reeks to Lough Acoose and Glencar ... *the whispered message of the landscape, I am watching you, are you watching yourself in me ?*. Go n-eirí do bhóthar leat, the shortening of the road, blessings on your travels, the road may rise to meet you on the lore of the job of journeywork ... *... Solvitor Ambulando ...*

*Bíonn an Siúltach, Scéaltach ... the walker has the stories.*

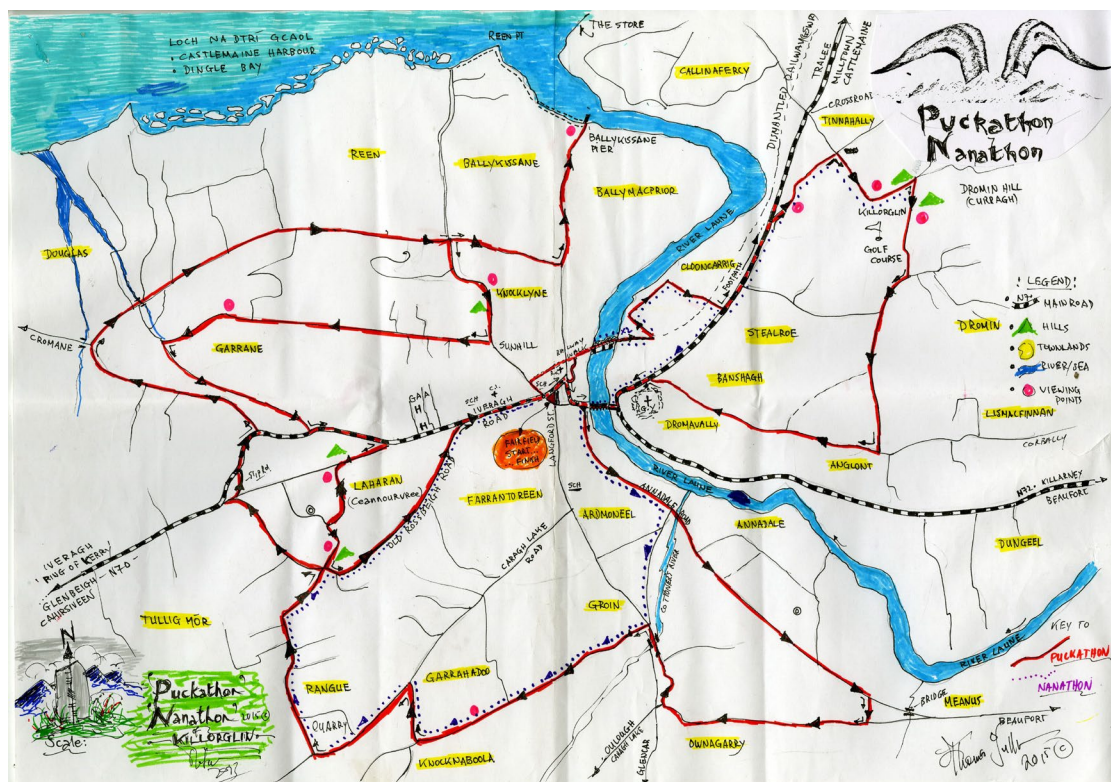
*'Above all, do not lose your desire to walk. Every day, I walk myself into a state of well-being & walk away from every illness. I have walked myself into my best thoughts, and I know of no thought so burdensome that one cannot walk away from it.'*  
Søren Kierkegaard

# PUCKATHON

**Note ... re map changes !!!**

The part at Ballykissane was omitted as the Centenary Walk didn't exist  
So continue left on foreshore to bring you to Reen ... cross the road on to  
Knocklyne.

Likewise coming to last leg from Laharn ... you can include the New Walk toward football field ... all fits well to Iveragh Rd and Town !!



## ‘ BIDDY OF TULLAIG ’

Biddy O'Shea from Tullaig Mór, west of Killorglin town,  
With a bog, a byre, a grass of a cow and neat drills of spuds were sown;  
The hiring fair found this pretty young maid, who slaved o'er the daily chores,  
For the three days of Puck, in Connie Leen's Pub, she'd fill jugs of porter galore;  
Madly in love with Peadar she was, as he fished Brigéis to Cloon Árd,  
And Biddy did wonder what'd all come of this, hard toil and little reward;  
Their trysting place was the old Oak Tree, at the top of Iveragh Road,  
With the steam-train's puff, all fooster with people and the cargo's heavy load.

Peadar, he netted the Lúb by night and downward towards the Quay,  
The landlord seized the 'rights' from him, *'straining water I'm now, a chroí'*;  
He heard a tale in olden days, of the Black-Eyed precious Pearl,  
In the Belly of a Salmon Wise, the brightest and the rarest of jewels;  
True love he had for Biddy O'Shea, t'was like landing a fulsome trawl,  
But Sunday night was their delight, at the dance in Moloney's Hall.  
He'd hear Toime's loudest wave, near the Birch Woods of Ross,  
With valiant Oisín, on his Silver Steed, galloping over the Beama Pass;

The Circus, Clowns and the Great Big Top, came a week before Puck Fair,  
Johnny played his pipes and drones, for the throngs up in the Square;  
He wrote a song for Biddy *a stór*, those enchanted words she'd hear,  
Sweet nothings he whispered all night long and she sang *Johnny Dear*;  
Promises had he a-plenty, she'd be a bright singing star in lights,  
'Come to America, my love with me, be ever and always my wife';  
Poor Peadar *bocht*, when he heard of this, for him t'was the bitter pill;  
She boarded the eastbound Killorglin train, on a late November chill.

*Hunting the Wild White Salmon, in deep pools of Loch Trí Caol,  
Fishing to find the Black-Eyed Pearl, it would adorn his Biddy's soul;  
The surf-sound roar from Rossbeigh's strand, he'd hear it from the town,  
That 'loudest wave' would carry Biddy, to a far-off distant land.*

.....

Long years away, would come and go and Biddy's life now was spent,  
Just like the wind and a fly by night, Johnny Pickett, he wayward went;  
With an old suitcase of broken dreams, she aged well before her years,  
Homeward, back on that 'iron steed', she longed for home in tears.  
She asked of her true love Peadar *a chroí*, a telling of a tale so sad;  
He pined away, but inside Biddy's purse ... that priceless Pearl he had;  
He drowned one night in a spring-full tide, while landing a heavy haul,  
Now Biddy looks west from the old Oak Tree, listening to Rossbeigh's call.



### Notes to Poem/Song ... *'Biddy of Tullaig'*

One evening as I was walking along Iveragh Road, I noticed the Great Southern & Western Railway Memorial 1885-1960, then the 'lady sculpture' on the old Sessile Oak Tree with assorted cases and CIE truck. Then on to Library Place and the Bewick sculpture of Niamh of the Golden Hair ... Oisín and Tír na nÓg ... *Niamh lies under the great waves between Rossbeigh and Inch, a place called Tír na Óg, the land of everlasting youth.*

A reference to the hearing of the waves of Rossbeigh (trans. *birch woods*) at Iveragh Road. ... Elements of the story ...

*Biddy O'Shea of Tullaig Mór* is associated with Killorglin folklore, mythology and its history including a story of Pearl picking in the Laune River. Moloney's Hall was a dance hall at Upper Bridge Street. The characters of this story ... Biddy O'Shea (O'Donoghue), Peadar Cotter and Johnny Pickett (Patterson) and is inspired and based on the Legend of Tír na nÓg.

### **'Tonn Toime' ... The Loudest Wave.**

*Silence is the language of God,  
Everything is a poor translation.*

It was said of Killorglin people of olden times, that if one was to listen at the top of Iveragh Road, you could hear the sound of the waves crashing on Rossbeigh beach wafting on the prevailing westerly breeze. At that time there was a silence about the place, being devoid of the din of the internal combustion engine and general modern noise. This was also part of the mythology of Tonn Toime and the 'loudest wave in all of Ireland', heard between Inch and Rossbeigh sand spits and Rossbeigh (wood of the birch trees) is the setting for the myth ... Tír na nÓg. Mythologically, the hearing of this Wave was the sign of the death of a King. Dingle Bay was called Loch Trí Caol ... the three sand spits ... Cromane, Rossbeigh and Inch. Puck Fair association with the Lughnasa Festival in August, the Brigid Donoghue song, associations with Johnny Patterson and the Laune Fishery and then the story of women looking for Pearls there ...

... this took seed and was the inspiration to compose a song/story/poem ... *'Biddy O'Shea of Tullaig'* from the elements gleaned from the above with plenty of poetic licence !!!

**Bridget (Biddy) Donoghue** ... Johnny Patterson on visiting Killorglin fell in love with Biddy Donoghue. She worked at Johanna Kelliher's Public House and he composed this song for her ...

*Oh! Bridget Donoghue, I really do love you,*



*Although I'm in America, to you I will be true;  
Then Bridget Donoghue, I'll tell what I'll do,  
Just take the name of Patterson and I'll take Donoghue.*

**Johnny Patterson from Clare** ... uilleann piper, circus clown and entertainer. He was from Feakle, Clare in the 1840's, was in the army and then John Swallow Circus and billed him as the 'Irish Singing Clown'. 'Goodbye Johnny Dear' ... was one of Johnny's household songs as were 'The Garden Where the Praities Grow' and a plethora of songs including ... 'The Dingle Puck Goat' and 'The Stone Outside Dan Murphy's Door' to his credit. He died in Tralee in an unmarked grave on 31<sup>st</sup> May 1889.

**Peadar (Peter) Cotter**, fictional fisherman from Banshagh near the river Laune.

The phrase ... '*straining water now a chroí*' was one I heard from a secretive fisherman in Milltown on the Maine River when asked ... *How's the fishing Dan ?*

**Great Southern and Western Railway ... 1885-1960.** The railway had just an eighty-year lifespan and was closed on the Saturday night of January 30<sup>th</sup>, 1960. There was a man present that night of the last train, Mike Sugrue and he was also present as a young boy at the first train in Milltown. I was there on that night in 1960 and still have the last train ticket.

**Old Oak Tree** ... A recent exquisite street sculpture on Iveragh upon a Sessile Oak. Let's call her Biddy complete with purse, hat and assorted suitcases loaded on an old CIE truck. ... Looks like that Biddy always resided there and took root in that Oak Tree. The inscription reads and quote relevant to the story's context ...

*Emigration for too many is a bittersweet truth ...  
The sorrow of leaving, the hope of new horizons  
and the longing for home.*

**Puck Fair** ... Lughnasa, August Fair ... 10/11/12<sup>th</sup>. Connie Leen's Pub was a favourite haunt, hostelry and snug in Upper Bridge Street. The Square is called traditionally called Cnocán na gCeap.

**Laune Fishery & Pearl Fishing Tradition on the Laune** ...

The Laune Fishery was famous for years as a Salmon Fishery and Hatchery. Local tradition has it that women used to pick Pearls on the Laune. Another story has it, that a half salmon, half girl ... 'mermaid' ... would be seen picking pearls. The Pearls in fact called Margaritifera, a freshwater bivalve mollusc/pearl. Their larvae, called glochidia are inhaled by passing salmon and would snap shut on their gills. After a time they would drop off of their

host ... hence the tradition of fishing Pearls on the Laune. The Lúb, Cloonárd, Brigéis and the Quay were famous fishing pools on the Laune.

### **Oisín and Tír na nÓg ... 'Biddy of Tullaig', a re-telling ...**

Long ago, people in Ireland believed that there was a beautiful land in the western sea called Tír na nÓg ... the land of the young, where people would never grow old. One morning, the Fianna were hunting deer on the shores of Lough Leane. As they rested on a hilltop, a beautiful girl came riding towards them on a snow white horse. She was dressed like a princess and her long golden hair hung to her waist. As she drew near, Fionn called out 'What is your name and what land have you come from?' – 'I am Niamh of the Golden Hair and my father is King of Tír na nÓg. I have heard of a great warrior named Oisín, I have to come to find him and ask him to return with me to the Land of the Young.' Fionn was sad, for he feared that if Oisín went with Niamh, he would never see him again. But it was too late, Oisín was already in love with the princess. He accepted Niamh's invitation and waving goodbye to Fionn and his friends, he jumped onto the horse behind Niamh. Away they galloped into the morning mist at Bealach Óisín (Bealach Beama Pass?). Over the land and the sea the fairy horse ran, moving as swiftly as a shadow and at last they reached the golden shores of Tír na nÓg. The king and queen welcomed Oisín and held a great feast in his honour. It was a magical land. Oisín hunted and feasted and at night he told stories of Fionn and the Fianna and of their lives in Ireland. Oisín had never felt as happy with Niamh and before long, they were married. Oisín lived in Tír na nÓg for three hundred years, but he being so happy it only seemed like three. Then a great longing came on him to go back to Ireland. Niamh did not want him to go but at last she agreed and gave him the White Horse. Niamh warned him that if he would set foot, even once, on the soil of Ireland, he would never return to Tír na nÓg. When Oisín reached Ireland he found that everything had changed. There was no trace of his father or the Fianna. As he passed the strand of Rossbeigh, he saw a group of men trying to move a large stone. 'I will help you' he said. The mighty Oisín stooped down in his saddle and with one hand, he lifted the stone. But as he did so, the saddle strap broke and he tumbled to the ground. Immediately the fairy horse galloped away and a great change came over Oisín. In the blink of an eye the great hero of the Fianna became a withered old man. Unsure of what to do, legend has it that the men brought Oisín to Saint Patrick. Saint Patrick tried to comfort Oisín in his old age. When Oisín learned that the Fianna and his father were long since dead, his heart was filled with sadness. Oisín spoke of the old days of the Fianna and the many great deeds of Fionn, when they hunted and feasted and listened to great stories. He spoke of his time in Tír na nÓg and his beautiful wife Niamh. Although Oisín died soon after but the wonderful stories of Niamh, Oisín and Tír na nÓg have lived on.

## **NEST of MEMORIES**

*Nead na gCuimhní Killorglin*

History of Killorglin

- 2500 B.C. Laharan Bronze Cauldron/found 1856.
- 400 Ogham Stone at Tinnahally-ANM DEGLANN.
- 500 Ringforts/Ballykissane; Reen; Dunmaniheen.
- 600 Tribes Áes Oirris/Conchinn/Corcu Dhuibhne.
- 650 St. Fionán & St. Mochudda brings Christianity.
- 700 Eogánacht Loch Léin/Goidels/Milesians.
- 800 Farrantoreen Stone/Coptic/Knights Templars?
- 915 Viking settlement/Bóthar na Fola, 990 A.D.
- 1196 Donal Mór na Carra attacked Normans.
- 1215 Killorglin Castle/Thomas Fitzgerald.
- 1245 Dromavalla Church and attached to Kilcolman.
- 1261 Battle of Callan/Toureencormick Battlefield.
- 1261 Castle destroyed by Finín Dubh McCarthy.
- 1287 Thomas De Clare razed Castle to the ground.
- 1309 Knights Templars/De Marisco/Strongbow.
- 1340 McCarthy Mór, King of Drung & Desmond.
- 1569 Capture of Castlemaine Castle.
- 1583 Parishes of Killorglin, Knockane, Tuogh formed.
- 1584 Jenkin Conway granted lands of Killorglin.
- 1587 Jenkin Conway granted Killorglin Castle.
- 1579 Carew's maps Iveragh/Desmond Wars.
- 1600 Ciar Ríoghacht/Castle burned McCarthy Mór.
- 1601 Conway/Blennerhasset built Castleconway.
- 1611 Jenkin Junior Conway succeeded Jenkin Snr.
- 1613 Jenkin Conway held Fair on Lammass Day.
- 1652 Ludlow siege of Ross Castle/Boats up Laune.
- 1659 Down Survey/Petty Survey 1670.
- 1659 Robert Blennerhasset rebuilt Killorglin Castle.
- 1700 First officially crowned Puck Goat?
- 1704 Fr. Rickard O'Connell, first P.P. Killorglin.
- 1756 Charles Smith, historian visits Killorglin.
- 1756 Wooden Bridge over Laune/14 Arches.
- 1772 Fair Patent given to Conway Blennerhasset.
- 1786 Whiteboys re Tithes/Mock Gallows on Bridge.
- 1795 Harman Blennerhasset emigrates to America.
- 1795 Castleconway sold to Thos. Mullins for £28,000.
- 1800 Mick Foley of Anglont held Toll Fair.

1808 Goat used to formally advertise the Fair.  
1812 Alex Nimmo's Street Plan & Tidal Banks.  
1816 Church of Ireland, St. James/Bl'hasset Chapel.  
1822 Potato failure in Killorglin.  
1825 Provincial Bank established.  
1825 Tidal banks from Annadale to Cromane.  
1826 Hedge/Free Schools/Kildare Place Society.  
1830 Goat enthroned at Castleconway.  
1836 Faction Fight at Puck /Foley, Dodd & Kearin.  
1837 First Goat Parade/Bianconi Coach Stop.  
1837 Constabulary Barracks./Wooden Hut.  
1837 Old Catholic Church/Fr. Luony.  
1837 New Line/Crow's, Chapel Road.  
1840 First Goat platform erected.  
1841 Fr. Theobald Matthew Temperance Crusade.  
1843 Daniel O'Connell Repeal meeting, Killorglin.  
1844 Killorglin and Beaufort/Tuogh separated.  
1847 Great Famine/Workhouses/Soup Kitchens.  
1848 Last occupier of Castleconway/Fr. Luony.  
1849 Fishery/Keyes, Ronayne and Dodd.  
1854 Ballykissane Pier/Toll House in Fair Field.  
1856 Devastating Hurricane hits Killorglin.  
1857 Goat enthroned on Stand for first time.  
1860 Old Mill, Annadale Road, Wm. De Moleyns.  
1867 Blennerhasset Obelisk, Mill Rd./ Fenianism.  
1868 J.P.O'Sullivan, Sportsman, Brookhill, Beaufort.  
1869 Wesleyan Church/Methodist, Market St.  
1869 Court of Petty Sessions/Shamrock Theatre.  
1871 Goat Stand to Fair Field/National Bank Est.  
1876 Johnny Patterson composed Bridget Donoghue.  
1880 Goat Stand to Cnocán na gCeap/Land League.  
1882 Rugby Club Founded/J.P.O'Sullivan.  
1884 Fr. Tom Lawlor to Killorglin/Ring of Kerry.  
1885 G.S.&W. Railway/County & Railway Bridge.  
1885 Railway Hotel/Manor Inn Established.  
1885 National Schools, No.6/First Water Supply.  
1886 Football in Scrahan Bog/Parnell Meeting.  
1886 Fr. Lawlor in America/Edw. Harrington M.P.  
1888 Laune Rangers Founded/Coffey's, Lwr.Br. St.  
1889 Dook's Golf Course/Oldest Club in Kerry.  
1891 St. James's R.C. Church/Fr. Harrington P.P.  
1891 Máirín Cregan/ Author/Musician/ Activist.  
1893 Laune Rangers Champions/Conradh na Gaeilge.  
1894 RIC Barracks moved to Upper Bridge St.  
1894 Concept of Ring of Kerry via GS&W Railway.

1895 Killorglin Cycling and Rowing Club.  
1897 Tom Barry, Republican, born in Langford St.  
1898 Creamery at Old Mill/National Bank .  
1900 Tom O' Donnell Elected M.P. for Kerry.  
1906 Carnegie Library Est./Goat to Boston Fair.  
1908 Temperance Movement/Pioneers Est.  
1909 Carnegie Secondary School Founded.  
1910 Lawrence Photographs of Killorglin/French.  
1910 First Motor Car over Bridge/ James Hartnet.  
1911 Laune Rangers Co. Champ./Town Tenants.  
1912 Town Bell Crier/Redmonites, E.Blythe.  
1912 Laune Salmon Anglers/1963 Re-Formed.  
1913 Star of the Sea Church, Cromane rebuilt.  
1914 Leander Rowing Trophy/ Dodd/Murphy.  
1916 Ballykissane/Good Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April.  
1916 Leo Cantwell Powerhouse at Fair Field.  
1917 Munster and Leinster Provincial Bank Est.  
1919 Civil Unrest in Killorglin/Sinn Féin Offices.  
1920 Langford St. Fife and Drum Band Formed.  
1922 Killorglin Town under siege/Civil War.  
1924 Killorglin Horse and Pony Races Est.  
1930 Third Platform added to Puck Stand.  
1930 Tierney's Amusements at Puck Fair.  
1930 Water Supply from Coomlooghra.  
1931 Coloured Lights added to Puck Stand.  
1932 Killorglin Rugby Club/ Munster Junior Cup.  
1933 Movietone Footage of Puck Fair in Cinemas.  
1934 Electricity in Killorglin.  
1935 St. Mary's, Baile Nua Estate.  
1935 Radio Éireann at Puck/Rowing Club Est.  
1936 Radio Éireann records Pat O Beaglaioch.  
1937 Voc. /Technical Sch./O'Donoghue's Bakery.  
1937 Pioneer Total Abstinence Association.  
1938 Oisín Ballroom.  
1939 Oisín Cinema /*Three Smart Girls*.  
1939 Ballykissane Monument Erected.  
1935 J. Thado Riordan Drama Group Formed.  
1939 Killorglin Electricity Supply/National Grid.  
1943 Birds Amusements at Puck Fair.  
1943 Joseph of Annecy Convent/SVP.  
1944 Laune Pipe Band/Fire Brigade Est.  
1946 Killorglin FCA Founded from LDF.  
1947 Killorglin Coursing Club Founded.  
1952 St. James' Gardens/Disposal Board Creamery.  
1953 Butty Sugrue and Jack Doyle at Puck Fair.

1953 Spanish Battleship wins Irish Derby/54&55.  
 1954 CYMS Hall Built/Killorglin Comhaltas CY.  
 1955 Fishing Tackle Factory Established.  
 1955 Gene Mangan Rás Tailteann/IFA Killorglin.  
 1955 Killorglin Basketball Club/Old CYMS.  
 1956 Caragh Lake Railway Hotel demolished.  
 1956 James Cahillane, Mayor of Northampton, Boston.  
 1958 The Rhythm Aces Formed.  
 1958 Killorglin Panto/ *Seven Cromane Men*.  
 1960 GS&W Railway Closure/January 30<sup>th</sup>.  
 1961 'Chub' O'Connor elected T.D for South Kerry.  
 1962 Killorglin Basketball Co. Champs/ICMSA.  
 1962 Ed Begley, Academy Award, *Sweet Bird of Youth*.  
 1963 ICA Killorglin/Women's 2000/Gun Club Est.  
 1964 Killorglin Library/Macra and Muintir na Tíre.  
 1966 Laune Mountaineering/Wenzel Leathers.  
 1968 J.P.O'Sullivan Park Opened/v Westmeath/Track.  
 1969 Mountain View/Killorglin Credit Union.  
 1969 Liebeg Bolt Factory Established.  
 1971 St. Joseph's Home, Ballymacprior/FÁS.  
 1971 Bank of Ireland Group Established.  
 1972 John Mangan wins Rás/Klinge Pharma.  
 1972 Community Council Est./Youth Club.  
 1972 McCann Sisters on Ag Deánamh Cheoil.  
 1972 Klinge Pharma/Temmler, Banshagh.  
 1974 Scoil Mhuire Primary School.  
 1975 Killorglin 4<sup>th</sup> Kerry Scouts Association.  
 1976 Callinafercy Soccer Club Formed.  
 1976 Comhaltas Ceoltóirí, Killorglin/CCE.  
 1978 Killorglin History and Folklore Society.  
 1979 Puck Fair linked Ballinasloe & Ballycastle.  
 1979 Basement Museum/Pa Houlihan.  
 1979 Iveragh Estate.  
 1980/81 County Fleadh Cheoil.  
 1981 Cappanalea Outdoor Centre/FEXCO Est.  
 1981 Community School, Killorglin/Vocational.  
 1982 Killorglin Fire Station, Iveragh Road.  
 1983 BLOE Athletics Founded.  
 1983 Killorglin Celtic Soccer Club Founded.  
 1984 Munster Fleadh Cheoil in Killorglin/CCE.  
 1984 Sports & Leisure Complex/NACAI Athletics.  
 1987 Ardmoniel Graveyard.  
 1988 CYMS Players Drama Group.  
 1988 Intermediate Secondary School/ISK.  
 1989 Family Resource Centre, Iveragh Park.

- 1990 First County Council Meeting, Killorglin.
- 1991 CRESP and SKDP Established/Fujisawa.
- 1992 Killorglin Golf Course, Dromin/Dodd's.
- 1993 Killorglin All-Ireland Polka Set Champions.
- 1993 Friends of the Children of Chernobyl.
- 1994 Kerry Bog Pony Society/Tourist Office.
- 1994 Go Visit Ireland Established.
- 1995 Wild Flower of the Laune Festival/LES.
- 1995 Crane for enthronement/Tidy Towns.
- 1995 Water Treatment Plant/Ring Sculpture.
- 1996 Laune Rangers, All Ireland v Éire Óg.
- 1997 St. Michael's Church/Liam Hassett, Kerry.
- 1998 New Steel Puck Stand/VTOS Ed. Centre.
- 1999 Killorglin Twinned with Plouha, Brittany.
- 2000 Laune Art Group Formed.
- 2001 Goat Sculpture/Scamps and Scholars.
- 2003 Fr. Tom Lawlor Memorial.
- 2004 Killorglin Tidy Towns/Rowing Clubhouse.
- 2004 District & Mental Health/New AIB Bank.
- 2004 Johnny 'Porridge' O'Connor elected to KCC.
- 2007 Laune Rangers GAA Pavilion Opened.
- 2008 Library Place/Bewick Exhibition Donated.
- 2008 Knibs Writers Group/KCYMS Refurbished.
- 2009 Monika Dukarska, World Coastal Rowing.
- 2009 Pride of Place Prizewinners/Iveragh Park.
- 2009 World Premier Johnny Patterson Musical.
- 2010 Killorglin Pipe Band/New Youth Centre.
- 2011 Railway Memorial/Flavour of Killorglin.
- 2012 Killorglin Archive Society/Men's Shed.
- 2013 Puck Fair 400 Memorial/Time Capsule.
- 2013 Star of the Laune Running Group.
- 2014 KFest Arts Festival.
- 2015 Killorglin Chamber Alliance Founded.
- 2015 All Ireland Foursomes/Dooks Golf Club.
- 2016 Seacht Slí/7 Walks Project & Puckathon.
- 2016 Ballykissane Memorial, 1916/Crow's Road.
- 2019 Murals throughout the town ... King Puck/Brigid Goddess.
- 2021 Centenary Walk, Ballykissane Loop-Walk.

#### **References / Publications ...**

- 'Cois Leamhain' by Killorglin Historical and Folklore Society**
- 'Cast a Laune Shadow' by Pa Houlihan**
- 'History of Killorglin' by Kieran Foley**
- 'Killorglin's River of Memories' by Killorglin Archive Society**
- 'Ballykissane Tragedy-1916' by Tom Doyle**
- 'Kerry Dreamtime' by Thomas O'Sullivan**
- Patrick V. O'Sullivan & Callinafercy Lore**

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