

OUR PERSONALITY

MAE (R) MAL



RUNNER-UP

Paddy Dillon is a chemist by profession and has been living in Carrick-on-Shannon, since 1949. He is a native of Ballinagh, Co. Cavan, and a bachelor. He is a well-known figure in Amateur Drama all over Ireland and has won every possible award in the amateur drama world. His sideboard at Bridge St., Carrick, is laden with Cups, Plaques, Medals and all forms of trophies, won at festivals throughout the country. He has been involved in many cultural organisations in the town of his adoption and takes a very special interest in the music and works of Percy French. Two of his most memorable productions were the Percy French Commemorative Concerts at the French home in Clooneyquinn, Co. Roscommon, in the early 1950's. The Breffni Players' activity and consistency is due to his artistic ability and genius.

Rev. Patrick Young, C.C., Carrigallen, is a native of Drumeela in Co. Cavan. Ordained at Maynooth, he ministered in England for some time before returning to take up parish work in Corlough from where he came to Carrigallen officiating there for the past eight years. A man with a flair and ability for organisational activity on a par with his namesake and cousin, Rev. John Young, C.C. (Ballinamore), Father Patrick has spearheaded the setting up of the Golden Vale Mart at Carrigallen, which now outshines the parent concern at Kilmallock (Co. Limerick). He is deeply involved in all community affairs, drama, tourism, care of the elderly. A keen golfer he also excelled at Gaelic Football and played All-Ireland Colleges football with that great nursery, St. Patrick's College, Cavan.



I.C.A. LEADER

SHARES THIRD PLACE

Mrs. O'Kelly, a housewife with three young children, is Enniskillen born, and lives in a fine mansion-type residence encircled by the river Drowes and overlooking Leitrim's two-mile Atlantic coastline at Tullaghan. She is president of the Leitrim Federation of the I.C.A.; founder and leader of the Tullaghan Macra Club — affiliated to the North Leitrim District Council of Macra na Tuaithe—of which her husband, veterinary surgeon, Frank, is chairman. The O'Kelly's have been living in Leitrim for the past five years. A deeply committed voluntary social worker—she was employed full time in this capacity for six months prior to her marriage—Mrs. O'Kelly is president of the Bundoran Ozanham House Committee and holds a B.Soc.Sc. degree from U.C.D.

Our Personality of the year—heading our recent poll in the Leitrim Observer Newspaper—is Mrs. John A. Malone, who until earlier this year, was better known to all of us as Mae Reynolds, Leitrim's Queen of Song. Mae (Reynolds) Malone, a native of Mohill, has sang her way into the hearts of Leitrim folk the world over with her superb rendering of such beautiful ballads as 'Lovely Leitrim'; 'My Own Leitrim Home' and 'The Shores of Lough Bran'. However it's not her voice alone that captivates one, as those who know her well are quick to pinpoint her many other qualities of natural charm, graciousness, and ability, allied to a sincere sense of Leitrim loyalty. Unsparring in her support of a deserving cause Mrs. Malone has captured many senior ballad awards at Feiseanna and Fleadh-eanna throughout the country.

This is a Leitrim Guardian Contest designed to activate leadership within the county.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Leitrim Guardian Photos by John Keaney. Leddy photo—Courtesy 'The Irish Press'.

RESULT OF THE POLL!

Our LEITRIM GUARDIAN Man (Woman) of the Year contest for 1972 had a final poll tally of 2,236 votes for six nominations as against last year's massive poll of 6,516 votes for nine nominations.

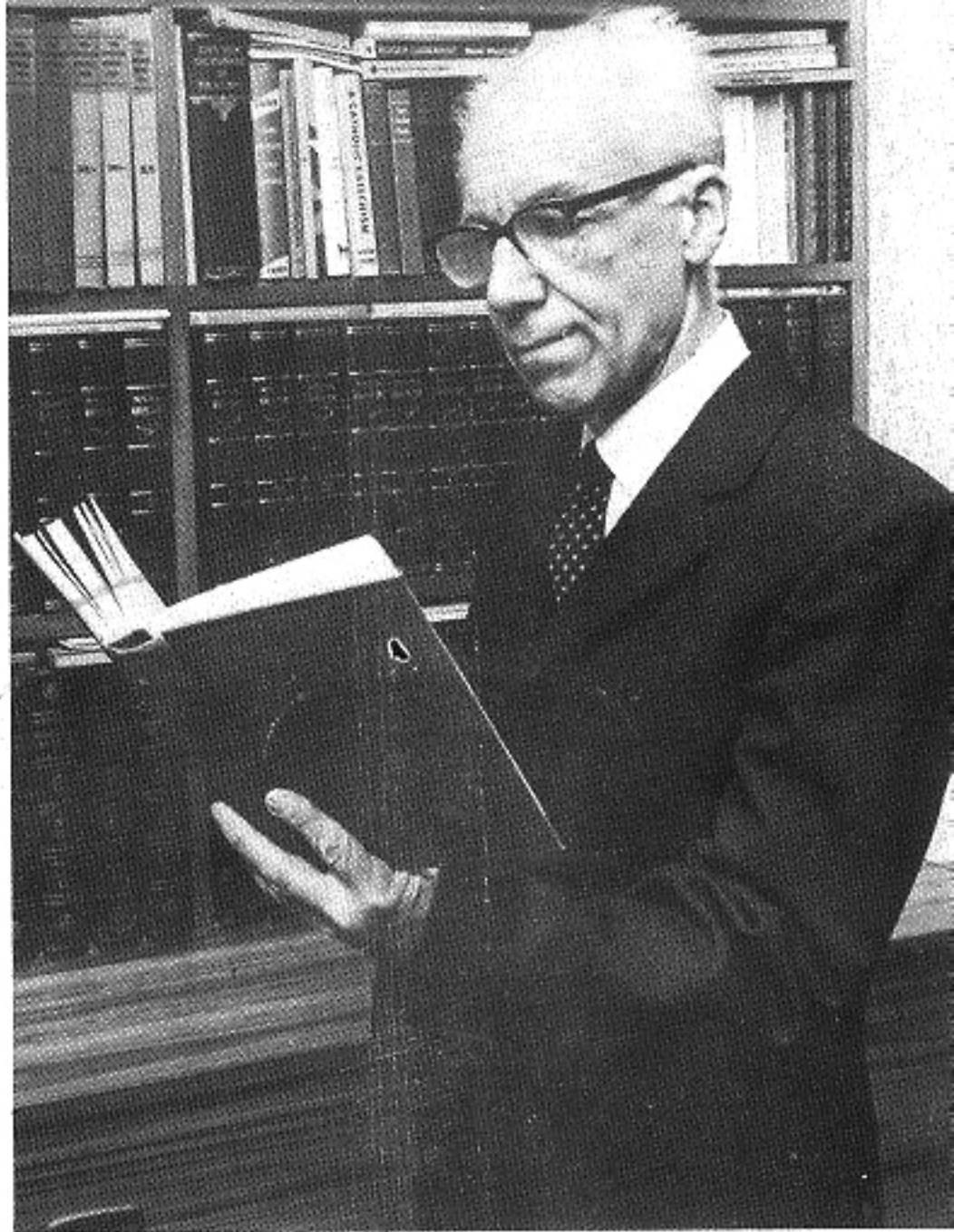
The nominees this year were more representative of the social and cultural life of the county, thus activating a more elegant approach perhaps, than the large organisational and political influences engendered last year.

All nominees were treated with almost equal respect and admiration by the voters as the result indicates. The result is a clear endorsement of the selections of the nominating body, the LEITRIM GUARDIAN Administrative Council.

Mae (Reynolds) Malone	453
Paddy Dillon	382
Mrs. Frank O'Kelly	362
Eddie Leddy	362
Peadar O'Gríofa	340
Rev. Patrick Young, C.C.	337



Y OF THE YEAR! (Mae Reynolds) ONE



Peadar O'Griofa is the recently retired Headmaster of Drumshanbo Vocational School, and was born in Carraroe, Co. Galway, in 1907. He was a classmate of Mairtin O Flaithearta, who is now Secretary to President De Valera. One of his earliest and proudest recollections is of the visit of Roger Casement to St. MacDara's National School, Carraroe, in 1915. Peadar came to Leitrim in 1928 and has worked unceasingly and unselfishly for Leitrim and all things Gaelic since then. He taught Irish at evening classes in Annaduff, Dromod, Gortletteragh, Bornacoola, Gorravagh, Aughavas and Cloone. Whilst in Cloone he was closely associated with the late Father Conefrey, P.P., and assisted him in organising the Cloone Feis of Boxty fame.

Congratulations

Our heartiest congratulations to Mrs. John A. Malone (Mae Reynolds) on gaining for herself this unique Leitrim distinction.

It takes people with a great sense of Leitrim pride to submit themselves to this type of contest and we feel elevated by the expression of this pride exhibited by all the contestants—not in themselves—but in their work and involvement within the county.

Our very sincere thanks to Mr. Gregory Dunne, B.A., Editor of the Leitrim Observer Newspaper for having so facilitated us—a grand display of meaningful co-operation. Our thanks also to a very helpful Leitrim Observer staff, especially its Chief reporter, Harry Casey, and of course all our voters!

Gabriel Martin, Editor.

OLYMPIC ATHLETE JOINT THIRD

Eddie Leddy, a native of Ballinamore, represented Ireland as a member of the nation's athletic team at this year's Munich Olympics.

He is Irish Steeplechase Champion and record holder for 1972, and has broken the old 3,000 M. Steeplechase record three times during the past year. Having gained an Athletics Scholarship to East Tennessee State University he is pursuing a degree in Marketing there. He has turned in some tremendous performances for his University in American competitions. One of his finest, perhaps, being his very recent third to University colleague, Neil Cusack, in the National Collegiate cross-country championship at Houston, Texas.

