

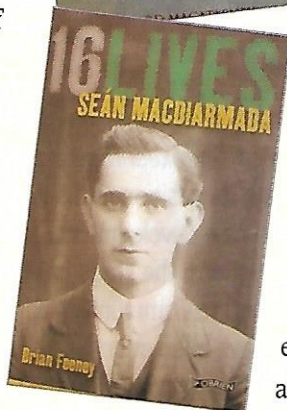
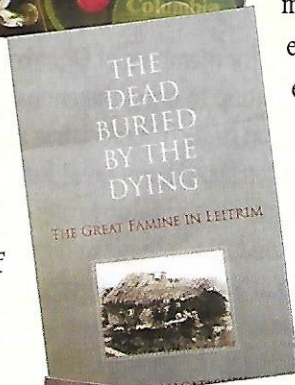
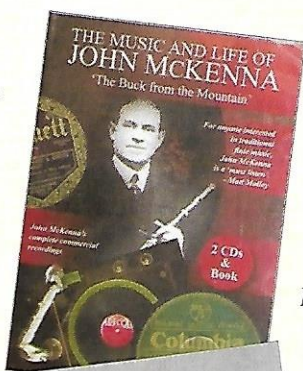
## A Selection of Recent Local Publications

*Reviewed by Local Studies Staff at Leitrim County Library*

*Most of these items are on sale at Leitrim Genealogy Centre, Ballinamore*

### The Music and Life of John McKenna 'The Buck from the Mountain'

John McKenna was the first superstar of flute playing in Irish traditional music scene. His music was vibrant, virtuosic, and infectiously rhythmic, and it made him one of the premier figures of the legendary golden age of Irish traditional music during the 1920s and '30s in New York. The 2-CD release is the ultimate collection of John McKenna's music and includes his complete corpus of 44 recordings, some of them extremely rare. Also included is a substantial and lavishly illustrated book containing a full account of his life and times, as well as essential information like his discography and an analysis of his musical style. The contributors to the book include many of the top current performers of the Irish flute. This collection is essential listening and reading for all followers of Irish traditional music.



### The Dead Buried by the Dying: The Great Famine in Leitrim

*Gerard MacAtasney*

In 1841 the population of County Leitrim was slightly more than 155,000; ten years later, it had declined by 40,000 and to this day, Leitrim remains the most sparsely populated county in Ireland. This dramatic decline began with the Great Famine, which brought utter devastation on the county. In this ground-breaking study, Gerard MacAtasney approaches the history of Ireland's greatest tragedy from a vital new angle, focusing on the traumatic transformation of one county and provides a shocking insight into the suffering that underlies the stark statistics. His research in official government papers, parish registers, and estate records has yielded astonishing revelations concerning the character of the Famine in Leitrim, its catastrophic impact and its longevity. Beginning with a thorough evaluation of life in Leitrim in the pre-Famine era, followed by an account of the blights of 1845-6 and their

impact on various parishes throughout the county, the book concludes with an examination of the post-famine era and highlights emotive subjects such as evictions, recovery and emigration. As comprehensive as they are compelling, MacAtasney's findings are contained within the most detailed account of the Famine at a local level ever to be written. It is the first book to make extensive use of the papers of the Irish Relief Association and the Society of Friends, both of which allow us to examine the traumatic period to a degree previously unknown. Thus, the book is infused with the experiences of the ordinary people of Leitrim in the midst of the worst tragedy to ever affect the county.

### 16 Lives Seán MacDiarmada

*Brian Feeney*

This book is part of a series called '16 Lives', conceived with the objective of recording for posterity the lives of the sixteen men who were executed after the 1916 Easter Rising. Seán MacDiarmada was a key figure in the preparation for the Easter Rising. From his introduction to republicanism in Belfast in 1905 to his death in front of a firing squad on 12 May 1916, he devoted his life to the cause of Irish independence. MacDiarmada was the national organiser of the IRB, who along with his close friend Tom Clarke, essentially ran the organisation in the years before the Rising. Yet he has often been overlooked, unlike Connolly and Pearse, he left very few writings behind, partly out of a need for secrecy and partly because he was an exceptionally practical man in a country he once claimed had too many philosophers. In this new biography, Dr Brian Feeney presents a definitive picture of a man who worked tirelessly in the background to bring about the revolution he believed would set Ireland free to pursue her own destiny.

### Kiltoghert Parish Pioneer Total Abstinence Association of the Sacred Heart 'A Centenary of Celebration 1914 – 2014'

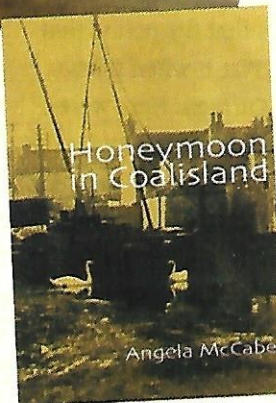
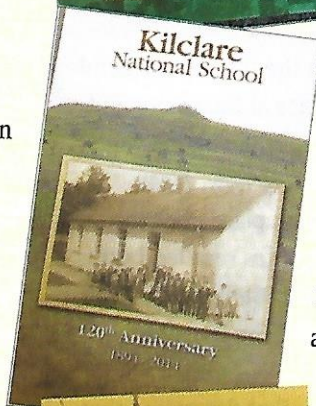
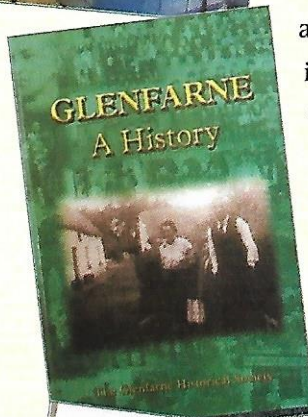
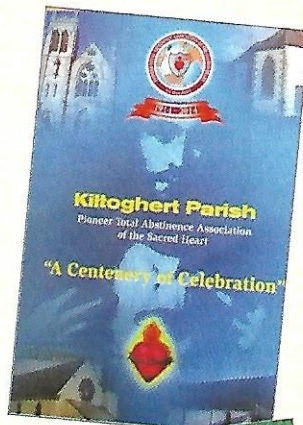
In this centenary booklet, Kiltoghert Parish Pioneer Total Abstinence Association hails the first 100 years of their activities and reflect back and remember all those throughout the past decades, deceased and still living, who contributed enormously in promoting the virtue of temperance in the parish of Kiltoghert. Ireland then and now differ vastly but the problems relating to intemperance have not gone away and this booklet emphasises the importance of promoting the pioneer message of sobriety in modern society, which is always a challenge. This booklet contains many testimonials from local members of the organisation along with much research and local information plus numerous photographs.

### Glenfarne: A History by The Glenfarne Historical Society

The History of Glenfarne could be written and re written again and again and you would still find another story to tell. In this new book 'Glenfarne: A History' by the Glenfarne Historical Society, the group has worked tirelessly together with their community to gather stories and historical facts. The book has covered many aspects of life in Glenfarne and the roots that have been laid down, over countless generations. It is with great sense of achievement that the Historical Society have published this book covering the unique history of Glenfarne and sharing the stories and yarns that are part of their heritage. It is a fine record of people, place, organisations and events. All readers, at home and abroad, will find this book interesting, informative and a really great read.

### Kilclare National School— 120th Anniversary 1894-2014

This book was launched in conjunction with the 120th Anniversary of the opening of Kilclare National School. The book is a compilation of research, reminiscences, photographs and memorabilia from down through the years by many past pupils of Kilclare School. It has articles on the history of education in Kilclare,



stories from school days there as remembered by some of its past pupils, folklore from the area as well as local historical facts. Read about the Corn Mill at Kilclare, the Carnival dancing days, the Handball Alley, the Kiltubrid Pipe Band to mention but a few of the articles. There are numerous photographs some dating back to the 1890's, others right up to the present day. This book is a must for anyone who hails from, Kilclare, Kiltubrid or indeed any of the surrounding areas and would make an ideal Christmas gift

### Honeymoon in Coalisland

Angela McCabe's poetry comes from rich and varied experiences with her native Tyrone, the culture of Leitrim and other cultures. It is rooted in the detail of lives seemingly ordinary, yet reaching out to others. She writes about a world that has been forgotten—ghosts, fairies and banshees haunt us, recreating a world of myth, loss and memory. The people and animals in her native Ireland assert their presence. The lost arts of a particular cuisine and craft are portrayed with love, ritual and dignity. Characters live in unusual settings — the hedge, pauper's cottages and with livestock. Despite the frugality of their lives, they are happy. This is an uplifting inspiring anthology, full of creative ways for survival. This is her first collection.

*"Angela is always listening and watching. In quiet elegies curtains are made, cows sink into their shins in mud; stitching and mending are always on the go. Colours abound. Kitchens fill with memories. In a rare collection of domestic and landscape verse, Angela enters the spiritual world with a great physical and musical resonance." Dermot Healy*