

HIDDEN GEMS AND FORGOTTEN PEOPLE

CLANE LOCAL HISTORY GROUP



JIMMY REDDY, VILLAGE POSTMAN (1882-1956)

Jimmy Reddy was born on April 24th 1882. After completing his schooling in Clane he became the local postman and spent over fifty years delivering the post around the village, on his bicycle. In his spare time he worked as a handyman. He was renowned as the best handyman in Clane and even to this day examples of his work can be seen in the village.

Jimmy married Esther McCormack from Moat Commons. Esther died young leaving Jimmy with three young children to rear. Mona, the eldest, then aged twelve, assumed the household duties and looked after her father and her two young sisters. Life was difficult for the family as there was no running water or electricity in the house. Jimmy fed his family on vegetables from his garden and on fish he caught in the nearby River Liffey. His hobbies included Gaelic games, point-to-point racing and pitch and toss which was played at Hogan's corner, now Manzor's. Mick Sammon, who refereed the football match in Croke Park on Bloody Sunday was Jimmy's best friend.

Jimmy refused to retire at the mandatory age of seventy. He used to say, "I'll wear out but I'll not rust out." He is buried in the Old Franciscan Friary graveyard on the Sallins Road in Clane.