

MEMORIAL

Albert Henry (Bert) Daly

Currymount

5th September 1932 - 8th October 2020



Organised by Churchtown Heritage Society at
Ballygrace Heritage Cottage, Churchtown

14th August 2021



A gifted man who left us all with some wonderful memories, stories and experiences

Excerpt – Eulogy by Sydney Nagle

Delivered in St James' Church, Mallow on 11 October 2020

Albert Henry Daly was born on 5th September 1932. The youngest of four children he had an idyllic childhood living on a farm with three elder siblings who doted on him. His father was a hard working farmer and his mother was devoted to him and her children.

Albert developed an enduring love of nature, machines (especially clocks) and local history. Cherry his cousin loved playing with Bert when they were children. Every Sunday at church she would manoeuvre herself into Bert's pew in order to be brought back in the pony and trap to his house to play. They often played in the garden where Bert had a pretend shop in a small garden shed. He called it Maggie's Fire and sold bottles of coloured water and tins filled with pebbles. Maggie was the family cat. I am unsure what fire was!

On finishing school Albert helped his father run the dairy farm. He was very kind towards animals and had a name for every cow on the farm. He was a keen badminton player and travelled widely to play matches. He also attended dances all over the country and it was at one of these dances that he met wife, Iris Allen from Ballycarnan, County Laois to whom he was devoted. Bert and Iris married in 1980 and spent many happy years together.

Bert retired from farming in the mid 1990s and this gave him and Iris the opportunity to travel the length and breadth of Ireland exploring castles, monasteries and churches. It was during this time that he developed his hobbies. He was an avid painter, clock repairer and gardener.

Albert was devastated to lose his soulmate Iris in 2010 but kept up his strong link with her family in the midlands with whom he regularly

visited. He also had the company of his sisters Louise and Eva often taking them to church on Sundays. He also had the companionship of Gail of whom he was very fond.

Very recently Bert was presented with a medal of honour by the Churchtown Heritage Society for his work on the history of the parish. He was absolutely delighted with this award which was a wonderful acknowledgment of all his hard work on the history of Churchtown.

Today, sadly due to the coronavirus pandemic, many of Bert's relatives, friends and neighbours can't be with us. His nephews and nieces in England who visited Currymount regularly over many years had a very special and loving relationship with him. Jenny and William in particular loved visiting when they were young. Their children loved coming to see him in more recent times.



A special word of thanks must go to the doctors and staff of Marymount hospice and Mallow hospital, for their wonderful care and attention for Bert. The nurses in Marymount developed a great relationship with him encouraging his painting skills. One of the nurses was delighted to be given a painting he did 10 days ago of a woodland scene.

It's impossible to summarise the life of such a gifted man who left us all with some wonderful memories, stories, and experiences. Goodbye Bert, we will miss you. We love you.

Laid to rest in St John's Church in Buttevant on 11th October 2020.

CHURCHTOWN HONOURS ALBERT DALY

Churchtown Heritage Society presented a special Medal of Honour to Albert Daly of Currymount to recognise his contribution to the recording of the Church of Ireland heritage of Churchtown.

Albert has a great interest in history and published a book entitled 'A Corner of Buttevant' in this regard in 1997. In 2005 Albert contributed a 2,000 word article to 'The Annals of Churchtown' entitled 'Bruhenny in a Golden Light: Church of Ireland history of Churchtown' which is reproduced here for the information and enjoyment of Vale Star readers.

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Albert Daly having accepted the Churchtown Medal of Honour.



Albert Daly standing in his porch at Currymount accepting the Medal of Honour for his contribution to documenting the Church of Ireland heritage of Churchtown. The medal was presented by Gerry Murphy (left) and Noel Linehan (right). Denis Hickey was unavoidably absent.

Bruhenny in a Golden Light: Church of Ireland history of Churchtown

by Albert Daly

Cloyne and the Pipe Roll of Cloyne had a great link with Bruhenny. The Pipe Roll was 17 and a half feet long and 7 and a quarter inches wide and made of parchment.

The ancient document outlined the feudal system of land ownership within the diocese of Cloyne and consisted of a series of entries of jury findings, of Acts and a record of Deeds relating to the See of Cloyne. The document was written on both sides. There were in fact two copies – an exact copy which seemed to have vanished, and the other which was given to the Dublin Public Record Office, but which was destroyed in 1922 when the building was damaged during the Civil War. There were some translations to the English language, but the Latin version, begun in 1364, was the original and best. Some of the landlords were bishops in those feudal times and were appointed to the church if they had blue blood; others were people of means or those with powerful connections or wealth. Their tenants were obliged to furnish them with turf, corn, fish and labour, and in certain circumstances the bishop was also entitled to call upon the families' labour on his domain. The going rate for a land was a 'kish of turf' to the acre (a kish was two and seventy sows). His tenant fishermen were levied at a rate of 12d a year, with an additional 3d for every child or person in the household. The fisherman was also expected to provide fish for the bishop's table. If fish were 12d at the market, his Lordship expected them for 8d. He would offer 2d for a ling and required three Haddock for a penny. The Bishop's Table meant his staff of servants,

coachmen, butlers, rent collectors, gardeners, etc. In the year 1291 at Bruhenny Church, 100 years after the death of Robert Cheussner was presented to the vicarage of Cloyne and the vicar of Cloyne, John de Barry Clarke was presented by Philip de Barry. Thomas O'Holan was rector in 1311 and was given the rectory of possession of the rectory of Bruhenny (Bruhenny) in 1384. In 1545, James Roche settled in Bruhenny and in 1591 Lucas Brady, son and heir of Hugh Brady, Bishop of Meath, held the office. He signed a settlement of Thomond on the 17th August 1585. Lucas died in 1612. William Holiday was installed on 16th January 1610 and we find William in Ballyhooley in 1615. In that year also, John Hull became Vicar of Wallstown, Templemore and Ballintemple (also known as Churchtown). He was later Precentor and in 1637 became Rector of Schull in West Cork. In about 1634, James Barry appears as Impregator of the rectory of Bruhenny. Reverend Pakington was Rector of Bruhenny for some time before his appointment as Archdeacon of Cork in 1662. Then in 1662 John Veacy came and was admitted on 24th September 1663 to be Rector of Bruhenny. Shandrum, Aglishdrinagh and Rathgoghan. He was Dean of Cork in 1667. On 29th October 1668, Christopher Vowell was presented by Philippa Perceval and the parishes of Ballyhea and Bruhenny

were united. In 1700, Kerry Fitzmaurice was presented to the vicarage of Bruhenny, having been presented by John Perceval Barometti. About this time – and not all for the better. There was, for example, a drastic decision to build a new church in Maryfield and leave the beautiful old Bruhenny building. A wiser decision was made by Sir John Perceval who found a charitable institution at Burton Park, of £42 per annum. In 1713, a presentation of Limerick silver, patten, chalice and flagon was made to Sir John. The inscription reads: Ex dono viri honorabilis Johannis Perceval equitis aurati in usum Rectoriae Parochialis de Bruhenny. In 1710, an Act of Parliament sanctioned a change to a new site and in 1715 the new church was consecrated in the townland of Maryfield, a quarter of a mile to the west of the village. It was connected to Burton House by a beech-lined avenue and a two-arched stone bridge, which is still standing in the beautiful parklands of Burton Park. The beautiful old church of Bruhenny was left to fall into ruins as a new era commenced. The new church building was approximately 60 feet long and 30 feet wide. Strangely, its foundation stone, which was embedded in the west wall, reads: Cum Beatus SPS Decretum Max Anno 1792 Domus Orationis. It is likely that the new church was built at different stages in the shape of a cross with a square tower. The

foundation stone may still be seen at St John's in Buttevant, to which place it was removed for safekeeping. In 1712, Reverend Kerry Fitzmaurice served at the parishes of Liscarroll, Buttevant and Bregogue, as well as Bruhenny. Bregogue had a little church on the north-western end adjoining the townland of Tullig; its Tullig, near the wall of Tubbera Tadge. It is believed a water font is built into the wall, a fact related to me by a previous owner, Miss Kathleen Ryan (the font is below the present ground level). Reverend Kerry, whose father Ulysses Fitzmaurice was a member of the Landsdowne family of County Kerry, kept all these parishes until he died in 1728. Downes Connors arrived in 'Bruhenny' on 18th March 1728. His place as rector was taken in 1735 by Robert Brereton from County Carlow (his mother Catherine was a daughter of George Perceval and Mary Crofton). Kilbrin was added to his care in 1742 and he left Bruhenny in 1764. Incidentally, the gargoyle or stone head built into the right pier at Kilbrin is from the old church, which stood inside the south-west entrance of Kilbrin. Charles Perceval took over on 7th June 1764 as Rector of Bruhenny on presentation of John, Earl of Egmont, and obtained a lease from the Dean of Cloyne of Kilbrigan at £3 yearly. The lease was renewed in 1780 for £10s per annum. At any rate, in 1774 Bruhenny Church was in

ruins and the glebe lands abandoned, amounting to 11 acres, roof and 35 perches. The new glebe lands at Maryfield measured 3 acres and 34 perches. In 1780, Charles Perceval became curate; he died in 1795. Reverend Matthew Purcell, second son of Sir John Purcell of High Fort, then took the parish (which had a curate's salary of £69 4s 71d). However, the number of Anglican parishioners was dwindling fast – in 1805, just one parishioner remained. The new church could hold 300 people, but it never had a congregation in excess of 45. Reverend Matthew Purcell died in 1845 and was interred at Maryfield. In 1860, Maryfield Church was in good order and the Reverend Matthew Tierney held services every Sunday and on the chief Feast Days, while the Sacraments were taken monthly by the congregation of 27. Reverend Matthew Tierney resigned in 1872 and went to a parish in or near Bristol. He is believed to have been the last Vicar of Maryfield, Churchtown. The church, although only 179 years old, had a strange history: commencing in 1715, it was built in bits and scraps until it finally acquired its cruciform shape. With tower and chancel later added, the church was dedicated until 1792. The dedication stone was embedded inside the church, which stood inside the south-west entrance retained at St John's in Buttevant, with which Perceval's wife was amalgamated. Translated, the Latin inscription on the stone reads: In the Blessed Son and Holy Spirit this House of prayer was consecrated by the Dean and Greatest God in the year 1792. In 1834, a square tower was damaged and repaired

in 1837 at a cost of £250. The tower was, however, demolished in 1894. The stone from Maryfield was sold to a road contractor and the beech trees were felled; the monies raised were used to repair the wall around Bruhenny's old church. Maryfield is the resting place not only of Lady O'Connell, married to a descendant of Daniel O'Connell, 'The Liberator', but also of many outstanding people of Churchtown. In 1663, the Percevals moved to Ballymacow, now Egmont, situated just west of Churchtown, and created a beautiful park containing wild deer and stands of oak, ash, elm and fir trees on the lawns. At that time, the Earls of Egmont owned 99,000 acres, including Annagh, Imogane, Knockilbrigan, Ballinacorney, Dunbarry, Jordansdown, Kilgrogan, Rochestown, Cullagh, Coolmore, Lacken, Gunturroo, Cregane, Ballinabouli and Ballycree. The Barn was the Perceval's cider-making brewery. The 1st Earl died on 1st May 1748. Little corn was sown around Annagh then, but it was a thriving town; grand herds of black cattle roamed the lands, which boasted a prosperous linen industry. It was at Annagh that the large Catholic church was located and there was a lovely detached cottage, Bruhenny. The Percevals moved to Burton House following its refurbishment by William Kent in about 1688. Sir Richard Perceval's wife was a member of the Southwell family of Kinsale. In modern times, Churchtown harboured the Anderson family at Mountcourt, south of the town. Mary Parker, wife of Captain Anderson, was an extremely good artist who sketched many

scenes of the area, including one of St Brigid's Well and the old ash tree which once stood behind it. Mrs Anderson was the mother of Robert Anderson, organiser of the Co-Operative Movement. He worked closely with Horace Plunkett and helped form co-operatives all over the world. He is also the author of 'With Plunkett in Ireland'. The Percevals knew and entertained at their home prominent scientists, philosophers, writers and churchmen of the day. A frequent visitor was Jonathan Swift, Dean of St Patrick's in Dublin and author of 'Gulliver's Travels' – a book that takes a 'dig' at the crooked politicians and snobs of the day who rode high on the people's money and labour, while the people lived in squalor in the streets of Dublin and elsewhere. Another man of Perceval's acquaintance was the famous scientist, Sir Isaac Newton, discoverer of gravity. Bishop Berkeley of Cloyne, philosopher, reformer, and sworn enemy of the slave trade, was also a frequent visitor to Burton House. As it is 131st October in 1998 when this is written, I will conclude by mentioning that this very day was a Celtic pagan holiday festival until the 8th century. Many fires were then lit all over the country in the belief that it lovingly watched people keep the sun alive, till Spring, so that it would shine again bright and warm. It is a pity that the dormant plants and trees so plentiful in Ireland were especially around Bruhenny. This article appears in modern times, Churchtown which was originally published in 2015 and is available to download for free at churchtown.net/publications/

Reproduced with thanks from Vale Star 6th August 2020

Opposite page: Albert Daly standing in his porch at Currymount accepting the Medal of Honour for his contribution to documenting the Church of Ireland heritage of Churchtown. The medal was presented by Gerry Murphy (left) and Noel Linehan (right). Denis Hickey was unavoidably absent.

Churchtown Honours Albert Daly

Churchtown Heritage Society presented a special Medal of Honour to Albert Daly of Currymount to recognise his contribution to the recording of the Church of Ireland heritage of Churchtown. Albert has a great interest in history and published a book entitled 'A Corner of Buttevant' in this regard in 1997. In 2005 Albert contributed a 2,000 word article to "The Annals of Churchtown" entitled "Bruhenny in a Golden Light: Church of Ireland history of Churchtown" which is reproduced here for the information of *Vale Star* readers.

Denis J Hickey proposed Albert for the Medal presentation but due to COVID restrictions the presentation was made to Albert in his home at Currymount by Gerry Murphy and Noel Linehan of Churchtown Heritage Society on Tuesday evening 28 July 2020 as the moon was rising on a relatively clear sky on a magical place in north Cork. Gerry Murphy made the presentation thanking Albert for the research work he had carried out. Noel Linehan also thanked Albert and apologised for Denis Hickey who was unable to attend due to COVID.

Albert explained that his early family roots are in West Cork near Barleycove, Goleen – his father's home place. His mother's people – the Clarksons – came from the townland of Lackeen in Liscarroll. The Clarkson family are buried in the little cemetery near Lackeen, where the walls of a little church still stand. The great bell from this Church, found during dredging of the Awbeg, later hung over Margaret O'Connell's restaurant in Buttevant.



All things bright and beautiful

All things bright and beautiful
All creatures great and small
All things wise and wonderful
‘Twas God that made them all

Each little flower that opens
Each little bird that sings
He made their glowing colours
And made their tiny wings

All things bright and beautiful
All creatures great and small
All things wise and wonderful
‘Twas God that made them all

The purple headed mountains
The rivers running by
The sunset and the morning
That brightens up the sky

All things bright and beautiful
All creatures great and small
All things wise and wonderful
‘Twas God that made them all

The cold wind in the winter
The pleasant summer sun
The ripe fruits in the garden
He made them every one

All things bright and beautiful
All creatures great and small
All things wise and wonderful
‘Twas God that made them all

He gave us eyes to see them
And lips that we might tell
How great is the Almighty
Who has made all things well

All things bright and beautiful
All creatures great and small
All things wise and wonderful
‘Twas God that made them all



Currymount or Cuaranaglashery?

People associate Albert and the Daly family with Currymount which is a townland in the Electoral Division of Churchtown, in the Civil Parish of Bregoge, in the Barony of Orrery and Kilmore and in the County of Cork. However, Albert called his home place Cuaranaglashery – a name he discovered in some old papers.

Albert is pictured (above) at St John's Church in Buttevant in 2005.

Bruhenny in a Golden Light

Church of Ireland history of Churchtown

Excerpt from Albert Daly's article in The Annals of Churchtown, published in 2005

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Some of the landlords were bishops in those feudal times and were appointed to the church if they had blue blood; others were people of means or those with powerful connections or wealth. Their tenants were obliged to furnish them with turf, corn, fish, and labour, and in certain circumstances the bishop was also entitled to call upon the families' labour on his domain. The going rate for land was a 'kish of turf' to the acre (a kish was two and seventy sods). His tenant fishermen were levied at a rate of 12s 6d a year, with an additional 3d for every child or person in the household. The fisherman was also expected to provide fish for the bishop's table. If fish were 12d at the market, his Lordship expected them for 8d. He would offer 2d for a ling and required three Haddock for a penny. 'The Bishop's Table' meant his staff of servants, coachmen, butlers, rent collectors, gardeners, guests or visitors.

In the year 1291 at Bruhenny Church, 100 yards east of the town, Robert Cheusner was presented to the vicarage by Odo de Barry. Then John de Barry Clarke was presented by Philip de Barry, son and heir of Odo de Barry. Thomas O'Holan was rector in 1311 and we find Vide Cahirultan in possession of the rectorship of Brothing (Bruhenny) in 1384.

In 1545, James Roche settled in Bruhenny and in 1591 Lucas Brady, son and heir of Hugh Brady, Bishop of Meath, held the office. He signed the *Settlement of Thomond* on the 17th August 1585. Lucas died in 1612. William Holiday was installed on 16th January 1610 and we find William in Ballyhooly in 1615. In that year also, John Hull became Vicar of Wallstown, Templeroan and Ballintemple (also known as Churchtown). He was later Precentor and in 1637

became Rector of Schull. In about 1634, James Barry appears as Impropiator of the rectory of Bruhenny. Reverend Pakington was at Bruhenny for some time before his appointment as Archdeacon of Cork in 1662.

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In 1700, Kerry Fitzmaurice took over at Bruhenny, having been presented by Johnis Perceval Baronetti. Much change occurred about this time – and not all for the better. There was, for example, a drastic decision to build a new church in Maryfield and leave the beautiful old Bruhenny building. A wiser decision was made by Sir John Perceval to found a charitable institution at Burton Park, of £42 per annum.

In 1713, a presentation of Limerick silver, patten, chalice and flagon was made to Sir John. The inscription reads: *Ex dono viri honorabilis Johannis Perceval equitas aurati in usum Roclesiae Parochialis de Browheny.*

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The beautiful old church of Bruhenny was left to fall into ruins as a new era commenced. The new church building was approximately 60 feet long and 30 feet wide. Strangely, its foundation stone, which was embedded in the west wall inside, reads: *Cumf Beat v SPS Deo Opt Max Anno 1792 Domus Orationis.* It is likely that the new church was built at different stages in the shape of a cross with a square tower. The foundation stone may still be seen at St John's in Buttevant, to which place it was removed for safe-keeping.

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At any rate, in 1774 Bruhenny Church was in ruins and the glebe lands abandoned, amounting to 11 acres, 1 rood and 35 perches. The new glebe lands at Maryfield measured 3 acres and 34 perches. In 1780, Charles Perceval became curate; he died in 1795. Reverend Matthew Purcell, second son of Sir John Purcell of High Fort, then took the parish (which had a curate's salary of £69 4s 71/d). However, the number of Anglican parishioners was dwindling fast – in 1805, just one family remained.

The new church could hold 300 people, but it never had a congregation in excess of 45. Reverend Matthew Purcell died in 1845 and was interred at Maryfield. In 1860, Maryfield Church was in good order and the Reverend Matthew Tierney held services every Sunday and on the chief Feast Days, while the Sacraments were taken monthly by the congregation of 27.

Reverend Matthew Tierney resigned in 1872 and went to a parish in or near Bristol. He is believed to have been the last Vicar of Maryfield, Churchtown.

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In 1834, the square tower was damaged and repaired in 1837 at a cost of £250. The tower was, however, demolished in 1894. The stone from Maryfield was sold to a road contractor and the beech trees were felled; the monies raised were used to repair the wall around Bruhenny's old church. Maryfield is the resting place not only of Lady O'Connell, married to a descendant of Daniel O'Connell, 'The Liberator', but also of many outstanding people of Churchtown.

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A Cure for Albert!

From The Annals of Churchtown published in 2005

Schoolchildren bemoaned the fact that a serious outbreak of whooping cough during the mid-1940s did not lead to the closing of the school, occurring as it did during the summer holidays. Albert Daly, Currymount, relates how, as a child in the 1930s, he suffered such an attack. His mother, watching helplessly as the coughing convulsed him, was in absolute despair. Learning of the situation, Mrs Egan, Ballygrace, who hailed from Ballyvourney (a district where natural cures abounded) sent a sealed envelope to the Daly household. Within the envelope were pieces of yarrow and instructions for helping to alleviate the whooping cough. The instructions were to boil a mouse and yarrow together, and then have the affected person drink the infusion. We will never know whether or not the remedy would prove effective as Dr Corbett arrived at the house and began treating young Albert at about the time Mrs Egan's message was received. Conventional methods included a mixture sold under the brand name 'Hippo Wine'.

Coolmore, Lackeen, Gurteenroe, Cregane, Ballinaboul and Ballycristy.

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The Percevals knew and entertained at their home prominent scientists, philosophers, writers and churchmen of the day. A frequent visitor was Jonathan Swift, Dean of St Patrick's in Dublin and author of Gulliver's Travels. Another man of Perceval's acquaintance was the famous scientist, Sir Isaac Newton, discoverer of gravity. Bishop Berkley of Cloyne, philosopher, reformer, and sworn enemy of the slave trade, was also a frequent visitor to Burton House.

In modern times, Churchtown harboured the Anderson family at Mountcorbitt, south-west of the town. Mary Parker, wife of Captain Anderson, was an extremely good artist who sketched many scenes of the area, including one of St Brigid's Well and the old ash tree which once stood behind it. Mrs Anderson was the mother of Robert Anderson, organiser of the Co-Operative Movement. He worked closely with Horace Plunkett and helped form co-operatives all over the world. He is also the author of With Plunkett in Ireland.



Ballygrace Heritage Cottage is a mudwall house, probably built in the 1700s in the parish of Churchtown. It was occupied by Denis McCarthy and his wife at the turn of the 1900s. They had no family and Noel Linehan's late mother Mary Maloney who was born in Carrig (near Mallow) but grew up in Ballygrace inherited the farm from her aunt Mrs McCarthy. Mary married Jack Linehan from Killavullen in 1942 and they raised their family and lived out their lives in the house. Jack and Mary had five children – Josephine (d.2020), Sr Brigid, Noel, Denis and Patricia.

Noel Linehan continues the family farming tradition at Ballygrace. He married Helen Church in 1973 and built a new home on the farm. The old mud walled house was unoccupied from 1996 after Mary Linehan's death and it was restored as a heritage cottage by Noel and Helen in 2020/2021.

Noel has also opened up an area of ancient woodland and a wild life farm pond with several species of wild flowers and wild orchids. There is also a three ringed fairy fort on the farm, named on the ordinance map as Lios na Gruach. It is clear that Ballygrace has been occupied since ancient times.



How Great Thou Art

Oh Lord, my God

When I, in awesome wonder

Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made

I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder

Thy power throughout the universe displayed

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee

How great Thou art, how great Thou art

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee

How great Thou art, how great Thou art

NATIONAL
HERITAGE
WEEK **h**

An Chomhairle Oidhreachta
The Heritage Council

