



# Roscrea People of the Year Awards

**2011**

## The 25th Awards' Evening

**2011**

(Organised yearly since 1987 by Roscrea People)

*For outstanding service to the Community*

### Damer Court Hotel

Wednesday 18th January, 2012

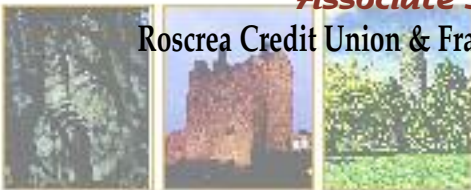
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*has been honoured  
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17th January 2012*

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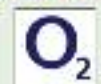
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Valerie and her work colleagues would like to wish all our customers a Healthy and Happy New Year

# **Roscrea People of the Year 2011**

## **The 25<sup>th</sup> Awards' Evening, 1987-2011**

*The 25<sup>th</sup> People of the Year Awards for 2011 will be presented in the Damer Court Hotel on Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> January, 2012, commencing at 7.30 pm.*

The 25<sup>th</sup> Awards' evening is sponsored by Bernies SuperValu with associate sponsorship from Roscrea Credit Union and Frank C. Murray Construction

Guest of Honour: Mr Joe MacGrath, North Tipperary Co Manager

Admission is by voluntary donation and the profits from the evening go to provide book collections for St Cronan's Services at Roscrea, Birr and Nenagh.

### **Programme of Events**

Part 1 – M.C. Brian King

- 7.30 Ceol: Junior Comhaltas Ceoltóirí, Ros Cré  
*Aspects of Roscrea, past and present*  
An illustrated presentation by George Cunningham
- 8.45 Raffle

Part 2 – M.C. George Cunningham

- 9.05 *Roscrea People* presentation of Book Collections to Roscrea Public Library. The formal presentation, on behalf of *Roscrea People*, will be made by Rev Lesley Robinson.
- 9.15 *Roscrea People* presentation of Book Collections to St Cronan's Services. The formal presentation, on behalf of *Roscrea People*, will be made by Fr Tom Corbett PP.
- 9.25 *Roscrea People* formal presentation of Book Collections to the Pat Carroll Memorial Library at Coolderry National School. The formal presentation will be made by Rev Brian Griffin.
- 9.35 25<sup>th</sup> Roscrea People of the Year Awards  
Formal presentations by Joe MacGrath and main sponsor, Brian Colclough.
- 10.45 Address by Joe MacGrath
- 10.55 Buffet Supper

*The Awards evening is held in association with Damer Court Hotel*

# Guest of Honour 2011

## North Tipperary County Manager, Joe MacGrath



*Mr Joe McGrath* grew up in Nenagh and attended school at the local CBS and Blackrock College in Dublin. Both of his parents, who have since passed away, were from Nenagh and he has two brothers and four sisters, two of whom live in Tipperary. He attended college at UCD where he graduated with a Bachelor of Commerce degree and subsequently graduated with a Diploma in Law from DIT and MA from the Institute of Public Administration.

He worked in local authorities in Wicklow, Limerick, Kerry and Galway before returning to his home county in 2010. He is married to Ailish with one son Dáire who now attends school at CBS, Nenagh – the wheel has come full circle.....

‘It is a unique opportunity and a great honour to serve as County Manager in my home county of Tipperary. Some Managers have been fortunate to get the opportunity to work in their native county but it is the exception rather than the rule.....

‘I have to acknowledge the improvements that have been made in Roscrea over the years and much credit for that must go to the local community. As with every town, there is scope for improvement in the town centre public realm, but Roscrea has some very unique attributes and character on which to build. One area I would like to see improving in all our towns is the amount and quality of pedestrianised space.....

‘Getting to the higher rankings in the Tidy Towns competition takes time, effort, commitment and a lot of work. I know from my work in other local authorities, that towns which are winning awards now, started out and set themselves a target to achieve that over ten years ago. There is no reason why Roscrea shouldn’t set itself a target. North Tipperary County Council will support this but the common theme of all tidy towns award winners is pervasive community support.....

‘The local challenge of maintaining vibrancy, being an attractive place to work, to visit, or in which to live at a time when we are experiencing a prolonged recession and loss of employment is a challenge for Roscrea - as it is for all of our towns. However, Roscrea, as a heritage town has a comparative advantage and this can provide a platform to promote the town in the future. I am confident that working together, we will overcome these challenges and having learnt from the lessons of the past, be stronger than ever.....

‘Working through our Heritage Office and with our local Councillors, North Tipperary County Council will bring forward an initiative early in 2012 to engage the local stakeholders on developing a shared vision for the future of Roscrea. This takes time and effort but let’s take the first steps and see what can be achieved.’

(Excerpts from an interview with Mr Macgrath in *Roscrea People 2011*)

# Roscrea People of the Year 2011

*Guest of Honour*

Joe MacGrath, North Tipperary County Manager

## ***The 2011 award winners are:***

- Roscrea Tennis Club, under the auspices of RCTLC, for the development of top-class facilities on the Dublin Road, in particular to Emmet Arrigan, their long-time mentor.
- Marjorie McCorduck, Parkmore Heights, on her election as President of the Irish Ladies' Golfing Union, 2011-2012
- Roscrea Youth Projects, NTLF, in particular their co-ordinator, Deirdre Cahir, for many years of commitment, care and concern.

## **Roscrea International Award**

### **Kevin Carroll**

*Practicing prosthetist, visionary researcher, and skilled educator.*

Orlando, USA and Benamore, Roscrea whose work inspired the Hollywood mega movie, *Dolphin Tale*

## ***Roscrea People of the Year Citations:***

(Citations are awarded to people and institutions that already been received People of the Year Awards)

- All-Ireland Fleadh Cheoil winner, Cian Hanamy
- Roscrea Scouts, celebrating forty years of outstanding service and doing so in style during 2011.
- Dean Maxwell Centre for the truly magnificent publication of *The Wisdom of Age*; with acknowledgement to Mary Arrigan, writer, Brian Redmond, photographer, Timmy Quinlan, designer and Des Walsh, Printer.
- Séamus Doran for composing and publishing the words and music, *Lead Me Home*, for a full Mass.

# Roscrea Tennis Club - and its mentor, Emmet Arrigan

Roscrea Tennis Club owes its existence to the generosity of The Sacred Heart Community and the vision of John Lupton. The new courts, of which we are very proud, are the end product of a frantic two years' work by our development team - Shauna Meagher, Niall Crofton and Siobhan Dwyer. The finance came jointly from the shareholders of RCTLC and the National Lottery, with the support and backing of Michael Smith and Denis Ryan. The last piece of the jigsaw is about to fall into place with the construction of a stairway from the clubhouse to the court entrance.

The day-to-day running of the club is made easy by the enthusiastic committees who organise competitions and social events. A very active junior committee caters for the younger members. During the year we have doubles leagues, an inter-firms competition, and a singles ladder. The club enters at least ten teams in the Midland League each summer, the highest entry of any club in the region. We have had some notable successes to date, winning Divisions four and six. Our division one team has contested three finals, and took the title three years ago.

The club's policy in these straitened times is to keep membership fees as low as possible—a primary school student, for instance, can play all year round for twenty-five euro. Those wishing to join us can enquire at the RCTLC office in The Abbey Hall.

On a personal note, I have been privileged to work with and play tennis with the members of what is an extraordinarily friendly club. Most of the people I now call friends are club members. By being part of this club I have also got to know players in many other clubs. The other reason I play tennis is that I am too old for hurling and soccer, and too young for golf.



*Caption*

# Marjorie McCorduck

## President of the Irish Ladies' Golf Union

Although born in Templemore, I was no stranger to the people of Roscrea as my father Adam Wallace came from Roscrea, my mother from Templeberry, Nenagh.

Following my education at St. Mary's Primary School, Templemore and Wesley College, Dublin, I trained and qualified as a State Registered Nurse at The Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast, before marrying David and coming home to live in my native Tipperary. At that time hockey was my chosen sport, music and drama my other interests, so I needed very little persuasion to join Roscrea Golf Club. Never would I have imagined back then that the game would present me with wonderful opportunities and remarkable enjoyment for so many years.

Having served on the Midland District Executive, the Irish National Council in Dublin and the Ladies' Golf Union in St. Andrews, Scotland, I was extremely fortunate to be co-opted to The Royal and Ancient Rules Committee. During that four year term, I acted as walking Referee at four Open Championships. Although I had many interesting and eventful happenings within that period, the highlight for me was my involvement at Carnoustie when Pdraig Harrington won the coveted Claret Jug. Meeting him and his young family will forever remain in my memory as an exceptionally happy event and one I was thrilled to be part of.



*Marjorie McCorduck with Annika Sorenstam at the presentation of prizes to junior members of the ILGU.*



Music has had to take a lesser role in my career, "though I was recently reminded that I have acted as "temporary" organist at St. Cronan's Church of Ireland, for over thirty years!

As I embark on my second year as President of the Irish Ladies' Golf Union, I feel hugely privileged to be selected as one of the "Roscrea People of the Year 2011" and thank the organising committee, sincerely, for this wonderful honour.

# Roscrea Youth Project – NTLP

Roscrea Youth Project was established under the umbrella of Roscrea 2000 Ltd in 2001. The Project was housed in the old Convent building but would have primarily carried out its work within the local schools and local community. The Project developed over the next number of years, as did the team of sincerely dedicated and skilled workers.

We provide group work, community-based work and also one-to-one support as and when required, in a drop-in and referred basis.

The Projects role is one of support and advocacy for the youth in the town of Roscrea. This is something that has grown and developed during the past eleven years, all led by the local needs of our young population.

During a needs analysis carried out by young people for young people in 2005, a gap was recognised in relation to a service in a central location, where they could access information and support on a drop in basis; also a safe place where they could drop in without being asked to leave was also identified.

In April 2011, the Kickback Youth Café opened its doors, filling the gaps that had been identified. The Café provides a safe space in which young people are actively encouraged to take a leadership role in the running and management of the space. It is a space where they are welcomed and listened to, and truly valued for their contribution. Most importantly it is a place that is dedicated to all our bright, talented, intelligent and fun-loving young people. They are embraced for being who they are. During an average five day week we would see a minimum of 60 plus coming through our doors.

The continuing development of a Project of this size and calibre is one that is not without its challenges, but with the continued support of the local community and all involved we look forward to turning all these challenges into new adventures.



*Pictured in the Kickback Café in Rosemary Street are members of the Youth Project Team (missing member Anna Heagney, inset): Donna Fanneran, Valerie Hearn, Deirdre Cahir (Co-ordinator) and Peter Hogan.*



# Roscrea People Citations

**Citations are awarded to people who have already been honoured  
as People of the Year**

## **Cian Hanamy – All-Ireland Champion**

I was born in Southampton, New York but my family moved back to Ireland in 1999 where we live at Milltown, Shinrone. I am 17 and there are three other children in our family, Conal 15, Kyle 7 and my sister Katie 4. I attended Clonlisk NS and am currently a 5th year student at Cistercian College Roscrea.

My interests include many types of music - I play whistle, fiddle, violin and double bass and at home I play the piano - and have been involved with youth drama in Birr for ten years. Along with my brother Conal and school friends we represented Shinrone and Offaly in group singing in three National Community Games finals, winning gold and bronze All-Ireland medals in 2007 and 2008.

I have represented Roscrea CCE for many years at Provincial and All-Ireland Level in traditional English singing, traditional Irish singing, whistle, slow airs, lilting and comhrá.

In the U-15 Traditional Singing in English at Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann in Tullamore in 2009, I was awarded 1st place (I had been placed second in the competition for the previous three years).

At the All-Ireland in Cavan in August 2011 I qualified and participated in three competitions, and was awarded 2nd in both lilting and traditional singing in Irish and won 1st place in U18 traditional singing in English.

I have been fortunate to receive recognition from Offaly Comhaltas, Tipperary Comhaltas and Roscrea Comhaltas following wins at provincial level to reach Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann each year since 2005. In school I am involved in the school orchestra, the school choir and the annual opera and have been the recipient of several awards: the CCR Sherry Cup Music competition in 2008, the only time this cup was won by a 1st Year. The Union Gold medal in 2010 for Junior Cert. results, the Liam S. Maher Media Award in 2011 for journalism and film production and along with my Transition Year class, received the Bronze Medal President's Award - Gaisce .

I was sectional leader in the Senior Choir and in the first desk of First Violins in our Orchestra which competed and won prizes in the Wesley College Inter Schools Music Festival for the first time in 2011. I also took part in the individual Irish singing competition for the Irish cup and was placed 2nd.

I was delighted and proud to receive the Young Person of the Year Award in 2009 from Roscrea People and am happy to be back to accept this award for 2011 from my local area, where I have received great encouragement and support through the years.

*With Mrs. Maher at the presentation of  
The Liam S Maher Award.*



*Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann  
2011*



# Roscrea Scouts

2011 was certainly a memorable year for scouting in Roscrea, the year which saw the group celebrate its 40th anniversary, and it certainly didn't disappoint.

In March, the group entered its largest ever contingent in the St Patrick's Day Parade and were rewarded with the prize for the best Community Group in the parade. April saw the official marking of our 40th with the rededication of the newly refurbished hall by the Chief Scout, Mr Michael John Shinnick. This was followed by a Scouts Own Investiture and Awards ceremony in St Cronan's RC Church with representatives of the Catholic, Church of Ireland and Methodist communities involved. Numerous officers from National, Provincial and County level were all in attendance throughout the day.



*Scouting is wonderful for so many young people, including Dylan.*

The summer witnessed all our sections involved in Camps both at home and abroad. Highlights were six members attending the World Scout Jamboree in Rinkaby Sweden, Annual Camp in Castlegregory, the National Beaver Camp in Larch Hill, Cub camps in Portlick, Athlone and all sections overnighing at our Scout Centre in Srahan.

Two Chief Scout Awards were also celebrated with Kalen McNamara and Shane Culleton receiving the award, the first in the group in fifteen years. The group also had the chance to celebrate the first ever Beaver Chief Scout Awards with four in total for Clodine Treacy, Kelly O'Meara, Niamh Geraghty and Aimee Monahan.

One of our Rovers, Luke McAndrew, spent the summer in Kanderstag, Switzerland at the International Scout Centre as a member of staff. Other members of the Rovers helped out with Scouting Ireland's tent-pitching service at Oxygen, raising €10000 for charity.

All in all, probably the most successful year ever for scouting in Roscrea and very welcome recognition from the Roscrea community with this citation. Here's hoping 2012 brings many more highlights to celebrate.



*At the Rededication of the Scouting Headquarters in Abbey Street, scout leaders of today and yesteryear: Michael Carroll, Noel Ryan, John O'Connell, Michael John Shinnick (Chief Scout), Francis Minogue (Group Leader) and Stephen Feehan.*

# The Dean Maxwell Home

## *The Wisdom of Age: Portraits of Living History*

The purpose of this book was and is to honour older people, especially the storytellers who graciously shared their stories. Let us hear their voices, be inspired and energised.

### *A wonderful place in the heart of Roscrea with Roscrea at its heart*

The Dean Maxwell Community Nursing Unit nestles in 'The Valley', in the shadow of Knockbrack Hill and St Cronan's Church. The unit is called after The Reverend Dean Thomas Maxwell who was parish priest in Roscrea at the time the site was handed over by the Parish. The Dean Maxwell first opened in 1974 and has been home for many people over the years. The Unit has transformed over the intervening period in response to the changing needs of the community. Respite care, Palliative support care and day services have been developed.

The role of the Dean Maxwell Community is to facilitate each member to live the healthiest and most fulfilled life possible. To do this we need to know the person.

Life stories help us to build a picture of each person's values and beliefs and life stories show us the uniqueness of each life lived. These stories do all of this and much more. They tell the story of a generation living in a different time, a generation that advanced society and enjoyed life in face of adversity.

Quoting the late Tom Dwyer:

'Roscrea, you have a treasure, the Dean Maxwell Home.' I now add 'Roscrea you have a treasure of memories, *The Wisdom of Age: Portraits of Living History*'.



*Staff of Dean Maxwell CNU with  
Mary Kennedy at Launch of  
'Wisdom of Age'*

*Back: Aidan McGinn, Liz McGinn,  
Martina Conroy, Pat Stone  
Maura Tobin, Josie Cahill,  
Margaret Stanley, Eileen Carroll,  
Mary Maher.*

*Angela Nolan, Esther Durack,  
Paschale Stone, Sinead Carson,  
Kareena Bohan, Margaret  
Hennessy, Gareth Gohery.*

*2nd Row: Gabrielle Hayes, Fiona  
Rigney, Fidelma Carroll*

*Front Row: Catherine Timmons,  
Anne Keevey, Mary Kennedy, Brona  
Brophy,*

*Eileen Dunne, Stobhan Bourke*

## Mary Arrigan – Author



Mary Arrigan writes: *The Wisdom of Age* stories are a colourful kaleidoscope of life between the 1920s and the 1950s, not just in rural Ireland, but in war-torn England and even as far away as Canada and the Indian Ocean. The two years spent listening to the past and writing this book were a most fulfilling and rewarding experience. The intimate one-to-one chats in the small Dean Maxwell conservatory brought forth a wealth of memories that were almost tangible and visible in the telling. Hard as times were back

then, the positive resilience and infectious sense of humour brought people through all adversity. We have so much to learn and enjoy from them and their memories.'

## Brian Redmond – Photography

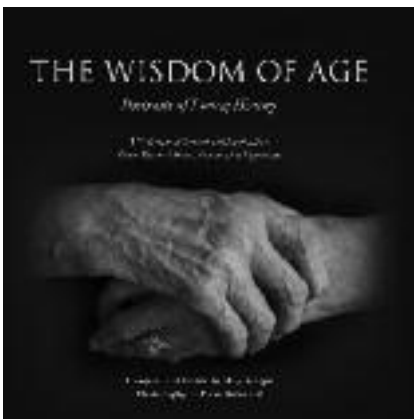
Award-winning photographer and his wife Theresa opened their studio in Castle Street, Roscrea in 1976 and for the past 35 years they have been an integral part of the social and business fabric of the town. Brian's legacy – photos of babies, children, families, weddings, commercial, heritage, restoration and décor – is an unique contribution to a town's life and heritage. As he says himself....*35 years.....minding your memories...we have them all.* Down the years



Brian's work

has received both national and international recognition, as much for its creativity as for its technical brilliance and sheer excellence.

Together with the images in *Wisdom of Age*, this year alone Brian produced and sponsored the images in the Church of Ireland calendar and the Lions Christmas cards. And, of course, his cover image of Roscrea People 2011 is once again outstanding.



## Tim Quinlan and Graphic Index Ltd.

Coolderry native, Tim Quinlan is a past pupil of Roscrea Vocational School and studied at Athlone RTC and The National College of Art and Design. For over a decade his business, Graphic Index Ltd, has provided design services to a broad client base from its Tullamore studio. This award winning graphic design consultancy offers a complete range of graphic design and visual communication services including logo design, illustration, promotional material and website development. [www.graphicindex.com](http://www.graphicindex.com)



*Mary Arrigan, Anne Keevey, Brian Redmond, Tim Quinlan and Maria Cunningham  
at Launch of Age of Wisdom*

## Des Walsh - Walsh Printers Roscrea

The *Wisdom of Age* is one of the most beautiful books we have produced in our long history (since 1948). I would like to congratulate all who were involved - Mary Arrigan, Brian Redmond, Timmy Quinlan and of course Anne Keevey.

Amid our normal commercial printing, every so often we are entrusted with the production of exceptional books. Just before Christmas we produced Willie Hayes's excellent book, *Holycross - The Awakening of the Abbey*. This sold out so quickly that we are now producing a second print run. This book has been chosen as the Tipperary book of the year for 2011.



We have produced a steady stream of wonderful books for Dr John Feehan (UCD and Birr) including *The Bogs of Ireland*, *Wildflowers of Offaly*, *The Curragh*, and most recently *Croghan Hill*.

Local historians and poets (George & Carmel Cunningham, John Browne, Ciarán McNiocláis, Paul Ryan etc) have given us the pleasure of printing important pieces of literature which will, in time, become the legacy of our printing works.



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Roscrea People of the Year Awards 2011

# Seamus Doran, Musician and Composer

Since receiving his *Roscrea People of the Year Award* in 2009, Séamus remains heavily involved in sport: organising trips to Old Trafford, and has completed his 7th year as Roscrea Juvenile Hurling Club Secretary. 2011 was indeed a busy year for him with the club winning the Community Games County Final and the Premier 12's County Final, and also overseeing the production of the 8th issue of "A Year in the Red". Now considered a top juvenile coach/selector, he has completed five consecutive years as both a North and county U14 selector, winning an Inter-Divisional title in 2010 and the Tony Forristal All-Ireland title in 2011, his 2nd in three years.



Séamus also opened a much needed private addiction counselling practice in town in 2011, following his graduation and accreditation with UCD/Mercants Quay and the IAAAC.

On the musical front, he has been extremely busy: writing the victory song *Were You There* for the Tipperary team in 2010, and playing it for an audience of over 35,000 people in Semple Stadium at the victorious homecoming; releasing a CD called *All-Ireland Glory*, and a song entitled *The Scars Inside* for Carmel Minogues latest album. But, undoubtedly, his greatest achievement to date was the composing of the Folk Mass liturgy "*Lead Me Home*", which subsequently culminated in both a book and a CD of the hymns. The inaugural singing of the Mass, concelebrated by the Bishop of Killaloe,



Kieran O'Reilly, Bishop emeritus of Killaloe, Willie Walsh, Fr Tom Corbett PP and Dom Richard Purcell, Abbot of Mount St Joseph, was a hugely significant event for the community. Added value to the event was the voluntary donations made at the church door and donated to Roscrea Hospice. Séamus's hymns are being sung by many choirs and folk groups at this stage, and the full Mass has been performed in many churches around the country. He is receiving widespread acclaim for his songwriting and has been contacted by a number of both national and International artists. He would like to thank all his family, friends, daughter, Caitrín, and the people of the town for all their encouragement and support over the years.

# Roscrea People International Award

## Kevin Carroll, Benamore, Roscrea, and Orlando, Florida, USA

*Practising prosthetist, visionary researcher, and skilled educator*

Kevin Carroll, MS, CP, FAAOP came to international prominence during 2011 when a major film featuring his work with an injured dolphin was released to much acclaim.

When not caring for his human prosthetic patients (he specializes in the care of older adults and has a degree in gerontology), Carroll volunteers nights and weekends to the Clearwater Marine Aquarium where he works with a young amputee dolphin named Winter. Carroll, alongside his colleague Dan Strzempka, developed the world's first prosthetic tail that replaces the entire tail fluke of a dolphin. The real life survival story of Winter and Carroll's innovative prosthetic tail design came alive on the silver screen during the fall of 2011 in "Dolphin Tale", a 3D feature film starring Morgan Freeman, Ashley Judd, Kris Kristopherson, and Harry Connick, Jr.



As Vice President of Prosthetics for Hanger Prosthetics and Orthotics, Carroll travels nationally and internationally presenting scientific symposiums and managing clinics for difficult prosthetic cases. Carroll is the co-developer of the patented Hanger ComfortFlex™ Socket System; a bone and muscle contoured socket that revolutionized socket design and comfort. He has appeared on news broadcasts such as Dateline, 20/20, CBS Early Show, NBC Nightly News, ABC's Good Morning America, and the Discovery Channel.

Carroll – from The Dublin Road, Benamore - is a past-pupil of the Old and New Boys' School (now Scoil Eoin) and Roscrea Vocational School. He has often talked about his upbringing to the American press – he tells how nearby St Anne's had a huge influence on him, leading from volunteer charity work with them to a caring career in 1978 at the National Medical Rehabilitation Centre in Dublin, before moving to the States in 1984, where he currently resides in Orlando, Florida with his wife Mary, son Michael, and daughter Aoife.

Today, Carroll is an American Board Certified Prosthetist and was named a Fellow of the American Academy of Orthotics and Prosthetics, one of the highest honors of the profession. He is a member of the International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics, a professional advisor for the Amputee Coalition, a member of the National Association of Professional Geriatric Care Managers, and a member of the British Association of Prosthetics and Orthotics (BAPO).

'I am honored to accept this award and would like to thank you and your selection committee for thinking of me so far away at the other side of the Atlantic. As you know, I had a lot of fun this past year with my work and got to mention Roscrea to the International media on numerous occasions; they are always very interested to hear about where I grew up and what it was like. Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend the awards evening as I have already committed to an event in Arizona; however, my brother Gerry will be present to accept the award on my behalf, and I will be there in spirit.'



## Dolphin Tale

As stated, Carroll's work recently inspired a Hollywood movie about an injured dolphin called 'Winter' on which he fitted a prosthetic tail. Actor Morgan Freeman portrays Carroll and his colleague, Strzempka, in the blockbuster movie, which not only sees the creation of the prosthetic tail for 'Winter', but also the development of a special gel by Carroll and Strzempka, alongside scientists, that allowed the prosthetic tail to be attached to the dolphin without causing pain. This gel, known as WintersGel, is now also being used on thousands of human amputee patients, considerably increasing the comfort of many prosthetic users.



*Photos show Kevin and Dan working with Winter and on the 'Tail'.*



*Roscrea People*  
*of the*  
*Year Award*  
**2011**

*For outstanding service to the Community*

**Kevin Carroll**  
*Benamore, Roscrea, and Orlando, USA*  
*Practicing prosthetist, visionary researcher, and skilled educator*

*has been honoured*

*with a Roscrea People International Award*



*Edwin Roscrea People*  
*17th January 1871*



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*The Kickback Youth café*



# Bernie's SuperValu

Bernie's Super Valu have had a busy year, supporting the local communities around Roscrea.

The year started with a presentation of over €10,000 to Roscrea Hospice from the sponsorship of their Christmas Cookbook and the proceeds of Bernie's annual Christmas charity event. January saw Bernie's as co-sponsor of the People of the Year. This year, January 2012, they are delighted to be main sponsors of the event.

St Patrick's Day saw Bernie's supporting the local parade in Roscrea with their float entitled 'From Farm to Fork'. The float highlighted the shop's support of local suppliers. They were delighted to win the award for best local business entry.

During a busy summer Bernie's continued their support of Inane Rovers Gaelic Football Club by sponsoring the inaugural Liam Carson Shield for Primary Schools. This event saw the Sam Maguire Cup visit St Cronan's Park and a great day of Gaelic Football for the local primary schools.

Bernie's were also involved during the year with Killavilla soccer club through the sponsorship of their informative Club brochure and look forward to continuing their policy of supporting local in 2012.



*One of the associate sponsors, Frank Murray discusses the Awards evening with the main sponsor, Brian Colclough of SuperValu.*



# Roscrea Credit Union and the Awards

Brian King writes: ‘Roscrea Credit Union would like to congratulate George and Carmel Cunningham on the staging of the 25th Annual Roscrea People Of the Year Awards. The awards ceremony which takes place every January is without question one of the most important events in the Roscrea calendar. To be celebrating the 25th awards ceremony is a tremendous achievement and the organisers deserve great praise for their efforts. Roscrea Credit Union was always delighted to be involved as the main sponsors of the awards. This year we are associated sponsors. We welcome the involvement of the new sponsors, SuperValu Roscrea and Frank Murray Construction. Like the Credit Union, both SuperValu and Frank Murray have contributed very generously over the years to various projects that have helped our town.

2011 was a very challenging year for Roscrea Credit Union. During the year the credit union has had to make sweeping changes to its day to day business. New policies, new procedures and new controls have all contributed to a new and robust approach which will be needed in the months and years ahead, as Ireland emerges from one of the worst recessions in economic history.

Roscrea Credit Union would like to congratulate all the award recipients. Roscrea, like every town in the country, needs people like you to inspire local communities and help us showcase our great town and our beautiful country.

Best wishes to Roscrea People for the next twenty five years.’



*A large gathering of community activists gathered with the St Cronan's Day Organising Committee and Roscrea Credit Union representatives to help launch a local photography competition last year to celebrate everything good about Roscrea. The competition was a great success and was one of just many great projects that the credit union was involved in, despite the difficulties of 2011*

## Roscrea People Book Donations

Since 1987 Roscrea People has been donating book collections to various schools, charities and institutions, not only in the Roscrea area but nationally too. These collections of mainly new books (but in the case of the Public Library relevant antiquarian volumes too) are acquired through the monies generated by the sales of *Roscrea People* and augmented to some degree by generous help from benefactors and friends of the particular institution.

To date the total number of books donated since 1987 lies around the 42,000 mark. As usual at this Awards' evening three major donations will be made:

- a) Over 150 new books, mainly on Irish heritage and culture, will be presented to the Tipperary Public Library, adding to the 3300 titles already donated and catalogued, and mainly housed in Library headquarters in Thurles. A catalogue of the collection is available on line at [www.roscreapeople.com](http://www.roscreapeople.com) or from the Library's web site. Acting Co Librarian, Jess Codd and Roscrea Librarian, Aine Beausang will accept the 2011 donation.
- b) St Cronan's Services at Roscrea, Birr and Nenagh receive the usual array of beautiful new, relevant books for the use of their clients and staff. Presentations of books are also made during the year.
- c) The schools' donation for 2011 will be to the Pat Carroll Memorial Library at Coolderry Central School. Here a dedicated library was put in place, facilitated by the editor of RP and the Coolderry community, to honour a past pupil and All-Ireland hurling star who died some 25 years ago. A new room to house the library will be opened at the school during 2012.

Token presentations of books will be made on the evening with delivery of the many boxes on the following days.

## Roscrea Spring Conference 2012

The 50th Roscrea Conference

**Mount St Joseph Abbey, 13th - 15th 2012**

Themes: *a) From Citeaux to Roscrea*  
*b) Celebrating 50 conferences*

Official opening Friday 13th April by Dom Eamonn Fitzgerald ocsa,  
Abbot General of the Cistercian Order

Help given graciously and freely

Special thanks to Brian and Olivia at Redmond Photography for the mounting of the Awards certs and for their help with the screening of the powerpoint presentation.

Sincere thanks too to Ger O Meara for his help with the projection and sound.

The certs and booklets were produced at Walsh Printers; thanks, as always there, to Andrea and Val.

Booklet edited by Carmel and George Cunningham,  
published by *Roscrea People*, January 2011 and printed at Walsh Printers, Roscrea.



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Top-left: Roscrea Castle, Roscrea; Top-right: Glenties, Glenties; Middle-left: Corribon-Gail, Kesh of Cavan; Middle-right: Famine Workhouse Mill, Ballynagany, Co. Wick; Bottom-left: Co. Wick; Bottom-right: Co. Wick.

(Photos: OPW, A&T)

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