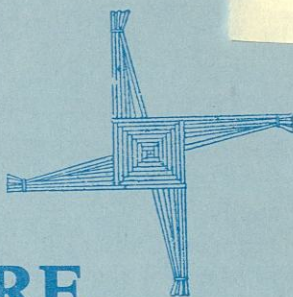




21st



KILDARE

DRAMA FESTIVAL

(Affiliated to the National Drama Council of Ireland)

Féile Dramuíoichta Cill Dara

1978

Patron

Most Rev. Patrick Lennon, D.D., Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin

in

C.Y.M.S. HALL, KILDARE

Under the auspices and direction of the
Kildare Guild of Muintir na Tíre

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1st

to

THURSDAY, MARCH 9th

(inclusive)

Adjudicator: MISS GERDA REDLICH, M.A.
(Member of the Guild of Drama Adjudicators)

Souvenir Programme
kindly sponsored by

PHILIPS ELECTRICAL [IRELAND] LIMITED

Price 20p

No.

COMPETITIONS

RURAL SECTION

Two (or more) Act Plays in English confined to Rural Groups.

Trophy

Perpetual Challenge Cup entitled *The Canon Hayes Memorial Cup*, presented by the National Council of Muintir na Tire. A Shield will be awarded to the runner-up group.

Note

For the purpose of the Festival *Rural* refers to any place of less than 1,500 persons.

OPEN SECTION

Two (or more) Act Plays in English, *Open*.

Trophy

Perpetual Challenge Cup entitled *Leinster Leader Cup*, presented by the Leinster Leader Ltd., Naas. A Shield will be awarded to the runner-up group.

OTHER AWARDS

The Kildare Challenge Cup and Replica will be awarded to the Producer of the Best Production in *Rural Section*.

The Paddy Tynan Perpetual Cup and Replica will be awarded to the Producer of the Best Production in the *Open Section*.

The Bill Rea Memorial Cup will be awarded to the most Entertaining Play of the Festival on the judgement of season ticket holders.

Trophies will be awarded to the Best Actress and Best Actor in their respective sections, with additional awards to runners-up.

Trophies will also be awarded to the Best Actress and Best Actor in *Minor Roles* in each section.

The Kitty Norton Memorial Scholarship: See programme.

KILDARE DRAMA FESTIVAL 1978

COMMITTEE

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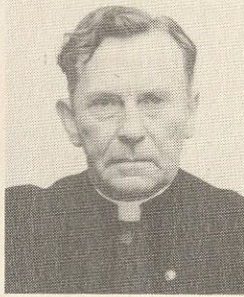
Booking

M. P. Fleming, Claregate Street (Phone 045—21379)

KILDARE DRAMA FESTIVAL COMMITTEE 1978



Rev. T. O'Reilly
Vice-President



Very Rev. R. Prendergast, P.P., V.F.
President

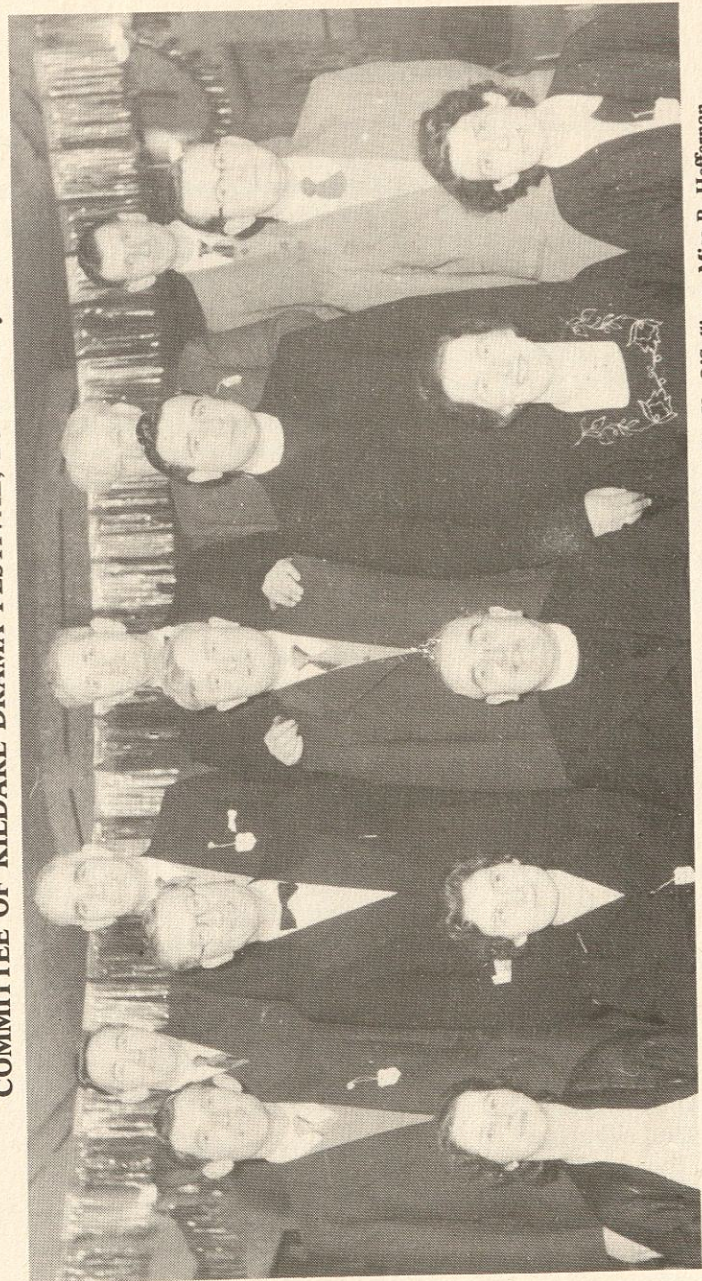


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Vice-President



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COMMITTEE OF KILDARE DRAMA FESTIVAL, 2-9 February 1958



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THE TWENTY-FIRST KILDARE DRAMA FESTIVAL

YESTERDAY — TODAY — TOMORROW!

Drama is an art like music or painting and has played a major role in the cultural, educational and social life of people since the earliest times. One has only to call to mind the great Greek and Roman playwrights whose plays are still read to find oneself a long way back in the history of civilisation. Of any of the arts, drama is inherent in the majority of people. It begins to show in childhood when children play "cowboys and indians", or "shop", or "school" or similar types of game. This talent or gift to act or dramatise is greater in some people and they can reach high levels of achievement in using their talent to provide pleasurable entertainment both for themselves and for others. Some make it their profession in life and so we have the professional theatre. Others like it simply as a hobby and hence we have what we call the amateur theatre.

Amateur theatre has become an important feature of the cultural and entertainment areas of life in the Ireland of today. The establishment and continuance of drama festivals has contributed in no small way to this fact. Kildare can be justly proud that its drama festival has contributed its own share to this facet of Irish life for twenty-one years. Indeed it is a particular joy to all those who have been associated with Kildare Drama Festivals down the years that many of the groups who won their way from Kildare to the All-Ireland Festivals have come out on top time and time again winning many of the major awards.

It would be unrealistic to get carried away by the glamour and success of taking the laurels and top prizes in competition. The more important achievement of Kildare Festival or any of the festivals in the other centres is that a great deal is learned about the theatre and the techniques of staging a play. Competing groups go back home having benefitted by their experience. Other players, whether interested in competition or not, come to look, listen and learn. The audiences learn to appreciate plays and actors and thereby increase their own pleasure by a better understanding of the theatre. The benefit to everyone is immeasurable.

Inevitably the success of the drama festival movement has meant that many groups have reached very high levels of achievement in the various techniques. Indeed some groups have become so proficient that they could be regarded as on a par with professionals. Herein lies the greatest threat both to the amateur theatre itself and to the drama festivals. The audience is the common denominator upon which the continuation and success of both depend. Many groups forget this.

There are many members of the amateur theatre audiences who have themselves become very learned in the ways of theatre, and have even acquired a taste for the professional theatre over the festival years. This is due to the raising of standards in amateur productions and the interest created in amateur theatre by the festivals. However, the majority of actual and potential audiences in both urban and rural settings would prefer the more appealing and pleasurable entertainment of the less abstruse plays for their enjoyment. Many of the more successful groups are tending to ignore this important fact. In their efforts to stay at the top they go for the more "challenging" plays that will score with the adjudicator.

In making this criticism, I by no means wish to entertain any implication of a lessening in standards of the techniques employed in a production by any group. I am saying that they should not ignore the value of the support given by their audiences both from the morale and financial points of view at local and festival levels.

In making these remarks in relation to the future of Kildare Festival and the festival movement in general, I support wholeheartedly similar views of P. V. O'Brien in an article entitled "Remember the Audience". That article was published in the programme of Saturday, 7 May 1977, for the Silver Jubilee All-Ireland Amateur Drama Festival at Athlone.

Appreciations

Twenty-one festivals is no mean achievement by any standards and coming of age is a gratifying stage to have reached. The establishment, growth, and continuity of the Kildare Festival over twenty-one years along with its unquestionable success already referred to is a tribute to the founders and to the various committee members who have worked with such painstaking dedication through the years. As was common to much of the amateur theatre movement and the festivals, the Kildare Festival was initiated by Muintir na Tíre. Although the local Guild has been superseded by the Parish Community Council, members of the former Guild have remained together in committee to direct the festival and still maintain affiliation to the National Council of Muintir na Tíre. They do this in recognition of the fact that the festival was the inspiration of the said organisation which has given so much else to the Kildare community in the past.

A special tribute is due to the sponsors, patrons and advertisers of all twenty-one festivals, many of whom are annual subscribers to the financial sustenance of each one. Without their support it would have been impossible to continue. All who have benefitted from the succession of festivals are in debt to those who have been so generous in this way. We all join in thanking them for their interest and goodwill.

The many people who have helped over the years and who still do so by giving of their time and energy in a voluntary capacity are due the highest praise. Their listing would form a long litany but I do ask them to accept this mention as a token of the esteem in which they are held by all associated in any way with the Kildare Drama Festival.

Finally, there is you, the audience — I have already emphasised in another way how much we need you. Thanks very much to all of you especially those who have continued to come over the years even if you have been bored at times by the presentations.

The founders and the committees of the past have made their contributions. The present committee is endeavouring to emulate their efforts and to honour them in marking the twenty-first festival. We hope there will be interested parties within the community who will come forward to continue this good work in the future.

PETER CRIBBIN, C.C. (Chairman)

OUR ADJUDICATOR

This year we are pleased to welcome back Gerda Redlich who needs little or no introduction to Kildare Festival audiences, due to her visit in 1974. On that occasion she proved herself a very competent adjudicator and a very pleasant person. She has officiated at a great many festivals in various parts of the country and by her genial personality has endeared herself to all who met her. On this her second visit to Kildare we extend her a hearty *céad míle fáilte*.

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

SCHOLARSHIP

This year the Festival Committee are sponsoring a scholarship to the Summer School at Gormanston College. The scholarship will be awarded to an actress or actor participating in the Festival and who in the opinion of the adjudicator would benefit from such a course of instruction.

As a tribute of respect to the memory of one of the best-known amateur actresses of our time, and who at eight of twenty Kildare Festivals was nominated Best Actress, we are pleased to name this additional prize as:

THE KITTY NORTON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

WINNERS OF RURAL SECTION SINCE 1958

Year	Group	Play	Producer
1958	Rathangan	Charlie's Aunt	Paddy Tynan
1959	Allen	Drama at Innis	Rev. T. O'Reilly
1960	Coill Dubh	Sive	J. Mulvey
1961	Rathcoole	The New Gossoon	Jim Tunny
1962	Allen	The Heiress	Rev. T. O'Reilly
1963	Allen	The Miracle Worker	Rev. T. O'Reilly
1964	Allen	The Year of the Hiker	E. K. Walker
1965	Allen	The Diary of Ann Frank	Rev. T. O'Reilly
1966	Allen	The White Steed	E. K. Walker
1967	Allen	The Late Christopher Bean	Rev. P. Gaynor
1968	Killeslin T.G.	The Wise Have Not Spoken	John Ryan
1969	Rathcoole D.G.	Mick and Mick	G. Pouch
1970	Kilcullen D.G.	Big Maggie	Paddy Melia
1971	Rathcoole D.G.	Cat on a Hot Tin Roof	G. Punch
1972	Allen	Friends and Relations	E. K. Walker
1973	Rathangan Players	The Temple	Rev. T. O'Reilly
1974	Rathangan Players	Our Town	Rev. T. O'Reilly
1975	Allen	The Year of the Hiker	Rev. P. Gaynor & E. K. Walker
1976	Rathangan Players	Inherit the Wind	John O'Loughlin
1977	Allen	Antigone	Rev. T. O'Reilly

BEST ACTRESS

1958	Mrs. Conlon, Allen.
1959	Ber Gordon, Coill Dubh
1960	Peg Tracy, Allen.
1961	Withheld.
1962	Peg Tracy, Allen.
1963	Pauline Snee, Allen.
1964	Nuala O'Sullivan, Ballymore.
1965	Patricia Kelly.
1966	Kathleen Ryan, Allen.
1967	Kathleen Ryan, Allen.
1968	Marie Grey, Rathcoole.
1969	Angela Collins, Rathcoole.
1970	Loretto Ginnity, Kilcullen.
1971	Josephine Pouch, Rathcoole.
1972	Mary Hayden, Allen.
1973	Frances Keating, Killeslin.
1974	Mary Hayden, Allen.
1975	Mary Hayden, Allen.
1976	Lena Foran, Rathangan.
1977	Nora Herbert, Allen.

BEST ACTOR

Ted O'Loughlin, Rathangan.
Paddy Tynan, Rathangan.
Terry Groome, Coill Dubh.
E. K. Walker, Allen.
T. McDermott.
Bert McCoy, Rathangan.
John O'Connor, Allen.
John O'Connor, Allen.
John O'Connor, Allen.
John Grey, Rathcoole.
Jim Nolan, Myshall.
Jim Motherway, Kilcullen.
Del Weld, Allen.
John Grey, Rathcoole.
Laz Costello, Killeslin.
John O'Loughlin, Rathangan.
Seán Tobin, Sandyford.
E. K. Walker, Allen.
Leo Conway, Rathangan.
Liam Hogan, Carbury.

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

ADJUDICATORS

1958 Lt.-Col. M. Cosgrove & M. O'Connor	1964 Seamus Uas. Breathnach	1971 Mr. Clive Geraghty
1959 Mr. P. J. Looney	1965 Miss Maire Cranny	1972 Mr. Martin Dempsey
1960 Mr. Bill Foley	1966 Miss A. Manahan	1973 Mr. Aidan Rogers
1961 Tomás Uas. Mac Anna	1967 Mr. Des Perry	1974 Miss Gerda Redlich
1962 Mr. Barry Cassin	1968 Miss Nora Lever	1975 Miss Betty Ann Norton
1963 Miss Nora Lever	1969 Miss May Cluskey	1976 Mr. John Knipe
	1970 Mr. Derek Young	1977 Mr. Graham Suter
		1978 Miss Gerda Redlich

WINNERS OF OPEN SECTION SINCE 1958

Year	Group	Play	Producer
1958	Naas	Paul Twining	Dick Roche
1959	Naas	Bugle in the Blood	Dick Roche
1960	Naas	The Righteous are Bold	Dick Roche
1961	Allen	Rebecca	Rev. T. O'Reilly
1962	British Railways	The Playboy of the Western World	M. Dempsey
1963	Allen	The Miracle Worker	Rev. T. O'Reilly
1964	Kildare	Ten Little Niggers	M. Ryan
1965	Naas	Witness for the Prosecution	Dick Roche
1966	Naas	On Trial	Dick Roche
1967	Naas	Veil	Helen Finnegan & Dermot McNamara
1968	Allen	Johnny Belinda	Rev. P. Gaynor
1969	Naas	The Rivals	Dick Roche & Dermot McNamara
1970	Naas	Pillars of the Community	Dick Roche & Dermot McNamara
1971	Dundalk	The Hostage	Tommy Clarke
1972	Dundalk	A Day in the Death of Joe Egg	Tommy Clarke
1973	Naas	The Seagull	Dermot McNamara
1974	Naas	Abelard and Heloise	Dermot McNamara
1975	Naas	The School for Scandal	Dermot McNamara
1976	Naas	The Good Woman of Setzuan	Dermot McNamara
1977	Metro D.G.	Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolfe	Kathleen Byrne

BEST ACTRESS

1958	Kitty Norton, Naas.
1959	Vera O'Donohue, Edenderry.
1960	Mary Jordan, Esso T.G.
1961	Vera Walls, Rush.
1962	S. Hourihan, Metro D.G.
1963	Kitty Norton, Naas.
1964	Kitty Norton, Naas.
1965	Kitty Norton, Naas.
1966	Helen Finnegan, Naas.
1967	Kitty Norton, Naas.
1968	Helen Finnegan, Naas.
1969	Kitty Norton, Naas.
1970	Rita McDohagh, Clondalkin.
1971	Ann Tutty, Metro D.G.
1972	Kitty Norton, Naas.
1973	Kitty Norton, Naas.
1974	Cathy Lawler, Naas.
1975	Cathy Lawler, Naas.
1976	Cathy Lawler, Naas.
1977	Bhreda Sexton, Metro D.G.

BEST ACTOR

Bill Rea, Kildare.
Joe O'Connor, Kildare.
Dick Roche, Naas.
J. McCarthy, Rush.
K. Daly, Brit. Rail. D.S.
M. Finnegan, Metro D.G.
Joe O'Connor, Kildare.
Bert McCoy, Rathangan.
Tom Berwick, Newbridge.
Neil Ryan, Kilmacanogue.
Laz Costello, Killeshin.
Dan O'Connell, Naas.
Dan O'Connell, Naas.
Paddy Craven, Dundalk.
Joe Cashin, Kildare.
Pat Burke, Naas.
Pat Burke, Naas.
Ted O'Loughlin, Rathangan.
Tom Fox, Leixlip.
Terry Byrne, Metro D.G.

Wednesday, March 1st

Section B (Open)

MERCURY THEATRE GROUP

in

THE ELEVENTH COMMANDMENT

By Roy Russell

The Judge	Liam Shannon
Martin Stevens, Q.C. (Prosecuting)	Brian Byrne
Hilary Merrick (Defending Clayton)	Catherine Leahy
Isobel Barron (Defending Mitchell)	Betty Clandillon
Clerk of the Court	Rory Thornton
Rosemary Clayton (Accused)	Peggie Cahill
Linda Mitchell (Accused)	Eileen Sheridan
Patrick MacLennon (Store Executive)	Vivan Emerson
Marion Holland (Store Detective)	Dorothy De La Mer
Judy Owens (Sales Assistant)	Alice Hosford
P.C. Burslam	John Brennan
Miss Lumley-Brown	Jennie Murphy
Usher	John Behan

Production/Lighting: VIVIAN DILLON

Setting: A Crown Court.

Time: The Present.

Synopsis: 'The Eleventh Commandment' is a courtroom drama set in a Crown Court during the trial of two women on charges of stealing a dress from a big store. But there is considerably more to it than whether the accused are guilty of shop-lifting.

Thursday, March 2nd

Section B (Open)

LEIXLIP THEATRE GROUP

in

THE POKER SESSION

By Hugh Leonard

Billy Tom Murray
 Mrs. Beavis Eileen Fennell
 Irene Mary Pears
 Kevin Seán Ennis
 Fran Nuala O'Flanagan
 Teddy Malachi Jenkins

Producer: PADDY TRAVERS

Act I

We are looking towards the rear of a house, which is semi-detached and suburban. The setting of the play is the interior of the conservatory and part of the garden.

Act II: Two hours later.

Act III: No time has elapsed.

Stage Manager Ray Buckley
 A.S.M.s Barbara Sharpe and June Brady
 Set Design Jim Burke and Malachy Jenkins
 Sound Kevin McCaffrey
 Lighting Arthur Greely

Friday, March 3rd

Section A (Rural)

THE CARBURY PLAYERS

in

TWO OF A KIND

By H. P. Kinsella

Mrs. Douglas Teresa Corrigan
 "Giblets" Murphy (Workman) Patsy Daly
 Uncle Barney Paddy Quinn
 Malachy Douglas Liam Hogan
 Jim Douglas (Malachy's Brother) Paddy Lavery
 Janice Richmond Sylvia Lynam
 Miss "Ducky" Keating Tess Keegan
 Nora King Joan Potterton
 Doctor Harris Michael Hogan

Producer: DES FARRELL

Scene

All three acts are set in the parlour of Mrs. Douglas's farmhouse.

Time: The Present.

Act I: Afternoon.

Act II: That night.

Act III: Afternoon, a week later.

Tuesday, March 7th

Section B (Open)

MOAT CLUB, NAAS

in

RING ROUND THE MOON

By Jean Anouilh

Joshua (*butler*) Kieran Rigney
 Hugo (*young man about town*) } Oliver Keenan
 Frederic (*his twin brother*) }

Diana Messerschmann (*engaged to Frederic*) Cathy Lawler
 Lady India (*Messerschmann's mistress*) Carmel Shaw
 Patrice Bombelles (*Messerschmann's secretary*) Pat Callaghan
 Madame Desmortes (*Aunt to Hugo*) Deirdre O'Connell
 Capulet (*her companion*) Catherine Condon
 Messerschmann (*melancholy millionaire*) Pat Burke
 Romainville (*a lapidopterist*) Jim Keogh
 Isabelle (*a ballet dancer*) Sally-Ann O'Reilly
 Mother (*a music teacher*) Pat Kennelly

Producer: DERMOT McNAMARA

Scene

The action of the play passes in the Winter Garden in Spring.

Act I

Scene 1: Morning.

Scene 2: Same evening before the ball.

Act II

Same evening: the ball.

Act III

Scene 1: Same evening after supper.

Scene II: Dawn.

Sets designed and executed by Brinsley Sheridan and Stan Hickey.
 Lighting Pádraic Cline
 Sound Stan Hickey
 Choreographer Marjorie Gorry
 Costumes Mary Lalor

Wednesday, March 8th

Section A (Rural)

ALLEN LITTLE THEATRE

in

THE FAR OFF HILLS

By Louis D'Alton

Marian Clancy Marie Gordon
 Patrick Clancy John O'Callaghan
 Pet Clancy Patricia Peters
 Ducky Clancy Lucy Earley
 Oliver O'Shaughnessy Paddy Scanlon
 Dick Delaney Denis Fitzgerald
 Susie Tynan Kathleen Ryan
 Pierce Hegarty Peter O'Neill
 Harold Dell Weld
 Ellen Mary Hayden

Producers: E. K. WALKER & REV. T. O'REILLY

Setting

Act I: The diningroom at Clancy's.

Act II: The girls' bedroom.

Act III: The diningroom again, a few weeks later.

Lighting Seamus Murphy
 Stage Design T. Herbert, G. McNally
 P. Clancy and K. Dunne
 Make-up and Props Annette Lyons, Brid Corrigan,
 Alice Casey and Maureen Roche

Thursday, March 9th

Section B (Open)

THE OLIVIAN PLAYERS, DUBLIN

in

THE LOVES OF CASS MAGUIRE

By Brian Friel

Mother Roz McCormack
 Dom John Byrne
 Alice Nuala O'Byrne
 Harry Brian O'Neill
 Cass Aileen Hudson
 Tessa Eileen Ward
 Pat Quinn Steve Connaughton
 Triibe Costello Moll McGeeney
 Mr. Ingram Tony Hudson
 Mrs. Butcher Pat Moylan

Producer: JOE KILLICK

Assistant Producer/Stage Manager Jayne Connolly
 Assistant Stage Manager Hugh McCusker
 Lighting Clive Brooks and Terry O'Shea
 Sound Andrew Harwood
 Wardrobe Marie Clancy
 Continuity Anne Foley and Barbara Connolly
 Props Anne McNamara and Marie Sinnott



*Followed by Final Adjudication
and Presentation of Prizes*

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and our many Patrons.

RURAL SECTION

BEST ACTRESS

CHAPMAN'S GARAGE, DUBLIN ROAD, KILDARE

BEST ACTRESS

FITZPATRICK'S GARAGE, DUBLIN STREET

BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS

J. J. MAHON & SONS, CLAREGATE STREET

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR

BANK OF IRELAND LIMITED

OPEN SECTION

BEST ACTRESS

COX'S SUPERSTORES, NEWBRIDGE & KILDARE

BEST ACTOR

P. J. FITZPATRICK, AUCTIONEERS, THE SQUARE

BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS

BURKE BROS., GARAGE

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR

KILDARE CABLE TELEVISION