

The Dance of the Fishing Boats / Island Life

Damhsa na mBáid / Iascaireachta / Saol na nOileán



1. Study for Curragh 1 by James Fitzgerald
2. Myrtle Maud, Arranmore Lifeboat
3. Glen Hotel, Arranmore Island
4. Arranmore Island, 2009
5. Pier, Arranmore Island

Donegal County Museum welcomes you to the exhibitions. There are two exhibitions on display- the first exhibition is by Donegal County Museum; **'The Dance of the Fishing Boats'** which offers a glimpse of life on Arranmore Island- **'Where there are people, there are stories'**.

The second exhibition, **Island Life: The Islands of Ireland**, is an exhibition of photographs featuring images of daily life on the islands around the coast of Ireland from the late nineteenth century onwards. This exhibition is on loan from the National Library of Ireland.

These exhibitions are held in conjunction with an exhibition of paintings by James Fitzgerald (1899 -1971) at the Regional Cultural Centre, Letterkenny. James Fitzgerald produced paintings and drawings detailing Irish island life. He died on Arranmore Island in 1971.

Much of the exhibition text came from the following sources:

Arranmore Island (2000): A book researched and compiled by Arranmore residents on a FÁS Community Response Project on Arranmore Island.

Fadó Fadó in Árann mhór: Arranmore Folklore Project (2008): A booklet published as a result of a partnership with Donegal County Council Library Service through the Taobh Tíre project, Scoil Mhic Diarmada and Arranmore Day Care Centre.

Donegal County Museum wishes to acknowledge the following for their kind support with the exhibition:

The Board of the National Library of Ireland
Harriet Purkis
Ronan Mc Connell
Noleen Muldowney and the staff of the Arranmore Coop
Nora Flanagan, Supervisor and all the clients of the Arranmore Day Centre,
Philip and all the crew of The RNLI Arranmore lifeboat service
Seamus Bonner, Community Development Project Officer and the staff of
Community Centre, Arranmore Island.
Malcolm Houston, RNLI
Noreen Early
Tony Gallagher
Pat O' Donnell
Jerry Rodgers
Peggy Dougal
Maggie Early
Mary Gallagher
Ellen Gallagher
Shelia O' Donnell and her daughter Crona
Neiley Kavanagh

Cuireann Músaem an Chontae fáilte romhat chuig na taispeántais. Tá dhá thaispeántas ar siúl – an chéad ceann le Músaem an Chontae, **'Damhsa na mBáid Iascaireachta'** a thaispeánann saol ar Oileán Árann Mhór – **'Áit a bhfuil daoine, bíonn scéalta'**.

An dara taispeántas **'Saol na nOileán'**, griangrafanna ag léiriú gnáthshaol na nOileán thart ar chósta na hÉireann ó dheireadh an naoiú haois déag ar aghaidh. Tá an taispeántas seo ar iasacht ó Leabharlann Náisiúnta na hÉireann.

Tá na taispeántais seo ar siúl i gcomhar le taispeántas peintéireacht le James Fitzgerald (1899 - 1971) atá ar siúl san Ionad Cultúrtha Réigiúnach, Leitir Ceanainn Rinne James Fitzgerald péintáil agus líniócht a léiriú ar shaol oileáin na hÉireann. Fuair sé bás ar Oileán Árann Mhóir i 1971.

Tháinig cuid mhaith de théacs an taispeántais ó:

Arranmore Island (2000): Leabhar a thaighdigh agus a thiomsaigh muintir Árann Mhóir ar Thionscnamh Clár Freagartha Pobail de chuid FÁS ar Oileán Árann Mhóir.

Fadó Fadó in Árann Mhór: Arranmore Folklore Project (2008): Leabhrán a foillsíodh de bharr comhpháirtíocht le Seirbhís Leabharlaine Chomhairle Chontae Dhún na nGall tríd an tionscnamh Taobh Tíre, Scoil Mhic Dhiarmada agus Ionad Cúraim Lae Árann Mhóir.

Is mian le Músaem Chontae Dhún na nGall aitheantais a thabhairt dóibh seo a leanas ar shon á dtacaíocht:

Harriet Purkis
Noreen Boyle
Noleen Muldowney and the staff of the Arranmore Coop
Nora Flanagan, Supervisor and all the clients of the Arranmore Day Centre,
Philip and all the crew of The RNLI Arranmore lifeboat service
Tony Gallagher
Pat O' Donnell
Jerry Rodgers
Peggy Dougal
Maggie Early
Mary Gallagher
Ellen Gallagher
Shelia O' Donnell and her daughter Crona
Neiley Kavanagh

Arranmore Island

Árainn Mhór



1.

1. Ferry from Burtonport
2. Arranmore Island
3. Church, Beaver Island, USA
4. Harbour, Beaver Island, USA

Arranmore Island lies 5km off the Northwest Coast of Donegal. It is reached by ferry from Burtonport. Arranmore is one of the most densely populated of the offshore islands of Ireland and has been for many centuries. In English, the word 'insular' denotes an inward-looking mentality, but Arranmore has always been looking out to the great world beyond. The Scottish connection is strong and there is also an established connection with the United States and Canada.

Facts and Figures:

- It has a population of around 500.
- It is 7 miles by 3 miles in size, with an area of 4,367 acres.

Places of interest:

- The Lighthouse
- The Graveyards

THE CAVE OF SLAUGHTER

In November 1641, a massacre took place in a cave on the south side of the island. During an invasion by Cromwellian soldiers, 67 women and children took refuge in the cave while the men took to their boats. As the soldiers were about to leave the island, a child was spotted near the entrance of the cave. The hiding place was discovered and under orders from their captain, the soldiers slaughtered the occupants of the cave - hence the name "The Cave of Slaughter".

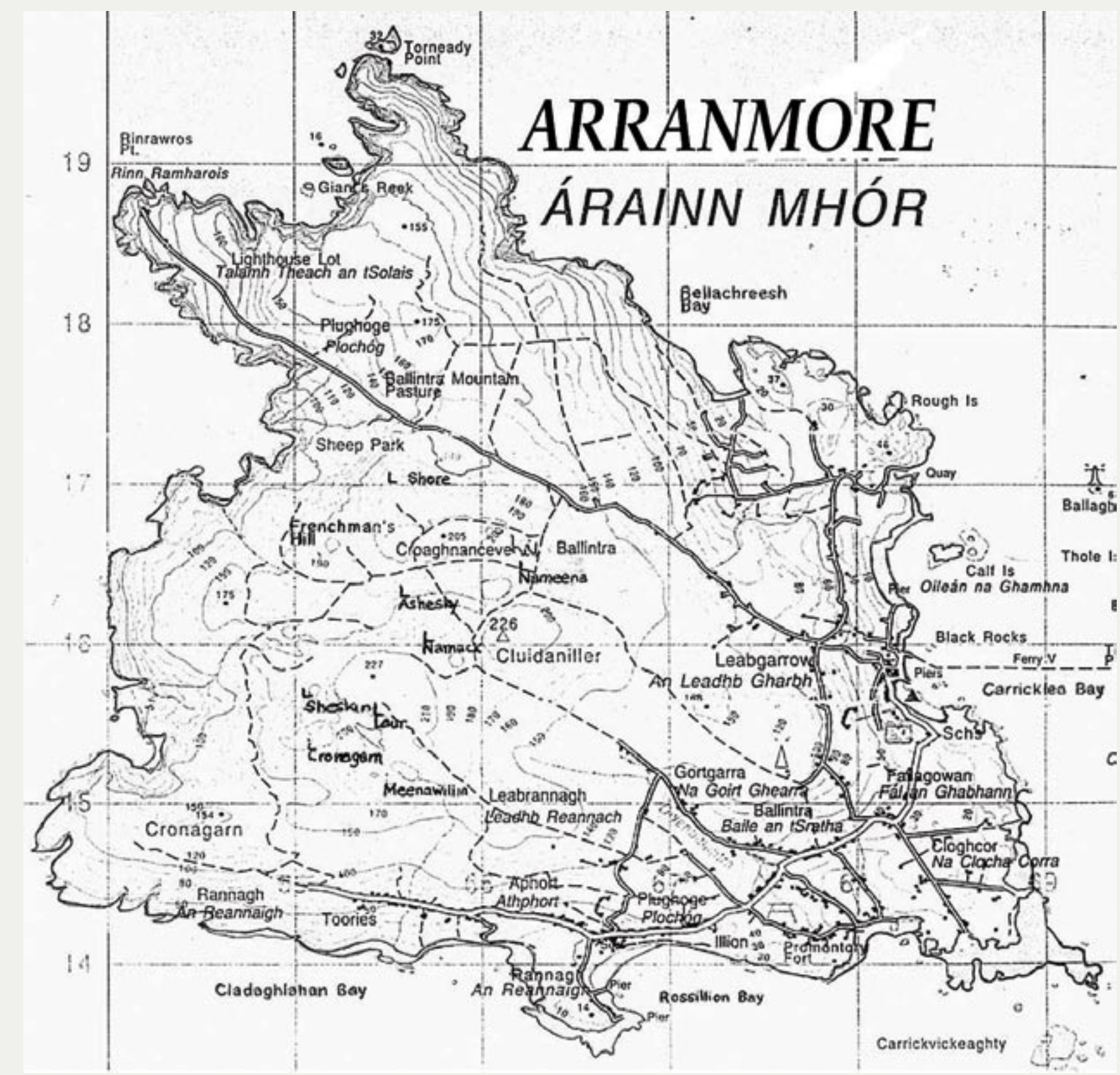
BEAVER ISLAND

Beaver Island gets its name from the many beavers that are found there. It is located in the northern part of Lake Michigan, U.S.A. For generations a bond has existed between Arranmore Island, Co. Donegal, and Beaver Island in the U.S.A. These links were forged during the Great Famine in the 1840s, when thousands left from all over Ireland, to escape poverty and starvation and emigrated to the U.S.A.

The Arranmore people brought with them their native Gaelic language. The second generation also spoke the language. In 1866, an Irish-speaking priest was appointed to the island indicating the importance of their culture to them. A Catholic church had been built on the island in 1860.

In October 2000, Arranmore and Beaver Island were formally twinned. A plaque bearing the following inscription was unveiled; "Arranmore Park Dedicated October 7th 2000".

4.



2.

Ta Árainn Mhór 5km as Alt na Corcain.

Tá Árainn Mhór ar cheann de na hoileáin is dlúithe daonra ar chósta na hÉireann. Mar sin féin, ní dearcadh 'oileánachais' atá ag bunadh an oileáin - is fada, fada iad ag taisteal ar fud an domhain. Tá ceangal an-láidir le hAlbain agus le dreamanna áirithe sna Stáit Aontaihe agus i gCeanada. Bíonn siúlach scéalach.

Áiteanna Spéisúla:

- An Teach Solais
- An Reilig

UAIMH AN ÁIR NO UAIMH NA SCEILPE

I mí na Samhna 1641, tharla ár millteanach in uaimh ar an taobh ó dheas den oileán. Le linn ionraidh a rinne saighdiúirí Chromaill, chuaigh 67 duine, mná agus páistí an oileáin, i bhfolach istigh san uaimh agus d'éalaigh na fir ina gcuid bád. Díreach nuair a bhí na saighdiúirí ar shéala imeachta, chonachtas páiste in aice béal na huaimhe. Fuarthas an áit folacháin agus, ar ordú a gcaptaen, rinne na saighdiúirí slad marfach ar iomlán dá raibh istigh san uaimh. Tugadh Uaimh an Áir uirthi ó shin.

OILEÁN NA MBÉABHAR

Le blianta fada, tá dlúthbhaint idir Oileán Árainn Mhór agus Beaver Island i Stáit Aontaithe Mheiriceá. Cé go bhfuil siad scartha ag farraige leathan an Atlantaigh, tá dáimh ar leith idir an dá oileán. Thosaigh an nasc seo in aimsir an Ghorta Mhóir nuair a chuaigh na céadtaí ar imirce go Meiriceá le fáil ar shiúl ón ocra agus ón bhochtaineacht.

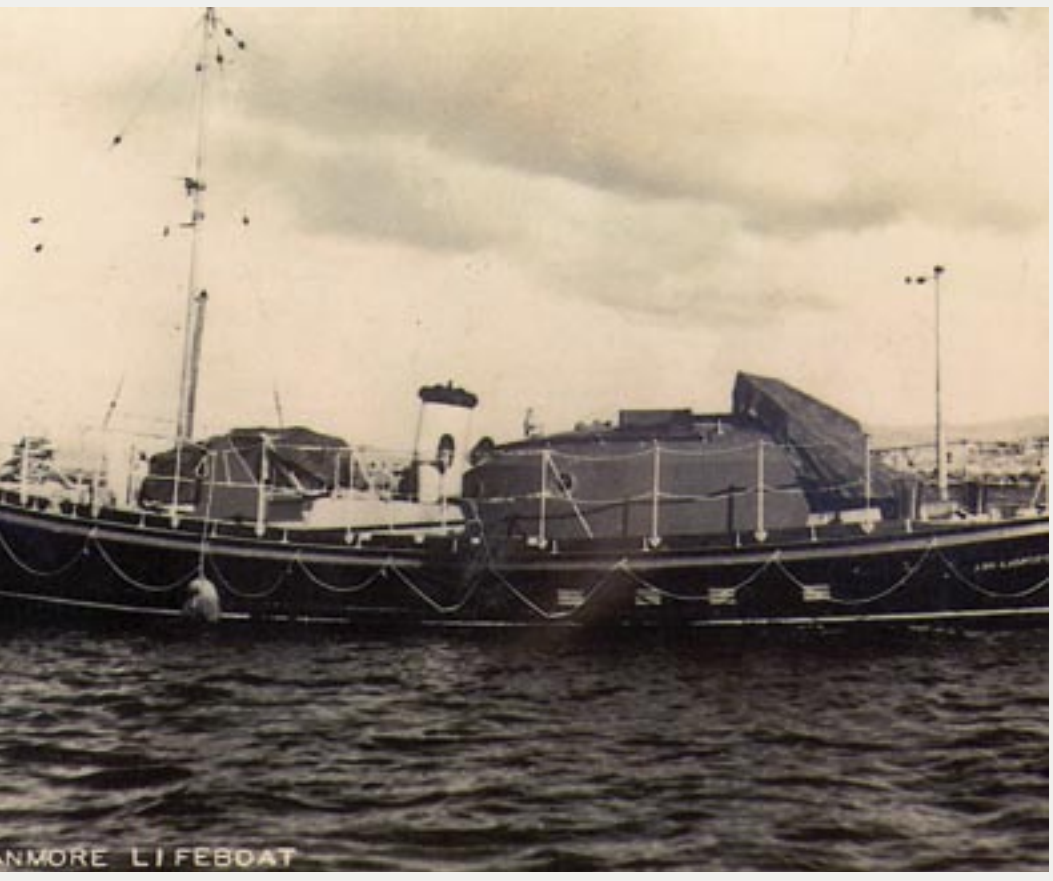
Is ón ainm, an béabhar, a fhaigheann an t-oileán a ainm de thairbhe go bhfuil siad chomh flúirseach ar an oileán seo, atá suite sa taobh thuaidh de Loch Michigan USA.

Bhí baile úr faighte ag muintir Árainn Mhór. Thug siad a dteanga dhúchais leo agus ba í an Ghaeilge a labhair an dara glúin fosta. Bhí a gcultúr Gaelach chomh tábhachtach sin gur ceapadh sagart le Gaeilge don oileán sa bhliain 1866. Sé bliana roimhe sin, tógadh teach pobail Caitliceach ar an oileán.

Ar an 7 ú lá de Dheireadh Fómhair 2000, bhí scaifte mór de mhuintir Beaver i láthair i gcuideachta na gcuairteoirí ó Árainn Mhór nuair a rinneadh an cúpláil a fhógairt go foirmeálta. Ba iad beirt ó oileán Beaver, Bill McDonagh agus Richard Gillespie, a léigh amach dhá rún, Rún ó Sheanad an Stáit agus Rún Comhthionóla, a bhí ullmhaithe ag na seanadóirí Phillip Hoffman agus Walter North. Ní raibh le déanamh ansin ach leac a nochtadh ar a raibh an scríbhinn "Arranmore Park, Dedicated October 7th 2000." Níos moille an tráthnóna sin, tháinig an scaifte le chéile arís le ceiliúradh a dhéanamh ar an ócáid stairiúil seo i saol mhuintir Beaver agus Árainn Mhór.

The Lifeboat and the Lighthouse

Bad Tarrthala Arainn Mhor



1.

Arranmore RNLI celebrated 125 years of service to the north coast of Ireland in 2008. A lifeboat service was first established in 1883 with funding from Rev. Richard Vandeleur, Dublin who requested that a lifeboat station be established on the coast of Donegal. The lifeboat originally covered the entire area of Donegal, Mayo and some of the North East. The original lifeboat "Vandeleur" was powered by oar and sail and was crewed by 15 local fishermen.

All lifeboat crew were voluntary and the voluntary ethos is still the basis of the RNLI to the present day.

"The last 125 years has been filled with plenty of drama - with safe returns and sad tragedies at sea. These tragedies are fewer thanks to the lifeboat crews." Nora Flanagan, Arranmore, former crewmember.

The station is one of the most decorated in terms of medals. The most famous rescue occurred in 1940 when the lifeboat rescued 18 Dutch crew members of the ship "Stolwijk" in horrendous weather conditions.

THE STOLWIJK RESCUE, 1940

In 1940 a Dutch merchant boat broke down ten miles NW off Gola Island. There was a NW storm force 10 wind with seas of over 30 feet. The Arranmore Lifeboat was called to assist. Six hours later the lifeboat reached the Stolwijk. The lifeboat crew fired a line onto the ship and manually pulled each crewman through the water and aboard the lifeboat. This difficult mission took eight hours. In total 18 men were rescued. The journey home took a further ten hours. The seas had grown, the wind had increased and showers of hail made visibility difficult. Eventually they arrived safely in Burtonport and the lifeboat returned to station after a 28-hour service. For their gallantry the lifeboat received gold, silver and bronze medals from the R.N.L.I and from Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands.

THE LIGHTHOUSE

The Arranmore lighthouse was the first lighthouse on the Northwest coast of Donegal. Thomas Rogers built it on behalf of the Barrack Board in 1798.

In 1859 a new 23-metre tower was designed and built by Mr G Halpin and Messrs Daniel Crowe & Sons. The new tower was constructed from the stone of the old lighthouse.

The installation of the mains electricity supply to the lighthouse was completed in 1970 and the lighthouse became fully automatic on 1 August 1976. The services of the lighthouse keepers were no longer required.

The 1991 edition of the Guinness Book of Records stated that Arranmore Lighthouse had the greatest light intensity.

A TRAGIC TALE

Philip Boyle was an Assistant light keeper. One of his jobs was to wind a weight, which brought it to the top of the tower to drive the lenses. One night, he was winding the weight to the top of the tower when the chain jammed. Using his fingers, he tried to loosen the chain but it slipped, cutting off his fingers as it went. Phil ran from the lighthouse to the Glen Hotel. Dr. Boyle, who was the resident doctor at the time, sent him to Letterkenny Hospital (now the County Museum) and Dr. Mc Ginley operated on him. He remained in hospital for a couple of weeks. His parents collected him when he was discharged from hospital. They all boarded the 7 o'clock Letterkenny train going to Burtonport. All was well until the train was crossing the viaduct near Barnes Gap and Creeslough. A terrific gust of wind swept from the valley, lifting two large coaches from the rails and hurling them to the ground. Phil survived but his parents, Sarah and Philip Boyle, were killed.

Bhí ceiliúradh céad fiché's cuig bliain seirbhís ag bád tarrthála Arainn Mhóir dó chósta thiar thuaidh na h-Éireannsa bhliain 2008.

Bunáíodh seirbhís bád tarrhala sa bhliain 1883 le airgead a thug an Rev. Risteard Valdeleur, Baile Átha Cliath a chuir I gcéist go mbéadh Staisiún Bád Tarrhála bunáithe ar Chosta Dhún na nGall. Bhí an bád ag cumhdach thart ar chósta Dhún na ngall, Cósta Mhaigh Eo agus cuid de Chósta thoir, thuaidh na hÉireann.

Bád iomrach agus seoltach a bhí san bhád tarrhála an "Vandeleur". Bhí foireann cuig cloigeann déag iascairí úirthi. Bhí foireann an bhád tarrhála uilig toilltineach agus tá a gcuid clisteach, toilltineach go dtí an lá atá inniu ann.

"Tharla a lán rudai ar an fharraige sa n chéad fiché's cuig bliain a chuaigh thart, tugadh a lán daoine na bhaile slán agus traigéidí buartha ar an fharraige fosta. Nil oiread dó na traigéidí ag tarlú anois, buíochas mór dó na foireann go léir ar na badaí tarrhalai." a deir Nóra Ní Fhlannagain, a bhí ar an fhoireann an bád tarrhála ar feadh seacht mbliana.

STOLWIJK

Anuas fríd na blianta, is iomaí duine a sábháladh de thairbhe crógachta agus nirt na bhfear ar na badaí tarrhála.

Rinneadh éacht tarrthála amháin go háithrid a labhraítear uirthi le bród i gcónaí; tarrtháil an *Stolwijk*. Ar an haon déag a chlog maidin Dé hAoine, an 7ú lá de Nollaig, 1940, fuarthas glao guaise ó bhád gaile Ollannach le 28 fear ar bord, a bhí i dtrioblóid i ndiaidh scairbh a bhualadh trí mhíle ó Thoraigh. Cé go dtáinig foireann Bhád Tarrthála Árainn Mhór le chéile ar an toirt. Shroich siad an *Stolwijk* ag meánlae. D'éirigh leo téad a cheangal idir an dá bhád agus cuireadh tús le tarrtháil an chriú, duine ar dhuine trasna na téide, gníomh a bhí iontach contúirteach agus fadálach de bharr na stoirme. Sa deireadh, bhí ochtar déag de chuid fear an *Stolwijk* slán sábháilte ar bord.

TEACH SOLAIS ÁRAINN MHÓR

Ba é Teach Solais Árainn Mhór an chéad teach solais a tógadh ar chósta iarthuaiscirt Dhún na nGall. Fear darbh ainm Tomás Mac Ruairí a rinne an obair thógála sa bhliain 1798, thar ceann an Barrack Board.

Sa 1859 dhearaigh fear darbh ainm G Halpin plean do thúr úr 23 méadar agus ba iad Daniel Crowe & a Chlann Mac a rinne an obair thógála. Baineadh úsáid as clocha an tseantúir sa túr úr.

Tháinig soláthar leictreachais go hÁrainn Mhór sa bhliain 1956 agus faoin bhliain 1970, bhí an Teach Solais ceangailte isteach sa phríomhchóras. Nuair a cuireadh isteach córas uathoibríoch ar an 1ad le de Lúnasa, 1976, ní raibh gá feasta ar choimeádaíthe cónaí a dhéanamh i dTeach an tSolais.

Tá sé ráite in eagrán na bliana 1991 den 'Guinness Book of Records' gur ag Teach Solais Árainn Mhór atá an solas is géire.

SCÉAL TRUACÁNTA

Bhí Phil Ó Baoill ina choimeádaí solais cúnta. De bhrí nach raibh cumhacht leictreach ar bith ann ag an am bhí ar Phil meáchan a chornadh suas go dtí barr an túir chun na lionsaí a thiomáint. Oíche amháin, nuair a bhí sé ag cornadh an mheáchain, chuaigh an slabhra i bhfostú ar dhóigh éigin. Chuir Phil a mhéar isteach ag iarraidh é a shaoradh ach shleamhnaigh an slabhra agus baineadh an mhéar dó. Rith Phil ó theach an tsolais a fhad le hÓstán an Ghleanna. Chuir an Dr Ó Baoill go hotharlann Leitir Ceanainn é, áit a ndearna an Dr Mac Fhionnlaioich obráid air.

I ndiaidh do Phil cúpla seachtain a chaitheamh san otharlann, tháinig a athair agus a mháthair faoina choinne. Chuaigh siad uilig ar an traen i Leitir Ceanainn ar a 7 a chlog tráthnóna, ar a mbealach go hAilt a' Chorráin. 3Bhí gach rud go breá go dtí go raibh an traen ar dhroichead an tarbhealaigh idir An Bhearnas agus An Craoslach. Tháinig séideán millteanach gaoithe móire fríd an ghleann, tógadh beirt de na carráistí móra suas san aer agus síobadh bunoscionn iad. Caitheamh na paisinéirí síos go talamh. Bhris an tarbhealach faoin strus agus thit sé anuas i mullach na bpaisinéirí gortaithe sa ghleann thíos faoi. Maraíodh cúigear an oíche sin agus ba iad athair agus máthair Phil beirt acu. Tháinig Phil é féin slán.



2.



3.



4.

1. Old Lifeboat, Arranmore
2. Lifeboat crew, 1940
3. Myrtle Maud, Arranmore lifeboat 2000
4. Crew, lifeboat, Arranmore island

Leaving Home

Imicre Séasurách



1. Painting a fishing boat, Arranmore Island
2. Sailing bill for Doctor Kane, sailing from Derry to Quebec, Canada
3. Arranmore tunnel tigers, then and now
4. Lobster pots and fishing boats
5. Decommissioned boats, Arranmore Island

Many people from Arranmore Island have worked and lived away from home in America, Canada, Glasgow and the Lagan.

EVICTIION AND FAMINE

It has been widely assumed that the island of Arranmore did not suffer greatly during the Great Famine but there is evidence suggesting the contrary. After the crop failure in 1845, many of the tenants on the island petitioned their local priest, Fr James Horgan, for aid. He in turn petitioned the Marquis of Conyngham. In May 1845 the Marquis of Conyngham built a Roman Catholic Church on Arranmore. The following notice appeared in the Londonderry Journal on May 20th 1845.

“The noble Marquis has instructed his worthy and kind hearted agent to provide food and employment for the poor of the Estate, who are not to apply for relief to any other fund”.

Although the Marquis had provided a Church for the islanders, he did not furnish the tenants with any aid whatsoever. In 1851 a group of 160 people travelled to North America from Arranmore, suffering hunger and hardship, having been evicted from their homes. They were split into two groups. Eighty were taken by boat to Donegal Town. The remaining eighty were taken to Burtonport and from there they travelled by land to Derry. They boarded two steamers. Their only possessions were the rags they stood up in and a few scraps of food they carried with them for their journey.

TATTIE HOKING

From the age of 14 years, many teenagers from the island went to work on the potato fields of Scotland picking tatties. The living conditions were quite primitive. The first group of Arranmore Islanders to go to the tatties went in the early 1800s. The journey to Derry was made on foot. In 1903, the railway from Burtonport was completed, so the workers could make the journey by rail. The workers travelled to Scotland in early June and made the return journey to Ireland in December. The workers living quarters were known as ‘bothys’. The word ‘bothy’ comes from ‘bó thigh’, which means cow house. The cattle and fowl housed in these sheds were moved out to the fields to make way for the workers. A squad was made up of approximately thirty workers and groups often comprised of many members of the same family. Arranmore Islanders often worked with Achill Islanders. A typical working day began at 5:00am. There was a tea break at 10:00am and lunch was at noon. On Saturdays, the workers worked until noon and passed the remainder of the day visiting nearby towns.

GOING TO THE LAGAN

An old lady, who died a few months before her hundredth birthday told the story of her leaving Arranmore to work as a domestic servant in many and varied houses in the Lagan area. She had a very long and tiring day most of the time. Chores commenced at five o’clock in the morning and didn’t end until late in the evening. She often felt very lonely missing her loved ones on Arranmore. She also told of the lady of one of the houses instructing her to use some elbow grease. She remembers searching the home for some elbow grease.

WHEN THE FISHING WAS POOR

The fishing industry alone couldn’t provide enough money to sustain an adequate standard of living. Migration to Scotland was commonplace, particularly when the fishing was poor. The income working at the ‘tatties’ was satisfactory but never as good as a good fishing season. When a bad season suddenly turned good, those who were absent were sent for. Much of the history of Arranmore is connected with the sea and the sea once provided the main source of income for many of the islanders. Nowadays very few are employed in the industry and those formerly employed in this once thriving industry, have been forced to seek employment elsewhere.

Le blianta fada, chuid mhaith den mhuuintir a bhí ag fágáil Árainn Mhór chuig obair go an Lagan, na hAlbain, I Meiriceá agus domhanda.

AN GORTA MÓR

Go luath sa bhliain 1844, tháinig an chéad tuairisc fá acid dhubh na bprátaí as Cluain Dolcáin i mBaile Átha Cliath. Faoi dheireadh na bliana 1845, is beag contae in Éirinn nach raibh an acid inti. Tháinig meath ar mhórán de chuid barr prátaí Árainn Mhór sa chéad bhliain ach ní raibh ansin ach leide beag ar cad é a bhí le theacht sna sé bliana amach rompu. Tá dearcadh leitheadach ann nár chuir an Gorta Mór isteach mórán ar bhunadh Árainn Mhór ach tá go leor fianaise againn le cruthú gur a mhalairt a bhí amhlaidh. Nuair a lobbhaidh barr na bprátaí sa bhliain 1845, chuaigh na tionóntaí chuig sagart an oileáin, an tAth. Séamus Ó hArgáin, ag impí cuidithe air. Rinne seisean achainí ar a son leis an Marquis Conyngham. I mí na Bealtaine 1845, thóg an Marquis Conyngham teach pobail Caitliceach ar Árainn Mhór agus ar an 20ú lá de Bhealtaine 1845, bhí an fógra seo a leanas sa ‘Londonderry Journal’

“The noble Marquis has instructed his worthy and kind hearted agent to provide food and employment for the poor of the Estate, who are not to apply for relief to any other fund.”

Cé gur chuir an Marquis teach pobail ar fáil do na hoileánaigh, ní thug sé cuidiú de shórt ar bith eile daofa ar chor ar bith. Sna blianta sula dtáinig Stoupe Charley, bhí an córas rondála in úsáid ar an oileán. Mheas Stoupe Charley go raibh barraíocht fothionóntaí ar an oileán agus ar mhaithe le fáil réitigh dóibh, dar leis go gcuirfeadh sé deireadh le córas na rondála. Sa bhliain 1851, d’fhógair Charley go raibh iomlán na bhfothionóntaí le bheith curtha as seilbh. I mí Mhárta 1851, dhíshealbhaigh John Stoupe Charley 160 fothionónta as Árainn Mhór. Rinneadh dhá ghrúpa dóibh. Tugadh ceithre scór duine go Baile Dhún na nGall i mbád agus tugadh an grúpa eile go hAilt a’ Chorráin. Dúradh leo go raibh a bpsáid curtha in áirithe ar dhá shoitheach. B’éigean don scaifte a tugadh go hAilt a’ Chorráin an turas go Doire a dhéanamh de shiúl na gcos. Ní raibh dada leo ach na bratógai a bhí siad a chaitheamh agus gráinnín bia don turas.

“TATTIE HOKING” TÓGÁIL NA BPRÁTAÍ

Ón am a raibh siad 14 bliain d’aois, chuaigh cuid mhór déagóirí go hAlbain chuig an “Tattie Hoking”. Thug na prátaí seans dóibh níos mó airgid a shaothrú mar bhí an phá níos airde ná mar a bhí sí ar an Lagan. Cé gur bhuntáiste an phá níos airde, bhí an obair níos déine, an slí mhaireachtála bunúsach agus Albain i bhfad níos faide ó bhaile. Chuaigh an chéad ghrúpa as Árainn Mhór chuig na prátaí i dtús an 19ú céad. Bhí ar na daoine an turas a dhéanamh ar cois go Doire go dtí 1903, nuair a críochnaíodh an bóthar iarainn idir Ailt a’ Chorráin agus Doire. Rinne cuid acu an turas ar bhád Burns & Laird, a sheol ó Inis na Gamhna. D’fhágadh siad an baile i dtús Mheithimh agus thiocfaidh siad ar ais in am don Nollaig. Bhíodh cónaí orthu in ‘bothy’. Is leagan le fuaimniú Béarla é seo de ‘bóithigh’. Chuirte an t-eallach agus na héanlaith amach sna páirceanna chún spás a fhágáil do na hoibríthe. Bhíodh thart fá tríocha sa mheitheal oibre. Go minic, bhíodh teaghlach iomlán ag obair le chéile. Thosaigh an gnáth lá oibre ar an cúig a chlog ar maidin. D’obairíodh muintir Árainn Mhór i gcuideachta mhuintir Oileán Acla. Bhíodh sos chun tae ar a deich agus bhíodh lón acu ag eánlae. Dé Sathairn, nuair a bhíodh críoch leis an obair i dtrátha an mheánlae, théadh siad ar cuairte ar na bailte fán cheantar.

IASCAIREACHT

Níor leor an teacht isteach ón iascaireacht le caighdeán maireachtála maith go leor a chur ar fáil. Bhí imirce ón oileán go hAlbain iontach coitianta, go háirithe nuair a bhíodh séasúr bocht iascaireachta ann. Cé go raibh an tattie hoking sásúil go leor, ní raibh sé ariamh chomh proifideach le séasúr maith iascaireachta. Ar a tséala sin, dá n-athródh séasúr olc go séasúr maith go tobann, chuirte scéala fá choinne an mhuintir a bhí thall. Siocair go raibh teileagraim daor an uair sin, ní chuirte iontu ach cupla focal m.sh. “Tar nó fan, neart scadán sa bhá”. Tá stair Árainn Mhór fite fuaite leis an fharraige a bhí, uair amháin, ina príomhfhoinsé ioncaim ag bunadh an oileáin. B’éigean d’fhorhmór na bhfear a bhí fostaithe sa tionscal rafar seo lá den saol, obair a lorg in áiteacha eile agus níl fágtha anois ach beagán.

Changes from the 1930's

Athruithe Shaoil óna Tríochaidí



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.

1. Arranmore Island
2. Men who laid the electricity cable
3. Mary Gallagher, Postmistress, 1961-1993
4. Arranmore Island
5. Laying electricity cable, Arranmore Island
6. Laying electricity cable, Arranmore Island
7. Nets, Arranmore Island

CHANGES FROM THE 1930'S

Arranmore was the first offshore island to get electricity under the rural electrification programme in 1956. Captain Jack Boyle was in charge of laying the cables between Arranmore and Rutland, and between Inishcoo and Rutland.

Arranmore was amongst the last places in Ireland to get universally reliable piped water in the 1980's and an automated telephone system in the 1990's.

SCHOOLS

Up until the 1980's many children went away to secondary school at the age of 12. They stayed at boarding schools, away from home sometimes for months at a time. "We knew we would lose our children from the age of 12, when they had to go away to school."

NATIONAL SCHOOL

There are two national schools in Arranmore: one in Leabgarrow and the other in Aphort. In Fallagowan a school was in existence (circa 1852 - 1860's) near the family home of Francie & Sissy Mc Cauley.

In 1869, a school was built at Páirc na Scoile in Leabgarrow. It consisted of one room and had a thatch roof. In 1998, the school was completely refurbished. In 1875, a school was built in Torries on the west of the island. It is believed to have consisted of only one room and had a thatch roof.

The present school was built in 1915 and consisted of three classrooms. The school was extended in 2004.

SECONDARY SCHOOL

Gairmscoil Mhic Diarmada opened its doors for the first time in October 1990. The secondary school was named in honour of Dr. Eugene McDermott (1909-1988) who had campaigned for many years for a secondary school on the island. The original school structure consisted of the prefabricated buildings only. The main school building was opened in 1994. The school celebrated its tenth year on 8 October 2000. Young people come to Arranmore in the summer to learn Irish at the Coláiste Árainn Mhóir.

FERRY

A regular Roll On Roll Off ferry service began in 1987. Before this an irregular boat service took people to and from the island.



7.

AN LEICTREACHAS

Ba é Árainn Mhór an chéad oileán amach ó chósta na hÉireann a ceanglaíodh leis an ghreasán leitreachais faoi Scéim Leitriú na Tuaithe. Tharla sin sa bhliain 1956. Ba é an Captaen Jack Ó Baoill a bhí i gceannas ar cháblaí a leagan síos idir Árainn Mhór, Inis Mhic an Duirn agus idir Inis Cú agus Inis Mhic an Duirn.

Bhí Árainn Mhór ar cheann de na háiteanna deireanacha in Éirinn a fuair uisce píoba gurbh fhéidir brath air sna 1980í. Níor cuireadh córas teileafóin uathoibrigh ar fáil go dtí na 1990í.

SCOILEANNA

Ba ghnách le cuid mhór daoine óga ó aois a 12 ar aghaidh an t-oileán a fhágáil chun dul ar scoil. Lean seo ar aghaidh go dtí na 1980í. Ba ghnách leo fanacht i scoileanna cónaithe ar shiúl ón bhaile, uaireanta ar feadh míonna ag an am. "Bhí fhios againn go mbeadh na páistí cailte againn ó aois a 12, nuair a bheadh orthu imeacht chun na scoile."

SCOILEANNA ÁRAINN MHÓR

BUNSCOILEANNA

Tá dhá bhunscoil in Árainn Mhór, ceann ar an Leadhb Gharbh agus an ceann eile in Athphort ar an thaobh thiar den oileán. Tógadh scoil i bhFál an Ghabhann i dtrátha na bliana 1852, in aice na háite ina bhfuil cónaí ar Sissy agus Francie Mac Amhlaidh inniu. Bhí an scoil sin foscaite go dtí 1860.

Tógadh scoil úr i bPáirc na Scoile ar an Leadhb Gharbh sa bhliain 1860. Ní raibh ach seomra amháin san fhoirgneamh beag a raibh díon tuí air. Bhí sí tógtha ar thalamh lom, áit nach raibh foscadh ar bith, ach de bharr go raibh an foirgneamh íseal, níor chuir gaoth mhór isteach mórán uirthi. Baineadh úsáid as an scoil sin go dtí 1908, nuair a tógadh an scoil úr atá in úsáid go fóill. Leagadh an tseanscoil agus níl rian ar bith di fágtha. Cuireadh bail mhór ar an scoil sa bhliain 1998 agus faoi dheireadh mí Nollag na bliana sin, bhí an scoil réidh lena hathoscailt. Tá beirt mhúinteoir sa scoil. I láthair na huaire, tá 43 dalta ag freastal uirthi. Lena chois sin, bíonn Naíonra sa scoil ceithre mhaidin sa tseachtain, ón 9.300 r.n. go dtí 12.30 i.n. Tugtar Scoil Uimh 1 ar scoil na Leidhbe Gairbhe.

Sa bhliain 1875, tógadh scoil sna Tuarthaí ar an taobh thiar den oileán san áit ina bhfuil teach Dhónaill Bhig Mhic Ruairí inniu. Táthar den bharúil gur seomra amháin a bhí sa scoil ceanntuá sin agus nach raibh mórán daltaí ag freastal uirthi. Sa bhliain 1915, tógadh an foirgneamh atá in úsáid go fóill. Bhí trí sheomra sa scoil seo agus go leor áite do na páistí scoile uilig a bhí sa cheantar. Cuireadh méadú leis sa bhliain 2004, nuair a tógadh cistin, seomra foirne/oifig, stór, leithris úra chomh maith le leithreas do dhaoine míchumasaithe. Inniu, tá 17 páiste ag freastal ar an scoil ina bhfuil beirt mhúinteoir. Tugtar Scoil Uimh 2 ar scoil Athphoirt

GAIRMSCOIL MHC DIARMADA

D'oscail Gairmscoil Mhic Diarmada i mí Dheireadh Fómhair na bliana 1990 i ndiaidh feachtas a mhair mórán blianta agus ar chuir an Dr Eoghain Mac Diarmada tús leis. I dtús báire, baineadh úsáid as seomraí réamhdhéanta go dtí gur críochnaíodh an foirgneamh úr sa bhliain 1994.

The Arranmore Disaster

Tubaiste Arainn Mhor



1.

On the evening of 9 November 1935 Edward Gallagher, his sons, daughters and 12 others, most of whom had just returned from potato picking in Scotland, set sail for Arranmore from Burtonport. Edward had only the lights from the houses on Arranmore and Inish Caorach as navigation aids. As they approached Béal-an-Ayleen, (mouth of the clutch) a hail shower began. The speed of the boat carried her up onto a rock and she capsized, throwing many of her occupants into the sea. She righted herself almost immediately but her momentum carried her onto another rock and again she righted herself. The third rock capsized her and all on board were thrown into the icy cold sea.



2.

In the darkness, Paddy Edward Gallagher, his father Edward and brother Johnny began calling for help. But as time went by, it became apparent that their calls for help were in vain. Paddy realised that his father, whom he was holding in one arm while holding his brother in the other, was dead.

At about 4:30am, in the midst of another hail shower, Paddy turned to his brother and asked him if he wanted the oilskin coat he was wearing. As he looked up at the face of his brother, he realised that he was dead.



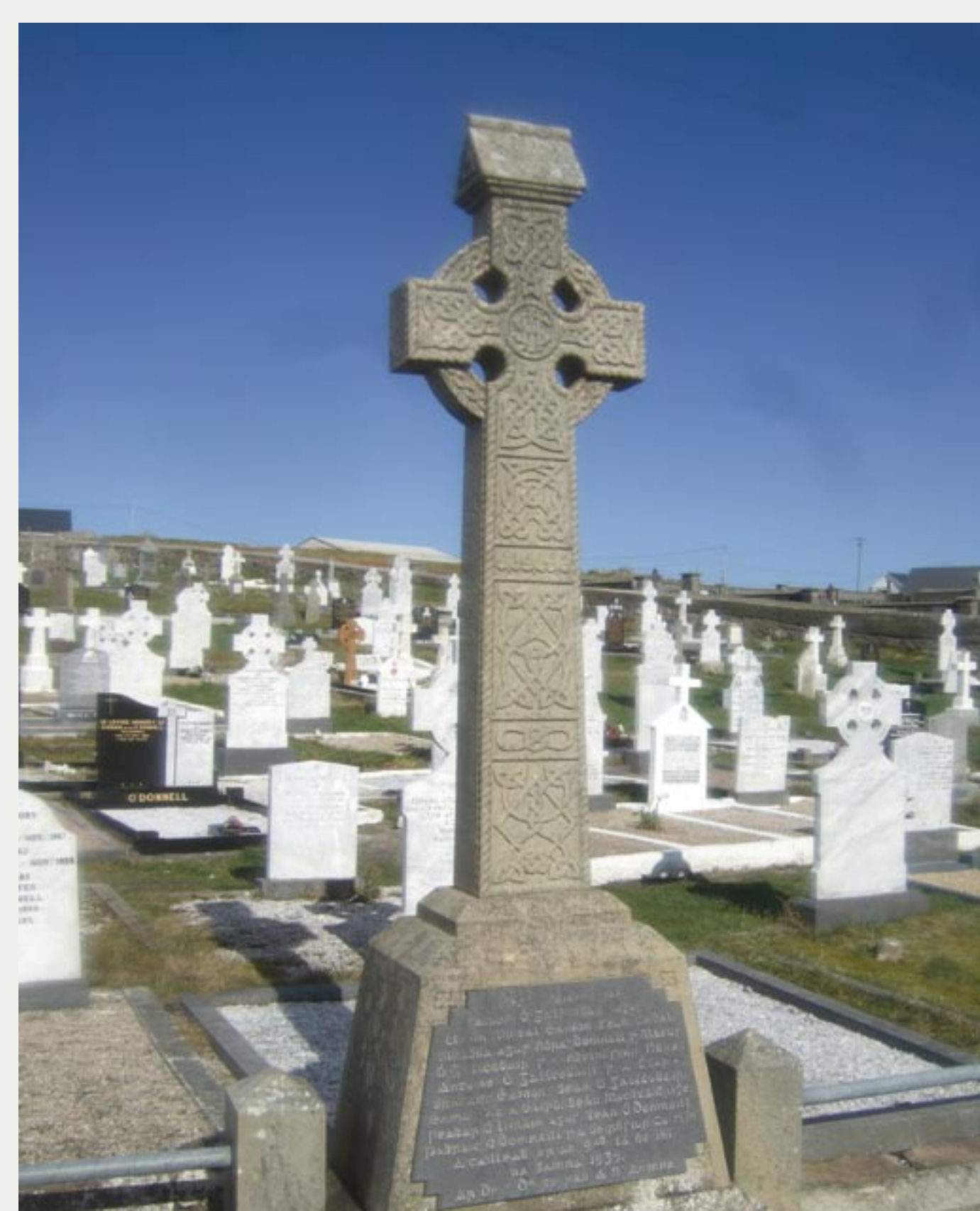
3.

On the morning of Sunday 10 November, Charlie Bán Gallagher went outside to get some turf for the fire. As he looked out to sea, he saw what he thought was someone fishing glasáin, but then realised that it was someone on the keel of an upturned boat. Charlie immediately raced in the direction of the beach. On his way he alerted Anthony Rua O' Donnell and Mike Mc Nulty. As they rowed toward the yawl they recognised Paddy Edward and he in turn saw them approach. They came alongside and took Paddy on board. As news of the tragedy spread through the island a search party was quickly organised and the lifeboat was launched. The remains of the victims of this terrible tragedy were buried in a common grave; the grave was added to as the remains of the victims were recovered. Paddy Edward Gallagher, the only survivor of the Arranmore Disaster, died on 25 June 1987.

1. Caption
2. Caption
3. Caption
4. Caption

The following is a list of names of those who lost their lives in the disaster.

1. Edward Gallagher from Torries (61)
2. Michael Gallagher (Edward) from Torries (29)
3. Madgie Gallagher (Edward) from Torries (28)
4. Edward Gallagher (Edward) from Torries (24)
5. John Gallagher (Edward) from Torries (22)
6. Charles Gallagher (Edward) from Torries (20)
7. Hannah Gallagher (Edward) from Torries (16)
8. Peter Leonard from Ballintra (61)
9. Paddy O'Donnell from Plohogue (44)
10. Eamonn Ward from Torries (51)
11. Dan Gallagher (Mick) from Athphort (27)
12. Anthony Gallagher Athphort (17)
13. Manus Gallagher (Mick) from Athphort (17)
14. John O'Donnell from Athphort (50)
15. Ned Gallagher from Athphort (15)
16. John Gallagher (Mick) from Torries (20)
17. John Rodgers (Paddy) from Torries (34)
18. The remains of Kitty O'Donnell from Plohogue (45) were never found.
19. The remains of Hannah Gallagher (Mick) from Athphort (21) were never found.



4.

Ar an 9ú lá de Shamhain 1935, d'fhág Éamonn Ó Gallchóir agus beirt mhac dá chuid, a mbaile sna Tuarthaí in Árainn Mhór. Ar a mbealach go cé Athphoirt, casadh orthu Seán Ó Gallchóir, Johnny Mac Ruairí agus Seán Ó Dómhnaill. Nuair a shroich siad an ché, chuir siad amach geolta 24 troigh agus nuair a bhí siad ar shéala imeacht tháinig Éamonn (Ned) Mac an Bhaird chucu. D'inis Éamonn Ó Gallchóir dó go raibh sé ag dul in araicis na traenach a bhí le bheith in Ailt a' Chorráin ag a 4 a chlog, siocair go raibh seisear dá chlann uirthi agus iad ag fillleadh abhaile ó na prátaí in Albain.

I dtrátha an 4 a chlog, bhí bád Éamonn istigh in Ailt a' Chorráin. Nuair a fuair siad a fhad leis an stáisiún, bhí an traein ansin rompu. Le linn don scór acu a bheith ag ullmhú le dul abhaile. Ceathrú i ndiaidh a cúig a chlog a d'fhág Éamonn Ó Gallchóir agus a cuid mac is iníonacha, le cois dhá chloigeann déag eile, cé Ailt a' Chorráin. Nuair a bhí siad ag dul thart le hInis Mhic a' Doirn, tháinig cith cloch sneachta agus d'éirigh an ghaoth. Ní raibh de chuidiú loingseoireachta ag Éamonn ach soilse na dtithe ar Árainn Mhór agus ar Inis Caorach. Nuair a bhí siad ag teacht cóngarach de Bhéal an Éillín, thosaigh cith eile cloch sneachta. Chuir luas an bháid suas ar charraig í, thiontaigh sí bunoscionn agus caitheamh cuid acu amach san fharraige. Ansin, bhuail sí an carraig eile agus caitheamh a raibh inti isteach san fharraig fhuar.

D'éirigh le hÉamonn Ó Gallchóir agus a mhac, Paidí, dul suas ar chile an bháid a bhí bunoscionn. Fuair Paidí greim ar a dheartháir. Bhí sé i dtrátha leath i ndiaidh a sé faoin am seo agus é dubh dorcha. Bhí greim ag Paidí ar a athair le lámh amháin agus ar a dheartháir leis an lámh eile. Roimh i bhfad, d'aithin Paidí go raibh a athair marbh. Ní raibh fágtha ach beirt as an scór. Luigh siad ag taobh a chéile, lámh amháin de chuid Phaidí ag coinneáil greama ar an chile agus an lámh eile snaidhmthe ina dheartháir. Thart fá leath i ndiaidh a ceathair, tháinig cith eile cloch sneachta. Nuair a chonaic Paidí aghaidh a dheartháir, d'aithin sé go raibh Johnny marbh.

Maidin Domhnaigh, an 10ú lá de Shamhain d'amharc Charlie Bán Ó Gallchóir amach ar an fharraige a bhí díreach os comhair a thí agus shíl sé go bhfaca sé duine ag iascaireacht glasán ach d'aithin sé roimh i bhfad go raibh an bád bunoscionn agus go raibh duine ar an chile.

D'imigh sé go gasta i dtreo na trá agus ar a bhealach, scairt sé ar Antaine Rua Ó Gallchóir agus Mike Mac an Ultaigh. Chuir an triúr acu amach bád beag. Thosaigh siad ag iomramh agus nuair a tháinig siad cóngarach den gheolta, chonaic siad gur Paidí Éamonn a bhí ann.

De réir mar spréigh scéal na tragóide thart ar an oileán, cuireadh scaifte le chéile fá choinne cuardach a dhéanamh agus cuireadh an bád tarrhála ar an uisce.

Seo a leanas liosta de na daoine a cailleadh sa tubaiste:

1. Éamonn Ó Gallchóir (61) as na Tuarthaí.
2. Micheál Ó Ghallchóir (Éamonn), na Tuarthaí (29).
3. Madgie Ní Ghallchóir (Éamonn), na Tuarthaí (28).
4. Edward Ó Gallchóir (Éamonn), na Tuarthaí (24).
5. Johnny Ó Gallchóir (Éamonn), na Tuarthaí (22).
6. Cathal Ó Gallchóir (Éamonn), na Tuarthaí (20).
7. Hannah Ní Ghallchóir (Éamonn), na Tuarthaí (16).
8. Peadar Leonard as Baile an tSrátha (61).
9. Paidí Ó Dómhnaill as Plochóg (44).
10. Éamonn Mac an Bhaird as Na Tuarthaí (51).
11. Dónal Ó Gallchóir (Micheál) as Athphort (27).
12. Antóin Ó Gallchóir as Athphort (17).
13. Mánus Ó Gallchóir (Micheál) as Athphort (17).
14. Seán Ó Dómhnaill as Athphort (50).
15. Ned Ó Gallchóir as Athphort (15).
16. John Ó Gallchóir (Mick) as Na Tuarthaí (20).
17. Seán Mac Ruairí (Padaí) as Na Tuarthaí (34).
18. Ní bhfuarthas corp Chití Ní Dhómhnaill (45) as Plocóg, ariamh.
19. Ní bhfuarthas corp Hannah Ní Ghallchóir (Mick) as Athphort (21) ariamh

Adhlacadh iomlán a cailleadh sa tubaiste mhilleteanach seo in uaigh amháin. Fuair Paidí Éamonn Ó Gallchóir - an t-aon duine a tháinig slán ó Bháthadh Árainn Mhór bás ar an 25/06/1987