

## Worksheet      **Julie's Story**

Q1    How old was Julie when her life changed?

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Q2    What did her sister become?

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Q3    Why could Julie not be sad?

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Q4    Where did Julie meet Tom?

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Q5    When did Julie realise she needed help with her own education?

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Q6    In your opinion why is life now good for Julie?

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Put the following words into sentences:

Stage \_\_\_\_\_

Encouraged \_\_\_\_\_

Movies \_\_\_\_\_

## **The Match**

St. Francis's V's Swords Celtic

Last Sunday we were at home playing the League Leaders – Swords Celtic.

They were 2 points ahead of St. Francis's. The referee called the two teams in a circle. Both teams had to show I.D. to prove they were under 15. We had no problem with the I.D. of Swords. The manager of Swords picked out 3 players of the St. Francis's team and complained that they were too old. The referee asked the three lads to sign a card to prove they were under 15 and show their proper names. The Swords manager still wasn't happy. So the referee told him to go away. We played the match.

Half time came and we were still winning 4 – 0. At this time we were talking to the players about closing down the other team so that they wouldn't be able to score. Then I looked across the field. The other manager was moaning at the referee again pointing over at the St. Francis managers. The referee told him to go away. He abused the referee, using bad language. The referee showed him the red card and sent him off the field. I said, "The Swords manager has been sent off. This is our chance, we can win this match".

Second half, we kicked off. For the first ten minutes they were kicking the ball on top of the full backs, putting pressure on us so that they could score. Half an hour went by and it was still the same. So we made two substitutes - we took off two wingers and put on two centre halves'. This was to stop them attacking. The game changed around and we won 4 goals to nil. So the second manager of Swords said "Well done, smart move", and he shook my hand.

Alan O'Connor



## Worksheet

## The Match

Q1 Name the two teams involved in the match

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Q2 What team is Alan involved with?

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Q3 Why did the three players have to sign a card?

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Q4 What was the score at half time?

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Q5 Who was shown the red card?

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Look up the meaning of the following words and put them into sentences:

Referee

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Proper

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Language

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## My Best Friend Molly



My dog's name is Molly and she is my best friend. I have her three years. As soon as I went to the pound to pick a dog I fell in love with her straight away. Molly has a lovely nature and is very placid and affectionate. She is very playful and loves to play with heads of brushes. Molly lifts my spirits and makes me laugh. She loves her food and never leaves a bit.

There is always a big welcome from Molly when I come home. She puts her two paws up and licks the face off me. She has her own little personality, she is scared of other dogs, however Molly loves her walks and likes to run free.

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I took Molly for a walk last Sunday in Raheny and low and behold before I knew it, she had pulled her head out of the collar and ran away. I couldn't find her for days and really missed her very much.

My sister Veronica went on the internet and was able to make contact with the DSPCA who gave her a phone number in Castleknock. To our great relief, we found out that Molly was in the pound there. For her safety they had kept her in a cage and she was very scared. It cost me €120 to get her back. However I didn't care what the cost was. I just wanted Molly back. The joy I felt when I saw her was incredible. She went crazy when she saw me. When I took her out of the cage she was hungry and very thirsty. When I got home I gave her plenty of water and a big feed which she devoured. I also gave her a bath and she really loved it. Molly has recovered well from her ordeal and no doubt I am thrilled to have Molly back.

Molly is very popular in the neighbourhood and everyone has celebrated her return. I love my canine friend very much. It's true what they say: "A man's best friend is his dog".

Paddy Healy

## The Coombe



The old Coombe Hospital

I began working in the Coombe hospital when I was fifteen. This was the old Coombe hospital on the street called "The Coombe" The new hospital is on Cork Street. The entrance to the hospital is still on The Coombe. It was a maternity hospital. I worked in Unit 8 which was the labour ward.

I worked from eight o'clock in the morning until six o'clock in the evening. I used to do some cleaning and I used to give out the teas.

I wore a pink uniform and a white apron. I looked very smart.

Sometimes I would be asked to bring a baby to the church to be christened. I stood in for god-mothers who couldn't be there because they lived in the country. I did this seventeen times and I loved doing it. I got five shillings each time I did this. I often think of the babies I stood for and I hope their lives turned out well.

Sometimes the mothers would ask me to go to the shop across the road to get them the things they needed.

My Ma worked in the Coombe too. She worked in the baby unit. It was sad sometimes when a baby died.

At the end of the day myself and my Ma went into Kelly's shop to get something for the tea, like Bovril, a turnover, a quarter of good butter and a glass bottle of milk. We could buy a packet of tea for three pence.

My Ma would also buy her five Woodbine cigarettes. We always enjoyed our tea when we got home and we used to listen to the wireless.

I got my wages every week in a little brown envelope. I got two pounds and ten shillings a week and my Ma got the same.

Breda

### **Worksheet 1                      The Coombe**

Fill in the missing letters in these words:

I be \_ an to work when I was fift \_ \_ n.

The hospital is on Cork Str \_ \_ t.

I work \_ d in unit 8 from the morn \_ \_ \_ until the even \_ \_ \_.

I finished work at 6 o'cl \_ ck .

I look \_ \_ very smart.

## Worksheet 2      The Coombe

Fill in the missing words in these sentences:

I began work \_\_\_\_\_ I was fifteen.

I \_\_\_\_\_ all day from 8 in the morning until 6 in the evening.

I used to \_\_\_\_\_ out the teas.

I wore a pink \_\_\_\_\_ .

I \_\_\_\_\_ very smart.

## Worksheet 3      The Coombe

Look up these words in the dictionary and write out the meaning.

Hospital \_\_\_\_\_

Enter \_\_\_\_\_

Morning \_\_\_\_\_

Uniform \_\_\_\_\_



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## Cars

I bought a Triumph 2000 car in 1982. It was 12 years old, with four large doors and tinted windows. I had it for five years. It was a long car with silver strips and it was sky blue in colour. It broke down after five years. One Friday night it blew a hole in the engine so I had to get a taxi home. That was just the start of the expense. I had to get the car towed home.

The day I got it home I tried to fix it myself but it was no good. There was a hole in the engine and the oil was everywhere. I would have been better off buying a new car from the start.

The Triumph 2000 was the best car I ever had so I had to slam the door shut and get it scrapped.

John Murray

**Worksheet**                      **Cars**

Q1    What type of car did the person buy?

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Q2    What colour was the car?

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Q3    How long did he have the car before it broke down?

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Q4    Why did it break down?

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Q5    Could the car be fixed?

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## **The Joys of Gardening**

I like doing gardening. It makes me happy. It is good for relaxing, and it gets rid of stress. My favourite plants are daffodils. I like listening to the birds singing in the spring. It is great to watch them building their nests.

It is nice in the autumn when the leaves change their colour.

I also help the old folks who can't do their own gardens. Summer is my busiest time of the year. I have grass to cut, hedges to trim, flower beds to weed, trees to prune and plants to plant.

I also like water features in the garden. The sound of water is great for meditation. It is very relaxing. Gardening helps me sleep at night, and it is great to look back at the work you have achieved.

Noel

## Work Sheet 1

## The Joys of Gardening

Q1 Why does Noel like gardening?

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Q2 What are his favourite plants?

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Q3 Why does Noel like the birds in the spring?

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Q4 What jobs does Noel do in the summer?

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Q5 Why does Noel like water features in the garden?

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Q6 Is Noel proud of his work?

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## Worksheet 2                      The Joys of Gardening

Fill in the blanks in the text below.

Noel likes \_\_\_\_\_ because it makes him \_\_\_\_\_ and it is  
\_\_\_\_\_. His favourite plants are \_\_\_\_\_. He likes to  
\_\_\_\_\_ to the birds singing, and to watch them \_\_\_\_\_ their nests.

The leaves change their \_\_\_\_\_ in the autumn.

Noel helps old folks who cannot manage their own gardens. He has \_\_\_\_\_ to  
cut, hedges to \_\_\_\_\_, flower beds to \_\_\_\_\_, and trees to \_\_\_\_\_. He likes  
water \_\_\_\_\_, as the sound of water is very relaxing.

**Put the following words into sentences**

relaxing

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autumn

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prune

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### Worksheet 3                      The Joys of Gardening

Please complete the spellings in Column 2.

Column 1	Column 2
Relaxing	Rel__ing, __axing, relax__, _____
Gardening	Gar__ing, __dening, _____ing, _____
Daffodils	Daff__ils, daffod____, ____odils, _____
Autumn	Aut__n, aut____, ____umn, autu____, _____
Busiest	Busi____, bus____, ____iest, _____
Prune	Pr_ne, pr____, ____une, ____ne, _____
Features	Feat____, fea____es, ____ures, _____
Achieved	Ach__ved, achie____, ____ieved, ____ie____, _____

## **The History of Croke Park Part 1**

### **Introduction**

The area now known as Croke Park was owned in the 1880's by Maurice Butterly and known as the City and Suburban Racecourse or Jones' Road Sports Ground.

### **History**

Recognising the potential of the Jones' Road sports Ground a journalist and GAA member Frank Dineen, borrowed much of the £3,250 asking price and brought the ground in 1908. In 1913 the GAA game into exclusive ownership of the plot when they purchased it from Dineen for £3,500. The ground was then renamed Croke Park in honour of Archbishop Thomas Croke, one of the GAA's first patrons.

### **The Stands**

In 1913 Croke Park had only two stands and what is now known as the Hogan Stand side and the grassy banks all round. In 1917, a grassy hill was constructed on the railway end of Croke Park to offer patrons a better view of the pitch. This terrace was originally known as Hill 60 after the battle of Hill 60 during the Great War. Some decades later, it was later renamed Hill 16 and a myth was allowed to develop that it was built from ruins of the Easter Rising.

In the 1920's the GAA set out to create a high capacity stadium at Croke Park. Following the Hogan Stand, the Cusack Stand, named after Michael Cusack from Clare (who founded the GAA and served as its first secretary), was built in 1927.

1936 saw the first double-deck Cusack Stand open with 5,000 seats and concrete terracing being constructed on Hill 16. In 1952 the Nally Stand was

built in memorial of Pat Nally, another of the GAA founders. Seven years later, to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the GAA the first cantilevered, 'New Hogan Stand' was opened.

### Stadium Design

In 1984, the organisation decided to investigate ways to increase the capacity of the old stadium. The design for an 80,000 capacity stadium was completed in 1991. A specific requirement was to ensure the spectators were not too far from the field of play. This resulted in the three tier design from which viewing games is possible, the main concourse a premium level incorporating hospitality facilities and an upper concourse. The premium level contains restaurants, bars and conference areas. The project was split into four phases over a 14 year period.

### Phase One

The first phase of the construction was to build a replacement for Croke Park's Cusack Stand. Completed in 1995 at a cost of £35 million, the new stand is 180 metres long, 35 metres high, has a capacity for 27,000 people and contains 46, hospitality suites. The new Cusack Stand contains three tiers from which the viewing of games is possible; the main concourse, a premium level incorporating hospitality facilities and finally an upper concourse.



## Phase Two

Phase two of the development started in late 1998 and involved extending the new Cusack Stand to replace the existing the Canal End terrace. It is now known as Davin Stand, after Maurice Davin, the first president of the GAA. The phase also saw the creation of a tunnel which was later named the Ali tunnel in honour of Muhammad Ali and his fight against Al Lewis in July 1972 in Croke Park.

## Phase Three

Phase three saw the building of the new Hogan Stand. This required a greater variety of spectator categories to be accommodated including general spectators, corporate patrons, VIP's, broadcast and media services and operation staff. Extras included a fitted out mezzanine level for VIP and Ard Comhairle (where dignitaries sit) along with top level press media facility. The end of phase three took the total spectator capacity of Croke Park to 82,000.

## Phase Four

After the 2003 Special Olympics construction began, this involved the redevelopment of the Nally Stand and Hill 16 into a new Nally End/Dineen Hill terrace. For logistics reasons and, to a degree, historical reasons and also to provide cheaper high capacity space, the area is a terrace rather than a seated stand. The only remaining standing room in Croke Park is divided into separate sections – Hill A (Cusack Stand side) Hill B (Behind the goals) and the Nally Terrace (in the fully redeveloped Hill) has a capacity of around 13,200 bringing the overall capacity of the stadium to 82,300. This made the stadium the

second biggest in the EU after the Nou Camp, Barcelona. The new Wembley stadium has now taken over second place with Croke Park in 3<sup>rd</sup>.place.

#### Future Expansion

There are currently no plans for future expansion of the stadium. The Hill 16 end is unlikely to be developed further in the near future with a second upper tier (in line with the other three sides) due to the proximity of the railway line and the fact that there are houses immediately behind the raised wall on which the rail line runs.

#### Collette's Troops

## **Croke Park - Technology and Events. Part 2**

Croke Park stadium has evolved from humble beginnings to become a world class sporting arena steeped in cultural history and significance for Irish people, both home and abroad.

Croke Park is acclaimed internationally as a “Best in class host venue,” the stadium offers guests and match patrons unrivalled facilities to enhance their visitor experience.

The pitch in Croke Park warrants a visit to the stadium in itself. Hail rain or shine the combination of technology and expert maintenance ensures a consistent, high – performing playing surface all year round.

Croke Park has developed a connected stadium solution based on Cisco technologies and best practices. The network infrastructure within the stadium is based on Cisco’s stadium vision and is a highly scalable, secure network designed specifically for sports and entertainment venues and brings together all forms of access, communications, entertainment and operations onto a single innovative platform.

The €5 million floodlight programme was the final phase in a major redevelopment programme and the stadium hosted its first floodlight event in front of a capacity crowd of 82,300 spectators in February 2007.

The pitch floodlight system was designed to FIFA standards by Thorn Lighting. The stadium floodlights are powered by independent synchronous generators.

In June 2014, €1m was invested to increase power supply. All game related services, PA systems, dressing rooms, video boards and emergency lighting are

run by an in-house generator during event days. Floodlights and media services are powered by independent generators. New state of the art HD screens were installed in summer 2015, to deliver sharper live footage and match graphics to all patrons – even under the harshest sunlight and the most acute angles. In addition the old scoreboard and clock have been replaced.

Dublin is famous for its 'Hundred thousand welcomes' (Cead Mile Failte) the same warm Irish welcome and world renowned hospitality awaits all visitors to Croke Park. [www.crokepark.ie](http://www.crokepark.ie)

In 2003 June 21st 80,000 people including Nelson Mandela, U2, The Corrs and Muhammed Ali attended the opening of the Special Olympic Games in Croke Park.

In 2005 April 16<sup>th</sup> GAA Congress voted to open Croke Park to other games and abolish Rule 42.

In 2007 February 11<sup>th</sup> history was made when the first Rugby match was played between Ireland and France in Croke Park and March 24<sup>th</sup> the first soccer match took place with the ROI vs Wales in Euro 2008.

In 2011 May 18<sup>th</sup> Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh visited Croke Park as part of their historic state visit to Ireland.

In 2012 the Olympic Flame came to Croke Park with Kilkenny hurling legend Henry Shefflin given the honour of carrying the torch.

In 2016 April 24th the football league 1 and 2 finals were in Croke Park and after the matches, there was a show titled 'Laochra' based on the 1916 Rising.

Collette's Troops

## **Sean the Fearless**

Story about Rita's Grandfather

Sean Nugent was born in the year 1898, just a century too late to lend a hand to his hero, Wolfe Tone. Despite this he made up for the lapse and this broad-shouldered, muscular, pink-faced man (now gone to join the countless patriots on Ireland's Historic roll of fame) was able to point with pride to a 1916 medal, a Black and Tan medal and the reason he has not got a medal for the last war is another story.

Sean was educated at St. James's Christian Brothers School and in his early years became a van boy in Dunlop's Laundry, later becoming a messenger cum clerk with the Dublin United Tramway Company. Sean was, even in his teen years, a rather astute young man with a wonderful sense of human justice or, if you prefer, civil rights. Especially in those days, when to even whisper of being against the then prevailing conditions, was enough to jeopardise you in the most menial position. The then over-lording tyranny and imperialism was very evident in Dublin, so much so, that on the 12<sup>th</sup> July the Orangemen gathered around the base of Nelson's Pillar, and any passing young man was challenged as to his religion, and if not to their liking, had his headgear removed and made crawl past the monument.

But 'Sean the Fearless' was never hesitant in expressing his strong opinions on such events. He vigorously challenged their actions and condemned them into uncertain words. Soon his name and fame reached his employers. Then one day, not to his surprise, a little note was slipped into his pay-packet which

read: "We believe you are a member of Mr. Larkins's Union. We therefore dispense with your services."

So Sean, just fifteen years old, found himself in the thick of the 1913 strike. Sometime later he obtained a job printing tickets, but after a short time, he was approached and asked to carry recruiting posters. Sean's answer was a very emphatic "No", and sure enough, that was the end of the job.

Yes, this young man, born and reared in Dublin, was experiencing the grave hardship of the planned persecution then so much in evidence and visited upon any person, young or old, who refused to bend the knee and renege their nationalist principles.

His next move brought him into the ranks of the Fianna, and in 1915, together with Con Colbert, he was transferred to the Volunteers in Rowe's Distillery in James's Street, from which he escaped following its evacuation. Later during the Tan War it was the old story of days and nights on the run, but eventually in 1920 he was caught, and after a sojourn in several prisons, he was finally interned in Ballykinlar. Many of our readers are familiar with the tragic civil war, and it was during this that Sean was wounded and temporarily paralysed, later spending a period of 15 days on hunger strike.

Sean died in March 1966 unfortunately precluding him from receiving his Golden Jubilee medal. One of his dearest friends was the former Taoiseach, Mr. Sean Lemass. In Lucan Cemetery lie the mortal remains of this great soldier of Ireland.

*Story taken from Easter Commemoration Digest*

## **Bloody Sunday**

Bloody Sunday was a day of violent retribution in Dublin. On the morning of the 21<sup>st</sup> November 1920, during the Irish War of Independence, on the orders of Michael Collins head of the Irish Republican Army, fourteen British intelligence officers were shot in Dublin in an effort by the IRA, to destroy the British intelligence network in Dublin

The Dublin Gaelic football team was to play the Tipperary team later the same day in Croke Park. About 5,000 people went to the match which began thirty minutes late, at 3:15 p.m.

Outside the park the British security forces were preparing to raid the match. A convoy of troops drove in from the northwest along Clonliffe Road, another convoy of auxiliary police approached from the canal end. Their orders were to surround the ground, guard the exits. Every man was to be searched. However, shots were fired as soon as the police convoy reached the stadium, at 3:25 p.m. Some of the police later claimed they were fired on first by the IRA this has never been proved. According to eye witnesses interviewed the IRA men were actually ticket sellers.

The police chased these men to the canal end gate, forced their way through the turnstiles and started firing with rifles and revolvers. The spectators were startled by the gun fire from inside the turnstile entrances. Armed and uniformed men entered the field where scenes of the wildest confusion broke out. The people then made a rush for the far side of Croke Park shots were

fired into the crowd. Some police fired into the fleeing crowd from the pitch while others, outside the park, opened fire from the canal bridge at people who climbed over the canal end wall trying to escape.

When Major Mills their commander got his men under control, seven people had been shot to death and five more fatally wounded, two people had been trampled to death in the stampede, along with dozens of others injured and wounded. The police raiding party suffered no casualties once the grounds were cleared, the park was searched for arms, but none were found.

According to the British officials in Dublin Castle the actions of the police and auxiliaries were unauthorised. That evening, two high ranking IRA officers and another man, who were being held in Dublin Castle, were tortured and shot. Their captors claimed they were killed while trying to escape. The terrorist actions of the Auxiliary's and the Black and Tans turned Irish public opinion against British forces.

Flora Monaghan