

NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 103 Spring 2015



NEWS

Annual General Meeting

The AGM was held immediately before the January lecture on the 14th.

The Hon. Sec. and Hon. Treas. reported satisfactory years.

The following were elected to committee:

Gary Ahern,
Paulene Cunningham,
Brian Dooley,
Roger Greene,
Pauline Kennedy,
Rene McDonnell,
Phil O'Shea,
Michael Ryan,
Paddy Ryan,
David Sweeney,
Joe Varley.

This committee, in accordance with our constitution, will meet shortly to fill the following positions from within it's ranks:

President:

Chairman:

Hon. Secretary:

Hon. Treasurer:

Museum

We hope to take possession this month of new accommodation in the Steward's House at Malahide Castle. Much work will remain to be done - arranging display cases, unpacking and selecting items for display, labelling, etc., etc.

Although the available space is less than heretofore we are especially grateful to Fingal County Council in facilitating this move to a recently refurbished heritage building in a very prominent position.

Whats happening

Lecture Programme

11 Feb. - Local History in the National Archives.

By Gregory O'Connor, Archivist in NAI.

11 Mar. - Battle wounds – murder and death in early medieval Swords.

By Edward O'Donovan
Archaeological Consultant involved in Mountgamble (site of Pavilions Shopping Centre) excavations.

8 Apr. - John Beresford, an Irish statesman, and the Abbeville connection.

By Paddy Ryan, Malahide H.S.

13 May - Recent photo acquisitions.

By Brian Dooley, Malahide Historical Society.

We would very much like to see more people become actively engaged in researching aspects of Malahide's past history. Possible fields include the development of the village, the road system, public water and sewage systems, light and power, shops and other traders, members of the Talbot family, the Malahide Estate, evictions, field names, how the modern village developed, - the list is endless. A fascinating hobby and addictive!

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All talks take place in Presbyterian Church Hall, Dublin Road at 8pm on 2nd Wednesday of the month.

Admission €4.

Free parking in public car park opposite.

Non-members welcome.

HOW ST. SYLVESTER'S ACQUIRED IT'S SPIRE

The indefatigable Father David P. Mulcahy was appointed parish priest of Swords and Malahide (a single parish until 1941) in 1881. There seems to have been no limit to his ability to collect funds from parishioners to finance various building projects and he obviously had the ear of the Archbishop of Dublin, Dr. William J. Walsh.

In 1886 he completed the girls' and infants' schools (Red school) in Malahide, and provided a teacher's residence which cost altogether £2300. In 1901 he added the tower and spire to St. Sylvester's. He also erected a new residence on the site of the old curate's residence in the centre of the village. He had several curates during his time in the parish - including Fr. John Jones who was permanently in charge of Malahide from 1891. He also built schools and residences in Swords. However, he appears to have played his cards close to his chest as his curates were told little in advance of what he was planning. He always carried a stick and gained a reputation for patrolling Chapel Lane in Swords and chasing courting couples! Fr. Mulcahy died in August 1912.

The Freeman's Journal was the oldest nationalist newspaper in Ireland. It was founded in 1763. The Journal, as it was widely known as, was the leading newspaper in Ireland throughout the 19th century. The following clippings (edited down somewhat) show how the paper reported on Fr. Mulcahy's efforts to improve the parish church which had been incomplete since the main portion was consecrated in 1846.

[The paper commenced its reportage on 10 September 1898 as follows:](#)

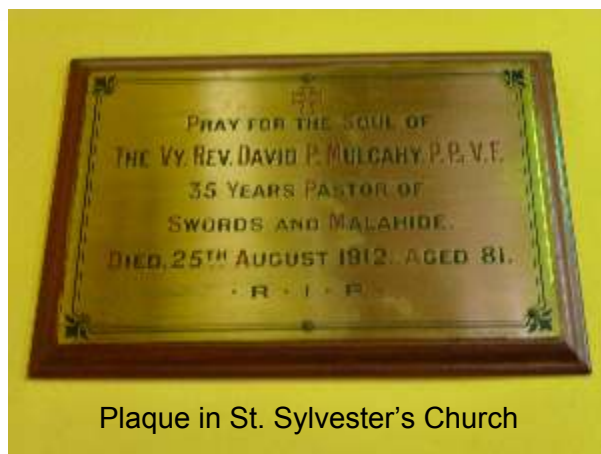
THE MALAHIDE BAZAAR

The above bazaar will be continued this day (Saturday) and tomorrow (Sunday). The bazaar will open at 3 o'clock. The band of the DMP will attend. A grand concert will be held each evening at 7 o'clock, and on tomorrow (Sunday) there will be the normal Pony and Donkey Races, Tugs of War, and Football Matches. Commencing at 2 o'clock. Special Train leaves for Balbriggan at 9:30 pm, returning to Dublin from Malahide at 10:45 Sunday night.

[And continued on 12 September:](#)

THE MALAHIDE BAZAAR

The bazaar organised for the purpose of raising funds to erect a tower on the church at Malahide was continued on Saturday and yesterday. The bazaar was opened on the previous Sunday, in weather the most charming and delightful that it is possible to imagine, and the attendance was very large. On Saturday, the weather was pretty favourable, but yesterday, except for a couple of hours, it was the very reverse, and anything but agreeable. The people of the district, however, anxious to assist their patriotic pastor, the Reverend Jones, were present in large numbers, and the stalls, amusements, and numerous other attractions were well patronised, and the devotees of outdoor sports braved the effects of the rain to witness the events. From Drogheda and intermediate stations a good number of visitors came to the bazaar. Balbriggan was well represented and its splendid brass band performed a choice musical programme on the bazaar grounds. In the evening a grand concert was given in the Female National Schools. The spacious room was crowded, and the excellent programme presented was highly appreciated. The different items were capitally rendered, and there was a highly appreciated blending of the comic and the sentimental in the vocal music. The bazaar



Plaque in St. Sylvester's Church

committee worked energetically to make the fete the success it proved to be; the lady assistants at the stalls put forth every effort with considerable success to increase the grand total at the conclusion of the bazaar; and the inhabitants of Malahide, as well as hundreds of visitors from Dublin, and from towns north of Malahide, who journeyed to the beautiful seaside to help in the good work which Father Jones promoted, did much to make the bazaar a success. One and all are deserving of the best thanks for the part they played.

[On the 24th of June 1899 the *Freeman's Journal* carried this report](#)

The Archbishop at Malahide.
Public meeting for the building of a church spire.

Yesterday a public meeting was held in the church of St. Sylvester, Malahide, convened by the Parish Priest, the Very Rev. D.P. Mulcahy, P.P., so widely known and respected for his very marked and successful exertions in aid of the spread of religion and education. Father Mulcahy and his parishioners have determined to complete their beautiful church by adding to it a tower and spire, the want of which strikes every visitor to Malahide. His Grace the Archbishop has given the project his warm approval. He honoured the public meeting yesterday with his presence, encouraged it with an eloquent speech, and made the success of the work assured by a munificent subscription. The meeting was held immediately after High Mass. On the motion of the Parish Priest, the chair was taken by his Grace the Archbishop of Dublin. Among those present in the church were - Messrs Thos. Connolly, T.C.; James Stack, Michael Howard, P. Hogan, J. Dunne, T. Casey, J. Donovan, J. Murphy, Patrick Lambert, – M'Mahon, P. Woods, J. Delaney, J. Radcliffe, Felix Pierce, T Cleary, Henry Cooke, etc.

The Very Rev. D. P. Mulcahy, P.P. said he had great pleasure on the part of the people of Malahide in giving his Grace a very hearty welcome, and in returning the thanks of the people of Malahide, for his great kindness and condescension in coming there to help the good work which they had in hands. He must say with reference to this meeting that there was no time lost about it. A deputation of the people of Malahide waited on him yesterday fortnight, and expressed their wish and desire that he, as their parish priest, should invite the Archbishop to come and attend a public meeting in Malahide for the purpose of enabling the people to carry out their long wished for desire of completing the tower and spire of their church. That was yesterday fortnight. In obedience to the wishes of the deputation he at once wrote a letter to his Grace on Saturday evening, and his Grace, with his usual punctuality and kindness of heart, lost no time in sending him a reply. By Sunday morning he had a beautiful letter from his Grace, saying he had only two Sundays at his disposal for the months of June, July and August, June 25th and July 23rd. . He (Fr.. Mulcahy) took the ball on the hop, and selected June 25th as the day of meeting, and here they had his Grace today, who was neither long nor lazy in coming to meet the wishes of the people of Malahide, and he was sure they would show their gratitude by coming forward generously to support the good work they had undertaken.

The Archbishop, who on rising was greeted with prolonged applause, then said – I feel that my first duty here today is to congratulate the parishioners of Malahide that the work which, for one reason or another, has had to be so long postponed - the completion of this church of yours by the building of a spire – is now been taken in hand, with so good a prospect of success (applause). I think I am safe in saying that there is not, in the diocese another priest of which I have so frequently had occasion to come, to take part in the starting, the advancement, or the completion of some work of importance in the interests of religion or of education (applause). But my coming to Malahide today reminds me that, with one solitary exception, all those many public visits to this parish of yours were at the other, that is, the inland district. I could not indeed easily call to mind the numerous occasions on which the duty of cooperating with Fr.. Mulcahy's energetic labours has brought me to the neighbouring district of Swords (hear, hear). Undoubtedly there was a mighty work to be done there. To say nothing of the crying need that existed for the building of a suitable – indeed I might go so far as to say the need that existed for the building of a respectable or even decent – parochial house, and of a residence for the curate in charge of the district



**Dr. William J. Walsh, Archbishop
of Dublin, (1841 – 1921)**

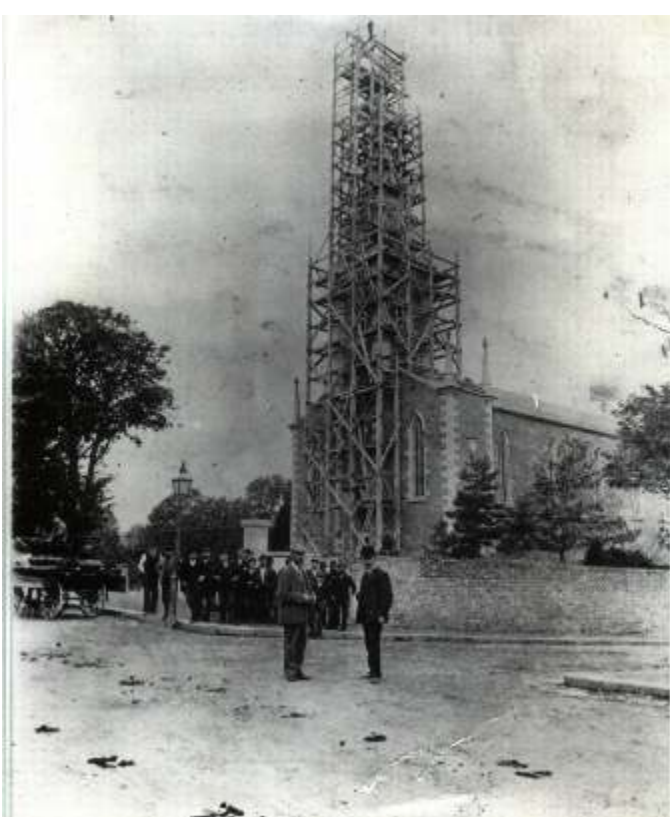
I have rejoiced especially because my position gave me the opportunity of formal opening of your new female and infant schools, that had just then been built (applause). Indeed, if I mistake not, the opening of your new schools here that day was the first public work of any kind which I had the opportunity of inaugurating after my appointment to the See of Dublin (applause). I can sincerely congratulate you on the happy success of the work that was inaugurated here that day. I speak of this from personal knowledge. Only a few weeks ago, on the day of the parochial Confirmation at Swords, the Malahide children of course were there, and I had the opportunity of testing them, and I took care to test them, in their knowledge of the Catechism. All I can say of them, and I feel it a duty to say so it to you publicly here today, is that you, their parents, and friends and neighbours of their parents, have good reason to feel proud of these children, and that especially the priests of the parish, and the teachers in the schools of the parish, have good reason to feel proud of them (applause). It is but natural that I should take a special interest in them, since their schools, as I have told you, were the first with which I had anything to do. I need hardly say that I have preserved with care AN INTERESTING GIFT which I received in Malahide that day as a memorial of the good work in which we had been engaged. It is a valuable gift, a key in gold and silver, an appropriate memorial of the opening ceremony that had been performed. It was given to me by Mr. Prendergast, the architect of the schools. I have now only to add that I look forward with pleasure to the day of my next public visit to Malahide (applause); and I trust this will not be a distant day (renewed applause), when the funds in Father Mulcahy's hands will have amounted to such sum as will enable him, prudent and cautious as he is in all such matters (applause and laughter), to start the work of building the spire. You heard from him that I had only two Sundays on which I was free to come to you in either this, or the next two months, that is, today, or Sunday, 23 July. I think that day in July is still open. I am afraid that Father Mulcahy will not be ready for it. But if he is, I shall be all the better pleased (applause). I shall be happy to come here, to have the pleasure of laying the first stone, and of receiving from the architect of the new works the valuable silver trowel which, in conformity with the good old usage, he will no doubt be so good as to present to me on that interesting occasion (applause and laughter). It now remains for me only to express my very best wishes for the work which you are so generously taking in hand today, including a special and earnest wish for its happy and speedy completion (prolonged applause).

Mr. Parkinson and Father Jones were appointed secretaries, and Father Mulcahy was appointed treasurer.

Mr. William Parkinson moved – “That in order to carry out successfully the much-needed work of completing the tower and spire of Saint Sylvester's Church, Malahide, a subscription be now opened, and an opportunity afforded to the parishioners and friends of showing their generosity.” It needed, he said, very few words to recommend this resolution to the people of the parish, who had felt it a want and a disgrace not to have a spire on the church. The churches in the neighbouring parishes – Howth, Balbriggan, St Margaret's, and Lusk – were all being either rebuilt or added to, and were the people of Malahide less Irish or less vigorous than their neighbours? The best thanks they could offer his Grace for coming there that day was to be generous in their subscriptions, and hoped in a short time they would have the spire of their church erected and surmounted with a cross so dear to every Irish heart (applause).

Mr. Michael Howard seconded the resolution, and said he endorsed every word that Mr. Parkinson had said, and he had every confidence that the people of Malahide would subscribe all the money required.

The resolution was carried unanimously.



The tower and spire under construction in 1901

Father Mulcahy said the zealous efforts of the ladies of the parish had realised nearly £400 at the bazaar, and he would give £100 himself (loud applause). His Grace had asked him what would be the cost of the whole work, but he (Father Mulcahy) could not really give an immediate idea; he was sure it would cost over £1,000 at least.

The Archbishop announced that he was struck by the gratifying fact, which he had learned from Father Mulcahy, that the local bazaar held last year in Malahide to make a beginning of the fund for the building of the spire had realised £400, and that he would give practical expression to what he felt about it by contributing an amount equal to that raised at the bazaar, £400 (loud applause).

The Archbishop, again rising, said he thought it right to express to the meeting his firm conviction that Father Mulcahy, in his anxiety to see it completed, had altogether underestimated the probable cost of the work. His Grace continued – Father Mulcahy’s estimate is £1,000. If the work could be done for that amount, we should hardly need to open subscription list at all. We have almost £1000 in hands or as good as in hands, already - that is, £400 from the bazaar, £400 from me, and £100 from Father Mulcahy; and I have heard of other subscriptions here that cannot fall far short of the remaining £100. I venture to say that £2,000 will be nearer to the cost of than £1,000. I say this with all due recognition of Father Mulcahy’s experience in building (laughter and applause). I think I am justified in saying that if you were to measure your contributions by the standard that would be suitable for a total outlay of only £1,000, the amount that would be raised would be would fall hopelessly short of what is required for the work that you are now so generously taking in hands.

A very generous response was made to the resolution, and many large subscriptions were announced.

Mr. Henry Cooke moved – “That this meeting begs to thank the subscribers and collectors for the help they have hitherto given, and respectfully asks them to continue their exertions on behalf of the much-needed work until it has been brought to a successful conclusion.

Mr. Hogan seconded the resolution.

His Grace said his experience of such undertakings was that the surest source of reliance for the completion of the work was the help given by those who undertook the labourious duty of the weekly collections.

Father Mulcahy added his testimony to the zeal of the collectors, and instanced two in particular, Messrs Joseph Lamb and Patrick Lambert (applause).

The Chairman (Commissioner Stafford) said he had no doubt that the honour which they had conferred upon him in calling him to the second chair had been conferred on him because he happened to be one of the summer visitors to Malahide. And he could not help saying on this occasion that he thought the summer visitors to Malahide ought to come forward, and come forward generously, to support this movement (applause). The summer visitors came here, and got their health by coming here. They, therefore, owed a good deal to Malahide, and he hoped the collection would not fail to remind them of that fact (laughter and applause). He hoped the visitors would subscribe generously, and he thought that the least thank offering they could offer for restored health was a small subscription towards the object which they were assembled here today to carry out (here, hear). The very generous manner in which his Grace had come forward and subscribed, and the equally generous manner in which his Grace had placed his time at their disposing today, deserved all the thanks they could possibly convey (applause). He had, therefore, much pleasure in conveying to his Grace their very sincere thanks for his kindness in coming to that meeting (loud cheers).

The resolution was carried amid much applause.

His Grace, in acknowledging the vote, said – I am not going to make another speech, but you will allow me, without making a speech, to say in a few words how very thankful I am to you for the splendid Catholic spirit you have shown here today. The work, as I have told you, will necessarily be a costly one; but from what I have seen in this church today, I have no doubt whatever that in your hands the work will be a success (applause). And, following up a remark that was made by one of the speakers at an early part of the meeting, I may say to you that he gauged my feelings with perfect accuracy when he said to you that the best and most welcome vote of thanks that you can pass to me is the generosity, of which I am now assured – the generosity which with which you will take this work in hands and speedily carry to completion (loud applause).

The meeting then concluded.

A year later on the 27th June, 1900 the *Freeman's Journal* carried this report:

**THE CHURCH OF ST. SYLVESTER, MALAHIDE.
THE FORTHCOMING BAZAAR.
A MOST INTERESTING FUNCTION.**

Yesterday, under the direction of the zealous and indefatigable Parish Priest of Swords and Malahide, one of the most interesting events associated with the parish took place. The purpose was to aid in the organisation of the great bazaar, which will be held in August, for the purpose of completing the tower and spire of the Church of St Sylvester; Malahide. It is, of course, a well-known fact that the old building, substantial and effective for its saintly purpose as it has been, was still sadly deficient by reason of the absence of the crowning glory of a tower and steeple. The church was erected about sixty years ago, and as internally a most admirably proportioned edifice. But it lacked the air of completeness, and for years and years its deficiency as an ecclesiastical structure must have struck every visitor to this greatly rising district. And so Father Mulcahy, in addition to the many works of school building and other parochial enterprise of distinction, and with which his name must ever be associated, determined to finish the Malahide Church. Twelve months ago the initial and, of course, most important steps were taken, and with the anxiety for the glory and completeness of God's house which is so characteristic of the pastor a meeting was held in July last, to which his Grace the Archbishop of Dublin gave the crowning blessing of his presence and support. At the meeting held on that occasion very many friends contributed most liberally. But, still, there is about £2,000, required to complete the work—and so the bazaar has been initiated.

It may be of some interest to mention that Mr. Ashlin, the distinguished architect, has designed the work now in progress, and that Mr Wynn, of Dundalk, is carrying the work into completion. The height of the tower, or rather from the base to the crowning cross, will be about 150 feet, and already a considerable section of the work has been accomplished.

The Bazaar, which, after all, is the thing upon which so much depends, will be opened on the 12th of August, and continued on the 15th and 19th.

Lord Talbot de Malahide has very kindly afforded the use of a splendid section of his grounds close to the railway station for the erecting of tents, in which the ladies of the parish will erect stalls. The occasion is quite certain to be one of the most interesting of its kind that has ever occurred in or near Dublin

In order to promote the success of the Bazaar, Father Mulcahy has organised a series of variety, or rather miscellaneous concerts, the chief interest of which will be the fact that they are afforded by the children of the Kindergarten Choir attending the Swords New Borough Schools, locally known, of course, as St Columbkille's. These concerts are to take place on the 29th inst, on the 1st July, and the 8th July, to help on the work of the Bazaar.

Yesterday, what might be called a full dress rehearsal of the work of the children, took place, and when we remember that the children who took part in it were of the tenderest of years, it was a wonderful—nay, a phenomenal—tribute to hear so many words of honest praise of their work. Then there was a dance in costume—a Tarantella—by Miss Ita Maguire, followed by a Scotch reel done by Miss Angela M'Gonagle and Miss M Shaw. Then came a really most entertaining episode, the subject of which was the interpretation of a song entitled, "The Tall Top-hat" but the effect and suggestiveness of which was mainly, if not altogether, due to the boys who took part in it. Of these Paddy Pentony might be said to have been the leader, for his quaint and decided originality made him stand out in bold relief amidst the tall hats, spectacles, long coats, and other amusing disguises behind which the lads were concealed. A really clever dialogue, "Contradiction," by Miss Kelly and Miss Proctor followed; then there was a dance, Perrot, by Miss Fitzpatrick, Miss Lena Early; a jig by Master Paddy Pentony and Miss M'Gonagle, and a chorus of "Fairy Bells". In the second part we had a really delightful combination. The choir gave "The oars are flashing brightly"; the dialogue, "Rat and Mouse," by Master Josie Coleman and Miss C Larkin, was a perfect piece of interesting and memorable comedy; and of the other items may be mentioned Master Pat Troy's singing of "Phil the Flutter's Ball"; the Spanish drill, the "Pas de duo" (Miss Gonagle and Miss M Shaw); the Spanish, dance by Miss Pentony and Miss Mollie Farrell, and the recitation by Master Jack Savage.

Now the limits of space prevent the doing of complete justice to the really astonishing perfect rehearsal which Father Mulcahy succeeded in presenting. One can, however, say this, that amongst all the many organisations for similar good work in Dublin none can possibly be said to have presented a greater claim to support than this great Malahide Bazaar.

The bazaar got further publicity on the 4th August, 1900 in the *Freeman's Journal*:

THE MALAHIDE BAZAAR

This Bazaar, the object of which is to raise funds to complete the tower and spire of St Sylvester's Church, Malahide opens on Sunday 12th August, and is to be continued on the 15th and 19th of August. The Bazaar Committee are fortunate in securing a most suitable field in which to hold the Bazaar. Lord Talbot has kindly allowed the Bazaar to be held in a field adjoining the Malahide railway station and within his lordship's beautiful demesne. An attractive programme of amusements has been arranged for each day of the Bazaar, and the committee has left nothing undone to render enjoyable a visit to this picturesque seaside town. Father Mulcahy acknowledged some time ago a first list of subscriptions towards the completion of the tower and spire, and he now acknowledges with thanks a second list. The following have subscribed since the first publication:--

	£	s	d
Proceeds of Concert held by Miss Moran and Miss Murphy in Swords School	21	7	6
Albert Donovan, Esq, 7 Castle Terrace, Malahide	10	0	0
Mrs Grant, Sea Park, Malahide	10	0	0
Mr Joseph Moore, Darndale, Raheny	5	0	0
John Jameson, Esq, DL, Portmarnock	5	0	0
James Stack, Esq, Malahide	5	0	0
John Dunne, Esq, Sea Park, Malahide	5	0	0
Very Rev Patrick Kavanagh, PP, High St. Dublin	2	0	0
Thomas McLeady, Esq, St James' Terrace	2	0	0
Mr Patrick Cave, Malahide	2	0	0
Mrs Dunne, 1 Castle Terrace, Malahide	1	0	0
Joseph Watkins, Esq, Ardee Street Brewery	1	0	0
Mr Patrick Mahon, Upper Yellow Walls, Malahide	1	0	0
Mr John Murphy, The Hill, Malahide	1	0	0
Mr James Delaney, Malahide, 2 nd sub	1	0	0
Mr Murphy, Grand Hotel, 2 nd sub	1	0	0
Very Rev Canon Flanagan, PP, Baldoyle	1	0	0
The Hon Mr Farrell, 37 Merrion square, Dublin	1	0	0
The Rev Patrick Feo, PP, Balbriggan	1	0	0
Mr Denis Holland, Swords	1	0	0
The Hon Mrs Farrell, 37 Merrion square, Dublin	0	10	0

Further subscriptions shall be thankfully received and acknowledged.



The newly completed tower and spire photographed in the early 1900s.

Excitement was building as the *Freeman's Journal* of the 11 August, 1900 carried this piece.

ST. SYLVESTER'S CHURCH, MALAHIDE

BAZAAR TO-MORROW

The Bazaar in aid of the completion of the tower and spire of St Sylvester's Church, Malahide, will open at Malahide to-morrow at two o'clock. Lord Talbot de Malahide has kindly placed portion of the Castle demesne at the disposal of the Bazaar Committee. The Committee have been most zealous in securing prizes and organising amusements, and a full programme will be provided for pleasure seekers at the fete in this charming resort.

On to-morrow, besides the bazaar proper, there will be a tug-of-war, for which teams from all surrounding parishes are competing, also donkey races, sack races and the various side shows usually found in connection with bazaars. The second day of the bazaar will be Wednesday, 15th inst (the Feast of the Assumption), and on that occasion the Fingal Rovers C. C. hold club races, composite races, and the programme also includes potato races; egg and spoon races, flat races for boys, etc. The cycle races will start at 7pm sharp.

The bazaar will be brought to a conclusion on 19th inst, on which date there will be a grand cycling and athletic meeting under the auspices of the Fingal Rovers Cycling Club. Entries close on Monday, 13th instant, with Mr P Kettle and T Cleary, Malahide. A splendid track has been prepared.

A special train leaves Malahide for Balbriggan and intermediate stations on 12th and 19th inst at 9.45 pm, and at 10.10 pm on the 15th. A special train will leave Malahide for Dublin and intermediate stations on 12th and 19th inst at 10.40 pm, and on 15th at 10.30 pm.

The Boy's Brigade (Church street) Band will attend on to-morrow, Glencullen Band on 15th, and Artane Band on 19th.

CATHOLIC BOYS' BRIGADE.

The President and Committee of the Catholic Boys' Brigade, whilst abstaining with rigid scrupulousness from everything bordering on the political, are always pleased to lend assistance when possible to any useful and religious work. Hence they are happy to render aid to the grand bazaar opening in "Gay Malahide" to-morrow. The object of this bazaar is to raise funds to complete the Catholic Church of the parish, and it is to help on this noble undertaking that Father Mark, O S F C and the gentlemen acting with him, determined to send the brass and reed band of the Brigade to discourse a special programme on the opening of tomorrow's fete.

[On the 13th of August, 1900 the Malahide event got a double mention in the *Freeman's Journal*:](#)

MALAHIDE BAZAAR.

OPENED YESTERDAY

Yesterday the Grand Bazaar and Fete organised in aid of the funds for building a tower and spire on St. Sylvester's Church, Malahide, was opened in the grounds of Lord Talbot of Malahide under very happy and encouraging circumstances. The weather was ideal. If the Committee of Management themselves had the determining of the kind of day, and if it was in their power to select the best from a particularly auspicious summer or autumn season, they could not have been more fortunate. In a word, Malahide, renowned for its beauties in song and story, looked its best in all the blaze and glory of a tropical sun. The grounds on which the bazaar was held, within Lord Talbot's demesne, were admirably selected. In close proximity to the railway station, they were most convenient of access to the visitors from the metropolis who journeyed down specially to attend the bazaar, and as they were spacious to the fullest degree they allowed all attending the bazaar to roam about through acres of green fields, and from which splendid views of the beautiful scenery was obtainable. The stalls and side-shows were very excellently arranged. In one huge marquee each stall-holder had an allotted space, wherein the attractions were arranged with very artistic taste. The cafe chant ant, where a large number of capital and most capable artists delighted large and appreciative audiences, stood some distance away; while in various other well-chosen spots tents for refreshments rooms, dancing rooms, and other minor forms of amusement were raised, and found their full quota of delighted patrons. A very excellent sports programme was arranged, and the items delighted the spectators. A splendid musical programme was discoursed by the excellent brass band of the Catholic Boys' Brigade, Church street, during the afternoon and evening. The bazaar will be continued on Wednesday and on Sunday next, and for both those days what promises to be very exciting bicycle events have been arranged, notably the five mile bicycle race for the Malahide Challenge Cup, at present held by Mr Joseph Martin, Dublin.

The Rev Father Mulcahy, P. P., Swords and Malahide, in opening the bazaar, said he bade them all cead mile failte to Malahide. The ground on which they were assembled was dear to Ireland from its many memories. The family of the Talbots had resided on this magnificent demesne from the 12th century. Within the precincts of this demesne stood the roofless ruin of the old Catholic Church of Malahide. In the year 1651 Mr Richard Talbot was created Lord Talbot de Malahide, and in 1634 the second Lord Talbot was made Baron de Fernivil. From him he (Father Mulcahy), on his appointment as parish priest of Swords and

Malahide, received great kindness (hear, hear). On presenting to him the necessity for a site for the erection of schools, Lord Talbot kindly consented, but his unexpected demise at Madeira, where he had proceeded for the benefit of his health, prevented him carrying out his kind intention. The present worthy representative of the title, on taking possession of the ancient castle, carried out the intention of his revered father, and granted for the use of the parents and children of Malahide half an acre of ground on a lease for 999 years at a shilling a year. He (Father Mulcahy) could not fail to acknowledge the kindness of Lord Talbot's worthy agent, Mr Henry C Dillon, who never asked for that rent but every five years (loud applause). Lord Talbot took deep interest in the training and education of the youth of Malahide, and whenever asked contributed generously to the maintenance of the schools (hear, hear). A further proof of Lord Talbot's kindness was manifested in his lordship having given for the purposes of holding the bazaar portion of his demesne for the recreation of the many visitors to it (hear, hear). He (Father Mulcahy) now declared the bazaar open, and in doing so announced that it would be continued on Wednesday and Sunday.

Fingal - Presided over by Mrs Holton, assisted by Miss Holton.

St. Joseph's – Presided over by the Misses Brereton.

St Kevin's – Presided over by the Misses Moore.

Gaybrook—Presided over by Mrs MacMaihon, assisted by Miss MacMahon and Miss Kettle

Napper Tandy—Presided over by Miss Cooke and the Misses Howard.

Horse Shoe - Presided over by the Misses Fitzgerald and Miss Scott.

Ivy—Presided over by Mrs Tierney and the Misses Tierney.

St Sylvester's—Presided over by Miss M'Cabe.

Refreshment Saloon—Presided over by Mrs O'Shea and Mrs John Dunne.

Café Chantant—Stage manager, J. J. McCann.

Shooting Gallery - Messrs FitzGerald.

The following are the Bazaar Committee: — Very Rev DP Mulcahy, P. P., Rev J Jones, C. C., Mr E M'Mahon, Mr Stack, Mr Michael Howard, Mr P Hogan, Mr H Cooke, Mr H Holton, Mr P Tierney, Mr J Lambe, Mr Gaffney, Mr J Reynolds, Mr D O'Shea, Mr J Dunne, and Mr William Parkinson and Mr T Cleary, Hon Sec.

MALAHIDE GRAND BAZAAR

This great fete was continued yesterday before a very large assemblage of city and country people and under the most favourable weather conditions. As on Sunday last very ample arrangements were for the amusement of visitors. The Glencullen Band discoursed street music during the afternoon and evening. There was a donkey race, won by Master Charlie Stack on “Galtee More”; a most amusing sack race, a boys race, won by R. Sneyd, a Fingal Rover's Cycle Club race won by T P M'Auley; J. Duignan, 2; and J J M'Cann, 3. The bazaar will be concluded on Sunday, 19th inst, when the Fingal Rovers will hold a grand cycling and athletic meeting, including six miles (scratch) for Malahide Scratch Cup.

[Fr.. Mulcahy had Archbishop Walsh back in Malahide the following year and the *Freeman's Journal* gave notice of his visit on the 5th August, 1901.](#)

ST. SYLVESTER'S CHURCH, MALAHIDE.

As recently announced by us, his Grace the Archbishop of Dublin will visit Malahide on Sunday next, 4th August, and will preside at a public meeting to be held in the church on that day at 12 o'clock. We are quite confident that the result of this meeting will be to enable the worthy pastor of Swords and Malahide, Very Rev D P Mulcahy, P. P., to bring the building of the tower and spire of the church to a speedy completion and to put the roof and walls in harmony with the handsome tower and spire. Several influential public men have been invited to address the meeting. Trains leave Amiens St. for Malahide at 10.5 and 11.20 a m, and there is also a convenient train from Drogheda and the district north of Malahide, arriving at the latter place about 11 o'clock.

The Freeman's Journal duly provided this report on the visit.

**ST. SYLVESTER'S CHURCH
MALAHIDE
SPEECH BY HIS GRACE THE ARCHBISHOP.**

Yesterday a public meeting was held in St. Sylvester's Church, Malahide to raise additional funds to enable the Very Rev D P Mulcahy to complete the latest of works for the improvement of his parish which this zealous priest has undertaken, namely, the erection of a suitable tower and spire for that church. At a meeting held two years ago the project was inaugurated, and yesterday's meeting was held under the shadow of a nearly completed tower, which promises to be the pride and the ornament of the parish. The architect, Mr G C Ashlin, has had to deal with a not very favourable front in the old building, but he has managed to secure a successful result. The tower, 80 feet high, has a battlemented parapet, with four pinnacles at the angles. From this rises an octagonal spire 80 feet higher, terminating in a cross. There are four additional pinnacles at the springing of the spire, giving an effect similar to that seen in the recently-erected Raheny Protestant church. In the belfry stages of the tower are four traceried windows. The tower is built of chiselled Sheeppouse, Drogheda limestone, Mr Wynne being the contractor. The brass cross and lightning conductor will be supplied by Messrs. M'Gloughlin, of Great Brunswick street. (Editor's note: It is said that the late Paddy Farrell's grandfather, Patrick Connor, a stone mason, put the cross on top of the spire.) Great reparations had been made to welcome the Archbishop. Two arches of flags were stretched across the road, flags floated from the tower, and an Irish motto of welcome faced is Grace across the front of the church. Some distance outside Malahide the Reception Committee, with the Yellow Walls band met his Grace's carriage, and acted as an escort until the church was reached, where the parish priest, Father Mulcahy, and his curate, Father Jones, received the Archbishop. The meeting was held immediately afterwards, when on the motion of Mr W Parkinson, seconded by Mr Clery, the chair was taken by HIS GRACE THE ARCHBISHOP. Amongst those present were:~Very Rev D P Mulcahy, P P; Rev Fr. Jones, C C; Rev Fr. Healy, Archbishop's Secretary; Rev Father Dolan, P P; Messrs C G Ashlin, T J O Callaghan, J. Duffy, Wm Parkinson, T. Cleary, P J O'Neill J P; Capt Grant R N , J Slack, P. Hogan, D C; H B Cunningham, H Holton, J Lambe, H Cooke, J Wynne, D. Holland, E McMahan, J Dunne, E Owens, M Howard, A Donovan, M Conway.

The Very Rev Father Mulcahy, P P, said before they commenced the meeting he thought it well to mention to the people of the parish of Swords and Malahide that the tower being now in a fair way of completion, the time had come for preparing to put into the tower a suitable bell. Malahide had been always remarkable for its bells. They were told by Gerald Griffin: — "The joybells are ringing in gay Malahide." And he thought it would be a pity to have their beautiful tower and spire without a suitable bell in it; and before they began the work he, as the parish priest, intended to begin a subscription for the new bell by giving £50 towards it (applause). A good bell would cost £200, and he was sure the people would be glad to co-operate with him in putting a suitable bell in the tower.

Rev Father Jones submitted the building account. On the occasion of his Grace's last public visit to Malahide, towards the end of June, 1899, they had in hands about £400—a sum realised at the bazaar held in September, 1898. This was increased to £800 by a munificent donation of £400 by his Grace (applause). Father Mulcahy on that occasion subscribed £100 (applause). The other subscriptions received at the meeting or afterwards brought their Church Improvement Fund to nearly £1,000 (applause). In June, 1899, they accordingly had nearly £1,000 in hands with which to commence the building of the church tower and spire. They immediately started weekly collections, and by means of these collections, and by means of the very successful bazaar held in August last year, in a field kindly given for the purpose by Lord Talbot de Malahide, they raised the £1,000 to within a few pounds of £2,000. Of the £1,785 realised, over £1,380 had already been paid out, namely—£1,000 to their contractor, Mr Wynne; £61 to their architect; £32 to the clerk of works and the balance of the outlay included the expenses of the two bazaars in the shape of advertisements, prizes, and other necessary expenses of holding a bazaar. The tower and spire contract was £1,950, and they had now about £400 in hands. At least £1,200 more was required, as not only had the tower and spire to be completed, but their church was sadly in need of repair and decoration.

Father Mulcahy said they all united with him in thanking his Grace for coming for the third time to Malahide during his reign over the archdiocese to do good work in the parish. In the first instance, he came to bless their schools; and two years ago he came to inaugurate the work of the tower and spire which as they saw was a great success so far, and to-day he came to help them

again. Why was his Grace so partial to Malahide? Well Malahide had produced two of his most illustrious predecessors in the See of Dublin - the two Most Rev Dr Talbots, who were born in Malahide, and cast a lustre on the Church of Dublin during their reign. The first of those was born about the beginning of the 14th century, a great prelate and a holy Archbishop. There was one act that he performed during his reign which deserved to be recorded. Before his time the parish of Swords and Malahide, and the surrounding districts, was called "The Golden Prebend," it was so rich. It was the richest prebend in Ireland, but he was sorry to say he might call it now "The Grazing Prebend." Dr Talbot was pained at foreign prelates and Cardinals ambitioning the prebendary of Swords and Malahide; they never came to live in Ireland at all, but managed to get hold of the prebend and enjoy the receipts. But Dr Talbot of that day was able for them and he divided the prebend into three - he gave one part to Christ Church, the second to St Patrick's, and the third to poor Swords. This was the beginning of the poverty of the parish of Swords and Malahide, but the Archbishop acted for the glory of God and the good of the people. The second Archbishop Talbot was born about 1620 in Malahide Castle. A very eminent and distinguished ecclesiastic, a philosopher, theologian, and diplomatist, he was instrumental in the conversion of Charles II. He was a member of the Society of Jesus. Those were very troubled times, and the See of Dublin was vacant for thirteen years. The Holy Father of the day appointed Peter Talbot to be the Archbishop of Dublin, over which he reigned for nearly thirteen years, suffering persecution on all sides, so much so that he had to fly for protection to France, and from thence he wrote most beautiful pastorals to his people of Dublin, recommending peace and charity, and, above all, patience, and to endure sufferings for the glory of the faith. At long last, though in very bad health, he returned to Dublin, was put into prison, and suffering intense agony, he was removed to his brother's place at Carton, near Maynooth, where he died, leaving a beautiful example to the Catholics of Dublin. In conclusion, Father Mulcahy asked them to give a cordial welcome to his Grace for coming amongst them (applause).

Mr. W. (Parkinson moved:—"That a subscription list be now opened to raise funds to carry out some very much needed improvements in the building both externally and internally". What was uppermost, he was sure, in the minds of his hearers was, how could they show his Grace their gratitude for coming amongst them. The way to do that was by subscribing generously to the fund.

Mr P J O'Neill, J P, Chairman County Council, in seconding the resolution, said the Irish people had always looked with veneration on the dismantled ruins of the churches of bygone ages, which spoke in such elegant terms of the struggles their forefathers made to maintain the faith that St Patrick planted in our land (applause). He did not know that he had any right to impress on the people of this parish, because he thought they realised it as keenly as he did, the necessity they had for assisting their good pastor in carrying out the work in which he was engaged.

His Grace, on rising to put the resolution, was warmly applauded. He said:—We have come here to-day for a strictly business purpose. We have an important work in hand, a work of great importance in the interests of Catholic worship in this parish. It is a work that cannot be done without money, and what we have to do is to see how much money is wanted for it, and how that money is to be raised (hear, hear). It is a duty to be with you for the purpose that has brought me here to-day. The diocese that I have charge of is, as you know, an extensive one (hear, hear). I cannot come to any part of it as often as I could wish. I can only come to every part of it as often as I can—that is, when I find that there is anywhere any special work to be done, towards the doing of which my presence can be of any real help. Hence it is that I am in Malahide to-day (applause). It was mentioned here that day, I think, indeed, by Father Mulcahy himself, that the spire ought to be built for about £1,000. I remember, however, taking it upon myself to name twice that amount as the more likely figure. I am glad that I prepared you in that way for what was really before you (hear, hear). Otherwise you might easily have been disheartened when the work came to be done, and when it was found that it would be so much more costly than had been at first anticipated. The tender that was accepted was for £1,950, so that, with the architect's fees and other necessary incidental expenses, my rough estimate of A COST OF £2,000 was rather below than above the mark (applause). Well, you were not discouraged. You decided to carry out the project even at the higher figure, and you have the satisfaction now of seeing the work within easy reach of being completed. The statement of the building account has been sent to me by Father Jones. It is a very clear, business-like document, and it makes your financial position in the matter quite plain. The contract, as I have said, was for £1,950. Of this you have already paid to the contractor £1,200. Then architect's fees and other incidental outlay have brought your expenditure up to £1,380. Now you have already raised by bazaars and subscriptions £1,785 (applause) so that you have in hand about £400, towards the £3750 or £800, still, to be paid to the contractor. In other words to complete the spire you want only £400. Well, you may count on me for £100 of that (applause). But I have to make a bargain with

you. My £100 must be the last of the four (laughter). I mean that when you have got your spire within £100 of the top, I undertake to finish it for you (applause). Now, so much for the spire. There is another matter. It has been ascertained that the church itself, which undoubtedly needs some little decoration, needs also some substantial repair. The roof especially has to be seen to. Putting everything together, £1,200 IS THE SUM that has to be raised, making, from the beginning, a total of £3,000. From the generosity you have shown, and the spirit you have shown, in subscribing and collecting, up to this, £1,800, I have no doubt that the considerable, but still much smaller, sum of £1,200 that is needed for the completion of the work will be in hand, every penny of it, according as it is required (hear, hear). I have just now promised you £100 towards the completion of the spire. I hope to be able also, before the repairs and the decoration of the Church are completed, to send you £100 towards that portion of the work as well (applause). That will reduce by £200, the £1,000 mentioned in Father Jones's financial statement as still required. Before concluding, I must not omit to mention another matter, very closely connected indeed with the work we have in hand here today, but still quite distinct from it. I have had in safe-keeping for you, for some time past A SPLENDIDLY MUNIFICENT GIFT OF £250, from an anonymous donor (applause), his gift or her gift—I really do not myself know whether the giver is a gentleman or a lady—for a special religious purpose connected with this Church. I am not at liberty as yet to disclose to you the particular purpose to which the £250 is to be applied. But now that the completion of your Church is well within view, it is well to know that this special offering is in my hands, available for the special purpose for which it has been entrusted to me. Especially in the religious spirit by which the generosity of the giver has been inspired, that generosity should be a stimulus to all of us, if indeed the generosity with which the people of Malahide have done their part so far, has not been sufficient proof, as, to my mind, it has given abundantly sufficient proof, that in the week that is now before them, they need no stimulus of any kind (applause).

The resolution was then put and carried.

Mr J Stack moved; —" That we beg to thank most heartily the monthly collectors for their successful efforts towards increasing the fund for the completion of the tower and spire and trust they will continue to give their services in the same good cause." There was no more disagreeable task, said Mr Stack, than the collection of money, and he must express his own admiration for the regularity with which the collectors called upon him (laughter); and if they were as attentive to everybody else he was sure there would be no great difficulty in obtaining the necessary funds in a short time (hear, hear).

Mr P Hogan, in seconding the resolution, said their parish was very small; they were cut off by the sea on north, and they had the parish of Baldoyle under their nose on the south, so that the area from which subscriptions could be got was not very great.

The resolution was carried. A subscription list was then opened, and generously contributed to, Father Mulcahy giving £50; Mr J Cullen, £50; Captain Grant, £10; Mr Parkinson, £10; Dr Kiernan, £10; Mr Hogan, £10, etc.

Captain Grant, R.N. was then moved into the second chair, and having taken that position said it touched him very much, who was only a bird of passage, that they should have conferred this honour upon him. During the time he had been in Malahide, Sunday after Sunday he had been surprised and even ashamed to hear the subscriptions of pennies and threepences and sixpences read out from this and that poor woman or man towards the church, a most magnificent constant effort for a good purpose which he had not seen in any other part of the world where his profession had led him. This meeting ought not to close without a vote of thanks to their Archbishop, to their parish priest, and to Father Jones, and Mr Stack had hit the right nail on the head when he spoke of the work of the collectors (applause).

Very Rev D P Mulcahy proposed :—"That the best thanks of the people of Malahide are due and are hereby tendered to his Grace the Most Rev Dr Walsh, Archbishop of Dublin, for presiding at this meeting, and for the very practical support he has given towards the completion and improvement of the church." Father Mulcahy said he thought his Grace's special attention to Malahide was due to the fact that he (Father Mulcahy) was for 23 years curate to the Venerable Dean O'Connell, who had baptised Archbishop Walsh, and who often spoke of his remarkable successes at Maynooth, but without expressing the least surprise at them (applause and laughter). They would be, no doubt, anxious to see his Grace soon again. Let them, therefore, complete the tower and put up the bell with as little delay as possible, and his Grace would come down and bless it for them (applause).

The resolution having been carried by acclamation,

His Grace replied, thanking the meeting for the vote, and said he could endorse what their parish priest had said, that it would give him very great pleasure to come there on any future occasion, and especially on an occasion when they had erected in the new spire of the church a bell worthy of that beautiful erection, and when his services were required for its consecration (applause).

The proceedings then terminated.

Elsewhere, in the same edition *The Journal* reported:

Yesterday his Grace the Archbishop of Dublin visited Malahide to assist his good people there in the effort to organize the means to complete the improvement of their church. They have already got more than half through with the work, and they have displayed a spirit of steady generosity that has excited admiration. His Grace, as usual, has co-operated in the measure of his resources, and his example is one that well be followed by others without the zone of the bells of Malahide. The parish is a small one, and its means are heavily taxed; and Malahide has claims upon others besides the parishioners. As Father Mulcahy recalled, its story is closely interwoven with the history of Catholic Dublin; and to-day there is no spot more favoured by the citizen grown weary of grey setts and brown bricks. If only the Catholic visitors there would not forget to lend a helping hand, the task that Father Mulcahy and his generous flock have undertaken would be sensibly lightened.

In the next issue of THE NEWSLETTER we will complete this storey with details of the fine new marble high altar that was consecrated by the Archbishop in 1903. This was the gift of an anonymous donor and replaced what was probably the original wooden altar.

O'Dea Photographic Collection, National Library Of Ireland

The collection provides a historical record of the Irish rail network during the years 1937 to 1977, including several railway stations and lines before their closure. Signal cabins and railway employees feature quite strongly as well as special excursion trains run by the Irish Railway Record Society. The collection includes 18 Malahide images taken between 1938 and 1992.

The collection has been digitised and is viewable online at: <http://catalogue.nli.ie/Collection/vtIs000148612>.



HELP !

Can you identify these pipers or the band?
Where was the photo taken and when?

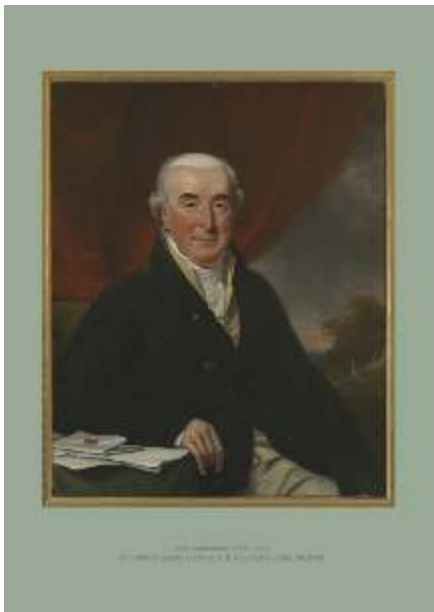
If you can help please contact Roger Greene at mailroger@eircom.net or 8451967 or 086 3175952

ST. Doulough's Lodge (now Wellfield) at Balgriffin

John and Sarah Rutherford lived at St. Doulough's Lodge from around 1800 until Sarah's death in 1834 and John's death a year later in 1835. The house is now known as 'Wellfield' and is situated on left between St Doulough's Church and Campions at Balgriffin.

John Rutherford was born in Glasgow and moved to Dublin in 1775 where he became a barrister and successful merchant with the firm Hawksley and Rutherford of Lower Ormond Quay. His brother, Thomas Rutherford, was sent from Dublin to Richmond, Virginia to set up an office there and was very successful. The business dealt mainly in tobacco, cotton, hemp, flax and sugar. They had dealings with William Stirling & Sons mercantile house in Glasgow. The trade with Virginia was strong but they also imported tea and hops from England, and other goods to and from Bordeaux, Rotterdam and St. Petersburg.

John first resided at 59 Abbey Street and later at 7 Rutland Square (now Parnell Square). He moved, with his second wife Sarah, to St. Doulough's, Balgriffin, prior to 1801. It is not known whether he had the house built. The house, along with the later built St. Doulough's Park, was subsequently associated with members of the Hone family. These houses were two of a cluster of gentlemen's residences, some no longer extant, in this locality including Belcamp Hall, Belcamp Park, Belcamp House, Belcamp Hutchinson, Springfield, Bohomer, Greenwood, Abbeville, Airfield, Clare Grove, Cintra, Emsworth, Lime Hill and Seaview.



Wellfield, formerly St. Doulough's Lodge.

Copies of these portraits of John and Sarah are now on display at 'Farmleigh', in the Phoenix Park, with other Rutherford paintings.

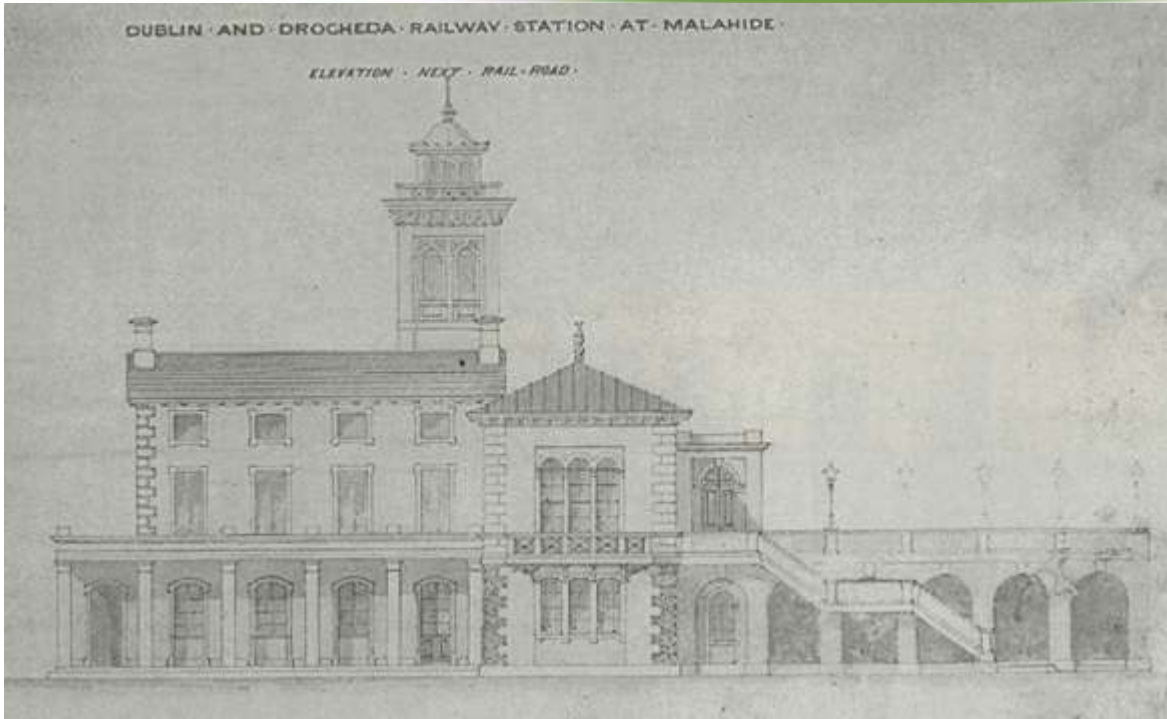
Our thanks to Edward Rutherford for much of the above and a great deal more information about his family, 'Wellfield' and the Balgriffin area.

Replacing the road bridge at Malahide Station in early May 1997



The old arched bridge (seen above) did not offer sufficient clearance to allow installation of the overhead cables for the DART system.

Malahide Station in times past



A design for a station at Malahide to replace the original structure. It did not progress beyond the design stage. The present building was erected in 1903 from what was, in effect, a kit of materials and parts delivered from the GNR headquarters in Dundalk and was to a design by W.H.Mills, the GNR's civil engineer and a pioneer of prefabrication and standardisation.



Free State troops guarding Malahide (above left) and Portmarnock (above right) stations following several acts of sabotage along the line in 1922/3.

Note that the footbridge at Malahide was then a covered structure.

Images from the MHS archive.

Repairing sabotage damage to the viaduct in 1923.

