

Obituaries

Simon Quinn 1921 - 2011

The death occurred of Simon Quinn on January 7th 2011. Simon, who had a long and very fruitful life, both in his forestry career and in his personal life, was born on 30th September 1921 in Farranderry, Castleiney, Templemore in his beloved County Tipperary.



His schooling began in the local national school after which he moved on to the Christian Brother's Secondary School in Templemore. He then progressed to the Forestry School in Avondale where he completed his forestry training in 1941 before beginning his grand tour of many of the forestry centres of Ireland. Included were Durrow, Cootehill, Navan, Avondale (again), Cong, Ballygar, Mountbellew, Kiltullagh, Slievenamon, Glengariff, Cahir and finally Bray, which he reached in 1960. (That was 12 different forests in 19 years, reflecting the attitude of his employers at the time that required foresters to gain experience across the country -whether it made sense or not!) Simon had fond memories of all these areas but had a special regard for some, such as Slievenamon, and not just because it was in Tipperary. He always spoke fondly of his time there and it was always a help for any of his staff to have an association with Kilcash and the Slievenamon area as it guaranteed many hours of reminiscing. On a historical note, Simon's time in Navan was spent on the first survey of private woodlands which was carried out during the war years.

Simon had a very successful career in forestry, achieving the position of Divisional Inspector in the Bray area in 1980 until his retirement in 1986. This gave him the opportunity to put into practise the wide experience he had gained throughout his career.

Simon had an extremely busy life both professionally and personally. He was a family man who took great pride in the achievements of all his children. He had a very special spot for his daughter Geraldine who accompanied him on many walks on the Bray seafront where he walked and swam for many years. He was also a major contributor to the life of Bray. He was active for many years in the Society of St Vincent de Paul where he was honoured with a medal commemorating 50 years of service. He actively participated in other bodies such as; Director of the Sunbeam House Services, Wicklow Association for the Mentally Handicapped and also was one of the first Ministers of the Eucharist in the Holy Redeemer Church in Bray.

In the sporting arena Simon had many interests. He was an avid supporter of Tipperary hurling and delighted in the All-Ireland win in 2010. (This was in spite of his wife, Jojo, being a Kilkenny woman and a member of a famous Kilkenny hurling family.) In his early years he played football for many of the parishes where he lived

across the country. He was a long-time member of Bray Golf Club where he and his son Jimmy were the proud winners of the Father and Son Competition. He was also a skilful card-player which he enjoyed all his life, concentrating on Bridge in later years. He played Bridge two to three times a week up to about a month before his death.

Simon was a very caring man who was interested in people. In his working career many young foresters benefitted from Simon's very solid guidance and advice.

To his wife Jojo, his daughters Noeleen and Geraldine, his son Jimmy, son-in-law and daughter-in-law, grandchildren and all his family, we extend our deepest sympathy.

Dermot O'Brien