

OBITUARY

Tadg Crowley (1938-1982)

The sudden death of Tadg Crowley at his home in Adare on April 22nd 1982, came as a deep shock to his many friends inside and outside the Forest and Wildlife Service. This great loss to his family is shared particularly by his colleagues who entered Kinnitty Forestry School with him in 1957. On leaving Shelton Abbey three years later we had come to respect Tadg for his sincerity, loyalty and leadership. Every task he undertook was approached with energy, determination and tenacity, while he applied a vigorous mind to all aspects of silvicultural study.

As an Assistant Forester, Tadg was appointed to Lough Talt under Barney Brady in 1960; very briefly to Ballinlough under Willie Coffey in 1962; to Ballygar under Harry Silke in 1962; and Roscrea under Garry Kennedy in 1965. With the experience he gained under these able foresters he was appointed Forester-in-Charge to Kinelea in 1967. He served at Toormakeady from 1970 to 1978 when he transferred to Adare.

At Adare Forest with its extensive amenity park at Currah Chase he had ample outlets for his managerial skills and eager research. Over the last four years he had applied himself with his usual energy to many improvements and extensions to facilities at that beautiful place. As a committed member of the Society of Irish Foresters, Tadg had presided over the annual Forest Walk at Currah Chase, bringing the fruits of his experience and the study of a wide silvicultural literature to an ever increasing number of the public.

Parallel with his forestry interests, Tadg never put aside his great love for the Irish language and associated cultural activities. Gaining scholarships to Irish Summer School in Ballingearry from his native Bantry, he became a fluent Irish speaker early on, and wherever he was stationed he soon made contact with others who loved to exchange ideas through Irish. In Adare his involvement in these cultural affairs was acknowledged at his funeral in a dignified and moving manner by local musicians and dancers.

The guard of honour of Forester colleagues from church door to graveside gave eloquent expression to the feelings of loss and sadness at his untimely departure. To his wife Kathleen, and his young family we extend sincere sympathy. Ar Dheis Dé go raibh a Anam.

Seamus Crowley