

Property:	Number:	No 29; Cancellation Book
Property Modern	Number:	No 75 (2019)
Property Modern:	Modern Shop Name	<p>Murt Walsh</p> 
Property Previous:	Previous Shop Names	<p>Previously: John Kempton previously : Paddy Kelly previously: Michael Leacy Griffiths Valuation 1853: occupiers: Ralph Parker/ F & J Hopkins</p>

Landlord	Time Period	Occupier	Comments
Stephen Ram	1853 -1860	John Kempson	Listed as currier / Shopkeeper
Stephen Ram	1869-1873	John Kempson, Mary Kempson	Died 1871 left all assets to wife Mary but she died before administration was completed. John's wife Mary Died 1872 her will was (supposed)to be administered by a John Kavanagh, a native of Wicklow, he died in 1886 without administering this will.
William Middleton (1873)	1874-1881	Benjamin A. Smith (1873)	Music Teacher
William Middleton		John Kavanagh	His wife's name was Julia Kavanagh a grocer and spirits dealer listed business directory 1885
Elenor Jane Kavanagh	1882 -1883	John Kavanagh	
Benjamin A Smith	1884 – 1891	John Kavanagh	Died 1886
William		Patrick Doyle	

Middleton		(1883)	Grocer / licence to sell spirits (Bassets 1885)
William Middleton	1892-1898	Patrick Doyle, (1894)	Shopkeeper house damaged
William Middleton	1899-1904	Patrick Doyle	Shopkeeper (1901) wife Jane
William Middleton	1905-1915	Patrick Doyle	Born in Wicklow
William Middleton	1916-1930	Patrick Doyle	Doyle and Sons General Grocer / spirits Merchant 1923/24 Patrick & Jane Doyle married and had four children
William Middleton Miss Middleton	1931-1941	Patrick Doyle Thomas J Doyle (1932) Patrick Kelly (1939)	Died 1930 age 74 son of Patrick Doyle Draper
Thomas J Doyle	1942-1983	Patrick Kelly Michael J Leacy	from Wexford town, where the family still trade See note below
	2018	Murt Walsh	Draper, Gorey and Enniscorthy



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Michael Leacy, son of a post man from Kilkenny returned to Gorey with his mother and siblings at the age of six, sometime after the death of his father who died, from a heart attack. Ger. Leacy, his son states the heart attack occurred while his grandfather was playing cards, late at night. The other players loaded him on to a door and carted him home. However when they arrived they got cold feet about approaching the family so they went back to the card school and returned with the body the following morning!

Michael recalled, starting in a part time summer job with Peter O'Loughlin Main Street, draper when he was age ten, and remained

there for the next thirty years. In the 1960's he and Michael (Mick) Kennedy set up Kennedy and Leacy drapery on Main Street and later independently opening his own shop in Thomas Street before buying Paddy Kelly's property at 75 Main Street where he remained until his death in 2002.

His wife Bridie, who came from Killalegan, Enniscorthy also worked in the business as did their son Kevin, who became a partner. Kevin eventually took over the enterprise which he managed until recently when he sold to Murt Walsh. Michael's other two sons, Sean now retired from Telecom Eireann and press photographer Gerrard also helped out at busy times.

Michael was a lifelong GAA supporter, often cycling from Gorey to places like Portlaoise to see a match. He was also involved with the school boys Street Leagues and Pairc Siochain, the GAA pitch and complex at Clonattin. He was on the organising committee for the 1962 Gorey Fleagh. One of his great joys was coming together in 1966, with six colleagues to set up Gorey Credit Union, which is now ALTURA Credit Union with offices in (HQ Gorey) in Rathdrum and Carnew. The Pipe Band, in which four Leacy brothers played, and Comhaltas was also a big part in his life. He was a fine tin whistle and flute player too. He was heavily involved with the trade union movement also. Suffice to say, there was hardly an event or good work that he was not actively associated with.

Following the sudden death of his father, the family left Dunbell, Maddoxtown to go to Lavistown (all Co Kilkenny) where his grandfather, also Michael, resided. They eventually moved on to Gorey. His mother was formerly Mary Kate Doyle, from Michael Street, Gorey, where she born in 1893 to John, a fowl dealer and his wife Mary Ann, nee Cline. In September 1976 Mary Kate and four surviving members of the P.H.Pearse Fianna Fail Cumann received presentations for their work and dedication to the Party over the past fifty years. Mary Kate died in 1980.



Kevin Leacy with his parents Bridie and Michael

The last four survivors of the P.H. Pearse Fianna Fail Cumann, Gorey, who received a presentation for their work and support to the Cumann for the last fifty years in the Theatre Hall, Gorey, Sept. 10th, 1976. The Late Mary Kate Lacey, Thomas Funge, James Gleeson and Jack Bolger.



Back row: Sean Browne, Lorcan Allen, Tom Funge R.I.P., John Murphy, Joe Doran, Joe Dowling, Pat McGill.
Front row: Mrs. M.K. Lacey R.I.P., James Gleeson R.I.P., Jack Bolger R.I.P.