

PREFACE

When the Grange Book Committee set out in September of 2014 to lead the way in enabling the Grange Community publish a parish book, little did we think that the community response would be so enthusiastic and voluminous that we would face the challenges associated with publishing a very substantial book.

The fifteen-month period from commencement to publication has been a roller-coaster experience: a mixture of apprehension, excitement, adrenalin rush, highs and lows and fear of failure; but with a predominance of single-mindedness, rewarded by eventual relief at having successfully reached journey's end, largely unscathed. And, most importantly, with a published parish book of which everybody can be justifiably proud.

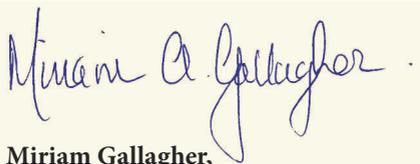
The book contains over eighty articles, made possible by the writings of as many enthusiastic authors and co-authors, supported by researchers; as well as the availability of previously written material by several persons, now deceased, whom we should remember as we encounter their writings.

Our parish shares borders with other parishes which have in the past written accounts of Grange people, places and events in their various journals and books. It became abundantly clear to us during our journey that Grange and near neighbouring parishes are inextricably linked in a variety of ways, other than geographical dimensions. There were over the years, as there are today in some respects, linkages and threads arising from inter-marriage, people mobility, struggle for Irish Independence, culture, folklore, ecclesiastical organisation, schools, activities of children and archaeology, not to mention sport. It is inevitable, therefore, that similar stories may be legitimately told by two or more communities from time to time.

I had the pleasure of working with fellow committee members who dedicated much time and not a little expertise in producing this book. It was a labour of love for us all. We reminded ourselves from time to time that a good outcome would call for one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration. In the end, the committee and the community delivered both ingredients in abundance.

I wish you enjoyment in your reading, and I hope you will ensure that your copy of the book will be kept safely for the equal enjoyment of many future generations of your family.

With Best Wishes,



Miriam Gallagher,
Chairperson, Grange Book Committee
November 2015

