



JIM
COSTELLOE



Jim Costelloe was born in 1925 in Aodee in north Kerry and grew up in what was known as the Blessed Well Bolmen with his siblings and parents, Ned and Minnie. He attended

the local national school until the age of fifteen. In 1954 he undertook the Garda entrance exam in which he was awarded second place in Ireland. This was a significant achievement considering most of the other candidates had completed the Leaving Certificate in advance of sitting the exam. He attended training at the Garda Depot in the Phoenix Park in Dublin from April 1956 until September 1956.

Although not a native Irish speaker, Jim was posted to two Gaeltacht stations - Oughtisard and Spiddal in County Galway - from 1956 to 1959. It was during this time that he was first called "Seamus" the name by which he is now known. He was posted to Galsully in County Limerick where he worked until 1963. From 1963, he was stationed in Hospital, County Limerick, until he retired in 1995. He married Margaret in 1964 and they had three children.

ASDEE

IN THE 1940s AND '50s

A Rural Miscellany

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During the 1990s, Jim Costelloe wrote a weekly column, under the pseudonym 'The Scribe of Aodee', for the Cork regional paper, *The Kilar Star*, and for the Limerick regional paper, *The Weekly Observer*. These columns consisted of his reminiscences of his early years in Aodee and form the basis for *Aodee in the 1940s and '50s - A Rural Miscellany*. In his writing, Jim describes the full panoply of rural life in north Kerry in that period. He writes with an honesty that allows the reader see life then as it truly was.

While he has no sentimentality about past days, Jim displays a deep affection for his native home and especially for the people who were vital in making a hard life not just bearable, but something to be cherished and remembered with love. The ties that bound the people of Aodee and the wider north Kerry area to each other in the 1940s and '50s are brought to life in this book with great clarity, humour and affection.

First time publishing

