



Back in the nineteenth century and for the first few years of the twentieth century there was a Post Office at Ballinleena. It was located beside the pub, though not part thereof. The Mail Car, a horse drawn car that delivered and collected at the train stations, operated seven days a week and the Mail Train was noted for speeding through the night. There was an organised protest when it was proposed that the local Mail Car would leave earlier on a Sunday. We'd have to remember that the post was the primary method of long distance communication and the cities would have postal deliveries at least twice a day.

The last Sub Postmaster at Ballinleena P. O. was Mr. Patrick Cullenan. It may seem odd that up to the nineteen thirties the postal address for Granagh Co-operative Dairy Society was, Ballinleena, Bruree. The Society was registered on 4th of December 1890 by the founding Chairman, Mr. Daniel Hederman from Hederman's farmhouse, Ballinleena. It

was used as an address of convenience. The Creamery address was located at Graigacurra, Ballingarry to which post was delivered late in the day by a Postman who walked from Ballingarry, delivering along the route.

Using the Ballinleena address, which would have been Ballinleena, Bruree, facilitated early morning post. The Post Office moved down to Granagh in the early years of the twentieth century when Ms. Lizzie Long was appointed Sub Postmistress. In their youth, Bill (Chef) and Jack (Gaffney) Dunworth delivered post on foot. It remained at Longs until the mid 1940's and was then transferred to O'Sheas.

Long's house was a large thatched house part of which was a School which would have been considered a "hedge school", one of two at that time although there would have been other hedge schools in the parish at different times. William Long taught there and became the first Teacher in the new School which was built in 1867. For the Twomeys who own and run The Rock Bar now, it may seem like reclaiming old territory. They are back on the site that was home to Teresa Long, grandmother to Seamus Twomey and his siblings.

Many thanks to Jim Houlihan for forwarding this very interesting piece of history.