

# Mary B. Reeves

Mary Bridget Reeves (nee Browne) was born at Neilstown, Roscrea and was educated to Primary Certificate level at the local Killavilla National School, and later at Roscrea Vocational School then located at the Castle Barracks. In 1999 when Roscrea Vocational School closed she was one of those who participated in the tree planting ceremony to celebrate seven decades of vocational education in the town.

On leaving school she began her training in Whipps Cross Hospital London as a nurse, and on qualifying she continued to work in various London hospitals until 1953, a period of time which spanned from wartime London into the new post-war era of Modern Britain.

Soon after her return to Ireland she joined the staff of Roscrea Fever Hospital, and on its closure she was transferred to the Sanatorium where she nursed for two years. In 1959 she married Jack Reeves and became involved in the motor business.

A person who doesn't believe in being idle, when she found she had spare time on hand she quickly immersed herself in voluntary work in her local community - Meals-on-Wheels, Roscrea ICA, Roscrea Tidy Towns, RCDC, St Cronan's Altar Society and Roscrea Flower Club have all benefited from her involvement. Her other interests include reading, playing cards and gardening for which she holds a range of trophies.

ICA membership she finds both interesting and educational and she has participated in many of the courses offered by the Guild. Her endeavours have been most successful, acquiring for her, trophies in public speaking, and also a host of life long friends, and very happy memories of guild outings, where she was always the life and soul of the party. Her agility and prowess on the dance floor has also benefited the guild, making her a regular participant in its internal dancing competitions.

To many people she is best known for her efforts in helping to keep Roscrea tidy and, as a founder member of Roscrea Tidy Towns Committee on Fr. Tom Hogan's invitation, she has watched the town's overall marks steadily increase in the national competition. She holds high hopes for the future. In conclusion, Mary B. says if she were granted a New Year's wish for the town it would be prosperity, coinciding with the National Tidy Towns' Award for Roscrea.

Go neírí leí.

