

The Liffey Swim: The 1960's Decade – Part 4 1968 – 1969

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The 1968 Liffey Swim

The question on everyone's lips for one of Dublin's greatest free shows, the 49th edition of the Liffey Swim, was whether or not 'Chalkey' White could pull off a hat-trick of wins.^{323–325} The well-known Liffey Swim handicapper Frank Donegan, had a healthy respect for the young prodigy's swimming prowess. While White's win in 1966 had surprised everyone, his win for the second year in succession from the scratch mark in the fastest time had been a sensation. The 13-year-old Guinness SC star would now concede 6½ minutes to the limit men versus 5 minutes the preceding year.^{323–325}

Apart from 'Chalkey' White, four other former winners were toeing the start line – Tony Byrne (1962, Half Moon SC, handicap 3½ min), Colm O'Brien (1963, Half Moon SC, handicap 2½ min), David Page (1964, formerly North Dublin SC, now Marian College SC, handicap 1 min 20 sec), and Pat Kelly (1965, Guinness SC, handicap 1½ min).^{323–325} White had placed 2nd in the ½-mile Nore Swim in the fastest time.^{326,327} Byrne, Page and O'Brien were now familiar names in water-polo circles.³²³ Colm O'Brien was a regular selection for Ireland in water-polo internationals, having made his debut in 1966.³²⁸ Donnacha O'Dea was an absentee, as he was training in England to try to qualify for the Games of the XIX Olympiad in Mexico City.³²³

There were two interesting entries from Galway SC, the Cunningham brothers, Michael and David. They were familiar names in swimming circles in the West of Ireland. In 1966, as a 14-year-old, Michael Cunningham (Liffey Swim handicap 3 min 15 sec) won the 33rd Toft Cup race, promoted by Galway SC, from the diving tower at Blackrock, Salthill to Seapoint, Galway over the ¼-mile course in the fastest time^{329–333} and *The Connacht Tribune Cup* for the Promenade Swim promoted by Blackrock SC, Salthill.^{331–334} In the Toft Cup Swim in 1967, off scratch, he placed 5th in the fastest time^{245,282–284} and in *The Connacht Tribune Cup* swim in 1967 he finished 4th behind the Leinster heavyweights Donnacha O'Dea, Anthony Brophy and Colm O'Brien.^{282–284} In the current year, off scratch at 6 min, he placed 3rd in the Toft Cup swim in the fastest time.³³⁸ At the Connacht Swimming Championships he won the men's 400 m freestyle and the under-16 Boys 50 m freestyle.³³⁹

David Cunningham (Liffey Swim handicap 3 min 15 sec) won the Toft Cup Promenade Swim at Salthill in 1965 as a 15-year-old.^{340,341} The following year he placed 4th in the Toft Cup Swim^{329,330} and 10th in *The Connacht Tribune* Cup Prom Swim.²⁴⁵ A strong swimmer who acted as a life-guard at Salthill, he had been involved in rescuing several swimmers from drowning.^{342,343}

Among the Liffey Swim entries were several well-seasoned distance men – Ultan Kerrigan (North Dublin WSC, handicap 6½ min), making his 20th bid to win the *Independent Cup*, 7th in the Kilmartin Cup Swim at Bray^{332,360}; Willie Kearney (Dublin SC, handicap 6 min 10 sec); Jackie Kearney (Dublin SC, handicap 5½ min), making his 18th attempt for glory; and Paul Emmett (Half Moon SC, handicap 3½ min).^{323–325}

Among the swimmers who had successes in sea and river races were: Michael Fitzpatrick (Half Moon SC, 4 min 40 sec), popular winner of the Kilmartin Cup swim from Bray Harbour to Bray Cove³⁴⁴, 2nd in *The Connacht Tribune* Cup swim at Salthill, Galway³⁴⁵; Jimmy Skehan (Marian College SC, handicap 3½ min), who first came to prominence in winning the Westclox Trophy swim at Bull Wall the previous year³⁰⁷, winner of the An Corn Colmcille open sea race over ¾-mile at Dollymount, beating the fastest swimmer Donnacha O’Dea on the touch^{346,347}; Brian Sweeney (Half Moon SC, handicap 2 min 40 sec), 3rd in the Plunkett–McAllister Cup open sea swim at Clontarf³⁴⁸, 2nd in *The Irish Times* Cup swim at Dún Laoghaire Harbour³⁴⁹; Robert Bushell (North Dublin WSC, handicap 3½ min), winner of the Westclox Trophy sea swim³⁵⁰, 6th in *The Connacht Tribune* Cup swim³⁴⁵; Patrick Kennedy (Half Moon SC, handicap 3 min 40 sec), 4th in the Plunkett–McAllister Cup at Clontarf³⁴⁸; and Andrew Morrin (Nomads SC, handicap 3 min 15 sec), 4th in the Crusade SC Westclox Trophy race³⁵⁰, winner of the Greenvale SC-promoted Kilkenny Beer Festival Nore Swim.^{351,352}

Other successful aspirants included: Anthony “Tony” Condon (North Dublin WSC, handicap 4 min 10 sec), son of Patrick G. Condon who won the Liffey Swim in 1944, 6th in the Plunkett–McAllister sea race³⁴⁸; Brendan McEvoy (Half Moon SC, handicap 5½ min), 3rd in the Kilmartin Cup race at Bray³⁴⁴; P. O’Boyle (North Dublin SC, handicap 4 min 40 sec), 6th in the Kilmartin Cup³⁴⁴, 6th in the Dún Laoghaire Harbour Swim³⁴⁹; Dermot “Derry” Kelleher (Half Moon SC, handicap 2 min 40 sec), 3rd in the Dún Laoghaire Harbour Swim³⁴⁹; J. Caulfield (Half moon SC, handicap 3 min 15 sec), 3rd in the Westclox Trophy Swim³⁵⁰; Michael Byrne (North Dublin WSC, handicap 2 min 25 sec), 2nd in the Kilmartin Cup sea swim at Bray³⁴⁴; and Bert O’Brien (Half Moon SC, handicap 4 min 40 sec), 2nd in Kilkenny Beer Festival Nore Swim.^{351,352}

As in 1955 when the Pembroke SC trio of Tiernan McBride, Ward Fleming and Gerard F. Callanan successfully swam the 5 miles across Dublin Bay from the Red Rock Bathing Place, Howth to the East Pier, Dún Laoghaire^{353–356}, four intrepid swimmers accomplished this feat finishing at the West Pier Lighthouse, Dún Laoghaire – Larry Burke (Hollywood, Co. Down), Freddy Parkes (Wellington

SC, Belfast), the first Ulsterman to place in the top three in the Liffey Swim in 1955, Dermot Kelleher (Half Moon SC), the youngest at 20 years old, and John Earls (Limerick SC).^{357,358}

Of the almost 70 starters, the middle handicap swimmers came out best.³⁵⁹ The winner of the 49th Liffey Swim was Liam Lacey (Club Snámha Columcille), a former pupil of James's Street CBS, who swam backstroke.³⁵⁹⁻³⁶² Not since William F. "Billy" Case (Clontarf SC), an 18-year old in the 1930 Liffey Swim, had a swimmer employing the backstroke from start to finish won the race.³⁶³⁻³⁶⁴ Liam Lacey had been swimming for four years and this was his 3rd attempt at the Liffey Swim.



**Liam Lacey, Club Snámha Columcille, Winner of 49th Liffey Swim
Cup presented by Paul Meehan, Publicity Manager, Independent Newspapers
(*Irish Independent*, 5 July, 1968, pg. 16)**

The early leaders to Bridgefoot/Queen Street Bridge (Mellows Bridge) were two limit men, Ultan Kerrigan and Jim Kavanagh, both members of North Dublin WSC. The lead was then taken by Tony Reilly (Crusade AC, handicap 5 min 50 sec) followed by Ultan Kerrigan, F. Dolan (Clontarf SC, limit man), Seán Farrell (Club Snámha Columcille, handicap 5 min 50 sec), and Norman Scott (Metropolitan SC, handicap 5 min 50 sec). Reilly led to Whitetavern Street Bridge (O'Donovan Rossa Bridge) with Farrell in close attendance. Liam Lacey, off 2 min 40 sec after the limit men, hit the front near Capel Street Bridge (Grattan Bridge) followed by the Half Moon SC trio of Bert O'Brien, Paul Emmett and Patrick Kennedy. By the Ha'Penny Bridge Lacey had increased his lead to 50 yards. Paul Emmett, a 24-year-old taxi driver from Palmerstown, competing in his 10th Liffey Swim, overhauled Bert O'Brien (Half Moon SC) at the Ha'penny Bridge and finished some 20 yards behind the winner. Lacey and Emmett had identical

nett times for the race. Patrick “Paddy” Kennedy, an 18-year-old, moved into 3rd place at O’Connell Bridge and held this place to the finish barge.^{359–362}

‘Chalkey’ White, who started 6½ min after the limit men, placed 11th. However, he won the prize for the fastest time of 19:52. This broke Donnacha O’Dea’s Irish Native record of 20:00 set in 1965.^{359–362}



Liam Lacey with Independent Cup

The Independent Newspapers Shield for the top team went to the ‘Moonmen’, Half Moon SC – Paul Emmett 2nd, Patrick Kennedy 3rd, Bert O’Brien 5th and Brian Sweeney, place not published.^{359–362}

Top 10 finishers:^{359–362}

Place	Name	Age	Club	Handicap*	Nett Time
1	William H. “Liam” Lacey	17	Club Snámha Columcille	3 min 50 sec	22:23
2	Paul Emmett	24	Half Moon SC	3 min 30 sec	22:23
3	Patrick Kennedy	18	Half Moon SC	3 min 40 sec	22:48
4	Robert Bushell		North Dublin SC	3 min 30 sec	22:45
5	Bert O’Brien	26	Half Moon SC	4 min 40 sec	24:08
6	Seán Farrell		Club Snámha Columcille	5 min 50 sec	25:30
7	Not Reported				
8	Not Reported				
9	Not Reported				
10	Not Reported				
11	Francis “Chalkey” White	13	Guinness SC	Scr, off 6½ min	19:52

*Time ahead of scratch man

The All-Ireland men's 800 m freestyle Championship was held at Blackrock Baths. 'Chalkey' White was runner-up to Donnacha O'Dea, whose winning time was an Irish record (9:54.9).³⁶⁵ In the men's 1,500 m freestyle Championship at Blackrock Baths, O'Dea knocked 50 sec off his previous Irish record (19:03.5), but was pushed all the way by 'Chalkey' White, who was clocked at 19:04.4.³⁶⁶ O'Dea subsequently successfully defended his other Irish titles – 100 m, 200 m, and 400 m freestyle, 100 m and 200 m butterfly and 400 m individual medley – as well as retaining three relay titles with Club Snámha Columcille – 4 × 100 m freestyle, 4 × 200 m freestyle and 4 × 100 m medley.^{367–373}

Liam Lacey went on to win a Bronze medal in the men's 100 m and 200 m backstroke.^{367–371} White took Gold medals in the All-Ireland Boys 200 m and 400 m freestyle finals^{367–371}, a Silver medal in the Boys 200 m backstroke^{367,368} and 400 m individual medley^{367,368} and Bronze medals 100 m freestyle, 100 m butterfly and 100 m backstroke finals.^{367–373}

The 1969 Liffey Swim

The Golden Jubilee Liffey Swim took place on the 23 July, 1969 with a start time of 19.00 hrs.^{374,375} No mention of this significant landmark in the history of the Liffey Swim appeared in any newspaper preview or report. Forty-eight hours before the Liffey Swim, a 35-year-old drowned at Custom House Quay, despite the efforts made to save and revive him.³⁷⁶ He became the latest in the annual River Liffey drowning toll. On the good news front, after a wait of 65 years, Dublin got a new Corporation swimming pool, Linn Snámha Markievicz, named in honour of the patriot Countess Constance Georgine Markievicz³⁷⁷, situated in Luke Street at the rear of the Tara Street Baths.^{378,379} It was designed as a heated family pool and was the first to permit mixed swimming.

Former winners in the line-up for the 50th Liffey Swim were Liam Lacey (the holder, Club Snámha Columcille, handicap 3 min 15 sec), Colm O'Brien (1963, Half Moon SC, handicap 2 min 45 sec), who had successfully swum Dublin Bay that year³⁸⁰, and 'Francis 'Chalkey' White (1966/1967, Guinness SC, off scratch at 7 min).^{374,375} The increased time penalty for White came off the back of two remarkable Irish championship performances. Augmenting the legend of the youngster's meteoric career, he claimed the men's All-Ireland 1,500 m freestyle title in 19:16.2 at the Blackrock Baths defeating Donnacha O'Dea (Club Snámha Colmcille)^{381,382}, to whom he had finished 2nd in the preceding two years.^{277,366} O'Dea had been going for his 7th consecutive title at the distance, but his training had been heavily curtailed due to a short spell in hospital and the consequent enforced period of inactivity.³⁸³ White followed this win two weeks later by capturing the 800 m freestyle crown from O'Dea at the Lee Baths, Cork, in a time of 10:25.9.³⁸⁴

During the intervening weekend White won the under-14 Boys butterfly and backstroke titles at the Leinster under-age championships at the Iveagh Baths.³⁸⁵⁻³⁸⁷ The day after his Irish senior 800 m freestyle triumph, he dead-heated with Mattie Waine (Guinness SC) in the Leinster under-14 Boys front crawl championship at the Iveagh Baths.³⁸⁸ His next head-to-head with Donnacha O’Dea came in the St. Vincent’s Pool, Glasnevin, at the Leinster Swimming Championships in the men’s 400 m freestyle.^{389,390} Normal service was resumed when O’Dea clocked 4:36.5 to defend his Leinster title in a new Irish record, with White as runner-up. O’Dea and White were precluded from further duels in the pool that year when the Irish Swimming Championships, which were scheduled to take place at the Grove Baths, Belfast, were cancelled by the I.A.S.A. due to the Northern Ireland troubles.^{391,392}

‘Chalkey’ White’s first newspaper-recorded open sea swim, as opposed to river swims in the Liffey and Nore^{326,327}, took place at Clontarf, where he won the Colmcille open sea race.³⁹³ His first major sea swim confrontation came in the Dún Laoghaire Harbour Swim for *The Irish Times* Cup, which took place in exacting, biting cold conditions and a heavy, choppy sea.³⁹⁴⁻³⁹⁶ White was scratch man with Donnacha O’Dea on a handicap of 30 sec. White won *The Irish Times* Cup by inches in the fastest time, but not without controversy.³⁹⁴⁻³⁹⁶

By half way ‘Chalkey’ White had pulled back most of O’Dea’s lead. With 400 yards to go he took the lead, but O’Dea, by hugging the Pier Wall, closed again by the 200 yards mark. White then accelerated and appeared to have the race in safe-keeping until an eventful finish almost denied him the win. Approaching the finish, White was a good 15 yards ahead of O’Dea, but stopped twice on the erroneous advice of spectators on the pier wall who were indicating that he had reached the finish marker. O’Dea now found himself on ‘Chalkey’ White’s shoulder and both lunged for the finishing marker. In the opinion of many bystanders, O’Dea got the touch, a view endorsed by O’Dea himself, but who accepted the judges’ decision by lavishing praise on the manner of his opponent’s swim.³⁹⁴⁻³⁹⁶ ‘Chalkey’ White represented Ireland at the European Junior Swimming Championships in Vienna, placing 6th in the 1,500 m in a new Irish record of 18:25.6.³⁹⁷

The oldest competitor in the Golden Jubilee Liffey Swim was 38-year-old Ultan Kerrigan (North Dublin WSC, handicap 7 min) who was taking to the Liffey for the 21st time.^{374,375} Other veterans of the Liffey Swim included three Dublin SC swimmers – Willie Kearney (handicap 6½ min), Jackie Kearney (handicap 6½ min) and Neil Kennedy (handicap 7 min), who had each been competing for close on 20 years.^{374,375} The young swimmers included Anthony “Tony” Condon (North Dublin SC, handicap 3 min 45 sec) and 15-year-old Peter Heffernan (Clontarf SC, handicap 6 min), younger brother of the Heffernan twins, Séamus (handicap 4 min 45 sec) and Seán, winner in 1960.^{374,375}

Among White's Guinness club-mates was Frank O'Dwyer (handicap 1 min), Leinster Junior 100 m freestyle champion.³⁹⁰ He had won the 1968 Dún Laoghaire Harbour and Nore Swims^{326,327,349}, placed 3rd in the current year's *Irish Times* Cup Dún Laoghaire Harbour swim behind White and O'Dea³⁹⁴⁻³⁹⁶, won the Nore Swim in Kilkenny³⁹⁸, clocked the fastest time in the Island Race from Ireland's Eye to Balcadden Beach, Howth.^{399,400}, was runner-up in the Plunkett–McAllister trophy swim at Clontarf^{401,402} and placed 2nd in the Colmcille open sea race.³⁹³ He also represented Ireland at the European Junior Swimming Championships in Vienna.⁴⁰³

Other competitors who had some success in open sea swimming season were: Brian Sweeney (Half Moon SC, handicap 3 min), 3rd in the Kilmartin Cup race at Bray⁴⁰⁴, 2nd in the Dublin SC 1,000 yards sea swim at Blackrock⁴⁰⁵; Robert Bushell (North Dublin WSC, handicap 2 min 15 sec), winner of the Plunkett–McAllister swim at Clontarf^{401,402}; Paul Emmett (Half Moon SC, handicap 3½ min), winner of *The Connacht Tribune* Cup at Salthill, Galway⁴⁰⁶, 6th in the Island Swim at Howth^{399,400}; Pat White, brother of 'Chalkey' White (Guinness SC, handicap 2 min 45 sec), 6th in the Dún Laoghaire Harbour Race³⁹⁴⁻³⁹⁶, 4th in the Plunkett–McAllister Swim at Clontarf^{401,402}; Derry O'Rourke (Club Snámha Columcille, handicap 3 min), winner of the Clarke Cup for the Half Moon SC-sponsored mile sea swim at South Wall⁴⁰⁷, 4th in the Island Swim from Ireland's Eye to Balcadden Beach, Howth.^{399,400}

Other worthies included: Pascal Breen (Gormanston College SC, handicap 3½ min), winner of the Island Swim^{399,400}; Don Rungay (Bray Cove SC, handicap 4 min 15 sec), 5th in the Dún Laoghaire Harbour Swim³⁹⁴⁻³⁹⁶; John Mulvey (Half Moon SC, handicap 4 min 30 sec), 3rd in the Clarke Cup 1-mile swim at South Wall⁴⁰⁷; Michael Chaney (Club Snámha Columcille), 3rd in the Dublin SC 1,000 yards handicap swim⁴⁰⁵; Colm O'Brien (Half Moon SC, handicap 2½ min), 5th in the Island Swim at Howth^{399,400}, 6th in the Kilmartin Cup⁴⁰⁴; Liam Farrelly (Half Moon SC, handicap 5 min 15 sec), winner of the Dublin SC 1,000 yards swim at Blackrock⁴⁰⁵; and Mattie Waine (Guinness SC, handicap 1½ min), who represented Ireland at the European Junior Swimming Championships.⁴⁰³ Rory O'Connor (Dublin SC, handicap 4 min 15 sec), who was the scratch man in 1960 and 1961, was making a come-back to the Liffey Swim.^{374,375}

The 50th Liffey Swim provided a teenage 1-2-3.⁴⁰⁸⁻⁴¹¹ Fourteen-year-old John Mulvey (Half Moon SC), a student at St. Mary's College, Rathmines, won the *Independent Cup* and Gold medal, finishing over 1 minute ahead of his nearest challenger. John Cummins (Club Snámha Columcille), a 12-year-old off the same handicap as the winner, touched the finish barge in 2nd place, followed home by his 14-year-old club-mate Michael Chaney. Pat White, 'Chalkey's' elder brother, finished 4th.⁴⁰⁸⁻⁴¹¹

Mulvey went in front as the swimmers approached Capel Street Bridge (Grattan Bridge), followed closely by Cummins. From then on he put in a great effort and

pulled away from the field to win by over 100 yards. He swam intelligently down the middle of the river with a strong front crawl to benefit maximally from the flow. It was additional glory for St. Mary's, Rathmines, who had won the Leinster Schools Senior Rugby Cup in April.⁴¹²



John Mulvey (Half Moon SC), Winner of 50th Liffey Swim
(Irish Independent, 24 July, 1969, pg. 11)

As expected 'Chalkey' White recorded the fastest nett time of 21:31. Two other Guinness SC swimmers finished 2nd and 3rd in the fastest time category – Frank O'Dwyer 22:30 and Mattie Waine 22:42.^{408–411} One report on the Liffey Swim recorded that 'Chalkey' White's chances of winning again would forever be decided by the generosity of the handicapper.⁴¹¹

Top 10 finishers:^{408–411}

Place	Name	Age	Club	Handicap*	Nett Time
1	John Mulvey	14	Half Moon SC	4 min 30 sec	24:02
2	John Cummins	12	Club Snámha Columcille	4 min 30 sec	25:07
3	Michael Chaney	15	Club Snámha Columcille	3 min 30 sec	24:15
4	Pat White	17	Guinness SC	2 min 45 sec	23:48
5	Patrick Kennedy		Half Moon SC	3 min 45 sec	24:55
6	Mathew "Mattie" Waine	14	Guinness SC	1 min 30 sec	22:42
7	Andrew Morrin		Club Snámha Columcille	3 min 30 sec	24:49
8	Frank O'Dwyer	15	Guinness SC	1 min	22:30
9	Francis 'Chalkey' White	14	Guinness SC	Scratch (7 min)	21:31
10	Dermot "Derry" O'Rourke		Club Snámha Columcille	3 min	24:37

*Time ahead of scratch man

The Independent Newspapers Shield for the best team of four swimmers went to Club Snámha Columcille – John Cummins 2nd, Michael Chaney 3rd, Andrew Morrin 7th and Dermot O'Rourke 10th = 22 pts. ⁴⁰⁸⁻⁴¹¹



Mr Paul Meehan, Publicity Manager, Independent Newspapers, presenting the *Independent Cup* to the winner John Mulvey (Irish Independent, 24 July, 1969, pg. 1)

At the prizes presentation at Tara Street Baths, Ultan Kerrigan, the oldest swimmer and a father of four, was presented with a clock to mark his 'coming of age' (21st) appearance in the Liffey Swim. ^{408,411}

The 50th Liffey Swim was singled out as part of a research project being conducted under the supervision of Professor Daniel Hingerty of University College Dublin into the effects of various stresses on the human body. ^{374,375} Hingerty had already carried out tests on rugby players, racing cyclists and rowers. The Liffey Swim provided an opportunity to recruit a cohort of swimmers. Urine samples were collected from subjects before the race and another three hours later. ^{374,375} Professor Hingerty emphasised that the samples were not for drug tests, but purely to measure the response to stress. ^{374,375}

Coda

In October 1969, someone tried to paint the River Liffey green. These 'water colourists' efforts were not in the mould of Jack B. Yeats *Liffey Swim*. Green paint was dumped in the river at Chapelizod. Long green streaks were carried

down-stream, forming patches in back-waters and sticking to vegetation on the banks.⁴¹³

The deterioration of Irish rivers, the increasing incidents of pollution, the seeming indifference of official bodies and the ineffectiveness of advisory boards to the government were a time-bomb waiting to explode.^{414,415} Pollution levels in the Liffey would reach crisis point in 1977 when the river was declared unsafe for humans to swim in.⁴¹⁶

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385 Swimming: White Brings Off Leinster Double. *Irish Times*, 14 July, 1969, pg. 4

386 White Scores Grand Slam. *Irish Press*, 14 July, 1969, pg. 14

387 I.A.S.A. Age Group Championships. *Irish Independent*, 14 July, 1969, pg. 9

388 M. Waine Almost Springs Surprise. *Irish Independent*, 21 July, 1969, pg. 15

389 Young Swimmers in Spotlight. *Sunday Independent*, 27 July, 1969, pg. 13

390 Swimming: Records Fall in Leinster Tests. *Irish Independent*, 28 July, 1969, pg. 13

391 Swim Tests Cancelled. *Irish Independent*, 25 August, 1969, pg. 11

392 I.A.S.A. Cancel Championships. *Irish Press*, 25 August, 1969, pg. 13

- 393 Guinness Swim Club's Success. *Irish Independent*, 8 July, 1969, pg. 12
- 394 Swimming: The Irish Times Cup – White Bids to Prove Supreme in Harbour Race. *Irish Times*, 21 August, 1969, pg. 3
- 395 Swimming: The Irish Times Cup – Trophy Goes to White After Thrilling Finish. *Irish Times*, 22 August, 1969, pg. 3
- 396 'Chalkie' Wins Harbour Swim. *Irish Independent*, 22 August, 1969, pg. 8
- 397 Personality of the Week. *Irish Press*, 19 August, 1969, pg. 16
- 398 Kilkenny News Topics: The Nore Swim. *Munster Express*, 25 July, 1969, pg.16
- 399 Island Win by Breen. *Irish Independent*, 9 July, 1969, pg. 18
- 400 Swimming: Breen Best in Island Swim. *Irish Times*, 9 July, 1969, pg. 3
- 401 Bushell Takes Swim Trophy. *Irish Independent*, 21 July, 1969, pg. 15
- 402 Bushell Takes McAllister Swim. *Irish Press*, 21 July, 1969, pg. 14
- 403 Top Coach Attacks Swimming Set-up Here. *Sunday Independent*, 17 August, 1969, pg. 2
- 404 Brophy Bray Swim Winner. *Irish Press*, 7 July, 1969, pg. 16
- 405 Farrelly Wins at Blackrock. *Irish Press*, 7 August, 1969, pg. 16
- 406 Second Time Lucky for Dublin Swimmer. *Connacht Sentinel*, 19 August, 1969, pg. 3
- 407 O'Rourke Wins Clarke Cup. *Irish Press*, 4 August, 1969, pg. 14
- 408 Easy Liffey Swim Win: Mulvey Leads in 'Teenage Triumph. *Irish Independent*, 24 July, 1969, pg. 11
- 409 Mulvey Wins Liffey Swim. *Irish Press*, 24 July, 1969, pg. 13
- 410 Swimming: Easy for Mulvey in Liffey swim. *Irish Times*, 24 July, 1969, pg. 4
- 411 John Mulvey (14) Liffey Swim Hero. *Evening Herald*, 24 July, 1969, pg. 24
- 412 Battling Mary's Do It Again. *Irish Independent*, 29 April, 1969, pg. 18
- 413 Water Colourists at Work. *Irish Times*, 13 October, 1969, pg. 13
- 414 Editorial: Clean Those Rivers. *Irish Independent*, 8 August, 1964, pg. 10
- 415 Growing Silence About Growing Pollution. *Irish Times*, 18 October, 1969, pg. 10
- 416 Liffey Swim Cancelled Because of Pollution. *Irish Times*, 9 August, 1977, pg. 5