

'The Road to Glenlough'

By C.J. McGinley former editor of the Donegal News

GREAT turnout tonight for the Letterkenny launch of Christy Gillespie's fabulous book 'The Road to Glenlough'.

Brevity is clarity, I was once told, and it's hard to imagine how this can be achieved in such a volume and body of work. The encyclopaedic book takes us on mystical journey capturing the life and times, of this stunningly beautiful place, in South-West Donegal.

Meticulously crafted and published, it features 900 illustrations in 700 pages, and weighs 3.4kg! Famous visitors like poet and writer, Dylan Thomas, artist Rockwell Kent visited, and worked in the area, and we're told how 'Bonnie Prince Charlie' hid out in the area. But, for me it's the brilliance in the stories about local people who lived in hardship, yet anchored to this place of peace and tranquillity, that sets it apart. 😊😊

The local people's resilience, in spite of severe hardships, is palpable. The author has penned a remarkable book, full of intrigue, folklore, history and heritage of a stunningly beautiful area. It puts 'Glenlough' on a national and international stage.

I'm stuck into it already, but there's no rush, just pleasure in admiring this piece of art. Hats off to my friend, Christy, who spent 15-years researching and compiling this masterpiece. He is on a whistle stop tour of the county, telling about the genesis of the book, and signing copies. It is available in Bookmark Letterkenny.

Well worth a read. 😊😊😊