

TIPPERARY ATHLETES



Frederick Carr

by Michael O'Dwyer

Frederick Carr was born on 22 August 1869 at Tullaghmelan Rectory, Ballybeg, Newcastle, County Tipperary. He was the fourth son of the Reverend James A. Carr and Anna Maria Carr (née Fry). His father was ordained in 1858 and was a curate in Carlow when he got married in 1861 at St Peter's Church, Dublin. He resided at Tullaghmelan Rectory from 1864 to 1871 and was vicar of Whitechurch in the diocese of Dublin from then until his death in 1900. From 1895 he was also canon of Christ Church Cathedral and was the first editor of the *Irish Ecclesiastical Gazette* (later the *Church of Ireland Gazette*) from 1871 to 1893. Frederick Carr was educated at St Columba's College and Trinity College Dublin. While at Trinity, Fred Carr, as he was known, was an athlete of some distinction. Although he never won the Irish cross-country championship, he was three times second and once third and gained four championship medals for being in the winning team. In 1892 he won the one mile steeplechase and the four mile flat championship of Ireland titles. In the same year he ran for Trinity against Cambridge University Athletic Union, and won the two mile race in 9 minutes 59 seconds. Fred Carr was ordained in 1893 for the curacy of St Michael's, Limerick and moved to England in 1900. During the First World War he was rector of North Tidworth and also acted as military chaplain in charge of a local hospital. The fact that he claimed to have been born in Tipperary was a great cause of merriment to the soldiers, especially to those from Australia and New Zealand, who thought it was a fictitious name introduced into the well-known song. A vicar in Penzance, Cornwall since 1921 he was made canon in 1929. The Reverend Canon Fred Carr died on 8 January 1952 in Penzance, aged eighty-two, and is interred in the parish church cemetery at St Agnes, Cornwall.

Titles Won at Senior National Championships:

Irish Amateur Athletic Association Championships

1892	4 Miles	22:24:.2
1892	1 Mile Steeplechase	5:23:4