

TIPPERARY ATHLETES



Jack Lalor

by Michael O'Dwyer

Jack Lalor was born on 8 August 1930 at Main Street, Carrick-on-Suir County Tipperary. He was the eldest son of Patrick Lalor, a cattle dealer, publican and grocer, and Mary Lalor (née O'Shea). His father was from Ballinabanogue, Kilmacthomas, and his mother was a member of the O'Shea family from Clashnasmuth, Ahenny, Carrick-on-Suir. They got married in St Nicholas Church, Carrick-on-Suir on 9 September 1929. Jack Lalor was educated at the local Christian Brothers school in Carrick-on-Suir. On many occasions he represented his school in Gaelic football and hurling, and also played for Carrick Swan GAA Club. His father was on the Kilrossanty team that won the Waterford senior football championship title in 1919. Jack Lalor also played rugby, tennis and billiards, and won many prizes at sports meetings with Carrick Cycling and Athletic Club. With the demise of the club he joined the T. F. Kiely Athletic Club after it was formed in March 1958. His debut at the Irish athletics championships is reported in the *Munster Express* of 1 August 1958, as follows, 'John Lalor, the 27-year-old Kiely Athletic Club runner, of Carrick-on-Suir, provided the big shock of the day at the N.A.C.A. All-Ireland Championships at Iveagh Grounds, Dublin on Saturday last, when he beat a strong "field" to win the 60 yards dash with a time of 6.4 seconds Slightly built, Lalor, who has had only two years experience in competitive athletics, followed up this startling performance by winning the 100 yards in the following day, clocking 10 seconds, to beat the holder, Owen Dalton, U.C.D., by one yard.' Jack Lalor also came third in the 220 yd in 1958. At the Irish athletics championships in 1959 he won the 100 yd and finished second in both the 60 yd and 220 yd. In 1960 he won both the 60 yd and 100 yd, and in 1961 he came second in the 60 yd, 100 yd and 220 yd. Jack Lalor won the athletics award at what is now known as the Annerville Awards for 1959 and 1960, and he was voted as Munster athlete of the year by clubs throughout the province in 1960. On leaving school he secured an appointment on the clerical staff of the tannery located in the town and for a time in the 1980s he ran the family pub. He served as a councilor on the urban district council from 1985 to 1994, and in later years he wrote the Carrick-on-Suir notes for *The Nationalist* and *South Tipp Today*, and other newspapers. Jack Lalor died on 14 July 2014, aged eighty-three, and is interred in St Mary's Cemetery, Carrick-on-Suir.

Titles Won at Senior National Championships:

National Athletic and Cycling Association Championships

1958	60 yd	6.4
1958	100 yd	10.0
1959	100 yd	10.4
1960	60 yd	6.4
1960	100 yd	10.2