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HALLA AN BHAILE CHEANANNAIS
KELLS TOWN HALL

Bhí Marcas chlann Headford nasctha le Ceanannas le breis agus 300 bliain agus bhí siad uair amháin rangaithe i measc na n-úinéirí talún ba shuibhre in Éirinn. Agus a bhí Teach Headfort á thógáil sna 1770í, bhí cónaí orthu i dtéach an bhaile ar a dtugtar Óstán Headfort Arms anois.

Bhí dea-chlú i gcónaí ar an gclann agus bhronn an clann an talamh inar tógadh na séipéil Chaitliceacha agus Phreispitéireach áitiúla air. Cé go ndearna scoil de Theach Headfort sna 1940idí, bhí sí fós i seilbh na clainne. Mar sin féin, chuir brúnna airgeadais iallach ar an séú Marcas (1932-2005) í a dhíoladh i 1981.

Ba pháilóta treallúsach é, agus tá cuimhne fós ar an Marcas as aird na foirne cuairte a tharraingt tríd eitil an-íseal os a gcionn sula ndeachaigh sé i dtír ar an rúidbhealach féir gar do pháirc cruicéid na scoile.

The Marquess of Headford's family was connected with Kells for over 300 years and were once ranked amongst Ireland's wealthiest landowners. While Headfort House was being built in the 1770s, they lived in the townhouse now known as the Headfort Arms Hotel.

Always well-regarded locally, the family donated the land on which the local Catholic and Presbyterian churches were built. Although Headfort House became a school in the 1940s, the family maintained their ownership. However financial pressures forced the sixth Marquess (1932-2005) to sell up in 1981.

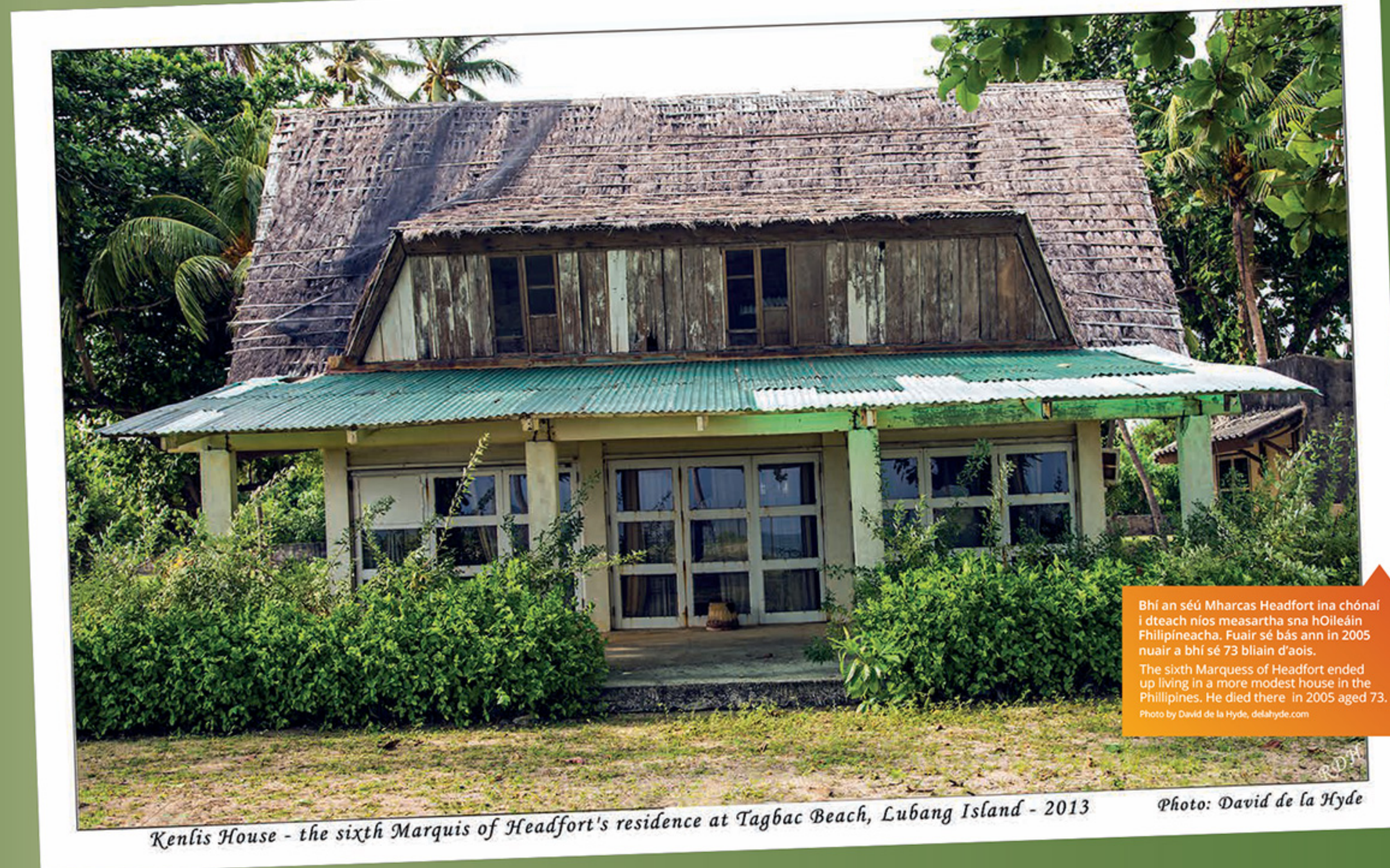
A keen pilot, the Marquess is still remembered for distracting visiting teams by flying low over them before landing on the grass runway near the school's cricket pitch.



An taobh amuigh de Theach Headfort arna dearadh ag George Semple (1700-1782) agus a tógadh sna 1760s. The exterior of Headfort House designed by George Semple (1700-1782) and built in the 1760s.



Tá suaitheantas Club Rugbaí Bheighthí Rangers (Bective Rangers Rugby Club) ainmnithe i ndiaidh Iarla Bheighthí, teideal eile de theicil ómóracha a bhí ag an Marcas Headfort. The crest of Bective Rangers Rugby Club named after the Earl of Bective, another of the Marquess of Headfort's honorary titles.



Bhí an séú Mharcas Headfort ina chónaí i dtéach níos measartha sna hOileáin Philipíneacha. Fuair sé bás ann in 2005 nuair a bhí sé 73 bliain d'aois. The sixth Marquess of Headfort ended up living in a more modest house in the Philippines. He died there in 2005 aged 73. Photo by David de la Hyde, delahyde.com

Kenlis House - the sixth Marquis of Headfort's residence at Tagbac Beach, Lubang Island - 2013 Photo: David de la Hyde



An séú Mharcas Headfort ag baint tairneamh as sráidh sna hOileáin Philipíneacha in 2005. Gráingíof Barry Adair, le cainníocht David de la Hyde / www.delahyde.com The sixth Marquess of Headfort enjoying a swim in the Philippines in 2005. Photo Barry Adair. Courtesy of David de la Hyde / www.delahyde.com

AN RAIBH A FHIOS AGAT?
AND ANOTHER THING:

- Bhí an teideal 'Iarla Bheighthí' ag na Headforts freisin, agus ainmníodh an Club Rugbaí Bheighthí ina ndiaidh. Ba é Marcas Headfort tiarna talún na scoile inar bunaíodh an club i mBaile Átha Cliath.

The Headforts also held the title 'Earl of Bective' which is the origin of Bective Rangers Rugby Club's name. The landlord of the school where the club was founded in Dublin was the Marquess of Headfort.

- Ó ghabhátais mhóra talún san ochtú haois déag agus sa naoú haois déag, tuairiscíodh gurb'ionann an gabhálas deiridh Éireannach a bhí ag an gclann Headforts agus 16 acra de thalamh portaigh sa Chabhán.

From vast landholdings in the eighteenth and nineteenth century, it was reported that the Headforts' final Irish landholding consisted of sixteen acres of Cavan bogland.

- Bhí gairm bheatha éagsúil ag an séú Mharcas Headfort, agus i measc na ngairmeach a bhí aige, bhí sé ina dhíoltóir aerárthaí san Afraic, ina Chigire oinigh Póilíneachta i Hong Cong agus ina gharda cósta sna hOileáin Philipíneacha.

The sixth Marquess of Headfort had a varied career which included being an aircraft salesman in Africa, an honorary Inspector of Police in Hong Kong and a coastguard in the Philippines.