

The shop fire."

This story is about a lady called Conagh. Conagh's original home she lived there for 30 years and she moved out of it around 1971 and moved into the house across the road to our school we have now, her parents built that for their retirement.

Her mother and father owned the shop also across the road to our school, it was a family business. The shop opened in 1935. Soon after it opened world war 2 broke out and lots of food was rationed and so the business got very good because everyone came in with their ration books looking for food. Lots of our food was home grown but a lot of other foods needed to be imported so for instance tea was rationed. One day when Conagh went to school the shop went on fire and her brother was up in the garden and he ran down and screamed "Daddy Daddy Daddy, the shop is on fire," so the boys in the class came out and saw the smoke up in the sky and so they ran into tell Conagh and she did not believe them so the boy said to go see for herself and there was the shop in flames burned to the ground. Conagh was never told what was the cause of the fire was but perhaps it ~~was~~ was an electrical fault because there was nothing lighting in there. But her mom and dad had the strength and courage to clear it up and start all over again and she had to work in that shop every Saturday and she was to do her lessons every evening too. Mind the shop every evening after school

Anyone who came into the shop she would serve them and write everything down in the account book for them. And she would have to weigh all the food on Saturday and that was her job because on Sunday morning there was lots of people coming to mass there who would hand in their list of messages to the shop and mass would be over in about $3/4$ of an hour and she would get all of the messages all ready for the person and put them in the bag with the list. But on Saturday she would have to weigh big bags of sugar, $1/2$ stone of sugar, 1 pound bags of sugar. Weigh pounds of sultans, raisins, pound of rice, simeplene and tapioca. She would have to weigh onions, biscuits and sweets. So that when people rush into the shop in the morning she would be holding up the que with bag ~~being~~ weighing them!

- Abbie Age 11.
Sullivan