

Story Teller Supreme At The Everyman

Tonight will be the last performance of the highly successful pantomime "The Queen Of Hearts" at the Everyman — and Monday next will see the opening there of Eamon Kelly's latest brand-new story-telling show "The Rub Of A Relic".

This will be Eamon's fourth visit to Everyman — each time with a theatre-packing new show, "The Tailor and Anstey", "In My Father's Time", "Bless Me Father" — and now with his latest — and a premiere at that — "The Rub Of A Relic".

Once again he digs down into his rich trove of stories and brings up scores of interesting, amusing, and unusual tales. For this occasion he has chosen the subject of the "Pattern Day" — those special days of penitence and religious observance starting with the "Rounds" and ending with the merriment and hilarity at the dancing field.

In those days there were few dance halls as such — and dance platforms were specially erected in the chosen field and the musicians played with all their might until the stars paled in the sky. Those were the days to look forward to — and days to remember with the complete contrast of the stern penitential exercises and the fairground atmosphere of the dancing, singing and drinking.

The art of story-telling in Ireland is as old as the country it sprang from, starting with the ollamhs and bards, and being carried on to the wandering poets and minstrels. Eamon Kelly is the logical descendant of this long line and in him the audiences witness the full-flowering of the Art. His rich clear voice, marvellously mobile face, expressive hands and body, live out each story. There seems to be no limit to the yarns he spins and story after story tumbles out full of humour, pathos, wit and wry observation. The "Pattern Days" may be a thing of the past, but the incidents and characters that made them so memorable live on in the heart and mind of Eamon Kelly, and it only



needs his own special kind of magic to make them all live again for all of us.

This is a show for everyone who cherishes the richness of our Irish heritage, and longs for those days when conversation was the greatest gift ever given by God to man. To see it is enough to banish all the

worries and stresses which increasing affluence — the by-product of progress and the search for material success — has foisted on us. It is a wonderful nostalgic meander down memory lane when things were simpler — often harsher — but always more satisfying.

"The Rub Of A Relic" — an entirely new show receives its

Irish and indeed world — premiere on Monday night at the Everyman — and on that night all seats are only 75p — And if you want to be one of the lucky ones to join Eamon, round that heart-warming, humane and enthralling fireplace — early booking is very advisable to guarantee a seat with the rest of his many admirers and friends.