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Vol. 32 No. 10



25 years of North West 10k
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Thurs. 10th March 2022

Termon launch for Paddy
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Guarded response to Mica proposals

There has been a subdued response from many owners of Mica impacted homes to the report from the Society of Chartered Surveyors of Ireland. While there is an increase for remediation works, what concerns homeowners are those costs that are excluded - new foundations; removal of materials and salvage fees; the provision of contents. These are all excluded from the calculations, while the report's reference to 'accommodation' is seen as 'site specific' and will have to be negotiated individually. Lack of substantive detail and clarity are

among the reasons why many homeowners say they are in the dark about definitive details about where they stand financially on the restoration of their homes. There was furore last November when a sliding scale remediation plan was flatly rejected by homeowners despite the stonewall defence by the Agriculture Minister, Charlie McConalogue that it represented 100% Redress. Michael Doherty of MAG said the new report represented progress and the remediation of Mica houses is now 'doable' if everything goes to plan. He said

there are issues to be sorted out but they would approach that task with a positive mindset. Deputy Padraig MacLochlainn acknowledged that progress is being made and he's paid tribute to the Mica Action Group and the homeowners who took possession of the agenda because of the failure of government. He expressed optimism that the SCSI proposal will provide a template to iron out many of the deficits that continue to exist. He hoped that when the legislation is published before Easter in the

Contd. Page 2

St. Patrick's Day Tribune

Next week's edition will be on sale on Wednesday the 16th of March. Our deadline is Monday the 14th at 7pm for news and adverts.



Brothers John and Seamus McGinley on the 5th green last week at Cloughaneely Golf Club. One born in the 1940's and the other in the 1930's and both men still loving their golf.

Farmers need more than soundbites!

Minister for Agriculture and Food Charlie McConalogue has been told that he "must come forward with real measures" to increase food security. The IFA said that he cannot come forward with a soundbite on increased food capacity. The response came after it emerged that the Minister was considering plans to introduce a measure for all farmers to grow more grain crops. However, the farming response to the Govt. cut of 2c a litre on green

diesel has now become the real focus of attention as farmers react with fury to the pointless cuts in the face of increased costs. Monday's meeting to debate growing more grain made it clear that substantial measures were needed to address the issue of fuel and fertiliser costs to ensure food security for the months ahead and into next winter. In no way does a 2 cent excise cut on green diesel address the rising costs of fuel. Farmers and contractors

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Govt excise cuts wiped out at the pumps

The government's miserly efforts to reduce excise duties on fuel were already wiped out 24 hours ahead of the deadline with hundreds of forecourts increasing their prices by as much as 20 cent.

by **John McAteer**

The cuts in excise duties came in at midnight on Wednesday and it sees petrol reduced by 20c:

diesel is down 15c. with green diesel cut by 2 cent. The motoring public and the haulage sector said it was back to square one while farmers said they are shocked that green diesel would only see a cut of 2 cent a litre. Brendan McLaughlin, IFA Chair in Donegal said they expected a cut of at least 25 cent and what they've got shows

how out of touch the government is insofar as farm costs are concerned. He has called for the 13.5% vat on green diesel to be suspended indefinitely because the farm industry and contractors are on the verge of having to quit operations. The motoring public already heavily hit would have anticipated an excise cut of 50 cent a litre

given that petrol has increased by that amount in a few brief weeks. Prices at the pumps have increased on an almost day-by-day basis this week, with many outlets charging over €2 per litre for petrol and diesel. Home heating oil has also seen a massive spike with €1.52 a litre being quoted in mid-week. Deputy Joe McHugh

has queried if there are mechanisms in place to prevent the forecourts hiking up prices to the extent seen over the last month. He said he was aware of prices at one forecourt in Donegal being increased by 6 cent within a two hour period on Tuesday. He said the claims that many filling stations across the country had increased

Contd. Page 35



Dexter Kearney, Milford with his dog Millie in his classic car at the Tractor and Car Run in aid of Rocco's Road to Recovery in Ray on Sunday.

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Ballyraine FC honours Andy O'Boyle

The Ballyraine FC committee made a long overdue presentation to Andy O'Boyle on Friday last to mark their appreciation of his recent fundraising support with their pitch development project. The presentation was originally planned back in 2020 but due to the Covid pandemic was delayed. Known in local footballing circles as the Godfather of Ballyraine FC, Andy O'Boyle established the schoolboy club back in 1979 and spent over 40 years at the helm with his trusted companion Charlie Shiels by his side for many of those years. It is a testament to these two men that Ballyraine FC is one of only a few of the original "street league" clubs established in the late 1970s and early 1980s, still in existence. After securing financial support from the LEADER fund administered by DLDC in 2018, Ballyraine FC launched a major fund-raising effort to help fund the development of the pitch at Orchard Grove. This first man to come knocking on the then chairman



Charlie Shiels making a presentation to Andy O'Boyle on behalf of Ballyraine FC. Also included are Enda Nicholls (Club Chairperson) and Brian Sweeney (Committee Member).

Oisín Harkin's door, was Andy O'Boyle, offering again to pull on the boots for the cause. Andy joined the fund-raising sub-committee and provided great support and guidance putting to use his years and wealth of experience raising money for sports clubs, community groups and charities. Ballyraine FC committee member and long-time partner Charlie Shields thanked Andy for his time and support. He was a very welcome addition to the fundraising sub-committee and his

guidance and leadership made the job so much easier. The current Ballyraine FC chairman Enda Nicholls thanked Andy for his support and guidance during the project. He noted that because of the many years of hard work of coaches such as Andy and Charlie the job of fund raising for the pitch development project was a lot easier than initially expected. There was a lot of good will towards the club in the community largely because of these two men. Andy O'Boyle thanked the club for their kind

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Proprietor Patrick Durning

gesture and said that he was delighted and very proud to see the club was going as strong as ever. He said that he still follows the development of the club in the local press and is happy that it is in safe hands with the current committee. Over lunch in Arena Seven, Enda offered Andy a coaching job with one of the current Ballyraine FC teams if he wanted to make a second comeback! Andy said he was flattered but would need some time to think about that one! Thank you, Andy O'Boyle from everyone at Ballyraine FC.

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Table Quiz in Ballyare

There will be a Table Quiz every Wednesday night in Carr's of the Diamond in Ballyare. The quiz began on Wednesday the 2nd of March at 9.30pm and everyone is welcome to come along and join in the fun and win a prize if your lucky.

Swim medals for Ruddy and Mac Gairbheith



Gartan Open Water Swimmers Dan Ruddy and Karol Mac Gairbheith made the transition to the pool and secured two golds, a silver and bronze in the Sliabh Beagh Masters short course Winter Builder in Monaghan. Karol took Gold in the 400 freestyle - 6.32.62; Silvers in the 50 fly - 41.85 and 50 freestyle - 33.09. Dan won gold in the 50 breaststroke 50.3, silver 50 freestyle 42.3 and bronze 100 freestyle 93.1. The two men also enjoyed success in the Irish Open Masters Long Course Championship in Limerick. Karol had a bronze in the 200 freestyle 3.01.95 while Dan struck gold in the 50 breaststroke 53.33 and silver in the 100 freestyle 93.36.

bought products in good faith from registered suppliers to qualify for a grant, in terms of construction, it would be very hard to point the finger at the farmer due to the fact that they bought the product in good faith. So you would like to think there would be a fair and independent assessment and that the good faith of the farmer wouldn't be called into question."

Guarded response to Mica proposals

From Page One

Dail, it will give the deputies of all parties to address the clarity needed to give homeowners full assurance that the redress scheme will address their costs for rebuilding their properties.

The SCSi proposal looks at average rebuilding rates for eight house types, including those in estates and one-off homes. It focuses on 'Option One' - the full demolition and rebuilding of impacted homes.

Numbers of homeowners already approved for Stage 1 have raised major concerns over Stage 2 where fees for the tendering process and oversight of the completion of the rebuild is already projected to cost €8,000.

The issue has been aptly summed by Joe Morgan whose home close to Rathmullan is impacted by Mica. He said that many families have home with defective blocks and there are big issues with defective foundations.

He said: "The idea of constructing a new build on a flawed foundation is wrong and that is a regulation that must be changed. It makes no sense spending up to €3 billion on a remedial scheme where faulty foundations already are a part of the problem."

Chris Duddy who's home in Letterkeny is impacted by Covid summed the views of many about the new proposal. He said that after the demolishing consequences of the sliding scale, Mica campaigners are wary and it is up to people power to drive the agenda forward towards a full resolution of the crisis.

Mr. Duddy added: "The SCSi report looks different than the sliding scale but it is neither specific or clear on issues that are cost intensive and will have to be met by homeowners. This is only a proposal and it is difficult to find evidence to say it is a solution or that it offers us full redress. There are many questions not answered but I can only be cautious in a response to the proposal.

We are not certain when we can get our €7,000 engineering fees back and we have no guarantee where the money is coming from to replace foundations that are beyond repair. Despite costs per square foot being increased, there is no redress for damaged foundations that

will leave families with further deficits to make up.

The sliding scale was obviously never going to deliver 100% and the SCSi report is much too vague to provide answers amid fears that the full cost of remediation will see homeowners out of pocket, to what extent we do not know," said Mr. Duddy.

The SCSi's recommendations took into account the terms of reference, outlined average rebuilding costs for eight house types, priced at 2022 material and labour rates, with pre-2008 building regulations.

The SCSi report noted that commentary on the appropriateness of remediation options 2 to 5 vis a vis remediation option 1 was outside of the scope of this Report.

The SCSi was only requested to provide a costing methodology for the partial demolition and rebuild under remediation options 2 to 5.

With regard to options 2 to 5, the report outlined key cost components of remediation works which [must] be considered as part of costing methodology for these options.

Those include: a desktop review by a competent professional of the historic report(s) relating to the scale of the issue in the house under consideration, including testing; Full inspection by a competent professional outlining the schedule of works necessary to remediate the house; and risk allowance for any unforeseen additional works discovered during remediation.

The report also referenced the issue of accommodation and said that due to the nature and disruption associated with a partial demolition incorporating temporary support and rebuilding of structures, phased work to permit occupiers to remain in situ during construction work is unlikely to be a feasible option in most circumstances.

SCSi independent assessment

The SCSi carried out the research after being asked by the Department of Housing to provide an independent analysis of the potential costs involved, following changes to the scheme last

November.

For estate type homes, estimated demolish and rebuild costs range from just under €150,000 for a two-bedroom terraced house, to €200,000 for a four-bedroom detached, two-storey property.

Costings for one-off homes are provided under in several categories. There are five categories for four-bedroomed bungalows either on estates or rural locations, dormer and two-storey houses, as well as houses with five bedrooms or more.

The calculations put the demolition and rebuild costs for a 1,937.5 square feet bungalow at €318,000, rising to €421,500 for a two-storey house of 2,906.26 sq. ft. with five or more bedrooms.

The society has emphasised that the costs are based on the price of carrying out works at the end of February 2022. The SCSi is looking at methodology to update the costs in 12 months time, to take account of inflation.

Options 2 to 5 under the grant scheme involve partial remediation, as opposed to full demolition and rebuild of impacted properties.

The SCSi said these are very site specific and has concluded that it is not possible to calculate estimated costs, as each property would bring its own challenges.

Similarly, the salvage option on houses is said to be very site specific. This would involve reusing certain existing components in any repairs carried out. The society said it is impossible to provide estimates in a general sense for this option.

The SCSi's pricing guides include demolition costs but in many instances families believe the foundations of their houses are compromised and the new report does not offer them the clarification needed to go ahead with rebuilding.

Minister Darragh Murphy expects to bring the final details of the scheme to Cabinet in April.

The redress figures apply to option 1 of the enhanced redress scheme - demolition and rebuild.

2 bed terrace estate house (947.22 sq. ft), €149,688.

3 bed semi-detached estate house (1054.86 sq. ft), €165,620.

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25th North West 10k launched

The launch of the special anniversary North West 10k took place in the Mount Errigal on Monday evening. Announcements in relation to the event which has raised nearly €834,000 for 36 charities in the past 24 years were made during the launch. A souvenir 25th commemorative booklet was also formally unveiled. The first Chairperson in 1997 Charlie Kelly had the honour of formally launching the 25th run and walk. Unfortunately Charlie wasn't able to be present in person but a message on his behalf was read out by 10k Vice-Chairperson Nancy McNamee

The North West 10k committee has a new free t-shirt to mark the 25th anniversary of the charity event which started in 1997. The commemorative t-shirt is guaranteed for all who enter before the 31st of March. A NW 10k medallion will also be presented to participants on the day of the event. Chairperson it was fitting that the launch should take place in the Mount Errigal Hotel because it was in this hotel that the meeting took place to form the first North West 10k committee in the winter of 1996 and the rest as they say is history. At 6p.m. on 10th of May 1997 the first North West 10k charity event took place in Letterkenny and in the same town will host the 25th anniversary event on the Bank Holiday Monday May 2nd. The committee which had been running the Rockhill 10k for 14 years had decided not to continue themselves after the 1996 event but two of their members Pat Price and the late Martin Giblin were still very anxious to see the community charity race remain an active annual fundraiser for worthy causes. So they met with Charlie who used his athletics contacts to form the first committee and 24 years later 36 charities have benefited to the tune of nearly €834,000 from the North West 10k.

"I want to commend all the committees involved with our predecessor the Rockhill 10k for the great work they did in establishing the race as one of the biggest charity events that also attracted big name runners from outside the county. They also persuaded UTV to come down from Belfast and film the event two years in a row. I want to acknowledge the work of all the committees over the past 24 years under the Chairpersons Charlie Kelly, Grace Boyle and James Boyle. And for the past six years it's been me in that role" Mr Martin said.

Neil Martin also thanked all the sponsors who have supported the NW10k down the years. "We are very grateful to have five sponsors this year again DonegalDaily, Brian McCormick Inter-Sport, Century Cinemas, the Mount Errigal Hotel and the Value Centre. Every year the NW10k is about the charities and in 2022 the proceeds will go to three very worthy causes in the Donegal Branch for Spina Bifida & Hydrocephalus, the Donegal Diabetes Parents Support Group and the No Barriers Foundation. They have already been working very hard together on a range of additional fundraising initiatives that will boost the money raised on the actual day of the NW 10k on May 2nd."

It takes a huge voluntary effort to host the charity event. First of all there is the 10k committee who all bring different skills in the pre-planning phase and then making sure everything goes to schedule on the day with safety of everyone paramount. "We have a team of stewards and marshalls under Neily McDaid who are loyal to the Northwest 10k and their experience is invaluable making the route as safe as possible for the participants. We are indebted to the Gardai who advise and support us on the day. I would like to thank Sgt.



North West 10k Chairperson Neil Martin with two former members of the Rockhill 10k committee Tony Ramsay and Pat Price and Letterkenny Mayor Jimmy Kavanagh at the launch of the 25th anniversary charity run and walk on Monday night in the Mount Errigal Hotel

Eunan Walsh and his team for all their help. The Red Cross are with us every year and that is so important in the event that someone needs medical assistance. The Letterkenny Chamber have been with us from the start offering back-up in terms of administration and one of their staff Anne Condon

has been a vital link as she has been one of our committee members from 1997. I also want to acknowledge the presence here tonight of two of the charities who benefitted in 1997 namely MS Donegal Branch and the Breast Care Unit at Letterkenny General Hospital as it was then" Neil Martin said. The Chairperson also took the opportunity to thank the current North West committee for their endeavours since they started planning for the 25th back last September. "Because it is a special milestone there has been extra work involved to date and as they say there is a lot more to do. We have a very dedicated team who have worked very diligently so I'm confident that we are on track to make our new date of Monday 2nd of May a very memorable celebration as it should be."

Marcus Ward, Mairead Farren and Marina Kennedy-Quick spoke on

behalf of the respective charities Spina Bifida & Hydrocephalus, the Donegal Diabetes Parents Support Group and the No Barriers Foundation. The official launch was by Charlie Kelly and his message was read out by Nancy McNamee. "I would like to thank the committee for inviting me to perform the official launch of the 25th NW10k; however, I regret that I am unable to attend. It is very pleasing to note the way the event has grown over the years and continuing to raise major funds for charities. I wish the 10k committee every success in the future. I am delighted now to formally launch the 25th NW 10k. Good Luck. Charlie Kelly."

The 25th NW 10k takes place on Monday 2nd of May in Letterkenny at 11 a.m. The online entry fee is €15 and the link can be found on the 10ks Facebook and Twitter accounts or by going to the website www.northwest10k.com



At the launch of the North West 10k on Monday night in the Mount Errigal Hotel were at back Mary Fleming McCrossan, Bernie Brennan, Claire McDonagh (Letterkenny Chamber), Cllr Donal Kelly, Mayor Cllr Jimmy Kavanagh, Cllr Gerry McMonagle, Brian McCormick (sponsor), Sergeant Eunan Walsh and Nancy McNamee. Front from left - Marcus Ward (Spina Bifida & Hydrocephalus Ireland (Donegal Branch), Marina Kennedy Quick (No Barriers Foundation), Mairead Farren (Donegal Diabetes Parents Support Group), Neil Martin (North West 10k Chairperson), Charlie Gildea (Donegal Diabetes Parents Support Group) and Erin Harrold Marcus (Spina Bifida & Hydrocephalus Ireland (Donegal Branch)).



Neil Martin with Marina Kennedy Quick and Sonia McGarvey from one of the benefiting charities the No Barriers Foundation

Labour's AK47 decommissioned

The resignation of Alan 'AK47' Kelly as Labour Party leader was unexpected. The Parliamentary Labour Party said they no longer had confidence in him.

Untypically, he then went quietly. He is energetic, but the nickname 'AK47' explains the nature of that energy.

To be fair, the Ukraine War overshadowed his decommissioning. In past years, though, the deposing of a Labour Party leader would have been a major news story. Now, though, Labour is not the force it once was. Labour has seven Dáil seats. In the last General Election, it won 4.4% of the vote. There has been no significant improvement in poll ratings since.

Labour has been as low in seats before. It has had near-death experiences, then resurrected. This time, though, we have to ask if Labour has declined too far. There is no sign of renewal. There is little sign of energy – except in getting rid of the leader. That is usually not the best type of energy. In a small party that is struggling, it is more a sign of turning in on itself.

Labour had gone for 'AK47' because he seemed energetic. After two bad General Elections, the choice suggested desperation. The difficulty with that energy was that it never seemed particularly channelled. Kelly had claimed to be 'Old Labour'. That is, wanting to appeal to the Party's traditional working-class base. There was little sign of that. As a Minister in the Coalition Government, he had been an energetic enforcer of Water Charges. Memories do fade, but that is unlikely to make him appealing to working-class voters.

In style, he was the opposite to his predecessor, Brendan Howlin. Howlin tends to the understated rather than the fiery.

'AK47' can rub people up the wrong way. Thus I expected him to become too hot to handle, at some stage. I expected, though, that he would go in an almighty row. Instead, his departure was quiet. In one way, almighty rows are not healthy. In another, they are at least a sign of life.

At time of writing, it seems Ivana Bacik will be the leader and she's put her name forward for ratification.

Last year she won the Dublin Bay South

Ivana Bacik can certainly attract a niche liberal vote for Labour. Thus she will play well in Ballsbridge. That 'Dublin 4', though, is very different to the rest of Dublin. She has shown little sign of being able to play strongly in Ballyfermot, Ballymun – or, indeed, Letterkenny. But she must!

by-election. Bacik is a Trinity College law professor. Her secondary education was as a boarder at Alexandra College, one of Ireland's most exclusive girls' schools. She has a strong record on liberal issues. To her credit, she has been strongly critical of Israel.

As a Senator, though, she supported legislation cutting the lone parent's allowance. She can certainly attract a niche liberal vote. Thus she will play well in Ballsbridge and surrounding area. That is in her constituency. That 'Dublin 4', though, is very different to the rest of Dublin, let alone the state. She has shown little sign of being able to play strongly in Ballyfermot, Ballymun – or, indeed, Letterkenny. If Labour is to have a chance of reviving, she has to do that.

The logic of events points towards Labour fusing with the Social Democrats. There are even fewer differences between them than is the case with the other parties. There is, though, no sign that one party with a fuzzy identity will be stronger than two with a fuzzy identity. Everything points to Labour having been wrong to allow itself to be sucked into the overcrowded centre of Irish politics. Labour fell victim to the siren calls of Tony Blair. It has followed most European social democratic parties in diluting former core principles.

Thus it has lost the working class to Sinn Féin. That was no brilliant long-term strategy by Sinn Féin. Rather, they found themselves sucked into the vacuum that Labour's departure had left.

That was because a political realignment had been on the cards for a long time. The two big parties ultimately have their roots in the Civil War. That will be over 99 years in May. The children of those who fought are dying out.

The rural society where Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael had sunk roots doesn't exist any more

either. Sixty three point five percent of the Republic's population is urban, according to official statistics. That is probably an underestimate, because of the ribbon development stretching out from towns.

There are an estimated 70,000 full-time farmers. One hundred years ago, there were a dozen times more working on the land.

For a long time, the old parties were able to hold out against those social changes. Tradition is strong, but can't last forever. Change builds up slowly. Then, frequently, it explodes onto the stage of history.

Thus it is possible that the Irish Labour Party may disappear. That has happened with parties that were bigger and seemed to be better rooted.

Scotland, after all, was a Labour country. The British Labour Party had its origins in the Scottish Labour Party, set up in 1886. Nineteen eighty three was a disaster for the Labour Party in Britain, with Peak Maggie Thatcher.

Labour still took 41 of 72 Scottish seats in the General election.

Labour now has one of 59 Scottish seats at Westminster. It seems extinction is inevitable. Not only has it swallowed economic neo-liberalism. It is also standing against independence, openly calling itself Unionist.

The French Socialist Party had an absolute majority in the

National Assembly in the 1980s. In the 1990s it came close, and was able to rule again. In recent times,

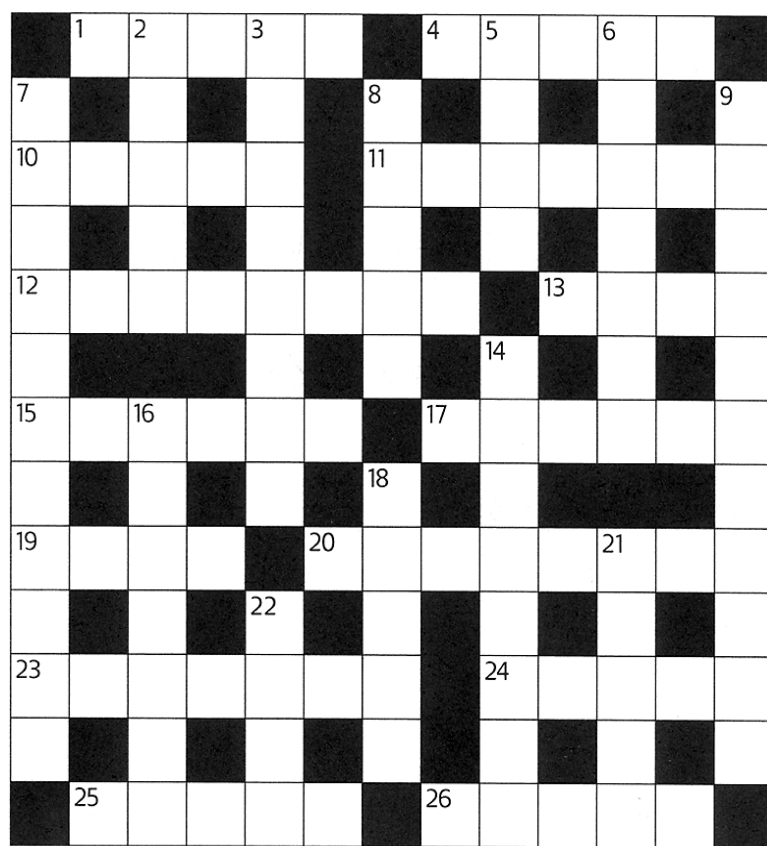
it elected two Presidents. Now the party is broke. Party membership has fallen by over 90% in 15 years. It has 30 of 557 deputies in the National Assembly, and three of 79 MEP's. The party headquarters have had to be sold. The new headquarters is at the far end of a carpark in an outer suburb of Paris.

The embrace of Neo-Liberal economic policies has alienated the former working-class support. The result should make we in Ireland feel relieved. In France, it is the former Fascists of the National Rally who have attracted much of the blue-collar support.



By Anton McCabe

Tribune Crossword No. 955



Across

- 1. Film-holder (5)
- 4. Inuit boat (5)
- 10. Quay (5)
- 11. Place of pilgrimage in France (7)
- 12. Doggedness (8)
- 13. Recorders of Fernando (4)
- 15. Larry ____, star of Dallas (6)
- 17. Greek city (6)
- 19. Leave out (4)
- 20. Married With ____, US TV sitcom (8)
- 23. Emit (7)
- 24. Satellite's course (5)

Down

- 25. Wept (5)
- 26. Penniless (5)
- 2. Ordinary (5)
- 3. F.I.F.A. coil [anag] (8)
- 5. Feber (4)
- 6. Within earshot (7)
- 7. Telephonist's panel (11)
- 8. Wind instrument (5)
- 9. Murder (11)
- 14. Star of First Blood (8)
- 16. Holland's former currency (7)
- 18. Mouse-like mammal (5)
- 21. Hydrophobic (5)
- 22. Animal pen (4)

The first correct entry opened on Monday 14th March will receive a Ball Point Pen. Send your entry to Crossword No. 955 Tírconail Tribune, Main Street, Milford.

Name _____

Address _____

Solutions to Crossword No. 955

Across 1. Nightshade, 8. Aerosol, 9. Naval, 10. Duel, 11. Lees, 12. Dip, 14. Ceylon, 15. Embryo, 18. Paw, 20. Pail, 21. Hula, 23. Eagle, 24. Martini, 25. Attendance.
Down 1. Nursery, 2. Gasp, 3. Tiller, 4. Handsome, 5. David, 6. Handicapped, 7. Kleptomania, 13. Complete, 16. Reunite, 17. Dimmed, 19. Wight, 22. Iran.

Congratulations to Rose McNamee, Stranorlar who won Crossword No. 955.

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- 191 Ford Focus Zetec x2
- 2018 VW Golf GTI Line
- 2018 Audi A4 2.0 s/s Ultra
- 2018 VW Passat Business Edition
- 181 Nissan Qashqai Acenta Premium x 3
- 182 Ford Kuga Zetec
- 181 Suzuki Vitara Szt
- 181 Hyundai Tucson 1.7
- 181 Ford Focus S T Line
- 17 Kia Sportage 2171 VW Tiguan Comfort Line 2.0 150Bhp
- 12 Suzuki Sx4 2.0 4x4
- 171 Audi A6 SE Exec 190 BHP
- 171 Citroen C4 Picasso 7 Seater
- 162 BMW 420 D Auto
- 161 Audi A4 2.0
- 2015 Ford Focus St Line
- 2015 Ford Focus Zetec
- 151 Ford Smax 7 Seater
- 132 Suzuki SX4 4x4
- 2012 VW Golf

Petrol

- 212 Suzuki Vitara Szt
- 212 Suzuki Ignis 4x4
- 211 Suzuki Swace 1.8 Hybrid
- 211 Suzuki SCross Szt Demo
- 211 Suzuki Swift Sz
- 218 Peugeot 2008 Alure premium
- 191 Peugeot 308 1.2 Active
- 181 Suzuki Vitara S Allgrip
- 181 Suzuki Swift Auto
- 181 Suzuki Swift Sz x 1
- 181 Mazda 3 Executive
- 181 Suzuki Celerio x 2
- 171 Suzuki SCross Sz4
- 161 Opel Corsa
- 151 Suzuki Celerio

Commercials

- 182 Mitsubishi Pajero SWB 3.2
- 181 Peugeot Partner 3 Seater
- 171 Ford Ranger 3.2 Wildtrack
- 1671 Ford Transit 350M AWD
- 2017 Vauxhall Combo
- 211 Opel Combo 3 Seater
- 192 Citroen Dispatch 1.6
- 191 Ford Transit 350 LWB
- 191 Opel Combo 3 Seater

The Lagg Milford Tel: 074 91 53656

Lifford Tel: 074 91 41225

Donegal Town Tel: 074 97 40496

A 4000 mile educational journey for Austin



Austin with his wife Gail, daughter Erin and twins Colby and Chandler.

It all began in 1997, at the kitchen table in Gortahork with two Irishmen having a cup of tea, in true Irish fashion. One of these men was Dermot Toland, a master wood turner and a fine musician of Irish traditional music, the other, one Austin Mullin, then aged 24, a recent graduate two years prior from the University of Limerick having studied woodwork and technical drawing education.

Austin, who is originally from Upper Ray, and the eldest son of William and Margaret Mullin had been teaching in an adult education centre for the two years, where young and old unemployed persons were given the opportunity to learn fine furniture techniques by external craftsmen and himself. He explained that as a result of this he had met Dermot who taught woodturning to the classes there and he was receiving lessons from him to upgrade his woodturning skills. Austin explains that over a cup of tea an opportunity was spotted that would him take on the adventure of a lifetime.

He explains "The program that Dermot and I taught at was closing down due to Governmental cut backs and I was telling Dermot that I had felt the urge to try and teach abroad (for the first and only time in my life) and it was at that moment that Dermot looked down at the English Sunday Times newspaper laying half read on the table, as the good Lord would have it was opened at a page that showed an ad for various teaching jobs in the Bahamas, which included teaching woodwork. Jokingly Dermot suggested that I give it a try. At that moment in my life the scenario was set up so that I was willing to take a chance on applying for this job, in a country some 4000 miles from my home. I had to look up an atlas to locate The Bahamas, due to my poor geography skills. "I put together my resume and had to book a flight to London for the interviewing process at the Bahamian Consulate there. When I had gotten to the Consulate and finally got my turn to be interviewed, I recall being shown into a room with a large table and there was three extremely official Ministry Officers there from the Department of Education, the one who was conducting the bulk of the meeting was one Mrs. Iris Pinder. I



Some of the artwork on sale in the school gallery.

must say, as only my second interview, I was quite intimidated, they reviewed my resume and with only being 24 years old and not having any real experience in a high school teaching they decided to offer me a one year probationary contract instead of the normal three years to see how things would go. I assured them that I would endeavor to show them that they would not regret it. "It was mid-August, 1997 when I hopped

on a British Airways flight to Nassau from London, full of excitement, nerves and fear of the unknown to begin the single year contract. We had our orientation in Nassau and had to get our NIB cards and other matters straight.

We were put up in the old British Colonial Hotel, I remember being out on the beautiful beach there, after a day dealing with NIB thinking this has got to be the most beautiful water colour my blue Irish eyes had ever seen. A few days later I flew out on a small plane to Eleuthera, to my posting at Harbour Island All Age School. Once I had reached Harbour Island on the water taxi, I was greeted by the one and only Mr. Kirkwood Cleare, my new Principal. He showed me to my accommodation on the top level of one of Barretta Majors town houses. It was a beautiful two bedroom apartment within a 2 min walk from the world famous Pink Sand beach. I could not get over how beautiful the Island was and how friendly the locals were, very much like my fellow Irish.

"The first few days at work were quite interesting as I had to quickly give up my Irish morning greetings of "How's it going?", or "How'ya" for the much more formal "Good morning" etc. It was during that first week of school when I recall meeting my now wife, Ms. Gail Davis. I observed her in her typing room crying quietly as she had just received the very sad news that her dear aunt Joan had died in Nassau. I recall trying to comfort her along with Malcolm, the auto mechanic teacher. Who could have imagined that from there we would become married and have three wonderful children, Erin our daughter, and Colby and Chandler our twin boys.

"In 2018 with permission from my then Principal he began the mission to raise funds for their own gallery to be built by the Craft



Rosapenna Hotel & Golf Resort
Seasonal Hotel Employment 2022

Interviews for full time & part time seasonal Hotel employee positions will take place in the Rosapenna Golf Pavilion on Saturday 12th March between 11.30am & 2.00pm

No appointment necessary

CV's can be emailed in advance to recruitment@rosapenna.ie

classroom. One of the wonderful things about the gallery is that when someone buys a student truly values the fact that someone sees the quality of their pieces and it encourages them to persevere to do even better. A simple example of this was a lady from South Carolina who recently bought a wood burnt framed turtle made by a student called Shekira Lubin in grade



11. The lady took our business card and when she returned home she emailed a photo to me of where she hung the Turtle project with the comment that every time she looks at it, it reminds her of her wonderful trip to Spanish Wells. As I have the Craft classes in Whatsapp group chats since the virtual term, I posted the ladies photo that she sent along with the comment and it truly made that young lady's day as well as inspires the others to strive for excellence in their Craft work. I tell the students that I will always pick their best piece out of every three so as to push them to do each piece to their full potential, if the pieces are of similar high quality I allow them to choose. This one simple act pushes them to do better. The students are also offered evening classes if they choose, to further improve their Craft skills. I have allowed a few Crafters friends and a local author to display some of their work at a humble 20% commission back to the Craft program. A recent development is allowing students, ex-students and myself to sell craft work at a 10% commission to the program. I believe it will encourage them to continue to make pieces after they move into adult life, but most of them prefer to keep their pieces at home. I always tell them that when they make their work to do their best and to imagine in 30 -40 years' time that they can show them to their grandkids with pride. As time moves on the sentimental value of these Craft pieces will increase. All of these measures ensure that the students constantly strive to do their best.

"My future plans with Ministry of Education approval include expanding the gallery into the aforementioned sanding area as it has become a mosquito retreat and no longer feasible for the students to work in there. This will allow me to let more of my fellow local artisans display their creations and build the community (tourists and natives) awareness of the hidden

talent that exists in Spanish Wells and the northern end of Eleuthera. It is planned with this expansion to allow 4 to 6 of these artists to have their own area within the gallery and in turn they will volunteer to man it one day a week each. This will allow my Craft students to be exposed to the work done locally by other artists also. This will give me the freedom to continue to expand the medium offerings in my craft program." He added : "In closing, I truly want to thank and appreciate Mrs. Iris Pinder taking a chance on an inexperienced 24 year old Irish teacher all the way back in 1997. That one opportunity allowed me to find my beautiful wife Gail, have my three wonderful children and begin a new life for myself in this wonderful country. I want to show my appreciation to the great and friendly people of Harbour Island and Spanish Wells for accepting me into their communities so openly. I want to also publicly thank my past and present principals and District Education Officers for their trust and support for allowing me the flexibility to grow the Craft program and Gallery to its current state and I hope I can look forward to their continued trust and support in the future. I truly love the Bahamas and its warm people; it is just like Ireland but just quite a bit sunnier!! I am looking forward to moving the craft/artisan programs forward to newer and greater heights where we can all succeed together and continue to be a support group and an asset to one another. May God continue to Bless The Bahamas."



Austin with VIP visitors to the Gallery.

Ramelton Festival dates announced

Following the Annual General Meeting on Wednesday night, the details for the 51st Lennon Festival in Ramelton were announced. This year's event will take place from Friday the 8th to Monday the 11th of July.

There will be a busy pre Festival week with the Soapbox Derby on Sunday the 3rd of July in aid of the RNLI and local charities. During the rest of the week the Singing Pubs competition will take place as well as the Car Treasure Hunt on Monday the 4th, the Colour Run on Tuesday the 5th plus many other events.

At that AGM the following committee was elected - Chairperson and Festival Director PJ Bonner, Vice Chairperson Paul McCahill, Secretary Elaine Ferry, Treasurers Frances Boyce and Sean Crawford and PRO Eoin Murray.

Mr. Bonner said that they will be feeling their way back after Covid 19 but promises plenty of thrills, fun and entertainment.

There will live bands, local artists as well as the top Irish country bands, Cullen's Fun Fair will be in attendance.

Anyone who would like to get involved in this

year's event or has any ideas for events is asked to contact PJ or Paul or any of the committee and hopefully they will get some new blood this year to help make the event a success.

Coffee Morning for Rocco

There will be a Coffee Morning in aid of Rocco's Road to Recovery in the Quayside Bistro and Wine Bar, Ramelton on the first Tuesday in April, the 5th all day from 10am.

This is part of the monthly Coffee Mornings run by the Bistro and the March one raised €654 for the Ramelton Care of the Aged Committee.

Learn to Jive

Jiving Classes with Paul will resume this Monday the 14th of March in the Mulroy Woods Hotel, Milford. Starting at 8pm for an hour and a half Paul will teach you how to Jive, Waltz, Quick Step, Foxtrot and of course Line Dancing.

Beginners are welcome as well as all levels of dancing and there are no partners needed.

Wedding

Congratulations and best wishes are extended to Clare Callaghan, Ramelton on the occasion of her recent wedding to Shane Rafferty in St

Mary's Church. Clare is the daughter of Terence and Mary Callaghan. The reception was held in the Inishowen Gateway Hotel.

Table Quiz in Ballyare

There will be a Table Quiz every Wednesday night in Carr's of the Diamond in Ballyare for Lent. The quiz began last Wednesday at 9.30pm and everyone is welcome to come along and join in the fun and win a prize if your lucky.

Country Market

Ramelton Country Market will be in Ramelton Town Hall this Saturday from 10.30am until 12.00noon. Pre orders on 087-9699715 for collection during market hours. Our full range of homemade ready meals, curries, vegan and vegetarian foods, sourdough breads, scones, sweet treats, soups, jams, jellies, granola and fresh eggs. Our wonderful range of crafts, handmade toys, wooden craft, crocheted wear, cushions, painted goods, potted plants and much more. Loyalty cards available at check-out.

Our Tearoom is open for a catch-up with friends and family. Please note our Market on 19th March will be from 10.30am until 1pm. See you all Saturday.

Swilly 50 50 draw

Well done to this month's Swilly Rovers 50/50 draw winners Niall Callaghan, John Stewart, Kevin Gormley and Minister Charlie McConnelogue. Some great prizes on offer every month. Join now and be in with a winning chance.

Swilly Rovers lotto

The numbers drawn in the Swilly Rovers lotto on Friday were 1, 6, 10 and 19. No jackpot winner. Three 3 number winners: Patricia Gallagher Ramelton, James McCahill, Ramelton and Cecilia Murphy, Glenvar. Next week's jackpot is €4,500. Thanks for your continued support.

Ramelton Bowling Club

Ramelton Bowling Club

Hairy Hounds Dog Grooming Service

Pick up and drop off service available

Tel. 087 2386575

Contact Francie Gallagher

competitions are ongoing at the Makemie Hall on Tuesday nights from 8pm. All welcome to join up and we will keep going until April playing for the Hunter and John Murray Memorial Cups.

SVP Conference

The Ramelton St. Vincent de Paul are always here to help and Conference members can be contacted via their dedicated phone number 087 143 6640.

All queries will be dealt with in a strictly confidential manner.

The Ramelton SVP very much appreciates the community's continued support.



PJ Bonner from the Quayside Bistro and Wine Bar presenting €654 the proceeds of the Bistro's March Coffee Morning to Chris Bryant on behalf of the Ramelton Care of the Aged Group. The next coffee morning is on Tuesday the 5th of April in aid of Rocco's Road to Recovery.



Bridget and Claire Friel presenting Sharon O'Donnell of Donegal Hospice with a cheque for €2000, raised from the Ramelton Christmas Lights Memory Globe.

Rathmullan

Tidy Towns & Clean Coasts

The weekly Pier area and beach cleans take place every Wednesday, with equipment available outside the White Harte from 10.00am... please note the new time. New Volunteers and support always welcome, and sincere thanks to those who have recently joined up.

Rathmullan's Big Spring Clean takes place this Saturday 12th March. Equipment will be distributed to the Approach Road volunteers, while bags, pickers & gloves will be available outside the White Harte from 10am onwards on Saturday morning, or bring your own if preferred for hygiene reasons.

Dog fouling and indiscriminate dumping has become a problem recently, so once again, we appeal to all residents, families and individuals to get involved to make a difference this year again in keeping Rathmullan squeaky clean. Refreshments will be available at the Pier Picnic area at 1.30pm

The Tidy Towns AGM will take place on Tuesday 15th March in the Ozanam Centre. This is your opportunity to have your say in what work is carried out in Rathmullan, as well as review the results for 2021, so please make an effort to attend and lend your support.

National Tree Week

Its been a rough few weeks for Rathmullan with the recent storms which has resulted in quite a few fallen trees and extensive sand erosion on the beaches. National Tree Week takes place from 20 - 26 March and the Tidy Towns Committee will receive a consignment of native Tree saplings as part of National Tree Week. If you would like to plant a tree or trees in your own gardens or grounds, then please get in touch with any committee member as soon as possible, to ensure that you are included, as distribution will be on a first come first serve basis.

A 'Sustainability Fair' will take place on Saturday 26th March at the St Vincent de Paul Centre from 10am until 3pm. There will be guest speakers focussing on Recycling especially relevant since the recent recycling announce-

ments, Water efficient use of resources and conservation, and the Clean Coasts 'Dirty Dozen', with displays of circular economy practices in upcycled and recycled items. A SEAI representative will also be in attendance, so be sure to save the date, and get your questions prepared, especially in relation to recent grant support package announcements.

Earth Hour

Saturday 26th March, and we are appealing to Rathmullan as a community to switch off the lights for one hour from 8.30pm in support of 'climate change awareness'. By participating in this mass universal 'Black Out', we are taking part in a collective action and creating a positive environmental impact throughout the world. Further information www.earthhour.org

Rathmullan SVP

Rathmullan Saint Vincent de Paul appreciate your continuous support and are always available to help out in a confidential manner. Should you wish to contact us at any time please feel free to do so & note our new contact number on 087 7755510. Vincent's Thrift Shop which accepts books, clothing and household goods is open Wednesdays & Thursdays, 11am to 1.00pm, Saturdays 12-3pm and really appreciate your continued support.

Rathmullan Celtic 50/50

Congratulations to Karl Monteith who won €1,260 in the February Draw, with James McCahill winning the €100 Bonus prize.

Next draw takes place at the end of March with tickets available online or from usual outlets. Thank you all for your continued support.

Coffee Morning

A fundraising Coffee morning will take place in Glenvar School on Thursday 17th March which is open to everyone to attend & sample some home baking. The Raffle proceeds on the day will be in aid of Small Animal Welfare.

Learn to Jive

Jiving Classes with Paul will resume this Monday the 14th of March in the Mulroy Woods Hotel, Milford.

Starting at 8pm for an hour and a half Paul will teach you how to Jive, Waltz, Quick Step, Foxtrot and of course Line Dancing. Beginners are welcome as well as all levels of dancing and there are no partners needed.

Ray Community Group

PARENT & TODDLER GROUP

Are you a parent, childminder, grandparent looking after babies/toddlers then why not come along to our Ray toddler group every Friday at 10.30-11.45am and every Friday after This is an enjoyable morning to meet and socialise with other adults over a cuppa while toddlers/ babies play in a safe environment. Any queries contact Syria on 087 2877900 A.G.M.

We will be having our A.G.M. on Thursday 31st March at 8pm and are actively looking for new members to join our committee. If you interested please get in touch with us or come along on the night to hear all about us and our future plans.

LOCAL HISTORY PROJECT

Ray Community Centre has launched a community history project in anticipation of the 10th anniversary of the opening of the building in 2012. The committee are calling on members of the community to submit historical photos from the wider Ray area, from Brownknowe to Craig to Glenalla, Glentidally and Ballyconnolly. The committee hopes to publish a book later this year which will celebrate the Ray community and will feature a series of historical photographs, art and poetry from the area.

Photographs can be left into Milford & District Resource Centre, during normal opening hours, where copies will be taken. These precious family items will be returned to their own-

ers the very same day. They can also be emailed into MDRC on history@mdrc.ie. The public is asked to provide information and descriptions along with the photographs, e.g. names of people in the photos, dates (if known) and places where taken.

CLIMB WITH CHARLIE

We are delighted to partner with Milford GAA and Milford District Resource Centre to organise 'CLIMB WITH CHARLIE' event on Saturday 2nd April in aid of Irish Motor Neurone Disease Association and Pieta House. The walk/ climb will begin from Ray Community Centre at 11am to 'Standing Man' Glenalla. We will also be planning shorter walks up and transport to be arranged from centre. No dogs allowed on walk. Registration is essential via on line (link on Facebook) or contact Ray Community Centre Syria 087 2877900, MDRC Declan 085 1947339 and Milford GAA Roisin 087 9188795.

WOMEN & MEN ON THE MOVE

Women on the Move - Mondays and Wednesday - 7-8pm & Men on the Move - Mondays and Wednesday - 8.15-9.15pm. All levels of fitness welcome even if you have taken a break from exercise for a while feel free to re-join any week. The instructors are looking at setting adventure challenges for the groups and will be working towards this for the next few months if you are up for the challenge or continue at your own level of fitness nightly. Queries contact Syria on 087 2877900.

Wave of support from Donegal-London community

The Donegal community in London came out in force last weekend to support two very worthy local charities.

A special charity auction and raffle was hosted in Sudbury where the huge sum of £80,000 was raised to support "Rocco's Road to Recovery" and "Ellie's Wish to Walk".

On Sunday a large crowd gathered in Tiffany's Bar, Sudbury Hill where among the items being auctioned off were signed Donegal GAA jerseys, signed Tyrone jerseys, a signed top from Ireland and Everton captain Seamus Coleman, among other items. The star of the show, however, was a stunning vintage Grey Ferguson tractor.

Celebrities who supported the event included Daniel O'Donnell and actor Adrain Dunbarr.

Brendan 'Tiny' Vaughan of the organizing committee said they were delighted with the support they received last Sunday afternoon with a great turn out, including many people who traveled over

from Donegal for the weekend.

Speaking after the event Brendan stated: "It was an extremely successful evening at Tiffany's Bar, Sudbury Hill. The fundraiser for Rocco McGinley and Ellie McHugh raised £40,000 at the auction with another £40,000 promised in donations. Thank you to everyone who attended the event to support the children, to Mark Henry (Sligo) who purchased the Grey Ferguson for £15,000 at auction and to everyone who dug deep into their pockets during the evening. Sincere thanks to all who donated prizes or supported the fundraiser in anyway it is very much appreciated by the organising committee and both the McGinley and McHugh families."

Brendan added that an on-line raffle will end at 8pm on Sunday 3rd April and tickets are available via <https://raffall.com/291383/enter-raffale-to-win-support-rocco-ellie-hosted-by-brendan-vaughan>

There are seven great prizes on offer

with first prize is 2 Night B&B at The Allingham Arms Hotel, Bundoran, donated by Peter McIntyre.

Second prize is a weekend stay for 2 at the Downings Bay Hotel, Downings, donated by the Connors family. Third prize is 2 Arsenal Tickets donated by Brian Conaghan.

Other items include shopping vouchers, golf green fees, Man Utd tickets, Iphone/Apple bundle.

"Ellie's Wish to Walk" is an ongoing campaign to support 9-year-old Ellie McHugh who has been a wheelchair user for most of her young life.

Ellie, is the daughter of Aisling McHugh and Dairmaid Keane and the granddaughter of Margaret and Joe McHugh, Carrigart.

She was diagnosed with a tumour on her spinal cord that was pressing on her nerves affecting the lower half of her body, and causing her extreme pain and by the age of two, she had undergone three major surgeries as well as



Joe Kelly from County Dry Cleaners pictured with Kevin McGinley (Tiffany's Tavern) and Brendan Vaughan, Joe sponsored the signed Donegal tops.



Organising committee and families representatives - Brendan Vaughan, Wade McGinley, Natalie and Danielle McDaid, Kevin McGinley, Sean McHugh, Tina Williams, Joe Shevlin, Jody and Joe McHugh

Pictured at the Céim Aniar Seachtain na Gaeilge Coffee Morning last Friday - Caoimhin Mac a' Bhaird; Peigi Ryder; Anna McLaughlin agus Joe McHugh TD.



Newmills Corn and Flax Mill public meeting

The potential of Newmills Corn and Flax Mill as a tourism attraction has been seriously neglected in recent years. That's according to the Mayor of the Letterkenny Municipal District Cllr Jimmy Kavanagh and Cllr Donal Kelly who both raised the matter at Tuesday's meeting.

Cllr Kavanagh said he would be calling a public meeting on the matter as he urged the Council to engage with the Office of Public Works to help highlight, promote and attract more tourists to the New Mills facility. Cllr Kelly said the future

development of the facilities at the Corn & Flax Mills had to be a priority for the Local Authority. Cllr Kavanagh said New Mills was only attracting 3,000 visitors annually.

He compared other tourism attractions on the same route like the Glebe Gallery which had a figure of 32,000 visitors and Glenveagh National Park at 200,000 annually. "The numbers going to New Mills should be way better than that. The whole facility needs upgrading including a tea shop. It also needs to be put on the bus tour

chemotherapy. By the time of her third surgery, the tumour had grown so aggressively that the surgeon had to cut through her nerves to remove as much of the tumour as possible.

This resulted in her losing most of the feeling and power in both her legs. She has since grown up using a wheelchair. Despite being a wheelchair user from a young age her dream is to walk alongside her sister Clara in the future. To achieve this goal she will take part in a pioneering intensive therapy programme available in Los Angeles in the United States that consists of two hours per day of "Neurosuit" therapy and an hour of intense physical therapy.


Rocco McGinley, 14, is a native of Glenalla. In Autumn of 2021 he was diagnosed with an extremely rare life-threatening brain tumour, one



Seamus Coleman with signed Everton top which he donated x 2 for the auction.

of which is particularly aggressive and difficult to treat.

Rocco and his family have exhausted the treatment options here in Ireland and have now looked to the U.S to seek further help. There are various clinical trials which have had some success that are specifically designed to treat Rocco's diagnosed tumour.



IRISH NATURA & HILL FARMERS ASSOCIATION (INHFA)

Public Meeting

Future CAP Payments

Tuesday 15th March at 8.00pm

Ostan Loch Altan Hotel, Gortahork

map. There is a lack of signage and a tour guide that retired has not been replaced. The product is so good out there. I would love to do it myself because there is so much there already but it just needs upgrading. I am going to call a public meeting to make people aware of what is going on" Mayor Kavanagh said.

Cllr Kelly while it was good to have Minister O'Donovan on-site it was a pity that a full tour of the attraction didn't take place that day. However, both Cllrs came in for criticism from Sinn Fein Cllr Gerry McMonagle his Party and other Independents not being informed of a visit by Deputy Patrick O'Donovan who made a recent visit to the New Mills site.

Those who met with the Minister were Cllrs Kavanagh, Kelly, Ciaran Brogan and Donal Coyle. Cllr McMonagle said it was not proper and disre-

spectful that it appeared to be only the Government Party Cllrs that were invited. The Council's Liam Ward said the Local Authority had no part to play in the invitations regarding the Minister's visit. Cllr Brogan said the other Cllrs should have been informed but Independent Cllr Michael McBride pointed out the reality that someone organised but at Tuesday's meeting no one could bring clarity to that mystery. Cllr McBride said he would have been delighted to attend the meeting adding that the failure to inform all Cllrs was totally wrong.

The Council says there is ongoing engagement with the OPW regarding Newmills Corn and Flax Mills. "Further contact will be made to OPW on foot of this motion by Community Development to engage further and discuss areas where the Council can assist to promote the project."

LAC Juveniles among medals in Athlone



Some of the young U12 LAC athletes enjoying the indoor track and field last weekend in Athlone.

A great weekend was had by the LAC juveniles in the Ulster and NI indoor Championship in Athlone. The Club was well represented with many athletes achieving new Pb's bringing home a total of 24 medals.

The day started well with U12's Adam McCauley competing in the high jump for the first time and he won a bronze medal. Lucy Sweeney ran in the 60m, finished 4th in her heat and in the Long Jump, 3.30m gave her 7th.

One of highlights of the day was the u12 Boys 60m with Zion Akpo and Oisín Cuskelly through to the final and Luke McClafferty and Davyn McGlynn missing out on the finals. Zion and Oisín had a great final finishing first and second. In the Long Jump with Oisín was 4th. Davyn McGlynn finished 3rd in the 600m. The U12 Boys finished off their day by winning Bronze in the Relay Race gaining All-Ireland Qualification.

Our U14 girls Anya Duffy and Maeve Doherty ran in the 60m with Maeve finishing 2nd and 4th and 6th in the 60m.

Temple ran the u14 60m sprints taking Gold in 8.32(PB) and in the shot putt won bronze. Fern Duffy won bronze in the 60m and 2nd in the U16 200m.

U14 Leah O'Gara won a gold medal in the 1Km walk.

Emma Price finished 6th in the U18m Sprints. The U18 Boys, Dan O Connell won bronze in the long jump and Elvis Okoh won silver in the triple jump.

In the U14 Daragh Naughton ran a superb 800m race to win silver medal.

Katie Elliott competed in three events which saw her as a triple Ulster Champion medaling in the U15 60mh, High Jump and part of the U15 relay team.

Mark Galvin and Caolan Spratt in U15 1500m saw Mark win silver and Caolan coming 4th.

U13 Duo Grace McGlynn and team mate Aoife Kenna in the shot putt finishing 2nd and 3rd.

U13 Clodagh Gallagher won gold in the high jump.

U13 Kathryn Davison came 5th in the 60mh and Luke Elliott had a good race in boys 60 mh. Kathryn Davison and Grace McGlynn both made the

finals in the 60m.

U13 Jack O'Donnell claimed a silver medal in the High Jump and silver in the 60m heats.

Daniel McClafferty competed in the 1km walk winning silver.

Emma Bonar won a silver in the U15 800m race while Sophie Ellis had a strong finish in 4th. Anna Russell finished 10th.

Last event of day was the U15 Relay race - Erin Friel, Sophie Ellis, Emma Bonar and Katie Elliott won gold medals.

Thank you to our athletes, coaches and parents for your continued support. The All-Irelands will be held in a few weeks.



Katie Elliott and Dan O'Connell with their medals.



Emma Price and Fern Duffy enjoying the Ulsters



U12 Boys Oisín Cuskelly (Silver) and Davyn McGlynn (silver) who both won Medals in their events at Ulster Championship last weekend.



Adam McCauley and Mum Julia at the Ulsters. Adam won a bronze medal in the u12 High Jump.



The U15 Relay Champions who won gold at the NI Ulster Indoor Track&Field in Athlone - Emma Bonar, Sophie Ellis, Erin Friel and Katie Elliott.

Nothing beyond repair

In a world awash with war I want to take a break from the bad news and take you to a man whom I was privileged to call a friend. Tom Martin was one of life's great encouragers, great engineers and all round great people. He was an exceptionally lovely man. He and his wife Connie moved to outside Kilmacrenan in Milford until age moved them into a nursing home and sheltered accommodation. Tom passed away on Saturday morning aged 95, but he left behind him a fantastic legacy. His love for his wife was a beautiful thing to see - a steadfast cherishing commitment over 70 years through his wife's many health trials. But I want to pick up on another aspect of Tom's life. Tom had spent his life as an appliance repairman - and there was nothing he could not fix. He had a passion for old engines, and many an engine that had been seized and rusted beyond any semblance of usage found itself restored to life under Tom's hands. Clocks, machines, fridges, books with broken binding, even paintbrushes! - anything and everything found a new lease of life with him. Tom endeared himself to his neighbours around Kilmacrenan and further afield. Even in his 90's you would find him working with a chain

saw cutting up a tree that had fallen and wheel-barrowing the logs over a plank over the river to his shed. Once dried, he would split and bag them for kindling, and use a bag stitcher he had salvaged and restored to close up the bags. These would then be delivered to neighbours and 'elderly people' (usually at least 10 years his junior!) - but not before he had slipped in a little leaflet explaining his other great passion. Tom was a man who knew and loved Jesus. Early in life he had asked Jesus to be his Saviour, and he trusted himself completely to what Jesus had done on the cross for him. He knew his own efforts would never do the job - only Jesus could do it. And he never lost his amazement at the greatness of God's gift of salvation - he wanted everyone he met to know about it too. So, whether it was slipping a tract into a bag of sticks, or talking to you with a twinkle in his eye about his Saviour, or sending a book he thought would help a person, or a verse painted on his toolbox, or praying for his neighbours and showing kindness - Tom loved to share something of the great news of forgiveness which Jesus brought to the world. It was too good not to share! And the prospect of people missing out troubled him deeply. His shed and his hands were a living illustration of the gospel. In Tom's shed, and in Tom's

Food for thought



Mark Loughbridge

hands, nothing was beyond repair. So it is with Jesus. And that's why Tom loved to tell people about Jesus so much - he knew that anyone could come to Jesus, no matter how hurt, how broken, how 'beyond repair' they felt, and they would find themselves lovingly restored under the master's hand. What great news! Tom has gone to be with the Saviour he loved. And his toolbox sits now as he left it, with its hand-painted verse for all to see, "How shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation?" (Hebrews 2:3) showing kindness - Tom loved to share something of the great news of forgiveness which Jesus brought to the world. It was too good not to share! And the prospect of people missing out troubled him deeply. His shed and his hands were a living illustration of the gospel. In Tom's shed, and in Tom's

Equestrian News

Sunshine and show-jumping

Letterkenny riding club had the honour of hosting the third leg of the North West Rising Clubs spring show-jumping league. They held the show at Greenacres Equestrian Centre in Convoys, where the Torrens family had made great efforts to facilitate the riding clubs. With superb weather for the first time this year spectators, horses, riders and stewards all shared a very enjoyable day. The league was very well supported by all the clubs and especially by the Sligo raiders from Ben Bulben riding club. It was really great to see people willing to travel so far to join in the fun, and for Therese Anderson it was certainly worth her diesel money as she claimed both the RC80 and the RC90 classes. Therese was making good use of the new competition system that allows riders to jump at a one height higher than they are graded, and was delighted with her days out on her trooper of a mount, Misneach. Inishowen's Grace Rodgers had a good day, taking the RC70 class in no uncertain fashion, relegating the Stracomer duo of Clodagh Brady and Ann Keaney to minor placings behind her. The RC80 was fought out between Inishowen, Tironaill and the Ben Bulben raiders, with Therese triumphing over Tironaill's Laura Diver on her speedy Drumeenagh Chancie Boy. With the move up to the RC90 spectators were treated to the first of the jump-offs against the clock and once again Therese did Sligo proud, beating Inishowen's Dawn McAllister on her ever-faithful Farrah. Charlie Vial rode superbly on the grey Vancouver Cruise, and if his sat-nav had worked properly he would have clinched the class nicely... insert rolling eyes emoji here! The RC100 was very competitive, with the addition of the Sligo contingent boosting numbers nicely. Tironaill made it a cosy one-two, when Marie Molloy took her second red rosette of the league and Mark Ward once again claimed the second spot. The long running rivalry between Mark and Letterkenny's Rachel Carton resulted in an extremely fast jump-off from Rachel but unfortunately she had one pole down to relegate her to fourth place behind Ben Bulben's Vanessa Sweeney. The league final, on March 20th, is being hosted by the Inishowen riding club in the excellent facilities of Eglinton Equestrian Centre. It is a great comfort to know that the show can go ahead regardless of weather and for anyone who is curious about the Donegal riding club scene it will be an excellent opportunity to meet the crowd and see what it's all about.

The county's jockeys have been busy as ever in the Baltic environs of Dundalk Stadium. Anyone who has ever spent an evening at the races there will know that one's enjoyment of the sport definitely rests on having the best quality thermals that your pocket can stretch to. The trick then is not to lose your shirt over the course of the evening. Dylan Browne McMonagle notched up another winner, just before celebrating his birthday, aboard the Pat Martin trained El C Wells. Dylan produced the Belardo filly with a blistering run from last to first to claim a cosy win over Andy Slattery's Burren Song, with the performance leaving no one in doubt as to his mounts superiority. Luke McAteer followed orders to perfection when he produced the Barry Fitzgerald trained runner Dandy Warhol to win the six furlong maiden on Friday. With the horse backed in from 50 to 1 to 10 to 1 Luke was assured of a very warm welcome on his return to the parade ring. With any luck he'll retain the ride as the horse progresses into bigger races but, as anyone involved in racing will tell you, that's never a given. Affiliated show-jumping has picked up pace and more of the jumping fraternity have started to shrug off the winter's layers and get out and about. Tara Brennan and her mount Carnone Anable moved up to their first 1.10m at Portmore, where just one pole down kept them out of the placings. Laura Cazatto also ventured out to Portmore with her Diamond Roller seven year old gelding Daisy Diamond. Laura picked up the ride on this gelding last year and has been doing great work in producing him carefully. Clara Ferry has made Kernal Equestrian Centre her second home and clocked up another brace of clears with her Lough Fern ponies. Letterkenny's Dermot McAlaney has been getting all three of his mounts out to the Portmore shows and is clocking up some nice mileage with both his younger horses and his grade-A mount, Flighty Sally. One of the counties younger talents is Sarah McLaughlin, daughter of the well-known International rider Ronan McLaughlin. With successful riding schools to manage in both Carndonagh and Ramelton, Ronan is concentrating on pursuits closer to home, allowing him to help his young family as they start their own jumping journey. This year's campaign kicked off with Sarah aboard her father's fifteen year old pony Linde Hoeve's Ricardo in the Pony Spring Tour at Ard Chuain.

Farmers need more than soundbites!

From Page One

in the region 25c per litre in the last week.

The meeting yesterday heard that there is currently enough fertiliser in the country to last to the end of March.

President of the IFA, Tim Cullinan said: "If the government is serious about encouraging farmers to grow more grass

and crops and produce more food, they should suspend all excise duty and carbon tax on agri diesel for farmers and farm contractors.

If farmers are to sow more crops and grow more grass, it will require increased use of farm machinery in the coming days and weeks. The government must do more immediately."

Responding to the grain proposals, ICSA President, Dermot Kelleher said "This is not straightforward due to the catastrophic increase in fertiliser and fuel costs."

Farmers considered the growing of grain at a meeting on Tuesday evening and sources said it was a 'thumbs down' from almost everyone who

spoke. The responses are to be brought back to the Dept. of Agriculture for further consideration."

While farm groups are 100% behind the Ukraine war effort, there is another reality at play here at home with inflation in danger of hitting 10% and family incomes rising by at least 5% sooner rather than later.

Anam Cara - No Surviving Children Group Meeting

The group is specifically for parents living with no surviving children. This is a safe space for these parents to come together and help each other on this unimaginable journey and share in their grief. Our living with no surviving children group is facilitated by Dorothy Ingram and will take place via zoom on Tuesday 15th March at 7pm. If you know any bereaved parents living with no surviving children who would like to join this meeting please get them to contact us on 085 288 8888 or info@anamcara.ie. As always Anam Cara offer their services free of charge for as long as needed.

Death of Hughie Hannigan, Ramelton

There was much regret on the death of Hughie Hannigan, formerly Chestnut Grove, Ramelton. He was in his early eighties and was amongst Ramelton's best known characters.

He died on Monday at the Ramelton Community Hospital. Hughie was born close to Swilly Park and resided locally all his life. He worked for a number of farmers in earlier times where he was highly regarded for his work ethic.

In more recent years he was one of the most valued staff members at Whoriskey's Supermarket. He was known to hundreds of customers who appreciated his help and good humour. He was the local gravedigger for many years in the town. His passing is deeply mourned and deepest sympathy is extended to the family circle, neighbours and many friends.

Hughie's remains reposed overnight on Tuesday in St. Mary's Church and the Requiem Mass on Wednesday was celebrated by Fr. Michael Carney PP and interment followed in Killydonnell cemetery.

Death of Theresa Peoples

The death occurred on Monday at the Tallaght Hospital in Dublin of Mary Theresa Hepburn, Castle Grove, Raphoe. Teresa who was formerly a member of the Peoples family from Mountain Top, Letterkenny passed away tragically as a result of injuries sustained in a road traffic accident in Raphoe on March 2nd.

The Peoples family are well known in the Mountain Top area and news of Teresa's death in such tragic circumstances has been learned of with a great sense of sadness. Gardaí are seeking the public's assistance in relation to the circumstances of the traffic accident. They have renewed their appeal for more information.

"At approximately 2.30pm on March 2nd two vehicles collided on Guesthouse End Road in Raphoe. As a result of this collision, one vehicle lost control and collided with a pedestrian. The female pedestrian, aged in her 50's, was seriously injured and was taken to Letterkenny University Hospital. She was later transferred to Tallaght University Hospital where she passed away on Monday March 7th.

"Gardaí are appealing to any person who may have witnessed this collision to contact them. Any person who was on Guesthouse End Road is asked to contact investigating Gardaí. Anyone with any information in relation to this incident should contact Letterkenny Garda Station on 916 7100."

Teresa was predeceased by mother Bridget (2017). She is survived by father Terry, sister Nicola McCauley (Ramelton), brothers John (Letterkenny), Michael (Letterkenny), Mark (Kilmacrennan), Liam (Mountain Top), Brendan (Mountain Top). Sorely missed by daughters Lisa, Lauren, son Aaron and partner Liam Carlin; grandchildren Leigh and Blake, extended family members, neighbours and a wide circle of friends.

Theresa's remains are reposing at her late residence in Castle Grove, Raphoe with wake this Thursday from 5-10pm. Funeral is from there on Friday morning for Requiem Mass at 11am in St. Eunan's Cathedral, Letterkenny, followed by burial in New Leck Cemetery. Funeral Mass can be viewed on the church webcam www.churchservices.tv/letterkenny. Deepest condolences are extended to the family circle.



Death of Kay McCormack

The death took place on Friday of Kathleen (Kay) McCormack, Clontarf, Dublin. Kay was formerly a member of the Coyle family, Killygreen, Ramelton. She was a retired Public Health Nurse. Kay is survived by her husband Noel; sons and daughters John, Catriona, Sinead and David. She is also survived by her sister Eileen, brother John, grandchildren Lara, Kate and Conor, son-in-law Charlie, daughter-in-law Jan, sister-in-law Ita, special friends Ann and Eileen and all her nieces, nephews, relatives, friends and former colleagues.

Kay's remains reposed at the Kirwan Funeral Home, Fairview Strand on Wednesday evening. Removal will take place to St. Gabriel's Church, Dollymount on this Thursday morning for 11.30am Requiem Mass followed by burial at Glasnevin Cemetery. For Live Streaming of Kay's Mass visit: www.stgabrielparish.ie/parish-webcam. Deepest condolences are extended to the family circle.

The late Anne Joyce

The death took place in Dublin on Sunday of Anne Joyce. Anne was formerly a member of the Loughrey family from Swilly Park, Ramelton. Anne passed away peacefully after a short illness in the excellent care of St. Vincent's University Hospital, surrounded by her loving family. She was predeceased by her husband John. Anne is survived by her son Josh, daughter-in-law Éilis and beloved grandchildren Robert, Shauna and Luke. Remembered by her son John in Donegal, her brothers John and Seamus, sisters-in-law and wider family, friends and neighbours. A Farewell Ceremony took place at the Victorian Chapel at Mount Jerome Crematorium on Tuesday morning. Deepest sympathy is extended to the family circle.

The late Willie Burke

The death took place on Monday of William (Willie) Burke at his home in Rosemount, Kilmacrennan. Aged 83 Willie was a well known member of the local community where he had farming interests.

The remains of the late Mr. Burke reposed at the family residence in Rosemount from Tuesday evening. Funeral is from there on this Thursday afternoon for Mass at 2pm in St. Columba's Church, Kilmacrennan, followed by interment in the adjoining cemetery. Funeral Mass can be viewed on www.churchservices.tv/kilmacrennan

Willie was predeceased by parents Leslie and Margaret, son William and daughter in law Juliene. He is survived by his wife Mary, sons Andrew, Peter and Timmy, daughters Julie-Ann McGettigan and Laura; brothers James, Bobby, John and Tommy; sisters Mary and Anne. Deepest condolences are extended to the family members, neighbours and many friends.

Death of Mary McNamee

The death occurred on Sunday at Letterkenny University Hospital of Mary McNamee, Drumany, Letterkenny. Mary's remains reposed at her niece Kathleen and Joe Crawford's residence at Carricknamanna, Killygordon. Funeral was from there on Tuesday morning travelling via

Mary's home at Drumany to St. Eunan's Cathedral, Letterkenny for Requiem Mass which was celebrated by Fr. Philip Kemmy. Interment took place afterwards in Conwal Cemetery, Letterkenny where Fr. Kemmy also officiated. Music and hymns were by Pricilla Black. Mary was predeceased by her parents Hughie and



Roseanne McNamee, brothers Tommy and Billy and her sisters-in-law Bridie and Kathleen. She is survived by her nieces, nephews, grand-nieces, grand-nephews and a wide circle of family, friends and neighbours to whom deepest sympathy is extended.

Funeral of Roberta Gamble

The funeral took place on Monday of Roberta Gamble, Ballyboe, Kilmacrennan. Aged 47 Roberta was a very well and popular member of the local community. She was also a very diligent member of staff in the office of

barrister Peter Nolan who gave a very moving eulogy during the Funeral Service on Monday. Bertha passed away on Friday at the Donegal Hospice, Letterkenny. She was predeceased by her father Robert. Bertha is survived by her mother Anna, sisters Colina Magee, Canada and Rosemary Stewart, Drumaskea, Ballymaleel and brother Ivan, Ballyboe, nieces Katrina, Olivia and Kirsten, brothers-in-law Martin and Norman, uncles, aunts and a wide circle of family, friends and neighbours.

Bertha's remains reposed at the family residence in Ballyboe from Saturday evening. Funeral was from there on Monday afternoon going to Leiter Presbyterian Church, Kilmacrennan for Funeral Service conducted by Rev. Richard Tregaskis. Interment took place afterwards in the adjoining churchyard. Deepest condolences are extended to the family circle.

The late Annie Kerr

The death took place on Monday of Anne (Annie) Kerr, Dr McGinley Road, Letterkenny. A native of Ballyare, Annie worked in Derry for some time before settling in Dr McGinley Road in the 1970's. She is survived by her daughter Roberta, son Simon, brothers John, Thomas, George and Matthew, sisters Ethel, Jean and Lizzie, daughter in law Martina and grandchildren Darragh and Catherine Anne.

Annie's remains reposed at her residence on Dr McGinley Road from Monday evening. Removal was from there on Wednesday afternoon to Trinity Presbyterian Church for Funeral Service which was conducted by Rev Tommy Bruce followed by burial afterwards in New Leck Cemetery. Deepest sympathy is extended to the family circle.

The late Isobel Moore

The death occurred at Letterkenny University Hospital on Sunday of Isobel Moore (née Beattie), Ard Colmcille, Letterkenny. A well known member of the local community Isobel was a native of Raphoe. She was predeceased by her daughter Margo Coyle, sisters Jean Wylie, Margaret Scott and Betty McElhinney. She is survived by her husband Matt, sons Ronnie, Mark, Stephen and Allister (all Letterkenny); daughter Betty McGinty, Kincraigy, Manorcunningham; brother Jackie Beattie, Raphoe; grandchildren; great-grandchildren, daughters-in-law; sons-in-law, nieces, nephews and a wide circle of family, friends and neighbours.

The remains of the late Mrs Moore were removed from the Eternal Light Chapel of Rest, Mountain Top, Letterkenny on Monday evening to her late residence. The Reverends David and Heather Houlton officiated at the Funeral Service that took place in the family home on Wednesday afternoon. Interment took place afterwards to Gortlee Cemetery, Letterkenny. Deepest condolences are extended to the family circle.

The late Andy Tarry Shields, Downings

There was great sadness last weekend on learning of the death of Andy Tarry Shields, late of Doey, Downings. He died in Letterkenny University Hospital, aged



78. He lay in repose at his home from Friday and his Requiem Mass took place on Monday morning, March 7th at the Church of St. John the Baptist, Carrigart, which was followed by interment in the adjoining cemetery.

Mass was celebrated by Fr. Charlie Bryne who recalled Andy's life hailing from a large, respected, family where he was one of two sets of twins. He recalled Andy started work for McNutt's when he was 14-years-old and when he left there 29 years later he had worked his way up to become a weaver. He also worked the family farm and was remembered as "a quiet, gentle man" who had a great memory of local knowledge and a great way with figures.

Predeceased by his brother Joise in 2013, he is survived by his siblings Patsy, John, Charlie, Annie, Gracie and Mary, his uncle Joe Bradley, his nieces, nephews, neighbours and many friends. Ar dheis Dé go raibh an am.

Death of Bridget Doherty

The death occurred on Sunday at Aras Uí Dhomnaill Nursing Home, Milford of Bridget Doherty, formerly of Rosemount, Kilmacrennan. A well known member of the local community Bridget will be sadly missed by her family. She was a renowned dressmaker in her younger days. The remains of the late Mrs Doherty are reposing at her

daughter, Geraldine Flood's home, Carnasaul, Termon, Letterkenny. Funeral is from there on this Thursday morning for 11am Requiem Mass in St. Columba's Church, Kilmacrennan, followed by burial in the adjoining graveyard. Bridget was predeceased by her husband Tony and sons Raymond and Kevin. She is survived by her daughters Mary, Geraldine and Philomena, son Noel, fourteen grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Deepest condolences are extended to the family circle.

The late Naoimh McDaid

There was great sadness on learning of the death of Naoimh McDaid, late of 40 Bayswater, Waterside in Derry, Roscommon, Edinburgh and Rathmullan. Naoimh passed away peacefully on Saturday 26th February, at her home in Edinburgh.

She is survived by husband Pablo, daughter Sofia, and was the much loved daughter of Brian and Kathleen, sister of Emma, Sarah and David and devoted aunt of Aoife, Cassie and Michael. Her passing is deeply regretted by all her extended family and her very many friends.

Many tributes were paid to Naoimh following her passing and she was remembered for her zest for life and the "quiet courage" she bore her illness with.

Born in 1981 she was a regular visitor to Rathmullan all her life. She lay in repose at her family home in Derry and her Requiem Mass took place in St. Joseph's Church, Rathmullan last Saturday with interment afterwards in the adjoining cemetery.

A fundraising page has been set up in her memory with Cancer Support Charity Centre 'Maggie's'.

To make a donation please go www.naoimhmcdaid.muchloved.com



Milford Coffee morning raises over €1600 for Ukraine

Milford & District Resource Centre hosted a coffee morning to raise funds for Ukraine on Monday. Over €1,600 was raised but with more donations continuing to come in the final total is expected to be higher. MDRC will be accepting donations to the appeal until the end of the week for anyone else who wishes to donate.

Like many others the team at MDRC have been watching the invasion of Ukraine unfold in horror and wanted to do something to help. Manager Declan Meehan said "We are delighted with the amount raised and we were very happy to see so many people come out to support the fundraiser. I think most people are feeling quite helpless, despite wanting to do something to help the people of Ukraine, and the coffee morning was a small outlet for people to do that. We are so grateful for everyone's generosity."

The donations will be going to the Irish Red Cross Ukrainian appeal. Red Cross teams are on the ground now in Ukraine and will continue their work to repair vital infrastructure, support health facilities, and help families with life-saving food and hygiene items. This is a rapidly evolving crisis and donations will help those affected get food, medicine, shelter and water.

Red Cross teams are also on the ground supporting refugees who have fled to other countries. The UN have announced this week that there are now 2 million Ukrainian refugees due to the ongoing invasion. The people of Ukraine will need support for a long time to come.



At the coffee morning for Ukraine in the MDRC were Declan Meehan, Lynette Morgan and Yvonne Meehan and below Julie Casey, Kathleen O'Toole and Kathleen Birney.



Death of Brid Duggan



The death took place on Monday 7th March peacefully at her home of Brid Duggan, 157 Mount Marian, Milford. Brid (nee McCarron), Warden, Portsalon was predeceased by her husband Hugo in December 2020, brother Dan, sisters Kathleen and Mary. Brid was a devoted wife and mother to her family, supportive and proud of them all and of her many grandchildren. Since moving to Milford many years ago, Brid made herself part of the Community and was involved in many community events over the years which included helping out with the Milford AC, Milford Community Games, School events and many more. Socially Brid had a great love of Bingo, playing at the various venues locally on a weekly basis. Brid also in recent years she enjoyed her holiday's to Australia spending time with her son Alan and his family. Brid's Funeral Mass will take place on Thursday 10th March in St. Peter's Church, Milford at 12 noon with interment afterwards in Milford Cemetery.

Deepest sympathy is extended to her sons Stephen, Germany, Alan, Australia, James, Waterford, Hugo Junior, Downings and Karol, Letterkenny, daughters Maria, Letterkenny, Joanne, Kerrykeel and Breege, Gortahork, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law, grandchildren, brothers Pat and Charlie, nieces, nephews and extended family and friends.

Sympathy

Deepest sympathy to Andrew Burke, Kilmacrennan Road, Milford and Peter Burke, Mount Marian and

€147,820 for the Milford & District Resource Centre

The International Fund for Ireland (IFI) has unveiled €5,006,601 towards peace building with €231,016 going to two Donegal projects. €83,196 has been awarded to Donegal Youth Services with €147,820 allocated to Milford & District Resource Centre.

Both projects are funded under the IFI Personal Youth Development Programme, which focuses on supporting at risk youths through programmes, training and initiatives

that create better futures.

The IFI was set up by the British and Irish governments as an independent international organisation in 1986. It delivers a range of peace and reconciliation initiatives across Northern Ireland and the southern border counties. It currently supports a total of 40 projects in Northern Ireland and 15 in the southern border counties. The funding was announced at the IFI's recent Board meeting in Rathmullan.

their extended families on the death of their father William (Willie) Burke, 290 Rosemount, Kilmacrennan. Funeral Mass will take place in St. Columba's Church, Kilmacrennan on this Thursday at 2pm followed by interment in the adjoining cemetery.

Charity Party Night

Ka Marley, Gortmacall will host a

Party Night in aid of the Mountain Rescue and Coast Guards in the Travellers Inn, Milford on Saturday 12th March at 8pm. Finger food will be served at 9pm, music by Mark Boyce and your support and donations will be greatly appreciated.

50/50 Winner

Congratulations to David Wilson, Portleau who was the lucky winner of the Milford United 50/50 Draw for February Jackpot of €1020 which took place on Saturday night.



James Gibbons presenting Rosemary Gallagher with 2nd prize of €300 in the Milford AC February Development Draw.

The Big Spring Clean Milford & District Resource Centre are organising the Big Spring Clean

KA'S PARTY NIGHT
IN AID OF
MOUNTAIN RESCUE AND COAST GUARD
SATURDAY 12TH MARCH
8PM
THE TRAVELLER'S INN MILFORD

FINGER FOOD SERVED 9PM
MUSIC BY MARK BOYCE
SUPPORT AND DONATIONS GREATLY APPRECIATED
POSTERS DESIGNED BY RAPHAEL CURRAN

this Saturday from 11am-1pm. They hope to have volunteers across Milford, Ray, Ramelton, Rathmullan, Kerrykeel and Cranford, all taking part in the community clean up. This is being organised in partnership with Donegal County Council, the local Tidy Towns committees and community centres. If any other areas would like to get involved contact Declan on declan@mdrc.ie or 9153736.

Milford United

Milford United senior team will travel to neighbours Cranford FC on Sunday 13th March in the Donegal League with a 1.00pm kick off time. Support welcome.

Golf Society

The Hi-da-way Golf Society next outing will take place on Saturday 19th March at the Sandy Hills Links, Rosapenna. The society will host a weekend away on the weekend 13th and 14th May.

Milford Dancing

It was really good to get back to the dancing last week in the hall and a great time was had by all. Dancing will continue every Thursday at 8pm, including St. Patrick's Night. Suffice it to say, we can only get better. Price is €5 including refreshments. Looking forward to seeing everyone.

Learn to Jive

Jiving Classes with Paul will resume this Monday the 14th of March in the Mulroy Woods Hotel, Milford. Starting at 8pm

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Milford Athletic Club are looking for help with

Juvenile Coaching

If you are interested or can help out please contact Noel on 086 3636551.

for an hour and a half Paul will teach you how to Jive, Waltz, Quick Step, Foxtrot and of course Line Dancing. Beginners are welcome as well as all levels of dancing and there are no partners needed.

Nuacht CLG Baile na nGalloglach

Lotto: 27/2/22

NUMBERS: 4-17-22-24. No Jackpot winner. Lucky Dip winner gets €50, Deirdre O Toole, Drumbern, Milford. Jackpot Next Week: €5,350.

Gaeltacht Championships

Our Senior men had their first match of the season away to Ardara last Saturday in the Gaeltacht Championships. Unfortunately, despite being ahead on a number of occasions, Ardara pulled away towards the end of the match to win.

Bhí an cluiche Sinsear idir Ard Ratha agus Baile na nGalloglach socraithe don Satharn 5u la de Marta ag a seacht o chlog. Bhuaiigh Ard Ratha an cluiche. **Scór na nÓg**

A feast of talent was on show in Burt last Sunday. Three Club members put on brilliant performances - Hannah Lynch (Recitation), Ellen Griffin (Flute) and Lizzie Haughey (Contertina). A big thank you to the girls and their parents who supported them - Congratulations to you all.

Table Quiz

As part of CLG Baile na nGalloglach's participation in Seachtain na Gaeilge 2022 events with Energia, the club will host a table quiz on Saturday the 25th

March at 9pm in The Travellers Inn (Please note change of date). This follows a very successful quiz which was held during Seachtain na Gaeilge 2021. There will be prizes for the winning team as part of Ciste Sheachtain na Gaeilge with Energia 2022.

Irish/Culture classes

Tháinig na ranganna Gaeilge ar ais ar lá nua : gach oíche Mháirt ag a 8:00 pm. Más mian le haon duine teacht ar na ranganna, seol téacs teachtaireachta riomhphoist chuig cultureclgna@gmail.com chun an nasc don rang a fháil. Nó cuir scairt ar Aodh ag 087-8131565. Is ranganna iad seo a chuireann fáilte foinm aon duine a bhfuil suim acu inár dteanga dhúchasach, ár gceol, ár gcultúr agus

sa stair áitiúil. Fáilte is fiche romhat.

Last Man Standing

Our Last Man Standing Competition continues. There are only 12 players left as we go into Week 5 this week.

Good luck to those still standing! All proceeds will go towards our Minor Board to support our underage teams within the Club.

IRISH LIFE STEPS CHALLENGE

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Irish Life Steps Challenge this year. Congratulations to Cathy Carr, Ciara Mailey and Rachel Ivers who the €20 vouchers from the draw for all Club participants from Week 3, 4 and 5.

A season to remember for Mulroy Hoops



Mulroy Hoops U12 Girls the NWAB League Winners.

Mulroy Hoops are reaching the end of another season. A season where even the week to week running of the club was uncertain, would we have training next week, would we have coaches, would we have kids and even when games got under way the parents could not see what was happening and only the social media kept us up to date with scores and results and here now after a long autumn and winter of travelling the length and breadth of Donegal and Sligo we finally have a few certainties, our U12 girls are U12 NWAB League Winners, our U14 girls are NWAB Div1 Play Off Winners and our U16 girls are U16 NWAB League Winners and that means that in a few weeks time we will send two teams to the U14 and U16 AICCS, basketball's All Ireland Club Championships.

For years now the defensive and attacking strategies of Basketball have been increasingly influencing the top teams of GAA such as Kerry and Dublin, the fitness and access to winter training have become crucial even for club teams that want to take the next step and our girls even from a young age are increasingly playing GAA and soccer at county level.

Our boys have also achieved success in North West teams winning the highest ever position for the region in the BIPPS Basketball Ireland Post

Primary Schools competitions and for the first time playing in The Ulster Squad and getting trials for the Irish Squad. For some of the boys 2020 was to be their year at the AICCS, years of training and playing together was finally coming to fruition and on a weekend in March 2020 they were confident that they'd finally get their chance. Instead the curtains came down on their dreams and by the time they lifted those boys were too old to compete at the AICCS. Far from allowing that to dampen their spirits however they continue to play, some at National league level, some taking coaching courses and helping us now at Mulroy Hoops to begin training the next generation of players.

Whatever happens in a few weeks at the AICCS for us at Mulroy Hoops the season has already been a resounding success. We are already looking to next year, we have more young players than ever and we want to give them the opportunity to follow our current teams and behind the scenes we've become one of the first clubs to achieve a Gold Club Mark for Standards for Basketball Ireland and we want parents to take a greater part in that success. We have a place for everyone in the club however little or however much time you can afford. It might be as little as offering a lift to a coach or as parents have already done it might be as an assistant to a



The Mulroy Hoops U14 girls who were the NWAB Girls Div1 Play Off Winners.



Mulroy Hoops U16 Girls NWAB League Winners.



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EVENING MENU FROM 3PM - 9PM DAILY
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SUNDAY LUNCH 12:30 4PM

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Thurs. 17th - St. Patrick's Night Special
with Paul McCahill and Johnny Haughey

Thurs. 24th - Carmel & Glenside Country

Thurs. 31st - The Fanadian & Tory Sound



Pat McKenna



Paul McCahill & Johnny Haughey;

Carmel;

The Fanadian

● Spot Prizes
● Light Refreshments Served
● Anyone attending the Thursday evening Supper Club in the Mulroy Woods Hotel gets FREE Entry to the Social Dancing

March madness continues at Mulroy Woods Hotel

A warm welcome awaits your arrival at the Mulroy Woods Hotel, with everything you require in comfort and style coupled with a special charm and cosy mood to make you feel right at home when visit.

To celebrate the opening of restrictions the Mulroy Woods Hotel are offering a March Madness Sunday Lunch offer of 4 Course Carvery Lunch for €19.95 and kids under 3 are free. Also Kids entertainment is provided in the Hotel so parents can eat their lunch in peace. The popular Thursday Night Supper Club continues every Thursday with Free entry to the Social Dancing and this week the

music is by Pat McShane and Glenside Country. There is live music on Saturday nights and this week its Brian Kerrigan with €2,400 to be won on the Take Your Pick.

Food is served daily with Breakfast from 7.30am - 12noon, followed with lunch from 12.30-3pm and the evening menu is available from 3-9pm. Thursday night Supper Club is served from 6-9pm and Sunday lunch served from 12.30 - 4pm. Communion and Confirmation Meals are available at €24.95. Visit the Mulroy Woods Hotel for that unique dining experience and for further enquiries and bookings contact reception at 074 91 53313.

coach or becoming a coach yourself. We have provided Basketball Ireland coaching courses at Intro and level 1 and we continue to try to develop our coaching including partnering with LYIT to offer experience for students there.

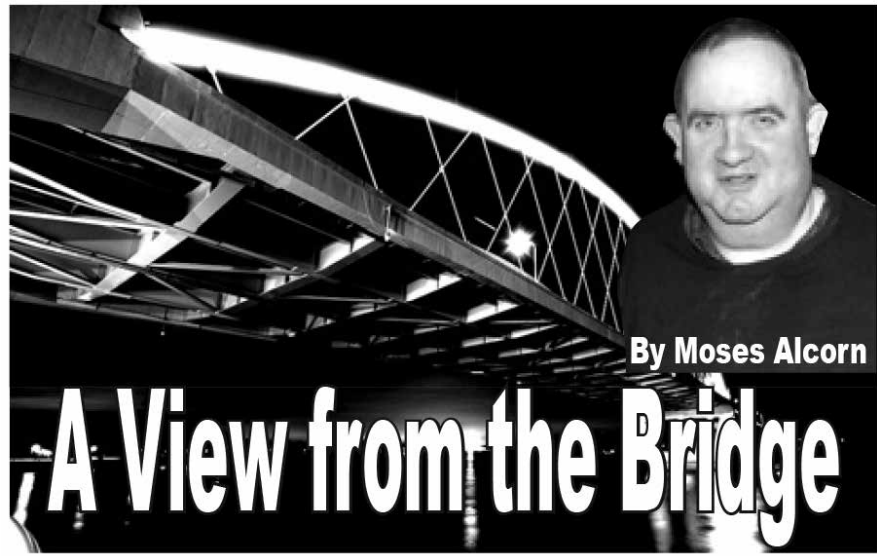
Our wonderful coaches that are going to the All Irelands all began the year with the same goal of offering the kids a chance to have fun playing basketball.

We have put increasing efforts into achieving funding from Sports Ireland and through our sponsors MOWI and Martin Conservatories and in partnership with Ray Community Centre we've invested in new equipment and upgrading facili-

ties and that work is paying off.

A recent quiz at McGinleys in Kerrykeel was wonderfully supported raising €800 to help towards sending our teams to the All Ireland's and we need to raise more now to allow the girls to make the most of the opportunity.

We're proud of being the first team from the North West to win an All Ireland and we're even more proud to be sending two teams back to Dublin after such a challenging couple of years and in a couple of weeks with the help of the community we'll be proud to welcome them back as if there is ever a certainty in these difficult times it's they're all already winners in our eyes.



By Moses Alcorn

A View from the Bridge

Ukraine Appeal

As the situation worsens in Ukraine, their plight has moved the entire country to help. Dunfanaghy Youths is donating their share of the 50/50 takings from the St Patrick's day draw, they are also organising a collection of emergency supplies that will be delivered to Poland.

Items can be left at the back of St Michael's Chapel, or in Primo, Centra, Moores or Revive in Dunfanaghy. Alternatively, you can contact Joanne Hughes 0877414559 or Bernice Alcorn 0876704445.

Donegal men in The American Civil War

As the clouds of war continue over Eastern Europe, we hear daily of Ukrainians returning home to fight and defend their country against the Russian Despot. However, man has taken up arms against man since the dawn of time and over 160 years ago the USA was embroiled in a bitter civil war between the northern and the

southern states which killed thousands of people on both sides and among them were many Irishmen who fought on both sides including men from Donegal. It's estimated that 200,000 Irish-born soldiers fought in the American Civil War, 180,000 of whom fought for the Union.

Among them was Brigadier-General Michael Corcoran from Creeslough who was one of the most famed Irish leaders of the American Civil War. A dedicated Fenian, as Colonel of the 69th New York State Militia he had refused to parade the regiment on the visit of the Prince of Wales to New York in 1860. Captured at First Bull Run, his national fame increased as he was held under threat of reciprocal execution by the Confederate Government.

Released to great fanfare, he formed Corcoran's Irish Legion, one of only two brigade-level ethnic Irish formations to serve in the American Civil War. His brigade was decimated in 1864, but Corcoran did not live to

see it. He had died in a fall from his horse in late 1863. A young Michael Corcoran had served in the Revenue Police in his native Creeslough, a force that was largely charged with clamping down on illegal distilling.

In 1839 Joe L. Campbell was born into an Ulster-Scots Presbyterian family in Drumaboden House near Ramelton.

Shortly before the war his family had left their home to join relatives in Tennessee, making their home in Franklin. During the Civil War Joe enlisted in the 1st Tennessee Infantry, and was severely wounded and captured at the Battle of Stones River. He was exchanged and promoted to Sergeant in time to take part in the 1863 Battle of Chickamauga, where he carried the regimental colours. He was shot in the face and killed during the unit's attack of 19th September 1863. A monument was later erected in his memory by his brothers in close to where he fell.

In the late summer of 1863 news arrived in the townland of Corcreggan to the home of Ann and Thomas McKinley. It brought devastating tidings about their son James who had emigrated to America just four years earlier. James had traveled to America in 1859, joining others from his local area in Pennsylvania. Initially working in an iron foundry. This was a regular destination for Donegal emigrants in the mid 1800's, many of whom settled in Pennsylvania and worked in the steel mills of Pittsburgh having lived first in cities such as New York and Boston.

James regularly remitted money home to his aging parents in Corcreggan. In Pittsburgh on

25th July 1861, he enlisted into what became the 62nd Pennsylvania Infantry. Two years later, on Gettysburg's Second Day he was involved in the savage fighting around the Wheatfield, where he received a gunshot wound to the right thigh. The following day James was taken to a local field hospital, where he died on 15th July.

Message in a Bottle

In recent months and years there have been a number of instances of items washing up on our beaches and shorelines after traveling often for thousands of miles. These include fishing buoys, golf balls, small boats and even one cargo ship which was up on the Cork shoreline a couple of years ago. In Donegal a number of bottles have washed ashore recently including two on Magheroarty Beach. Just last Friday a bottle was discovered on the beach which had been in the water since 2009.

It's very exciting for anyone who finds a message in a bottle as they seek to identify who the original sender was and if they do track the senders down new friendships can be formed.

Messages placed in bottles have been around since around 315BC and over the years they have been used to study the ocean currents, and even to send messages looking for help for desperate shipwrecked sailors looking for rescue in the days before modern search and rescue methods were established and some have remained at sea for over a hundred years before they were found. Its interesting to note that despite all

the modern ways of communication people are still taking the time to write and place messages in bottles and that the excitement of those who find them is still the same as ever.

Read DL launched

Read DL was launched on World Book Day on Thursday. For Read DL 2022, schools, organisations, and individuals across Donegal will be reading Check Mates by Stewart Foster. The book is a heart-warming tale about a young boy who struggles at school and explores the challenges of having ADHD, relationships and finding lessons from unexpected places. This year the project has distributed 3,100 books across Donegal and due to unprecedented demand had to close registration early in December.

Time to spring clean

The good weather has seen tidy towns committees turn their thoughts towards the upcoming Judging of the competition in the coming months. These committees play a vital part in keeping towns and villages tidy and already some are busy sprucing up their local areas by organising clean ups and the painting of old buildings.

As well as doing their communities a great service by their work, becoming a member of a local tidy towns committee can be very beneficial for an individual as it can be a good way of meeting people and getting exercise whilst helping their local communities at the same time.

Over 560 LUH diabetic review appointments overdue - Saolta CEO

A total of 563 diabetic patients whose review appointments with Consultants at Letterkenny University Hospital are now overdue, according to figures received by a Letterkenny area councillor.

Cllr. Gerry McMonagle attended the Regional Health Forum West on February 22nd and asked how many diabetic patients are currently awaiting review appointments? He also asked the forum how many Adult Endocrinologists are now in situ at LUH, has adult care for diabetes evolved to include Pump Starts at LUH and how often do adults with Pumps get review appointments?

The response from Tony Canavan, CEO, Saolta University Health Care

Group, outlined that delayed appointments are now being rescheduled. He replied: "Letterkenny University Hospital has approval for 2.0 WTE (whole time equivalent) Consultant Physicians in Endocrinology. At present 1.0 WTE is filled on a permanent basis with 1.0 WTE filled on a locum basis. The permanent post has been advertised on several occasions with no successful candidate secured. The hospital is continuing to work with the Public Appointments Service to re-advertise yet again in the coming months. There are 563 patients whose review appointments with Consultants are now overdue. These patients will receive appointments for clinics as outpatient activity continues to be

reinstated post-Covid and initiatives to address the backlog of activity which has built up over the last 2 years are undertaken. In addition there are 659 patients with review appointments already scheduled for 2022 as part of their normal care pathway. This number will increase as new patients are given appointments at clinically appropriate intervals and these can range from 3 to 6 months, 12 months or longer. 47 adults attend the infusion pump clinic and they are reviewed every 6 months or more frequently if required."

Cllr McMonagle was also told that a fulltime Podiatrist will return to their post in LUH on March 7th.

Centenary of Milford shooting marked

The centenary of a fatal shooting in Milford was marked by the Donegal County Museum last week.

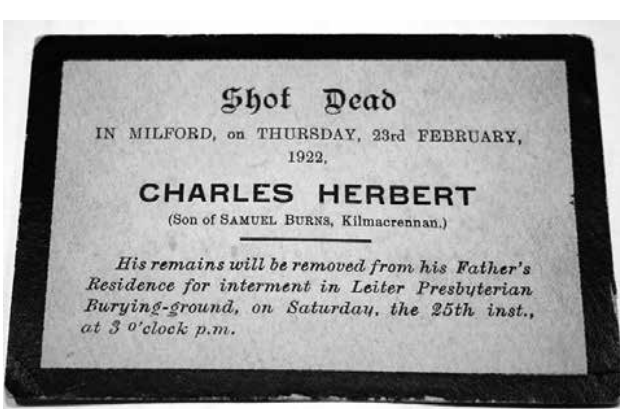
By Eamonn McFadden

They detailed that 100 years ago, on February 23rd 1922, 26-year-old Charles Herbert Burns was fatally shot by IRA Private Patrick Connelly in Milford.

This chapter of local history was well documented at the time and the matter was even raised directly with Winston Churchill to find answers about the death of the ex-soldier who fought in the First World War in France.

Donegal County Museum shared an extract from author Liam Ó Duibhir in his book, Donegal in the Civil War that stated: "a party of IRA men under the command of Commandant James Walsh was on patrol at the Milford Fair with instructions to stop and search all vehicles entering the town. Three IRA men spotted two men going into Alcorn's grocery shop. The IRA men pursued them, entered the shop and ordered the two to raise their hands: but one man did not obey. The order was given again and then a third time but the other man put his hand into his coat pocket, drawing a weapon and was shot in the stomach by Patrick Connelly."

They went on to outline that Charles was born on 15 November 1895 in Kilmacrennan and was the son of grocer Samuel



Burns and his wife Annie (nee Rutherford).

Burns enlisted in the North Irish Horse in late 1913. (later Corps of Hussars). He embarked for France on 17th August 1914, where he fought at the retreat from Mons and at the advance to Aisne. He remained on the Western Front throughout the war.

In 1919, after the war, he returned home to Kilmacrennan, where he worked for his father.

His death was raised first as question on the 8th March 1922 in the House of Commons and then again on 15th March 1922, when the Secretary of State for the Colonies, Winston Churchill was asked "whether he has any information in the case of Charles Herbert Burns, who was shot dead by the Irish Republican Army at Milford, County Donegal; whether he is aware that the murder of this ex-soldier

has been justified on the part of the Irish Republican Army on the ground that it was by lawful authority; and if he can say whether any representations have been made to the Provisional Government; and whether any arrests have been made by their authority in connection with this matter?"

The reply is listed as: "According to the evidence given at the coroner's inquest in this case, Burns was challenged and ordered to put up his hands by a picket of the so-called Irish Republican Army consisting of four men, who were under orders to attend at Milford Fair and to hold up and disarm all unauthorised persons found in the possession of firearms, and when challenged he put his hand to his pocket and drew a revolver, whereupon one of the four men fired and wounded him fatally. I am not aware that the so-called Irish Republican Army has made any statement in the matter; but the coroner's jury, consisting of six Protestants and six Catholics, none of whom, I understand, is a member of the Irish Republican Army, found that the man who fired did so in the execution of his duty. In view of the peculiar circumstances existing at the time and in the area where this unfortunate and regrettable event occurred, and in view of the finding of the coroner's

jury. His Majesty's Government does not propose to take any further action in the matter." His inquest was held in Milford on the 24th February 1922 with the Jury made up of six catholic and six protestant members. Evidence was heard from IRA Cmt Walsh and Private Connelly along with Thomas Wilson who was with Charles along with the shop assistant in Al-

THE MILFORD MURDER.
Jury's Extraordinary Verdict.
At an inquest held at Milford by Mr. Edward McFadden, coroner for the district, on Samuel Herbert Burns, a young Protestant who was murdered at Milford fair, Co. Donegal, by a number of armed Sinn Feiners, a verdict was returned that the deceased was killed by a private of the "I.R.A." in the "execution of his duty." It appeared from statements made at the inquest that a man named Walsh, a "commandant of the I.R.A.," had ordered armed Sinn Feiners to hold up and search all motors coming to Milford. He received information that two "suspicious" men had been observed in town, and detailed some gunmen to watch them and search them at the earliest opportunity. Burns and another man, Thomas J. Wilson, entered Alcorn's shop, and were followed by three men, members of the "I.R.A.," who ordered them to put up their hands. Wilson put up his hands, but Burns refused. He drew a revolver, it was alleged, and threw it over the counter just as Patrick Connelly, "I.R.A.," fired, wounding Burns in the abdomen. He succumbed in a few minutes. Thomas Wilson, who was with Burns, said he did not see any revolver with him. He admitted that deceased was challenged and did not put up his hands. Robert Kearney, assistant in Alcorn's shop, said he did not know who threw the revolver over the counter. The jury returned the verdict already stated. The bullet which caused the young Protestant's death was an expanding one, it appears, and inflicted a terrible wound. Burns was 24 years of age, and had served throughout the European war. Some time ago his father had a horse maliciously destroyed.

corn's Shop. The inquest also heard that there were conflicting accounts on the presence of a revolver during the incident. Charles is buried in the Leiter Presbyterian Church Graveyard, Kilmacrennan. His funeral card, pictured above left, is from the Donegal County Museum Collection.

TIRCONAILL TRAGEDY
I.R.A. PRIVATE EXONERATED
An inquest at Milford by Mr. Ed. McFadden, Coroner, found that the death of Mr. S. H. Burns (24), a Protestant, son of a merchant in the adjoining village of Kilmacrennan, was "caused by gunshot wounds inflicted by Pte. Pk. Connelly, who was acting in discharge of his duty as I.R.A. picket." The jury consisted of 6 Catholics and 6 Protestants. Deceased, who served 3 years in the British army during the war had motored from Kilmacrennan to Milford on Thursday evening. Cmt. Walsh, I.R.A., said he had placed outposts on roads leading from Milford with instructions to hold up and search motors and other vehicles. His men were also instructed to hold up all suspicious persons and search them for arms. He got information that 2 suspicious men were observed in town and detailed 2 men to search them at the earliest opportunity. **HANDS UP.** The two men entered Alcorn's shop and were followed by 3 men, members of the I.R.A., who ordered the men to put up their hands. One of the men, Thomas J. Wilson, complied, but Burns refused though asked 3 times. He drew a revolver from his pocket and threw it over the counter just as Private Pk. Connelly, I.R.A., fired, wounding Burns in the abdomen. He succumbed in a few minutes. Pte. Connelly, I.R.A., and Pte. Connelly also gave evidence. It was stated the latter was placed under arrest after the shooting, but on investigation of the circumstances was released. Thomas Wilson, who was with Burns, said he did not see any revolver with him. He admitted deceased was challenged 3 times and did not put up his hands. Robert Kearney, an assistant in Mr. Alcorn's shop, said he did not know who threw the revolver over the counter.



Mickey Doherty after receiving the Downings GAA Club Hall of Fame Award at the Club's annual dinner dance in the Downings Bay Hotel on Saturday night pictured with some of his family.



CARRIGART OFFICE
 Monday 10.30am - 4.30pm
 Tuesday - Friday 9.30am - 4.30pm
 Saturday 9.30am - 3.00pm
CREESLOUGH OFFICE
 Monday 10.30 - 4.30pm
 Tuesday - Friday 10.00am - 4.30pm
 Saturday 10.00am - 3.00pm

Our Loans at a Glance

- **Car Loan Promotion @ 6.7% Apr**
Don't Miss Out - Car Loan Offer Ending Soon
- **Holiday Loan @ 8.2% Apr**
- **Wedding Loan @ 8.2% Apr**
- **Go Green Go Clean Loan @ 5.1% Apr** (Our best rate ever)
- **Secured Loan @ 5.6% Apr** (Covered by Shares)
- **Promotional Farm Loan @ 6.75%Apr**
- **Educational Loan @ 5.1% Apr**
- **Sports & Leisure Loan @ 9.4% Apr**
- **HealthWealth Loan @ 6.75% Apr**
- **Standard rate Loan @ 9.4% Apr**

(e.g.: Repay €10,000 at €48 per week over 5 years or €15,000 at €72 per week over 5 years.)

Check out our website at www.sheephavencu.ie for more details and repayment amounts on the above loans or give us a call on 074 9155866 or 074 9138765.

Free Loan Protection Insurance In the event of death. Terms & Condition apply.

Loans can be applied for by logging into www.sheephavencu.ie and using our online platform and also through the Sheephaven Credit Union APP. Applications are also accepted at our officers at Carrigart & Creeslough daily Monday to Friday until 3pm and on Saturday until 2pm.

New Members always welcome
Local, Loyal, and Lending
for all your Financial Needs
owned by You the Members

Craoibhín Community Enterprise Centre

Currin, Termon Tel: 074 9119988 E-mail: info@craoibhintermon.ie

Discover Termon - Faigh Amach Faoin Tearmainn

Launching our new Discover Termon social group during Seachtain Na Gaeilge.

This idea has come from people in Termon who are interested in documenting and recording information about the area both history and current.

The initial idea is to get a social group together and pick a few topics that you would like to learn more about. Each week we will undertake some research, road trips and engage with others who may have the information you are looking for.

Recently we have been asked about the story behind Doon Well and also Lough Salt. To our shame we really didn't know very much about them. It would be great to keep some local knowledge and with the advances in technology all the information we gather could be easily put onto a website or book.

We are having our first meet up Wednesday 16th March in Craoibhín at both 11am and 7pm to hopefully suit all ages. If you cannot make it and want to be included via zoom we can arrange that.

As part of ETB funding we have a small number of tablets we can lend to the community to help you join this group virtually.

Faigh Amach Faoin Tearmainn
 Craoibhín Community Centre
Márta 16

Tá muid ag scoladh ár ngrúpa sóisialta nua "Faigh Amach Faoin Tearmainn" le linn Sheachtain na Gaeilge.

Má tá suim agat bhíth linn nó díreach de social a chur in iúl dúinn deán teagmháil linn ar 074-9119988 / info@craoibhintermon.ie

Mura hídor leat teacht isteach chugainn agus máir mian leat páirt a ghlacadh trí Zoom, tá linn beag táblaíad againn gur hídor linn a tait.

Faigh Amach Faoin Tearmainn
 Craoibhín Community Centre
March 16

Launching our new Discover Termon social group during Seachtaine Na Gaeilge.

If you are interested in joining us or just giving us your story get in touch on 0749119988 / info@craoibhintermon.ie

If you cannot make it, and want to be included via zoom we can arrange that, we have a small number of tablets that can be used.

Gach seachtain déanfaimid:

- Tabhairt faoi thogháid
- Turais bóthair
- Téigh i dteagmháil le daoine eile a mbeoigh an t-eolas atá ó long againn
- D'fhéadfaí an t-eolas a bhailtear a chur i leabhar beag nó i suaimhín Gréasáin

Foghlaim faoi stair ár n-áiríobhaile álainn ó abúioimhanna anáil go daoine cáiliúla.

Each week we will:

- Undertake research
- Road trips
- Engage with others who will have the knowledge you are looking for
- Information gathered could be put into a small book or website

Learn about the history of our beautiful village from breath-taking sites to famous people.

Wanted to purchase Coastal Wallstead or Site

with access to water or shoreline in the Creeslough, Carrigart, Downings, Fanad, Rathmullan, Portsalon and Dunfanaghy areas
 All considered
 Instant payment and discession assured
 Further details of old run down house also considered
Please contact 089 9528844 for full details

Colleges title for Mollie Page

Former Kilmacrennan Celtic player Mollie Page (far right) was a member of the NUI Galway side that won the WSCAI Premier Division last Thursday. Mollie featured in central defense for NUI who won on penalties after the final had ended 1-1 at the end of extra-time. Both goals come during normal time.

It was a dramatic finale with the NUI keeper saving the fifth penalty before the Galway player converted their final spot-kick to set the scene for some great celebrations. Mollie Page starred with Kilmacrennan Celtic before graduating to the Donegal Women's League the U17 and U19 National League teams.



Kilmacrennan Clean Up

Kilmacrennan Tidy Towns are having their second clean up day on this Saturday the 12th March. Please assemble at the Chapel car park at 9am. Pickers, gloves and bags will be provided. The area for clean up is the Cottain Road.



Pupils from Kilmacrennan National School who were confirmed on Friday last in St Columbas Church, Kilmacrennan pictured with their teacher Mel O'Donnell.

Ireland's proud response for Ukraine

There never can be any rationale or reason for the demonic mindset of Putin and no amount of posturing about NATO or errors of judgement by the USA can be used as an excuse for the invasion of Ukraine. Democracy has been rocked to its core by the actions of Putin and our support is vital in providing help and humanitarian aid because this is the worst conflict and the biggest displacement of people since the nineteen forties.

The outpouring of generosity and support of the Irish nation left our country standing proud when Friday's Late Show recorded a figure of €2.2 million donated for the people of Ukraine within less than two hours. It is something very special and it reflects our spirit of giving: of generosity and sympathy to a country almost three thousand kilometres from our shores. This is Ireland with a huge heart-beat of giving donations and a legacy of fundraising and with the government having already donated €10 million inside eight days this country is playing a sterling role in doing what we do best... helping out in war torn countries and never was that money more needed as bombs continue to rain down on Ukraine, delivering murder, disaster and terror be a demonic leader. And there is no real knowing where he will stop if his own army does to step in and put an end to the invasion. There never can be any rationale or reason for the demonic mindset of Putin and no amount of posturing about NATO or errors of judgement by the USA can be used as an excuse for the invasion of Ukraine. Democracy has been rocked to its core by the actions of Putin and our support is vital in providing help and humanitarian aid because this is the worst conflict and the biggest displacement of people since the nineteen forties. We are a great people: generous to a point and for hundreds of years our missionaries have gone out around the Globe providing aid: offering hope through education, health and food and spreading the Faith and that might have been in Japan, Korea, Nigeria and the great African continent where we helped starving millions, many displaced by

atrocities and acts of war. Now is not a really good time for a debate on our neutrality or for political grandstanding. Ireland's traditional policy of military neutrality characterised by our non-participation in any military alliance is a commitment recognised by our European partners in the legally-binding protocols attached to the Lisbon Treaty. The Constitution provides a further safeguard on this issue where Article 29(4)(9) states, "The State shall not adopt a decision taken by the European Council to establish a common defence pursuant to Article 42 of the Treaty on European Union where that common defence would include the State". Ireland's military neutrality brings with it a deep commitment to international peace and security which the government of the day works to achieve through our efforts in peacekeeping, conflict-prevention and support for human rights - in many cases alongside our European partners. The invasion of Ukraine has changed the world order forever. Nowhere is this more evident than in Germany where in a space of 24 hours there was a total reversal of their policy towards Russia. Their Chancellor, Olaf Scholz only came to power in December, but within a single day he transformed modern Germany's foreign policy. During an emergency parliamentary session on Ukraine Chancellor Scholz announced an additional €84 billion for the German army. He went on to announce the kind of measures that would have been unthinkable a week earlier, including a constitutional commitment to Nato's military spending target of 2% of GDP. And he confirmed that Germany would be sending weap-

ons directly to Ukraine. Within a few days Vladimir Putin has managed to do what Nato allies have spent years trying to achieve: a massive increase of military spending in Germany. This was, without doubt, arguably one of the biggest shifts ever seen in Germany's post-war foreign policy. Before Russia's invasion of Ukraine, such a militaristic stance would have been unacceptable for most Germans. Traditionally Berlin focuses on diplomacy and dialogue, not military might, and historically there are deep economic and cultural links between both countries. The political debate about Russia has always been diverse with many in Germany willing to at least attempt to understand Moscow's view. But Russia's invasion of Ukraine has shocked and stunned Germany's government and public opinion has turned hostile to the Kremlin. And the sanctions have seen the Russian financial markets go into freefall. Never previously has the West collaborated in such a meaningful way and that will tell, perhaps in the short term. The united front of western democracy has been amazing in a cohesive way in stopping Putin by hitting his war chest of €577 billion. The West has severed trading relationships with Russia on a scale thought unimaginable. That's because governments around the world have taken coordinated action with sanctions to target Russia's banking system, state-controlled companies and powerful oligarchs. Under self-imposed restrictions, companies in Europe and the US have followed suit, with energy firms severing corporate ties and brands refusing to export their consumer goods. Initially the exclusion of Russian banks from Swift was a last resort. But it has happened under EU sanctions with seven Russian banks excluded from the system. The EU has moved to ban prominent individuals from travelling to and from the EU and frozen the assets they hold in the region, along with 53 businesses and organisations connected to the Russian state. At least 30 countries have banned Russian planes from their airspace, deepening Russia's isolation from the world. The US has prohibited Russian passenger, cargo and charter flights, joining Canada, the EU and the UK. Moscow has responded with tit-for-tat bans that end the busy flow of traffic in the skies. Before the ban, 300 flights a

day left Russia to land or fly over the EU, while EU carriers landed 50 planes and flew 90 over the world's biggest country by land area. In a move targeting oligarchs, Russian nationals will not be able to charter planes to fly into the EU or use private jets in the UK. The move will also impose costs on western planes bound for Asia that will be obliged to make costly and time-consuming detours around Siberia. EU officials estimate an extra four hours could be added to a flight from northern Europe to an Asian destination. And the big brand companies are all considering their options: Apple has paused their sales in Russia while Nike prevented Russian customers from buying online, joining a growing list of companies to distance themselves from the country in response to its invasion of Ukraine. Carmaker, Ford has suspended its commercial van joint venture in Russia until further notice. It is among several automakers, including rival General Motors, Jaguar Land Rover and Renault, to halt sales and operations in Russia in the last few days. Adidas suspended its partnership with the Russian Football Union, while major names who've joined the sanctions include DHL, Facebook, Apple, H&M, Disney, FedEx, Ikea, DPD and the list continues to grow. On Friday's Late Late Show, Micheál Martin announced the establishment of a register for people to pledge support for Ukrainian refugees arriving into Ireland. The Taoiseach said that he believes that Ukraine's application to join the European Union should be fast tracked. He said that the process is too slow and has been a strategic mistake. Ireland has reacted with aid: with experience of their own previous generations beyond the Great Famine. Our ancestors made great and gallant sacrifices for our times and we are returning that confidence with donations: with every parish in the country on a huge fundraising campaign and congratulations to each and every citizen for their spirit of generosity as we move onwards from the shadows of Covid. We've seen unarmed teenagers in Northern Ireland in the recent past battle to man the burning barricades to stop their communities being ravaged by an army out of control and this point was brought home to all of us who were lucky enough to be at a book launch in Termon on Friday night. Nowadays, the Free World

rightly applauds young Ukrainians using Kalashnikov guns to defend their freedom, a very recent generation in this country was not so lucky. And every time a volunteer lost in battle is remembered at lonely spots where they died, there is political hell to pay for those daring to commemorate those teenagers. Perhaps what is being witnessed in Ukraine is a reminder to our leaders that lack of political leadership creates a vacuum that has to be filled by other Russia is being hit hard by the sanctions: however that pales into insignificance when compared with the death and destruction being visited on Ukraine. People are rightly asking if Putin is an evil sent amongst the people of the earth as a challenge to mankind to create a world where such evil can be confronted and removed: but how? There are no clear answers and it seems as if the past fortnight has seen time stand still as all other nations can only look on at the devastation being rained down on a country and all world leaders can do is to wait and wonder what might happen next. These are very difficult, very dark times for civilisation and answers to the fear and anxiety abroad in our midst are hard to find. We take consolation that someone will find an answer. Sanctions are all the great nations in the western world can offer but there is not much else emerging as a solution to bring peace to Ukraine. The US and Europe have imposed the most crippling and severity of sanctions ever levelled against a G20 country. Russia has been treated like Iran, North Korea, Venezuela. Russian money, until recently so eagerly sought, so politically acceptable has been sterilised. There are no options other than an economic war that the EU and Nato members have launched against Russia is mainly financial, and technological, cutting it off from its overseas assets, which are now unusable, and preventing it from buying all sorts of critical equipment. The overseas operations of Russian financial institutions have been halted with their oligarchs under a forensic spotlight, perhaps in the hope that they can bring Putin to see that diplomacy is the way forward rather than engaging in acts of sheer terror. The Russian financial institutions are now expelled from the technical mechanisms of global capitalism. The consequences have been clear, a huge devaluation of the rouble, a doubling of interest rates, potential runs on domestic banks, and the possibility of inflation. Russia, as a State has been financially disarmed, externally at least. However the sanctions are being imposed on an incremental basis and this is deliberate. Russia can still sell its two main exports for hard cash, energy and grain, but that is a measure of the strength of the west. It does not want to deprive the world economy of supplies at a time of rising commodity prices. But who is in charge is completely clear, and what expectations are also. Foreign investors in Russia are pulling out as best they can, like BP and Shell, and cultural and sporting bodies are acting to ban Russia. The belief that international trade would be so good for all, that no sane person would ever start a war again has turned out to be an illusion. But there was always another much darker side to this coin. It was that if a belligerent nation was sanctioned from international trading, the economic and social consequences would be so crippling it would be forced to cease fighting. Let us hope that the carnage visited on Ukraine will end sooner rather than later and that the world will be a better place for mankind.



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Rinne páistí agus foireann Scoil agus Naíonra Cholmille, Duibhlinn Riabhach, Carraig Airt, bailiúchán chun na ndéanaithe ón Úcráin ar na mallabha. Rachaidh an t-íomlán go dtí teorann na Polainne le cuidiú le cuid acu sin atá i gcrúachás de thairbhe an ionsaithe a rinne an Rúis orthu le tamall anuas. Ba mhaith leis an Scoil agus an Naíonra buíochas mór a ghabháil le achan duine a chuidigh ar dhóigh amháin nó ar dhóigh eile.

The pupils and staff of Scoil Cholmille and Naíonra Cholmille, Devlinreagh, Carrigart recently undertook a collection for the refugees from Ukraine. All supplies collected will be carried by lorry to the Polish border to help some of those experiencing hardship as a result of the attack on their country by Russia. Scoil Cholmille and Naíonra Cholmille would like to thank all those who supported this collection in any way.

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Read DL 2022 launches on World Book Day

Read DL was launched on World Book Day, March 3rd, at an outside broadcast with John Breslin's Around the Northwest at Letterkenny Institute of Technology. Based on the worldwide 'One Book, One Community' project, Read DL has grown from strength-to-strength in recent years and this year boasts its greatest participation numbers to date. For Read DL 2022, schools, organisations, and individuals across Donegal will be reading Check Mates by Stewart Foster. The book is a heart-warming tale about a young boy who struggles at school and explores the challenges of having ADHD, relationships and finding lessons from unexpected places. The author Stewart Foster joined John Breslin live on air to talk about the book and his delight at being involved in the initiative. This year Read DL has distributed 3,100 books across Donegal and due to unprecedented demand

had to close registration early in December. Anyone interested in participating this year can connect with ReadDL on social media and visit the website www.readdonegal.com.

Work Matters event

As part of Work Matters at Your Library and Local Enterprise Week, Central Library Letterkenny will present a free Marketing Workshop with Evelyn McGlynn on this Thursday 10th March from 6.30pm to 7.30pm. Evelyn McGlynn is a trainer, author, and business and life coach. She is the Marketing and Communications Officer with Donegal Women in Business Network, and blogger at Donegal Mammy. Evelyn will share tips for digital and practical marketing and show how creativity, innovation and networking is key to business growth. You can book a place for Evelyn's workshop by emailing central@donegalibrary.ie or by phone on 074 9124950.



Win a €50 Voucher

Where's Shanagh?!



If you can spot Shanagh hiding in one of our Adverts this week text us on 086 2147088. You could win a €50 voucher for Whoriskey's of Ramelton She can be hiding in any advert on any page.... just txt us your name and address and the advert she's in before Monday 14th March at 6pm to be in with a chance to win...

This week's winner was Michelle McKinney, Skreen, Kilmacrennan who found Shanagh in the Tully Lawnmowers Advert on Page 31 and wins a €50 voucher for Whoriskey's of Ramelton.

Memoir of 'Troubles' launched in Termon

"Many didn't survive the conflict and others succumbed to the passage of time since then. I recall four of us as young friends at the end of the 1960s. I was sitting on a wall with three young friends in Turf Lodge as we looked to the future. I'm the only of the group that has survived the Troubles."

A memoir of the Troubles, 'From Armed Struggle to Academia' was launched in Donegal on Friday night in the Lagoon Lounge in Termon and the author, Paddy McMenemy, originally from Belfast's Turf Lodge was back home 'In the Hills' once more.

Joining him for the launch was Tirconaill Tribune Editor, John McAteer and a full house of guests, family, friends of Republican Ireland on a night when the audience stood in silent reflection in unity with the people of Ukraine in these darkest of times since World War 11.

Somehow, it was all so appropriate and in keeping with the spirit that Paddy has embraced over his life.

Termon has a special place in Paddy's heart because his mum, Annie was from this parish and his two uncles, John and Mick ran the Mountain Bar for a generation.

Paddy has had an eclectic life: from his formative school years among a mixed community in Tigers Bay to manning the barricades as Belfast burned in 1969 when he was but sixteen years of age.

Like so many across the religious divide in what was a highly corrosive period in the North, Paddy left school early at fifteen and got a job in a bar. The era of Civil Rights in the Province was brought home to a wider audience when a protest in Caledon, County Tyrone highlighted the injustices of the system. A Catholic mother of six was denied a Council house with a 19 years old protestant girl being given preference by the mandarins at Stormont. That was how the system worked since Partition was imposed on this island. And it cannot be forgotten that the Dublin Government sat on their hands for half a century while the nationalist people of the Six Counties

were treated as second class citizens.

Paddy's school years were ones of innocence and he recalls that he was the only one among his mates in St. Mary's Christian Brothers' Grammar School to get the 11-plus. He was the only one of the group to pass the examination. His parents drove to Termon with the good news, however Paddy was not all that interested.

All of these issues came up for discussion on Friday night and there were comparisons drawn on the role of those on 'active service' in the six counties during the Troubles and that of young Ukrainians with Klaskovs who are rightfully welcomed as heroes by the political system in Dublin. Their memories are blinded by their own ineptitude and their failure to respond in an appropriate manner and this is eagerly promoted by the national media.

This is manifested and highlighted every time a commemoration takes place to honour those Irish volunteers. And it has become a lazy excuse to throw a political hand grenade at Mary Lou McDonald across the floor of the Dail, either by Micheál Martin or Leo Varadkar. The contradictions towards republican history has left Dublin governments in denial... and there is not a word of a lie in that: and the reasons are all too clear!

Paddy's life and times now straddle a generation and the new book is seen as a story that needs to be told in an age of revisionism that there are attempts ongoing to cover the reality of the Troubles, as if by some magic potion, people will not remember.

This book of 135,000 words is not an easy read for the many who've been impacted by the struggle: yet, in its truthfulness and in Paddy's first hand account of the unfolding events, there is very little evidence of any real political interaction to find

a solution. Good Friday 1998 was light years away from those summer battles of 1969.

Joining Na Fianna and learning to use a gun: how to hide it, these were the early days of the armed struggle. Burntollet Bridge and the rise of a young Ian Paisley left little room for optimism: there was none.

He said: "From August 1969 to Easter of 1971 there was a lull. The British Army came in and initially there was not much trouble in Nationalist areas. After the six month honeymoon period, the British Army were just another weapon in the war, along with



Paddy McMenemy and his partner Mary Molloy with his new book "From Armed Struggle to Academia" in the Lagoon Termon with John McAteer, editor of the Tirconaill Tribune who performed the launch.

the RUC and the UDR. The IRA had the split and became the Officials and the Provisionals. Most of my mates joined the Official IRA, a few of us went with the Provisionals and we thought everybody would join. However when I look back, I suppose it wasn't for everybody."

Joining the IRA was inevitable

Paddy took up that narrative in the Lagoon as he recounted his early involvement with Na Fianna: "I went along to a meeting with a few others. I was asked if I could recruit a few more. I recruited a lot of my football mates and we became the local Fianna unit. On August 14th, the night before the Loyalists burnt The Falls, we had a weapons training lecture and one of the head guys told us the British Army would be sent in within a couple of days. We were out on the streets doing all we could. That was how it happened in August 1969. The Loyalists burnt Cooper Street, Bombay Street, Dover Street. The IRA was a very small group at the time.



Paddy McMenemy with Martin Monaghan and Hughie Doherty at the launch of his book.

We were manning the barricades, so I became involved in the Republican movement."

Joining the IRA was inevitable for his generation and he says they had massive support. "Republicans have a tradition going back to the Fenians in the 1860s. When we go into gaol, there are two things: One is to educate yourself, the other is to escape.

"Education and discipline were very important. is the other thing. We'd be in a cage of 80 people, three huts, one hut would be a library. People would send us books, and we'd have

Chairman Mao, Ho Chi Minh, Che Guevara, Castro, Michael Collins, Tom Barry.

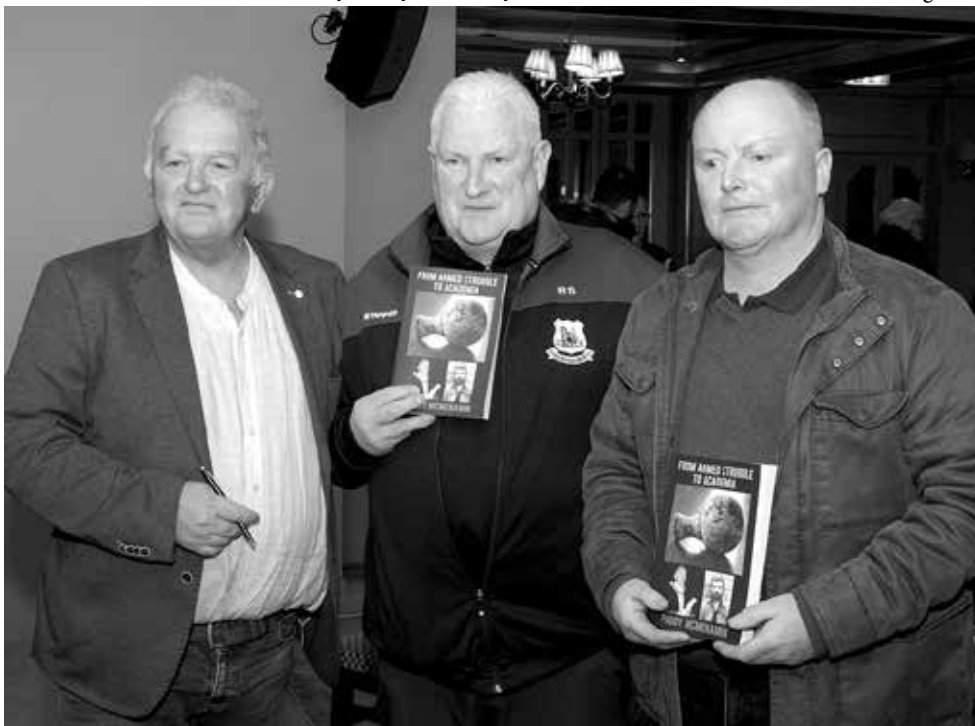
I'd always loved reading, and I read everything. We'd have lectures in Irish and world history.

Arrested on New Year's Eve '71

Paddy spoke in depth about life on the frontline in Belfast from 1969 onwards. He was first arrested at home on the eve of New Year's Day 1971 and that would not have come as a shock.



James Woods with Mary Molloy and Paddy McMenemy.



Paddy McMenemy at the launch with Raymond "Gigsy" Shields and Joe Curran, Ballyboes, Falcarragh.



Paddy signing copies of his book 'From Armed Struggle to Academia' on Friday night.

Three hundred republican prisoners were interned on the former troop ship, the Maidstone in Belfast Lough and there were 700 Marines on-board to stop the men from escaping. Later in the year, the group was transferred to Magilligan prison in Derry and then to the old British Airforce site at Long Kesh. This became 'The Cages'. And it is said that around 15,000 republican prisoners and 10,000 Loyalists passed through the system there.

And it was here in Cage 18 that he got the inclination to write and he became the Editor of the 'local' newsheet. The paper, a dozen of which are in Paddy's possession, were smuggled out of the Kesh and now they have a historical footprint. 'An Fuascailteoir' was the title of the news sheet... one small step into writing for Paddy long before the Tirconaill Tribune first saw the light of day.

During a brief period back from prison as peace talks could take place, Paddy came back to Termon where his uncles encouraged him to remain there. But it was Belfast that kept calling him back... It would be a long time before he passed the Doon Well again.

Asked on Friday night if he had republican blood in his veins he said 'not a fuckin' drop. "My parents could not be further away from the politics of time. But here we were as young teenagers in 1969 defending our own community. We had no other choice and there was no help from anywhere."

The Cages in Long Kesh

The front cover of Paddy's new book has a striking picture of a door knob: or in Belfast parlance, a handle.

'This,' he explains, 'is symbolic. When we burned down the cages I spotted the door handle from Cage 18 amid the ruins and I smuggled it out. Today, it is a reminder of former times as a political prisoner.'

He said that while tensions were simmering underneath the surface, nobody wanted violence. It had been fifty years since Partition and Dublin forgot about us.

And it was while in Long Kesh that he got to know Gusty Spence. Through the fences in the exercise yard they struck up a relationship which also included another loyalist figure, Plum Smith who was keen to learn Irish.

"Maybe if Neil Blaney and Charlie Haughey's plans had worked things might have been different. I think about the campaign and I give talks to young people in NUIG. But within 12 months in the late 1960s we were in full scale street resistance and then armed struggle. It's like Cyprus, Gaza where it was always under the surface. In the end, when it opened up, there were no other options," he told the crowd.

Out of Long Kesh in 1975, Paddy took stock of the political landscape and there were decisions, big decisions to be made. Because in 1977 he came back to Donegal and a new life would begin.

Free to leave the Provisionals

Paddy did not see any issues insofar as leaving the IRA.

"There was no pressure to remain and I was not turning my back on my republican friends. Contrary to a myth perpetuated by the media, everyone that I had known was free to leave the IRA and there were no repercussions and there were no binding ties.

He remained active in Sinn Féin during the Hunger Strikes of the nineteen eighties but he was not really interested in politics.

He would settle back into normality with a young family, becoming head barman at the Ballyraine Hotel and later in the Milford Inn. And so from

the cages of Long Kesh in the 1970s it was back to work and later to education.

Paddy worked for Kirchoff's in Letterkenny manufacturing car components for many years and it was while there he considered taking a computer course at the Regional College.

Then in 2005 he began studies in NUIG and would complete degrees in English and History. He then spent an Erasmus year in Malta, completed the TEFL course, and for five summers, worked in one of the many language schools on the Mediterranean Island.

In 2009 Paddy completed training in Garbally College, and qualified as a secondary school teacher in 2010, before returning to NUIG to complete a Masters in History. He worked with the State exam commission, and for five years marked Junior Cert papers and was a supervisor for the Leaving Cert.

And so... to writing

Paddy has now published three books: 'From Armed Struggle to Academia' being the most challenging. Because this is of an ordinary working-class youth who became involved in something extraordinary; a story of armed struggle, death, prison ships and prison camps.

He said on Friday night: "In writing this memoir, I've found it to be a story representing those I grew up with, those who embraced conflict on the streets in the '70s and the years in Long Kesh; they were friends for life with an unbreakable bond.

Many didn't survive the conflict and others succumbed to the passage of time since then. I recall four of us as young friends at the end of the 1960s.

"I was sitting on a wall with three young friends in Turf Lodge as we looked to the future. I'm the only of the group that has survived the Troubles. Norman Campbell was shot dead by the UFF in 1972, aged 19, five weeks before he was due to marry his Protestant girlfriend. Michael Kearney was 33 when in 1987 the father-of-five was killed by the IPLO during its feud with the INLA.

Kevin McCracken, my brother-in-law was shot by a British soldier in 1988 while preparing to attack an army patrol."

An RUC man as a friend

"This is a story which needs to be told, a story from the streets and not a revisionist history from those who rewrite to suit an agenda," says Paddy with deep conviction.

He has lived in Galway for many years and he was encouraged by his partner, Mary to write the book and it's been an intense journey, a truthful story as seen through the eyes of a man who is a pacifist and counts a former RUC officer among his friends.

Paddy had a number of close calls while on active service in the IRA and again five years ago due to health reasons.

Five years ago he went through a series of health problems: three open heart surgeries in 18 months and after surviving them he was diagnosed with a brain tumour about six weeks later.

"This book is a story about life, about how I went from armed struggle to academia. It is a personal story bringing pathos and powerful recollection from an immensely difficult time in our recent history", he says.

Writing for the cover of the memoir, Dr. Conor McNamara BA, MA, PhD and Historian-in-Residence, Galway County Council notes: "Paddy's brutally honest account of his time in the IRA and the suffocating violence that brutalised his community in West Belfast represents a pained and deeply personal reflection on the 'Conflict' in Ireland...."

As Paddy concludes, the 'Long War' has left a legacy of long memories and long regrets and this account adds to our understanding of what motivated young men and women to risk their lives embracing the republican struggle in the midst of a brutal conflict."

Published by Rivers Run Free Press, the memoir is available on line and at 'Bookmark' in Letterkenny Shopping Centre. The Dublin launch of the book is at O'Shea's in Temple Bar on this Saturday between 1-4pm.



Paddy with Trevor Gorman at the launch.

Cranford Athletes shine at Indoor Athletics Champs

A number of Cranford athletes made the trip to Athlone IT indoor arena to compete last weekend. Saturday got off to a great start with Gold medal performances and Sunday did not disappoint, in total a haul of 6 Ulster titles and gold medal performances, 3 silver medals and 2 bronze for Cranford AC athletes.

Saturday events

Oisín Kelly was representing Cranford in the U19 800m and 1500m today, Oisín had two excellent Gold medal performances on the same day demonstrating his experience and stamina, great racing from Oisín.

Amy Cullen had a challenging day ahead entering 3 of these U16 events, Amy had an excellent run in the 200m event where she gained her lead in the final 50m to earn herself a gold medal performance, Amy then lined up for her long jump which was a learning experience of this technical event to ensure her mark was accurate. In the final jump Amy held her cool head and earned herself a silver medal. Amy again had a fabulous performance in the 60m finishing in 4th place. Great to see Amy back on form after some injury time away from the track.

Caolan McFadden ran an excellent 800m in a time of 2.07min to gain a well deserved Ulster title with this gold medal performance.

Aoife Giles threw the shot in the U19 event, Aoife had some great throws today and finished with silver Ulster medal, well done Aoife.

Orla Neely was competing in the U18 shot where Orla gained a respectable 5th place and a new PB of 8m19 today. Oisín McBride had a challenging run in his U12 600m event where he held his place well to gain a well deserved Ulster silver medal.

Teresa Mullen returning from injury had a good day today in the U18 long jump and 60m, Teresa had some great jumps today and finished with a joint 3rd place in long jump.

Sunday events

On a beautiful Sunday morning 4 Cranford athletes travelled to Athlone IT to the superb venue to compete in day two. Early on the tracks at 10am Miah Fletcher ran in the U16 girls 1500m, Miah held well with the pack in the first three laps but lacked the stamina to stay with the pack, Miah managed a good race overall.

Caolan McFadden fresh from his 800m win on Saturday was ready to challenge again in his 1500m U16 event. Caolan ran a strong race in 4.22 another great time and gold medal position for Caolan.

Jerry Coyle made the trip to Athlone to compete in the U14 long jump Jerry had some good jumps and after a lengthy wait was awarded gold medal position in Ulster, another fine performance from Jerry.

Jerry was ready for his 60m heat where he ran a strong race finishing second in

his heat and then pulling out all the stops earned a bronze Ulster medal in the final.

Lilla Gerwatowska was all warmed up and ready to compete in the U13 60m event. Lilla ran well in her heat. Next up was long jump with nearly 30 entrants this was a challenging event, and then the final race of the day was the U13 600m for Lilla, Lilla had a fabulous run where she battled throughout finishing 4th place in her heat, great running today from Lilla.

We look forward to seeing Caolan and Oisín in action in the All Ireland schools cross country to be held in Mallusk this weekend. Training continues each Tuesday and Thursday evening in Tramore training ground at 6.30pm, new athletes welcome to come and try out a few events including javelin, shot, long jump and high jump as well as the track events. Thanks to the coaches and parents who travelled to Athlone.



Jerry Coyle Ulster Champion who got Gold in Long Jump and bronze in 60m U13 boys with Eamon Giles, Rosie, Richard, Sarah Coyle.



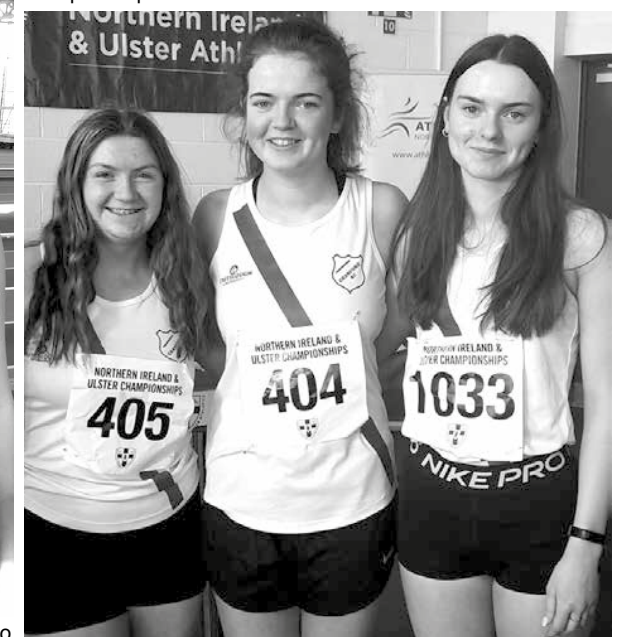
Aoife Giles who won silver in shot put U19 girls with Grace and Shauna Giles.



Oisín Kelly who won Gold in both the 1500m & 800m U19 boys, Oisín McBride who won silver in U12 600m and Caolan McFadden who also won both 1500m & 800m U16 boys, at the Ulster Championships in Athlone last weekend.



Lilla Gerwatowska and Miah Fletcher who competed at the Ulster championships in Athlone.



Orla Neely, Teresa Mullen and Amy Cullen who competed at the Ulsters. Amy Cullen won Gold in 200m and silver in long jump.

Tractor & Car Run for Rocco at Ray



Billy Blaney and friends at the run.



Martha Marchbank, Carndonagh, Marie O'Connor, Carrigart and Shannon McKinny, Derry.



Siofra McDevitt, Glenswilly with Paucic Heraghty, Fanad.



Harry McGrenaghan, Fanad and Eamonn Doherty, Kerrykeel.



Michael and Mary Whoriskey with their Honda Jazz with Shaun McFadden.



Ebony Hewitt, Courtney McAteer and Katlyn Hewitt at the Run.



Ready for the off are Joe, Alex, Michael and Pat McGinley.



Martin McHugh and Dexter Kearney, Milford with Dermot Mills, Ramelton.



Rocco's mum, Yvonne Hegarty, right with Michelle Hutchinson.



Paul and Claire Friel, Ramelton in the run.



Katie Mills, Ramelton, Amy Shovlin, Letterkenny, Matthew Lecky, Ramelton and Heather Bradley, Glenalla.



David Love and Malcolm Stewart from Ramelton.



Rose Thompson, Rathmullan with Hugh's VW.



Kyle Hegarty, Cranford, Lauren Scott, Milford and Danny McAteer, Fanad.



Aoghán, Stephen and Ella Gilroy.



Michael Gallagher, Ramelton setting off on his Defender.



No NRA allocation to complete Port Bridge Roundabout

The failure of the NRA to provide any money for the completion of the Port Road Roundabout occupied valuable time and energy at the monthly meeting of the town council in Letterkenny on Monday night. The County Manager Michael McLoone vowed that the half a million pounds needed to complete the project on its scheduled completion date of June must be found. Maybe his optimism is crafted on the notion that an election can find a way and a will to source monies from government departments and he emphasised that the

roundabout would be finished 'and the money would have to be found'. Earlier the senior roads engineer James Boyle told the meeting of the consequences of the downturn in NRA funding for national secondary roads in Donegal this year. But in fact it was the town gardener David Donnelly who gave us the first hint of a slowdown or a crisis emerging. David was in the Chamber to give a detailed account of his plans for planting flowers and shrubs across the town council area in 2002. He said the Port Road Roundabout was a major job since it was the primary

entrance to town and he saw his project being of a three years duration period. But since there were difficulties as a result of a lack of funding for the completion of works there this year he might have to alter his plans for planting at the bridge for the time being. It was almost pass the parcel time as the press reporters wondered what exactly was going on. After David's excellent presentation James Boyle said that the extent of the NRA allocations announced on last Thursday posed difficulties and there was no allocation for completion of the roundabout at the Port Bridge. However he said this required an urgent meeting with NRA officials and they now had similar problems with a number of other projects in the county. The meeting heard members say the location was now in such a dangerous condition that it could not be left in its current state and later Cllr. Dessie Larkin was informed that a sum of £100,000 had been reallocated from the Port Bridge works to Lifford and Tullyrapp on the N14 but he said the much more



A CD with a difference was launched on Friday night in the Salmon Inn Ramelton. The CD will help to raise funds for the Town Band and it features all the regulars from the pub who can stand up and sing a song at the drop of a hat. It is very very different and original and there are fourteen tracks all for the low low price of €10. PJ Kavanagh of the Ramelton Town Band is pictured with Cllr. Ciaran Brogan Mayor Letterkenny and manager of the Salmon Inn at the launch of the CD. Also included are John Kissenger Coyle and Peter Hughes, who produced and engineered the CD which was recorded live in the Salmon Inn.



Children onstage in the Ramelton Panto Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs in the Town Hall.



money had been spent at the Bridge than had been allocated and the transfer of this money was not an issue preventing it's completion now. Earlier the meeting was told that the bridge was on schedule for completion in June and James Boyle dealt with a number of queries in relation to other roads and traffic congestion around the town. Terry McEniff calling for some action to deal with the traffic chaos said it had taken him sixteen minutes from accessing the Port Bridge to get to the meeting and only a few years ago the same journey took less than five minutes. Mr. Boyle also confirmed that the CPO for lands adjoining the bridge had been processed and the matter of compensation was now going to arbitration to determine the value. Following questions the County Manager said the costs of the land purchase would be borne out of the allocations from the NRA. Cllrs. complained that many of the traffic problems especially at peak times arose because of the current difficulties at the Port Bridge and the officials were urged to find an immediate solution. The notion of shoving everything with regard to the traffic chaos onto a consultant's traffic management report was not acceptable said Cllr. McEniff and he was seeking some solution of a more urgent nature. The meeting spent

quite an amount of time discussing how to deal with the four corners on the roundabout: is this the only roundabout in Ireland with corners we wondered? Cllr. Dessie Larkin described the roundabout in an uncompleted state as 'a death trap' and he wondered what exactly the NRA was playing at. Mr. Boyle reassured the meeting that the Loop Section of the Blaney road does not have any funding problems and things there would go ahead on schedule. He also dealt with several other roads issues including the route from Dunnes Stores to Sallaghgrane. This stuff is, it seems now referred to the traffic transportation consultants and we must await their report. The roads engineer said he did not know of any other road at such an advanced stage of completion that was not being funded. It all sounded absurd and incongruous when Mr. Boyle said it would actually cost more to shut down the current works than it would take to have the roundabout completed...roll on the election campaign!

Dumped fridges and freezers seeking a home

The problem with discarded fridges and freezers around Letterkenny was the subject of some chat at Monday's meeting when Sean Maloney put down a motion asking that these unwanted and dumped items be collected and stored in the council yard. He said there were huge numbers of these items dumped all over the place and he urged the members to back his motion. For one horrible moment it seemed as if he might not

even find a seconder for his proposal. But Jim Lynch came to the rescue...once again. Maloney said that space must be provided for these since they contained gas, which they were obliged to remove and make them safe. He said the council yard could accommodate them until a proper solution was found or else made safe. Cllr. Dessie Larkin among others poured cold water on the Maloney motion. "Its impracticable and such an idea will be frowned on by the authorities. There is not even one facility in the UK for handling this gas and I can't support this motion," added Larkin.

Glencar Residents Group to address town council

"Has this Town Council bought the 56 houses at Glencar Scotch" asked Sean Maloney at Monday night's meeting. This item was discussed for 75 minutes at the previous meeting and it seems that in the intervening period the matter also came up for discussion at the Letterkenny electoral area meeting. Once again the meeting was attended by four members of the Glencar Residents Association. The four arrived on the presumption that the Council was to hear a submission from them but it did not pan out that way.

One member told the Tribune that the town council had already agreed to meet with the group at the previous meeting but it was then postponed until Monday night last. However the agenda did not have that item on the agenda. However this did not deter the four representatives from staying at the meeting and listening to the debates. Later the meeting ended it was agreed the Glencar group would be allowed to make a submission to the next meeting in April.



A record €6972.87 the result of a recent 12 hour fast by students of Loreto Community School, Milford was divided equally between three Irish charities. A representative from each of the Donegal Hospice (Lucy McGettigan), the St. Vincent de Paul Society (Margaret McGettigan) and The Ann Sullivan Foundation for Deaf/Blind (Finola Loughrey and Kathleen Deasy) accepted the cheque from Leaving Cert students Karen Boyle and Frances Matson at a special presentation in the school on Thursday last. Also included is a representative group of students with Ms. Mary McGinley, Vice Principal and fast co-ordinators Ms. Eileen Doherty and Ms. Sheila Harrison.

NRA grant tumbles by 34.3%

The National Roads Allocation for Donegal in 2002 is down by 34.3% on last year and news of the funding decrease caused ripples of disbelief and anger in some circles at the weekend. The allocation is €11.24 million as compared with €17.1 million a year ago. It was anticipated that there would be reductions based on the Exchequer's downturn but as it turned out nobody appeared to be ready for such a savage cutback on the threshold of a general election. As government representatives attempt to talk up the funding the Opposition parties have predictably hammered into what the say is a woeful disregard for the problems in county Donegal. It now emerges that not one single project is going to construction this year and that includes the Mountain Top section of the N56. A leading member of the Illistrin Action Group said they had confidently expected delivery of ten million pounds. He added they were promised that amount to complete the road from the Termon junction towards the Mountain Top and he was astonished about the whereabouts of this funding. A sum of €1.75 million (£1.34 million) has now been allocated to this road and the Illistrin Group is to meet in private this weekend to discuss their next course of action. Last year they threatened to run a candidate in the general election if there was not enough progress with the 2002 allocation from the national roads authority. It now remains to be seen if the group is satisfied with the current allocation. The extent of the downturn in funding was clearly underlined during the monthly meeting of Letterkenny Town

Council on Monday evening when the members were informed there was no funding forthcoming from the NRA for completion of the long running saga of the Port Bridge Roundabout. The County Manager said that a sum of half a million pounds was needed to have the junction completed and open by the scheduled date of June and he vowed the works would be completed and the money would have to be found from somewhere. The senior roads engineer James Boyle said the Council was faced with many problems in relation to the lack of money from the NRA and it was an issue that would have to be addressed urgently. He said that Letterkenny was not alone in the lack of funding this year and it posed huge problems for Donegal Co. Council. The NRA allocations are made up of a grant of €8.155 million for improvements and a sum of €3.085 million towards maintenance works. The main improvement grants include €320,000 for design and planning at the Manor roundabout along with €900,000 for the Ballyshannon-Bundoran bypass while a sum of €630,000 goes towards the Ballybofey-Stranorlar bypass. A further €840,000 is given to the Mountcharles by pass. In the general Letterkenny area the Mountain Top road is allocated €1.75 million for planning and design and it is hoped this allocation will bring the route to construction stage next year although that has not yet been confirmed. A sum of €100,000 goes to the Prumerica roundabout. In the major maintenance category there is a sum of €600,000 for priority works and €350,000 for annual resurfacing.

IFA President in Letterkenny

The new IFA President John Dillon will be in Letterkenny on next Wednesday evening when he will address the AGM of the county executive at the Mount Errigal Hotel. It's his first meeting in the county since the IFA election race during which he joined the other three candidates for a debate at a county executive meeting in November. Dillon failed to gain any substantial foothold among this county's IFA branches and in the elec-

tion race for President he only secured the votes of four branches of the 29: these were mainly areas affected by sheep headage problems at Fanad: Glenswilly-Churchill; Falcarragh-Gortahork and in Creeslough-Dunfanaghy. Dillon is expected to outline his strategy for improving farm incomes over the next four years and he is also expected to deal with the tumbling beef prices which are a huge source of concern to the farm community at the moment.



Paddy O'Grady, Falcarragh pictured with his wife Madge and family who has retired as a bus driver at Glenveagh National Park at his retirement function on Friday in the Lagoon Lounge, Termon.

Council meeting calls for action on Lurgybrack 'death trap'

Letterkenny Town Council is to consider what safety measures can be taken at Lurgybrack school where major concerns have arisen over the levels and speed of the traffic flow on the adjoining road. Cllr. Terry McEniff had a motion down for discussion at Monday night's meeting seeking urgent action and he said that he feared a fatality at the school with parents emerging

onto one of the fastest stretches of roadway in the whole county. He was unanimously supported on his motion and while Cllr. Sean Maloney questioned the veracity of the motion since the area concerned was outside the remit of the town council there was no doubting the seriousness of the problem. It seems that the school population is made up some 80% with children of families resident in the town council area.

However Cllr. Maloney while not disputing the content of the motion made the valid point that this matter was one for the County Council or the Letterkenny electoral area meeting to take on board and attempt to find a resolution. McEniff pointed out that when they were out canvassing for votes in the Council election three years ago this part of Letterkenny was covered and promises were made to the community to address the problem. Since then the road has undergone substantial upgrading and the upshot of this is that traffic is moving at a much faster speed especially coming down the hill. And the volumes of vehicles has increased - alarmingly. Alongside this fact is that parents collecting and leaving off their children have serious difficulties crossing the road. And this fact was underscored by all Councillors on Monday night as they implored the officials and roads engineers to try and find an immediate and safe solution. The situation was invariably described as 'a death trap' and 'an serious accident waiting to happen'. Everyone called for prompt action and while none of the Councillors had an immediate solution they were adamant that it was an imperative that safety measures must be installed immediately. Measures such as markings and flashing amber lights denoting a school junction have already been put in place but nowadays the climbing section of this major road has two two lanes making it virtually impossible to cross over from the school parking lot in any degree of safety. Terry McEniff said that twenty years ago this was a quiet country location until someone put the road down

past the school. He said there was no doubt that a fatality could take place there and they could not sit back and allow that to happen. Speed of vehicles coming down the road exceeded eighty miles per hour and measures now in place could never address the problem. The motion was seconded by Cllr. Dessie Larkin who said he had no idea how the problem could be solved... 'but solved it must be'. He said he had been along with engineers who surveyed the situation and it was far too serious to ignore for one minute longer. Adding that the engineering and safety departments of the Council had taken all steps available to them by way of safety and markings it was now obvious that the situation was far too serious to leave it alone. He said the Council had done everything possible to find a solution and as far as he now could see the road would have to be realigned away from the school or else they would have to consider the prospect of putting in a flyover. Victor Fisher and Jim Lynch expressed sentiments of a similar nature and Jimmy Harte said that taking traffic away from the school was the only alternative and the only solution. Jim Lynch said he had children at the school in previous years and he was very conscious of the problem and apart from leaving it to the experts he could not offer any other solution but he supported any measures that would add the safety of the children and the parents. Cllr. Sean Maloney while agreeing with the principles and traffic hazards at Lurgybrack said it was important to remember that the area in question was outside of the town council boundary and he said it would be far more appropriate to have the matter discussed at county council level. Maloney said discussing this issue at the town council was setting a dangerous precedent and several other schools such as Illistrin were also right on the edge of town but these areas were the responsibility of the County Council. The Mayor, Cllr. Ciaran Brogan also added his voice calling for immediate action to address the problem.

Town Gardener reports on successful year

David Donnelly Letterkenny town council's gardener told the monthly meeting on Monday night that more emphasis was being placed on more colours on the Main Street this year. He was presenting his annual report and he was highly complimented by all the members for his input into the developments which has led to a huge improvement in the way Letterkenny looks with landscaping and flower arrangements around the council areas. Mr. Donnelly said that summer bedding plant production was in the order of 35,000 plants and the spring bedding plant production was 25,000 plants. He responded to various queries from the members in relation to their areas and he emphasised that all broken or damaged trees would be replaced throughout the open spaces and restocking of any shrub areas in need of replanting would be taking place.



At the first of the Milford Park Development 600 club draws in the IRD office on Monday night were from left, Hugo Duggan, Cecelia Coyle, Joe McNulty, Pat Curley, Catherine McCann, Eddie McCleary, Frank McGettigan, Joe McGinley who made the draw, Fergus Friel, Jayne Quigg and Bernie McConigley.



Tourism and Sports Minister Dr. James McDaid with members of the Termon Women's Group on a recent visit to the Dail.

Mulroy Drive recognised as looped route off the WAW

Mulroy Drive was officially recognised as one of the looped routes off the Wild Atlantic Way and ten new and updated viewing points designed to encourage visitors to explore more and stay longer around the Mulroy Bay were launched on Friday.

Developed with an investment of €160,000 from Fáilte Ireland and €80,000 from Donegal County Council, the viewing points will bring local stories to life and maximise the optimum vantage points along the 38km route, which was originally created by the Mulroy Drive Tourism Group.

Five new viewing points have been installed two at Kerrykeel, Carlan South, Tamney and Woodquarter and five existing viewing points have been upgraded at Kindrum, Kerrykeel Pier, Milford, Cranford and Devlinreagh.

Following the unveiling of one of the signs at the layby on the Milford to Kerrykeel Road proceedings moved to Logues of Cranford for refreshments and speeches. As the photographs were being taken, Hugh Hunt-

er and some of his Eco Adventure Group were on the Bay which was so calm it resembled a sheet of glass as they were out on their kayaks and paddle boards.

Some local tourism operations such as the Mulroy Woods Hotel, Ripples Restaurant, Kerrykeel, The Fanad Lighthouse, Mulroy Bay Mussels, Feelfree Kayaking and the Donegal Car Rally had representatives on hand to outline what they had to offer.

MC for the afternoon Kevin Logue, welcomed everyone and said that you will always find a warm welcome along the Mulroy Drive and your experience will be second to none.

Paddy Logue was the person who got the Mulroy Drive off the ground and he wanted to encourage people to veer off the Wild Atlantic Way which bypassed the general Mulroy Bay area. The WAW takes visitors from Ramelton, into Rathmullan onto Portsalon and the Fanad Lighthouse, over the Fanad Bridge and into Carrigart and Downings. Unfortunately for businesses in Kerrykeel, Milford



At one of the new viewing points at Kerrykeel was from left members of the Mulroy Drive Group - Michael McGinley, Ernest Stewart, David Leonard and Siobhan King, Fáilte Ireland, John McCarron, Joe McHugh TD, Dolores McGee, Michael McBride, Dessie McGettigan, Danny McGee, Paddy Logue, Chairperson Mulroy Drive Tourism Group, Tommy Logue, Joan Crawford, Fáilte Ireland, Senator Niall Blaney and Barney McLaughlin, Donegal County Council.



At the launch on the shores of Mulroy Bay were Dolores McGee, Millstone Self Catering Cottages with Cllrs. Ciaran Brogan, Donal 'Mandy' Kelly and Donal Coyle and Deputy Padriag MacLochlainn.

and Cranford and more especially visitors they were not being encouraged to visit those areas.

Paddy paid tribute to Fáilte Ireland saying that ten years ago when Sean Quinn was CEO he launched the Mulroy Drive and promised them that the Drive would be added as a sub route to the WAW.

In the meantime a lot of work has been done in finding the viewing points, tidying them up and erecting historical stones for tourists and locals as well to explain the area.

He said we have a fantastic tourism destination in the area to



Patricia and Jo from the Mulroy Woods Hotel, Milford at the launch.



At the Donegal Car Rally stand were Cllr. Ciaran Brogan, Seamus McGettigan and Ernest Stewart.



Martin McHugh with Eileen McElwee, Margaret Boyce, Angie Gallagher at the launch.



Eimear Ní Mhathúna and Cait Fealty from the Fanad Lighthouse with Declan Meehan, IRD Milford.



Hugh and Brigid Wilhare from Mulroy Bay Mussels.



Danny and Dolores McGee from Millstone Self Catering Cottages with Mark McGettigan, Feelfree Kayaking and Ripples Restaurant Kerrykeel.

visit with top class beaches and golf courses, including three at the Rosapenna Hotel developed by the Casey Family and also Portsalon golf course.

He thanked Joan Crawford and Siobhan King of Failte Ireland, Donegal County Council work-teams and back up teams; Barney McLaughlin and his tourism team, those who provided the funding and the engineers James Kelly

along with David McElwaine and Shane Doohan.

He thanked the politicians who were right behind the idea from the start and he had special mention for Joe McHugh, joking that he even changed his phone number to avoid Paddy! (It didn't work!)

He thanked his own committee for all their work and said "everything I asked from them their delivered and without them this would not

be done".

The AGM will be held shortly and he appealed for new members to get involved with them.

"It is now up to us to provide something for visitors when they come to area and we need to try and extend the season from Easter right through to Halloween to realistically make any business viable. If you have any tourism related ideas, contact us and we will try and help you as much as we can," he concluded.

Cllr. Gerry McMonagle, deputy mayor of the Letterkenney Milford Municipal Area said that the interest shown by the elected members here today shows the importance of the project. Present were Deputy Joe McHugh and Padraig MacLochlainn, Senator Niall Blaney, Cllrs. Liam Blaney, Ciaran Brogan, Kevin Bradley, Donal Coyle, Donal "Mandy" Kelly and Ian McGarvey.

"We have many jewels in the tourism crown in Donegal and I am delighted that the Mulroy Drive is one of them. €80,000 has been invested by Donegal Co Council and €160,000 by Failte Ireland.

I recall the passion and belief shown by the Mulroy Drive Group when they made a presentation to the Council and this will bring extra football and then jobs to the area. Well done to Paddy Logue and his team on this significant project," he concluded.

Deputy Joe McHugh praised the Logue family and the Group and Failte Ireland for the initiative and said that there is a big demand for local tourism heritage in this area. This is a great opportunity for tourism interests and local indigenous business and from his research he has found that bookings are strong for the summer season.

Praising Paddy Logue's great work and power of persuasion he said, Paddy has been the catalyst in bringing the various agencies together.

Deputy Padraig MacLochlainn said that he has had some great memories of his visits to dances and functions in Logues of Cranford and said this building is an institution.

He said this is now an exciting point that we have got to for this grass roots initiative and he praised the various groups for their vision and getting people to make it happen.

"It's all about keeping people here and creating work and jobs for our local population", he said.

Senator Niall Blaney said "It's great to see us all working in the one direction for a change which is different to normal and its great to see those involved at the start to be still here today."

He recalled chatting to fellow Fanad man Hugh Friel when he was CEO of Failte Ireland and being told that the Kerry hotels all started off as small businesses making small steps along the way to the success they are today.

There are opportunities here now and we need to grasp them and he encourages people to start businesses such as B&B's etc.

Barney McLaughlin of Donegal Tourism said that the agencies provided the funding and we in the Council are a vehicle to help make it work. An opportunity now exists and there are only two 'offshoots' of the WAW in the country and Mulroy Drive is the only one in Donegal.

Joan Crawford from the WAW said that Failte Ireland wants people to get off the Wild Atlantic Way route and visit other areas.

"The Mulroy Drive was designed to encourage visitors to explore Mulroy Bay, an area of remarkable unspoilt beauty. While there were viewing points in existence along the route, together with the Council and the Mulroy Drive Tourism Group, we identified additional points for interpretation. Today, we unveiled five new viewing points alongside five updated viewing points, which will enhance the visitor experience and increase dwell time.

Created using stories and imagery from local communities across the region, the theme for the new viewing points along the Mulroy Drive is 'gathering the harvest of land and sea'. Constructed from locally cut stone, the viewing points aim to encourage visitors to sit and take in the beauty and stories of the local area," she said.

Also launched was a draw sponsored by the Mulroy Drive Group and its a trip for two in September or October this year to the area. The Commodore John Barry Arts and Cultural Center in Philadelphia will benefit from the draw.

The prize for two people includes return flights from America to Dublin with connecting flights to Donegal Airport. Seven days car hire, accommodation in the Harvey's Point Hotel, Radisson Hotel, Letterkenney and the Rosapenna Hotel Downings, plus local activities such as kayaking on Mulroy Bay, pony trekking at Ash Tree stables in Coole, Cranford, bike hire in Termon, trip to Donegal Castle, boat trip around Donegal Bay and a round of golf at Rosapenna golf pavilion - everything for two people.

The Mulroy Drive will be promoted on www.discoverireland.ie and a visitor map outlining the route and highlighting the activities and attractions visitors can enjoy throughout the region is available for local businesses to use.

Letter to Editor

Ukraine carnage raises many questions

In Ukraine, the the horror and disbelief is etched on faces as they trudge along on a tidal wave of emotion in convoys to borders where they will be safe and given shelter. It should be a lesson that history repeats itself if left unchecked. The condemnation of Russia from the high-heavens by the western world is understandable and justified. Everyone deserves to have an opinion even if it's based partly on half-truths.

Living in the 'West', we tend to believe without question the information via news or media channels. However this is another reality that deserves airing, and that's the role of NATO. They've embarked on wars where many died as the result of indiscriminate bombings, as was the case in Iraq and Libya.

The war now raging could end with catastrophic circumstances, if western allies engage directly on the Ukrainian side. NATO cannot take the high moral ground, as there has been ongoing and needless provocation of Russia for many years.

One of the most important players involved in the Irish peace process, former president Bill Clinton' along with his administration invited former Warsaw pact countries to join NATO. This annoyed the Russian president of the time Boris Yeltsin and added fuel to a fire that was almost extinct, with the disbandment of the Warsaw Pact.

If NATO had done the same instead of encroaching and almost encircling Russia with their idealistic expansionist plans, would we be in the dire plight that we're in today? I think not.

With them sitting on Russia's borders, it created distrust and a fear that the western allies had no intention of stopping their march into Soviet proclaimed territory. President Putin warned of these intrusions into their security zone in 2007 at the annual Munich security conference, but these warnings went unheeded.

Under President Barack Obama's leadership and disastrous foreign policy, they carried on regardless by getting involved in Ukraine's internal politics when the Russian leaning president got turned out, and replaced by a western leaning one instead.

In his attempt to become something of a world leader in vocal condemnation of Russia, The Taoiseach Michael Martin seems to suffer amnesia when it comes to his own doorstep. Only a number of weeks ago he along with a contingent travelled to Derry for the



Above - Ordinary civilians making petrol bombs to defend their communities against an occupying force, Ukraine 2022 and below in the 1970s in Belfast.



fiftieth anniversary of "Bloody Sunday 1972.

Was there a Michael Collins moment of shouting for justice from the back of a lorry on what took place on the streets of Derry fifty years ago? Or did the Taoiseach call out Boris Johnson over the Ballymurphy massacre or Eddie Fullerton's murder? Oh no it was all hush, hush whispering apologies for their hurt and bereavement, before scurrying off, only breathing a sigh of relief once he reached Monaghan.

Charity begins at home, especially when you have no influence over these tragic events happening 3,306.8 km from these shores.

It's strange how many of those voices within the Dail are calling for the arming of civilians in the Ukrainian conflict. And speaking of bravery as men women and teenagers make petrol bombs to use against an army that's not wanted on their streets. Yet those same voices have the temerity to describe the people who used those same tactics on the streets of Ballymurphy, Creggan or Carrickmore as Terrorists!

It truly does leave a lot of unanswered questions of why it's brave for some and cowardly for others. Michael Martin, Leo Varadkar and Simon Coveney are being urged to send a courier with a few odds and ends from the armoury in the Curragh camp to Ukraine. If it did happen, it wouldn't be the first time that bits and pieces from that armoury made its way into the hands of freedom fighters.

I thought it was better to talk rather than go to war. Even to this day, barbs and daggers are being flung across the Dail floor in relation to people who in the past made petrol bombs and used guns to defend their besieged communities.

They streamed with their belongings into Donegal and Monaghan seeking safety and shelter, while urging others to do just that in a far-off land is hypocritical in the extreme.

James Woods, Gortahork



Kevin Logue with Cllr. Gerry McMonagle at the launch.



Mary T. Sweeney and Neil Cullen from Aontú at the launch.



May Logue and Bridie McHugh at the launch.



Brigid Wilhare, Hugh Hunter and James Duffy at the launch.



Groups enjoying the Downings GAA Club dinner dance in the Downings Bay Hotel on Saturday night.

Volunteers vital as Donegal League marks 50 years

Remembering the people that had the vision and determination to make the Donegal Junior Football League happen in late 1971 was at the heart of a 50th anniversary event at the Diamond Park Headquarters on Friday night where FAI President Gerry McAnaney unveiled a plaque to mark the special

milestone for the game in the county. There have been many changes over half a century but the league is still strong with 39 teams between Saturday and Sunday football. In his address Gerry McAnaney said volunteers were the heartbeat of local football leagues and he appealed for more people to become involved to keep the game vibrant in Donegal and across the country.

He also spoke about the growth of women's football demonstrated at international level with the Irish team Sky and Cadburys. Mr. McAnaney said celebrating the 50th anniversary was special for the Donegal Junior League. "I want to congratulate the league for the tremendous work they have done and I know they have big plans for the future." The executive decided on last weekend to host

the anniversary event as it was exactly 50 years to the date of the playing of the first ever round of league fixtures at the beginning of March 1972. The league had actually been formed in December 1971 but obviously it took a while to get everything in place to get the competition started.

Terry Leyden is one of the longest serving Junior League committee members in the country. Now 45 years with the Donegal League the retired army recalled how it all started for him coming up to the Rockhill Barracks in 1969. There was a big interest in football and Rockhill was in the first league two years later and had their own pitch on the avenue going up to the barracks. They also had a team out of the Lifford Barracks called Prior Utd.

Many men came from the Midlands and West to feature on the teams. Rockhill had so fine footballers in the likes of Jesse Purtill and Bunty Flanagan others like Georgie Gethins and Seamus 'Kipper' Lynch played with Lifford Celtic. Arguably the most successful player to come out of the army ranks was Kenny Harkin who moved onto the Ulster Senior League in 1986 starring with Fanad Utd and also had a spell with Finn Harps. Another big highlight for Terry Leyden was Donegal winning their only Oscar Traynor Cup in 1983 and doing it at Finn Park into the bargain.

Richie Kelly was the manager and went all the way to penalties against AUL. It had ended 2-2 at the end of extra-time. Liam McLaughlin (Swilly Rovers) and Johnny Kelly (Fanad Utd) had struck equalisers during normal time. AUL missed a penalty and Donegal keeper Bernard Dowds saved another before Gweedore Celtic's Doalty Sweeney converted the winning spot-kick.

Bernard Dowds (Donegal Town); Phil Durning (Swilly Rovers), Hughie Rua Gallagher (Gweedore Celtic), Donnchadh MacNiallais (Gweedore Celtic), Liam Sweeney (Keadue Rovers); Gerry Coyle (Gweedore Celtic), Patsy McGlanaghy (Dunkineely Celtic), Liam McLaughlin (Swilly Rovers); Doalty Sweeney (Gweedore Celtic), Johnny Kelly (Fanad United), Pat Doohan (Gweedore Celtic). Subs: Donal McGee (Gweedore Celtic), Packie Boyle (Keadue Rovers), Declan McAteer (Rathmullan Celtic), Declan Bonner (Leitir United), Lochlainn O'Rourke (St Catherine's), Owen Harkin (Gweedore Celtic).

Donegal won back-to-back national youth titles in 1978 and 1979 producing a string of players that went on to play senior soccer including Packie Bonner who later starred for Glasgow Celtic and the Republic of Ireland. They also won the title again under Anthony Gorman in 2003. Those were some of

the big highs for the Donegal Junior League on the national stage which also included Fanad Utd's remarkable FAI Youth Cup title triumph in 1979. But the primary mission of the Donegal Junior League executive is to provide football for the grassroots and that's what has been delivered over the past 50 years and will continue into the future but as FAI President Gerry McAnaney said it does require many more people to volunteer in order to make it something attractive so that families will their sons and daughters to the training sessions and the games that flow from that.

On Friday night current Secretary Nigel Ferry who was also the MC remembered the men who had kept the clubs on the road like the last Manus McCole from Keadue Rovers. Having heard it was the 50th anniversary Manus's sister was on phone to Nigel to reminisce about the good old days when Keadue produced some of top footballers like Packie and Denis Bonner, John Andy and Neil Bonner and later Liam Sweeney. The land for the current League Headquarters and pitch was bought in 1981. In recent years a big job was done to the pitch and floodlights were installed which were in use on Friday night for the meeting of Bonagee Utd and St. Catherine's in the Brian McCormick Cup semi-final.

Mick Lagan represented the



Secretary Nigel Ferry with FAI President Gerry McAnaney who unveiled the commemorative plaque to mark 50 years of the Donegal Junior Football League on Friday night.

League's eight Chairpersons

In the 50 year history of the Donegal Junior Football League there have been eight Chairpersons. The late Paddy McFadden who used to run a sports shop on Letterkenny's Lower Main Street just below the Market Square was the first Chairperson in 1971 Paddy would have been involved with Arcade Athletic and its successor Bonagee Utd. He served for nine years (1971-1980). The late John McHugh was the second Chairperson from 1980 to 1983. John played and managed at Fern Utd and was a stalwart of football in the Milford area for five decades.

Killea man Richie Kelly took the reins from 1983 for a two-year term. Kelly had been involved in the plans to bring Finn Harps into the League of Ireland in 1969. He also had a successful CV as a manager guiding the Donegal Youth team to a national title. He had also been in charge of Swilly Rovers when the Ramelton Club reached an FAI Intermediate Cup Final in 1979.

Glenea club man Murray Learmont took over from Kelly in 1985 for a year. He had come from Scotland to teach in the secondary school in Falcarragh and got involved with

the Glasherchoo side. Letterkenny Rovers club man the late John 'Gorey' Curran was his successor in 1986 and served till 1990 the year the Republic of Ireland played in their first World Cup in Italy. Curran was a long time administrator and was also involved at FAI Junior Council level.

Swilly Rovers legend Joe Duffy became the sixth Chairperson when he was elected in 1990. Duffy is the second longest serving person in that role having served for 12 years before stepping down in 2002. He was on the first Donegal side to claim a national team title when Swilly Rovers won the FAI Junior Cup in 1962. He was also one of the first referees in the county and in later years served a long spell as Donegal Women's League Chairperson being the first to hold the position.

Letterbarrow Celtic Club man James McGroary succeeded Duffy in 2002 and held the post for eight years. His replacement was John Joe McCafferty in 2008 and the Glenea Utd stalwart continues in that post 14 years on making him the longest serving Chairperson in the history of the Donegal Junior Football League.

The nine Secretaries

The Donegal Junior Football League has had nine Secretaries from 1971 with one man Nigel Ferry serving two terms in the post making a total of ten separate terms over the 50 years. The late Dick Duffy was the first man to hold the post and was there for seven years until 1977. Affectionately known as 'The Major', Dick Duffy was also a key man in the formation of the Letterkenny & District League in the mid-1970s. Former Swilly Rovers star Brendan Duffy was the Secretary from 1977 to 1980. Brendan went on to fill the same role with the Ulster Senior League when it was formed in 1986.

Three more men sadly no longer with us occupied the Secretary's post from 1980 to 1990. The first of these were Kilmacrennan men Neil Cullen and Hugh Strain who would have both played for Fern

Utd. Neil's term was for three years (1983-1986) before he took a similar post with Finn Harps. It was also a three-year stint for Hugh (1983-1986). Paddy McFadden, the only person to serve as both Chairman and Secretary took over in 1986 for a four-year term to 1990. His successor Dessie Kelly was to become the longest serving Secretary and was 14 years in the post when he stepped down in 2004.

Glenea club man Nigel Ferry took over in 2004 for six years. Christina O'Donnell, the only woman Secretary took on the role in 2010 and served four years before handing on the baton to Bonagee Utd club man Jimmy Haughey who carried out the duties over a six-year period from 2014 to 2020. Nigel Ferry is the current secretary with two years done. He is the only person in the 50-year history to have been Secretary twice.

Tommy Logan, Kevin Toland, Joe Logan, Hugh Diver, Joe Gallagher, Danny Cullen.

Fanad Utd won the title the next three years. The third success was secured at Leckview Park in a 3-1 win over Lifford Celtic with Brian McIvor, Eamonn McConigley and the last James Doherty the scorers. The team was Sean McAteer, James Duffy, John Kerr, Sean Sweeney, John Friel, Tommy Patton, James Doherty (RIP), Eamonn McConigley, John Sweeney (RIP), Brian McIvor, Aidan Kelly (RIP). Subs: Fr. Kieran McAteer, Seamus Vaughan.



Stevie Coll and Danny Cullen



Swilly Rovers men Jamie Lee Blaney, John Diver and Edward Diver.



Jimmy Haughey, Paul McDaid and James Duffy



FAI President Gerry McAnaney with Terry Leyden, Christina O'Donnell and Declan Sherlock. Back from left - Jimmy Haughey, Hughie Walsh, John Lafferty and Nigel Ferry

MacManus commends work of Fanad Lighthouse committee

Sinn Féin MEP Chris MacManus has commended Forbairt Fhánada Teoranta, the voluntary local committee running Fanad Lighthouse, for their work in attracting tourism to the local area. The Midlands Northwest MEP was speaking after meeting with Lighthouse Manager, Eimear Ní Mhathúna, on a recent visit to Fanad.

MEP MacManus said "I was delighted to visit Eimear and the team at Fanad Lighthouse recently. The lighthouse is based in a stunning location on the Fanad peninsula with outstanding natural beauty and it is easy to see why it has become such a popular destination for tourists."

"The lighthouse first opened as a tourist attraction in 2016 and is a not-for-profit social enterprise run by local voluntary committee, Forbairt Fhánada Teoranta. I want to commend the committee for showing wonderful initiative to develop the lighthouse into such a fantastic

attraction."

"The development has brought enormous benefits to the local area in terms of tourism and economic development. It has provided a boost to employment in the local area with the employment of guides and other staff at the lighthouse itself and also through spin-off benefits for other local businesses, particularly in the hospitality sector."

"The Lighthouse also demonstrates the success of the Wild Atlantic Way, which has been extremely positive for rural communities across the West of Ireland since it was launched, bringing tourists into areas that hadn't seen visitors for many years. I want to thank Eimear and her team for having me at the Lighthouse and I wish them continued success."

Below - Chris MacManus pictured at Fanad Lighthouse with Eimear Ní Mhathúna.



Pupils from Kerrykeel National School who made their Confirmation on Saturday in Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Kerrykeel with Master Eunan Gallagher and Fr. Stephen Gorman CC, Milford. Photo by Martin Fleming.



Swilly Mulroy Credit Union Call For Volunteers

At the heart of every credit union is its volunteers. The Board of Directors is drawn from members who have the skills and knowledge to lead and manage the credit union. They give freely of their time to develop and enhance the services of their credit union.

An individual can develop both personally and professionally by volunteering.

The benefits of Credit Union volunteering include:

- Gaining skills and experience with a professional financial service provider
- Education and training
- Personal development
- Meet new people from the community
- Give something back to the community

Swilly Mulroy Credit Union is seeking applicants for volunteer roles on various committees including the Board of Directors.

If you feel you have skills which would benefit the Credit Union and would be able to commit some of your time, please get in touch with us. Ongoing training and induction will be provided.

If you would like more information, please get in touch! Call the office on 074 9150188, PM on Facebook or Instagram, email bod@swillymulroycu.ie, Text or WhatsApp 087 2284633

You must live within our common bond i.e., the Milford electoral area (Rathmullan, Ray, Glenalla, Glenvar, Kerrykeel, Milford, Fanad).



Come join
Swilly Mulroy Credit Union
 as a volunteer
 We'd love to have you on board

For more information
 Call 074 9150188
 Text or WhatsApp 087 2284633
 E-mail bod@swillymulroycu.ie
 or send a direct message on
 Facebook or Instagram



€100 PRIZE FOR BEST FLOAT

All entries line up at Kerrykeel National School from 2pm

ST PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

3PM

KERRYKEEL

Come along and enjoy a great day of fun at the Kerrykeel St Patrick's Day Parade

Why not enter your own float free of charge and join in the craic!

A great way to promote your club or business

Tea Afterwards in the Old School Community Centre

ALL FREE

Contact Deirdre on 087 248 0897 or Ciaran 086 837 5812

Seachtain na Gaeilge i bhFánaid

- Aoine 11/03/22 Comórtas Ealaíne na scoileanna
- Aoine 11/03/22 Tráth na gCeist Lóiste Fhánada 9i.n.
- Satharn 12/03/22 Ceardlann 'Jumping Clay' do pháistí 4-11.
- €3 ar pháiste, €5 do bheirt, €7 do theaghlach Halla Fán a' Bhualtaigh 3 i.n. - 5 i.n.
- Luan 14/03/22 Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Halla Fán a' Bhualtaigh 5 i.n.
- Céadaoin 16/03/22 Buaiteoirí an chomórtais ealaíne a fhógairt
- Céadaoin 16/03/22 Oíche Cheoil - saorchead isteach- fáilte roimh achan duine Lóiste Fhánada 8:30 i.n.
- Déardaoin 17/03/22 Comhaltas Ceoltóirí ag Aifreann 11rn ag Fán a' Bhualtaigh 11r.n.
- Beidh turas Gaeilge ar fáil ag 1.00 i.n. gach lá Céadaoin go Domhnach ag Teach Solais Fhánada.
- Tuilleadh eolais ar fáil ar 086 357 8503. Bígí Linn - An Ghaeilge - is leatsa í!

St. Patrick's Day Parade in Kerrykeel

There will be a St Patrick's Day parade in Kerrykeel this year starting at 3pm. All floats are welcome and a new route is also planned for this year. Participants are asked to assemble at the new Kerrykeel National School around 2pm. The new route will take the parade across Pump Street and out the Milford Road going around the triangle at the Rockhill Caravan Park and returning and down

the Main Street to finish at the usual place. After the parade everyone is invited to the Old Kerrykeel School Community Centre for prizegiving and there will also be tea and refreshments served.

In order to help with the running of the event the organisers have launched a GoFundMe campaign and as of Wednesday evening they have raised €1,860 of their €2,500 goal.

Your donation will go towards insurance, prizes, advertising/marketing and any other associated costs involved with running a successful parade. Surplus cash will be reinvested to the community group and will go towards various community incentives such as Kerrykeel Christmas lights and St Patrick's Day parade 2023. All donations, big and small, will be extremely gratefully received.

Tamney Health Centre Fundraiser for Ukraine
The staff of Tamney Health Centre are running an urgent fundraising drive for the people of war-stricken Ukraine. We are appealing to the public to donate any amount no matter how small. Donations can be left in to the health centre and will be forwarded on the Red Cross. All donations to be collected by Wednesday 16th March at 12 midday. We are extremely overwhelmed by the generosity of people in the locality and thank you all most sincerely for your donations so far.

Coffee Morning in Glenvar

Please join us for a cup of coffee or tea and homemade treats on St Patrick's Day at Glenvar School from 11am. Great raffle and plenty of things to buy! Come along and have a browse, in aid of small animal welfare.

Steps

Steps Parent & Toddler Group will meet on the first Friday of every month starting Friday 1st April. From 10.30 to 12.00 - preschool children are welcome. Call for a cuppa and a chat to the Rossnakill Hall.

Little Rascals Community Playschool Rossnakill Registration is now open for September '22.

Free ECCE places available. Contact Eileen 086-8513870 for more information.

Seachtain na Gaeilge Tráth na gCeist / Quiz Night - Naionra Fhánada.

Tá Seachtain na Gaeilge linn! Beidh Tráth na gCeist ag Naionra Fhánada sa Fanad Lodge Dé hAoine 11ú Márta 9i.n. - fáilte roimh achan duine. Beidh ceisteanna dháthangacha ann. Crannchur agus duaiseanna ar an oíche. Bheadh muid an-bhuíoch daoibh as bhur dtacaíocht.

Seachtain na Gaeilge is here! Naionra Fhánada will hold a table quiz in the Fanad Lodge Friday 11th March 9pm - all welcome. Questions will be done bilingually, in Irish and English. There will be a draw and prizes on the night. Your support would be much appreciated.

The Big Spring Clean

Milford & District Resource Centre

are organising the Big Spring Clean, following the success of last year. It will take place from 11am-1pm on Saturday, March 12th. We hope to have as many volunteers out as possible across Milford, Ray, Ramelton, Rathmullan, Kerrykeel and Cranford, all taking part in the community clean up. Last year over 300 people took part so we hope to see this level of engagement again ahead of the spring season commencing. This is being organised in partnership with Donegal County Council, the local Tidy Towns committees and community centres. If any other areas would like to get involved contact Declan on declan@mrc.ie or 9153736.

Learn to Jive

Jiving Classes with Paul will resume this Monday the 14th of March in the Mulroy Woods Hotel, Milford. Starting at 8pm for an hour and a half

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Rossnakill

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Saturday 12th March - from 10.30pm.
Caz Hunter

Saturday 19th March - from 10.30pm.
Mise Erin

Little Rascals Community Playschool
Rossnakill

Registration 2022

Registration is now open for September 2022

Free ECCE places available
Contact Eileen 0868513870 for more information

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Siobhan Coyle of Gaeilge Fhánada with fellow Donegal Ladies Gaelic Football Association delegates Liam Skelly (Moville), and Donal Sharkey (Naomh Muire) at the annual LGFA Congress in the Europa Hotel, Belfast at the weekend.

Mulroy Academy Club-School Link Programme



Shane Barr and Trevor Scanlon from the FAI pictured with Mulroy Academy members at the launch of the Mulroy Academy Club-School Link at Kerrykeel NS on Friday with some of the six class pupils.

Mulroy Academy commenced a Club-School link coaching programme with Scoil Cholmille, Kerrykeel this week. The club were selected for the pilot FAI initiative following an assessment process of Club Mark One Star clubs nationwide. The President of the FAI Gerry McAnaney visited Mulroy Academy last year to present them with their FAI Club Mark One Star award,

one of the first six clubs in the country to achieve the award. The Club Mark is a recognition in excellence related to governance and administration as well as the FAI also recognising the club as an official FAI Player Development Centre.

The School-Link commenced on Friday last with a delegation from the FAI present to launch the partnership

between Mulroy Academy and Scoil Cholmille. Fergus McAteer and James Gallagher from Mulroy Academy and Eunan Gallagher School Principal coordinated the setting up and implementation of the coaching programme. As part of the programme, student coaches form the clubs under 16 / Youth teams and past pupils will also be involved as part of the clubs coaching programme.

Workers for Jesus

By Olive Borland

As workers together for Jesus
Let us labour till setting sun
Jesus himself said, "Labour,
The latter days have already begun."

There is no unemployment with Jesus
There is plenty of work to do
Just let Him know you are available
He will have a job that will suit you.

He says, "The fields are ripe unto harvest,
but the labourers they are few."
If you my friend love the Saviour
Then He has a job for you.

We do not need to be learned
We only need to know
The love of Jesus Christ within
Then His Spirit will overflow.

Brendan Boyce finishes 26th in Oman

Milford man, Brendan Boyce was 26th over 35k at the World Race Walking Championships in the early hours of Saturday.

In Muscat, Oman, the Finn Valley AC man finished in 2:44:25, a season's best in the distance. Boyce's favoured 50k distance has been dropped by the IOC and he now goes over 35k. Sweden's Perseus Karlstrom, a training partner of Boyce under the tutelage of former world gold medalist Rob Heffernan, won the 35k event. Karl-



strom won in 2:35:14, followed by Spaniard Alvaro Martin, who came home in 2:36:54, Muguel Angel Lopez, also from Spain, was third in 2:37:27.

On his debut over the distance in December, Boyce finished second at the National Senior 35k, crossing the line in 2:32:49 - a time that secured his qualification for the World Championships.

Boyce finished tenth in the 50k race walk at the Olympic Games in August, in a time of 3:53:40 and was sixth at the 2019 World Championships in Doha.

Planning Notices

**Donegal County Council
Market Square, RATHMULLAN and
BALLYBOE, Rathmullan, Letterkenny M.D.**

I, Dela Kerr, am applying to Donegal County Council for Planning Permission to Erect New Two Storey Townhouse and Connection to Main Public Sewer @ Market Square, RATHMULLAN and BALLYBOE, Rathmullan, Letterkenny M.D., Co. Donegal. The Planning Application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the Offices of the Planning Authority, County House, Lifford during its Public Opening Hours. A Submission or Observation in relation to the Application may be made in writing to the Planning Authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20.00, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the Authority of the Application, and such Submissions or Observations will be considered by the Planning Authority in making a decision on the Application. The Planning Authority may Grant Permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to Grant Permission.

**Donegal County Council
Gortnavern, Letterkenny**

I, Janet Donnell am applying to Donegal County Council for permission to erect a dwelling house with wastewater treatment system with all other associated site development works at Gortnavern, Letterkenny, County Donegal in the townland of Gortnavern. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of the planning authority, Donegal County Council, County House, Lifford, County Donegal during its public opening hours. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the planning authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20.00, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt of the application by the authority, and such submission or observation will be considered by the planning authority in making a decision on the application.

**Donegal County Council
Killult, Falcarragh**

We, Christine Brennan & Fraser Morris are applying to Donegal County Council for permission to erect a dwelling house with septic tank and domestic garage and all associated site development works at Killult, Falcarragh, County Donegal in the townland of Killult. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of the planning authority, Donegal County Council, County House, Lifford, County Donegal during its public opening hours. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the planning authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20.00, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt of the application by the authority, and such submission or observation will be considered by the planning authority in making a decision on the application.

**Donegal County Council
Shore Road, Rathmelton**

I, Nicholas O'Hanlon Ltd am applying to Donegal

County Council for permission to demolish existing commercial building and erect a building to include on the ground floor two no. commercial units, 2 no. apartments to the first and second floors and 1 no. apartment on the third (5 apartments in total) with connection to the public sewer and all other associated site development works at Shore Road, Rathmelton, County Donegal in the townland of Rathmelton.

The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of the planning authority, Donegal County Council, County House, Lifford, County Donegal during its public opening hours. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the planning authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20.00, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt of the application by the authority, and such submission or observation will be considered by the planning authority in making a decision on the application.

**Donegal County Council
Rathmelton**

I, Seamus Crawford, am applying to Donegal County Council for permission to erect 2 No. dwelling houses with connection to mains services and all other associated site development works at Rathmelton, County Donegal in the townland of Rathmelton.

The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of the planning authority, Donegal County Council, County House, Lifford, County Donegal during its public opening hours. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the planning authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20.00, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt of the application by the authority, and such submission or observation will be considered by the planning authority in making a decision on the application.

Acknowledgement

McLaughlin

James
Glasgow and formerly Kerrykeel

The family of the late James McLaughlin wish to express their sincere gratitude and thanks to all those who sympathised with them on their recent bereavement. Sincere thanks to all those who helped in any way, those who attended wake and funeral and those who travelled long distances to be with us. Thanks to those who sent Mass cards, sympathy cards, floral tributes, phone calls and text messages. Please accept this acknowledgment as a token of our sincere gratitude.

James's Month Mind Mass will take place in Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Kerrykeel on Saturday 12th August at 6.00pm.

Sweeney

Patrick / Pat
Ballyraire, Letterkenny
Late of Yorkshire, England

Thank you to everyone who sent us messages of condolences on the sudden death of our much loved brother Pat. Thank you for calling to our homes, for the phone calls, the text messages, Mass cards and sympathy cards. Thank you also for your generous donations in his memory to the Great Northern Air Ambulance Service. We greatly appreciated all your kindness and for thinking of us. His family: Brendan and Kathleen, Derryveagh Avenue; Rosaleen, Rosnakill; Bridie and Anthony, Ballyraire; Frances and Liam, Raphoe

the planning authority in making a decision on the application.

**Donegal County Council
Drumbrern Td., Milford**

I Kenny Graham am applying to Donegal County Council for planning permission to erect dwelling house, garage and installation of waste water treatment system and percolation area at Drumbrern Td, Milford, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal.

The planning application may be inspected or purchased, at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of the Planning Authority, County House, The Diamond, Lifford, County Donegal during the public opening hours of the Planning Authority and that a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the Planning Authority, in writing, on payment of the prescribed fee of 20 euros within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt of the application by the Planning Authority.

In Memoriam

Coyle

Dan and Hannah

In loving memory of our parents whose anniversaries occur at this time

*Sadly missed along
life's way
Quietly remembered
every day
No longer in our
lives to share
But in our hearts
you are always
there.*

Always remembered and sadly missed by all your family at home and in Barnesmore.



McBride

Michéal
Larganreagh,
Downings
2nd Anniversary

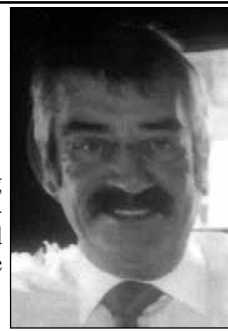
*There is a special
kind feeling when I
think about you Dad
It's the pleasure of
remembering all the
happy times we had
There is a special
kind of caring
that is meant for
you alone
There's a place
somewhere in my
heart that only
you can own.*

Sadly missed by Grainne, Kathleen and their families.

Anniversary Mass in St. John the Baptist Church, Carrigart on Saturday 12th March at 6pm. Mass Can be viewed on Mevagh Parish Facebook.

Coyle

John
Lurganboyce,
Rathmullan
1st Anniversary



Treasured and loving memories of a dear husband, Dad, Grandad and brother who died on the 11th March 2021.

*We little knew that day,
God was going to call your name
In life we loved you dearly
in death we do the same
It broke our hearts to lose you
you did not go alone
For part of us went with you
the day God called you home.
You left us beautiful memories
your love is still our guide
And although we cannot see you
you are always at our side.
Our family chain is broken and
nothing seems the same
But as God calls us one by one
the chain will link again.*

*Your ways were good, your spirit true
you suffered in silence when no one knew
Gone are the days we used to share
but in our hearts you are always there
Your restless days are over
your sleepless nights are past
God put his arms around you and
gave you peace at last.
Two tired eyes are sleeping
two willing hands are still
The one who worked so hard in life
is resting at God's will.*

Loved and missed everyday by your wife Eileen, sons John, Kevin, Joseph, daughter Claire, son-in-law James and grandchildren John, Kirsten, James, Michael and Aisling.

*God looked around the garden
and he found an empty place
He then looked down upon the earth
and saw your tired face
He put His hand around you
and lifted you to rest
God's garden must be beautiful
as He only takes the best
The times we spent together
meant the world to me*

*I have many treasured memories
as we grew up happily together
So today your first anniversary
you left us quietly, thoughts unknown
But left us a memory we are proud to own
So treasure him Lord in your garden of rest
For when on earth he was one of the best.*

Loved and remembered by sister, Brigid, Denis and family.

*So much in life is changing
so much in life is new
But the things in life that never change
are my thoughts of you
Somewhere beyond the sunset
loved ones never die
They rest in that beautiful garden
above God's silver sky
Thoughts of love to someone so dear
You're close to my heart every day of the year
I will always have memories to cherish and
hold of a wonderful brother
more precious than gold.*

Always remembered and loved by your brother Martin.

*The angels gathered near your
side so very close to you
For they knew the pain and suffering
that you were going through
God took your hand we had part
It eased your pain but broke my heart
It's been the hardest thing to lose you
You meant so much to me
But you are in my heart brother
and that's where you will always be
Sincere and true in heart and mind
wonderful memories I have of you
So wrap your arms around him Lord
and treasure him with care
Keep him safe in Heaven above
and give him all my love.*

Forever loved and remembered by sister Geraldine and family.

John's Anniversary Mass will take place in St. Joseph's Church, Rathmullan on Friday 11th March at 7.00pm.

Soil health meeting in Gortahork

A European Innovation Partnership (EIP), 'Curaíocht an Phobail' managed by Lárionad Achmhainní Nádúrtha - Cill Ulta, based in the North West Gaeltacht is to host a public presentation on Soil Health and an introduction to Biological Farming. Our guest speaker for the evening, David Wallis, previously worked as a farm advisor with Teagasc until 2011, at which time he himself started to seek out alternatives to the systemic NPK farming practice. Since then, he has been farming alone and more recently, with a group of farmers have been successful with their own Danú EIP project, where 12 farmers have introduced biological methods on their farms. Coral reefs are the biggest eco-system in the world and second to this is soil. What lies beneath our feet is alive with millions of microbes and bacteria which all work in unison with plant roots to create a living breathing organism, from which our food source grows. How we manage and nurture our soils de-



Earthworms presence is a good indicator of a healthy soil.

termines the nutrient and mineral content of our food and our livestock's food. With the hard-hitting increase in the cost of fertilizer, probably further exacerbated by the Invasion of Ukraine, other solutions must be introduced not only for economic reasons but also for the enriched value of our land. This will not only benefit ourselves with a healthier environment and cleaner ground water, but also the wildlife that co-exists with us. The incoming eco-schemes within the new CAP 2023 - 2027 will require changes to farm management. This evening presentation will leave you more informed as to knowing your land and the biology that lives there and what possible changes you could make towards healthier soils and fields. Please join us in Ostan Loch Altan (Hotel) in Gortahork on Friday 11th March at 7pm. Fáilte roimh gach duine. Everyone welcome.

Letterkenny Rovers

The highly successful Junior Rovers returns this Sunday at Leckview Park with registration open from 9.30am. This is for boys and girls aged between 4 and 8 years old with the emphasis on fun. Registration costs €30 for the season which includes a club top and all are welcome as we help kids take their first steps in football. The schoolboys league got going last weekend with our u12s Rovers winning at Ballyraire with goals from

Sean Gallagher, Jack O'Donnell, Ronan Ward, Jamie Gorman and Denzel Taku and they are home to Mulroy this Saturday at Aura at 10am. Our 12s Utd lost out 2-1 at Lurgy Celtic and they are away to Ballyraire Harps this Saturday. Our u12s Crusaders host Milford Blues at 4pm at the Aura. The 14s Premier team get underway next Tuesday night when travelling to play Bonagee at 7pm while the 14s Utd host Ballyraire Celtic this Sunday at noon. Our 16s Crusaders travel to play Ballyraire Celtic on Saturday at 4pm. The seniors lost out 2-1 to Cock-

hill last Sunday with Gareth Doherty on the mark and have no game this weekend while the Donegal League side make the trip to play Dunkineely Celtic at 1pm. This week's mini lotto numbers drawn were 8-13-18 and 28 with two people-Caroline Mehan and Gerry Meehan-matching three numbers and receiving €50 each. Next week's jackpot is €6000 and tickets can be bought online or from any committee member. Club bingo continues this Thursday (March 10th) in the Station House Hotel at 8.30pm. Snowball is €1450 on 45 numbers or less. All support appreciated. 205 people remain in Last Man Standing and progress can be followed on our club website.

Lagan Harps FC

Our men's team got back to winning ways with a hard fought 2-1 over Dee Harps. Bernard McMenamin and Ronan Carlin were the scorers. Our

u12A's had a 4-2 win over Milford with goals from Keelan Bonner, Aogan, Mark Geraghty and Zach Nesbitt. There was a lot of sadness in the area with club members affected by the passing of John Kilpatrick, Willie Doherty, Dympna Woodforth and Jim Tinney. To all their families and friends we extend our deepest sympathy.

Planning Notice

Donegal County Council

We, Michael & Miriam Coyle are applying to Donegal County Council for permission to construct new dwelling house, domestic shed and install a wastewater treatment system at Carrigart, Co. Donegal in the townland of Glenkeo. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of the planning authority, County House, Lifford during its public opening hours. Submissions or observations in relation to the development may be made to the planning authority in writing, on payment of €20, within five weeks beginning on the date of receipt of the application by the authority.

In Memoriam



O'Brien
Mary
Ballyhurke, Fanad
6th Anniversary

In loving memory of a dear mother and grandmother who died on 11th March 2016.

*We sat beside your bedside, our hearts were crushed and sore
We did our duty to the end, 'til we could do no more.*

Love always and sadly missed by your daughter Fidelma and son-in-law John xxx.

*In tears we watched you sinking
we watched you fade away
And though our hearts were breaking, we knew you could not stay.*

Love always and sadly missed by your grandchildren John, Karen and Oisín xxx.

*A golden heart stopped beating,
hard working hands at rest
It broke our hearts to see you go, God only takes the best.*

Love always and sadly missed by your son Martin xxx.

*You gave us years of happiness
then sorrow came with tears
You left us lovely memories, we will treasure through the years.*

Love always and sadly missed by your daughter Catriona xxx.



Sheils
Eileen
Umlagh, Carrigart
3rd Anniversary

*Daughter, life is not the same now you're no longer here
But my love for you is still strong and will remain year after year.*

Remembering you every day, Mum

*You were the jewel in our hearts
You were loved in every way
Now you're gone, you're truly missed each and every day.*

Never forgotten by all the family, nieces and nephews

*Goodbyes are not forever
Goodbyes are not the end
They simply mean we'll miss you until we meet again*

Remembering you always Eileen, from your aunts and uncle.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in the Church of St. John the Baptist, Carrigart and on-line via the Mevagh parish Facebook page, on Friday 11th March at 10.00am

in making a decision on the application. The planning authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions or may refuse to grant permission.

Donegal County Council Ballykeeran, Kilmacrenan

We Roger & Claire Murray are applying to Donegal County Council for permission for a change of house design of that previously approved under planning Ref. No. 20/51465 with connection to approved waste water treatment system and all associated site development works at Ballykeeran, Kilmacrenan Co Donegal in the townland of Ballykeeran. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of the planning authority, Donegal County Council, County House, Lifford, County Donegal during its public opening hours. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the planning authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20.00, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt of the application by the authority, and such submission or observation will be considered by the planning authority in making a decision on the application.

Planning Notices

Donegal County Council Doaghbeg, Portsalon
I, Eammon Harkin, am applying to Donegal County Council for planning permission for the construction of a detached domestic garage at Doaghbeg, Portsalon, County Donegal in the townland of Doaghbeg. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of the planning authority, Donegal County Council, County House, Lifford, County Donegal during its public opening hours. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the planning authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20.00, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt of the application by the authority, and such submission or observation will be considered by the planning authority in making a decision on the application.



McBride
Margaret
Glebe and
Glenree, Carrigart
3rd Anniversary

In loving memory of our dear mother Margaret who died on 15th March 2019.

*We miss you from your fireside chair
your loving smile and gentle air
Your vacant place no one can fill
We miss you Mum and always will
Words and times we can no longer share
But in our hearts you are always there.*

Always remembered and sadly missed by your daughter Teresa, sons James, Patrick and Paul.

*Of all the many blessings however great or small
For us to have you as our Granny was the greatest gift of all.*

Loved and sadly missed by all your grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Anniversary Mass will take place in St. John the Baptist Church, Carrigart on Wednesday 16th March at 7pm.



McBride
John
Glebe, Downings
13th Anniversary

In loving memory of a dear brother, John McBride who died on 8th February 2009.

*Sadly missed along life's way
Quietly remembered everyday
No longer in our lives to share
But in our hearts you are always there.*

Always remembered and sadly missed by your sisters, brothers, nieces and nephews.

Prayer for Publication

Novena to the Sacred Heart to be said six times a day for nine days. Never known to fail. May the most sacred Heart of Jesus be praised, adored and glorified throughout the whole world forever and ever. Amen. Publication must be granted M.B.



Herraghty
Peggy
Downings
3rd Anniversary
Died 15th March 2019
Rest in Peace Mum

*The sun still rises in the east and darkness falls
at night but nothing now seems quite the same each day is not as bright.*

*The birds still sing, the flowers grow
the breeze still whispers too
But it will never, ever be the same without you.*

*It's so sad that you had to go, your leaving caused such pain
But you were so very special Mum and earth's loss is Heaven's gain.*

Mum we love and miss you always your loving sons, daughters, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law, grandchildren & great grandchildren xxx

*We're missing you Sister a little more each time we hear your name
We've cried so many tears yet our hearts are broken just the same*

*We miss our times together things in common we could share
But nothing fills the emptiness now you're no longer there.*

*We've so many precious memories to last our whole life through
Each one of them reminders of how much we're missing you.*

You'll always be with us in our hearts, may God bless your soul - sadly missed by your sisters Bríd and Kate and your brother Joe and their families x

*Though your smile is gone forever and your hand we cannot touch
We have so many memories of you we loved so much.
Your memory is our keepsake with which we'll never part
God has you in His keeping, we have you in our hearts.*

May your soul rest in peace - sadly missed by your sister-in-law Bridie, Molly, Nellie and Tess and families xxx

Also remembering our loving father Jimmy who died on 11th August 2014 - may he rest in peace.

Anniversary Mass is on Saturday 12th March at 6pm in St John the Baptist Church, Carrigart.

Acknowledgement

Coll
Charles John
Braghy, Portnablagh
28th January 2022



The family of the late Charles John Coll wish to express our heartfelt thanks to everyone who sympathised with us on our recent sad loss.

Sincere thanks to everyone who attended the removal, wake and funeral and to all those who sent Mass cards and sympathy cards.

We appreciated the kindness and generosity of our neighbours, friends and extended family who brought food and supported us in any way.

Thanks to Letterkenny General Hospital for caring for Dad during his illness and a special thanks to staff of Aras Uí Domhnaill Nursing Home. Thanks to Fr John Joe Duffy, Fr. Martin Doohan and Fr. Pat McGarvey for their help and support during the wake and funeral.

Thanks to Harkin Undertakers for their professional and dignified manner in which they carried out the funeral arrangements. Thanks also to the gravediggers.

As it is impossible to thank everyone individually please accept this acknowledgement as a token of our gratitude.

McGill
Joseph
Creelslough



We the family of the late Joe McGill, Creelslough and formerly of Glasgow, who died on the 14th February 2022, wish to express our sincere gratitude and thanks to everyone who conveyed their condolences, by way of Mass cards, sympathy cards, messages on R.I.P, telephone calls, letters and donations, floral tributes and to those who watched the funeral Mass on-line.

Thanks to those who travelled long distances to support us, those who called to the house during and after the wake and those who lined the roadside.

Thanks to Fr. John Joe Duffy who recited the Rosary each night and was a great source of comfort and support to the family, and for his uplifting and spiritual eulogy. To Fr. Murphy who concelebrated the Mass with Fr. Duffy and to sacristan John Whoriskey for his preparations, we want to say thank you. Also, we thank Josie O'Donnell for his music and hymns.

Thanks to the wonderful and caring staff of Medical 4 at LUH, and to the Chaplin who attended Joe in his final days. We would like to thank Dr. Stewart's Medical Practice, and his caring team, nurses, Medical Secretaries, Carers and Day Centre Staff, for their attentive and compassionate care in Joe's final years.

Thanks to Lafferty's Supermarket and Roses Kitchens for supplying food, and to the kind neighbours who were a great source of support and comfort throughout.

Thanks to James Harkin and Leo Funeral Directors for their highly professional service and support throughout, and to the grave diggers.

Please accept this acknowledgement as a token of our sincere gratitude. Mass will be offered for your intentions.

Toye



We Tara and Emma the daughters of the late Charlie Toye wish to express our sincere thanks to everyone who sympathised with us on our recent sad loss.

A special thank you to those who sent Mass cards, sympathy cards and those who left messages on rip.ie, and those who attended the wake and funeral and to our neighbours and friends and local businesses who paid their respects by lining the roadside in Ramelton and Milford on the morning of the funeral.

A very special thank you to the passers by who stopped on the morning of Daddy's sudden death, the councils workmen, Paramedic Dave McSpadden, Dr Rizwam from Rathford Medical Centre, Sergeant Fergus McGrory and his colleagues, Fr. Stephen Gorman and Meena Gormley, your kindness will never be forgotten. To all those who brought food and helped make tea at the wake sincere thanks.

Thanks to Fr. Desmond Sweeney for the beautiful letter of condolences and for his prayerful support to our family over many years. Heartfelt thanks to Fr Stephen Gorman for his help and support throughout the wake and for his meaningful Funeral Mass and graveside prayers, it was a great consolation to us all. Special thanks to Patrick Shields for the beautiful singing and music during the Mass and to Phonsie McElwee, Funeral Directors for the kind and caring manner in which the funeral arrangements were carried out.

As it would be impossible to thank everyone individually, please accept this acknowledgement as a token of our sincere gratitude. Mass will be offered for your intentions.

Charlie's Months Mind Mass will be celebrated in St Peter's Church, Milford on Friday 11th March at 7.00pm.

Wilkin
Catherine
Magherarorty, Creelslough



We, the family of Catherine Wilkin (nee Alcorn) would like to express our sincere thanks and gratitude to all those who sympathised, comforted and supported us during our recent sad bereavement.

Thanks to those who sent cards and messages on RIP.ie and on social media. Those who telephoned and attended the wake and funeral and those who paid their respects by lining the roadside. We are deeply touched by those who travelled to be with us. A special word of thanks to all those who gave donations to Surgical 2 LUH and to the Donegal Hospice.

To our friends, relatives and neighbours who helped at the wake, who brought food, baked and helped in every way possible and to Roses Bar, your kindness and support was very much appreciated. A special thanks to those who assisted with parking and to the grave diggers who prepared Mum's final resting place.

To Rev. Skuce, thank you most sincerely for all your support and visits and for conducting such a meaningful and comforting service. Thanks to Bertha and Hazel for playing the organ and leading the singing and to Johnny Haughey for singing in the Church and to Chelsea Evans who sang so beautifully at the graveside.

Thanks to Canon Irwin for his many welcome visits to the house during Mum's illness. To Archway Flowers for providing the beautiful family floral tributes.

Sincere thanks to the staff of Surgical 2 LUH for their kind and caring support and to the Donegal Hospice Palliative Home Care Team, Carrigart Doctors, Public Health Nurses Creelslough and staff of Carrigart and Creelslough chemists.

Special Thanks to Lizzie's Diner and Oyster Bar for catering and serving food after the funeral and to the staff who gave so freely of their time. We are grateful to Harkin Undertakers for providing such caring and dignified guidance in a most respectful and compassionate manner.

As it would be impossible to thank everyone individually, we hope this acknowledgement will be accepted by all as a token of our sincere appreciation and thanks. XXX

"There are some who bring light and joy so great to this world that even when they're gone their light remains"

dml
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Facelift for the Corncutters Rest in Creeslough

In recent days those who are passing through the village of Creeslough would have seen that one of its most iconic buildings on the Main Street has undergone a facelift - the building formerly known as The Corncutters Rest.

A group of volunteer painters from the area gathered on Saturday morning to paint the building - one of a number of landmarks in the village which have received a lick of paint in recent days under the auspices of the Creeslough Community Association.

These are just some of the works being undertaken by the Creeslough Community Association recently in preparation for the upcoming St. Patrick's Day Parade and the summer. A clean up day is also being organised for this Saturday getting underway at 9am.

The outside of the 'Corncutters'

looks a lot different now than it was just a few short years ago when it was one of the most popular entertainment centres in the north west. So, it's end of an era for one of Donegal's most popular bar and restaurant and disco for many years. But owner Sally O'Donnell in co-operation with the Association and a lot of volunteers gave it a new face lift. Sally has some great new ideas for this lovely building.

So the Creeslough Community Association would encourage others owners of buildings to get on board and do the same.

Prior to becoming the Corncutters Rest the venue was known as Ferry's Bar and had been serving the people of Creeslough for a generation. The Corncutters Rest opened in 1980 and quickly developed into a popular dancing and disco venue playing host to some of the biggest

bands in the country as well as its legendary disco nights. It became the focal point of the local community and many couples met in and got married in the Corncutters although many a romance also ended in the venue as well!

The Corncutters quickly developed into a venue for local weddings as well as christenings and funeral meals - so it was the centre of all family celebrations for many.

It also hosted many memorable sporting nights run by Dunfanaghy Boxing Club, as well as Cranford AC, as well as been at the centre of activities for St. Michael's GAA Club as players and supporters would gather to celebrate victories or hold post mortems in defeat. When Donegal won their first All-Ireland Title in 1992 the Sam Maguire Cup came to the Corncutters Rest the following year for the St. Michael's Dinner Dance.

As well as painting the building on Saturday, for all of those present it was a chance to reminisce and share their memories of nights spent in the legendary venue as it looks forward to the next stage in its history.



Locals who helped with the painting of the outside of the Corncutters Rest in Creeslough on Saturday last Shaun Langan, Josie McGee, Anthony Gallagher, Joe Horan, Peter McCarry, Noel Toye, Philip Sweeney, Sally O'Donnell owner of the building Patrick Langan, Ben McFadden Creeslough Community Association and Mark Langan



This brings back memories - Noel Toye pictured in the door of the Corncutters Rest in Creeslough on Saturday.



Locals hard at working on the painting of the outside of the Corncutters Rest in Creeslough.

Creeslough News

St Patrick's Day Parade in Creeslough

Everyone taking part in the parade to meet in the field next to the chapel (weather permitting) at 11am on St. Patrick's Day. In the interest of safety and in order to get the parade on to the Main Road, it would be appreciated if everyone wishing to watch the Parade move up the street and leave the area around the Chapel clear for the Parade to exit. Please cooperate with the stewards. Any child taking part in the parade on a quad/bike must be accompanied by an adult. There will be disabled parking on the High Street. There will be a bucket collection to help with costs. Enjoy a safe Parade.

Clean Up Day

Creeslough Community Clean Up day will take place on Saturday March 12th. Meet at the Corner of the Garden carpark at 9.00a.m. Bags and gloves will be supplied and please wear high vis vests. Your support would be appreciated.

Ukraine Appeal

Dunfanaghy Youths are donating their share of the 50/50 takings from the St Patrick's day draw, we are also organising a collection of emergency supplies which will be delivered to the refugee centre in Poland. Items can be left at the back of St Michael's Chapel, or in Primo, Centra, Moores or Revive in Dunfanaghy. Alternatively, you can contact Joanne Hughes 0877414559 or Bernice Alcorn 0876704445.

Items that they are looking for the Ukraine Appeal are: Shampoo, Deodorant, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Soap, Sanitary pads, Nappies, Wipes, Baby formula, Baby milk bottles, Bandages, Band aids, Painkillers, Sweets, Canned food, Non-perishable foods, Rain coats, Hats, Scarves, gloves and Towels.

St. Michael's Mini Lotto

There was no Jackpot winner in the Mini Lotto on Sunday. The numbers drawn were: 3,8,11,13,14,20. The two Match 5 Winners were Sarah Ann Ferry Murroe and Michael McClafferty Derryreel who won €50 each. This week's Jackpot will be €5500. Lotto Tickets are on sale in the usual outlets and also online from Clubforce.

Bingo

The weekly Bingo continues in the Massinass Hall Creeslough on Sunday's at 8pm. We welcome our customers back in doors and on line will continue but we are hopeful that we will eventually get all our patrons back on a Sunday night.

The winner of the €200 on the House on Game 9 at Bingo on Sunday night was Michael McClafferty, €100 on Game 5 was Joan McVeigh, €30 winner was Mary Grace McGarvey. The proceeds of the Bingo for the next three weeks will be in aid of the Ukraine Appeal and everyone is welcome to come along and support this worthy cause.

Dunfanaghy Youths

Congratulations to Mark Anthony McGinley, who is this week's 50/50 winner €480 on its way to you. The hut will be in Creeslough every Friday 10am-2pm and Dunfanaghy every Saturday, 10am - 2pm, you can also go onto the Dunfanaghy Youth football club Facebook page, click on the PayPal link, and buy your tickets online. Thanks to all local businesses for supporting our draw, also those who buy and sell our tickets.

No Greater Love

A Lenten programme of Reflection 'No Greater Love' is a 5-part Lenten programme takes place in Ards Friary for the first five Thursdays of Lent at 7.30pm to 9pm. This

programme is being organised by the parish of Dunfanaghy, Creeslough and Ards and a warm invitation is extended to everyone and look forward to welcoming you to partake in this time of reflection. The programme starts in the Garden of Gethsemane and leads you to the foot of the Cross at Calvary over the 5 sessions. Each session has a 30-minute video filmed in the Holy Lands, a time of discussion and prayer.

Crafters

The Crafters of Creeslough meet every Monday from 11a.m. until 1pm. All are welcome to come along and learn or revive an interest in knitting/crochet etc. and have a cup of tea.

Social Dancing Classes

Social Dancing Classes continues in the Massinass Centre Creeslough on Tuesday evenings from 8 to 10pm.

Climb Muckish

Swilly Hiking Club are taking part in Charlie Bird's "Climb with Charlie" charity climb on April 2nd. Join us as we climb Muckish Mountain with a choice of four different routes. 1. The Grotto. 2. The Miners Path. 3. The Nose and 4. The NW side. See www.climbwithcharlie.ie for details and donation page.

Muckish Development Group

Charlie Bird launched his "Climb / Walk with Charlie" to raise money for Motor Neurone Disease Ireland and Pieta House. He will climb Croagh Patrick on April 2nd. We will be supporting Charlie's charities by hosting a walk on the Muckish Railway Line. This will be suitable for people of all abilities who want to join in, including those with push chairs or buggies. More information at a later date. Keep your Diary free on April 2nd.

Secular Franciscan Order

The Secular Franciscan Order (SFO) meet in Ards Friary on the second Wednesday of every month. Mass is celebrated at 7.30 p.m. preceded by the Rosary at 7.10 p.m.

Art Class

The Crafters are running a ten week Art class for beginners and improvers on Mondays in the Day Centre from 1.30 till 3.30. It is funded by the Education and Training Board. There are two vacancies. If interested ring Ellen on 0863089530.

Online

Mass from St. Michael's Church is available online on <https://mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-michaels-church>

St. Vincent De Paul

If you find yourself in need of help at this or any time of the year please contact us on 0862328791 and assured of our confidentiality at all times.



The effects of the recent storms as the sand covers the Car Park at Killyhoey Beach, Dunfanaghy

Dunfanaghy

Boxing Tournament

Dunfanaghy Boxing Club are holding a Boxing Tournament on Wednesday 16th March in the Ozanam Centre at 8pm. Clubs taking part are Carrickmore and Omagh Boys County Tyrone and Raphoe, Dunree and Dungloe Boxing Clubs from Donegal who will come to the Ozanam Centre to take on Dunfanaghy's finest.

Among the bouts down for decision on the night are: (Dunfanaghy names first) Owen McDough v Odhran Woods, Dunree; Hudie Coyle v Owen McGee, Dungloe; Sean Doohan v Jack Gallagher, Dungloe; Niall McNamara v Jack Gormerly, Carrickmore; Cormac Hall v John McCartan, Carrickmore; Jack Boyle v Sean McDonagh, Omagh; Pierce McBride v Daniel Downey, Dunree; Anthony Doohan v Aidan McGee, Dungloe; Dylan Doherty v Ryan Diver, Dungloe. Also on the bill will be Conor Durning, Luke Kelly, Eddie McBride, Nancy McMonagle, and Julien O'Donnell. This promises to be a very night's boxing and everyone is welcome to come along for a good night's entertainment.

Workhouse Reopening

Dunfanaghy Workhouse will be reopening on Thursday the 17th at 10 am for the first time this year and invite everyone to come and join us for our first day back. A leprechaun hunt will be launched that will be going on throughout the weekend for families to join. For more information regarding this please ring the Workhouse at 9136540, email us dunfanaghyworkhousetours@gmail.com or visit our Facebook or Instagram!

On Friday at 3pm we will be having a Storytelling with Róisín on the history of St. Patrick, and that will be €3 per child.

On Saturday at 3pm, we will be screening Darby O'Gill and the Little People at 3pm, limited seating so be sure to call if you'd like a seat! €3 per person.

Ukraine Appeal

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Prizewinners at the Table Quiz in aid of the Community Playground at The Workhouse, Dunfanaghy which was held in Arnolds Hotel in Dunfanaghy on Friday night, included with Claire Curran, Manager of The Workhouse Dunfanaghy are the draw winner and the winners of the quiz Sean Duffy, Gillian and Keith Lapsley.



es, Toothpaste, Soap, Sanitary pads, Nappies, Wipes, Baby formula, Baby milk bottles, Band-aids, Band aids, Painkillers, Sweets, Canned food, Non-perishable foods, Rain coats, Hats, Scarves, gloves and Towels.

Holy Trinity Parents Association

Holy Trinity National School Dunfanaghy Parents Association annual general meeting will be held in the School on this Friday 11th March at 7.45pm. All parents with children attending the school are encouraged to come along.

No Greater Love

A Lenten programme of Reflection 'No Greater Love' is a 5-part Lenten programme which will take place in Ards Friary for the first five Thursdays of Lent continues every Thursday from 7.30pm to 9pm.

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Resource Centre

Gardening Classes: With Joanne Butler resume at Dunfanaghy Community Garden on Monday mornings from March 21st.

Names are currently being taken for an 8-week block of craft classes subsidised by Donegal ETB, starting at The FRC Dunfanaghy from April 25th Monday afternoons 2 - 4.

The pastoral centre in Letterkenny are currently providing a Counselling service for children age 5+ (playtherapy) and youth and adults here at the FRC in Dunfanaghy. Please get in contact directly with The Pastoral centre on 9131853.

The Carers support group meets once per month via ZOOM or face to face at Dunfanaghy FRC Baby & Toddler support classes/groups for babies and their carers every Monday until 28th March. The PlayStation - Baby and Toddler at Holy Cross Church Hall, Horn Head road. It is expected to start the outdoor group at The Workhouse from 25th April. It will run in blocks of

6 weeks. Tuesdays - Breastfeeding support facilitated by PHN Labhaoise Maguire. Fridays: 10 - 12 Baby connect with Victoria Toye at Creeslough Day Centre (Spaces available)

Donegal Parenting Support network have arranged a series of workshops online for the month of March from 10am - 12noon. Workshops are as follows: 16th March: Active play 23rd Managing technology, 30th Restful sleep. Contact Chloe on 0860675186 for additional info or to book your place.

Friday Youth Club currently seeking volunteers to support the development of a youth club in this area. Contact Breege on 9136548 or ring Pearl at Donegal youth service on 9129630.

Dunkers Walking Group Meet at Dunfanaghy FRC (or pre-arranged meeting point) at 10.45 weekly on Wednesdays.

Wellness Café

The Dunfanaghy Wellness Café has reopened on the first and fourth Monday of the month at the workhouse Dunfanaghy (March 14th and 28th). All welcome. Contact details for Dunfanaghy Family Resource Centre: Phone: 9136548 Email:dunfresource@gmail.com

Dunfanaghy Youths

Congratulations to Mark Anthony McGinley, who is this week's 50/50 winner €480 on its way to you.

Golf Club News Golf Club News

Rosapenna

Gents Competition Results

The Gents Singles Stableford played over the Sandy Hills Links on Sunday the 6th of March was the second competition using the new category prize format. This format will be adopted throughout the golfing season. Results as follows -Category A (13 & below); Tony Carr, 10* with 37pts; Category B (14-21); John Jnr McClafferty, 19* with 47pts; Category C (22+); Frank Cullen, 22* with 34pts; Gross Prize; James McNulty, with 31 gross pts.

Please note this is your playing handicap on the day from which ever tees you select. The categories were determined from the average entry from a dozen+ competitions during the 2021 season with an even 3 way split. As with the current 1st, 2nd, Gross, 3rd prize structure a certain number of entries will have to be reached to include a gross prize and the more entries on the day the larger the payout per category. The full category price structure is posted on the members notice board in the front foyer of the Golf Pavilion. The * above denotes a player who played from the blue tees receiving 2 additional strokes to their course handicap re the mixed tee format. Two's - Marty Carlin & Denis Harkin. Entries - 35pax.

Club Sweaters

It has been decided at committee level to introduce a new colour of club sweater for all team competitions. All members are

encouraged to purchase same from The Pavilion Golf Shop and would wear this when representing Rosapenna Golf Club at both provincial level and county level. The Pavilion Golf Shop will not hold a stock of the jumpers. Orders after this date will incur embroidery and shipping charges and will be placed on a bimonthly basis. Members must order their jumper(s) by Monday 21st March via email - golf@rosapenna.ie. Contact The Pavilion Golf Shop for any further information required.

Course Notice

Winter Mats are in play for both casual and competition golf, this includes using the mats on all tee boxes. All members are kindly asked to repair all pitch marks, replace divots in the semi rough and rake all bunkers after use. Please keep all trollies & drive buggies off tee boxes and away from green surrounds. If you are on the course you must be on the tee sheet, all tee times are bookable via the BRS App. Booking enquiries over the phone will be offered the same tee times as showing via the BRS App, no additional times will be available.

Rosapenna Ladies

As Lady Captain Betty Feeney starts her year in Office, there has been much preparation going on behind the scenes, with the Committee hard at work organising a schedule for the year ahead. Competitive golf resumed last week, with a club competition on Saturday 5th March with

an 18 hole Stableford event on the Sandy Hills Course. There was a great entry and congratulations to Aisling Cullen the first winner in 2022 with an excellent 39 points just beating Anne McKeague into runner up position with 38 points. The first nine was won by Marion Geoghegan with 20 points while Patricia Bogan won the 2nd nine with 18 points BOT. Well done ladies and a great start to the season.

There will be a Club Scramble on Saturday 12th March, with a fun 4 person team event on 17th March starting at 11.30am, followed by another scramble on 18th March, followed by a singles stableford competition on 19th March. Ladies intending to participate in the St. Patrick's Day Team event are asked to sign up on the notice board in the locker room before 15th or alternatively contact Competitions Secretary Clare Lenny directly to ensure you are included in the draw. For regular singles events, intending players are requested to book their Tee times within the relevant slots on the BRS system and adhere to course playing conditions in force on the day. Furthermore, a 9 hole competition will run Monday to Friday each week, and ladies are encouraged, but not obliged to enter names individually on the BRS system to encourage a mixture of handicaps and playing partners, with emphasis very much on 'Ready Golf', so as to discourage slow play.

Upcoming Fixtures -

March: Saturday 12th - Winter Scramble; Sunday 13th - Gents Club Competition; Thursday 17th - Gents Club Competition; Friday 18th - Winter Scramble; Saturday 19th - Gents Four Ball Better Ball; Sunday 20th - Gents Club Competition; Saturday 26th - Winter Scramble - Sandy Hills Links; Sunday 27th - Gents Club Competition - Old Tom Morris Links.

Letterkenny Ladies

The season was launched in glorious sunshine at the Captain's Drive In on Sunday 6th March and the first 18 hole competition for the ladies will take place on Friday 18th March. Lady Captain Triona is looking forward to seeing you all on the fairways and is hoping that the sun will shine again to get the season off to a good start.

Portsalon

Captain's Drive-ins

This Sunday, March 13th, will see the re-scheduled Captain's Drive-in taking place at Portsalon. Members are invited to join Eamonn McConigley (Beck) and Brighidin Hawke as they take their customary opening tee-shots at 10am. The Timesheet is now live for the drive-in. Please book the fourball that you wish to play in on the timesheet at any of the times available. All golfers will be able to avail of soup and sandwiches in the Clubhouse following their rounds. Note; this event is NOT a shotgun start.

Hole-in-One

Congratulations to 18-handicapper Stuart Nicholl who enjoyed his first ever hole-in-one at the 15th hole on Saturday last en route to his latest competition win with a fantastic score of 46 points.

Auto Fast Fit Winter Series

The race for glory in the Auto Fast Fit Portsalon Winter Series is nearing a conclusion with Week 7 in the series taking place this Saturday 12th March. Time-sheet is live. Runaway leader Stuart Nicholl has a big advantage on the chasing pack but there's still plenty time for catching up, with double points on the final weekend in April.

Results

Saturday Members, March 5th - Winner: Stuart Nicholl (18) 46pts BOT; 2nd Jim Deeney (35)



Portsalon Golf Club Member Stuart Nicholl who recorded his first hole in one with an ace at the Par 3 15th Hole in Portsalon.

46pts; Gross: Stephen Connolly (4)34pts; 3rd Charlie McCahill (20) 43pts
Sunday Members - March 6th 1st Peter Doherty (27) 44pts; 2nd Rory McDermott (20) 43pts; Gross: Cian Page (5) 32pts; 3rd Sean Canning (24) 42pts.

Portsalon Ladies

Captains Drive-In

Best wishes to Club Captains, Brighidin Hawke and Eamonn McConigley, who host their Captains Drive-in on Sunday 13th March. Timesheet in operation to book or join respective fourballs in the scramble event.

Members Results

For the second week in a row Sarah Nicholl playing off 17, claimed the honours in fine style with another great score of 40pts to win the members competition on Sunday 6th March. Runner-up was Noreen McConigley (24) with 36pts.

Dates for your diaries

The Club qualifier for the Donegal Shield Team to represent Portsalon along with Lady Captain Brighidin, will be played on Sunday 20th. Members Competition ongoing. Ladies Winter Links Captains Day 31st March, and Donegal Shield, 9th April in Donegal Golf Club.

Cloughaneely

St. Patrick's Day Parade

After two years of lockdown, there will be a St. Patrick's Day Parade in Falcarragh, on Thursday 17th March at 3pm. The organisers would encourage as many businesses, community groups, clubs, schools, etc. to participate in any way possible. More details nearer the date.

Pobal Eascarrach

Folúntas ar Scéim Fostaíocht Pobal Vacancy for a general worker on the Community Employment Scheme at Ballina Resource Centre. Eligible participants must meet the criteria laid down by the Dept of Social Protection. Please contact Caitlín for further information on 0749180571. Subject to demand, the following courses/classes will commence shortly in Ballina Resource Centre: Coastal Seaweed Foraging, Bee-Keeping, Bee-Hive Building, Digital Photography, Art With Owenie. All the above courses are part-funded by the ETB. If interested call Caitlín on 9180571.

Ranganna Sa tSean Bheairic
Tá múid anois ag glacadh ainmneacha dona ranganna seo a leanas; Ranganna Gaeilge

(TEG)* Leibheál A1 – Dé Máirt ón 7-8.30 Leibheál B1 – Dé Céadaoin ón 7-8.30 Leibheál C1 – Déardaoin ón 7-8.30 Comhra Gaeilge – Déardaoin ón 7-8.30 Damhsa Beirte: Ranganna damhsa beirte le Connie Mac Ceallabhuí Ag tosú Dé Luain 14ú Feabhra ón 8-10i.n. Two hand Dance Classes with Connie McKelvey Starting Mon. 14th February from 8-10pm Péintéireachta: Ranganna péintéireachta le Joe McClafferty achan Déardaoin ón 7-10 Painting Classes every Thursday from 7-10pm Fáilte Roimh Thosaitheoirí – Beginners Welcome Dáta tosú ag bráth ar éilimh. 9180888 / 9180655.

Cill Ulta – Na Tithe Gloine
Pór Prátaí – Potato Seed: Tá Pór Prátaí anois ar fáil i gCill Ulta – Na Tithe Gloine. Tá cúig chineál againn le díol. Meáchan 2kg nó Meáchan 25kg. Thig ordú ar line – www.cillulta.ie - go isteach san siopa ansin agus cur isteach do ordú – nó cur scairt orainn ag 91 80994. Le do ordú a bhailiú anseo ar an suíomh - le bhur dtail fan sa charr agus cur scairt ar an oifig. Potato Seed: now available at Cill Ulta – The Glasshouses. We have five varieties for sale. 2Kg weight or 25Kg weight.

You can order online – www.cillulta.ie – enter the shop there and place your order – or call us on 91 80994. For collection purposes here on site – please stay in your car and phone the office.

Cloughaneely Junior Band

If any past members have band uniforms, instruments, hats or jackets in their possession please pm and we can arrange to have them collected or alternatively drop them into Gortahork Parish Hall on a Thursday between 6.30-8pm.

Computer Course

Donegal ETB are organising a course on the transfer skills from tablet and phone to a laptop. Learn to attach documents to emails, type up letters, make a poster etc. Course starting soon in the Adult Education Centre in Gortahork. Call Dolores on 0861740677 to apply.

English Class

Do you know of anyone who is a beginner English speaker? The ETB are organising a class in the Adult Education Centre in Gortahork. Ring 0861740677 to enquire. Free to participants.

Pobail Le Chéile

Oifig Pobail is open to the public next door to Siopa Pobail and there is a public access computer and printer. There is also a vacancy for a Youth Support Worker based at Pobail le Chéile, Falcarragh. This is a training initiative and applicants must be 21+ and unemployed (or on qualifying scheme like TÚS) for 12 months. Accredited training provided - exciting opportunity - 19.5 hours per week (flexible) Call Lee at Donegal Youth Service (91 29630).

The Songhouse

Cór an Chroí is welcome new singers and

Extend Tory Sea Wall - McClafferty

After a visit to Tory Island to see the problems facing the inhabitants of the Island, Cllr. Michael McClafferty (pictured right) has called for urgent works to be carried out on the extension of the Sea Wall and the finishing of the cap on the existing Sea Wall.

McClafferty says that the Capping on top of the existing sea wall needs to be finished. "It's was not completed when the wall was built a number of years ago and the lack of capping has led to the houses not getting their required protection from the Atlantic and he says that it is in a bad state and a serious accident is going to happen if the Cap is not completed. Anyone falling off the wall faces a 10ft drop onto the concrete and rocks below."

Michael and the local community are also calling for the wall to continue for another mile along the coastline to protect the island's coastline and Sacred Sites from the dangers of erosion. This has been a problem for many years and McClafferty wants the Council and the Government to take action now before it is too late.

During his visit to Tory, Cllr McClafferty was also shown the Electricity Generating Plant on the Island and the Helicopter Service to Tory.



10r.n. Beidh treoraí áitiúil ag tabhairt eolais faoin cheantar. Thart fá 20km – daoine fásta agus páistí os cionn 10 mbliana. Saor in aisce agus tá do rothar agus clogad féin de dhith.

Are you interested in Upholstery - Classes are starting Thursday the 24th of March from 7p.m. from 10p.m. – ring 0749165750 to book your space.



Congratulations to Rita Gallagher who won the Faclarragh 50/50 prize this week of €824 receiving her prize.

Coiste Forbartha Inis Bó Finne raises €800 for Ukraine

Coiste Forbartha Inis Bó Finne raised €800 last week from the proceeds of their 50/50 weekly draw, which will go towards the people of Ukraine in their time of most need. After sourcing a good Donegal connection, Sean Mac Suibhne from Fanad, who is teaching with the Salesians, and made a contribution to the "Support Ukraine Appeal" through the Salesians of Don Bosco Ireland. They are currently present in a number of locations in Ukraine including Bórbka, Przemylany, Pytomierz, Korosteszów and Odessa and more. All donations received by the Salesians of

Don Bosco Ireland, go towards buying necessary materials here in Ireland and are then transported to the Ukraine.

Our donation will help to supply sleeping bags and mats, thermal blankets, dressings, first aid supplies, long-life foodstuffs (tinned foods, rice, pasta, baby jars etc) and personal hygiene products to Ukrainian children and families in their time of need. We would sincerely like to thank everyone who donated to us, as this will help make a small difference in these difficult times for the people living in Ukraine.

meet Tuesdays 7.30-9.15 at Song House /Teach na nAmhrán. €8. All welcome. Phone Candy 085889 3154 for further details.

Pobal Eascarrach

Folúntas faoi láthair d'oibrí ginearálta ar an Scéim Fostaíocht Pobal ag Ionad Pobal Eascarrach. Lé bheith rannpháirteach sa scéim caithfidh tú na rialacha maidir leis an Scéim leagtha síos ag an Roinn Choimirce Sóisialaí, a chomhlíonadh. Má tá suim agat dean teagmháil le Caitlín ar 9180571. There currently is a vacancy for a general worker on the Community Employment Scheme at Ballina Resource Centre. To be eligible to participate on the Community Employment Scheme you must meet the criteria as laid down by the Department of Social protection. Contact Caitlín.

Cursaí: Ag bráth ar éileamh beidh na cursaí/ranganna seo a leanas ag toiseacht san ionad Pobal Eascarrach, sna seachtainí amach romhainn. Má tá suim ag duine ar bith iontu thig scairt a chur ar Caitlín ag 9180571 lé clarú: Seilg Feamainn, Beachaireachta, Tógail Coirceogach, Fótagrafaíocht Dhigiteach & Ealaín Le Owenie. Subject to demand, the following courses/classes will commence shortly in Ballina Resource Centre. Anyone interested should call Caitlín to register: Coastal Seaweed Foraging, Bee-Keeping, Bee-Hive Building, Digital Photography, Art With Owenie. All the above courses are part-funded by the ETB (Donegal Education & Training Board).

Ionad Naomh Fionnán

Coffee morning in aid of the Ukraine crisis in Ionad Naomh Fionnán, Falcarragh on Friday the 11th of March from 11a.m. to 1p.m. Everyone welcome.

Mar chuid de Sheachtain na Gaeilge beidh turas rothaíochta sóisialta sa Ghaeltacht ag tosú ag Ionad Naomh Fionnán Dé Sathair an 12ú Márta ag



Brid Mullaney and her grandson Jack at the Confirmations in Gortahork on Sunday.



Children from the local Schools who received the Rite of Confirmation in the Church of Christ The King Gortahork on Sunday with the Bishop of Raphoe Alan McGuckian, Fr. Sean O'Gallochair, Fr. Brian O'Fearraigh and their teachers.



Hughie McClafferty presenting Mickey Doherty with the Downings GAA Club Hall of Fame award at their annual presentation dinner dance in the Downings Bay Hotel on Saturday. Also included is MC Charlie Collins.



Mickey Doherty presenting the Downings GAA Club Senior Player of the Year award to Oisín Boyce. Also included is Club Chairman Eoin Byrne.



Na Dunaibh winners of the Donegal Junior Title and beaten Ulster Finalists at the Dinner Dance in the Downings Bay Hotel.



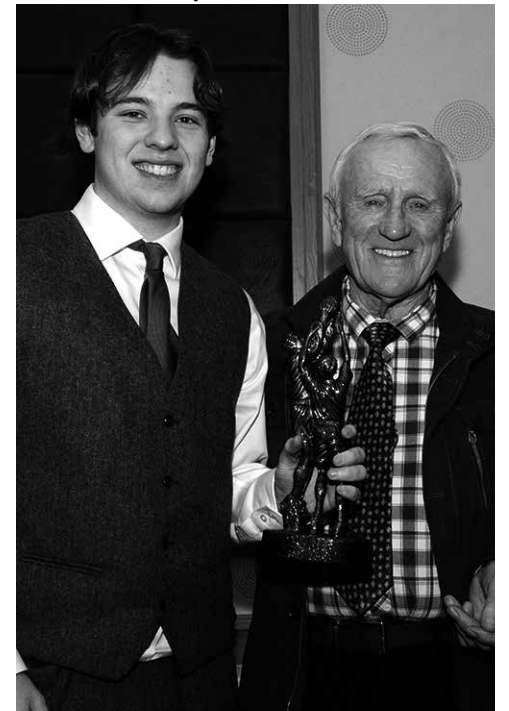
Mickey Doherty presenting Michelle Wilkin with the Ladies Player of the Year award.



Charlie Shevlin and Amy McLaughlin receiving the Ladies Young Players of the Year awards from Mickey Doherty at the annual presentation dinner dance in the Downings Bay Hotel on Saturday.



Mickey Doherty presenting Johnny McGroddy with the Young Senior Player of the Year award.



Ulán McGroddy receiving the Reserve Player of the Year Award from Mickey Doherty.

GAA Club News

St. Michael's

The All-County League Fixtures were released recently. We have been given a tough start to the League. Our campaign will get underway on Saturday 2nd April away to Gweedore in Maghergallon. The following Sunday we are at home to St. Eunan's. We have a bye in the third round of fixtures, while in week 4 we are away to Ardara.

Mini Lotto

There was no Jackpot winner in the Mini Lotto on Sunday. The numbers drawn were: 3,8,11,13,14,20. The Two Match 5 Winners were Sarah Ann Ferry Murroe and Michael McClafferty Derryreel who won €50 each. This week's Jackpot will be €5500. Lotto Tickets are on sale in the usual outlets and also online from Clubforce.

Bingo

The weekly Bingo continues in the Massinass Hall Creeslough on Sunday's at 8pm. We welcome our customers back in doors and on line will continue but we are hopeful that we will eventually get all our patrons back on a Sunday night.

The winner of the €200 on the House on Game 9 at Bingo on Sunday night was Michael McClafferty, €100 on Game 5 was Joan McVeigh, €30 winner was Mary Grace McGarvey. The proceeds of the Bingo for the next three weeks will be in aid of the Ukraine Appeal and everyone is welcome to come along and support



Dale McBride receiving the Young Reserve Player of the Year Award from Mickey Doherty and Eoin Byrne.

Cloughaneely

Clárú/Registration
Thig clárú ar líne anois fosta. Impíonn muid oraibh uilig clárú chomh luath agus is féidir. You can also register to be a member of the club online now. We urge everyone to register as soon



Lorcan Connor receiving his Ulster All Star Award from Mickey Doherty and Hugo McClafferty.

as possible.
Praghasanna/Prices
Imreoir/Player - €60; Imreoir atá ina mhac léinn/Student Player - €30;
Gnáthbhall/Non Player - €30; Club 100/100 Club - €240
Lotto

The numbers drawn were 5, 20, 8, 2, 6, 1. No jackpot winner. we had 2 match 5s; Congratulations to Marjorie Shiels and Patrick J. Boyle who win €50 each. Our jackpot is now €6,300. Tickets are available in various outlets throughout the parish in Batch, Centra, Post Office, Dee

League of Ireland Premier Division

Busy spell for Horgan's men

Finn Harps have two big games in the space of three days as the League of Ireland Premier Division season gets into full flow. Ollie Horgan's outfit hosts St Patrick's Athletic this Friday night in Ballybofey (kick-off 8.00). On Monday night it's the short trip to the Showgrounds to play Sligo Rovers in the first Northwest derby of the season. Horgan would certainly prefer to have more than just two points from the opening three league matches and getting a first win of the campaign won't be easy against either Pat's or Sligo. Pat's are unbeaten after four games split between wins and draws. Tim Clancy's side will come to Finn Park on a high after defeating reigning champions Shamrock Rovers 1-0 at Richmond Park last Friday. It will be the first time for Tunde Obowlabi to face Harps since leaving in the close season. Pat's are on six points from four games while Harps sit on two and are second from bottom but they do have a game in hand. Horgan does have a few injury concerns and there is a little bit of a wor-

ry about the strength and depth of the squad compared to last season. Defender José Carrillo had to come off just before half-time in the Bohs match and has to be a big doubt for the Pat's match. However Rob Slevin came in for his first Harps game and did well. Conor Tourish did not feature in the squad for the Bohs fixture due to injury and again there is a big question mark over his availability. "Injuries are part and parcel of the game and we'll see how those lads are later in the week but it's not looking good. We'll need to up our game from Bohs because Pat's will be coming looking for three points. We will also be going all out to win. Look, in all three games so far there have been periods where we should have knocked in a couple of goals but we didn't and that's why we only have two points and are second from bottom. If we can get just a little rub of the green for our forwards to find the net that will give the whole team confidence. Listen, whatever way Friday night's game goes we'll have to move on quickly and get

ready for Sligo in the Showgrounds. They are away to Drogheda on Friday night and go into that unbeaten with five points on the board so that's a fair incentive to get something out of that game" Horgan said.



The Finn Harps team prior to Friday night's game against Bohemians. Photo by Stephen Doherty

Brian McCormick Cup semi-final Report and Photo by Declan Kerr

First McCormick Final for Bonagee



Bonagee United 2-0 St Catherine's

The Brian McCormick Cup finalists have been confirmed after victories for Bonagee Utd and Kildrum Tigers over the weekend. Bonagee were first into the decider thanks to second half goals from Aidan McLaughlin and Cody Brogan at Ballyare on Friday night against St Catherine's. It was a much tighter affair at the Flagpole where Kildrum Tigers emerged victorious on penalties after a 2-2 draw. On Friday night there was little to choose between the sides in the first half where Bonagee would have been the pre-match favourites by virtue of their Premier Division status. Their victory means it is the first in the club's history to reach the McCormick Final. St. Catherine's who look odds on to be a Premier Division team next season shaded the early stages with John Carr having to get down to push out an Odhran McGuinness effort while skipper Evan Broderick saw a header

come close to a goal but it wouldn't have counted in any case because ref Dessie McLaughlin had spotted an infringement. At the other end a dangerous Eamonn Cannon free-kick was nicked away at the expense of a corner on 21 minutes. Just after the restart Carr denied Ryan Cunningham who had raced clear of the Bonagee defence. The Killybegs outfit was on top early on with McGuinness firing over from a good position and the big man Broderick wasn't far away with a glancing header. But, it was Bonagee who were to break the deadlock on 66 minutes after the impressive Evan McCroary forced his way down the right flank and his cross was steered home by ace striker Aidan McLaughlin. Cannon and Broderick had decent attempts at either end before St. Catherine's came agonisingly close to an equaliser. Carr had blocked a McGuinness shot but the ball could still have found the net only

for McCroary's intervention and clearance. After all that drama it was Bonagee who struck for the decisive goal when Brogan came forward to fire a superb shot past Michael Mullin to secure the club's place in the final for the first time ever. Bonagee United - John Carr, Evan McCroary, Coady Brogan, Duncan Patterson, Sergey Alcorn, Taylor Russell, Darren Hunter, Eamonn Cannon, Aaron Wasson, Aidan McLaughlin, Lee McMonagle. Subs: Jordan Gallagher for Wasson 83 mins, Daniel Stolarczyk for Cannon 90, Niall McCrossan for McMonagle 90 mins. St Catherine's - Michael Mullin, Conor Knox, Ryan Carr, Christopher Murrin, Shaun Kelly, Odhran McGuinness, Josh Maxwell, Evan Broderick, Ryan Cunningham, Dan Breslin, Alex McBrearty. Sub: Darragh Murrin for Maxwell 79 mins. Ref: Dessie McLaughlin.

Tully Lawnmowers Repairs & Sales

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Open Monday -Friday 9.00a.m. - 6.00p.m.
Saturday 9.00am. - 4.00p.m.

- New Strimmers from €200
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Chain Sharpening Service ONLY €5 per chain

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Large range of second Hand Machinery

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Good quality 2 stroke. 1 litre Bottle Only €10

Trade-in's are always welcome

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Harps draw some comfort

Finn Harps 1-1 Bohemians

Three games gone and Finn Harps are still without a win after having to settle for a draw against Bohemians on Friday night in Ballybofey. Bohs had the better of the first half but failed to score. However, six minutes after the break they did take the lead courtesy of big striker Promise Omochere following a defensive error. Harps were better after that and got on level terms thanks to super finish from Ryan Connolly after he latched onto a clever first time through ball from Bastien Héry on 65 minutes.

Omochere had an eventual night as he was dismissed by referee Damien McGrath for a second yellow card offence two minutes from the end of normal time. The early action was in the Harps goalmouth with Max Murphy forcing Mark Anthony McGinley to push out his shot while Kris Twardek's rebound effort was goalbound only for his teammate Ali Coote to block the shot. McGinley was tested again by Jordan Flores and while Harps strung together a few promising passages of play there was no threat to James Talbot's goal. Omochere put the visitors in front on 51 minutes at the river end of the ground. The hosts responded well and probably should have equalised in the 64th minute. Yoyo Mahdy slipped Filip Mihaljević through but the Croatian's ball control just wasn't good enough allowing the advancing Talbot to make a crucial block. The leveller did come a minute later courtesy of Connolly's stunning strike at the town end. The impressive Omochere was most unlucky with a fine 72nd minute strike that cannoned off McGinley's crossbar. At the other end Héry headed just wide before Omochere was denied by Ryan Rainey after the striker had managed to lift the ball over McGinley.

Finn Harps - Mark Anthony McGinley; Ethan Boyle, José Carrillo (Rob Slevin 42), Dave Webster; Barry McNamee, Elie Gael N'zeyi Kibonge, Bastien Héry (Luke Rudden 86), Ryan Connolly, Ryan Rainey; Yoyo Mahdy (Eric McWoods 75), Filip Mihaljević. Not used: Gavin Mulreay (Gk), Nathan Logue, Damien Duffy, Jesse Devers, Stephen Black, Mark Timlin.

Lotto

There were no jackpot winners in the Finn Harps Super 4 Lotto draw for Thursday 3rd March. The next draw takes place on Thursday 10th March and the jackpot climbs to €4,000. There were five match 3 winners this week, winning €40 each: Cathy Rudden, Malin (2 Entries matched 3) Elaine Chambers, Ballybofey. Cathy Doyle, Creeslough Aileen McGlinchey, Killygordon.

Milford Livestock Co-Operative Mart

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Tel. 91 53255 / 91 53265 or 087 1277884

March Sales

Sat 12th - **Weanlings** 11am
Bulls & Bullocks Only
Booking in for Weanlings Sale for Sat 12th March will take place this week on WEDNESDAY evening 8.00 - 8.30pm due to St. Patrick's Day.

Wed 16th - **Cattle Sale** 12noon

Sat 19th - **Weanlings** 11am
Heifers Only

Mon 21st - **Sheep Sale** 7.00pm

Sat 26th - **Weanlings** 11am
Bulls & Bullocks Only

Wed 30th - **Cattle Sale** 12noon
Booking in for Weanlings on Thursday evening 8.00 - 8.30pm prior to Saturday Sale

Ferry Hedge Cutting



Flail & Sawhead Fully Insured

Contact Benny on 085 7859676

Govt excise cuts wiped out at the pumps

From Page One

fuels by as much as 20 cent on Tuesday night in anticipation of the excise cuts was something that the government would have to take a very serious look at as a matter of urgency

Agricultural fuel is averaging €800 per 500 litres and this is causing major concern for many local contractors who say fuel is just one of many rising costs the sector is hit with.

It is expected a proposal will go before the Dáil that will cut fuel costs through a reduction in excise duties. The changes would then take effect from midnight if as expected the Dáil passes the Financial resolution.

In January 2021, the average price for petrol was €1.30 and diesel was €1.20. By February 2022 that had risen to an average price of €1.77 for petrol and €1.67 for diesel.

As of Tuesday afternoon many local outlets were charging €1.99, which some reportedly as high as €2.19, for both petrol and diesel.

The AA says 60 % of the price paid at the pumps is tax, including VAT and carbon tax.

They added that the average price of a barrel of oil in mid-February was \$94.50 and rose as high as \$130 in recent days. Oil hit a record \$145 a barrel in 2008.

One Kerrykeel-based agriculture contractor said that the rising cost of fuel is having a huge impact on the sector and the rising prices are making their role unviable.

He has seen prices rise from 96c per litre for diesel to as much as €1.60 per litre in the space of two weeks.

Shaun Friel from S. Friel Agri-contractors say that the Government will have to reduce excise on fuel to make the sector viable for the year ahead, otherwise many contractors will simply not be able to work as they will incur significant losses.

Shaun told the Tribune: "I don't know what will happen - fuel is only one cost and everything has gone up seriously in price. Bail plastic is up to €115 now when it was €90 last year. That's €25 and there are days we could use up to 50 rolls a day. It is the same with chemicals. The Government says they are now coming up with an incentive for farmers to grow crops - but how? There might be no diesel, there's no seed, there is no spray, there is no fertilizer. It makes no sense whatsoever." He said he is aware that other contractors are already considering "parking up" for the year ahead if this does not change quickly.

He added: "We are out spreading slurry these days and we are left asking 'Where do we draw the line?' The contractor is always the last person to get paid. We are doing jobs now that we will not be paid for until October when the single farm payments come in. By the time that comes, and every other bill is paid, there is just going to be nothing left."

As the ongoing invasion of Ukraine by Russia continues, the likelihood is prices will only rise further as supply becomes a major issue as the United States on Tuesday confirmed a ban all imports of Russian oil and gas.

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Play Lotto
Lotto



Yoplait
Petits Filous Frubes Strawberry, Red Berry and Peach/Strawberry
9 Pack 333g €6.01 per kg



Innocent Juice Range 900ml €2.78 per lt
Fairy Washing Up Liquid Original/Lemon 433ml €3.46 per lt



Fresh Choice
Pears Bag 7 Pack
Apples Gala Bag 7 Pack
Oranges Net 1kg
Kiwi Tray 6 Pack
Cherry Vine Tomatoes 300g
Carrot & Broccoli Tray 500g
Rocket and Baby Leaf Salad Bag 100g
Italian Mixed Leaf Bag 170g
Whole Leaf Iceberg Lettuce Bag 200g
See Shelf For Information



Bold
2in1 Lavender & Camomile Washing Powder
60 Wash 3.9kg €3.21 per kg



Kellogg's
Rice Krispies 700g €6.43 per
Special K 750g €6 per kg

SUPEREASY REWARDS
Exclusive Members Only Offers

Kenco Smooth/Rich Instant Coffee Jar 100g €2.50 (Members pay) Regular Price €5.09 €50.90 per kg

Surf Tropical Washing Powder 45 Wash €6.50 (Members pay) Regular Price €16.95



KittenSoft White Toilet Roll
16 Rolls, 38c per roll



Finish Powerball Classic Dishwasher Tablets 110's 1.19kg, €6.72 per kg



Monster Energy Drink Multipack Range
4 Pack 4x500ml €2 per lt



Birra Moretti Beer Bottles
4 Pack 4x330ml €6.05 per lt



Kinnegar Beer Range



Cork Dry Gin 700ml €22 per 70cl



Makulu Chardonnay/Pinotage Rosé/Pinotage/Sauvignon Blanc/Shiraz 750ml