

# Tirconaill Tribune

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## Concerns as church properties decay

The well-known writer and author, Jim Nisbet with historic links to the parish has raised the issue of the deterioration of church property in Kilmacrennan (pictured) and Golan.

Mr. Nisbet has already written a comprehensive book: 'The Foot o' the Hill' and St. Columba's Church features prominently.

Mr. Nisbet writes, "The parochial house in Kilmacrennan is showing worrying signs of abandonment, why this stately structure has been permitted to deteriorate to the point of ruin is a question only the Church Hierarchy can answer.

However, I see no valid reason why this once impressive mansion has been left to the whim of nature's harshness of the Donegal climate. Now it's nothing but an eyesore and will take



significant investment to return it to its former character. Surely a minimum amount of money should have been spent on heating and basic maintenance by those responsible for its upkeep.

Meanwhile, the boarded-up windows and unkempt grounds of yet another parochial house at the Golan end of parish again reflects serious clerical neglect over the past decade or so.

These sturdily built, 19th-century properties, each within a stone's throw of the local churches of St Columba and St Brigid were designed to accommodate the parish priest, his curate, a housekeeper and to entertain the bishop should he

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## Varadkar decision sends Coalition into tailspin

The shock confirmation on Wednesday lunchtime that Leo Varadkar is stepping down as Taoiseach has sent the Coalition into a tailspin: particularly coming on the back of the worst ever defeats in the two referendums.

by John McAteer

"After seven years in office I don't feel I'm the best person for that job anymore," he said.

The appointment of the new Taoiseach will have to be ratified in the Dail... however four days, never mind four weeks, is a hurdle

too far for speculation on that one. Of much more immediate concern for the party is the local and EU elections that are only eleven weeks away.

The resignation will now see three Taoisigh in four years and that has never happened before. Mr. Varadkar became Taoiseach in June 2017 and these past seven years have been a roller coaster of ups and downs, with Brexit: Covid, Housing, Healthcare, Global Warming and accommodating 100,000 Ukrainian refugees dominating the politi-

cal agenda in the most intense period of recent history. But in that time the Exchequer boomed with spending increasing from €68 billion to €110bn. an increase of 38%.

That success has failed to reach down to the grassroots in the politics of rural Ireland where so many struggle to make ends meet with spiralling interest rates since the 2020 general election.

The Taoiseach has been a regular visitor to Donegal: however, in this constituency he's best known for the demotion of Joe

McHugh from the Cabinet table. McHugh was FG's hardest working Education Minister who had spent every waking moment crossing the country and delivering new projects and Donegal became a real beneficiary of that era.

Sources close to McHugh said that Varadkar's decision would not see FG's only Donegal TD in the constituency defend his seat.

Party sources that other errors by Leo included a failure to recognise the political skills of Deputies Ciaran

Cannon and Brendan Griffin.

Fine Gael's identity is now more compromised and its electoral fortunes are far from certain. Varadkar has not been a vote winner as his record shows: he lost 15 seats in the 2020 general election: he lost the Dublin Bay South bye-election and now the landslide drubbing in the referendums. And defending the FG seats in the EU elections was always going to prove more than difficult for him.

And if the knives of FG's rural hinterland

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Donal and Sophia Boyle of The Carrigart Hotel making the right choice to read The Tribune in bed in the local St. Patrick's Day Parade on Sunday where they won the Best Newcomer Award. Photo by Francis Diver.



John Kennedy, Troy Gallagher, Cyril Kennedy and Doreen Sheridan Kennedy, Letterkenny at the New York St. Patrick's Day parade.

## Storyteller pays tribute to Ben McFadden

As well as an intriguing 'Night of Local Mysteries' set to take place in The Workhouse, Dunfanaghy next week a special tribute will also be paid to legendary local storyteller, the late Ben McFadden of Ards.

Donegal author and storyteller, Keith Corcoran, will be launching his new book 'Finding Fairy Mysteries in Donegal' in The Workhouse, Dunfanaghy on Wednesday, March 27th at 7pm. Described as 'original, 'magical' and 'compelling', it also was a Christmas bestseller across the county in 2023.

It features 62 stories collect-



ed from throughout County Donegal and is based on four years of intensive research by the author.

Keith will be joined by local special guest storytellers for what promises to be a fun evening including stories about The Fairy Hollow in Ards Forest, the mystery of Cruach Sidhe on Horn Head, AE Russell's mystical connection to Marble Hill, nature spirits in Glenveagh, and UFO's on Muckish Mountain to mention just a few.

A tribute will also be paid on the night to the late great storyteller Ben McFadden who contributed

Contd. Page 2

## Diocesan Administrator

Following the transfer of Bishop Alan McGuckian, to the Diocese of Down and Connor, which took effect this week, Mgr. Kevin Gillespie has been appointed Diocesan Administrator in the Raphoe Diocese pending a new Bishop being appointed. Monsignor Gillespie is currently the Administrator of St. Eunan's Cathedral.



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# Buster launches Tawney Fundraiser



Mark and Orla Neely pictured at the launch of the Tawney Tractor Run and Family Barn Dance in aid of the Donegal Hospice on Thursday evening with Danny O'Connor - Buster from Mrs. Brown's Boys. Danny is sitting on a Massey Ferguson 135 which is first prize in their fundraising draw. The Tractor Run and Family Barn Dance and Draw takes place on the 31st of August at the Neely home at Tawney, Kilmacrennan. Also included are Catherine Hagan, Director of Nursing, Isabel Doherty, chairperson of the Hospice and singer Street Black. Tickets are available on Donegal, the Donegal Hospice or direct from Orla or Mark.

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## International darts call-up for Shane

A 16-year-old Letterkenny darts player has been selected for the Irish Youth Team who will compete in the Europe Cup in Latvia later this year. Shane Porter, a St. Eunan's College student has been playing since he was a toddler. And that's no surprise as his dad Gerald is a top darts player who has represented Ireland at senior international level. His son is the current skipper of the Donegal Youth Team which reached the All Ireland semi final stage recently in Ballinasloe. Shane plays locally for Glencar Inn who recently won the Letterkenny League and also features for Brownies Bar in the Twin Towers League.



# Varadkar decision sends Coalition into tailspin

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 were out for Varadkar, he was more aware of that in these past two weeks. Regardless of all that it is a fact that since 2016 PG and then the Coalition have grown the State from a €88 billion enterprise to one costing €110 billion in 2024. Allowing for the demands of Covid and inflation, that represents a 38% increase in spending. However, so many on low incomes and on the margins of society, say they are not seeing any more money in their pockets. In his shock resignation on Wednesday, the Taoiseach told the nation that he "had the privilege to serve for the past 20 years as a public representative, 13 as a member of Cabinet, seven as Leader of the Party, and most of those as Taoiseach of this great country. It's been the most fulfilling time of my life." Mr Varadkar outlined a range of topics where he said the Fine Gael Government had made strong progress in recent years. The achievements included "bringing Ireland from unemployment to full employment, from budget deficit to budget surplus, and from austerity to prosperity. Guid-

ing the nation through a pandemic in which we saved lives and livelihoods." "Working through Brexit and helping to prevent a hard border between North and South. Making the country a more equal and more modern place when it comes to the rights of children, the LGBTQ+ community, equality for women and welcoming over 100,000 Ukrainian refugees to our shores when they needed our protection, and reducing poverty and inequality across the country." "The time has come," Mr Varadkar admitted in his speech "There is never a 'right time' to resign high office." However, he argued that this is as good a time as any - "Budget 2024 is done, and negotiations have not yet commenced on the next one. The institutions of the Good Friday Agreement are working again, and our trading relationship with the United Kingdom, in the post-Brexit era, is settled and stable. I know this will come as a surprise to many people, and a disappointment to some," said Mr Varadkar "I hope you can understand and respect my decision. I know that others will - how shall I put it - cope with the news just fine. That

is the great thing about living in a democracy." Mr Varadkar has asked the Fine Gael Party General Secretary and Executive Council to provide for the new leader to be elected in advance of the party Ard Fheis on Saturday, April 16th. He said the new leader will then be able to make the main speech and a new Taoiseach to be elected when the Dáil resumes after the Easter break. He will continue as acting leader until a new leader is elected. It means a very tight timeframe to elect a new leader of Fine Gael, within the next two-and-a-half weeks. Mr Varadkar repeatedly sought to quash speculation about the reasons for his decision, or what he might do next. "I know, inevitably, there will be speculation as to the 'real reason' for my decision. These are the real reasons. That's it. I have nothing else lined up or in mind. No fixed personal or political plans, but I am looking forward to having the time to think about them." He separately stated: "The reasons for stepping down now are personal and political. After seven years in office I don't feel I'm the best person for that job anymore," he also said.

## Downings sheep theft investigated

Gardaí in Milford are investigating the theft of seven in lamb ewes from the Gortamore area in Downings recently. They say the theft occurred sometime between 6pm on Saturday, March 9th and 11am on Sunday, March 10th. They stated that the ewes have faded red markings and they are tagged. They ask if anybody has any relevant information in relation to the theft of these animals to make contact with Milford Gardaí on 9153060.

## Ramelton Bazaar winners

The community of St Mary's Church Ramelton would like to thank all those who made this years Bazaar a resounding success. Over €23,000 was raised, a record for our annual fundraiser! We would like to extend our thanks all all those who organised, volunteered, donated and supported us in any way. Winners were:  
 Rosemary O'Keefe, Rectory Road - 500ths Whoriskey's Oil  
 Oisín McLaughlin, Australia - €500  
 Joseph Birney, Mortimers Lane - €500  
 Nigel Ferry, Letterkenny - €500  
 Amelia Murray, Ramelton - Bag  
 Dermot Mills - Dinner and Tea Service  
 Margaret Donnelly - Basket of Fruit  
 Kathleen McDaid, St. Mary's Terrace - Cake  
 Helen McFadden, The Mall - Cake  
 John Gallagher, Castle Street - Large fruit cake. Wedding

The wedding took place on Saturday of Aoife Gallagher, Castle Street, Ramelton and Joe Proctor, Arranmore Island. Aoife is the daughter of Hilary and the late John Gallagher. Fr. Michael Carney officiated at the nuptials in St. Mary's Church, Ramelton. Best man was Declan Proctor. Groomsmen were Martin, Brian Proctor and Michael McHugh. Mary O'Donnell was Maid of Honour. Bridesmaids were Aoife's sisters Aisling and Eilish Gallagher and Aileen Proctor. Page boys were John Proctor and Fionn Proctor. Layla Gallagher was the Flower Girl. Readings were by Marie Proctor and Connor Clancy. The wedding reception was held in the Silver Tassie Hotel. Swilly Rovers Lotto draw  
 Numbers drawn in the Swilly Lotto on St. Patrick's Day were 2, 4, 6 and 14. There were no jackpot or 3 number winners. This week's jackpot is €1,530.

## Leave No Trace workshops in Fanad

Fanad has been chosen as one of only two workshop locations in Donegal for coastal experts from the University of Galway and Leave No Trace to explain the potential local impact of climate change on our beaches and coast and what we can do to limit the damage. The Fanad workshop dates are April 6th (theory) and June 8th (practical). For further information see the Fanad Coastal Group Facebook page or the organiser Dr Noel Doyle 01 9059009. If you wish to attend please email Noel@leavenotraceireland.org.

# Concerns as church properties decay

From Page One  
 call. Both buildings will require major undertakings to restore. Forlornly, the dilapidated condition of both priests' abodes, now seem symbolic of the Catholic Church's steady decline in Ireland over recent times. However, if the dwindling numbers of clergy have no further use for such grand residences, perhaps it's time the lady took charge. After all, it was generations of hard-pressed parishioners, and their hard-earned donations of half-pennies, who helped fund the construction and maintenance of these splendid manors where clergy lived in considerable comfort in comparison to their poverty-stricken parishioners. Most people in Kilmacrennan see the parochial house as a visual asset to the vicinity, aesthetically complimenting St Columba's church. Financial arguments alone are not enough to justify demolition, especially if it is economically feasible to regenerate it for the greater good of the

community, and the wider value of the building in terms of contribution to the historic, architectural and cultural heritage of its setting. Ireland is littered with parochial houses lying vacant, though some parishes have taken the initiative and successfully converted them for community use, emergency accommodation for those in need or even sold off as private housing, giving a much needed boost to parish finances. "I believe that argument can be made very strongly for both parochial houses in Kilmacrennan and Golan. We have the responsibility on our shoulders to save both buildings for future generations," said Mr. Nisbet. In his 'Foot of the Hill' book published in 2021 I'm Nisbet caught the imagination and the spirit of Kilmacrennan when wrote: "It was a breezy autumn evening, 1991, when I first arrived with my wife, Tricia, at a whitewashed cottage in Casheleenan, on the outskirts of Kilmacrennan. Driving down the leaf-speckled lane, we were

warmly welcomed at the green-mantled door by her uncle, Willie Barney O'Donnell. A living chronicle of the narratives of the district, with a computer-like capacity for conveying dates and details, I was hooked on Willie's every word as he regaled us with yarns from days of yore... But the march of time brings change. In contrast, vast zones of land in nearby towns and villages, each inch soaked in history, are now smothered by suburbs while the slopes of Lough Salt Mountain, once home to over 2,000 souls, are now shrouded in darkness... In these quickly changing times of New Ireland, countless folks risk losing sight of their roots. If we choose to discard, or even trash, the treasures of the past, we shed something precious. Even so, we are all children of history. Pride of place and a sense of yesteryear are a vital part of who we are, and when this association is acknowledged there is often a willingness to preserve it for posterity."

## Storyteller pays tribute to Ben McFadden

From Page One  
 stories to Keith's last two collections of Donegal historically related folklore. Speaking to the Tironeall Tribune Keith said he couldn't have imagined completing his last two books without Ben's input and encouragement. He stated: "He was truly a special character, steeped in the folklore and history of his native district of Donegal, with an equally firm belief in his own faith and that of the otherworld. When you heard Ben delivering a story in his unique, highly animated style, you could feel puzzled, amazed and frightened all at the same time". As part of his storytelling talk Keith will reveal some of his research findings as to who and what the fairies might actually be, how they have been part of the Irish psyche for over 5,000 years, and why the Duffinagh, Muckish and Glenveagh region of Donegal might be a 'hotspot' for fairy and paranormal activity. Another local story of interest in Keith's latest book is 'The Wilson Family Custodians of Fairy Hill' which is based on

## Three vehicle crash in Illistrin

Gardaí are appealing for witnesses to a three vehicle collision that occurred on the N56 at Illistrin, Letterkenny. It occurred on Wednesday, March 13th at approximately 10pm. Gardaí said two of the drivers and one passenger were taken to hospital to receive medical treatment for serious but non-life threatening injuries. They ask if anybody witnessed the collision to make contact with Gardaí in Milford on 074-9153060. They added that if anybody travelled on that stretch of road around that time who had a dash cam, we ask them to make the footage available to them.



the local Wilson family's fascinating historical and personal connection to a mysterious mountain peak on Horn Head. Keith said he would like to thank Róisín and all the management and staff at The Workshop for all their support in helping bring his 'Fairy Whirlwind World Tour of Donegal' to Duffinagh next Wednesday and he looks forward to meeting with everyone at the

# Teenager guitar star to tour Donegal

Following on from the success of her show stopping appearance on BBC's *Isles Holland Annual Hootenanny* on New Year's Eve 2023, Muireann Beadley will be performing in a three concert tour as part of this summer's *Ernagh Arts Festival*.

The Ballybofey native, who performs country, ragtime and Piedmont-style blues from the 1920s and 1930s, released her debut album 'On I Kept These Old Blues' to wide acclaim in December 2023.

Muireann says she delights in interpreting and performing the music of these early blues masters, always putting her own unique stamp on the tunes. Her influences include Rev Gary Davis, Blind Blake, Mississippi



John Hurt, Blind Lemon Jefferson, Robert Johnson, Elizabeth Cotten, and Memphis Minnie to name just a few.

The 17-year-old grew up surrounded by guitars and old blues and began playing at the age of nine when she convinced her father to buy her

first guitar and teach her to play. Her Donegal dates include Saturday 13th July, 8pm - Cullin McGarry's Hotel, Tuesday 16th July, 8pm - Letterkenny, An Griannán Theatre and Wednesday 24th July, 8pm - Gaioth Dobhair, Amhardann Ghaioth Dobhair. See [www.eaf.ie](http://www.eaf.ie) for more detail



Letterkenny man Stephen Doherty with Man Utd star Alejandro Garnacho after the FA Cup quarter-final win over Liverpool.

## Rotary confidential Shredding time!

It's confidential shredding time again on Friday, 22nd March (a week earlier than usual) at the Letterkenny Shopping Centre in association with United Shredding Company and the Letterkenny Rotary Club, and all for just a donation to the Donegal Downs Syndrome Association.

Thank you to all of our supporters to date as over €5,000 has been raised over the past 3 years. The money raised assists service users avail of speech and language therapy, physiotherapy, and swimming lessons, to name a few.

As usual the USL unit will be situated on right hand side of the car park near the entrance, from 10.30am until 12 midday, so just come along and members of the Rotary Club will also be on standby, to assist if needed.

Your continued support of this venture is much appreciated.

## Qashqai stolen in Letterkenny

Gardaí are investigating the theft of a Nissan Qashqai in Letterkenny last week.

The blue Qashqai, registration number '07 CE 6246' from St. Eunan's Court was taken on the morning of Tuesday, March 12th.

Gardaí ask: "If anybody has any information in relation to the current location of this car or any relevant information we ask them to contact Letterkenny Gardaí on 91 67 100. The Garda Confidential line may be contacted on 1800 666 111."

## Irish Guide Dogs Coffee Morning

A Coffee Morning in aid of the Irish Guide Dogs for the Blind will take place in the Station House Hotel, Letterkenny on Thursday 23rd May from 10.45 am. to 12.45. Meet our puppies! Learn about volunteering and puppy raising. Win a holiday in our raffle!

## Healthcare workers Palestine Vigil

Healthcare workers are being invited to take part in a vigil this Friday at the entrance to Letterkenny University Hospital from 1-2 p.m.

The vigil is being organised to stand in solidarity with healthcare workers in Gaza currently trying to carry out their caring duties in the midst of an inhumane environment.

## Letterkenny Cathedral Quarter to host inaugural Easter Craft Fair

Letterkenny's vibrant Cathedral Quarter is set to host its inaugural Easter Craft Fair, promising a delightful fusion of creativity, culture, and community spirit. Scheduled to take place in Conwal Parish Church Hall on Easter Saturday, 30th March from 12 noon to 4pm, the event is a celebration of local artisans.

The Easter Craft Fair serves as a platform for talented crafters, artists, and makers to showcase their unique creations, ranging from hand-crafted jewellery to intricate textiles, captivating paintings to artisanal homeware. With over 20 exhibitors confirmed, attendees can expect a diverse array of high-quality, locally produced goods, perfect for those seeking one-of-a-kind treasures or special gifts.

"We are thrilled to be hosting our inaugural Easter Craft Fair" a spokesperson for the Cathedral Quarter said. "This event not only showcases the incredible talent of our local artisans but also fosters a sense of community pride and camaraderie. It's a wonderful opportunity for locals and visitors alike to come together, support local businesses, and appreciate the beauty of handmade craftsmanship. We would like to thank the Vestry of Conwal Parish Church for the use of the hall."

The Easter Craft Fair is free to attend and open to all ages, making it the perfect family-friendly outing over the Easter weekend. There will a raffle draw on the day with tickets costing €2 each or three for €5. Prizes on the day include an Easter Cake by award winning baker Linda Donnelly, a €20 voucher for Amanda Hair Studio, Manocunningham, an Easter Egg and two bottles of organic wine. There are a small number of tables left for exhibitors and if they would like to participate, ring 086 345 2457.

Join us in celebrating the talent, creativity, and community spirit of Letterkenny at the Cathedral Quarter Easter Craft Fair. Whether you're a seasoned craft enthusiast or simply looking for a fun day out, there's something for everyone to enjoy at this unmissable event.

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## Letterkenny Memories in the Station House

Letterkenny Memories are holding a night in the Station House Hotel next Monday the 25th of March at 8pm.

The MC for the night will be Raymond McDonald and taking to the stage are Thomas and Alex

Black, Raymond McDonald, Dan McAteer and Jim Nickel along with the Moon Shiners, John Sheridan and Mark Boyce with Mary Dunne, Gerry O'Sullivan, Gary Coll, Maria McCormick, John Douglas and Jimmie Kelly.



A crowd from a recent Memories enjoying the music and entertainment.

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# SF-DUP relationship not yet tested

Even begrudgers would admit Michelle O'Neill and Emma Little Pengelly are a successful double-act as the North's First and Deputy First Minister. Their trip together to Washington for St Patrick's Day has been a public relations success. Obviously, it gives a better image of the North than open hostility.

We have to be careful. The relationship has not yet been tested. Personalities can't overcome deeper division. Since 1998, we have had several pairings as First and Deputy First Ministers.

The current two compare well. That's not hard. The only pairing where there seemed to be real personal warmth was the one which seemed least likely. That was Ian Paisley and Martin McGuinness. Paisley had great personal charm when he wanted. He worked hard to charm Sinn Féin. I was once in company that involved a minor Sinn Féin official at Stormont. Others in the company asked what various politicians were like. Her eyes lit up when she was asked about Paisley: "Ould Paisley, every time he sees you he stops for a laugh and a joke," she said.

This was the same Paisley who was a hate figure to a couple of generations of Catholics. I am surprised how many Nationalists now remember him fondly.

McGuinness was one of the IRA's fiercest leaders. He could be charming as well as ruthless. Surprising numbers of Unionists remember him fondly. They feel he could have resolved crises that blew up after his death.

The history, though, is generally bleak.

The first pairing was of David Trimble and Seamus Mallon. Both are dead. Both have left families. I am causing nobody hurt when I

*Last weekend marked a quarter century since my friend Rosemary Nelson was murdered in Lurgan. She was a courageous solicitor. The Loyalist Volunteer Force (LVF) had planted a booby-trap bomb under her car. Her death certainly suited elements of the British state. Those crimes of the past, too, will come back to haunt the future.*



By Anton McCabe

say both are what is politely called 'difficult'. Neither got on particularly well with their own parties. Mallon, famously, never got on well with his party leader, John Hume. Thus expecting close cross-community cross-party friendship was too much.

McGuinness and Peter Robinson was business-like. That was the nature of Robinson as a person. He was respected rather than liked.

McGuinness, then O'Neill, were paired with Arlene Foster. Mainstream Republicans had bridges to build with Foster. When she was a child her father was shot when doing the milking. She heard the shots and saw him badly wounded. He was a part-time policeman. The family had to move from an area where they had lived for generations. When she was in her teens, she was on a school bus. The IRA booby-trapped it, trying to kill the driver. Personally, she could be charming. She also could show a temper. Worst of all, she had the bad fortune to come after two very strong leaders, Paisley and Robinson.

Then she was caught in the Renewable Heat Initiative scandal. This was a subsidy to burn renewable fuels.

The subsidy ran out of control. Sinn Féin walked out of the Executive. That was after many in the Nationalist community felt they had been too

soft on the DUP.

Of course, all that is past. But let's not get drunk with hype. The current pairing has a long way to go.

We are still dealing with the fall-out from a winter of industrial discontent. Earlier this year the North had 20 times the strike rate of Britain. More recently, public transport workers have rejected a new pay deal. There are, however, ongoing talks.

One side of the strikes is that parties will put pressure on senior trade unionists to give them breathing space. The other is that trade unionists on the ground find it easier to put pressure on an Assembly than on a British Government.

There is the immediate issue of the budget. The British Government has made a significant payment. That seems good enough to settle strikes in health and education. That, though, is in the immediate. Overall, the budget problem is not solved. MP Jim Shannon of the DUP has said there is a 24% shortfall in the budget. There are six health and social care trusts in the North. The estimate is that each faces a shortfall of £50million (£58.5million).

Then there are other financial worries. I am from Omagh. Here, we are supposed to have the Strule Shared Education Campus. Six second-level schools are to be sited on

the site of the former (British) army camp. There is currently only one school on the site. That is Arvalee Special School. It is there because a disgruntled ex-pupil burned their previous building down. Now Education Minister Paul Girvan has said his Department does not have the £170million (£199million) needed to fund the project.

This can't be simply solved by keeping the current five schools. These were planned to move. Thus there has only been minimum maintenance for years. There is more. Sacred Heart College is just behind my house. The site has been sold to developers. At some stage, they will want possession.

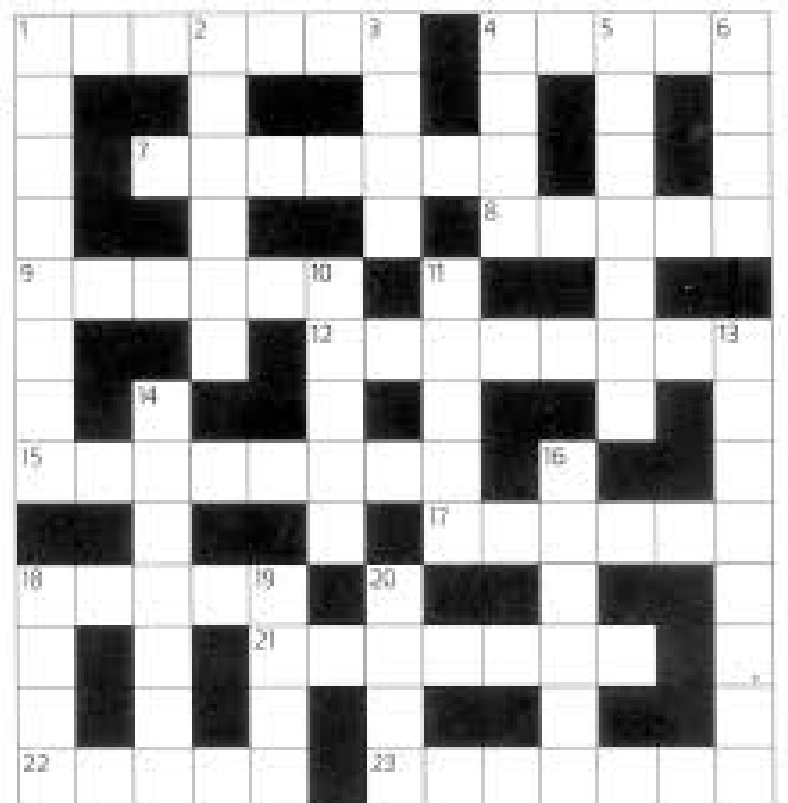
Then there will be unexpected problems. Former Taoiseach Albert Reynolds was a great political sage. Thirty years ago his Fianna Fáil-Labour coalition collapsed. He said: "It's amazing. You cross the big hurdles and when you get to the small ones, you get tripped up."

Importantly, instability is built into the Executive and Assembly. They are based on a sectarian carve-up. The Alliance Party proposed a mo-

tion to prevent any one party from collapsing the Executive and Assembly. Sinn Féin and the DUP came together to vote it down. They disagree fundamentally on many things, particularly the status of the North. However, they are very keen on dividing up power. Finally, last weekend marked a quarter century since my friend Rosemary Nelson was murdered in Lurgan. She was a courageous solicitor. The Loyalist Volunteer Force (LVF) had planted a booby-trap bomb under her car. So many members of this were agents it was a pseudo-gang. No-one has been convicted. But her death certainly suited elements of the British state.

Those crimes of the past, too, will come back to haunt the future.

## Tribune Crossword No. 1057



Across

- 1. Ancient Egyptian title (7)
- 4. More sensible (5)
- 7. Obtain (7)
- 8. Hoodwinked (5)
- 9. Noisier (6)
- 12. Secret (8)
- 15. Suffer (8)
- 17. Recover (6)
- 18. Hard work! (5)
- 21. Kids in \_\_\_\_, Kim Wilde song (7)
- 22. Argentine president in 1973 (5)
- 23. Clothing (7)

Down

- 1. Boxer (8)
- 2. Ebb (6)
- 3. Frozen rain (4)
- 4. Unwanted plant! (4)
- 5. Royal mace (7)
- 6. Tear (4)
- 10. Slacken (5)
- 11. Port in Kent (5)
- 13. Nicky \_\_\_\_, Ex Wheel of Fortune host (8)
- 14. Smoked hearing (7)
- 16. Source of gum Arabic (6)
- 18. Church (4)
- 19. Mountain lake (4)
- 20. Actress, \_\_\_\_, Miles (4)

Solutions to Crossword No. 1056

Across 1. Builder, 7. Crown, 8. Alabama, 9. Adonis, 11. Agate, 13. Safe, 14. Malice, 15. City, 16. Quare, 17. Unlady, 18. Almanac, 22. Torino, 23. Impeded. Down 2. Obligation, 3. Leobrandy, 4. Emery, 5. Fred, 6. Dwan, 9. Alvin, 10. Infiltrate, 12. Eddy, 13. Saranta, 18. Took, 19. Dash, 20. Clara.

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- 211 Ford Focus ST Line
- 211 Kia Sportage K3
- 211 Citroen C5 Aircross
- 211 Hyundai Tucson Ex Plus **Sold**
- 201 Ford Focus ST Line
- 201 Ford Focus Zetec
- 201 VW Tiguan Rline
- 201 Renault Kadjar
- 201 Audi Q2 Sport
- 192 Seat Leon FR
- 192 Ford Kuga Titanium
- 191 Renault Captur
- 191 BMW 520 M SPORT
- 191 Citroen MultiSpace
- 191 VW Golf
- 191 Nissan Qashqai
- 191 Ford Focus ST Line x2
- 191 VW Golf Estate Auto
- 182 Peugeot 3008 Allure
- 181 Peugeot 3008 Allure
- 181 Suzuki Vitara SZT

#### Petrol Cars

- 232 Suzuki Vitara 4x4 auto
- 231 Nissan Juke SV
- 231 Subaru Forester Auto
- 221 Suzuki Vitara SZT
- 221 Suzuki Scirocco Motion Auto
- 221 Suzuki Vitara SZ5
- 221 Suzuki Swace 1.8 Hybrid
- 212 Suzuki Vitara 4x4 Auto
- 212 Suzuki Vitara SZ5 Auto 5
- 212 Suzuki Vitara SZ5
- 212 Suzuki Vitara SZT x2
- 212 Suzuki Scirocco SZT **Sold**
- 212 Suzuki Scirocco SZ4 **Sold**
- 211 Suzuki Vitara SZ5 **Sold**
- 211 Kia Rio K3
- 211 Suzuki Swift SZ5
- 211 Suzuki Swift SZL
- 211 Suzuki Vitara SZT
- 202 Hyundai i20
- 201 Mercedes Benz A Class Saloon
- 201 Suzuki Vitara SZT
- 201 Suzuki Swift Attitude 5
- 201 Ford Puma ST Line
- 191 Opel Corsa
- 191 Toyota Yaris Auto
- 191 Ford Focus Titanium
- 191 Honda Civic VTEC
- 191 Suzuki Ignis SZ3
- 181 Suzuki Celio
- 181 Suzuki Swift
- 172 Suzuki Celio Auto
- 172 Citroen C4 Cactus
- 171 Suzuki Vitara SZT
- 171 Nissan Qashqai Auto
- 162 Suzuki Swift
- 151 Suzuki Swift GLX
- 142 Mitsubishi Lancer

#### Commercials

- 231 Ford Connect LWB
- 2020 Mitsubishi L200 Barbarian Auto
- 212 Opel Combo Sportive
- 201 Peugeot Partner
- 191 Peugeot Partner Professional
- 191 Toyota Landcruiser SWB
- 2018 Peugeot Partner **Sold**
- 2018 Citroen Berlingo

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\*Includes 1 pack of Aro All Purpose Cleaner

# Voting round next as Jason makes Glór Tíre debut

Ramelton's Jason McCall took to the stage on TG4's popular music show Glór Tíre on Tuesday night and despite not making it through to the next round he will get another opportunity to perform in the coming weeks.

Jason put in a fine performance against some strong talent but narrowly lost out to Karl Kilpatrick from Fermagh and did not get the nod from the judges this time. However, he is still in with a chance as he prepares to take part in the all important live broadcast where his loyal fans, family and many friends can help vote him through to the next round and keep the dream alive.

He is one of two Donegal contestants taking part with Dunfemlogh's Chelsea Evans making her appearance next week on Tuesday, March 26th.

Jason said "I didn't get through with the judges voting, so now there will be four going through to an elimination vote on 9th of April. There will only be one to go through from then, so the push will be on now to get the votes to give me a chance to progress."

Despite the setback of the opening round he said he is looking forward to performing again in a few weeks and the coming weeks gives him an opportunity to canvas support that will be re-

quired to help him advance.

"Claudia (Buckley) has been great and very supportive. I'm already working on the next songs to perform in the live event. That's when the voting will take place and it is all done through the Glór Tíre app," he added.

Jason said he is enjoying the experience taking part in the long running series, now in its 20th year.

He is being mentored by Claudia Buckley and Chelsea by Jim Devine.

So, when April 9th comes around, his family, friends and fans, old and new, can get voting for the affable Ramelton man to help see him advance in the competition.

This can only be done through the Glór Tíre app that is available to download through a number of platforms including Google Play Store and the Apple App store and once you download the app you get five free votes with others available to purchase.

Jason said recording was a great experience and being onstage with a full production team complete with cameras and lights was great.

"It is great to get on the show. Claudia has been great. It was a class experience, even just to get a look at it all and how it is run. It was great to see



Ramelton's Jason McCall on stage at Glór Tíre on Tuesday night with host Aoife Ní Thuairis, his mentor Claudia Buckley and Karl Kilpatrick.

the others perform as well and that helped settle the nerves in front of the TV cameras, but when you're on stage you never notice them at all," he added.

Speaking ahead of her debut performance on next Tuesday's show, March 26th, Chelsea from Horn Head said she is "really looking forward to being on this year's show. I've been a fan of Glór

Tíre for many years and to finally be able to take part is a dream come true".

The longest-running and most successful country music series on Irish television is back for its milestone 20th season and will see eight emerging talents in Irish country music fight it out for the title of Glór Tíre Champion 2024, with each contestant mentored by some of the biggest

## Ramelton Parish Bazaar Memories

'No day in the year brings back memories of my childhood in Ramelton like St Patrick's Day and the excitement of going to the Bazaar'

So says Eileen Glacken (nee McDaid) and now resident in Dublin. She recalls: "Having my father, Tadhg McDaid, shouting out the prizes on the Rikety Wheel, digging into a big bowl of trifle, getting the afternoon tea, meeting the world and his wife in a packed town hall were just some of the things that made it so special."

But at a young age I never gave much thought to the effort it took from so many people to make it happen. I'm not sure what year this pic of several of the helpers was taken, maybe some of you can help me

out? That is my uncle Charlie McDaid on the extreme right at the front and next to him is my first primary teacher Mrs O'Kelly.

I think that's Joan McDaid next to her, then Pauline Boyce, Eileen Friel, behind her, Eileen Duffy, below her, I think, Ellen Norry, Anna Duffy and Mrs McFadden. I see May Boyce and Mrs O'Kelly's sister there too in the middle on the right. I think I see Rose Diver at the back on the right, always a stalwart with the afternoon teas. Maggie Mooney is beside her. Wouldn't it love to get into the Time Machine and revisit those special afternoons just one more time?"

And after running since 1912, this year's parish bazaar was bigger and better than ever.



### Funeral of Michael McGarvey

The funeral took place on Saturday of Michael McGarvey, Bridgend, Ramelton. Aged 66, Michael, a native of Galway, was a well known member of the local community. He was a HSE employee for 35 years and had been a healthcare assistant at the Ramelton Nursing Unit until 2012. There he was a popular member of the staff and was first and foremost dedicated to the care of the service users.



Michael passed away on Wednesday of last week at the Donegal Hospice. Remains reposed at the family home in Bridgend from Thursday. Fr. Michael Carney officiated at the Requiem Mass on Saturday in St Mary's Church, Ramelton.

Symbols of Michael's life including a family photo, a model car and a paintbrush were brought forward by his sisters Geraldine and Irlid. Readings were by Fiona and P.J. Prayers of the Faithful were read by Uilanda, Ethel, Alice and Liam. Music and hymns were by Patrick Shields. Burial took place afterwards in the adjoining cemetery.

Michael is survived by his wife Kathleen; family Karen and Elaine, Declan and Loraine, Michelle and P.J; grandchildren Aislin, Ella, Jake, Dara and Hannah; brothers Anthony, James and Bernard; sisters Bridget Sterrett and Geraldine Rosley; brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

Deepest sympathy is extended to the family circle.

### Death of Martin Perks

The peaceful death occurred on the 20th February 2024 of Martin Perks, aged 77 of Malvern, Worcestershire, England. Much loved husband of Jackie and father to Lisa. Martin was predeceased by his parents Bob and Mollie Perks (née Duggan, 1 Park Terrace, Ramelton) and by his uncle Jack and aunt Joan Butler and by his uncle John Simmons.



Funeral service took place at Worcester Crematorium on Monday.

Beloved brother of Thora Simmons, Crossan Cottage, Milford Road, Ramelton and Edwin (Lucia), Bobby (Vivienne), John (Irlid), and Jim UK. Much loved uncle of Michael, Doreen and Edwin and granduncle of Julian. Sadly missed by cousins Jackie, Martin, Orlan, Caoimhe, Bronagh, Liam and Fiadh Barrett, Glenties, Milford.

Table Quiz

The Derry & Donegal Presbytery Choir are holding a Table Quiz in the Melodrama Hall, Ramelton on Saturday 6th April at 7:30pm. Everyone welcome.

Country Market  
Ramelton Country Market will be in Ramelton Town Hall from 10.30am until 12.00noon this Saturday 23rd March. Order from our food producers

on 087 949715 for Easter. Make sure to enter the kids Easter Bonnet competition you could win an Easter egg. We will have lots of activity at our Easter Market. Come along, browse the market that boasts the best of local homemade food with our wholesome soups, cottage pies, lasagne, quiche, meat pasties, seasonal vegetables, breads, scones, sweet treats and also beautiful local made crafts, cards, natural soap, knitwear, woodturning and more. Meet up with family and friends at our Cory Teamsters for a Tea/coffee and maybe a delicious Cheese Toastie, scones or sweet treat, everything to make your visit to our market relaxing and enjoyable. Loyalty cards are available at our checkouts and credit card payments are accepted. Ramelton Country Market gift vouchers are also available. Just enquire at our checkout or from any market member. We look forward to seeing you all on Saturday.

Community Games registrations  
Registrations for the Ramelton Community Games will take place this Thursday the 21st March. The venue will be the Community Centre at 6.15pm. All children who wish to participate in this year's games must register on this date. Parents need to accompany their children.

Art/Handwriting competitions  
The Ramelton Community Games Art and Handwriting competitions take place this Thursday 21st March. The venue will be the Community Centre at 6.15pm for the 8-16 age group.

Swilly Rovers lotto draw  
Numbers drawn in the Swilly Rovers lotto were 2,3,6,16. No jackpot winners. No 3 number winners. This week's jackpot is €1525. Thanks for your continued support.

Public Meeting  
Stán Fíán will hold a public meeting in the Ramelton Community Centre on Monday next the 25th

of March at 7.30pm. The date will be Maria Doherty who is running for Stán Fíán in the Local Elections in June and also in attendance with be Deputy Pádraig Mac Lochlainn and they will attempt to answer all questions and queries on the night.

Live with Paul  
Paul McCall is holding Jigging Classes in the Ramelton Community Centre every Wednesday night from 8pm to 9.30pm. Learn to jig, waltz, foxtrot and line dance with Paul and his team. Admission is €8 for Adults and €5 for children and all welcome.

Ramelton SVP  
At the cost of living crisis continues, many families will face impossible choices this winter. If you are in need of support, contact Ramelton SVP in confidence.

Crochet and knitting craft group  
Crochet and knitting craft group has begun again and continues every Monday 10.30am to 12.30pm in St Mary's Parish Centre behind the chapel. Everyone is welcome to come along and bring your current project or start something new. Enjoy the craft company and a cuppa. All queries to Myrtle on 0876125387.

Upon A Star Drama School  
Do you know someone who would be interested in helping out at the Upon A Star Drama showcase in Ramelton Town Hall on the 16th of April. The role would include supervising children backstage, helping with props and costumes and making sure everyone is on stage on time. Ideal for someone studying childcare, drama, or anyone who feels they would enjoy the position. Would also suit those in transition year for work experience. Must be aged 16+ and available for a couple of Tuesday sessions at Ramelton Community Centre in March. If interested contact the group.

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 <p><b>Foss triple bars 7pk €1</b> AVAILABLE AT MAPLE MILFORD THURS 21ST - WED 27TH MARCH</p>	 <p><b>Great selection available in-store!</b> AVAILABLE AT MAPLE MILFORD</p>	 <p><b>Glenmór range: Sausages Chicken fillets/thighs/wraps 3 FOR €10</b> AVAILABLE AT MAPLE MILFORD</p>

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**Saturday March 23rd  
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## Renowned underwater filmmaker to hold live show



World renowned under-water cameraman and filmmaker, Ken O'Sullivan, (above) will perform his live show Into The Deep, outlining his incredible adventures exploring the

North Atlantic Ocean, in An Grianan Theatre next week. The multi-award-winning Clare native will host a show where he details his magical tales of exploring

the underwater world of the North Atlantic Ocean and encountering enormous whales and monstrous sharks.

Ken explained that he has filmed a substantial amount of underwater footage off the coast of Donegal.

Ken, who is also passionate about ocean conservation, will show videos and give insight and backstories into what it's like trying to navigate the North Atlantic Ocean to find and film some of the largest animals ever to have lived, including blue and fin whales. The audience will also hear Ken's first-hand account of his unforgettable dive in 2016 when he was the first cameraman to film and document a group of

35 basking sharks engaged in a courtship ritual off the Clare coast. Education and conservation have been at the heart of his work since 2005, and he will talk about some of the great challenges facing our marine animals and habitats. Ken stated: "I've been passionate all my life about the ocean and I am really excited to be bringing my live tour to Letterkenny and to share the magic of the ocean. We have a precious natural resource on our doorstep and it is important

to preserve it and to educate people about the unique marine life that exists in our waters." He has produced and filmed seventeen documentaries, including North Atlantic - The Dark Ocean which was broadcast on RTE this summer. He also worked as a cameraman for the BBC Natural History Unit. Into The Deep takes place in An Grianan on Wednesday, March 27th at 8pm. See [www.angrianan.com](http://www.angrianan.com) for more details.



## The Clanree Hotel Letterkenny

**Country Sundays**  
Sun. 24th March -

# Jimmy Buckley



Doors Open 8.30pm.  
Dancing 9-11pm €15 Pay at door  
followed by music in McGettigan's Bar from 11pm.  
Coming - 31st March - Robert Mizzell, 7th April - Patrick Feeney



# Sinn Féin

# Public Meeting

with **Pádraig Mac Lochlainn TD**

**Monday 25th March at 7:30pm**  
Ramelton Community Centre, Ramelton

CHAIR:  
**Maria Doherty**



# Churchill Breakfast Brunch



Scenes from the charity breakfast brunch hosted at Wilkin's Bar on Sunday to raise funds for Cara House, Letterkenny Community Childcare and the Kilmacrennan, Termon, Gartan, Churchill & Trentagh Community First Responders who will be the beneficiaries from the 2024 North West 10k. In the build-up to that event on May 6th the three charities are running a number of other fundraising initiatives with the support of the North West 10k committee. Photos by Declan Kerr.





# Creelough Village Plan to launch Thursday

This Thursday, March 21st, sees the official launch of the Creelough Village Plan in the Massinass hall. It gets underway at 7pm with a welcome and opening address.

This will be followed by a talk from a guest speaker and conclude with light refreshments being served.

The event is being hosted by Donegal County Council, the Creelough Working Group, and the Creelough Community Association with support from

Arup.

The organisers stated: "The Creelough Village Plan will be available in both digital and hard copy format at the event. Members of the respective Arup and Council design teams will be present to answer any questions and give additional information during the refreshments."

They added that there will also be an update available on the Creelough Community Regeneration project.

Events get underway at 7pm and all are welcome to attend.

A public meeting took place in May to gather the local public's input on how to help shape the future of the area and they later presented a Draft Village Plan and Draft Community Regeneration Project for public consultation.

International consultancy service Arup are offering their services pro bono to assist the Creelough Community.

## Planning appeal at Marble Hill

Plans for a house and garage to be built in Marble Hill, Dunfanaghy, have been halted by An Bord Pleanála after a planning appeal was lodged against the development.

In March 2023, Hugh Harkin was granted conditional planning permission by Donegal County Council for the erection of a dwelling house with waste water treatment system and domestic garage at Marble Hill, Dunfanaghy.

Three planning appeals were lodged with An Bord Pleanála on April 6th,

2023, against the development. The appellants were Ann Breen, Lua Breen and James and Marie Hendron.

The inspectors report detailed a number of grounds for appeal were listed including traffic considerations, wildlife and fauna concerns, flooding risk and that granting permission "would lead to a precedent for further development."

Upholding the appeal and refusing the development the board listed three reasons for the decision, including that the development failed to "assimilate to the

receiving landscape." Also that the site Characterisation Report did not reflect fully the "identified features and fauna on the site and does not provide sufficient detail in accordance with the Environmental Protection Agency Code of Practice for Domestic WasteWater Treatment Systems.

It also detailed the absence of a Natura Impact statement meant they could not be certain if the development could have a significant impact on the Sheephaven Special Area of conservation.

### The late Maura Shiels

The death took place on Tuesday at her home of Maura Shiels, Glen, Carrigart. Aged 42, Maura was formerly a member of the Toland family from Downings. Removal will take place from the Eternal Light Chapel of Rest on this Thursday 21st March at 5pm going to the Church of St. John the Baptist,



Carrigart to repose overnight. Requiem Mass will take place on Friday at 11am. Cremation will take place in Lakelands Crematorium, Cavan at 4pm on this Saturday.

Maura is survived by her husband Michael, children Darragh, Aoibheann, Paidín, Seamus, Michéal, Sophie and Tadhg, her father Brian, sisters Roisín and Rebecca and brother Brian. She was predeceased by her mother Rosemary in October 2023.

Deepest sympathy is extended to the family circle.

### Death of Anthony Dunworth

The death occurred on Monday of Anthony Dunworth, Clooney, Ramelton, Donegal. Anthony passed at Letterkenny University Hospital. A well known member of the local community Anthony's working career was spent in the Defence Forces.



He is survived by his wife Edel, family Grace and Richard, Adam and Louise, Laura and Alex, grandchildren Aoife, Rory and Senan. Anthony is also survived by his mother Kathleen, sister Geraldine, brothers Stelly, Peter and Trevor, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, extended family and friends. He was predeceased by his father Steve in October 2021.

Remains are reposing at the family home in the Clooney. Funeral is from there on Friday for 11am Requiem Mass in St Mary's Church, Ramelton. Burial will take place afterwards in the adjoining cemetery. Deepest sympathies are extended to the family circle.

### Funeral of Ciaran McArt

The funeral took place on Sunday of Ciarán McArt, The Glebe, Letterkenny. Ciarán's death occurred on Friday morning as a result of injuries sustained in a traffic collision at Maghernan. He was a member of a very well known Letterkenny family and news of his sad passing was learned of with a deep sense of sadness in the local community.

In his homily Fr. Kevin Gillespie said Ciaran was a much cherished member of the extended family and his death would leave a huge void in their lives. At the age of 20 Ciaran went off to England where his two siblings Ultan and Fionnuala were resident. He took up employment in Crewe. He was very close to his nephews and niece. There was an especially strong bond between himself and his nephew Joseph. Ciaran was an avid Man Utd fan and no doubt he was looking down with a big smile when his favourite team defeated Liverpool in the FA Cup quarter-final on Sunday. He had a great appetite for knowledge and that made him a formidable opponent when it came to quizzes. Ciaran made lots of friends over the years and many of them came to pay their respects at the funeral on Sunday.

He is survived by his parents Adrian and Karen; brother of Ultan and sister Fionnuala; nephews and niece, aunts, uncles, cousins, extended family and friends.

Fr. Kevin Gillespie officiated at the Requiem Mass on Sunday in St. Eunan's Cathedral. Ciaran was laid to rest afterwards in Conwal Cemetery. Deepest sympathy is extended to the family.

### Death of Brigid Boyce

The death took place on Monday at the Donegal Hospice of Brigid Boyce, The Pans, Cranford. Aged 76, Brigid was formerly a member of the Murray family of Carnasaul, Termon.

Her remains are reposing at the family residence. Funeral is from there on this Thursday morning, 21st March for Requiem Mass in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Coole. Interment will take place afterwards in Milford Cemetery.

Brigid is survived by her family Sadie, Tommy (Roisin), Rosie (Richard), Hugh (Jackie), Margaret (Damien); brother John Murray and sisters Sarah Doyle, Mary Byrne and Kathleen Doyle and 11 grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband Joe, brother Patrick and sister Margaret O'Donnell. Deepest sympathies are extended to the family circle.



### The late John Fisher

The death occurred on Monday at his home of John Fisher, Umlagh, Carrigart. Aged 84, John was a weaver at the McNutts of Downings. He also had farming interests. In his younger days John was a regular player with the local badminton club.

John is survived by his wife Reba, sons Gary, Nigel and Graham and daughter Hazel, extended family and friends.

Remains are reposing at the family home in Umlagh House. Funeral Service will take place at 1.30pm at his home on this Thursday afternoon 21st March. Removal will be from there to Carrigart Presbyterian Church for Service at 2.30pm. Interment afterwards in the family burial ground. Deepest condolences are extended to the family circle.

### Death of Terence Johnston

The death took place on Wednesday at the Donegal Hospice, Letterkenny of Terence Johnston, Slieve Sneacht Road, Letterkenny. Aged 85 Terence was one of the town's best known citizens. He was a familiar figure in the local community as a plumber who worked on many jobs in the private and public sector.

Terence is survived by his brothers and sisters, nieces and nephews and a wide circle of family, friends and neighbours. He was predeceased by his wife Nora (2000).

Remains will repose at the Eternal Light Chapel of Rest, Mountain Top, Letterkenny on this Thursday, 21st March, from 6pm until 8pm. Private cremation will take place at Lakelands Crematorium, Cavan on Friday. Deepest condolences are extended to the family circle.



### The late Niall Carberry

The death occurred on Monday of Niall Carberry, Pound Street, Rathmullan. Niall, a native of Meenadoan, Fintown, came to Rathmullan 26 years ago when he bought a shop in the seaside town.

Since then Niall and the Carberry family have served the local community extremely well through their convenience store business.

Born in Meenadoan, he was the second youngest of a family of five. After leaving the Glenties Comprehensive he went at the age of 16 to Dublin to work with the H. Williams Supermarket chain. It was there that he met his future wife Celine. After working in various H. Williams branches, Niall returned to Donegal and a job at the McGinley's shop in Falcarragh. That was followed by a big career change when he went to tunnel work in London for a period. But the desire to return to the retail sector was still there and his next move was to buy a shop in Dublin. The other desire was to return to his native County. And that opportunity arrived in 1998 when he purchased the shop in Rathmullan.

In his homily Fr. Martin Collum described Niall as a quiet, reserved man but with a good sense of humour. He was above all a family man who was his priority at all times. And that, Fr. Collum said, is demonstrated by the many great memories they shared through their time in the shop and all the family events including holidays.

Niall is survived by his wife Celine, son Neil and daughter Shauna, brothers Joe (Monica) and Liam (Mary), sister in law Geraldine, nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his mother Margaret, father Neil, brother Seán and sister Máire.

Remains reposed at his home in Pound Street from Monday. Fr. Martin Collum officiated at the Requiem Mass on Wednesday in St. Joseph's Church, Rathmullan. Concelebrants were Fr. James Friel and Fr. Raymond McQuarrie, Missionaries of Africa. Fr. McQuarrie Proclaimed the Gospel. Burial took place afterwards in the

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Available for Functions / Parties, Call 074 91 37019

## Coffee Morning in Carrigart

Mevagh Parochial Hall, Carrigart on Sunday 24th March from 12noon - 3pm with all proceeds in aid of Mevagh Parochial Hall.



Tickets are on sale for the annual Draw at €5 each or 3 for €10

1st Prize - €100 Hamper

• 2nd Prize - Wine & Cheese Hamper Spons by Centra Carrigart

• 3rd Prize - €50 Meal Voucher Sponsored by Logues of Cranford

• 4th Prize - €50 Meal Voucher Sponsored by Carrigart Hotel

adjoining Cemetery. Deepest condolences are extended to the family circle.

### The late Maureen Corcoran

The death took place on Sunday at the Donegal Hospice of Maureen Corcoran, Kilmacrennan. Maureen is survived by her daughters; Maryann (Ballyboes, Falcarragh) and Lynda (Letterkenny), extended family and friends.

Remains reposed at The Eternal Light, Chapel of Rest, Mountain Top Letterkenny on Monday. Removal took place afterwards to St. Finian's Church, Falcarragh to repose overnight. Funeral took place on Tuesday where the main celebrant was Fr. John Boyce P.P. Concelebrant was Fr. Martin Doohan P.P. Dunfanaghy. Maureen was laid to rest afterwards in the adjacent cemetery. Deepest condolences are extended to the family circle.



### Death of Veronica Coyle

The death occurred on Friday of Veronica Coyle, Killary Road, Foyle Springs, Derry. Veronica was a native of Dooballagh, Letterkenny. Wake was at the family home on Killary Road, Foyle Springs from Sunday afternoon.

Funeral was from there on Tuesday to Holy Family Church, Ballymagroarty for Requiem Mass. Interment took place afterwards in the City Cemetery.

Veronica was predeceased by her husband Paul, parents Denis and Alison and infant sister Michele. She is survived by her daughter Laura and partner Matt and daughter Lisa, by her brothers and sisters Maurice, Kevin, Helen, Rosemary, Denis, Sean and Sinead, her nieces and nephews, brother-in-law and sisters-in-law. Deepest sympathies are extended to the family circle.

### Death of Carmel Mullally-Powers

The death took place on March 9th, of Carmel Mullally-Powers of St. Charles, USA. Carmel was a native of Letterkenny. She was predeceased by her husband Stephen; parents, Thomas and Mary (Molly) Mullally; sisters Attracta, Brighid (Mackey), Clare (Doherty, Canada), Teresa (Ireland) and brother, Thomas (London).

Carmel is survived by her brother Stephen, (Ireland), many nieces, nephews, and cousins in Ireland and Canada, especially Kevin Doherty (Canada) and Michael Mackey (Wexford, Ireland); brother-in-law, Robert Powers (Susan); sisters-in-law, Katherine (Michael) Carlson, Ann (Tom) Turrin, & Mary (Kevin) Donovan; stepson, Steven Powers III.

A Memorial Mass will be held at 10:30am this Friday, March 22nd at St. John Neumann Catholic Church, 2900 East Main Street, St. Charles. Interment of remains will follow at Prairie Cemetery, St. Charles. Deepest sympathy is extended to the family circle.

# Milford

## Death of Sandy Wilke

The death took place of Sandy Wilke, Tironeall, Milford on Thursday 14th March peacefully at his home.

Sandy was 75 years of age and was formerly Drumcondra, St Johnston and was predeceased by his parents Robert and Rebecca Wilke, brothers George, Bertie and Billy, sisters Pauline, Ruby and Bill.

Sandy began his working life on the family farm before he moved to Scotland in 1975 along with his wife Mary where he worked in the construction business and raised their family. The family returned home to Tironeall, Milford in 1994. Sandy was a very welcoming and kind man who loved the outdoors, socialising and was a regular visitor to Bingo halls around the area.

His funeral Mass took place on Sunday 17th



March in St. Peter's Church, Milford with burial afterwards in Milford Cemetery. Fr. Stephen Gorman OC, Milford celebrated the funeral Mass and graveside.

Deepest sympathy is extended to his wife Mary, son Kevin and Noreen, Ashbourne, daughters Donna and Mark, Carrick-On-Shannon, Stobhan and Wayne, Letterkenney, grandchildren Lauren, Emma, Ryan, Calvin, Adam and Cora, brother Dennis, sisters Anna, Olive and Iris, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews, extended family friends.

## Death of Derek Burdon

The death took place on Saturday 16th March at Letterkenney University Hospital of Derek Burdon, 57, Cooper's Cross, Milford. Derek was originally from Sunderland, England before moving to Milford and was predeceased by his wife Patricia in March 2023. His funeral service took place in Letterkenney Funeral Home Port Road, Ballynane, Letterkenney on Wednesday afternoon followed by Private Cremation at Lakelands Crematorium, Carrig.

Deepest sympathy is extended to his son Richard, daughter Paula, grand

daughter Jennifer, sister-in-law and all relatives and friends.

Good Friday Golau Pad Walk

The annual Good Friday Golau Pad Walk will take place on Friday 20th March, meeting on Market Square at 5.30pm. There will be refreshments at the halfway point at Golau Chapel, as usual. There are collection buckets around Milford for donations and donations will also be accepted on the day at the starting point and at Golau Chapel. All are welcome! The event is again organised by the Milford Tidy Towns and Milford Case of the Aged, all money raised will be split between a chosen charity of the two groups.

## Bake Day

Jewilly Malroy Credit Union are holding The Great Irish Bake for the Children's Health Foundation at their offices in Kerrykeel this Friday the 22nd of March from 10am to 2pm.

All proceeds go to help provide extraordinary care and transformative treatments for sick children in Children's Health Foundation hospitals at Crumlin, Temple Street, Tallaght and Connolly.

You are invited to drop into the office anytime on Friday and make a donation to the charity.

## Golf Society

The Hi-da-way Golf Society next outing will take place on the Old Tom Morris Links at Easponna on Saturday 23rd March with the first tee booked from 10am. Contact Captain David Bonner 085 8320260 or Eugene McCafferty 087 7704149 for further details. Milford United Milford United reserves will play away to Cuddefin Celtic on Saturday 23rd March at 1pm. The senior team will host St. Catherine's Killybegs in their next league game



Milford GAA U10 Boys who played Letterkenny Gaels on Monday last.



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on Sunday 7th April at 1pm. They are away to Greenore Celtic on 16th April in the league and will play away to Swilly Rowen in the Brian McCormick Cup on 21st April.

The Youth team will hold a training session on Monday 25th March at the Astro facility from 8 - 9pm. For enquiries contact Noel Gillespie 086 8234091, Mission Hall, Speakers at the Milford

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# Cara raises €1,150 for Trocaire



Cara McGroarty busy collecting for Trocaire Ireland and right with the Cheque for €1,150 which she raised for Trocaire with school principal Margaret O'Connor and teacher.

6th year student Cara McGroarty from Lonsie Community School Milford has spent the last few months conducting research and undertaking her Politics and Society Citizenship Project.

She was tasked with researching the work of a Non Governmental Organisation in a humanitarian crisis. Inspired by her great uncle's work to help those in need in underdeveloped countries for many years and her profound interest in what's happening around the world, Cara decided to focus her work.

Through further research, she found that there are over 700 million people living in extreme poverty and 90% of Somalia live in multidimensional poverty. Shockingly, 905,000 of Somali children are malnourished. These shocking statistics were extremely insightful and eye opening for her.

Cara decided to support Trocaire Ireland, an extremely successful Irish organisation who provides many types of help and support to 15 countries around the world. Trocaire has

been vocal in speaking up on behalf of the oppressed and marginalised since 1973.

She undertook an online interview with Somalia's country director, Paul Healy who has been living in Somalia and working for Trocaire for 25 years. Her interview gave her many valuable insights into life in Somalia and the amazing work that Trocaire does every day for those in need.

In order to support and fundraise for Trocaire Ireland, Cara held a 'Jersey Day' in her school last Friday the 15th March. This included the whole school community in her project and created a great atmosphere in the school.

In total, Cara raised €1,150 for Trocaire. She was delighted with this and there is no doubt these funds will go very far in helping those in poverty in Somalia.

She hopes to inspire others to keep up to date with what's going on in the world and to always do what you can to help those in need, as every little bit helps and small actions change lives.

## Masses

Mass times in St Peter's Church, Milford this week are Thursday 14th March 10.00am, Friday 15th March 10.00am, Saturday 16th March at 7.30pm, Sunday 17th March at 11.00am.

Mass times in Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Kerrykeel on Saturday 16th March at 9pm.

## Confirmations

Confirmations 2024 will take place in the parish on Saturday 20th April for pupils at Scoil Muintir, Milford, Scoil Cholmcille, Kerrykeel and Scoil Cholmcille, Drumman.

First Holy Communion in the parish will take place on Saturday 27th April for pupils at Scoil Cholmcille, Kerrykeel, Scoil Cholmcille, Drumman and Scoil Muintir, Milford.

## Graveyard Mass Dates

The annual Graveyard Mass at Tully Cemetery will take place on Sunday 20th July at 3pm and Graveyard Mass at Milford Cemetery will take place on Sunday 6th August at 3pm.

## Party Bookings at Gallowglass

The Gallowglass Community Centre is available for birthday party bookings on Saturdays and Sundays, as well as early evenings during the week. Contact the MDRC office for more info on 0749153736 or Emma Lou on emmalou@mdrc.ie.

Gallowglass Centre Baby & Toddler Group is on every Monday morning

at 10am. €2 per family and everyone is welcome, whether they are parents, grandparents, carers or friends.

Games Night takes place every Monday evening from 6.30-8.30pm. Attendance is free and all ages are welcome. A great way to spend an evening.

Kids Crochet Classes take place on Tuesdays from 5.30-7pm. €9 per child for 4 weeks.

Line Dancing is back on Tuesday evenings from 7.30pm. €5 per person.

Planes takes place on Wednesday mornings at 7am. Contact Claire on 08779615601 for more information. Book bookings or pay as you go available.

Adults crochet class takes place on Wednesday evenings from 7pm. Classes are €5 per person. Just turn up, everyone welcome!

Healing How Yoga takes place on Thursdays at 10am. Contact Jacqueline on 0872135877.

Move to the Beat exercise classes for over 50s takes place on Thursdays at 12pm. Contact the office to book your place. Beginners class, with movements suitable for all abilities.

Sounds Music Classes for Kids takes place on Thursdays at 4pm. Contact Tracy on 0851500123 to book.

## Hall Dancing

Dancing continues in the Milford Hall every Thursday from 8 to 10pm with a good mixture of two hand, line dancing and a bit of ceilidh thrown in for good measure. Everyone welcome for a good night of fun and exercise with refreshments served and all for a €5.

# Seachtain na Gaeilge in Milford



Pupils from Scoil Mhuire Milford celebrated Lá Glas during Seachtain na Gaeilge last Thursday. Everyone dressed in green and each class performed for the school concert. The talent was outstanding and the teachers are very proud of all their children.



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Thurs 24th April - **Olivia Douglas**

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**Carvery Lunch**  
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## Drumboe Easter Commemoration

1916-2024

### Sunday 31st March 2024

Assemble 3pm  
Johnson's Corner, Stranorlar

Main Speaker:  
**Chris Mc Manus MEP**

Chair:  
**Maria Doherty**

Bigí Linn

HONOUR IRELAND'S PATRIOT DEAD.  
WEAR AN EASTER LILY.

## Easter Rising Commemoration

1916-2024

### Easter Monday 1st April 2024

Sinn Féin Mevagh  
**Joseph Duffy Commemoration**  
Assemble 12.30pm,  
Old Graveyard beside Carrigart Chapel

Sinn Féin Fanad,  
**Fanad Patriot Commemoration**  
Assemble 3pm at  
Patriots Monument,  
Kindrum Fanad

Bigí Linn

HONOUR IRELAND'S PATRIOT DEAD.  
WEAR AN EASTER LILY.

# The Healthiest Obsession I'll Ever Have?

*Food for thought*



Jonny McCollum

I dread to think of how many ads I must hear over the course of an average day. Like many parents who work from home I need a way of drowning out the chaos that would otherwise make sustained concentration impossible. For me, the answer is a set of noise cancelling headphones and a series of YouTube playlists featuring unobtrusive music for studying.

There was a time when I could cycle through my playlists with relative peace, unmolested by the products that Google would send its users' way, successfully shielded by my trusty ad-blocker. But those days are gone. After years of staying ahead in the unending game of cat and mouse I've had to admit defeat and allow the ads

to breach the walls.

Most readers will know that YouTube ads are dictated by our demographical information, meaning that, in theory at least, we only see ads for products we might actually be interested in. Presumably I can look forward to being sold stair lifts, cruises, and life insurance in years to come, but for now it's the products aimed at those in their mid-thirties. The results have been mixed to say the least.

Would I like to learn trading and buy fractional shares? I can think of better ways of throwing away my money. Would I like to become a millionaire by working for just a few hours each day? I'm more likely to make millions if I stay well clear of pyramid schemes.

If there's one company that has bombarded me more than any other in the last few months, it must be Whoop, purveyors of wearable-tech that promises to track my sleep, stress, heart rate, and aerobic fitness. In theory I should be amongst the target market for a service like this, in practice an annual fee of €264 means I'm going to stick with my trusty Garmin.

Having said that, I've been fascinated by some of Whoop's ads. They have an aspirational vibe to them, showing us users who somehow manage to keep on top of everything life throws at them while constantly progressing along the path of self-improvement. The tagline says it all: "I am the healthiest obsession I'll ever have".

The Whoop marketers have certainly understood the spirit of our age. There was a time when "self-obsessed" would have been an insult but now it is seen in a more positive hue. The popularity of gyms, therapists, and self-help influencers all testify to this fact. All three have their value but they fail to wrestle with one simple, unchangeable fact. I will always let myself down. My self-discipline has an outer limit, my bad habits will come back to bite me, and even if they don't, advancing years will ultimately blunt the metrics I work so hard to improve.

Self-obsession inevitably leaves us hollow. So how do we escape its allure? We look to something bigger and better than ourselves. We were made to bask

in a greater glory and to drink from a deeper well. We were made to know our maker.

## No money for Rathmullan one-way traffic

When will the Rathmullan town one-way system works commence?

That was the question asked by Cllr Pauric McGarvey during last week's Municipal District meeting. Similar to replies received by Cllrs on a range of issues McGarvey was told that there is no funding for the project.

The Council said that designs for a one-way system in Rathmullan were prepared in 2017 and reviews have been carried out to establish that they were in accordance with current National Transport Authority active travel requirements. However, there is currently no funding available to progress the project. The Council said a future application will be made to the NTA for funding to progress the project.

## Coffee Morning in Rathmullan

Rathmullan Women's Group will host a Daffodil Day Coffee Morning on this Saturday 23rd March from 11am - 1pm in the St. Vincent De Paul Centre, Rathmullan. Tea / coffee, scones and lots of home baked sweet treats, raffle also on the day and all proceeds in aid of the Irish Cancer Society. All welcome.

## Tidy Towns

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Annual Big Spring Clean has been deferred until 20th April, and we look forward to your support at that time. However, in the meantime, anyone wishing to do a quick clean around any time, why not use the pickers that are always available the Clean Coasts stand just near the entrance to the Car Park. People who think that 2 minutes

is a very short time and won't make any difference, please remember that your one simple action will ultimately make a really big difference if collectively more people participated, everyone taking small steps to protect our environment and waterways.

Earth Hour will take place this Saturday 23rd March from 8.30pm and we appeal all in the community to switch off the lights to join forces in the fight for climate change. Millions of people across the globe will switch off for Earth Hour, and by doing so, will create more awareness of people taking responsibility toward a sustainable future by simply just turning off the lights. Iconic buildings and landmarks will stand in darkness as has happened in previous years. Some people enjoy Earth Hour with a candle lit dinner while others host parties to celebrate Earth Hour. Our individual action may not save the world, but collectively, throughout the world, our combined actions can and will make a difference.

## Clean Coasts & Litter Picks

The weekly Pier area and beach cleans take place every Wednesday, with equipment available outside the White Harte from 10am. We especially welcome our Coastal Warrior pals from the HSE TOA Community Programme every week, and delighted to have a few new faces occasionally joining us in helping to keep our streets and beaches litter free, and we appreciate your support. Everyone welcome to join in and we usually have a sociable coffee afterwards.

## Seachtain na Gaeilge Celebrations

Congratulations to the St Joseph's School pupils for their amazing entertainment during the La Fheile Padraig Lon Ghaelach, held at the Ozanam Centre on Friday last, where invited guests enjoyed the wonderful entertainment and food, organised by the School Parents Association. Fr Eddie Deeney was also in attendance and gave the background to his song, Rathmullan by the Sea, which was also in the repertoire performed by the Children of Joseph's National School. Thank you Muinteor Alma and staff for the incredible work behind the scenes.

A very successful unique Fundraising Dining Experience and Draw also organised by the Parents Association took place last weekend, with thanks to the community for their continuing support.

## Beaches & Dunes for Climate Adaptation

A unique training course regarding understanding what causes Coastal Erosion and how can we reduce it, as well as how we 'take action' along with other fascinating information, will be taking place shortly in Fanad. Anyone interested in participating in this 2 day module (6 April & 8 June) should initially contact Leave No Trace Ireland 01

905 9009 to hear more about this event or contact events@leavenotraceireland.org

## Beginners Conversational Irish Classes

Anyone interested in participating in Beginners Irish Conversational Classes? Depending on response, these classes will take place late May Early June, 086 2804555 for registration and more information!

## Eco Atlantic Adventure Camps Rathmullan

Eco Atlantic Adventures are now taking bookings for Beach Bootcamp Sunrise workout, starting 29th April 6 am for Monday/Wednesday/Friday in 4 week blocks.

Their hugely popular classes suitable for teens 13+, running 3-5pm Monday to Friday, will begin 1st July. Activities include kayaking, SUP, Pier Jumping, Archery & each games. Booking essential for both these courses, contact Hugh 086 2250599.

## St Vincent De Paul

This time of the year can be difficult and challenging for many people especially with the recent spate of bad weather and cold. The local St Vincent de Paul are always available to help out in times of need, so please feel free to contact any member of the Chapter when confidential assistance is needed on 087 698 2822.

Don't forget that the Vincent's Charity Shop also takes donations of used small household items, bric a brac, books and clean used clothing, and also stock a huge selection of clothing for that wintry day too at very reasonable prices or upcycling for a new spring outfit.

Opening hours are Wednesday and Thursday 11-3 and also on Saturdays.



Runners and walkers at the first St. Patrick's Day 3k charity run and walk in Letterkenny. Photos by Declan Kerr.

## St. Patrick's Day 3k charity run and walk in Letterkenny



Mairead Mangan with daughter Darcey



Letterkenny AC runners at the St. Patrick's Day 3k charity race.



Sean McGinley and Holly Archer winners of the male and female categories at the inaugural St. Patrick's Day 3k charity run and walk

# Goodbye from Ramelton - see you next time

Ramelton's historic Town Hall is getting back to normal after six great nights when the full-house notices were the order of the show as Mother Goose transported the big crowds to a land of magic and make believe.

**By John McAteer**

In a week that broke box office records, the spirit of the community effort shone through. Seats were produced as if by magic and Kevin McFadden had a number of special guests: and the buzz of activity and anticipation was amazing. And when the lights came up at five past eight every evening, the scenery took people's breath away and that continued through ten enchanting scenes.

Mother Goose is a great show: the performers made it very special. And we were all a bit sad to realise that the legendary Tommy Logan, the King of all Goose Land was taken ill ahead of the final night. But he's fine and well and we wish him good health and hope he'll be back again in 2025. The fact that Gerald McFadden was able to replace Tommy at such short notice is a reflection that the show must go on: and it has ever since 1956.

Across the town for the panto week, there were traffic

jams everywhere but nobody minded and audiences departed in high good spirits after a high-octane two hours of the very best community panto in the country.

In fact there are more workers behind the scenes than onstage: Tony Boyce: Eilo Boyce Joe Birney, Joe Boyce and the ever present Michael Kinnear. John Harkin, Rosin Bradley, Natasha and Shirley Boyce: Doreen Gill and Ann McGarvey.

And the lighting and sound (apart from 15 seconds of darkness on Thursday night) added so much to the production and fair dues to Mick Geever, Christopher Birney and Edan Bradley.

Dave Hughes is the hall manager and what a splendid job he does in his quiet unassuming way.

Edward Boyce and John Diver are the stage managers. Michael Kinnear, Liam Cullen and Conor Boyce are in charge of carpentry. The name of Jackie Catterson as one of the longest serving members of the crew is worthy of mention. And the stagehands include Cilian Boyce, Joe Boyce, Dom McDaid, Owen Murray and Conor Boyce.

Gerald McFadden and Elaine Ferry were in charge of choreography.



James Friel on the final night pictured with his five grandchildren.

And without a wardrobe team there would be no show. The Town Hall's costumes have their own place in pantoland. It was good to meet Doreen Gill whose creative talents have added to the splendour of the costume department and despite living away from Ramelton for many years, her heart is still in this wee toon.

In charge of wardrobes this year were Bonnie Boyce, Gerald McFadden, Jackie Boyce, Catriona McCafferty, Jean Winston and Laura Bryant. Others who made a big contribution were Noreen Mills, Audrey Sweeney, Cathy Boyce, Hillary Moore, Audrey Gamble, Sharon

Boyce and Margaret Duffy. And as always the PRO is Brian Winston who adds his own skills to the programme.

And as the clock ticked past 10.30 on Saturday night, it was time for Jean Winston to come onstage and say a very fitting thank you to the cast, the crew, John Joe Harkin whose creativity is amazing: the three wonderful children's groups, their parents and their trainers, the makeup team, the tea makers and the renowned hospitality and Sally Stewart reminiscing about being in the panto as a child.

And who could ever forget the magic of 'Winter Wonderland' and the giant snowman as the children's scene melted the snow and the hearts of the audience.

And Jean thanked everyone on the backstage team for the contribution, but the last word was for the audiences that came from all arts and far distant places to share in what was one of the town's most memorable weeks in pantoland.

And backstage during the final interval, there were photos: grandchildren being brought in to experience the sense of history. James Friel had a stunning week but he only wanted to have a picture in the Tribune with his five grandchildren.

And Mickey McHugh... he came into the spotlight for four minutes nightly and the applause and apprecia-



Catriona McCafferty and her grand nephew Sennen McDaid Mooney.

tion has been ringing in the hall for decades. And Ronan Doherty comes over from Strabane on many's the wintry night to get the musical scores settled and his contribution is immense. And a big thank you to Kevin and Martin McFadden who run the 'tuck shop' in the foyer every night and their contribution to the town hall is what Ramelton's spirit is all about.

And the Goose kept on laying golden eggs: nevertheless the seven strong family of Geese that challenged their dear old mother and the dialogue was priceless with Billy Goose adding his own magic to the show. But as Mother Goose proved money can do many things... but it cannot buy you happiness. However the Ramelton Panto can do and that's a part of the legend.

From the team that sets out the seating: to the ushers, the sound and lights team, to everyone who contributed to the show, a sincere thank you and Good Night from Ramelton... see you next time. And suddenly it is over for another year.

2025 marks the 60th anniversary of the production and that is truly historic.



On stage were Eoghan Boyce, Lizzie Haughey, Jamie McGee, James Friel, Shirley Boyce as the Magic Goose and Conor Boyce.



The Palace of the Empress with the nobility having a ball.



It's good bye from Ramelton .... see you next time from the cast and crew of Mother Goose.

# Francie launches book about his mother's life

Seoladh leabhar 'Nan Scéal a Beatha' sa Síbin Ceoil óiche Dé hAoine an 15ú Márta. Bhí slua mór i láthair agus bhain achan duine sult as an ócáid. Is leabhar é a chuireann beatha Nan in iúl don léitheoir trí a cuid scéalta. Rinne Michelle Níc Grianna an seoladh agus labhair sí fá Nan, bean a raibh aithne mhaith aici uirthi. Labhair Joe McHugh fosta agus ansin léigh mac Nan, Francie, píosa as an leabhar. Chuir Michelle críoch leis an oíche le CD de chuid de na hagallaimh a rinne sí le Nan. Chuaigh sin

síos go maith leis an lucht éisteachta mar tháinig an greann trasna ón CD agus bhí sé soiléir gur bhain Michelle agus Nan craic as na hagallaimh. Bhí Seán Mac Corry, Eunan Gallagher agus Noel Gallagher ag seinm ceoil agus bhí oíche bhreá amhránaíocht againn. Rugadh Nan ar an 9ú Eanáir 1927 sna Doirí Beaga i bparóiste Ghaoth Dobhair. Johnny Thomáis Chaitlín a bhí ar a hathair agus Bidí bheag John Thomáis ainm teaghligh a máthar. Bhí saol fada, sláintiúil ag Nan agus bhain sí sult as achan lá dá

raibh sí linn. Chan duine í a bheadh ag gearán fá rudaí ach go díreach ghlac sí le cibé a chur an saol mór ina coinne agus lean sí ar aghaidh.

Chan achan duine a bhí maith ag gabháil don scéalaíocht ach níl amhras ar bith ná gur fhoghlaim Nan an cheird agus thóg sí í léithe i rith a saoil.

Fuair Nan bás ar an 25ú Feabhra 2021.

Doibr Nan go cruaidh i rith a saoil ach char chuir sin ariamh isteach nó amach uirthi. Chuaigh sí amach ar fostú ina ceantar fhéin don chéad uair agus í ocht mbliana d'aois. Tréimhse sé mhí a bhíodh i gceist agus mhair an fhostaíocht áitiúil seo ar feadh blianta. Níos faide anonn ina saol chuaigh sí ar fostú amuigh ar an Lagán.

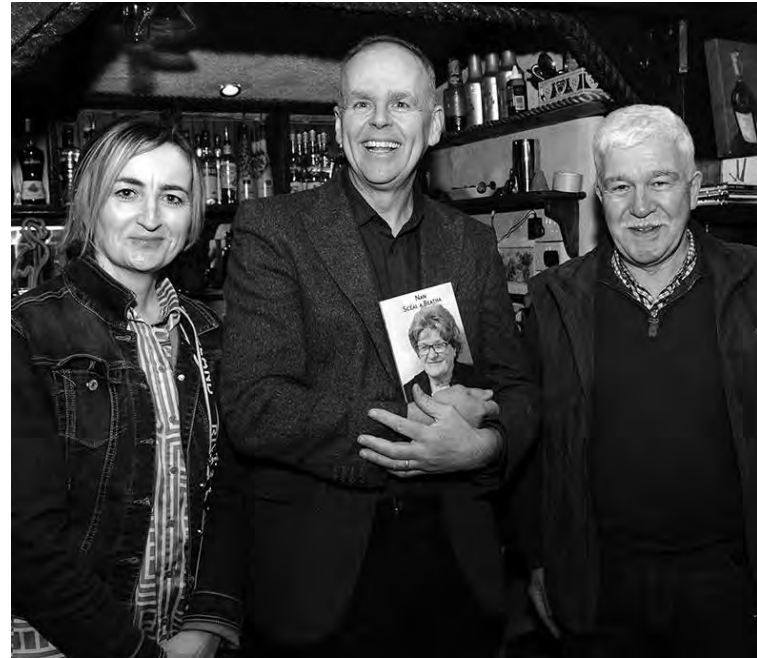
Nuair a tháinig sí go Dún Dubháin in 1963 cha raibh leictreachas ná uisce sa teach agus í ansin le teaghlach óg. Cha raibh Treasa ach dhá bhliain d'aois ag an am. Char chaith Nan bomaite amháin ag gearán faoin staid ina raibh sí ach go díreach ghlac sí leis agus chuaigh sí i mbun oibre. Ba gh-nách léi damba a thógáil thíos ag an tsruthán agus lasfadh sí tinidh leis an uisce a théamh sa dóigh is go dtiocfadh léi an niochán a dhéanamh. Bhain muid fhéin craic amach as a bheith ag trampáil na n-éadaí sa tobán mhór. Ansin spréi-



Francie Cullen, Downings who launched a new book on the life of his late mother Nan in the Singing Pub on Friday with family members Olivia, Aoihbne, Ryan, Aishling, Sean and Daniel.



Francie with Michelle Nic Grianna from Barrscéalta on Radio na Gaeltachta at the launch in the Singing Pub Downings on Friday night.



Eimer Friel, Deputy Joe McHugh and Hugo McClafferty at the book launch.



Sally Ní Gallachoir, Noirin Goulding and Laura McBride at the launch.



Enjoying the launch of Francie Cullen's new book on his mother Nan.



Peggy Ryder, Shiela Friel and Breda MacFadden at the launch.



Sabrina Finnigan, Heather Gorman, Michelle Brennan and Aishling McElroy at the launch.

feadh sí na héadaí amach ar na cláocha le triomú. Bhí dúil mhór aici sa bhing agus is fíorannamh a bheadh sí as láthair oíche Dé Céadaoin ón halla i gCarraig Airt. D'fhreastail sí fosta ar an Ionad Lae i gCarraig Airt agus bheadh sí i gcónaí sásta leis an chraic agus leis an chuideachta a bheadh ansin. Dá mbeadh bus ag gabháil áit ar bith ba í an chéad duine a bheadh air. Rinne siad neart turasanna ón ionad chéanna agus bhain sí sult astu uilig.

Tá scéal amháin fá Nan a thaispeánann cé hí níos mó ná scéal ar bith eile. Nuair a bhí sí ar fostú agus gan í ach 8 mbliana d'aois bhí uirthi buachailleacht a dhéanamh roimh dhul 'na scoile achan lá. D'fhág sin í mall don scoil i gcónaí agus bhuaill an mháistreás í le bata achan mhaidin dá thairbhe sin. Lá amháin bhí mé thuas i Leitir Ceanainn léi agus nuair a tháinig an t-am le fágáil chuaigh mé á cuartú. Chonaic mé í ina suí ar bhinse le bean eile a bhí ar comhaois léi. Nuair a bhí muid sa charr chuirir mé ceist uirthi cé a bhí sa bhean sin. 'Sin Maggie',

a dúirt sí. 'Nuair a bhí mise amuigh ar fostú bhí mise ar fostú béal dorais domh agus achan mhaidin agus muid amuigh ag buachailleacht shuigh muid ar charraig agus cheol muid 'The Blackbird.' Smaointigh air sin. Bhí a fhios aici go mbeadh bus ag gabháil áit ar bith ba í mall don scoil agus go mbeadh an mháistreás í ach bhí sí ag ceol. Í ina suí ar charraig ag ceol 'The Blackbird' - sin Nan.

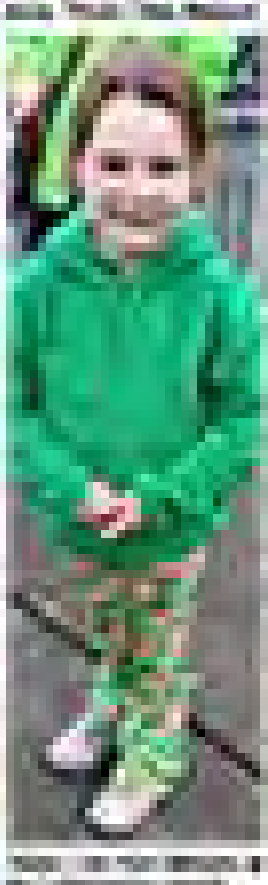


Eoin Byrne and Grainne Shiels at the launch.



Enjoying the launch of Francie Cullen's new book on his mother Nan.

Letterkenny Parade



# Kilmacrennan NS Tractor Run



Billy, Christina, Cody and Reece Rankin at the Tractor Run on Monday.



Enjoying the Tractor Run were Grace Sweeney with Pauric, Joel and Cassie Helferty.



Charlie O'Donnell with grandkids, Annie and John Doherty and Charlie Gorman at the Tractor Run.



Kevin Doherty, Terri McKee and Thomas Hegarty.



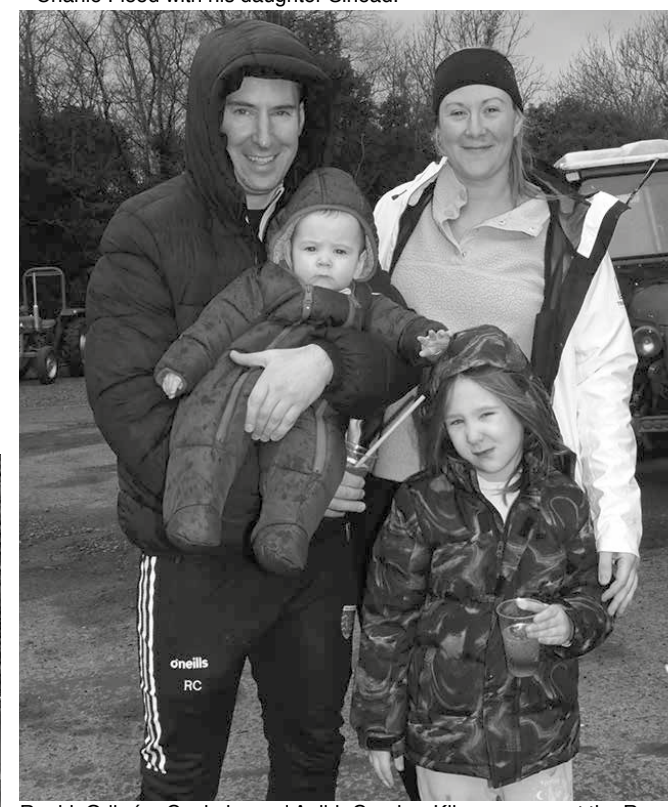
Charlie Flood with his daughter Sinead.



Cahir, Aisling, Rory and Bobby Wilhare.



Darragh and Paul Harkin and below, Raymond McBride and Lawrence McGettigan.



Ruairi, Odhrán, Caoimhe and Aoibh Crealey, Kilmacrennan at the Run.



Kevin McGettigan, Conor Russell and Mark Bradley.



Luke Kelly, Fionn O'Shaughnessy, Conor McCarthy and Hannah and Holly Boyce.



# Bia ag Caint

with Noel MacLiam

Bia 57

Dia dhaoibh go léir, a chairde Ghaeil agus bhur gcéad fáilte ar ais. Mar is gnáth rud é, tá súil agam go bhfuil achán duine breá agus folláin. Ó's rud é go raibh Seachtain na Gaeilge ar siúl le linn na laethanta seo uaidh thart, thug mé agus cairde cuairt ar shuíomh galánta agus spéisialta i gCarraig Áirt, i dteach Hugo Boyle, an sean Oifig an Phoist, agus an teach breá atá i mbéal dorais leis atá mar iarsmalann, é lán go béal le achán sort rud a bhí a úsáid na bliantaí fada ó shin. Bhí sé uilig, i ndairíre, an-spéisiúil ar fad. Bhí stór mór eolais ag Hugo é féin ar na huirlisí feirme agus uirlisí tí atá curtha le chéile aige agus bailithe aige le bliantaí anuas. Bhí saghas 'Tráth na gCéist' againn, le Hugo ag taispeáint uirlisí éagsúla agus muidne ag tabhairt buille faoi thuairim cad é a bhí i gcéist nó cén úsáid a bhí orthu.

Mar shampla, thaispeáin sé dúinn rud agus hanla air, agus fráma sreinge. Bhí mearbhall orainn uilig faoin uirlis seo. Shíl mé féin go dtiocfadh leat pota a chuir ar an fráma sreinge agus é a chuir ar bhladhaire nó tine leis an pota



a théamh. Bhí mé thar a bheith mí-cheart! Ba é an freagra ná gur uirlis a bhainfeadh tréidlia úsáid as. Bhí sé deartha le béal chapail a oscáilt dá mbéadh scornach plúctha aige! Bhí an tréidlia ábalta béal an chapail a oscáilt go leathan ionas go dtiocfadh leis a lámh a shíneadh síos an scornach agus greim a fháil ar an bac!!

Ní raibh mé ag gabháil an freagra sin a fháil dá mbéadh mo bheo de gheall! Agus ansin thainig an tae laidir amach, an Báirín Breac agus arán sóide le mil áitiúil, agus bhí achán rud go hiontach deas ar fad, na cupaí poircealláin, agus gach rud ceart agus cóir. Smaoinigh mé fosta cé chomh foirstéanach agus cóir a bhí an Bre-



Creamh. Wild Garlic



## NEW - Termon / Kilmacrennan to Milford Service

TFI Local Link Donegal Sligo Leitrim operate over 65 transport routes in County Donegal, which includes a variety of Regular Rural Services – 5 / 6 / 7 day per week services connecting rural areas and villages to towns, and a large number of one / two-day demand responsive weekly services, where passengers avail of door to door transport to their nearest town or village to do their shopping, attend doctor appointments, hairdressers or collect pensions among other things.

We are happy to now add the Termon / Kilmacrennan area to our door to door service list. A new two day per week service, Tuesdays & Fridays, is now operational and will take people from their homes in the Termon / Kilmacrennan to Milford and back again. This service will operate between the hours of 9:00 to 10:30am inbound and will return from Milford @ 1:00pm.

Booking is essential for these services and passengers are advised to contact the TFI Local Link office (07497 41644) the day before travel if at all possible. Free Travel Passes are accepted and for fare paying passengers, the following rates apply:

|         | Single | Return |
|---------|--------|--------|
| Adult   | €2.50  | €4.00  |
| Student | €1.00  | €2.00  |
| Child   | €1.00  | €2.00  |

These particular services are the foundation blocks upon which TFI Local Link Donegal Sligo Leitrim has been built and provide essential life connecting, door to door services for passengers who have no access to transport and are living in rural isolation.

The National Transport Authority and TFI Local Link Donegal Sligo Leitrim recognise the need to support and improve transport in rural Ireland and particularly acknowledge the very essential component of transport in combating rural isolation and the very serious consequences and knock on effects that rural isolation can have.

For more information on this new service or any of our other services please visit our website [locallinksl.ie](http://locallinksl.ie), Facebook page or contact our Killybegs office - 07497 41644.



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ac agus

Arán Sóide sa chomhtheacs sin, an teach galánta, coiméadaithe sin. Dá bhí sin thosaigh mé ag smaointiú faoi na miasanna claiseacha Éireannacha, a úsáidíonn comhábhair atá ar leac an dorais againn. Ná déan dearmad go bhfuil an CREAMH le fáil sul i bhfad. Ar an ábhar sin, bhí mé amach sa ghairdín an lá faoi dheireadh agus chonaic mé SAMHADH ann don chéad uair. Bhí gliondar orm faoi sin. Tá mé ag súil go mór cócaireacht a dhéanamh leis na luibheanna dúchasacha sin in achán sort béilí. Molaim go mór díobh a théigh ag soláthar duit féin nuair atá tú amach ag siúl. Mar shampla, tá tú ábalta caisearbhán a chuir i sailéidí, agus tá blathanna eile ann is feidir a ithe. Bí cúramach agus cinnte nuair atá tú ag déanamh seo; tá cuid mhór leabhair treoireacha le fáil le lámh cuidithe a thabhairt don duine crógach agus fiontrach - lean ar aghaidh mar sin. Agus ádh mór!

### ARÁN PRÁTAÍ FOIRFE Perfect Potato Bread

Comhábhair  
 225g Brúitín

1/2 tsp salann

25g Im

55g plúr éiritheach

### Modh

Meascaigh le chéile Brúitín, im agus salann, ag úsáid spúnóg adhmhaid le meascán maith a fháil, go bhfuil taos bog agat. Cuir an taos ar dhromchlá plúrach agus crúthaigh cruinneán leis le tiús 1cm air. Gearr i gceathar píosáí é. Cuir grideall nó friochtán ar theas maith ag cuir air le 4bom gach taobh. Lig dó a éirí fionnuar.

Ó's rud é. Because of  
 Seo uaidh thart. Recently past  
 Suíomh. Site, location  
 I mbéal dorais. Next door  
 Iarsmalann. Museum  
 Lán go béal. Filled to the brim  
 I ndairíre. Seriously  
 Stór mór eolais. Wealth of information  
 Uirlisí feirme. Farming implement  
 Uirlisí tí. Domestic equipment  
 Bailithe. Gathered together

Tráth na gCéist. Quiz time  
 Buille faoi thuairim. Guess  
 I gcéist. In question  
 Hanla. Handle  
 Fráma sreinge. Wire frame  
 Mearbhall. Bewilderment  
 Bladhaire. Flame  
 Tréidlia. Veterinarian  
 Deartha. Designed  
 Scornach plúctha. Blocked throat  
 Ionas. In order for  
 Síneadh. Stretch  
 Bac. Obstruction  
 Dá mbéadh mo bheo de gheall If my life depended on it  
 Áitiúil. Local  
 Ceart agus cóir. Right and fitting  
 Cupán poircealláin. China cup  
 Comhtheacs. Context  
 Coimhéadaithe. Curated  
 Ar leac an dorais. On the doorstep  
 Creamh. Wild garlic  
 Samhadh. Sorrel  
 Molaim go mór. I strongly advise  
 Ag soláthar. Foraging  
 Caisearbhán. Dandelion  
 Crógach. Brave  
 Fiontrach. Resourceful



## Tirconail

## Tribune

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Y M C K

### New Chicks at Kilmacrennan NS...



The science project at Kilmacrennan National School is now in its 12th year and the children were so excited when the chicks began to hatch as can be seen from a selection of the children with them.



## Book Review by Connie McGranaghan

### One for Sorrow, Two for Joy Marie - Claire Amuah

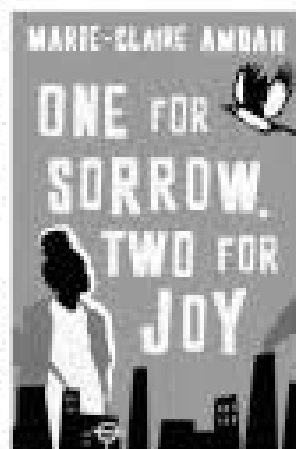
Stella is originally from Ghana and now lives with her family in South London. She and her Mother suffer domestic abuse at the hands of her bully father. Her brother Sol, much loved by their father stays silent in order to avoid conflict and does not intervene as he witnesses her being beaten for being 'IN SO LENT'. She grows up resenting Sol for this and resents her Mother too, a nurse who saves premature babies but does nothing to save Stella from the blows of her Father.

As if life is not hard enough in her teenage years Stella develops Addison Disease and must cope with the complexities of this as well as her tough family life. She spends her days touching wood and her daily mood will depend on how many magpies she encounters in any one time. She touches, she

counts, she salutes, and she hopes that today will be better than yesterday.

The book totally captures the complexities of Stella's life as she grows up and as she matures so does the prose in order to reflect this. We follow Stella through school (top of her class), University and eventually a career in law. The friendship with 'the girls' that is constant, grows and matures with Stella. It is heart-warming and literally a life saver in her otherwise traumatic existence.

This is an intelligent and beautifully written novel. It has grief and trauma at its heart but with thanks to the power of female friendship it becomes a defiant story of friendship, resilience and hope. A wonderful debut novel by Marie - Claire Amuah



## Addressing Vacancy & Dereliction in Letterkenny

Donegal County Council has said that progress is ongoing in respect of activity to tackle vacancy and dereliction in Letterkenny Town Centre.

Funding support of €4m has been provided to tackle long term vacancy and dereliction in Letterkenny Town Centre. Under this programme 44 vacant/derelict properties have been identified as having potential to be brought back into use as homes.

The steps taken by the Council in December 2023 involved the identification of owners of vacant/derelict properties located in Letterkenny town centre. The Council is now actively meeting with and providing guidance and support to identified owners and is pleased with the positive response received to date.

In working with owners of vacant and/or derelict properties in Letterkenny, the Council is supporting individuals to re-use their buildings by providing grants, other financial supports and information on:

- (i) The Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant
- (ii) The Repair and Lease Scheme and;
- (iii) The Conservation Advice Grant Scheme

Mayor Kevin Bradley said "it complements existing schemes which the Council already have in place to tackle vacancy and dereliction and it will allow for an increase in the pace at which derelict and vacant buildings are brought back into productive use as new homes for people".

Liam Ward, from the Council said that "it will provide more homes for people in sustainable locations, allowing them to live close to local services, amenities and employment".

If you own a vacant and/or derelict property in Letterkenny email [vacanthomes@donagalcoco.ie](mailto:vacanthomes@donagalcoco.ie)

# Have globe-trotting pilgrims escaped referendum crashout?

*Fine Gael's identity is now more compromised and its electoral fortunes are far from certain.*

*Varadkar is not a vote winner as his record shows: he lost 16 seats in the 2020 general election: he lost the Dublin Bay South bye-election and now the landslide drubbing in the referendums.*

*And defending the five FG seats in the EU elections may prove a hurdle too far.*

Now that Cabinet Members have returned for another two days in the Dail - between now and April 9th, they still may find time to mull over the catastrophe of their dead hand campaign for the two referendums on International Women's Day. They will wonder if they'd have won by repealing both Articles and starting all over again. Perhaps they should also have held a referendum to remove all mention of gender imbalances in every aspect of the Constitution and then the country might move on with a stronger ambition for inclusiveness.

The basic reality is that the electorate is not going to buy into the lack of pre-legislative scrutiny by the Oireachtas. And like the Mica legislation that too was waived in an effort to fast-track the proposals. These debates were shredded through the use of the parliamentary guillotine. Similarly, the electorate gutted the government on the referendums.

But fair play to Senator Lisa Chambers for her support... Yes or No... she was in the vanguard of the hurricane and you may wonder what she'll do in the EU elections in June. The need for a new Constitution was never more obvious. The need to replace the original version is clear because with the passage of time and new horizons in science, increasing life expectancy, medicine, knowledge, birth control, civil rights, equality, justice, and an input on religion similar to the First Amendment of the American Constitution.

The First Amendment has two provisions concerning religion: the Establishment Clause and the Free Exercise Clause.

Today, what constitutes an "establishment of religion" is often governed under the three-part test set forth by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1971. Under the "Lemon" test, the government can assist religion only if (1) the primary purpose of the assistance is secular, (2) the assistance must neither promote nor inhibit

religion and (3) there is no excessive entanglement between church and state. And then many still wonder why their constitution has stood the test of time since 1787, albeit with a number of amendments. Written in 1787, ratified in 1788, and in operation since 1789, it is the world's longest surviving written charter of government.

Our Constitution is in urgent need of revisiting. So are many other aspects of life that families must confront on a daily basis: poverty, homelessness, childcare, substance abuse are amongst the most challenging and Ireland needs a Constitution that talks to the people through its Houses of Parliament rather than through the Supreme Court.

Bunracht na hEireann was written with effective domination of men - women, well, let's not go there. It was a hit list of jobs for the boys. The dominant role of men was all embracing: it was put together by men with no appreciation of women's role in Irish life.

A document defining the fifty Articles of the Constitution is not serving a more plural Ireland and it is not in the best interests of women because the Ireland in 1937 as seen through the vision of Eamon De Valera and Archbishop McQuaid was a country dominated and controlled by male thinking and that is flawed for numbers of years. Now 87 years later all that has changed: no longer are women forced to resign from their professions on marriage: no longer are women unequal in the eyes of EU legislation, equality for all is not yet for all. Others not fully respected are carers; disabilities, the marginalised, those in cohabiting relationships, those who have no homes and less hope. The list is endless...

Why should there be any difference between those who are married and those who are not?

Surely that is a matter of personal choice and somewhat like banning the holy clergy from marrying after

a thousand years of happy families, it is not a doctrine: rather is it a discipline. And a church that proclaims they are accompanying the faithful on life's journey needs to look at why they continue to exclude so many from their presence.

Ireland is a cold country for so many. And I'd imagine that those globe-trotting pilgrims who've been to many foreign lands in the past week are not adding to solutions for a fair and equitable land where snakes had their ears closer to the ground than we imagined.

In the political crashout from the referendums, one of a number of lines that did not rhyme with public acclaim was Leo Varadkar saying the government did not do enough to convince people over amending provisions on family and care.

Never did a Taoiseach utter such nonsense since it is pretty clear that voters were not hung up about the texts of the referendums. Instead they were delighted to have a whack at the establishment and will obviously do so again. Had the referendums been cast in clear and inclusive language and where the Attorney General publicly approved, there is a chance that it might have attracted more votes - but not that many.

Away in America and far flung dominions or wherever Government leaders laid their heads in homage to St. Patrick, they cannot escape the reality that Irish voters overwhelmingly rejected proposed changes to references on family and women in the constitution, delivering a rebuke to a government that had urged voters not to take a "step backwards".

Voters repudiated the family referendum with 67% voting "no", and buried the care referendum in an even bigger landslide of 74%. The scale of rejection is a well earned humiliation not just for the government but also opposition parties and advocacy groups who had united to support a yes-yes vote.

A turnout of 44% was a long way short of the 2015 marriage equality vote and 2018 abortion referendum that underscored Ireland's secular, liberal transformation that saw a turnout of general election proportions of 64% in 2018.

The government had billed the referendums on International Women's Day - as opportunities to embed inclusivity and equality in a Constitution dating from 1937. That was not possible because the document is based on a narrative that does not lend itself to change.

The mainstream political parties have shown how out of touch they are - Fine Gael, Fianna Fail, the Green Party: all of them in Government and backed by Sinn

Fein the other mainstream party got it all wrong and the landslide result goes to prove they are all in a bubble and it took the voice of the electorate to remind them that the ballot box is as powerful as ever and should be the main arbiter in all constitutional debates.

Sinn Fein, particularly committed to equality and the principles of the 1916 Proclamation should set out their stall in a project to rewrite the Constitution and that will be a much bigger imperative for first time voters and the many marginalised outposts resident in the country.

Never has there been such a level of confusion (allegedly) with five FF politicians and two FG senators absent at the rugby in London. Will all of these politicians now lose the party whip for twelve months?

There are serious questions to be asked about the judgement of Senator Chambers' change of mind. She was in charge of the guillotine for the referendum in the Seanad, she was out campaigning for a Yes and then came out afterwards, after the people had said No, she announced she also voted No!

God forbid, but should Lisa Chambers not win a third seat for FF in this EU constituency, what might she offer as an excuse?

But why say anything? Given that the privacy of the polling booth is as confidential as a confessional box, nobody needs to know how Chambers voted. And I'd hazard a guess that voters in her EU constituency couldn't care less, so what was the point of her public confession?

Is Lisa going to vote for herself in the European Election, or will she change her mind at the last minute? The voters in this constituency need a degree of clarity, even from Fianna Fail. Meanwhile, Senator Regina Doherty, who is the deputy leader in the Seanad, said of Ms Chambers: "If she changed her mind, she should have told us on the day or the day before [the referendums]. Afterwards, it looks like you're disingenuous or 'I can't trust your word'. She is only being honest, but it's not a great look."

'I'm not their mammy' - Taoiseach says he's not responsible for Fine Gael senators who went to the Ireland rugby match instead of voting in the referendums: it goes from the weird to the unbelievable or even worse.

Four Fianna Fáil politicians, including Eamon Ó Cuív, Ms Chambers, Limerick TD Willie O'Dea and Cavan-Monaghan deputy Niamh Smyth have now said they voted No in one or both referendums. Carlow-Kilkenny backbencher John McGuinness had said before the

referendums that he would be voting No.

And as for the 'The High Priest of Optimism 2024' award, before it is announced, we should all be out canvassing for Junior Integration Minister Joe O'Brien who stated the family and care referendums had "absolutely not" been lost and then his party leader Eamon Ryan landed on the scene to wistfully declare it was curtains for the Yes campaign - if we could only find a campaign, then we'd have asked questions about behaviour and attitudes.

O'Brien had earlier taken a swipe at his government partners. "It would have been good to see more people knocking on doors," the Green Party minister said. "Certainly from our point of view in the Green Party we got people out, I am not sure what the other parties were doing." But one has to ask him if they got people out, did they go shopping or take a stroll around the city.

The Green Party finger of blame was aimed at Leo Varadkar for the questionable timing of the referendums, on International Women's Day, when the campaign itself rarely focused on removing the so-called "women in the home" clause from the Constitution. That said there was a view among sources in all three parties that Varadkar could have done more by way of campaigning and that Fine Gael in general ran a lacklustre campaign.

"Where was Heather Humphreys? She didn't do any debate. Maybe she was still in Limerick after the national launch of the Towns First Initiative Programme. And the Milford delegation returned with a cheque for thirty grand for another grand plan. And not a shovel has been raised elsewhere to tackle a generation, perhaps several generations of neglect and lack of money and forty million might not look at the cost.

And as polling Day in Paddy's Land approaches, there are fears of more electoral volatility. In a new Dáil with 14 extra seats, the stalling of Sinn Féin's rise with no lift for the Government parties opens the possibility of protracted negotiations between a much wider group of parties and possibly independents. There's a real possibility that a hung Dáil which would be a novelty in this century.

The three big parties have a widening gap and obvious weaknesses. Sinn Féin may have dropped off their historical high of last Autumn but remain ahead of their 2020 general election result and that of its competitors. Its political base is offside on immigration and obviously they were not keyed into the concerns that saw the referendum hammered.

SF's poll ratings were already falling before the Dublin riots, therefore there are more fundamental issues at play here. While FF and FG have not gained to any degree with the poll figures pointing to an uncertain result on polling day.

Fine Gael's identity is now more compromised and its electoral fortunes are far from certain. Varadkar is not a vote winner as his record shows: he lost 16 seats in the 2020 general election: he lost the Dublin Bay South bye-election and now the landslide drubbing in the referendums. And defending the FG seats in the EU elections may prove more than difficult for him. And if the FG knives of their rural hinterland are out for Varadkar, let them be mindful of the reality that since 2016 they have grown the State from a €68 billion enterprise to one costing €110 billion in 2024. Allowing for the demands of Covid and inflation, that represents a 38% increase in spending.

But how can FG and FF continue to meet the demand of further increasing this expenditure, given there is a chill wind of change blowing? Now, if they could recover the €20+ million they foolishly wasted on the Referendum vote on International Women's Day!



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Comment

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# Carrigart St. Patrick's Day Parade



Maggie Doherty presenting members of the Mevagh Fire Service with the First Overall prize at the Carrigart St. Patrick's Day parade on Sunday.



# Creeslough St. Patrick's Day Parade





20 years ago :: 20 years ago :: 20 years ago :: 20 years ago :: 20 years ago

20 years ago :: 20 years ago :: 20 years ago :: 20 years ago :: 20 years ago

# Change in Social Welfare leads to grief

A separated mother in the final stages of her third pregnancy has highlighted her serious financial hardship and stress because of changes in the social welfare system.

The woman says she is virtually bankrupt and the system has failed her miserably.

She said that by virtue of recent legislation she is excluded from maternity benefit because she is in receipt of a single parents allowance.

"You cannot collect two different social security benefit payments," she has been officially told. This has left her caught in an unimaginable poverty trap and sadly she sees no way out of the mess.

The woman says she's virtually penniless and after her financial commitments are met she will be left with a meagre €120 a week to rear and care for her children.

She has exhausted all avenues of welfare support and says she's shocked at how the system treats people of her status.

We have agreed not to publish her name on grounds of confidentiality. She has taken the step of publishing her plight to let the public know how the system is applied to women in her situation and in the hope that some level of provision can be made available.

The woman says she's a victim of bureaucracy that treats people in her situation as second class citizens. As a single mother with two children and separated for five years from her husband she is trying to cope with the final stages of pregnancy with her third child.

When her husband left the family home, she took over responsibility for the mortgage at €470 a month. In order to better manage the family finances, including the mortgage, she took up work for the legal maximum of 20 hours a week to supplement the single parent allowance of €172 a week. She receives nine Euro an hour for the job - €180 a week. Her children's allowance comes to €250 per month: that's

approximately €62 a week.

Four weeks before her "due date" she stops work, which means she doesn't get any wages from the job. She goes to the social security to sign on for maternity benefit, and is told "No. No maternity benefit. Since you are already getting the single parent allowance you cannot get maternity benefit as well."

She is left clutching straws with €172 a week single parent allowance, and €62 a week children's allowance.

A grand total of €234 a week.

Take away from that her weekly mortgage repayment of €115, which leaves her €120 a week to feed and clothe herself, care for her two other children, do all the necessary bits and pieces to welcome the new child into the world; pay the electricity and phone bills, keep a car on the road, and generally pay her way.

The heavily pregnant woman is now appealing publicly to Mary Coughlan the Minister for Social and Family Affairs to take note and to act accordingly.

# SF will transform Council ... Doherty



Sinn Fein Vice President Pat Doherty pictured with Tony McDaid and Gerry McMonagle, the candidates for the County Council and Town Council elections in Letterkenny.

Sinn Fein on Donegal County Council will set about reforming local government to deliver change for the people: so said their EU candidate Pearse Doherty during the party convention in Letterkenny on Sunday evening.

"We will go about giving power back to the people as is our mandate and take it away from the County Manager and his officials," he added. And Pat Doherty the party vice president said that if FF and IFF were serious about their republican claims they would be organising right across the 32 counties. "That is the only way that an Ireland of Equals can be achieved," he commented wryly.

The party completed their local election conventions for Donegal over the weekend with the selection of Lifford's Tony McDaid as their county council candidate for the Letterkenny area. The unanimous decision was made by a convention of more than seventy delegates at the Mount Errigal Hotel where Bunrana Cllr. Padraig MacLochlainn presided.

The SF Vice President Pat Doherty who was the keynote speaker said that McDaid had been a committed republican for more than thirty years and he had successfully embraced the political dimensions of the organisation.

A native of Strabane Tony has lived in Lifford for many years with his wife Joan and family of three, Claire: Tony (jnr) and Ciara. He is a community support worker based in Raphoe for the past ten years at the family resource centre.

The SF lineup for the county council elections is now complete. They are running a single candidate in each electoral area. They include Thomas Pringle in Donegal: Padraig MacLochlainn in Inishowen: Donal Cullen in Milford: Tom Dignam in Stranorlar: Tony McDaid in Letterkenny and Pearse Doherty in Glenties. Gerry McMonagle is their town council candidate in Letterkenny and addressing Sunday's convention he said that Letterkenny urgently needed a SF voice and he was confident that would be achieved.

He commented: Sinn Fein is offering change and everybody sees the problems that have to be addressed. We are the credible opposition to Fianna Fail and we will be doing everything in our power to gain seats so that we can provide a credible alternative.

Insofar as Letterkenny is concerned things are far from right for the ordinary people. Business may be doing well but we must face up to the anti-social behaviour that is happening every night of the week. We lack civic amenities which I blame for most of the problems and on the Council we must tackle all of these problems. So far the town council has been reluctant to become involved in addressing the social inequalities in their midst," he commented.



Pictured at Ramelton Tennis Club AGM were; seated l to r, Rosemary O'Keeffe, Sharon Gallagher, Elizabeth Birney, Sean Gallagher, Leslie Buchanan and John O'Connor. Standing left to right, Regina Gibson, Norman Stewart, Bert Campbell and Seamus Gunn.

# An Post and egg throwers condemned

Cllr. Bernard McGlinchey of Fianna Fail has again strongly criticised An Post over lengthy delays in mail deliveries.

Last year he attacked the record of the company after discovering that an invitation sent to his home from the Letterkenny Town Council had not arrived in time for a civic reception for his brother, Fr. PJ McGlinchey who was home from Cheju.

The latest crux came when as the FF whip on the County Council Bernard sent out notices last Wednesday to his colleagues to attend a party meeting in Lifford on Monday prior to the meeting to consider the development contribution charges.

Only one Cllr. had received the letter of notice by the time they left home for Lifford. McGlinchey instanced other occasions when he experienced similar and even worse delays. One piece of correspondence took three weeks to reach its destination, he commented.

He said the bureaucracy is destroying the country and ever since the political process had lost control of

An Post the situation had worsened.

And he said his concerns had been relayed to Margaret McGinley from Milford who is Chairperson of the Board at An Post.

Cllr. McGlinchey said he shuddered to think what would happen when the bureaucrats take over the health service.

At the same time an incident in Lifford during Monday's meeting in which eggs were spattered all over four cars at the side of the Council building was roundly condemned by Cllr. David Alcorn.

Following a break in proceedings on Monday it came to the attention of the meeting that an incident had taken place. As Cllr. Alcorn resumed the meeting he took the opportunity to roundly condemn this kind of behaviour. He had no way of knowing if the incident was related to the meeting going on but he said that every shade of opinion was always welcome to come into the public gallery and listen to debates. He was saddened that anyone should find it necessary to act in such a manner outside the building.



At the opening of the Letterkenny Women's Centre extension and the launch of their Peace 11 Project - Women Co-creating a Non-violent Society - are seated front row, left to right, Kathryn Doherty, Caroline Newell Co-ordinator of the East Belfast Community Education Centre who officially launched the project, Nora Newell and Breid Kelly-McCollum. Back row from left are: Vera Sweeney, Mary O'Donnell, Eilish McArt, Kate Hudis, Anne Crossan, Anne McFadden, Kathleen Lough, Linda Truelsen, Eithne O'Doherty, Roseleen Cassidy and Paul Skinnader ADM/CPA. Photo Clive Wasson.

Development contribution charges

# Council votes for no change

On Monday the Members of Donegal County Council adopted a schedule of development contribution charges with no increase over the current level. This will come as good news to the hundreds of applicants who had rushed to have their planning applications heard as they tried to beat the March 10th deadline.

As of now the status quo is retained; however it is likely that Monday's decision will have an impact on Capital funding coming down from the government and this issue will become clearer when the decision is fully evaluated in Dublin.

Donegal will now have the lowest charges in Ireland and Cllrs. from Fine Gael have expressed concern that some of projects could be slowed down over the coming years.

In effect the present level of charges will now become the new rates, the contribution levy had been demanded by the Environment Minister and the legislation had demanded that each council adopt a new schedule by Wednesday of this week.

The new deal was won on a vote of 16 to 10; the motion was proposed by Cllrs. Bernard McGlinchey and Dessie Larkin of IFF in what turned out to be a lengthy and often contentious meeting. The meeting went on for four and a half hours. For most applicants the current water connection charge of €380 remains as the status quo while the sewerage connection fee stands at €407 with a further one hundred Euro committed to the roads fund. As was to be expected this meeting had very high level of politics being promoted as we approach the run up to the general election. At times Cllrs shouted traditional political profanities at each other with great abandon across the floor of the Chamber.

One of the clear messages emerging from the meeting was a demand by all parties for a more regularised system of charges especially on extra costs for water provision and roads. It was pointed out time and again that similar utilities for different electoral areas were subject to a wide variation of

costs. A number of other factors were also highlighted including a demand for development charges collected locally to remain and be spent in that particular area.

It was always inevitable that on such an occasion that party politics would be a major issue. And so it came to pass with some 23 Cllrs. contributing to the debate. And party lines were quickly drawn and strongly emphasised as the day wore. Fine Gael hammered out at FF for being the party in government falling the electorate and that sort of thing. And the accusations that the government was trying to depopulate rural Ireland with these stealth taxes was being flung around like exotic lingerie at an erotic stag night.

It was a lengthy debate and at times it was noisy with members making the usual traditional accusations across the room. However it was when it was pointed out that Fine Gael had got it all wrong with their proposal to scrap development charges entirely that the shit hit the fan.

The meeting heard that the FG proposal to eliminate development charges altogether would effectively stop the Council from collecting any charges whatever and that ran the risk in instances of planning applications being refused due to lack of money. A shouting match ensued between Bernard McGlinchey and Bernard McGuinness with the FF man saying that FG thinking was flawed. "That is why you are in Opposition and you'll be there for the next fifty years, they way you are going," commented McGlinchey.

And Noel McGinley in a highly charged contribution said he was shocked at the behaviour of FG. "You introduced development charges and you are to blame for the whole mess," he commented. He tore into Fine Gael saying they had not got a clue what they were chatting about. Donegal is leading the way because we are making our own decisions and we will have the lowest charges in Ireland. This led to another big shouting



Over 20 years teaching experience ... Members of the teaching profession at Linnis Community School Milford were the recipients of presentations from their colleagues at a function in the Castlegrave House Hotel on Friday. Paddy O'Connor has taken up the post of Principal at Linniskenny Vocational School while James Barfield and Peter Doherty have retired. Also included are Mrs. Ann O'Connor with at back Andrew Kelly, Principal, Joe Harkin, Gerard Logue, Ehd Barr, Winnie McGeedy and Dan McCarthy who made the presentations.

match with Bernard McGuinness. Paddy Kelly spoke about over expenditure and the cost of Luas while at the same time the government was clawing that money back through levies on counties like Donegal that could not afford them.

Joe McTugh said it was a victory for democracy and he was sure the message was simple: people had said no and that was why this debate was taking place. Alice Bonner spoke of the need for more recreational facilities and said the Council would have to get its priorities correct. In response to queries from Cllr. Bernard McGlinchey the Chief Planning Executive Jim Harley confirmed that if the FG proposal for no development charges was adopted then the Council could not collect any further charges. He also gave a resume of why and how special charges kicked in. As the evening wore Cllr. Liam Haney expressed his own concerns over increases as did Albert Doherty; Padraig O'Dochartaigh; Sean McEniff; Gerry Crawford and Patrick McGowan.

Following a break the Cathaoirleach deemed that it was time for Franca Coyle to explain the position officially. And so it came down to the wire and a vote with FF supported by IFF backing Bernard McGlinchey. FG was supported by Thomas Pringle and Thomas Gildea. The new charges will come up for review next January. In the meantime the election looms and for the majority of the members seeking re-election Monday was a good day's work.

# Town Council adopts new levy

Letterkenny Town Council adopted the new Development Contribution Scheme at their monthly meeting on Monday night. Cllr. Terry McEniff proposed that the new charges be set at the same rates as those agreed at the Donegal County Council meeting earlier in the day.

His proposal was carried by a majority of six to three with Mayor Victor Fisher along with Jean Crossan, Claran Brogan, Dessie Larkin and P.J. Blake supporting the charges while Sean Maloney, Jimmy Harie and Jim Lynch voted against the new figures.

It means that the development charges levied on new houses will be €2156; apartments 317 while commercial units will attract a figure of €6.96 per square metre. In exceptional circumstances additional charges may be added for example where a wet industry is planned.

Senior Executive Planner Jim Harley said that the charges agreed were the lowest in the country while Cllr.

McEniff welcomed the decision that leaves the Letterkenny levy at the same rate as the previous year.

McEniff acknowledged that the lack of infrastructure was a problem but praised the developers for their willingness to take risks and invest in Letterkenny over the past number of years. The successful proposal was seconded by Dessie Larkin who said that new contribution scheme at last brought transparency to the area of development charges. He criticised what he described as the disgraceful scaremongering that went on in the lead up to the adoption of the new levy. "The first figure of €11,700 proposed was never going to be accepted. A huge number of planning applications were made because of the fears created and many of the plans may not proceed any further."

Cllr. Claran Brogan said that the news emerging from Monday night's meeting was the best message that could be sent to the business community.

Ulster Intermediate Club Series

# Colm bogs Monaghan Champs

St Michaels 2-11 Aghabog (Monaghan) 1-9

St Michaels overcame a strong challenge from Aghabog to win their Semi-Final clash of the Ulster Intermediate Club Championship.

The fire power of Colm McFadden proved to be decisive as

he helped himself to 2-7 and collected the Man of the Match award also. In a tight first half both teams were point for point until Colm scored his first goal after 25 minutes.

A superb long ball from Brian McLaughlin was cleverly flicked

past the Aghabog keeper by Colm despite the close attention of the Monaghan defence. St Michaels held on to their goal advantage to lead 1-5 to 0-5 at half time their scores coming from Colm McFadden (1-3), John Sheridan (0-1) and Pat Stewart (0-1).

The second half started well for the Donegal champions with Don Johnston, Brian McLaughlin and Christy Toye getting the upper hand in midfield and the defence coping well with Aghabogs attacks. It looked all over after Colm netted his second goal after a classic move involving Brian McLaughlin and Christy Toye running through the heart of the Aghabogs defence and offloading to McFadden who made no mistake.

This left St Michaels seven points up, but the Monaghan Champions showed their true worth and hit back when their half back Gary McBride popped up on the 21 and finished with style. This lifted the Aghabog side and they scored the next two points to leave just two points in it with ten minutes to go.

A tremendous save by the excellent Claran Gallagher maintained the St Michaels advantage and this proved to be the turning point. Aghabog never scored again and three more

points were quickly added to St Michaels tally and they ran out comfortable winners in the end by 2-11 to 1-9. The second half scores coming from Colm McFadden (1-4), Brian McLaughlin (0-1) and Stephen Coyle (0-1).

The St Michaels full forward was deservedly presented with the Man of the Match award afterwards and other to catch the eye apart from his county colleagues were Don Johnston, John Sheridan, Gerard Gallagher, Michael Gallagher, Eamon McBride, Denis Treaty and Claran Gallagher who added to his growing reputation as one of the best keepers in the county.

They now play the Armagh champions Maghera in the Ulster final, again to be played in Clontibret excellent facilities at a date yet to be decided.

The team was Claran Gallagher, Denis Treaty, Gerard Gallagher, Stephen Black, John Sheridan (0-1), Brendan Kelly, Mickey McFadden, Brian McLaughlin (0-1), Don Johnston, John McClafferty, Christy Toye, Stephen Coyle (0-1), Patrick Stewart (0-1), Colm McFadden (2-7), Michael Gallagher. Subs used; Eamon McBride, Sean Stewart, Danny Langan.



The St. Michaels team who defeated Aghabog from Monaghan in the Ulster Intermediate Club semi final in Monaghan on Saturday.

20 years ago :: 20 years ago :: 20 years ago :: 20 years ago :: 20 years ago

20 years ago :: 20 years ago :: 20 years ago :: 20 years ago :: 20 years ago

# Mental Health Nursing Director retires

A farewell event to mark the retirement of John McCardle from the Mental Health Nursing Service took place recently at the St. Conal's Hospital Campus.

**Report and Photos by Declan Kerr**

John who had been the Donegal Director of Nursing for the past eight years started his career in the Tyrone & Fermanagh Hospital over 40 years. It wasn't his top career choice at the time and he would have been just as happy on the family farm in Claudy. But his aunt persuaded him to fill in a student nurse application form that resulted in him taking up a training post at the hospital in Omagh.

And as they say, the rest is history as John committed to a career in nursing and took a big interest in pursuing extra educational opportunities that presented themselves along the way. Liam

Donnelly was the MC on Thursday and among the speakers at the farewell event included Area Clinical Director Dr Vidis, Anne Drake LUH Head of Nursing, Rosemary Hannigan Donegal Mental Health Business Manager, Leo Kinsella Head of Services CHO1, Tommy McGrory and Patrick Glackin (Nursing & Midwifery).

Damian McCrory who is taking over as Director of Nursing on an interim basis spoke about John McCardle's career from staff nurse to tutor, a PhD programme to becoming a Director of Nursing. Having worked in the UK, Dublin and Wicklow, John moved to Donegal in 2002 to take up a post as a Clinical Nurse Manager 3 in the Acute Psychiatric Unit at Letterkenny University Hospital. That was followed by promotion to Assistant Director of Community Nursing for the Letterkenny Area.



John McCardle with members of the Donegal Mental Health Nursing Services management team. At back from left - Mairead Farren, Bernie O'Neill, Margaret Blockley, Mags Kerlin, Cora Harvey, Jonathon Scanlon, Charlotte Coyle and Anne Marie Hannigan. Front - Ciara Kavanagh, Damien McCrory, John McCardle and Liam Donnelly

As he was departing the service John McCardle it would be important that staff continued to back

new service developments. "In Donegal we are good at that. There is a quality staff who give as good a service as anywhere and we all should be proud of that. When I started in nursing I got a good training at the T&F in Omagh. Back then it was a hospital with big walls around it. When I went to London you could see the changes moving away from the institution to the community. There were Acute Units being opened there. I was encouraged to go and do courses and I took those opportunities."

John spoke about the significant changes in the Donegal Mental Health Services since he arrived in 2002. Those changes he said were embraced by the staff with little industrial relations issues. "That's a credit also to all the

management teams involved. Change keeps rolling over and it is all good for Donegal" he said. Among some of the recent developments that John is very proud of is the Health Exercise Programme for Mental Health which won the Donegal team involved an Excellence Award in 2019. The local work done on Wellness Cafes was also acknowledged with an award last year. John thanked all the teams that had worked under him but he had a special mention for the administration staff whom he said often

don't get the credit they deserve for their behind the scenes work. In particular he thanked Marie Sweeney and Anne McNamee who is retiring later this month. In the short term at least John will be kept busy on the family farm in Claudy with the lambing season started. His wife Vera is a senior nurse manager at the LUH Emergency Department. The couple have two daughters Aoife and Maria who is a qualified mental health nurse and is now in general nurse training in Belfast.



John with his wife Vera and daughters Aoife and Maria.



John with Rosaleen Gallagher and Jemme McLoone.



Marie Sweeney, Tommy McGrory, Anne McNamee and Nancy McNamee.



Pauline Ackerman General Manager Mental Health CHO1, Dr Vidis Clinical Director Donegal Mental Health Services and Rosemary Hannigan Business Manager Donegal Mental Health Services with John McCardle.



Eugene Duffy, Mairead Mangan, Maureen Doohan, Sarah Toye, Martina Carr and Sinead McCorkell.



John McCardle with Addiction Service staff Andrea McGarvey, Louise Foy, Cora Harvey and Keane Ryan





Bhí páistí ó Scoil Cholmcille, an Tearmann páirteach i bhFeis Loreto Leitir Ceanainn le déanaí. Comhghairdeas leis na buaiteoirí uilig! Maith sibh!



# Downings St. Patrick's Day Parade



Representative of Downings St. Patrick's Day Parade, Mrs. Mary Ann Downings, and Mrs. Mary Ann Downings.



# Mariners host Dunlewey Celtic

The Ramelton Mariners will aim to keep their promotion and Division 2 titles hopes on track with a victory over fellow contenders Dunlewey Celtic on Saturday afternoon (kick-off 1.00). The game takes place at the Mariners designated home pitch, the Flaggpole in Rathmullan. The Ramelton outfit are four points in front of Dunlewey who are third in the table but have a game more played. Swilly Rovers who are second in the table host Drumoghil F. C. on Saturday. Swilly are three points behind their town neighbours. In Division 3 on Saturday, newly crowned champions Letterkenny Rovers have home advantage against Fanad Utd. On Sunday in the Premier Division Kilmacrennan Celtic and Rathmullan Celtic both have home games against Kildrum Tigers and Castlefin Celtic respectively. In Division 1 Letterkenny Rovers will continue their quest for league title and promotion on home turf against Letterbarrow Celtic. Bonagee Utd will be aiming to stay on course for promotion in an away fixture against Cranford Utd.

## Temple Domestic Appliances Division One

### McMonagle nets four for Rovers

Letterkenny Rovers 7-0 Lagan Harps  
Lee McMonagle scored four first half goals as Letterkenny Rovers cruised to a 7-0 victory over Lagan Harps at Leckview Astro on Wednesday night. The win moves Rovers top of the Division

One table above Donegal Town and Bonagee United on goal difference, but with fewer games played than their title rivals.

The home side opened the scoring on ten minutes when Mc Monagle latched onto a precise through ball from Gareth Doherty and drilled his shot past Kai Brown in the Lagan goal. McMonagle made it 2-0 five minutes later with another clinical finish before he completed his hat-trick just short of the half hour mark after combining with Joel Gorman. The in-form striker added a fourth before the break when he spun his defender on the edge of the box to fire past Brown and cap an emphatic first half display. To their credit, Lagan continued to battle hard but Rovers extended their lead on 65 minutes when Nathan Plumb ran through on goal before applying a neat finish. On 82 minutes, Plumb was fouled inside the box and Zach Gorman made no mistake from the penalty spot to make it 5-0 before Gorman rounded off the victory with the goal of the game smashing home an effort from long range.

Referee: Stephen Laird.

## Glencar Inn Saturday Division One

Kilmacrennan Cel Res 0-1 Arranmore Utd  
Kilmacrennan Celtic - Emmet Maguire, Owen Browne, Mark Gallagher, Eddie Doherty, Reuben Grimes, Oran Gallagher, Michael McLaughlin, Eoghan Quinn, Oisín Harkin, Mikey McDonnell, Toby Taylor. Subs Sam Harvey, Cian McCabe, Ciaran Conaghan, Niall O'Regan, John Sandilands

Saturday 16th March

## Brian McCormick Sports Premier Division

### Black on the double for Kilmac

Kilmacrennan Cel 3-1 Rathmullan Cel

This game was switched to Saturday night at Letterkenny Community Centre under perfect conditions and both teams played some great entertaining football and created lots of chances. Kilmacrennan took the lead on 25 minutes when Sam Harvey beat the defender wide on the right and whipped in a great ball to the intruding Conor Black who calmly tucked the ball away into the bottom of the Rathmullan net.

Conor Black scored a penalty on 37 minutes after a Rathmullan handball. Rathmullan got one back on 44 minutes through Charlie McAteer. There were plenty of chances in the second half for both teams and the Kilmacrennan back-four with excellent work from Paul Bradley and Terence Shields. On 75 minutes Chris Flanagan scored a header at the back post from a superb ball from the excellent Caolan Curran wide on the right. Kilmacrennan played some great football especially Paul Johnson who ran the Rathmullan defence ragged all evening and Gerard Mc Granaghan as well. Team effort from Rathmullan. Referee: Paddy Martin  
Kilmacrennan Celtic - Kilmacrennan Celtic - Niall O'Regan, Terence Shields, James Doherty, Chris Flanagan, John Sandilands, Gerard McGranaghan, Caolan Curran, Sam Harvey, Paul Bradley, Conor Black, Paul Johnston. Subs used: Owen Browne, Ethan Doherty, Mark Gallagher, Oran Gallagher, Ciaran McCormick.

Rathmullan Celtic - Shea McBride-Friel, Conal McGonagle, Kevin O'Donnell, Kieran Gorman, Peter Curran, Alan Boal, Gareth Temple, Eoin Sheridan, Mark McAteer, Charlie McAteer, Conor Temple. Subs: Dara Patton for Gareth Temple 65 mins, Oisín McMenamin for Sheridan 70 mins, Matt McNulty for Boal 80mins.

## Glencar Inn Saturday Division One

### Doherty hits hat-trick

Oldtown Celtic 7-1 St. Catherines Res

The game started slowly before Micheal Doherty opened the scoring after beating two men and firing home from the edge of the box. He doubled his tally five minutes later with a flicked header from

a corner. Oldtown added a third inside the first 25 minutes when Anthony Browne fired home from inside the area. Mick Howe then hit arguably the goal of the season with a volley from inside the area with his back to goal. Doherty completed his hat-trick before the break, firing in a rebound from a Kevin McGrath strike. 5-0 at the break. The conditions got worse in the second half but Kevin McGrath fired home from close range from a Tommy McLaughlin cross. St. Catherines then got on the scoresheet with a well worked move that ended in Josh Cunningham chipping the keeper. Oldtown added the final goal of the game when Tommy McLaughlin fired home from the edge of the area after being put through by McGrath. Referee: Sean Ferry.

## Brian McCormick Sports Premier Division

### Understrength Swilly lose in Gweedore

Gweedore Cel 3-1 Swilly Rovers

Gweedore moved out of the bottom two courtesy of this victory over Swilly. Swilly were first to threaten with Shane McNamee and Laurence Toland causing the home defence problems with their runs and movement. Micheal McKelvey denied McNamee from a free kick and then saved the follow up from Tyler Durning. At the other end, Jamie Doherty saw his fiercely struck effort sail over the crossbar with only the

## Fixtures

|                            |                    |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Friday 22nd March          |                    |
| Saturday Division 1 8.15pm |                    |
| Kilmacrennan Cel Res       | v Kildrum Tigers   |
| Saturday 23rd March        |                    |
| Saturday Div 1 1pm         |                    |
| Donegal Town               | v Glenea Utd       |
| Fintown Harps              | v Cappry Rovers    |
| St. Catherines Res.        | v Arranmore Utd    |
| Strand Rovers              | v Glencar Celtic   |
| Saturday Division 2 1pm    |                    |
| Castlefin Cel              | v Milford Utd      |
| Cranford Res               | v Drumbar Utd      |
| Gweedore Cel               | v Ballybofey Utd   |
| Ramelton Mariners          | v Dunlewey Cel     |
| Swilly Rovers              | v Drumoghil Res    |
| Saturday Div 3 1pm         |                    |
| Bonagee Utd                | v Gweedore Utd     |
| Drumkeen Utd               | v Erne Wanderers   |
| Letterkenny Rovers         | v Fanad Utd        |
| Sunday 24th March          |                    |
| Premier Div 1pm            |                    |
| Keadue Rovers              | v Gweedore Cel     |
| Kilmacrennan Cel           | v Kildrum Tigers   |
| Rathmullan Cel             | v Castlefin Cel    |
| Division 1 1pm             |                    |
| Cranford FC                | v Bonagee Utd      |
| Gweedore Utd               | v Convo Arsenal    |
| Letterkenny Rovers         | v Letterbarrow Cel |
| Ulster Shield 1.30pm       |                    |
| Cockhill Cel               | v Oldtown Cel      |

## Results

|                                         |                    |
|-----------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Wednesday 13th March                    |                    |
| Temple Domestic Appliances Division One |                    |
| Letterkenny Rovers 7-0                  | Lagan Harps        |
| Friday 15th March                       |                    |
| Glencar Inn Saturday Division One       |                    |
| Cappry Rovers Res 0-7                   | Keadue Rovers Res  |
| Kilmacrennan Cel Res 0-1                | Arranmore Utd      |
| Saturday 16th March                     |                    |
| Brian McCormick Sports Premier Division |                    |
| Castlefin Celtic 1-2                    | Keadue Rovers      |
| Kilmacrennan Cel 3-1                    | Rathmullan Celtic  |
| Donegal Physiotherapy Division Two      |                    |
| Raphoe Town 2-1                         | Deele Harps        |
| Glencar Inn Saturday Division One       |                    |
| Kildrum Tigers Res 5-0                  | Fintown Harps      |
| Oldtown Celtic 7-1                      | St. Catherines Res |
| Old Orchard Saturday Division Two       |                    |
| Copany Rovers 3-0                       | Ballybofey Utd Res |
| Finn Travel Saturday Division Three     |                    |
| Letterkenny Rovers Res 7-1              | Lagan Harps Res    |
| Sunday 17th March                       |                    |
| Brian McCormick Sports Premier Division |                    |
| Gweedore Celtic 3-1                     | Swilly Rovers      |
| Temple Domestic Appliances Division One |                    |
| Cappry Rovers 2-1                       | Donegal Utd        |
| Letterkenny Rovers 6-1                  | Gweedore Utd       |



Oscar Traynor Cup semi-final

## Donegal to face Waterford on Easter Sunday

The Donegal Junior League's Oscar Traynor Cup semi-final tie against Waterford will take place on Easter Sunday in Athlone. The other semi-final sees the Sligo-Leitrim League take on Mayo. New manager John Francis Doogan has had a super season in charge so far with victories over the Inishowen League twice and then a fortnight ago Donegal defeated the Leinster Senior League.

The Oscar Traynor Cup has only ever been won once by the Donegal Junior League and that was in 1983 when Richie Kelly was the manager.

The Inishowen League has also lifted the title once.

## Finn Travel Saturday Division Three

# Rovers are Division 3 champions

Letterkenny Rovers Res 7-1 Lagan Harps Res



Letterkenny Rovers who were crowned the first ever champions of the Division 3 Saturday League after a 7-1 home victory over Lagan Harps at the weekend.

In a highly-anticipated clash in the Finn Travel Saturday Division Three, Letterkenny Rovers faced off against Lagan Harps with the league title on the line. The conditions were challenging, with the cold and wet weather adding an extra element to the game. The match kicked off with both teams showing early intent. In the 3rd minute, Jordan Nugent of Letterkenny Rovers had an opportunity but missed wide to the right. However, Lagan Harps quickly countered, with Jack McConnell finding the back of the net on the 7th minute against the run of play, giving Lagan the lead. Letterkenny Rovers responded swiftly, with Adam Murphy levelling the score with a superb shot from 30 yards out in the 9th minute. The momentum shifted

in Rovers' favour, as Conor O'Donnell scored twice in quick succession in the 20th minute and shortly after, extending Rovers' lead to 3-1. Throughout the first half, Rovers dominated possession and created numerous scoring opportunities, putting Lagan's goalkeeper, Kai Brown, under constant pressure. Despite Lagan's efforts, Rovers' defence, led by captain James 'Barlow' Gallagher, remained solid, limiting Lagan's chances. As the rain intensified in the second half, Letterkenny Rovers continued to assert their dominance. Nugent added to Rovers' tally in the 52nd minute, followed by Gallagher's header in the 65th minute, extending the lead to 5-1. Despite Lagan's resilience, Rovers continued to pile on the pressure, with Oran

Winston adding to the scoreline on the 82nd minute, making it 6-1 in favour of Rovers. Lagan had a chance to pull one back with a good effort from Eoin O'Connor on the 85th minute only to be denied by Margey who had a relatively quiet second half. However, it was Rovers' day as substitute Dultach McGroarty sealed the victory with a stunning goal from 35 yards out, securing a convincing 7-1 win for Letterkenny Rovers. With the final whistle, Letterkenny Rovers celebrated a well-deserved victory, clinching the Finn Travel Saturday Division Three Title. Congratulations to the players and management on a successful league campaign.

Referee: Con McLaughlin



Junior and Senior infants in Scoil Eoin Baiste, Carrigart were treated to a visit from Barney McDaid from Barney & the Circle and Eunan Gallagher last week. The school have begun a project developing community links and class teacher Tina McLaughlin invited her father Barney and Eunan Gallagher visit his granddaughter Caolagh's classroom.



### Job Advertisement – Project Administrator



**Overall purpose of the position:** To support the voluntary Board of Directors, staff and community leaders to follow through the aims, objectives and actions of Mevagh Family Resource Centre in response to the needs of children and families.

The Project Administrator will control and monitor the overall financial expenditure of the project and organise the administration of its service. The Project Administrator will report to the Project Manager. The post is 35 hours per week.

**The successful candidate will have:**

- At least three years proven work experience in a financial and administrative role.
- A recognised relevant qualification in accounts.
- An in-depth knowledge and experience of working with Sage Accounting software, within the last two years.
- Experience of budgeting, financial record keeping and compiling financial reports.
- Experience of computerised payroll systems and reporting to Revenue.
- Experience in end of year procedures and preparations for yearly audit.
- Wide knowledge of computer programmes and applications.
- Strong secretarial skills and experience of working in an administrative capacity.
- Knowledge of Social Media management.
- Excellent reception skills and experience of dealing with the public.
- Good interpersonal skills, be able to operate flexibly and work within a team environment.
- Good time management and organisation skills.
- Ability to always maintain data confidentiality.

Salary, commensurate with qualifications and experience, will be from €34,133 to €36,141.

For job description and application form please email: [nfrrecruitment@gmail.com](mailto:nfrrecruitment@gmail.com) Shortlisting criteria will apply. Closing date for receipt of applications is: **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March at 12noon.** Applications will only be accepted on the official application form. **C.V.s will not be accepted**

Mevagh FRC is an equal opportunities employer.  
This position is funded by TUSLA Child and Family Agency



## Hunter Cup at Ramelton Bowling Club



Congratulations to our A Team on winning their section of the Donegal League with 10 points over the runners up St. Eugenes A, Raphoe. The B Team player for the Hunter Memorial Cup on Wednesday the 13th of March with fourteen members taking part in a very enjoyable nights bowling. It came down to the two finalists Tony Griffin and Malcolm Baird in a very tight game

with Malcolm getting two points in the last end winning the cup by 7-6. Andrew Hunter presented Malcolm with the Cup above and below runner up Tony Griffin. Our annual triples tournament for the David Irwin Cup and Prizes takes place from Monday the 1st to Thursday the 4th of April. Entries for Lee on 086 4493737 or Malcolm 087 4016637.



Children from St Mary's Parish Ramelton who recently made their Confirmations.



# Coffee Morning in Carrigart

A Coffee Morning will be held in Mevagh Parochial Hall, Carrigart on Sunday 24th March from 12noon - 3pm with all proceeds in aid of Mevagh Parochial Hall. Tickets are on sale for the annual Draw at €5 each or 3 for €10. Draw will take place on the day. Prizes are 1st Prize - €100 Hamper; 2nd Prize - Wine & Cheese Hamper Sponsored by Centra Carrigart; 3rd Prize - €50 Meal Voucher Sponsored by Logues of Cranford; 4th Prize - €50 Meal Voucher Sponsored by Carrigart Hotel.

## Good as New Sale in Carrigart

The annual Good as New Sale in aid of Holy Trinity Church will be held Hay Hall on Saturday 30th March and Monday 1st April from 11am - 5pm each day. All welcome.

## Carrigart Boxing Tournament

The Carrigart Boxing Club stage their annual boxing tournament on Thursday, the 28th of March Holy Thursday at the Downings GAA Centre with 14 quality contest down for decision and some top quality young guns exhibition bouts as well. As usual this is a night not to be missed with carrigart ABC big hitters vs strong Ulster Select. Admission €8 and children €5 with

**CARRIGART BOXING CLUB**  
Presents  
**CARRIGART VS DONEGAL SELECT**  
THURSDAY 28TH MARCH 2024  
DOWNINGS GAA CENTRE  
FIRST BOUT 8PM  
Admission: Adults €8 Children Under 16 €5

first Bell 8pm.

## Mevagh Family Resource Centre

Áras Ros Goill, Downings  
Call: 074 9155055 or text 087 9228944  
Email: info@mevaghfrc.com.  
Check out our Facebook Page - Mevagh FRC or Website - www.mevaghfrc.com

**Project Administrator** - Mevagh FRC is seeking to recruit a Project Administrator who will be responsible for controlling and monitoring the overall financial expenditure of the project and organise the administration of its service. The post is 35 hours per week. For job description and application form please email: mfrcrecruitment@gmail.com Short-listing criteria will apply. Closing date for receipt of applications is: Friday 29th March at 12noon. Applications will only be accepted on the official application form. C.V.s will not be accepted.

**Downings Wellness Café** - continues on Wednesday 27 March from 10:30am to 12:00pm in The Galley, Downings. Come along and enjoy a cuppa and a chat. Everyone welcome.

**Mum & Baby Yoga/Pilates** - commencing Monday 8th April, 10am to 11am, this course will run for 5 weeks and is FREE. Suitable for babies from 6 weeks to pre-walking. Call the centre on 074 9155055 or email info@mevaghfrc.com.

**Mevagh Gardening Group** - a few plots are available at our Community Garden at Magherabeg, Downings.

Consists of one bed inside polytunnel & one raised bed outside. Reasonable annual fee applies. If interested in joining our group please contact Pauline at Centre.

**TÚS Community Employment Scheme (19½ hrs) Administrative Assistant** - A vacancy exists at Mevagh FRC for an Administrative Assistant. Experience an advantage. Candidates must be in receipt of Jobseekers Allowance for at least one year. To confirm eligibility or for further details, contact Áine Uí Rabhartaigh on 087 2366912 or email a.uirabhartaigh@udaras.ie

**Busy Bees Parent & Toddler Group** - meet every Friday from 10:00am-12:00pm. Play with new toys, meet other parents, have fun. Refreshments provided. €3 per family.

**Do you need support on how to use your smart phone, tablet or laptop?** Donegal ETB are offering free one-to-one support for individuals on Tuesday afternoons from 2pm to 4pm. Contact the centre on 074 9155055 for more information or to secure an appointment.

**Other Notes:**  
**Rise Yoga with Fiona** is ongoing at Mevagh FRC. Chair Yoga - Mondays at 10.30am, Yin Yoga - Mondays at 11:45am, Men's Mobility & Stretch - Wednesdays at 6pm. Contact Fiona directly to book your place. Tel: 0851569424 or Email: risehealthhub@gmail.com

**Yoga Kindly with Brigitte** continues on a Saturday morning at 9:45am in the Resource Centre. Contact Brigitte on 087 0653333 for more information.

# Termon Cleanup Weekend

The Termon Cleanup Group has organised its annual cleanup for the Easter weekend. As most of the roads around Termon all lead to scenic and beautiful parts of North Donegal it's important that a good image is created for the tourists that frequent and pass through the area.

Roads like Lough Salt, Doonwell, the N56 to Creeslough and Glenveagh are very busy with visitor traffic in the summer and as such

it's imperative that we present a clean image. It's expected that all previous volunteers will assist again as they did last year. Some bags may be had in Gracies Stores or Sweeney's shop, but feel free to use coal bags or the 40kg fertiliser sacks if refuse sacks are not available. Collection will take place on Easter Monday evening at 6pm. It's important to exercise safety with the wearing of yellow jackets/bibs and safety gloves.

# Mowi & Fanad Active Group 5k



Declan McBride and Liam Doherty, Cranford AC who finished 2nd and 3rd in the Mowi and Fanad Active Group 5k on Saturday with Catherine McManus of Mowi, Eimer Friel, Seachtain na Gaeilge Fanad and Marie McAteer, Fanad Active Group. The proceeds on the day were matched by Mowi and will go to the Tamney Health Centre Comfort Fund.



Christine Scott, Teresa Doherty and SallyAnne Talbot and below some of the younger runners who took part in the 5k.



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**Kilmacrennan Clean Up**  
Kilmacrennan Tidy Towns are holding a pre Easter clean up on this Saturday the 23rd March on the N56 and roads around the village. A good turnout would be appreciated. Meet at the Old School at 10am. Pickers bags vests and gloves provided.



**Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall**  
Donegal County Council

## COMÓRTAIS EARCAÍOCHTA

Tá Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall ar lorg iarratas ó iarratasóirí cáilithe do na poist seo a leanas:

- Bainisteoir Cúnta Droichid (Innealtóir Feidhmiúcháin - Taisteal Gníomhach) Réigiún Thiar Thuaidh
- Innealtóir Feidhmiúcháin - Clár Réigiúnach Glasbhealaí TII
- Oifigeach Teagmhála Talaimh

Tá sé beartaithe ag an Chomhairle painéal d'iarratasóirí cáilithe a chruthú óna líonfar folúntais de réir mar a thiocfaidh siad aníos.

Is é an dáta deiridh fá choinne foirmeacha iarratais comhlánaithe a bheith linn ná 12 meán lae: **Dé Luain, 8 Aibreán 2024.**

Tá Foirmeacha Iarratais agus Tuilleadh Eolais ar fáil ag [www.donegalcoco.ie](http://www.donegalcoco.ie)

Ní ghlacfar le hiarratais a gheofar mall.

Is fostóir comhionannas deiseanna í Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall.

## RECRUITMENT COMPETITIONS

Donegal County Council is seeking applications from qualified candidates for the following positions:

- Assistant Bridge Manager (Executive Engineer - Active travel) North West Region
- Executive Engineer - TII Regional Greenway Programme
- Land Liaison Officer

The Council proposes to form a panel of qualified candidates from which it will fill vacancies as they arise.

The closing date for receipt of completed application forms is 12 noon on: **Monday, 8th April 2024.**

Application Forms and Further Details are available at [www.donegalcoco.ie](http://www.donegalcoco.ie)

No late applications will be accepted.

Donegal County Council is an Equal Opportunities Employer.



Patrick Shiels and Jim Callaghan and below, Sean Meenan and John McFadden who took part in the 5k.



# Kerrykeel Parade



Luke Kingston leading the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Kerrykeel with his dad Tony.



# Donegal launch for 'Destination Gibbstown'

On Friday evening at seven o'clock the Fanad Community Centre will see the Donegal launch of a precious piece of our native history that revisits a government decision in 1934 to create Gaelic speaking colonies in Meath.

This is billed as 'a homecoming' for the Gibbstown migrants, their families and friends and they're assured to traditional welcome home.

The Gibbstown legacy is now 87 years old and it is the focus of a new book 'Destination Gibbstown'. This is a precious record for posterity that chronicles the migration of Irish speaking families from four counties on the western seaboard to create Gaeltacht colonies far from home.

'Destination Gibbstown' is a precious work that records that era. Fanad and Gweedore are amongst the parishes that recall their families migrating in 1937.

The book speaks to Donegal's Gaeltacht community and their social history in a time when Irish was the spoken language. It profiles their place in history, their customs, the richness of their traditions, their poetry, the superstitions, the home made cures and the folk cures. It also captures aspects of the townlands the migrants once called home.

It was a social experiment by the Government to ease congestion in many of the country's small holdings and to relocate them to the rich and fertile lands of county Meath.

Fourteen families from Fanad and four from Gweedore were among those who left home for a new life on Good Friday.



March 26th 1937. The villages of Rath Chetra and Bala Gibb at the hub of the experiment are fifteen miles apart and lie close to Navan; this area represents 1% of the Gaeltacht land in the country.

In the 1930s the Irish Land Commission undertook a remarkable social engineering project in Meath where several large farms were acquired and tiny patches of the poorest land in the west of Ireland were exchanged for twenty-two acres of the best in one of Ireland's most fertile soils.

The government's objectives were to reduce congestion on the western seaboard, and to create Irish-speaking colonies with the hope to grow the native language to many other parts of the country... at best.

It was an ambitious project that would have needed much nurturing and development.

Their lives beyond their native parish took on an entirely new dimension. And far due to the small group from Bala Gibb for their dedication, research and publication of this book because with every passing year the memory dims and family contacts are no longer there for research and place names from the old townlands are lost in the mists of time.

'Destination Gibbstown' is due in no small measure to the many years of planning and hard work by a small number of people: sisters, Máire and Eilín Nic-an tSáigh, Máire Uí Chasaide, Máire Ní Sháinleá and Anni Mac Garraídh, all children of the first migrants, as well as another local resident, Máire Ní Chonchúir. In particular, Máire Ní Sháinleá spent much time researching the Donegal links with Gibbstown and she brings alive the family names, the faces and the legacy they left behind in Donegal.

And for eighteen Fanad and Gweedore families, they were given a house, 22.75 acres of land along with turbary rights three miles distant. However, not all of the Gaeltacht families remained in Meath while others emigrated to England.

And so on Good Friday morning 1937, they left home: many cried tears of anguish and fear of the unknown as their buses set off in the early morning. However they also saw it as a challenge to begin a new life, far from family and friends and far from the wind swept shores of Malvey

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### Portsalon Dawn Service

There will be a Dawn Service on Portsalon Beach on Easter Sunday morning, 7th March at 7am (meeting at the car park). Refreshments will be served afterwards. All are welcome.



Anna Peoples, Fanad pictured on her birthday at the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Kerrykeel with Anthony Sheridan.

### Coffee Morning

A fundraising Coffee Morning will be held in the Rosnaskill Community Hub on Sunday the 7th of April from 10am to 1pm. Dr. Margaret Gilligan and Maria Howard are travelling to Zambia for two weeks in April. They are asking for donations to improve the infrastructure, healthcare and education systems for the orphanage they are visiting.

### Easter Saturday Fundraiser in aid of Tansy Patients Comfort Fund

On Saturday 30th March the first event is a walk around the Colucille Trail leaving Portsalon Car-park at 10am. There are three loops within the trail of 3, 5 or 8km and you can choose which best suits you. Following the walk there will be a dip at Portsalon Pier at 12 noon.

Donations to the Comfort Fund, which provides much help to our community, are welcome for participation in these events.

At 7pm there will be a Family Quiz Time in the

## HOUSE TO RENT

Fanad Area

Contact 087 458 2937

Stores Bar and entry fee is €5 per person or €20 per family. A fun morning and evening in Portsalon is promised and all while helping a very worthy cause.

### Bake Day

Swiftly Malvey Credit Union are holding The Great Irish Bake for the Children's Health Foundation at their offices in Kerrykeel this Friday the 22nd of March from 10am to 2pm.

All proceeds go to help provide extraordinary care and transformative treatments for sick children in Children's Health Foundation hospitals at Crumlin, Temple Street, Tallaght and Connolly. You are invited to drop into the office anytime on Friday and make a donation to the charity. Fanad SVP

If you are experiencing difficulty the local branch of the St. Vincent de Paul Society is willing to help. If in need, contact the Society on 0877005752 regarding any financial problem. All matters dealt with in confidence.

### Rosnaskill Community Hub

Following courses will commence after Easter break ( pending bookings).

Digital Photography with Shaun Egan, Tues 6th of April. 7- 9pm.

Bookkeeping with Paul Doherty, Wed 10th of April. 7.30- 9.30pm.

Cake decorating with Orla Cloughley, Thurs 11th of April. 7- 9pm. All courses are 8 weeks and cost

€60. These courses have been part funded by Donegal ETB. To book phone : 0894675723 or DM Facebook page.

### Kerrykeel 71 Cards

Kerrykeel 71 FC Cards continues in the Village Inn, Kerrykeel every Monday at 7.30pm. Cards in Glenvar

Cards continue in the Old School Glenvar every Thursday at 7pm. All welcome. Beginners welcome.

### Crochet and Needlework

Crochet and Needlework classes continue in the Old School Community Centre Kerrykeel on Wednesday evenings from 8-10pm. These classes are partly funded by ETB. For further information contact Kathleen 086 3486684.

Grinds den Ghreidje Cards available for all



The 5th class children from Scoil Cholmílle, Kerrykeel who held a table sale in the school raising €1,050.00 for Unicef Ireland.

## Eamonn Scott Funeral Directors

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### Are looking for Staff for the 2024 Season

*Interviews will be held  
in the coming weeks.*

Please Send CV by email to  
[info@knockallacaravanpark.com](mailto:info@knockallacaravanpark.com)  
or call 086 8326060

## Leave No Trace workshops in Fanad

Fanad has been chosen as one of only two workshop locations in Donegal for coastal experts from the University of Galway and Leave No Trace to explain the potential local impact of climate change on our beaches and coast and what we can do to limit the damage. The Fanad workshop dates are April 6th (theory) and June 6th (practical). For further information see the Fanad Coastal Group Facebook page or the organiser Dr Noel Doyle 01 9059009. If you wish to attend please email [Noel@leavenotraceireland.org](mailto:Noel@leavenotraceireland.org).

## Planning granted for Portsalon chalet resort work

Planning permission has been granted for build and refurbishment work at a Portsalon chalet complex. Conditional planning permission has been granted to John O'Donnell for the erection and refurbishing of extension to all existing chalets and leaseholds, and construction of new private outdoor facilities and store with all other associated site development works at The Pier Holiday Chalets, Croaghross, Portsalon.

levels of students. Group rates available. Contact 086 357 8503 for more information.

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Tel: 087 6563841  
Email: [brad@vobtownfanad.ie](mailto:brad@vobtownfanad.ie)

## Permission granted for Downings guesthouse

Planning permission has been granted for the construction of a new 14 bedroom guest house in Crocknamurleog, Downings.

Conditional planning permission was granted by Donegal

County Council to Roundhill Properties Limited for the development.

It allows for the construction of a 14 bedroom guesthouse including ancillary facilities, the provision of an on site sewage

treatment plant to pretreat the sewage of existing four apartments, a dwelling on the site and proposed new development with discharge of treated effluent to public sewer and other ancillary works.

## Former dining room to become accommodation

Planning permission has been granted to allow a former restaurant dining room to be redeveloped into an apartment.

Conditional planning permission was granted to Denis Gorman for the change of use of the exist-

ing vacant dining room of the building, known locally as 'Hill Top' restaurant, to a new apartment living accommodation and connection to existing main public sewer, located at Kilmacrennan.

## Umlagh school road safety concerns highlighted

Ongoing concerns have been raised over road safety at Umlagh National School in Carrigart Sinn Féin Local Election Candidate Maria Doherty said she welcomed Cllr Liam Blaney's Motion to Donegal County Council calling on them to investigate what can be done to make the road safer outside of Umlagh National School in Carrigart. She said Cllr Gerry McMonagle raised a similar motion last year.

She stated: "Again the response has been to refer the school to apply to the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Programme was developed in partnership by the National Transport Authority and Green-Schools, An Taisce, in 2020, as a response to the need to support schools to increase walking and cycling to school.

"However, in terms of this scheme over a quarter of schools in Ireland, 931 schools applied for the original deadline in April 2021, and what they

have said is that due to the overwhelming response it was not possible to progress all schools and a phased approach was developed.

Now, there are no plans for an additional call for schools to join the SRTS programme at this time, because they do not have the resources, and it gets better they direct schools outside the programme to contact their relevant Local Authority.

"This call has been made numerous times to the Council who then refer this back to the Safe Routes to School Programme, yet during this there are serious ongoing concerns for children's safety accessing their national school. Central government and local government passing the buck, this shambles needs to end. The Council now needs to engage with the community and parents to end this charade and put in place safety measures without delay," she concluded.

### Planning Notices

#### Donegal County Council

##### Legnahory, Kilmacrennan, Co. Donegal

We, Enda Hamill & Charmaine Kee are applying to Donegal County Council for Planning Permission for an extension to our existing shed to provide an agricultural storage shed and all ancillary siteworks within the Townland of Legnahory, Kilmacrennan, 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 during its Public Opening Hours at County House, Lifford, Co. Donegal. Submissions or Observations in relation to this development may be made to the Planning Authority in writing, on payment of the prescribed fee, within the period of five weeks beginning on the date of receipt of the Application by the Planning Authority.

#### Donegal County Council

##### Sockar, Treantagh, Letterkenny

We, Liam & Elaine Russell, are applying to Donegal County Council for Planning Permission for a change in House Type and Garage Type from that previously approved under planning application Ref: 22-50777 with connection to a new sewage treatment plant and percolation area, and all associated works and site works located at our site at Sockar, Treantagh, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal in the townland of Sockar. The planning application may be inspected, or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the Planning Office, County House, The Diamond, Lifford, Co Donegal during its public opening hours and that a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

#### Donegal County Council

We, John Kelly & Jan Kvellstad, intend to apply for permission for development at this site 'Crockbane', Umlagh, Carrigart, Co. Donegal. The development will consist of the construction of new single family two storey dwelling house with studio loft; removal of existing shed and decommissioning / removal of existing Septic Tank; plus provision of new Septic Tank and associated Percolation Area. 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

##### Drumany, Letterkenny

I, P.J. Sweeney, on behalf of Archview Lodge Nursing Home, intend to apply for retention planning permission for development at Drumany, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal in the townland of Drumany. The development will consist of retention planning permission for upgraded sewerage treatment system and sand polishing filter and all associated site works. 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 at the County House, Lifford, Co. 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, 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

##### Magheraroarty, Gortahork, Letterkenny

I, Thomas O'Brien, intend to apply to Donegal County Council for planning permission for development works at my property at Magheraroarty, Gortahork, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal, in the townland of Magheraroarty. The proposed development works will consist of the following; 1) Refurbishment of existing dwelling house, to include alterations to existing elevations and roof detail, 2) Demolition of existing domestic garage and previous rear extension to dwelling, 3) Construction of a single storey side extension to above mentioned existing dwelling, 4) All other associated site development works. 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

##### Castleshanaghan, Letterkenny

I, Stewart Johnston intend to apply to Donegal County Council for permission to erect dwelling house with septic tank and convert the existing on site barns into a domestic garage including all other associated site development works at Castleshanaghan, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal in the townland

### In Memoriam



**Deeney**  
John Francis  
Creeve,  
Rathmullan  
7th Anniversary

In loving memory of a dear brother and uncle who died on the 27th March 2017.

*There's always something missing no matter what we do*  
*A constant sadness in our hearts, what's missing John is you*  
*And think of how you died, to think you could not say goodbye, before you closed your eyes*  
*Your presence we miss, your memory we treasure, loving you always and forgetting you never.*

Always remembered and sadly missed by your loving sister Ann, brother-in-law Neily, nephews and nieces Paul, Marie, Sharon, Conor, James and Philip.

*We never said goodbye John perhaps its just as well*  
*For we could never say goodbye to the brother we love so well*  
*In silence we remember we made no outwards show*  
*But what it meant to lose you John no one will ever know*  
*Will those who think of John today, a little prayer to Jesus say.*

Always loved and remembered by your brother James, sister-in-law Kathleen and niece Aisling.

*A thoughtful smile as I think of you*  
*A prayer before I sleep*  
*Always a place within my heart*  
*Where my memories of you I keep.*

Always remembered and sadly missed by Bernie.

Also remembering his dear mother Margaret, father Eddie and nephew baby Craig, RIP

**Anniversary Mass will be celebrated St. Catherine's Church, Oughterlin on Sunday 24th March at 11.00am.**

of Castleshanaghan. 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.



**McElwaine**  
Peggy  
Rimmore,  
Ballylar, Fanad  
1st Anniversary

In loving memory of our dear mother Peggy who died on 24th March 2023.

*Quietly today your memory is kept*  
*No need for words, we will never forget*  
*As thoughts go back, as they often do*  
*We treasure the memories we have of you.*

Always loved and remembered by all your family.

**Anniversary Mass will be held in St. Mary's Church, Fanavolty on Sunday 24th March at 11am.**



**Whoriskey**  
Maryellen  
Milford Road,  
Ramelton  
1st Anniversary

In loving memory of our dear friend Maryellen.

*We still can't believe you're gone*  
*The world seems a bit emptier without your infectious laughter and your incredible kindness*  
*We feel so blessed to have called you our friend and we are forever grateful for the precious time we spent together.*

Sadly missed Rose and Laurence.

lic 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

##### Rareragh, Newmills, Letterkenny

I, John McMonagle am applying to Donegal County Council for permission to erect a dwelling house with septic tank and domestic garage with all other associated site development works including making use of already construct-

### Acknowledgement

#### Ward Joan



We, the family of the late Joan Ward, wish to express our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who sympathised with us on our recent and sad loss. Sincere thanks to everyone who attended the wake and funeral, especially those who travelled long distances

to pay their respects. Sincere thanks to all those who sent flowers, Mass cards, sympathy cards, online condolences and to those who donated to the Donegal Hospice.

We appreciate the kindness and generosity of our neighbours, friends and extended family who provided food and helped during the wake. Many thanks to the business community for their kind contributions.

Thanks to the wonderful staff of Donegal Hospice for the loving care that they bestowed on our sister, Joan, during her final days. We thank the staff of Carrigart Health Centre and Carrigart Pharmacy for their help and empathy. We are grateful to the doctors and nurses of both L.U.H and St. James's Hospital and to all the Ambulance personnel who attended our sister.

Thanks to the Choir of St. John the Baptist Church for their rendition of beautiful funeral music, to the Hospitality Committee of the Parochial Hall for refreshments and to Mevagh Coastguard for their efficient traffic management throughout.

We are grateful to all the clergy who attended Joan during her illness, including Monsignor Eamon McLoughlin, Fr. Francis Ferry, Fr. Shane Gallagher, Fr. Briody, Fr. Dinny McGettigan, Fr. Michael O' Kelly and Fr. Pat McHugh. Thanks to Bishop Philip Boyce, Fr. Pat Davis and Fr. John Joe Duffy for their help and support during the wake and funeral.

Thanks to the Bell Ringer and to Seamus Gallagher, Funeral Director for the professional and dignified manner in which he conducted the funeral arrangements.

**Joan's Month Mind's Mass will be held on Monday, 1st April at 10am in St. John the Baptist Church, Carrigart.**

*The Holy Sacrament of the Mass will be offered for your intentions.*

## dmi

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COMPETITIVE RATES ON ALL SERVICES

ed base previously granted under Ref: 01/6474 at Rareragh, Newmills, Letterkenny, County Donegal in the townland of Rareragh. 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

##### Fycorranagh, Letterkenny

I, Jason Hegarty am applying to Donegal County Council for permission to erect a dwelling house with septic tank and domestic garage including all other associated site development works at Fycorranagh, Letterkenny, County Donegal in the townland of Fycorranagh. 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.

## PATRICK J. MARTIN

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**In Memoriam**

**Coyle**

Carnagore, Carrigart



Treasured memories of a precious Mum and Dad, Peggy who died on 21st March 2015 and John (Hannah) who died on 30th March 1994.

*Mum and Dad you are missed each and every day For you both were someone special who meant more than words could say.*

Always remembered and sadly missed by your family.

**Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in St. John the Baptist Church, Carrigart on Saturday 23rd March at 6.00pm. Mass can be viewed on Mevagh Parish facebook page.**

**McFadden**

Devlinreagh, Carrigart



**Andy**  
16th Anniversary



**Mirriam**  
2nd Anniversary

In loving memory of our dear parents, grandparents, great grandparents and in-laws - Andy who died on the 14th February 2008 and Mirriam who died on the 24th March 2022.

*We hold you close within our hearts and there you shall remain To walk with us throughout our lives until we meet again.*

Always remembered and sadly missed by all your family.

**Anniversary Mass in St. John the Baptist Church Carrigart on Saturday 23rd March at 6p.m.**



**Boyce**  
Charlie  
Gurtin, Ramelton  
5th Anniversary

In loving memory of a dear friend Charlie who died on 26th March 2019.

*Silent thoughts of our time together Hold memories that will last forever Wherever we are, whatever we do We will always love and remember you.*

Remembered by Katie, Joe and family.



**Williamson**  
Davie  
14th Anniversary

In loving memory of Davie who died 22nd March 2010.

*Time and years slip gently by Love and memories never die Some day we hope to meet again In the place you now call home.*

Always remembered by Grainne, Mary, Trevor, Evan and Niamh.



**McBride**  
Brigid  
Tirhomin, Milford  
2nd Anniversary

Precious memories of a loving wife, mother and grandmother who died on 21st March 2022.

*Missed in the morning of every day Missed in the evening as light fades away Missed in a thousand and one little ways*

*Around every corner a memory stays. No one knows the pain we bear when we all meet and you're not there We talk, we laugh, we play our part But behind it all lie broken hearts. You gave us years of happiness Then sorrow came with tears You left us lovely memories We will treasure through the years.*

Sadly missed and lovingly remembered by her husband Eamon and family, Pauline, Claire, Mark and Ciaran, loved always and missed by your four grandchildren.

**Anniversary Mass in St. Columba's Church, Massmount on Friday 22nd March at 7.00pm.**



**McGlinchey**  
Rita  
12th Anniversary

Treasured memories of a dear wife, mother and grandmother who died 20th March 2012.

*No length of time can take away our thoughts of you from day to day Though absent you are always near still missed, still very dear.*

Sadly missed by your husband Colm, children and grandchildren and extended family.

**Anniversary Mass on Friday 22nd March in St. Eunan's Cathedral, Letterkenny at 7pm.**

public opening hours. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the planning authority



**Whoriskey**  
Maryellen  
Milford Road, Ramelton  
1st Anniversary

In loving memory of a dear wife, mother and grandmother who died on the 25th March 2023.

*Without your kind and gentle smile and sweet familiar face A treasured life is missing and the world's a sadder place.*

*You lived your life so graciously You always did your best And now you're with the angels And it is time for you to rest.*

*As peace surrounds you everywhere in Heavenly skies above Here on earth you're deeply missed and thought about with love.*

*We see the stars at night time shining bright and clear And as we say Goodnight, God Bless, we know that you will hear.*

Always remembered by her loving husband Hugo and family.

In loving memory of Maryellen

*No special day is needed for us to think of you you are always in our thoughts no matter what we do Your resting place we visit and say a little prayer but no one knows the heart-ache as we turn and leave you there.*

Always loved and remembered by your sisters and brothers and all the O'Donnell family.

In loving memory of Maryellen

*Loving and kind in all her ways, upright and just to the end of her days Sincere and true in her heart and mind, beautiful memories she left behind Every day in some small way memories of you come our way Though absent, you are always near, still missed, loved and always dear*

You will always be in my heart sadly missed by your sister Bernadette and brother-in-law Brian.

**Anniversary Mass will take place in St. Mary's Church Ramelton on Sunday 24th March at 11am.**

on payment of the pre-

**Acknowledgement**

**Campbell**

Terence



We, the family of the late Terence Campbell would like to express our sincere thanks to all who sympathised with us on our recent sad loss. Thank you to all who attended the wake and funeral, those who sent floral tributes, Mass cards, sympathy cards, letters, phoned and shared messages online. Also to those who travelled long distances to be with us.

Thank you to Dr. Moran and Mr. Mulpeter, Letterkenny University Hospital, Dr. Maxwell, Dr. Sweeney and Dr. O'Boyle, Mulroy Practice, Murrays Pharmacy, Ramelton, Care of the Aged Ramelton, PHN and staff of Ramelton Community Care Team, especially his daily carers and all those who cared for Terence over the past few years.

Thank you to all those who prepared and managed the car parking and the Gardaí who assisted on the morning of the funeral. We also appreciate the support, kindness and generosity of our good friends, neighbours and extended family who provided us with food and made tea during the wake.

Thank you to Patrick Sweeney Funeral Directors, for their professional service and dignified manner throughout the wake and funeral. Thank you to the gravediggers who prepared Terence's final resting place.

A special word of thanks to Fr. Gorman for attending the house during the wake and for the beautiful funeral Mass along with his concelebrants Fr. Collum, Fr. Carney and Fr. McBrearty. Thank you to the Choir for the lovely music and singing which added so much to the celebration of the funeral Mass.

As it would be impossible to thank everyone individually, please accept this acknowledgement as an expression of our sincere appreciation.

**Months Mind Mass will take place in St. Peter's Church, Milford on Saturday 23rd March at 7.30pm.**



**Kelly**  
Ian  
6th Anniversary

In loving memory of a dear husband, son and brother who died on 23rd March 2018.

*I cannot halt the hand of time or live again the past Within my heart are memories that will forever last.*

Sadly, missed by Martina.

*Our thoughts are always with you in a very special way Not only on your anniversary but every single day.*

Loved and missed by Mum, Dad, Kevin, Catherine, Grace and all the Kelly family.

**Tel. 074 91 53600**



**Fisher**  
Mary  
Aughnish, Ramelton  
5th Anniversary

In loving memory of a dear mother Mary who passed away 23rd March 2019.

*In the garden of memories we'll meet again Your love forever in our hearts remain Though you're gone, your spirit light shines bright Guiding us through both day and night In every gentle breeze and twinkling star above We feel your presence wrapped in endless love.*

Sadly missed by your son Malcolm and partner Mary.

**Peoples**

Matthew

Joseph (Matt)  
Gornatraw South,  
Kerrykeel



The family of the late Matt Peoples, would like to thank most sincerely, all those who sympathised with us, on our recent sad loss. We offer our heartfelt thanks to family, our many friends, great neighbours and well wishers, who visited our home, attended the wake, funeral Mass and burial.

To those who brought food, and made teas all during the wake. Those who managed the traffic throughout the wake and funeral and those who prepared Matt's final resting place with such care. You all did a great job and thank you. To those who telephoned, travelled long distances, those who sent beautiful cards, floral tributes and messages of condolence. Also those who kindly gave donations for the Donegal Hospice, thank you so much.

Thank you to Fr Stephen, Fr Anthony, Fr Shane and Fr Francis who provided spiritual support, at home, in the hospital and in the Hospice. Thank you to the doctors, nurses and staff in Mulroy Practice, Milford, and to Pharmacists and all staff in Healthwise Pharmacy, Milford. To the doctors, nurses and staff in Letterkenny University Hospital. Palliative Care Nurse and weekend nurses, who came to our home. To all in the Donegal Hospice, for their loving care of Matt, and their support and kindness to our family, we thank you sincerely.

To those who gave their time so generously, to make the funeral Mass a true celebration of Matt's life, especially Fr Stephen, the St. Peter's Church Choir, musicians and soloist. Thank you also to the Choir for the Guard of Honour outside the Church. To all who took part in the Mass, Matt would have been proud of you all and we thank you so much.

To Patrick Sweeney, Funeral Director and Paul, for their sensitive and professional handling of the arrangements. To John's personal assistants, especially Josephine, and to all his work colleagues, we thank you sincerely.

As it would be impossible to thank everyone individually, please accept this acknowledgement as an expression of our deepest gratitude. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for your intentions.

*"May Matt rest in peace with Liam and James"*

**Matt's Months Mind Mass will take place in St Peter's Church, Milford on Sunday 23rd March at 11am.**

**MEMORIALS**

**Mark Daly DALYSTONE**

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of a Stormwater interceptor. 5. Provision for a new water connection to the office building from the adjoining public water main. 6. Provision of on-site carparking. 7. All associated site development works. This application is accompanied by an Natura Impact Statement (NIS) at Bunnagee, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal in the Townland of Bunnagee. The Planning Application and Natura Impact Statement (NIS) may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of the Planning Authority during its Public Opening Hours at County House, Lifford, Co. Donegal. Submissions or Observations in relation to this development may be made to the Planning Authority in writing, on payment of the prescribed fee, within the period of five weeks beginning on the date of receipt of the Application by the Planning Authority.

**Donegal County Council  
Ballygay, Ramelton**

I Lorna Stevenson am applying to Donegal County Council for planning permission for development at Ballygay, Ramelton, Co. Donegal, in the townland of Ballygay. The development will consist of the construction of a dry bedded / slatted cattle shed with integrated underground slurry storage tanks and all associated site works within the existing farmyard. 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 at the County House, Lifford, Co. 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, within the period of five weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the Planning Authority of the application.

**Planning Notices**

**Donegal County Council**

I, Paul Daly, will be applying to Donegal County Council for planning permission for a development at 5 Ardcrannach, Gortlee, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal, F92 N63X in the townland of Gortlee. The development will consist of planning permission for the construction of a single storey side extension. 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 during its

# A Voice For You

**Cllr Michael McClafferty**

Glenties Electoral Area Councillor

**Cathaoirleach of Glenties Municipal District**



Please contact me on any issues in the our constituency

**Tel – 086 3935048**

Email: [michaelmclafferty@donegalcoco.ie](mailto:michaelmclafferty@donegalcoco.ie)





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|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
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| €15,000                                                       | €67.58            | €293.55            |
| €20,000                                                       | €90.10            | €391.40            |
| €25,000                                                       | €112.63           | €489.25            |
| €30,000                                                       | €135.15           | €587.10            |
| €40,000                                                       | €180.20           | €782.80            |

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**Scenes from the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Dunfanaghy**  
Photos by Moses Alcorn.



# Creeslough

## Prayer Meeting

The St. Pio Prayer meeting will take place in Ard Friary on Thursday March 21st (as the last Thursday of the month is Holy Thursday). Mass will be at 7.30pm preceded by the Rosary at 7.10pm. Everyone welcome.

## Fundraiser

Annamarie Hogan is organising an Easter fundraiser with loads of Easter baskets and delights for sale suitable for all ages with teas and coffees served. There will also be a Raffle - all in aid of Donorlog Down Syndrome. It will take place in the Creeslough Links Club on Saturday March 23rd from 11am until

3pm. 90/90

Congratulations to Brian Ferry who won €360 in the Dunfanaghy Youth 50/50 last week.

## St. Michael's Mini Lotto

There was no Jackpot winner in the Mini Lotto last weekend. The numbers drawn were: 1,4,11,13,19,20. The three main 5 winners were Brian McLaughlin, Martinus who won twice and Hazel Murray who won €35. This week's Jackpot will be €3700.

## Muckish Railway Walk

Dunfanaghy Youth FC are holding a 5Ks Walk along the Muckish Railway Path on Easter Monday at 11am. The club want to bring members of our

community to walk, chat and connect with each other while raising awareness about mental health. Money raised will be for two great charities - Mental Health Ireland and Figure Donorlog. We would love it if everyone came out to show their support. The Walk is suitable for all ages. Registration from 10.30am, leaving from Muckish Road & Gevel car park. (F92N2R4) Any queries or information can be had from Marie Duffy [marieduffy20@gmail.com](mailto:marieduffy20@gmail.com) or 0876372344.

## Retreats in Ard

There will be a Curialo Lenten & Friendship Retreat in Ard Friary for Curialo Members only from Friday 22nd 7pm - Sunday 24th March 6.00pm.

The inquiries will be led by Fr Lawrence Kettle, Spiritual Director. To enquire or to book a place, please phone Pat on 087 9374001.

## Creeslough Community Links Hub

The Creeslough Community Links Hub is open Monday to Friday from 9.30am-4.30pm and offers a variety of classes and groups including the following: Walking Group for all levels every Thursday morning @ 10am/ Men's mobility on Wednesdays @ 12.15pm/ Baby walk being every Wednesday from @ 11am-12pm.

Book Club on Mondays @ 8pm-9pm. Current Information Monday @ 10am-12pm. Foreign Youth Participation Group 16-21 year olds Mondays 3pm-

6pm. Please reach out to [info@creesloughcommunity.com](mailto:info@creesloughcommunity.com) or 091 202 3002 for more information or to register for a course/class.

## Muckish Drama Circle

Muckish Drama Circle is back. Rehearsals are now ongoing and as usual will showcase the local talent!

## Two Hand & Line Dancing

Two hand & line dancing in Martinus Hall every Tuesday 8-10pm. Men & women welcome. No partner needed. Dance teacher is Colina. It is great fun & exercise.

## Shop and Coffee Dock

The shop and coffee shop at Ard Friary are closed for reservations. Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

# Dunfanaghy

## Disc Swimming Club

Disc Swimming Club end of year swimming gala takes place at the Arts Leisure Centre this Saturday 23rd March starting at 9pm. Parents, siblings and family members are invited to come along and cheer on the kids as they compete for medals and trophies and we celebrate a great year of swimming. Refreshments will be served on the evening.

Bus 1 leaves Dunfanaghy Square at 4.45pm. Supervising parents are Joe Alcorn and Laura Kerr. Bus 2 & 3 leave Creeslough chapel carpark at 5pm. Supervising parents are Michael Mitchell and Yvonne McGinness on Bus 2 and Martin Toye and Joanne Hughes on Bus 3. Buses returning to Creeslough at approx 8.20pm and Dunfanaghy at approx 8.30pm.

## Fairtrade Fortnight

Additional Fairtrade events relating to Dunfanaghy include: Family event 25th March 11-1 at The Workhouse. Short films in cinema room whilst @ Dunfanaghy IRC, highlight chocolate production and tasting and offer information on egg production - some Easter eggs to give away.

Local resident Gill will engage in Cookie baking using Fairtrade ingredients with children from one of our local schools.

## Coffee Morning

The Secret Family are holding a tea day on Sunday the 24th March in the Oranion Centre from 10am-3pm. All money raised on the day will be donated to the Irish Motor Neuron Association of Ireland. Everyone is welcome and all support for this very worthy cause would be very much appreciated.

## JK Run and Walk

Local girl Niamh Corcoran from Kill is part of a group of moving students going to Uganda from AUI St. Angela's. They are bringing supplies for the BKU orphanage and school, Noah's Ark and the community clinics. All donations will go directly to the source where they're most needed.

As part of the fundraising Niamh is holding a 5K walk / run on Saturday 6th April leaving St. Michael's GAA Pitch at 12 noon. The registration is from 11am with refreshments afterwards in the Club house. The girls would love to see a big crowd on the day, and if

Stuff and Nonsense Clearance Sale at Ramseys Every Sat. + Sun including... Easter Week 11am - 4pm Furniture, Catering equipment, Light fittings, Vintage treasures, Bric & Brac, Original Brent Noakes artwork. Cash Only!

you are unable to make it but would still like to donate we have a go fund me page <https://gofundme.com/912c0e2f> For more information contact Niamh on 0864054343 or Marie on 0864682449 or 0876333637.

## Muckish Railway Walk

Dunfanaghy Youth FC are holding a 5Ks Walk along the Muckish Railway Walk on Easter Monday at 11am. The club want to bring members of our community to walk, chat and connect with each other while raising awareness about mental health. Money raised will be for two great charities - Mental Health Ireland and Figure Donorlog. We would love it if everyone came out to show their support. The Walk is suitable for all ages. Registration from 10.30am, leaving from Muckish Road & Gevel car park. (F92N2R4) Any queries or information can be had from Marie Duffy [marieduffy20@gmail.com](mailto:marieduffy20@gmail.com) or 0876372344.

## Dunfanaghy Youth's Golf Classic

Dunfanaghy Youth FC are holding a Golf Classic on Friday 5th April. This is a 4 Person Team event with the prizes to include: 1st to 8th Place, NQ Prize to the Ladies, Prize Nearest the Pin and Longest Drive. There will also be a raffle and the Entry Fee is €100 per person. For more details contact [info@dunfanaghyyouthclub.com](mailto:info@dunfanaghyyouthclub.com) or Mary on 9136335 for Tee Times and Sponsorships.

## Shop and Coffee Dock

The shop and coffee shop at Ard Friary are closed for reservations. Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

## 90/90 Draw

Congratulations to Brian Ferry who won €360 in the Youth's 50/50 last week.

## St. Michael's Mini Lotto

There was no Jackpot winner in the Mini Lotto last weekend. The numbers drawn were: 1,4,11,13,19,20. The three main

## Memoriam Cards & Thank You Cards



Contact Tironeall Tribune 074 91 53600

5 winners were Brian McLaughlin, Martinus who won twice and Hazel Murray who won €35. This week's Jackpot will be €3700.

## Carrigart Boxing Tournament

The Carrigart Boxing Club stage their annual boxing tournament on Thursday, the 28th of March Holy Thursday

at the Downings GAA Centre with 14 quality contest down for decision and some top quality young guns exhibition bouts as well. As usual this is a night not to be missed with Carrigart ABC big hitters vs strong Ulster Select. Admission €5 and children €3 with first Bell 8pm.



Scenes from the Leprechaun Walk in Dunfanaghy on St. Patrick's morning. Photos by Moses Alcorn.





# GAA Club News

## Glenwillly

**Ciorcal Comhri Ghleann ISóilí**  
Ciorcal Comhri Ghleann ISóilí our Irish Language conversation group in Glenwillly GAA Club continues every Tuesday night at 8.15pm in the clubhouse. No need to be fluent, it's just a chance to casually practice your Irish. All levels welcome. Fálgh blas don Ghaeilge l'irish Sheachtain na Gaeilge agus an t-ábairt Wilkin's don Phléab-Ghaeilgeacht Dé hAoine 22 Márta. #SnaG2024 #Gaeilge

**Bingo and 50/50**  
Bingo continues every Wednesday in the hall, 8.30pm start. Over €2000 in prizes guaranteed every week. Congratulations to last week's winners Tracey and Maria who won €380!

**GAA Bingo Easter Special**  
Wednesday 27th of March in the Glenwillly GAA Hall with a 8.30pm start. €500 on Games 9, 10 and the Jackpot Sheet. All other houses €100, all lines €40! Free draw for an Easter Hamper for all players on the night!

## Chleic Cheann Phaola

**Campa Císca**  
Beidh Campa Císca ar a'ail ón 25-26 Márta 2024 ó 9.30-12n. Do pháistí ó 6-12. €40 do pháistí amháin, €70 do bheirt agus €100 do thriúr. Tuilleadh eolais and Clárú: Caolán at 086 358 3874.

**Buiochas**  
We would like to thank Cillín McGinley, Odhrán McBride, Conor Doogan and PJ Clarke who were out selling lotto tickets at the weekend.

**Comhghairdeas**  
Ba mháth linn comhghairdeas a dhéanamh lenár n-urraitheoir, Búch Donegal atá ag ceiliúradh 5 bliana i mbun gnó i mbliana

**Lotto**  
The numbers drawn were 4,7,11,13,14,16. We had 2 match 5 winners. Congratulations to Paddy Sweeney and John Quinn who win €50 each. The jackpot is now €6,400.

**Comhghairdeas**  
We would like to congratulate our main sponsor, M8EN Civils Ltd who are celebrating 20 years in business this year.

**Comhbhrón**  
Tháinig an drochscéala chugatán cúpla seachtain ó shin go raibh dúine de sheanbhróidíirí Chleic Cheann Phaola, Eddie McGinley imithe ar a'ail na finne. Ba tomáil a chleic Eddie gearraí Chleic Cheann Phaola agus ba é a bhí mar chaptáin ar fhoireann bhuacach 1971 a bhí na Sráth Sóisr Dháin na nGail. We were saddened to hear of the passing of one of our former players, Eddie McGinley, a man who lined out for Cleic Cheann Phaola on many days and also captained the team to win the Junior League in 1971. We are grateful to Paddy McMenamin, a teammate of Eddie's who penned the following words about Eddie:

"Eddie McGinley, this hardy but very fair halfback, with Alfie Doohan and Hughie Doohan helped form one of the strongest line of our sixties and seventies Cloughaneely men's team, which he captained. Eddie was very clever at snatching knockdowns from mid-fielders such as Brian Cannon and just would not lose possession. His heart was for his team. Eddie was a generous and helpful neighbour at a time of more manual farm work when the meitheal was still important. The McGinley's had a vibrant musical tradition in their house and Eddie's singing enhanced this. It's even more sad to have lost him so soon after our recent commemoration with him of our winning the Junior League of 1971. Our sincere condolences to all his loved ones."

Déanam muid uilig anseo sa chlub comhbhrón lena bhean dhéile, Briege agus clann Mhic Fhionnghaile uilig. We extend our deepest condolences to his wife, Briege and all the McGinley family at this sad time. Ar dhéile linn Dé go raibh a anam uasal Gaeilge.

## An Tearmainn

**Comórtas Peile na Gaeltachta**  
The competition came to an end for both men's teams over the weekend. The senior's lost 1-12 to 2-4 to Kildare. Jack Alearn and Daire McDaid scored 1-1 each while Steve McElwaine and Ryan McPadden also chipped in with points. The reserve men also went out of the competition going down 1-10 to 1-6 against Milford. Paul Mallon scored 1-2, Mark Gallagher hit 0-2 and Jack O'Neill and Gary McGettigan scored 0-1 each.

The U14 boys would however progress to the next round, beating their neighbours Glenwillly at the Burn Road.

**County Players**  
Well done to the Derron contingent that featured in the Donegal senior ladies comprehensive win in Cavan on St. Patrick's Day; Jodie McPadden and Evelyn McGinley got on the scoresheet while Shannon McLaughlin started at corner back and Chelsea Gorman was a late substitute.

U16 Ladies

The U16 Ladies started their competitive season on Monday with a 5-8 to 2-9 win over Milford. The Derron scores came from Cayla McPadden, Kate McCafferty, Hannah May Sweeney, Roche McLaughlin, Lacie McGarvey and Orla Cunningham.

**Fixtures**  
24/03/24 Senior Ladies v Naomh Mhuire @ Burn Road 10.30am  
24/03/24 Junior Ladies v Burt @ 10.30am (away)

**Lotto**  
Congratulations to Joe (The Hash) O'Donnell - the lotto jackpot winner of €7500. Numbers drawn were 2, 3, 10, 25. Next weeks jackpot is €1500.

**Parade**  
Thanks to all the boys and girls who took part in the St Patrick's Day Parade. It was a fantastic day enjoyed by all. Thanks also to the coaches and parents who helped out on the day.

**Bingo**  
Bingo this Friday continues at An Craobhín, €4500 in prizes. Houses on game 7 and game 8 will be €1000 each. Minimum payout on the night will be €4500.

## St. Michael's

**Mini Lotto**  
There was no jackpot winner last weekend. The numbers drawn were: 3,4,11,13,19,20. The three Match 5 winners were Brian McLaughlin Masnas who won twice and Hazel Murray who won €35. This week's jackpot will be €5700.

**Minor Board LGFA**  
**Under 10 Boys**  
The Under 10 Boys season is starting back this Saturday at 10.30am at the bridge. New players welcome.

**Under 10 Girls**  
U10 Girls are back training this week. We will train on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings. Training will be Wednesday evening (6th March) 6.30- 7.30 and Sunday morning (10th March) at 10.30-11.30.

**Senior Ladies**  
Our Ladies are back up and running for the 2024 season, with great numbers down at the bridge on Sunday morning! We are always looking for new (and "old") players of all abilities, drop us a message if you fancy coming along.

## St Eunan's

**Sunday Morning Skills Academy**  
The Sunday Morning Skills Football Academy returns this Sunday March 24th from 11am to 12.15pm. This is for Boys and Girls aged 4 to 10.

**Hurling**  
The Hurling Academy continues each Friday from 6.30pm to 7.30pm in O'Donnell Park, this is for children from 5 to 12 years of age. Hurls and Helmets are provided.

**St Patrick's Day**  
The Club would like to thank everyone who took part in the St Patrick's Day parade in Letterkenny. It was heartening to see so many happy children on the St Eunan's Boat and at the Children's Disco afterwards at the Clubhouse.

**Easter GAA camp**  
There will be an Easter camp in O'Donnell Park, Letterkenny on April 2nd, 3rd and 4th. This is for Primary School Children and the cost is €50 per child. For more info check out the Club's social media.

**Club Lotto**  
The Club Lotto draw takes place each Monday evening. Tickets can be purchased online through our Club website or from Adrian Shields.

**Contact**  
Anyone wishing to get appropriate matters included in the Club notes please email them to The PRO by 10pm on Sunday night at pro@steanans.donnegal@gaa.ie

## Baile na nGalleglaich

**Lotto: 12/3/24**  
**Numbers: 8-10-12-30**  
No jackpot winner. €50 Lucky Dip winner to Ende McElhinney, Rathmullan.

**LOTTO BOTA:**  
Sat 23rd March, Maple, Milford - U16 (Minor) Boys.

**RESULTS AND FIXTURES**  
**U14 Boys**  
Our U14 boys play at home to St Michaels in the Gaeltacht champs this Friday (22nd) at 5.30pm.

**U16 Girls**  
Our U16 girls play Letterkenny Gaels on Tuesday next (26th) at home at 5.30pm. Ádh mór a Chaitní.

**U13 Girls**  
Our U13 girls have a home match against Glenwillly on Sunday 24th March at 10.30am.

**Comórtas Peile na Gaeltachta**  
Bhí ba math ag imreoirí sintr Bhaile na nGalleglaich 1-10 ar An Tearmainn 1-06 i gComórtas Peile Sóisr na Gaeltachta ag an detreadh seachtaine. Math iad na bainisteoirí, cónsalaíthe agus imreoirí.

**U10 Boys**  
Our U10s had their first outing of the season on Monday against Letterkenny Gaels. Both teams produced

# Donegal secures top flight status



Donegal's Daire O'Boill tackling Kildare's Aaron Masterson on Saturday.

**Kildare 1-8 Donegal 0-17**

The Donegal senior football team will be playing Division 1 football next season, making sure of promotion on Saturday following a deserved six-point win over Kildare at Dr. Cullen Park in Carlow. The result simultaneously condemned the Lilywhites to relegation to Division 3. It's been a near perfect campaign for returning manager Jim McGuinness with the only point dropped in the campaign being the draw with Armagh at the Athletic Grounds.

Kieran McGeeaney's men are also promoted with the final round of games still to play this weekend. Donegal and Armagh will now meet in the Division 2 league final on Easter Sunday. Before that McGuinness will want to end the league campaign on a winning note by seeing off the challenge of Meath in Ballybofey on Saturday. Donegal are back in the top flight after just one season down and the manager will have been happy to see his side hit 16 of their 17 points from play on Saturday evening.

The visitors led by two points at the break and landed three unanswered points after the restart. Glen Ryan's side did get a lifeline on 49 minutes courtesy of Alex Beirne's close range finish. That brought it back to a two-point game again (0-13 to 1-8). Kildare failed to continue the fightback from there and in fact didn't score again in the remaining 20-minutes of the game. The Lilywhites had to win on Saturday evening to have any chance of avoiding relegation.

McGuinness will also have been pleased with the variety of marksmen with nice different scorers. It was a very good outing for St. Nauls Peadar Mogan who finished with a personal tally of 0-5 while Michael Langan landed three from mid-field. Playing conditions and visibility weren't good at the start, but did improve a little as the game went on.

It took the hosts 22 minutes to get their first score from play courtesy of Beirne, which brought it back to 0-5 to 0-4. But that was good as it got as Langan and Charan Thompson stretched Donegal's lead. While there was only two points in at the break the visitors always looked the more likely to come out on top. And that's the way it

turned out as Donegal ended up comfortable six-point winners.

Kildare - M. Donnellan, R. Houlihan, M. O'Grady, R. Burke, P. McDermott, E. Doyle, J. Sargent, A. Masterson, K. O'Callaghan, A. Beirne (1-3), B. Kelly, S. Farrell (0-1), K. Feely (0-4, two frees, two marks), D. Flynn, N. Kelly. Subs: L. Killian for O'Callaghan (53 mins), P. Woodgate for Kelly (55 mins), S. O'Sullivan for Kelly (58 mins), B. Byrre for Houlihan (60 mins), T. Archbold for Sergeant (69 mins).

Donegal - Shaun Patton; Mark Curran, Claran Moore, Aaron Doherty (0-1); Ryan McHugh, Caolan McGonagle (0-1), Peadar Mogan (0-5); Hugh McPadden, Michael Langan (0-3); Shane O'Donnell, Claran Thompson (0-2), Odhran Doherty (0-1); Paddy McBrearty (0-1), Oisín Gallen (0-1), Daire O'Boill (0-2). Subs: Jamie Brennan for McPadden (half-time), Jack McKelvey for O. Doherty (53 mins), Niall O'Donnell for A. Doherty (56 mins), Luke McGlynn for O'Boill (and Ronan Gallagher for Thompson (both 66 mins). Not used: Gavin Mulreany, Stephen Mc-Meamin, Ronan Frain, Donal McBride, John Ross Molloy, Philip Doherty.

Referee: Paul Faloon (Down).

# McGuinness sets up for Meath meeting

While promotion has already been secured Jim McGuinness still wants to finish the season unbeaten as he prepares for the final Division 2 game of the campaign. The game will take place in Ballybofey on Saturday (throw-in 7.00). Meath have secured their place in Division 2 for next season.

So Colm O'Rourke's men come to MacCumhall Park free of any relegation worries. It will be interesting to see what way they approach the match. Meath are on six points after two wins, two draws and two defeats. They are five points behind unbeaten Donegal.

McGuinness may give a little more game time to the fringe players with the likes of Ronan Gallagher of Na Dunaibh and Letterkenny Gaels man Ronan Frain hoping to feature against Meath. The league final is the following weekend against Armagh at Croke Park on Easter Sunday and the big one then is the Ulster quarter-final against Derry in Celtic Park on May 1st at Celtic Park. McGuinness will be hoping for good news on the injury front on the likes of Boendán McCole who is out at the moment with an injured toe.



Shane O'Donnell on the attack for Donegal against Ryan Houlihan, Kildare on Saturday.

Cont'd. Page 38

# GAA Club News

From Page 37

great passages of play in testing conditions at Páirc Na nGael. Thanks to Letterkenny Gaels for hosting and we look forward to the return leg later this year.

## Ghaeil Leitir Ceannainn

Thanks to all the children and parents/guardians who represented the Club at the St. Patrick's Day parade. The children brought lots of colour and excitement to their theme of industry with club, county and country flags brightening up the streets of Letterkenny. Special thanks to Ursula Gallagher and Donagh Gardlan for bringing it all together.

The U-16 girls got their competitive season up and running with an away game against Moville on Monday. The girls are competing in Division 2 of the league this year and in a high scoring and competitive game, the hosts were victorious with a two point win. Next up for the girls is another away game to Millford on Tuesday evening.

Winter training for U-12 girls continues on Sunday mornings from 11-12noon on the Astro at Aara. New players are always welcome. Contact Ursula Gallagher 0857 085323 for more information.

Underage boys football training continues every Friday from 5.30-6.30pm at the Astro at Letterkenny Rovers Lickview Park.

This training is for boys in the 2012, 2013 & 2014 age groups. We are especially looking forward to welcoming new faces. Contact Declan on 086 075 1960 for more details.

U10 Hurling training continues every Sunday at 11am on the Aara Astro. New players and players from neighbouring non Hurling clubs are welcome to come along and try it out.

Dual Nursery U-7/8 Hurling and Camogie Training is on Thursdays 6pm in Coláiste Ailigh Hall. Please contact Brendan on 087 2845307 for more details.

Sympathy is expressed to Bernie, James, Niamh and Ronan Frain and the extended Carlin family and friends on the passing of Eileen Carlin, Killygordon, RIP.

Bingo continues every Monday evening at the Arena 7 and online. Books can be purchased every Thursday evening at 87 from 6.30-7.30pm and Saturday from 11am to 12 noon. This Monday we have €2,260 up for grabs.

## Gaeil Fhánada

Lotto Results 17/03/2024

Numbers: 5, 9, 14, 17, 21. No jackpot winner. €100 Winner: Joe Reilly. This week's Jackpot: €5,800.

### March 'Grab a Grand'

The club will launch our March 'Grab a Grand' competition on our online platforms on Friday at midday. There will be a limited amount of tickets on sale with a great cash prize of €1000 for the winner.

### Cluichí na Seachtaine

Dé Domhnaigh, 26ú Márta

Peil na mBán Gaeil Fhánada v Aodh Ruadh at 10:30

Buachaillí Faoi 18

Baile na nGalóglaigh v Gaeil Fhánada at 12:00

Dé Máirt, 26ú Márta

Cailíní Faoi 16

Naomh Mhuire Conmhaigh v Gaeil Fhánada at 5:30

U16 Girls - Honours even on opening night Gaeil Fhánada 4-08 Aodh Rua Cúil na gCairidín 5-05

Conditions were wet and windy at Portsalon for the opening match of the U16's campaign against a good Red Hughs outfit - both sides sharing the spoils at the end of the day - a fair result on a miserable evening weather wise. The home side put



Orienswelly woman Diane McOlym who was a member of the first ever Irish International Rules Masters Over 40s squad that played Australia in a two match series on the last two Saturday's in Mullagh, Galway and Derrin, Cavan. Diane who currently plays her club football with Oriens is pictured with her husband Frank and family.

in an excellent display from the start with some very good passages of play through the centre on the field which saw them lead for most of the way through the first half. The visitors however settled in and their physical ability helped to chip away at Fanad's lead and the sides were level at the break, 2-05 to 3-02.

Red Hughs were first out of the blocks after the break with an instant goal that rallied them - indeed they went on to score two further points before the home side composed themselves and got back into the game by adding a superb goal and two points of their own to bring the sides back level again. Both teams exchanged a further point apiece heading into the closing stages of the half but there was to be another twist.

In the final minute the home side grabbed a goal that almost sealed a three point victory, but there was enough time for the visitors to drive back up the field and find a last gasp goal of their own which ensured a share of the spoils. Well done to both sides on an entertaining and enthralling contest.

Natale Egan, Sarah Peoples, Erin Logue, Eabha Doherty, Etaine Sheridan, Orlath Mc Greenaghan, Clíodhna Robinson, Amy McAteer (0-02), Grace Begley (0-01), Cara Gibbons, Clodagh McAteer, Erin Cadin, Caoimhe Kerr, Meabh Sweeney (2-05), Aisling Duffy (2-00), Aine Doherty.

### U12, U14 & U16 Girls Training

Training for girls from the above age groups takes place on Friday at 6pm in Portsalon.

Congratulations Shaun & Niamh We'd like to extend our congratulations to Gaeil Fhánada stalwart Shaun Friel and Niamh Lagan on their recent marriage.

### Well Done Conor

Congratulations to Gaeil Fhánada's Conor Heraghty and his DCU Déchas Éireann teammates as they claimed the All Ireland Junior Championship during the week.

### Ladies on County Duty

Well done to Clare Friel who was once again between the posts for the Donegal ladies over the weekend as they defeated Cavan. Also wearing the green and gold over the weekend were Clodagh McAteer, Aoibhinn Callaghan and Amy McAteer who represented the County U14's at against Antrim and Down.

### Le Chéile

The fifth edition of Gaeil Fhánada Le Chéile was wrapped up at the weekend, with the draw made for the final two cash prizes, €1000 each, and they went to Michael Blaney and Colm Mac Fhionnghaile. Congratulations to both Michael and Colm, and our thanks to everyone who supported this initiative once again.

### Ceann Scribe Bhaile Ghib

The local launch of 'Ceann Scribe Bhaile Ghib - Destination Gibbstown' will take place at the Community Centre on Friday, the 22nd March at 7pm.

## Rosapenna Golf Club

The results from Sunday the 17th of March over the Old Tom Morris Links are as follows - Category A (12) - Paul Hughes (7") with 41pts; Category B (13-18) - Owen Fearain (18") with 41pts; Category C (19+) - Brian Garrity (27") with 42pts; Gross - Seamus Conner (1") with 35 gross pts. Two's - Michael Gallagher 1st & Brian Kelly.

Sunday the 24th of March will see the Easter Hamper being contested over the Old Tom Morris Links. All tee times will open via the BRS App on Thursday the 21st at 10.00am.

### Gents Section Competition Prizes

2024 Competition Prizes will take the form of Golf Ireland Vouchers or other retail vouchers. Regular competition placing payout will take place quarterly. Two's payout will take place every six months unless you have been a competition winner, when it will be added to your quarterly payout. Payout can be requested at any stage from the competition secretary David Ladley, either by text message 083-867-4416 or email competitions@rosapenna.ie.

Vouchers will be emailed to all prize winners unless requested otherwise. Golf Ireland Vouchers can be redeemed in a number of local outlets such as the Parkview Golf Shop, Boyce's Centre Carrigan, Kerran's Carrigan etc and most golf retail shops. Golf Ireland Vouchers can also be redeemed against annual Resort Golf Fees.

Competition payout will be 60% of entrance money on that days competition broken down into the various placings on the day. Two's payout will be 100% of money collected, divided equally depending on the number of twos scored on that days competition.

### Ladies Section Results

The St. Patrick's Day Ladies competition kindly sponsored by The Singing Pub resulted as follows: Winner Tom Morris (16) 45pts; Second Dymphna Kelly (12) 36pts; Cat

A) Barbara Fitz (11) 34pts; Cat B) Aisling Callen (14) 34pts.

### Winter Scramble Series

The final event of the Winter Scramble Series took place over both courses on Saturday March 16th with the results as follows - Sandy Hills Links - 1st: C Lenay, H McIlride, S Gallagher & M O'Connell 92pts; 2nd: L Brown, S Breen, B Kelly & D Kelly 89pts; 3rd: M Kelly, Sweeney, M McLaughlin, E McCay 88pts; 4th: S Brady, B Faulkner, B McMenamin & C Faulkner 87pts; 5th: M McGettigan, R Bell, D McDonnell & O McGettigan 87pts; 6th: J Doran, S Boyce, L Boyce & C Doran 87pts.

Old Tom Morris Links - 1st: M Hamilton, C Doherty, P Duffy & D McClafferty 100pts; 2nd: P Hughes, P Hughes, E Hughes & G Hughes 93pts; 3rd: D McCullagh, C Creeves, K Duffy & E Duffy 92pts; 4th: A Devine, G Tyler, C O'Doherty & M Kular 87pts; 5th: B Fox, L McKean, P McKean, P Mullan 83pts; 6th: A Kilgallen, P Curley, A Condon & S McKean 82pts. Many thanks to all the members & visitors that supported the Winter Series and we look forward to running it again from early October.

### Scoil Naomh Bríd

The Resort hosted a golf classic in aid of the local national school, Scoil Naomh Bríd, on Monday March 18th over the Sandy Hills Links and the Old Tom Morris Links. We had great support from the wider membership with team entries and also from businesses in the locality providing sponsorship on the day.

The results were as follows: Sandy Hills Links - 1st Dymphna Kelly, Brian Kelly, Jim Cunningham & Jim Mathieson with 87pts; 2nd Kevin McCrystal, Sean Daly, F Gooding & D Bell with 79pts; 3rd M McGettigan, Robert Bell, Jim Harley & O McGettigan with 78pts; 4th Damian Gallagher, Trevor Alcorn, R McCafferty & C McCafferty with 76pts; 5th Adrian Shone, Jason Kelly, Conor Daly, Sean Slane with 75pts; 6th Orla Gallagher, John McClafferty, Liam McAteer & Bríd McClafferty with 75pts; Old Tom Morris Links - 1st: Mi-

chael Kelly, B Davis, R McGeehan & a another with 85pts; 2nd: Claire Lenny, Helena McBride, Lisa McGee & Mairead O'Connell with 82pts; 3rd: Frank Callen, Aisling Callen, Liam Brown & Shick Brown with 80pts; 4th: Sham Boyce, Ed Boyce, Bríd McMenamin & Neil McMillan with 77pts; 5th: P Smyth, A Delap, M Bradley and C Bradley with 76pts; 6th: A McGrath, T Daly, unknown and unknown with 73pts.

Many thanks to the panel that organised the day including Peadar Boyce, Brendan McGee, Seamus Heraghty, Edward McGroddy, Frank & John Casey. A sum of just north of €9,000 was raised on the day, many thanks to all the members, visitors and local businesses that made this possible.

### Fixtures

March - Sunday 24th - Gents Easter Hamper; Sunday 31st - Club Competition

April - Sunday 7th - Club Competition; Saturday 13th - Rosapenna Senior & Junior Scratch Cups; Sunday 14th, 21st & 28th - Club Competition

## Portsalon Ladies

The rub of the green was with Pamela Clinton on St Patrick's Day as her 7 pars saw Lady Captain Noreen McConigley pipped at the post. One can't ignore the last 7 holes of Claire McGarrigle either, having recorded 4 pars and 3 birdies.

### Winter Links Captains Day

There is a list of those who qualify for the main prizes, with a minimum 3 card entries, on the notice board in the ladies locker room. All other players, including those who join on the Captain's Day, will compete for the 'non qualifying' prizes. Regardless of qualifying status, the 25 pot will be divided evenly between anyone who records a 2 on a Par 3.

### Congratulations

Lady Captain Noreen, and the ladies branch wish to congratulate and send good wishes to ladies Hon Secretary Anne Speddie on her appointment as President of Moyola Park Golf Club in Castleblawen. It is an

incredible recognition of Anne's dedication and enthusiasm for the game of golf as she becomes the very first Lady President of Moyola Park.

### Results

Members St. Patrick's Weekend - 1st Pamela Clinton 38 pts; 2nd Noreen McConigley 37pts

### Upcoming Events

24th March Ladies Winter Links Open Captains Day; 31st March Members Sub Competition; 1st April Ladies and Gents Open.



Fourth place from the Old Tom Morris Links during the Scoil Naomh Bríd fundraiser held at the Rosapenna on Monday. Rt Boyce, Sean Boyce and Bríd McMenamin with Eddie McGroddy.



Sixth place from the Old Tom Morris Links during the Scoil Naomh Bríd fundraiser held at the Rosapenna Golf Resort on Monday receiving their prize from Eddie McGroddy.



Fourth place on the Sandy Hills Links during the Scoil Naomh Bríd fundraiser held at the Rosapenna on Monday are Trevor Alcorn, Damian Gallagher, and S. Cathriona McCafferty with Eddie McGroddy.

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**March Sales**

Sat 21st March - Weanling Sale (Both ends) 11am  
Booking in on Thurs 21st March from 8:00 - 8:30pm

Wed 27th March - Cattle Sale 12noon

Sat 30th March - Weanling Sale (Both ends) 11am  
Booking in on Thurs 28th March from 8:00 - 8:30pm

**Letterkenny Athletic Club Notes**

Congratulations to Ann-Marta McGlynn on winning the Streets of Portlaoise 5km over the weekend in superb style running 16:19.  
LAC members' Sean McFadden and Michael Black organised the first Saint Patrick's Day 3km road race and participants were delighted with the course. The flat route attracted a remarkable number of competitors many of whom were club members.

**Ferry Hedge Cutting**



Flail & Sawhead Fully Insured  
Contact Benny on 085 7859676

Donal Farren ran 8:39, Danny Mooney 8:41, Philip McHugh 9:12, Philip McGee 9:14, Karol Duggan 9:40, John Foley 9:50, Darragh Naughton 9:57, Michael Hackin 10:11, Kieran McFady 10:28, Erida McLaughlin 10:28, Denise Shiels 10:32, Michael Donaghy 10:32, Darren Price 10:40, Stephen Woods 10:46, Eimear Greenley 11:04, Colly O'Donnell 11:14, Brian Thursty 11:15, Mark Nee 11:19, John McCallan 11:36, Henry Lyons 11:41, Luke Sweeney 11:42, Sinead George 11:52, Sophia Ward 11:55, Ciaran O'Donnell 11:56, Manus McFadden 11:58, John Hughes 12:24, Frances Judge 12:26, Eve Nic Giolla Ebsin 12:55, Joan Naughton 12:56, Cara Harkin 12:57, Abbey Harkin 13:13, P Lyons 13:27, Brian Marney 13:42, Ben McBride 13:48, Seamus Gallagher 14:06, Liam Wiseman 14:47, Tommy Naughton 14:49, Richard Raymond 14:55, Theresa Wiseman 15:00, Oran McFadden 15:42, Patrick McFadden 15:42, Eilie Mary Temple 16:01, Mary Gallagher 16:41, Noreen Rinder 17:55 while Angela McGee ran 21:37.



**Jack Sweeney Meats**

will return to business on Thursday 21st March at usual locations and times in the North West after a short lay off.

For further details Call 086 8602718

Congratulations to Georgina Howley, Wedding Co Ordinator at the Silver Tassie Hotel, Ramellon Road, Letterkenny who was the winner of the award "Ulster Wedding Coordinator of the year for 2024". Georgina was presented with her award at a Gala Dinner evening at the Lyneth Estate Hotel in Killybegs.

League of Ireland First Division

**Murphy guarding against Kerry complacency**

Finn Harps will aim to continue their fine start to the First Division campaign with a fourth win when they host struggling Kerry FC in Ballybofey this Friday night (kick-off 7.45). The visitors are second from bottom and on just two points from five games. That leaves them eight behind Darren Murphy's side who are joint second in the table. Kerry picked up only their second point of the season when drawing 1-1 at home against Cobh Ramblers on Friday. Harps will be looking for their second home win following on from the Athlone success but they have dropped four points at Finn Park having drawn with Cork City and lost to Cobh Ramblers. Murphy's men have a 100% record on the road counting behind with late goals to defeat Longford Town and Wexford Youths. Mur-



phy is likely to make a couple of changes from the Wexford game. Patrick Ferry who came on and scored has to be a contender to start against Kerry. Likewise Max Hutchinson who was also introduced for the second half and was involved in the two Harps goals will be in the frame for the first 11. In the other games this Friday night there is a top of the table clash in Limerick where Treaty Utd have home advantage against Cork City. On Saturday Treaty's away game against bottom of the table Longford Town was postponed due to a waterlogged pitch. So depending how the results go Harps could be joint top of the table after the weekend games. Longford are away to another struggling side Athlone Town on Friday. Bray Wanderers and Cobh Ramblers host Wexford Youths and UCD respectively.

**Late Harps win in Wexford**

Wexford Youths 1-2 Finn Harps  
Finn Harps recorded their second away win of the season with the help of a late David Cawley goal that secured the three points against Wexford Youths at Ferrycarrig Park on Friday night. It completed a super comeback by Darren Murphy's side who were slightly fortunate to be only a goal behind at the break. The manager made a double substitution at the interval and one of those replacements Patrick Ferry got the visitors back on level terms in the 49th minute. The result leaves Harps joint second in the table. It was Wexford's first home game of the season and for manager James Keddy he will be wondering just how his side didn't get at least a draw from this clash. However, they do have two games in hand and still look like a side that can challenge for a play-off place. Harps, who made the long journey down on Friday morning, showed three changes from the Cobh loss. Conor Tourish, Luke O'Brien and Mark Mbui all started for the first time this season in place of Max Hutchinson, Shane McMonagle and Patrick Ferry. The hosts were 1-0 up at the break courtesy of Cian O'Malley's close-range finish after a well rehearsed short corner routine caught out the Harps defence. The away side did have an early chance when central defender Matty Makinson came close from a corner. Harps were then relieved not to be 2-0 down when Mike Rowe's low angled 16-yard drive rebounded back off the inside of the post. Tim Heimer saved well also from Kian Corbally midway through the first half before the visitors mounted a rare attack. Tony McNamee's cross saw Tourish head wide. Murphy made that double substitution for the second half with Max Hutchinson and Ferry being introduced for Stephen Doherty and Mark

Mbui. Harps got an immediate bounce from the changes just four minutes after the interval when Hutchinson and Success Edogun combined to find Ferry who shot past keeper Owen Mason's feeble attempt at a save. Murphy's men were a bit more threatening in attack in the closing stages with Tourish's advances down the right wing causing some headaches for former Harps man Ehan Boyle. The all-important winning goal came in the 89th minute with Hutchinson again involved teeing up Tourish for a cross that veteran midfielder Cawley swept past Mason for his first Harps goal. Rowe almost helped salvage a draw for Wexford but his late cross was cleared for a corner by Noa Baba. This Friday night Wexford will be at the Cadisde Grounds to take on Bray Wanderers. The same night, Harps host second from bottom Kerry in Ballybofey.  
Finn Harps - Tim Heimer; Conor Tourish, Jamie Watson, Matty Makinson, Noe Baba, Stephen Doherty (Max Hutchinson 46), Tony McNamee (Sean O'Donnell 83), David Cawley, Luke O'Brien (Shane McMonagle 69), Success Edogun, Mark Mbui (Patrick Ferry 46). Subs not used: Conor Walsh (Gk), Darragh Coyle, Max Johnston, Chris Lotefu.  
Ref: Robert Dowling

**Harps Lotto**

There were no jackpot winners in the Finn Harps Super 4 Lotto draw for 14th March. The numbers drawn were 11, 16, 19, 25. The next draw takes place on Thursday 21st March and the jackpot is €10,000. There were 3 match 3 winners this week winning €70 each: Eibhlin Coll, Admran, Stranorlar; Mary Ward, Aid McCool, Stranorlar; Sobhan McCauley, o/o Conkers, Ballybofey.

**Winners for Browne McMonagle and McAteer**

Both Dylan Browne McMonagle and Luke McAteer were among the winners at Dundalk on Friday evening. Joseph O'Brien added to his Cheltenham Festival success with Lark In The Morning when another four-year-old, Princess Rahab, won the 12-furlong handicap with Browne McMonagle in the saddle. The 10/1 shot came from a little off the pace to lead inside the final furlong and she had three-

parts of a length to spare over Pat Flynn's Not Just Any Eagle at the line. A neck was the winning margin as the Luke McAteer-ridden Jakajaro won the six-furlong conditions' race for trainer David Mamane. In the colours of MCR International, the 7/2 chance travelled noticeably well and led inside the final furlong to see off the Gavin Ryan-ridden Genests, trained by Barry Fitzgerald.

**Cloughaneely Golf Club**

There was a good turnout at the weekend for the 4 Ball Better Ball kindly sponsored by BATCH. 1st: Martin Mortimer & Padraig O'Grady 53pts; 2nd: Danny McNulty & Caoian McNulty 49pts BOT. Fantastic scoring by both teams especially by President Padraig and his partner Martin Mortimer great to see them getting together and winning the competition!  
On Bank Holiday Monday we had a 18 Hole Scramble, 1st: Chris McCallion, Vincent Colum, Scotch Oweine McFadden, Joseph Mangan & Roisin McGee 55.2 (-7). This was a fantastic score with the team making 7 birdies rumour has it Joseph Mangan's putter was very hot!  
The Easter Hamper will take place this weekend hopefully handicap counting if the weather stays ok more details in the whatsapp group by Friday.  
On Good Friday 29th March, we have a 9 Hole Scramble draw at 5pm sharp. There will be a Ta-

Me Quiz in the Strand Road Bar and Kitchen after at 8pm with quizmaster Denis 'dandy' Doohan.  
On Saturday 30th March we have the annual Donal McGinley Memorial 9 Hole Scramble starting at 1pm. All welcome more details to follow soon.  
Our 2024 Golf Membership rates can be found on our website payment is due by Sunday 31st March. Cloughaneely Golf Club welcomes new members. We offer excellent greens, a great test of golf and you will receive a warm welcome from us.  
Cuirseann Cumann Golf Chloch Cheannthaola fálte roimh bhail úra - fé, mná agus daoine óga. Tá na tóill Niamhúla ó Eanáir go Nollag tentach réasúnta. Tá plúsóga den scoil ar an chúrsa, bainfidh tú sult agus sísamh as é a imirt agus cuirfear fálte mhór romhat.



Cloughaneely Golf Club Captain Vincent Colum taking a well deserved break!

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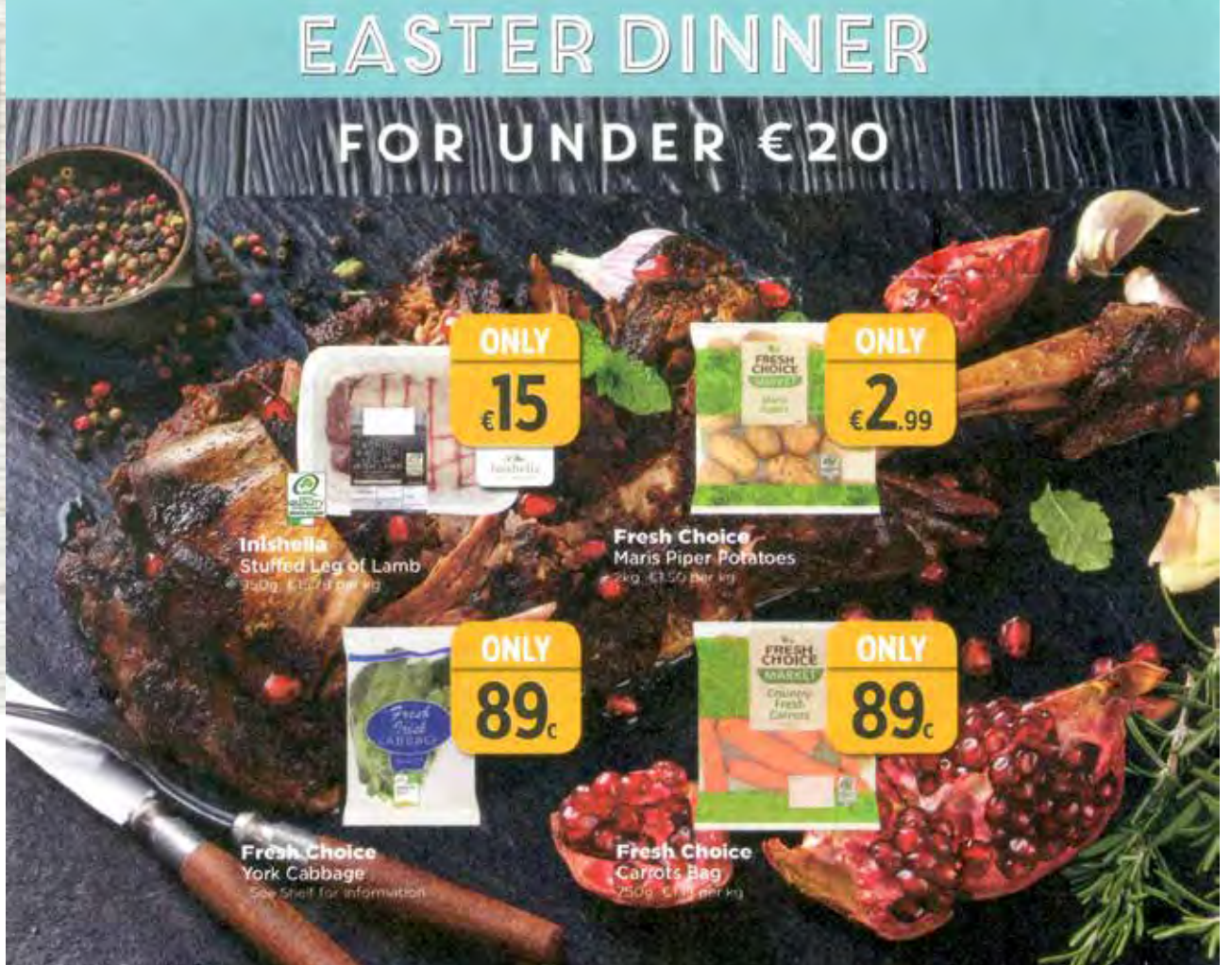
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Winter Opening Hours  
Mon - Sat 8am to 9pm  
Sunday 9am to 9pm



ONLY  
€3.99

**Kellogg's**  
Cornflakes/ Crunchy Nut Honey & Nut Flakes/ Special K  
720g/500g/440g €5.54/€7.98/ €9.07 per kg



## EASTER DINNER FOR UNDER €20

ONLY  
€15

ONLY  
€2.99

ONLY  
89c

ONLY  
89c



Members pay  
€2.09  
Non Member Price €2.69  
€2.69 per lt  
+25c Deposit

**Mi Wadi**  
Squash Range 1ltr



Members pay  
HALF PRICE  
€2.20  
Non Member Price €4.40  
€8.80 per kg

**Nestlé**  
Cookie Crisp 500g



2 FOR  
€4

**SPAR**  
Still Water  
5lt 40c per lt



ONLY  
€6

**SPAR**  
Toilet Tissue White  
18 Rolls €0.33 per roll



ONLY  
€5

**SPAR**  
Woodlogs  
5 Pack See Shelf for Information



**SUPEREASY REWARDS**  
Exclusive Members Only Offers  
Members pay  
€1.50  
Non Member Price €2.50  
See Shelf for Information

**Pringles**  
Snacks Range  
165g/160g  
See Shelf for Information



Members pay  
€2.50  
Non Member Price €2.99  
€9.80 per kg

**Chicago Town** 305g  
Thin & Crispy Cheese/Double Pepperoni



ONLY  
€1

**Spar**  
Pasta Range 500g



ONLY  
€1

**Spar**  
Pasta Sauce Range



### 12 PACK BOTTLES - FROM €12.95

Canadian Bottles 12 Pack 12x330ml €3.27 per lt €12.95  
Miller/Rockshore Beer Bottles 12 Pack 12x330ml €3.78 per lt €14.95  
Carlsberg Premium Beer 12 Pack 12x330ml €4.15 per lt €14.95  
Madri Bottles 12 Pack 12x330ml €3.85 per lt €15.25  
Staropramen Bottles 12 Pack 12x330ml €4.28 per lt €16.95



ONLY  
€16

**Tanqueray**  
Non Alcoholic Gin  
700ml



ONLY  
€9.99

**Casillero del Diablo**  
Wines range  
750ml