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McGarvey welcomes works on Rathmullan Pier

Extensive works planned for Rathmullan Pier this summer will see the structure closed until November. The refurbishment project will cost €3.8 million and will start next Monday.

The foreshore licence has just come through and that has added urgency to get the works underway.

The Lough Swilly Ferry

and angling services will be accommodated during the holiday season, officials said.

Cllr. Pauric McGarvey says the work is vital to the future of the pier and it has to take place during the more settled weather and sea conditions over the coming months.

He said the Council and contractor are working well with all the stakeholders and ser-

vices such as the Lough Swilly ferry will still have access to the pier for its regular seasonal crossings, although the carpark next to the pier will have reduced capacity for the duration of the work.

Engineering firm, Cunningsham Civil and Marine from Co. Mayo, has been appointed for the work that will see the major refurbishment

work including new supports, railings and surfacing among other upgrades.

Cllr McGarvey said that plans are also in place to have a new pontoon area located near the slipway for August when the World Sea Angling Championships comes to the harbour town.

He added that the funding

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1,000 sign petition for new health centre

A public meeting in the village hall Kilmacrennan at the weekend has called on the HSE to provide a modern new facility in the village.

by John McAteer

The meeting heard that a thousand people have signed a petition seeking action from the HSE to have the Health Centres in Churchill and Kilmacrennan fully restored.

The meeting called on the HSE to build a brand new health centre to include ENT: physio and occupational therapy services. The Health Centre there has been closed since January 29th and according to com-

ments at the public meeting, it appears that very few knew anything much about this latest loss of important local services.

However, the HSE has offered the Kilmacrennan and Termon areas a bus trip to Milford that could see them away from home for over five hours. That has been flatly rejected.

At the meeting in the village hall Cllr. Michael McBride said there was a deficit of information and a lack of communication from the HSE and he proposed that they seek a meeting with officials to establish why a building in perfectly good condition was shut without any

consultation with the people.

He said Kilmacrennan has an increasing population and rather than close the service, he proposed they seek to have a new one opened in the village and a campaign will be organised to give weight to the concerns and needs of the community. He said the idea of a bus to Milford serving the Kilmacrennan and Termon areas is not the answer to the loss of a vital community service. He said that no community could ever accept HSE assurances that a health centre could be replaced by a bus that would see members of the com-

munity being away from home for more than five hours.

The HSE said that where possible, 'a door-to-door service' is being provided.

However, those at the public meeting rejected this proposal, given that people with infections and illness cannot be expected to use a bus service in the first instance. Queries were also raised about the views of the doctors at the Milford Health Centre and if they were consulted about the closure in Kilmacrennan.

Cllr. McBride said the entire catchment area of almost 7,000 people stretching from Illistrin to Termon,

Ballyare, and beyond to Trentagh had been left high and dry by the HSE and they are withdrawing vital services from rural areas and they must be 'called out' and made to answer for their decisions.

Amid calls for the rejection of the 'centralisation of services' impacting on community life, Cllr. John O'Donnell said he was assured through a senator that the situation in Kilmacrennan would be reviewed by senior HSE personnel. It was pointed out from the floor of the meeting that all medical assets in the centre have now been removed.

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Campaign Launches

Cllr. Pauric McGarvey will have his local elections campaign launch this Friday evening in Ramelton Town Hall at 7.30.

It is his first campaign as he seeks to hold the Independent seat first won by his uncle, Ian McGarvey way back in 2004. He's facing into a campaign that is as unpredictable as the weather, with interest so far not setting the public imagination alight.

However, polling day on June 7th is nine weeks away.

The Milford electoral area will be one of the most hotly fought battles with a number of candidates bidding to win seats. Liam Blaney, John O'Donnell and Pauric McGarvey are the outgoing Cllrs and they are already joined by Aaron Sweeney for FG: Maria Doherty for SF: Declan Meehan (Indep) and Eamonn Jackson for the 100% Redress Party.

Fine Gael's Aaron Sweeney will launch his campaign in Logues of Cranford on Saturday week at 8pm with guest speakers.

Sweeney is bidding to win a seat for his party and they've last elected a Cllr. here in 2009 when Noel McBride won a seat in the ten seater Letterkenny area. However, in 2014, the McBride vote of 4.4% was far short of expectations while Grace Boyle on 2.2% left FG out in the cold. Jimmy Kavanagh got the party seat in Letterkenny Town.

In 2019 McBride was joined by Emer Friel in a bid to win back the seat in the Milford three seater. Despite polling 18.9% on first preferences Ian McGarvey on 10% won out in a dramatic final count to retain the seat.

And over in the Glenties area, as Cllr. Michael McClafferty pre-

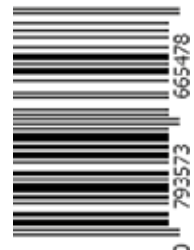
pares his election canvas cards, this is his first time running on an Independent ticket. His campaign will begin in earnest in the next fortnight.

Politics has become a central part of his life these past five years. However, the Creeslough explosion is a forever memory. Michael was there late into Saturday evening amongst the families and the community as the tragedy unfolded. His thoughts are with the bereaved families as he recalls how this small village wrapped its arms in sympathy with the families - they've been doing so ever since.

He says he witnessed great courage, great heroism among the entire community at the scene, great empathy and he says Donegal can stand proud of the devotion of Fr. John Joe and the skills and dedication of all those among the emergency services at the scene. He says he is proud of the sense of community spirit in Creeslough and there are many small steps ongoing for the future.

Michael was already a community worker before running as a candidate for FG in 2019 and he polled 1,012 votes on the first count, His final figure of 1,799 was an outstanding victory. He wants to see rural areas grow and prosper. His big focus is on retaining the N56 without any new planning regulations or restricted access.

Rural Donegal and the people there are his priority and that is his greatest calling card for June 7th.



Susan Shiels making a point at the public meeting in Kilmacrennan pictured with her daughter Katriona and Joan Gallagher.

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Cathal Friel: new green energy venture

Creeslough-born entrepreneur and financier, Cathal Friel, is turning his sights on building a portfolio of green energy assets.

Now based in Dublin, Cathal, who is the son of the late John and Tessie Friel, who ran Friels of the Creeslough Ford garage and dealership, features regularly in the national and international news for a string of investment and business success stories across a diverse range of industries.

He has been based in Dublin since 1998, having sold the Creeslough garage in 1997 and now lives in Blackrock with his wife and three children.

Recently it has been reported that one of Friel's companies, European Green Transition (EGT) is working to buy cash strapped green energies such as wind and solar farms, and sell them on to new buyers.

EGT was conceived as a 'rare metals miner' that are now looking to acquire these distressed firms in a bid to turn them into a profitable portfolio they can then sell on to large trade buyers or Middle Eastern sovereign wealth funds looking to invest beyond the oil trade.

Speaking in The Sunday Times he stated: "We are building the portfolio with the end game in mind. We were talking to buyers before we set up the company. We wouldn't be doing it without know-

ing there are buyers at the end."

He added they were looking to "scale up quickly". The company is detailed as having £8 million in "pre-money" value and they are expecting to raise a further €6 million.

Cathal is described as a seasoned serial entrepreneur with a long-running and successful history in business.

He is Managing Director of Raglan Capital and Chairman and co-founder of hVIVO plc (previously Open Orphan plc). hVIVO plc sold its initial public offering (IPO) on the London and Dublin stock exchanges in June 2019 and is the world leader in testing infectious and respiratory disease vaccines and therapeutics using human challenge trials. He is also Chairman and co-founder of Poolbeg Pharma plc, which was created as a spin-out from hVIVO plc.

He was also co-founder of Amryt Pharma plc which sold its first initial public offering (IPO) shares of stock to the public, on the London Stock Exchange in 2016 and was successfully sold to Chiesi Farmaceutici for \$1.48bn in April 2023. Prior to that, he was co-founder and Chairman of Fastnet Oil & Gas plc, which listed on the London Stock Exchange in 2011.

Cathal began his career aged 16 working their fam-



ily business, Friel's of Creeslough, in 1981.

He went on to complete his education by taking night classes and received an MBA from the University of Ulster in 1990 and spent the following five years lecturing on a part-time basis on International Marketing and Business Planning at the University of Ulster whilst in tandem running his own technology services business.

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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.

Polling booths accessibility survey

Cllr Jimmy Kavanagh has asked the Council to survey polling booths for accessibility ahead of the local and European elections on June 7th. The Fine Gael Cllr has been told that the Local Authority will review the accessibility of polling booths, in consultation with the Office of the County Registrar.

Town Park info boards update

Cllr Gerry McMonagle has been informed that the Council is currently carrying out a general review of signage including at the Bernard McGlinchey Town Park in Letterkenny. A tourism funding application is being prepared to assist the funding of the upgrade. The Sinn Fein Cllr had sought a response as to when new and updated information boards will be put in place at the Park.

Kiltoy/Loughnagin traffic calming needed

Cllr Donal 'Mandy' Kelly has called on the Council to install a speed ramp on the Kiltoy/Loughnagin road as a matter of urgency. He had been contacted by concerned local residents about regular incidences of speeding on the stretch of road from Carolina Park to the Ramelton Road Junction where there had been a number of vehicle collisions. Cllr Kelly was told that the section of road concerned is included in the 2024 Restoration Improvement Programme. Area Roads Manager David McElwaine said that introduction of speed reduction measures will be considered as part of that project. Cllr Pauric McGarvey said he travelled the road on a regular basis and agreed that traffic calming measures had to be implemented as soon as possible. Cllr Jimmy Kavanagh, who has previously raised the issue of safety on the road said speed was a huge issue with an increased volume of traffic using it as a relief route to and from Letterkenny. The Fine Gael Cllr called for additional warning 'slow down' signage to be erected approaching the Ramelton Road Junction.

Cathedral Celtic Cross spotlights

The Council is to carry out an assessment to establish if it is feasible to put spotlights under the Celtic Cross at the front of St. Eunan's Cathedral. It follows a request from Cllr Jimmy Kavanagh who said the Cross was barely visible at night for people visiting the area. "The spotlights could also have filters for different events like Autism Month similar to what is done at the Polestar," Cllr Kavanagh said.

The Council is looking at the request in regard to the costs and implications of putting spotlights in place in front of the Cathedral. If it is deemed as something that can be done, appropriate funding opportunities will then be sought.

Dunfanaghy litter picking event

Dunfanaghy Tidy Towns committee are holding a litter pick this coming Sunday the 7th April between 12 noon and 1.30pm, meeting at the TT shed at 12.

It would be great to have as many of our volunteers present as possible and hopefully the weather will be kind. Please bring high viz jackets, gloves and litter pickers with you.

McGarvey welcomes works on Rathmullan Pier

From Page One

allocated has to be spent by the end of the year so it was important to get the project underway as soon as possible.

He stated: "It is a €3.8 million project and that is welcome. The ferry service will still run as normal. They (the contractor) are using a bit of the car park and sailing club for storage and a compound, and they are relocating the sailing club to an area beside the beach. The council and the contractor say they would like to make sure that they accommodate everyone and the sea angling is being accommodated off the slipway and this comes after a meeting two weeks ago. The Lough

Swilly Sea Angling group is having the world championships this year. They are hosting it and they will be accommodated with a pontoon on the far side of the slipway."

He added: "The Council and the contractor are working well with the groups and stakeholders. The pier itself will be fully inaccessible, but it is something that needs to go ahead because of the funding. The foreshore licence has only been granted, so they are starting straight away. They have to start now because the money has to be spent by the end of the year."

He said the sea and weather conditions are another factor on why the work must commence

shortly.

He stated: "It has to be done at this time of year because it can't be done in rough seas and nobody wants to be working off the side of a barge at the end of the pier at the end of October. It is important that it happens this time of year and it is going to cause a bit of upheaval for this summer but it will stand to Rathmullan for years to come and I hope it will attract more tourists and more visitors for boating. It will be great to get the naval services there more often. Who knows maybe even cruise ships could use it in the future, that might be a new opportunity".

1,000 sign petition for new health centre

From Page One

Michael McBride said that he'd inspected the building and it was in good condition and that could not be used as an excuse for its closure. Another suggestion from the meeting claimed they were told the building was closed due to a fungus in the building.

Cllr. O'Donnell and SF's Maria Doherty pledged their support to calls for a new health centre and the meeting rejected the HSE response from Mandy Doyle, the Head of Primary Care in the region.

She wrote to Cllr. McBride on March 14th stating that the same level of GP service will now be available in the Milford Health Centre and the HSE has organised a Local Link Service twice weekly on Tuesday and Friday morning up to 1pm. M/s Doyle said that seats must be booked the previous day by 4.30pm.

That sounded like a really bad plan when it was debated at Friday's village meeting with a sense of disbelief that the community should have to go elsewhere to see a doctor.

The HSE comments were unanimously rejected as being inadequate and lacking vital information should anyone need to see a GP outside of these provisions. And there were complaints that the HSE had turned its back on Kilmacrennan with no information whatsoever had been given on why the Kilmacrennan



Anthony Gallagher pictured with Cllr. Michael McBride.

centre was closed with no other local choices offered. A show of hands at the meeting indicated that around 25% of the local community was in receipt of a notice to close the health centre.

M/s Doyle's letter to Cllr. McBride revealed that there never was a five days a week surgery in Churchill. Everyone in the area has been acutely aware that there is no doctor's surgery there since the start of the pandemic. However, the centre remains open with public health nursing services available.

RE-OPEN OUR HEALTH CENTRES NOW!

Churchill Health Centre

The Kilmacrennan Primary Care Centre is a crucial healthcare facility that has been serving our community for years. It has recently been closed down, with the proposal of a shuttle bus service to Milford. This solution is not viable for our residents, particularly the older, and vulnerable members in our community. We urge the Minister for Health and the HSE to consider the distress and impact on our community the closure this decision on the closing of the Kilmacrennan Primary Care Centre with immediate effect.

- Cllr. Michael McBride

Sign our petition to get our Primary Care Centre Reopened!

Name: _____



Sections of the attendance at the meeting.

Donaldson: Irish history has seen few such events

The resignation of Jeffrey Donaldson is historic. Irish history has seen few such historic events. This event will be remembered when, most likely, Simon Harris will long be forgotten.

This isn't just a political event, though. That can be forgotten amid the political noise.

There is also an alleged victim or victims.

The online speculation is most distressing to them and their loved ones. At best, it is totally irresponsible. At worst, it is creepy.

Over the years I have known victims of abuse. Thus I have some idea what it does to people. (Fortunately, I never went through the experience myself). May I be clear, I only have some idea. That must be front and centre in this case.

This is the appalling role of social media. That is particularly the sewer of bile that is X (formerly Twitter).

The legal situation is that sex abuse victims have lifetime anonymity unless they decide to go public themselves.

Newspapers and broadcasters can't name them, or publish any information that might identify them. For example, if the Tribune did so, the editor would be charged with contempt. A prison sentence would be possible. Certainly there would be a very heavy fine.

That's very different to the way the likes of Elon Musk is treated. He owns X (formerly Twitter). There is no action against him. To date, there seems no action, either, against those who have posted, or reposted, material.

Worse, allowing this stuff online is doing more than distressing those directly involved. The long-term effects are to stop victims achieving justice. Getting victims to come forward is difficult. When they see the sort of

The legal situation is that sex abuse victims have lifetime anonymity unless they decide to go public themselves. Newspapers and broadcasters can't name them, or publish any information that might identify them. For example, if the Tribune did so, the editor would be charged with contempt. A prison sentence would be possible.

posts now are all over the internet, that is less likely.

Then there is the question of a fair trial. There is real bile towards Donaldson. Most of it comes from people who seem Nationalists. Some, though, are from the wilder shores of Unionism. Others are from the British far right.

The court process must be allowed to take its course. Everybody is innocent, unless proven guilty. Giving up on that principle puts us in a very dangerous place. It puts us all at risk.

Donaldson divides opinions. I have spoken to Donaldson once. I was writing an obituary and was told I should speak to him. When I spoke to him he was pleasant and helpful. That was for a phone conversation of 10 to 15 minutes. Thus I can't pass judgment on him as a person, one way or another. He is, after all, an experienced professional politician. Thus he has to be good at communicating with people.

His arrest has big political implications. The Assembly and Executive are only recently re-established. Donaldson played an important part in getting the DUP back in. He had every step prepared. He seems to have had his opponents boxed off.

The DUP is now on its third leader in three years. Gavin Robinson has been installed as acting leader.

Robinson is very much Continuity Donaldson. He belongs to the same pragmatic wing of the DUP.

It seems most likely he will become leader. He was elected deputy leader in a contest against a more right-wing candidate.

Importantly, though, a (British) General Election is due before the end of the year.

Donaldson is suspended from the DUP. He is MP for Lagan Valley. Protocol is that MPs facing such charges stay away from Westminster. He does not have to resign because he has not been convicted. The clock is ticking, though. Being suspended means he cannot be a candidate.

Thus the DUP has to find a candidate. In the last (British) General Election, the DUP was 6,500 votes ahead of Alliance. I think any credible DUP candidate can hold the seat. However, Alliance is right to see themselves as having a chance. Even Alliance narrowing the gap would be a slap for the DUP.

Robinson is an MP, not a member of the Assembly. His seat of East Belfast is a lot less safe. Last time round he only had a majority of 1,800 from Alliance's Naomi Long. Long did hold the seat for some years. She took it from the DUP. Robinson is still more likely to take it. Again, Alliance are right to see themselves as having a

chance.

We don't know if there will be an election for DUP leader. Under the rules, Robinson can't just take over. Being elected unopposed is possible.

There is no obvious challenger from the right. Sammy Wilson MP is a critic of the deal that brought back the Executive and Assembly. He has, though, said he supports Robinson.

However, elections can always throw up surprises. We only have to look at last month's referendum results.

Importantly, a challenger from the right doesn't have to win. All they need is a substantial vote. That lessens Robinson's room to manoeuvre.

The Executive is certainly enjoying a honeymoon. There is certainly discontent in the DUP. There are, apparently, mutterings that Deputy First Minister Emma Little Pengelly seems too pally to Michelle O'Neill. Little Pengelly has the disadvantage of not being elected. Donaldson co-opted her into his Lagan Valley Assembly seat. Thus she lacks the authority she will need when difficulties emerge.

The Executive's political honeymoon



By Anton McCabe

will end. We just don't know when.

The honeymoon is in the background for the DUP. For all that discontent, there is no mood to collapse the Assembly and Executive in the immediate future. After all, they are only just back. There is, though, the danger the discontent could fester. It could even turn toxic.

Very importantly, any political party would be shaken by events like last week. We don't know how shaken the DUP will be. We do know that this was a blow to the DUP's confidence.

We know, too, that the events were completely unexpected. We must know, too, that the unexpected will always happen. In the future, could such an event destroy the Norths' fragile arrangements.

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- 161 Audi A3 Saloon **Sold**
- 161 Kia Sportage K3
- 161 Kia Sportage K2
- 161 Hyundai Tucson
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- 151 VW Touran 7 seater Auto
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- 2020 Mitsubishi L200 Barbarian Auto
- 212 Opel Combo
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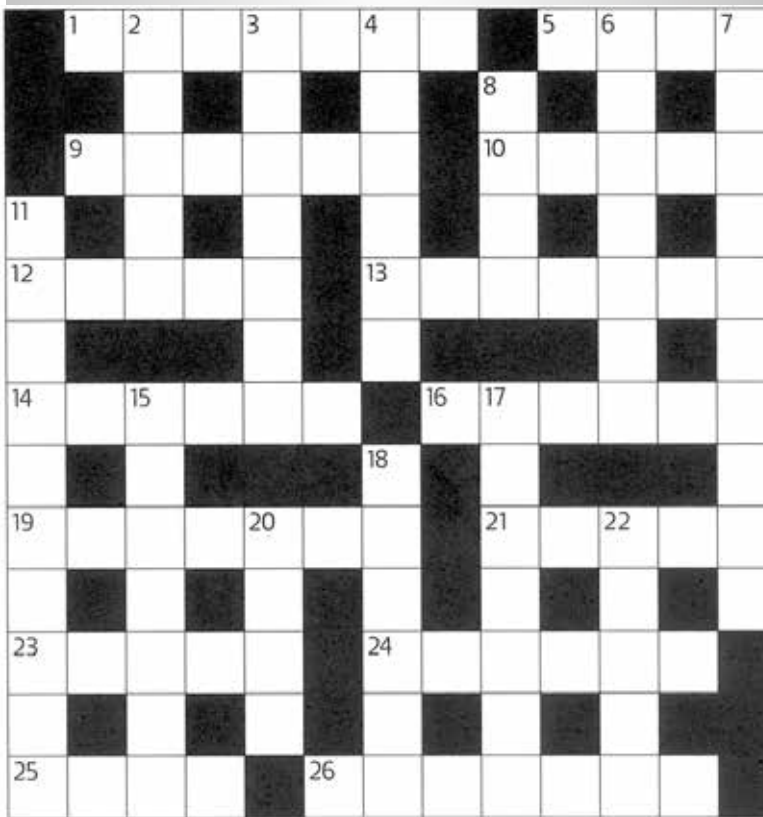
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Tribune Crossword No. 1058



Across

- 1. Safekeeping (7)
- 5. Amongst (4)
- 9. Pinball ____, Who song (6)
- 10. Bowler's approach (3-2)
- 12. Parasitic worm (5)
- 13. Master of ceremonies (7)
- 14. Hot curry (6)
- 16. Spiced sausage (6)
- 19. Hole (7)
- 21. South African grasslands (5)
- 23. Crooked (5)
- 24. Chastise (6)
- 25. Transform (4)
- 26. Umpire (7)

Down

- 2. Merge (5)
- 3. Windpipe (7)
- 4. Subtract (6)
- 6. Nelson ____, former South African president (7)
- 7. Diminish in value (10)
- 8. Edge (4)
- 11. Ostentatious (10)
- 15. Toper (7)
- 17. Make headway (7)
- 18. Place of worship (6)
- 20. US state, capital Des Moines (4)
- 22. Fine cotton thread (5)

Solutions to Crossword No. 1057

Across 1. Chrysalis, 6. Ado, 8. Susie, 9. Terse, 10. Buyer, 11. Vase, 13. Inane, 15. Cynic, 17. Livid, 19. Tithe, 21. Alps, 23. Viola, 26. Miner, 27. Fatal, 28. Eon, 29. Confered. Down 1. Cosby, 2. Restrict, 3. Siesta, 4. Lute, 5. Syria, 6. Arabic, 7. Mere, 12. Ski, 14. Elevator, 16. Yul, 18. Dragon, 20. Trifle, 21. Alms, 22. Panic, 24. Oiled, 25. Grin.

Work starts on Jim Lynch Community Centre building

Construction has commenced on a new building at Letterkenny Community Centre which is to be named after the late Jim Lynch. The turning of the sod took place last Wednesday for the essential new dressing rooms and a meeting area facility that will cost €1.4 million.

Manager Liam O'Donnell said it was fitting that the development would be named after Jim Lynch who did so much for the Community Centre going back to the 1980s. There has been impressive progress on the site in recent years with the laying of a new €600,000 astro pitch and the erection of floodlights that has been a hugely successful revenue generator. However, with that came the need for the provision of additional dressing rooms.

Liam O'Donnell who has been manager at the Pearse Road facility for over 30 years said that initially there had been bigger plans for this phase but the costs just proved too much at this time. He thanked the funding agencies who were supporting the new building which will be located in the left hand corner of the track as one looks towards the Tesco Roundabout. The construction contract time for the McHugh Bros

firm is the end of this year to have the job completed. The Community Centre will have to do fundraising themselves to help with the costs and news on those plans are expected shortly.

"The new pitch has been a huge success with a lot of groups using it so new dressing rooms were needed along with what was there. There will also be a meeting room with it. We are a lot about sport here. But these are also facilities for non-sport events. It's great now to see so many other communities coming here and using the facilities. I have to pay tribute to the people who had the vision to build a Community Centre here in the early 1970's. As well as a building they gave us a huge car park which is so important for users" Mr O'Donnell said.

The decision to name the new building in memory of Jim Lynch was something that Liam O'Donnell said was very fitting for a man who just loved what Letterkenny Community Centre did for the town and its environs. Jim passed away at the end of September 2022, was an integral part of the facility since the 1980s. He was on the Board of Directors and was also the longtime

editor of the Letterkenny Christmas Annual. "What Jim Lynch did over all the years here we must carry it on and it is right that the new building be named in his memory as a legacy to his work. We are delighted to have his daughter Riana here along with his brothers and sisters and extended family."

The sod was turned by Cllr. Kevin Bradley, Mayor of the Letterkenny-Milford Municipal District who said it was a great day for the staff and Board of Directors and especially for the Lynch family to learn that the new facility will be named after their brother. The new community building, with two new state-of-the-art dressing rooms, will be built beside the existing astroturf playing pitch which has been a huge success since it was completed in 2019.

Ciaran Martin from the Council said the opportunity arose for the Local Authority to support the development after it emerged that plans for a Social Enterprise Building in Letterkenny would not be proceeding. Rather than lose the funding that had been allocated for that project, he said local Cllrs lobbied to have the money diverted to other developments like Cairde le Cheile and the Letterkenny Community Centre.

Mr Martin pointed to the strength of the case made by Liam O'Donnell and his team who generate 50% of their own income from initiatives like renting out the football pitch, charging for classes and the use of the gym. Funding for the project is coming from the Minister Heather Humphreys, who has approved grants of €400,000 with the Council providing a grant of €200,000.

The Community Centre is financing the rest of the balance through a bank loan and a Western Development Commission loan as well as a number of fundraising initiatives. The community building will be suitable for public events, meetings, and



The Letterkenny Community Centre Directors and staff at the sod turning ceremony.

functions and will be able to host events for up to 70 people. There are also plans to erect a stand in the future. It is expected that the new development should take around seven months to complete. Liam O'Donnell said that the community is growing and there is an urgent need to expand and refurbish facilities at the Pearse Road facility. He also recalled that a survey conducted post the pandemic indicated a need for increased capacity of community facilities and changing rooms. Lee Downey, Chairperson of the Board of Directors thanked Minister Humphreys and other local public representatives that worked hard to ensure the funding was secured.

The project is being led by architect Gerard Gallagher (Studio G2), along with Joe and Joseph Coyle, Quantity Surveyors, James McGinley of Henry McGinley & Sons, Mechanical Engineers, and Stephen Kelly of Ipsum, Consulting Engineers. The main contractor is McHugh Brothers, Ballybofey.



Caolan Kelly family at the ceremony.



Liam O'Donnell Manager of the Community Centre with the late Jim Lynch's daughter Riana.



Marion Cullen, Nicholas McCormack with Mayor Kevin Bradley.



Bridie Keys, Brenda, Cathal and Jacqueline Kelly at the ceremony.



Mayor Kevin Bradley turning the sod on the new development at the Letterkenny Community Centre with Councillors, staff and guests.



Tom Hannigan with Jesse Purtill

Ramelton

Table Quiz

The Derry & Donegal Presbytery Choir are holding a Table Quiz in the Makemie Hall, Ramelton on this 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 the 6th April. Order from our food producers on 087-9699715. 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 Cosy Tearoom for a tea/coffee and maybe a delicious Cheese Toastie, scone or sweet treat, everything to make your visit to our market relaxing & enjoyable.

Loyalty cards are available at our checkouts & 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.

Antenatal Classes

Antenatal classes will commence on Wednesday 10th April for 4 weeks, 2-4pm. Venue is the Gallowglass Centre, Milford F92 CD51.

For further information contact the public health nurses on 0749151527

Ramelton, 0749158322 Rathmullan or 9153108 Milford PHN

Swilly Rovers FC lotto draw

Numbers drawn in the Swilly Rovers lotto were 10, 17, 18 and 21. No jackpot winner. No 3 number winners.

Next week's jackpot is €525. Thanks for your continued support.

Community Games training

Ramelton Community Games training will commence on next Wednesday 10th of April at St. Mary's National School from 6.15 p.m. to 7pm Children can still register on the night. €10 per child or €20 for a family (Over 6 years to Under 16).

K Club chef post for Gary

Ramelton native Gary O'Hanlon has taken up a prestigious Executive Chef position at the exclusive K Club in Kildare. Gary is the son of John and Anne O'Hanlon, Ardruimond Road. Gary had previously been Executive Chef at The Condor Luxury Private Estate in the Noire Valley south of Paris.

Jive with Paul

Paul McCahill is holding living classes in the Ramelton Community Centre every Wednesday night from 8pm to 9.30pm. Learn to jive, waltz, foxtrot and line dance with Paul and his team. Admission is €8 for Adults and €5 for children and all welcome.

Ramelton SVP

As the cost of living crisis continues, many families will face impossible choices this winter. If you are in need of support, con-



Graffiti sprayed on a house at Coylin Court in Ramelton showing the frustration with the defective concrete campaign.

tact Ramelton SVP in confidence.

Yoga with Jane

Yoga with Jane classes restart after Easter, call her on 086 8367776 to book or for details or visit Jane Watt yoga on FB

Gentle Yoga in the Kerrykeel Oldschool Community Centre starting on Thursday 11th April from 10-11am for 6 weeks and the cost is €60.

Chair Yoga in the Gallowglass Centre, Milford starting on Thurs 11th April from 12-1pm for 4 weeks and the cost is €40 (Chair Yoga is also running in Letterkenny on Wednesday evenings)

Yoga in Ray Community Centre starting on Saturday 13th April, from 10-11am. The cost for the 5 weeks is €40 and it excludes Bank Holiday Saturday.

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 craic company and a cuppa. All queries to Myrtle on 0876825387.

Upon A Star Drama School

Do you know someone who would be interested in helping out at the Upon A Star Drame showcase in Ramelton Town Hall on Sunday the 14th 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.

Little Ballers

The Little Ballers Toddler Football continues every Monday in the Ramelton Community Centre for boys and girls aged from 3 to 5 years old. Group 1 are on from 5 to 5.30pm and Group 2 from 5.30 to 6pm. Call into the Centre for details.

Trocaire School Volunteers

Are you a retired teacher who has experience presenting to a group of school children and who would like to make the world a better place? Trocaire is looking for volunteers to support a Schools Talk Programme for Lent in Donegal. For information on this exciting venture please call Casey Schell at 02890808033 or casey.schell@trocaire.org

GB

The Ramelton Girls Brigade continues on Mondays from 6.45-8pm.

Ramelton Bowling Club is back

Ramelton Bowling Club continues every Monday from 8pm in the Makemie Hall, Ramelton. All present members and new members are all welcome to come along and try Bowling. Coaching will be given to all new members. For further information contact 087 1255059 or 087 4016637.

Election Launch

Cllr. Pauric McGarvey will launch his 2024 Local Election campaign in the Ramelton Town Hall this Friday evening the 5th of April at 7.30pm.

Pauric has been a County Councillor for just over a year after replacing his uncle Ian McGarvey and has really settled into the job and he would appreciate a big crowd on Friday night. If anyone is interested in getting involved in his forthcoming campaign you can give him a call on 086 860 7735 or email him on pauricmcgarvey@donegalcoco.ie or get him on facebook and he will be delighted.

Care of the Aged Night out

The Ramelton Care of the Aged have organised a Night Out to Arena 7 on Tuesday the 16th of April. The bus will leave the Robertson School at 4.50pm travelling to Arena 7 for dinner at 5.45pm followed by entertainment. The cost of the trip including bus, dinner and entertainment is €20 and please contact Anthony on 086 082 2426 to book or ask him further questions.



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Car, Tractor & Rally Parts etc

Open: Monday to Friday 8am - 6pm
Saturday 9am - 5pm

Photo Reprints

Copies of photographs published in the Tribune are available to purchase at €6 each for an 8inch by 6inch colour print. Contact 074-9153600 for details

Rathmullan

Tidy Towns

CCTV cameras have recently been installed around Rathmullan in an effort to combat littering and dumping of household rubbish, so please take your litter home, as offenders will be caught and prosecuted. You could face a fine of up to €3,000 if convicted. This also applies to dog owners too, who must remove their dog's waste from public places and dispose of it properly.

If any member of the public observes littering or illegal dumping, then Donegal County Council is your first port of call, ring the Council's Call Centre (074) 91 53900. Alternatively, ring the EPA National Environment Complaints Line 1850 365 123, if it's outside normal working hours. However, if anyone would like to help our Volunteers keep Rathmullan tidy, then grab a Litter Picker at the Clean Coasts Stand near the entrance to the Car Park, and do a 2 Minute quick clean, at a time that suits you? Children love it, and every little helps, just small steps leading to a cleaner environment and beaches we can all enjoy.

The annual Big Spring Clean has been deferred until 20th April, and we look forward to your support at that time. The Annual Sustainability Fair will also take place on Sunday 21st April, and this year the emphasis will be on Repair Workshops, and Upcycling, with more details coming soon.

The time has changed, and Spring is here with wild plants soon to emerge including lesser celandine, white wood anemones, daisies, primroses, blue bells, and our 'lords & ladies', all of which can be seen along the hedgerows, and Batts Walks.

See how many you can spot during your next walk, and especially look for the 'Lords & Ladies' (Arun Maculatum) or Cuckoo Pint, with their distinctive shaped yellow bloom, which turns into spikes of green berries, eventually turning red.

These plants are highly toxic and should be treated with care; mind you, they don't smell too inviting either! Why not join the hundreds and thousands of people who submit casual records through Ireland's Citizen Science Data Portal; Biodiversityireland.

ie. and you'll also find brilliant information on how to improve the biodiversity in our area.

It's still nesting season for most of our garden and country birds, so be mindful not to disturb them, but it's also an exciting time too to look out for returning migratory birds, especially the Swallows, House Martins, and Swifts that we regularly welcome to Rathmullan.

Antenatal Classes

Antenatal classes will commence on Wednesday 10th April for 4 weeks, 2-4pm. Venue is the Gallowglass Centre, Milford F92 CD51. For further information contact the public health nurses on 0749151527 Ramelton, 0749158322 Rathmullan or 9153108 Milford PHN

Historic Total Eclipse 8 April

There is great excitement among astronomers worldwide to see and record this 'once in a lifetime' phenomenal total solar eclipse, last witnessed 9th March, 2016. The best place to be on 8th April would ideally be Mexico, but for us less fortunate, the experts recommend we may be lucky, depending on the weather of course, and see a partial eclipse on Monday night, looking out west, north west, starting from 7.54pm, with sunset at 8.22pm..

Pier Works commencing Monday

Donegal County Council advise that the Refurbishment Project for the Pier will commence on Monday 8th April, and therefore parking spaces will be restricted. However, Rathmullan will be still be open for business as usual, with all the beaches and amenities still available. The Lough Swilly Ferry will commence their summer Schedule on 1st June, and access to the slipway and Ferry will be maintained under traffic management. These works may be an inconvenience, but are absolutely essential to ensure the on-going safety for all pier users.

Rathmullan Celtic 50/50 Draw

Congratulations to Tony Brennan who won the Jackpot (€1366) on Saturday with Oisín (Tosh) McMenamin winning the Bonus prize. Next monthly draw will be end of April, with tickets available from the usual outlets.

Clean Coasts & Litter Picks

The weekly Pier area, village and beach cleans take place every

Wednesday, with equipment available outside the White Harte from 10.00am. 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 recently in helping to keep our streets and beaches litter free, we appreciate your support. Everyone welcome to join in and we usually have a sociable coffee afterwards.

Beaches & Dunes for Climate Adaptation 1st module this Saturday in Fanad

A unique training course in relation to understanding what causes Coastal Erosion and how can we reduce it, as well as how to 'take action' along with other fascinating information is taking place on Saturday.

Still time to register for this 2 day module (6th April and 8th June) by contacting Leave No Trace Ireland 01 905 9009 or events@leavenotracerireland.org

Eco Atlantic Adventure Camps Rathmullan

Eco Atlantic Adventures are now taking bookings for Beach Bootcamp Sunrise workout, starting 29th April at 6am for Monday/Wednesday/Friday in 4 week blocks. Booking essential for both these courses, contact Hugh 086 2250599.

Save the Date - Inch Mile 31st August

Gartan Open Waters in association with Swim Ireland and Donegal Sports Partnership are currently taking bookings for this unique event <https://eventmaster.ie/event/nGLtjplH0v> as well as the Kinnegar 500m. More details contact Karen (087 2214988) or Keith (086 0885459).

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 at very reasonable prices. Opening hours are Wednesday and Thursday 11-3 and also on Saturdays.

KERNANS Carrigart

Mickey Joe's Butchers



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485ml €11.83 per lit
Offers available from 21.03.24 to 10.04.24

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UP TO 33%*

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TOILET TISSUE WHITE
9 ROLLS 39c PER ROLL

Offers available from 08.02.24 to 28.02.24

*SAVE UP TO 33% VERSUS BRANDED EQUIVALENTS IN SPAR. THIS EXCLUDES SPAR NATURAL AND SPAR ECO RANGE.

RED-HOT RIGHT NOW:

SPAR RED VALUE



ANY 2 FOR €4*

CLUB Minerals Range 1.75 lit /
DORITOS Tortilla Chips Range 150g / 180g /
NESTLÉ Pouch Range: See Shelf for Information

Offers available from 21.03.24 to 10.04.24



Carrigart Boxing Club hosts successful tournament



Carrigart boxers and coaches pictured ahead of their tournament on Thursday night



Mikey Harkin receiving the Margaret Caldwell Memorial Cup

Downings GAA Centre set the scene on Thursday 28th March for Carrigart Boxing Clubs Home Tournament. It was a packed house on the night for the 13 contests up for decision as well as 5 exhibition fights. Well done to all the boxers who took to the ring on the night, many of them stepping into the ring for their first fight and making their debut for the club. A big thanks to all the clubs that travelled with boxers on the night: St Bridget's Boxing Club Clonmany, Derryveagh Boxing Club Gortahork, Raphoe Boxing Club, Convoy Boxing Club, St John Bo-

sco Boxing Club Donegal Town, Twin Towns Boxing Club Ballybofey and Bishop Kelly Boxing Club Eskra Co Tyrone. A special thanks to our sponsors for the evening: Milford Tiles and Wood Flooring, Annek Frozen Foods, Sonny Mc Swine's, Cathal Doherty Video Productions, Maple Carrigart, Brian Boyce (Owen), Goose and Gander, Donegal Boardwalk Resort, Mickey Stephen's Bar, Kernan's Spar (Mickey Joes Country Store), Downings Bay Hotel, Maria Doherty & Pádraig Mac Lochlainn Sinn Féin and Glenard Plant.

The evening was a great success. Well done to Mikey Harkin on receiving the Margaret Caldwell Memorial Cup for best home boxer on the night while Shayne O'Donnell of Derryveagh Boxing Club received the trophy for best visiting boxer.

A word of thanks to the officials who travelled on the night, Judges, Referees, Maggie Mc Daid (First Aid) and the man himself at the forefront of boxing, Mr Peter O'Donnell who was MC for the evening. Thanks also to Downings GAA for the use of their premises, to Brendan Vaughan

for taking photos on the night and to the spectators for coming out and supporting the club.

Friday night saw newcomer Declan Sweeney taking to the ring at Carnadonagh Boxing Clubs home show making his debut for the club. Declan fought really well for his first fight but just coming out the wrong side of the decision.

The Club would like to wish Abbie Harkin the best of luck as she makes the trip to Dublin this week where she will be fighting in her National Semi Final this Friday afternoon at the National Stadium in Dublin.

Mevagh News

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

Mevagh Book Club - will meet again on Monday 8 April at 11:30 am. Come along, meet new people, enjoy a cuppa and discuss a book. New members are always welcome. Busy Bees, Parent, Baby and Toddler Group for babies to 5 year olds - meet every Friday morning from 10.00am to 12.00 noon, so why not bring your little tots along for a morning of fun. Cost €3 per family.

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.

TUS 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

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 7pm. 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.

Social Dance in Carrigart Hall

The monthly Social Dancing in Mevagh Hall Carrigart continues on Friday 5th April from 9.30 - 11.30pm. Music is by Stillwater, admission is €10 and light refreshments served. All welcome.

Antenatal Classes

Antenatal classes will commence on Wednesday 10th April for 4 weeks, 2-4pm. Venue is the Gallowglass Centre, Milford F92 CD51. For further information contact the public health nurses on 0749151527 Ramelton, 0749158322 Rathmullan or 9153108 Milford PHN

INHFA calls for pause on farm inspections

The Irish Natura & Hill Farmers Association (INHFA) are calling for a pause in all farm inspections as farmers struggle to cope with difficult weather conditions. Speaking on this National Vice President John Joe Fitzgerald outlined how "farmers are under enormous pressure and this is something all State Bodies need to take into consideration."

Across all sectors of farming the unrelenting rainfall is taking a toll. This Fitzgerald stated "can be seen through increased costs, heightened stress levels and a never increasing workload that has left many farm-

ers exhausted. Unfortunately, with no improvement in the weather forecast these concerns will remain and this is why it is vital that we don't add to them through inspections that could be deferred until the weather improves and farmers are in a better place" added the INHFA Vice President. While Department of Agriculture inspections are the main inspection farmers could be facing, Fitzgerald detailed how "any pause should also include all State Bodies such as County Councils, National Parks and Wildlife Services, Environmental Protection Agency."

Friends AGM

The AGM of the Friends of Letterkenny University hospital will take place on Monday, the 15th April at 7pm. The venue is the Conference Room, on floor A in LUH.

Anyone who is interested in supporting the work of the Friends of LUH is most welcome to attend.

'Friends' Easter Draw

Our pictures shows Allen McCrea of the Friends of LUH presenting Dolores O'Neill, Legnahoury, Kilmacrennan (right) with first prize in the recent Easter hamper draw.

Allen is also pictured (below) presenting Kathleen Quinn, Fintown with second prize. The overall list of prizewinners were as follows;

1st prize - Dolores O'Neill, Kilmacrennan, €300 Household Oil, sponsored by Donegal Oil.

2nd prize - Kathleen Quinn, Fintown, Luxury Easter Hamper, anonymous donor.

3rd prize - Susan O'Hanlon, Ramelton, €50 meal voucher sponsored by The Brewery Bar, Letterkenny.

4th prize - Sean Sweeney, Ballyare, Ramelton, €50 voucher sponsored by Irwin Bros Electrical.

Over €7,500 was raised in the draw. Peter Cutliffe, chairman of the Friends thanked all those who supported the draw, inclusive of all those who bought tickets, those who volunteered to sell tickets and especially to those companies who sponsored the prizes. He gave a special mention to Allen McCrea for his excellent coordination of the draw overall.



INTO Congress Derry



Retired Teachers of Ireland president Charlotte Maye, Raphoe, with John O'Brian, Secretary for Rtai with Mairead Nic Suibhne and Doreen Sheridan Kennedy at the into conference in Derry this week. Charlotte is a member of rtai East Donegal and this is a great honour for her, her family and the branch she represents. Pictured here at the Rtai stand with two members of her Branch after addressing delegates at the Conference Charlotte will represent Retired teachers for her year in office and travel to many branches throughout the country.



Local singers set for Glór Tíre live show when voting begins

Next Tuesday will see local singers, Chelsea Evans and Jason McCahill, take to the Glór Tíre stage once again for the first live show of this year's series.

It will be an important performance by Rameton's Jason as he battles to stay in the competition.

Having narrowly lost out on going directly through to the semi-final in his debut performance, he will be singing for his survival and hoping his voting support can carry him through to sing another day.

The live show will see voting commence via the Glór Tíre app and his many loyal family and friends will be sure to see many votes come his way. If successful he will join Dunfanaghy's Chelsea Evans in the semi-final for



another live show that will see voting commence once again.

Horn Head's Chelsea sailed through her debut show after putting in a strong solo performance as well as a duet with her mentor Jim Devine. While she will also perform on Tuesday's live show, she is safe for now and can enjoy her performance without the pressure of relying on votes to continue in the series.

Last Tuesday evening saw the last of the preliminary rounds take place with mentor Johnny Brady when Shannen Carol from Duleek, Co. Meath got the nod from the judges that included Brendan Shine, with Jenny Hanlon from Co. Louth, joining Jason in next week's live elimination round.

The voting takes place via the Glór Tíre app that can be downloaded from the

Apple or Google Play stores and everyone gets five free votes with options to purchase more.

Now in its 20th season Glór Tíre live takes place next Tuesday, April 9th at 9.30pm.

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Sat. 6th April - Music at 10pm Neil McLaughlin

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WEEKEND ENTERTAINMENT

Sat 6th April - Music in wee Bar

Susan Gallagher

Sunday 7th April -

Dancing in the Lounge - 9.30pm - 11.30pm

Glenshane Country

Bar Food, Restaurant

& Take Away served

For details and bookings

call 074 91 53232

The late Thomas 'Banker' Doherty.

The death took place on Wednesday the 27th of March, of Thomas 'Banker' Doherty, Penrith, New South Wales and formerly Legland, Oughterlin, Rathmullan. Aged 86. Thomas passed away at his home, surrounded by his loving family.



He was predeceased by his beloved wife Mary (Ni Ghaillachoir, Annagaire). He is survived by his children, Margaret Watts (Rob), Noreen DeCoursey (Kevin) and William Doherty (Kathleen). Grandchildren, Niamh, Liam, Hannah, Rohan, Sarah, Kaine, Clare, Susan and great-grandchildren. Brothers and sisters John, Hugh, Margaret, Larry, Philip, William and Caroline. Brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nieces and nephews.

Thomas emigrated to Scotland in 1956 where he worked on the Hydro-Dam schemes, moved to London to work with Laing Construction and emigrated to Australia in 1972.

He was highly regarded and cherished among his family and friends. He will be sorely missed. Ar dheis De go raibh a h-anam dilis.

Funeral Mass will take place on Tuesday the 9th of April at 10.30am in St. Nicolas of Myra, Penrith. His remains are to be laid to rest in Kingswood cemetery, afterwards.

Deepest condolences are extended to the family circle.

Death of Breid O'Donnell

The death occurred on Saturday at her residence of Breid O'Donnell, Gortlee, Letterkenny. Breid was formerly a member of the Hannigan family of High Road, Letterkenny. Her father John and uncle Leo had come from Tooban, Burnfoot to work on the railway in town. Breid was born in Crolly in 1942 and the family then resided in Bridgend for a period before settling in Letterkenny when she was ten.



A well known member of the local community she trained as a psychiatric nurse at St. Conal's Hospital where her two brothers Seamus and John were also on the staff. Breid was a popular member of staff and very caring towards the patients. She met her future husband Noel O'Donnell through the GAA. Noel was a talented footballer who played with St. Eunan's and Donegal as did Breid's brother John Hannigan.

They got married in 1966 and along came their five children. However, at just 49 years of age Noel passed away in 1987. Breid was left with the responsibility of looking after five children and she did that with great dedication and love. When she retired from St. Conal's Hospital in 2002, Breid devoted a lot of her time to looking after her grandchildren and her home in Gortlee was the focal point for family.

In his homily Fr. Damien Nejad described her as a woman of great faith. Breid made a number of

religious pilgrimages including to Lourdes and Medjugorje.

Remains reposed at the family home in Gortlee from Sunday. Funeral took place in St. Eunan's Cathedral on Tuesday where the Requiem Mass was celebrated by Fr Damien Nejad. Before Mass symbols of Breid's life were brought forward by grandsons Patrick and Aidan. Readings were by Breid's grandchildren Helen and Ciaran. Prayers of the Faithful were read by grandchildren Emer, Thérèse, Aoife and Ruairí. Granddaughters Béibhínn and Marianna brought the Gifts to the Altar. Music and hymns were by granddaughters Maeve and Anna and Clann Uí Domhnaill.

Breid was laid to rest afterwards in the family plot in New Leck Cemetery where Fr Nejad said the graveside prayers.

She was predeceased by her parents John and Bridget, husband Noel (1987) and brothers Seamus and John (2014). Breid is survived by her sons and daughter, Paul (Yvonne), Enda (Maureen), Declan (Celia), Brenda (Richard) and Shane (Michelle), sisters Sally Dempsey (Dublin) and Maura Corley (Donegal Town). She is also survived by her 16 grandchildren Helen, Eimear, Maeve, Anna, James, Thérèse, Aoife, Ciara, Noel, Cathal, Thomas, Béibhínn, Ruairí, Patrick, Aidan and Marianna, extended family and many friends.

Deepest sympathy is extended to the family circle.

The late James Kelly

The death occurred on Friday at his home of James Kelly, Ballybuninabber, Termon. Aged 55, James worked in the engineering sector in Gweedore, Killygordon, Letterkenny and Churchill. He also had farming interests.



James was predeceased by parents Jim and Winnie and brother Niall. He is survived by his wife Michelle and step daughter Hannah McGee; brothers Martin, Edward, Daniel and Patrick, sisters-in-law Sinead, Bernie, Patricia and Tina; nieces, nephews, extended family members and a circle of family and friends.

James's remains reposed at the family residence from Saturday. Funeral was from there on Monday for Requiem Mass in St. Columba's Church, Termon where the celebrant was Fr. Martin Chambers. Interment took place afterwards in the adjoining cemetery. Deepest sympathies are extended to the family circle.

Funeral of Edward Rogers

The funeral took place on Sunday of Edward, Rogers Aughalatty, Carrigart.

Aged 78 Edward passed away on Thursday at the Donegal Hospice. A native of Aughalatty his working life was in the construction sector building houses himself before taking up employment with the Casey family in Downings some 20 years ago



looking after various developments around the Rosapenna Hotel. In his time Edward enjoyed clay pigeon shooting.

Remains reposed at the family home from Friday. Funeral was on Easter Sunday in St. John The Baptist Church, Carrigart where the celebrant was Fr. Eamonn McLaughlin, Downings and Rome. Burial took place afterwards in the adjoining cemetery.

Edward is survived by his wife Marion; their family James (Hilary), Paula (Kenneth), Tony (Lorraine), Collette (Malcolm), Eamonn (Lorna), and Danny (Siobhan). He is also survived by his 11 grandchildren, nephews, nieces and extended family members. Edward was predeceased by his sisters Winnie and Sadie (Scotland), Helen (America), Mary (Falcarragh), and brother Tony (Scotland). Deepest condolences are extended to the family circle.

Funeral of Mary Doherty

The funeral took place on Sunday of Mary Doherty, An Gleann Rua, Killylartin, Letterkenny. Aged 61, Mary was formerly a member of the McMenamin family of College Road, Letterkenny.



After leaving secondary school Mary took up employment as a member of the household staff at St. Conal's Hospital. She made many friends there and was noted for her kindness to the patients. Mary went on to work as a telephonist at the hospital's switchboard. She enjoyed knitting and crocheting. However, ill-health intervened in 1995 and it presented many challenges for Mary over the rest of her life. She made many trips to Lourdes which gave her spiritual support in difficult times.

Mary was predeceased by her parents Eddie and Lily and brother Niall. She is survived by her son Christopher McMenamin and partner Orla, daughter Rachael Doherty and husband Medhi, her siblings Martin and wife Mary, Eddie and wife Maxine, Louise, Aisling and husband Joe, Karen and husband Michael, nieces, nephews, and many friends.

Mary's remains reposed at her residence in An Gleann Rua from Friday. Fr Damien Nejad officiated at the Requiem Mass in Eunan's Cathedral on Sunday. Readings were by Karen and Grace. Prayers of the Faithful were read by Aisling, Orla, Aidan and Ciaran. Gifts were brought to the altar by Cahir and Joshua. Music and hymns were by Clann Uí Dhomhnaill. Mary was laid to rest afterwards in New Leck Cemetery where Fr. Nejad said the graveside prayers. Deepest sympathy is extended to the family circle.

Death of Sr. Marian Larkin

The death occurred on Saturday of Sr. Marian Larkin, Loreto Convent, Balbriggan. Sr. Marian was a native of Lower Main Street Letterkenny. She had moved back to Letterkenny for a period some years ago before returning to Balbriggan. Sr. Marian was predeceased by her parents Jack and Mary Ellen; brothers Billy and Alexander (Al) and by her sisters, Frances, Celie and Dorothy.

She is survived by her brothers and sisters; Joan, Louie, Kevin, Jackie, Elsie, Jim, Terry, Brendan and Adrian, by her many nieces and nephews, extended family, by her Loreto Sisters and by her many friends in her hometown of Letterkenny. Funeral arrangements were not finalised at time

of going to press. Deepest sympathies are extended to the family circle.

The late Jim Carson

The death took place at the Donegal Hospice, Letterkenny on Monday of James (Jim) Carson, Binnion Avenue, Letterkenny.



Aged 80 Jim is survived by his wife Tessie, sons, daughters, grandchildren and extended family, friends and neighbours. He was a native of Ramelton.

Jim worked as a crane driver and welder with Bonner Engineering. A skilled craftsman, his work is seen in many a metal railing erected around Letterkenny and beyond. Jim was a motor enthusiast who just loved to have his cars in pristine condition. The white Honda Integra gleaming outside the family home in Binnion Avenue was his pride and joy.

After retiring as a security guard at the Letterkenny Shopping Centre, Jim devoted his time to family and being a good neighbour in the estate. Doing runs with his grandchildren and trips away with his wife Tessie were also part of a very enjoyable retirement. In his homily Fr. Damien Nejad described Jim as a gentleman who always took great pride in his appearance.

Jim's remains reposed at the family residence in Binnion Avenue from Monday. Funeral was from there on Wednesday going to St. Eunan's Cathedral, Letterkenny for Requiem Mass which was celebrated by Fr Damien Nejad. Before Mass symbols of Jim's life including a family photo, car polisher, aftershave and cap were brought forward by Chloe, Grace, Senan and James. Readings were by James and Robert. Prayers of the Faithful were by Phoebe, Emily, Luke and Louis. Gifts were brought to the altar by Jackie and Bernie. Music and hymns were by Declan Nee. Interment took place afterwards in Conwal Cemetery. Deepest condolences are extended to the family circle.

Death of Billy Doherty

The death has taken place of William Doherty (Billy) at Tinney Park Nursing Home, Kilkenny, formerly from Correnagh, Letterkenny, Luton and Coolock in Dublin.

Billy was predeceased by his wife Maureen and son Liam. He is survived by his family, Sean, Tony and Michelle, brother Hugh, Barnhill Park Letterkenny, Bridie and Frances Luton, grandchildren in Dublin, Kilkenny and America.

Billy's Funeral Mass will take place at St Paul's Church, Ayrfield, Coolock, Dublin 13 at 10am on this Thursday 4th April with burial afterwards at the Balgriffin Cemetery off the Malahide Road. Deepest sympathies are extended to the family circle.

Milford

Ante-natal Classes

Ante-natal classes will commence on Wednesday 10th April for 4 weeks from 2pm-4pm at the Gallowglass Centre, Milford F92 CD51. For further information contact the public health nurses on 0749151527 Ramelton, 0749158322 Rathmullan or 9153108 Milford PHN.

50/50 Draw

The Milford United March 50/50 Draw will take place on Sunday 7th April in the Hi-da-way Bar at 6.00pm for a guaranteed jackpot of €1000. Tickets on sale at €2 each or 3 for €5. Tickets can be bought online on Klubfunder or by Revolut to Noel Gillespie 086 8224091 and Martin Roarty on 087 9129691 and various outlets in the town.

Milford United

The Milford United senior team will host St. Catherine's Killybegs in their next league game on Sunday 7th April at the earlier time of 12.30pm. They are away to Gweedore Celtic on 14th April in the league and will play away to Swilly Rovers in the Brian McCormick Cup on 21st April.

Golf Society

The Hi-da-way Golf Society outing at Rosapenna on Saturday 23rd March was cancelled due to

MILFORD UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB

50/50

Monthly Draw

Guaranteed
Jackpot
€1000

TICKETS: €2 Each or 3 for €5
7 - €10 or 15 - €20

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Draw will take place on Sunday 7th April at 6pm in The Hi-da-way Bar
Tickets on Sale at usual outlets

Online Tickets can be bought on Klubfunder or by Revolut to
Noel Gillespie 086 8224091 and Martin Roarty on 087 9129691

Boyce for World Walking Champs



Milford man Brendan Boyce is set to again represent Ireland at the World Race Walking Championships which take place this time in Turkey later this month. The Finn Valley Club member will be joined by former World Youth Champion Kate Veale. Boyce and Veale are both aiming to reach the qualification standard for the Mixed Relay category for this Summer's Paris Olympics. The World Race Walking Championships takes place in Turkey on the 21st of April.

poor weather conditions. The next outing will take place on Saturday 20th April at Greencastle Golf Club. Contact Captain David Bonner 085 8320260 or Eugene McCafferty 087 7704149 for further details.

Mission Hall

Speakers at the Milford Mission Hall which takes place on the first Sunday of each month at 8pm are as follows Sunday 7th April Mr. Eric Borland.

Masses

Mass times in St Peter's Church, Milford this week are Thursday 4th April 10.00am, Friday 5th April 10.00am; Saturday 6th April at 7.30pm; Sunday 7th April at 11.00am.

Mass times in Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Kerrykeel on Saturday 6th April at 6pm.

Graveyard Mass Dates

The annual Graveyard Mass at Tully Cemetery will take place on Sunday 28th July at 3pm and Graveyard

Mass at Milford Cemetery will take place on Sunday 4th August at 3pm.

Confirmations

Confirmations 2024 will take place in the parish on Saturday 20th April for pupils at Scoil Mhuire, 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 Mhuire, Milford.

Gallowglass Centre

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.

There are many activities taking place at the centre each week and for further information on classes and activities, contact the MDRC office for more info on 0749153736 or Emma Lou on emmalou@mdrc.ie.

Yoga with Jane
Yoga with Jane classes restart after Easter, call her on 086 8367776 to book or for details or visit Jane Watt yoga on FB

Gentle Yoga in the Kerrykeel Oldschool Community Centre starting on Thursday 11th April from 10-11am for 6 weeks and the cost is €60.

Chair Yoga in the Gallowglass Centre, Milford starting on Thurs 11th April from 12-1pm for 4 weeks and the cost is €40 (Chair Yoga is also running in Letterkenny on Wednesday evenings)

Yoga in Ray Community Centre starting on Saturday 13th April, from 10-11am. The cost for the 5 weeks is €40 and it excludes Bank Holiday Saturday.

James McAteer on international duty



Former Milford Utd player James McAteer will be part of the Republic of Ireland Schoolboys squad that takes on England in the annual Home International tournament at the Walsall F.C. grounds this Friday night. James who plays his football with the Finn Harps U20s will be joined on the trip by two more players from the club, goalkeeper Oisín Cooney and Darragh Coyle who came on as a sub for the second side in Monday evening's win over Bray Wanderers. The Irish team have already played twice in the competition at home in Athlone, drawing 1-1 with Scotland and losing 2-1 to Northern Ireland. The final game is away to Wales in a fortnight's time. The Irish squad will fly out to Birmingham this Thursday for an overnight stay ahead of the English game. Gerry O'Brien from Waterford is the manager while Ollie Horgan is a member of the backroom team but is unlikely to be Walsall as his Galway Utd senior side have a Premier Division match on Friday night. Milford man Mickey McGlynn is the team physio while Martin Cavanagh, Carndonagh is the kit man.

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Prop: P. McElwee P.C., Commissioner for Oaths



The Milford GAA U10s who travelled to Naomh Muire Íochtar Na Rosann on Saturday.



The Milford GAA Under 16 team pictured at the Dome last Friday.



Award winners at the recent Milford AC Juvenile Awards in the Mulroy Woods Hotel with Club Coaches.

Independent
Cllr. Pauric McGarvey
Launch of local election campaign
on Friday 5th April at 7.30pm
in the Ramelton Town Hall
 All welcome and refreshments served
 Your attendance would be greatly appreciated.
 pauricmcgarvey@donegalcoco.ie 086 860 7735

The Clanree Hotel Letterkenny
Country Sundays Sun. 7th April - Patrick Feeney
 Doors Open 8.30pm. Dancing 9-11pm €15 Pay at door followed by music in McGettigan's Bar from 11pm.
 Coming - 14th April Kieran Rosney, 21st April Johnny Brady, 28th April - Mike Denver

Cranford barrier welcomed

A new safety barrier at an accident blackspot in Cranford has been welcomed after a series of incidents including one, it's claimed, where a driver plunged 60ft down an embankment. Chairperson of Milford Aontú, Neil Cullen has welcomed the installation of new safety barriers at a notorious accident blackspot at the Pans of Cranford. He said: "I highlighted the need for barriers here back in January 2022, and contacted Donegal County Council over the matter following yet another incident at this location after a woman was very fortunate to survive the massive 60 foot plummet to the rocky shores of Mulroy Bay. Authorities had erected an earthen embankment at this location but this was a totally inadequate measure." In the aftermath of this accident, he stated, Mil-



Milford Aontú Chairperson Neil Cullen with Donegal Aontú Representative Mary T. Sweeney at new safety barrier at the Pans at Cranford.

ford Aontú distributed over 1,000 leaflets in the district to raise awareness of the potential dangers on this stretch of road and for barriers to be installed. Praising the council's response to the problem he stated: "The job is of very high standard and there seems to be no expense spared by the council to set right this hazardous situation and save lives, and we in Aontú wish to put it on record that we gratefully acknowledge that fact." "However, even though I welcome the council's response, the danger posed by this perilous corner still exists, partly due to the absence of road safety markings especially down the centre of the highway, which could have horrific consequences for oncoming drivers particularly at night. I'm now calling for the authorities to rectify this state of affairs without delay," he concluded.

MULROY WOODS HOTEL
Opening Hours
Food Served Daily
12.30 - 8pm
 Sunday Lunch in Harpers Restaurant 12.30 - 3.30pm
Live Music in Lounge
Sat. 6th April - Albert
 Free taxi home within a 10km radius - For more information contact the hotel at 074 91-53313 or email info@mulroywoodshotel.com
Every Tuesday Bingo at 8.30pm €3,250 must be won
Social Dancing every Thursday 9-11pm
 Thurs. 4th - Olivia Douglas; Thurs 11th Still Water; Thurs. 18th Paul & Jason McCahill
Now Taking Bookings for Communions & Confirmations
 Dinner - Adults €27
 Children up to 12 - €13
 Communion / Confirmation Child Dine Free
 For more information contact the hotel at 074 91-53313 or email info@mulroywoodshotel.com



Patrick Shields who along with his wife Adeline started the annual Good Friday Charity Walk pictured with daughters Michelle and Grace and grandchildren Aviary and Sienna on Friday.



Participants in the Good Friday Golan Pad Walk organised by the Milford Tidy Towns and Care of the Aged Groups in aid of the local Multiple Sclerosis Group.

Portsalon Golf Club

Members Free Sub Competition

Congratulations to Sean Barrett, who won the annual Members Free Sub competition on Easter Sunday with a fine score of 43 points, edging out Finbarr McNamee by one. Not sure how Sean plans to use the subscription, but rumour has it that it would make a lovely late Mother's Day gift!

Winter Series winners

On Easter Monday the winners from our Winter Series collected their prizes from Stephen Harris of sponsors Auto Fast Fit, Letterkenny. Our thanks to Stephen once again for coming on board as title sponsor of our Winter Series and his continued generosity. Winners were Category 1: Pascal Cullen; Category 2: Noel Nicholl; Category 3: Stuart Nicholl; Category 4: Michael Martin

Bar & Waiting Staff Required

The bar and restaurant is looking to recruit staff for the busy summer season ahead, with positions available for full and part-time staff. Contact Roisin Gibbons or email: admin@portsalongolfclub.com to

express interest.

Club Results

Wednesday 27 th March Winner: Enda McHugh (31) 37pts; Runner-up: Damion O'Donnell (20) 36 pts. Saturday 30 th March - Winner: Jack Friel (10) 42pts BOT; Runner-up: Joe Hensey (18) 42pts; Gross: Ryan McGettigan (Scr) 34 gross pts; Third: Liam Campbell (8) 39pts Sunday 31 st March - Members Free Sub - Winner: Sean Barrett (22) - 43 pts; Runner-up: Finbarr McNamee (14) - 42 pts; Gross: Ryan McGettigan (1) - 33 gross pts; Third: Jack Friel (10) - 40 pts Easter Monday - Ladies & Gents Open - April 1st - Winner: Sarah Nicholl (23) - 43 pts; Runner-up: Sean Gibson (17) 40pts; Gross: Johnny Shields (Scr) 32pts; Third: Tony Kingston (22) 38 pts; Visitor: Kate Meehan (30, B & S) 37pts.

Portsalon Ladies

Congratulations to Sarah Nicholl who is the in-form player this week! Taking the top spot in the Ladies & Gents Open there was nothing foolhardy about her scoring. Starting off with a Par and keeping the ship steady all the way, peppered with 4 more pars, she cruised to a win with 43 points.

Captain's Day Ladies Winter Links

The Captain's Day of the ladies winter links was held on Thursday last in what could only be described as challenging conditions with wind, rain and everything in between, thrown at the ladies. It was the three ball dream team undoubtedly with the two ladies taking inspiration from the leader! Sarah Nicholl took the runner-up spot on BOT from Deirdre Hensey. Sarah Nicholl also won the Nett Order of Merit, while Anne Cannon of Letterkenny Golf Club won the Gross over the course of the Links.

Results Captain's Day of the Links - Nett Winner - Karen McGlinchey 43pts; Runner-Up - Sarah Nicholl 39pts BOT; 3rd Deirdre Hensey 39pts; 4th Ann Currie 38pts; 5th Frankie Corr - 38pts; Front 9 - Angela Kilgallen 22pts; Back 9 - Emer Ewing 20pts BOT. Gross - 1st Marian O'Sullivan 22 gr pts;



Portsalon Winters Series winners with Captain Pat Horner and sponsors from left Michael Martin, Stewart Nicholl, Stephen Harris, Pat Horner, Noel Nicholl, Pascal Cullen

2nd Claire Ferry 17 gr pts; Non-Qualifying Prizes 1st Nett - Brenda Chauhan 40pts; 2nd Nett - Lorna Thompson 38pts.

Order of Merit - Gross - Anne Cannon Letterkenny Golf Club; Nett - Sarah Nicholl Portsalon Golf Club.

2's - Bridie Gildea, Carmel McGeady, Bridie Faulkner, Mary McHugh, Catriona McCullagh, Karen McGlinchey, Monica McGettigan.

Members Sub Competition

Congratulations to Sean Barrett who won the members sub competition on Sunday with an excellent 43 pts.

Donegal Shield Team Qualifier

Friday 5th and Sunday 7th April are the qualifying competition days for the Donegal Shield team to play in Letterkenny Golf Club on the 20th April. Ladies are reminded to sign the separate entry sheet in the ladies locker room.

Club Matchplay

Competition Secretary Iris Condron has the list up in the ladies locker room for the club matchplay. It is hoped to get the competition up and running soon, so get your names in.

Meet, Greet and Golf

Have you, or do you know ladies who have been thinking about taking up the sport of golf and don't know where to start? Lady Captain Noreen will be hosting a meet, greet and golf night in the clubhouse to introduce ourselves and encourage ladies interested to come along. The date will be announced in the coming weeks.

Dates for your Diary

20th April : Donegal Shield Letterkenny Golf Club; 26th April : Ladies Open.

Letterkenny Ladies

The Letterkenny Ladies played in sunshine with an 18 hole competition on Good Friday 29th March and an alternate day on Easter Sunday 31st March. The winner was Anne Mc Grath (19) with 34 pts and the runner up was Margaret Harvey (37) with 32 pts. The Front 9 was won by Monica Mc Donagh (20) with 19pts and the back 9 was won by Bridget Mc Clafferty (37) with 18pts. The fixture booklet showing the busy golfing schedule ahead is now ready and is available for all members in the ladies' Locker Room. Donegal Shield Qualifier The Donegal Shield Qualifier will be played over



Charlie Patton captured the Irish Kids Golf Tour 12 year olds Leinster Trophy at Killeen Castle. The former Solheim Cup venue was in great order and tested all the Juniors that had travelled for this fabulous event. Charlie played superbly to lift the 12 year olds Leinster Trophy with a great 79 gross (Par 72). It was a great start to the year for Charlie, the hard work from winter practice paying off. Junior Golf LK congratulates Charlie on this fine achievement.



Lady Captain Noreen McConnigley congratulating Sarah Nicholl - winner of the Order of Merit Nett Score of the Ladies Winter Links, Runner-up on the captain's Day of the Links and Winner of the Ladies and Gents Open on 1st April in Portsalon Golf Club with Mr Captain Pat Horner.



Glad to be in from the rain! Left to Right - Cheryl Chambers, Frankie Corr and Shannon Livingstone from Dunfanaghy Golf Club on the Captains Day of the Links in Portsalon Golf Club. the weekend and the Donegal Shield takes place on Saturday 20th April.

Oscar Traynor Cup semi-final

Traynor Cup dream ends for Donegal

Waterford 3-2 Donegal Junior League

The Donegal Junior League's dream of a Oscar Traynor Cup Final appearance ended disappointingly on Sunday in Athlone. Their opponents Waterford came from behind to secure a place in the decider. Manager John Francis Doogan was unhappy with some of the tactics employed by Waterford and the lack of protection for a couple of his players, Aidy Delap who appeared to be singled out for special treatment. After the game had ended Doogan got a red card from the referee after receiving two yellows in quick succession. So Donegal's bid for only a second ever Oscar Traynor trophy is gone for another year. The one and only success came in 1983 when Richie Kelly was the manager. On Sunday at the Athlone Town Stadium goals from Mark O'Keeffe and Luke Walsh completed the comeback for Waterford after Donegal had lost the influential Mikey Funston to injury. Doogan got two yellow cards after the final whistle for his protests about a number of decisions made by the match officials. Mark Anthony McGinley was drafted into goals with the regular starter Blake Forker not available. Donegal took the lead following a foul on Delap. Joel Gorman's free-kick was headed home by skipper Mattie Crossan.

Shane McNamee shot over the bar before Waterford equalised in the 43th minute when Conor Whittle lobbed McGinley. After the restart Darryl Walsh had a header saved by McGinley. Donegal took the lead for a second time when Delap set up Funston and the Bonagee Utd man's super low strike flew past keeper Buckley. Funston's injury forced departure on 67 minutes had a negative impact on Donegal. O'Keeffe slipped the offside trap just two minutes later to nudge the ball past the advancing McGinley to make it 2-2 each. What turned out to be the winner came on 74 minutes, when Luke Walsh shot into the top corner from the edge of the penalty area. Doogan put on Fanad Utd's Darren McElwaine and Letterkenny Rovers attackers Nathan Plumb and Lee McMonagle but Waterford stood firm and keeper Buckley didn't have a save of note to make. Donegal Junior League - Mark Anthony McGinley (Letterkenny Rovers); Paul Boyle (Keadue Rovers), Mattie Crossan (Kildrum Tigers), James Doherty (Kilmacrennan Celtic) (Brendan McCafferty Keadue Rovers 75), Ryan Lonergan (Letterkenny Rovers); Michael Funston (Bonagee Utd) (Darren McElwaine Fanad Utd 66), Joel Gorman (Letterkenny Rovers), Shane McNamee Swilly Rovers (Lee McMonagle



Letterkenny Rovers 81), Mark Forker (Keadue Rovers (Zach Gorman Letterkenny Rovers 81); Eddie O'Reilly Fanad Utd (Nathan Plumb Letterkenny Rovers 87), Adrian Delap (Letterkenny Rovers). Waterford District League: Gavin Buckley; Adam

Conway, Luke Walsh, Darryl Walsh, Danny Reynolds (Conor Signorelli 90); Adham Mazood, Conor Whittle, David Cooley (Andrew Power 90), Michael Brennan (John Frederick Tamen 54); Mark O'Keeffe, Charlie Binions.

Anam Cara meeting in Letterkenny

Anam Cara Donegal, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding its monthly Parent Evening for bereaved parents on Thursday 11th April at 7:15pm in the Raddison Blu Hotel, Letterkenny.

This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether their death was recent or not. We also offer an online service. For more info call 01 4045378.

AARON SWEENEY



LOCAL ELECTION CANDIDATE



FINE GAEL

OFFICIAL CAMPAIGN LAUNCH

Saturday April 13th
8 PM @
Logues of Cranford

EVERYONE WELCOME!

Guest Speakers, Entertainment and Refreshments provided.



Shandon Hotel Portnablagh

Cabaret & Dance

Saturday 6th April

Mick Flavin, John Glenn, Noelle Shevlin and Brian Kerrigan

Doors open 9pm
Show 9.30pm to 12 midnight Tickets €15







Staff at Tata Consultancy Services Letterkenny donated food and over 100 easter eggs to We Care Letterkenny Foodbank - Andrea McBride, Joanne McGinley, Lee-Anne Burke, Christopher Lynch and Paul Coyle.

MAPLE



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Special Offers

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<div style="background-color: #003366; color: white; padding: 2px; font-size: 0.8em;"> MAPLE MILFORD FRESH - CONVENIENT - LOCAL </div>  <div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 5px; font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.9em;"> Glenmór range Sausages Chicken fillets/thighs/wings 3 FOR €10 </div> <p style="font-size: 0.7em; color: white;">AVAILABLE AT MAPLE MILFORD</p>	<div style="background-color: #003366; color: white; padding: 2px; font-size: 0.8em;"> MAPLE <small>Derrybeg Milford Falcarragh Castletown Carrigart Burtonport Ballyiffin Moville</small> FRESH - CONVENIENT - LOCAL </div>  <div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 5px; font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.9em;"> ZOFLORA ASSORTMENT 120ML ONLY €1.75 </div>	<div style="background-color: #003366; color: white; padding: 2px; font-size: 0.8em;"> MAPLE <small>Derrybeg Milford Falcarragh Castletown Carrigart Burtonport Ballyiffin Moville</small> FRESH - CONVENIENT - LOCAL </div>  <div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 5px; font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.9em;"> ASTONISH HANDWASH 2 FOR €2.50 </div>	<div style="background-color: #003366; color: white; padding: 2px; font-size: 0.8em;"> MAPLE <small>Derrybeg Milford Falcarragh Castletown Carrigart Burtonport Ballyiffin Moville</small> FRESH - CONVENIENT - LOCAL </div>  <div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 5px; font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.9em;"> JAM MALLOVS / KIMBERLEY ONLY €2 </div>

How to get to Buncrana from Brussels

Absent politicians at Buncrana Mica meeting: their absence spoke to the homeowners more clearly than their presence ever would.

This campaign's message has never wavered: only a few chosen politicians tried to sell the 'sliding-scale' mica scheme as the gold standard that would end all doubts and there would be justice for homeowners... at long last. Trust those politicians at your peril.

The fact that the Donegal Fianna Fail members of the Oireachtas did not have the balls to attend last week's crucial meeting of the combined mica campaign groups speaks volumes about where they stand and what they really think about the Peoples Document and the voice of the community.

There never was any choice between Brussels or Buncrana or being busy out canvassing. There was only one choice and that was Buncrana because never before was there a more attentive audience and for the forthcoming elections, the Gateway Hotel was the staging post to make a statement of support or otherwise.

In truth, for candidates seeking election either in the locals, the general or European, this was the only place to be. Staying away sends its own message and that is why the thousand strong crowd booed last Tuesday night when the name of an absent candidate was called.

That any Oireachtas member failed to realise the import of a meeting that they were given three weeks of advance notice leaves them exposed and no amount of posturing can justify their absence.

This meeting where one thousand homeowners attended and they did not come to the Inishowen Gateway Hotel to hear excuses from absent politicians... their absence spoke to the homeowners more clearly than their presence ever would. However, the absence of Minister Charlie McConalogue did not surprise anyone because he voted to pass the legislation in Dail votes on July 6th 2022.

Fine Gael's Deputy Joe McHugh voted against his party on the new Defective Blocks Scheme and resigned the whip. The

Defective Blocks Bill was eventually passed by the government with 74 votes to 69.

McHugh said his reasons for voting against the bill is the lack of adequate time given to debating improvements.

Addressing the Dáil, he said he would vote against the government on all votes relating to the scheme because of its shortcomings.

"The scheme falls short of what homeowners need, he said, and the restriction on allowing homeowners to downsize was a "big issue" and "unfair". It is falling short for too many people, particularly for constituents in my own county," Deputy McHugh said.

The Mica Redress Campaign's message has never wavered: only a few chosen politicians tried to sell the 'sliding-scale' mica deal as the gold standard that would end all doubts and there would be justice for homeowners and 100% redress... at long last.

The feeble mindedness of the supporting act backing Darragh O'Brien's sliding scale was exposed: however that failed to stop them 'calling in the dogs'. And nothing has changed in their approach that puts political patronage to one party and which has left this county in crisis. Because if the homeowners cannot depend on the county's representative in Government, their only option is to elect a new one.

Because both Fianna Fail and Fine Gael are guilty of failing the families who continue to reach out to the Houses of the Oireachtas, the EU and Donegal County Council hoping their voices are finally heard.

There is no doubt among homeowners that the current mica legislation is not fit for purpose and one of the first tasks of a

new government is to bring forward a new Bill and to have the existing one over-written in its entirety.

This demand is now more than a series of meetings: it is a crusade and the interest in getting justice is now an unstoppable constitutional right.

"The People's Document" - the Definition of a True 100% Redress Scheme" - is now there for all to read and it has been some time in preparation to give the community time and space to put their views forward before the Leaders brought the details to last week's meeting in Buncrana.

This was the forum that attracted over a thousand people and that alone is enough to give it universal credibility and acceptance. There was unanimous support for the document and fair play to all the many that contributed to its completion.

It was the proper public forum to allow the world of politics and of the media to be there to report the event.

It is quite significant that after all these years of campaigning, the local media continues to meet the public demand to make these Mica meetings their lead stories. The campaigners have highlighted numerous issues with the current redress scheme and say that with "a focus on the next 12 months, when voters will have a 1 in 5 year opportunity to vote in three elections (general election, local council elections and MEP elections) campaigners across Donegal have come together to work on a joint initiative to define a true 100% Redress Scheme".

100% Redress, Mica Action Group, Redress Focus Groups and campaigner Michael Doherty have been working on the document which has four principles of 100% redress.

- Property: Rebuild "like for like" to current standards.

- Process: End to end scheme administered by the State, at no cost to the homeowner, with an opt out for those that prefer to build themselves.

- People and Support: No one left behind - prioritisation yes, exclusion no.

- Prevention: Never allowed to happen again through the implementation of meaningful regulatory governance and a public enquiry to hold those responsible to account

Michael Doherty said: "Over the last few years, dur-

ing the battle for a workable scheme, opposition politicians are on the record with their support for a real 100% Redress Scheme. Should there be a change of Government in the next twelve months, it will be time to honour their pledges and deliver. With that in mind, it is crucial to have clarity from all affected on exactly what a true 100% Redress looks like.

Nobody knows what is needed to truly resolve this crisis better than the homeowners themselves, so the opportunities from an election year must be seized."

MEP Luke 'Ming' Flanagan in a message to the meeting said a Public Inquiry had to be held and every effort had to be made to avoid such a situation occurring again.

Two months ago the thousands of homeowners impacted by defective mica concrete were given new hope by the European Parliament committee that deals with public petitions.

That's according to Luke 'Ming' Flanagan, who, along with members of the European Parliament Petitions Committee and Irish MEPs came to Donegal in November to talk to the affected homeowners.

This visit followed on from a number of petitions received by the European Parliament in recent years from Irish homeowners, asking the EU to hold Ireland to a higher standard in construction and for accountability for the defective mica concrete crisis.

Then in January the Petitions Committee delivered its report on its visit, with its chairperson, Spanish MEP Dolors Montserrat, saying: "I am persuaded that this report will bring us a paradigm shift... that should help us come up with a definitive solution for the many Irish people who are suffering because of these defective blocks in construction."

Commenting on the committee's report, Flanagan said: "The European Parliament's Petitions Committee gave thousands of Irish homeowners, affected by defective concrete products, a lot of hope.

He added: "The committee has to be commended for how seriously it has taken this most important of issues. When I was first approached three years ago by affected homeowners I suggested that they try this

Comment

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route," he added. Flanagan said that he had had prior positive experience with the Petitions Committee in relation to a separate issue.

"What has appeared in the draft report shows that the mission to Donegal has been taken seriously by the European Parliament. The report explodes the myth that the grant scheme is fit for purpose, something that the Irish government has been attempting to imprint on public opinion.

This was and still is a process to examine whether or not the government has carried out its responsibilities when it comes to implementing EU legislation. Visiting MEPs from outside Ireland were there to give an impartial view on what they saw," the Independent MEP said.

The resulting report will give justice to impacted homeowners.

Some of the takeaway moments from last week's Buncrana meeting included: Deputy Thomas Pringle said it was not on for politicians to be blaming the Departments for the failure of the scheme. "I have no faith in this Government to sort this out and they aren't interested in doing so."

Deputy Padraig MacLochlainn pointed to the irony of the Government describing the scheme as a good one when over a 1,000 people are clearly unhappy with it. If Sinn Fein is in the next Government MacLochlainn said his Party would deliver a true 100% Redress Scheme.

Cllr Martin McDermott who is Chairperson of the Council's Defective Concrete Blocks Committee, said he was fully endorsing the Peoples Document. "We are trying to fix some of the stumbling blocks in the current scheme. I think we can work with the Council Chief Executive on some of these issues. We will try to make changes but that needs help at a higher level. I fully endorse the Peoples Document."

Speaking on behalf of some of the Independent Cllrs, Nicholas Crossan said they were backing a true 100% Redress Scheme. And he told the meeting that Cllr Pauric McGarvey's house was in the process of demolition.

Deputy Pearse Doherty slammed the Housing Department over its failure to act on 0% bridging finance that had been secured from the banks. He described the current scheme as 'shite'.

Michael Doherty summed up the situation later saying the people needed hope that brighter days were ahead but he added the reality still has an air of scepticism. The group has the Peoples Document 'oven ready' for legislation that they say cannot be amended by Department officials. Clearly they want the current Government to act on it now but at the same time accept that doesn't look like happening.

One of the most striking contributions came from Gar McDonnell who resides in Ramelton said he was sick and tired of politicians making promises before elections and when they were over nothing happened.

"I am going to be on blood pressure tablets for the rest of my life. I am €100,000 out of pocket to build a new house because of this. I am on my knees and really struggling. Please give us something to believe in," Mr McDonnell pleaded

And at the end of a long night in these long years of campaigning, maybe it is time to get out the Donegal political map once more: 'How to get to Buncrana from Brussels.' That question and many more have not been answered.

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Bia ag Caint

with Noel MacLiam

Dia dhaoibh, a chairde Ghaeil agus fáilte romhaibh ar ais. Tá súil agam go raibh Cáisc maith agus suaimeach ag gach duine agus go raibh go leor seacláid agaibh. Maidir liom féin, chaith mé an deireadh seachtaine in Inis Ceithleann, Contae Fear Manach, áit a bhfuil mo dheirfiúr ina cónaí ann. Caithfidh mé a rá gur is breá liom an baile galánta atá ann. Ní amháin go bhfuil an ceantar uilig dóighiúil, tá an baile é féin go hiontach deas. Tá an baile suite ar an Loch Eirne agus feictear an loch ó achán radharc agus tú ag gabháil fríd an baile. I ndáiríre is oileán é cé nach bhfuil an baile lomlán ar an oileán. Deirtear gur is na daoine a rugadh ar an oileán féin ábalta a rá gur is as Inis Ceithleann iad. Tá clú agus cáil ar an baile ó thaobh bia agus cócaireacht fosta. Tá siopa búistéire ann, O Doherty's, agus tá a saghas bagúin féin acu, darbh ainm BLACK BACON.



comhaimseartha, agus tá an biachlár iontach suimiúil. Tá ceapairí tóstáilte den chéad scoth le fáil, déanta le arán taos géar.

Tá Anraith iontach le fáil fosta- fuair mé Práta Milis agus Sinséar, agus é ar dóigh, ceapaire tóstáilte le lorga liamhais le Salsa Anainn san áireamh agus bhí mé ar neamh! Ach tá rud eile ann fosta- tá fáilte mhór roimh an Ghaeilge!! Fuair mé fáilte ó Rossa agus Sophie, an cúpla iontach atá mar úinéirí ann, agus chaith mé tamall spéisialta ag caint Gaeilge le Rossa. Agus tá baint an-tábhachtach aige leis an ceantar seo, Fanad ach go hairithe, mar tá a mhathair féin mar phríomhoide ag an Teach Solais! Mar sin, má tá seans agat turas a dhéanamh go hInis Ceithleann, ní thiofadh leat rud níos fearr a dhéanamh ná buail isteach go The Toastery le bia galánta agus cúpla focail Ghaeilge bhlasta, bhinn a bheith agat.

Rud a thug mé faoi deara agus mé ag amharc ar na siopaí éagsúla bia in Inis Ceithleann, ná an caighdeán de gach na hearraí agus combháhair ins na siopaí spéisialtacha. Mar shampla, cheannaigh mé gríscíní luan uaineola agus, mo anam, cé chomh blasta agus bog a bhí siad. Agus an Black Bacon ó siopa búistéire O Doherty, agus íspíní den chéad scoth ar fad, déanta le piobar dubh, blasta agus uigeacht feolmhar acu. Mar sin, ná déan dearmad ar cé chomh cóngarach agus atá An Fear Manach, agus goidé chomh deas agus suimiúil atá sé. An Loch Eirne agus na hOileáin le foirgnimh agus deilbh meigiliteacha orthu, an ceol agus an craic. Bain triall as, má tá deis agat. Ní bheidh aiféala ar bith ort!

BEACHÁIN LÍONTA le BAGÚN Bacon- Stuffed Mushrooms

Comhábhair
6 beacháin Portobello

Tógar na muic ar oileán i lár na Locha, agus tá réim bia iontach nadúrach acu, agus ní úsáidtear nítrít nó ceimiceáin ar bith agus, mar sin ní bhíonn an spruadar bán sin sa fhriochtán. Ní nach ionadh tá neart duaiseanna bainte ag an táirge spéisialta seo. Agus, caithfidh mé a rá, tagann a lán rudaí maithe le chéile in áit galánta darbh ainm THE TOASTERY. Tá an dearadh amuigh agus istigh úr agus



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Cáisc. Easter
Suaimehneach. Peaceful
Seacláid. Chocolate
Maidir liom féin. As regards me
Ceantar. District
Radharc. View, sight
I ndáiríre. Seriously

Rugadh. Born
Darbh ainm. By the name of
Réim bia. Diet, food regime
Nadúrach. Natural
Nítrít. Nitrates
Ceimiceán. Chemical
Spruadar. Deposit
Ní nach ionadh. No wonder
Duais/ Duaiseanna. Prize/prizes
Táirge. Product
Dearadh. Design
Comhaimseartha. Contemporary
Arán taos géar. Sourdough bread
Lorga liamhais. Ham hock
Salsa Anainn. Pineapple Salsa
Teach Solais. Lighthouse
Siopa Speisialtacht. Specialist shop
Gríscín luan uaineola. Lamb loin chop
Bog. Tender
Íspíní. Sausages
Cóngarach. Close by, near
Aiféala. Regret

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Rowan House, Magheranann, Letterkenny.

Dylan wins on Gleneagle Bay

Letterkenny jockey Dylan Browne McMonagle and his trainer Joseph O'Brien got off the mark for the new term as the four-year-old Gleneagle Bay took the eight-furlong maiden at Dundalk on Tuesday evening. A strong 5/4 favourite on his belated debut, he possibly had a little in hand in beating the Bill Farrell-trained State Actor by half a length.

Well, hello, Leo Varadkar , how do you do?
Do you mind if I sit on this bench beside you ?
And rest for a while on this fine April day
Why did you quit, why did you walk away ?

You have to admit your achievements are small
One single success I cannot recall
Between you and the people, a big disconnect
You, as Taoiseach, I did not elect

Did they mount a heave, did they force you to leave?
Did Mary-Lou laugh as you walked out the door?
Did you have a last waltz with Micheál Martin?
Did they sharpen the knives in Dail Eireann?

Civil War politics is now long dead
Fianna Fail and Fine Gael are cosy in bed
A green electric blanket keeps them warm and snug
Are you worried the Shinnners will pull out the plug ?

The daffodils are dancing in the gentle spring breeze
The hills are covered in a purple blue haze
Trees are budding, whin bushes in bloom
Did you think you'd be leaving, leaving so soon?

Now, Simon Harris has taken your place
One single candidate in the leadership race
A 'rotating Taoiseach', it's all so insane
Oh, Leo, why don't you think about joining Sinn Fein?!

So, good bye, Leo Varadkar I wish you good luck
We all know this Govt. is now a lame-duck
Time to reflect in the Easter recess
The Mica homes scandal you failed to address

Did they mount a heave, did they force you to leave?
Did Mary-Lou laugh as you walked out the door
Did you have a last waltz with Eamon Ryan?
Did they sharpen the knives in Dail Eireann?



Ciaran Canning the son of Julie and Malachy Canning from Glenvar pictured after passing out as a new Garda in Templemore College last week.

The Confirmation Dress

Do you ever wonder if good memories fade quicker than bad ones? No? Well I do. Not that I spend too much time in the past, like I used to, allowing it to colour everything in shades of inky blue or murky grey. These days I try to do the Eckhart Tolle thing; live in the moment and not be letting the past dictate. Yeah I hear you. Some days it's hard, but most days it works out pretty well.

I still wonder, though, about memories. Why are some so potent, still capable of making you sad, making you break out in a cold sweat, and you hope no one notices the big silly tear in your left eye, threatening to fall. Yeah, I know. Sometimes it's the right eye, but we won't quibble.

Something else I wonder about. Do boys care as much as girls about what they wear on their Holy Communion Day or their Confirmation Day? Ah now! Don't be like that! I know not everyone partakes in either ritual and there are more important things in life, but it won't kill you to give it a minute's consideration.

Brendan Behan was wild fussy about his Confirmation suit, which is kind of surprising, when you see pictures of him as an adult, wearing suits that looked like they were thrown on him with a shovel! So you never know do you? Still, I reckon girls did worry more about it than boys, back in the day that is. I hate to use the phrase, but in my day! Boys wore short trousers and a shirt and tie to their Holy Communion, with the odd wee swank wearing a blazer, and there were the poor schmucks who rocked up in the Aran cardigans their grannys had knitted for them! No one paid much attention to them though, as the little brides in their miniature wedding gowns paraded up the aisle, a sea of white, as far as the eye could see.

Mammy bought my Communion dress in Nees of Letterkenny. The two ladies standing behind the long counter were busy that day, there was such a run on Communion dresses. They must have held the nicest one back though, I'm convinced of it. When they produced the dress that Mammy bought for me, my little 7 year old heart soared. Stiff white nylon, embroidered in delicate flowers, with a layer of crinoline underneath that made it stand out above my knees like a tutu. There was a separate lace bolero with satin buttons up the back, to be worn over the sleeveless bodice. My veil rose like a lace waterfall, fastened to my head with a fluffy nylon rosette. It was a dream come true, standing there in Nees, ignoring the black patent shoes they were trying to coax me into, insisting on the white leather strappy ones and sticking to my guns till I got them. The picture was complete when I walked up the aisle with my new prayer book tucked safely inside the little white handbag dangling delicately on my left elbow. I sat two rows back from the altar, hands joined the way our teacher showed us, convinced I was an angel. I didn't want to die at the altar rails, like you had to, to achieve angeldom, just wanted to be an angel without the wings. For 3 or 4 Sundays afterwards, we were allowed to wear our white gowns to Mass, keeping our halos in place for another while, before tissue paper and chamfer balls appeared and the delicate garment was skived away. For years that dress boomeranged around the place, from one house to another, bringing the Nelly Olson out in me, even though my days of wearing it were through. It came back eventually and stayed.

My Confirmation dress was a different story altogether. Don't be jumping the gun now! Let me give this tale some context before I tell you the crack!

In my day! (sorry), Confirmation was a big deal! It was a rite of passage, a transformation from childhood to adulthood, a Sacrament, to be taken very seriously. We looked up to big boys and girls who had gone through the ordeal and lived to tell the tale. Now, we weren't taken off to huts in the forest to kill wild boars and live for days on the fruits of the land, returning victorious to our villages. Maybe that would have been fun! Easier perhaps than facing the mighty sceptre and mitre of the Bishop, who would stand on the altar waiting to give you a good hard clout, knocking some sense into your silly childish head! You grew up fairly sharpish after that, apparently. This daunting initiation took place when you were in 5th class or if you had reached 11 years of age before a certain date in the Church calendar. All postulants had to study hard for the event, writing into special workbooks, learning about Pentecost, when the cowardly custard apostles suddenly be-



by Caitriona Coyle, Glen, Carrigart and author of College Girls and Gracie. @bespokepoemsbyccoyle

came heroes, rushing into the streets speaking 20 different languages they never even knew they knew! Becoming an angel paled compared to that. Visions of Joan of Arc on her gallant horse beckoned! Imagine that; away round the village, speaking French and German, telling Monica to stick her Cadbury's Roses and give you a half crown instead.

As well as getting a clout, the Priest anointed your forehead with oil, like King David in the Bible, to show you were limbering up to be muscular and strong. The last, most important thing we'd have to do during the ceremony was, take the PLEDGE! I know right! We all thought that smoking and drinking was a sure sign of adulthood, but here was the Bishop putting us straight; no alcohol until you were 21 years of age. NO! Not 18 years, you're wrong shipped there me boys. Anyway, when you're 11, the notion of not drinking until 21 doesn't seem like a big stretch. I was bolstered with hope and determination, dying to face the challenge. And then my world fell apart.

After the triumph that was my First Communion, I was gutted to discover that 3 years on I was too young to be confirmed. My classmates had all turned 11 before the end of April that year and little old me was..... 10 ¾.

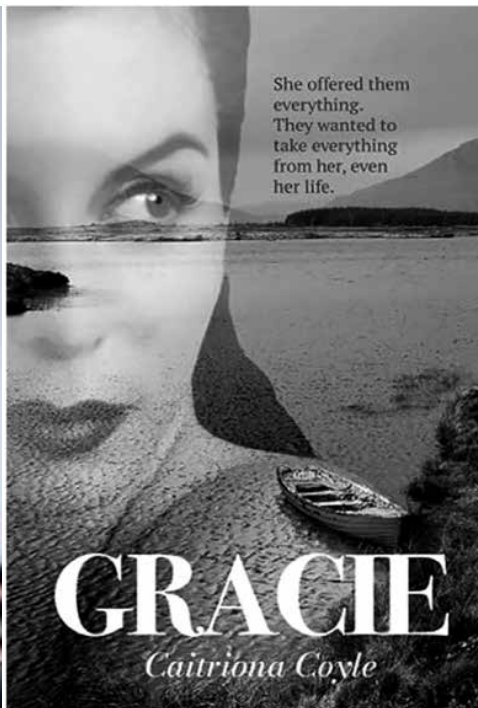
"Please, please Mammy!" I begged. "Ask the Master to let me do it; the Bishop will never know!" "I can't do that, pet," she said. "That wouldn't do at all; telling lies to a Bishop! Anyway" she added, "The Confirmation dress that Aunt Mary sent you is far too big, it'll fit you perfectly when your turn comes."

Aunt Mary was a legend in our house. Mum's oldest sister who lived in Manchester and had 'done very well for herself'. She came home to Donegal twice a year, bringing us bags of clothes her own children had grown out of, some of them barely worn. The bags sat on the kitchen floor while the adults talked and sipped tea; Mammy watching us from the side of her eye, in case we lost control and lunged at the tempting packages, ripping them open, slaving at the mouth. Finally, released from our leashes, we rifled through the parcels, finding treasures that fitted perfectly and some that were so beautiful they made us long to be a few years older.

Like the Confirmation dress, wrapped in silky blue tissue paper, delicate and precious. I lifted it reverently into my arms, going to the safety of my bedroom to admire it alone. But it didn't come alone; it came with a diamond tiara and lace veil and matching lace gloves. Holding it tight to my chest, I danced around the bedroom, stopping in front of the full length mirror on the wall, bristling with glee. I didn't have to ask that mirror a damn thing! The truth was staring me in the face. I was the fairest of them all.

Calm down now! That was how I felt at 10 years of age, even though I knew this delectable white frothy dress was too big for me. I'd heard adults talking about growth spurts and growing pains and I was hopeful. By the time Confirmation season rolled around, it would fit properly, I could already feel the growing pains. The tiara and veil sat perfectly on my willing little head and the gloves were only a fraction off; the dress would soon catch up.

Mammy commandeered it soon after, covering it in plastic and hanging it in her own wardrobe, so it remained pristine and safe from my wanton



little hands. The tiara, veil and gloves were folded back into tissue paper but stayed in my wardrobe where I could unfold them sometimes, admiring their beauty and counting down the days to Confirmation.

Oh! How slowly time moved then; waiting for Master G to arrive with our Confirmation workbooks, telling us to take them home and cover them with brown paper or left over wallpaper, to protect them over the coming days and weeks. He would tell us to think about the new name we wished to take and how we were on the cusp of adulthood, about to take the pledge and receive the Holy Spirit into our souls. I was so ready for it all!

Why was that? How do I know! There wasn't a lot happening back then. There were 6 kids in my class; probably 30 in the entire school; that might give you a clue!

Anticipation was burning me up; and then my little soul was crushed, mercilessly.

He stood there with the opened roll-book, in front of 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th class, Master G did, and announced that I was too young to make my Confirmation!

I know, right? Why do you think I'm writing this! I sat, stung to the core, hating the other 5 in my class, especially Maggi Hegarty, who looked back smirking, her big turnip head delighted to have one up on me, finally. I was not to be consoled, well, not until Mammy said she would buy me a new rig-out, I could wear it to the church and join in the celebration, even though I hadn't been confirmed. That's all it took.

Yeah I know; shallow or what! After attending a trauma counselor for a year.....JOKING!

I got over it and got on with it and maybe I was toughened up, for the changes that lay in the cloudy skies, about to descend.

June was almost over that year, summer holidays beckoning, when we learned a new word, a big one: AMALGAMATION!

Without warning our little village school was closing down, never to be a school again; we were dumbfounded. Three schools in the parish were joining together, amalgamating into one, Master G told us and we would be attending the new school by minibus everyday. So, that was that.

I'll skip the part about settling into our new school and not having Master G as our teacher anymore; I'll save that for another day.

There were things to like about this new arrangement. The minibus was middling fun, especially in the afternoons, being ferried around half the parish, up hilly lanes we hadn't travelled before, slugging one another and singing our favourite songs. The morning trips weren't quite so rowdy. I won't tell you about the tense silence, as we pulled in at the school gates or the nausea in the pit of our stomachs, no, I'll keep that for another day.

Change was hard, but the weeks passed and I was changing too. I was 11n3/4s now, old enough to make my confirmation and although the growth spurt I'd prayed for was taking its time, my dress was almost a perfect fit.

So, I was trying to ignore the snide voice in my head, reminding me over and over that I was a year older than all the other kids receiving Confirmation; I was in 6th class, nearly 12, practically a teenager. They were in a different classroom too, being taught by Master G, while I was with

the new man, filling in my workbook along with two other unfortunates who'd also missed the boat. I did love that old workbook and the respite it brought from history lessons, where the main focus was having the names of Patrick Pearse, James Connolly and Joseph Mary Plunkett pulverized into our heads. Drawing pictures of the tongues of fire on the apostles heads and reading about gifts of wisdom and understanding was a much safer affair. Then there was the exciting prospect of choosing a new name, our Confirmation name, generally chosen because it was the Christian name of your favourite Saint.

At that time in my life I had a big gra for Martin de Porres, the black saint from Peru, who apparently was a great man for miracles. Mammy had a statue of him on the mantelpiece in my bedroom and when times were bad I'd prostrate myself before him, begging for one thing or another. He smiled a lot and listened without judgement, but he rarely delivered the goods. Disappointment didn't prevent me choosing Martina as my new Confirmation name, maybe I thought it would please Martin and he might cough up a few goodies.

Yeah you're absolutely correct; there was always a method to my madness!

Time was trundling along and in early spring Aunt Mary wrote to say she would be home for my Confirmation, in fact she was going to be my sponsor. Yes, you uninitiated ones; you had to have a sponsor, who walked up the aisle behind you as you ran the gauntlet of facing down the Bishop, looking for an escape route and your sponsor herding you into the eye of the storm.

I knew Aunt Mary would take her duty seriously, because she had that diligent way about her, like she could have been a guard in Auschwitz, no problem. She said in her letter that she couldn't wait to see me going up the aisle in the dress her own daughters had worn, and maybe someday I would pass it on to my own little girl, setting in motion a special family tradition. Mammy beamed as she read the letter aloud, ignoring Daddy's harrumph in the corner, which was customary whenever any of Mammy's family was mentioned.

Overall, things were going ok. The old workbook was nearly finished, the Confirmation date was set and then life decided to drop another bombshell on my poor little head!

Steady now! Wait till you hear this one!

A few weeks before the big event, the Church, in her wisdom, changed the rules. Girls no longer needed to wear white gowns to their Confirming, or veils or tiaras and gloves or any hint of anything remotely lacey or bridal! They should, from this time forth, wear demure little suits in shades of sherbet, with cute little hair bands or straw hats in matching colours; dress and coat combos were equally acceptable, in glorious crimplie or seer-sucker.

So what? So what I hear you say! Just tell your Mammy to get back up the road to Nees or MaGinty's and buy you a new rig-out. Ah! But you didn't know my Mammy.

My little racing heart knew the dilemma before me, knew there would be no escaping the white trousseau hanging proud in her wardrobe, that not even Christ on the Cross could save me from.

Of course I tried! But it's impossible to knock down a brick wall with a wooden spoon.

"I'll be the laughing stock of the parish!" I wailed. "Please Mammy, don't make me go up the aisle in that dress. PLEASE!"

"Stop being ridiculous," says she, "Aunt Mary expects to see you in that dress. There won't be one like it in the parish, I'm sure it cost a fortune and it's beautiful on you."

Daddy did try, but he knew it was a losing battle. "Don't make her wear it if she doesn't want to," he urged, without much conviction and it was her turn to harrumph. She was not for turning!

Desperate, I kept my campaign going for days, switching between howling and anger and refusing to cooperate with one goddamned thing she asked me to do. The standoff had only mild success. She conceded to buying me a new pair of shoes, in snazzy crocodile leather, black and grey, with a fairly high heel and a small platform. She also bought me a checked button-down dress in creams and browns, to be worn the day after my Confirmation.

The compromise did little to calm my racing heart or soothe me in any way, but the worst was yet to come.

How in the name of all that is holy could it get any

worse, says you. Wait till you hear.

Aunty Mary arrived on the morning of the big event in a fancy Range Rover, driven by her oldest son, my handsome cousin, Oliver. I was upstairs taking a last depressing look at myself in the full length mirror, trying to focus mainly on the shoes, but overall I looked stupid, yeah STUPID! There I was, half a teenager, in white knee socks and platform shoes, accessorized by an antique lace dress falling below my knees and a silly veil and tiara on my head.

No I didn't have the gloves on, I needed some element of protest, however feeble.

Down the stairs then to parade in front of Herr Mary, like a young stirk at the Mart, with her oohing and aahing, while Oliver glowered, wondering what the hell he was looking at. O the next bit still tears me up!

Our front door opened and in came a neighbouring woman, with her daughter in tow, also wearing a white lace gown, more hideous than mine, if that were possible.

I know what you're thinking now. You're thinking, well that was a good thing, you had company, you weren't the only weirdo on the day, right? But you are so wrong-shipped me boys.

This was Dunting Dora, the oddest girl in the parish, so called (wasn't me that nicknamed her, I swear), because she resembled an angry bull that might goad you at any minute. There she stood, resplendent, like a tribal child trussed up in the colonizer's clothes for a day. Sweet Jesus! The shame of it. Me and Dunting Dora, TWINS! Was Mammy actually smirking?

I could have sworn she was. Daddy's face told me what I needed to know. The whole affair was a shambles and I was trapped.

Daddy drove his car, giving Miss Dunting and her Mammy a lift, while I stepped into the back seat of the Range Rover along with Mammy who was now, ENE-MY NO. 1. Sun glared in the back window, making me aware of the sticky leather seats and the beads of sweat trickling down my spine.

The churchyard was already packed with cars, which meant we had to walk halfway up the aisle to get a seat and I was praying Dora and her Mammy were scattered to the four winds! The right hand side of the chapel was awash with colour, swirling in pinks and yellows and baby blues and I was wondering if I could faint, like Behan and be carried out discreetly before the ceremony began. Two of my new best friends were in the choir, I could hear them rehearsing up there near the altar, all smug, having been confirmed the previous year.

The opening hymn began and we stood to watch His Excellency procession up the chapel, in his ceremonial headgear, holding his crozier as he led the Parish Priest and altar boys to the promised land. The boys to my left were in their usual suits and Aran cardigans, oblivious to my distress, standing there like Big Bird, scanning the joint for Miss Dunting, hoping she fell under a seat somewhere. The girls around me looked petite and neat and perfectly formed, unlike the UFO among them, taller and hideously indiscreet. If only I didn't have to leave my seat, to parade in front of the entire congregation, not once, but twice. First up to be doused in oil and sucker punched by His Excellency, who might use his ruby knuckle duster if he was in a bad mood. Then up to receive holy communion like a big goose that strayed into the hen house. Maybe they would all just notice my shoes, that's what I comforted myself with. My shoes were stylish, they were in fashion now, not like Miss Havisham's dress that itched and rustled and hurt my soul. My pulse was like a runaway train, making it hard to concentrate on anything the Bishop was mumbling up there on the altar. Mammy and Aunty Mary looked serenely happy and Daddy was delighted, no doubt, to be down the back, on the men's side of the church. O to be a man, or a boy, or anyone else except me. Why did I pray to a saint who clearly wasn't good at his job? I should have prayed to St. Jude and taken Judith as my Confirmation name, might have yielded more dividends.

Aunty Mary jolted me, pushing me out of the pew, taking her place behind me in our ascent to the altar. On high alert I moved forward, looking down at my shoes, one moving in front of the other, Aunty's breath on my neck, warm and sadistic. Father C anointed my forehead with oil, which was kind of soothing, before Aunty steered me in front of the Bishop and I winced in anticipation, feeling I deserved a hard slap for showing up in such a state. Maybe the sight of me stole his passion away, because all he did was pat my cheek gently, like he wasn't sure what exactly he was looking at. The volume rose as the choir sang and I turned from the altar, stung by the faces of my two best friends, streaming with laughter. There was no attempt to hide their elation at my shame, pointing at me, holding their sides, as my face burned and I almost overshot the pew I came out of. Everything was a blur, except Dunting Dora, making her way down the side aisle, with a pre-historic swagger that was almost comical. I said ALMOST!

Barely had I time to recover, before I was hunted out of the pew again, this time by Mammy, her hands joined like Mother Teresa of the Roses, eager to receive the

body of Christ, blocking dithery auld ones trying to get out of their seats, in case they reached the altar rails before her.

Maybe it was the thought of having to parade past the choir again or knowing that whoever missed the spectacle of me the first time out would surely see me now, that the urge to pee descended upon me, acute and urgent! Seriously Holy Spirit! You're making this ordeal almost unbearable! Father C had to push the host between my gritted teeth, forgetting to say Amen, as I turned once more to face the jeering rabble, my buttocks clenched tightly, holding back the tide. This time my gaze was trained on the stained glass window at the end of the church, the clenched bum making it difficult to walk behind Mammy, who seemed to be moving in slow motion. If I could sit down it wouldn't be so bad, I'd cross my legs and pray to St. Jude and soon this nightmare would be over.

Back in the pew, consumed with the longing to pee, my eyes swam and my hearing dulled and the last part of the ceremony was a complete blur. Next thing I knew, the Bishop was parading down the aisle, to stand at the chapel door, where all and sundry had to genuflect before him and kiss his knuckle-duster. It was time to break ranks! Without a backwards glance I scurried towards the opened doors, a tepid trickle of fluid escaping down my leg into my white knee socks. The ruby knuckle-duster sparkled in the midday sun, while Aunty Mary and Mammy salivated, groping their way forward, to kiss the mighty gem. In their pious trance, giving them the slip was easy.

Oliver was already behind the wheel, as I climbed in the back, too relieved to feel embarrassed or guilty or give two damns about Herr Mary's glare, pushing in on one side of me and Mammy in on the other. Dunting Dora stared across at me from the back seat of Daddy's car and smiled, a little grotesque smile, that threatened a dam-burst of my frail bladder. The engine caught and we moved slowly out of the chapel yard, inching towards the main road home.

"Where did you go?" Mammy hissed. "Did you not kiss the Bishop's ring?"

Struggling to keep check on my rogue bladder, I pleaded silently with her, a pained expression accompanied by a nip to her thigh, telling her to please shut up. Aunty Mary took a different tack, taking the inquisition in a new direction.

"I hope you took your pledge," she warned, "Your mouth didn't move I noticed, when you should have been repeating the words after the Bishop."

It was the last straw! The pledge went completely over my head as I bent double in my seat, holding back the waters and praying I'd disappear. Oliver glanced in the rear view mirror, seeing my distress.

"Does it really matter if she said the words out loud? I'm sure she said them in her heart, right cousin?"

"I said them for her," Aunty stated, "So one way or another you have taken your pledge and that's that."

O God help me! Control was seeping through my slip, through the first layer of tulle, then the second and I closed my eyes so tightly I thought I might combust. Almost defeated, I watched the Range Rover pulling in at our door, praying my jailers would alight before me and St. Jude must have listened. I sat watching them, seconds ticking away, going in the front door, just as Daddy's car turned the corner. I made my hasty exit, not looking behind, only running in the back door up the stairs slamming the bathroom door shut. Downstairs the adults chatted and laughed, arranging delph on the kitchen table, unwrapping egg sandwiches and jam Swiss Rolls.

Relief swept over me like a tiny death, leaving me dizzy and spent. WHAT DOESN'T KILL YOU!!! I marched into my bedroom, reefing the offending lace over my head, heedless to the sound of ripping buttons and tearing fabric. Like Christ on the cross, IT WAS FINISHED!

Within minutes I emerged, clad in my dry underwear and new checked dress, sporting my nylon tights and snakeskin platforms. THIS IS WHO I AM SUCKERS, TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT!

Daddy's eyes smiled, then his mouth, as they all turned to look at me, even Mammy knew the game was up. Oliver gave a little low wolf whistle, appalling Herr Mary and I beamed, ignoring poor Dunting, sitting in the corner, still trussed in her lace straightjacket, no longer my twin.

Outside the puddle on the leather seat was evaporating, slowly and pungently in the afternoon heat. I checked on it every few minutes, willing it to vanish, too shy to open the back door of that fancy machine and simply wipe it away. Soon the other confirmands were on the street, in their crimplene suits and combos, launching themselves from door to door, scavenging. I joined them, feeling kindred in my new duds, aware that I may have gotten away with it, may have convinced them that the church confection was just a mirage. Blanking Aunty Mary, who stood at the door beside Miss Dunting, waving a camera in the air; I crossed the street to Joe and Monica's shop, hoping Monica would proffer the old half crown. She knew what she could do with the Cadbury's Roses!

Why the Resurrection matters

American historian Jaroslav Pelikan once said, 'If Jesus Christ rose from the dead, nothing else matters. If Jesus Christ did not rise from the dead, nothing else matters.'

Peter Hitchens, author, journalist, and brother of Christopher Hitchens, once described the resurrection of Jesus as the idea which had the greatest potential to change the world.

The resurrection is not a happy ending to an ancient fairy story; it is not even a happy ending to a piece of ancient history. It is so much more than that.

If Jesus didn't rise from the dead, God doesn't exist, and life, despite what we make it, is, to quote Shakespeare, "a tale told by an idiot, full of sound and fury, signifying nothing."

To simply deny that the resurrection couldn't happen is a groundless assumption at best, and willful blindness at worst. As one writer put it, "there is a resurrection-shaped 'dent' in the historical record that cannot reasonably be denied."

Why does the resurrection matter? Let me give you five reasons:

1 - It is proof of the truth of the Bible - the resurrection was foretold, both in the Old Testament and by Jesus himself. If he hadn't risen the Bible would just be one more loony tunes book, and Jesus just one more deluded

messiah.

2 - It is proof that the price he paid for sins has been accepted. Jesus went to the Cross to pay for the sins of his people. How do we know that God was satisfied with Jesus' sacrifice? The resurrection is the answer. The resurrection is God the Father's approval at what the Son had done.

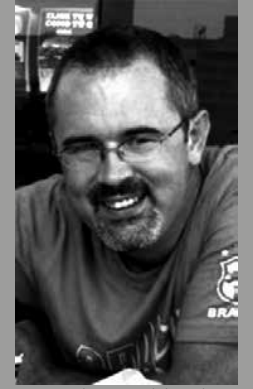
The apostle Paul writes "He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life so that we could be declared right with God". (Rom 4:25)

3 - His resurrection demonstrates that there is ultimate justice and a making new of everything. In the resurrection we have a kind of preview of God's future restoration of all things. Here is hope in a world where injustice seems to triumph - the resurrection tells us that injustices will be put right.

4 - It is proof that there is life after death. Too many people live like death is the full stop at the end of the story. It isn't. Every one of us will be resurrected. You will be resurrected. The question is: will it be to everlasting life or judgment? Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life, the one who believes in me will live, even though they die." (John 11:25)

5 - It is proof that when Jesus says he will return, he will do so. He promised the disciples that he would

Food for thought



Mark Loughridge

return from the grave and he did. He has also promised to return to raise all people, and to judge the living and the dead. He has a track record of keeping such promises, we would do well to be ready.

So much focus during Easter week seems to be on the sufferings of Jesus - as if they are meant to evoke our pity. We rob Easter of its purpose if we are moved only to pity or admiration. His suffering and resurrection are meant to go together to evoke our trust.

If Jesus rose from the dead, he rightly demands your attention, repentance, trust and obedience. As Peter Hitchens would point out - if we accept it, it changes us, and if we reject it, it also changes us. It changes everything.

Mark Loughridge is one of the ministers in Milford Reformed Presbyterian Church. He can be contacted on 086 3907726 or jmark-loughridge@gmail.com. You can watch or listen online at www.milfordrpc.org

€267,791 for outdoor recreation projects

Nine Donegal outdoor recreation projects have been allocated a total of €267,791 under the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme.

The investment is part of a €4.1 million funding package announced by the Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphries. Charlie McConalogue, said the funding will be key to enhancing local mountain trails, forest walks, cycleways, rivers, lakes, and beaches. "This is great news for the county as it prepares for the tourist season. Donegal has so much to offer when it comes to the outdoors and these allocations will help to improve the unique offerings we have here in the county. The investments will serve to attract more visitors to the county.

"The announcement will also benefit lo-



Comhghairdeas le Ruby Crumlish, Scoil Cholmille, an Tearmann a bhain a tÚ áit sa rannóg Amhránaíochta Aonair ag Feis Loreto 2024.

A COMMUNITY EVENING "LET'S START A CONVERSATION" OUR MENTAL HEALTH

JOIN US ON THURSDAY 4TH APRIL 2024: THE BOATHOUSE GARTAN (EIRCODE: F92 Y209) TIME: 7.30PM

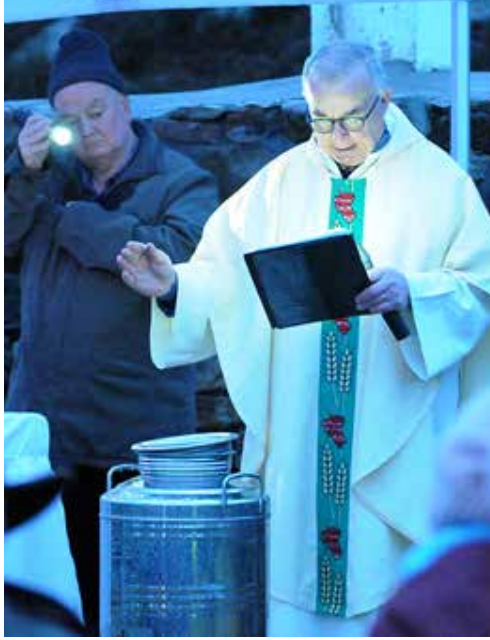
GUEST SPEAKERS FROM: MENTAL HEALTH IRELAND KINVARA ALIVE DLDC MEN'S SHEDS



INFORMATION SUPPORT SERVICES

Dawn Mass in Glenvar

Fr. Martin Collum PP Rathmullan celebrated the Easter Sunday Dawn Mass at the Crosses in Glenvar. Margaret McAteer lead the choir and Anthony Murphy did the readings.



Errigal College students represent Ireland as MEPs for a day!

Last Thursday, 24 transition year students from Errigal College stepped into the shoes of Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) as they participated in the Euroscola competition held in Strasbourg, France. Having clinched victory in the Midlands-North-West constituency competition late last year, these students earned the amazing opportunity to represent Ireland and engage in the intricate workings of European politics.

The Euroscola experience offered a unique platform for these young minds to immerse themselves in workshops and discussions on crucial topics such as Gender Equality and European Elections. Interacting with peers from 26 other countries, the students exchanged perspectives, fostering a deeper understanding of the European Union.

Reflecting on the enriching experience, Ms. Deirdre Markham, Deputy Principal of Errigal College, expressed pride in the students' accomplishments: "It's truly inspiring to witness our students embrace the complexities of European politics with such enthusiasm and intellect. The Euroscola competition provided a valuable opportunity for them to broaden their horizons and develop a deeper appreciation for the democratic processes that shape our continent."

Accompanying the students on this transformative journey were Mr. Evan Gorrell, Business Teacher and School Tour Coordinator, along with Ms. Deirdre Markham and Ms. Caitriona Hasson. Mr. Gorrell shared his insights, stating,

"Watching our students engage passionately in discussions, tackle challenges, and collaborate with peers from different countries and perspectives has been incredibly rewarding. This experience goes beyond the classroom, empowering them to become informed citizens."

Beyond the realm of politics, the students savoured the cultural delights of Strasbourg, embarking on a scenic boat tour along the picturesque river Ill, unravelling mysteries at a local escape room, and unwinding with a cinematic experience.

Right - Errigal college teachers Ms. Caitriona Hasson, Mr. Evan Gorrell, Ms. Deirdre Markham.
Below - Errigal College, Letterkenny pupils flying the flag as MEPS in Strasbourg.



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Tirconail Tribune Archives:- 26th March 2004



Glenveagh: summer jobs at risk: Ryan

The prospect of seasonal summer positions not being filled this year at Glenveagh National Park has been queried this week by Tommy Ryan, the FG candidate in the Milford area. Ryan has expressed fears over the potential loss of over twenty positions ranging from bus drivers to tour guides as a result of what he says is a 35% cut in the budget for providing tourism facilities in this sector. Ryan who runs the Village Court in Kilmacrennan says any such cuts must be resisted since it would represent a backward step in a year when the country is looking forward to an increase in tourism numbers. He points out that the move would have far reaching consequences for the entire economy of the wider Kilmacrennan area. In former times the village enjoyed a revenue boom as a spin off from the crowds and coaches flocking to Glenveagh. That element of the industry has taken a nose dive in recent years but there is renewed hope that the corner has been turned.

Ryan points to the fact that when the national park first opened it was projected that as many as 75 people per day would come through the gates over the season. "The fact is that over one thousand became the norm shows its real pulling power, impact and its importance to the economy," added Ryan. And he hopes they can return to that same position in coming years but only if the national park is fully promoted and its assets exploited to the fullest. He says that as well as representing a major loss to Glenveagh itself and its focus on tourism, if they are left without guides and drivers visitors will not be able to access the castle or grounds. These are the magnets that attract record numbers to the area and he's seeking assurances and clarification that money will now be provided to ensure that staffing levels for seasonal work will be maintained in 2004. However, he said he is not optimistic for the summer given the direction to cut the budget by 35%.



The Committee of the Fanad New Year's Day Swim has presented a cheque for €7,000 to Sr. Margaret Sweeney for her Missionary Work in South Africa. The presentation was made in Fanavolty Hall on Saturday night and the group includes Sally Anne Sweeney who made the presentation, Mark McConigley, Maresa McGinley, Carina McGinley and back Rosaleen Blaney, Danny Kelly, Michael McGroarty, Ruairi Friel, Sean Begley, Denise Shiels and Margaret Kelly.

Swilly row erupts again

The ongoing battle between the oyster catchers and mussel farmers in Lough Swilly has erupted again with claims that a boat load of 'illegal mussels' for planting in the estuary was turned back by marine officials at Culdaff. According to Alex Carlin, Chairman of the Donegal Wild Oyster Association the boat had earlier left Belfast Lough with its cargo. "This sort of carryon," he says, "is completely off the wall and it is illegal. These Dutch companies operating in the Swilly seem to be a law unto themselves." Earlier in the week officials at BIM refused to

make any comment to the Tribune on these allegations. Carlin claimed the mussel boat was being monitored by marine officers before its crew was advised not to enter the Swilly. He says that a health and safety licence along with a certificate of movement for shipping would have to be issued to allow the cargo to come into Irish waters. "Where is the evidence of that having happened," he queries. Then on Wednesday evening a spokesperson for BIM in Dublin said that this matter will now be investigated by the relevant regulatory

authority. Carlin and the oyster men had claimed the boat had berthed briefly at Greencastle before being apprehended off Culdaff by marine onshore officers. Earlier in the week we sought a comment on the claims by the oyster group and the reasons for preventing the cargo from entering the Swilly. A spokesman for BIM said: 'It is not our normal procedure or practice to respond to media queries of this kind. We

are sorry we are not able to make any comment to your paper.' It is understood the issue was discussed further by the oyster men at a meeting in St. Johnston on Tuesday. Alex Carlin then issued a statement to the Tribune saying: "We are not surprised that a boat load of illegal mussels was attempting to get into Lough Swilly. Nevertheless it is an unbelievable situation that this practice was attempted and hidden from the media. What is going on anyway? No state body seems to have any real control over these Dutch companies who are being fronted by locals. These multi-nationals have been allowed to operate in the Swilly Estuary and threaten the oyster beds and the livelihood of those working there. And this work has continued for several years despite our complaints to BIM and the Dept of the Marine. Are these mussel companies 'untouchable' and if so should we not be told the basic facts? We can only regard this behaviour and ongoing damage to our oyster

beds as criminal negligence by the powers that be. We have worked here for generations and have posed no threat and caused no damage. Our industry is under threat as BIM knows well - yet no action is being taken against the mussel industry or the promoters who are causing so much damage and grief. Are we supposed to stand there silently and let this happen? We would ask again what role is being played by BIM and the Dept. of the Marine in protecting our industry?" We referred the statement to BIM for an observation. On Wednesday evening BIM in Dublin responded to Carlin's remarks saying: "While BIM supports all elements of the aquaculture and inshore fisheries industries, BIM does not condone actions which are not fully in compliance with all licence terms and conditions. Undoubtedly, this matter will be investigated by the relevant regulatory authority. Therefore, it would not be appropriate for BIM to comment further on this matter."



Finalists in the €1500 Karaoke competition on Sunday night in Dusty's Bar, Milford which was won by Karen Coyle, Ramelton. From left Stephaine Dykes and Catriona Greene, Emma O'Hanlon, Louise Devine, Karen Coyle and Paula McTaggart.

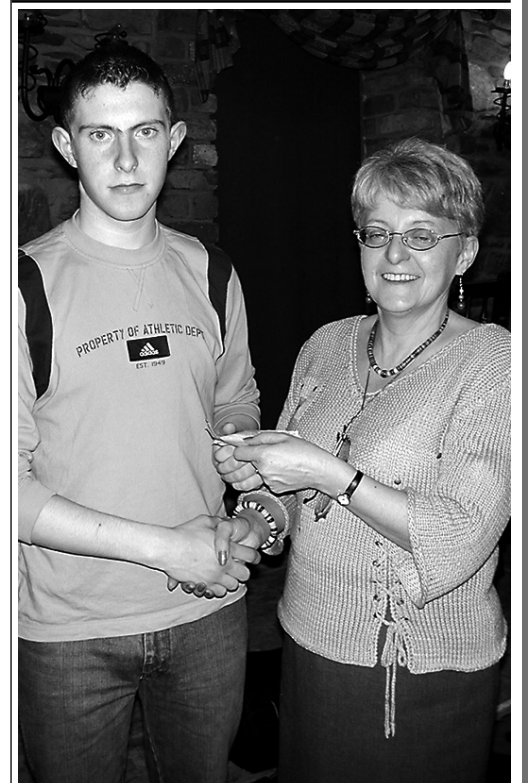


Members of Ógra Independent Fianna Fáil party who enjoyed a night out at "The Dogs" in Lifford.

IFF Letterkenny Conventions

The IFF conventions for the council and town areas will take place at 8.30 on this Sunday night in the Silver Tassie Hotel on the Ramelton Road. Outgoing Cllr. Dessie Larkin is sure to be nominated for both councils and he's already been described by party officials as the hardest working and best informed member in Lifford. On the county council ticket he's expected to be joined by St. Johnston woman Maura McLaughlin. She is closely identified with the ICA and host of voluntary organisations in her area. Larkin may have two running mates for the town council. Peter Patton who hails originally from Rahan and now lives in the town is a cert for nomination. However the search for a third candidate is ongoing as we went to press. Patton works at Global Tiles and he comes from one of the strongest Blaney families in Don-

egal. The line up for the elections is now nearing completion although FF is still very silent on the identity of their second runner in Milford. Also in Milford it is expected that two prospective independent runners will make a final decision on their intentions within the next couple of weeks.



Jean Winston from the Town Hall Committee presents the winner's cheque to Pearse McDaid at the end of the Weakest Link Final at the Lennon Lodge on Friday.

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

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Ann McMonagle and Michela McMonagle, Glendowan pictured at the blessing of the foundations of the new St. Columba's Church, Glendowan on Thursday by Bishop Philip Boyce and pictured right the group at the blessing.



Blessing of foundations of new Church

Last Thursday, the Bishop of Raphoe Dr. Philip Boyce blessed the foundations of the new St. Columba's Church at Glendowan. He was joined by Fr. Pat McHugh and Fr. Michael McKeever, the priests of the parish of Gartan and Termon. The old

church has been completely demolished and the footprint of the new structure is now in place.

Bishop Boyce used Doon Well water to bless the foundations and Fr. McKeever and Fr. McHugh placed Gartan clay lifted

by Dan Friel a member of the O'Frighil family of Gartan and Miraculous medals that were blessed in the Rue de Bac, Paris, France on August 15th 2003 into the foundations.

Last year the parishioners of Gartan and

Termon went in to Our Lady's Shrine in Knock in thanksgiving for the recent parish mission which they had and to ask Our Lady's help in building the new St. Columba's Church in Glendowan. At that time tremendous difficulties were being encountered and it did not look as if this project was ever going to be-

come a reality.

Many parishioners joined with the bishop and the priests of the parish in celebrating this wonderful occasion. They now await with eager anticipation the construction of the new Church by the Boyle family of Trentagh who are the overall contractors for the new building.

Launch of St. Conal's Chapel Project

Monday next the Donegal Special Olympics and their strategic partners, Donegal County Council, North Western Health Board, Letterkenny Hospital Sports & Social Club, People with Disabilities Ireland and Donegal Sports Partnership will launch a major fundraising drive to raise €2million for the re-development of St.

Conal's Chapel, which was acquired by Donegal Special Olympics. The church will be developed into a new sports, social and cultural centre for people with a learning disability, throughout all of Donegal and further afield, with facilities including a sports hall, state-of-the-art gym, café and hydrotherapy pool. Mary



The members of the Sheephaven Quilt and Patchworkers Guild pictured at the Opening of their Quilt Exhibition in the Workhouse Dunfanaghy on Tuesday the 16th March last.

Davis, Special Olympics Ireland will officially launch the project. The lease on St. Conal's Chapel was held by Letterkenny Town Council and owned by the North Western Health Board, both of whom have come together to support this project and have agreed to pass on the leasehold of the premises. The project has been driven by Donegal Special Olympics in conjunction with Special Olympics Ireland through the acquisition of the church and the obtaining of planning permission.

Mick Quinlivan, Chairman of the Development Committee said, "This project is unique in Ireland, as it will not just provide sport and social fa-

ilities for people with special needs, but will also provide employment and other opportunities through the inclusion of the café and the facilities for the park. This project is integration at its best as the pace and level will be dictated by the athletes themselves and their partners in the project." Special Olympics is a year round sports training and competition programmes for people with a learning disability. As a result of the success of the 2003 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Special Olympics Ireland aims to double the number of participants to approx. 16,000 athletes over the period 2004-2007. The organisation has 7,000 volunteers.

Donegal People in Need launched

The 2004 Donegal People in Need Telethon was launched in the Mount Errigal Hotel on Tuesday. The event which was established some 16 years ago has raised almost €30 million for charitable organisations throughout the country. To date in Donegal the fundraising initiative has allocated almost a million euro to various organisations in the county. Speaking at the launch Chairman John Keon said

that there many worthy causes out there that need funding and urged the public to show their generosity on May 21st when Gay Byrne presents the RTE extravaganza with Gerry Ryan fronting the radio coverage.

Donegal has always been a good supporter of Telethon, raising €232,276 in 2000, the last year that the event was run. A unique characteristic of People

in Need, is that the money raised in each county is re-allocated back to that county and as a result some 50 projects benefited in Co. Donegal in 2000.

This year the local committee headed up Chairman John Keon with offices in Letterkenny and Donegal Town are hoping to raise €150,000. Grainne McGettigan will once again be the county co-ordinator with responsibility for organising most of the

fund-raising events.

The 2004 campaign will be short and intensive over the next few months. Community groups, business people, social clubs, Chambers of Commerce, schools, retail outlets, people in professional practice, and those who have received funding from the Trust are being encouraged to take an active part in fundraising in their areas. Tuesday night's official launch was performed by Robert Carley who has been involved with Telethon since its inception. He asked people to get their events up and running immediately and said the vital ingredients for success on May 21st were planning, people, passion, pride and persistence. Among the organisations to receive funding in 2000 were St. Vincent de Paul, Dunfanaghy, €10,000; Letterkenny Mental Health Social Group, €4,000; Kilmacrennan Community Hall Ltd, €10,000; Donegal Hospice Limited, €10,000; An Teach Ban, North West Community Residential Centre, Downings, €10,000; Kerrykeel Enterprise and Development Association, €1,500; Ramelton Community Playgroup €3,000; Churchill and Areas Community Playgroup, 71,500.

The Donegal People in Need committee members are Chairman, John Keon; Secretary, Nuala Murphy; Treasurers, Jim Moore/Mike Walsh and PRO, Angela Holohan.



Fanad Patriots have inspired countless generations - Maria Doherty



Maria Doherty delivering the oration at Kindrum on Easter Monday.



Sean Begley presided at the Easter Commemoration.

Maria Doherty, the SF candidate for the local elections in Milford came to the peaceful spot at the Kindrum Crossroads in Fanad where stands the memorial cross in honour of the Fanad Patriots where she delivered the oration on Easter Monday.

A big crowd had assembled on a pleasant afternoon as wreaths were laid by SF Members, James Coll, Martin O'Brien and Grace Begley. The flag was lowered by Charlie Heraghty and Michael Shiels read the Proclamation. John Heraghty read the Tirconail Roll of Honour while Aine Fealty played the tin whistle. Maria Doherty had an attentive audience when she told the commemoration that Sinn Féin's central political aim is to deliver the type of Ireland envisaged at Easter Week.

"Let us go forward with confidence that we will make greater change in the times ahead. That we will realise the progressive, egalitarian vision of 1916 - a free and united Ireland.

She continued: "To realise the revolutionary vision of the Land League Movement and the Fanad Patriots that led the way with their courage and bravery, we will build a new United Ireland, inspired by those who have given their ultimate sacrifice.

Here on the banks of Mulroy Bay, we remember the Fanad Patriots, Neil Sheils, Michael Heraghty, Michael McElwee and who on the 2nd of April 1878 executed the oppressive landlord Leitrim and ended the tyranny of landlordism. He was a ruthless tyrant who inflicted countless evictions and attacks on tenants.

In Donegal, this assassination was considered a pivotal point in the fight for Home Rule. It is also seen as the inspiration behind the founding of the Land League in 1879 in the following year. We are gathered here on Easter Monday at an historic place that remembers and honours those brave men.

These patriots in a small parish in the corner of Donegal inspired other men and women to stand and fight against the oppression across Ireland. They

have inspired countless generations to strive for our freedom.

108 years ago, Irish republicans, socialists, feminists, and Irish language activists coalesced in a great revolutionary effort to liberate Ireland and establish a democratic, egalitarian republic on this island. The republican principles of national independence and equality for all citizens were reflected in the Proclamation of the Republic and Sinn Féin is proud to stand in that revolutionary tradition and we are as determined as ever to achieve those noble objectives.

Looking back at the historical context of over 100 years ago there was a Counter-Revolution in Ireland. The British government's plan to divide and rule had succeeded. The British Empire had partitioned our country, maintaining its selfish strategic and economic interest on this island.

Without British guns, money and political pressure there would have been no Civil War. The British government supported the orange regime in Belfast and the Free State government in Dublin with the aim of destroying the Irish Republic.

Thousands of Republicans, including hundreds of women activists, were in the prisons. The prison executions of Republicans continued through the first half of 1923, as did the so-called unofficial killings of Republicans across the country.

The British, Unionist and Free State Governments thought they had defeated Irish Republicanism. But they were wrong. They established a sectarian state in 6 Counties and a conservative state in the 26 Counties, but they could never erase the ideal of the Irish Republic. That ideal survived and today a century later it lives and grows, stronger than ever.

Seismic, generational change is underway in Ireland. The old certainties are collapsing. A new chapter of Irish history is being written. Change is real, happening in real time. It must be grasped bravely with both hands.

The achievement of a new Ireland can happen in our time. Ireland - united



Flying the colours at Kindrum.

and free - finally taking its rightful place amongst the nations of the world.

More and more people are now seriously considering the future and the shape of constitutional change, and friends, the reunification of Ireland is firmly on the table. I believe that a referendum on Irish Unity can take place before the end of this decade.

On February 3rd, Michelle O'Neill, Leas Uachtarán Shinn Féin, a republican woman from Co. Tyrone took up the office of First Minister. The first Irish republican First Minister in the North is a hugely significant milestone in the history of this island. She pledged to be a First Minister for all and every day and that is what she is doing.

We are a number of weeks from the lo-

cal and European elections and we are running the biggest ever number of candidates in the local elections. That is a statement of our intent, we want to offer an alternative to this government.

This is a tired government running out of road and out of time.

The fact is that housing is out of reach for so many people because this government is out of touch. We just need to look at how our own people here in this county, in this parish and surrounding

parishes have been treated if their homes have defective blocks, failed time and time again by them, with a system that is not fit for purpose on any level.

It is one of the most basic human rights, the right to shelter. This is total and utter state failure and SF in government will implement a 100% redress scheme.

Our local villages and townlands are yet again seeing our young people get on planes for Canada, Middle East or Australia, why because they cannot afford to live here and they cannot get a house to live in, to rent, to buy or to build. This government time is up, I say we have had enough.

Sinn Féin wants to be in government. We want to lead the government... a government that

transforms our health service. A government that builds homes. A government that puts Irish reunification at the heart of its agenda. That is our ambition. You can be part of that ambition.

Change starts here on June 7th - if we want change, you must vote for it in the Local and European elections. Nothing changes if Nothing changes, let's make sure that does not happen, use your voice and elect SF councillors all over this county. Let's elect a SF Councillor in the Milford Local Election Area.

Over the next two months be active, be out and active in your local areas, get involved in the election campaign, engage with your community and promote Sinn Féin's vision and policies. Ask people to vote for us, talk to your neighbours, your friends, your work colleagues, your family and let them know that they have a voice and an opportunity to change the course of history on the 7th of June by electing the biggest ever SF team of councillors here in Donegal, we will be standing 18 candidates.

For six months now, Irish people have watched in horror at the unfolding genocide in Gaza. Sinn Féin has stood unequivocally with the people of Gaza. At home, within the EU institutions and in the recent visit to the US by Mary Lou McDonald and Michelle O'Neill, we have unapologetically raised the obscenity of the Gaza genocide and called for the efforts of all political leaders to be directed towards an immediate ceasefire. Sinn Féin's long history of solidarity and support for the cause of freedom and self-determination for the Palestinians will always endure. Comrades, the 1916 Proclamation remains the mission statement of modern Irish republicanism. It is a freedom charter for this whole island and all the people who live here. It is a declaration of social and economic intent for a rights-based society in which the people are sovereign."



Crowds enjoying the Easter Sunshine on Monday at Kindrum.



Frankie Sweeney and Hughie Shiels among the crowd.

Three rotating Taoisigh... all dressed alike

By Owen Curran

I had a terrible dream one night last week. I just had to tell someone. I hope that the readers of this newspaper will be interested.



In the dream I was in a fairground, although very eerie for a fairground. Of course that was it, it was like a fairground from The Twilight Zone. There were three figures going around on the Carousel, there was strange music playing ... though there was something vaguely familiar about it. The lighting was strange also, like the Tilley Lamps of old, all dark shadows in the corners.

The Carousel kept going around and around, getting faster and faster - the figures on the horses were laughing and kept calling out the same phrases over and over again.

"That's how you do it, No it isn't, yes, it is." A chill ran up my spine when I realised that what I was watching was the three rotating Taoisigh ... and they kept shouting, and rotating faster and faster till in the blur the three faces looked exactly the same! They had been dressed exactly the same as well.

In the shadows of the fairground there were other sights appearing... a cordoned-off area titled Homeless This Way. It was almost full, however the doormen kept showing people, old, young, city people, country people, people from other countries a steady stream.

Another 'game' in the fairground was 'Grab A Tent'. The way this one worked was the player got to control a small crane with a grab on it ... the aim was to lift a tent from a row of tents and place it anywhere as long as it was out of sight. There were really no winners in this game ... it just meant someone was 'doing something' for a while. Then two Gardai appeared, thought first they were here to keep order until one starting shouting, "What do you think your doing? You are just after lifting my tent. I live there."

There was a small man with a long beard lying on some straw. He was asleep, people kept probing him with whatever they could get their hands on, hurely sticks, oars, walking sticks until he eventually 'woke'. "Oi, we can't have that said a big burly fellow with a suit like the ones that the figures on the Carousel were wearing, no more of this woke nonsense here. Someone hit the man with the beard and knocked him out, putting him back to sleep. That was the end of his wokeness for a while!

Over in the other corner the Far - Right impersonator contest was just beginning. The contestants lined up wearing varied outfits, lookalikes of Hitler, Mussolini, O Duffy, Enoch Powell, Mosley all bringing those character's nasty individualism to the fore, all with one thing in common. Their spoken word pieces were all filled with trigger words... slyly pointing out scapegoats, easy targets, someone to hate, turning people on each other, while deflecting attention away from the real oppressors. For all their wild talk they were content enough with the way things are.

Also in full swing was 'The Great Patriot' competition. The minimum needed for entering this competition was wearing the green jersey and /or draping yourself in the tri-colour, there was no need to worry about fighting or dying for the country, no that was to be privatised. Some wise politicians had decided that this type of thing was old hat, and couldn't have people being genuinely happy with where they came from, or talking straight. That might not be a 'durable' state of affairs.

Over on another page in another corner the lights dimmed and one spotlight came on. An MC's voice came over the Sound System saying Ladies And Gentlemen I GIVE YOU ... SI 'THE MAN' HARASS. The spotlight picked out a solitary figure in front of a single microphone. He was wearing a hoodie and throwing shapes like a boxer in training ... there was something vaguely familiar about him ... Then, with

the Ullian pipes backing him he began to Rap:

*"Let's take back ...
Let's take back ...
Let's take back the flag
Fly it back to back*

*With the Union Jack
Let's take back the flag
See that bloody sacrifice in 1916
Well, it was just a fight between good friends ...
It's been remembered by the Queen
Take down the flag...
Take down the flag...
Mother Ireland is an old hag
Granuaile should've died in jail
No more mention of
witches or mothers ...*

*Modern Ireland has
no time for that
Take back the flag...
Take back the flag...
And no more wearing of the green
For my advisors have come up with a form of words
And f@#! knows what they mean!
And with that I woke up, eyes wide open, trembling for the dream that seemed so real. As I*

came back to myself, I decided to put on some music to wash SI THE MANS words from my brain. Randomly I touched the player and a Bob Dylan track came on. Decent enough I thought. There was something really comforting in Bob's voice, then I listened to the words he sang 'A gypsy with a broken flag and a flashing ring ...' "Son this ain't a dream no more, it's the real thing."

Donegal Training Service Learners Awards ceremony

79 learners, all of whom are Service Users at HSE Donegal Community Inclusion Training Services (DCITS), received their QQI Certificates from Lee Gooch of Highland Radio, at their Awards Ceremony at the Clanree Hotel, Letterkenny.

The learners, with service supports as required, undertook their learning journeys and have now received their awards from the national awarding body known as Quality & Qualifications Ireland

(QQI).

Through the learning journey participants gained experience of learning for example in Leading Healthy Lifestyles, Personal Care Practice and Independent Living skills, to name but a few of the QQI Certificates issued to DCITS learners.

These qualifications are recognised and valued nationally and internationally and for many of the learners it is but a step in their onward journey to

further qualifications and increasing options for employment. For others it's the self-satisfaction of having reached their qualification goal.

One of the learners, Liam Wheeldon, commented on his learning journey stating "I enjoyed the Literacy and Numeracy Course as it helped me increase the type of material I may have struggled reading previously and me gave more confidence when reading community signage".



Learners from Ballyrairie Community Inclusion Hub with QQI Certificates



Learners from Letterkenny Community Inclusion Hub with QQI Certificates



Learners from Tobar Gweedore Community Inclusion Hub with QQI Certificates

Get Involved in Donegal Clean-Up



Cathaoirleach Cllr. Martin Harley (centre) with Cllr. John Shéamuis Ó Fearraigh and Cllr. Michael McClafferty, Cathaoirleach of the Glenties Municipal District, launching the 'Big Donegal Clean Up' at Dunfanaghy pier with members of Dunfanaghy Tidy Towns. Picture: Declan Doherty.

The launch for the 2024 Big Donegal Clean-Up campaign took place at Dunfanaghy Pier this week where Cllr Martin Harley, Cathaoirleach of Donegal County Council joined Cllr Michael McClafferty, Cathaoirleach of the Glenties Municipal District, Cllr John Shéamuis Ó Fearraigh, members of Dunfanaghy Tidy Towns along with Seamus Hopkins, Senior Engineer and Environment staff from

the Council. The Big Donegal Clean-up is an annual campaign which plays a key part of the Council's commitment to sustainability and environmental protection. The campaign offers the opportunity for communities to come together and take a proactive approach to improving the environment that we all share. With year-on-year increases in the number of cleanups

being undertaken, there is hope that the 2024 Big Donegal Clean-Up will be the biggest yet. Speaking at the launch, Cllr Martin Harley, said: "The Big Donegal Clean-Up is a chance for everyone to show that same compassion and environmental responsibility and I would encourage the people of Donegal to play their part in making our county a cleaner and more sustainable place to live."

With over 50 registrations from Donegal already made for the An Taisce National Spring Clean, the Council looks forward to working with volunteers and community groups to make this year's campaign a success. Michael McGarvey, Director of Service, said: "Having supported over 900 clean-ups in 2023, it's great to have the Clean-Up back. From the early number of clean-ups registered we are already seeing the determination that the people of Donegal have to keep their county clean. As always, the Council thanks the 5,000 volunteers that make this happen each year, without whom none of this would be possible."

The Donegal Volunteer Centre are once more joining the campaign and will publicise details of planned clean-ups on their website www.volunteerdonegal.ie. This is a great help to communities looking to promote their campaigns or take on extra volunteers. John Curran said "Community Clean-ups are a great example of volunteers giving time for the greater good. They help communities shine and be at their best. Donegal Volunteer Centre are delighted to support the groups across Donegal and to introduce new volunteers to the team".

Get involved

This campaign sees the Council supporting individuals, groups, businesses and organisations in arranging their own clean-ups. The Council provides bags, gloves and litter pickers while also taking care of the collection of rubbish once it has been bagged.

To sign up for this year's Big Donegal Clean-Up call 074 91 53900, call to your local Council office or visit www.donegal-coco.ie

Eithne Ní Cumhail commemoration in Falcarragh

The Eithne Ní Cumhail commemoration was held in Falcarragh on Saturday and pictured right are some of those who were invited to attend the wreath laying. Due to the location of the monument at the bottom of Falcarragh Hill and the are obvious dangers with traffic, hence the limited invite. Among the attendance were grand nieces and grand nephew of Eithne Ní Cumhail, with great grand nieces Aishling and Ciara who laid wreaths at her Monument at Killult. Wreaths were also laid at Eithne's brother Dan Coyle's grave at Reilig Thulach Bheaglaíoch. Dan was one of eight IRA men captured at Dunlewey. Dan Coyle, Frank Ward, Jim Lane, James Donaghy. The other four became known as the Drumboe Martyrs Charlie Daly, Sean Larkin, Daniel Enright and Tim ÓSullivan who were executed by Free State forces in March 1923.



Creeslough event for Palestine

A concert was held in Creeslough last week as a show of support for the people of Palestine as global pressure grows for a ceasefire. Local musicians attended the event in Braai Restau-

rant at Rose's Bar that was organised by Ards local musician, Ciarán Doyle. He said the night saw a great show of support for the victims

of this ongoing war and they managed to raise €2,000 on the night to support them as the country deepened into a humanitarian crisis. He stated: "We are absolutely lost for words at the support shown in Creeslough for the people of Palestine. A magical night with acts from across Donegal with a variety of genres. A



with over €2000 raised we'd like to thank everyone involved in organising and helping with the event, in particular Jubal and Claire Williamson from Braai Restaurant and Lorcan Roarty from Roses Bar for providing the venue and food on the night.

Ciarán Doyle who organised the event and left, some of the attendance enjoying the night.

Also thank you to everyone that showed up, tuned in and donated and all the acts that played.

Darren O'Halloran from Falcarragh, Hannah B from Gweedore, Eamonn Russell, Joe Gibson and Dallan Davis from Kilmacrenan and Newtowncunningham, Ruth MacInnes, Seán O'Donnell, Rionach Doherty from Glenties and Ardara, Nine

Foot Lizzards from Ballybofey, Ciarzo, Cahir Doyle, Kyle Warner and Adam Goady from Creeslough and Letterkenny and Huckleberry from Ballybofey."



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Harps head for UCD

Finn Harps will complete the first round of matches in the League of Ireland First Division with an away fixture against in-form UCD at the Belfield Bowl on Friday night. It's been a busy week for Darren Murphy's men having played last Friday in Limerick and then on the Bank Holiday Monday at Finn Park against Bray Wanderers recording back to back win that puts them second in the table and just a point behind leaders Cork City. The UCD fixture will be their fourth away game of the season and they go to Belfield with victories on the road over Longford, Wexford and Treaty. UCD had to settle for a draw at home to Kerry on Monday. Ciaran Behan had

given the hosts a 34th minute lead but former Harps man Daniel Okwute equalised on 56 minutes. The Students had been on a good run recently and are third in the table five points behind Harps. So, Friday night is a big game for them and a win would really bring them into the promotion race. Murphy will know there are no easy games and the Students may just be the side that ends the 100 percent record away from home. It will be the ninth game of the season for Harps whose home record reads two wins, a draw and one defeat. The manager is likely to stick with pretty much the same 11 for the 7.45 kick-off.

Harps Lotto

There were no jackpot winners in the Finn Harps Super 4 Lotto draw for 28th March. The numbers drawn were 7, 10, 22, 28. The next draw takes place on Thursday 4th April and the jackpot is €10,000.

There were three match 3 winners this week each winning €135. The match 3 prize next week will be back at €200.

Aaron Morrow, Clar Rd, Donegal; Lucy Marais, Clar, Donegal; AnnMarie Magee, The Beeches, Ballybofey. Thanks to everyone who supports our lotto.

Enter today via finnharps.ie

McNamee's winner in Limerick

Treaty United 0-1 Finn Harps

Finn Harps moved clear in second place after a deserved victory over Treaty Utd in Limerick on Friday. Skipper Tony McNamee's 79th minute goal secured full points for the visitors who have won all three of their away games so far this season. And all the victories have come late in those games demonstrating the resilience of Darren Murphy's side and good fitness levels are clearly evident in the closing stages of matches.

Friday night signalled the end to Treaty United's unbeaten start to the league campaign in front of a crowd of 1,712. Murphy made two changes from the Kerry draw with Noe Baba returning after being absent due to a family illness and Stephen Doherty was also recalled.

Luke O'Brien dropped to the bench while Max Hutchinson missed out due to an injury that will keep him on the sidelines for at least a month. Goalkeeper Conor Walsh also back in the squad after U19 international duty last week. Ronan Callaghan and Adam Duffy dropped out of the match day squad. Harps made the long trip south on Friday morning.

The two sides went into the game level on points with just one goal separating them on scoring difference. However, Treaty still has a game in hand. The Shannonsiders did have an early chance but Thomas Considine's shot was straight at Tim Heimer in the Harps goal. The visitors had the bulk of the possession but didn't test the home keeper. David Cawley and Patrick Ferry both fired efforts over the crossbar.

But then Baba should have tested Corey Chambers but instead blazed over from ten yards while a Patrick Ferry header that was gathered at the second attempt by the keeper. Ferry had a goal disallowed for offside. At the other end a Conor Walsh header was cleared off the line before Tim Hiemer had to make a decent save to keep the sides level at the interval. After the restart Stephen Christopher had a shot but again Hiemer was able to avert the danger.

Murphy's men then created a couple of clear scoring opportunities. Success Edogun set up Stephen Doherty who should have scored. Then the unmarked Edogun blazed over the bar. Chambers was forced to make several good stops to keep his side on level terms.

But then the visitors broke the deadlock with 11 minutes of normal time remaining. Sub Chris Lotefa worked his way into the penalty and the loose ball was swept to the back of the net by captain Tony McNamee's precise low right-footed eight-yard. The hosts didn't test Heimer and Harps held on fairly comfortably for the victory.

Finn Harps - Tim-Oliver Hiemer; Noe Baba, Matthew Makinson, Conor Tourish, Jamie Watson; David Cawley, Stephen Doherty (Ryan Rainey 80), Shane McMonagle, Tony McNamee; Success Edogun (Max Johnston 90), Patrick Ferry (Chris Lotefa 77). Subs not used: Conor Walsh, Luke O'Brien, Darragh Coyle, Sean O'Donnell.

Referee: Alan Patchell.



Finn Harps first goal scorer David Cawley in action against Bray on Monday.

Second spot for Murphy's men

Finn Harps 2-0 Bray Wanderers

Goals from David Cawley just before half-time and skipper Tony McNamee in time added on at the end gave Finn Harps their second home win of the season on Monday in Ballybofey. The three points against struggling Bray Wanderers put Darren Murphy's side second in the table just behind Cork City. The result made it a good Bank Holiday weekend for Harps after the victory over Treaty Utd in Limerick on Friday night.

It was a good weekend personally for McNamee who had scored the winner against Treaty. He also set up Cawley for his goal on Monday with a rehearsed free-kick routine that saw the Ballina man shoot low past Stephen McGuinness. McNamee erased any doubts about the three points with a fine finish from an assist by sub Sean O'Donnell.

The Harps manager made two changes from the Treaty game with Luke O'Brien replacing Shane McMonagle on the left side while Ryan Rainey came in for his first start of the season with Stephen Doherty dropping to the bench. The visitors had the better of the early exchanges with Murphy having an effort deflected out for a corner while Harry Groome who had scored at Finn Park be-

fore had an attempt blocked down by Rainey.

Coming up to the break Patrick Ferry could only direct a close range header over the bar before veteran midfielder Cawley made the vital breakthrough for the hosts. It was a game of few chances but McGuinness prevented Noe Baba from doubling the Harps advantage on 78 minutes. Harps keeper Tim Hiemer was never seriously tested and the only other tangible thing of note came in the first minute of injury time when McNamee produced a clinical finish similar to what he did in Limerick on Friday night.

Finn Harps - Tim Hiemer; Conor Tourish, Matthew Makinson, Noe Baba; Jamie Watson, Ryan Rainey (Darragh Coyle 70), David Cawley Tony McNamee, Luke O'Brien (Shane McMonagle 70); Success Edogun (Sean O'Donnell 84), Patrick Ferry (Chris Lotefa 70). Not used: Conor Walsh (Gk), Max Johnston, Stephen Doherty
Bray Wanderers - Stephen McGuinness; Cole Omorehiomwan, Paul Murphy (Thomas Morgan 69), Killiam Cantwell, Evan Osam (Rhys Knight 67); Conor Knight (Zach Nolan 67), Harry Groome, Freddie Turley, Kieran Cruise (Guillermo Almirall 88); Shane Griffin, Peter Grogan.



Finn Harps, Sean O'Donnell finishes on the ground after passing the ball to Tony McNamee who put it in the back of the Bray net for Harps second goal on Monday.

Donegal Junior Football League

Title favourites Fanad host Swilly Rovers

Fanad Utd could be crowned back-to-back Brian McCormick Sports Premier Division champions if they avoid defeat against Swilly Rovers in Traighalough on Sunday (kick-off 1pm). Arthur Lynch's side has just three games remaining and hold a five point lead over second placed Kildrum Tigers who have only one match left and cannot win the league. However, just a point behind the Tigers are St. Catherine's and Keadue Rovers who both have a game more played than Fanad and mathematically can still win the Premier but that is a very slim chance at this stage. Lynch's men need just a point from three games remaining but will want to do it on Sunday in front of their home fans. That's where Fanad clinched the league just less than a year ago. Swilly has nothing to play for sitting safe in a mid-table position. Keadue Rovers have to win on Sunday at home to Kilmacrennan Celtic and hope that Fanad lose to Swilly. It's the exact same story for St. Catherine's who are away to relegation threatened Milford Utd. A win for Noel Gillespie's side would see them leapfrog Gweedore Celtic into the relegation play-off place. It will be either Milford or Gweedore that will join already relegated Castlefin Celtic in Division 1

next season. Gillespie's side has two games left while Gweedore have just one. They are not in action this weekend. It will come down to the final games of the season to decide who gets the lifeline of the relegation play-off spot.

Mariners could win league

The Ramelton Mariners could clinch the league title with an away win over Drumoghill F.C. Reserves but to do that their nearest rivals Swilly Rovers Reserves would have to lose to Drumbar United in Donegal Town. Both teams have three fixtures remaining and the Mariners have a four-point advantage over their Ramelton rivals.

Glencar Inn Saturday Division One

Islanders share spoils

Arranmore Utd 0-0 Keadue Rovers Res
Arranmore welcomed Keadue to Rannagh Park in perfect conditions for a game. Keadue had the better of the play in the first half with Aaron McCafferty and Martin Ferry dictating play for them but Frankie Early pulled off some great saves to keep Arranmore in the match. An already weakened Arranmore side were further weakened when two injuries forced two substitutions in the second half. Despite this, Arran-

more held out for a draw. Frankie Early was man of the match.

Referee: Barry Tourish.

Old Orchard Saturday Division Two

Mariners drop home points

Ramelton Mariners 0-0 Ballybofey Utd Res

The Flagpole field in Rathmullan was host to a drab 0-0 game as both sides battled hard but neither could find the net as both keepers did well to keep the score level in both halves. While it was two points dropped by the Mariners they are still in pole position to win Division with three

matches remaining. Next up is Drumoghill F.C. at The Moss on Saturday. If they win and their nearest rivals Swilly Rovers lose away to Drumbar then the Mariner will be declared champions. Ramelton Mariners - Peter O'Donnell, Eoin Roulston Stephen Bryant Eoin Ferry, Conor Ferguson, Kieran black Daire Sheridan Aidan Connolly, Shay Callan McFadden Fionn Robinson, Evan Hewitt. Subs used: Myles Mulgrew for Eoin Ferry, Paul Gallagher for Shay Callan-McFadden. Subs not used: Oisín Sweeney, Ewen Kemp, Calum Robinson, Conor Gillespie and Bailey Kane.

DONEGAL JUNIOR LEAGUE Results

Saturday 30th March

Glencar Inn Saturday Division One

Arranmore Utd 0-0 Keadue Rovers Reserves

Old Orchard Saturday Division Two

Ramelton Mariners 0-0 Ballybofey Utd Res

Fixtures

Wednesday 4th April

Temple Domestic Appliances Div One 7.30p.m.

Letterkenny Rovers v Cappry Rovers

Thursday 4th April

Temple Domestic Appliances Div One 7.30p.m.

Convoy Arsenal v Bonagee United

Saturday 6th K.O. 1p.m.

Glencar Inn Saturday Division One

Cappry Rovers Res v Strand Rovers

Glenea Utd Res v Fintown Harps AFC

Kildrum Tigers Res v Donegal Town Res

Oldtown Celtic v Arranmore Utd
St. Catherine's Res v Kilmacrennan Cel Res

Old Orchard Saturday Div Two

Copany Rovers v Castlefin Celtic Res

Drumbar Utd v Swilly Rovers Res

Drumoghill F.C. Res v Ramelton Mariners

Dunlewey Celtic v Gweedore Celtic Res

Milford Utd Res v Cranford Utd Res

Sunday 7th April K.O. 1 p.m.

Brian Mc Cormick Sports Premier Division

Fanad United v Swilly Rovers

Keadue Rovers v Kilmacrennan Celtic

Milford United v St. Catherine's

Temple Domestic Appliances Division One

Donegal Town v Lagan Harps

Letterkenny Rovers v Cranford United

Brian McCormick Cup Lifford Area

Kildrum Tigers v Drumoghill F.C.

Ulster Shield

Culdaff F.C. v Keadue Rovers



**Easter Dawn Service
at Portsalon**

Rev. Chris Matchett leading the
Easter Sunday Dawn Service on
Portsalon Beach.



**Little Rascals Community
Playgroup CLG**

Rossnakill Community Hub
Registration evening for free ECCE places.
For children who will be 2y 8m by 31st Aug.

**Tue 9th of April 2024
6.30pm - 7.30pm**

For further information:
Contact Susan on 0861723919

Please bring PPS Number, birth cert and immunisation card

**Credit
Union
supports
Great Irish
Bake Day**

Swilly Mulroy Credit Union took part in the Great Irish Bake Day for the Children's Health Foundation recently and pictured having a cup of coffee to support the day were right John Orsi with staff member Brendan Murray. Below left, Liam Murphy from Glenvar with staff members Anne Quinn and Kerri Begley and right Deirdre Callaghan, Erin Scanlon, Yvonne McGrory, Teresa McDevitt and Siobhan Gibbons.



Fanad

Bertie Alcorn, Belfast and Drumnacraig



There was great sadness in the Fanad area on learning of the death of Bertie Alcorn, late of Belfast and Drumnacraig.

He was 100. Bertie passed away surrounded by his family at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Belfast on 18th March after a short illness.

Bertie had celebrated his 100th birthday in August, 2023, with parties in Belfast, his birthplace of Omagh, and also in Drumnacraig with his many Donegal friends.

A friendly face to many in the Fanad area, he was still driving and boating up to his 101st year. He even featured on the front page of the Tirconaill Tribune last year, just after his century birthday,

pictured at the helm of his beloved boat in the waters off Drumnacraig, something he enjoyed over many years.

He and his late wife Doreen, who died in 2010, had been visiting Fanad since 1967 and had many friends in Drumnacraig, Doaghbeg and across the Fanad area.

He is survived by his sons Steven, Philip and Michael and daughter Elaine and their partners, and his five grandsons, wider family circle and many friends.

The late Alan Lord



The death occurred on Thursday of Allan Lord, Cashel, Kindrum, Fanad. Aged 76, Allan was a native of Warrington, Cheshire. He passed away peacefully at Letterkenny University Hospital. Alan is survived by

his wife Carol, son Ewan and grandchildren Patrick, Jonathan and Autumn. He is also survived by his brother Brian, his extended family, neighbours and many friends. He was a policeman in Warrington and also worked with officers in Kosovo for a period following the country's independence in 2008.

Requiem Mass will take place at 10am on this Thursday, 4th April, in St. Mary's Church, Fanavolt, followed by a private cremation. Deepest condolences are extended to the family circle.

Coffee Morning

A fundraising Coffee Morning will be held in the Rosknakill 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.

Antenatal Classes

Antenatal classes will commence on Wednesday 10th April for 4 weeks, 2-4pm. Venue is the Gallowglass Centre, Milford F92 CD51. For further information contact the public health nurses on 0749151527 or 9153108 Milford PHN.

Kerrykeel street resurfacing next year

Cllr Liam Blaney has been told that resurfacing of the streets in Kerrykeel is programmed to be carried out next year. The Council said it

will include the permanent reinstatement of the trench for the sewerage works.

Yoga with Jane

Yoga with Jane classes restart after Easter, call her on 086 8367776 to book or for details or visit Jane Watt yoga on FB Gentle Yoga in the Kerrykeel Oldschool Community Centre starting on Thursday 11th April from 10-11am for 6 weeks and the cost is €60.

Chair Yoga in the Gallowglass Centre, Milford starting on Thurs 11th April from 12-1pm for 4 weeks and the cost is €40 (Chair Yoga is also running in Letterkenny on Wednesday evenings)

Yoga in Ray Community Centre starting on Saturday 13th April, from 10-11am. The cost for the 5 weeks is €40 and it excludes Bank Holiday Saturday.

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 0877003732 regarding any financial problem. All matters dealt with in confidence.

Where food matters Where food matters

Ripples Restaurant
www.ripplesrestaurant.net

Kerrykeel, Tel: 074 9150110

**Open for Lunch, Dinner
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Take Away Service**

Contact Tel 074 91 50110 for bookings and Enquiries

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- 24 Hours Service
- Cremations
- Overseas Funerals Arranged

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Care & compassion, every step of the way



Fanad man Colm McGonigle pictured at the recent Galway United home match at Eamonn Deacy Park against Shamrock Rovers. During his time as a Galway Utd player Colm scored 19 goals in fifty matches in the 1985-1986 and 1986-1987 seasons. Photo: Paul O'Brien.

Leave No Trace workshops

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. It aims to equip participants

with essential knowledge and tools to ensure the longevity and health of local sand dune systems. The training courses will take place at five locations along the Wild Atlantic Way between April and June and be delivered by Susan Adams from Education for Sustainability CLG.

The Fanad workshop dates are this Saturday 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



Gaelic Fhánada ladies who defeated Naomh Conaill on Sunday.

North West 10k Fashion Show fundraiser

The three North West 10k charities are continuing fundraising events in the build-up to the big event itself on the Bank Holiday Monday the 6th of May in Letterkenny. The three charities this year are the Kilmacrennan, Termon, Gartan, Churchill and Trentagh Community First Responders, Cara House Family Resource

Centre and the Letterkenny Community Child-care Centre.

The next fundraiser is this Thursday, April 4th at the Radisson Blu Hotel, Letterkenny where there will be a Fashion Show from 7.30p.m. On the catwalk will be Donegal GAA Chairperson Mary Coughlan, Garda Chief Superintendent Goretta Sheridan, Cllr Niamh Kennedy, Miss Earth Ireland Layla Doherty, Finn Harps Manager Darren Murphy and Rachel McLaughlin from Donegal Daily.

On this Sunday, April 7th there is a Coffee Morning from 12 to 4 pm in the An Craoibhin Termon. Arena 7 will host a Quiz Night from 9-11pm on Thursday 11th of April. Friday 12th April there will be an Over 40s football match at Leckview Park, kick-off 7.30.

At the Old Dunnes Stores and Simpsons Store Letterkenny on Saturday 20th April there will be ticket selling from 9am to 5pm.

On Saturday 27th of April there will be a Night at the Races in the Swilly Inn Letterkenny from 8-10pm. A Ladies Night will take place on Friday 17th of May in the Letterkenny Community Childcare Centre from 7.30-10pm.

It's been a great team effort involving the three charities working together to raise much needed money that will help them continue their good work. So it would be great to see the public supporting these three very worthy causes at the various fundraisers that they will be hosting.

The 10k will take place on Bank Holiday Monday the 6th of May in Letterkenny. Entries are being taken online for a charity event that has raised over €931,000 since the Northwest 10k started in 1997, benefitting 38 charity organisations.

Runners and walkers are now being urged to get registered. Online entries are now being taken for the May 6th event by going to www.njuko.net/nw_10k_2024 where runners and walkers will find all the information required.



Thanks to everybody who made the Portsalon Fundraising Day for the Tamney Health Centre Patients Comfort Fund such a success. To all the walkers, swimmers, quizzers, the Stores Bar, Jacinta's Hair and Art Studio and the staff from Tamney Health Centre and everybody who helped with the events on the day. A total of €2111 was raised. Pictured above are walkers taking a well earned rest at the half way point at the Turas on the Colmcille Trail Walk on Easter Saturday.

Public Notice

Application to Offaly County Council as the National Waste Collection Permit Office (NWCPO) for the transfer of waste collection permit number NWCPO-07-08108-04 previously authorising Danny Kearney Plant Hire to Kearney Plant Hire & Haulage Ltd, Dunlewey, Gweedore, Co Donegal.

Kearney Plant Hire & Haulage Ltd Dunlewey Gweedore Co Donegal has made an application to the NWCPO, for the waste collection permit referenced above, to be transferred to the proposed transferee mentioned above to collect waste which may include hazardous & non-hazardous, commercial, industrial, household, construction & demolition waste, sludges, slurries & septic tank waste and other wastes in the Donegal County Council area.

A copy of the application will be available for inspection or purchase at the principle office of the nominated authority as soon as may be and any member of the public may, within a period of 25 working days of the date of this notice, make a written submission to the nominated authority in relation to the application for a permit transfer.

MEMORIALS
Mark Daly DALYSTONE
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 Accessories & Chipping
BALLYARE, RAMELTON
 074 - 9116712 / 087 2244882
 Web: dalystone.ie Email: dalystone@live.ie

Planning Notices**Donegal County Council
Ballintra, Arranmore**

I, Joe Bonner am applying to Donegal County Council for permission to 1) extend and refurbish existing derelict dwelling house with 2) the installation of a new wastewater treatment system and 3) all other associated site development works 4) including information in relation to effects on the environment (a Natura Impact Statement (NIS)) at Ballintra, Arranmore, County Donegal in the townland of Ballintra. 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
Sentry Hill Road, Letterkenny**

We, The Board of Management of Scoil Mhuire Gan Smal, hereby apply to Donegal County Council for planning permission at a site at Sentry Hill Road, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal. The development relates to the construction of an all weather pitch, 2.4m high perimeter fencing, 6 No. lighting poles and ancillary 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 during its public open hours and that a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

**Donegal County Council
Gortnatraw South, Kerrykeel**

I, Lynda Strain am applying to Donegal County Council for retention planning permission for the following at Gortnatraw South, Kerrykeel, Co. Donegal. 1. Retention of the existing orientation of the existing dwelling from that previously granted under planning permission Ref. No. 04/7242. 2. Retention of 2 No. dormer windows on front elevation of existing dwelling. 3. Retention of existing garage & beauticians studio.

**McGarvey
gets traffic
counts update**

The most recent traffic count statistics carried out on the R245 Letterkenny to Milford Road at three locations have been received by Independent Cllr Paucic McGarvey.

The figures were as follows - R245/3 Woodlands 9,146; R245/8 Aghnagaddy Glebe 8,692; R245/9 Roughan 5,844.

Acknowledgement**McGarvey
Michael
Bridgend, Ramelton**

We, the family of the late Michael McGarvey, 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. Thank you to those who travelled long distances. To those who brought food and made tea all during the wake. Those who helped out over those few days. You all did a great job, thank you.

To those who sent messages of condolence, sent beautiful cards and those who kindly gave donations for the Donegal Hospice, thank you so much.

Thank you to the Doctors, nurses and staff of both Letterkenny University Hospital and the Donegal Hospice, for their loving care of Michael, and their support and kindness to our family, we thank you sincerely.

To Dr Cuffe and Murrays Pharmacy, thank you for everything.

Thank you to Fr. Carney for making the funeral Mass a true celebration of Michael's life, Patrick Shields for the music and all the readers who took part in the Mass.

To Patrick Sweeney, Funeral Director and Paul, for their sensitive and professional handling of the arrangements. Thank you also to the gravediggers.

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

Michael's Month's Mind Mass will be held on Friday, 12th April at 7pm in St. Mary's Church, Ramelton.

**McLaughlin
Brendan****Penn, Wolverhampton /
Drumatrummon, Kerrykeel**

The family of the late Brendan McLaughlin would like to thank all those who sympathised with us on our recent sad loss. We would like to thank those who travelled, sent floral tributes, Mass cards, telephoned and sent messages of condolences.

As it is impossible to thank everyone individually please accept this acknowledgement as an expression of our sincere appreciation and gratitude.

Mass will be celebrated for Brendan on Saturday 6th April at Our Lady of Lourdes Chapel, Kerrykeel at 6.00pm.

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 and that a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application. The Planning Authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to grant permission.

**Donegal County Council
Moyle, Milford**

We, Paul & Shauna McGinley are applying to Donegal County Council for planning permission for the construction of a new dwelling house with an on-site sewage treatment system at Moyle, Milford, 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 and that a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application. The Planning Authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to grant permission.

**Donegal County Council
Loughnakey, Milford**

We, Henry McGinley & Sons Ltd are applying to Donegal County Council for retention planning permission & planning permission for the following. 1. Retention planning permission of existing office building. 2. Retention planning permission of existing workshop & storage buildings. 3. Retention planning permission of existing canopy over yard. 4. Retention planning permission of existing storage & staff facilities at first floor level. 5. Planning permission to decommission existing septic tank & percolation area. 6. Planning permission to install new foul sewer pumping chamber with connection to existing treatment system.

In Memoriam**McAteer
Carland, Kerrykeel**

Treasured memories of a precious Mum and Dad, Sarah (1983) and Dan (1991), daughter Anne, sons Daniel, Charlie and Jackie.

*Sadly missed
along life's way
quietly remembered
every day*

*No longer in our
lives to share, but in
our hearts you are
always there.*

Always remembered and sadly missed by all the family.

**Diver
Susan****Gortnaskeagh,
Kilmacrennan
6th Anniversary**

In loving memory of a dear wife, mother and grandmother who died 29th March 2018.

*Those special years
will not return when
we were all together
But loving memories
that are left, remain
with us forever.*

Sadly missed and always remembered by husband Wallace, daughter Joy, son-in-law Joshua and grand daughter Charlotte.

**Shiels
Kathleen
Portsalon****10th Anniversary**

In loving memory of our dear mother and agranny who died on 5th April 2014, also remembering our dear father Miah at this time.

*Beautiful memories
we treasure forever
Of happy times we
spent together
You are never more
than a thought away*

*Loved and
remembered
everyday.*

Always remembered and missed by your daughter Brigid and Drew, son Paddy and Kathleen, grandchildren Ryan, Emma, Mark and Michaela, xx

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 and

**Ward
Anne****Carland Lower,
Kerrykeel
3rd Anniversary**

In loving memory of our dear mother, grandmother and great grandmother who died on 1st April 2021.

Mum

*You are so very
special Mum, you
had the nicest ways
You did so very
much in life and
never asked for
praise*

*You had a smile for
everyone you had
a heart of gold
You left the sweetest
memories this world
could ever hold
May you always
walk in sunshine
and God's love
around you flow
For the happiness
you gave us no one
will ever know
It broke our hearts
to lose you but you
did not go alone
A part of us went
with you the day
God called you
home.*

Always remembered and sadly missed by David, Adrian, Steven, Geraldine and Paula.

*Those special
memories of you
Nanny will always
bring a smile
If only we could
have you back for
just a little while
Then we would sit
and talk again just
like we used to
You always meant so
much to us and
always will do too.*

Always loved and sadly missed by your grandchildren and great grandchildren.

In loving memory of a special sister and aunt.

*To us she was
someone special,
someone set apart
Her memory will
live for ever
engraved within
our hearts.*

Sadly, missed by sister Teresa and the Laughlin family, Letterkenny and Clydebank.

**Anniversary Mass
in St Columba's
Chapel, Massmount
on Friday 5th April
at 7.00pm.**

that a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

Laughlin**John
Kerrykeel &
Clydebank
7th Anniversary**

*John, I think of you in
silence I often speak
your name
but all I have are
memories and your
picture in a frame
Your resting place in*

*Massmount I visit and put flowers
there with care but no one knows the
heartache as I turn and leave you there.*

God bless, your broken-hearted Mum x

Our Dad

*The tears in our eyes we can wipe away
the ache in our heart will always stay
Tenderly we treasure the past with
memories of you Dad that will always last.*

Always our Dad Sean and Paul xx

Miss you Granda

Love Olivia-leigh and Lilly May xx

*John, where ever a beautiful soul has been
there is a trail of beautiful memories.*

Loved and missed every day Maggie xx

*Silent memories keep you near
as time unfolds another year
from our life you are gone
but in our hearts you still live on.*

Love Gerard and Anne x

*Death leaves a heartache no one can heal.
Love leaves a memory no one can steal
Not a day goes by that
I do not think about you John.*

Love you always Paul, Trudi and family x

*My dear brother, I see your face
before me as I lay on my bed
I always get the feeling of
all the things you said
Your love is all around us
everywhere we go John Boy.*

Love and miss you Tam, Teresa and family x

*We think about you often,
and talk about you still.
You haven't been forgotten and
by us you never will.*

Love and miss you always John - Michelle, Seamus, Eoin, Shay and Caolán x

*We have an Angel watching over us
and I call him my brother
forever in our hearts John, miss you so much.*

Mark, Annette, Mark and Holly x

*In Heaven you rest no worries, no pain
In God's own time we will meet again
Simple words but very true, we will love
and always remember you John.*

Rest in Peace, your sister Carol, Tony, Tracy, Matt, Saoirse, Erin, Nicola, Kieron, Zara and Cody x

*Days will pass and turn into years
but I will always remember you
with silent tears. Missing you!*

Rest in peace John boy, your sister Geraldine, Patrick, Christopher, Rachael and Shea x

*We miss your smile, your joking ways
We miss the things you used to say
And when old times we do recall
Its then we miss you most of all.*

Love the Ward family x

*Just a prayer from a family who loved you
just a memory fond and true.
In our hearts you will live forever
because we thought the world of you.*

Love Auntie Bernie and family x

*No matter how I spend my days
no matter what I do
a special place within my heart
Johnny boy is always kept for you.*

Love Danny, Joanne and family Clydebank x

*John you always had a smile to share
time to give and time to share
a laugh, a chat, and a joke or two
that is how we remember you.*

Loved and missed Danny, Sarah and family x.

The Planning Authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to grant permission.

In Memoriam



Curran
Mary
The Roughan,
Ramelton
1st Anniversary

In loving memory of our dear Mary who died on the 8th of April 2023.

*It was a sudden parting too bitter to forget
Those who loved you dearly are the ones who can't forget.*

*We often sit and think of you and think of how you died;
To think you could not say goodbye before you closed your eyes.*

*Your life was one of kindly deeds
a helping hand for others needs
Sincere and true in heart and mind,
beautiful memories left behind.*

*The blow was hard, the shock severe, to part with one we loved so dear
Our loss is great, we'll not complain
but trust in God to meet again.*

*Two tired eyes are sleeping, two willing hands are still
The one who worked so hard for us is resting at God's will.*

*Our family chain is broken, nothing seems the same
But as God calls us one by one, the links shall join again.*

Always in our thoughts and forever in our hearts., sorely missed by all your family in Australia, Kildare, Birmingham and your beloved Donegal.

Anniversary Mass will be held in St Mary's Church, Ramelton on Sunday the 7th of April at 9.30am. Mass can be viewed on webcam at churchservices.tv



Doherty
Mary
Stackernaugh,
Churchill
2nd Anniversary

In loving memory of a dear mother who died on 8th April 2022.

*May the winds of Heaven blow softly and whisper in your ear
How much we love and miss you Mum and wish that you were here
An empty house, an empty chair,
our mother's love no longer here
A tear filled eye we had to part the day you left,
it broke our heart.*

Always loved and remembered by your four daughters, three sons, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated on Saturday 6th April at 7.30pm. in St Columba's Church, Glenswilly.



Doherty
Packie
Breaghy, Ramelton
15th Anniversary

In loving memory of my dear husband Packie who died on 2nd April 2009. R.I.P.

*Beautiful memories we treasure forever
Of happy times we spent together
You are never more than a thought away
Always remembered everyday.*

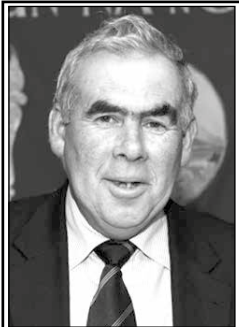
Sadly missed by your wife Sarah and extended family.

Mass offered

Planning Notices

Condae Dhun Na nGall Cnoc a' Stollaire, an Bun Beag

Ta sé i gceist agam, Connie Mac Gairbhith iarratas pleanála a dheanamh chuig Chomhairle Contae Dhún na nGall do 1. Athruithe ingearchló seachtrach agus athruithe ar leagan amach inmheánach a dheanamh ar aonad táirgthe bia a ceadáidh roimhe seo, Iarratas pleanála uimhir 10/30034. 2. Cead le 8 spásanna páirceála breise, agus le each saothar forbartha láithreáin gaolmhar eile ag Cnoc a' Stollaire, an Bun Beag, Condae Dhún Na nGall, í mbaile fearainn Cnoc a' Stollaire. Thig an t-iarratas a scrúdú nó coip a cheanacht ar luach nach mó na costas cóipeála ag oifig an t-Udarás Pleanála Comhairle Contae Dhún Na nGall i Leifear le linn uaireanta oscailte na hoifige. Is Feidir achainní nó tuairimí faoin t-iarratas a deanamh i scríbhinn & faoi



Logue
Michael
Drim, Cranford
14th Anniversary

In loving memory of a wonderful husband, father and Granddad who died on 1st April 2010.

*Just a prayer from a family who love you
Just a memory fond and true*

*In our hearts you will live forever
Because we thought the world of you*

*Will those who think of him today
A little prayer to Jesus say.*

Always loved, remembered and sadly missed by your wife May, family Michael, Denise, Pauline, Shaun, Anne, grandchildren and extended family.

Anniversary Mass will take place in Coole Chapel on Sunday 7th April at 9.30am



McFadden
Susie
Ramelton
2nd Anniversary

In loving memory of a dear wife, mother and grandmother who died on April 7th 2002.

*God saw the road was getting rough and the hills were hard to climb
So He closed your eyelids and whispered "Peace be Thine".
It broke our hearts to lose you, but you did not go alone
For part of us went with you, the day God called you home.*

Dearly missed and loved by your husband, Gerald, sons, daughters, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Anniversary Mass in St. Mary's Church, Ramelton on Sunday 7th April at 11am.



O'Donnell
Pat
Ballykeeran,
Kilmacrennan
3rd Anniversary

In loving memory of a dear brother, uncle, grand uncle and friend who died on 2nd April 2021.

*Of all the special gifts in life however great or small
To have you in our lives was the greatest gift of all
May the winds of love blow softly and whisper in your ear
"We love and miss you Pat and wish that you were here"
A silent thought a secret tear keeps your memory ever near.*

Always remembered by your brothers, sisters, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nephews, nieces, grand nieces and grand nephews.



Russell
Frances
Lacknacoo,
Churchill
10th Anniversary

In loving memory of a dear mother who died on 28th March 2014.

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

Sadly missed by Louise and Paul.

Mass Offered

The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of the Planning Authority, Donegal County Council, County House, Lifford, County Donegal during its public opening hours.

A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the Planning Authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20.00, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt of the application by the authority, and such submission or observation will be considered by the Planning Authority in making a decision on the application.



McBride
Peter
Upper Carrigart
4th Anniversary

In loving memory of our Dad who passed away on 3rd April 2020.

*The beauty of a memory is that it's always there
like a penny in your pocket you can take it anywhere
and when your heart is heavy and your eyes are filled with tears
you can focus on a memory and travel through the years
Your heart can visit happy times when laughter filled the air and the presence of your loved one will lessen your despair.*

*So as you travel on in life take comfort as you go in a lifetime of sweet memories of one that loved you so.
Will those who think of Dad today a little prayer to Jesus say.*

Always remembered and sadly missed by your daughters, sons, daughters-in-law and sons-in-law.

We had a wonderful Granda who never grew old

*His smile was made of sunshine, his heart of solid gold
Look after him Lord as he takes his rest
For he was our Granda and one of the best.*

Loved and remembered by your grandchildren and great grandchildren.



Russell
Maurice
Tullybeg, Churchill
2nd Anniversary

In loving memory of Maurice who passed away on the 4th April 2022.

*Your resting place I visit and put flowers there with care
But no one knows the heartache as I turn and leave you there
Rest in peace dear loved one and thanks for all you've done
Until we meet again someday in Heaven up above.*

Always remembered and sadly missed by your loving partner, Margaret.

*We think of you in silence, we often speak your name
But all we have are memories and your picture in a frame
We miss you more than words can say
In our hearts you will always stay.*

Sadly missed by your brothers Roy, David and wife Angela, Cecil and wife Margaret, sister Valerie and husband Alan, and your nieces and nephews.

Prayer for Publication

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN (Never known to fail). Oh Most Beautiful Flower of Mt. Carmel, Fruitful Vine, Splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh Star of the Sea, help me and show me that herein You are my Mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech You from the bottom of my heart to succor me in my necessity. (Make request). There are none that can withstand Your power. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to Thee (three times). Sweet Mother I place this cause in your hands (three times). Say this prayer for three consecutive days. You must publish it and it will be granted. KTM

Memoriam Cards & Thank You Cards



Contact
Tribune Office
074 91 53600

dml

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Healy
George
Kilmacrennan
4th Anniversary
11th April 2024

*Today is such a painful day full of sadness and grief for me
As I mourn the moment that you left recalling how life used to be.*

*You were someone very special who left your mark on so many lives
Things just haven't been the same since we said goodbye.*

*The bond we shared will never end even though we are apart
I find comfort in the memories deep within my heart*

*This heartfelt message is for you
I miss you more than words can say
The world lost someone precious on the day you went away.*

Always loved and sadly missed your loving wife Sheila.

*I see you in us all the best part of us all
The part of us that sees the good takes pride and stands up tall.*

*The part of us that never settles the part that does things right
The part of us up for the craic that will dance and laugh all night.*

*The part that loves the simple things but loves the nice things too
Sucky sweets, the motor car, a well kept lawn, a polished shoe.*

*The part of us that lives for music and all the joy it brings
The part that loves the get together as we tap along and sing.*

*The part of us that loves our family
The part that loves our home
The part that loves our country to travel and to roam,*

*So when we pause to think of you or they talk of your legacy
We only have to look around you've passed it on you see.*

Forever loved and sorely missed Tim, Daniel, Alice, Kate, Jules & George, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law and all your precious grandchildren

Anniversary Mass in St Columba's Church, Kilmacrennan on Saturday 6th April at 6pm.

Dunfanaghy

The late Eamon Mullen



The death took place in the Lake House Nursing Home, of Eamonn Mullen, Portnablagh. Eamon was one of the familiar faces behind the counter in Mullen's Shop in Portnablagh alongside his brother John and sister Evelyn until its closure a number of years ago. Eamon was very helpful to locals and tourists alike. He was also involved in the community of Holy Cross Church and also the local St. Vincent De Paul Society. In his younger days Eamon had worked as a Ships Radio Officer, a job which took him all over the world.

His remains will be reposed at his late residence for waking. His Funeral Service in Holy Cross Church on Saturday was celebrated by Fr. Martin Doohan who also officiated at the graveside in the adjoining graveyard.

Deepest sympathy to his sister Kathleen Freaney (Dublin), nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

Death of Tony McBride



There was widespread regret in the community recently on hearing of the peaceful death of Tony McBride, Rockhill, Portnablagh. A quiet man Tony was a highly

respected member of the local community and this was reflected in the large attendance at his wake and funeral. At his Funeral Mass on Tuesday the symbols of his life brought to the Altar included a family portrait, a packet of sweets and a bingo book reflecting Tony's interest and pastimes in life.

Sympathy is extended to his wife Sadie, sons Anthony, Neil Gerard and John Paul, sisters Marion and Ann, brothers Jim and Shaun, daughters-in-law Margaret, Mary T. and Julie, brothers-in-law and sister-in-law, grandchildren Hannah, James, Peadar, Enya, Sean Pol, Holly Abbey and Alayna and nieces, nephews, relatives and friends. Predeceased by his sister Teresa Ulliott. His Funeral Mass in Holy Cross Church Dunfanaghy on Tuesday was celebrated by Fr. Martin Doohan, the concelebrant was Fr. John Joe Duffy. Burial took place afterwards in the adjoining graveyard.

Boxing

Congratulations to Shaun Doohan from Dunfanaghy Boxing Club who has qualified for the All-Ireland Final which takes place at the National Stadium this Thursday evening.

Shaun had two great wins last weekend including defeating John Ward, Monivea former European Bronze Medallist and All-Ireland Champion in the semifinals.

Unfortunately, Dunfanaghy Boxing Club Member Carys McFadden lost out in her quarter final via a split decision.

On the home front Club Member Eddie McBride was victorious at a show in Carndonagh at the weekend.

Glor Tire

Congratulations to Chelsea Evans from Hornhead who put on a great performance last week on Glor Tire to make it through to the semifinals. The voting will open during the first live semi final on Tuesday the 16th of April and Chelsea is asking for support so download the Glor Tire App and cast your votes. Chelsea has been busy making promotional appearances recently and she had further success when her latest single "I'm a Little Bit Lonely" reached the top of the Download Chart keeping none other than Beyonce of the top spot!

Bill McKinley Singles Shield

Holy Trinity Bowling Club are holding their annual Singles Tournament - The Bill McKinley Singles Shield in the Ozanam

Centre in Dunfanaghy with the Qualifying Nights on Wednesday 10th, Thursday 11th and Friday the 12th April with the Finals Night on Saturday the 13th April.

Cabaret Dance

A Cabaret Dance will be held in the Shandon Hotel on Saturday 6th April featuring Mick Flavin, John Glen, Noelle Slevin from Downings with backing from Brian Kerrigan. Admission is €15 and the doors open at 9pm with Dancing from 9.30pm until 12 midnight. More information from the Hotel on 9136137 and everyone is welcome.

Table Quiz

There will be a Table Quiz in The Oyster Bar on this Thursday night the 4th of April in aid of the Festivals Committee.

5K Run and Walk

Local girl Niamh Corcoran from Kill is part of a group of nursing students going to Uganda from ATU St. Angelas. 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 our fundraising Niamh is holding a 5K walk/run this Saturday 6th April leaving St. Michael's GAA Pitch at 12 noon. The registration is from 11am with refreshments afterwards in the Clubhouse, the girls would love to see a big crowd on the day, and if you are unable to make it but would still like to donate we have a go fund me page <https://gofund.me/812cf0e2> For more information contact Tommy on 0864054343 or Marie on 0860682449 or 0838533657.

Dunfanaghy Youths Golf

Dunfanaghy Youths FC are holding a Golf Classic on this Friday 5th April. This is a 4 Person Team event with the prizes to include: 1st to 8th Place, N/Q 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@dunfanaghygolfclub.com or Mary on 9136335 for Tee Times and Sponsors.

Shop and Coffee Dock

The shop and coffee shop at Ards Friary are closed for renovations. Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

50/50 Draw

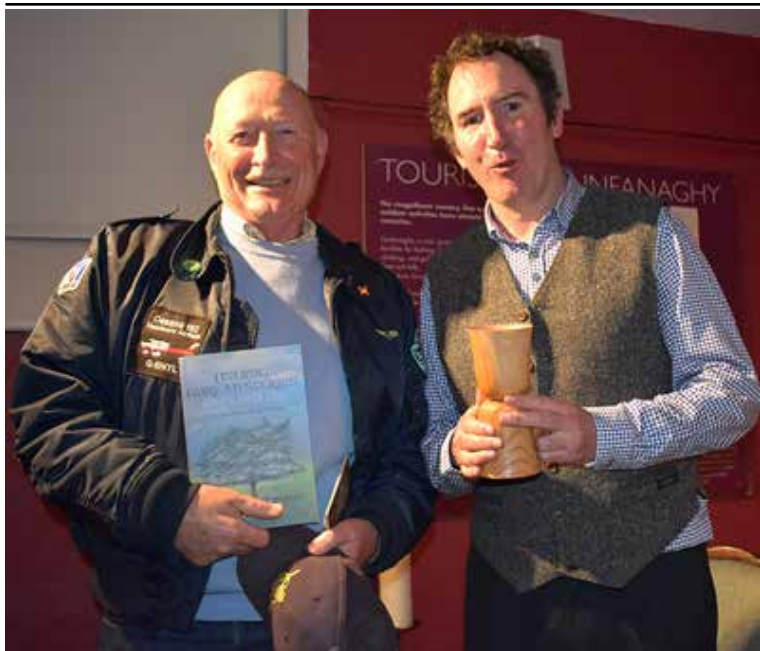
Congratulations to Cathal McConnell who won €330 in the Dunfanaghy Youths 50/50 last week.

St. Michael's Mini Lotto

There was no Jackpot winner last weekend: The numbers drawn were: 1,3,7,8,9,17. The Match 5 winner was Breda McColgan, Dunfanaghy who won €100. This week's Jackpot will be €5900.

Country Market

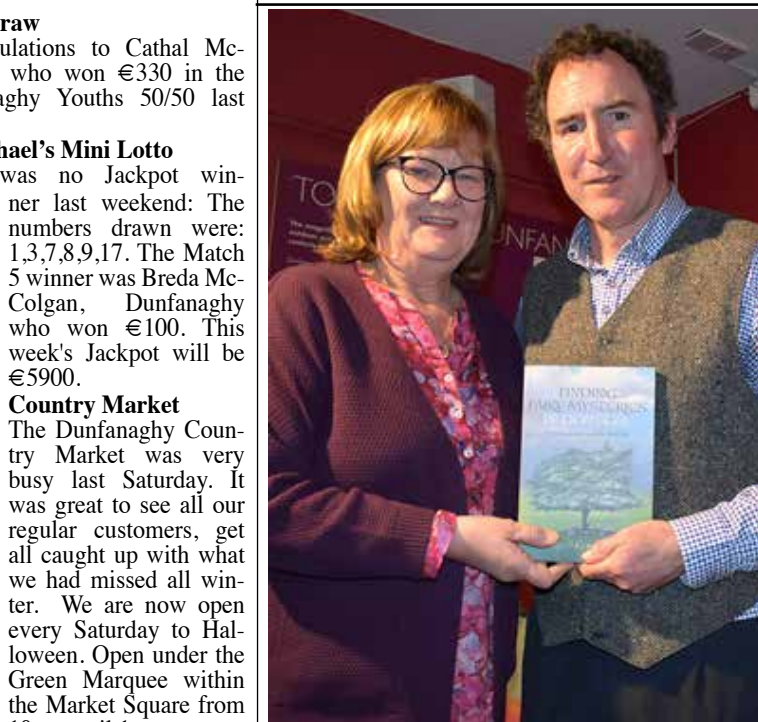
The Dunfanaghy Country Market was very busy last Saturday. It was great to see all our regular customers, get all caught up with what we had missed all winter. We are now open every Saturday to Halloween. Open under the Green Marquee within the Market Square from 10am until 1pm.



Keith Corcoran and Brendan Rohan.



Keith Corcoran signing a book for Eamon McGinley.



Keith Corcoran with Bernadette McFadden.



5 lambs which were born to the same ewe on the farm of Patricia Wasson, Purt, Dunfanaghy which is thought to be a new record for the area.

Scenes from the Book launch 'Finding Fairy Mysteries in Donegal; Close Encounters with the Wee Folk' by Keith Corcoran in The Workhouse in Dunfanaghy on Wednesday Evening. The book is available for sale at the Workhouse Dunfanaghy.





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Shandon Hotel Portnablagh

Cabaret & Dance

Saturday 6th April

Mick Flavin, John Glenn, Noelle Shevlin and Brian Kerrigan

Doors open 9pm
Show 9.30pm to 12 midnight Tickets €15





Creeslough

Death of Cecily McFadden



The death occurred on Friday of Cecily McFadden, Cashel, Creeslough. Cecily was formerly a member of the O'Reilly family, Dunleer, Co. Louth. Remains reposed at the family home in Cashel from Saturday evening. Fr. John Joe Duffy officiated at the Requiem Mass in the Church of St. John the Baptist, Carrigart on Easter Monday. Cecily was laid to rest afterwards in the adjoining cemetery. Deepest sympathy is extended to her husband Seamus, daughters Jennie, Aileen and Ellie, son Conor, one grandchild and all relatives and friends.

The late James Kelly
The death has taken place in

his home of James Kelly, Ballybunabber, Termon, husband of Michelle nee Mc Gee, Carnamaddy, Mass was celebrated on Monday in St. Columba's Church, Termon and James was laid to rest in the adjoining cemetery.

Sympathy is extended to Michelle and daughter Hannah, brothers Martin, Edward, Daniel and Patrick, sisters-in-law, nephews, nieces and extended family. The late Eamon Mullen.

The death took place recently of Eamonn Mullen, Portnablagh. Sympathy is extended to his sister Kathleen Freaney (Dublin), nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

The late Eileen McTeague

The death has taken place in the Donegal Hospice of Eileen McTeague, Derryart, Creeslough, formerly of Helensburgh, Scotland surrounded by her family, mother of Noreen Frost, Jim, Patrick and Michael, mother-in-law, grandmother of seven and extended family and friends to whom sympathy is extended. Predeceased by her husband Jim McTeague. Cremation Service took place at Lakelands Crematorium last Thursday.

Sli Cholmcille 2024

Bookings are now open for Sli CHOLMCILLE (2024) 7 days fully guided Walking Pilgrimage in the footsteps of the saint to Gartan (including Tory Island) from 21st - 28th July. For further information visit [runai@slichol-](mailto:runai@slicholmcille.org)

mcille.org or telephone 00353 877971642.

Muckish Drama Circle

Muckish Drama Circle will present their recent production 'I Am the One For You' a 3 Act Comedy by Jimmy Keary in the Massinass Hall on Thursday 25th, Friday 26th and Saturday 27th April in the Massinass Hall in Creeslough with the curtain up each night at 7.30pm. Admission is €10 and tickets are on sale now. These promises to be three nights of great entertainment and everyone is welcome.

St. Michael's Mini Lotto

There was no Jackpot winner last weekend. The numbers drawn were: 1,3,7,8,9,17. The match 5 winner was Breda McColgan, Dunfanaghy who won €100. This week's Jackpot will be €5900.

Cabaret Dance

A Cabaret Dance will be held in the Shandon Hotel on Saturday 6th April featuring Mick Flavin, John Glen, Noelle Shevlin with backing from Brian Kerrigan. Admission is €15 and the doors open at 9pm with Dancing from 9.30pm until 12 Midnight. More information from the Hotel on 9136137 and everyone is welcome.

50/50

Congratulations to Cathal McConnell who won €330 in the Dunfanaghy Youths 50/50.

Two Hand & Line Dancing

Two hand & line dancing in Massinass Hall every Tuesday 8-10pm. Men & women welcome.

No partner needed. Dance teacher is Celine. It is great fun & exercise. Beginners are very welcome.

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 at 1pm / Men's mobility on Wednesdays at 12-1pm/ Baby well being every Wednesday from 11am-12pm Book Club on Mondays at 6-7pm. Citizens Information Monday March 4th at 10am-12pm. Foróige Youth Participation Group 16-21

year olds Mondays 5pm-6pm. Reach out to info@creeslough-community.com or 087 292 3102 for more information or to register for a course/ class.

Shop and Coffee Dock

The shop and coffee shop at Ards Friary are closed for renovations. Apologies for any inconvenience.



The two St. Michael's Under 12 teams who took on Naomh Mhuire at The Bridge last weekend.



Lady Captain at Dunfanaghy Golf Club Elish Welsh with some of the winners in Winter League.

Cloughaneely

The death of Margaret McLean

The death took place recently in Donegal Hospice of Margaret McLean, Ballina, Falcarragh. Margaret was predeceased by her parents, Owenie and Sarah.

Her Funeral Service took place on Saturday in St. Finans Church and the chief celebrant was Fr. John Boyce with burial taking place afterwards in the adjoining cemetery.

Sympathy is extended to her brothers Patrick (Patsy), Hugh and sister-in-law Margaret, nephews Stephen and Sean, extended family and friends.

Junior Band

There was no jackpot winner in the Band Lotto and the winning numbers were 1-7-8-9-16-19. Conor McGinley, Meencarrick won €100. This week's

jackpot is €7050.

Pobail Le Cheile

The English Conversation Group will be back on Friday 5th April. Molsceál will be filming at the group on that day. Pobail le Chéile Spring Art Exhibition 2024 artists - John Connaghan (Falcarragh), Seamus Doohan (Falcarragh), Kathleen Sharkey (Falcarragh), Nóirín Ní Mhianáin (Tory Island) and Aoibheann Ní Mhianáin (Tory Island) will launch on Friday 5th April between 7-9pm with wine, cheese and music.

Cloughaneely Appreciation Award

Attention all clubs and volunteer groups in Cloughaneely! Sports, culture, charities etc. We would like to celebrate the efforts of all involved on Friday 19th April... If you haven't heard from us and would like to be included, please get in touch with us by emailing the following info Club/

Group name. Contact person and number.

Short description of club/ group activity. Photo which represents your group or activity. This is an over-18s event (which will include those who coach or run events for young people) clochcf2024@gmail.com.

Pobal Eascarrach

Pobal Eascarrach are looking for new committee members to help

Four Club 'Special Members Rate' for 2024



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Gaoth Dobhair Tel: 074 9531140
Cloughaneely Tel: 074 9165416
Dunfanaghy Tel: 074 9136335

€15PP SPECIAL RATE

Monday to Sunday Offer

Note: Dunfanaghy GC €20pp on Saturday & N/A on Sunday

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- Please contact the Golf Clubs directly to book
- Show 'Golf Ireland' Card on the day of play

continue with the running of the Resource Centre. If you feel that you have new skills and ideas, please contact us. Line Dancing with Margaret each

Thursday at 10.30am. Cost €3. Art Class with Owenie Ó Duibhir through Irish every Thursday from 7.9pm. Fee: €5 per class. Register at pobaeas@gmail.com

or 9180571.

Thursday Café

Come in for a coffee or a cup of tea in Aras Begley 10-11.30am every Thursday.

Cloughaneely Darts

Shield quarter final results - Dixons 4-0 Billies B; Billies D 4-0 Maire Rua's B; Strand Bar 4-2 Billies C; Jacks 1-4 Maire Rua's A.

Shield Semi Final Results - Dixons 3-4 Billies D; Strand Bar 4-2 Maire Rua's B. Shield Final - Strand Bar 2-4 Billies D.

Cup semi-final Results - Billies A 4-2 Teac Mhicí; Shamrock B 4-1 Shamrock A.

The Strand Bar and Billies D faced off in this year's Shield final with the Gortahork based outfit prevailing by a scoreline of 4-2. The Strand made their way to the final with two 4-2 wins over Billies C and Maire Rua's A, led by top man Sean Gallagher. Billies D progressed to the decider with a 4-0 win over Maire Rua's B before squeezing past the young guns of Dixons in a 1001 leg decider. Sean Gallagher led from the front once again

for the Strand Road men as he landed a singles win and a doubles win with league sponsor Martin Terry, but it was the strength in depth of the Billies men that saw them power home with John 'Sledge' Ferry, Sean Flood and Ryan Flood doing the damage. Congratulations to Billies D and commiserations to the Strand Bar.

The Cup final takes place this Thursday the 4th of April between Shamrock B and Billies A at 8pm in the Shamrock. The Shamrock B overcame stalemated the Shamrock A as James Doohan, Pat McGeedy and John Paul Reddan claimed wins with Tony Mulhern taking the A teams only point. Hugo Cannon landed a 180 as he came up just short in a high quality contest with Pat McGeedy. League Runners up Billies A defeated league winners Teac Mhicí with the singles matches being split 2-2, but Billies A finished strong to claim both doubles to book their place in the final.



The Shield Winners in the Cloughaneely Darts League - Billies D from left Sean Flood, Mark Flood, John 'Sledge' Ferry, Ryan Flood (c), Paddy 'Gismo' McClafferty

Cloughaneely Band dazzle in Dungloe

There were packed streets in Dungloe on Easter Sunday for their annual marching band parade and competition. Among the competitors were Cloughaneely Junior Band who showcased an amazing display of Disney music including tunes like Beauty and the Beast, Part of this World, The Lion

King and Under the Sea. The band features 27 band members playing a variety of instruments such as tin whistle, accordion and percussion. The audiences were entertained throughout their performance and the judges remarked on the high level of skill and talent on display. The band

were led by leader Aoife Doyle who commanded and lead the band with a brilliant performance from start to finish. Music judge Trudy O'Donnell remarked on the great use of dynamics, harmonies and transitions between tunes. The judges also emphasised the importance of practice and it was evident how much effort was put into Cloughaneely's display.

The band have a busy programme of events to prepare for in the coming months. They will travel to Paris in July to take part in the Disneyland parade. While



The Cloughaneely Band performing during the Easter Parade and Band Competition on Dungloe Street on Easter Sunday.



Band Leader Aoife Doyle accepting the Cup at the Easter Parade and Band Competition in Dungloe on Sunday.

there they will perform to audiences of thousands and will showcase their Disney routine as well as their traditional Fleadh programme. The band are reigning All-Ireland champions in Fleadh Cheoilna and will travel to Wexford in August to retain

their All Ireland title.

Their next performance will be on the 20th April when they will join forces with the Cloughaneely Senior Band to play in Celtic Park where Donegal take on Derry in the opening round of the championship.

This will be another wonderful opportunity for the band to perform for large crowds in attendance.

We wish them all the success as they embark on an exciting few months. Check out their facebook page for more information.



Scenes from the Easter Sunday events in Falcarragh which included a Tractor and Car Run as well as Dancing at the Crossroads and Music from John Cannon and Martin Duggan with Special Guest Chelsea Evans who is taking part in Glor Tire.

League title for Donegal

Donegal 0-15 Armagh 0-14

Aaron Doherty's 74th minute point proved to be the winning Donegal score in an enthralling finale against Armagh on Sunday in the Division 2 League Final at Croke Park. Jim McGuinness's side had looked comfortable with a four-point lead at a stage in the second half but the Orchard County roared back to take the lead. However, that mystical power that McGuinness instils in his players was demonstrated yet again as the self-belief and determination to succeed shone through during injury time.

These two sides had drawn in their league clash at the Athletic Grounds earlier in the season and there was never much between apart from that short Donegal purple patch in the second half. In front of an unsurprisingly small crowd it was the Tirconaill outfit that had the better start to the final. Surprise starter Jason McGee from the Cloughaneely Club won the throw-in and launched the ball in for Oisín Gallen to fetch and

call a mark which he converted with 24 seconds on the clock.

McGee was one of two changes from the side initially named on Saturday coming in for Hugh McFadden who ended up replacing the Cloughaneely man in the second half. The other change saw Luke McGlynn replace Oisín Causfield. Donegal were very fit and were tenacious in their tackling, hunting in packs and forcing a number of turnovers. They led 0-8 to 0-7 at the break thanks to a late point from Man of the Match Ciarán Thompson who was the stand-in captain for the decider in the absence of the injured Paddy McBrearty.

From half-time to the 63rd minute there were just six scores in the final. But from then to the fourth minute of injury-time, there were nine white flags. While there was only one point between the sides in the end Donegal were much better at taking scores while their opponents were guilty of a handful of bad misses at a crucial



Donegal captains Ciarán Thompson and Patrick McBrearty lift the Division Two cup after defeating Armagh at Croke Park on Sunday.

stage in the second half.

That is going to be a problem for Armagh going forward and while it was all good on that front for McGuinness's men on Sunday they won't get

the same time to shoot against Derry in a couple of weeks time. The Orchard County's best spell of the decider came at the right time with Rory Grugan's kick that ended a long scoreless spell was also the first of a five-minute five-in-a-row. Oisín O'Neill got the last of those to put Kieran McGeeney's outfit into a scarcely believable 0-13 to 0-12 lead.

But Donegal responded magnificently when the chips were down. Buncrana's Caolan McGonagle split the posts at the Canal End at the start of injury-time for their first score in 21 minutes and the equaliser. Gallen then put his side back in front again. Oisín Conaty add-

ed to the drama by bringing Armagh level again. Then the match winner stepped up to the plate as Naomh Columba's Aaron Doherty gently lifted the ball over the bar in the fourth minute of injury time. There was time for one more Orchard attack but a misplaced pass saw Donegal counter attack at pace with Shane O'Donnell setting up Doherty but this time from an almost identical position he kicked a wide.

Donegal - Shaun Patton; Mark Curran, Ciarán Moore, Caolan McColgan; Kevin McGettigan, Caolan McGonagle 0-1, Shane O'Donnell 0-1; Jason McGee, Michael Langan; Peadar Mogan 0-1, Ciarán Thompson 0-4 (1f), Luke McGlynn; Aaron Doherty 0-1, Oisín Gallen 0-4 (1f, 1M), Niall O'Donnell (0-3). Subs: Odhrán Doherty and Jamie Brennan for McGlynn and McGettigan both h-t; Hugh McFadden for McGee 41; Jaic MacCeallabhuí for McGonagle 60; Charles McGuinness for Niall O'Donnell 61.

Armagh: Blaine Hughes; Paddy Burns, Aaron McKay, Peter McGrane; Greg McCabe, Aidan Forker, Darragh McMullan; Ciarán Mackin, Ben Crealey; Jarly Óg Burns 0-2, Rory Grugan 0-4 (2fs), Joe McElroy; Conor Turbitt 0-4 (2fs), Andrew Murnin, Oisín Conaty 0-2. Subs: Stefan Campbell 0-1 for Forker (41); Rian O'Neill for McElroy (48); Oisín O'Neill 0-1 for McMullan (59); Jason Duffy for Mackin (68). Referee: Paul Faloon (Down)



Shane O'Donnell in action against Armagh's Ciarán Mackin in Croke Park on Sunday.

McGuinness eyes now on Derry derby

The Donegal senior football squad returned to training this week after claiming the Division 2 league silverware on Sunday. Promotion had already been secured ahead of the decider.

by Declan Kerr

The final against Armagh really only sprung to life in the closing stages as the Orchard County staged a comeback from four points down. But, Jim McGuinness always has players who stand up and are courageous in the heat of a battle. Caolan McGonagle, Oisín Gallen and Aaron Doherty posted inspirational injury time points that allowed Ciarán Thompson and Paddy McBrearty to jointly lift the trophy after the presentation by new GAA President Jarlath Burns.

Celebrations were subdued afterwards and that's no surprise as the Ulster Senior Football Championship quarter-final against Derry is just a couple of weeks away at Celtic Park. Derry won the

Division 1 final but had to go to extra-time and penalties against Dublin to secure the silverware. Will that extra effort have any negative impact on Mickey Harte's side? It's unlikely but adds further pressure on his side to deliver against Donegal on Saturday April 20th.

Jim McGuinness will be able to carry out his plans for the local derby without a lot of that pressure as his side is very much the underdogs despite their fine league season and title success on Sunday. Obviously there will be a lot of speculation about the final pieces of the jigsaw in terms of the team that he will put out at Celtic Park. In his previous spell as manager the Glenties man was the master of getting the plan and personnel right for most games. How much was he not showing his hand in Croke Park with Mickey Harte looking on is hard to know. He has injury concerns over Brendan McCole, Eoghan Ban

Gallagher, Daire O'Baoill, Paddy McBrearty and Ryan McHugh. But, Sunday also proved that he has strength in depth at Division 2 level with the likes of Aaron Doherty putting up his hand for a starting place while both Caolan McColgan and Niall O'Donnell just back from injury are also in the frame. Jason McGee also returned on Sunday after missing the entire league campaign while Stephen McMenamin, Jack McKelvey and Jamie Brennan are others that will surely be considered for the big championship clash by McGuinness and his backroom team of Neil McGee, Colm Anthony McFadden and Luke Barrett when they sit down to pick the starting 15 subs and the possible subs that will be used at Celtic Park on Saturday 20th April (throw-in 6.00).

There's no surprise that buy-in from the players has been total since McGuinness took over with a huge amount of physical training done that has

put them ahead of other teams in that department in the league campaign. McGuinness's renowned work on the psychological approach of players is there to see again and he just has that special talent to make them play as a team. The message he gives them on the training ground or in the dressing room before a match is pretty much delivered to the letter in the competitive environment of a game.

It's an amateur sport so players and management deserve great credit for the effort they are putting into what is a one hundred per cent professional approach to the Donegal cause every week. But, McGuinness is realistic and won't be under any illusions about the challenge that Derry presents as the back-to-back Ulster champions. He got a glimpse of that when Harte's men won comfortably against Donegal in the McKenna Cup Final in January.

GAA Club News

Chloich Cheann Fhaola

Grab a Grand

Congratulations to Neil McGee who was the winner of €1000 in our recent Grab a Grand draw. Ba mhaith linn ár mbuíochoas a ghabháil le gach duine a thug tacaíocht dúinn.

An tSraith Roinn 2 - Sinsir

Scór Lán Ama

Cloich Cheann Fhaola: 1-7 An Clochán Liath: 2-12

An tSraith Roinn 2 - Foirne Tacaíochta

Scór Lán Ama

Cloich Cheann Fhaola: 0-8 An Clochán Liath: 1-12

Sraith Faoi 16 an Tuaiscirt - Roinn 2

Bhí droch ádh ar na leaid ar an Aoine in éadan Ghaeil Leitir Ceanainn.

Buíochoas

We would like to thank Caolán Ferry, James Coll, Sean Geaney and Seamus Doogan who were out selling lotto tickets at the weekend.

CONGRATULATIONS

We would like to congratulate Mary Harkin from Machaire Rabhartaigh who won the main prize of a car in this year's National Club Draw! Tá muid ion-

tach buíoch do gach duine a thug tacaíocht dúinn i mbliana.

Sraith Faoi 16 na gCailíní - Roinn 4

Our U16 girls had a great win over Naomh Muire, Íochtar na Rosann on Tuesday.

Lotto

The numbers drawn were 4,7,11,13,14,15. We had 2 match 5s. Congratulations to Libby McCole and Conor Coyle who win €50 each. The jackpot is now €6,500.

Buachaillí Faoi 14

CCF v An Tearmann at Páirc Naomh Fionán at 5i.n. ar 5/4/2024

Buachaillí Faoi 16

CCF v Aodh Rua, Cúl na gCurraidín at Páirc Naomh Fionán at 6:30i.n. ar 5/4/2024

Glenswilly

Senior and Reserve Men

Both the senior and reserve men posted wins against neighbours Glenfin on the opening day of the League. The reserves recorded an 11 points to 6 win while the seniors ran out eventual winners on a scoreline of 2-9 to 1-9. Next up is a trip to St. Mi-

chael on Saturday at 3.30pm and 5pm.

Minor Board

The minor boys made it two wins from two in the Northern Board Division 1 with a win over Cloughaneely on Monday. Next up the boys welcome Gaoth Dobhair on Monday 8th at 7pm.

It was a mixed bag of results on Friday evening for the U16 teams. The Division 3 team made the short trip to O'Donnell Park and came away with a win. The Division 1 team hosted St Eunan's but unfortunately were defeated.

Both teams are back in action this Friday. Div. 1 team travels to Gaoth Dobhair while the Division 3 team host Buncrana at 6.45pm.

The Club ran its first ever Easter Football camp from Monday 25th to Wednesday 27th of March. Over 50 boys and girls attended across the 3 days and were joined by coaches from the club along with John Ward, Manus Friel and Marty McGrath.

Ladies Board

The Senior Ladies secured their second win of the league when they travelled in Buncrana winning 4-12 to 1-5. Next up the ladies host Urris on Sunday the 14th April at 10.30am.

The u16 Girls will host Naomh Columba at 6pm on Sunday 7th April.

Good luck to Sarah McGinley (Minor), Orlagh Faul (U16), Cara McFadden and Ellie Bonner (both U14) who are all in action for their respective age groups at county level this weekend!

A successful first ever Easter Disco was held in Glenswilly GAA hall on Friday organised and ran alongside an Easter draw by our Senior Ladies team. Winners: O'Neills Football signed by Donegal Senior Men - Daithí McCloskey
€100 One for All Voucher - Denis Curran
SK Dance Summer Camp Entry - Mark McGeever
Easter Hamper - Irene Coyle
Mari-Claire's Beauty Voucher - Beth McHale
Kids Craft Hamper - Lorna Spratt
Xperia Hair Voucher - Eddie Evers
McFaddens Pharmacy Voucher - Gerard McGrenra
Gildea's Butchers Voucher - Laura Murray
€20 Brian McCormick Voucher - Geraldine Gallagher
€20 Brian McCormick Voucher - Kayla McDaid
€20 Brian McCormick Voucher - Codie Friel
Nails by Kayla Voucher - Croia Canning
Caitrionas Hair Salon Voucher - Ann Marie Harold
Easter Cake - Sadie Neely

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GAA Club News

Bingo and 50/50

Bingo continues every Wednesday in the hall, 8.30pm. Congratulations to last week's winner Luke Toye who won €470.

The next monthly meeting will be held on Thursday the 11th April at 9pm in the clubhouse.

St. Michael's

All County Leagues

MacCumhails 1-10 St. Michael's 0-4.

St Michael's suffered a defeat in what was a poor exhibition for football in the heavy rain and the terrible underfoot condition made it a difficult night for entertaining football. Next up Glenswilly visit the Bridge this Saturday.

The team was: Mark Anthony McGinley; Paddy McGinley, Kyle McGarvey, Chris McElhinney; Ethan Ferry, Michael Cannon, Eoghan Kelly; Ciaran Kelly, Colin McFadden; Andy Ward, Martin McElhinney, Ethan Doherty; Max Roarty, Michael McGinley, Calvin Murray. Subs Jamie Hunter for Andy Ward, Packie O'Neill for Ethan Ferry. Scorers: Michael McGinley, Michael Cannon, Max Roarty and Eoghan Kelly 0-1 each.

The Reserve game was postponed owing to the pitch being wet. Both teams are at home to Glenswilly on this Saturday at 5pm and 6.30pm.

Mini Lotto

The numbers drawn were: 1,3,7,8,9,17. The Match 5 winner was Breda McColgan, Dunfanaghy who won €100. This week's Jackpot will be €5900.

Under 12's

Two U12 teams played Naomh Muire at the Bridge on Saturday morning. U12s first competitive game is on Friday 12th April against St Eunan's at 6.30pm.

Under 16's

The U16's are at home to Glenfin on Friday at 6.30pm.

Minor Boys

Congratulations to our Minor Boys team who defeated Convoy at The Bridge on Monday 2-7 to 1-7.

Under 12 Girls

Our u-12 girls train Wednesday and Fridays at 6.15 for 6.30pm start.

Under 10 Boys

U-10s playing Termon at the Bridge this Saturday at 10.30.

Underage

No Ladies underage football until u16s play 18.03.24 v Ghaath Dobhair.

U14s also start against Ghaath Dobhair on 08.06.24.

Senior Ladies

Donegal LGFA Division 3

St. Michaels 2-05 Letterkenny Gaels 6-09

Gaels senior ladies played their first competitive game on Easter Sunday and recorded a fine win away to St. Michaels.

Gaeil Fhánada

Lotto Results 31/03/2024

Numbers: 5, 7, 8, 15, 21. No jackpot winner. €100 Winner: Hilary McGettigan. This week's Jackpot: €5,900.

March Grab a Grand Winner

Congratulations to Darragh and Sinead O'Doherty who collect the €1000 for our March Grab a Grand, with number 32 coming out of the drum.

Cluichí na Seachtaine

Dé hAoine, 5ú Aibreán

Buachaillí Faoi 16

Gaeil Fhánada v Naomh Adhamhnáin 6:30

Dé Luain, 8ú Aibreán

Buachaillí Faoi 16

Gleann tSúilí v Gaeil Fhánada 6:45

Ladies pick up their first Division 1 victory

Gaeil Fhánada 2:09 Naomh Conaill 1:11

A late Naomh Conaill goal on Sunday looked like it might upset the Gaels and deny them their first victory in the top division, but the Glenties based side didn't have enough time to search for that elusive point which would've secured a share of the spoils, and it was Fanad by a single point when the final whistle sounded.

Gaeil Fhánada: Rosheen McGinley, Shauna Howe, Tori Gallagher, Méabh Duffy, Iseult Ní Mhathúna, Aoife Gibbons (0:01), Niamh McDevitt, Eimear Sweeney, Eimear Gibbons, Rachel Sweeney (0:01), Lauren Carr (1:04), Siobhan Sweeney, Hannah Shiels, Caoimhe Walsh (1:02), Mairead Coll (0:01). Jessica Coll for Hannah Shiels, Méabh McAteer for Méabh Duffy, Hannah Shiels for Rachel Sweeney. Eibhlin Shiels, Olivia Friel.

Senior Men lose

Termon 1:14 Gaeil Fhánada 0:07

Termon left Páirc Uí Shíadhail with the spoils on Saturday after a slick performance proved too much for the home side. Gaeil Fhánada: Mark McConigley, Calum McAteer, Paddy Heraghty, Oisín McFadden, Odhrán Shiels, Shaun Kerr, Jimmy Coyle, Michael Sweeney (0:01), Paddy Carr, Mark McA-

teer, Conor Heraghty, Declan Brougham, James Kerr (0:01), Alan McAteer, Mark Friel (0:01). Liam McGrenaghan (0:04) for Odhrán Shiels, Paul Coyle for Declan Brougham, Bernard McGettigan for Michael Sweeney.

Reserves lose

An Tearmann 2:14 Gaeil Fhánada 2:05

Saturday's proceedings in Portsalon kicked off with an entertaining reserve encounter, and although Termon deservedly prevailed when all was said and done, there were plenty of positives to take from the game. Gaeil Fhánada: Brian Gallagher, Jamie McAteer, Aiden Heraghty, Seamus Coyle, Eoghan Logue, Kevin McGonigle, Michael McDevitt, Christy Sweeney, Ronan Mc Ateer, Charlie Crerand, Stephen McGonigle, Rudi Feenstra, Dan Kerr, Fergal Friel (1:04), Aaron McConigley. Eoin Mc Gonigle (0:01) for Dan Kerr, Patsy Friel for Charlie Crerand, Eoin Logue (1:00) for Eoghan Logue, Seán Friel for Seamus Coyle, Joshua McAteer for Rudi Feenstra. Brandon Friel, Shaun Coyle, Conor McConigley.

Minors make it two from two

Well done to Aiden Heraghty and his minor side who recorded victory against Glenfin by 4:11 to 0:09. Killian Friel, Darragh McElwaine, Eoghan Logue, Jamie McAteer, Caolan McElwaine, Harry Blaney, Shane Carr, Declan Brougham, Christian Gibbons, Darragh O'Doherty, Niall Toland, Evan McDaid, Daibhid Lynch, Ronan McVeigh. Aaron Burns for Ronan McVeigh, Ronan McVeigh for Declan Brougham.

U16 Girls win

The U16 girls made the trip to Convoy and came away with maximum points. Natalie Egan, Sarah Peoples, Erin Logue, Eabha Doherty, Etaine Sheridan, Orlaith McGrenaghan (0:01), Clíodhna Robinson (1:01), Amy McAteer, Grace Begley (1:03), Cara Gibbons, Meabh Sweeney (1:04), Erin Carlin (0:02), Lilly Gallagher (1:00), Clodagh McAteer (1:01), Aisling Duffy (2:01).

Gaelic 4 Mothers & Others

The new season of Gaelic for Mothers and Others is starting soon. If you'd like to join up, contact Michelle on 0867349140.

Coiste Gaeilge Ghaeil Fhánada

Má tá suim ag ball ar bith a bheith páirteach i gCoiste Gaeilge Ghaeil Fhánada, téigh i dteagmháil le Maggie ar 087 6998537. Tá muid ag lorg daoine a bhfuil suim acu sa Ghaeilge & Cultúr agus a bheadh sásta na rudaí seo a chur chun cinn sa chlub.

Naomh Adhamhnáin

Senior Football (Men)

The All-County League started last weekend; Our Senior men travelled to play Kilcar in Towney. The Home team took the points with the final score Kilcar 1-11 St Eunans 1-7. This weekend our Seniors and Reserves play Naomh Columba in O'Donnell Park on Sunday April 7th. Reserves throwing in at 1.30 pm with the Senior match at 3pm.

Under 18 (Boys) Division 1 and Division 3

St Eunan's U18 Division 1 boys played their second league game on Monday winning away to Sean Mac Cumhails 1-7 to St Eunans 2-9.

St Eunan's U18 Division 3 boys also played their second league game on Monday losing narrowly to Robert Emmets (2-10 to 3-8).

Under 16 (Boys)

Our Under 16 boys' Division 1 team had a good opening win away to Glenswilly. Final score Glenswilly 3-9 St Eunans 5-12. The U16 boys' Division 3 team lost to the same opposition in O'Donnell Park.

Round 2 Fixtures

Division 1 - St Eunans v Milford - Friday April 5th at 6.30pm in O'Donnell Park

Division 1 - Fanad Gaels v St Eunans - Friday April 5th at 6.30pm in Fanad.

Club Lotto

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

Sunday Morning Skills Academy

The Sunday Morning Skills Football Academy continues this Sunday from 11am to 12.15pm. This is for Boys and Girls aged 4 to 10.

Hurling

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

The Senior hurling league Round 1 starts on Friday April 5th with St Eunan's away to Sean MacCumhails in MacCumhail Park starting at 8pm.

Donegal Senior Football Team

Congratulations to the Donegal Senior men's football team who beat Armagh in the Division 2 National league final. St Eunan's were well represented with Shaun Patton, Ciaran Moore, Shane O'Donnell and Niall O'Donnell all starting in the match and Caolan Ward part of the panel.

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.steunans.donegal@gaa.ie

Na nDúnaibh

Torthaí Lotto.

Torthaí lotto ó oíche Luain is chuaigh thart. Na huimhreacha a tarraingíodh ná: 3 7 10 agus 19. Char bhain duine ar bith an pota óir agus bhí na trí uimhir acu seo a leanas: Hugh Blaney, Eliz. Moore, Anthony (Ard Mhacha), Hugh Mac Giolla Bhríde, Riona Reid, Martin Jerevics, Jim Ó Gallchóir, Tony Pasoma, Doreen Mhic Giolla Bhríde, John Mhicí Ruadh, Elena Nic Rodaigh. Fuair siad uilig €20 an duine. Tá €6,000 sa phota óir don chéad tarraingt eile.

Bingo

Thig na leabhartaí Bingo a fháil ar líne ag: nadunaibh.ie/bingo go dtí 1 a chlog Dé Sathairn.

Peil na Sinsir.

Bhí foireann na bhfear agus na mban ag imirt sa chéad bhabhta den tSraith i Roinn 1 Dé Sathairn. Chuir an dá fhoireann tús iontach leis an tséasúr le dhá bhuaidh thábhachtach - na girseachaí in éadan Naomh Mhuire agus bhí buaidh de 2 phointe ag na fir as baile in éadan Aodh Ruadh Bhéal Atha Seannaigh. Beidh na Dúnaibh sa bhaile in éadan Mháilaine ar Aibreán 6 agus beidh a gcéad chluiche eile ag na girseachaí in éadan Aodh Ruadh, Bhéal Atha Seannaigh ar an 14ú Aibreán.

An Cháisc leis na Réalta Móra.

Beidh campa peile ar siúl le linn na seachtaine seo ar feadh 4 lá - ón Mháirt 2ú Aibreán go dtí an Aoine 5ú Aibreán. Beidh réalta móra anseo le linn na seachtaine - Peadar Mogan, Oisín Gallen agus Niamh Nic Lochlainn I láthair chomh maith le Conor Glass agus Shane McGuigan ó chontae Dhoire. Tá an campa foscaithe do ghasúraí agus do ghirseachaí ó 7 go 14bl d'aois.

Traenáil.

Liosta iomlán de laetha traenála agus amanna le fáil ar líne: <https://nadunaibh.ie/amchlar/>

Gasúraí Faoi-12

Rinne an fhoireann Faoi-12 an turas siar go dtí na Méilte oíche Chéadaoin áit a raibh uair peile den scoth acu. Búiochas mór do Naomh Muire, Íochtar na Rosann a rinne aíocht ar an ócáid agus a chur sólaistí ar fáil.

Dún na nGall Faoi - 20.

Comhghairdeas le foireann Faoi -20 Dhún na nGall as a mbuaidh in éadan Fhear Manach le linn na seachtaine agus moladh mór do Phadaí Mc Elwee a scóráil 1-3.

Guimis uilig go dtiocfaidh biseach go luath ar Calum Ó Cuilinn ghortú.

Socraithe do na Cluichí.

Dé Céadaoin 3ú Aibreán 6.30pm Gasúraí Faoi - 14 Na Dúnaibh i.e. Gleann tSúilí.

Dé hAoine 5ú Aibreán 6.30 pm Gasúraí Faoi - 16 Na Dúnaibh i.e. Gleann tSúilí.

Dé Sathairn 6ú Aibreán 5pm Fir Sóisir. Na Dúnaibh i.e. Máilainn.

6.30pm Fir Sinsir: Na Dúnaibh i.e. Máilainn.

Dé Luain 8ú Aibreán 6.45pm Gasúraí Faoi -16. Na Dúnaibh i.e. Naomh Adhamhnáin.

Last Man Standing Results.

With 18 going into the League Finals on Saturday 7 went out with Laois beating Leitrim, leaving 11 going into Div 3 final. Another 8 chose Down over Westmeath which left 3 for the two big games on Sunday! Jordan Nugent, Francis McGuigan and Joe Coll took the wise step and split the money between them before the throw-in! Big thanks to all who took part and to Seaghán Mac Laifearthaigh who organised.

Ghaeil Leitir Ceanainn

Congratulations to Ronan Frain, Niall Diver and the Donegal Senior footballers on their Division Two final win at the weekend.

The senior footballers opened their season with an away game against Merville on Saturday with the hosts taking the victory. This weekend both teams are home to Carndonagh.

On Sunday, the senior ladies had a good opening game of the season as they defeated St. Michael's at the Bridge. Next up they take on St. Mary's, Convoy at Páirc na nGael.

The senior hurlers continued their Ulster journey with a defeat against Michael Davitts of Swatragh. The lads will take on Loughbeg of Antrim on the weekend of 13/14th April.

An Tearmainn

Senior Men

Both senior men sides started their respective league campaigns with wins over Fanad Gaels at Portsalon last weekend. The senior's had ten points to spare in their 1-14 to 0-7 victory. Daire McDaid scored 0-6 while Enda McCormick hit 1-2. Steve McElwaine, Bobby McGettigan, Jack Alcorn, Ryan McFadden and John James Sweeney also got on the scoresheet.

The reserves also ran out comfortable 2-14 to 2-5

winner. Mark Gallagher and Paul Mallon top scored with eight points between them, the goals came from Luke McGarvey and Ciaran Cassidy. Gary McGettigan, Oran Gallagher, Danny Sandilands and Eoin Quinn also chipped in with points.

Buncrana are the visitors at 1.30pm and 3pm.

Ladies

The U16 girls had a good win over St Eunan's at the Burn Road and this week they have an away game against Letterkenny Gaels on Tuesday at 6pm.

The senior ladies are back in action this coming weekend with a home game against Glenfin on Sunday 7th April at 10.30am.

Minor

The minor men got their campaign up and running with a 2-6 to 0-7 victory on Monday over Gaoth Dobhair.

Eggcitement by the Burn

There was lots of eggcitement last Saturday as the Easter Bunny came along to the first session of academy training. All the boys and girls received an Easter egg, kindly sponsored by Nicola McCafferty and her new business All Fluffed Up dog grooming. Many thanks to Nicola for her generous support.

Our U10 boys headed to Naomh Mhuire for a very successful blitz on Bank Holiday Monday.

Exciting news also announced this week as our U12 boys have been invited to take part in the Croke Park Activity Day on Monday 3rd June.

Mothers & Others

Gaelic for Mothers and Others returns on April 12th, for all ladies over 25 welcome to join in the fun and games each Friday evening at the Burn Road. Call Declan on 086 202 9851.

Lotto

Lotto Results 31/3/2024 - No's drawn 8, 17, 25, 26. There was no winner of the €1550 Jackpot. There were four winners of the Match 3, €20 each to Paul Doherty, Michael Harkin, Dom McFadden and Aine Boyle. The €10 Quick Pick winners were Collette Boyle and Jim Gallagher. Next week's Jackpot is €1600.

Baile na nGalloglach

Lotto: 26/3/24

Numbers : 2-5-15-28 No Jackpot winner. €50 Lucky Dip winner is Mary Barrett, Drumacloghan, Ramelton.

LOTTO ROTA:

Sat 6th April, Whoriskey's, Ramelton - U12 Boys.

RESULTS AND FIXTURES

Senior Men

Our Seniors got their Division 2 League campaign started on Saturday with a good win away to Ardara on a scoreline of 1-7 to 9 points. The Reserves had a very slow start to their game and were unfortunately beaten on a scoreline of 6-11 to 11 points.

We now host Red Hughs on Sunday (7th) with the Reserves throwing in at 1.30pm and Seniors at 3pm. All Support Welcome.

Minor (Under 18) Boys

Baile Na nGalloglach 2-08 Letterkenny Gaels 1-09

A closely fought game ended in a 2 point win for the boys on Monday. Trailing by a point at half time they started the 2nd half strongly and went 5 pts up with 10 mins to go. However a Gaels goal meant it was level with 3 mins to go. Up stepped Shay Gibbons and Joey Barrett to kick the 2 scores which won the game although Gaels missed a great goal chance near the end which would have changed everything.

Next game is on Monday 15th April away to Glenfin at 7.

Strong performances on the night from all 16 players used but especially Martin Buchanan, Sean Black, Rory O'Brien, Jacob Campbell and Conor McLaughlin who had a brilliant game at centre half back. Rory O'Brien 1-03; Charlie Wheeler 1-00; Shay Gibbons 0-02; Adam Morgan 0-02; Joey Barrett 0-01.

U16 Boys

Our U16 boys travel to St Eunans this Friday (5th) for a 6.30pm throw-in and then we host Letterkenny Gaels on Tuesday next (9th).

U16 Girls

Our U16 girls had a good win against Letterkenny Gaels last week - they now travel to St Eunans next week (date and time to be confirmed).

U14 Boys

Our U14 boys start their League campaign this Wednesday (3rd) with the older boys away to Downings and younger boys at home to Red Hughs - both matches throw-in at 6.30pm. All Support Welcome.

U12 Boys

Training continues in Ray Astro on Mondays from 5.45 -7pm. New players are welcome to attend.

U10 Boys

Our U10 boys travelled to Naomh Muire Íochtar Na Rosann on Saturday to participate in a blitz with teams from Naomh Muire, Termon and Ardara. Thank you to the Naomh Muire Club for a very well-organised and enjoyable day.

Planning Notices

Donegal Co. Council
Saltpans, Rathmullan, Co. Donegal
 I, Eamon Gallagher, on behalf of A1 Construction, intend to apply for Planning Permission for development at Saltpans, Rathmullan, Co. Donegal in the townland of Saltpans. The development will consist of planning permission to construct a shed for storage of machinery associated with construction business 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, 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
Cornagill, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal.
 We, Conal and Kathleen Kilfeather are applying to Donegal County Council for planning permission for development at Cornagill, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal, in the townland of Cornagill. The development will consist of the construction of a new dwelling, part two storey, part single storey with the provision of a

sewage treatment system. To include development of an accompanying domestic garage and all 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 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.

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

Donegal County Council
Ballyconnell, Falcarragh,
 We, Fiona Doherty and Shaun McFadden are applying to Donegal County Council for permission for



Milford Retail Park - 074 91 53567
srautopartsdonegal@gmail.com

Car, Tractor & Rally Parts etc

Open: Monday to Friday 8am - 6pm
Saturday 9am - 5pm

the renovation and extension of an existing dwelling house to include the following development (a) Demolition of existing stone sheds to the side of the dwelling (b) Construction of a new 2 storey extension to the rear of the property and raise ridge height of the existing dwelling (c) alterations to the fenestration of the existing dwelling (d) Construction of a domestic garage (e) install a new waste water treatment system with all other associated site development works at Ballyconnell, Falcarragh, County Donegal in the townland of Ballyconnell. 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
Milford Town, Milford TD
 I, Noreen Begley am applying to Donegal County Council for permission for retentions of existing of 2 No velux windows to front elevation and planning permission to erect rear first floor balcony onto existing dwelling. At Milford town, Milford Td, Co. Donegal. The Planning Application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the Offices of the Planning Authority, County House, Lifford during its Public Opening Hours.

Milford Livestock Co-Operative Mart

PSRA Licence No: 002627
 Tel. 91 53255 / 91 53265 or 087 1277884

April Sales

Sat 6th April - **Weanling Sale (Bulls only)** 11am
 Booking in on Thurs 4th April from 8.00 - 8.30pm

Wed 10th April - **Cattle Sale** 12noon
No Sale Saturday 13th April

Mon 15th April - **Sheep Sale** 7pm

Sat 20th April - **Weanling Sale (Mixed)** 11am
 Booking in on Thurs 18th April from 8.00 - 8.30pm

Wed 24th April - **Cattle Sale** 12noon
No Sale Saturday 27th April

Mon 29th April - **Sheep Sale** 7pm

Ferry Hedge Cutting



Flail & Sawhead Fully Insured

Contact Benny on 085 7859676

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.

Cloughaneely Golf Club



Cloughaneely Golf Club Main sponsors Michael McClafferty (The Strand Road Bar & Kitchen), Thomas McClafferty (Eurospar Gortahork) and John McDermott (ProAmpac)

We would like to thank our three main club sponsors for their kind support: The Strand Road Bar & Kitchen (Michael McClafferty), McClafferty's Eurospar Gortahork (Thomas McClafferty), and ProAmpac (John McDermott). Go raibh míle maith againn as bhur dtacaíocht uilig. Sponsorship opportunities are available for 2024 by contacting Joseph Mangan in the golf club a number of different packages available.

We had a 9 Hole Scramble on Good Friday. 1st: Peadar Curran, Alan Connolly, Patsy McVicar & Roisin McGee - 25.8 (-5).

A very large crowd gathered for the Donal McGinley Memorial Scramble on Saturday 30th March. A total of €1,155 was raised for Bluestack Special Needs Foundation Falcarragh Branch. 1st: Tony McGinley, Paul Ferry, Joseph Mangan & Padraig O'Grady - 27.1 (-3); 2nd: JB McCallion, Vincent Collum & Lorraine Giles - 27.83 (E); 3rd: Ger Doran, Martin Giles, Paddy McGirr & Johnny Rua Gallagher - 28.15 (-2). Longest Drive: Mark McGinley. Nearest Pin: Sean MacIntyre.

We had a 18 hole Singles Stableford on Easter Sunday 1st: Paul Gibson (33) 40pts BOT; 2nd: Joe McGarvey GAA (18) 40pts great shooting by both men.

Results from the 18 Hole Scramble on Easter Monday 1st April; 1st: Martin Giles, Owenie Scotch McFadden & Roisin McGee - 57 (-1).

The Table Quiz in the Strand Road Bar and Kitchen last Friday was very successful with 13 teams taking part. Thank you to all that support the event and especially to quizmaster Denis 'dandy' Doohan for all his help.

Our 2024 Golf Membership rates can be found on our website new members are welcome. We offer excellent greens, a great test of golf and you will receive a warm welcome from us.

Cuireann Cumann Gailf Chloich Cheannfhaola fáilte roimh bhail úra - fir, mná agus daoine óga. Tá na táillí bliantúla ó Eanáir go Nollaig iontach réasúnta.

Tá plásóga den scoith ar an chúrsa, bainfidh tú sult agus sásamh as é a imirt agus cuirfear fáilte mhór romhat.

13 drink/drug drive arrests over Easter weekend

A total of 13 drivers were arrested in Donegal over the Bank Holiday weekend for drink and drug driving offences. This included six cases of suspected drink driving and seven suspected drug driving arrests.

There were also a number of fixed penalty notices issued for other motoring offences including speeding, driving without tax and insurance, driving with bald tyres and having no NCT. In one case a disqualified driver was arrested driving and altered/forged insurance documents were also seized.

This major enforcement operation took place over the Bank Holiday week-

end commencing at 7am on Thursday, March 28th and concluding at 7am, on Tuesday, April 2nd.

A Garda spokesperson stated: "Fixed Charge penalty Notices have been issued for various offences and a number of vehicles were seized. A large range of road traffic offences were detected over the course of the weekend."

Gardai say the aim of this campaign was the protection of vulnerable road users, and the reduction in fatal and serious collisions through high-visibility roads policing and strict enforcement.

The spokesperson added: "Thankfully we did not have any fatal road traffic

collisions in the Donegal Division over the course of the Easter Bank Holiday Weekend but given the amount of detections in relation to a range of road traffic offences it is obvious that the road safety message is just not hitting home with some people."

They added: "A total of 13 arrests for driving under the influence of alcohol/drugs is a worrying figure. Even one arrest for driving under the influence is one too high. We continue to appeal to all drivers to slow down, to drive with care and never to drive while under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs."

Richard Kerr set for big MotoAmerica move

Reigning Pirelli National Superstock champions AMD Motorsport and Richard Kerr are to compete in the MotoAmerica Superstock 1000 Championship. The Kilmacrennan motorcyclist, who took the British title after two wins and nine podiums during 2023, will continue on board the team's Honda Fireblade and will be a Honda-supported rider in the series, which like its British counterpart takes place alongside America's premier Superbike championship.

Kerr, 23, will be aiming to wrestle the title from reigning champion Hayden Gillim as he gets to compete at iconic circuits such as Laguna Seca, Barber Motorsports Park and Brainerd with additional rounds taking place at The Ridge Motorsports Park and New Jersey Motorsports Park, which will host the final round at the end of September.

As well as Gillim, Kerr's expected rivals for the crown are expected to include former British Motostar Champion Brandon Paasch, last year's runner up Kaleb De Keyrel, Travis Wyman and Ezra Beaubier, brother of multiple MotoAmerica Superbike Champion Cameron Beaubier.

Kerr is also eligible to contest the two feature MotoAmerica Superbike Championship races that take place on each weekend meaning he'll have a busy schedule as he'll contest a total of four races at each meeting.

Despite their absence from the Pirelli National Superstock Championship, AMD Motorsport will remain in the



BSB paddock as they'll again support PBM Racing and Jordan and Frank Bird jnr with the continuation of the race team. In addition, there'll also continue to back KTS Racing and Jamie Coward at the International road races.

Richard Kerr: "Obviously, after nine years in the BSB paddock, we would have liked to have continued and step up to the BSB series but, unfortunately, no opportunities presented themselves, so we looked at other options and now that everything's been confirmed, I'm very excited to be moving to the MotoAmerica series. There's a whole world out there

so getting the opportunity to experience something new is pretty cool and I'm looking forward to the challenge."

"The bikes have been shipped out already and will be based with Darrell Jones, who runs a Honda dealership and Ashton Yates in the MotoAmerica Superbike series, so we'll just fly into each round which will allow me to concentrate on riding and learning the tracks. That will be the biggest hurdle, along with getting used to the Dunlop tyres, as I haven't had to do that since I first came to the British tracks nine years ago but I'm very excited about the challenge especially as I'll be competing at some iconic circuits. I'm confident we can do a good job."

Fraser Dykes: "I'm very happy to continue supporting Richard in the development of his racing career by supplying our bikes for the MotoAmerica series project. It is fantastic news that Simon Bleasdale will now also be joining him Stateside to take forward the successful partnership that they have forged over the last couple of years, culminating in them winning the Pirelli National Superstock Championship with AMD Motorsport. It is exciting times and I am sure Cartersport Motorsport Media will keep us all up to date with their progress, Mary and I wish them every success in America and we hope to join them out there for a couple of rounds."

The first round of the MotoAmerica Superstock 1000 Championship is scheduled to take place at Barber Motorsports Park, Alabama on May 17th-19th.

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