



Home Support: dragged from pillar to post

- Pat the Cope

Fianna Fáil general election candidate Pat the Cope Gallagher has said that applicants to the Home Support Services are being dragged from pillar to post by the HSE even after receiving approval for access to the services.

Pat the Cope has highlighted the situation that has affected so many of his constituents in Donegal and said urgency is needed to provide clarity to the applicants.

"Across the county I have several examples of people in serious need of home help, where they are being approved for Home Support Services but have no time frame as to when they will receive the help."

Constituents are being told that the budget is exhausted but will then be told they will be eligible for grants to employ someone. Where is the sense in that? There only seems to be hours available when people die. The elder-

ly person applying for home help has got to register themselves as an employer, this is the furthest thing from practical. These are people in need of help because they are elderly, ill, or otherwise. It is a matter of urgency for many constituents, and I will fight hard to find a resolution to the matter."

Water provision : LK's top priority : Cllr. Kelly

That was the clear state of play from Cllr. Donal Mandy Kelly when he spoke at the special meeting in Lifford to address a range of housing issues across the county.

Cllr. Kelly told the meeting that before any new construction begins he wants to see a plan from Irish Water to upgrade the infrastructure. He warned that the chronic water shortages in Bomany, New Mills, Conwal and Tullygay must be addressed before the Council can allow two big housing developments in the Oldtown and Ballymacool areas of Letterkenny.

This is one of the first occasions in recent decades for a Fianna Fail Cllr. to express



such strong views about the failing water infrastructure and it remains to be seen what heed Irish Water pays to his call to prioritise water service provision ahead of more construction.

Cllr. Kelly said: "I welcome news that over 150 houses for the Oldtown and Ballymacool but we can't do it without proper infrastructure. Houses in Bomany, New Mills, Conwal and Tullygay only have a proper water supply one day a week. We need to tackle that problem first.

We had a meeting with Irish Water a number of weeks ago and I just got the feeling that it was a matter of ticking boxes

Contd. Page 35

Calls for Creeslough explosion inquiry

As calls have been made for a public inquiry into the Creeslough explosion, Donna Harper and Anthony Gallagher who each lost a child in the tragedy have told RTE's Prime Time that they need to find the truth behind what happened to their daughters.



Donna Harper and Anthony Gallagher on RTE's Prime Time this week.

The request from the families who lost loved ones in Creeslough comes as gardai continue to investigate the circumstances of the explosion.

Mr. Gallagher said a public inquiry can continue along with the investigation. He stated: "It's more for public safety and

we do not want any other family to have to go through what we've gone through the last two years." Donna Harper stated: "It's very important for us as families because we need the truth and we need answers."

Taoiseach Simon

Harris has said "very significant questions need answers" for the bereaved families.

Tánaiste Micheal Martin said Tánaiste Micheal Martin said it was too early to decide if there should be a public inquiry into the Creeslough tragedy because of

the ongoing Garda inquiry into the explosion.

As the second anniversary of the tragedy approaches, a solicitor representing the majority of the ten people who died in the explosion on October 7th, 2022, has written to

Justice Minister Helen McEntee asking for an independent inquiry to be established.

Solicitor Darragh Mackin of Phoenix Law, has also requested a meeting with the minister. He told Highland Radio there is no reason why a public inquiry cannot run alongside the investigations of the Gardaí and other relevant government probes on health and safety.

Mr Mackin represents the next of kin of Robert Garwe, his daughter Shau-na Flanagan-Garwe, Catherine O'Donnell and her son James Monaghan, Jessica

Contd. Page 35

Sports Capital Grants: 4.8% for Donegal

With a record Sports Capital Grant of €250 million announced nationally, Donegal clubs and associations were awarded 4.8% of that allocation.

€12m was allocated to 89 sports clubs and organisations across Donegal with 147 groups applying for the funding.

Over €9.2m has been allocated to 78 groups and organisations under Local Allocations; almost €3m to nine Regional Projects, and two clubs shared €66,000 in Equipment Funding.

Earlier this year, 45 clubs got €1,320,960 for equipment and

the latest announcement means Donegal has received a total of €13,592,322 in 2024 through both phases of the programme. Welcoming the announcement, Minister Charlie McConalogue said it was great news for the county, and for the clubs who have been allocated funding.

"€13,592,322 is a record amount of funding that has been allocated to Donegal through the Community Sports Facilities Fund. Along with the €1.32 million that was approved back in May, €9,208,641 is coming to Donegal under local allocations, €2,996,729 has

Contd. Page 2



In the footsteps.....

As the St. Michael's players gathered into a 'huddle' after their quarter final victory over Kilcar on Sunday the stars of the future formed their own huddle.



Donegal Darts Donation to the Hospice



Clive Aiken and Louise Doherty from the Arrows on Errigal Darts Fundraiser presenting a cheque for €7,721 to Isobel Rodgers from Donegal Hospice. The cheque was presented at the Donegal Grand Prix in Jacksons Hotel Ballybofey on Saturday to accept a generous cheque on behalf of the hospice. A huge congratulations to everyone who took part in the Errigal climb and collected sponsorship, and a heartfelt thank you to all who donated. The Donegal Hospice team expressed their gratitude and are delighted with the overwhelming support for such a worthy cause.

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Hospice Remembrance Service

The Donegal Hospice Annual Remembrance Service will be held this Sunday the 29th September at 2.30pm in the Church of the Irish Martyrs in Letterkenny. A warm welcome to everyone who has suffered the death of loved ones under the care of the Hospice, at home, in Community Care, in the Hospital or in the Hospice.

Rathford Medical Practice

(Patients of the Rathmullan and Milford Health Centre)

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Shop will be closed for annual stocktaking on Friday 27th & Saturday 28th September

Chiropodist in Ramelton

Ramelton Care of the Aged will have the Chiropodist attend the Makemie Hall, Ramelton on Tuesday 8th October from 9.30am - 2.30pm.

Sport Capital Grants - 4.8% for Donegal

From Page One
been earmarked under regional allocations, with €65,992 allocated under equipment only," he explained.
"Over the last year I have visited many the clubs and saw first hand their plans that are all geared towards improving their facilities and making their clubs better for their members. During those visits, I was struck by the passion and commitment of the people involved. Their selfless efforts are all about having a positive impact on their club and on the communities they serve so well. As we all know, Donegal is a sports mad county, and our sports clubs have a proud tradition of being inclusive and welcoming to all, while also producing the finest sports people in a wide variety of disciplines," he added.
General Election candidate, Pat the Cope Gallagher welcomed the announcement as did FG's Senator Nikki Bradley, Jimmy Kavanagh and

John McNulty. Funding will be used for improvements to infrastructure such as improving playing and training facilities, astro-turfs, handball alleys, walking tracks, hurling walls, and floodlights.
Among the local groups to secure funding included:
Bonagee United Football Club - Going Green & more female participation at Bonagee €97,664.
C.L.G An Tearmainn - Gym studio project €170,259.
CLG na nDúnaibh - Installation of floodlights €118,149.
CLG Naomh Mícheál - Floodlighting, Goal Posts & Ball Stop €173,480.
Cloughaneely Golf Club - Drainage to carpark, fairways and bunkers & tees €24,499.
Donegal League Organisation Co. Ltd - Remove and replace existing Astro pitch fencing. €106,412

Dunfanaghy FC - Clubhouse Development €165,463.
Dunfanaghy Golf Club - Golf Club Course Development €142,021.
Glenea United Football Club - Pitch Development Plan €85,000
Glenree United Football Club - Ground maintenance and equipment €60,000.
Glenswilly GAA - Flood Lighting to main playing pitch €129,608.
Gweedore Celtic Football Club - Installation of energy efficient LED lightbulbs €20,460
Gweedore Golf Club - course improvement /equipment upgrade €100,467
Milford United - Upgrade of 2 pitches for increased participation €178,334.
Kilmacrennan Community Development - Phase1 (Dressing Rooms) Modular Building €170,051.
Letterkenny Community Centre - Sustainable Energy Project €36,704.
Letterkenny Golf and Social Club - Course Development €109,422.
Letterkenny Rovers FC - Essential infrastructure upgrade €75,043.
Milford Tennis Club - tennis court rejuvenation €20,965.
No Barriers Foundation - Community Inclusion Gym Refurbishment €160,720
Portsalon Golf Club - Clubhouse upgrades €170,259.
Rosses AC - 200m 6 Lane Track, Shorefront, Dungloe €195,578
St Eunans GAA Club - To erect floodlights €161,953.
Swilly Mulroy Development Project Society - Disability Lift, gym equipment, upgraded lighting €39,103.
Whitestrans United Football Club - Community hub for sport & physical activity €178,564.
Donegal Regional Grant of €2,996,729 included allocations to ATU Gym Extension €426,081; Finn Harps Cooperative Society - Artificial pitch to help girls soccer and schools €394,140 and Finn Valley A.C. Campus Development €500,000

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Opry le Daniel returns to TG4

The long-awaited new country music series of concerts, Opry le Daniel, returns to TG4 on Tuesday 1st October with the show aired from the INEC, Killarney.
Recorded before a live audience, TG4 television's highest rating country music series of concerts offers a different music theme each night and a host of special guests will join Daniel on stage to perform all your favourite songs.
The first show will see Irish country music favourites Jimmy Buckley, Mike Denver and, all the way from Branson, Missouri, U.S.A. the renowned 'Teddy Bear Song' recording artist Barbara Fairchild.
In the following weeks, the shows will feature new artists who have never before performed on the Opry stage, including Eurovision song contest winner, Dana, Frances Black of 'Women's Heart fame' and newcomers Gavin Gribben, Chrissy Mac, Lauren Mc Crory, Onóir and Meadhbh Walsh.
So, tune into TG4 on Tuesday 1st October at 9.30pm for the 2024 series of 'Opry le Daniel'.

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Pringle will seek return in upcoming general election

Deputy Thomas Pringle, has confirmed that he will run for re-election in the upcoming general election.

The Killybegs native was first elected to the Dáil in 2011 having previously served as an independent councillor in Donegal County Council.

Deputy Pringle said: "As an independent, I've always put people first, not party. I'm for real change that will put Donegal people and people around the country at the centre of Government thinking. That's what's been missing in Ireland, and what's been missing with Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael up to now.

"For real change for Donegal and the country, there has to be a change in Government. We are where we are because of Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael governments and the choices they have made."



He added: "Putting people first means a 100% redress scheme for people affected by defective blocks that prioritises righting the wrongs done to people over cost. It means childcare and health services that are available to everyone. It means ensuring that people have a right to affordable and accessible housing."

"That's what the people deserve, rather than a government that puts the interests of business first," he said.

The deputy confirmed his decision on Saturday at a meeting with supporters in Killybegs.

He said: "I'm asking Donegal voters to build from firm foundations. My record reflects the work I've done for Donegal people and for real change, and I will continue to build on that." The next Irish general election must be held no later than March 2025 to elect the 34th Dáil.

"It's got to be Mary T."



Peadar Toibin of Aontú with Donegal election candidate Mary T. Sweeney.

Aontú's Mary T. Sweeney described her party's foray in the forthcoming General Election as "a giant step forward and a sign of Aontú's steady growth the length and breadth of Ireland." Formed a little over five years ago, Aontú intends to stand over 30 candidates, offering an electoral alternative nationwide.

Speaking before Saturday's launch of her General Election campaign in The Vestry, Letterkenny Town Park at 7pm, the Aontú candidate for the Donegal constituency said: "What we have achieved in the space of a few years with limited resources and no government funding, has been phenomenal. Only three months ago we contested every Irish constituency in the European Parliament Elections where Aontú won 5% of the vote in Donegal, making us the fourth largest party in "the Forgotten County".

Almost securing victory in the recent Council Elections has boosted Mary T. Sweeney's goal of representing Donegal in the Dail. "Aontú has given me the opportunity to provide a voice for those deserted by the main establishment parties of FF, FG and SF who offer nothing for Donegal," said Ms Sweeney.

The well-known Letterkenny activist laid out her priorities as she sets out on the campaign trail: "We need to address the growing chasm between the lives of the people in Donegal from an increasingly detached Dublin government on the bread and butter issues of Housing, Health, Ed-

ucation and Immigration. I am deeply angered by this government's incompetence. Aontú is committed to ensuring that rural counties such as Donegal are no longer "Forgotten" and disregarded by a small political clique who are out of touch with what matters to people outside the wine bars of Dublin 4.

Aontú is no home for payroll politicians. We are a campaigning party with policies decided by grassroots discussion, unlike those "weather-vane parties" whose PR consultants hold a finger in air to see which way the political wind is blowing. Aontú's principles are simple and clear - to take up the torch of struggle and defend the values of Life, Unity and Justice."

Aontú party leader Peadar Toibin said: "Aontú is delighted to have Mary T. as a candidate - someone who has an unrivalled record advocating for the needs of people in Donegal. Mary T will not stand idly by. Her record of brave and consistent campaigning will give the public confidence that, if elected, she will deliver for Donegal."

Mary T Sweeney concluded: "Supporters of FF, FG and SF are recognising the hard work local Aontu activists have put in on the ground over the past five years and are now turning to Aontú. I strongly urge all who feel politically disenfranchised to attend my election campaign launch this Saturday 7pm at The Vestry in Letterkenny Town Park, and join Aontú's journey to build a successful All-Ireland electoral alternative."



Jack McLaughlin received the Hall of Fame at the Donegal Boxing Awards in the Radisson Blu Hotel, Letterkenny on Saturday night. The Letterkenny ABC member had over 500 fights and enjoyed national success. After hanging up the gloves Jack gave a lot back to the sport in a coaching capacity with his local club. Jack pictured here with his brothers Charlie, Niall and Danny.

Update on LUH vacant diabetes posts

Letterkenny University Hospital is hopeful of filling one of two vacant consultant positions specialising in diabetes, a meeting has heard. A meeting of the Regional Health Forum heard one of two positions advertised for has been appointed and awaiting final approval.

Letterkenny area Cllr Gerry McMonagle asked: "Can I have an update on the vacant post's in relation to Diabetes at LUH and the process initiated to date by SAOLTA and Management at LUH to recruit the necessary staff to fill the vacant posts?"

A response from Interim CEO, Saolta University Health Care Group, Ann Cosgrove, said the hospital is approved for two Whole Time Equivalent (WTE) Consultant posts "with 100% commitment at LUH."

She added: "Interviews have taken place for both hospital posts. We have now offered out a post

to one successful candidate and this is currently being progressed for clearance with PAS. There is no agreed start date. The second post was offered to a successful candidate but they have since withdrawn, this post will be re-advertised for recruitment through PAS.

Interviews are scheduled for the 8th October 2024 for the post of Consultant in Endocrinology & Diabetes Mellitus Letterkenny University Hospital & Primary Care, Donegal, HSE West & North West (Integrated post).

A Locum Consultant Endocrinologist is taking up this post on Monday, September 23rd on a specified purpose contract until the post is filled permanently through PAS (Procurement Assisted Sourcing)".

She added: "There are currently 2.5 WTE dietitians posts allocated to Diabetes Services in LUH. All these positions are filled. LUH is funded for

one Staff Grade Podiatrist and one Senior Grade Podiatrist. LUH have recruited an agency Basic Grade Podiatrist, whose full registration is pending with CORU. However the person has commenced in the service as a Podiatry Assistant while registration is progressing.

The Senior Grade Podiatrist remains vacant and is subject to WTE approval. This position was previously advertised but garnered no applicants. Our podiatry colleagues from Galway University Hospital GUH continue to support this service, once every two weeks and travel to LUH to facilitate outpatient clinics."

Letterkenny Memories are back

The Letterkenny Memories will make its welcomed return to the Station House Hotel on Monday 30th of September. They will be a large variety of entertainment on the night and we look forward to seeing all our regular faces again and welcoming new ones.

The entertainment begins at 8pm and the artists on the night include The House Band - Alex Black, Raymond McDonald, Jim Nicholl, Dan McAteer, Thomas Black and Malcolm Patton. The guests this year are The New Land Choir, Evelyn O'Donnell, John Brown, The Fanadian and The Moonshiners.

The MC will be Brian Walsh and this is developing into a great nights entertainment and its well worth a trip to join in the crack.

Starmer's shine has gone

The popularity of Sir Keir Starmer has collapsed at an amazing speed. I was never a fan. However, I was convinced the political honeymoon would have lasted longer. Starmer has abolished winter fuel payments for all but a very few pensioners. Eighty percent of pensioners, who are getting the standard old age pension, will lose. The standard pension is £221.20 (€264.03) per week. I do feel personal about this. I am one of those pensioners. Social welfare was traditionally lower in the South. But even there, winter fuel payments continue. There is a sort of twisted genius about Starmer. His popularity has fallen by 45% since the election just over two months ago. Only 24% of voters approve of the job he's doing. Most new leaders usually have a honeymoon. That's because the great majority of people are fair-minded. They will give any new leader a chance. Starmer's achievement is particularly amazing. Compared to most new leaders, he started with big advantages. Rish Sunak was Prime Minister before him. Sunak was spectacularly unpopular. Now Sunak is 1% more popular than Starmer. More, the Conservatives had been in government for 14 years. They were seen as arrogant, corrupt and out of touch. Compare that to Simon Harris. Now, I care as little for Harris as I do for Sunak. Harris is in office nearly six months. Yes, his days of being unpopular will come. But he has a 55% approval rating. That has actually risen recently. Harris started at a disadvantage compared to Starmer. Yes, Leo Varadkar's popularity had slipped. However, he was nowhere near as unpopular as Sunak. And Harris is

In Starmer's case there are some personal factors. Starmer is spectacularly wooden. He doesn't seem to have any personal warmth. He doesn't even seem able to pretend he has any personal warmth. He is the complete stuffed shirt. But politics lie at the centre of his problems.

a member of the same party in the same Coalition. In Starmer's case there are some personal factors. Starmer is spectacularly wooden. He doesn't seem to have any personal warmth. He doesn't even seem able to pretend he has any personal warmth. He is the complete stuffed shirt. But politics lie at the centre of his problems. In the past Labour governments in Britain delivered real changes to people's lives. The 1945 Labour Government was one of the most reforming governments in history. There was a huge expansion of welfare benefits. The National Health Service was set up. Free Education was provided. That was at a time when Britain was recovering from World War Two. Over 200,000 houses had been destroyed in the War. Much infrastructure had also been destroyed. However, the Government decided that improving life for working-class people was a priority. That was before my time. I am, though, just about old enough to remember the Labour Government of 1964. Harold Wilson was no great radical. However, he launched a massive housebuilding programme. There was still much slum housing. A cousin was the only girl in her class at secondary school who had a bathroom and an indoor toilet. That was in North London. That Wilson

government ended conscription. (It was politely called National Service). He resisted American pressure to send troops to fight in Vietnam. Ireland, too, has the example of major reform in tough times. That was the Fianna Fáil Government of the 1930s. Mind you, Starmer never awoke enthusiasm. He polled half a million fewer votes than Jeremy Corbyn did in 2019. Apparently, of course, Corbyn was a disaster. Labour had to dump him as leader. Starmer is now in danger of being remembered. Exactly 100 years ago, the Cumann na nGaedhal government of the new Irish Free State cut five pence per week from the old age pension. That stayed in people's memories long after the pensioners who suffered had died. More, Starmer is cutting benefits to pensioners when taking gifts himself. He has declared receiving £100,000 (€120,055) in gifts and free tickets. That includes £12,000 (€14,407) worth of clothes from Lord Ali, and glasses worth £2,485 (€2,983). Lord Ali is a TV mogul. He has been described as the man who "perfected TV presented by morons for morons." This description may be unfair. It may also be true. Starmer's actions have a particular impact on the North. It is the third-poorest of 12 regions of the United Kingdom (UK). Thus the

cut to the fuel allowance will hit us disproportionately. Starmer has done other things to annoy people here. Yes, he has agreed to a public inquiry into the murder of Pat Finucane. He had little alternative. Twelve years ago. Conservative Prime Minister David Cameron said there was a "shocking level of collusion" in the murder. However, he has refused a public inquiry into the murder of Sean Brown. The Coroner at the Inquest said he could not continue because material was withheld due to 'national security'. He proposed a public inquiry. The Government has refused this. An inquest into the McKearney-Fox murders at Moy, Co Tyrone, was stopped over non-disclosure of sensitive intelligence. The coroner proposed a public inquiry. Again, this was refused. Then there is his attitude to the slaughter in Gaza. He said Israel had the right to cut off food, water and electricity. Treating civilians like that is a war crime in anybody's book. More, British military aircraft have also been flying over Gaza. It is believed they are passing intelligence



By Anton McCabe

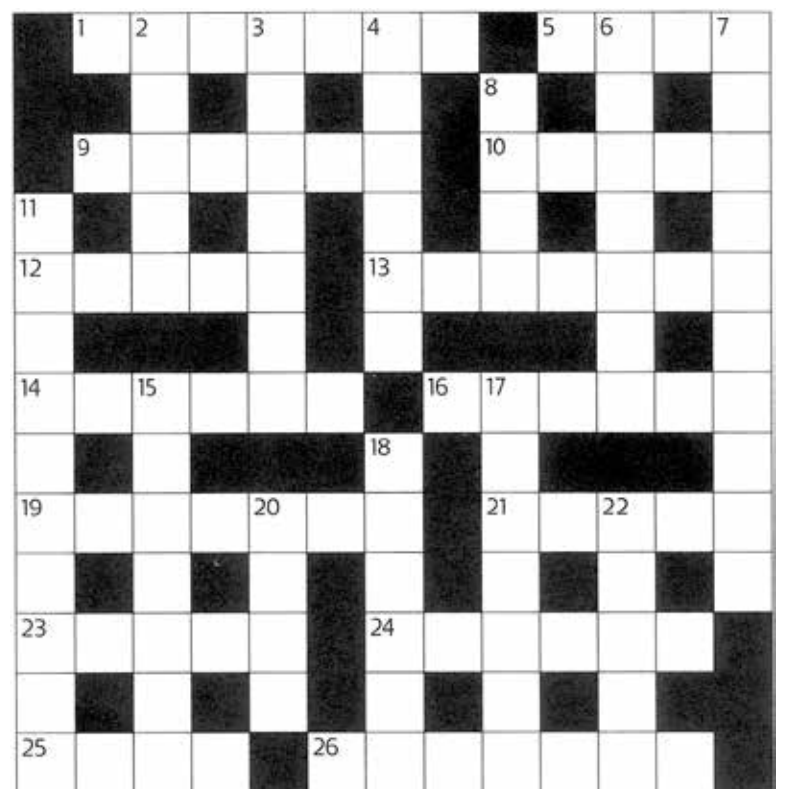
gathered to the Israeli regime. There is, of course, a difference between today's British Labour Party and the Labour of past times. One of the founders was Keir Hardie. He was a Scottish coalminer. Aneurin Bevan, too, had worked down the coal mines in Wales. He was the minister who introduced the National Health Service. Sometimes leaders gave no great example. Still, anybody would have to admit they were people of substance. In contrast, Starmer was a barrister. As such he was once Director of Public Prosecutions. It appears he was hand-picked to take out Corbyn. With a couple of exceptions, his Cabinet is from a similar stable. Thus it is little wonder his star has dimmed so quickly. How long till it goes out?

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Tribune Crossword No. 1083



- Across**
1. Tidal part of a river (7)
 5. Burnish (4)
 9. Halve (6)
 10. Giraffe-like animal (5)
 12. Indian currency (5)
 13. Sir Walter ____, explorer (7)
 14. Loathe (6)
 16. Heated (6)
 19. Doncaster horse race (2,5)
 21. Order of Greek architecture (5)
 23. Identical (5)
 24. Irish city (6)
 25. Eat out (4)
 26. Young hare (7)
- Down**
2. Be unduly thrifty (5)
 3. Futile (7)
 4. Homcoming (6)
 6. Element, symbol U (7)
 7. Aircraft-carrier's runway (6-4)
 8. Puddle (4)
 11. Wedding attendant (10)
 15. Author of *The Hobbit* (7)
 17. Within earshot (7)
 18. Crib (6)
 20. Multiplied (4)
 22. Hoist (5)

Solutions to Crossword No. 1082
Across 6. Confidential, 8. Nurture, 9. Rinse, 10. Elan, 12. Jumper, 14. Serum, 15. Treaty, 16. Kong, 19. Novel, 21. Trivial, 22. Dissatisfied. Down 1. Increase, 2. Sioux, 3. Peter, 4. Sternum, 5. Fawn, 6. Contestant, 7. Bedraggled, 11. Key, 12. Jug, 13. Prohibit, 14. Stylish, 17. State, 18. Topsy, 20. Vain.

Friends of LUH collection

The annual church gate collection in aid of The Friends of Letterkenny University Hospital will take place outside many churches in County Donegal on the weekend of Saturday and Sunday, 12th and 13th October. A Garda permit is issued for same as usual.

The Friends celebrate their 32nd anniversary this year and recently donated €380,000 to the hospital to purchase an Ultrasound Machine for Respiratory Medicine, a Double Balloon Assisted Enteroscopy System for Gastroenterology, a Contrast Pump Injector of Radiology & the Symp-

tomatic Breast Care Service, a Rezúme Prostate Treatment System and a Thulium Fibre Laser System for Urology Services.

These items of equipment will either enhance existing services in LUH or will enable the provision of new services locally, where patients had to travel outside LUH previously.

Recently, the Friends are cooperating with the HSE in the delivery of a pilot project for a defined period around the provision of transport for patients from Donegal who required to access services in UCHG in Galway.

Cathedral Quarter tenth anniversary booklet launch

The launch of Letterkenny Cathedral Quarter's tenth anniversary commemorative booklet will take place at Dillons Hotel on this Thursday, 26th September.

The event promises to be something of a red-letter day for the group as it marks a remarkable first decade for the Cathedral Quarter committee.

One of the main driving forces behind the initiative, Donnan Harvey said he was 'absolutely delighted' that his committee were now at the stage where they could reflect on a lot of hard work that had proved successful. Their main objective, he proclaimed, had been achieved.

While making it clear they had no intention of resting on their laurels - 'there was still a lot more to do' - Donnan stated:

The booklet, which charts all that has been achieved over the past decade, will be launched at 8pm on the 26th by Eugene McKeever MBE, Managing Director of the McKeever Hotel Group.

Committee Member Martin Gallagher put the booklet together with finishing touches added by chair Sean Purser from Wild Atlantic Productions & Digital Content Marketing. MC for the evening will be Brian Walsh from the Letterkenny Community and Heritage Group.



The Clanree Hotel Letterkenny

Country Sundays
Sun. 6th. Oct -

Gerry Guthrie



Doors Open 8.30pm. Dancing 9-11pm €15 Pay at door followed by music in McGettigan's Bar from 11pm.

Coming :- 27th Oct - Claudia Buckley; 3rd Nov. - Michael English



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TRADITIONAL GERMAN BEERS & FOOD · FUN & FESTIVITY

FRIDAY 27 & SATURDAY 28 SEPTEMBER

FRIDAY, from 4PM	SATURDAY, from 1PM
5-8pm DJ COOL C	3.30-5.30pm THE SOGGY BOTTOM BOYS
	6-8pm SHINDIG HOUSE BAND



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Ellie McSpadden, Louise McSpadden, Will McSpadden, Mary Sweeney and Liam Strain at the 'Walk in the Park for Parkinson's' which took place in Letterkenny Town Park last weekend. Photo Clive Wasson



Eileen Raily, Anne Kelly, Ann Glancey, Clodagh McGee, Michael McGlynn, Mary McGlynn and Andy McGlynn at the 'Walk in the Park for Parkinson's' which took place in Letterkenny Town Park. Photo Clive Wasson



Participants in the 'Walk in the Park for Parkinson's' which took place in Letterkenny Town Park and was supported by Home Instead Donegal. Photo by Clive Wasson

Ramelton

Sympathy

Deepest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Hugh McCahill, Church Street, Ramelton and formerly of Carrigwood, Firhouse, Dublin. Hugh passed away on Sunday at Letterkenny University Hospital. His funeral took place on Wednesday morning in St. Mary's Church, Ramelton with burial afterwards in the adjoining cemetery.

Boyce a starter for Derry City

After an injury lay-off Ronan Boyce started for the first time against Shamrock Rovers at the Brandywell on Friday night which ended 1-1 and keeps the Candystripes hopes of winning the Premier Division title very much on track. Boyce had come on as a sub in the FAI Cup quarter-final win over Shels the previous weekend. Derry are away to Drogheda Utd this Friday night.

McNamee on the mark in Cork

Tony McNamee was one of the Finn Harps goal scorers in Friday night's 2-2 draw with First Division champions Cork City at Turners Cross. Harps face another long journey this Friday to play Kerry F.C. in Tralee.

Swilly Lotto draw

Numbers drawn in the Swilly Rovers lotto last week were 4, 8, 15 and 20. No jackpot winner. One 3 number winner was David Hughes. This week's jackpot is €1025. Thanks for your continued support. The lotto is an essential fundraiser for the club and helps us manage the day to day expenses, be that training equipment, maintenance, electricity, insurance, referee's fees, players fees etc, etc. Every ticket sold is much appreciated and we thank you all for taking part.

Hat-trick for 16-year-old Kerr

Well done to 16-year-old Michael Kerr on scoring his first hat-trick for the Swilly rovers senior team in their 6-0 win over Culdaff in the first round of the FAI Junior cup last Sunday at Maginn Park, Buncrana. This Sunday Damian Friel's side open their Premier Division League campaign away to Keadue Rovers (kick-off 1.00).

Country Market

Ramelton Country Market will be in Ramelton Town Hall from 10.30am until 12.00 noon this Saturday 28th September. Stock up on all your food requirements for all Occasions and Parties by ordering in advance on 087 9699715 to ensure availability when you get to market on Saturday. The best of local homemade food with our wholesome soups, cottage pies, lasagne, quiche, meat pasties, seasonal vegetables, breads, scones, sweet treats and why not pop into our Tearoom for a delicious Cheese Toastie when you have done your shopping. Teas/coffees, scones & sweet treats, 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.

Sounds Music Camps

Sounds Music Camps return this September. Classes in Milford, Ray, Ramelton and Letterkenny. Under 8's will have an opportunity to explore key musical concepts through singing, percussion, fun and games. Ukulele classes for 8 years and older. Beginners are welcome and all instruments are provided. Contact Tracy on 085-1500123.

Ramelton Tennis

"After-school" tennis-coaching sessions resumed on Wednesday, at Ramelton Tennis Club. 9 year olds and under from 3.30 to 4.30, and 10 year olds and over from 4.30 to 5.30. All equipment provided. The fee for the 5 one-hour lessons is €20.00 per junior. Contact Mary at 087 9773957 for information.

Hatha Yoga Class

Hatha Yoga Class in the Town Hall Ramelton every Monday. The 4 Week Block Booking costs only €40.

The times are - Monday's 6:45pm ~ 8pm

Wednesday's Men Only Class 7pm ~ 8pm

Contact: Nuala on 087 6807850 for the start of the next 4 week block.

Hospice Coffee Morning Thank You

The organisers of the Donegal Hospice Coffee Morning held in the Makemie Hall, Ramelton on Friday morning would like to thank everyone for their support on the day. The total amount raised was €2,155 and will be presented to the Donegal Hospice.



Information sought on Ramelton grave damage

Gardaí are investigating a criminal damage incident where a family grave was damaged in Ramelton during the summer.

They say they are seeking the public's help and the matter has been extremely upsetting for the bereaved family.

The incident occurred at St. Mary's Church Graveyard in Ramelton on Friday, July 26th but the damage was only reported some weeks later.

Gardaí stated: "The damage was caused to a grave surround within the graveyard and it is believed to have happened in the morning time between 10am and 11am approximately. This is a very upsetting incident for the family involved and we are very anxious to progress the matter. If anybody has relevant information we ask them to make contact with Gardaí in Milford on 9153060."

New facilities granted for Swilly Rovers

Planning permission has been granted to Swilly Rovers Football Club for a range of new facilities including a spectator viewing area.

Conditional planning permission has been granted to the club following a successful application by club committee members Mick McGeever and Edward Diver.

It allows for the erection of modular structure for the purposes of spectator viewing area, toilet facilities and all associated site works at Swilly Park in Ramelton.

The conditions attached include that the work is carried out strictly in accordance with lodged plans, no surface water from site shall be permitted to discharge to public road, all sound trees, shrubs and hedgerow be retained and all electrical, ducted and cabled services be underground. The club, founded in 1929, are a non-profit making local community group working on behalf of the rural community to provide football from U-8 to Adult Junior level and all teams play in the Donegal Schoolboys League and Donegal Junior League.



Brandon Wilkie, son of Tara and Seamus Wilkie, Ramelton who graduated from Templemore Garda College on 20th September.

McFadden's King's Lynn draw



Kyle Callan-McFadden's King's Lynn F.C. drew 0-0 away to Hereford on Saturday. McFadden's side are back in action on Saturday against Darlington on turf at The Walk. King's Lynn are currently eight in the National League table with four wins, two draws and three defeats so far in the campaign.



and it is located within walking distance of the White Shore Beach and is described as a refurbishment opportunity.

The next auction is on the 17th of October with houses in Annagry and Letterkenny for sale and of course the Glencolmcille Hotel.

Big interest in Ramelton house but none in Glencolmcille Hotel

The online auction website www.bidx1.com held an auction last Thursday featuring Donegal properties.

The 11,312 square foot at Glencolmcille Hotel (below) was guided at €175,000 but the three hour auction attracted no bids and its still available. The former Hotel with a large land holding extending to approximately 0.72 hectares (1.80 acres) of land to the rear. The three storey, detached building is arranged to provide former hotel accommodation at ground, first and second floor level.

The property is situated on the R263 road, approximately 4km from Glencolumbkille village and 15 km from the Slieve League sea cliffs.

Meanwhile in Ramelton there was big interest in No. 5 Backlane, Ramelton (pictured right) which had an invited Opening Bid of €60,000. The end of terrace three bedroom house has a private garden to the rear and is located in Ramelton town centre convenient to a host of amenities. The property is arranged ground and first floor beneath a pitched roof and extends to approximately 80 sq. m.

In all there were 29 bids placed between four interested parties before selling



for €105,000 - €45,000 more than the reserve.

There was less competition for the three bedrooomed detached bungalow at Rinboy, Kindrum in Fanad (pictured right). The invited opening offer was €120,000. The auction opened at 8am and was due to close at 11am. The only bid of €121,000 was placed at 10.59.23am - 37 seconds before the 11am deadline to win the auction.

The house is 147sq metres and sitting on a site of 1.18 acres and has vacant possession. There is also a large storage shed situated to the rear



Creeslough singer joins Dubliners Encore



Creeslough musician, James Gallagher, (*pictured centre*) has been chosen by legendary fiddle player, John Sheehan, to join a new group to tell the story of the famous folk band The Dubliners to new generations.

by Eamonn McFadden

The troupe made a highly successful appearance on The Late Late Show along with Mr Sheehan and Phil Coulter just over a week ago.

James is a well-known figure in Irish music and has been based in Galway for many years.

Now the last Dubliner, John, has hand picked five musicians to tell the story of the greatest folk band of all time called "The Dubliners Encore" with James being the perfect fit to represent the legendary Luke Kelly.

"Luke has always been a massive influence on every aspect of my musical career and so I almost feel as if I have been preparing for this role my entire life," said James.

The news was welcomed locally with the Creeslough Community Association stating:

"Creeslough native and born stage performer James Gallagher plays Luke Kelly in the upcoming stage show The Dubliners Encore. This show recaptures The Dubliners Official performing in their heyday, packing 50 years of songs, stories, and craic into one unforgettable night. You were great on The Late Late Show, we wish you the best of luck and look forward to seeing the show soon".

A member of the band for 50 years, John has been working behind the scenes to create The Dubliners Encore to authentically bring The Dubliners story to life on stage, personally overseeing every detail, every anecdote, and every musical note. After a two-year nationwide search, he said five incredible musicians were handpicked to recreate the spirit, energy, and musical talent of each original band member. Featuring their biggest hits and best-loved songs, The Dubliners Encore recaptures the band performing in their heyday, packing 50 years of songs, stories, and craic into one unforgettable night.

SF selects Doherty and MacLochlainn



Deputies Pearse Doherty and Padraig MacLochlainn with Sinn Fein MP Pat Cullen at their selection convention in the Clanree Hotel, Letterkenny.

Sinn Fein in Donegal has selected their two Deputies in the constituency for the general election. There were no other candidates.

The Sinn Féin convention on Friday evening in the Clanree Hotel was hosted by the Sinn Féin MP for Fermanagh South Tyrone, Pat Cullen. A big number of delegates were present amid much anticipation of the general election.

In the 2020 General Election SF polled 12% more than the combined vote of FF. Pearse Doherty polled 21,044 and MacLochlainn was on 13,891 with a quota of 12,909.

Not surprisingly the Deputies were nominated by 12 local Sinn Féin cumainn.

Following the convention, Deputy Padraig MacLochlainn said: "People in Donegal have a choice to make at this election: Do they choose a government that has neglected this county for the longest time, or do they vote for real and positive change? That is the question that will be put

to people.

Do they vote for the ongoing neglect of our hospitals and health services, no affordable homes, rents and house prices beyond the reach of working families, a failed defective block redress scheme, or do they vote for a party that will work for them not against them?"

Deputy Pearse Doherty stated: "Over the last 5 years I've never missed the opportunity to put Donegal first. To argue the case for Donegal. To highlight how we have been left behind and what needs to be done.

Over the next five years I want to be part of leading the government - not arguing - but rather delivering for Donegal. Delivering for those who need reform of our health service, delivering houses for workers and families, delivering for those affected by defective blocks, delivering for coastal and farming communities and supporting our Gaeltacht communities.

Christmas at the Carrigart Hotel

CHRISTMAS PARTY NIGHTS
AND EVERYTHING THAT DELIGHTS THIS FESTIVE SEASON!

Christmas Party Nights

Saturday 7th December
The Blarneys

Friday 13th December
Kick the Can

Saturday 14th December
The Humble Earthworm

Price includes Canapes on arrival, 3 course meal and live entertainment with late disco. Deposit €15pp. Balance due to weeks prior to date.

Price per person €40

Christmas Party Menu

Brie & Cranberry Tartlet
With a Balsamic Reduction

Carrot & Coriander Soup
With Crusty Roll

Prawn & Apple Terrine Marie Rose

+

Traditional Roast stuffed Turkey & Ham
Slow roasted Silverside of Beef
Grilled Fillet of Salmon
with white wine and mushroom sauce

Char grilled Prime Irish Sirloin - Pepper Sauce
Vegetarian Thai Red Curry with Basmati Rice

Cointreau Orange Cheesecake
Fresh Strawberry Pavlova and Cream
Christmas Pudding - Brandy Custard

Please note there may be menu changes on the night.

Christmas Party Packages

Dine and Dream at the Carrigart Hotel

Why not relax and let us look after you this festive season. Book your Christmas Party with us and park up the car overnight while you dance the night away to one of our fantastic live bands.

Enjoy Bed and Breakfast plus your party night as follows:

- Double Room €139pps
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Book direct with Hotel reception on 00353 7491 55114 or online at www.carrigarthotel.com

Get in Touch with our Team today and let us advise you on hosting your next event.

Contact: Reception
Tel: 00 353 7491 55114
Email: info@carrigarthotel.com

VOUCHER *A Gift Voucher makes an ideal Gift*

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A new portrait on Letterkenny's Church Lane in memory of the late Jim Lynch. Jim was one of the driving forces behind the Cathedral Quarter project and was a huge part of the committee until his sudden death in September 2022. Ciarán Dunlevy did the artwork of Jim watering the flowers on the windows as he did often. Ciarán is pictured with another of the Cathedral Quarter's driving forces Donan Harvey.

It will be an important election. The first where people will go to the voting booths knowing that change is possible.

The old certainties are gone. A vote for Sinn Féin will be a vote for a change and for a new government with Donegal at its heart."

Paralympics' Shame

Played five, won five with each of their opponents blown off court by a vastly superior team. As Spain's intellectual disability team took to the court at the Sydney Paralympics they didn't just win basketball gold - they won it in style.

Yet as photos of the triumph appeared in papers back home and familiar faces were spotted it became clear that something was amiss. Within months the medals had been rescinded, the team disqualified, and the protagonists publicly shamed. An investigation confirmed that suspicions were well founded: of the twelve triumphant players, ten had no disability at all.

Fernando Vicente, vice-president of the Spanish Paralympic Committee was eventually convicted and found to have "devised and executed" the ruse whereby non-disabled players posed as those with intellectual impairments in order to take the gold. It must go down in history as one of the most despicable sporting moments of all time.

As well as villains there were many victims of the scandal. The opposition teams on the other end of humiliating thrashings are an obvious example but the ill effects rippled out significantly further. With the authorities determined to prevent such a callous form of cheating in the future they simply scrapped the intellectual disability category altogether meaning that athletes who genuinely met the criteria were prohibited from participating in the games for over a decade. Para-athletes who miss out still speak of their sense of betrayal today.

Fast forward to this year's Paralympics and history is repeating itself. Valentina Petrillo has qualified for the women's 200m and 400m competitions in Paris off the back of a stellar 2023 which included a bronze medal in the women's 200m World Championships. Which is strange given that Petrillo is a father of two who up until six years ago was racing in the men's category.

Watch the races and you'll see that it's an unfair

playing field. Petrillo is taller, stronger, and is likely to have higher lung capacity than any of his opponents. Were he still racing in the men's category, his times wouldn't have been close to enough to qualify for Paris, yet there he is, racing as a woman and leaving many of his opponents in the dust.

As in 2000, there are victims of the con. Lorraine Gomes de Aguiar had her eyeball removed as a child due to cancer of the retina. She missed out on both last year's world championships and the Paralympics semi-final by exactly one place because of Petrillo's decision to race in the women's event. How many other women will find their sporting dreams similarly crushed by masquerading men?

Why are the authorities too spineless to defy the activists and stand up for women? Why are they too afraid to say what everyone can see? Because they know the potential consequences if they refuse to play along with the ruse.

No doubt the cowardly administrators will be

Food for thought



Jonny McCollum

breathing a sigh of relief that Petrillo didn't win the gold. Yet when a faster runner finds the loophole there will be no more running from the issue.

5 Awards for Carrigart Boxers

The Radisson Blu Hotel Letterkenny was the venue for this year's Donegal Boxing Board Awards which were held on Saturday night. The club had 5 awardees on the night.

Carrigart's Club Boxer award went to Tommy Coll. Tegan McCarron picked up an award for winning a National title earlier in the year. Declan McCarron and Dymphna Gallagher were both recognised for completing their coaching course

while Thomas McCarron picked up the President's Cup for Referee/Judge of the year. Mikey Harkin also made the trip to Belfast on Friday for the Ulster Senior Championships. Mikey won his fight by second round stoppage to become Ulster Senior Novice Champion.

Training continues Monday, Wednesday and Friday. New members welcome.



Mikey Harkin with coaches Thomas Mc Carron and John Caldwell

Social Dance in Carrigart Hall

The monthly Social Dancing in Mevagh Hall Carrigart continues on Friday 4th October from 9.30 - 11.30pm. Music is by Sinead McLaughlin, admission is €10 and light refreshments served. All welcome.

Mevagh 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

Baby Massage: 5-week FREE programme, facilitated by Victoria Toyne starts on Tuesday 1st October from 10am - 11am. Suitable for babies 0-7 months (pre-crawlers). To book your place call the centre on 074 9155055.

Sew Smart - discover the possibilities with your sewing machine. Join our class "sewing machine for beginners and beyond" and complete the course with a lovely cushion cover starting Thursday 3rd October, 10.30AM - 12.30 PM, 5 WEEKS, Participants fee €35, Spaces limited. Booking essential: 074-9155055 or email: info@mevaghfrc.com

Art Class - At a loose end? Want to

get out of the house? Why not join our Art Class. Wednesday 9th October, 10.30am - 12.30pm, 10 weeks, €60, Spaces limited. Booking essential. Tel: 074 9155055 or email: info@mevaghfrc.com

Furniture Rejuvenation - with 'Brushed with Love' Tuesday, 8th October, 7pm to 9pm
Mevagh Family Resource Centre Downings, Duration: 6 weeks, Cost: €45
Transform your small piece of furniture with paint & other techniques Spaces limited. Booking essential
Tel: 074 9155055 or email: info@mevaghfrc.com

DLDC Employment Supports Clinic - Information on CV building, job searching, cover letters and interview skills. An Outreach Clinic will be held on Thursday 3rd October 11am to 1pm in Mevagh Family Resource Centre. For more information, contact Deirdre on 0873120139 or email resadmin@dldc.org

Health Support Outreach Clinic - assistance with form filling such as medical card applications, medical card renewals and updates. Contact Georgina on ggallagher@dldc.org or tel. 086 0133203 to book an appointment at Mevagh Family Resource Centre on Thursday, October 3rd from 10am to 1pm.

Senior Alert Scheme - Mevagh FRC

continue to assist individuals who require a personal monitored alarm. This alarm is for people aged 65+, of limited means. It enables older people to live securely and independently in their homes. The installation and equipment are free and if you connect to a landline, the monitoring is free for the first year. Charges apply to alarms set up via sim card. This initiative is part funded by Pobal. Please call in, or contact the centre for more information.

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

Other Notes:
Rise Yoga with Fiona is ongoing at Mevagh FRC. Chair Yoga - Mondays at 10.30am, Yin Yoga - Mondays at 11.45am. Contact Fiona directly on 085 1569424 or email risehealthhub@gmail.com

ALONE provides services to Older People to enable them to stay living at home for longer. Volunteers are needed in Downings and surrounding areas for two services: 'Visitation & Befriending Service' and 'Telephone Support & Befriending Service'. If you would like more info. contact Helena on 086 014 5829.

Arrest for Rathmullan driving incident

One driver was arrested following reports of alleged dangerous driving taking place in Rathmullan. Milford Gardaí say they received reports of a number of cars involved in dangerous driving in the Rathmullan area on Monday night.

They stated: "Gardaí arrested one driver in connection with the incidents and their car was seized as it had no NCT, tax or insurance. Thank you to the members of the public who contacted us in relation to this matter. Together, we will make the roads safer."

Save Ballyness Bay to seek judicial review on aquaculture licences

A group opposed to the granting of aquaculture licences for shellfish farming in Ballyness Bay in the Cloughaneely area say they are initiating judicial review proceedings. This comes after the Aquaculture Licences Appeals Board (ALAB) upheld the granting of 12 of the 14 licences originally granted by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine in November 2019. ALAB announced on May 22nd, 2024, its confirmation of the Minister's decision with some minor amendments, in respect of 12 of the licences granted, covering just over 20 hectares of the Bay. The action group formed following concerns raised at a public meeting in Falcarragh in August 2019 attended by over 700 people. The group says they will now seek a judicial review.

They stated: "The only means of challenging this decision by ALAB is legally, by way of a Judicial Review in the High Court. Having considered the matter carefully, and following legal advice, the Group has decided that it has an obligation to the community, in accordance with its original mandate, to pursue this cause as far as is possible." They added: "The Group has therefore initiated the process of a Judicial Review in the High Court. Since the issue is now subject to Court proceedings, we will be making no further comment on the matter until the Court has issued its judgement." They said they will be fundraising to meet the costs and more details can be found on their Facebook page and website <https://saveballyness-bay.com>.



Donegal Boxing Board I.A.B.A.
WELCOMES
OUR
AWARD WINNERS

L-R: Thomas McCarron, Tommy Coll, Tegan McCarron, Declan McCarron and Dymphna Gallagher

Anger at Cloughaneely area water outage - McClafferty

Water outages in Falcarragh and Derryconnor are causing considerable anger and the situation is expected to continue for a number of days before it is resolved, according to Cllr Micheal McClafferty.

He said the situation is seriously impacting local businesses. He said the water being off remains a serious issue this week

and "is expected to last into the days ahead I'm told". He stated: "Cafes, shops, local restaurants, hairdressers and all local businesses are feeling the strain now of not being able to open as normal. Irish Water are saying that millions are needed, including €60 million alone from the Rosses to Falcarragh to fix the pipe line alone is the quote."

Cllr Michael McClafferty said the incident involving a French national occurred at Tramore beach last weekend. He stated: "It was a very close call. He managed to save himself but only just. This beach is not that accessible from the public road as you have to walk quite a bit to it from a local carpark and under no circumstances is it safe for swimming."

Swim safety urged following close call

A tourist who got into difficulty while swimming at a remote beach near Dunfanaghy had a four hour ordeal in the water before he made his way to safety. This has prompted calls for vigilance from beach goers when swimming in unfamiliar lo-

Death of Hugh McCahill

The death occurred on Sunday of Hugh McCahill, Church Street, Ramelton and formerly of Carrigwood, Firhouse, Dublin. Aged 67, Hugh who passed at Letterkenny University Hospital was a much loved character in the local community and in Dublin where he resided for over 30 years. He moved from Ramelton to the Capital in 1987 and was a foreman with Liffey Developments. He returned to reside in Ramelton four years ago. From playing football as a small boy on the streets of Ramelton to a lifetime achievement award in Dublin the 'beautiful game' was a big part of Hugh McCahill's life for over 50 years. Ramelton was a hotbed of soccer in the 1960s. Hugh was smitten by the sport on Church Street where his parents Mary and Aloysius McCahill were football fanatics. He was a member of the Swilly Rovers squad that won a famous U16 Final at Finn Park in 1974.



After attending St. Mary's NS, Hugh went to Loreto Convent in Milford where the spirit of soccer was certainly in full flow with Fr. Dinny McGettigan and Sr. Columbanus key figures in promoting the game. He finished his secondary education at Milford Tech and headed to Gweedore to do a plastering course at ANCO the Industrial Training Authority. He stayed working in Gweedore for two years and then got a job on the maintenance staff at St. Conal's Hospital.

Hugh's love of Glasgow Celtic had been lifelong and he was a key figure in the regular trips to Parkhead in the 1970s and 80s. Hugh was also a Leeds Utd supporter in the era when Johnny Giles and Billy Bremner were household names. But, Leeds came second to his beloved Celtic. There were many big league, cup and European nights in Glasgow with the likes of his uncle Sonny Gallagher, Kissinger [John Coyle] and Jim Barker. Rathmullan.

Hugh became friends with George McCluskey and he was one of the players that came to the Stewart Arms Hotel and Milford Inn for functions hosted by the Ramelton Celtic Supporters Club. Others who travelled to the presentations were Roy Aiken, Tom McAdam, Frank McAvennie, Brian McClair and Packie Bonner.

When he moved to Dublin in 1987 Hugh became involved with Tallaght based Firhouse Clover, a new club that had been in existence for just 13 years. He was the ultimate volunteer, a fact acknowledged by Firhouse stalwart Denis Keily and the South Dublin Schoolboys League who honoured the Ramelton native with a Lifetime Achievement Awards in 2008. Only two other men had got that award before him. He had got involved in the SDSL as fixtures secretary.

Through the years Hugh was a key figure in fundraising for Firhouse Carmel F.C. and played a pivotal role in the development of the purpose built club facility which was opened in 2005 by former Republic of Ireland manager Brian Kerr. He became the Club Chairperson which was a labour of love. He did every job from lining the pitch to painting the clubhouse and he was there every Friday night for the lotto. His three sons Seamus, Sean and Aodhán and daughter Sorcha all played underage football with Firhouse. Hugh was a true community man and was also the sacristan at the Mount Carmel Church in Firhouse for a number of years.

For more than a decade he had to live with health challenges including cardiac surgery and COPD. But, Hugh looked on the bright side always and was delighted in June to meet up with members of the Swilly Rovers 1974 side at the St. Eunan's Nursing Home as part of the 50th anniversary celebrations. A number of those players along with friends from Dublin came to pay their respects at the funeral on Wednesday morning.

Hugh is survived by his family, Seamus, Aodhán, Seán and Sorcha, brother Jim, nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

Remains reposed at the residence of his brother Jim and Teresa McCahill, Church Street from Monday. Removal was from there on Tuesday to St Mary's Church, Ramelton for prayers and to repose overnight. Fr. Stephen Gorman C.C. Milford officiated at the Requiem Mass on Wednesday.

Before Mass his son Seán gave a description of symbols of Hugh's life that were brought forward by Jim, Sinead, Matthew and Cianan including a Celtic jersey, family photo, prayer book and a can of coke. Readings were by his son Aodhán and Roisin. After Holy Communion Hugh's son Seamus and daughter Sorcha shared memories of their father's life.

Music and hymns were by Patrick Shields. Hugh was laid to rest afterwards in the adjoining cemetery. Deepest sympathies are extended to Hugh's family and friends.

Death of Rose McDermott

The death has taken place in England of Rose Theresa McDermott, née Cannon, late of Birmingham and formerly of Magheraorty, Gortahork.

She passed away suddenly in Wolverhampton Hospital on Sunday September 15th and she has been remembered as a "loving wife and dear mother".

Predeceased by her parents Charlie and Ellen, her brother James Anthony, she is survived by her daughters Eve and Clara, her sister Geraldine, brother in law Hughie, nieces Laura and Charlotte, wider family circle and many friends.

Rose's remains will travel the Derryconnor Road, over Magheraorty hill and back to arrive at Christ the King Church, Gortahork at approximately 6.00pm on Friday, the 27th September, with Rosary on arrival. Funeral Mass on Saturday, the 28th September at 11.00am with burial afterwards in the family plot. Funeral Mass can be viewed on www.mcn.live/camera/christ-the-king-gortahork. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a hanam.

Funeral of Jimmy Gildea

The funeral took place on Sunday of Jimmy Gildea, Correnagh Letterkenny. Jimmy passed away on Friday at his home. Aged 72, Jimmy was a very well known and highly respected member of the local community. He was in the meat business all his working career starting off in Doherty's Butchers. Jimmy then set up his Swilly Meats based on Letterkenny's Pearse Road.

Paying tribute the staff at Swilly Meats said. "With a very heavy heart, we are devastated to announce the passing of an integral member of our team here at Swilly Meats. Jimmy's contributions have been instrumental to our success and his absence will be profoundly felt by everyone at Swilly Meats."

Jimmy Gildea was also a familiar face running the roads and took part in many events in the colours of Letterkenny Athletic Club. LAC extended their condolences to the family. "Jimmy was a long time member of the club throughout the years as both a competitor and a steward. He will be sadly missed. His passing will leave a huge void in our daily lives." Jimmy's remains reposed at the family residence in Correnagh from Friday.

Funeral was from there on Sunday to the Church of the Irish Martyrs, Ballyraine for Requiem Mass which was celebrated by Fr. Ciaran Harkin P.P. Music and hymns were by Catriona Murray. Interment took place afterwards in New Leck Cemetery.

Jimmy is survived by his wife Marian, son Mark (Karina) and daughters Tanya (Paul) and Laura, ten grandchildren, brothers Charlie, Vincent, Brendan, Danny and Laurence, sisters Elenor McGill and Ann Toner, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews and a wide circle of family, friends and neighbours. He was predeceased by his parents Packie and Mary Jane, sister Josephine Sweeney and brother Patsy. Deepest condolences are extended to the family circle.

Death of Yvonne Murphy

The death occurred on Monday of Yvonne Murphy, Templetown, Carlingford, Co. Louth. Yvonne was formerly a member of the McGettigan family of Kilconnell Glebe, Kilmacrennan. Aged 62 she passed away peacefully, in Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda. After attending Kilmacrennan National School, Yvonne received her secondary education at Loreto Convent, Milford. She went to do General Nursing and worked in Crumlin and Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda and later in the community health service.

The Cooley Kickhams GAA Club extended their deepest sympathies to the family and friends of Yvonne where she was a big part of the club and local community. She was a regular visitor back to her native Kilmacrennan. Yvonne had many friends locally going back to her school days in Milford.

She was predeceased by her parents William and Sheila. Yvonne will be sadly missed by her husband Harry, son Cormac, sister Deirdre, brothers Eamon, Denis, Liam and Kevin, her brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nephews, nieces, aunts, uncles, cousins, extended family and many friends.

Remains reposed at the family home in Templetown from Monday. Removal was from there on Wednesday to St. James' Church, Grange for Requiem Mass. Burial took place afterwards in the adjoining cemetery. Deepest condolences are extended to the family circle.



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for Boys and Girls!

Come and join the fun at our FREE basketball taster sessions at **Ray Community Centre**! Whether you're new to the game or just looking to improve your skills, this is the perfect opportunity to try out basketball in a fun and friendly environment.

Dates:

Tuesday 1st October & Tuesday 8th October

Session Times:

U6 (2019/20) : 5:00pm - 5:30pm

U8 (2017/18) : 5:30pm - 6:10pm

U10 (2015/16) : 6:10pm - 7:00pm

All skill levels are welcome! Don't miss out on this fantastic chance to try basketball for free.

Location: Ray Community Centre

See you on the court!

Death of Ryan Chan



The death took place on 11th September in Albufeira, Portugal of Ryan Chan, Letterkenny. Aged 29 Ryan was a well known member of the local community especially through the family Tin Tai restaurant business at Lower Main Street.

In his homily Fr. Eamonn Kelly spoke about Ryan's sudden and untimely

death being such a shock for his family and friends. Fr. Kelly said Ryan had packed a lot into his life with family and work. He also had other interests including hunting, fishing, golf and darts. Ryan was also a loyal Liverpool F.C. supporter and their anthem "You'll Never Walk Alone" was sung at the end of the Requiem Mass before he was brought to his final resting place in Conwal Cemetery.

Ryan is survived by his partner Megan and their children Ezra and Eli, mother Frances, father Bobby and his wife Yvonne, brother Connor, grandmothers, aunts, uncles, cousins and a wide circle of family, friends and neighbours.

Remains reposed at his mother Frances' home at Kilty Court, Letterkenny, from Saturday. Funeral was from there on Monday to the Church of the Irish Martyrs, Ballyraine, Letterkenny for Requiem Mass which was celebrated by Fr. Eamonn Kelly P.P. Raphoe. Concelebrant was Fr. Ciaran Harkin who said the Final Prayers of Commendation with Fr. Kelly. Music and hymns were by the Hughes sisters. Interment took place afterwards in Conwal Cemetery. Deepest sympathy is extended to the family circle.

The late Anna McMullan

Communities in Belfast and Donegal are mourning the passing of Anna McMullan (née Larkin) of 60 Diamond Gardens, Belfast.

Anna passed away peacefully after a short illness surrounded by her loving family last Friday. She will be dearly missed by her family and friends in Belfast and also her friends in Kilmacrennan, Donegal and Marble Hill in particular, held a special place in Anna's heart.

Anna was the granddaughter of Kate McGinty and Patrick Larkin from Termon. She spent many holidays and summers in Termon with her parents, Patrick and Lilly Larkin. Later, she and her family enjoyed countless visits to their house in Riverbank, Kilmacrennan. Anna is the wife of Pat, mummy of Stephen, Paula-Jane, Martin, Andrea and Michael, a granny to her 12 grandchildren and a mother-in-law. Anna is reposing at her family home for those wishing to call and pay their respects. Anna will leave her family home on Friday 27th September for 10am Requiem Mass in St Anne's Church. Cremation Service to follow in Antrim and Newtownabbey Crematorium at 12 noon.



Change of Milford Mass Times

Mass Times in St Peter's Church, Milford and Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Kerrykeel will change from this weekend Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th September and will be on a trial basis until March 2025.

The weekend Masses will be changed to the

following: St Peter's Church, Milford: Saturday evening at 6.00pm and Sunday morning at 11.00am. Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Kerrykeel - Sunday morning at 9:30am.

Mass times in St Peter's Church, Milford on Thursday 26th September at 10am; Friday 27th September at 10am; Saturday 28th September at 6pm; Sunday 29th September at 11.00am.

Mass times in Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Kerrykeel on Sunday 29th September at 9.30am.

Wedding
Newman University Church, 87 St Stephen's Green, Dublin was the setting on Saturday for the marriage of Kieran McLaughlin, Milford and Clare McCourt, Lexlip, Co. Kildare. Kieran is the son of Patrick McLaughlin and Jacqueline Sharkey and Clare is the daughter of Charles and Ma-

rie McCourt. Bestman was Conor Meakin, friend of the groom and the Maid of Honour was Fiona McCourt, sister of the bride. The ceremony was officiated by Fr. Michael Troy, O. Carm and the Wedding Reception was held in Fallon & Byrne Exchequer Street, Dublin. The couple are spending their honeymoon in Zanzibar.

Sympathy
Deepest sympathy is extended to James Comiskey, Aisling, Shea and Aoife, Mulroy Court, Milford and extended family on the death of James's father Seamus Comiskey, Greenfield Road, Lisnamult, Roscommon Town on 20th September.

Cash for Clobber Fundraiser
Scoil Mhuire National School, Milford are hosting a Cash for Clobber Fundraiser in the school until this Thursday 26th September.

All parents/guardians and people in the community are welcome to contribute their used or unwanted clothing items. Place these items in a strong bin bag.

Items which can be donated: All items of general clothing; Old schoolbags, Shoes (tied in pairs), Hats and Belts, Towels and Curtains. For hygiene reasons pillows and duvets are not accepted. Drop Off at Scoil Mhuire Milford School Gate each morning on Monday 23rd til Thursday 26th September between 9.15am - 9.30am. If these times do not suit, please contact the school office on 074 91 53494 to arrange another drop-off time.

AIM Support Worker
The Milford Community Playgroup are looking for a AIM Support Worker. Its for 19.5 hours per week and Level 5 is the minimum qualification.

Contact Jackie Strain on 086 3818943 for further details.

Sounds Music Camps
Sounds Music Camps return this September. Classes in Milford, Ray, Ramelton and Letterkenny. Under 8's will have an opportunity to explore key musical concepts through singing, percussion, fun and games. Ukulele classes for 8 years and older. Beginners are welcome and all instruments are provided. Contact Tracy on 0851500123

Milford United
Milford United Senior team will begin their League campaign on Sunday 29th September away to Glenea United at 1pm.

The Seniors defeated Ramelton Mariners in the first round of the FAI Junior Cup on Saturday last by 5 goals to 3. Goal scorers were Joey Cullen, Killian McBride, Finn Coll, Niall Murray and Corey Lee McConigley.

Social Dancing Milford Hall
Social dancing continues in the Milford Hall on Thursday nights from 8pm to 10pm with a good



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New build sought for Loreto Milford

Planning permission is being sought for a significant new school building at Loreto Community School on Convent Road, Milford.

The application has been made by the Board of Management of Loreto Community School care of Principal Margaret O'Connor.

It is seeking a new 1,951.2 square metre two storey school building, containing eleven general classrooms, special teaching rooms for science, art and business studies, offices, toilets, stores, and plant rooms. It also seeks a first floor bridge link to the existing school building, a roof mounted photovoltaic panel system for compliance with Part 1 of the building regulations and all associated site works including new landscaping, external steps to existing grass play, and associated site development and service infrastructure works.

mix of Two Hand, Ceili and Line Dancing. Light refreshments. €5 entry. Everyone welcome.

Mission Hall
Speakers at the Milford Mission Hall which takes place on the first Sunday of each month at 8pm

are: October No Services; Sunday 3rd November Harvest Service with Bishop David McClay.
Golf Society
The Hi-da-way Golf Society held David Bonner's Captain's Day on Saturday 21st September in Sandy Hills, Rosapenna and the winners were 1st Gary Sheehan (14) 40pts, 2nd Damien O'Donnell (17) 40pts, 3rd Donal McCafferty (10) 37pts, 1st Nine Peter O'Donnell 20pts, 2nd Nine David Bonner 20pts, Longest Drive Brian Forest, Nearest the Pin Paucir Curley. Contact Captain David Bonner 085 8320260 or Eugene McCafferty 087 7704149 for further details.

Activities at the Gallowglass Centre
The Gallowglass Community Centre is thrilled to unveil its Autumn schedule, packed with a variety of activities designed to engage and inspire the community. Classes which are taking place are Baby-Toddler Group: Conversational English: Men's Pilates: Active Retirement Contact Emma Doherty directly on 086 7707586; Line Dancing; Pilates CL Wellness: Healing Flow Yoga: Antenatal Classes: Milford Yarns: Move2TheBeat: Phone Photography/Digital Skills: Sounds Music Workshop: Community Choir: Scouting Ireland Info and Sign-Up: Jane Watt Chair Yoga: Social Dancing. Weekends are available for party and event bookings, providing a versatile space for community gatherings.

Upcoming Health and Wellness Events, the centre will host a Women's Health and Wellness Event on October 20, followed by a Men's Health and Wellness Event on November 21st.

For bookings and more information, contact Emma Lou at emmalou@mrcr.ie or call 074 9153736. Follow on Facebook and Instagram for the latest information and updates.

Employment support
DLDC Employment Support can help long term unemployed to get back into full time employment, identify training opportunities, prepare CV and fill out application forms and much more.

So if you wish to avail of our service The Outreach Officer will be in attendance in Milford & District Resource Centre, Main St, Milford on Wednesday 2nd October from 2-4pm. No appointment necessary.

Further enquiries to Mary on 087 9926681. This Service is supported by DLDC and is free and totally confidential.

Milford Yoga
Yoga Beginners Courses continues every Tuesday and Saturday at 10.45am. €60 for 6 week course. To book contract: WhatsApp: 0863745972 or FB: Diane Bliss Yoga Studio, Kilmacrennan Road, Milford.

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Milford AC U16 mixed relay at the Donegal Cross Country on Sunday at the Finn Valley Centre in Stranorlar, Lily Gallagher, Bronagh Loughrey, Odhran Carterson and Zach Ferry.



Milford AC U12 mixed relay: Roise Farren, Laura Boyce, Lochlainn McBride, Oisín O'Donnell.



Milford AC U14 mixed relay, Daithi Carterson, Walter Dill, Ava Boucher and Ella Coyle.



Milford AC juvenile athletes who competed in the County Cross Country Relays in Finn Valley on Sunday.

Milford AC coach appeal



Donegal Athletics Board Award Winners from Milford AC: Tiernan Kerr, Walter Dill, Laura Boyce, Deava Diver, with coaches Kathleen Harrison and Joe Boyce.

Milford Athletic Club is going from strength to strength recently, but with big numbers of juveniles now attending training. They have put out an appeal for more coaches.

"We are in need of more coaches! We are appealing to members of our local community to join our coaching team. We have a great coaching

team at the minute, who would be only too happy to welcome you to our Club! No experience necessary, just an interest in working with children. We would be delighted to have you, please get in touch via our Facebook page 'Milford AC Juveniles'. Looking forward to hearing from you." they say.

Playgroup celebrates 40 years

Milford Community Playgroup will celebrate 40 years and invite all staff, pupils and parents, past

and present to join them in celebrating 40 wonderful years and a trip down memory lane.



The new date and venue is Saturday 2nd of November at the Milford Community Playgroup building at the bottom of the town on the Moyle Road. All welcome to pop in anytime between 2pm and 5pm for a catch up, photograph displays, fun and light refreshments.

Pictured left, is a group from a few years ago with Jackie Strain and there will be many more photos on display at the 40 years celebrations.



Donegal Down Syndrome Association

CARS & COFFEE

SUNDAY 13th OCTOBER 12 noon – 2pm
CARRIGART PAROCHIAL HALL
DONATIONS WELCOME AT THE DOOR. TICKETS WILL BE ON SALE FOR A RAFFLE.

Cooler Cranford Community Centre

Fitness Classes Ladies only fitness classes commencing October 8th 6.15-7.15, Tuesdays and Thursdays €60 for a 6 week block. Suitable for all levels. To book your place contact Maggie on 0879252181 Men only fitness classes commencing October 1st 7.30 -8.30, Tuesdays and Thursdays €60 for a six week block. Suitable for all levels. To book your place contact Michael on 0879252181. Disco The committee of the Cooler Cranford Community Centre are organising a fundraising Adult fancy dress Disco on Friday 25th October in Logues of Cranford with D.J John Bosco. Admission €10, Raffle and prizes to be won on the night.

Tidy Towns News

Milford Tidy Towns have taken delivery of a new storage container with the support of Seamus Kelly from 'Kelly Property Development Ltd'. Seamus and his family recently moved back to Milford from The Carribbean. Seamus has a keen interest in being involved with and supporting community activities. Milford Tidy Towns extends best wishes to Seamus and his family on their new life in Milford. Pictured from left are Victor Graham, Milford Tidy Towns, Micheal Cullen, Milford Tidy Towns, Jason McGeehan, Kelly Property Development Ltd., James Gibbons, Frank Gibbons, Milford Tidy Towns, Andrew Burke, Milford Tidy Towns and Seamus Kelly, Kelly Property Development Ltd.

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Portsalon Golf Club

Junior Scratch secures Strabane showdown
 Congratulations to the Donegal Junior Scratch Matchplay team who made the most of home advantage on Sunday afternoon to win their semi-final tussle with North West GC. Under the leadership of skipper Dermot Shields, the Portsalon team dominated and won the first three matches, ensuring the final two were called in whilst in strong positions. North West had overcome Murvagh just 24 hours earlier to take their place in the last-four and it was always going to be a tough ask for the Lisfannon team to concede home advantage with the semi-finals and final pencilled in this year for the neutral venue in Portsalon. Dermot's team consisted of Kevin Boyce, Cathal Canning, Patrick McGowan, Daniel Shields and Davitt Walsh and each member of the panel stood up to the test on Sunday with some exceptional golf that wouldn't have been out of place



Vice Lady Captain Roisin McCormack presenting Anne Speedie with the 2024 Past Captain's Trophy

in the Senior Scratch semi-finals out in front of them. Their reward is a place in the final this coming Sunday, September 29th, against the defending champions Strabane GC. It certainly won't be easy to topple Strabane, but once more the matches will be played in Portsalon, giving the team that best possible start. They tee off at 1.30pm on Sunday in Portsalon and all support is welcome for Dermot and his team.

Seniors out of luck

It was a busy day for team golf on Sunday but, alas, no success for our Senior Scratch Matchplay team or the Donegal Seniors. Stephen Connolly's Senior Scratch Matchplay ran into a strong Strabane team and, despite the home advantage, couldn't get the verdict in their semi-final as Strabane booked a date with defending champions Gweedore in the final. Joe Hensey has led his Donegal Seniors admirably all summer but they were also foiled at the final hurdle on Sunday afternoon by Cloughaneely. The first leg of the final ended all square in Portsalon, 2.5 matches apiece, ensuring it was very much advantage to the Falcarragh team for the second leg. Despite the best efforts of Captain Joe and his team, it was not to be as Cloughaneely won four matches at home. Commiserations to both Portsalon teams on their defeats.

Club Results

Wednesday 18th September - Winner: Bernard McGettigan (31) - 43 pts; Runner-up: Kyle Loughrey (23) - 42 pts; Gross: Jack Patton (2) - 34 gross pts; Third: Niall Blaney (25) - 40 pts.

Saturday 21st September - Winner: Mark Cohen (21) 43 pts; 2nd: Alan O'Doherty (13) 42 pts; Gross: Shane Magee (2) 31 gross pts; 3rd Eunan McGlynn (12) 41 pts.

Sunday 22nd September - Winner: Joe Gallagher (17) - 41 pts; Runner-up: Marty Doran (31) - 39 pts BOT; Gross: Shane Magee (1) - 29 gross pts; Third: John Shields (15) - 39 pts.

Portsalon Ladies

Matchplay Singles Final

The final of the ladies' singles Matchplay took place between Mary Barrett and Deirdre O'Toole on Tuesday 17th September. I can only quote Mary Barrett who summed up the match as follows - "When Deirdre O'Toole is on her game, she is unbeatable!" The ladies shook hands on the 14th green at the end of a wonderful match. Deirdre O'Toole played an incredible match to win the 2024 singles Matchplay title and many congratulations from everyone to her.

Past Captain's Day

Anne Speedie got the measure of the course very quickly and by the back 9 was sinking putts unashamedly. While Brighidin Hawke gave her a run for her money up to the 18th, it was Anne who returned the best score of 42pts to win the Ladies Past Captains Trophy 2024. Brighidin came runner up with an excellent 40pts.

Ladies Winter Links

The ladies winter links kicks off on Thursday 26th September. There are still a few tee times available. Call the club on (074) 915 9459 to book. Play in Pink Ladies Open Friday 4th October is the ladies play in pink Open with funds raised going to Breast Cancer Research. All funds from the ladies October Re-Entry are also being donated to this worthy cause.

Results

Past Captains: Winner - Anne Speedie 42pts; Runner-Up - Brighidin Hawke 40pts

Hole-in-one for Liam on par 4



Last Saturday Rathmullan Celtic held a 3 ball scramble at Otway Golf Club. One golfer, Liam McAteer, produced a once in a lifetime golf shot when he had a hole in one at a par 4. Otway is one of the most picturesque golf courses in Ireland and playing the scenic second hole on the back 9, Liam hit a magnificent hole in one at the 210 yard par 4.

'With my two playing partners already on the green there was no pressure, so I just stood up and aimed over the beach and hit a 3 wood towards the green. The ball landed to the right of the green and rolled down the slope into the hole. Ronan shouted it's in the hole but I thought it might have rolled past. He ran on up to the green and

called back 'you got a hole in one at a par 4!'

Not many golfers including professionals have had a hole in one at a par 4. It's called an albatross and it's a golf shot Liam will never forget. The Club awarded a monetary prize for the hole in one which was donated to SVDP.

The prize winners on the day were 1st Damian Gallagher, Mo Kelly, Eamonn Sheridan; 2nd Enda McElhinney, Johnny Shiels, Donal Callaghan. 3rd Michael Crossan, Charlie Coughlan, Martin O'Reilly. Longest Drive men: Ronan McAteer. Longest Drive ladies: Orla Gallagher. Nearest the pin: Aodh McCormack.



Past Lady Captains in Portsalon Golf Club L-R Brighidin Hawke, Mary Barrett, Sarah Nicholl, Anne Speedie, Roisin McCormack, Karen McGlinchey, Mae Blaney, Sheila Horner.



Winners of the Rathmullan Celtic FC Golf Classic at Otway Golf Club are Eamon Sheridan, Damian Gallagher and Mo Kelly.

Sunday Members Competition: Winner - Marian Overend 38pts; Runner-Up - Anne Busch 37pts.

Letterkenny Ladies

Thursday 19th September - Winner Angela Bradley (14) with 39pts; Runner up Lorna Reynolds (30) with 37pts BOT; 3rd Mary O'Brien (52) with 37pts; Front 9 Katrina Rainey (34) with 23pts; Back 9 Sarah Buchanan (36)

with 18pts BOT.

Team News

The 1st Leg of the Maire O'Donnell final took place on Sunday 22nd September. The Letterkenny Team, captained by Triona Daly and Anne Mc Grath won 4 matches against Gweedore and the return leg will be played in Gweedore in October. Well done to the Maire O'Donnell team and thank you to all of the supporters.

Charlie chops his handicap to single figures

Congratulations to St. Eunan's College pupil Charlie Patton who finished top of the leaderboard on Tuesday last at the Golf Ireland Ulster Schools Boys Golf Competition

which was played at Omagh Golf Club.

13yr old Charlie, playing off a seven [7] handicap on the day, returned a magnificent score of +3 on a card



Picture shows Charlie Patton, St. Eunan's College pupil, teeing off at Omagh Golf Club on his way to winning the prestigious Golf Ireland Schools Boys Championship Qualifier.

which hosted four [4] birdies and which has seen his club handicap at Letterkenny Golf Club reduced to the single figure of 9.

Charlie, who has been a member of Letterkenny GC Junior / Juvenile golf programme, is coached by local PGA Professional Seamus McMonagle and is the son of renowned single figure handicapper Seamus Patton. Charlie will now represent Ulster Schools Boys and St. Eunan's College in the All-Ireland GUI Ulster Schools Boys Golf competition, date and venue tba.



Pictured are the winners from Paddy Delaps Presidents Day for the Drum Bar Golf Society.



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St. Joseph's National School

is now taking Enrolments

Inviting parents to
call school office 0749158388 or
email stjosephsrathmullan123@gmail.com
to request an enrolment form and package.

IMPORTANT:
Application and decision dates for admission to St. Joseph's N.S. for school year 2025/2026

The following are the dates applicable for admission to Junior Infants next year.	
Fri 4th Oct 2024:	The school will commence accepting applications for admission
Fri 25th Oct 2024:	The school shall cease accepting applications for admission
Fri 15th Nov 2024:	The date by which applicants will be notified of the decision on their application
Fri 6th Dec 2024:	The period within which applicants must confirm acceptance of an offer of admission














Rathmullan

Annual Harvest Thanksgiving
Harvest Thanksgiving Service will take place in Rathmullan Presbyterian Church on Sunday, 29th September at 7.30pm, with Rev David Brice preaching and a selection of special items of praise. Refreshments afterwards and everyone welcome to attend.

Tidy Towns
We're very grateful to all who support our endeavours in making Rathmullan a better place for everyone to live in and enjoy all that it has to offer. As a result of the good weather during last week, there were huge crowds enjoying the high tides and the beaches, but again, littering on the beach and around the leisure areas were still a problem. Broken glass on the pavements was really dangerous, especially for anyone walking to the pubic convenience barefoot, so please tread carefully. As volun-

teers, we try our best but we need everyone to play their part too, as we are not there twenty four seven. If the bins are full, then take your waste home.

United Nations SDG's were designed to increase global prosperity, tackle inequalities and protect the environment. An annual week of action, awareness, and accountability, with various activities takes place from 20th to 29th September to highlight these Goals, locally and nationally. We can all help by understanding that making small changes ourselves can have a ripple effect and impact globally. For example, adjust settings on appliances to economy mode or switch to off peak electric; use more LED lighting. Did you know that Ireland produces the highest volume of plastic waste per person in the EU, while having the fourth worst recycling rate, and that it also takes up to 500 years for some plas-

tics to decompose. Stop using Single Use Plastic bottles and change to BYO, using tap water or Refill stations. The same with Take Away Coffee cups. These simple actions can all help to reduce usage and save money, as well as decreasing emissions. Check it all out online.

The Tidy Towns Annual General Meeting will take place on Wednesday 9th October in the St Vincent de Paul Centre, at 7.30pm and everyone is welcome to attend, where the Annual financial accounts will be presented along with a report of the past year's activities.

St Joseph's School Annual BBQ
Congratulations to all involved and the parents Association for the fabulous Family BBQ held at Ray Community Centre last Friday, when everyone had the opportunity to say 'Farewell' to Principal Alma, and officially welcome Principal Oonagh to her new position. Best wishes to both of you in your respective positions from all in the Rathmullan community.

Rathmullan Celtic 50/50 Draw
The monthly draw will take place this Saturday, 28th September and tickets are available from the usual outlets or online options: Paypal: paypal.me/RathmullanCelticFC or Revolut: Enda McElhinney, on 086 401 9256, Cain Connolly on 086 348 9941 or Mark Curran on 086 873 2749. All tickets will be confirmed either by email or text, and thank you for your continued support.

St Vincent De Paul
Any time of year can be difficult and challenging for some people, so don't forget the local St Vincent de Paul are always available to help out in times of need, so contact the Confidential number 087 698 2822. Vincent's Charity Shop also takes donations of used small household items, bric a brac, books and clean used clothing, while also stock a huge selection of clothing.

Naas double for Dylan



Dylan Browne McMonagle with family members following his Group 1 winner.

Dylan Browne McMonagle was amongst the winners at Naas on Thursday, taking the five-furlong nursery with Tommy McJohn. Sent off 10/3f, the Patrick Sheanon owned gelding stayed on best to win by one-and-a-half lengths for trainer Michael O'Callaghan. McMonagle later completed a double when guiding the Natalia Lupini trained Call Me Captain to a three-quarter-length win in the seven-furlong maiden. Owned by Mrs

Mary Turley, the winner was sent off 18/1. Dylan Browne McMonagle won the featured Group 3 nine-furlong race at Gowran Park on Saturday with Je Zous. Trained by Joseph O'Brien, the 17/2 chance kept on best in the colours of Go Racing Limited to beat One Look one-and-three-quarter-lengths. Last week the Letterkenny jockey had his 300th winner including the Group 1 Champions success.

Disabled Drivers Scheme not fit for purpose - Bradley

FG Donegal General Election candidate calls for changes to eligibility criteria for primary medical certs The Disabled Drivers and Disabled Passengers Scheme (DDS) should be replaced with a needs-based, grant-led approach for vehicle adaptations, a Fine Gael Senator has said. She said, there needs to be a widening of the eligibility criteria by which people with disabilities can obtain primary medical certs (PMC) within the scheme. "The DDS aims to assist those with disabilities to make adaptations to their cars through government tax breaks. To get access to this scheme they need a PMC. "The PMC provides relief from vehicle registration tax and VAT, as well as an exemption from motor tax and an annual fuel grant. It is only open to those deemed severely and permanently disabled, as a driver or passenger. The current criteria set out has not changed since the 1960's and lists only 6 conditions that qualify but doesn't include those with single-arm amputations for example. "If an applicant is turned down, they have only 28 days to appeal the decision to the Disabled Drivers Medical



Board of Appeals. There are also serious delays to the appeals process, with hundreds of applicants looking for their rejected application to be reviewed. I've heard so many stories of people who have failed to qualify as their disability isn't seen as 'severe' enough to warrant adaption. This is appalling and leaves so many in distress. "There are too many people still being denied access to vitally important PMCs. We need a review of this archaic system. Those living in rural areas are particularly negatively impacted by the strict criteria as they don't always have access to public transport. "Maintaining independence and living an active lifestyle is key for people with disabilities, so it's essential that we do everything we can to support drivers with disabilities. "The Minister for Finance and Minister of State for Disability need to come together to make reforming this scheme an urgent priority. We must introduce a rights-based approach, we cannot see the continuation of people with disabilities not qualifying for something they so desperately need", concluded Senator Bradley.

A Rathmullan Woman in exile...

Underwhelming experience in a local restaurant

It's been a mixed fortnight of funerals and fun times. The brewery was closed for a spell and my entire family had taken advantage of the down time and headed off to various destinations, both home and abroad, for a welcome break. When I headed up to Rathmullan for my fortnightly business and pleasure trip, I was greeted by empty houses and dogs being minded by Sile from Ennis. She had brought her own dog Jasper, an Irish terrier, with her for the dog and house sitting excursion. Jasper had originally been Libby and Rick's dog but he showed an unquenchable interest in other people's sheep, so he was re-homed very happily in Ennis with Sile and Conor.

As terrible misfortune would have it, Jasper became very ill on his holidays and sadly passed away in the vet's clinic in Letterkenny. Thankfully, some members of my family had returned from their holls and Conor travelled up from Ennis to support Sile through the burial of her beloved companion in the garden where he had started his life eleven years earlier.

In the days before that sad event I had taken Mark and Nicolle for a post-Roman-holiday-disaster evening out. We went to a local restaurant where a group of us had previously eaten. We were unanimously underwhelmed by the quality of the food that time, but put it down to teething problems and said we'd give it a second chance at a later date. Regrettably, when we gave it that second chance recently it remained over priced for very mediocre fare. I had a small steak, medium rare (allegedly), which was comparable in texture to the sole of a farmer's wellington, but sadly lacked any of the flavour. Nicolle had a pizza which she said was "OK", but left unfinished. Mark had a pasta dish which he ate while describing it as bland and uninteresting. Despite the disappointing meal we had an enjoyable time, thanks to good company and chat in pleasant surroundings. When I paid the bill I mentioned the poor quality of the steak to the manager; he replied that "you're up against that with steak".

No apology, no attempt at rescuing the situa-

Two dolls headed off on a tour of west Donegal. Having driven around all morning they fancied a coffee and spying a quaint, thatched cottage with people enjoying tea and coffee outside, they decided that it looked as good a spot as any. They made their way into the "coffee shop" only to find themselves in the queue of sympathisers in a traditional Donegal wake in the deceased's home. What could they do...

tion and tempting the customer back with the offer of any small concession (which wasn't what we went there for, but it would have helped).

Needless to say, we won't be returning and the restaurant has lost an extended family of potential customers. The following day I had a lot of work to cram into a short time and as Rachel was in a similar boat we pounced on the rare opportunity to save time and grab a bite of lunch and a natter in the Beachcomber. It was very satisfactory; good food, quickly, at a reasonable price, in comfortable surroundings. After lunch I headed into Foys to pay for the paint for my house. They had given excellent advice and helped me a lot and Christine looked after me extremely well when it came to the painful time to part with money. While on the return journey from Rathmullan to Mountnugent, Himself rang to tell me that a close family member of my client with MND had passed away suddenly and unexpectedly. It was a hard blow to a family already under an enormous burden of hardship. I was privileged to be asked to give extra help that weekend to support them through a difficult time, and very glad to be in a position to do it. One of the most admirable traits of the whole family is their unfailing ability to find the good in the worst situation and in the following week the chat inevitably came round to past funeral stories. It put me in mind of the time when Rachel's previous employer's wife Josephine, came up to visit her, shortly after my niece

Emma was born. Josephine had brought a friend with her to make a weekend of it and after admiring the new baby the two dolls headed off on a tour of west Donegal. Having driven around all morning they fancied a coffee and spying a quaint, thatched cottage with people enjoying tea and coffee outside, they decided that it looked as good a spot as any. They duly parked and made their way into the "coffee shop" only to find themselves in the queue of sympathisers in a traditional Donegal wake in the deceased's home. What could they do only say what a great man he had been and leg it as fast as a hot snot from a dragon's nostril!

I had a big day last week when I had to bite the bullet and face into a kitchen showroom to get advice and make decisions. It's not something I've ever done before and the kitchen always seemed so far down the line that I never really gave it any consideration, with the result that it snuck up almost unknownst to me. I know nothing about kitchen design apart from a long list of things I don't like, so I asked Jim to come with me because he's a carpenter with years of kitchen fitting experience. Fortunately the Alzheimer Society gave him some block care hours for herself so he had just enough time to spare. We had a very satisfactory trip to Cash and Carry Kitchens in Mullingar, where they have a free design consultation and fitting service at the moment. It was amazing to be able to see the full 3D image of the proposed kitchen layout on the computer



Kate Carton

screen; it really helped to make the best use of the space and prevented me from making some potentially disastrous decisions. I was very happy with the final choice and I'm looking forward to seeing it installed in late November or early December. With a bit of luck we'll manage the Christmas dinner in my home this year. Talking of the dreaded Christmas, I was delighted to hear that the Late Late Toy Show is not being shown until December 6th this year. At least we have some chance of keeping Christmas confined to December and early January this time round and not splattered across November as well. It's bad enough getting the toy catalogues in September before Halloween has even reared its commercial head. I love Christmas at Christmas time but I'm a totally dyed in the wool, bah-humbug Scrooge about the whole pre Christmas spending fest. As Phelim, a friend of mine said, you'd be sorely tempted to bring the kids to the cemetery and show them Santa's grave!

I had a check-up with Greg, my dentist last Friday to see how the hole in my jaw is healing. Thankfully all is going well and the next step in the reconstruction is to get me to Belfast to take a lump of bone from one side of my gob and insert it into the hole at the front. I can think of things I'd rather do and pay for... quite a lot of them in fact, but sure it has to be done. It may mean the house remains empty of furniture for the foreseeable but it will warm the cockles of my penniless heart to know that Greg is comfy in a well feathered nest! It's not easy being poor me.

Water supply a priority before house building: Cllr Donal Mandy Kelly

The chronic water supply problems in Bomany, New Mills, Conwal and Tullygay have to be addressed before the Council can allow two big housing developments to proceed in the Oldtown and Ballymacool areas of Letterkenny. That was the stark message from Cllr Donal Mandy Kelly during last week's Special Meeting in Lifford. In the midst of an accommodation crisis the Fian-na Fail Cllr said he was definitely not against new homes being built in the two areas concerned but he pointed out

that often families there only have a decent water supply one day in the week. That, he said, meant some parents having to bring their children to the Aura Leisure Centre for personal hygiene and taking clothes to laundry outlets in the Oldtown, Ballyraine and the Mountain Top.

"I welcome the over 150 houses being talked about for the Oldtown and Ballymacool but we can't do it without proper infrastructure. Houses in Bomany, New Mills, Conwal and Tullygay

only have a right water supply one day a week. We need to tackle that problem first. We had a meeting with Irish Water two weeks ago and I just got the feeling that it was a matter of ticking boxes for them. I had questions with Irish Water and I am still waiting on the answers. Before any building I want to see a plan from Irish Water to upgrade the infrastructure. Again I am not against those proposed developments in the Oldtown and Ballymacool. But, I have to represent the people that are living now

in Bomany, New Mills and Tullygay. In the meantime we need a big push on getting vacant or derelict houses back into use. There has been a good response in Letterkenny Town to notices put on buildings with owners enquiring about the vacant and derelict grants. But we need to do more. I am aware of numbers of vacant and derelict houses in estates where owners have to be encouraged to bring them back into use. If that doesn't happen the Council has to use their Compul-



sory Purchase Order powers. I am getting calls every day from people needing accommodation so we have to use all options to help them" Cllr Kelly said. 100% Redress Party Cllr Thomas Sean Devine spoke about the water supply problems in his own area near the Mountain Top. He said the Glentain and Gort na Greine estates had been experiencing chronic low water supply problems for years. "Water supply is a shocking issue in Letterkenny. Where I live the residents in Glentain and Gort na Greine have been fighting for a proper water supply for years. The pump is out of action in the estate and Irish Water says that is not their responsibility. We are being told we will have to wait until 51 more houses are built above us. You can't build on top of problems that are already there. So the Council needs to look at buying houses that are on market until the water supply is upgraded" Cllr Devine said.



The Kilmacrennan National School team at the Primary Schools Athletics in Milford last week with their teachers.

Goodbye Donald? An American Odyssey

by Lawrence Donegan



Up until election day in the States, while American voters decide who to vote for in the 2024 Presidential election, former Tribune journalist, Lawrence Donegan will be travelling across the USA, from his home town just north of the Golden Gate Bridge, into Nevada and Arizona. From there he will head west to New Mexico and then north to Colorado, followed by Wyoming and Montana. After that, he's not exactly sure but expect to find him in the swing states that will decide this election - Wisconsin, Michigan, Philadelphia.

His final destination is Palm Beach, Florida, where Donald Trump will be hosting his election night party at his Mar-a-Lago club/home. Lawrence still hasn't received an invite yet but there's still time.

He said "I've been thinking about this journey for a long time, about the story I intend to write. I was going to call it Goodbye Donald. I figured Trump's electoral hopes were as lost as his relationship with truth. My story would serve as my gift to anyone who cared, an epithet for the American nightmare now over. Not any more, not now that Trump is favoured to win. For now, I'll write under the working title, Goodbye Donald? - a question, obviously, not a statement. I thought I knew America and Americans. I thought this country and the folks who live here had given up on Donald Trump. I was wrong. Turns out I knew the wrong Americans and the wrong America. It is time to hit the road and find out why."

Scenes from an Exit Door. Donald Trump and his Disappearing Crowd

The exit doors at a Trump rally are so beautiful, so breathtaking, built of the finest American brushed steel and the strongest plate glass, the likes of which the world has never seen before. Such incredible exit doors. Doors that will be destroyed by the failed policies of Comrade Kamala and Tampon Tim.....

QUESTIONS OF audience stamina briefly rocketed to the very top of hot-button Presidential election campaign issues this week thanks to a widely-lauded PYSOP by Kamala Harris who, during her televised debate with Donald Trump, invited viewers to go along to one of the former President's rallies, where they would observe that 'people start leaving early out of exhaustion and boredom.'

Not since Pacquiao landed that scary left hook squarely on Ricky Hatton's chin has a man's brain been so instantly scrambled. On hearing his opponent's claim, Trump, to pluck a medical term from the Oxford Dictionary of Psychology, went absolutely bananas, setting off on a rage-filled response that began with a defence of his rallies - they are rallies like the world has never seen before, natch - and ended with his now infamous remark about Haitian immigrants in Springfield, Ohio, eating domestic pets.

Preposterous as this sounds, I suspect Trump's 'they're eating the dogs' comment and its horrifying aftermath will go down as the pivotal moment in this election. At the very least it has clarified once and for all the choice now facing the people of this country: Vote for the unapologetic, racist agitator, or for the candidate who, for all her social democratic policy leanings, sits firmly in the mainstream of 21st-century American politics.

Future historians will write the story. But before they do, they should know the truth about the barb that set Trump and the United States itself down a terrible road. Is it really the case that his supporters leave his rallies early out of exhaustion and boredom?

THE NORTH hall of the Expo World Market Center, Las Vegas, can hold 6,000 people. When Trump appeared there on Friday more than half of the floor space had been curtained off, meaning, in my rough estimation, around 2,500-3,000 people came to hear the former President speak. This would make sense. The capacity at the Linda Ronstadt Music Hall in Tuscon, where he appeared the day before, has a seating capacity of 2,195. This appears to be the sweet spot these days for the Trump campaign when it comes to picking venues - big



Empty seats during a Trump rally with Donald in full flow and below left, heading to the exit doors.



enough to sate the candidate's ego as he looks out from the podium, and small enough to ensure the place will look packed to those watching on TV. "Please arrive no later than 4 pm", the text invitation said. I got there half an hour late and walked right in, no waiting. The venue doors closed at 5.30 pm, leaving around 50-100 latecomers locked out.

According to the campaign's schedule, Trump was due on stage at 6 pm but as my friend who is covering the campaign full-time for a TV network said, rolling her eyes. "Good luck with that. He is always late. Sometimes very late."

The list of warm-up speakers was a long way short of starchy. I recognised only two names. One was Kash Patel, who is famous in Washington DC political circles for setting the gold standard when it comes to Trump sycophancy. He is expected to be a very senior figure - reports say he will be head of the FBI or perhaps the Secretary of Defence - in any future Trump administration. This is bad news for the "government gangsters" in Washington DC and the "people in the media who helped Joe Biden rig presidential elections". Patel has promised to "come after" both.

For all his fiery rhetoric, Kash is a terrible public speaker with the stage presence of a hat-stand. It didn't help his oratorical cause that the acoustics in the auditorium were terrible. I didn't hear a word he said and I don't care to search for the transcript. Sorry, but life is too short.

The other name I knew was that of Tulsi Gabbard, a former Democratic member of Congress (from Hawaii) and the new

darling of Fox News. You probably won't be surprised when I tell you she insists we are on the brink of Armageddon and the only guy who can save us is Donald Trump. "We are facing a choice between freedom and tyranny," she said. There best things about Gabbi's speech were (1) I couldn't hear most of it and (2) it was four minutes long. As for the rest of this motley crew, only Pastor Hal Shaw deserves mention. He was down to give the invocation and was the only speaker on the night - Trump included - who knew how to project his voice in this setting. He started by praising the all-powerful, all-seeing Lord but then lost control of the steering wheel and drove the JesusMobile straight into the thick hedge of flesh-and-blood idolatry. "We thank you Lord for raising up Donald Trump as a modern-day Cyrus in this time of chaos," he yelled, punching the air. Dressed in his suit and tie, he looked like Bono on his way to a meeting with his tax lawyer.

The crowd went wild, though not as wild as it did when the PA system started blaring out Lee Greenwood's sickly country-and-western song, God Bless the USA. This is Trump's entrance song. It was also my cue to take up my position. I checked my watch. It was 7.49 pm.

THERE WAS only one way to exit the arena where Trump was speaking.

The first guy to leave was 'Bob'. Trump had been speaking for three minutes.

"Where are you going?" I asked. "Don't worry about it," Bob said. "I've seen him a lot of times. I just came for the music."

"Don't you have Spotify for that?"

"And I wanted to pick up a bunch of posters," Bob said. "They're free."

A couple of minutes later, Tom Grover and his two kids were off.

"We're going to get some tacos," Tom said. He clocked my accent. "Tacos el Gordo. I don't know how good the tacos are in Scotland - no disrespect but they're probably not that great, right? - but Tacos el Gordo does the best tacos in the world."

Thanks, Tom. "Why are you leaving?"

"We only came to see him and now we've done that it's time to go. That's one of the benefits of living in a swing state like Nevada.

All the candidates come here so we get to see history," he said. "To tell the truth, Trump's values are the complete opposite of ours."

People trickled out while I was talking to Tom. Twos and threes. The occasional solo. I counted them as best as I could. By the time the Grover family headed through the exit, I was up to approximately 50. Trump had been speaking for 15 minutes.

There was a burst of departures around the 20-minute mark, almost too many to keep up with. Maria and Daniel were pissed-off Trump supporters. "I've been standing for more than four hours and my feet are really sore," Maria said. Daniel shook his head and smiled. "Serves her right for wearing cowboy boots."

Forty minutes into the speech, I had to give up counting. I wouldn't swear on this in a court of law, but I'm estimating 400 people had gone. This would be around 10-15% of the entire audience.

Soraya Bennett, an attorney, and her niece, Anastasia, were two of the departees and couldn't wait to tell me how much they f*ing hated Trump. "We took Kamala's advice

and came along, just to hear and see what he was like."

What did you think? Anastasia giggled. "I wanted to go after two minutes."

"He was fucking horrible - all that negativity and bile - but I'm glad I brought my niece along. Both her parents are Trumppers and she needs to know the truth about this guy," Soraya said. "She's leaning towards Kamala now - right, Anastasia?"

Her niece nodded. I could hear Trump's tiny voice echo out of the auditorium. I grabbed a quick word with as many people as I could.

"I enjoyed it but at the same time, I've got other stuff to do tonight."

"That's enough for me. The real job will be when we have to go to the polls and vote for him."

"The only reason I'm leaving is because I've left my kids at home."

"He was more than an hour late showing up. Did you notice? I'll still vote for him, though."

The trickle had turned into a flood. I'm not exaggerating. I've got the video proof in case I run into Trump at Starbucks and he calls me fake news.

I WENT back into the auditorium to check out the scene. The former President, looking to take a breather no doubt, was re-introducing the guest speakers and inviting them back on stage to say a word or two. Pastor Shaw was a noticeable absentee. I pictured him in purgatory, denied entrance to the Kingdom of Trump for the sin of relishing the limelight a little too much.

I tried to judge what percentage of the audience was still there. Conservatively, I reckoned 30% - 900 - had disappeared. The truth is it was impossible to say for sure. I can say this with absolute certainty, however. I was able to grab a seat within 30 rows or so of the podium. There were plenty of empty seats even closer than that. The woman I sat down next to was playing with her hair.

Not to brag, but I've been on stage before crowds as big or bigger than this on countless occasions. Over time, you develop a sense for spotting when you are losing or have lost peoples' attention. You can spot empty seats that weren't there before. The cheers at the end of a designated applause line - or a song, in my case - are less intense. Audience members start speaking to each other, even when you (supposedly the center of attention) are speaking to them.

I sensed Trump was losing this crowd. If I could sense this then I'm damn sure he could too. I checked the YouTube video later that night and sure enough, it's as clear as day. He was speed reading by that stage, his eyes fixed on the TelePrompter like it was a finishing tape in a sprint.

"We will reclaim our sovereignty like it hasn't been restored in a loooong time - together we will MAKE AMERICA POWERFUL AGAIN..."

That was the cue for the audience members to get up out of their seats and join in. You're not a true Trumper if you don't know this peroration off by heart, all the way to MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN!

When it was over, he did that daft little dance that he does and anointed those who caught his eye with a thumbs up. He turned his back on the main body of the arena to face the bleacher stand behind him, the only section that was as full at the end as it had been at the start. I'd bet my signed first edition of The Art of the Deal that access to those prime seats had been granted only to those who agreed to stay to the bitter end. These were the true loyalists. They don't have kids at home or an aching feet. They know that in the Kingdom of Trump there is no such thing as exhaustion or boredom.

I checked my watch. It was 10.12 pm. I should have gone ages ago. Got myself something to eat at Tacos el Gordo.

Wainfest 2024 launched



Cathaoirleach of the Council, Cllr Niamh Kennedy with Wainfest committee members at the launch of the festival in Donegal Castle.

The 28th Annual Wainfest Children's Arts and Book festival was launched in Donegal Castle, where school children from Scoil an Leinbh Íosa were treated to an story telling experience from Maura Logue and local author Isla McGuckin. The theme of this year's festival, "550 Adventures," aligns with

the Donegal 550 celebrations, which commemorate the 550th Anniversary of Donegal Town. The Wainfest programme this year is a recognition of the town and region's remarkable history and aims to celebrate its unique heritage and culture. Cathaoirleach of Donegal County Council, Niamh Kennedy

outlined how this year's festival will celebrate "the many talented authors, illustrators, musicians, historians, and storytellers who will provide children with opportunities to participate in activities that celebrate their heritage, in a fun and engaging manner."

She went on to say that the Council "believes that promoting and supporting festivals is of vital importance to our society, our economy, our education and our communities" and that "festivals are instrumental in allowing community engagement, economic development, and celebrating diversity in our communities."

Wainfest invites children of all ages to embark on an exciting adventure through captivating performances, interactive workshops and engaging storytelling sessions, all designed to spark curiosity and foster a love of books and the arts.

This year, Wainfest offers over 100 free events designed for schools, families, and children of all ages. Activities are available both indoors and outdoors, with some events streamed live into classrooms, along with evening and weekend programs to accommodate families and to encourage participation in a wide range of activities.

Some highlights of this year's family events include MC Grammar, who

combines music and language arts to help children understand and remember grammatical rules - beatboxing, dancing, rhyming, READING, rapping... you name it, he does it!

There's also a 3D Game Development Workshop, author visits, biology workshops, Boogie Bugs dancing classes and much, much more! Children can try out pottery with Lorraine O'Carroll, learn how to upcycle an old item of clothing into a fabulous new fashion piece with Bernie Murphy or embark on a prehistoric journey with the Roar, Roar Dinosaur workshop. There's sure to be something for everyone!

The school's programme, as expected, is packed full of amazing events including, The Big White Coach Sensory Experience, visits from renowned authors such as Eve McDonnell, Sheena Wilkinson, Erika McGann and Paddy Donnelly, among others, as well as performances from storytellers, artists and a host of interactive workshops and activities.

Following the launch, schools received an electronic copy of the brochure and families can view the full programme of events planned by picking up a brochure in their local library or cultural venue. The programme is also available on our website www.wainfest.ie

Youth violence videos launched

A series of videos to promote awareness of the increase in youth violence being recorded on mobile phones and shared across social media platforms was officially launched.

The 'We Don't Want This' campaign comprises of four short films which focus on the victim of violence, the aggressor, the victim's parents and the by-stander who records the incident.

Funded by Tusla the four thought-provoking videos address the growing number of peer-on-peer violent incidents taking place in the county, and how they impact on those involved and their families. Donegal North Central Child and Family Support Network collaborated with Tusla, Foróige Youth Diversion Project, Donegal Youth Service, Local Youth and Family Service, Donegal Domestic Violence Service, An Garda Síochána, Loreto Community School, Milford, and The Donegal Youth Council to consider how to address these growing concerns.

Young people from Donegal worked with representatives from these organisations to explore how best to raise awareness around the issue of youth violence. The young participants generated ideas and content for a series of short videos which they also feature in.

Re-Act Productions, based in Donegal, came onboard to produce the final set of videos. The videos premiered at a launch event in Century Cinemas Letterkenny. They can be viewed on the Parenting Platform on YouTube to help promote awareness and share the message that "We Don't Want This" peer-on-peer violence behaviour to continue.

Chief Superintendent Goretta Sheridan officially launched the videos at the event and commented "This is a great initiative created by young people to highlight the impact

of peer-on-peer violence. I have no doubt the messaging from these videos will help to reduce the number of incidents of peer-on-peer violence in our communities. It is important that the message is shared far and wide in the county to raise awareness among young people, guardians and professionals who will support those most impacted. An Garda Síochána are available to advise and support anyone affected by these types of incidents."

Also speaking at the event Martin Keeney of Tusla said "The launch of these videos is an important example of what can be achieved when organisations come together to look at targeted ways to tackle problems in our communities. Sharing recordings on social media of violent acts against young people is a serious issue which can cause huge damage to the lives of the young people involved and their families. These videos aim to promote awareness and highlight the dangers involved, which is an important part of how we tackle this issue. I hope this message can reach as large an audience as possible."



Donegal Youth Council Members at the launch. Photo by Rachel McLaughlin



We Don't Want This - Funders and members of the Working Group at the launch in Century Cinemas.

Sinn Féin's €1bn investment fund will help communities - Mac Lochlainn

Sinn Féin TD Pádraig Mac Lochlainn has said that the party's commitment to put €1bn of the Apple Tax money into an Investment in Communities Fund would be a big lift to many communities across the county.

He made his comments after party leader Mary Lou McDonald announced this week that, in government, Sinn Féin would invest the money in working class communities left behind by Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael.

Teachta Mac Lochlainn said "Mary Lou McDonald this week confirmed that, in government, Sinn Féin would put €1bn of the Apple Tax mon-

ey into an Equality for Communities Fund to invest in working class communities that have been left behind by Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael and that bore the brunt of austerity cuts at a time when this tax should have been collected.

"This would benefit many communities across Donegal that have been forced to live with the barriers created by austerity, including intergen-



erational disadvantage, poverty and young people denied access to opportunities.

"It's time to repair that damage, to invest ambitiously in community development and build a better future for all.

"This would be a targeted capital investment fund for sports facilities, play facilities, community facilities, youth facilities, arts facilities and public spaces to transform communities that bore the

brunt of austerity.

"This fund would finally deliver the facilities that these communities deserve, and this commitment to invest in such projects across the state will be a key part of Sinn Féin's overall plan to tackle poverty and disadvantage and ensure equal opportunities for all.

"This is about giving the same opportunities to build a better future to every community. "Community is everything. It's the beating heart of life in Ireland and Sinn Féin is absolutely committed to backing communities held back by neglect and cuts, ensuring they can reach their full potential."

It's official: Govt spin will do your head in

It does not need artificial intelligence to realise that the country needs as many as 70,000 homes to be built every year until the cost of a house is no longer exclusive to winners of the national lottery. Something has to give and simple mathematics tells us that construction has to be competing with rental to cool down the spiraling increases in the market.

The Central Bank has confirmed the completion of 33,000 new homes last year and this year the number is expected to be around 32,000. So where now for the FG led government in office since 2011? And before you come to terms with that - be aware they could be there for the next ten years or more. It is obvious that the government cannot even give a realistic prediction of Ireland's housing needs. They must know that their predictions are nothing but a political smokescreen for failure to deliver to meet the most basic demands of a growing population. With every passing year, the Government falls further behind in addressing the housing crisis at a time when around 70,000 new units are required in each of the coming three years as the government struggles to manage a crisis of their own making. And driving around the countryside, the absence of construction traffic is as scarce as the sound of the cornrake. And this reality flows into higher cost house sales and likewise in the rental sector. And as a consequence, a younger generation is frozen out of affording the cost of their own living space.

It does not need artificial

intelligence to show the country needs 70,000 new homes every year until the cost of a house is no longer exclusive to winners of the national lottery. Something has to give and simple mathematics tells us that construction has to be competing with rental to cool down the spiraling increases in the market. And if that does not happen, then prices will increase to the point where nobody can afford to buy and that will create its very own market collapse. And suddenly there will be a new property crash as the government stands on the sidelines, unsure of what should be done by way of regulating the costs. However, the sight of government ministers clapping themselves over the current disastrous levels of construction and it makes it more evident that politics is not the solution to solving the housing crisis. We are now paying the price for having too few houses being built and it seems to be a market driven by the major multi-billionaires in the trade. While predicting the outlook, the Central Bank has indicated there will only be 32,000 completed this year before numbers begin to increase next year and the following year. The silence of Darragh O'Brian is ominous. Taoiseach Simon Harris said

that by the end of the year, the Government will set new housing targets for the second half of the decade. Harris has predicted 250,000 new houses in the coming four and a half years. But that appears to be a number picked out of his head. Because he's given no outline or vision of the numbers to be constructed in each one of these years. Given the Fine Gael track record on housing delivery Harris, has raised the bar to a new level without a hint of a policy driven agenda. In his long list of promises on being selected Taoiseach, Harris failed to mention what happened to the Government's broken promises on the 9,600 affordable homes, which should have been delivered over two years ago. And all the while they've failed to spend over €1 billion of its capital housing budget since taking office. These are the facts missing from the spin-laden 'Housing for All' update. A new Taoiseach, new promises, but same failure to deliver," said Deputy Cian O'Callaghan of the Social Democrats. He said Simon Harris is following in the long tradition of this Government's Taoisigh making promises that they cannot deliver. Deputy O'Callaghan, who is the party's housing spokesperson, said: "The new Taoiseach made big and bold promises of 50,000 homes a year during the recent Fine Gael Ard Fheis - clearly more concerned about a soundbite than how he would actually deliver on this commitment. It hasn't taken long for the row back on these promises. The Taoiseach is finally facing up to the reality that the Government he is leading is incapable of getting to grips with the housing crisis and unable to deliver on its promises. The delivery of affordable

housing has proven to be an expensive disaster. The Central Bank's forecast has calculated that if the Government wants to reduce the deficit of homes over a decade and meet demand it would need to build almost 70,000 units per annum. The bank says the shortfall in homes, which has resulted in thousands of adults living with parents or sharing rental accommodation, has built up over a decade during which house building lagged behind demand. The Taoiseach said that the report's findings on pent-up demand were not surprising. He said that the Government was committed to retaining the Help to Buy Scheme, and would also look at what is possible to further fund the Land Development Agency. "We are spending a serious amount on housing, amongst the very highest in Europe and that's right and proper, to catch up for that decade of loss due to the financial crash. I've been talking this summer about what we can do around infrastructure, what we can do about the sale from bank shares, indeed, what we can do with the Apple revenue, I think there's real possibilities here in relation to housing," he added. However, the possibilities are limited with an average price paid for a home in Dublin in the 12 months to July running to €568,663 - €27,998 costlier than in the previous 12-month period. Simon Harris has failed to address how he expects a young couple to find more than half a million euros for a new home. The latest residential property price index, compiled by the CSO, indicates that property prices nationally increased by 9.6% in the year to July, up from a rate of 8.6% previously. However, Harris is now in office as Taoiseach for close to six months and he's made promise after promise...

Comment

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they've been coming thick and fast. However, there is not a sign of any delivery. He pledged new energy after becoming Ireland's youngest taoiseach. He told the Dail as the new Taoiseach: "Now is an opportune time to build a new social contract - one which renews our promise as a republic. To create equality of opportunity. To support those who need the state the most. To protect our hard-earned economic success. To use its benefits to deliver tangible outcomes to society." Now into its final furlong in office, nothing has changed in this Dail to stop a house costing over half a million Euros. The cost of living has not decreased. Despite a buoyant economy, there is no progress evident with social issues including lack of housing showing no signs of improving. The Central Bank's director of economics and statistics Robert Kelly said: "We have calculated the significant economic costs of policy inaction prolonging the imbalance between housing demand and supply." In tandem with publishing a report on housing, the Central Bank has also updated its economic forecasts. They showed that the domestic economy will grow by 2.4% this year and 3% in 2025. The number of people in jobs will rise by 3.4% this year and unemployment will remain subdued at 4.3%. Employment in the first half of 2024 increased by 47,800 with 47% and Ireland is surely a great place but not for a new generation being able to afford a roof over their heads. House prices are now rising at annual rate of almost 10%. Average price for a home nationally is €409,465, up €31,563 on this time last year, and €568,663 in Dublin. The latest official figures show the average price paid nationally for a home in the 12 months to the end of July was €409,465. This was €31,563 more than the average price paid in the previous 12-month period. Ireland's housing requirement keeps getting bigger and bigger - and so is the crisis. The latest figures come as the Central Bank warned that there will be a "lowering of living standards" if the current housing shortfall was not addressed. In its latest quarterly bulletin, the regulator suggested the State would need to build 52,000 homes a year out to 2050 to address the current undersupply. Brokers Ireland said: "We've had all the big institutions and think-tanks, along with the Government's Housing Commission - the latest being the Central Bank - name big numbers, sometimes different big numbers. What we really need to hear is more about what is going to be done differently to ensure more homes are built so that prices stabilise and more affordable." However the acid test for Simon Harris is here in Donegal and can he hold the FG seat in this constituency?

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Roisin's helping hand for child behaviour iss

Parenting can be a strenuous job at the best of times but one Donegal-based business is working to let parents know help is at hand to help deal with difficult behaviour.

by Eamonn McFadden

Buncrana native, Roisín Doherty, set up The Child Behavior Consultants in 2017 as a resource to help families cope when times get tough.

She said she realised the need for the service came while studying for a Master Degree in Behaviour, which she began after working in the childcare and SNA sector.

She said not only can it help with better child behaviour but can be a great relief to parents knowing they have somewhere to turn to in helping with such matters.

She explained: "The main things that parents who use the service generally are looking to address, is their child not do-

ing as asked, their child having difficulty accepting no, their child having tantrums and displaying general negative behaviour. It tends to be a relief to parents when they realise that there is help and support out there that can help them in their situation and in turn make day to day life much easier. Parents find that it is something that can really turn things around not just for them but for their child also, while also bringing about a much better quality of family life, with a lot less arguing and an overall better atmosphere in the home environment."

Having graduated with an Honours Degree in Psychology from Magee University in Derry, she then completed a Post-graduate Diploma in Behaviour in NUI Galway, followed by a Masters in Behaviour in Queen's University in Belfast. After this, she passed her board exam and got certified with the Behaviour Analyst Certification Board as a Behaviour An-

alyst.

She added: "While studying as a student, I originally started off volunteering with ICARE - a respite day centre for children and young people with Autism, and then I got a paid post there. Alongside working at ICARE, I also spent a year subbing as a Special Needs Assistant in Scoil Íosagáin. Through my time working in both ICARE and Scoil Íosagáin, I gained a lot of knowledge and experience working with children, that has been very beneficial in the work that I am currently doing. When I was completing my Masters in Behaviour at Queen's University in Belfast, I recognised a growing need for support for parents in terms of dealing with difficult child behaviour not just locally, but across the country too. In response to this, in 2017, I set up The Child Behaviour Consultancy."

Roisín consults with parents of children from 3 - 12 years

of age to help them address behaviour issues. The service is carried out through appointments where Roisín works one-to-one with her, to find out why the behaviour is happening, and most importantly what can be done to help things around.

"A lot of parents don't know where to turn for support when they are struggling with child behaviour. There are very few options out there to help them, so they find out about The Child Behaviour Consultancy. We offer them the help and direction that they need, either in-person or Zoom appointments, so parents not just from Donegal, but across the county are able to avail of this much needed service."

To learn more about her work visit www.thechildbehaviourconsultancy.com



The top 10 finishers in the Boys U9 event with Brendan Murray from the Swilly Mulroy Credit Union.



The top 10 finishers in the Girls U9 event with Brendan Murray from the Swilly Mulroy Credit Union.



The top 10 finishers in the Boys U11 event with Brendan Murray from the Swilly Mulroy Credit Union.



The top 10 finishers in the Girls U11 event with Brendan Murray from the Swilly Mulroy Credit Union.



The top 10 finishers in the Boys U13 event with Brendan Murray from the Swilly Mulroy Credit Union.



The top 10 finishers in the Girls U13 event with Brendan Murray from the Swilly Mulroy Credit Union.

Primary Schools Athletics

The Primary School Country Athletics area finals were held in Milford last week, hosted by James Gibbons and Milford Athletic Club. The sponsors were the Swilly Mulroy Credit Union and they were represented by Brendan Murray. There were six races on the day with the top ten from each race qualifying for the County Finals to be held in Finn Valley AC Stranorlar. Pictured right the close finish in the Boys U13 race with Cranford NS student beating the Downings NS runner.



our issues

help them address behaviour issues. The service is out through appointments where the parents consult with her, to find out why their child's behaviour is, and most importantly what they can do to turn it around.

parents don't know where to turn to or go for support when they are struggling with child behaviour. There are options out there to help them with this, so when I talk about The Child Behaviour Consultancy, it offers the help and direction that they need. The option is either in-person or Zoom appointments is there, not just from Donegal, but all over the country to avail of this much needed service also," she added.

For more about her work visit www.thechildbehaviourconsultancy.com



Primary Schools Athletics

The Primary School Cross Country Athletics area finals were held in Milford last week hosted by James Gibbons and Milford Athletic Club. The sponsors were the Swilly Mulroy Credit Union and they were represented by Brendan Murray. There were six races on the day with the top ten from each race qualifying for the County Finals to be held Finn Valley AC in Stranorlar. Pictured right the close finish in the Boys U13 race with the Cranford NS student beating the Downings NS runner.



Taking part in the Girls Under 9 race.



Boys at the start of the U11 cross country race in Milford.

Cathedral Quarter tenth anniversary booklet launch

The launch of Letterkenny Cathedral Quarter's tenth anniversary commemorative booklet will take place at Dillons Hotel on this Thursday the 26th September.

The event promises to be something of a red-letter day for the group as it marks a remarkable first decade for the Cathedral Quarter committee.

One of the main driving forces behind the initiative, Donnan Harvey said he was 'absolutely delighted' that his committee were now at the stage where they could reflect on a lot of hard work, work that had proved successful. Their main objective, he proclaimed, had been achieved. While making it clear they had no intention of resting on their laurels - 'there was still a lot more to do' - Donnan stated: "This booklet is both a celebration and reflection of the Cathedral Quarter's achievements throughout the past decade. Anyone familiar with Letterkenny would have been aware that the Church Lane is the very heart of the old town that was old Letterkenny. For more than a century it was the spiritual centre of the town too. But about thirty years ago it started to decline rather



rapidly as the old families moved out and a lot of the houses fell derelict. We decided we needed to do something to halt that decline. That was why we set up this committee.

"At the outset some people suggested what we were attempting was akin to tilting at windmills but after a lot of knock-backs we started to get some traction when we convinced people to re-do their houses - repair, paint etc. That was the key to getting things up and running. Now there is new life there with several new enterprises opening up, ensuing life is not only back on the street but that it is thriving."

The booklet, which charts all that has been achieved over the past decade, will be launched at 8pm on the 26th by Eugene McKeever MBE, Managing Director of the McKeever Hotel Group.

Committee Member Martin Gallagher put the booklet together with finishing touches added by chair Sean Purser from Wild Atlantic Productions & Digital Content Marketing.

MC for the evening will be Brian Walsh from the Letterkenny Community and Heritage Group with music being provided by Evelyn Gallagher and Maria McCormick. The event is free and all are welcome. Speakers at the event will also include Mayor of Letterkenny Cllr Gerry McMonagle and Cathedral Quarter chairperson, Sean Purser.

Donnan concluded: "I would invite everyone to come along to this launch. What we have achieved is something we feel very proud of. The restoration of the historic Church Lane is wonderful and I hope will be appreciated by many generations to come."

Youth Council honours achievements during term



Members of the Donegal Youth Council at their celebration event in Letterkenny with guests and guest speakers including Cllr. Niamh Kennedy. Cathaoirleach of Donegal County Council. Picture by Declan Doherty.

The Donegal Youth Council marked the end of its 2022 to 2024 term with a celebratory event recently, highlighting their remarkable work and achievements.

Over the past two years, the Youth Councillors have actively addressed critical issues such as vaping, mental health, social media and body image and participated in several committees, ensuring that the voices and opinions of young people across Donegal were heard and valued.

The Council serves as a consultative forum to which young people can identify topics and create action projects to address these topics and inform key decision-makers. They ensure that young people's voices are heard locally and nationally, with representatives selected among the Youth Council committee on local, regional and national committees.

At the event, Cllr Niamh Kennedy presented certificates of achievement, recognising the significant contributions of the Youth Councillors and encouraging young people to get involved through School Student Councils and the Youth Council. She added 'I am immensely proud of our Youth Council. You have educated us in what is important for Donegal through the lens of young people. I am truly encouraged by how your ideas have been actioned,

bringing your own perspectives to policies that affect the future development of our County.'

Anne McAteer from the HSE emphasised the importance of their work. As part of a presentation showcasing their work, members of the Youth Council expressed their concerns about the vaping industry, stating, 'We believe these companies are deliberately targeting young people, and we are deeply concerned about the potential health implications in the future.'

Liam Ward, of the Council stated 'by giving young people the opportunity to be involved in decision-making at all levels, we are all exposed to new ways of thinking. By supporting and allowing young people to become leaders, we recognise their vital role in improving our communities.'

Reflecting on the term, Michael McDevitt, Coordinator of the Donegal Youth Council, highlighted the Councillors' dedication, ensuring that the voices of young people were represented through their involvement in committees, many consultations and various projects. Michael remarked, 'These members have shown incredible commitment and hard work. Throughout their term, they have consistently provided guidance and have always been willing to get involved, leading us to better decisions and outcomes. I can-

not thank them enough for their dedication.'

Speaking at the event, Mayor of the Youth Council Jessica McDevitt shared how her involvement with the Council has personally benefited her. 'Like many others involved, I feel that I've grown up a lot during my time on the Youth Council. In the beginning, I was a bit shy and didn't like to speak in public—I don't usually admit that, but it's true. Now, here I am, speaking at this event and many others. These experiences have really helped me build confidence. I'm eager to continue speaking out and advocating for improvements for the young people of Donegal.'

While the event celebrated the end of their term, the Youth Councillors made it clear that their work was far from over. Outlining their upcoming projects and initiatives, vaping and the provision of period products in schools are to be addressed. Additionally, the Council is preparing for the AGM in November. The upcoming elections will take place in schools and youth organisations across the county. If you know a young person who would thrive in this exciting initiative, encourage them to put themselves forward through their school or youth organisation. For more information, be sure to check out the Donegal Youth Council's social media channels.

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

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Cllrs. told of poor quality of life in Letterkenny

A public meeting on Tuesday night heard calls for the Letterkenny & Environs Development Plan to be reviewed immediately amid claims that the infrastructure is not in place to meet the developments needs proposed.

This week's meeting in the Orchard Inn was called by the new Letterkenny Community Resident's Group where Town Councillors and the Town Clerk were invited to discuss the local authority's approach to the consultation process and to address quality of life issues that have been raised by the public. Eight of the nine Councillors were present with apologies being received from Cllr. Jimmy Harte who was abroad and Town Clerk Paddy Doherty.

One contributor on Tuesday night said that it seemed that development was a priority with Council officials ahead of issues raised by the local community which he described as a dangerous policy. "As the town goes towards city status the plan has to be debated again and I propose that it be reviewed to address concerns as we go forward. There is a lack of infrastructure. Ballymacool Terrace is an example where there is a foul smell because of an overloaded sewer" he said.

The issue of the need for a town bus service was also brought up with Cllr. Neil Clarke saying that the Council was going to have to take an active role in pushing this initiative. However, the Green Party Member said that a proper traffic management had to be in place first with a proper timetable, bus bays and shelters. Clarke added that the bus service had to be a partnership approach involving the Council, gardai, bus oper-

ator and the general public. "It has been shown that this service will not run without subvention and we are told it won't make a profit for four or five years.

Tom Crossan the Letterkenny Community Resident's Group PRO spoke about the poor quality of life being experienced in the town with serious congestion leaving motorists stuck in traffic for long periods.

"Letterkenny is a long way of city status. We don't have the infrastructure like link roads and its taking all day to get around the town. Instead housing development is moving on. There's not a great quality of life and the Council should be looking at this" he said

Cllr. Gerry McMonagle agreed that some changes were necessary but pointed out that a lot of good was happening. He welcomed the opportunity to engage with the residents which he said provided a platform to take advice from the public on plotting the best way forward for the town. "We can make the journey together but its going to take a number of years to get things right. The town plan must be revisited" he concluded.

Cllr. Jim Lynch said that the growth of the town had exceeded all expectations which had left recent development plans out of date at an early stage. The Independent Member said proper funding had not been coming to Letterkenny and he didn't envisage a major injection of cash in the near future. "The future is not bright if we are to believe the reports about the make up of the new Cabinet. We have not got the infrastructure to meet city status. We have no bridges or



Brigid McCormick, Iniskill, Glendowan pictured during the celebrations to mark her 100th birthday at the Colmille Heritage Centre, Churchill on Sunday with Fr. Willie Peoples, Fr. Pat McHugh and Fr. Michael McKeever. Photo by John McAteer.

ring roads and they won't appear overnight and probably not in my lifetime" he said.

Cllr Brogan said that Tuesday night's exercise had created a fruitful debate and he took the opportunity to focus on the traffic problems and mentioned the Girls School at Sentry Hill where the Council had invested in bus bays and extra car parking spaces. "Maybe its Celtic Tiger but in the mornings cars are stopping three abreast up there. The introduction of a proper bus service

would need everybody working together where-by more children would come to school by bus." Brogan said he had been disappointed with Bap-tie Report on traffic management which had not produced any new ideas to improve the town's transportation system. He rejected Cllr. Lynch's claim that the necessary funding wasn't coming to Letterkenny adding he was confident that infra-structural investment would be provided for the development of the town.

Loughrey & Co. on Channel 4

Loughrey & Co., Auctioneers are to feature on Channel 4's "Home By The Sea" on Tuesday the 14th of September at 4 pm.

Mr Joachim Loughrey principal of Loughrey & Co., said that while he was delighted that two properties on which he had been instructed were included in the programme he was even more thrilled that Channel 4 became aware of the properties through his website www.loughrey.ie.

Mr Loughrey explained that Channel 4 representatives approached Co. Donegal "blindly" without knowing the names of any of the Estate Agents active in the county. They simply did a search on the Internet and thanks to the good quality of design of www.loughrey.ie Loughrey & Co., became known to them. Through Loughrey & Co., website they found a number of properties which fitted the prospective buyers general requirements and from these, two properties which were nearest to there requirements were

chosen.

The first of these houses - Massmount View, Tamney was chosen because of the high standard of finish of the house and in particular because of the delightful views over Mulroy Bay and the Hills of Fanad. It is understood that Mr Loughrey mentioned the ballad "Mulroy Bay" made famous by Fanad's own John Kerr when introducing this property.

The second property was a restored farmhouse at Glenalla, Ray, Rathmullan. This property stands among mature trees amidst the Hills of Glenalla - which also featured in the film "The Hanging Gale" - and has been delicately restored by Hegarty Construction, Carrigart.

Mr Loughrey said that the results of the deliberations of the potential buyers were not made known to the agents or their clients and that he and his staff will have to wait until the programme is screened on Tuesday the 14th September at 4pm to know the results.



Martin McHugh and Noirin Fitzgerald of IRD Milford surveying the area to determine the extent of the works required at the Workhouse Graveyard in Milford.

New playing experience in Rathmullan

The footballers who lined out for Rathmullan F.C. on Sunday created their own little bit of history gracing the brand new Flagpole pitch.

It was the first ever game on the new surface and the new development also includes team changing facilities, a meeting room and an upstairs area. Sunday's landmark game against Letterkenny Rovers was the reward for seven years hard graft by the Rathmullan District Resource Group whose ultimate objective is to provide the local community with a multi purpose centre that will cater for social, cultural, sporting and work related activities. The developments so far have cost in excess of €250,000 and plans for phase three are already underway for the construction of multipurpose resource centre.

The late Denis Sheridan was the prime mover behind the first meeting held in 1997 to discuss ideas for the revitalisation of the Rathmullan area and it certainly has got a major boost with the completion of phase 1 (new pitch) and phase 2 (changing rooms) and the current committee are now putting the final touches to a business plan for a resource centre with a major fundraising drive due to start in the next few months. In the next phase it is hoped to have a multi purpose sportshall, small business units, a facility for water based activities and a cafeteria overlooking the beach.

Liam McLaughlin is the current Chairman of the Rathmullan District Resource Group and this week he has been reflecting on the achievements to date and the plans for the future. Liam has praised the huge voluntary effort and generosity of the local community along with friends



and family from outside the area which helped raise in excess of €70,000 through an extremely successful draw and other smaller functions.

While the Chairman also acknowledges the invaluable financial support from the then Minister for Sport & Tourism Dr. James McDaid whose department allocated approximately €200,000 to the project.

The new football pitch was layed by Pitch Dimensions while local contractor Arthur Lynch has built the new dressing rooms and meeting rooms on the ground floor and the upstairs has a large room which provides an ideal viewing area for games on those wet Sunday afternoons.

It is also planned to get the tennis courts back into operation while the need for a playground is also badly needed in the town.

Liam along with Margaret Todd are the only two founding members still on the current commit-



The new pitch at Rathmullan which staged its first game last Sunday and left, Fr. Francis McAteer, blessing the pitch

tee and the Chairman has made an appeal for new people to come on board as work on the third phase begins in earnest.

The present committee also includes Thomas and Joan Merritt, Seamus Gavaghan, Eileen Borland, Alan Todd while Sally Turnball who was a Chairperson in the early years was back helping out during the recent festival.

They have paid tribute to Fr Francie McAteer for the use of the Parochial Hall for community activities and the football club have expressed their sincere thanks to Mary Ateer for the use of the library room as a changing facility for teams down the years.

In the first ever game played on the new pitch Rathmullan managed by Liam McLaughlin came from two goals down to defeat Letter-

kenny Rovers 6-2. For the record the team on Sunday was Mark Walsh, Brian Patton, Sean McFadden, Sean Barrett, Declan Sheridan, Dessie McLaughlin, Owen Sheridan, Niall Doherty, Michael O'Connor, James Harrison, Pauric Morrison. Subs: Joey McElwee, Paddy Sheridan, Kevin Barker, Aaron Barrett and the boss himself. Among the stalwarts that have kept Rathmullan F.C. very much alive down the decades are Mary Ateer, Patsy Sheridan, John Todd, Tom McLaughlin and Alan Todd.

The Group plan to have an official opening of the new pitch and hope to invite a senior soccer team for the occasion. They are at present seeking submissions from the community on ideas for the new centre which is to be located next to the dressing rooms.



Tirconail Tribune Archives:- 12th Sept. 2004



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

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

Ballyare Crop Circles: natural rhythms of human mind

They may have come from a different planet: but then again, maybe not since Ballyare does not have a recent history of alien landings. But down at the local pub nobody can be quite sure if strange persons are among the clientele.

With a solid foundation and a framework that intertwines science and metaphysics, these new crop circles at Grovehall are a journey into uncharted territory. Maybe Ballyare's crop circles are part of a reality that is at the leading edge of this new millennium, and only just coming to the attention of the everyday world.

These fully formed circles high up near Grovehall may be telling us something, or many things. They could represent a multitude of disciplines including earth sciences, sacred geometry, sound, harmonics, mathematics, history, etymology, symbology, sociology, biology, physics, ufology, and psychic phenomena.

A myriad of seemingly inexplicable fragments of information are here gathered, painstakingly explored, and for the first time glued, revealing a picture that is stranger than fiction: Eyewitness

accounts, sudden appearances of crop circles in daylight, military harassment, strange columns of light, to name a few. Crop circles are a mysterious world to us earth creatures but out in Ballyare perhaps someone has found the secrets in the field and have uncovered the mechanism behind this phenomena: what makes them, why they are here, and why it shows how crop circles are connected with subtle forces, electromagnetism, gravity, and acoustics - techniques our predecessors utilised in pyramids and Gothic cathedrals to create transcendental states and conditions for healing.

Ballyare does not have any grand cathedrals: but it should and maybe some day they will. But in the meantime the latest crop circles gives us an insight into predictions, from ancient Egyptian texts to the Book of Revelations. In our own imagination we can explore how crop circles may be altering the very DNA of living organisms on Earth; how they are part of a cyclical exchange of energy and matter that underscores the rhythm of ecocycles, of evolution,



perhaps the history of humanity itself.

As science has discovered, there is more to the physical world than meets the eye. And there is no doubt at all that the Crop Circles in Ballyare fit into that category. And visitors to the area must know that these circles bring with them

measurable energetic properties that influence the natural rhythms of the human body, its brainwave patterns, even its state of awareness. But this is Ballyare and visitors from alien planets have always been welcome here: and they know it.

Broken promises but no solutions: SF



The Sinn Féin Representative for the Milford Electoral Area Dónal Cullen (pictured above) has called on Donegal County Council to take the necessary measures to put in place a proper and adequate water supply system for the people in the parish of Meevagh.

He states:- 'It is time for the blame-game and the talking to stop. This community is fed-up with talking - what is needed now is real and concrete action. It beggars belief that 4 years into the 21st Century any community has to tolerate an inadequate water supply. This problem has been ongoing for many years with little or no steps or initiative being taken by the establishment politicians to finding a lasting solution to the problem. Of course there is one exception - during

an election year when once again broken promises are made! Cullen continued: 'Donegal County Council has admitted last week that up to 6 million Euro of water is wasted each year due to burst pipes and in their own words 'an inefficient delivery system'. This admission is of little comfort to the householders in the Meevagh Parish who during the Easter/Summer period cannot even make a cup of tea!

As everybody knows, the Milford Electoral Area depends very much on the tourist season and indeed it has the potential to attract many more tourists.

How on earth are we going to attract tourists and much needed businesses into the area when at certain times of the year we can't even offer them a humble glass of water," he said.

Shaun Doherty to launch Hospice Sympathy Card

A range of specially designed Sympathy Cards will be launched by Highland Radio presenter Shaun Doherty in An Grianan Theatre on Monday 20th September at 6.30p.m. to raise funds for the Donegal Hospice.

The cards with their distinctive 'Lily emblem' will be available for sale on the night. The cards are priced individually at €5, €20, and €50. Packs of 18 will also be available at a cost of €200.

Everyone is welcome to attend and a good crowd would be appreciated.

Explaining how she came up with the idea, Kathleen Callaghan (pictured right) said "I listen to the obituaries on the Radio quite regularly and I often hear families requesting that money in lieu of flowers should be sent to various charities including the Hospice, I am sure that most people have good intentions to send on the money but it can be difficult to get around to it, I thought it would be much easier to buy a Sympathy Card, knowing that the money would go directly to the Hospice. Making an appeal to all retail outlets in the county Kathleen said "To make this venture a success it will be important firstly that retail outlets of all types stock the cards, so that they are readily available and secondly that the general public buy the cards. Paying tribute to the work of the hospice Kathleen continued "Most people are aware of the wonderful care that the hospice provide to the terminally ill and their families, and this year I had personal experience of the service as my sister in law died there in March, I felt that I wanted to give something back to the Hospice and to say thank you to the wonderful staff for the care they gave to her and to the extended family.

The cards were designed by Lermagh in Derry free of charge and the printing costs were sponsored by Michael McGettigan Construction, Noel McGinley Motors and Jackson's Hotel & Leisure Centre, Ballybofey, as all production costs are covered, each card sold will benefit the Donegal Hospice.

Further information from Kathleen Callaghan mobile no. 086 3744 559



Brogan demands action on Oldtown link

Cllr. Ciaran Brogan has called on Letterkenny Town Council to make the link route between Oldtown and Sallaghgraine a top priority. He has dismissed claims that the bypass road plan had been shelved.

Brogan said the talking was now over and has demanded that Council staff get to work immediately on pushing the project forward. He said he had raised the Oldtown link road issue during the last Council term but claimed there was a lack of will from officials in pursuing the relief route. "It must be made a priority now with serious congestion and safety concerns at Grier's Corner and at the Oldtown mini roundabout at Dunnes Stores.

The roundabout at Grier's was put in place at a time when there was a lot less traffic on that road and now there are heavy goods vehicles coming from the Glenties road that can barely negotiate this junction.

It has resulted in damage to cobblestones there and I have now got a commitment that this surface be replaced with tar" he said.

Cllr. Brogan said it was his understanding that the link road would not have to be altered despite the development of the new Leisure Complex at Sallaghgraine.

He's also expressed confidence that the necessary lands could be acquired for the relief route and that funding would be made available when details of the plan were worked out.

The Oldtown link road issue had been raised at a special meeting of Letterkenny Town Council last week where Cllr. Gerry McMonagle had claimed that due to the new Leisure Complex site the previous Letterkenny Town Council had scrapped plans for the route that was to start at Dunnes Stores and come out at Sallaghgraine near the O'Donnell Park.



Michelle Morris of Morris Communications presenting Geraldine O'Donnell, Chairperson of the St. Michael Ladies GAA with sponsored track suits for the under 16 team. Also included in the photo are the Under 16 squad and manager Patricia Kelly.

Bia ag Caint

with Noel MacLiam

Dia dhaoibh uilig, a chairde Ghaeil, agus mé ábalta sibh a chluinstin ag scairt amach: Nach bhfuil an aimsir sin galánta! B'fhíú an fearthainn uilig le trí mhí gan stad nó faoiseamh le seachtain galánta a fháil i Mheán Fómhair! Níorbh fhíú é, mo chairde, níl amhras ar bith faoi sin, ach buíochas le Danú nó An Dagda nó Banba í féin don bhrontanas deireanach na Samhraidh dúinn uilig. Tá faire na fáilte roimhe, m'anam. Is rud é atá deacair le cuir síos air an difir a thagann ar achán rud. Agus i dTír Chonaill ach go hairithe.



Tá sé díreach cosúil le bata draoichta a scimeáil thar an áit uilig. Agus cad é faoin ghealach? Amanna muscláim go luath ar maidin, thart fan a 4 a chlog nó mar sin, agus rinne mé amhlaidh ar maidin De Chéadaoine, agus shíl mé gur fhad mé na soilse sa ghairdín lásta go fóill, chomh geal agus a bhí sé.

D'amharc mé amach ar an ghealach í féin agus í ag soilsiú mar an ghrian. Gealach geal an Fómhair. Ní bhéadh póitseálaí le braon chéille aige ag obair an oíche sin! Agus mar gheall ar an ghealach ar leith sin bhí barr taoide ann a bhí níos airde ná taoide a chonaic mé le fáda an lá. Bhí mé ar bhruach an Lionáin i Rath Mealtáin agus bhí an abhainn ag iarraidh sceitheadh thar a bhruacha.

Bhí neart báid de achán sort ann agus bhí cuma ar an baile cosúil le áit ó chosta theas na Fraince í féin. Bhí daoine ag spaisteoireacht thart, éadaí éadroma orthu, agus bhí cuma breá ar an áit iomlán.

D'amharc mé arís ar an biachlár i TAP UP, an bialann galánta ar bhruach an abhainn, agus, mar is gnáth, bhí sé go hiontach mealltach. Athraíonn an biachlár go minic, ach tá achán mias i gcónaí galánta deas, i gcónaí le aird ar na mionsonraí.

Tá mé ag siúl go mór le mo chéad turas eile ar ais ann. Bhí ceol ann i Conway's, le ceol Bluegrass ann, agus caighdeán ard ann fosta. Deirim i gcónaí go bhfuil muid millte sa cheantar seo, go hairithe nuair atá an soineann againn. Go mairfidh sé!

Labhair cúpla daoine liom i rith na seachtaine faoin CLAFOUTIS a bhí againn an seachtain seo uaidh thart, ag rá go raibh an oideas measartha éasca a leanadh, rud a thaitin go mór liom. Bhí mé ag smaointiú fosta go dtiocfadh leat torthaí eile a úsáid ann muna mbéadh sillíní le fáil. Thiocfadh leat Pétseog nó Fraochán Gorm a úsáid-rogha féin, ar m'anam. Sin an crúthaíocht atá nuair a fhoghlaimaíonn tú oidis, agus nuair atá muinín agat, mar gheall ar chleachtadh, do rian féin a chuir ar mhias. Agus ná déanaigí dearmad, mo chairde Ghaeil, níl sibh ag gabháil mórán da-maiste a dhéanamh nó duine a mharú!

Tá a fhios againn, maidir le bia agus cócaireacht, go bhfuil sé crionna agus foirsteanach a bheith ag smaointiú go séasúrach, agus le comhábhair a thagann ag an am céanna a chuir le chéile. Sampla breá is é ciste uill agus sméara dubha, an bheirt acu le fáil anois.

Agus tá méid mhór glasraí réidh anois fosta: scailliúin, beacháin, trátaí, cóilis, cúirséidí, cabáiste, cainneann, biabhóg, arbhar milis, cúl..... agus seachas iad a ithe mar atá siad, is rud éasca anraith a dhéanamh astu, agus níl teorann ar chinéal anraithí atá indéanta. Rud tábhachtach ar fad maidir le anraith, is é go bhfuil sé éasca a dhéanamh.

Nuair atá ceann amháin déanta agat béidh tú ábalta comhair a bheith anraith ar bith a dhéanamh. Leanann sé an modh céanna; ní athraíonn ach na comhábhair. Leanaigí ar aghaidh, mar sin!

ANRAITH SPÍOSRAÍTHE CAIRÉAD agus LINTILÍ Spiced Carrot and Lentil Soup

Comhábhair



2 tsp síoltaí cuimín
1 pionsa calógai sillí
2 tbsps ola olóige

600g cairéidí, grátaithe
140g lintilí scoilte dearg
1 ltr stoc glasraí te
125ml bainne

MODH:

Cuir pota mór ar teas agus friochtaigh cuimín agus sillí gan ola le 1 bom. Tóg amach leathchuid agus cuir ar leataobh. Cuir isteach ola olóige, cairéad, lintilí, stoc agus bainne, tóg chun bhruith agus suanbhruith le 15bom go bhfuil na lintilí bog. Meascaigh le cumascóir go bhfuil sé deas mín. Cuir na spíosraí atá fagtha ar an barr agus cuir amach.

ANRAITH MEACHÁN BÁN RÓSTA agus MARÓS Roasted Parsnip Soup with Rosemary



Comhábhair
600g meachán bán, gearrtha
4 tbsps ola olóige
50g im
225g oinniúiní, gearrtha go tanaí

1 tbsp marós triomaithe
2 cúibeanna stoc glasraí
750ml uisce
750ml bainne

MODH:

Cuir oigheann ar 180C, meachán bán ar thráidire le 2tbsp ola agus róstáil le 15bom. Cuir an ola eile i bpota leis an im, oinniún agus marós agus friochtaigh le 5bom. Cuir meachán bán agus gach rud eile istigh, tóg chun bhruith agus suanbhruith le 5bom. Le cumascóir le achán rud a dhéanamh deas mín.

B'fhíú é. It was worth it
Níorbh fhíú é. It wasn't worth it
Faoiseamh. Relief
Bata draíochta. Magic wand
Ag scimeáil. Skimming
Múscláim. I waken
Amhlaidh. Same, similar
Póitseálaí. Poacher
Braon céille. A drop of sense
Barr taoide. High tide
Bruach. Riverbank
Sceitheadh thar bruacha. (River) break its banks
Ag spaisteoireacht. Strolling, ambling
Mealltach. Enticing
Soineann. Fine weather
Seo uaidh thart. Recently passed
Pétseog. Peach
Fraochán gorm. Blueberry
Crúthaíocht. Creativity
Rian a chuir. Leave a mark, trace
Críonna. Wise
Seachas. Aside from
Indéanta. Possible
Teorann. Border, limit

Council to honour Billy Higgins

The Tip O'Neill Irish Diaspora Awards return for 2024 to the Inishowen Gateway Hotel in Bunclara on this Friday, 27th September, from 7pm. One of the awardees for 2024 is Boston native Billy Higgins. Born and raised in South Boston, Massachusetts, USA, Billy Higgins is a businessman and community leader who is renowned for his charitable endeavours and the founder of the South Hill Childrens Fund in Boston in 1985. This fund is a non-profit organisation whose vision is "to provide access and opportunity to children who are in need". Their fundraising "helps provide the tools necessary to encourage education,

a key element of overcoming hardship" and has assisted hundreds of children access opportunities to better their lives and prospects. Through Billy's leadership and commitment The South Hill Childrens Fund is constantly finding ways to help raise money to fund field trips, extra-curricular activities, and provide the necessary tools to achieve their goals. Their achievements



are many and money raised is in the many hundreds of thousand, these achievements are even more monumental considering all staff work on a totally voluntary basis. Billy Higgins has done immense work in supporting the education of children with special needs both in Boston and here Ireland. He has repeatedly donated to the Patient Social Fund of the Ballaghderg Pre-School for Chil-

dren with Special Needs in Donegal and has continued to support the school and its work for many years. His direct contributions have assisted in greatly improving the school and its ability to accommodate the many varying and complex needs of its students. His tremendous work in both Donegal and Limerick has been acknowledged by both the President and the Taoiseach in the past and it is only right his dedication and contribution to Donegal is recognised with this year's award. Donegal County Council is proud to present Billy Higgins with the Tip O'Neill Irish Diaspora Award.



Cranford AC News



Cranford AC U19 mixed team who won Gold Caolan McFadden, Michael Moore, Clodagh Neely, and Miah Fletcher.

Congratulations to Liam Doherty who won the Loretto Letterkenny 5K last Thursday night. On Sunday and hosted by Finn Valley was the Donegal Senior, Masters and Juvenile Cross Country relays. First up were our Senior men who had a great race earning themselves a well deserved 3rd place, congratulations to Declan and Ryan McBride, Danny Martin Lafferty and Danny McFadden.

Next up were our Masters Men who finished 5th place and again we had Declan McBride running alongside Brendan McGee and Enda Boyce. Well deserved men and we would like to welcome Enda to the running club, this was his first competition, looking forward to seeing more of Enda running in the future.

Our Under 11 girls ran a great race well done to Sara Boyce, Gracie Sweeney, Amelia Lily McGee, Aoife and Orlagh Clear, Rose O'Toole, Alanna Curran and Sadhbh McBride.

Our boys Under 11 Dara Gallagher, Gavin Boyce, John Patrick Duffy, Conaill McCloskey and Jerry Gallagher had a great race.

Our Under 12 mixed team was made up of Charlie Rogers, Ronan Cleary, Megan McBrearty and Annie Meehan.

Our Under 13 team boys who came first, well done to Roan Ladley, Ben McGee, Tarlach Duggan and Charley Rogers also in the team were Seamus McCloskey, Harry McHugh and Rory Boyce.

Our Under 14 mixed team had a great race earning themselves a well deserved first place.

Congratulations to Ben McGee, Oisín McHugh, Olivia Curran and Colleen McCloskey.

Our Under 16 mixed team was Dylan Finnegan, Odhran McGroddy, Karen Neely and Muireann Kennedy who had a great race and finished in second place. Well done to you all.

Last up was our Under 19 team who had a great race to win. Congratulations to Miah Fletcher, Clodagh Neely, Michael Moore and Caolan McFadden.



Cranford AC U13 relay team who finished 4th Charlie Rogers, Seamus McCloskey, Harry McHugh and Rory Boyce.

Letterkenny AC Notes

LAC members would like to convey their condolences to the family and friends of Jimmy Gildea on his recent passing. Jimmy was held in high regard in the club as a competitor, a club-person and a friend.

In the Loretto Convent 5k LAC's Emma Bonar enjoyed a podium finish when she finished in 2nd place in an excellent time of 19:36 followed in 3rd place by Eimear Gormley in 20:07. Peter Gallagher ran 20:44, Paul Toner 21:12, Michael Mooney 22:03, Paul Lee 23:12, Ray McDermott 23:13, Mark McFadden 23:54, Frank Pinder 24:07, Alicia McNulty 24:27, Liam Wiseman 25:31, Richard Raymond 26:18, Mary Higgins 30:00, Linda Cronin 30:11, Noreen Pinder 34:26, Mary Martin 36:24 while Angela McGee ran 36:51.

LAC athletes performed very well in Sligo last weekend in the Coast 2 Coast 10 mile road race on Sunday. The scenic run took the participants from Strandhill to Rosses Point. In a statement race by Michael Harkin, he ran an outstanding time of 59:05 followed closely by Enda McLaughlin in 60:33. Clive Monahan ran 67:20, Mark O'Donnell ran 68:22, Eamonn McEldowney ran 68:57.



Cranford AC boys U11 team Conaill McCloskey, Gavin Boyce, John Patrick Duffy and Dara Gallagher.

We would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate our well deserved Donegal Award winners on Friday hosted in Jackson's Hotel. Congratulations to Clodagh Neely, Charley Rogers, Oisín McBride, Michael Moore and Caolan McFadden.

This is a great award to receive for all their outstanding performances over the past year. Well done also goes to Karen Neely and Sadhbh McBride who were our photographers for the evening and did a fantastic job.



Charlie and Grace Rogers enjoying the good weather at Donegal Relay Championship in FV.



Cranford AC U12 mixed team Charlie Rogers, Ronan Cleary, Megan McBrearty, Annie Meehan.



Cranford AC U14 mixed team who came 1st. Olivia Curran, Oisín McBride, Ben McGee and Colleen McCloskey.



Cranford AC Boys U13 who won Gold Roan Ladley, Ben McGee, Matthew Giles and Tarlach Duggan.



Cranford AC U16 Mixed relay team who came 2nd place Odhran McGroddy, Karen Neely, Muireann Kennedy and Dylan Finnegan.



Cranford AC Girls U11 Sara Boyce, Gracie Sweeney, Amelia Lily McGee, Aoife and Orlagh Clearly, Rose O Tool, Alanna Curran and Sadhbh McBride with coach Orla Neely.



Cranford AC senior men who came 3rd at the Donegal relays on Sunday Danny Mc Fadden, Declan and Ryan McBride and Danny Martin Lafferty.



Scenes from the Coffee Morning in the Mackemie Hall, Rameilton on Friday in aid of the Donegal Hospice. They raised a total of €2,155 and they wish to thank everyone for their support.

Donegal Junior Football League

Kerrykeel kick-off league season

The start of the Donegal Junior Football League is this weekend with a full programme of matches in both the Saturday and Sunday divisions. Most teams have experienced competitive action already in Brian McCormick FAI Junior Cups. But, it's the first game of the 2024-2025 campaign for Kerrykeel '71 F.C. who host Dunkineely Celtic at Rabs Park on Sunday. Manager Hughie Walsh should have most players available and will be hoping to get off to a winning start in Division 2 following relegation last season. Likewise another local team Whitestrand United will aim to get off to a positive start at the Moss home of Drumoghill F.C. Strand do have one competitive game under their belt having lost to Swilly Rovers in the Brian McCormick at the end of last month. In Division 1 Cranford United face a tough test away in Donegal Town who were in contention for promotion last season. There should be an interesting clash in Glasherchoo where Glenea United are at home Milford United. There are a series of attractive fixtures in the Premier Division. Newly promoted Bonagee United will be tipped to get the better of Gweedore Celtic. Reigning champions Fanad United face a tricky opener against St. Catherine's but Arthur Lynch's outfit should come out on top. A side who did well in the top flight last season Keadue Rovers will be expected to get the better of Swilly Rovers. In St. Johnston Kildrum Tigers will have to produce a big performance to defeat another promoted Letterkenny Rovers who have strengthened their panel in the close season. Another team that has boosted their Kilmacrennan Celtic should have enough to take the three points against Rathmullan Celtic at the Letterkenny Community Centre. All games kick-off at 1pm.

FAI Junior Cup

Milford knock-out Mariners

Ramelton Mariners 3-5 Milford Utd

There was disappointment for the Ramelton Mariners on Saturday as they made their FAI Junior Cup exit as Milford Utd advanced to the second round of the competition. Evan Hewitt bagged a double for the Mariners at the Flagpole in Rathmullan. Fionn Robinson was the other scorer. The Milford marksmen were Joey Cullen, Finn Coll, Niall Murray, Killian McBride and Corey Lee McConigley. Ramelton Mariners - Dylan Roulston, Stephen

Bryant, Eoin Roulston, Kieran Black, Connor Ferguson, Myles Mulgrew, Jonah Serrina, Luke Friel, Fionn Robinson, Evan Hewitt, Shay Callan McFadden. Subs used: Brendan McDaid for Black, Declan Sweeney for Serrina, Shaun Bryant for Shay Callan McFadden, Luke Morgan for E Roulston, Paul Gallagher for Friel. Milford Utd - Caolan McGettigan, Conor McHugh, Jacob Campbell, Jordan Ryan, Niall Murray, Shane Black, Killian McBride, Joey Cullen, Darren McLaughlin, Corey Lee McConigley and Fin Coll. Subs Adam Campbell, Alec McConigley, Darren McAteer, Ultan Blaney, Ciaran Gibbons, Fallon McBride.

Kilmac keep winning

Buncrana Hearts 1-2 Kilmacrennan Cel

Kilmacrennan Celtic's 100% winning start to the new season continued on Sunday with victory in the FAI Junior First Round over Buncrana Hearts at Castle Park. Defender Stephen Black and Sam Harvey netted the goals for Gerard McGranaghan's side. Previously Kilmac had won their McCormick Cup games culminating in the Area Final win over Cranford Utd a fortnight ago. They are through to the County semi-final of that competition with the game taking place later in the season. And after Sunday's win Kilmac are through to the Second Round of the FAI Junior Cup and will play Milford United next month. Kilmacrennan Cel - Liam McBride, Stephen Black, Rory McGrenra, James Doherty, Ciaran Gorman, Caolan Curran, Sam Harvey, Matthew McLaughlin, Shane McNamee, Chris Dillon, Cathal McDaid. Subs used: Gerard McGranaghan, Conor Black, Danny Hall. Not used: Glen McNulty, Owen Browne, Paul Bradley, Danny Sandilands.

Hat-trick for Mickey Kerr

Culdaff F.C. 0-6 Swilly Rovers

Swilly played Culdaff in Maginn Park and progressed to the second round of the FAI Junior Cup. New manager Damien Friel was missing a number of squad players including Oisín Coyle, Brad Patterson, Ryan McDaid, Daniel McAteer and Tony Gallagher. Tom Mullan was first off the mark with an easy finish four minutes into the game when Mickey Kerr's shot was parried by the Culdaff keeper. Swilly made it 2-0 on 21 minutes when Mickey Kerr fired home after receiving a

ball from Marty McDaid. Kerr doubled his tally for the day on 30 mins after a wonderful lobbed ball played by Laurence Toland was well taken down by Kerr who finished smartly. On 40 minutes it was 4-0 when Kerr played the ball into Marty McDaid who fired home from close range. Culdaff had a few chances throughout the half but the Swilly back line stood firm. Tom Mullan made it two for him on the day after a great ball played into the channel by Shay Durning. Mullan chased it down and shrugged off the challenge of the defender and chipped the keeper on 60 minutes. Culdaff pushed to get on the score sheet but Gallagher in the Swilly goal and his solid defence made sure they were leaving with a clean sheet. Kerr finished the scoring off for the day from the penalty spot in the 83rd minute to make it a hat-trick for himself after Laurence Toland was brought down in the box. Swilly Rovers - Barry Gallagher, Darragh McDaid, David Craig, Ciaran Kelly, Shay Durning, Jordan McDaid, Michael Kerr, Ian Ward, Laurence Toland, Marty McDaid, Tom Mullen. Subs used: Calvagh O'Donnell, Darragh Fennell, Adrian Toland. Not used Jamie-Lee Blaney

McGlone on the mark for Fanad

Fanad Utd 2-0 Carndonagh F.C.

Fanad Utd progressed to the next round of the FAI Junior Cup after a 2-0 victory over Carndonagh FC at Traigh-a-Loch thanks to goals from young Dylan McGlone and Darren McElwaine which saw Arthur Lynch's side progress to the next round of the FAI Junior Cup after a 2-0 victory over Carndonagh FC. Another young man Shea Cannon made his debut as a second half. Oisín McMenamin has returned to the club for a second stint and played the last half hour. And after a year out with a cruciate knee Seimi 'Nanny' Friel came off the bench for a welcome back to competitive football. It was Fanad who had the first chance in the second minute, after a corner the ball fell to Eoin Logue on the edge of the box but his shot whistled just wide of the post. Fanad continued to push and went ahead in the 15th minute. After good work from Keelin McElwaine the ball was laid on to the inrushing Dylan McGlone and his cross cum shot nestled in the top corner from 20 yards. On the half hour mark Peter Carr went on a mazy

Fixtures

Saturday 28th September

Glencar Inn Saturday Division One
Drumbar F.C. v Kildrum Tigers Res
Oldtown Celtic v Strand Rovers
St. Catherine's Res v Donegal Town Res
Swilly Rovers Res v Glencar Cel

Old Orchard Saturday Division Two
Castlefin Celtic Res v Dunlewey Celtic
Erne Wanderers v Kilmacrennan Celtic Res
Fintown Harps AFC v Glenea Utd Res
Gweedore Celtic Res v Drumoghill F.C. Res
Letterkenny Rovers Res v Cappry Rovers Res

Finn Travel Saturday Division Three
Copany Rovers v Ballybofey United Res
Cranford Utd Res v Lagan Harps Res
Drumkeen Utd Res v Bonagee Utd Res
Gweedore Utd Res v Fanad Utd Res

Sunday 29th September

Brian McCormick Sports Premier Division

Bonagee United v Gweedore Celtic
Fanad United v St. Catherine's
Keadue Rovers v Swilly Rovers
Kildrum Tigers v Letterkenny Rovers
Kilmacrennan Cel v Rathmullan Cel

Temple Domestic Appliances Division One

Ballybofey Utd v Lifford Celtic
Cappry Rovers v Gweedore Utd
Donegal Town v Cranford Utd
Glenea Utd v Milford Utd
Lagan Harps v Castlefin Celtic

Donegal Physiotherapy and Performance Centre Division Two

Curragh Athletic v Drumkeen Utd
Deele Harps v Letterbarrow Celtic
Drumoghill F.C. v Whitestrand Utd
Kerrykeel '71 F.C. v Dunkineely Celtic
Raphoe Town v Convoy Arsenal

run down the right and his pin-point cross was headed wide by Darren McElwaine. Carndonagh were well in the game and on 35 minutes Cade Cooke showed great strength in the box to hold off two markers and his shot produced an excellent save from Mark McConigley. On the stroke of half time Fanad came agonisingly close to a second goal when Keelin McElwaine's shot from 20 yards came back off the crossbar. Ten minutes into the second half Fanad made their pressure count when Darren McElwaine scored with an excellent free kick from 25 yards. Game was open at this stage and with 10 minutes to go, Carndonagh keeper Daniel McDaid produced a fantastic save to deny Oisín McMenamin. Two minutes later McDaid produced another fine save to deny Keelin McElwaine. As the final whistle was about to blow, McMenamin had another chance but dragged his shot wide.



Ryan Doherty on the attack for Milford on Sunday against Letterkenny's Noel Casburn during their Donegal Premier U16 Final. See report on Page 26.



The Milford U16 team who were defeated by Letterkenny Rovers on Sunday in the Donegal Premier Final.

Declan Boyle appointed CEO of Donegal Sports Partnership

Declan Boyle has been named the new CEO of Donegal Sports Partnership, bringing with him a wealth of experience from a lifelong dedication to sport. For the past 14 and a half years, Declan has served as the Sports Coordinator for Leitrim Sports Partnership, where he played a pivotal role in promoting and developing sports participation across the county. Prior to this, he was the FAI Com-



adults to get active. He believes in the power of sports to unite communities, foster personal growth, and promote well-being for people of all ages.

Declan is looking forward to building and continuing the work done by outgoing CEO Myles Sweeney, who has been instrumental in elevating Donegal Sports Partnership to its current success. Under Sweeney's leadership, the organisation has become a model for sports development, inclusion, and community engagement nationally. Declan looks forward to the challenges and opportunities ahead as he takes on this exciting new role, aiming to continue the legacy of excellence established by Myles Sweeney and his Donegal Sports Partnership team.

community Soccer Development Officer for Leitrim for 2 years.

Dr Martin Gormley, Secretary of the Donegal Sports Partnership, extended congratulations to Declan. He stated 'Declan's dedication and experience in fostering community sport development made him an ideal fit to lead this organisation into an exciting new chapter. The Company is confident that together with his leadership and experienced staff team we will continue to see further promotion of sport, well-being, and inclusivity across the county.'

He also expressed his deepest gratitude to Myles Sweeney for his eighteen years service and unwavering commitment to the Donegal Sports Partnership stating, 'Myles has been instrumental in shaping the growth and success of our many programmes, and his legacy will undoubtedly inspire future generations. We wish him all the very best in his well-earned retirement. Thank you Myles.'

In addition to his football career, Declan has also played GAA for his hometown of Killybegs and represented Donegal at the senior level. Throughout his career, Declan has been passionate about sport and increasing sports participation at all stages of life, from providing physical activity opportunities for young people and grassroots development to providing programmes for older

McNulty urges households to check eligibility for fuel allowance

The Fuel Allowance will play a vital role for families across Donegal to help with their heating costs this winter, Fine Gael candidate John McNulty in the General Election has said. The 2024/25 Fuel Allowance season was launched by Minister Heather Humphreys and will run for the next 28 weeks.



John McNulty said: "The Fuel Allowance is worth €924 for households in Donegal who are eligible, a very welcome contribution towards heating costs for the winter months. "I was delighted that Minister Heather Humphreys broadened the eligibility of the scheme resulting in more families in Donegal benefitting from the payment. Thanks to these changes, there are now 400,000 households across the country in receipt, and they can choose between a weekly

payment of €33 or two payments of €462. In Budget 2023, Fine Gael also introduced a new over 70s means test for Fuel Allowance. Under this, a single person can have a means of €512 per week and a couple can have means of €1024 per week and still qualify for Fuel Allowance.

"Fine Gael is committed to putting money back into the pockets of families in Donegal and this is just one of many ways the government has demonstrated its commitment to supporting those who are most in need. This commitment will be continued and reflected in Budget 2025.

Those in receipt do not need to re-apply and will continue to get the payment, and I encourage anyone in Donegal who feels they may be entitled to go to welfare.ie and check their eligibility," McNulty concluded.



The Junior Room in St. Davaddog's NS Tamney. They welcomed 4 new Junior Infant pupils and a new family who moved to the school.

Donegal Premier U16 Final

Rovers defeat Milford in U16 decider

Letterkenny Rovers 5-3 Milford Utd

Letterkenny Rovers enjoyed a super end to their season by winning the Premier Cup Final 5-3 in Ramelton on Sunday. Their opponents Milford Utd played their part in an eight-goal feast in a roller coaster decider that was in the melting pot until the dying minutes of normal time. On a near perfect afternoon Rovers led all the way but there was little to choose between the sides. Sam O'Donnell netted twice along with Padraig Murphy, Darragh Cullen and Filip Duraj. With the breeze at their backs Noel Gillespie's side had the better start but couldn't turn a handful of decent attacks into goals. Inside the first minute an excellent cross from full-back Declan Moran saw no Milford player on hand to take advantage of a massive opportunity to make an early breakthrough at the dressing room end of the ground. At the other end Rovers skipper Padraig Murphy was denied by the Milford defence. But it was the Moyle View boys who had the upper hand. A Jack McLaughlin tackle for Shay Gibbons to release Sean Baxter-O'Driscoll whose shot was pushed out for a corner by Rovers keeper Daniel McClafferty.

On 14 minutes a teasing Daithi McTaggart cross saw Baxter-O'Driscoll just fail to get the necessary touch that would surely have resulted in a goal. Failure to finish was punished when Letterkenny Rovers took the lead in the 20th minute when central defender Sam O'Donnell's 25-yard shot rocketed into the top corner and there was nothing that keeper Jack McLaughlin could do about it.

Milford forward George McNulty came agonisingly close to an equaliser after doing well to cut inside his strike came back off the butt of the upright. But, his side did deservedly get back on level

terms on the half-hour mark. Gibbons did well initially to slip Ryan McElhinney through and his low cross from the endline was superbly squeezed home at the back post by Declan Moran. However, it was short lived as Rovers regained the lead on 35 minutes when captain Murphy provided the finish. Keeper Jack McLaughlin then made a vital stop from Yaseem Omer to keep the deficit at 2-1.

Milford started the second half well with Baxter-O'Driscoll having an effort blocked by keeper McClafferty before drawing level on 51 minutes. Baxter-O'Driscoll latched onto the ball down the left before cutting inside to fire past McClafferty for a fantastic finish. One of the key moments in the decider came on 59 minutes when Gillespie's side three times came close to taking the lead for the first time. Caolan Carr's cross from the left went all the way to Declan Moran whose close range strike was parried by McClafferty, a rebound was blocked and the final effort went wide of the upright.

Again that inability to convert chances was capitalised upon by Rovers who went in front again on 64 minutes when Sam O'Donnell got his second of the game. At the other Baxter-O'Driscoll had a good chance to make it 3-3 but the striker's shot didn't have the necessary power to trouble the keeper. Then on 70 minutes Milford netminder made a good save from Shea McFadden. But the keeper was beaten when Daragh Cullen headed home a near post cross from Artem Luzhetskyyi in the 74th minute.

But the goals kept coming and to their credit Milford found the net again just two minutes later to leave it 4-3 when Baxter-O'Driscoll lobbed the keeper. But shortly afterwards Letterkenny Rovers pretty much made sure of the silverware when



Happy 50th wedding anniversary to Robbie and Glynis Dill



P.J. Cavanagh (Donegal Schoolboys League) and Stevie Coll from the FAI with Letterkenny Rovers captain Padraig Murphy in Ramelton on Sunday afternoon after the Donegal Premier U16 Cup Final

Philip Duraj found the net from a rebound after Murphy's attempt had come back off an upright. However, the Moyle View boys weren't finished and Shay Gibbons should have reduced the deficit and it had gone in McNulty had another chance in



The Letterkenny Rovers team who defeated Milford on Sunday in Ramelton.

the first minute of injury time.

Milford Utd U16s - Jack McLaughlin, Declan Moran, Caolan Carr, Jack Mailey, Conor McLaughlin, Ryan McElhinney, Shay Gibbons, Caolan McBride, Sean Baxter-O'Driscoll, George McNulty, Daithi McTaggart. Subs: Dagm O'Connell, Ryan Doherty, Conor Jack Strain, Matthew Miller, Liam Tierney, Ben Giles, Flynn Nash, Mark McCleary, Ben McHugh.

Letterkenny Rovers - Daniel McClafferty, Alex McDevitt, Sam O'Donnell, James Tinney, Cory Oliver, Jacob Leader, Filip Duraj, Antoni Pitch, Noah Cashburn, Padraig Murphy, Daragh Cullen. Subs: Mohammed Elshawa, Yaseem Omer, Shea McFadden, Artem Luzhetskyyi. Ref: Damien McFadden.



Sean Baxter-O'Driscoll from Milford is about to be tackled by Rovers Sam O'Donnell.

Fanad

Fanad Coffee Morning

The annual Donegal Hospice Coffee Morning will be taking place on this Thursday 26th September in Bridget and Jimmy McAteer's House, Ballynacrick from 10am until 8pm. All very welcome.

Ceiligh Dancing

Two hand ceiligh dancing in Fanavolty Hall on Tuesday 1st of October at 8pm. Everyone welcome for a good night's enjoyment and exercise.

Men's Shed in Glenvar

The committee of Coiste Forbartha Ghleann are considering the possibility of setting up a Men's Shed in Glenvar. Anyone interested in taking part please contact Joe 085 205 4890.

Flu & Covid Vaccine Clinic
Fanad Health will have a walk in Flu and Covid vaccine clinic on Monday 30th September between 2pm and 4.30pm. An evening walk in clinic will be held at a later date. Please contact us on 074 9159060 if you are unsure if you are eli-

Eamonn Scott Funeral Directors

Fanad & Letterkenny

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Care & compassion, every step of the way

Car damaged at Portsalon pier

Gardaí are appealing for information in relation to a criminal damage incident that occurred in Portsalon on Friday, September 20th where a car was damaged. The incident occurred sometime between 8.15pm and 8.45pm.

They said a car was parked at the pier between those times and the owner returned to discover that the sun roof had been smashed.

They asked: "We appeal to anybody who may have been in the area between 8pm and 9pm with a dash cam to make the footage available to Gardaí. Any relevant information should be passed to Gardaí in Milford on 9153060."



Tá folúntas i gcomhair Rúnai (páirtaimseartha) i Scoil Mhuire, Caiseal (Uimhir Rolla 18120J). Is scoil Ghaeltachta DEIS i Scoil Mhuire. Caithfidh an iarrthóir a bheith báúil leis an Ghaeilge agus a bheith sásta barr feabhais a chur uirthi, más gá. Tá achan eolas le fáil ar educationposts.ie Is é an Aoine, 4 Deireadh Fómhair 2024 @ 5 i.n. an dáta deiridh d'iarratais phoist. Beidh na hagallaimh ar siúl seachtain an 7ú Deireadh Fómhair.

Scoil Mhuire, Caiseal, Fánaid, Co. Dhún na nGall

gible to receive."

Change of Mass Times come into effect this weekend

Mass Times in St Peter's Church, Milford and Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Kerrykeel will change from this weekend Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th September and will be on a trial basis until March 2025.

Following a recent Poll in the parish the results were -

- Leave Mass Times As They Are 164 votes;
- Change Mass Times 220 votes; Spoiled

Ray News

Take Your Pick
Congratulations to Caroline Branigan, Marie Gordon and Bridie Boyle who all won €20 in the Take Your Pick this week. Jackpot next Sunday 30th September is €400.

Ray Parent and Toddler Group
Ray Parent and Toddler Group recommences again on Friday morning 27th September from 10.30am to 11.45am. It would be great to see new families attend.

Activities
All activities have commenced for September. Classes are for all genders unless otherwise stated.

Couch to 5K
A new couch to 5k for beginners continues on Thursdays at 7pm and Sunday mornings at 9.30am. Cost is €50 for adults and €20 for children accompanied by an adult.

Great way to increase your fitness in a friendly environment. Come along and try it out.

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087 7120605



Ciara Ó Conalláin daughter of Darragh and Mairead from Sligo who recently got seven H1's in her leaving certificate. Her mother Mairead (nee Dorrian) from Coolback in Fanad is daughter of Nancy and the late Michael Dorrian the former vice principal of Loreto CS Milford. Ciara, a pupil at the Ursuline College in Sligo attained the grades in English, Maths, French, Applied Maths, Physics, Chemistry and Biology.

Schedule for week Rosnakill Community Hub

Monday: 2240321
• 6.45pm - 7.30pm 'Fit in 45'. A brilliant opportunity to bring on a healthier and fitter you. Booking essential on : Tel: 0862240321
• 'Men on the move' returns on Monday & Wednesday evenings. All levels of fitness welcome.

Tuesday
• 7-9.30pm Mens Healthy Eating / cooking course began on Tuesday. This 6 week course is Free.
• 6pm - 7pm & 7.15pm - 8.15pm Pilates with Catriona. Booking essential, direct with Catriona on : 086 0466295.

Wednesday
6.45pm - 7.30pm 'Fit in 45'. Booking is essential on : Tel 086

8pm - 10pm : 'Men on the move'. All levels of fitness welcome.

Thursday
Fanad Jujitsu hoping to return end of September, time to be confirmed.

Friday
Mulroy Hoops Basketball. Registration online.
• 5.15pm - 6pm under 6's.
• 6pm - 7pm under 8's
• 7pm - 8.15pm under 10's
7pm : Gathering of gardeners facilitated by Evelyn McKemey Gallagher. Tea and refreshments on evening. Entrance : €5.
Rosnakill Community Hub Gym is open from the hours of 9.30am-1pm and 5.30-10pm. Monday to Friday Price: 1 hour: €5.

1 month : €25; 3 months: €60; 6 months : €100; Annual : €180

Upcoming Events/Classes/Talks
• Yoga Kindly with Brigitte (Date/time to be confirmed). Enquiries contact: Tel: 0870653333
• Alzheimers/Dementia talk. On Thursday 24th of October at 7pm, we will host at Rosnakill Community Hub a talk on Alzheimers and Dementia facilitated by 'The Alzheimers Society of Ireland'.
• Autumn Courses (pending on interest/funding).
Home Baking with Ruth (Date/time to be confirmed)
Photography with Shaun Egan (Date/time to be confirmed)
Genealogy with Boyd Gray (Date/time to be confirmed)

Where food matters

Ripples Restaurant

www.ripplesrestaurant.net

Kerrykeel, Tel: 074 9150110

Where food matters

Open Daily for Lunch, Dinner & A la Carte

Sunday Lunch Menu 12.30 - 3.30pm
2 Courses €25.50 3 Courses €29.50

STARTERS

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Beef or Shrimp Taco | Baked Brie - Cranberry Sauce |
| Mussels Mulinaire | Prawn Cocktail |
| Homemade Vegetable Soup | Sweet & Spicy Chicken Wings |
| Garlic Mushrooms - Garlic Dip | |

MAIN COURSES

- Poached Fillets of Sole - Shrimp Au Gratin Sauce
Roast Stuffed Turkey & Baked Gammon - Roast Gravy
Pan Fried Fillets of Salmon - Lemon & Butter Sauce
Roast Sirloin of Beef -Yorkshire Pudding - Gravy
Panko Breaded Chicken Fillet - Garlic Butter / Pepper Sauce

All Dishes above served with Creamed Potato & Vegetables

- Warm Chicken Salad
Seafood Linguine
Steak Burger or Chicken Burger (Bacon, Cheese, Onion and Relish) on a Brioche Bap served with Chips
Fish & Chips
Cajun Chicken Pasta...Garlic Bread

DESSERTS

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Apple Crumble Tartlet...Ice | Pavlova |
| Cream & Cream & Custard | Ice Cream...Butter Scotch Sauce |
| Carageen...Cream & Ice Cream | |
| Jelly & Ice Cream | Tea / Coffee |
| Chocolate Fudge Cake | NO SPLIT BILLS |

Take Away Service Available - Tel 074 91 50110

Votes: 8 votes. The weekend Masses will be changed to - St Peter's Church, Milford: Saturday evening at 6.00pm and Sunday morning at 11.00am. Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Kerrykeel - Sunday morning at 9:30am.

Sounds Music Camps

Sounds Music Camps return this September. Classes in Milford, Ray, Ramelton and Letterkenny. U8's will have an opportunity to explore key musical concepts through singing, percussion, fun and games. Ukulele classes for 8 years and older. Beginners are welcome and all instruments are provided. Contact Tracy on 0851500123

Bingo

Bingo continues in the Community Centre every Monday night at 8pm. Theres the usual prizes plus spot prizes on the night and doors open at 7.30pm.

In Memory of Bernadette Duffy



The family of the late Bernadette Duffy, Muckish Avenue, Letterkenny made donations of €8,000 each to the Donegal Hospice and St. Joseph's Hospital. Pictured above is Isobel Rodgers Chairperson of the Donegal Hospice receiving a donation of €8,000 which was presented by Patricia McLaughlin and Margo Kelly and below, the Director of Nursing at St Joseph's Hospital receiving a donation of €8,000 for the patients comfort fund from Patricia and Margo.



Cloughaneely win Donegal Seniors Golf Title

Cumann Gaif Chloich were going well and called in. Cheann Fhaola were The Club hosted the inaugural Strand Road Sin-

Cloughaneely Golf Club members who were winners of the 2024 Donegal Senior Matchplay on Sunday last defeating Portsalon in the final, back row L-R: Brian Dolan, John McGinley, Owenie McGee, Martin Terry Philip McGeady, Peadar Curran and Tony McGinley (Manager). Front row L-R: Gerard Doran, Joe McGarvey, Francis Boyle, Club Captain Vincent Collum, Brian McGee and Paul Harkin.



Cloughaneely Golf Club members who were winners of the 2024 Donegal Senior Matchplay on Sunday last defeating Portsalon in the final, back row L-R: Brian Dolan, John McGinley, Owenie McGee, Martin Terry Philip McGeady, Peadar Curran and Tony McGinley (Manager). Front row L-R: Gerard Doran, Joe McGarvey, Francis Boyle, Club Captain Vincent Collum, Brian McGee and Paul Harkin.



Portsalon Seniors team who were defeated by Cloughaneely Golf Club in the final of the Donegal Seniors on Sunday last.

gles Competition on Saturday 21st September. A fantastic turnout with over 60 golfers playing. Well

Mulhern. Nearest the Pin 7th Scotch Owenie. Nearest the Pin 11th Mark McGinley. Near-

done to overall winner Brian Geaney on winning the cup and to Lorraine Giles on winning the Ladies event. 1st Brian Geaney (9) 59pts BOT; 2nd JB McCallion (17) 59pts; Gross Seán O Gallchóir; 3rd Kevin Boyle (17) 58pts; 4th Pat McNickle (53) 54pts; 5th Patsy McVicar (28) 51pts; 6th Michael Gallagher (14) 50pts BOT; 7th Noel Ó Gallchóir (32) 50pts; 8th Tom Herrity (24) 49pts; 9th Paul Ferry; 10th John Murphy; 11th Danny McNulty. Longest Drive Paul Ferry. Spot Prize Caolan Collum. Nearest the Pin 2nd Margaret

est the Pin 16th Seán Ó Gallchóir. Ladies 18 Hole results: 1st Lorraine Giles (44) 41pts. 2nd Roisin McGee (30) 40pts. 3rd Noirin O'Grady (45) 35pts. 4th Sadie Marie Curran (26) 32pts BOT. 5th Caroline McGee (47) 32pts. Thank you to Michael McClafferty from the Strand Road Bar & Kitchen for organising this new competition. Maith thú. This weekend's 18 hole singles is kindly sponsored by Manus Kelly DNG Falcarragh.

Acknowledgement

Gallagher

Michael Joseph Gortnalough 28th August 2024



The family of the late Michael Joseph are deeply grateful to all those who comforted and sympathised with us through our recent sad bereavement. Thanks to all who attended the wake and funeral and to those who called, wrote, sent Mass cards and flowers. For these and all the lovely memories of Dad we are grateful. Thanks to all the kind friends and neighbours who brought food, served tea and helped during the wake. Thanks to the Singing Pub, the Beach Hotel and the Parochial Hall Committee and the Cliff and Sea Rescue for their support. In times of loss, the care and professionalism from Seamus Gallagher and Seamus Junior bring great comfort, our thanks to them both and to the gravediggers. Thanks to Fr. Micéal McClafferty and Fr. Charlie Byrne for a beautiful service and the Choir for the lovely music and singing, special note of thanks to Ann and Donal for solos. Dad's care and support over the last few years has been incredible. Thanks to all those in Carrigart Health Centre, past and present, Carrigart Pharmacy and the many nursing, OT and support services and his many friends we have been blessed with all the help needed to support Dad to live a fully engaged life in the comfort of his own home. To our dear friends Roisin, Ann, Bernie and Ruth there are no words to thank you enough for all your love, care and support. A special thanks to the Rosapenna and Golf Club Members for their Guard of Honour at the Pavilion and the Chapel, Michael Joseph would have been deeply touched and grateful as we are. Please accept this acknowledgment as an expression of our deepest gratitude. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for your intentions.

Michael's Months Mind Mass will be celebrated on Sunday 29th September at 10.00am in Gainne Chapel.

McGinley

Patrick Ard Glas, Milford 30th August 2024



We, the family of the late Patrick McGinley wish to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to all those who sympathised with us on our recent bereavement. We wish to express our thanks to everyone who attended the wake and funeral. It is impossible to thank everyone individually please accept this acknowledgment as an expression of our deepest gratitude.

Patrick's Month Mind Mass will be celebrated on Sunday the 24th of September in St. Peter's Church, Milford at 11am.

plying to Donegal County Council for planning Permission to erect new extension to side and front of Existing Derelict Dwelling House and connection to existing sewage Treatment Plant and all associated site works @ Bohirril, Gortnavern, Letterkenny M.D., Co. Donegal. The Planning Application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the Offices of the Planning Authority, County House, Lifford during its Public Opening Hours. A Submission or Observation in relation to the Application may be made in writing to the Planning Authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20.00, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the Authority of the Application, and such Submissions or Observations will be considered by the Planning Authority in making a decision on the Application. The Planning Authority may Grant Permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to Grant Permission.

Donegal County Council Dunfanaghy, Letterkenny

I, David Hughes am applying to Donegal County Council for permission to erect 2no. dwelling houses with individual waste water treatment systems and all associated ancillary site development works at Dunfanaghy, Letterkenny, County Donegal in the townland of Dunfanaghy. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of the planning authority, Donegal County Council, County House, Lifford, County Donegal during its public opening hours. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the planning authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20.00, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt of the application by the authority, and such submission or observation will be considered by the planning authority in making a decision on the application.

Planning Notices

Comháirle Contae Dhún na nGall Iarratais Pleanála

Ba mhaith liom, Sonia Nic Giolla Easbuig, iarratas a chuir isteach chuig Comháirle Contae Dhún na nGall, le obair a dhéanamh ar an sean Scoil Gabhla ar Oilean Ghabla, na Doirí Beaga: Chun obair athchóirithe a dhéanamh leis an scoil a athchóiriú, díon nua a chur ar an fhoirgnimh agus obair inmheánacha a dhéanamh le áit cónaithe amháin a sholáthar laistigh de mhéid an áitribh atá ann cheana féin, lena n-áirítear cóiríocht chónaithe a sholáthar ar leibhéal nua an chéad urláir. vGach rud eile a bhaineann leis, solarthar ionad cóireála eisilteach agus scaigaire snasaireacht ithreach agus obair leis ar an láthair ag cuir san áireamh ath-insealbhú rochtain chladaigh agus an balla imlíneachar ar an suíomh. Tá ráiteas tionchara natura (natura impact statement) leis an t-iarratas seo. Is féidir tuairim a nochtadh nó aighneacht a dhéanamh faoin iarratas, I scríbhinn chuig údarás pleanála ach táille €20.00 a íoc, lastigh den 5 seachtainí ag tosú ar dháta fála an tiarratais ag an tÚdarás Pleanála aigheachtá agus tuairimí dá leithéid a mheas agus cinneadh á dhéanamh maidir leis an iarratais. Is féidir leis and tÚdarás Pleanála céad a dheonú faoi réir nó gan cionniollacha, nó is féidir leis an tÚdarás cead a dhúiltú.

Donegal County Council Ardrumman Td, Ramelton, Co. Donegal

I, Terence Callaghan am applying to Donegal County Council for permission to erect extension onto existing dwelling house and installation of waste water treatment system and percolation area on this site at Ardrumman Td., Ramelton, Co. Donegal. The planning application may be inspected or purchased, at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of the Planning Authority, County House, The Diamond, Lifford, County Donegal during the public opening hours of the Planning Authority and that a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the Planning Authority, in writing, on payment of the prescribed fee of 20 euros within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt of the application by the Planning Authority.

Donegal County Council Drumanaught, Letterkenny

I, Robert Clarke am applying to Donegal County Council for planning permission for construction of a new dwelling house with an on-site sewage treatment system at Drumanaught, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal. The Planning Application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the Offices of the Planning Authority 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 Sessiagh, Kindrum, Fanad

I, Katherine Gilmour am applying to Donegal County Council for planning permission for restoration of existing dwelling house & shed including alterations & extension to dwelling house & installation of a new on-site sewage

treatment system at Sessiagh, Kindrum, Fanad, 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 Drumnahoagh, Letterkenny

I, Michael Donaghy am applying to Donegal County Council for planning permission for a new pedestrian access and cycleway to service permitted development of workshops including all associated site works at Drumnahoagh, Letterkenny, Co Donegal in the townland of Drumnahoagh. 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. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the Authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of five weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the Authority of the application.

Donegal County Council Dunfanaghy

We, Tease Construction Limited intend to apply to Donegal County Council for permission for erection of three no. dwelling houses including the removal of existing partially built houses with connection to the public sewer via the existing on.Áisite proprietary waste water treatment system and all other associated site development works at Dunfanaghy, County Donegal in the townland of Dunfanaghy. 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 Procklis, Churchill

I, Denis Horan am applying to Donegal County Council for permission to erect a domestic garage with all other associated site development works at Procklis, Churchill, County Donegal in the townland of Procklis. 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 Ballyconnelly, Glenalla, Letterkenny M.D.,

We, Adrian Delap and Aoife McCallion, are applying to Donegal County Council for Planning Permission for 1) Renovation and Refurbishment of Existing Derelict Dwelling House, 2) Planning Permission to Construct New Extension to Side and Rear of Existing Derelict Dwelling House and 3) Connection to New Sewage Treatment Plant and all associated site works @ Ballyconnelly, Glenalla, Letterkenny M.D., Co. Donegal. The Planning Application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the Offices of the Planning Authority, County House, Lifford during its Public Opening Hours. A Submission or Observation in relation to the Application may be made in writing to the Planning Authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20.00, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the Authority of the Application, and such Submissions or Observations will be considered by the Planning Authority in making a decision on the Application. The Planning Authority may Grant Permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to Grant Permission.

Donegal County Council Gortflough Far, Rathmullan Letterkenny M.D.,

I Andrew Allison, am applying to Donegal County Council for Planning Permission to erect new storage shed to side and rear of Existing Derelict Dwelling House and all associated site works @ Gortflough Far, Rathmullan, Letterkenny M.D., Co. Donegal. The Planning Application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the Offices of the Planning Authority, County House, Lifford during its Public Opening Hours. A Submission or Observation in relation to the Application may be made in writing to the Planning Authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20.00, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the Authority of the Application, and such Submissions or Observations will be considered by the Planning Authority in making a decision on the Application. The Planning Authority may Grant Permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to Grant Permission.

Donegal County Council Drumbrick, Kilmacrenan Letterkenny M.D.,

I, Garvan Friel am applying to Donegal County Council for Retention Permission for construction of extension to side of Existing Derelict Dwelling House and connection to existing sewage Treatment Plant at and all associated site works @ Drumbrick, Kilmacrenan, Letterkenny M.D., Co. Donegal. The Planning Application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the Offices of the Planning Authority, County House, Lifford during its Public Opening Hours. A Submission or Observation in relation to the Application may be made in writing to the Planning Authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20.00, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the Authority of the Application, and such Submissions or Observations will be considered by the Planning Authority in making a decision on the Application. The Planning Authority may Grant Permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to Grant Permission.

Donegal County Council Bohirril, Gortnavern, Letterkenny M.D.,

I Lauren Joanne McCrackin am ap-

In Memoriam



**Boyce
Ronan**

In loving memory of Ronan who's 19th Anniversary is on the 25th September.

*I remember the day we met, the day God made us one
I remember the day He took you and will till we are reunited.
Thoughts of you Ronan are with us each day, the things you use to do and say.
You will always be our guiding light, even though we cannot see you, you are always by our side.*

Sadly loved and missed Tricia, Cassie, Dylan xxx

Your memories are so precious your presence missed so much eighteen years on you will always be remembered and loved by all of us.

Much loved and sadly missed Mum Dad and all the family.

Anniversary Mass in St. John the Baptist Church, Carrigart on Friday 27th September at 10.am.



**McDaid
Margaret
Croaghan,
Ramelton
8th Anniversary**

In loving memory of a dear mother and grandmother who died on 24th September 2016.

*A loving nature, a heart of gold, the very best this world could hold
Never selfish, always kind, these are the memories you left behind
A silent thought, a quiet prayer for a special person in God's care.*

Sadly missed by sons John, Joe and Eamonn, daughters Sarah, Margaret, Patricia and Rosemarie, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Anniversary Mass on Saturday 28th September at 6.30pm in St. Mary's Church, Ramelton.



**Carr
Michael**

London - Carrigart 9th Anniversary

In loving memory of a dear husband, Dad and Grandad Michael who died on 3rd October 2015.

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

Love you always Jacqui, Stefan, Vicky, Rory and Toby, Danielle, Danny, Oliver and Eloise XXX

*Sweet is your memory, precious your name
Deep in our hearts you will always remain.*

Always remembered and sadly missed by the Carroll family, Roscad.

Anniversary Mass in St Michael's Church, Creeslough on Thursday 3rd October at 10am.

Planning Notices

**Donegal County Council
Island Roy, Downings**

I, Gary Hay intend to apply to Donegal County Council for planning permission and retention planning permission at Island Roy, Downings, Co. Donegal, in the townland of Island Roy. The planning permission development will consist of the demolition of a storey and a half dwelling due to the presence of defective concrete blocks and the construction of a newly designed replacement storey and a half dwelling, connected to all existing site services, to include all site development works. The retention planning permission development will consist of the retention of an existing detached domestic garage / store. The plan-

McAteer

**Hannah
Gortnatra, Kerrykeel
2nd Anniversary**



In loving memory of a dear wife, mother and grandmother Hannah who died on 2nd October 2022.

*God called your name
so gently that only you could hear
No one heard the sound of the angels drawing near
Softly from the shadows there came a gentle call, you closed your eyes and went to sleep and quietly left us all.
We hold you close within our hearts and there you shall remain
To walk with us throughout our lives until we meet again.
Our lady of Medjugorje pray for Hannah.*

Loved and missed every day by your husband Michael

*Softly in the night you heard a gentle call,
you took the hand God offered and quietly left us all
The day you left us Mum our hearts just broke in two the smallest part is still with us the biggest part with you.
Your life was one of kindly deeds a helping hand for others needs
Sincere and true in heart and mind, beautiful memories left behind.*

Sadly missed by John and Mary, Mary, Phonsie and Eileen, Julie and Martin, Susan and Kevin, Michael and Jenny

*Those cheerful smiles, that heart of gold the dearest voice the world could hold
A beautiful soul in a garden of rest
It's true to say God chose the best.*

Loved and missed, James

*You never said you were leaving, you never said goodbye
You were gone before we knew it and only God knows why
In life we loved you dearly, in death we love you still
In our hearts we hold a place that only you can fill
It broke our hearts to lose you but you didn't go alone cause part of us went with you Granny Hannah the day God called you home.*

Loved and missed every day, all your grandchildren.

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

Sadly missed by your brothers and sisters Johnny and Katie, Mary and family, Phonsie, Frances and family, Julia, Michael and family.

*A loving nature, a heart of gold the very best this world could hold
Never selfish, always kind, these are the memories left behind
A silent thought a quiet prayer for a special person in God's care.*

A fondly remembered sister-in-law Susan and family, Peggy and family, Sally, Gary and family.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated on Sunday 29th September at 9.00am in St Columba's Church, Massmount.

ning 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
Ardrumman, Letterkenny**

We, Neil McGinley & Hannah McCloy intend to apply to Donegal County Council for planning permission for development at Ardrumman, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal, in the townland of Ardrumman. The development will consist of the construction of a two storey dwelling with a single storey detached domestic garage, to include sewage treatment system 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



**McDevitt
Sarah
Clontallagh,
Downings
5th Anniversary**

In loving memory of a dear mother and grandmother, who died on 1st October 2019.

*Our hearts still ache in sadness
And secret tears still flow
What it meant to lose you
No-one, will ever know.
Remembering you is easy
We do it, everyday
But missing you, is heartache
That never goes away.
Someday we hope to meet again
Someday, we know not when
To hold your hand in a better land
Never to part again.*

Loved and sadly missed by daughter Suzanne, son-in-law Eugene, grandchild-ren Claire, Nicola and Sophie, and son Donal and daughter-in-law Patricia.

Fifth Anniversary Mass on Saturday 28th September at 6pm in St John the Baptist Church, Carrigart.

**Canon
Sheila
4th Anniversary**

In loving memory of a dear Mammy and Granny, Sister, Auntie and Cousin who died on 10th October 2020.

*We are sending a dove to Heaven with a parcel on its wings
Be careful when you open it, it's full of wonderful things
Inside are a million kisses wrapped in a million hugs
To tell you how much we miss you and to send you all our love.*

Always remembered and loved by your family.

Anniversary Mass to be held on Saturday 5th October, in St. John the Baptist Chapel, Carrigart at 6pm.

fee, within the period of five weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the Planning Authority of the application.

Donegal County Council.

Augnish, Ramelton
We, Michael & Patricia Gallagher are applying to Donegal Co. Council for planning permis-



**Shields
John
Glen, Carrigart
7th Anniversary**

In loving memory of a dear father, grandfather and great grandfather who died on the 21st September 2017.

*God saw that you were getting tired,
A cure was not to be
So He put His arms around you and whispered "Come with me"
With tearful eyes we watched you suffer and saw you fade away
Although we loved you dearly, we could not make you stay
A golden heart stopped beating, hard working hands to rest
God broke our hearts to prove to us He only takes the best.*

Missed every day Hughie, Sinead, Ellie and Leah.

*A beautiful memory, dearer than gold
Of a father whose worth can never be told
There's a place in my heart no one can fill
I miss you, Dad, and always will.*

Love Catherine and family.

**Stewart
Anna
Brambles,
Ramelton**

In loving memory of a dear Mum and Grandma who was called home on 29th September 2017.

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

Loved and missed by daughter Heather, son in law Philip, granddaughter Gillian and Stephanie.

*A beautiful life came to an end
You died as you lived, everyone's friend.*

Remembered always by Sammie, Colina, Eileen, George and Carol.

*Auntie Anna
A visit, a chat a joke or two
This is how we remember you.*

All your nieces and nephews miss you xo.

sion for the construction of a domestic garage and a dwelling house with connection to pro-

Acknowledgement

McLaughlin

The family of the late Pettie McLaughlin would like to express their heartfelt appreciation for the support and condolences we received on the death of our mother. Thank you to our extended families, neighbours, friends and those who travelled great distances to be with us at this sad time.

We would like to thank the staff and management of Aras Ui Domhnaill Nursing Home who cared for our mother over the last few years and especially in the last week of her life when the nursing care she received and the support we were given will never be forgotten. We would like to thank her GP Dr. Cuffe, the nursing and medical staff of LUH especially A&E and Medical 2&3 who cared for our mother.

Thank you to Fr. Carney for officiating at her funeral Mass and Patrick Shields for the music that added to the ceremony, also to Patrick Sweeney, Funeral Director for the professionalism and kindness shown to us over the wake and funeral.

A very special word of thanks to Nancy McNamee and Nuala O'Hagan for organising the tea in the Parish Hall after the funeral and to everyone who helped in any way to support us at this very sad time.

Pettie's Month Mind Mass will take place on Sunday 29th September at 11am in St Mary's Church, Ramelton.

Fisher

High Cairn, Ramelton



**Daisy
24th September 2011
13th Anniversary**



**Sammy
3rd September 2019
5th Anniversary**

In loving memory of much loved and missed parents, grandparents, sister, aunt and uncle.

*Memories of you are so precious
your presence missed so much
You will always be remembered and loved by all of us.*

Sadly missed by Sandra, PJ and family xx.

*Words and times we can no longer share
But in our hearts you are always there.*

Loved and missed always by Karen, Barry and family xx.

In fond and loving memory of Daisy and Sammy.

*How I wish that I could say
I will go and see my sister today
To hear her voice and see her smile
To sit and talk with them awhile
Gone are the days we used to share
But in our hearts you are always there.*

Loved and remembered everyday by Molly, Irwin and family.

You were always someone special someone kind and true who will never be forgotten for we thought the world of you.

Sadly missed by Edel, Harry and Finn xx.

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

posed septic tank and percolation area on our site at Augnish, Ramelton, 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, at the County House Lifford, Co. Donegal during its public opening hours. Submissions or Observations in relation to this application may be made in writing to the Planning Authority on payment of the prescribed fee within a period of five weeks beginning on the date of receipt of the application by the authority. 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.

Creeslough

Death of Isobelle Hammant

The death took place on Saturday 21st September of Isobelle Hammant, Magherablade, Creeslough and formerly from Belfast. Isobelle was predeceased by her husband Stanley. A Memorial Service took place at the family home on Wednesday 25th September with burial afterwards in Doe Cemetery. Deepest sympathy is extended to her daughters Sharon, Brenda and Natasha, son Quentin, grandchildren Sean, Jenny, Ella, Alfie, Zoe and Bodhi, sisters, brothers, sons-in-law and daughter-in-law and extended family and friends.



Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to Jim and Mary Heraghty, Derryart on the death of Mary's niece, Barbara McLaughlin, Ballinacor, Newbridge, Co. Galway on September 12th. Mass was celebrated in Our Lady Star of the Sea Church, Claddaghduff, Co. Galway and Barbara was laid to rest in Omev Island Cemetery. Sympathy from the community is extended to all her family.

Guided Walk

The Diocese of Raphoe Justice and Peace Group invite you to a guided walk (led by Noel Foley, An Taisce) in Ards Friary to celebrate the Season of Creation, on this Saturday 28th September from 2 to 4 pm meeting at reception.

Family Fun Walk

The Bluestack Foundation has a fully inclusive Muckish Family Fun Walk on this Saturday September 28th from 12 noon until 3p.m. Fun family games along the path and Tuck Shop & Cof-

fee Van available. Fully paved, wheelchair accessible, suitable for Wheelchairs, Prams, Bikes and Trikes. €10 per person, €20 per family, €30 for Clubs. Visit www.bluestackfoundation.com to sign up.

Legion of Mary

The Legion of Mary annual pilgrimage to Knock will place on this Sunday 29th September. A bus will leave the Cathedral Car Park at 8am. To book on bus call Charlie on 0876889535.

Ards Friary Retreat Centre

The Path to Self-Acceptance. Friday 27th to Sunday 29th September. Cost: €220. Retreat led by Philip McParland. For enquiries and bookings contact Ards T: 00353 74 913 8909; E: info@ardsfriary.ie. Introduction to Contemplative Ecology. Fri 04.10.24 – Sun 06.10.24

For further information email info@ardsfriary.ie or call 074 9138909.

Creeslough Youth Club

Creeslough Youth Club – annual general meeting and registration night is on this Thursday September the 26th in Massinass Hall at 8p.m. Registration fee is €10. 5th and 6th classes only. All children must be registered and parents must commit to being on our supervisor rota (2 nights per household) therefore must be Garda vetted. Please bring identification with you to AGM as our vetting officer will be processing identification and forms. Identification accepted: passports or driving licence along with proof of address i.e. a utility bill.

Beginners Yoga

Beginners Yoga Classes by Patricia Swan have commenced in The Hub every Monday. Classes begin at 7.15 p.m. €30 for 6 weeks. For more information Tel. 0872923102 / info@creesloughcommunity.com.

St. Michael's Lotto

There was no Jackpot winner in the St. Michael's Lotto on Monday. The numbers drawn were 1,3,7,12,14,16. The match 5 winner was Paddy West who won €100. This week's Jackpot will be €3300.

Harvest Thanksgiving

The Harvest Thanksgiving Ser-



The St. Michael's Gaelic for Mothers and Others Team who played St Mary's, Faughanvale, and Sarsfields, Ballerin at The Bridge on Saturday

vice will be held in St. Columba's Church in Cashel on Friday 11th October preacher Rev David Suke at 8pm.

Conversational Irish

Ciorcal Comhrá is back and Conversational Irish Classes will resume at the beginning of October at the Links Hub, Creeslough on Wednesdays, 7-8pm Beginners, 8-9pm those with a little Irish. Learn a little Irish in a fun, relaxed class. To register phone The Hub 087 2923102.

Cursillo

Cursillo is a movement of ordinary lay women and men who share their faith in their everyday lives. It is expressed through talks, discussions, prayer, laughter and friendship. The next weekends will be held in Ards Friary in Creeslough under the direc-

tion of Fr Laurence Kettle. The men's weekend from Thursday evening Oct 24th to Sunday afternoon the 27th and the women's weekend from the Oct 31st to Nov 3rd. If you would like more information or to book a place on a weekend please contact Martina on 0873749024 or Pat on 0879374001.

Reading of the Bible

A prayerful reading of the Bible at Ards Friary will be held on Tuesday nights from 7.30-9p.m. beginning on September 24th with Brother Jeremiah Henehan. This year we will begin with the letters of St. Paul. Non-academic and in the Catholic tradition. If you have a Bible please bring it.

Creeslough View

Creeslough View are currently looking for photos, articles and stories for this year's Creeslough View. Even if you have ideas for stories, we want to hear from you. Please send them to creesloughview@gmail.com.

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.

50/50

Congratulations to Sally Kelly who won €300 in the Dunfanaghy Youths 50/50 last week.



Pictured are St. Michaels GAA Supporters enjoying the Senior teams victory over Kilcar in the County Senior Championship Quarter final in Glenties on Sunday evening.



Cloughaneely

Death of Grace Harkin



The death took place at Letterkenny University Hospital on Sunday 22nd September of Grace Harkin, Upper Shroughan, Falcarragh and formerly of Oldtown, Falcarragh. Grace was predeceased by her husband Micheál Rua, sisters Annie, Mary, Margaret and Teresa, brothers, Danny, Johnny and infant brother.

Funeral Mass will take place on Thursday 26th September in Christ the King Church, Gortahork at 11am followed by interment in the adjacent cemetery.

Deepest sympathy is extended to her daughters Cathy, Margaret and Ann, sons Paul and Michael, in-laws, Neil, John, Denis, Moira and Emer, grandchildren, brother Connie and nieces and nephews.

50/50 Winner

Congratulations to Hugo McGinley, Shroughan in winning this week's 50/50 draw claiming a jackpot €1040.

Centre Manager Required

Ionad Naomh Fionnán is looking for

a Centre Manager to lead the team, oversee daily operations, and ensure the centre runs smoothly and efficiently. For more information please email managerionadnf@gmail.com.

Junior Band

There was no Jackpot winner in the Junior Band lotto last week and the numbers drawn were 2-8-11-13-15-16. Six match 5 winners were drawn and the winner was Patrick O'Brien (R) Meenacladdy €100. This week's jackpot €8350.

Falcarragh Medical Centre

Falcarragh Medical Centre will be holding a Covid Booster and Flu Vaccine clinic on Monday 7th October and Monday 14th October. Please call the surgery to make an appointment on 0749135491.

Pobal Eascarrach

A unique 10 week Irish language course for beginners tailored for new members of the community and for anyone who did not study Irish at school starting Thursday 26th September from 7-9pm.

This course is free of charge. Register at pobaleas@gmail.com / 074 9180571 / 085 8670762

Pobal Eascarrach are redesigning and refurbishing facilities at Ionad Acmhainne Bhéal an Átha. The following items are available for base price sale from Ionad Acmhainne Bhéal an Átha, F92 XH70. There will be a discount/no cost for community groups and charities. Call 074 9180571 or call in. Intel Computers, Office/classroom tables, Chairs, Projectors, Exercise equipment. Books of various genres and more...

CE Positions Available

CE positions available with Falcarragh Community Organisation. Environmental Worker: This position is with the Falcarragh Tidy Towns. The participant will be required to clean the streets, litter control, grass

cutting, brushing footpaths, weeding etc. Apply To: Kevin Barrett, Falcarragh Community Organisation, Apartment, Ballina Falcarragh, Co. Donegal. Email: falcarraghce@gmail.com.

Hospice Coffee Morning

A coffee morning in aid of Donegal Hospice, will be held in Ionad Naomh Fionnán on this Friday 27th September from 10-1pm

RI-Oga Dance Academy

Irish Dancing classes continue with Maureen on Wednesdays in Aras Begley Hall at 4pm. All are welcome.

Pobail Le Chéile

Four Free Landscape Quilting classes starting in Garradh Cholmcile on Tuesday 1st October from 11am-12.30pm. Teagmháil Rosemary 086 455 7519

CE Youth Worker vacancy: Contact Lee Stephenson 074 9129630 Email: lee.stephenson@donegalservice.ie

Classes in Drama & Musical Theatre with Nora Kavanagh on Mondays in Ionad Garradh Cholmcille, Falcarragh 7-9yrs @ 3.45pm - 4.45pm and 10-12yrs @ 5.00pm - 6.00pm.

Art Club for children aged 8-12 years old with artist Leanne McLoughlin on Fridays from 6pm-7pm.

Chair Aerobics: Mondays 10am-10.40am. €5 pp

English Conversation group—Friday 20th September from 10.30am-12pm. Beginners welcome. Contact Pobail Le Chéile 086 455 7519 to book.

General Worker

There currently is a vacancy for a general worker on the Rural Social Scheme at the Glasshouses in Killult. If you are interested contact Joe on 0871605930.

Thursday Café

Come in for a coffee or a cup of tea in Aras Begley 10-11.30am every Thursday.

Diane releases new single

Last Sunday, a well-loved voice in traditional Irish music, Diane Cannon, released the first single from her upcoming album. The song, "Bean an Fhir Ruaidh", is a local version of a well-known traditional piece, shared by sean-nós singer Brian Danny Minnie Ó Domhnaill.

Recorded in the studio with producer and musician Donal O'Connor, the track also features Steve Cooney. The accompanying music video was filmed at the Crolla Distillery in Donegal, providing a perfect backdrop to the song's rich heritage.

Speaking about the recording process, Diane expressed deep gratitude for the collaboration: "It was a joy to work with Donal, who knows my music so well, and Steve, whose sensitivity to the Irish lan-



Diane Cannon with Donal O'Connor and Steve Cooney



guage and its songs made this experience truly special." Diane is a successful recording and touring artist, regularly performing across Europe, Asia, and the USA at major festivals. She has a strong connection with Scotland, frequently collaborating with renowned Scottish musicians and engaging with the Gaelic language.

Her previous releases include "Daily Growing", with the late Ted Ponsonby, and her well-received album recorded with Manus Lunny of Capercaillie. She also works with radio and TV, with a new documentary set to air later this year.

In addition to her music, Diane teaches Irish through song on her website, IrishSongLessons.com. She also works in marketing for the Fanad Lighthouse and has a deep connection to Tory Island working with other local business there on her 'Donegal-MusicTrails' tours. Actively involved in organising events and festivals, her most recent project connects the Donegal Gaeltacht with the Scotland and the Hebrides, celebrating the shared traditions of music, song, and dance.

"Bean an Fhir Ruaidh" is now available, with the full album set to be released later this year.

A Night for Charles in Magheraroarty

Sean-nós singing in the Donegal Gaeltacht enjoyed a good year in 2024. The greatest achievement so far was young Séarlas Ó Baoill from Tory Island's historical win at Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann. Séarlas won the Thomas McDonagh cup for under 12 singing in Irish in Wexford, a singular achievement, believed to be a first for the county and certainly for the island. Although not yet 12 at the time, Charles won top marks from the adjudicators. He also won the Donegal Fleadh and coming second to Iarlaith Ó Dochartaigh of Scoil Mhín Tine Dé in the Ulster Fleadh, this qualified him to progress to Wexford.

A celebration night was held in Ionad Pobail Mhachaire Rabharthaigh last Saturday night. Tá suim mhór aige in amhráin agus ceol an oileáin, áit a mbíonn sé páirteach

in imeachtaí cultúir agus soisialta I gcuideachta léar mór dena ghaolta a cheolann fosta. Tory has a very strong and vibrant singing tradition with a huge number of songs associated with the island. Séarlas comes from this tradition and lots of family and friends were in Wexford to celebrate the win. He collected his medal but didn't realise there was a cup in the office also. He arrived home with his gold medal, the first from the island to get a gold All-Ireland medal at the fleadh. It was decided to present him with a special cup to honour the win. Lots of fine singers from the surrounding area attended the night, among them Noleen Ní Cholla who also won gold in the senior competition for Amhránaíocht ar an Sean-Nós. The lively music for dancing was provided by Martin Ó Dúgáin,

Bernard Toland, Hugo Ó Baoill and Séamus Ó Curráin. This was interspersed with many fine singers and recitations, Fear agus Bean an Tí were Brian Ó Domhnaill and Diane Cannon and refreshments for the evening were provided by Ionad Mhachaire Rabharthaigh. Agus is iad a bhí blasta!!! The Tomás Mac Donnacha Cup was presented to Séarlas by Siobhán Ní Chonaráin, Ard Oifig Chomhaltais Ceoltóirí Éireann who travelled all the way from Dublin for the special occasion and who was so impressed with the talent performing. A special cup to honour the Tory singing tradition was presented to Eamon Graham, chair of the Ulster branch of Comhaltas. Corn Ceoltóirí Thorai will be awarded to the winner of the under 12 competition winner at Ulster level. Proud parents Anna Ní



Charles with MC Brian Ó Domhnaill (MC), Diane Cannon, Siobhán Ní Chonaráin and Eamonn Graham from Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éirinn at the event.

Mhíocháin Uí Bhaoill and Pádraig G. Ó Baoill joined other relatives and many well-wishers, singers, dancers and musicians, in a fitting

and enthusiastic exhibition of the best of Donegal traditional arts. The future for traditional song in Donegal seems very bright. Is

cinnte gur oíche speisialta a bhí ann, oíche a mbeidh cuimhe uirthi go ceann fada go háirithe do Séarlas Ó Baoill.



Séarlas with his grandparents Nabla and Pádraig Ó Baoill.



Charles with his parents Pádraig and Anna.



Charles pictured with Brid Nancy and Jimmy Val Doohan



Pictured are groups enjoying the night for Charles in Magheraroarty Community Centre last weekend.

Dunfanaghy

Premiere for local Filmed Drama

The star-studded film Four Letters of Love for which scenes were shot in Dunfanaghy in the spring of 2023 is coming to the big screen in early 2025 after the rights to the film were acquired by Vertigo Releasing. There was much excitement in the area at the time when the Hollywood legends and the production crew moved in and among the locations used for filming were Killyhoey Beach and Portnablagh Pier and Breakwater.

It stars Pierce Brosnan, Helena Bonham Carter and Gabriel Byrne and is based on the book by Niall Williams and other Donegal locations featured in the filming were Glenveagh National Park, Dunlewey and Doochary.

The big screen release of the film is bound to be good for tourism in the area which has been used as a location for other films and TV programmes over the years includ-

ing The Hanging Gael which used Hornhead to film a number of its most pivotal scenes in the 1990's.

Table Quiz

A Table Quiz will be held in the Oyster Bar on Tuesday nights in aid of the Halloween Festival. Please note the change of night and everyone is welcome.

Doe Swimming Club

Please note that there will be no swimming on this Saturday evening the 28th September.

Harvest Thanksgivings

Harvest Thanksgiving will be held in Holy Trinity Church, Dunfanaghy on Friday 5th, October at 7.30pm. The preacher on that occasion will be Rev. Canon Harry Gilmore.

The Harvest Thanksgiving Celebrations will continue in Holy Trinity Church on Sunday the 7th October at 10.30am. Everyone is welcome.

The Harvest Thanksgiving Service will be held in St. Columba's Church in Cashel

Cashel on Friday 11th October preacher Rev David Skuce. Both at 8pm.

Service of Remembrance

The annual Service of Remembrance which was postponed earlier in the year owing to inclement weather will be held in Clondehorkey Cemetery at Kill on Sunday 7th October at 4pm and everyone is welcome.

Hospice Remembrance Service

The Donegal Hospice Annual Remembrance Service will be held this Sunday the 29th September at 2.30pm in the Church of the Irish Martyrs in Letterkenny.

A warm welcome to everyone who has suffered the death of loved ones under the care of the Hospice, at home, in Community Care, in the Hospital or in the Hospice.

The Workhouse

The Muckish Film Festival will be running in the Workhouse from October 11th to 13th. Call the Workhouse at 0749136540 if you're a filmmaker that would like to get involved or if you have any questions. The

Workhouse on: 9136540.

Ballymore Bowls

Bowls began on Monday in Ballymore Parish Centre at 8pm and will continue every Monday and Wednesday evening. New members welcome.

Dunfanaghy FRC

Citizen Information Service on the 2nd Tuesday, of each month, 10-12noon. No booking necessary- drop in welcome.

Wellness Café on 2nd and 4th Monday of the month 10.30am - 12noon at The Workhouse.

Citizens Information Service provide a community information & advice clinic at Dunfanaghy Family Resource Centre every second Tuesday of the month from 9.30am to 12pm. Next dates are Tuesday 8th October, 12th November, 10th December.

St. Michael's Mini Lotto

There was no Jackpot winner in the St. Michael's Lotto on Monday. The

numbers drawn were 1,3,7,12,14,16. The match 5 winner was Paddy West who won €100. This week's Jackpot will be €3300.

50/50

Congratulations to Sally Kelly who won €300 in the Dunfanaghy Youths 50/50 last week.

Prayer Meeting

Cenacolo Prayer Meeting is held every Tuesday after 7p.m. Mass in the Oratory in Holy Cross Church from 7.30-8p.m. Cenacolo is a gathering of people before the Blessed Sacrament to pray that the Holy Spirit may enlighten and heal, especially those suffering from addiction.

The Workhouse

The Dunfanaghy Workhouse is open every day from 10am until 5pm featuring the Gift Shop, Wee Hannah Tour and Coffee Shop and Playground and the team welcome everyone over the coming months.



Scenes from the Clean Coast Day in Killyhoey Beach organised by the Dunfanaghy Tidy Towns on Saturday.



Pictured are scenes from the Cars and Coffee Event held in Dunfanaghy on Sunday afternoon. Photos by Moses Alcorn.



GAA Club News

Chloich Cheann Fhaola

Buíochas

Ba mhaith linn ár mbuíochas a ghabháil le Shaun Boylan agus Enable First Aid as urraíocht a dhéanamh ar 21 liathróid d'Acadamh na nÓg.

Lotto

The numbers drawn were 14,2,8,3,4,7. We had 32 match 4s. Congratulations to Michael Harkin who wins €100. The jackpot is now €5,350.

Sraith Faoi 13 an Chontae - LGFA

The girls had a great win over Naomh Muire, Íochtar na Rosann.

Cluiche Ceannais Sciath Faoi 14 an Chontae

Roinn 5 Scór Lán Ama

Cloich Cheann Fhaola: 2-5 Na Ceithre Máistirí: 6-4

Sraith Faoi 13 an Chontae LGFA

Scór Lán Ama CCF: 2-8 An Tearmann: 3-9

Buíochas

Ba mhaith linn ár mbuíochas a ghabháil le Mary Harkin, Mairead McElhinney, Raylene Coyle, Cassie Coyle, Caolán Ferry, Denise Ní Laoire Uí Cheallaigh, John Paul Gallagher, Aine Doogan agus Michael McFadden.

Glenswilly

Senior Men

Both the Senior and Reserve teams bowed out of the championship at the quarter final stages over the weekend. The Senior men were narrowly defeated by Dungloe on Saturday in Cloughaneely on a scoreline of 2-8 to 13 points. The Reserves put up a brave battle against a strong St Eunan's outfit on Saturday in MacCumhaill Park. Oisín McGrenra finished the game with 9 points to his name but unfortunately it is St Eunan's who progress to the semi finals after a 13 points to 11 win.

The Senior C teams season also came to an end on Sunday afternoon as they were defeated by Termon on a scoreline of 11 points to 6.

Minor Board

Our U9 and U10 boys were both on the road on Saturday as they took part in tournaments in Derry and Tyrone. Both sets of players done the club and themselves very proud. Well done to all the coaches who organised and travelled with the teams.

Ladies Board

The Senior ladies travelled to Muff on Sunday morning for the Semi Final of the championship. A strong start by the home side left the ladies with a lot to do in the 2nd half as they went in at halftime 11 points down. A tremendous effort in the 2nd half saw the girls narrowing the deficit to just 3 points but unfortunately they just fell short. The club would like to thank the players and management team for their effort and commitment all year.

The U13 girls travelled to Glenties on Saturday morning for the 2nd game of the season. A dominating performance ensured a comfortable win for the girls. They now face MacCumhaills and St Eunan's in the next two fixtures.

Ciorcal Comhrá Ghleann tSúilí

Nuair atá an aimsir maith beidh an ciorcal comhrá ag dul ag siúl oíche Dé Máirt. Ag bualadh le chéile ag an chlubtheach ar 20:00 agus ag fágáil ar 20:10.

Bígí linn do chraic, chomhrá agus shiúlóid bhreá cois súilí!

Bingo and 50/50

Bingo continues every Wednesday in the hall, 8.30pm start! Well done to last weeks winner Leah Doohan who won €235.

St. Michael's

Senior Championship

Congratulations to our Senior Team who on Sunday in Glenties produced a magnificent second half performance to overturn a seven-point deficit and defeat Kilcar in the Quarter Final 2-7 to 0-12 with Michael McGinley getting the winning point.

This was a great result for the team who now progress to the County Semi Final against Dungloe on Sunday in MacCumhaill Park at 3.30pm.

Scorers:- Daniel McLaughlin 0-6,5f; Colin McFadden, Carlos O'Reilly 1-0 each; Michael McGinley 0-2. St Michael's: Mark Anthony McGinley; Jamie Hunter, Liam Paul Ferry, Paddy McGinley; Andrew Kelly, Ciaran Kelly, Stephen Doak; Kyle McGarvey, Colin McFadden; Paul Johnston, Martin McElhinney, Oisín Langan; Edward O'Reilly, Michael Cannon, Carlos O'Reilly. Subs: Michael McGinley for Hunter (12); Daniel McLaughlin for Johnston (14); Antoin McFadden and Max Roarty for Langan and A Kelly (both 40).

Mini Lotto

There was no Jackpot winner in the St. Michael's Mini Lotto on Monday. The numbers drawn were 1,3,7,12,14,16. The Match 5 Winner was Paddy West who won €100. This week's Jackpot will be €3300.

All Star Nomination

Congratulations to Michael Langan, on his well-deserved All-Star nomination. His exceptional talent and dedication on the field are matched only by his unwavering commitment off it. He stands out not

just as a player but as a true role model for the next generation. His generosity with his time and energy at our underage events is something we all admire.

North West Coastal Challenge

The North West Coastal Challenge is taking place on Saturday, 5th October in Dunfanaghy. The race is a Run, Cycle & Kayak covering 36km. Entries are now open on www.nwcc.ie.

Gaelic4mothers and Others

Saturday saw an electrifying afternoon of football as St Michael's Gaelic for Mothers and Others team hosted a thrilling triple clash against St Mary's, Faughanvale, and Sarsfields, Ballerin. Over the course of six fiercely contested games, all three teams showcased skill, passion, and sportsmanship, delivering a spectacle that kept everyone on their toes. A huge thank you goes out to everyone who contributed to making the event a roaring success. If you're looking to get involved in this vibrant community, new members are always welcome.

They train every Wednesday at 8pm and Saturday at 9am at the bridge, and everyone's welcome! Come try it out for a week - you might just find your new favourite routine!

U14 County Final vs Naomh Mhuire

Last Wednesday, our U14s took on Naomh Mhuire in the County Final at The Banks. It was a classic game of two halves, with St. Michael's starting brightly and taking an early lead. Jake Alcorn struck twice with two great goals, while Peter Druce added a long-range effort. Michael Hartigan was a rock in the full-back line, and Jude McElhinney chipped in with four fine points from play. Aaron McGinley also slotted over two well-taken frees. At halftime, leading 3-6 to 0-7.

Naomh Mhuire came out firing in the second half, dominating midfield and quickly narrowing the gap. They eventually took the lead with two quick-fire goals. Despite some heroic work from Michael Hartigan driving out of defence, which led to Shane Moore finding the net to retake the lead, Naomh Mhuire pushed ahead again and edged the game by a single point 4-6 to 3-10.

Although it wasn't the result we hoped for, the boys battled hard and showed tremendous spirit. Well done to the entire team and coaches.

Results

Tuesday, 17th

U13 Girls: lost at home to Dungloe

Wednesday, 18th

U14 Boys: Div 4 Final, St. Michael's 4.07 Naomh Mhuire 2.14

Friday, 20th

U16 Boys: had a comprehensive victory Away vs. Glenfin.

Gaeil Fhánada

Lotto Results 22/09/2024

Numbers: 2, 5, 6, 8, 24. No jackpot winner. €100 Winner: Catherine Coyle. This week's Jackpot: €2,100

September 'Double Hop' Winners!

Congratulations to our €500 winners in this month's 'Double Hop' draw. Rhonda McAteer and Kyle Black.

Cluichí na Seachtaine

Dé Sathairn, 28ú Meán Fómhair

Cailíní U13 - Gaoth Dobhair v Gaeil Fhánada 11:00

Sraith an Pharóiste / Parish League

The final day of the Parish League took place on Sunday. It was a great evening for the event, which only added to the atmosphere and the brilliant football played by our U6's, U8's, U10's and U12's.

Ladies bow out at semi final stage

Ard an Rátha 1:10 Gaeil Fhánada 0:11

It was semi final disappointment at Pearse Memorial Park on Sunday, as our ladies side bowed out of this year's championship at the hands of Ardara after a two point defeat.

Our best wishes are extended to both Tori Gallagher and Shauna Howe for speedy recoveries from the injuries sustained. It was ultimately disappointment for the Gaels players who battled gamely, but the four point deficit proved to be too much to claw back as clock proved to be the enemy at the end.

Gaeil Fhánada: Clare Friel, Shauna Howe, Tori Gallagher, Méabh Duffy, Maggie Friel, Aoife Gibbons, Siobhan Sweeney, Eimear Sweeney, Eiméar Gibbons, Iseult Ní Mhathúna (0:01), Lauren Carr (0:05), Rachael Friel, Caoimhe Barrett (0:02), Hannah Shiels (0:01), Mairead Coll (0:01). Michelle Doherty for Tori Gallagher, Rachel Sweeney (0:01) for Mairead Coll, Caoimhe Walsh for Rachael Friel, Méabh McAteer for Shauna Howe, Jessica Coll for Hannah Shiels, Mairead Coll for Méabh Duffy. Eibhlin Shiels, Olivia Friel, Erin Carlin, Méabh Sweeney.

Buachaillí Faoi 18

Commiserations to the minor boys who lost to Four Masters on Monday 5:04 to 0:08.

Killian Friel; Darragh McElwaine, Eoghan Logue, Cormac Sweeney; Jamie McAteer, Caolan McElwaine, Harry Blaney; Shane Carr, Declan Brougham; Niall Toland, Cormac Dunleavy, Evan McDauid;

Michael's and Eunan's in senior semis

It's down to the final four in the Senior Football Championship with St. Michael's and St. Eunan's providing big local interest this weekend. Championship favourites Eunan's will take on Gweedore at MacCumhaill Park on Saturday night at 7.30. The second semi-final will see St. Michael's take on Dungloe also in Ballybofey on Sunday at 3.30. That is sure to be a game where both sides will throw bodies on the line in a bid to get to a rare County Senior Final appearance.

The Bridge boys were there in 2011 in the Christy Toyne/Colm Anthony McFadden era when they lost to Glenswilly with Michael Murphy's second half goal proving to be the decisive score. It's 60 years since Dungloe was a decider. In Sunday's quarter-final in Glenties, St. Michael's produced a magnificent second half to overcome pre-match favourites Kilcar on a score of 2-8 to 0-13. When seven points behind Mark Anthony McGinley's penalty save from Paddy McBrearty turned the tide with goals then coming from Colin McFadden and Carlos O'Reilly. Then early sub Michael McGinley popped up with the winning score.

Meanwhile, in Falcarragh on Saturday another upset occurred as Dungloe overcame Glenswilly on a final score of 2-8 to 0-13. So similar to Michael's it was a narrow one-point win with the early goals from Daire Gallagher and Darren Curran proving decisive. The Rosses men are certainly building a bit of momentum and will fancy their chances of making the decider as will their opponents. On paper there is little to choose between the teams.

Cathal Sweeney is carrying on without county player Michael Langan who didn't play against Kilcar and is unlikely to be back even if his side reaches the final. Sunday's semi-final is likely to be very close with Dungloe expected to target Daniel McLaughlin, Michael McGinley, Colin McFadden and Carlos O'Reilly for close attention as they were score getters on Sunday. Interestingly both sides notched 2-8 in their respective quarter-final wins. So landing a lot of points doesn't appear to be a strength of either side. Michael's only managed two points from play while the Rosses men were better with six against Glenswilly.

Both management teams will have a focus on goal prevention and whoever has the best success on that front will probably advance to the decider. Fair to say St. Michael's will have to improve on their points return from play to win this semi-final. They are very well organised and disciplined this year with the 14 outfield players working as a unit defensively and offensively. That system will

Christian Gibbons, Daibhid Lynch, JP Gallagher, Conor Callaghan, Ronan McVeigh.

Cuaille

Tá eagrán mhí Mheán Fómhair de Chuaille ar fáil anois. Thig leat é a íoslódáil ag an nasc ar ár leath-anach Facebook.

Ghaeil Leitir Ceanainn

The senior footballers travel to Convoys this Saturday to take on Burt in the Intermediate Relegation Final playoff game at 6pm. All support welcome.

The senior ladies concluded their season with a defeat against Aodh Ruadh in the Junior B Shield Final on Sunday.

Bingo continues every Monday evening at the Arena 7 and online. Books can be purchased every Thursday evening at A7 from 6.30-7.30pm and Saturday from 11am to 12 noon. This Monday we have €2,260 up for grabs.

Baile na nGalloglach

Lotto: 17/9/24

1-10-13-21, Numbers drawn at Maple Milford. No Jackpot winner. €50 Lucky Dip winner, Shauna Giles, Cranford.

LOTTO ROTA:

Sat 28th September: Maple, Milford: U16 Girls.

RESULTS AND FIXTURES

U12 Boys

The U12 Navy team hosted Buncrana U11s on Saturday. Thanks to the Buncrana boys for making the trip over.

Our Navy team are home to Cloughaneely on Saturday at 11am in the NRB Shield semi-final.

U13 Girls

Well done to our U13 girls who retained their unbeaten run with a great win away to Gaoth Dobhair on Friday.

U10 Girls

Well done to our U10 girls who travelled to Glenfin on Saturday to play in a blitz.

Condolences

The Club wish to express our sympathies to Senior

have to be at its very best on Sunday in Ballybofey. Dungloe are physically strong with county player Mark Curran a leader at the back. Ryan Connors is a big influence around the middle of the park. Dungloe had six scorers in the quarter-final win compared to Michael's three marksmen. Daire Gallagher is a key player for the Rosses in an attacking sense as is Oisín Bonner. It's a great chance for St. Michael's to reach a first senior county final in 13 years. For manager Cathal Sweeney the challenge this week is to come down from the high of the Kilcar win to focusing on a game plan to overcome Dungloe that the players have to execute to perfection at MacCumhaill Park on Sunday.

In the first semi-final on Saturday night in Ballybofey, it's St. Eunan's who advanced to the decider. Barry Meehan's men saw off the challenge of reigning champions Naomh Conaill last weekend making them now favourites to land the Dr. Maguire Cup. Eunan's started off well in that game on Saturday night but the Glenties outfit pegged them back in the second half. The sides were level going into injury time and it was sub Eoin McGeekin who proved to be the match winner for Eunan's to leave it 0-10 to 0-9 at the final whistle.

On Sunday at MacCumhaill Park Gweedore booked their place in the final in another low scoring game getting the better of Four Masters by 0-9 to 0-7. County squad member Donal Mac Giolla Bride was the standout player with two points from his midfield post. They defeated Eunan's in the group stages of the championship and are likely to look at a similar defensive match plan and then using quick counter attacks to get scores. They got one goal that day but probably should have had three. Daire O Baoill will have to shine up front in order for his side to advance to back-to-back Donegal senior finals.

However, if Eunan's get their tactics correct and play with the right desire they should see off the Gweedore. Brendan Devenney is with Meehan this year and his influence has no doubt helped the players approach to the matches. Shane O'Donnell is the key man and Gweedore need to curb his influence to have a chance of winning this semi-final but that won't be an easy challenge for whoever is deployed to mark him. Then there is his brother Niall who is a potential match winner any day he goes out for Eunan's. The Letterkenny side has strength in depth and were able to take the likes of Darragh Mulgrew and Eoin McGeekin off the bench in the Naomh Conaill game.

Team Mentor James Comiskey and Aisling, Shea and Aoife on the death of his father, Seamus, at the weekend.

O'Reilly's Club Shop

The Club Shop at O'Reillys is open with some great new Milford GAA designs on offer. www.oreillysofficial.com

St Eunan's

Senior Hurling Manager Position

St Eunan's GAA Club, invite expressions of interest from suitably qualified persons for the position of senior hurling team manager.

Replies to: Charlie McAteer (Secretary), Lismnaghan, Letterkenny F92VX4N or email to Secretary.steunans.donegal@gaa.ie

Lip Sync Battle - Launch Night September 27th

Naomh Adhamhnáin and Letterkenny Music and Drama Group will be battling it out in a Lip Sync battle on Friday November 8th in the Mount Errigal hotel. Tickets are now on sale through the club and at the Mount Errigal hotel. This promises to be a fun night out for all the family.

There will a launch night at the Clubhouse Bar this Friday September 27th at 8:30pm. Everyone is welcome to attend to show support to the volunteers who have signed up to participate.

Senior Men Football Championship

Senior B

Our Senior B team started our championship weekend with a 2-point win in a tough battle with Gleann tSúilí 0-13 : 0-11.

Senior A

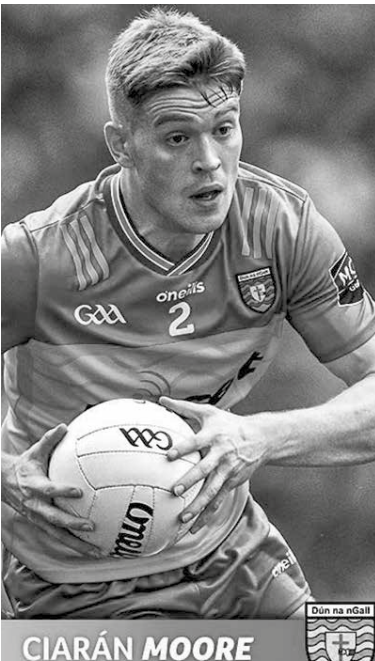
Naomh Adhamhnáin: 0-10 : 0-9 Naomh Conaill Naomh Adhamhnáin started brightly in MacCumhaill Park with early points from Shane O'Donnell and James Kelly. Ciaran Thompson's scored a free in the 10th minute before

Naomh Adhamhnáin hit the next three points from Conor O'Donnell(Snr) , Conor O'Donnell (Jnr) and Niall O'Donnell.

Contd. Page 34

Moore listed for Young Player Award

Ramelton man Ciaran Moore is one of three nominees for the GAA's 'Young Player of the Year'. In his debut season for the Donegal senior side Moore starred in a variety of positions as Jim McGuinness's side went all the way to the All-Ireland semi-finals. The St. Eunan's man also chipped in with a handful of points. The other nominees are Oisín Conaty from All-Ireland champions Armagh and Johnny McGrath (Galway). Conaty who got the Player of the Match in the Final will be seen as the favourite. In all there are seven Donegal players nominated for the 2024 All-Star team including another St. Eunan's man keeper Shaun Patton along with Michael Langan. The St. Michael's man turned in consistently high level performances that got better as the championship went on and culminated with four points in the All-Ireland semi-final. Patton was the hero in the Ulster Final saving the penalty in the shoot-out to secure the Anglo-Celt Cup. The other Donegal players included are Caolan McGonagle, Brendan McCole, Peadar Mogan, Ryan McHugh and Oisín Gallen. Mogan and Gallen are seen as probably having the best chance of making the team with McCole and Langan also in with a shout. In total 45 names have been listed with the final 15 being selected next month. The Footballer of the Year nominations are: Barry McCambridge (Armagh) Paul Conroy (Galway) and John Maher (Galway). McCambridge is seen as the favourite here.



CIARÁN MOORE

Terrific weekend for Termon GAA



The Termon senior squad prior to Saturday's Intermediate semi-final win over Naomh Mhuire.

An Tearmainn enjoyed unprecedented success last weekend with their three male adult teams progressing along with the senior ladies side. It all started at underage when the U10 Girls entertained St Eunan's on Saturday. Next it was a U13 Girls team who travelled to Falcarragh also on Saturday and returned back through Barnes gap buoyed by victory. Then it was into O'Donnell Park in Letterkenny for the adult mens reserve team's semi-final on Saturday. Despite a shaky start against Buncrana James Gallagher's boys held on for a one point victory in the Intermediate B Championship. That was followed by the senior men in the intermediate semi final against Naomh Mhuire. Termon went in as underdogs following Naomh Mhuire's victory over a Division one team Milford in the previous round. As the referee sounded the final whistle Caolan McDaid's Termon had run out convincing winners. There was an early start for the Senior Ladies who took

on Naomh Conaill Glenties on Sunday morning. Manager Adrian McGettigan had his charges in great shape and ran out easy winners. Then it was the Termon third team who fielded against Glenswilly. Eddie Harkin's charges were buoyed up by Manus O'Connell, Shaun McNulty, the evergreen John McCafferty, John Connaghan and the direct route advocate J R Mc Daid they completed a winning weekend for the Burn Road Club. A little bit of history has been made with three adult teams in County Finals and another one a semi. Add to that the two under age teams fielding over the weekend and both winning. Sunday 6th of October, will see Termon take part in both the Intermediate A and B finals at the O'Donnell Park. In the A final, they will play Naomh Columba and in the B final it'll be Termon against Burt. Meanwhile, the Termon Ladies will play Moville in the senior final as they aim to complete the treble having already won the league and County Gaeltacht titles.

GAA Club News

From Page 33

Naomh Conaill scored a free, but Niall O'Donnell replied with a well taken point before Anthony Thompson scored from play for Naomh Conaill. Conor O'Donnell (Jnr) converted a late free before half time to leave the score 0-7 : 0-3.

Naomh Conaill came out firing in the second half and got the game back level at 0-7 apiece. The rest of the game was nip and tuck and Naomh Adhamhnáin scored points from Darragh Mulgrew and Ciaran Moore before Eoin McGeehin hit the winner at the death 0-10 to 0-9.

Naomh Adhamhnáin scorers: Conor O'Donnell (Jnr) 0-02, Niall O'Donnell 0-01, Ciaran Moore 0-01, James Kelly 0-01, Shane O'Donnell 0-01, Darragh Mulgrew 0-01, Eoin McGeehin 0-01.

Club Lotto
Naomh Adhamhnáin: Shaun Patton, Aaron Deeney, Eamonn Doherty, Conor Morrison, Anthony Gallagher, Conor O'Donnell (Snr), Kieran Tobin, Eoin Dowling, James Kelly, Ciaran Moore, Shane O'Donnell, Conor O'Donnell (Jnr), Pauric Boyle, Niall O'Donnell, Kevin Kealy. Subs; Darragh Mulgrew for Kealy, Eoin McGeehin for Boyle, Caolan Ward and Lee McMonagle for Tobin and Gallagher, Oran Winstone for O'Donnell (Jnr).

Senior Championship upcoming fixtures:

Thanks to everyone who supports all our teams and especially to all who attended the Senior Championship matches last weekend. We had a great support at the championship quarter finals in particular. We hope to see you all out again supporting our teams this weekend. It means a lot to our players and management to have your support. Saturday September 28th - Senior A Championship Semi Final - Gaoth Dobhair v Naomh Adhamhnáin 7:30pm in Mac Cumhaill Park. Sunday September 29th - Senior B Championship Quarter Final - Naomh Adhamhnáin v Naomh Conaill - 1:30pm in Mac Cumhaill Park. Saturday September 28th - Senior C Championship Quarter Final - Naomh Adhamhnáin v CLG Tearmainn - 4pm in Glenfin

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

Minor Board:
U18 Results:
Monday September 23rd All County U18 Division 1 - Gaoth Dobhair 2-13 : 0:05 Naomh Adhamhnáin.

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

Sports Star nominations deadline looming



Jasmine Barrett-Doherty with Donegal Sports Star Committee members at front Declan Kerr, Grace Boyle and Patsy McGonagle. Back - Nancy McNamee, Bartley McGlynn, Paul Callaghan and Daire Bonnar.

The Donegal Sports Star Committee is reminding those wishing to make nominations of the deadline dates for the 2024 Awards. The first deadline is for the schools nominations and is Friday 25th of October which is now just a month away. All other nominations must be submitted to the Committee by Friday 29th of November. Schools are first because it is only successes in the academic year 2023/2024 that are eligible for consideration in school only competitions. Donegal County Council is once again sponsors.

Some of the schools winners from last year including Jasmine Barrett-Doherty, Noah McGuire and Keri Loughrey were guests at a recent nominations promotion event in the Mount Errigal Hotel. Jasmine Barrett-Doherty was the Best Primary School Sports Girl in 2023. Then she was a pupil at Scoil Mhuire NS, Milford and now she is at the local Loreto CS. Jasmine is a member of Finn Valley AC.

Noah McGuire won the Best Primary School Sports Boy Award last year. Then he was a pupil at Scoil an Chaisil, Gleann Cholm Cille and now he is at Coláiste na Carraige Secondary School. Keri Loughrey took the Best Secondary School Sports Girl Award in 2023.

There are nine Schools Awards. They include Primary School - Best Boy, Best Girl and Teacher; Secondary School Best Girl, Boy, Teacher. There are two Best Primary School categories: Small (< 100 pupils) and Large (>100 pupils). And there is one Secondary School category. Chairperson Grace Boyle said it was important now for sport-

ing organisations and schools to take note of the two nomination deadlines. "It's just a month now to the first deadline which is for all schools on Friday 25th October. Then all other nominations have to be with us by the 29th of November. Keri Loughrey, Jasmine Barrett-Doherty and Noah McGuire helped us to promote the 2024 schools awards and the importance of getting nominations in by the deadline," Ms Boyle said.

While it may only be nearing the end of September there has already been a lot of success for Donegal teams and individuals in 2024. Grace Boyle said significant achievements can now be forwarded to the Committee with any video footage or images that are available to support the nomination. "It is important now that clubs start compiling notes on significant achievements so far this year and they can be submitted to our Committee and the earlier the better. Successes in Donegal sport deserve to be recognised when it comes to our awards event at the end of January."

Nominations can be submitted now also for all non-schools categories. The Hall of Fame winner for the 2024 will be selected by the Committee so no nominations will be accepted for this category.

Send nominations to info@donegalsportstarawards.ie and attach any relevant images and video footage. The Awards will take place in the Mount Errigal Hotel on Friday the 31st of January 2025.

Dutch Rally success for Kennedy



Letterkenny co-driver Rory Kennedy enjoyed a big success at the Eurol Hellen-doom Rally in Holland at the weekend. Sitting on with Frosses driver Eamonn Kelly the Donegal crew had an exceptional drive in the HC1 Category. Kennedy had linked up with Kelly this year and it was their first time to take part competitively in their new BMW M3.

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Mon 30th Sept - **Ram Sale** 7pm

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Chiropodist in Ramelton

Ramelton Care of the Aged will have the Chiropodist attend the Makemie Hall, Ramelton on Tuesday 8th October from 9.30am - 2.30pm.

The numbers drawn were 5, 15, 18, 20. The next draw takes place on Thursday 26th September and the jackpot is €4,200.

There were four match 3 winners this week winning €50 :- Barry Harkin, Convoy; Shaun Rodgers, Ballybofey; Kevin Harkin, Convoy; Ann Gildea, online entry.

Thanks to everyone who supports our lotto! Enter today via finnharps.ie

Harps draw some comfort

Cork City 2-2 Finn Harps
While they might have settled for a point against the league champions, Finn Harps left Turners Cross disappointed that they let a two-goal lead slip. Darren Murphy's men led 2-0 at the break thanks to goals from skipper Tony McNamee and Success Edogun. Cork City who didn't start their strongest 11 made personnel changes early in the second half and one of those replacements Seanie Maguire netted the two goals that secured the Leesiders a draw.

That saw Cork maintain their unbeaten home league record at Turner's Cross and in an overall context they will feel unlucky not to have won the game. City looked the sharper side in the early stages of the match with Evan McLaughlin testing young Harps keeper Oisín Cooney who was equal to the task. But in the 11th minute it was the visitors who took the lead when an inswinging ball from Patrick Ferry found Tony McNamee, who found the bottom corner with a rare headed goal.

At the other Barry Coffey and McLaughlin both came close from free-kicks. City should have been level when Coffey went clear but in-

stead of shooting himself he opted to square the ball to Conor Drinan who was denied by Cooney. The young keeper was doing well and followed that up by tipping the ball over the crossbar after Noe Baba's clearance struck his teammate Max Hutchinson.

The visitors doubled their advantage when Edogun's powerful run saw him into the box before dinking the ball calmly over keeper Aidan Dowling much to the displeasure of the majority of the 2,700 strong crowd. City were back in the game when Cooney failed to direct Fitzpatrick's striker away from danger and sub Seani Maguire netted the rebound. Maguire only recently returned to Cork after a number of years in English football.

Maguire then made it 2-2 when his deflected free-kick flew past a helpless Cooney. The Harps netminder was then forced into a double save, firstly denying Cathal O'Sullivan's free-kick, before being equal to Ruairi Keating's effort from the rebound.

Cork City - Dowling; Bargary (Maguire 58); Brookwell, O'Donovan, Kiernan; McLaughlin, Coffey (O'Sullivan 58), Healy (Bolger 75);



Harps Tony McNamee in action against Cork City.

Fitzpatrick, Murphy (Keating 58), Hutchinson, Edogun, Patton. Subs not used: Corey Sheridan (Gk), Luke O'Brien, Gavin Gilmore, Matkinson, Baba, Jordan; Ferry, Cawley (Strachan 62), McNamee, teer.

Murphy's men must win in Kerry

Three points are a must for Finn Harps in Tralee on Friday night against bottom of the table Kerry F.C. Darren Murphy's men have been on a decent run recently and it has to continue against Kerry.

Anything less than a win would put a huge dent in their play-off hopes with three games remaining. Harps are three points behind Wexford Youths who currently hold that final play-off spot. They also have a superior plus four goal difference which is effectively another point. But Wexford do have the distraction of an FAI Sen-

ior Cup semi-final to manage.

For now Murphy and his backroom team only have eyes for one game and that is Tralee on Friday night. The last time they were down there it ended in a 2-0 defeat so there is plenty of incentive to seek revenge for that result. However, Harps have to contend with the handicap of the long journey down on Friday. That's on top doing nearly the same distance last Friday. Kerry will see this game as a chance to try and move off the bottom of the table. Their big problem is not winning games when they were in a good po-

sition. That resulted in them drawing 11 games so the visitors will be aware of the scale of the challenge of taking all three points. Conor Tourish and Ryan Rainey have missed recent matches through injury so it will be interesting to see whether they are fit to return while first choice keeper Tim Heimer has also been missing.

Harps Lotto

There were no jackpot winners in the Finn Harps Super 4 Lotto draw for 19th September.

Letterkenny's top priority is water provision - Kelly

From Page One

for them. I had questions with Irish Water and I am still waiting on the answers.

I am not against the proposed developments in Oldtown and Ballymacool. But, I have to represent the people that are living now in Bomany, New Mills and Tullygay. In the meantime we need a big push on getting vacant or derelict houses back into use," he stated.

He said in the midst of an accommodation crisis he was definitely not against new homes being built in the two areas concerned but he pointed out that often families there only have a decent water supply one day in the week. "That," he said, "meant some parents having to bring their children to the Aura Leisure Centre for personal hygiene and taking clothes to laundry outlets in the Oldtown, Ballyrairie and the Mountain Top."

He said there has been a good response in Letterkenny Town to notices put on buildings with owners enquiring about the vacant and derelict grants.

"But we need to do more. I am aware of numbers of vacant and derelict houses in

estates where owners have to be encouraged to bring them back into use. If that doesn't happen the Council has to use their Compulsory Purchase Order powers. I am getting calls every day from people needing accommodation so we have to use all options to help them" Cllr Kelly said.

The 100% Redress Party Chair, Cllr Thomas Sean Devine has also spoken about the water supply problems in his own area near the Mountain Top.

He said the Glentain and Gort na Greine estates had been experiencing chronic low water supply problems for years. "Water supply is a shocking issue in Letterkenny. Where I live, the residents have been fighting for a proper water supply for years. The pump is out of action in the estate and Irish Water says that is not their responsibility. We are being told we will have to wait until 51 more houses are built above us. You can't build on top of problems that are already there. So the Council needs to look at buying houses that are on market until the water supply is upgraded," he added.

Calls for Creeslough explosion inquiry

From Page One

Gallagher, Martina Martin and Leona Harper. It's reported that one other family has also since joined the call for a public inquiry.

Mr. Mackin's letter to the Justice Minister highlighted that the families of the victims had each endured "unimaginable pain and suffering" but that the only current examination of the incident is the ongoing criminal investigation by Gardaí.

He stated: "Their families remain unable to grieve for their loss until such times as they know the truth of what occurred, the failings are acknowledged, and specific lessons are learned so that an incident like this never happens again."

He added the Garda role is to investigate any alleged criminality but that they were unable to produce a public report into the incident, disclose documents to families or make recommendations to ensure a similar event never happens again.

He added: "It is clear on any reading that there are wider issues of preventability relating to the Creeslough explosion which will inevitably fall outside the Garda investigation."

Taoiseach Simon Harris, speaking from New York on Tuesday, said the families deserved to be listened to and the government would consider the request. He stated: "Of course we need to keep an open mind but I think we need to engage on what facts are try-

ing to be established through an inquiry and how that is different from other enquiries or investigations under way. I can absolutely understand that families obviously want answers and want information and there are also very significant questions that need answers. I fully accept that. I think the question for the Government now to consider is how best to do that conscious that there are some investigations underway," he added.

Those who died were Robert Garwe and his five-year-old daughter Shauna Flanagan-Garwe; Catherine O'Donnell and her 13-year-old son James Monaghan; Jessica Gallagher; Martin McGill; James O'Flaherty; Martina Martin; Hugh Kelly; and 14-year-old Leona Harper.

A statement from the minister's department confirmed she had received the letter and was "currently considering its contents".

"It would not be appropriate to comment further given there is an ongoing investigation under way," the department added.

In a statement, An Garda Síochána said: "The investigation, led by Gardaí in Donegal division, is ongoing with the intention of submitting a file to the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions."

Adding: "An Garda Síochána has no further comment at this time."

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