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**General Election 2024: Tribune Opinion Poll**

# Three way battle for the last seats

3,681,543 people are registered to vote in Friday's General Election with expectations that the turnout may struggle to reach above the 62% that voted in February 2020.

**By John McAteer**

Since the start of the year 428,073 new applications have been registered with the Electoral Commission. The national outcome is too close to call and here in Donegal, the Tirconail Tribune poll reveals that there will be three candidates battling for the two final seats. Last week's opinion poll was conducted between Wednesday and Friday and 872 people participated. Around 40% were undecided and are not included in the poll.

The poll suggests that SF will retain their two seats while

Pat the Cope Gallagher is the leading FF candidate.

The poll was completed seven days out from the election and it shows the state of the parties with SF on 41.71% - down 3.39% since 2020 and Pearse Doherty has a share of 26.1%.

It's as close as it can get to his actual vote in 2020 when he got 21,044.

Fianna Fail is on 22.71% which is up by 2.29% since the last general election. Pat the Cope Gallagher is on 13.88% with Minister Charlie McConalogue on 8.03%.

He was elected on the final count at the last election after polling 10.78% and a

## Tribune Opinion Poll

Doherty, Pearse	26.61%
Gallagher, Pat the Cope	13.88%
MacLochlainn, Pdraig	11.01%
McConalogue, Charlie	8.03%
Pringle, Thomas	7.22%
Ward, Charles	7.00%
McNulty, John	6.31%
Bradley, Nikki	5.73%
Jordan, Noel	4.13%
Sweeney, Mary T.	2.64%
Others	7.44%

vote of 8,347. Gallagher's vote has increased by 4.24% while McConalogue is down by 2.75%. The Cope is polling strongly in Glenties taking an estimated 35.8% of the first preferences. He's on 19.35% in Stranorlar and 7.88% in Milford. Pearse Doherty is out ahead there on 38.89% with McConalogue on 12.2%. Pdraig MacLochlainn is on 10%.

One of the intriguing

bat-tles to watch in the tally count is the closeness of the Glenties tally where the Cope is battling with Doherty to top the poll

and there's half of one percent between them - each are over 35%.

The poll reveals subtle changes and it reflects the mood of the electorate and that's especially true with the FF vote. McConalogue's vote is down in Inishowen from a high of 27.6% in 2020 to 17.95% and that fall of 9.6% is a fair whack of votes to win back.

100% Redress is

taking 10.26% while Kim McMenamin has a share of 4%. FG has lost 4% here. Thomas Pringle is getting 2% in Inishowen.

Pearse Doherty's Inishowen vote has increased by 5.5% while Pdraig MacLochlainn is down by 9.86% with Noel Jordan on less than half of one percent in the peninsula.

FF's share in Inishowen is 20.52% that's down 7.78%. Sinn Fein is on 48.2%: that's down by 3.8%. Pearse Doherty got 12.4% there in 2020: that is now 17.95% which is the same as McConalogue.

In Letterkenny, Doherty has the biggest share of the poll at 23%: McConalogue is coming in at 14.5% with MacLochlainn on 13.35%. 100% is polling 9.9%.

In Milford, SF has 50%: FF is on 21.1%: FG has 14.45%: 100%

Contd. Page 35



Martin O'Donnell, Forquar, Milford who turned 90 on Monday is pictured as he continues on his bread delivery to business in Carrigart, Downings and Milford, a run he has been doing for the past 65 years. Photo by Brendan Vaughan.

## Cllrs back public inquiry into Creeslough explosion

A motion by Cllr Frank McBrearty at Monday's Council meeting got unanimous backing for the establishment of an Independent Statutory Judicial Public Inquiry into the Creeslough explosion in October 2022.

A number of bereaved families and survivors were in Lifford where they heard Cllrs give their full backing to the motion with Cllr Michael McBride stating that getting to the truth cannot drag on like it did for the Stardust families who waited over four decades for answers.

Moving the motion, Cllr McBrearty said the Creeslough explosion was the worst tragedy Donegal had witnessed in a couple of centuries with ten people losing their lives from the ages of 5 to 59.

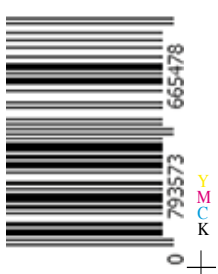
"It's the first time that I have spoken publicly about the Creeslough tragedy after the Harper family came to me earlier this year. I advised them of the need for a full Independent Statutory Judicial Public Inquiry to get the truth. Some say Tribunals go on too long but I have gone through one

Contd. Page 2



Aleshia Coyle, Una Sweeney, Caoimhe Coyle, Lucy McGarvey and Casey Gallagher pictured at the Glenree Sports Club 50th Anniversary book launch in the Carrigart Hotel on Saturday.

Photo by Declan Kerr.



# Voters urged to keep cabinet minister in Donegal

As the country goes to the polls on Friday, Fianna Fáil public representatives are urging voters in Donegal to vote to keep a government minister in the county and are emphasising the importance of a Cabinet minister for delivering for Donegal.

General election candidate and local minister, Charlie McConalogue, has thanked the public for their welcome over the past three weeks and asked for support to continue to represent Donegal in government.

"It was a great honour to be appointed as a Cabinet minister and I have sought to deliver in every way possible for Donegal over the past four years. I am asking the people of Donegal to back me in continuing to do this work over the course of the next Government and I am totally committed to working to further develop our potential in government should I get the public's support in the election," he said.

Commending Minister McConalogue for his commitment to Donegal, Cllr Liam Blaney commented: "As Minister for Marine, Charlie McConalogue has secured unprecedented funding to Donegal piers and harbours. Of the €50 million that was spent nationally, €28 million was invested in Donegal. Over €4 million was allocated to Rathmullan, €1.5 million was invested in Portsalon Pier which opened in September."

Cllr Ciaran Brogan said: "The single biggest investment in our infrastructure that we've seen approved by Cabinet

was the Donegal TEN-T Project that got the go-ahead in July. The TEN-T Project includes the Manorcunningham to Lifford, the Twin Towns Bypass and the new Bonagee Bridge and Relief Road in Letterkenny. This project is key to the future development of Donegal."

"The continued investment in Donegal ATU, the new veterinary college, new library, new regional sports complex and the investment health services including the new 110-bed community nursing unit are creating great opportunities for our people while maintaining our talent within the region. It also makes our area one of the most attractive places to live, work and do business while offering a great quality of life," he added.

Cllr Donal Mandy Kelly said: "Donegal received the fourth highest allocation in the country in the Sports Grant Application in September when 89 clubs were allocated €13.5 million."

"As a sheep farmer and a suckler farmer, I can't stress enough the support you have given to the sector, especially here in Donegal. Payments for sheep have risen from €10 to €25 per ewe, with the payment per suckler cow increasing to €225," he added.

Cllr Donal Coyle said "We have seen significant progress in education over the four years. The new Little Angels Special School in Letterkenny is scheduled to open in January, while new extensions have been completed at Scoil Colmcille and Errigal College. Minister



Donegal minister, Charlie McConalogue, pictured with Cllr Ciaran Brogan, Cllr Donal Coyle and Cllr Donal Mandy Kelly at the ATU in Letterkenny.

McConalogue is also committed to progressing the new St. Eunan's College and the new school building extensions for Illistrin National School and Errigal College.

Senator Niall Blaney said "The

new €59 million Letterkenny Community Hospital, which will comprise of 110 beds, is on schedule to open in the first quarter of 2026. This new hospital is something he has been pushing for a long time," he commented.

Eric Roberts picked probably one of the worst days of the year last Sunday to run a marathon in aid of Focus Ireland. The conditions were really tough with high winds but he completed the 42.2km at the Downings GAA Centre. The Downings Bay sponsored the food for Eric and the support team after the marathon while Boyce's Centra provided the fueling station and the Galley provided refreshments. Eric is pictured with Oisín Boyce, Centra, Cassie Stokes and Chris from Run with Chris.



## Main Street student accommodation granted planning

Former office units on Letterkenny's Lower Main Street are to be turned into student accommodation.

Conditional planning permission has been granted to Paul Scott for the change of use of the existing first and second floor office units to student accommodation at each floor level and associated works at Lower Main Street. Among the five conditions issued with the permission from Donegal County Council include that a management scheme, providing adequate measures for the future management of the development including maintenance, internal common areas, waste storage facilities and sanitary services, shall be submitted to and agreed in writing with the Planning Authority prior to commencement of the development.

## Cllrs back public inquiry into Creeslough explosion



From Page One and got justice," Cllr McBrearty said. He said the fact that other investigations were ongoing did not mean that a Public Inquiry could not take place at the same time. "The Morris Tribunal showed that it could be done. I have asked Charles Ward if he is elected to the Dail that he pushes for the Public Inquiry. I will be asking all those elected from Donegal to do the same in the first 100 days of the new Dail. Justice delayed is justice denied," Cllr McBrearty said. The motion was seconded by Cllr Thomas Sean Devine. He said that nobody could deny that a Tribunal was required to get to the truth for the families affected by the explosion. "I hope and pray that these people get the answers that they deserve," Cllr Devine said. Cllr Ciaran Brogan

said clearly the families wanted the truth and it was the elected members responsibility to be with them on that journey. Cllr Gerry McMonagle said the Garda Commissioner Drew Harris had stated that a Public Inquiry would not interfere with the progress of their investigation and that should pave the way for it to get the green light. Cllr Martin Farren said the motion moved by Cllr McBrearty was one of the most important ever brought before the Council. Cllr Declan Meehan said it was crucial that the families weren't put through unnecessary turmoil by any delays in approving a Tribunal. Those sentiments were echoed by Cllr Michael McBride who said nobody wanted to see the roadblocks that delayed the Stardust Inquiry for

years. Cllr Jimmy Kavanagh said it was important in the interim that all the relevant agencies continue to support the families, while Cllr Michael McClafferty said it was a tragedy that would be etched in the minds of the whole community for a long time. Cllr McBrearty's motion received the unanimous backing of the Members. "The Public Inquiry will establish why loved ones were lost in the Creeslough explosion. Their families will get the truth. Love is what keeps these families going. Without the Morris Tribunal I would have been in jail and wouldn't be a Cllr here today. So again I am asking all political groupings to support a full Independent Statutory Judicial Public Inquiry for the Creeslough families," Cllr McBrearty said.

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## Bord Pleanala reject Carrigart house build

Planning authority An Bord Pleanala have refused the construction of a house in Carrigart following a planning appeal. Joel Harvey Knipe had applied to build a dwelling house with installation of wastewater treatment system including all other associated site development works at Aghalatty, Carrigart. This was granted conditional planning permission by Donegal County Council on April 8th, 2024.

An appeal was lodged with An Bord Pleanala by Neil Duffy of Aghalatty, on April 24th, 2024.

The grounds for appeal included claims that the applicant did not demonstrate genuine rural housing need. They disagreed with a statement that the applicant was not born or reared in Aghalatty, did not attend primary or secondary school in the area and had no "intrinsic link to the area". It also claimed the applicant lives and works in Northern Ireland and members of his family owned a dwelling 100m from the site that has been used as a holiday home or rented out on a long term basis for many years.

They said the area is "well over capacity in terms of holiday homes" and currently there "are numerous houses for sale in the area".

They also claimed the potential run off from a percolation area remained for potential for seepage to enter a drain via roadside gullies.

The applicant responded Local representative has verified that the applicant complies with the policies of the Development Plan, has "long established and deep-rooted links to the local area" and is intending to use this house as his permanent and full-time residence.

They added gullies will be inserted to ensure storm water from the entrance roadway will be collected and sent to the roadside drain and an Aco-channel will be inserted at site entrance as required.

Refusing the development the An Bord Pleanala order stated: "Having regard to inconsistencies in the Site Characterisation Assessment Form, and the lack of supporting detail accompanying same, and having regard to the lack of detail in relation to proposals for surface water drainage on the site, including proposals to culvert or pipe the existing land drain to the west of the site, the Board cannot be satisfied that the site is suitable for the wastewater treatment system as proposed, and cannot be satisfied that the proposed development would not lead to surface water flooding in the immediate area. As such, the proposed development would be contrary to Policy WW-P-6 of the County Donegal Development Plan 2024-2030 and would be contrary to Technical Standards as relates to Surface Water and Roadside Drainage as set out in Chapter 16 of the development plan. The proposed development would, therefore, be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area."

## Social Dance in Carrigart Hall

The monthly Social Dancing in Mevagh Hall Carrigart continues on Friday 6th December from 9.30 - 11.30pm. Music is by Eamon Callaghan, admission is €10 and light refreshments served and spot prizes to be won. All welcome.

## Coffee Evening Thank You

Raymond and Frances Armour, Loughnagin, Ramelton would like to thank everyone who supported their recent Coffee Evening and Cake Sale on Friday 15th November and a total of €2,800 was raised.

## Busy weekend for CLG Na nDunaibh

Following the Downings ladies success on winning the Ulster Junior Final on Saturday 30th of November the Club will hold their ball drop at 2pm. The ladies play the All Ireland semi final the following day the 1st of December against Killocock from Co. Kildare at 1pm in Downings.



# A NEW ENERGY FOR DONEGAL



*In this area...*

**VOTE 1** Sen. Nikki

**BRADLEY**

**VOTE 2** John

**McNULTY**

# North may have a winter of discontent

The North may be facing a winter of discontent after Christmas. Health service workers are seeking parity with Britain.

This will be another tarnishing of the shine on the Executive. People were definitely relieved when the Executive and Assembly were restored earlier this year. Thus they accepted what many would have thought unacceptable. Michelle O'Neill has visited the Shankill twice. Not a pane of glass was broken. She attended the Remembrance Sunday ceremony in Belfast. Yes, there were mutterings of discontent. There was no revolt. A few years ago even most of the SDLP would have found O'Neill's actions had gone too far.

Then we have had Emma Little Pengelly of the DUP playing camogie. More, we have had DUP traditionalist Paul Givan speaking a few words in Irish and doing Irish dancing. The sky did not fall on either.

But we should not get too caught up by the hype about the political problems being solved. The problems aren't solved. The two big parties are pulling in opposite directions. Neither though, has an alternative. Thus they are a pair of Siamese twins who can't stand one another.

They were helped by how people feel about the arrangement. Very few, if any, see it as perfect. They do give it a chance. That can't go on forever. All right, the Executive won't do a Simon Harris implosion. But people will expect their day to day lives to get better.

The public sector strike in January this year was a big factor in the Assembly and Executive coming back. This was the biggest ever strike in the North. Workers across the public sector walked out. It was a general strike. The political class felt they had to restore the Executive and Assem-

*In the South, a nurse earns on average €47,247 per year.*

*In the North, the average is £35,587 (€42,786).*

*Thus unrest among health workers is no surprise.*

*The strikes in January this year were a factor in forcing the return of the Executive and Assembly.*

bly. This time the major issue is health. There are about 66,000 health workers in the North. Thus they are a very significant group.

Health workers are seeking pay parity with Britain. The pay review body recommended a 5.5% rise. This was granted in Britain. The rise was backdated to April. In the North the offer is 3.5%. And the backdating is not as far.

Earlier this month the Minister of Finance launched a budget reallocation exercise called the Monitoring Round. This provided an extra £700million. Health received £350million of this. The Minister Mike Nesbitt said he needs another £100million. He offered health workers 3%, and the rest when the money became available. The unions rightly turned that offer down. Nesbitt has even voted against his own Executive's budget.

Four years ago the Executive launched a Programme for Government. This promised public sector workers in the North would never fall out of parity with British counterparts. The four parties now in the Executive all signed up.

Now they are retreating from that. The unions will oppose that. Unison is the largest trade union in the North's health service. Anniez Speed is its head of bargaining. She has said the failure to deliver pay parity is

"going to lead to large scale industrial action across the health service. It isn't a threat, it's an inevitable outcome.... how can we honestly say to workers in Northern Ireland you're worth less than workers in England, Wales, and Scotland. It's not a tenable decision." She described health workers as "feeling thoroughly undervalued" and "disrespected."

The current situation flows from the Northern Executive relying on the British Treasury. The Executive cannot levy any taxes itself. Thus it is bound by the spending limits the last Conservative Government imposed. The Labour Government is sticking religiously to these. Finance Minister Caoimhe Archibald from Sinn Féin has explained the difficulties. She has said she needs another £180million in all. I have no reason to doubt her intentions are good.

I have no doubt, either, that she is now trapped into working with a Conservative budget. From time to time she can, maybe, use a bit of creative accounting. That would help her to sometimes avoid the worst aspects. That still leaves her having to starve public services. Thus she told public sector workers that 3% was the best they could receive.

For a long time, public sector workers in the North had parity with Britain. They were never on the pig's back. They had, though, a limited cushion. Our property prices were spectac-

ularly lower. We all know of people who sold small properties round London to buy very good ones in the North. Even yet, the cost of living in Belfast is 38% below London. However, public sector workers in London receive a 20% London weighting on top of their basic pay.

Not all is cheaper. Many public sector workers are low paid. The low paid, everywhere, spend a higher percentage of their incomes on food. In the North, food prices are an estimated 4% higher than in Britain.

Grocery price inflation in the North is still running at 4.2%. For some items, it is higher. On Monday I bought milk. Last week a three-litre container was £2.17 (€2.60). On Tuesday it was £2.50 (€2.99). Overall, Northern food price inflation has been 17% since 2022.

Northern property prices are no longer spectacularly low. The North now has the faster price rises than England, Scotland or Wales.



**By Anton McCabe**

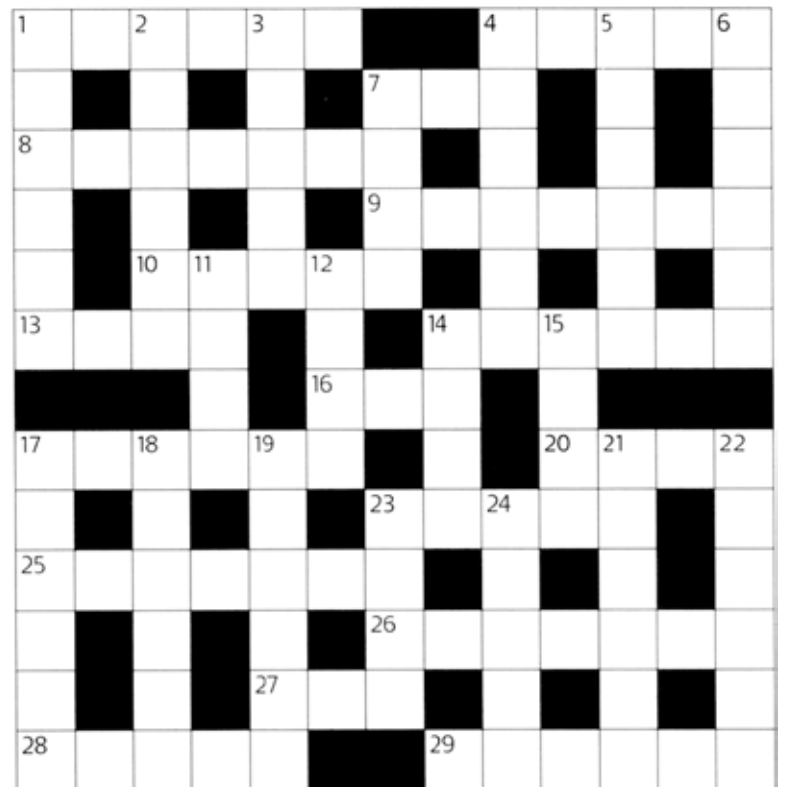
Yes, the cost of living is still lower in the North. That does not make up for the gap in wages. In the South, a nurse earns on average €47,247 per year. In the North, the average is £35,587 (€42,786).

Thus unrest among health workers is no surprise.

The strikes in January this year were a factor in forcing the return of the Executive and Assembly. The British Government had starved the North of funding to put on pressure. We could compare this to sanctions.

A new round of strikes will not bring the Executive down. They will, though it will take away yet more of its credit.

## Tribune Crossword No. 1092



**Across**

- 1. Sturdy (6)
- 4. Sugary (5)
- 7. Author, \_\_\_ Fleming (3)
- 8. Bloated (7)
- 9. Army rank (7)
- 10. Father Christmas (5)
- 13. Summit (4)
- 14. Blood vessel (6)
- 16. Uncooked (3)
- 17. Relics repository (6)
- 20. Assist (4)
- 23 Dwarf (5)
- 25. Bona fide (7)
- 26. Whistle-cord (7)
- 27. Devour (3)
- 28. Twilled fabric (5)
- 29. Driver, \_\_\_ Piquet (6)

**Down**

- 1. Former Soviet republic (6)
- 2. Read casually (6)
- 3. Art gallery (5)
- 4. Hidden marksman (6)
- 5 Housing complex (6)
- 6. Modish (6)
- 7. Ancient Peruvian (4)
- 11. Spindle (4)
- 12. School period (4)
- 14. Not here (4)
- 15. Public vehicle (4)
- 17. Lodestone (6)
- 18. Roman governing body (6)
- 19. Unanimous (6)
- 21. Go around (6)
- 22. Ligament (6)
- 23. Animal skin (4)
- 24. Spirit of the lamp! (5)

**Solutions to Crossword No. 1091**

Across 1. Rickshaw, 5. Port, 7. Dunce, 8. Decibel, 9. Promotion, 13. Talc, 16. Lad, 17. Din, 18. Golf, 21. Greyhound, 24. Adjourn, 26. Vicar, 27. Pine, 28. Colliery. Down 1. Rodent, 2. Cancel, 3. Sleep, 4. Wee, 5. Painting, 6. Talon, 8. Duo, 10. Radio, 11. Midon, 12. Oval, 14. Aver, 15. Claymore, 19. Oracle, 20. Flurry, 21. Grasp, 22. Urn, 23. Devil, 25. R.A.C.

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- 211 Peugeot 3008 Allure Aut
- 211 Ford Focus Active X
- 211 Ford Focus Active Auto
- 211 Kia Sportage K3
- 211 Citroen C5 Aircross
- 211 VW Tiguan Rline
- 201 Citroen C5 Aircross **Sold**
- 201 VW Tiguan Highline
- 201 Audi A4 Ultra Auto
- 201 Peugeot 2008 Allure
- 201 Ford Focus Zetec
- 201 Nissan Qashqai Accenta Premium
- 192 Seat Leon FR
- 191 Ford Kuga ST Line
- 182 Nissan Qashqai
- 181 Ford Focus ST Line
- 181 Suzuki Vitara SZT
- 172 Audi A4 Saloon **Sold**
- 171 Suzuki Vitara SZT x 2
- 171 Kia Sportage K2
- 171 Peugeot 3008 Active
- 161 Ford Focus Titanium **Sold**
- 151 VW Touran 7 Seater Auto **Sold**
- 151 Ford Focus Zetec

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- 232 Suzuki Scross Ultra **Sold**
- 231 Suzuki Scross Ultra
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- 221 Suzuki Vitara SZ5
- 221 Kia Sportage K3
- 212 Toyota Rav 4 Hybrid
- 212 Suzuki Vitara SZ5 **Sold**
- 212 Suzuki Vitara SZT x2
- 212 Suzuki Scross SZT
- 211 Land rover Sport Plugin Hybrid
- 211 Ford Puma ST Line X
- 211 Ford Focus ST
- 211 Suzuki Swift SZT
- 211 Suzuki Vitara SZT
- 201 Subaru Forester Auto
- 201 Mercedes Benz A Class Saloon
- 202 Suzuki Swift SZT
- 201 Suzuki Vitara SZT
- 191 Suzuki Scross SZ4
- 191 Suzuki Vitara SZT Auto.
- 191 Suzuki Swift Attitude **Sold**
- 191 Ford Focus Titanium
- 181 Ford Fiesta ST Line
- 181 Peugeot 208
- 181 Suzuki Scross SZT **Sold**
- 172 Suzuki Celiro Auto
- 162 Toyota Yaris Luna
- 161 Suzuki Vitara SZT
- 161 Suzuki Swift

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- 211 Opel Combo
- 211 Nissan Navara Auto
- 191 Peugeot Partner
- 181 Mitsubishi Pajero LWB
- 181 Citroen Berlingo **Sold**
- 172 Peugeot Partner
- 161 Ford Fiesta Van

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# Shrek The Musical at An Grianan

On Tuesday 3rd December, Letterkenny Music and Drama Group open their 7 show run of

'Shrek The Musical' in An Grianan Theatre, running until Saturday 7th December.

Co-directed by Tina Higgins and Maire McGinley, and musical direction from Denise Roper,



this musical extravaganza is selling fast, with many performances sold out already, and minimal tickets for the remaining performances. LMDG are delighted to be staging a 'relaxed performance' on Friday 6th December, a sensory-friendly show for children and adults with additional needs, with some scary characters removed, altered sound and lighting, and a quiet space available in the theatre.

fearful and mocking of him, and he is more than happy to leave the world to itself, in turn. Suddenly, his hermit existence is thrown open, when a group of homeless fairy tale characters - Pinocchio, the Gingerbread Man, the Three Little Pigs, and more 0 burst upon his swamp, seeking refuge from the persecution of the cruel, vertically-challenged Lord Farquaad. Shrek seeks out Farquaad, who offers him a deal: if Shrek rescues Princess Fiona (whom Farquaad wishes to marry for her crown), then Farquaad will ensure the return of Shrek's swamp by returning the fairy tale creatures to their homes. Desperate to get his swamp back, He travels to Princess Fiona's prison, rescues her from a fire-breathing dragon, and then - scariest of all - is forced to get to know the princess as he tries to bring her back to evil Farquaad. With dazzling sets, whimsical puppetry, high energy dance numbers, and laughs by the minute, Shrek the Musical transforms the contemporary children's book and popular animated feature film into a stage musical that is sure to entertain and make audiences believers in happy endings for all.

Grumpy, gruff, green ogre Shrek lives alone in his swamp. The world is

To check remaining ticket availability, contact An Grianan box office on 0749120777, or visit [www.angrianan.com](http://www.angrianan.com)

**KEEP YOUR MINISTER IN DONEGAL**

**Vótáil 1**

I want to sincerely thank the many people I have met for their warm welcome over the past three weeks and am sorry if I did not get to talk to you personally given the short duration of the election campaign. It has been an honour to represent you and Donegal in Government as Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine over the past four and a half years and I have sought to maximise this opportunity to deliver in every way possible for our county. It is crucial to have representation in Government if we are to realise the great potential that our county has to grow and develop and I am committed to continuing to work in Government on behalf of our county should I get your support on election day. I respectfully ask for your number one vote in the general election this coming Friday and pledge to continue to work on your behalf if re-elected.

Yours sincerely,  
Charlie McConalogue

**Minister Charlie McConalogue TD**

Please continue your preference for...

 **Pat The Cope Gallagher**

 **Claudia Kennedy**

Contact Charlie: Tel: 0749373131 (Carn). 0749177282 (Letterkenny).  
Email: [charlie.mcconalogue@oireachtas.ie](mailto:charlie.mcconalogue@oireachtas.ie)

Working with Senator Niall Blaney, Cllr Liam Blaney, Cllr Ciaran Brogan, Cllr Donal Coyle and Cllr Donal Mandy Kelly.



**Fianna Fáil**  
AN PAIRTÍ PUBLACHTÁNACH

Y M C K

# Jason to switch on Ramelton lights

Glor Tire winner Jason McCahill from Ramelton has been given the honour of switching on the Christmas Lights Display in Ramelton this Sunday evening at 7pm.

But the fun doesn't start at 7pm... from 6pm there will be festive themed stalls in Gambles Square and the Danín Youth Choir will be singing from 6.30pm.

Santa is due to arrive along with Jason at 7pm and after the switch-on they will meet the children. Hopefully the weather stays ok for the evening and the committee have

been very busy over the past few weeks installing the lights all around the town.

They wish to thank everyone who supplies the electricity every year as well as all the local businesses and householders who have kept the supplied with tea, coffee and refreshments. They very much appreciate this after a few hours out working in the cold weather.

### Christmas Tree Festival

The Ramelton Community are organising a



Christmas Tree Festival this weekend in the Ramelton Presbyterian Church. It will begin on Friday the 29th of November from 2-9pm and continue the same hours on Saturday and Sunday.

Come along and see Christmas trees decorated by schools, organisations and businesses in the community and get into the festive spirit. All donations collected will go to the RNLI and the St. Vincent de Paul Society and everyone is welcome.

### Care of the Aged Christmas Party

Ramelton Care of the Aged are having their Christmas Party Night in the Silver Tassie Hotel on Monday 2nd December. Dinner served at 6.30pm sharp. Bus will leave from Church St at 5.30pm. Cost €15. To book contact: Chris 086 0580467 or Anthony 086 0822426.

### Last chance to see Stop it Nurse!

Following its successful three night run in the Town Hall last month, The Ramelton Players are back it again with a final performance of the Sam Cree comedy drama Stop It Nurse!

This time all proceeds will go to the Ramelton Community Playgroup and the show is on next Wednesday night the 4th of December starting at 8pm sharp. The doors open at 7pm so be in early to get a good seat. Tickets are now on sale in Kevin McFadden's Shop at the Mall or from the Playgroup on 083 8105559 and are priced at €10 each.

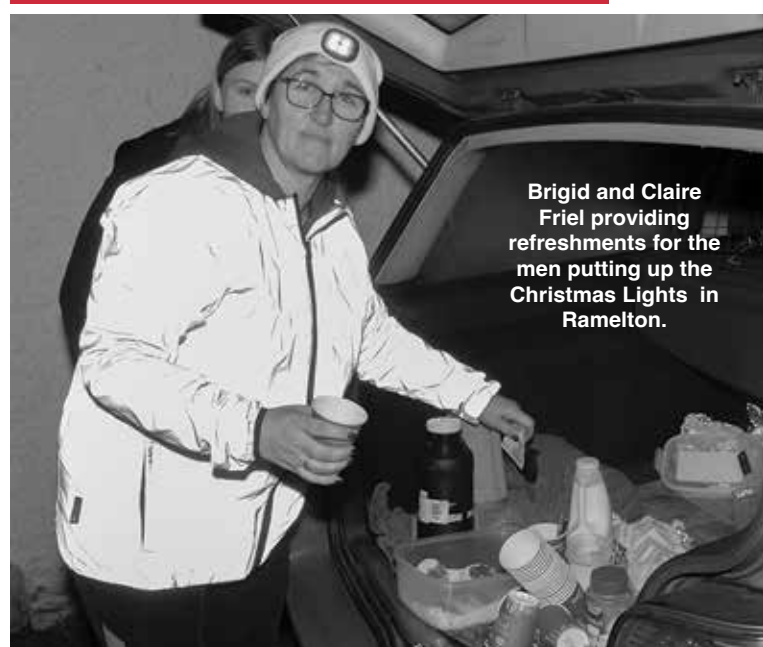
### Christmas Coffee Morning

Ayr Hill National School are holding a Christmas Coffee Morning on Saturday the 7th of December in the Makemie Hall, Ramelton (behind the Presbyterian Church). All proceeds are in aid of School Funds and it will begin at 10am and continue until 1pm.

### Country Market

Ramelton Country Market will be in Ramelton Town Hall from 10.30am until 12 noon this Saturday 30th November. Get ready for the Christmas Season ahead and order your cakes, puddings, mince pies and desserts in advance on 087 9699715 to ensure availability.

Christmas Market this year is on the 14th December 10.30am to 2pm. Every Saturday the best of local homemade food is available with, wholesome soups, cottage pies, lasagne, quiche, meat pasties, seasonal vegetables, breads, scones, sweet treats and local homemade crafts. 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 &



Brigid and Claire Friel providing refreshments for the men putting up the Christmas Lights in Ramelton.



Busy putting the final touches to the Christmas Lights display in Ramelton which will be switched on on Sunday at 7pm.

# Fairstone Ireland celebrates John F. Loughrey acquisition amid €1.5bn growth milestone



Paul Merriman CEO Fairstone Ireland, John F. Loughrey, founder of John F. Loughrey Financial Services and Lisa Loughrey, Managing Director.

Fairstone Ireland is delighted to announce the acquisition of John F. Loughrey Financial Services, a highly respected financial planning firm based in Letterkenny. This marks Fairstone Ireland's sixth strategic acquisition, further solidifying its position as one of Ireland's premier wealth management firms. By expanding into Letterkenny and the Northwest region, this move underscores Fairstone's commitment to serving communities with exceptional financial planning and wealth management services.

John F. Loughrey Financial Services brings over 40 years of industry excellence, having built a strong reputation for delivering personalised financial solutions with a steadfast customer-first ethos. This shared philosophy of prioritising customer needs makes the partnership an ideal fit, enhancing opportunities for both firms and the Donegal community.

Paul Merriman, CEO of Fairstone Ireland, said:

"We are delighted to welcome John, Lisa, and their team to the Fairstone family. Letterkenny and the broader Northwest region are critical to our growth strategy, and this acquisition strengthens our presence in this key area. Together, we will continue to deliver outstanding service while elevating the standard of wealth management for clients in the region."

The acquisition comes as John F. Loughrey Financial Services celebrates its 40th anniversary, making the partnership particularly significant for the firm and its clients. Founder John Loughrey said:

"This is an exciting new chapter for our firm and the Letterkenny community we've proudly served for decades. Joining Fairstone means access to great-

er resources and expertise, ensuring our clients in Letterkenny and Donegal benefit from world-class financial solutions."

Lisa Loughrey, Managing Director, also highlighted the benefits for the local area:

"As we celebrate 40 years in business, this partnership sets the stage for the future, allowing us to continue serving Letterkenny with even greater care, innovation, and excellence. Fairstone's support ensures our clients remain at the forefront of financial planning services."

Anthony O'Driscoll, Head of Mergers & Acquisitions at Fairstone Ireland, emphasised the importance of the move:

"The financial landscape is increasingly complex, and scale is key to delivering the best solutions. By partnering with John F. Loughrey Financial Services, we deepen our presence in Letterkenny, a vibrant and growing area, ensuring we can meet the evolving needs of clients here and across the Northwest." This acquisition represents a significant milestone in Fairstone Ireland's growth, bringing its total Assets Under Management (AUM) to €1.5 billion. By integrating the trusted expertise of John F. Loughrey Financial Services, Fairstone reinforces its mission to transform financial planning through innovation, collaboration, and a relentless focus on client success.

For Donegal, this partnership signals a bright future, offering enhanced services, access to leading financial expertise, and a continued commitment to the community. Together, Fairstone Ireland and John F. Loughrey Financial Services are poised to shape the next chapter of wealth management excellence in the region.

## Santa to switch on Ballyare Christmas Lights

The Christmas Lights at Gerry and Sharon Durning's house at Ballyare will be switched on this year on Saturday the 30th of November at 6pm. Santa has promised to switch on the lights. This is a spectacular display and a lot of work has been put into it by Gerry and Sharon, their family and friends and its well worth a

trip. It's very easy to get to just put the eircode F92 K2C9 into google.

The charities to benefit this year are the Little Blue Heroes and the Donegal Branch of the Irish Kidney Association and the lights will remain on over the Christmas period into early January.

enjoyable. Loyalty cards Ramelton Country Market gift vouchers are also available. Just enquire at our checkout or from any market member.

### Christmas lights table quizzes

Tables quizzes in aid of the Christmas lights will take place on Tuesday December 3rd in the Purty House. Singing Pub winners night The Lennon Festival Singing Pub winners the Purty House will host their victory celebration night on this Friday, November 29th.

### Ramelton SVP

As the cost of living crisis continues, many families will face impossible choices this Christmas. If you are in need of support this Christmas, contact Ramelton SVP in confidence. Please call 087 143 6640 before 1st December 2024.



### Mens Only Yoga

Men's Only Yoga has a new 5 weeks block starting on Wednesday the 13th of November in the Town Hall at 7pm. To book contact Nuala on 087 6807850

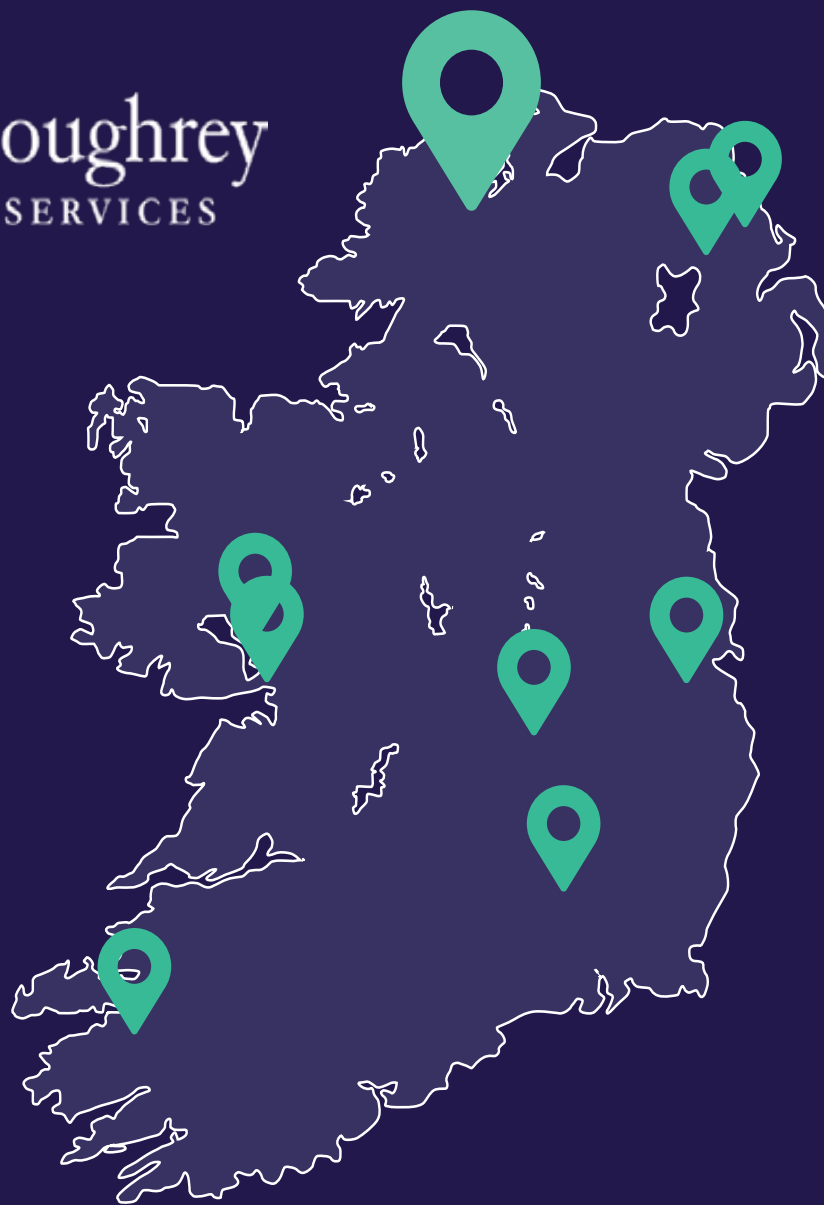
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 [Fairstone.ie](https://www.fairstone.ie)

## Orla Neely hosts 5th Christmas Appeal

Well-known charity fundraiser and campaigner, Orla Neely, is hosting her annual Christmas Food and Toiletries Appeal.

Now in its 5th year she is hoping to help ease the burden of the festive period by collecting donations of everyday items that can make a big difference to those who could use some extra support.

She is seeking non-perishable food items such as pasta, tinned foods, sauces, soups, cereal, coffee, tea, sugar, diluting juices, as well as tins of sweets/ biscuits/selection boxes.

For toiletries and hygiene items she is seeking donations of nappies, wipes, baby baths, new baby grows and vests.



She says the items collected will go to support local families who are finding the cost of Christmas difficult.

She stated: "This is the 5th year doing this appeal and the response the past four years had been fantastic. We have made up an average of 80 food hampers yearly and a container load of nappies and toiletries yearly. All these hampers are going to local young families who are finding it that bit of a struggle at this time of year and the appreciation which these families have once they receive these hampers is heartwarming, the list of what's required, any of these will be a great help to make up the hampers".

For all enquiries or to arrange a collection give Orla a call 0861051560.

## 28 town centre apartments granted planning

Planning permission has been granted for a new development of 28 apartments in Letterkenny.

The successful application was granted to Gerald McCallion on behalf of Glenturas Construction Ltd for the development located at Paddy Harte Road and Pearse Road, Letterkenny.

Donegal County Council granted conditional planning permission for the development that allows the construction of a residential building consisting of 28 apartments, together with associated site works and connection to all public services.

They listed 25 conditions the developer must meet. These include that following the completion

of the work the management and maintenance of the site will be undertaken by the developer, each parking spot is wired with cables to allow electric car charging in the future.

Also, prior to the installation of all street landscaping and planting along Pearse Road and on the traffic island full details of street planting including tree type and location shall be submitted to the Planning Authority for written agreement following consultation with Area Roads and the Town Gardener.

There were a total of nine submissions lodged by local businesses in Letterkenny opposing the development.

## Council passes Palestine motion



Senators Frances Black and Eileen Flynn with supporters in Lifford on Monday.

Cllrs have given their unanimous backing to Senator Frances Black's Occupied Territories Bill (OTB) which would ban trade with Israel's illegal colonial settlements in the Occupied Territories. The motion was unanimously passed at the Council meeting in Lifford on Monday.

The Donegal branch of the Ireland Palestine Solidarity Committee said it was a great day for Donegal when elected representatives showed that the people of the County stood full square with the people of Palestine in their struggle against oppression under the Israeli apartheid state and its ongoing campaign of genocide.

Introducing the motion, Cllr Jimmy Brogan strongly criticised the 750,000 illegal settlers who have forcefully expelled Palestinians from their homes and land, destroying their orchards and olive plantations while abusing their human rights under international law. He said that the occupation ensures Israeli control of roads, water and infrastructure in what the International Court has deemed to be apartheid.

Seconding the motion, Cllr Declan Meehan said that Ireland cannot continue with trade and diplomacy with Israel as though it was a normal state.

Supporting the motion, Cllr Jack Murray, related his experience of visiting the Occupied Territories when a taxi driver broke down in tears when he told him about the crowd that came to support the Palestinian team in their match with Ireland, saying that their friendship with Palestine doesn't go unnoticed.

Cllr Thomas Devine, also supported the motion and proposed that the Council shouldn't send any representatives or delegations to Israel. Cllr Ciaran Brogan said he was fully supportive of the motion and all that had been said. Cllr Gerry McMonagle proposed that the Council write to the Municipality of Bani Zeid, with which Donegal is twinned, to inform them of their decision.

Responding to the decision to support the OTB, Senator Frances Black thanked the Council saying that Donegal is the 13th Local Authority to pass such a motion. She said that it has been a long six years since she first introduced the Bill and that the end is now in sight. She will be talking with officials of the Dept. of Foreign Affairs next week about amendments to the Bill so that it is ready to be passed by the new government.

## Council pays tribute to Seamus Rodgers

The enormous contribution that Seamus Rodgers made to politics for over four decades was remembered at Monday's Council meeting in Lifford. Seamus, who passed away last week, was a Cllr for 39 years.

Labour Party Cllr Martin Farren led the tributes to the Annagry man who was a Cllr from 1960 to 1999. Council Chief Executive John McLaughlin extended condolences on behalf of the Council staff. Cllr Jimmy Kavanagh remembered Seamus



Rodgers from his time as a Union official when he would have been dealing with issues in his workplace at Letterkenny General Hospital.

"Seamus was always a nice man to meet. He was quietly spoken but at the same time had a steely determination" Cllr Kavanagh said. As a mark of respect Monday's Council meeting was adjourned for 39 minutes mirroring the number of years that Seamus Rodgers had been a Cllr.

## New pump for Rockhill water

Cllr Donal Mandy Kelly has been informed that a new pump will be installed at the Rockhill station to increase water pressure to affected areas of Bomany, Newmills, Tullygay, and surrounding areas before Christmas. "This is very much welcomed and positive news for these residents. I am delighted to get this confirmation from Uisce Eireann that a new pump is to be installed to increase water pressure in these areas. Although the goal and permanent solution here is to have the infrastructure upgraded and a bigger reservoir in place, Uisce Eireann are confident that this pump will see major improvements in water pressure in these areas in the medium term" Cllr Kelly said.

They are also exploring taking another feed line from the Inishowen supply coming from the Illies water treatment plant to feed into the

Newmills areas, which Cllr Kelly says would be very positive were it to happen. The new pump will reduce low pressure and water outages but won't reduce bursts on the networks.

Cllr Kelly said a large investment is needed and he has again requested that Central Government be lobbied to secure adequate funding. "There is a 37% leakage in the infrastructure in Donegal, and that for me speaks volumes that we need a massive investment.

The families in these areas again went five days without water and only came back on Tuesday due to a major burst in the Oldtown area. I look forward to this pump now being installed with the hope that it will give the residents in these areas relief and an adequate water supply until the infrastructure is upgraded once and for all" Cllr Kelly concluded.

## Letterkenny Milford District needs representation

Independent Candidate in the General Election, Frank O'Donnell, has said that the time has come for Letterkenny and Milford Municipal District to have their own representation in Dail Eireann.

O'Donnell feels that this is vital for the area going forward because of the ever-increasing population. He said that this matter has been coming up at the doors during his canvassing campaign over the past few weeks.

He feels that towns such as Letterkenny, Ramelton, Rathmullan, Milford, Downings, Carrigart and the Fanad peninsula, Glenswilly, Churchill, Fintown, Termon, Kilmacrennan and Manor badly need representation in the Dail and he knows that he is the person with the ability and energy to do it.

He is calling on the people to give him a chance in the Dail and vote for him this Friday and he will repay their support.



- O'Donnell

Frances O'Donnell, Rathmullan on the Canvas for her son Frank in Rathmullan on Tuesday night pictured with Eddie McKeever.

## Creeslough's Huku Balance awarded €10k grant

Creeslough based Huku Balance is one of ten recipients of Three's grant for small businesses. Owned and run by Cathal Sheridan, the business crafts premium balance products for the fitness, board sports and wellness industries.

Each are made with the care and quality of custom furniture, built to last a lifetime and backed by a lifetime guarantee.

Founded in 2008, Huku Balance boards are designed to enhance balance, coordination, and core strength - all while adding an element of fun.

The award for the Three Grant for Small Businesses Programme comprises of a €5,000 cash prize, €5,000 worth of device and connectivity solutions, as well as mentoring and ongoing support from Three Ireland's in-house business experts.

Another Donegal business, Portnoo Market Garden were also awarded the grant.

They provide fresh, chemical-free produce, grown sustainably in their locality.

Founder, Barrie Quinn, follows a "no-dig, no-chemicals" approach, cultivating naturally



grown crops that support a low-carbon, sustainable food movement. Their large selection includes tomatoes, strawberries, lettuce, eggs, and broccoli, all harvested locally to reduce environmental impact.

Sonya Lennon, judge for Three Ireland's Grant for Small Businesses said: "The supports offered through this programme cannot be understated, as they have the potential to transform a business on its journey of success. A testament to Three Ireland, alongside the strong entrepreneurial spirit that is central to the Irish culture, that the volume of applications continues to increase, showcasing the demand and appetite for business in Ireland. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Huku Balance and Portnoo Market Garden on their brilliant win and wish them every success for the future."

## Ray Community Centre

### Children's Christmas Party

We are delighted to announce the return of the Ray Children's Christmas party on Sunday 8th December at 2pm. Admission is free and refreshments will be served. We would request that any family planning to attend please email Syria on rayactivityhub@gmail.com or text 087 2877900 and Syria will reserve your place and explain the process.

### Ray Parent and Toddler Group

Ray Parent and Toddler Group continues on Friday's from 10.30am to 11.45am. It would be great to see new families attend.

### Early Morning Bootcamp

This popular class continues on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 6.15am to 7am. Membership for 4 weeks is €70 and payable on klubfunder or €8 per session. Any enquiries text Syria on 087 2877900 or rayactivityhub@gmail.com

### Take Your Pick

Congratulations to Mary Hegarty, Bridie Boyle and Patricia McAteer who all won €20 in the Take Your Pick this week. Jackpot next Sunday 1st December is €275.

### Astro Pitch Available to Rent

The Ray Astro Pitch is available to rent. Why not have your child's birthday party for only €60 for 2 hours. There is also a covered picnic area for use with 10 picnic benches so it can cater for small or large crowds. In addition, we have the Ray Wonder Woodland where children can explore the wonders of nature. Text Syria for details on 087 2877900.

### Information for Ray notes

If you have anything that you would like included in the Ray Community Centre notes please contact Fiona on 087 2514790 with the details. Especially births, marriages, significant birthdays etc.



# Shocking collapse in beds in Community Hospitals

- MacLochlainn

Deputy Pádraig Mac Lochlainn has revealed that the number of beds in Donegal's Community Hospitals had collapsed by one third since 2004.

He said "With data released to me by the HSE, I can reveal that the number of beds in Donegal's Community Hospitals has collapsed from 442 in 2004 to just 304 today. That is a drop of almost one third and it is a truly shocking indictment of government failure. This is further evidence of Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael dismantling our services in Donegal".

"Of course, the fewer beds in our Community Hospitals, the more pressure on Letterkenny University Hospital and it is no wonder that our major county hospital is always under so much pres-



sure and why so many people must wait so long in the emergency department when patients have so few available beds in their local community hospitals to step down to. There are government politicians lining up for photo opportunities and to take credit for new community hospitals in Donegal that are being built or that are soon to start construction. They need to be honest with the people of Donegal. Their parties have overseen the dismantling of our Community Hospitals across Donegal and we are now only playing catch up, with serious consequences every day for older people, persons with disabilities and their families".

"It is completely unacceptable that Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael have let it get

to this level. Rather than dismantle local services as is happening under Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael, a Sinn Féin government would protect our community hospitals and ensure vital services stay in our communities."

# Donegal housing commencements up 190%

- Pat the Cope

Fianna Fáil General Election candidate for Donegal, Pat the Cope Gallagher has said the latest housing commencement figures show the continued momentum on housing by Fianna Fáil.

He said that the commencements from January to October this year, is a 190% increase on the same period in 2023.

"Fianna Fáil is turning the dial on housing right across the country. We believe in home ownership, and we intend to continue to support families and individuals looking to purchase their first home right across the country. For so long we saw very little movement on this issue, but now we can see real progress. In the first ten months of this year,

we have seen 930 houses commenced compared to 321 in the same period in 2023.

Figures released by the Dept of Housing show that there has been over 53,000 commencements of homes right across the country since January of this year - a 101% increase. These are real figures. Behind every one of these figures will be a homeowner or family. We know there is so much more to do to get to where we want to be, but we are making real progress," he said.

"We are investing in our water infrastructure, the LDA, whilst also expanding and extending the schemes to help people right across the country to purchase their own home. These figures mean over 250 homes have



commenced on sites every working day this year. Fianna Fáil is the party of action on housing.

Concluding Pat the Cope said: "Donegal has seen an evolution in relation to housing, and this is backed up by this data. However, we cannot and will not be complacent. We acknowledge the progress, but equally we need and want to do so much more.

## Death of Annette Kelly

The death occurred on Wednesday of Annette Kelly, Knocknamona Park, Letterkenny. Annette passed away at the Beacon Hospital in Dublin after a short illness. A very well known and highly respected member of the local community Annette was formerly a member of the Boyce family from Letterkenny's Back Road. She was predeceased by her husband Dessie in June and by her grandson Liam (Boston), son-in-law Danny McBride and her sister Breid Duffy. Annette is survived by her daughters Mary (Gerard Forde), Elaine (Julian Maguire), Linda (Brendan Doherty), Yvonne McBride; Antoinette (John Clifford), Derry; sons Frankie (Jen) Boston, USA and Damien (Emer) Dublin; grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Remains will repose at the family home in Knocknamona Park from this Thursday at 6pm and from 11pm on Friday. Rosary on both nights at 9pm.



Funeral will take place on Saturday with 11am Requiem Mass in St. Eunan's Cathedral followed by Private Cremation in Lakelands Crematorium. Deepest sympathies are extended to the family circle.

## The late Mary McEntee

The death has taken place of Mary McEntee, née McGinley, late of Cabinteely, Dublin 18 and formerly of Killoughcaron, Creeslough. She passed away peacefully, in her 90th year, on Thursday 21st November, in St. Vincent's University Hospital, Dublin.



She is predeceased by her husband Jim and sister Kathleen, and is survived by her daughters Anne Marie and Kathleen and son John, her brother Neil and sister Brigid, wider family circle, friends and neighbours.

Requiem Mass took place on Monday, November

25th, in St. Brigid's Church, Cabinteely, followed by burial in Shanganagh Cemetery. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a hanam.

## The late Anne Cullen

The funeral took place on Friday of Ann Cullen, Market Street, Rathmullan. Ann was formerly a member of the Sheridan family from the town. She was a well known and highly respected member of the local community. The remains of the late Mrs Cullen reposed at the family home from Thursday. Requiem Mass took place on Friday in St. Joseph's Church, Rathmullan, followed by interment in the adjacent cemetery. Ann is survived by her husband Denis, children Maeve (John), Joanne (Tommy), Donal (Ciara), Brendan (Anne) Paula (Maurice), Sinéad (Patrick), Damien (Triona), Grainne and her 16 grandchildren. She was predeceased by her parents Joseph, Roseanne, brothers Tommy and Patsy and sister Lala, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews and godchildren. Deepest condolences are extended to the family circle.



## Death of Trevor Stewart

The death occurred in Toronto, Canada on Thursday 14th of November of Trevor Stewart. He passed away peacefully at the Dorothy Ley Hospice surrounded by his loving family. Trevor will be fondly remembered by family and friends for his love of the great outdoors and especially mountain biking. He is survived by his wife Elaine; sons Damian and Kyle; parents Brenda and Stewart, Glentidaly, Ray, Milford; sister Sylvia and her partner Dan and children Rylan and Evie, Vancouver Island. Trevor was predeceased by his grandparents John and Maude Hunter of New Mill Ramelton. Deepest condolences are extended to the family circle.



## Death of Philomena McFadden

The death has taken place in London of Philomena McFadden. Originally from Co. Sligo, she was a familiar face in the Falcarragh area, and among the Donegal Diaspora in London over many

years.

Her passing was announced by her family on Tuesday.

She is survived by her husband Tony McFadden from Falcarragh who is also chairman of the Donegal Association of London, daughters Fiona and Emma and son Paul, daughters and son in law, grandchildren, wider family circle and many friends. Funeral details were unavailable at the time of press. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a hanam.



## The late Rosemary O'Donnell

The death occurred on Tuesday of Rosemary O'Donnell (née Woods), Dr McGinley Road, Letterkenny. Rosemary passed away at the Larissa Lodge, Letterkenny, surrounded by her family. She was predeceased by her husband James, brother Brendan and sister Breedge. Rosemary will be missed by her sons Daniel, Brendan (Kylie), Christopher, Micheal, daughter Anne-Marie (Ralph), grandchildren Kerry, Chloe, Dylan, Lucy, Cayden and Sienna. Remains are reposing at the family residence on Dr. McGinley Road. Funeral is on Friday morning with Requiem Mass at 11am in St Eunan's Cathedral, Letterkenny. Burial will take place afterwards in the family plot in Conwal Cemetery. Deepest condolences are extended to the family circle.



## Death of Josie McGee

The death has taken place of Josie McGee, late of Massinass, Creeslough. He passed away on Wednesday in Letterkenny University Hospital. Josie was a well-known and respected member of his local community and often volunteered his time and skills for a host of community projects over



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many years.

He is survived by his wife, children Darren, Charlene, Oran, Keelan and Aoihean, grandchildren Lara and Luan, his sisters, nieces, nephews, extended family and many friends.

House Private to family on Wednesday, 27th November.

His remains will be reposing at his home on Thursday from 12 noon to 10pm, and on Friday from 11am to 10pm. Family time on the morning of the funeral.

Funeral Mass in St Michael's Church, Creeslough, on Saturday at 12 noon.

Burial afterwards in Doe Graveyard. Mass can be viewed live on <https://mcn.live/Camera/st-michaels-church>

## The late Esther Casey

The death occurred on Saturday of Esther Casey (née Callen), Five Acres, Strabane, Tyrone and formerly of Letterkenny. Esther was predeceased by her husband Liam, brother James and sisters Peggy, May and Celine. She is survived by her sons and daughters Paula, Martin, John, Esther, Laura, Siobhan, Tony and Debbie and brother Robert.



Remains reposed at the family home on Tuesday. Funeral was from the family home on Wednesday for Requiem Mass in The Church Of The Immaculate Conception, Strabane. Interment took place afterwards in Strabane Cemetery. Deepest condolences are extended to the family circle.

## Funeral of Rita Flannery

The funeral took place on Monday of Rita Flannery, Tubbercurry, Sligo and formerly of Carrigart. Rita passed on Friday peacefully in the North West Hospice Sligo surrounded by her family. She was predeceased by her husband Dr. Sean, brothers Paddy, Danny, Bill and her son-in-law Tom Carmody.



Rita is survived by her family, Evelyn, Enda, Una, Maeve, Louis and Lorcan, daughter-in-law Jennifer, grandchildren Aifric, Eithne, Aengus and Emma, nieces, nephews, cousins, relatives, neighbours and friends.

Rita's remains reposed at the family home from Sunday. Removal was from there on Monday to St John The Evangelist Church Tubbercurry for Requiem Mass with the burial afterwards to Rhue Cemetery. Deepest sympathies are extended to the family circle.

# Milford

The late Samuel Hunter



The death took place on Tuesday of Samuel Hunter, Murlog, Lifford. Samuel

was a native of Cranford where he was a very well known member of the local community where the family had farming interests. He was a member of the successful Cranford Tug of War teams in the 1970s and 80s. Remains will repose at the family home in Murlog from 2pm this Thursday. Funeral leaving from there on Friday at 12.30pm for 1pm funeral service in Ballindrait Presbyterian Church with burial afterwards in the family plot in Milford Presbyterian Church graveyard. Samuel is survived by his wife Dolores, sisters Ila and Evelyn, sisters and brothers in law, nephews, nieces, cousins and wider family circle. Deepest condolences are extended to the family circle.

### Milford United

The Milford Senior team will host Castlefin Celtic on Sunday 1st December in the league at Moyle View Park, Milford, kick off 1pm. On Saturday 30th November the Reserve team are playing away to Ballybofey United at 1pm.

### Darts

The 2nd annual Paul Giles Memorial Darts Competition will be held in Dusty's Bar, Milford on Saturday 30th November starting at 3pm. Entry is €15

each and prize fund is €1000. Contact John Naulty 087 3851806 or John Murray 086 2873959.

### Christmas 50/50

The next Milford Untied 50/50 draw will be the Christmas Monster 50/50 Draw with a guaranteed Jackpot of €3000 which will take place on Sunday 29th December.

### Grab a Grand

Milford and District Resource Centre will run their annual "Grab a Grand" fundraiser with one lucky taking home €1,000 and the draw will take place on Friday 20th December. Tickets are on sale for €10 each and can be purchased at the Milford and District Resource Centre or online through Klubfunder.

### Social Dancing Milford Hall

Social dancing continues in the Milford Hall on Thursday nights from 8pm to 10pm with a good 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 as follows. Sunday 1st December with Billy Wray.

### Mass Times

Mass times in St Peter's Church, Milford



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Agriculture minister, Charlie McConalogue, pictured with Cllr Liam Blaney and Jimmy Friel out on the canvass trail at the Milford Mart.

## Barrett looks forward to Wales play-offs

Amber Barrett has been named in the Republic of Ireland squad for the two-legged Euro 2025 play-off games against Wales. The first leg is this Friday night in Cardiff (7.15) with Barrett hoping to get some game-time from manager Eileen Gleeson. The second leg against Wales will be at the Aviva Stadium next Tuesday evening (7.30). Also included in the Irish squad are St. Johnston woman Tyler Toland and Anna Patten, who has strong family ties in Falcarragh.



on Thursday 28th November at 10am, Friday 29th November at 10am. Saturday 30th November at 6pm; Sunday 1st December at 11.00am. Mass times in Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Kerrykeel on Sunday 1st December at 9.30am.

### Confirmations 2025

Confirmations will take place in St Peter's Church, Milford on Saturday 29th March at 12pm for the children of Milford, Drumman and Kerrykeel Schools

### First Holy Communions 2025

St Peter's Church, Milford on Saturday 5th April at 11am for the children in Scoil Mhuire Milford and Scoil Cholmcille, Drumman. Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Kerrykeel on Saturday 5th April at 1pm for the children in

## McElwee Funeral Directors

24 Hour Service  
Cremations

Overseas Funerals Arranged  
Agents for Headstones

Milford & Letterkenny

Tel. 074 9153304 086 253 4480

085 280 1445 087 640 5805

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

Scoil Cholmcille, Kerrykeel.

### 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 on Wednesday 4th December from 2-4pm. No appointment necessary. Further enquiries to Mary on 087 9926681. This Service is supported by DLDC and is free and confidential.

## Minister joins Nikki Bradley on canvas



Minister for Justice Helen McEntee joined Nikki Bradley on the streets of Letterkenny on Tuesday, campaigning together ahead of this Friday's vote. Walking along the town's Main Street, the pair met with local residents and business owners to discuss key issues and highlight Nikki Bradley's vision for the future of Donegal.

"Nikki has already proven herself as a committed and capable representative in the Seanad," said Minister McEntee.

"But it's essential that we get her into the Dáil, where she can continue her great work and be a powerful voice for Donegal on the issues that matter most to its people. She is a remarkable candidate with the drive and determination to make a real difference."

The canvass included discussions on local concerns such as housing, health-care, and infrastructure development. Nikki Bradley also shared her vision for creating more opportunities for young

people, supporting small businesses, and improving access to vital services across the county.

"I'm so grateful to Minister McEntee for her support today," said Nikki Bradley. "This election is about ensuring strong leadership for Donegal and for Ireland," added Minister McEntee. "Nikki Bradley has what it takes to deliver results for this constituency, and I'm urging everyone to come out and support her."

## Santa to switch on Ballyare Christmas Lights

The Christmas Lights at Gerry and Sharon Durning's house at Ballyare will be switched on this year on Saturday the 30th of November at 6pm. Santa has promised to switch on the lights.

This is a spectacular display and a lot of work has been put into it by Gerry and Sharon, their family and friends and its well worth a trip. It's very easy to get to just put the eircode F92 K2C9 into google.

The charities to benefit this year are the Little Blue Heroes and the Donegal Branch of the Irish Kidney Association and the lights will remain on over the Christmas period into early January.

## Milford AC

### 3km Handicap Race

The annual Milford A 3km handicap race in memory of Sylvester Hiemstra will take place on Saturday the 28th of December. This race every year always attracts a large crowd and it has a relaxed jovial atmosphere... until everyone starts to pass you on the Lough Road!!!

Registration at the Clubhouse from 1pm and the entry fee is €5.

There will be prizes for the first six adults and also a fastest time prize. The presentation along with refreshments will be held in the Travellers Inn after the race. Its over 15's only.

### Winter Woolie Warmer.

The Annual Winter Woolie Warmer 5km took place in Letterkenny last week and the weather on the night challenged everyone to remain warm especially when the woolie

warmers were removed for racing.

Milford AC had four athletes take part, three who had just recently returned from Marathons in Amsterdam and New York.

Shaun Boyce finished 2nd overall running 17.15 with George Grier close in 3rd place running a big pb of 17.17, improving by 21 seconds on his previous best.

Steven Devlin only returned from New York last week and despite a little jet-lag he finished in the top 10, running a pb of 17.42.

The teak tough masters athlete, John Fealty is making a steady return from a recent injury and ran well to pick up an 0/60 category prize running 23.30.

Another good turnout for the charitable event which fundraises for the Letterkenny Food Bank.



# 2025 Calendars

We can print full colour calendars with your own personalised message

We can also visit your premises and take the photographs of your choice

Contact the Tirconail Tribune, Milford on **9153600**



Matthew Simms, chairman of the Lennon Ploughing Association and his son Joseph Henry making a presentation of €400 to Owen Mc Fadden who accepted it on behalf of the Irish Wheelchair Association. It was the proceeds from the ploughing match held in September. Included are members of the Lennon Ploughing Association.

## Mulroy Woods Hotel Milford Social Dancing

Every Thursday 9 to 11pm  
Thurs. 28th Nov-

**Kieran McAree**

Thurs. 5th Dec-

**Jack Keogh**

Spot Prizes and Refreshments Served



from 10-11am. Contact Jacqui 087 2135877  
**Sounds Music Workshop:**  
 Sounds Music Workshops for children continues on Thursdays from 4-4:45pm. Contact Tracy 085 1500123  
**The Milford Community Choir:**  
 An intercultural, intergenerational choir, A vibrant blend of voices, celebrating inclusivity & unity through music. Friday from 6:30pm-7:30pm  
 You can still join the Community Choir, contact emmalou@mdrc.ie

### Gallowglass Community Centre

#### Call for Donations of Rugs & Mats:

We would be grateful for donations of rugs to keep down the sound levels in the Centre. To arrange pick up and drop off please contact the office.

#### Festive Event

Join us for a festive celebration at the Centre on Sunday December 15th. We have an exciting day planned to get everyone in the holiday spirit with all proceeds to Mulroy Coastguard and the Gallowglass Community Centre. Bring your family

and friends for a joyful time filled with holiday cheer. Donations of baked goods welcome.

#### Baby-Toddler Group:

Start your week with our Baby-Toddler Group on Mondays from 9:30 am to 11:30 am, a perfect opportunity for families to connect and play for just €2 per family.

#### Men's Pilates:

Continues this Monday evening at 7:30, it is currently fully booked but keep an eye on the socials for the next course!

#### Kid's Crochet:

Children's crochet class continues on Monday at 5:30pm (Fully Booked)

#### Line Dancing:

Tuesday evenings Line Dancing with Larry from 7:30-9pm. €5 drop in. No Booking required.

#### Pilates CL Wellness:

Wednesdays begin with Pilates CL Wellness sessions at 6am and 7am. (Fully Booked)

#### Healing Flow Yoga:

Later on, Wednesdays, enjoy Healing Flow Yoga



# PAT THE COPE GALLAGHER



A Chairde

As this was a short three-week General Election campaign it was very difficult to visit you all, but my canvass teams and myself endeavoured to cover as much as possible in that short time available. If I or my canvassers did not get to you or your house - I pledge if elected to be available and contactable to you and all the people of Donegal.

Politics to me is about solving issues, providing the help and assistance when needed; it is always about being available to the public and working on their behalf. That is how I modelled my career in politics and that is how I have worked over the past 4 years even though I had lost my seat in 2020.

On Friday I am seeking your support, I am asking for your NO 1 Vote; with your help and support we can win this seat once more.

On Friday your vote will matter and your vote will count.

*Pat the Cope*

Pat the Cope

## Every vote will count on Friday

In the last General Election in 2020; I lost my seat by just over 300 votes. That is why in this election every vote will be needed on polling day, your vote will make the difference to regaining the seat and every vote will count.

*The issues that matter to you will be championed by me if elected to Dáil Eireann*

- Cost of living crises, our housing shortage and rental property sacristy more social and affordable housing.
- Improve our Health services, Education facilities and infrastructural needs.
- Farming and Fishing requires Government prioritising and support.
- Defective Concrete Blocks Scheme needs to meet the needs of those affected.
- Business supports, SME sector, Tourism & Hospitality Sector and restoration of the 9% VAT rate.
- Increased investment and supports in our schools and education
- Planning in rural areas especially on family lands and along the N56 is a priority
- Support for our Gaeltacht and Island communities.
- Increased investment in our roads network especially minor and county roads.

**Pat the Cope seeking your number 1 on Polling day – your vote will count**

# Still trying to come out on top

I came across a story recently with the headline: "Cheating husband sues Apple after wife discovered 'deleted' messages" The man in question had been serially unfaithful to his wife and thought he had covered his tracks by deleting the messages on his phone. But the messages were still on the family's iMac computer, and were eventually discovered by his wife - what an awful moment for her - messages going back several years which he thought were wiped. He had deleted them on his

phone and assumed that they were gone from everything. He is now suing Apple for five million pounds, claiming that it is their fault his marriage ended in divorce. He said, "Divorce is an extraordinarily stressful process and you have children and family dynamics. In my opinion it's all because Apple told me my messages were deleted when they weren't." That's serious blame-shifting! Not only the fact of the divorce but all the stress caused by it is

## Food for thought



Mark Loughbridge

being levelled on Apple, rather than him saying, "It's all because I broke my word, and was unfaithful to my wife."

Apple didn't break his marriage, he did. It's the epitome of 'passing the buck' - a complete failure to take responsibility, and a seeking to recoup losses by blaming someone else for your actions. He wants to win back the money he lost in his divorce settlement - which seems rather like trying to come out on top even after being caught. As if actions should have no consequences. Yet while we may derive a sense of justice from seeing someone get caught in their own deceit, we are perhaps more like him that we imagine. We are often slow to hold up our hand - too often our eye is quicker to look around for someone else to blame for the mess we are in,

so that we can come out on top. Or at least with no loss to ourselves. At times we may think we have got away with something, but ultimately it will be brought out into the light. There will be no passing of the buck, we will not come out on top. Jesus said, "there is nothing covered up that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known. Accordingly, whatever you have said in the dark will be heard in the light, and what you have whispered in the inner rooms will be proclaimed upon the housetops." Luke 12:2-3 There is an answer - a counter-intuitive one. If we are willing to bring it out into the light now before God, admit our

wrongdoing with no excuse, and seek his cleansing through Jesus Christ, then he will forgive, and even more gift us eternal life. If we hide our guilt, we will pay; if we admit our guilt, he will pay. "Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon." Isaiah 55:6-7 Mark Loughbridge is one of the ministers in Milford Reformed Presbyterian Church. He can be contacted on 086 3907726 or jmarkloughbridge@gmail.com.

# "Let's make the homes of Donegal full again"

Aontú's Donegal candidate has warmly welcomed her party's innovative proposal to bring thousands of much-needed Irish workers home to help fill vital roles in construction and health-care.



key Irish construction and health workers who have moved abroad to return home. This will include a relocation package of €5,000 in vouchers to spend on flights and accommodation for workers who have left

- Mary T.

constituency, Mary T. Sweeney said: "Aontú is making a strong move to address housing and also our high brain drain, as young highly trained Irish men and women are leaving the country for better prospects abroad. There are hundreds of thousands of Irish construction workers building houses at the moment. The problem is up to half of these are building houses in Australia and Canada when we need them here. Speaking from personal experience, my own daughter left for Australia with fifteen of her college classmates from Donegal. These are our sons and daughters who have left the country because good jobs and accommodation are only a dream here. Their families have been torn apart and communities are growing silent with their loss. We want to reunite Irish families here in Ireland."

Under a new plan called 'Operation Ireland more than two years ago. Shamrock' Aontú proposes to attract Local candidate in the Donegal

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE DHUN NA nGALL (DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL)

ROADS ACT 1993 SECTION 75, ARTICLE 12 ROADS REGULATIONS 1994

### TEMPORARY CLOSING OF ROADS

Advisory Notice  
Ramelton Xmas Lights  
1st December 2024  
6pm to 10pm

Notice is hereby given that Donegal County Council has agreed to close the following roads on the date indicated to facilitate switch on of Christmas Lights.

**Road to be Closed:**  
L-7272-5 Shore Road, L-7272-3 Bridge Street and Gamble's Square  
The L7272-3 will be closed from the bottom of the Tank to Gamble's Square to L7272-5 Shore Road and L7272-3 Bridge Street

**Diversion Route:**  
Diversion via R-245 & L-7272-1 & L-7272-2

**Bryan Cannon**  
Director of Service, Roads and Transportation

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

### COMÓRTAIS EARCAÍOCHTA

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

- Eolaí Feidhmiúcháin
- Teicneoir Saotharlainne Grád II

Tá sé beartaithe ag an Chomhairle painéal d'iarratasóirí cáilithe a chruthú óna líonfar folúntais de réir mar a thiocfaidh siad aníos. Is é an dáta deiridh fá choinne foirmeacha iarratais comhlánaithe a bheith linn ná 12 meán lae: **Dé Luain, 16 Nollaig, 2024.**

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

Ní ghlacfar le hiarratais a gheofar mall.

Is fostóir comhionannas deiseanna í Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall.

### RECRUITMENT COMPETITION

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

- Executive Scientist
- Lab Technician Grade II

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

The closing date for receipt of completed application forms is 12 noon on: **Monday, 16th December 2024.**

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

No late applications will be accepted.

Donegal County Council is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

Ms Sweeney added: "The plan would also provide a €10,000 tax credit for these specific workers spread over three years. The worker would have to remain within the Irish state working in the sector for four years after moving home. To retain our Irish staff there would also be a push to increase wages, terms and conditions for these sorely needed sectors. Many diverse sectors would be covered ranging from nurses and doctors to Irish gardai, electricians, plumbers, construction workers, teachers, carers and fire-fighters, After the financial crash, I never thought that we would again be led to a situation where our youth had to leave to survive. Aontú will also improve workforce planning and radically increase the number of construction apprentices from 1,500 a year to 3,000 a year. All promises of house construction from other parties conveniently leave out the fact that we simply don't have the people with skills to do the work."



Agriculture Minister Charlie McConalogue presenting pupils from Scoil Cholmcille, Letterkenny and their principal Paraig Cannon with their Caring for the Environment Award at the 38th Letterkenny Tidy Towns Cleaner Community Campaign Awards in the Mount Errigal Hotel, Letterkenny on Monday night. Also included is Town Major Cllr. Gerry McMonagle.



Agriculture Minister Charlie McConalogue presenting pupils and teachers from Ballyraine NS with their Caring for the Environment Award on Monday night. Also included is Town Major Cllr. Gerry McMonagle.



Agriculture Minister Charlie McConalogue presenting Tommy Tease, best flower display and Alice Gillespie, from Beechwood Road with the best kept entrance. Also included is Town Major Cllr. Gerry McMonagle.

# Sinn Féin

 **VOTE FOR CHANGE | VÓTÁIL DON ATHTRÚ**

## A SINN FÉIN GOVERNMENT WILL:

- ✓ Deliver 100% Redress
- ✓ Deliver better health services
- ✓ End the neglect of Letterkenny Hospital
- ✓ Build affordable housing
- ✓ Abolish USC for average workers
- ✓ Advance Irish Unity



**Vótáil Pádraig Mac LOCHLAINN 1**  
**JORDAN 2 DOHERTY 3**

# Vote Pádraig Mac LOCHLAINN

Published by Christina McGranaghan,  
25 Hilltop Crescent, Stranorlar, Co Donegal.  
Know your rights! See Sinn Féin's privacy policy  
at [sinnfein.ie/privacy](http://sinnfein.ie/privacy)

# Letterkenny Cleaner Community Awards

The Letterkenny Tidy Towns held their 38th Annual Cleaner Community Awards in the Mount Errigal Hotel on Monday evening and the special guest was Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries, Charlie McConalogue.

Tidy Towns Co-chairman Gerard McCormick welcomed everyone to the awards night and introduced the speakers.

Chairperson of the Letterkenny Municipal Area Cllr. Gerry McMonagle commended the Tidy Towns in Letterkenny for all their great work and all the different groups who are involved. He called for more investment in the areas highlighted in the adjudicators report to help make Letterkenny, Ireland's tidiest town again as in 2016. He assured that all the Cllrs. in the area are lobbying the Council for additional funding.

Minister McConalogue said Letterkenny Tidy Towns is one of the most highly regarded voluntary organisations in Donegal and since it was set up back in 1959, it has always been to the fore in all that is good in the community.

"Over those 65 years, Letterkenny Tidy Towns has evolved and adapt to constant change and is a shining example of all that is good about a voluntary group. As the Cathedral Town continues to grow, so does Letterkenny Tidy Towns. So many people play their part in keeping the town of Letterkenny and it's important that their efforts are rewarded, highlighted and acknowledged.

I was delighted that Letterkenny retained its gold medal and was voted the second tidiest town in Ireland for 2024, having secured 13 points more than 2023," he said.

Brian McCormick, co-chairman with his brother Gerard said that what Letterkenny needs has been summarised in the report. He's delighted that in both last year and this year's report the adjudicators have said that Letterkenny are on the right path to success.

He gave a quick synopsis of this year's report saying that a lot of fine people give up their time to be part of the Tidy Towns. If you want to get involved in something positive in the your community, the Letterkenny Tidy Towns is the ideal group to get involved with and they are always looking for help.

He thanked the volunteering group who he described as priceless and he thanked all the participants in the Cleaner Community Campaign. They won their 20th consecutive Gold Medal this year and finished one point behind Donegal's tidiest town Buncrana and despite increasing their marks by 13 point they still finished 5 points behind Ireland's Tidiest Town, Ballincollig.

"The 5 points gap is very big and they will make us work hard to bridge it" he said.

He contrasted the reports of Ballincollig and Letterkenny highlighting where they have to improve. They are neck and neck in a few of the categories but fall badly behind in the Tidiness and Litter Control getting 58 out of 90 marks compared to Ballincollig's 70 points. They area also 4 points behind in the Streetscape and Public Places section saying "You won't win anything in the large urban section with places of the standard of the Market Square and the old Courthouse" and he urged the local authority to improve them.

He said their second round adjudication was on the 9th of July and they were very fortunate with all the flowers in the town in full bloom and looking their best.

In conclusion Brian said "I hope I have given some flavour of where we are. We have to be positive but also realistic. Letterkenny needs investment on an annual basis. We are very positive and grateful about the marks we received this year and we all know what we need to do to get the extra 5 marks needed and we have all to work hard to achieve this."

The awards were presented by Minister Charlie McConalogue.

Schools awards went to the 14 local schools in the area and the Young Environmentalist Lijo Babu, St. Eunan's College received the Jim McCormick Memorial Award.

Shop Front - Speers Drapery, Philip Browne; Retail Area - Glencar Shopping Centre; Public House - Sonny McSwiney's Bar; Hotel/Guest House - Dillons Hotel; Restaurant/Coffee Shop - The Yellow Pepper Restaurant; Public Building Award - The Courthouse; Best Kept Areas - Carolina Park, Ashleigh Close and Sliabh Sneacht Close; Best kept apartment display - Walnut Grove; Best kept entrance - Beechwood Road; Best flower display - Tommy Tease, Glenlee Court; Large garden - Deirdre Friel, Listillion; Small Garden - Brid Vaughan, Wolfe Tone Place; Wildlife Garden - Suma George, Illistin; Biodiversity in your neighbourhood Competition - Ashlawn Residents Committee.



Agriculture Minister Charlie McConalogue presenting Lijo Babu, St. Eunan's College with the Jim McCormick Memorial Award for Young Environmentalist at the 38th Letterkenny Tidy Towns Cleaner Community Campaign Awards in the Mount Errigal Hotel, Letterkenny on Monday night. Also included is Brian McCormick, Joint Chairperson of the Tidy Towns Committee and Town Major Cllr. Gerry McMonagle.



Agriculture Minister Charlie McConalogue presenting Mick Quinn, Teagan Coyle and Sonia Gallagher from Sonny McSwiney's Bar with the Public House award in the Mount Errigal Hotel, Letterkenny on Monday.



Charlie McConalogue presenting Seamus Gallagher and Brendan Roache from the Ashlawn Residents Committee with the Biodiversity in your neighbourhood award. Also included is Town Major Cllr. Gerry McMonagle, Cllrs. Donal Mandy Kelly, Ciaran Brogan, Donal Coyle and Jimmy Kavanagh and Michael McGarvey and Brian McCormick.



Charlie McConalogue presenting Irene Regan, Walnut Grove with the Best Kept Apartment Display.



Charlie McConalogue presenting Brid Vaughan, Wolfe Tone Place with the best kept small Garden award. Also included is Town Major Cllr. Gerry McMonagle, Cllr. Donal Mandy Kelly and Michael McGarvey.



Charlie McConalogue presenting Best Kept Area Award winners including Jean O'Neill, Carolina Park, Eunan Kelly, Ashleigh Close and Margaret Boyce from Sliabh Sneacht Close. Also included is Cllrs. Gerry McMonagle, Jimmy Kavanagh and Donal Coyle, Michael McGarvey Donegal Co. Council and Brian McCormick.



Charlie McConalogue presenting Deirdre Friel, Listillion with the best kept large Garden award. Also included is Town Major Cllr. Gerry McMonagle, Cllr. Donal Mandy Kelly and Michael McGarvey.

### Ramelton Community Christmas Tree Festival

- Friday 29th November: 2-9pm
- Saturday 30th November: 2-9pm
- Sunday 1st December: 2-9pm

Ramelton Presbyterian Church (F92 AW77)

Come see Christmas trees decorated by schools, organisations, and businesses in the community and get in the festive spirit!

All donations will go to RNLI and St. Vincent de Paul.

Everyone welcome!



## Cancer Care West AGM Over 1,000 newly Diagnosed Cancer Patients in 2023

Cancer Care West supported over 2,800 cancer patients and their families throughout 2023, with more than half of these patients being newly diagnosed. As the charity marked its 30th anniversary, the numbers supported reflect both a rising need and the essential role Cancer Care West plays in the lives of thousands of people across the West and Northwest of Ireland.

Inis Aoibhinn, the charity's residential lodge at Galway University Hospital for patients undergoing radiotherapy, saw a 10% increase in service users, accommodating 371 individuals who relied on its warm and supportive environment during treatment. Additionally, over 100 individuals benefited from Cancer Care West's free transport service, ensuring safe and reliable travel to and from Inis



## Pavilion Restaurant, Downings OPEN

**Friday Night A la Carte**  
5.30pm - 8.30pm

**Sunday Lunch**  
1pm - 3.30pm

Bookings 074 9155000



## The Clanree Hotel Letterkenny

**Country Sundays**  
Sun. 1st December -

# Jimmy Buckley



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

Coming :- 15th Dec. - Mike Denver; 22nd Dec. - Robert Mizelle

Aoibhinn. Meanwhile, the charity's Cancer Support centres in Galway and Letterkenny also saw extraordinary levels of

engagement, providing support to over 1,486 people affected by cancer. During 2023, the centres provided nearly 10,000 therapeutic sessions for patients and their loved ones. To meet growing demand, Cancer Care West expanded its on-

line support groups and talks, striving to reach those in need across a wider area. Notably, the "Grief Talks" program saw strong participation, offering comfort and guidance to those grappling with loss.

## McNulty vows to Smash Red Tape

Fine Gael has unveiled a comprehensive plan to back farmers and our fishing industry, focusing on fair funding, reduced red tape, and ensuring the sustainability of rural communities, John McNulty has said.

Mr McNulty said: "Farmers and our fishing industry are the backbone of our economy and Fine Gael is committed to ensuring they have the support they need to thrive. We'll fight for a bigger share of the EU budget to increase the CAP fund, delivering more money to farms while simplifying schemes to cut through the bureaucracy that frustrates so many.

"For beef and sheep farmers, we'll introduce strong, straightforward payments of €300 per suckler cow and €30 per ewe, ensuring that these farms - which are vital to rural parishes in Donegal stay viable. For dairy-beef systems, we'll support farmers with €100 per calf, and for tillage farmers, we're com-

mitting €60 million annually to provide certainty and stability in this crucial sector.

"Fine Gael will produce a comprehensive farm succession plan in the first 100 days of Government, ensuring older farmers can retire with dignity and younger farmers are supported to take over.

"The nitrates derogation is essential for Irish agriculture, and Fine Gael will fight to protect it. We'll set up a dedicated Cabinet Committee on Water Quality to drive improvements across all sectors.

"To keep the food supply chain fair, we'll strengthen the powers of the independent Agri-Food Regulator to improve transparency and pricing. Farmers in Donegal need confidence that their hard work is valued, and Fine Gael will ensure they get a fair deal," he concluded.



# John McNULTY

## VOTE No.1

*A message to all voters and supporters,*

I am asking for your No. 1 vote this Friday to represent you in Dáil Éireann. To secure your future and address the issues that matter to you and your family, we need a stable economy. You can trust Fine Gael on the economy and we will use it to deliver for you.

As a self-employed business owner, I understand that thriving local businesses are the backbone of a strong rural economy. I am committed to creating and retaining jobs in Donegal.

My passion for sport, especially football and the GAA, has given me the honour of managing various teams, including the Donegal County Ladies Football team. I know how vital a thriving local economy is for our young people to be able to live and work locally.

I am ready, willing, and able to serve the people of Donegal. Trust me with your No. 1 vote, and I will work tirelessly on your behalf.

Thank you, *John*

**My Campaign Priorities:**

- Ensuring Donegal gets its fair share of resources
- Supporting small and medium businesses
- Supporting 100% Redress for Defective Blocks
- Strengthening our rural, fishing, and Gaeltacht communities



**Make Your Vote Count**  
**VOTE NO. 1**  
**JOHN McNULTY**



# John McNULTY

*A New Energy for Donegal*

## VOTE No.1

📞 086 8260087 | ✉ johnmcnultyfg@gmail.com

📍 John McNulty FG

# Fanad's FAI Cup tie in Roscommon

It's FAI Junior Cup weekend with four Donegal teams left in the competition as it enters the national phase. Fanad United face an away fixture on Sunday as they travel to take on St John's Athletic in Roscommon in round 4.

The Leinster team is based near Athlone. Arthur Lynch's side have experienced their first back-to-back losses in a long time with the league defeat to Bonagee Utd and then exiting the Ulster Junior Cup after being beaten 3-0 by Letterkenny Rovers last Sunday at Leckview Park. Lynch who has been missing the likes of James Gallagher and Darren McElwaine recently will be looking for a big response from his players in Roscommon in order to reach the next round of the FAI Junior Cup.

Letterkenny Rovers have the bonus of home advantage for Sunday's tie against Tipperary's Peake Villa. Stephen McConnell's side have made a good start to the domestic season and will be looking now to get a decent run in the prestigious national cup competition. McConnell has strengthened his squad considerably with the addition of Keith Cowan, Joel Bradley Walsh and the return of B.J. Banda while Lee McMonagle is back at full tilt after playing GAA up to late October.

Reigning FAI Junior Cup champions Cockhill Celtic have a long trip to take on Tipperary side Rearcross FC in round 4. Despite that Gavin Cullen's men will be favourites to be in the hat for the fifth round draw.

**Glencar Inn Saturday Division One**

## Back-to-back wins for Mariners

**Ramelton Mariners 2-1 Keadue Rovers Res**

A Eoin Roulston penalty and a super free-kick from Shay Callan-McFadden saw the Mariners get the better of Keadue in a very sporting, hard battling game in Rathmullan. After just three minutes, Mariners captain Roulston converted a penalty after Evan Hewitt was taken down. A battling first half from both teams ended at 1-0. Both sides came out for the second half trying to score and after 55 minutes Callan-McFadden struck a super free kick into the top corner to make it 2-0. Keadue then on 70 minutes scored a free-kick. Mariners held on for a hard-fought win and a great three points.

Ramelton Mariners - Dylan Roulston, Stephen Bryant, Eoin Roulston, Conor Ferguson, Kieran Black, Luke Friel, Jonah Serrina, Conor Gillespie, Fionn Robinson, Shay Callan McFadden, Evan Hewitt. Subs used: Aidan Connolly for Conor Gillespie, Paul Gallagher for Dylan Roulston, Shaun Bryant for Fionn Robinson, Oisín Sweeney for Shay Callan McFadden. Not used: Bailey Kane, Jay Toland.

**Old Orchard Saturday Division Two**

## 7-goal thriller goes Glenea's way

**Glenea Utd Res 4-3 Erne Wanderers**

Despite the windy conditions, it was the away side playing against the breeze that started brightly and took the lead on 5 minutes when John Roper's cross from the right was turned into the net at the back post by Adam Mc Glone. However, the home side got back on level terms very quickly when Sean Coll flicked home a Micheal McHugh corner. The home side took the lead on 15 minutes when Tarlach Coll's cross from the left was headed home by Micheal Ferry. Erne tried hard to get back into the game but were finding it hard to create clear-cut chances. Glenea had chances to extend their lead with PJ Doogan and Sean Geaney

going close with efforts. The home side were finally rewarded on 20 minutes when Neil Anthony Mc Geever headed home a Tarlach Coll corner. Glenea continued to press, and Cathal Mc Geever saw his free-kick from 25 yards well saved by the visiting keeper. Glenea got their fourth goal on 43 minutes when Michael Mc Hugh got free down the right and his cross was headed home by Sean Geaney. In the second half Erne, playing with the strong breeze, started strongly and pulled a goal back on 50 minutes when Adam Mc Glone's effort the edge of the box found the bottom corner.

As Erne pressed the home team started to create chances on the break but failed to convert any of them and were made to pay on 65 minutes when, from a cross from the left, Damian Weber came in at the back post to reduce Glenea's lead. The away side pressed hard for an equaliser and were denied on 80 minutes when Daniel Mulhern cleared a goal bound effort off the Glenea line. Glenea continued to look dangerous on the break and again were guilty of missing a couple of good chances, but the home side held out for a tight victory. Referee: Matthew Rudd.

**Division Two**

## Strand draw

**Whitestrand United 2-2 Deele Harps**

Whitestrand United took on Deele looking to continue their recent good run of results in trying conditions at Mc Garvey Park and secured a draw thanks to goals from Michael Sweeney and Reece Thompson. Deele started the stronger and almost took an early lead but they hit the woodwork. It took Whitestrand a while to settle into the game with Deele pushing for the opener. The wind was making it hard for either team to keep possession. A good passage of play between Cormac Dunleavy, Paddy Walsh and Michael Sweeney almost resulted in the opener as Whitestrand began to grow into the game. They looked to have scored but the ball was judged not to have crossed the line, much to the protestations of the Whitestrand players. Whitestrand took the lead right on half time when Michael Sweeney slotted home. The second half started with Deele going down to ten men with the player going off for a second yellow. Rather than setting them back it seemed to galvanise them and Steven Devine equalised for Deele. Whitestrand pushed and took the lead from an excellent cut back by Cormac Dunleavy for Reece Thompson to score. Again Deele were not to be denied and they scored after a goalmouth scramble from the deflected effort of Lewis Gallagher. The draw was a fair result and keeps Whitestrand's unbeaten run going.

Whitestrand Utd - Declan Brougham, John Heraghty, Cian Sweeney, Emmett Kelly, Cormac Shovelin, Ciaran Sweeney, Paddy Walshe, Conor Heraghty, Michael Sweeney, Cormac Dunleavy, Reece Thompson. Subs: Ryan Sheridan for Cian Sweeney 70 minutes. Cormac Sweeney for Thompson 80 mins. Subs not used: Adam Ward, Aaron Curran, Ciaran McElwaine.

## Aileach extra-time agony for Glenea

**Glenea United 3-4 Aileach F.C. (aet)**

Glenea were in Ulster Cup action this week and had a home fixture against Aileach. In blustery conditions the home side played the first half with the strong breeze at their backs, both teams found it difficult to get the ball down and play in the condi-

tions and the early exchanges were scrappy. Glenea took the lead after 12 minutes when Calvin Murray finished well from the edge of the box. Aileach equalised 5 minutes later when a low ball across the face of goal was dealt with and was finished well at the back post. Glenea took the lead again from another left footed effort from Calvin Murray just inside the box, the well struck effort gave the Aileach keeper no chance. With halftime approaching Aileach equalised for the second time leaving it all square at the break. Calvin completed his hat-trick in the 55th minute, keeping his composure in the box and finishing into the bottom corner. With the wind at their backs, Aileach spent most the second half in the Glenea half, they had several notable chances but were unable to convert them. With the game drawing to a close they were awarded two corners in quick succession and it was the second corner in the 90th minute that gave them their equaliser and the teams were level for the third time. This forced the game into extra time. With the wind at their backs Aileach were on top in the opening exchanges of extra time and went ahead after 5 minutes. Glenea battled hard and pushed for an equaliser but Aileach held on for the win and 4-3 to Aileach it finished. Good performances from both sides considering the conditions with Calvin Murray the standout player for Glenea on the day.

## Fanad bow out at Leckview

**Letterkenny Rovers 3-0 Fanad United**

Letterkenny Rovers secured an impressive 3-0 victory over Fanad United in the Ulster Junior Cup, taking control with two goals before halftime and sealing the win with a third late in the second half. The result sees Rovers advance to the next round. The match began with Rovers showing intent, as BJ Banda headed over the bar from a Joel Bradley Walsh corner in the opening minute. Fanad countered with a dangerous low strike across the goal, but neither side could create clear chances early on.

In the 10th minute, Rovers' goalkeeper Shane O'Gara was called into action, coming well outside his box to clear a Fanad counterattack led by Oisín Mc Menamin. Moments later, a long throw from Fanad's Edward O'Reilly caused problems for the Rovers' defence, but the resulting shot flew over the bar. Rovers began to assert control, with Joel Gorman's 32nd-minute effort producing the game's first clear chance, but Fanad keeper Mark McConigley saved comfortably. Just before halftime, Rovers broke the deadlock from a dangerously delivered corner by Joel Gorman with the Fanad keeper McConigley saving but resulted in an unfortunate own goal by a Fanad defender. The home side doubled their lead a minute later. A superb delivery from Joel Bradley Walsh bounced dangerously in the 18-yard box, and Lee McMonagle rose high to direct it over the keeper and into the net.

Fanad went into the break down 2-0 and facing an uphill battle. Rovers continued to press early in the second half, with McMonagle and Banda, both threatening. Fanad responded with their best spell of the match, forcing O'Gara into two excellent saves, including a fingertip effort to deny Carlos O'Reilly's dipping strike in the 60th minute. Despite Fanad's persistence, Rovers remained composed and sealed the victory in the 69th minute. A controlled build-up ended with BJ Banda's shot from the right wing being saved, but Mc Monagle was on hand to pounce on the rebound and slot it

## Fixtures

**Saturday 30th November**

**Saturday Division 3 1pm**

Ballybofey United vs Milford United

**Division 2 1pm**

Castlefin Celtic vs Gweedore Celtic

Oldtown Celtic vs Ramelton Mariners

Swilly Rovers vs Arranmore Utd

Cranford FC Res vs Copany Rovers

Drumkeen Utd v Lagan Harps

Fintown Harps v Dunlewey

Drumoghill Res v Erne Wanderers

**Division 1 1pm**

Drumbar FC vs Keadue Rovers

Glencar Celtic vs Strand Rovers

Kildrum Tigers vs Donegal Town

**Sunday 1st December**

**Division One 1pm**

Cappry Rovers vs Ballybofey United

Glenea Utd v Gweedore Utd

Lagan Harps v Cranford FC

Lifford Cel v Donegal Town

Milford Utd v Donegal Town

**Division Two 1pm**

Curragh Athletic vs Drumoghill

Deele Harps vs Convoy Arsenal

Dunkineely Cel vs Letterbarrow Cel

Kerrykeel '71 v Drumkeen Utd

Whitestrand Utd v Raphoe Town

**Premier Division**

Gweedore Celtic vs Keadue Rovers

Kildrum Tigers vs Bonagee United

**FAI Junior Cup 1pm**

Letterkenny Rovers vs Peake Villa FC

St. John's Athletic vs Fanad United 2pm

## Results

**Saturday 23rd November**

**Glencar Inn Saturday Division One**

Strand Rovers 3-1 Arranmore Utd

Ramelton Mariners 2-1 Keadue Rovers Res

Glencar Celt 2-3 Oldtown Cel

**Old Orchard Saturday Division Two**

Glenea Utd Res 4-3 Erne Wanderers

**Finn Travel Saturday Division Three**

Ballybofey Utd Res 2-5 Gweedore Utd Res

**Sunday 24th November**

**Temple Domestic Appliances Division One**

Gweedore United 8-1 Cranford United

**Division Two**

Drumkeen United P-P Convoy Arsenal

Dunkineely Celtic 2-7 Raphoe Town

Whitestrand Utd 2-2 Deele Harps

**Ulster Cup**

Cockhill Celtic 5-0 Gweedore Celtic

Culdaff F.C. 0-4 Bonagee United

Glenea United 3-4 Aileach F.C.

Carndonagh F.C. 0-4 Kildrum Tigers

Letterkenny Rovers 3-0 Fanad United

Monaghan Town 0-3 Kilmacrennan Cel

St. Catherine's 3-1 Lagan Harps

home for his second goal of the game. Rovers saw out the remainder of the match with disciplined defending and continued to create chances, with Banda and Padraic Gilsenan both coming close to adding a fourth.

Fanad Utd - Mark McConigley, Patrick Moffitt, Oisín Langan, Seamie Friel, Dylan McCleone, Paddy Carr, Carlos O'Reilly, Peter Carr, Keelin McElwaine, Eddie O'Reilly, Oisín McMenamin. Subs used: Eoin Logue, Martin McElhinney, Adam Carr, Daibhid Lynch, Conor Blaney. Unused: Shaun Carr, Darragh O'Doherty, Charlie McAteer

Referee: Patrick Martin.

## Keeper Young's goal remembered

Legendary Finn Harps manager Patsy McGowan has paid tribute to the club's first League of Ireland goalkeeper and captain John Young who passed away recently. Young has a unique claim to fame as a netminder as he actually scored a goal straight from a kick-out in an away league match against Waterford Utd in 1969.

"John was a Derry man who actually came into the team in 1968 during our Intermediate Cup run when I got injured and there was a story to that as well. It happened in the Bray game and I had to go off but in those days you were only allowed one sub. John came on but Bray protested afterwards and was awarded the game. I said that there was a way around this and went and got a doctor's sick note that I wasn't fit to continue in the match and the appeal was successful. John stayed in the team and Harps won the FAI Intermediate Cup title" McGowan said.

McGowan was the Finn Harps manager when they entered the League of Ireland in 1969 with Young captaining the team in the first match against Shamrock Rovers in Ballybofey in August of that year. McGowan was to witness one of those rare football moments where a goalkeeper scored a goal. Sometimes a netminder might get one after coming up for a corner but this one was from the edge of Young's eighteen-yard line.

"We went down to Waterford who were a top team in those days. Our boys were playing with the breeze. When the ball was played back to John who was just inside the box and he kicked it up in the air. The wind caught it. The

Waterford keeper came out to the edge of his 18-yard-box but misjudged the bounce and the ball ended up in the back of the net."





# Council named Local Authority of the Year

Donegal County Council has won the prestigious Local Authority of the Year Award at this year's Chambers Ireland's Excellence in Local Government Awards. The awards ceremony took place in Dublin last Thursday and Donegal

County Council took the top award. Cathaoirleach of Donegal County Council, Cllr. Niamh Kennedy who represented Donegal County Council at the awards ceremony along with Chief Executive John McLaughlin

was thrilled with this achievement. "I am thrilled to see Donegal County Council received this top award. This reflects the relentless work that Councillors and Council staff do day in and day out for the people of Done-



Chief Executive of Donegal County Council John McLaughlin accepting the award on behalf of the Council.



Donegal County Council representatives with their award on Thursday night in Dublin.

gal. Our positive and 'can-do' attitude has been recognised by the judging panel" says Cllr Kennedy. John McLaughlin Chief Executive of Donegal County Council also welcomed this award and said that "this is a great reflection on the work of the Council and the ambitious approach that the Council has taken over the last number of years across a range of areas. This includes investments in economic and enterprise development, housing capital build, roads, greenways, active travel, urban and rural regeneration, climate action, social inclusion and community development and as well as an extensive cultural development programme. It also speaks to the innovation and creativity of our members and staff and to the collaborative approach that we take by working with a whole range

of partners and stakeholders in delivering various projects and initiatives". Excellence in Local Government Awards are held annually and are hosted by Chambers Ireland. Donegal County Council also won the Supporting Sustainable Communities category for Burtonport & Arranmore - Harbour to Island Regeneration and the Health and Well Being category for the Model Beach Accessibility project. Other projects shortlisted included: the Energy Retrofit Programme in Climate Change category; Sound! Soundtrack Film Festival in Festival of the Year category; The Wonder of Weave - A Showcase of Irish & Scottish Tweed in Heritage and Built Environment category and the Food Coast Donegal in Promoting Economic Development category.

# Loreto Milford CS Students host Election Debate



Aoife Callaghan and Loren Connelly from Loreto Milford with General Election candidates Minister Charlie McConalogue, Claudia Kennedy, Mary T. Sweeney, Deputy Padraig MacLochlainn, Charles Ward and Gerry McKeever with moderator Greg Hughes.



Aoife Callaghan and Loren Connelly from Loreto Milford speaking at the debate.

Last Thursday, Leaving Certificate politics students Aoife Callaghan and Loren Connelly from Loreto Milford, held a general election debate with the help of their politics teacher Joe McBride, for the 46 first time voters in the school, in hopes to help educate their fellow students on who to vote for.

The event was a roaring success with the following candidates taking part: Charlie McConalogue and Claudia Kennedy from Fianna Fail, Padraig MacLoughlainn from Sinn Féin, Nuala Carr from the Green Party, Independent Gerry McKeever, Mary T Sweeney from Aontu and Charles Ward from the 100% Redress Party. Senator Niall Blaney was also in attendance.

The Debate was moderated by Highland Radios Greg Huges. The debate consisted of questions from members of the audience which resulted in a lively and heated debate between candidates.

The main issues were education, housing and the cost of living crisis, immigration and the defective block crisis. A quickfire round of general questions also took place at the end.

The following questions were asked :  
1) Eva Tinney: What are your thoughts on the lunchtime protests held by teachers regarding concerns over the new Senior Cycle Leaving Cert reform proposals? What types of reforms of the education system would your party support?

2) Alannah Gibbons: Many of us in this room who are studying hard and have aspirations of pursuing our dream courses at Universities in Dublin or Galway will be prevented from doing so; not because we did not achieve the CAO points required but because we simply cannot afford the extortionate costs of the college fees and scandalously high rents. In many instances there is simply no student accommodation available, regardless of price. If elected to government what will your party do to resolve these issues which are reinforcing ed-





















ucational inequality?

3) Sarah McGinley: A recent Report by Inclusion Ireland revealed that 45% of children with additional educational needs are being failed in accessing their right to education as a result of a severe shortage of Special Education Teachers and SNAs. This school for example only has 4 full-time SNAs to cater for a large student body of 835 students. What will you/ your party do if elected to address this chronic underfunding and shortage?

4) Mr Mac Bride - Board of Management: As a Non-DEIS school access to an Educational Psychologist from NEPS is one of our only supports. Devastatingly, NEPS informed the school this year that due to staff shortages, they have withdrawn our access to a dedicated Psychologist. We urge you to do whatever is within your power to reinstate this vital service for our SEN students. Will you commit to doing so if elected?

5) Alice O'Connor: A recent survey conducted in this school revealed that 1 in every 6 students is living in a mica/defective blocks home. Furthermore, 40% of the 900 students and staff in this school have an extended family member who is impacted by the crisis. When Dublin had a similar crisis, they were issued a proper true 100% redress scheme and yet here in Donegal we get a scheme that falls far short of that. What (a) Have you done to date and (b) Will you do, if elected to support the thousands of families in Donegal suffering from this crisis?  
6) Lauren McElhinney: We are seeing a massive increase in the rise of far-right, anti-immigration protests and violence towards immigrants coming into Ireland. A lot of this hate is being directed at the immigrants, not the government who have mishandled the problem. How do you plan on tackling the dysfunctional system for asylum seekers which sees thousands of them waiting for years in Direct Provision or Emergency Accommodation while they wait for their applications to be processed?

# Opinion Poll Results

	<b>Bradley</b> Nikki, Fine Gael	<b>5.73%</b>
	<b>Bradley</b> Vincent, Ind.	<b>0.80%</b>
	<b>Carr</b> Nuala Green Party	<b>0.23%</b>
	<b>Doherty</b> Pearse, Sinn Féin	<b>26.61%</b>
	<b>Gallagher</b> Carol, PBP	<b>0.46%</b>
	<b>Gallagher</b> Pat the Cope, Fianna Fáil	<b>13.88%</b>
	<b>Jordan</b> Noel, Sinn Féin	<b>4.13%</b>
	<b>Kennedy</b> Claudia, Fianna Fáil	<b>0.80%</b>
	<b>MacLochlainn</b> Padraig, Sinn Féin	<b>11.01%</b>
	<b>McConalogue</b> Charlie, Fianna Fáil	<b>8.03%</b>
	<b>McConnell</b> Niall, Ind.	<b>1.83%</b>
	<b>McGee</b> Eamonn, Irish Freedom Party	<b>0.57%</b>
	<b>McGuinness</b> Arthur, Ind	<b>0.23%</b>
	<b>McKeever</b> Gerry, Ind.	<b>0.57%</b>
	<b>McMenamin</b> Kim, TIP	<b>0.92%</b>
	<b>McNulty</b> John, Fine Gael	<b>6.31%</b>
	<b>O'Donnell</b> Frank, Ind	<b>1.03%</b>
	<b>Pringle</b> Thomas, Ind	<b>7.22%</b>
	<b>Sweeney</b> Mary T. Aontu	<b>2.64%</b>
	<b>Ward</b> Charles, 100% Redress Party	<b>7.00%</b>

# Opinion Poll 2024

## Tribune poll indicates su

The more things change: the more they might not. The Tribune poll for the February election 2020 was conducted a week before election day. The poll examined the views of the Donegal electorate and Sinn Féin led the way with more than 40%.

by John McAteer

And like all tracker of opinions prior to the election there will always be a margin of error. The ballot boxes on Friday are the real test of what the political future holds and the result may take time, perhaps months before a government is formed.

Our main picture on election week 2020 featured a demand for a new stroke unit at LUH. We were the only hospital without one. "It can save up to 16 lives a year in Donegal," said senior Consultant, Ken Mulpeter.

Our poll findings in 2020 revealed that Sinn Fein had the edge in Donegal with a rating of 42.8%. FF 20.8%: FG15.5%: Indepts 15.2% were the main features. We've moved on in a way that nobody could have imagined. However, this week's poll could have had the same headline, but it does not, even though there will be winners and losers.

These changes, if carried through in Friday's vote, will create more nuanced voting. There are subtle changes in the air and some of the top candidates will be happier than others. At the other end of the poll there is a large group of ten candidates who will not be on 2%. However, it is their transfers that will elect TDs and that is an intriguing part of the story.

The emergence of Charles Ward of 100% Redress on 7% along with the increase of 4.28% for Fianna Fail's Pat the Cope Gallagher sees his first preference vote on 13.88%. The belief that Fianna Fail will win two seats is far from a done deal.

The clock is ticking towards general election day in what has been a lacklustre campaign that has failed to attract much public interest until last Monday in the Louth constituency and then again on Friday night in Cork and Taoiseach Simon Harris was in the eye of the storm, for all the wrong reasons.

Many see no change to the political dynamic in the 34th Dail. For better or worse, the belief is that Fine Gael and Fianna Fail are there for the long haul beyond this election and the next unless there is a huge falling out amongst the two main parties. Out on the campaign trail there were a number of key factors with support for Sinn Fein at 45% on election day.

Once again, Pearse Doherty is the runaway winner with a share of 26.16% with Padraig MacLochlainn on 11.01%, similar to the last time. Noel Jordan is on 4.13%.

A very similar pattern emerged in 2020 when Doherty ran up 32.8% in the poll. MacLochlainn was on 10%. On polling day, Doherty was on 27.17% with MacLochlainn turning in a share of 17.93%. It will be interesting to watch if the same happens again.

The poll was out on Wednesday evening and the election was on the following Saturday. Plenty of time for all candidates to take stock. SF has polled widely across the constituency in our sample: Inishowen in particular where their share is 48.2%.

The fact that 100% Redress is in the campaign is an entirely new dimension... It is something

### FF's Inishowen vote down 8.4%

The Tribune constituency poll puts FF on a share of 22.71%: this is an increase of 2.5%. McConalogue's vote in Inishowen is down by 9.6% since 2020: from 27.6% to 17.95% and he will only be elected if transfers are in his favour. The indicators suggest he is in a real scrap for one of the final seats. Inishowen is the largest electoral area in the constituency and that is significant.

The fact that 100% Redress is in the campaign is an entirely new dimension... It is something

different.

However Charles Ward has polled a share of 10.26% in Inishowen in what is the epicentre of the defective blocks battle.

Fianna Fail is also competing with Pearse Doherty in a race for the highest first preferences in Inishowen and its much too close to call.

However, in Letterkenny McConalogue's vote has increased by 3.87%. Milford's FF share the last time was 14.9%. That's up by 7.2% to 21.11%. Pat the Cope's share has risen to 7.78% - an increase of more than 5%.

The campaign of Pat the Cope is a real political juggernaut and he has a strong message from the south west of the county to the Government. In 2020 he polled 9.64% of first preferences. He is now running at 13.88%



Sinn Féin's Pearse Doherty to Donegal.

### Letterkenny EA Party Share

Sinn Féin	37.09%
Fianna Fail	21.19%
Fine Gael	15.9%
100% Redress	9.93%
Pringle	5.3%
Ind. & Others	5.95%
Aontu	4.64%

### Glenties EA Party Share

Sinn Féin	38.27%
Fianna Fail	37.04%
Fine Gael	8.03%
100% Redress	4.94%
Pringle	4.94%
Ind. & Others	3.08%
Aontu	3.70%

### Stranorlar EA Party Share

Sinn Féin	42.74%
Fianna Fail	20.16%
Fine Gael	12.1%
100% Redress	8.87%
Pringle	8.06%
Ind. & Others	5.65%
Aontu	2.42%

### Milford Party

Sinn Féin	
Fianna Fail	
Fine Gael	
100% Redress	
Pringle	
Ind. & Others	
Aontu	

### Inishowen Party

Sinn Féin	
Fianna Fail	
Fine Gael	
100% Redress	
Pringle	
Ind. & Others	
Aontu	

### Donegal Party

Sinn Féin	
Fianna Fail	
Fine Gael	
100% Redress	
Pringle	
Ind. & Others	
Aontu	

# icates subtle changes in Donegal

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Sinn Féin's Pearse Doherty topping the poll in Donegal.

close to the TG4 poll a fortnight ago. The significance is that he's holding firm and also attracting transfers from beyond Gweedore and the Rosses. Is Pat on his way back to Leinster House? His supporters believe he is.

**FG on 12%**  
 FG's on 12% with the candidates running close with McNulty on 6.3% just 0.6% ahead of Nikki Bradley on 5.7%. Their constituency vote is down by 0.79%. Their share of the Inishowen vote is 5.13%: Bradley 4.1% and McNulty on 1.03%. FG is strongest in Letterkenny with 15.9% and Nikki Bradley's share is 13.25%. In Milford they are polling 14.45% with Bradley on 8.89% and in Donegal Town, John McNulty has a share of 18.67% and the party vote hits 20%. Thomas Pringle won the third seat in 2020 and his transfers of 2,798 saw him up to 8,270. His share of the

## Overall Party Share

<b>Sinn Féin</b>	<b>41.75%</b>
<b>Fianna Fail</b>	<b>22.71%</b>
<b>Fine Gael</b>	<b>12.04%</b>
<b>100% Redress</b>	<b>7%</b>
<b>Pringle</b>	<b>7.22%</b>
<b>Ind. &amp; Others</b>	<b>6.64%</b>
<b>Aontu</b>	<b>2.64%</b>

Tribune poll is 7.22% which is a marginal increase of 0.85% from 2020. Thomas is a strong campaigner in the Dail and he's earned the respect of many in Donegal. He is strongest on his home ground in the Donegal electoral area and is on 20.67%. He's on 5.3% in Inishowen: 2.2% in Milford: 4.94% in Glenties: 8.06% in Stranorlar: 2.05% in Inishowen and 5.30% in Letterkenny. He is also transfer friendly across the different counts.

**100% Redress on 7%**  
 Charlie Ward is on 7% in the poll and will hope for transfers to push him over the finishing line. It is a very new experience for the party and it comes after winning four seats on the Council in June. Ward lives in Drumkeen and has been a strong campaigner for years because his home is severely damaged. His share of the vote is Milford 5.56%: Glenties 4.94%: Stranorlar 8.87%: Donegal 1.33%: Inishowen 10.26% and Letterkenny 9.93%. In the local elections in Inishowen 100% Redress polled 3,840. The poll puts them on 7% across the constituency which is down by 2.6% since June.

### The Transfers

There is going to be a lengthy count and it may not end on Saturday night. The group of Independents and others will have a key influence in electing TD's although 35% of their vote is non-transferable. Their transfers are likely to go to Charles Ward on 14%: MacLochlainn and McConologue are expected to be on 9% each: Nikki Bradley, Noel Jordan, Thomas Pringle and Mary T. Sweeney are on 6%. Pat the Cope Gallagher is on 4.5%: McNulty is on 3%. However, SF's Pearse Doherty, according to the poll, will have a huge transfer with around 40% going to MacLochlainn: Noel Jordan is on over 14%: Pat the Cope is getting 11%: Thomas Pringle is taking 8% and Charles Ward is getting 5.6%. And if you think that is confusing,

believe me it is! However, it is the surplus from Pearse Doherty that will be most closely watched. MacLochlainn can expect close to 40%: Jordan will have 14% of his surplus: Pringle is on 8% with Charles Ward taking over 14%. Do all these figures seem confusing? Believe me, it is all that and much more.

### From Letterkenny to Kanturk and beyond...

On the national scene the race has tightened considerably since the election date was confirmed. FG's share is down 6% and Simon Harris must wait for the tally counts to see if he's blown it. In the Sunday Independent, Ireland Thinks poll and in Monday's Irish Times the closeness of the contest is clearly indicated. This is going to be the closest of calls with barely a whisker separating the three main parties. Monday's poll has SF on 20%: FF is also on 20%: FG is at 19%: Independents and others are 17%: Aontú 3%: Social Democrats 6%: Labour 4%: Green Party 4%: Sol-PBP 3%. So far it's been a poor campaign for Simon Harris. He really missed out on the best of craic in Dear Old Letterkenny Town where Government Leaders have made it their business to speak at the Market Square down the many decades of this State. The absence of the Taoiseach from the Town Centre in Letterkenny said so much about Harris - perhaps that is exactly what the Taoiseach is all about. Excuses are never good enough for the Leader of the country.

Next up was the FG senator John McGahon controversy in the Louth constituency who had the backing of Harris and Helen McEntee. McGahon Taoiseach Simon Harris had insisted Fine Gael will continue to canvas for McGahon after Breen White was awarded €39,000 in damages arising from a street confrontation - White publicly questioned his General Election 2024 candidacy, The Taoiseach replied: "Yes - my party will continue

to canvas for him. These matters were all examined in a court of law. A jury sat in Louth - a jury looked at CCTV. A jury looked at images. A defence of self-defence was put forward and a jury found him not guilty (of assault)," Mr Harris said.

McGahon was found to be 65% liable in a civil action taken by Mr White in the High Court and ordered to pay him €39,000 in compensation.

### Kanturk - defining moment for Taoiseach

Kanturk was the defining moment for Simon Harris in the campaign. A still from the video clip of the Taoiseach meeting disability worker Charlotte Fallon on Friday night went viral. Charlotte, who works with St Joseph's Foundation challenged him on his government's record. The Taoiseach had been canvassing in a supermarket when a visibly emotional Ms Fallon tells him: "We've fought for our money ... but we are ignored", to which Mr Harris responded: "No, no, not at all," as he walked away. Fateful steps into the political darkness. Then it's Mayo making the headlines. Four years ago last March, FG Cllr. Patsy O'Brien was suspended from the party and finally expelled six months later for sending inappropriate messages to a party member. But Fine Gael refused to tell the public why he was forced out of the party. During that time, Fine Gael refused to say why Mr O'Brien, now running as an Independent candidate in the general election, was expelled from the party. In recent days a picture has been put into the national media of Hildegard Naughton canvassing with O'Brien in the General Election campaign in 2020 in South Mayo. Mr O'Brien was suspended from the party in March 2020 before being ultimately expelled in October of the same year for what Taoiseach Simon Harris has described as "gross misconduct". Initially the Taoiseach explained that he knew nothing of the alleged incident, because it happened before he became the leader of the party.

Fine Gael has regularly called on rival parties, particularly Sinn Fein members in the north, to be transparent about disciplinary issues related to their party members. And when we thought the party was over, the always on-message - always on-camera and with an answer before a question is asked, Simon Harris has gone and made a bags of it...

## Milford EA Party Share

<b>Sinn Féin</b>	<b>50%</b>
<b>Fianna Fail</b>	<b>21.11%</b>
<b>Fine Gael</b>	<b>14.45%</b>
<b>100% Redress</b>	<b>5.56%</b>
<b>Pringle</b>	<b>2.22%</b>
<b>Ind. &amp; Others</b>	<b>4.44%</b>
<b>Aontu</b>	<b>2.22%</b>

## Inishowen EA Party Share

<b>Sinn Féin</b>	<b>48.2%</b>
<b>Fianna Fail</b>	<b>20.52%</b>
<b>Fine Gael</b>	<b>5.13%</b>
<b>100% Redress</b>	<b>10.26%</b>
<b>Pringle</b>	<b>2.05%</b>
<b>Ind. &amp; Others</b>	<b>12.3%</b>
<b>Aontu</b>	<b>1.54%</b>

## Donegal EA Party Share

<b>Sinn Féin</b>	<b>36%</b>
<b>Fianna Fail</b>	<b>14.66%</b>
<b>Fine Gael</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>100% Redress</b>	<b>1.33%</b>
<b>Pringle</b>	<b>20.67%</b>
<b>Ind. &amp; Others</b>	<b>6.01%</b>
<b>Aontu</b>	<b>1.33%</b>

**A**  
 7.09%  
 1.19%  
 5.9%  
 93%  
 3%  
 95%  
 64%  
 8.27%  
 7.04%  
 03%  
 94%  
 94%  
 08%  
 70%  
 2.74%  
 0.16%  
 2.1%  
 87%  
 06%  
 65%  
 42%



Under 14 Boys Blue team Conor Patton, player of season and most improved player Charlie McBride and the J12 Boys Red team Kai Crerand Corcoran and Matthew Sweeney, joint players of the season and receiving their awards from special guests Geraldine McLaughlin and Ciaran Moore.



The U10 boys with Managers and special guests Geraldine McLaughlin and Ciaran Moore at the end of year presentations.



The U8 boys with Managers and special guests Geraldine McLaughlin and Ciaran Moore at the end of year presentations.

Under 12 Blue Team, Saul Hegarty player of season and Shay Sweeney Dunleavy, most improved player and Navy Team Ruairi Greer, Player of Season and Eoghan Kelly, Most Improved Player receiving their awards from special guests Geraldine McLaughlin and Ciaran Moore.



Minor boys Sean Black, player of season and most improved player Jacob Campbell accepted by Joey Barrett receiving their awards from special guests Geraldine McLaughlin and Ciaran Moore.



The Milford Under 16 boys team.



The U14 boys with Managers and special guests Geraldine McLaughlin and Ciaran Moore at the end of year presentations.



The Under 16 Player of the Season Caolan Carr and Most Improved Player Aidan Kilpatrick with their awards.



Minor girls Niamh McLaughlin, player of season and most improved player Chloe Shields receiving their awards from special guests Geraldine McLaughlin and Ciaran Moore.



The Milford Nursery players pictured with special guests Geraldine McLaughlin and Ciaran Moore at the end of year presentations in the Ray Community Centre recently.



The U10 girls with Managers and special guests Geraldine McLaughlin and Ciaran Moore at the end of year presentations.

## Milford GAA Club underage presentations



U13 girls Aoife Kilpatrick, player of season and most improved player Lucia Cannon receiving their awards from Geraldine McLaughlin and Ciaran Moore.



The U8 girls with Managers and special guests Geraldine McLaughlin and Ciaran Moore at the end of year presentations.



U14 girls Niamh Buchanan, player of season and most improved player Mairead Shields receiving their awards from Geraldine McLaughlin and Ciaran Moore.



The U13 girls with Managers and special guests Geraldine McLaughlin and Ciaran Moore at the end of year presentations.



U16 girls Ruth Folan, player of season receiving her award from Geraldine McLaughlin.

# Bia ag Caint

with Noel MacLiam

Tá fáilte roimh achán duine ar ais arís, agus mar is gnáth, tá súil agam go bhfuil sibh uilig go maith, breá agus folláin. Gan an ábhar a sheachaint, tá sé i ndiaidh éirí iontach fuar na laethanta seo caite, titim sa teocht, sneachta agus é gaofar go leor. Bheadh do chabhair de dhíth ort gan amhras. Is cuimhin liom nuair a bhí mé go hiontach óg cuirteadh mo mhathair rud éigean orainn, na páistí, agus d'inis sí dúinn gur LIBERTY BODICE a bhí mar ainm air. Saghas veist a bhí i gcéist, a chuireadh ar bharr veist eile a bhí muid ag caitheamh fosta. Níor thuig mé riamh cad chuige gur gcuirteadh Liberty Bodice air, agus, faraor, níl a fhios agam an áithníonn gach duine ón nglúin céanna é seo de rud. Ach, fuair mé amach go déanaí gur mar gheall ar shiopa i Londáin, Shasain, iontach mór le rá, darbh ainm LIBERTY'S of LONDON. Rinne mé píosa taighde air agus fuair mé amach fosta cé chomh tábhachtach agus sean agus a bhí sé fosta. Mar shiopa, bhí sé i gcónaí tugtha do earraí a thaispeáin cumas agus ábaltacht, agus go minic bhí earraí ann ó achán cearn den domhain, mar shampla An Ind agus An Sin, ag taispeáint obair speisialta déanta ag na ceardaithe is fearr ó na tíortha sin. Mar shampla, sa bhliain 1885 thóg



siad 42 ceardaithe ón Ind agus thaispeáin siad na daoine ealaíonta seo ag obair ar shiodaí galánta sa siopa é féin. Bhí OSCAR WILDE é féin mar chustaméir dílis ann go minic agus gnáthiúil, agus scríobh sé sa bhliain 1889: LIBERTY'S is the

chosen resort of the Artistic Shopper! Chuir siad i gcónaí, agus go fóill, béim ar dhearadh, agus thug siad déis do dhearthóirí

óga, agus bhí siad i gcónaí chun tosaigh sa réim seo. Ní raibh mé ann riamh, ach ba bhreá liom lá iomlán a chaitheamh ann ag tabhairt breathnú thart timpeall air.

Chaith mé cúpla uaire i rith na seachtaine seo caite ag freastáil ar Choiréal Chomhrá sna Dúnaibh agus i mBaile na nGallóglach. Is ábhar iontais dom é i gcónaí, ní amháin an méid oibre atá déanta ag na daoine atá iontu, ach an méid cráic agus comhlúadar atá le fáil ann, gan tracht ar an méid tae atá ólta! An rud is fearr is é an lámh chuidithe a thugann daoine da chéile. De gnáth bíonn éagsúlacht caighdeán ann agus oibríonn an cuidiú seo go hiontach le daoine a choimhead spreagtha. Agus, tá rud amháin atá ann go flaitiúil ag achán duine ann agus is é sin dílseacht don teanga. Rud eile a thaitníonn go mór liom is é sin na cúlraí éagsúla atá ag na rannpháirtithe. Mar sin, tá achán duine ábalta rud ar leith a thabhairt don teacht le chéile. Agus, tá sé i gcónaí deas daoine nua a fháil isteach sa chomhlúadar. Le déanaí thainig fear ón gContae Thír Eoghain isteach chugainn, Breandán Ó Cuileáin, agus suim ar leith aige sa teanga, agus é féin ainmnithe mar Chaiftín Cumann Gaill Pórt an tSalainn an bhliain seo chugainn. Maith thú, a Bhreandáin!

atá casta agus fadálach. Tá níos mó na cócaireacht a dhéanamh agat ag an am seo de bhliain! Agus cé go bhfuil sé maith bia blasta agus suimiúil a bheith ar do thábla, is é an rud atá níos mó agus níos deise ná sin, ná am a chaitheamh le clann agus cairde. Ar aghaidh libh mar sin, a Chairde Ghaeil!

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REJOIGNEZ-NOUS POUR UNE CONVERSATION EN FRANÇAIS, UN CAFÉ ET DES PÂTISSERIES FRANÇAISES

**JEUDI THURSDAY 11 - 13:00**

**21 ST NOVEMBER**  
**28 TH NOVEMBER**  
**5 TH DECEMBER**  
**12 TH DECEMBER**

ENTRÉE €10  
 1 BOISSON + 1 PATISSERIE

*Benjamin* *Merçi*

**RATHMULLAN MAKERS MARKET**

The Pier Sheds, Rathmullan  
 Saturday 7th December  
 12-4pm

*The Christmas event we have all been waiting for!*

Get into the Christmas Spirit, join the fun & shop local - beautiful local handmade art & crafts, gorgeous gifts, food and music!

1pm - The Santa Express, meet Santa for photos, free ice cream or hot chocolate, selection box and free face-painting for the kids. Places are limited so it's first come first served!

3pm - Christmas Carol Singing with special guests Santa & Mrs. Clause!

*A great day out for the family - all welcome!*

An seachtain seo caite bhí muid ag caint faoi bhia do chóisirí na Nollag, nó, oíche sa teach le clann agus cairde le greim bia deas agus speisialta ann le snas a chuir ar na himeachtaí. Ba bhreá liom leanadh ar aghaidh le sin an seachtain seo fosta. Tá mé ag cuir béim ar rudaí eadar speisialta agus measartha gasta agus éasca. Níl mórán níos measa ná brú a chuir ort féin ag ullmhú rudaí

**CÁIS GORM le GLÓTHACH SEIRISE BRIOSCAÍ le MIL agus CNÓNNA CRIOSTALAITHE**  
 Blue Cheese, Sherry Jelly, Honey Crisps and Candied Walnuts



- Comhábhair**
- Glóthach. 4 duilleoga geilitín 250ml Seiris
  - Brioscaí. 50g im gan salann 4 tbsps mil 8 slísíní arán seagail
  - Gallchnonna. 100g gallchnonna 2tbsp uisce 25g siúcra mín

**MODH:**  
 Cuir geilitín in uisce fuar le 10bom. Cuir leathchuid den seiris i bpota, tóg go suanbhruith agus cuir geilitín isteach, meascaigh agus cuir an seiris atá fagtha leis. Meascaigh agus cuir i soitheach éadomhain sa chuisneoir le 2 uaire. Leath im i bpota agus cuir mil leis agus clúdaigh na briosaí go flaitiúil leis agus san oigheann ag 180C le 8bom. Cuir gallchnónna in uisce, ansin sa siúcra mín agus san oigheann leis na briosaí. Cuir píosa de achán rud ar phláta agus cuir amach.

- Ábhar a sheachaint. Avoid the subject
- Teocht. Temperature
  - Gaofar. Windy
  - Cabhail. Bodice
- Níor thuig mé riamh. I never understood
- Faraor. Alas
  - Glúin. Generation, Knee
  - Taighde. Research
  - Cumas. Skill
  - Ábaltacht. Ability
  - Ceardaithe. Artisans
  - Ealaíonta. Artistic
  - Síoda. Silk
- Béim a chuir ar. To emphasise
- Dearadh. Design
  - Dearthóir. Designer
- Chun tosaigh. To the forefront
- Réim. Field of endeavor
  - Breathnú. Looking carefully
- Ábhar iontais. A subject of wonder
- Gan tracht air.... Not to mention....
- Spreagtha. Encouraged, inspired
  - Go flaitiúil. Generously
  - Dílseacht. Devotion

**WALKING IN A WINTER WONDERLAND**

**Joe NOV 28th**

**POLLING BOOTH**

THERE'S SANTA ON HIS WAY INTO VOTE!

Election bells ring, posters glisten  
 Politicians canvass, do they listen  
 A beautiful sight  
 So happy tonight  
 Walking in an election wonderland

If it snows, I will build a snowman  
 Then I'll light a fire in the range  
 You ask, "Are you voting"  
 I'll say, "Yes man"  
 This country badly needs a change

Health service crumbling  
 Mica homes tumbling  
 But Simon will sing a love song  
 As he walks along  
 Walking in an election wonderland

Now it's time to retire  
 Throw some turf on the fire  
 Cant afford oil or coal  
 Expensive posters on a pole  
 Walking in an election wonderland

Building houses, there's just no hurry  
 Cost of living, it's a worry  
 No hospital beds  
 Luxurious bike sheds  
 Cycling in an election wonderland

# Rathmullan

## Tidy Towns

The annual Playground Clean, Beach front and Pier area will take place on Saturday 30th November, and we're asking for your help. Please note change of meeting time to 12.00 noon, at the playground. Children and families particularly welcome, with refreshments served afterwards. As part of our ongoing work on collaborations for Change, and moving towards a more sustainable future and biodiversity loss, we're grateful to DLDC and the TY pupils of Mulroy College who have come on board to plant fruit trees next Wednesday 4th December, which includes some of their Green Schools Committee. Joanne Butler, Climate Change Officer DLDC will facilitate the Dispersed Orchards workshop, as part of 'Mind your Melon' youth mental health festival, which supports youth mental health in Donegal. This is a programme for 'young people' by 'young people' created by local mental health charity Connect Mental Health in partnership with Jigsaw Donegal and Foroige. Anyone wishing to learn more about the value of fruit trees, or how to plant and care for them is welcome to join us. Meet at the St Vincent de Paul Centre, Wednesday morning 10.00 am.

## Christmas Lights Switch On

Rathmullan will sparkle more this year, thanks to the organising committee and the hardworking Volunteers and Scheme workers who've spent many hours, out in dreadful

weather over the past number of weeks ensuring all is in working order. The Big Switch on will take place on Saturday at 8pm. However, the Odysseys will be on stage from 7.15pm leading us in a few songs to get us into the mood so come along early to enjoy the festive spirit.

The Christmas Raffle is now completely sold out and huge thanks to everyone who has supported this annual event, especially Freda and Mary Patton who have done trojan work selling the tickets. The Raffle will take place after the Switch On and refreshments will be available at the Pier Sheds afterwards. It's also rumoured that there will be special guest appearances for the younger ones on Saturday night too.

## 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, 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 at very reasonable prices. If you're looking for some Christmas inspiration, then why not drop in and select a few great bits & pieces suitable for upcycling. Maybe a few special deals that Santa might appreciate. Opening hours are Wednesday and Thursday 11-3 and also on Saturday afternoons.

## RNLI Fundraising

The Lifeboats been answering May-day calls for over 200 years, but as we approach mid winter and after the stormy weekend, we're really thankful that they are just a quick call away. These volunteers go out in the best of gear and equipment and are highly trained for whatever may face them, and fundraising ensures that they have that the best supports, to save lives and prevent drowning. We regularly see the Bunrana lads out on practice and undoubtedly, they're going to be facing another busy season, so will you go the distance and answer their Call? Even at Christmas brave Volunteers are on call 24/7, despite the weather. Why not join up or gift RNLI Membership to a loved one this Christmas and help keep Volunteers ready to rescue.

www.rnli.org

Many thanks to all who are currently fundraising, especially Hughie Ogs, Downings who are taking part in the annual Reindeer Challenge. Run 24 miles throughout Decem-

ber - that's one mile for every hour RNLI volunteers are on call, even on Christmas Day. If running's not for you, you could walk, jog, or even saunter. It only takes 20 minutes on average to walk one mile. To donate to the Hughie Ogs funds, www.fundraise.rnli.org

Also, huge thanks to all who are supporting the weekly pub quiz in The Harbour Bar, Downings on Friday nights (29th November, 6 & 13th December). Start time 6.30pm, with maximum 6 per team, €5 per person. First Prize €50 bar tab with spot prizes on the night.

Ramelton Presbyterian Church is hosting a first ever Ramelton Community Christmas Tree Festival this weekend, (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday) from 2-9pm with all donations in aid of Lifeboats and St Vincent de Paul. Do drop in, enjoy the spectacle and the Christmas spirit with the wonderful trees decorated by local schools, organisations and businesses in the area.

## Applications open for North West 10k charities

With the magical million euros mark now within touching distance the North West 10k Committee is inviting applications for the 2025 Charity Run and Walk which takes place on Monday 5th May in Letterkenny. It will be the 28th race whose first event was staged in 1997 and to date has raised €983,924. So the Committee hopes to reach €1 million next year and the goal now is to raise at least €16,076 to do just that. It will be up to the selected charities to take on that challenge with the support of the North West 10k organisation.

Chairperson Neil Martin is now asking interested charities to email their applications to [toni@letterkennychamber.com](mailto:toni@letterkennychamber.com). Closing date for applications is Saturday 11th of January.

"We are heading towards the million euros mark so hopefully the selected charities can make that happen. It would be great to reach that milestone but a lot of hard work will

be needed from ourselves and the charities. So my message is to community organisations to submit their applications as soon as possible and before the deadline of the 11th of January. All monies raised stays in Donegal to benefit local organisations that are doing so much good work. Since 1997 when the 10k we have made donations to 40 charities. It's very important to remember that it is the voluntary work of committee members past and present who have got us to this point.

Our current Honour President Charlie Kelly was the first Chairperson back 27 years ago and it's people like him and other founding Committee members that had the courage and foresight to take on the challenge as a successor to the Rockhill 10k.

Interested charities are invited to email their applications to [toni@letterkennychamber.com](mailto:toni@letterkennychamber.com). The closing date for applications is Saturday 11th of January.

# Pier to be completed in January



Donegal minister, Charlie McConalogue, pictured at Rathmullan Pier with Senator Niall Blaney, Cllr Pauric McGarvey, Cllr Liam Blaney and members of the team carrying out the refurbishment works.

The €4.6 million Rathmullan Pier Refurbishment Project that began in April is expected to be completed in January.

Confirming the completion date during a visit to Rathmullan Pier at the weekend, Donegal minister, Charlie McConalogue said: "As Minister for Marine, I was delighted to be able to secure over €4 million to ensure that this project, which was on the agenda for over 30 years, could finally get to the construction stage. It is now nearing completion with works expected to finish over the next couple of months."

"Upgrading local piers and harbours was a key priority for me when I was appointed minister in 2020, and I am glad to see the progress that has been made since the works began seven months ago. This significant investment will allow Rathmullan to realise and enjoy its true potential," he added. "I want to thank Cllr Liam Blaney and Cllr Pauric McGarvey

for their work at Council level in terms of putting the project on the table. Thanks also to the construction team for the great work they've done since April. They have worked so well with the local community, and I'm delighted to see the progress of the project within a good timeline.

"I've worked hard as Minister for Marine to bring unprecedented funding to Donegal piers and harbours. Around 55% of the total national spend over the last four years nationally has come to Donegal. €1.5 million of that national funding was invested in Porsalun Pier which was officially opened in September," Minister McConalogue commented.

"This is work I want to continue with. I am putting my platform to the public on Friday, November 29th and am asking for their support in the general election so that I can continue to work to bring our county forward and that we can have a minister in Donegal to secure further investment," he added.

## Friday deadline for Sports Star Nominations

This Friday, 29th November is the deadline for submitting nominations for the 2024 Donegal Sports Star Awards. Nominations should be emailed to [info@donegalsportsstarawards.ie](mailto:info@donegalsportsstarawards.ie)

Include a brief summary of achievements along with photos and any video footage. 2024 has seen a string of successes for teams and individuals from the County so it's important now that those achievements are acknowledged by being included among the list of nominees for the Awards on Friday 31st January in the Mount Errigal Hotel.

The sporting successes must have taken place during the calendar year 2024. Once again Donegal County Council is the sponsor and the Local Authority has been involved since the late 1970s when they started sponsoring the school categories.

Chairperson Grace Boyle stressed the importance for clubs and sporting organisations across Donegal of making sure that the achievements of teams and individuals are recognised in the list of 2024 nominees when it comes to the gala banquet where the stars from a wide array of sports will come together for a very special night at the end of January.



Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has been awarded the Workplace of the Year Award, for its operations in Letterkenny at the recent Letterkenny Chamber Business Awards event. The awards celebrated the achievements of businesses in the region. TCS won the Workplace of the Year award by demonstrating its commitment to creating a positive workplace for its employees, which is reflected in working practices and employee-centric policies that are in place at the company. These policies include understanding the diverse needs of their employees and prioritising employee well-being and success. TCS offers hybrid working for employees in Letterkenny, incentive policies and health and wellness initiatives. These include performance-based bonuses, recognition programs and

career advancement opportunities. TCS awards Star of the Quarter and On the Spot awards to celebrate employees outstanding contributions, as well as their annual performance reviews providing a structured pathway for professional growth. Commenting on the award on behalf TCS, Andrea McBride said: "At TCS, we are committed to creating a positive and attractive place to work. We endeavour to always put our people first so that employees feel safe, respected and supported. We do this by having people at the heart of our policies, whether that's employee incentive schemes or health and wellness initiatives. We're delighted that our approach has been recognised by the Letterkenny Chamber."



**Tirconail Tribune**

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We print a full range of In Memoriam Cards, Bookmarks, Thank You Cards

# Glenree Sports Club book launched

The special place that Glenree Sports Club holds in the local Carrigart community is now wonderfully recorded in a brilliant book that was launched on Saturday. There was a terrific turnout in the Carrigart Hotel with many memories being shared from athletics to soccer and even rugby at the Crock O'Gold playing grounds.

**Report & Photos by Declan Kerr**

And the 238 pages is not exclusively a sports publication as it also captures the importance of the club in the local community for the past 51 years. Three men spearheaded the mission to produce the book that was first mooted just over a year ago. Myles Gallagher, John T Friel and John McLaughlin set a deadline of November 2024 to have it ready for launch. It was an ambitious target but they stuck to the timeline. It was very hard work reaching out to so many people in the local community to draw out the stories and memorabilia to bring

out a quality publication. At the end of the day those efforts were rewarded and brought a lot of satisfaction to three men who put their lives on hold to make it happen. They always wanted to have it done while John Cronin was still Athletics Ireland President. The Dooley native who was the special guest on Saturday will see his four-year term in that top post come to end next April.

The Glenree Sports Club was formed at a meeting in Tommy and Teasie McBride's house in Umlagh on 30th of October 1973. Just one man, Mick McGettigan of Glenree survives from that meeting and those present on Saturday afternoon were able to hear an interview that Myles Gallagher recorded with him about his memories of the club's development. Mick was the first Vice-Chairman and he spoke about the Coyle family's invaluable support in terms of the use of the playing field for over five decades. Myles also spoke to Carrigart man John Coll, now

resident in Gweedore about soccer in the area during the 1950s. There are also stories about the local links with Celtic players Brian McLaughlin and Jimmy McGrory.

One of the first fundraisers was a 10-week draw that brought in €1,500. The winner of the top prize was Danny Langan from Creeslough. Myles Gallagher was MC for the afternoon and he recalled County and Ulster Cross-Country Athletics Championships being held in Glenree. On the football front the team won back-to-back Donegal Junior League titles in the 1977/78 and 1978/79 seasons. Their first manager was Frank Kelly from Creeslough who passed away recently. His wife Bridie and family members were present for the launch on Saturday. Tullamore based Athletics Ireland President John Cronin was the special guest at the book launch and he was joined by his brother Patrick who travelled from Cork. Both siblings enjoyed considerable

success with the Glenree Athletic Club. Natives of Dooley, the brothers used to thumb the seven miles from their home to training. Or occasionally they took the shortcut walking the 3.5 miles up through Tramore Beach. John Cronin said it had been an ambitious undertaking to put the book together and it was extraordinary what had been achieved in over a year of diligent work by John F Friel, John McLaughlin and Myles Gallagher.

It's a book that is not only about sport as it also embraces the cultural



Myles Gallagher and John Cronin.

and social fabric of the local community. In a sometimes emotional speech John Cronin spoke about exactly that with the club embodying a community ethos. Among the other speakers were Jimmy Haughey (Donegal Junior Football League), Brendan McDaid (Chairperson of Ulster Athletics), Rosemary Dewhirst (Donegal Athletics Board Chairperson), David Ladley (Glenree F.C. Academy Chairperson) and Eamonn Giles who set up the



Yvonne Curran, Amy and Caoimhe McLaughlin and Denise Doherty.



Seamus McLaughlin, Gerry Boyle and David Ladley.



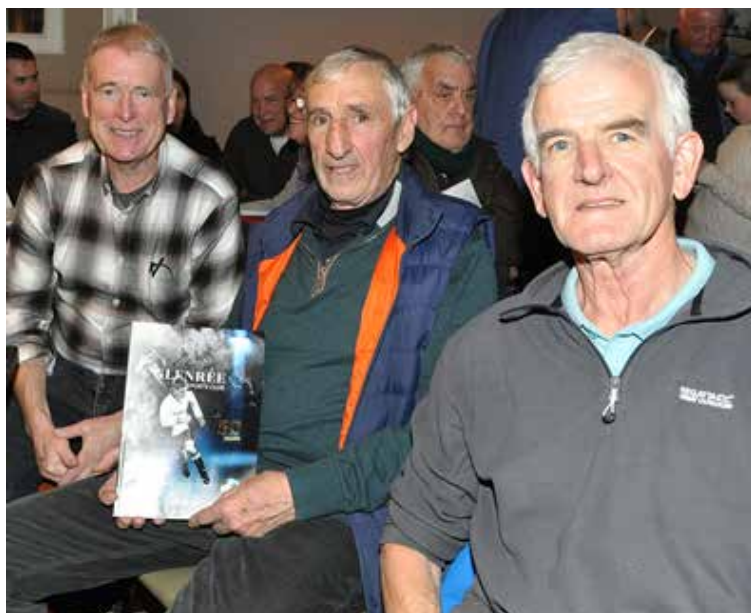
John and Cathal McLaughlin with Catriona, Sophie and David O'Neill.



Bernie McLaughlin, Cathal Boyle and Dan McLaughlin.



Sean T Gallagher, Myles Gallagher, Gerard Friel, John McBride and Joe Gallagher.



Patrick Carr, James Duffy and Hugh Wilhare.



Cranford AC in 1961 which was the first in the County.

Also present were Paddy Marley, Danny McDaid, Patsy McGonagle and Teresa McDaid. And there was a special welcome for Raphoe based John Carlin the first ever Donegal Athletics Board Chairperson.

A Glenree Athletics team enjoyed a hugely successful year in 1977 with Donegal and Ulster titles with the Cronin brothers and Brian McBride going on to win national relay team bronze medals. One of the men involved with that team Brian McBride successfully coached a Sligo club U12s to a national Cross-Country title a fortnight ago in Irvinestown. Saturday was certainly a time to take a trip down memory lane including changing in the Swilly Bus which was the permanent dressing room for many years. Representing the Donegal Junior League was Jimmy Haughey who emphasised the importance of a sports club in local communities and its role in diverting youngsters away from anti-social

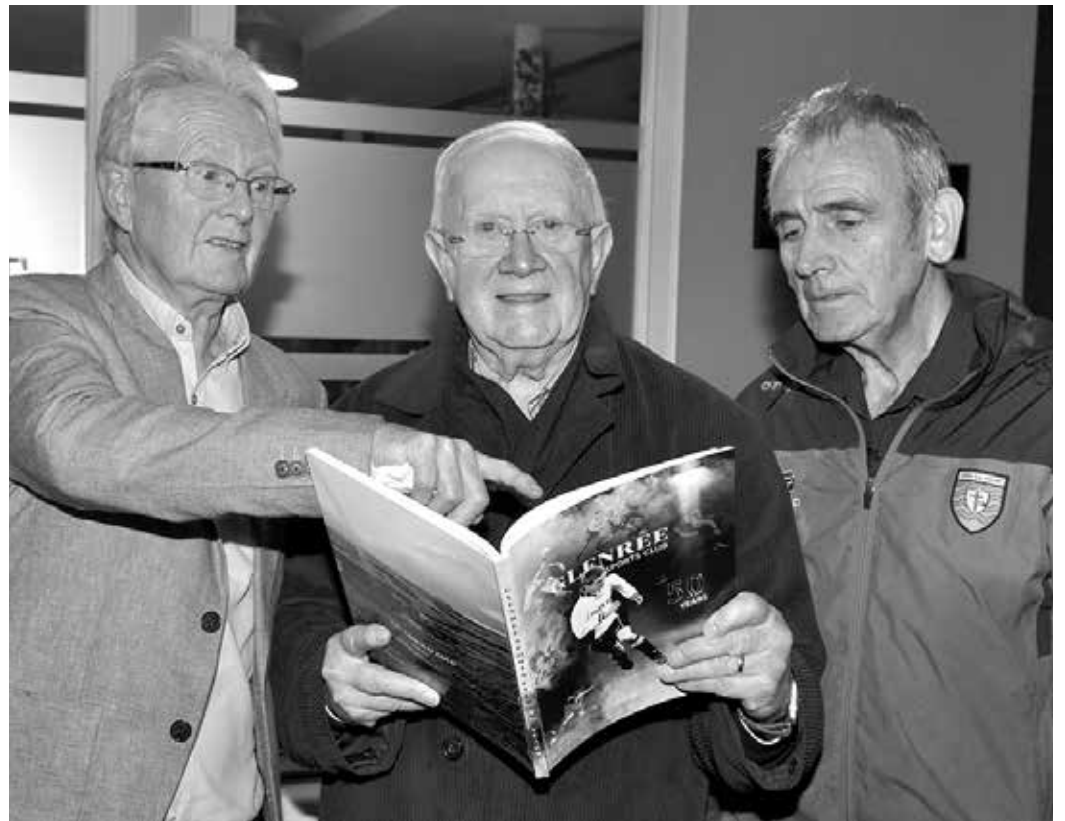
behaviour and substance abuse. The Glenree F.C. Academy Chairperson David Ladley paid tribute to the great work put into the book by Myles Gallagher, John T Friel and John McLaughlin.

The contribution made by the Loreto Community School Milford's Transition Year students under the direction of their class teacher Roisin Coyle and with the support of Principal Margaret O'Connor was crucial to pulling various aspects of the project into place. Noreen Harding's graphic design work for the book got a special acknowledgement as did all the contributors and those who conducted interviews for the publication.

Priced as just €20 the book is a really good read and an extraordinary trip down memory lane that captures the volunteerism and true spirit of a local community. It recognises the vision and courage of those who founded Glenree Sports Club in 1973 and all the men and women that kept it going during the highs and lows over five decades. The club is now very much invested in the development of its soccer academy and the hope is that in time a senior team could return to the Donegal Junior Football League.



Janet McIvor with Noel, Ava and Roisin McBride.



John T Friel, Pat Cope Gallagher and Joe Cullen.



Kathleen and Danny McDaid, Paddy Marley and Eamonn Giles.



Jimmy Haughey and Kevin Logue.



Pat Dugera and Evelyn Carr.



Niamh and Liam Sweeney.



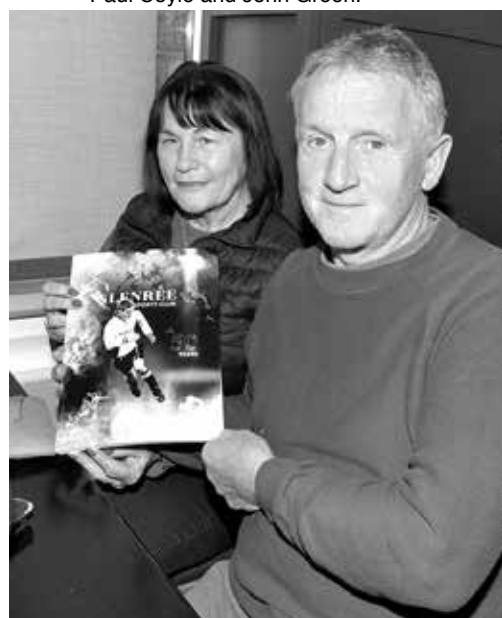
Paul Coyle and John Green.



Members of the Gallagher family



Sarah Coyle and Erin Caldwell.



Bridie Gallagher and Patrick Hanlon.



Myles and Ann Gallagher with son Ashely and his wife Michelle and their children Jamie, Anna and Katie.



# Mulroy Academy - No time to stand still

It has been a hectic few weeks for Mulroy Academy with trips to the Aviva Stadium as flag bearers for the Senior Men's FAI Cup Final, an FAI Club Mark Two Star presentation as well as hosting their annual general meeting and club presentation night.

While it is deserved downtime for coaches and players, the management and coaching committees of Mulroy Academy are busy preparing for the 2025 season. The highlight of the past weeks has been the presentation of the FAI Club Mark Two Star award at an event planned around the recent Ireland v Finland Senior Men's International.

The award is the culmination of two years of dedication, perseverance and commitment on behalf of the hard working committee and sees the club as the first in Donegal and Ulster to achieve the



Two Star accreditation and one of only eight clubs



Fergus McAteer accepting the Two Star accreditation award from Ger McDermott, FAI Grassroots Director. Also included is Liam McGroarty, UEFA Strategic Development Manager.

throughout the whole of Ireland. Quite the achievement for a small rural club in north Donegal. The award was presented to Fergus McAteer on behalf of the club by Ger McDermott, FAI Grassroots Director. Also in attendance at the presentation was Fanad man Liam McGroarty in his capacity as UEFA Strategic Development Manager.

At the club's recent AGM, proposals were outlined in relation to the club scoping out the provision of their own facilities in line with objectives set out in the club's 3-year strategic plan. Meetings are to follow in January with a dedicated group established to oversee the scoping exercise. With the recent news from the Donegal Women's League in relation to the establishment of a Senior Women's Winter League, Mulroy Academy made contact with senior



Management Committee - Leonard Roarty, Stephen McGrenaghan, Marie Sweeney, Fergus McAteer, Peter Cullen, Danny McLaughlin and Aisling McAteer while Aidan McAteer is not in photo.

clubs in the area with the view to the formation of a senior women's team in the area. The response from the clubs has been hugely positive and welcoming.

The AGM was also updated in relation to a coaching review of the 2024 season undertaken by the club's Coaching Subcommittee, where the dedicated and tremendous work of coaches and volunteers in the club was sharply brought into focus with the club facilitating 228 matches across all age groups in 2024 on top of 330 training sessions and 4,716 coaching hours.

Underage football in Donegal is as strong as ever and with new impetus coming in the form of the exciting FAI Football Pathways Plan, the plan aims to bring the game together and develop a whole game plan to maximise the potential for boys, girls, men and women on and off the field with an integrated football system. Exciting and changing times ahead for the future of the game and Mulroy Academy are to the forefront of that change at local and national level.

## SNÁMH CINN BHLIANA

FANAD NEW YEAR'S DAY SWIM

2025



2 PM  
BALLYHIERNAN BAY  
(DIN'S BEACH)

Proceeds to the Fanad chapels restoration fund in memory of Susanna Fahey & The South African Missions

FOLLOW OUR FACEBOOK PAGE - NEW YEAR'S DAY SWIM FANAD

Tuillteadh eolais ó Sally-Anne 0864048180

# Fanad

## Santa in Tamney

Santa will be in attendance in Clinton's Shop, Tamney on Friday 6th December between 4 - 6 pm. All donations in aid of the Donegal Down

**DUNLEAVY FUNERAL DIRECTORS**  
 † Established 30 Years †

Qualified Embalmer - Embalming Room - Selection of Coffins - Wreaths - Cremations  
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 24/7 Welcoming new Business  
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Syndrome Association and the Oncology Unit, Letterkenny University Hospital. All welcome.

## Whoriskey Christmas Lights

Michael and Mary Whoriskey will light up their Christmas Lights Display at their home in Kerrykeel on Saturday 30th November at 7.30pm. Carol Singing at 7:00pm, with Blessing of the Crib at 7:25pm. Ollie and Santa Claus will switch on display at 7:30pm. Santa Claus will then meet and greet the children in Santa's Grotto with goody bags for all. Eircode F92F9W4 Contact 086 8545797.

## Chiropodist

The Chiropodist will attend Fanad Day Centre on Wednesday 4th December. For appointment contact Mary on 087 9701159 or ring the Day Centre on 07491 59631.

## Whoriskey Christmas Lights

Michael and Mary Whoriskey will light up their Christmas Lights Display at their home in Kerrykeel on

Contact 086 8545797.

## Ceiligh dancing

Two hand ceiligh dancing in Fanavolty Hall on Tuesday 3rd of December at 8pm. Come along and support a good night's crack.

## Community Alert meeting

A meeting of the Fanad Kerrykeel Glenvar Community Alert group will take place on Tuesday 3rd December at 8.00pm in the Community Centre Trialoch to discuss the future of the organisation. All committee members and any individuals with an interest in the organisation are invited to attend.

## Tractor Run

The Christmas Lights Tractor Run in aid of Scoil Mhuire Cashel will be held on Saturday evening the 21st of December. Assembling at the Community Centre at Trialough it will follow a tour of the parish with prizes for the best decorated tractor.

There will also be a draw on the night for four prizes of Christmas Hamper to the value of €100, Pharmacy Voucher for €100, a Children's Hamper to the value of €100 and a signed Donegal Jersey. Lines are currently on sale at €2 each or three for €5 with the draw taking place on the night.

## Rosnakill Community Hub

Family Friendly 5k will be on Saturday 14th December at 11am in conjunction with Donegal Sports Partnership to celebrate the effort and success of Men on the Move. Registration from 10am, closes at 10.45am sharp. Festive attire is a must, so grab a Santa hat! All welcome to take part or cheer on. Refreshments will be served afterwards. For more details contact 086 100 9010.

## New Year's Day Swim

The Fanad New Year's Day Swim will take place at Ballyhiernan Bay (Din's Beach) at 2pm that day. All proceeds will go to the Fanad Chapels Restoration Fund in memory of Susanna Fahey and The South African Missions. For more information contact Sally-Anne on 086 4048180.



**Gael Fhánada CLG/LGFA**  
 requests expressions of interest for the position of  
**Manager/Coach to their senior ladies team**  
 Applicants must be Garda vetted, have Safeguarding, and at least a Level 1 Coaching certificate.  
 Replies to secretary.fanadgaels.donegal@gaa.ie by Friday, December 6th, 2024

Saturday 30th November at 7.30pm. Carol Singing at 7:00pm, with Blessing of the Crib at 7:25pm. Ollie and Santa Claus will switch on display at 7:30pm. Santa Claus will then meet and greet the children in Santa's Grotto with goody bags for all. Eircode F92F9W4



Aisling and Robyn McFadden who competed at the Irish Dancing Open in Galway recently.

**Country Roads Inn**  
 Rosnakill Tel 074 9192671  
 Sun. 8th Dec - **Santa Visit at 4pm** - All welcome  
 Sat 14th Dec - Live Music with **Tuscany**  
 Sat 21st Dec - Live Music with **Mise Erin**



A troop of soldiers from the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers based at the Coastguard Station at Fanad Head some time before the withdrawal of British military forces from the Irish Free State in the early 1920s. Some of the soldiers seem to be reading an earlier version of the Tribune!

Where food matters **Ripples Restaurant** Where food matters  
 www.ripplesrestaurant.net  
 Kerrykeel, Tel: 074 9150110

**Open Daily for Lunch, Dinner & A la Carte**

**Christmas Dinner Menu**

**Starters**  
 Tempura Prawn Tacos  
 Chicken Liver Paté, Toast, Red Onion Marmalade  
 Asian Chicken Salad Bowl, Honey & Soya Dressing  
 Homemade Vegetable Soup, Crusty Roll  
 Goat's Cheese, Sundried Tomato Crostini  
 Panfried Scallops, Bacon & Cabbage Croquette.

**Mains**  
 Traditional Turkey Baked Gammon, Stuffing & Roast Gravy  
 Grilled Sirloin Steak, Onion Rings, Pepper Sauce, Garlic Butter  
 Panko Breaded Escalope of Chicken, Rich Brandy & Mushroom Sauce  
 Poached Fillet of Hake, Buttered Greens, Leeks & Wine Cream  
 Crispy Half Duckling, Herb Stuffing & Orange Liquor Sauce  
 Fillet of Salmon, Cajon Spices, Champ & Duo of Sauces  
 Served with Buttered Vegetables and a Selection of Potatoes

**Deserts**  
 Homemade Christmas Pudding, Brandy Sauce & Cream  
 Apple Crumble, Cream & Ice Cream  
 Carrageen with Cream and Fruit  
 Crème Brullée with Ice Cream.  
 Fresh Fruit Pavlova.

Tea & Coffee €37.50 p.p.  
 A - la Carte Menu also available  
**Take Away Service Available - Tel 074 91 50110**

**Vaccines**  
 Fanad Health Flu & Covid Vaccines - Flu and Covid vaccines are still available, please contact us on 0749159060 to book or drop in on Tuesdays or Thursdays. Childrens Nasal Flu Vaccine also available for ages 2 - 17 years.  
**Christmas Craft Fair**  
 The Fanad Active Group are holding their Christmas Craft Fair in Community Centre Trialough, Fanad on Sunday 8th December from 2-5pm. If anyone would like to book a table you can do so by contacting 0863526758. There will be lots of home baking, sea glass and pebble pictures, crafts, cards and frames, wooden crafts, Christmas gifts, shamrock tumblers and much more. Tea and coffee and hot chocolate will be avail-

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able along with crepes and lots of goodies.  
**Teach Solais Fhánada**  
 As Christmas approaches, the café and shop will be open 7 days from 10am to 4pm with some great ideas for Christmas presents. Tours will be every day except Monday. If you are travelling, please check in advance online or at 074 9116020 as the weather can affect our plans.  
**Kerrykeel Cards**  
 25 Cards in aid of Kerrykeel '71 FC resumes in the Village Inn, Kerrykeel on Monday night 4th November at 7.30pm. Everyone welcome.  
**Badminton**  
 The Badminton Club continues in Kerrykeel Church Hall every Wednesday at 7.30pm. New members welcome.



Grainne McLaughlin, Carndonagh and Dearbhla McDevitt, Kerrykeel who graduated from Atlantic Technological University with a BSc in Education (Design, Graphics and Construction). Pictured holding an oak sapling presented to each graduate student at conferring. Every student who enters a course at ATU's Lettertrack campus, plants an acorn on the day they start and is then presented as a sapling when graduating. Below - Olivia Hamilton, Masters of Science in Conversation Behaviour from Ramelton along with Peter Devenny from Letterkenny. Photos by Brian Harding

## Planning Notices

### Donegal County Council Legmuckduff, Glenalla, Milford, Letterkenny M.D.

I, John Blaney, of CLUB MD Limited, t/a Blaney Stores Milford, am applying to Donegal County Council for Planning Permission to Erect Two Number Apartments to First Floor of Existing Two Storey Retail Shop Building and connection to Main Public Sewer @ Legmuckduff, Glenalla, Milford, 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 Killbeigh House, Castle Street, Ramelton, Rathmelton, Letterkenny M.D.

I, Aaron Mc Dauid, am applying to Donegal County Council for Planning Permission to 1) Construct New Two and a Half Storey Extension to Side and Rear of Existing Two and a Half Storey Townhouse to incorporate New Apartments Accommodation, 2) Change of Use of Existing Two and Half Storey Townhouse into Apartments Living Accommodation and 3) to Provide New Overall Development of 6no. New Apartments, 4) Connection to Main Public Sewer and 5) All Associated Site Works @ Killbeigh House, Castle Street, Ramelton, Rathmelton, 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 Ballyhenry, Ramelton

I, Robert Roulston am applying to Donegal County Council for permission for the demolition of

## Letterkenny Golf Club

There was a large turnout at a prize-giving ceremony held on Friday night in Hunters Bar & Grill at Letterkenny Golf Club for the following competitions:

Saturday 2/11/24: 1st Philip Friel (7) 42 2nd & Gross Michael Collum (5) 41, 3rd John McIvor (35) 41, Cat 1 . Karol Dempsey (7) 40, Cat 2 Seamus Lynch (16) 38.

2' Ball Scramble 3/11/24: 1st Martin Terry & Shaun McGarvey 69-8=61, 2nd . Conor Cassidy & Emmet Maguire 71-9=62, 3rd Philip Friel & Paddy Lynch 68-4=64.

Open 6/11/24: 1st Noel Duggan (19) 43, 2nd Paul Doherty (12) 38, Gross Eamon McGlinchey (5) 36, 3rd Kenny King (8) 38, 3rd.

Letterkenny Credit Union Christmas Hamper 9/11/24: 1st John McIvor (35) 48, 2nd Pauric Daly (33) 40, Gross Darragh McMenamin (0) 35,

existing outhouses. Construction of a replacement dry storage shed and the retention permission for a mobile home on the site (Removed after the completion of nearby dwelling house granted under planning ref 2051268) with all other associated site works at Ballyhenry, Ramelton, County Donegal in the townland of Ballyhenry. 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 No. 8 Solomons Court, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal, F92 H2W5

I, Brian Patton wish to apply for planning permission for the Demolition of existing (Defective Mica) Dwelling house and the reconstruction of a new dwelling house with Alterations to the front elevation and extension to the rear, Connection to existing site services and all other associated site works. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of the planning authority 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. The planning Authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to grant permission.

es and all other associated site works. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of the planning authority 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. The planning Authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to grant permission.

### Donegal County Council No. 7 Solomons Court, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal, F92 R5Y6

I, Kieran McLaughlin wish to apply for planning permission for the Demolition of existing (Defective Mica) Dwelling house and the reconstruction of a new dwelling house with Alterations to the front elevation and extension to the rear, Connection to existing site services and all other associated site works. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of the planning authority 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. The planning Authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to grant permission.

fuse to grant permission.

### Donegal County Council

I, Brian Brogan am applying to Donegal County Council for permission to construct a loose surface gravel track, service/training area, service building containing sanitary facilities, kitchen, meeting and consultations rooms, car parking, perimeter fencing and install a wastewater treatment system including all associated site development works at Churchill, Co. Donegal in the townland of Clondavaddog. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of the planning authority, County House, Lifford during its public opening hours. Submissions or observations in relation to the development may be made to the planning authority in writing, on payment of €20, within five weeks beginning on the date of receipt of the application by the authority.

### Donegal County Council Barnes Lower, Termon

I, Stephen James O'Donnell, intend to apply to Donegal County Council for planning permission to erect a dwelling house with a proposed waste water treatment system, and all other associated site development works, at Barnes Lower, Termon, County Donegal in the townland of Barnes Lower. 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 Chapel Road, Brinalack, Derrybeg

I, Manus McGarvey am applying for Retention Planning permission to retain the changes made to my dwelling house, garage and septic tank during construction and all other associated site development works at Chapel Road, Brinalack, Derrybeg, County Donegal in the townland of Brinalack. 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 Massreagh, Kilmacrennan

I, Kieran Gallagher am applying to Donegal County Council for permission to erect a dwelling house with septic tank and all other associated site development works at Massreagh, Kilmacrennan, County Donegal in the townland of Massreagh. 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

## In Memoriam



### Egan

Norah  
(nee Carr)  
Longford and late  
of Fanavoly

*As time unfolds  
another year  
your memory is still  
held very dear.*

Loved always by your husband John, sons Gary, John, Raymond, daughter Eileen, sister Anne, cousins and many friends.

**Anniversary Mass for Norah in St Mary's Chapel, Fanavoly on Wednesday 11th December at 10.00am.**

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.

## Cloughanely Golf Club

The Enda McMonagle Memorial Charity Scramble Ladies and Gents takes place on Saturday 30th November. Draw at 10am plus food & raffle. Tá fáilte mhór roimh achan duine. Tá an galfchúrsa ar cheann de na háiseanna is lárnaí agus is tábhachtaí sa phobal seo, tá sé ag croílár phobal na Gaeilge sa cheantar agus tugann muid dóchas, comhlúadar agus tacaíocht do sciar mór den phobal.



Cloughaneely Golf Club Ladies enjoying the Christmas Dinner in the Strand Road Bar & Kitchen.

Lady Captain Noreen following a very successful fundraiser.

### Christmas Hamper

Christmas hamper will now be played on Saturday 7th December. Please contact office on 074 915 9458 before Fri 29th Nov to get your name in.

Please call the club or book on BRS to take part in Thursdays 28th November for Ladies Winter Links.

## Portsalon Ladies

€1000 was gratefully received by the Breast Cancer Research fund from



Members of the Manchester United supporters club and Young at Heart staff at their party night last Tuesday.



Members of the St. Conal's Hospital Reunion Function Group Paschal Blake, Marie McGlynn, Terri McFadden and Sarah McLaughlin presenting a cheque for €1000 to Brid Kelly who accepted on behalf of The Women's Centre.

## In Memoriam



**Brennan**  
Bernie  
Magherblade,  
Creeslough  
2nd Anniversary

In loving memory of a much-loved husband, father grandfather and great grandfather who passed away on the 28th of November 2022.

*Will those who think of him please say a little prayer to Jesus.*

Missing you always, your loving wife Ellen, daughters, grandchildren and great grandchildren.



**Doherty**  
Mary  
Derriscleigh, Glen  
2nd Anniversary

In loving memory of a dear mother, grandmother and great grandmother who died on 30th November 2022.

*You can only have one mother patient, kind and true  
No other friend in all the world will be the same to you  
When other friends forsake you,  
to Mother you will return  
For all her loving kindness she asks nothing in return  
In a near and silent graveyard where the trees their branches wave  
Sleeps a kind and loving mother in her cold and lonely grave  
She bade no one a last farewell,  
she raised her hand to none  
Her spirit flew before we knew that she from us had gone.*

Always remembered and sadly missed by all the family.

**Anniversary Mass will take place in St. Columba's Church, Termon on Saturday 30th November at 6.30pm.**



**Canning**  
John P  
Legland,  
Rathmullan  
9th Anniversary

In loving memory of a dear brother and uncle who died on the 28th November 2015.

*In the hearts of those who miss you, you will always be there  
As you were you will always be, treasured forever in our memory  
We keep in our hearts the love of the past, for there it was planted forever to last  
Your presence we miss, your memory we treasure,  
missing you always, forgetting you never.*

Sadly missed by your brothers Denis, James, Anton, Dan, Hugh and Stephen, your sister Mary and all your nieces and nephews.

**Anniversary Mass will take place in St. Catherine's Church, Oughterlin on Sunday 1st December at 11.00am.**

elevational changes & all other associated site development works at 2 Willow Park, Carnamogagh Upper, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal, F92 HWV8 in the townland of Carnamogagh Upper. 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 within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt of the application by the Planning Authority.

## Planning Notices

**Donegal County Council**  
2 Willow Park,  
Carnamogagh  
Upper, Letterkenny,  
Co. Donegal,  
F92 HWV8

I, Stephen McLaughlin am applying to Donegal County Council for planning permission for the following developments; (1) Construction of an extension to the rear of my existing dwelling including a new dormer window, (2) Construction of a new porch & dormer windows to the front of my existing dwelling together with minor

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Tel: 087 8563841  
Email: bradleyodohertyfunerals@gmail.com



**Heraghty**  
Anthony  
Lakeside Road,  
London

In loving memory of a dear nephew, Anthony who died on November 25th, 2023.

*Anthony, may you find rest in the beauty of God's kingdom  
Where no storm, sorrow or pain can ever reach you again.*

Always in my thoughts and prayers - Auntie Noreen.

## Memoriam Cards & Thank You Cards



Contact  
Tirconail Tribune  
Office  
074 91 53600

## Donegal County Council

**Drumbern, Milford, Co. Donegal.**  
I, Patrick & Patrice McBride am applying to Donegal County Council for planning permission for development at Drumbern, Milford, Co. Donegal, in the townland of Drumbern. The development will consist of the following: Construction of a wrap around single storey flat roofed extension to the front (south-east), side (south-west) and rear (north-west) of existing building of Fairytales Daycare creche facility. Connections to existing on-site sewage treatment system and services.

To include all associated site development works. Removal of existing Staff Room prefab outbuilding to allow for new extension. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of the Planning Authority 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.



**Ramsey**  
Bridget Marian  
Fawninoughan,  
Milford  
1st Anniversary

In loving memory of Marian who passed away on the 29th of November 2023.

*Everyday in some small way  
Memories of you come our way  
Though absent, you are always near  
still missed, loved, and always dear.*

Sadly missed by her loving husband George; sons Ernie, Paul and Sean; daughters Georgina, Michelle, Geraldine and Fiona, grandchildren, brothers; Seamus and Tony, sisters; Mary and Rita, extended family and friends.

**Anniversary Mass will be celebrated at St. Peter's Church, Milford on Saturday 30th November at 6pm.**



**McTaggart**  
Celine  
Kilmacrenan  
8th Anniversary

In loving memory of our dear mother, grandmother and great grandmother who died on the 28th November 2016.

*As each day dawns we think of you  
As each night falls we pray for you  
Deep in our hearts your memory is kept  
To love and cherish and never forget  
In Heaven you rest, no worries or pain  
In God's own time we'll meet again.*

Always remembered and sadly missed by your loving family.

## Veritas Closing Down Sale

Veritas Store in Letterkenny is closing down permanently on Friday 13th December. They are having a Closing Down Sale with many offers. The Letterkenny store is located at 12-14 Upper Main Street, Letterkenny opening hours Monday to Saturday: 9a.m. - 6p.m.

## Santa to switch on Ballyare Christmas Lights

The Christmas Lights at Gerry and Sharon Durning's house at Ballyare will be switched on this year on Saturday the 30th of November at 6pm. Santa has promised to switch on the lights.



**Meenan**  
Hugh  
Ballymagahey,  
Fanad  
2nd Anniversary

In loving memory of a much loved husband, father and grandfather who died on December 1st 2022.

*God looked around His garden and found an empty space  
He looked upon the earth and found a tired face  
He put His arms around you and lifted you to rest  
The garden must be beautiful because He only takes the best.*

Loved and missed everyday by your wife Lena and son Michael.

*We could not say our last farewells  
or even say goodbye  
You were gone before we knew  
it and only God knows why.*

Lovingly remembered by Brendan, Deirdre and Eimer

*We have lost, but Heaven has gained  
One of the best the world contained.*

Always remembered by Gerard, MaryBeth, Maureen and Kieran

*What we'd give if we could say  
"Well Dad" in the same old way  
To hear your voice and see your smile,  
sit with you and chat a while  
To hear that hearty laugh and drink tea all while listening to RTE  
But two years have passed by  
the TV volume is no longer high  
The first election since you've gone  
and no debates raging on Fianna Fail, Fine Gael or Sinn Fein  
We know who he'd predict to remain  
As another quiet Christmas draws near  
it's hard to believe you're no longer here.*

Missed so much by Bernie, Micky, Adam and Corey

**Hugh's Anniversary Mass will be held on Saturday 7th December at 7pm in St. Columba's Church, Massmount.**

## Acknowledgement

### Begley

Mary

Her sisters, Susanna and Catherine and extended family of the late Mary Begley wish to acknowledge with deep gratitude the support shown to us during our recent sad loss. To those who sympathised with us, sent Mass cards, messages via social media, attended the funeral and burial and helped in any way.

Thank you to the management and staff of Good Counsel Nursing Home, Limerick for their excellent care and attention during Mary's stay there. To Fr. John Walsh for administering Mary's Last Rites.

To Fr. Anthony Briody for a beautiful Requiem Mass and graveside prayers. Thank you to Colin McAtear Funeral Undertakers for their professionalism in handling Mary's final journey. To Portsalon Golf Club for providing a delicious meal after the funeral. As it is impossible to thank everyone individually please accept this acknowledgment of our sincere appreciation.

**Mary's Month Mind Mass will be offered on Saturday 30th November at 7pm in St. Mary's Church, Fanavolty.**

### McGettigan

Phil



The family of the late Phil McGettigan would like to express our heartfelt appreciation to all of those who offered their sympathy following our great loss. We thank all who attended the removal, wake and funeral, those who telephoned, travelled long distances, sent cards, letters and messages of condolence, and all who provided emotional and practical support. Thanks to Charlie McClafferty Funeral Directors and to members of the emergency services. Thanks to Fr. Martin Chambers and Canon Dinny McGettigan who concelebrated the Requiem Mass, and to the Church Choir for the music and hymns. Sincere thanks to the committee members of the Kilmacrennan and District Sheep Show and Dog Trials who provided a Guard of Honour on the day, and to Katrina Shields for the beautiful rendition of one of Phil's favourite songs, 'The Hills of Meenray'. Thanks to The Lagoon for the funeral meal. We are grateful to the staff of Saint Eunan's College and our friends, neighbours and extended family members who sent flowers or made donations in lieu to Donegal Hospice, and we are eternally grateful to Phil's great neighbours, who have helped in so many ways. As it would be impossible to thank everybody individually, we hope this acknowledgement will be accepted as a token of our appreciation.

**The Month's Mind Mass will take place in St. Columba's Church, Kilmacrennan on Friday 29th November at 7pm.**

## dmi

Architecture & Building Surveying

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074 - 9116712 / 087 2244882  
Web: [dalystone.ie](http://dalystone.ie) Email: [dalystone@live.ie](mailto:dalystone@live.ie)

This is a spectacular display and a lot of work has been put into it by Gerry and Sharon, their family and friends and its well worth a trip. It's very easy to get to just put the eircode F92 K2C9 into google. The charities to benefit this year are the Little Blue Heroes and the Donegal Branch of the Irish Kidney Association and the lights will remain on over the Christmas period into early January.



**McBride**  
John Joe  
Devlinreagh  
Point, Carrigart  
6th Anniversary

*God called your name so softly, that only you could hear  
And no heard the footsteps of Angels drawing near  
The Golden Gates stood open, God saw you needed rest  
His garden must be beautiful He only takes the best.  
Will those who think of John Joe today  
A little prayer to Jesus say.*

Remembered always by your family in Milford, Sutton Coldfield and Derby

**Anniversary Mass in the Church of St John the Baptist, Carrigart, on Saturday 30th of November at 6.00pm.**



**Friel**  
Dan  
Kilmore, Churchill  
1st Anniversary

In loving memory of a dear brother and uncle who died on the 1st December 2023.

*Our family chain is broken and nothing seems the same  
But as God calls us one by one the chain will link again.*

Sadly missed by sister Mary, brothers Jimmy, Hughie and Frank, sisters in law, nieces and nephews.

# Creeslough View Now on Sale

The 2025 Creeslough View is currently on sale in the local shops and is always an excellent publication full of stories past and present. There is also the usual articles and photos of the local events and a copy of the Creeslough View would make a lovely Christmas Present especially for members of our diaspora who like to keep in touch with home.

### Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to Suzi and Charles Roarty and family Creeslough on the recent death of Suzi's mother Diana Pennington in Manchester recently. Sympathy is also extended to the entire family circle.

Sympathy is extended to Johnnie and Kate Haughey, Drumkeen on the recent death of Johnnie's brother Robert late of Listillion, Letterkenny. Johnnie is well known here in the local community where he provides entertainment at many social and charitable events.

### Christmas Market and Lights

There will be a Christmas Market and Lights switch on event on Sunday 8th December from 2pm until 6pm in the Hub. There will be live music, a chance to meet Santa with the turning

on of the Christmas Lights at 6pm and also be hot drinks, food and free entry.

### Anam Cara

Anam Cara online Bereavement Information Meeting will take place on Tuesday December 3rd at 7pm. For more information contact info@anamcara.ie.

### Annual General Meeting

The annual general meeting of Naomh Micheál will take place at the Bridge on Thursday 12th December at 7.30pm. Any adult member who wishes to obtain nomination and motion papers can request them from the club Rúnaí by Text 0833882606 or email at: secretary.st.michaels.donegal@gaa.ie

### Sensory Santa

Sensory Santa – Meet and Greet in the Hub on December 7th and December 14th from 12-3p.m. There will be a 15 minute slot per child. Experience a magical Holiday Event designed for children with sensory sensitivities. Pre-booking essential contact 087 2923102.

### Annual Pilgrimage

The annual Pilgrimage to Knock Vigil for the feast of the Immaculate Conception is on Saturday December 7th. Bus leaving Falcarragh at 4p.m.



Pictured are members of the Ards Shed who won a Community Recognition Award for Sustainability at the recent DLDC Awards in Stranorlar. Their award which was sponsored by Tata Letterkenny was in recognition of their use of decking which we recycle from suitable decks sourced from Johnstons and from Marble Hill holiday parks. Representing the Shed were Robert Wasson (Secretary) James O'Toole (Ards Shed), Br Laurence Kettle (Chairman) and David Logue (Treasurer).

online and won €100. This week's Jackpot will be €3750.

### Doe Swimming Club

Sat 30th November - Bus 1 leaves Dunfanaghy Car park at the top of the town at 5:05pm & 5:10 Doe grave yard Supervising parents are Ev Ihuarla & Virginia Ihuarla

### St. Michael's Lotto

There was no Jackpot winner in the St. Michael's Mini Lotto on Sunday. The numbers drawn were 1,5,10,13,15,20. The match 5 Winner was Anthony Langan Cloonbeg Creeslough who bought his ticket

for your cooperation. If your child is returning to Dunfanaghy then please ensure they know to travel on the Dunfanaghy bus.

### Christmas Day Dinner

The Hub will open on Christmas Day providing a festive dinner for those that may be on their own or unable to travel to be with their families. If you, or someone you know, would like to join please contact the Hub.

### Creeslough Bingo

Creeslough Bingo is on every Sunday in The Hub with eyes down at 7.30pm. Everyone is welcome. The Jackpot on the Snowball Sheet this week is €550

on 45nos or less.

### Reading of the Bible

A prayerful reading of the Bible at Ards Friary will be held on Tuesday nights from 7.30-9p.m. with Brother Jeremiah Henahan. This year we will begin with the letters of St. Paul. Non-academic and in the Catholic tradition.

### Two Hand & Line Dancing

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

### 50/50

Congratulations to Melissa Doak who won €330 in the Dunfanaghy Youths 50/50 last week.

**Cllr Michael McClafferty**  
Glenties Electoral Area Councillor  
Please contact me on any issues in the constituency  
Tel - 086 3935048  
Email: michaelmcclafferty@donegalcoco.ie




Pictured are a few locals who purchased their copy of the 2025 Creeslough View which is now on sale at local outlets from left John Brennan, Edmund McTeague, Kathleen McClafferty and Emer Gallagher.



Pictured are groups who attended the Craft Fayre in Ballymore School on Sunday.



# Cloughaneely

## Buíon Cheoil Sinséar

Shine a Star on Our Memory Tree Stars are now available for purchase at the following locations: Áine in Centra, Falcarragh, Online via this link: <https://www.idonate.ie/forms/LightupaStar>; Saturday, 30th November at the Craft Fair in the Strand Bar (12-5pm); Saturday, 7th December at the Ionad Naomh Fionnán Craft Fair (11am-3pm).

## Junior Band

There was no jackpot winner in the Junior Band Lotto last week and the numbers were 3-11-12-15-18-20. Match winner was Liam Hagney who bought his ticket online and won €100. This weeks Jackpot will be €8800.

## Cloughaneely Food Bank

Christmas Fair in Aras Begley Hall, Falcarragh on Saturday 14th December from 11am-4pm with a visit from Santa at 3pm.

## Naomh Fionnán S.V.P.

It's that time of year again when families may need some help with electricity, coal or food. Thanks to the generosity of our parishioners, S.V.P. will be able to help. Please contact us at 087 1443464 if you are in need.

## Service of Remembrance 2024

The annual Service of Remembrance for

bereaved parents and their families will be held on Sunday, 8th December at 8pm in Teach Pobail Chríost Rí, Gortahork. All are welcome to this candlelit ceremony in memory of our departed sons and daughters. For information, contact Sadie-Marie at 0876625280, Olive at 0749135305 or Baba at 0867979336.

## The Ripple Effect

Coiste Glan & Glas Falcarragh Tidy Towns is excited to announce an engaging half-day workshop aimed at empowering community members to take achievable steps toward climate action. This collaborative project will showcase five short explainer videos, each presenting ten innovative ideas that can be implemented locally to promote sustainability and environmental responsibility.

"The ripple effect of this initiative is crucial for creating a sense of collective responsibility and empowerment within our community," said Joanne Butler, Climate Action Officer with Donegal Local Development Company.

Join us for this pivotal workshop, where together we can explore practical solutions for a sustainable future. For more info or to register, contact [jbutler@dldc.org](mailto:jbutler@dldc.org) or 0860140637

## Knock Night Vigil

Knock Night vigil, bus leaving Falcarragh at 4pm Saturday evening the 7th December. Pick up also Dunfanaghy, Creeslough

and Letterkenny. To book Call Noirín 087 2447152.

## Artspace

Tá deireadh curtha le Taispeántas an tSamhraidh. Ba mhaith linn ár mbuíochas a ghabháil leis na healaíontóirí - Francis McKenna, Ann Walsh, Máiréad Harkin McGee, Ian Fleming, Ian Gordon, Fran Boyle agus Teresa Jordan as a bheith páirteach.

Tá áthas orainn a rá go bhfuil na 5 ealaíontóirí do Thaispeántas an Gheimhridh roghnaithe. - Zoe Dubief, Bernie Anderson, Frances Russell, Brian O'Neil agus Brendan Sweeney. Beidh an seoladh ar siúl ar an 29 Samhain 2024, ó 7-9in ag @ArtSpace-Pobail le Chéile, An Fál Carrach. Bígí linn ar an oíche, buail leis na h-ealaíontóirí, agus bain sult as a gcuid oibre.

Beidh ceol ann le ceoltóirí áitiúla, chomh maith le fíon agus cáis! Fáilte romhaibh uilig isteach!

## Social Handball

Social Handball for Adults. Come for a game or to watch and chat. Ionad Magheraarty, Wednesdays, 6-7pm. Contact John on 087 125 5600.

## RI-Oga Dance Academy

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

## Thursday Café

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



Shaun Duggan, a past student from Pobalscoil Chloich Cheannfhaola (PCC), was recently honored at the Engineering and Technology Teachers Association (ETTA) national awards ceremony held at ATU Sligo. Shaun achieved the highest overall marks in Leaving Certificate Engineering 2024, a prestigious recognition of his hard work and dedication. At the ceremony, he was joined by his Parents and his Engineering teacher, Mr. Shaun Stewart. Shaun is currently studying Engineering at ATU Galway.

# Reconnecting people to nature in Dunfanaghy

An inclusive community event, 'Views of the Machair', was held in Holy Trinity Hall on Friday evening. Various groups from the community came together in appreciation to acknowledge the beautiful work they have produced during the year to celebrate their unique natural surroundings and the wildlife that relies and survives there. The coastal area between New Lake, Lurgabrack and beyond has a specific grassland habitat known as Machair (Machaire in Gaelic) which is only found on the West and North West coast of Ireland and also on the North West islands of Scotland. This fragile

coastal Machair system supports a variety of breeding wader birds whose populations are unfortunately dwindling and many appear on The Red List of endangered species.

The variety of wild flowers and herbs that grow there also support an array of pollinators, some of which rely on this delicate flora to survive and also unfortunately are in decline. With the participation of farmers and landowners, and the support of the local community, the LIFE on Machair project, a six year EU funded project running from 2022 to

2028, hopes to raise awareness of this rare coastal system with the goal of restoring the habitat to support the increase of bird and pollinator populations.

The 'Views of the Machair' event saw the creative work of local groups, Dunfanaghy Family Resource Centre, Dunfanaghy Tidy Towns, the Adult Art Group, Holy Trinity School Children's Art Exhibition and the Cur le Chéile Crafts group, who with enthusiasm and love of their home place produced various impressions of the Machair and its wildlife with their creativity. These included felted landscape

images, paintings of the birds and pollinators, a textile wall-hanging and items such as tote bags, cushion covers and pot-holders made by the talented Cur le Chéile Crafts group.

The Cur le Chéile Crafts initiative grew out of a local textile group, supported by the Dunfanaghy

Family Resource Centre, who during last spring endeavoured to support the local Beach Wheelchair Charity by making a beautiful quilt inspired by the flora and fauna of the Machair, which was then offered for public raffle to raise funds to purchase a beach wheelchair and a container to house this facility by Kilahoe Beach in Dunfanaghy.

The much appreciated support of Dunfanaghy Golf Club, adjacent to the beach, which nominated this cause as their annual charity fundraiser also contributed hugely to the fund raising. The Golf Club members raised an incredible €3594 and the cheque was presented by Eilish Walsh, Lady Captain, and Sean Quinn, Men's Captain, on Friday evening to

the Dunfanaghy Beach Wheelchair Project team members, Dunfanaghy FRC co-ordinator Breege Ward and board member Carol De Siuin.

This vital facility to improve accessibility to the beach for individuals with mobility challenges is hoped to be in place by Spring / Summer season next year. The LIFE on Machair project would like to thank all who have helped to raise awareness of this very special local landscape, who gave their time and talent willingly and to all who attended on Friday evening.

The Dunfanaghy community spirit is inspiring and we hope to continue to work together in the coming years.



Scenes from the Life on Mahair Event in the Holy Trinity Hall in Dunfanaghy on Friday evening. Photos by Moses Alcorn.



# Dunfanaghy Christmas Lights Switch on this Friday Evening

**Dunfanaghy Christmas Lights Switch On** will take place at the Square, Dunfanaghy on Friday 29th November from 5-7pm. Join the festivities with Carol singing, food, hot drinks, craft stall and a visit from Santa. Everyone welcome.

**Meals on Wheels**  
Dunfanaghy Community & Family Resource Centre is currently recruiting volunteer drivers for the community meals on wheels service. If you are interested in supporting this important local service please call 074 91 36548. Leave your name and number and you will be contacted.

**Ring in Christmas**  
Christmas Wreath Making event Monday 9th December, 11am-12.30pm at The Workhouse, Dunfanaghy. Come along and make the wreath you always wanted to.

**Creeslough View**  
The 2025 Creeslough View is currently on sale in the local shops and is as always an excellent publication full of stories past and present. There is also the usual articles and photos of the local events and a copy of the Creeslough View would make a lovely Christmas Present especially for members of our diaspora who like to keep in touch with home.

**Garden Bird Survey**  
BirdWatch Ireland have announced that this year's Irish Garden Bird survey kicked off on Monday, November 25th last and will run until Sunday, February 23rd. Participating in the Irish Garden Bird Survey each winter is a simple and effective way of contributing to a crucial body of data that will help to guide conservation, while also increasing your bird knowledge. The survey is open to individuals, families, schools and local community groups.

**Annual General Meeting**  
The annual general meeting of

Naomh Micheál will take place at the Bridge on Thursday 12th December at 7.30pm. Any adult member who wishes to obtain nomination and motion papers can request them from the club Rúnaí by Text 0833882606 or email at: secretary.st.michaels.donegal@gaa.ie

Completed nomination and motion papers must be returned to the Rúnaí in person before Tuesday 10th December. Please ensure that before anyone is nominated for a position, they are willing to accept the nomination.

**Christmas Craft Fair**  
The Annual Christmas Craft Fair takes place in the Ozanam Community Centre on Sunday 1st December from 10.30am-5pm. Large selection of Stall holders (Crafts, baking etc). All proceeds will go to The Capuchin Day Centre for Homeless People, Bow Street, Dublin. Please come along and support this great cause.

**Senior Citizens Party**  
Senior Citizens Christmas Party is on December 8th in the Ozanam Centre at 1.30pm and all are welcome.

**Arrive'n'Jive**  
Arrive'n'Jive at The Outback in Patsy Duns Bar featuring jiving, line dancing, with the odd waltz thrown every Tuesday from 7.30-9.30pm. There is no charge. All donations appreciated with money going towards the Renal Dialysis Unit at LUH. Everyone is welcome.

**Doe Swimming Club**  
Saturday 30th November Bus 1 leaves Dunfanaghy Car park at the top of the town at 5:05pm & 5:10 Doe grave yard Supervising parents are Ev Ihuarla & Virginia Ihuarla

Bus 1 & 2 leaves Chapel car park at 5:15pm. Supervising parents for bus 2 are Seamie McDaid & Yvonne McGuinness shop supervisor Colm McFadden. Buses return to Creeslough at approximately 8:10pm and Dunfanaghy 8:25pm thank you

for your cooperation.  
**Mini Lotto**  
There was no Jackpot winner in the St. Michael's Mini on Sunday. The numbers drawn were 1,5,10,13,15,20. The match 5 winner was Anthony Langan, Cloonbeg, Creeslough who bought his ticket online and won €100. This week's Jackpot will be €3750.

**50/50**  
Congratulations to Melissa Doak who won €330 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 the team welcome everyone over the coming months.

**Tidy Towns**  
The next Dunfanaghy Tidy Towns meeting will be held on Tuesday 3 December 10:00 am at the Workhouse.

Agenda as follows: 1 Actions from the previous meeting; 2 Agenda items brought forward from the previous meeting; 3 Updates from individual members; 4 AOB

If you have any items of Any Other Business please let me know by Monday 2nd 12.00 noon. All welcome to attend. The DTT Christmas Celebration will take place on Friday 6th December 6:30 pm at Arnold's Hotel. Please come along and join us for festive drinks and nibbles.

**Workhouse Events**  
A fun Christmas baking class with Wild Fuschia will commence at 11am on 7th December. Please contact The Workhouse on 074 913 6540 or email dunfanaghy

workhousetours@gmail.com for more information. Booking essential.

Room hire available for meetings, events, showcases, parties and movies. The room contains 30 seats, cinema screen and projector. For more information contact The Workhouse on 074 913 6540 or email dunfanaghy workhousetours@gmail.com The Workhouse are welcoming the Dunfanaghy Community Garden to their new

**CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR**  
in the  
**Ozanam Community Centre Dunfanaghy**  
on Sunday 1st December 2024

All Proceeds will go to The Capuchin Day Centre For Homeless People, Bow Street, Dublin.

Large Selection of Stall Holders  
Doors Open 10.30am - 5.00pm  
Lots of great Christmas Gift Ideas

green space at The Workhouse. The launch of the new Garden Plan for 2025 will take place on Mon 16th of December. For more information on how to get involved call 074 913 6548.

## Death of Charlie Coll

There was widespread regret in the local community on hearing of the peaceful death has taken place in Letterkenny University Hospital of Charlie Coll, Baltoney, Gortahork and formerly of Inishboffin Island. A member of the Coll family from Inishboffin Charlie made the short trip to live on the mainland as a young man but like all islanders he never forgot his native island and the sea and fishing played a big part in his life. He was predeceased by his mother Aine. His remains reposed at his residence in Baltoney on Sunday and Monday last for waking. Funeral took place from there on Tuesday last for 11.00am Requiem Mass in Christ the King Church, Gortahork. The celebrant was Fr. Donnaacha O'Baoill, with burial afterwards in the adjacent cemetery.



Deepest sympathy of the community is extended to his wife Bridin, sons Paul / Nicola, Daniel, Ciaran / Amanda, daughters Eibhlin / John and Aine, grandchildren Kayla, Krysta, Cayden, Daniel, Cillian, Kiana and Ashton,

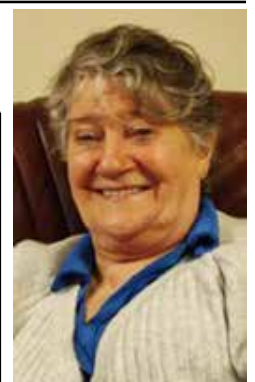
father Dan, brothers Harry / Marie and Owenie / Marion, sisters Mary Ellen / Henry and Nancy / Sandy, uncle Pat and aunt Maggie, in laws, nieces, nephews and a circle of family and friends.

**Memoriam Cards & Thank You Cards**

Contact  
Tirconail Tribune  
074 91 53600

## Death of Peggy McGinley

The death took place on Tuesday 26th November of Peggy McGinley (née McFadden), Main



Street, Creeslough. Her Funeral Mass will take place in St Michael's Church, Creeslough, on Thursday 28th November, at 11.00 a.m. with Burial afterwards in Doe Graveyard. Mass can be viewed live on <https://mcn.live/Camera/st-michaels-church>  
Deepest sympathy is extended to her husband Michael, sons and daughter Shaun, Marie, Michael, Danny, Brian and their partners. Grandchildren and great grandchildren, sister Finola, brothers Danny and Sean, nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

A young musician entertaining the crowd at the Craft Fayre in Ballymore School on Sunday.

## 25 Card Drive

In aid of Ards Friary Redevelopment

In: Ards Friary, Creeslough

On: Friday 17th January 2025 @ 7.00pm

Tickets €50 Half of the Pot in prizes

For tickets and further details contact Michael on 086 8603277



Room hire available for meetings, events, showcases, parties and movies. The room contains 30 seats, cinema screen and projector. For more information contact The Workhouse on 074 913 6540 or email dunfanaghy workhousetours@gmail.com The Workhouse are welcoming the Dunfanaghy Community Garden to their new



A picture of two beautiful Horses taking at the Sandy Hills near Tramore Beach, Dunfanaghy by Maria Moore.



## GAA Club News

### St Eunan's

#### Mass for deceased Club Members

There will be a mass for deceased club members in St Eunan's Cathedral this Friday, November 29th at 7pm.

#### Club AGM

The club's annual AGM will take place in the Clubhouse on Tuesday, December 3rd at 7pm sharp. All club members are welcome to attend **Club Dinner Dance**

The club will hold a dinner dance on Saturday December 28th in the Mount Errigal Hotel. Tickets are available now online. There is also a limited amount of paper tickets available at the Mount Errigal reception.

#### Club Lotto

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

#### Hurling Academy

The Hurling Academy continues every Friday from 6.30pm to 7.30pm. New players always welcome. Hurls and Helmets are provided.

### Glenswilly

Following the recent AGM of CLG Ghleann tSúilí, the following officers were elected to positions for 2025:

**CHAIRPERSON:** Barry Molloy; **VICE CHAIRPERSON:** Deferred to January monthly meeting; **BORD NA NÓG CHAIRPERSON (Minor Board):** Paddy McGinty; **SECRETARY:** Sharon McGinty; **ASSISTANT SECRETARY:** Naoise Enright; **TREASURER:** David McHale; **ASSISTANT TREASURER:** Paul Rodgers; **PRO:** Nadine Friel; **ASSISTANT PRO:** Geraldine Diver; **CLUB DEVELOPMENT OFFICER:** Michael Canning; **CO BOARD DELEGATES:** Mick Murphy, Sharon McGinty; **NORTHERN BOARD DELEGATES:** Paddy McGinty, Naoise Enright; **REGISTRAR:** Sharon McGinty; **PITCH SCHEDULE COORDINATOR:** Philip O'Donnell;

Officers proposed by outgoing Executive Committee & Ratified at the AGM: **CLUB COACHING OFFICER:** Michael Murphy; **IRISH LANGUAGE & CULTURAL OFFICER:** Seosamh O'Ceallaigh; **CHILDRENS OFFICER:** Noel Scott; **HEALTH and WELLBEING:** Geraldine Diver; **PLAYERS REPRESENTATIVE:** Deferred to January monthly meeting.

#### Sub Committees:

Members were nominated & elected to the following club sub-committees:

Finance, Club Development, Coaching & Games, Bingo, 50/50, Field & Maintenance, Hall, Social, Club Shop, Annual 5k, Car Parking, Umpires & Linesmen

Any member, parent, current or past players etc who are or may be interested in volunteering on any of the above sub committees for 2025, please contact Club Chair Barry Molloy at 0871265550/ chairperson.glenswilly.donegal@gaa.ie or Club Secretary Sharon McGinty at 0863629737/ secretary.glenswilly.donegal@gaa.ie to find out more about the work of the sub committees and how you can help and express your interest.

Adult & Juvenile Team management positions will be ratified by the incoming executive committee in due course.

The club wish to thank all outgoing officers and volunteers for their work over the course of the last year, and wish the incoming club executive officers well in the year ahead.

#### U21 Championship Final

The U21s have made it to the A Final for the second year in a row after a narrow win over last years champions Gaoth Dobhair. Four Masters are this years opponents in what is sure to be a cracking game! The Final has been fixed for Sunday the 1st of December at 12pm in Fr Tierney Park, Ballyshannon. Let's get a big support out to get behind the boys on Sunday. Best of luck to the players, Neil and the management team!

#### Bingo and 50/50

Bingo continues every Wednesday in the hall, 8.30pm start! Over €2000 in prizes guaranteed every week. 50/50 draw occurs every Wednesday night during the Bingo in the Glenswilly GAA Hall. Well done to last weeks winner Michael Boyle who won €670!

#### Senior Citizens Christmas Tea

Glenswilly GAA will host a social evening for Senior Citizens on Saturday the 7th of December. A chance to catch up with some old friends over a cup of tea and treats. There will also be live music on the night from Eddie McKelvey!

There will be a free bus to and from the clubhouse on the evening, kindly sponsored by James Doherty Coach and Minibus Hire. To book a

seat on the bus please contact Mary C Devine 0876539050 or Sharon McGinty 0863629737.

This event is open to everyone ( you don't need to be a club member!!) and it is completely free of charge. We look forward to welcoming you all on the night!

#### Coffee Morning

Glenswilly NS Parents Association Christmas Coffee morning will take place in the school hall on Sunday December 1st from 12-2.30pm, all are welcome. Please support if you can.

### St. Michael's

#### Annual General Meeting

The AGM will take place at the Bridge on Thursday 12th December at 7.30pm. Any adult member who wishes to obtain nomination and motion papers can request them from the club Rúnaí by Text 0833882606 or email at: secretary.st.michaels.donegal@gaa.ie

Completed nomination and motion papers must be returned to the Rúnaí in person before Tuesday 10th December. Please ensure that before anyone is nominated for a position, they are willing to accept the nomination.

The Hub/St Michael's collaborative Bingo continues in the Hub on this Sunday at 7.30pm. The Snowball is €550 on 45 nos or less on the Single Sheet.

#### Pitch Closure Notice

Please be advised that our pitch will be closed from December 1st to January 31st for essential maintenance and preparation for next season.

#### Mini Lotto

There was no Jackpot winner in the Mini Lotto on Sunday. The numbers drawn were 1,5,10,13,15,20. The Match 5 winner was Anthony Langan, Cloonbeg, Creeslough who bought his ticket online and won €100. This week's Jackpot will be €3750.

#### Gaelic Mothers and Others

The Gaelic for Mothers and others continues at the same times.

Parish League and Minor Board Presentations A huge well done to all our players, coaches, and parents for making Sunday's Parish League a success! Despite the challenging conditions, the determination and teamwork on display were truly inspiring.

Now, all eyes are on the Parish League Finals next weekend, followed by our Minor Board Presentation - a perfect way to celebrate the hard work and dedication of everyone involved.

The Parish League Games will get underway at 2pm and will be followed immediately by the Minor Board Presentations.

### Gaeil Fhánada

#### Lotto Results 24/11/2024

Numbers: 4, 5, 9, 10, 19. No jackpot winner. €100 Winner: Marian Heraghty. This week's Jackpot: €2,550.

#### Ladies team Manager/Coach

The Club requests expressions of interest for the position of Manager/Coach to their senior ladies team. Applicants must be Garda vetted, have Safeguarding, and at least a Level 1 Coaching certificate. Replies to secretary.fanadgaels.donegal@gaa.ie by Friday, December 6th.

#### Did You Miss the November 8th Meeting?

If you weren't able to attend the Club Planning Workshop on November 8th, but would like to have your say and help shape the future of Fanad Gaels, please fill in our online feedback form below. We've created an online feedback form to allow you to share your ideas on key areas of development for the club.

We've had a brilliant response to the form over the past number of weeks, but it will only remain open for the remainder of this week, so please take the opportunity to have your say.

Fill out the form here: <https://forms.gle/nFiqu6SguyEUT9UZ6>

Many thanks to everyone who has been so generous with their time, ideas, support and feedback so far.

#### Good luck Jimmy

We extend our best wishes to our senior player Jimmy Coyle as he embarks on his tour of duty in the Lebanon with the Irish Defence Forces.

#### Tráth na gCeist Bord

Bhí foireann Tráth na gCeist Ghaeil Fhánada, Maghnas Mac Giolla Bháin, Micheál Ó Frighil, Micheál Mac Giolla Bháin agus Brian Mac Eiteagáin in Ard Mhacha oíche Dé hAoine seo a chuaigh thart ag glacadh páirt i mhabhta ceannais Uladh. D'éirigh go maith leo, agus chríochnaigh siad sa cheathrú háit ar an oíche, ach ar an drochuair, níor éirigh leo dul fríd ag an chéad babhta eile.

## Termon gets €500k boost



The new developments at Termon GAA Club have received a major lift with the news that €500,000 has been secured through the Immigrant Investor Programme overseen by the Dept of Justice to support its work in promoting Gaelic Games and Culture and facilitating lifelong participation for all members of the community. The Club has expressed its delight in accepting this additional investment and are extremely grateful to the donor Dr Paul Boskind, an American Psychologist, Health Care Entrepreneur, Broadway Producer and Philanthropist. Letterkenny and Dublin based Gibson & Associates LLP introduced Dr Boskind to the Club and the project as well as previously introducing Nicole Shanahan as an investor.

The club is currently nearing the completion of its new clubhouse which it is hoped will open early next year. Daireann Gibson has confirmed

that there is strong alignment between Dr Boskind and the Club given both parties shared interests in cultural promotion, youth development, teamwork, and volunteerism.

Gibson said the investment will have a positive impact for the area and will massively assist the Club and its members in building on the magnificent work being done by the Club for youth and community development in the region. In addition to Dr Boskind and Ms Shanahan's investment, the Club has expressed gratitude for the contribution from its own Club members and volunteers as well as public funding contributions over the last number of years.

"It really is a good news story and shows what can be done when you have community investment as well as public and private investment all working together to do the right thing" Gibson said.

### Ladies All-Ireland Senior Football Championship semi-final

## Cranford woman bidding for final spot

Niamh Carr is hoping to help her club Kilmacud Crokes to secure a place in the Ladies All-Ireland Senior Football Championship Final this Saturday in Stillorgan. The Cranford woman has won back-to-back Dublin senior titles with Kilmacud and is now aiming to go a step further than last year when her side went out at the All-Ireland semi-final stage. This time with home advantage Carr's side will come up against Kerry side



Castleisland Desmonds at Pairc de Burca, Stillorgan, Dublin with a 2pm start. Niamh Carr has been a regular on Donegal Senior Ladies side over the past decade enjoying Ulster Championship success and playing in the knockout stages of the National League.

The other All-Ireland senior club semi-final is on Sunday and sees Clann Éireann (Armagh) host Kilkerrin Clonberne (Galway) (2.30pm).

## Donegal Ladies league fixtures confirmed

The Donegal Ladies will start their 2025 LGFA National League campaign with two away fixtures against Clare on Sunday 26th January and Westmeath (Sunday 2nd February). There are a total of seven games to be play with the first home match against Monaghan on Sunday 9th February. It's then away to Roscommon on the 23rd February. The final three Division 2 fixtures will be at home against Galway (2nd March); Tipperary (23rd March) and Cork (30th March).

## Letterkenny Athletic Club News

The Winter Woolie Warmer 5km road race took place in Letterkenny in challenging conditions and the first L.A.C. members to cross the line were Michael Harkin in a superb time of 17:34 while Shauna McGeehan was the first L.A.C. female to finish in an excellent time of 18:02.

Michael was followed closely by Cian Friel in 17:42, Clive Monahan ran 18:54, Mark Nee ran 19:45, Michael Mooney 21:00, Conor McDaid 21:52, Denis Shiels 22:50, Seamus Morrison 22:51, Rory Kennedy 23:56, Frank Pinder 24:23, Liam Wiseman 25:27, Kevin Lynch 25:29, Kenny King 25:34, Enda McLaughlin 26:49, Con Duffy 27:02, Frank Wellwood 27:08, Caroline McGonagle 28:59, Claire Price 29:02, Marjorie Morrison 29:16, Molly Shields 29:22, Noreen Pinder 34:35, Ger O'Riain 34:49 and Angela McGee ran 35:10.

L.A.C.'s annual 5k Turkey Trot will take place on Sunday 8th December at 10:30a.m. from Diver's Hyundai Garage. For online event registration please visit <https://eventmaster.ie/event/yQP->



Ellen Callaghan's sterling work with Termon GAA Club was rewarded on Friday night in Canavan's, Ballygawley at the Ulster Ladies Gaelic volunteer awards. Ellen who is the Ladies PRO was the winner in the Social Media category.

wUP0SVy

LAC host running sessions from the Aura Leisure Centre on a Tuesday at 5.15pm and 6.30pm for interval running sessions, a Thursday evening hill run at 6pm, Saturday mornings at 9.30am for a tempo run and Sunday mornings at 8am for a long run.

Fit 4 Life which is run by LAC in conjunction with the Donegal Sports Partnership takes place every Monday at 6pm on the track at the Aura Leisure Centre Letterkenny.

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Tickets on Sale in the GAA Centre this Friday from 6 to 9pm and Saturday from 10-1pm.

**Ticket Costs**  
1 x €50 • 3 x €100

**Ladies All-Ireland Junior Football Championship semi-final**

# Downings Ladies host Leinster champions

The history-making Na Dunaibh Ladies squad will be aiming to do more of the same when they take on Kilcock (Kildare) in the All-Ireland Junior Football Championship semi-final this Sunday at 1pm. Downings have the bonus of home advantage and that should give them a decent chance of reaching a first ever All-Ireland Final.

The Na Dunaibh men have in the past enjoyed All-Ireland success in Gaeltacht Championships but this is a really big opportunity for the women to do it in an even bigger national competition. Kilcock booked their place in the semi-final with the assistance of Grace White scoring display of six points against Wexford champions Baile Dubh Tíre in the Leinster Final. They won by 0-15 to 1-9.

The two sides were level at the break but then the Kildare champions outscored their Wexford opponents 0-11 to 1-5 to claim the silverware. No doubt the Na Dunaibh management team will pay close attention to White who got five of her six points from play. Indeed 14 of the 0-15 came from play meaning joint managers Barney Curran and Dominick McGroddy will certainly have been focusing on their own defensive formation for Sunday's semi-final. Lavin 0-3, Robinson and O'Connor 0-2 registered 0-2 each with Cribbin and Powderly also on target.

On Monday the Na Dunaibh squad watched a Youtube video of Kilcock's Leinster Final win with team mentor Tanya Roberts-Browne saying that they were able to pick up some bits of useful information. Kilcock won an Intermediate Championship three years ago so that as well as their scoring prowess from play would suggest that the Kildare outfit will be formidable opposition. A lot will depend on the weather conditions on Sunday. Downings is much more used to adverse weather conditions on the coast. Showers are forecast and there will be a significant breeze according to the early weather indicators.

Na Dúnaibh made history a fortnight ago with the 1-7 to 1-6 Ulster Final win over Warrenpoint. It was the influential Shannon McGroddy who proved to be the hero, hitting what proved to be the winner early in the first period. Once again ace poacher Denise Doherty netted a goal



Charlie Shevlin with joint manager Dominick McGroddy; Downings sharp shooter Shannon McGroddy and Amy McLaughlin.

which came early in the second half and she also notched a point. It was her seventh goal in four games.

There were also fine displays from full-back Chloe Hay, Caoimhe McLaughlin, the Treartys Emer and Julie and Lauren McBride who registered four points while McGroddy chipped in with 0-2. Na Dunaibh did it without star midfielder Aoibhinn O'Connell who has been ruled out until next year due to an ACL injury. The Downings management will want to get the supply inside to Doherty, McGroddy and McBride who shared their side's total of 1-7 in the Ulster Final.

Safe to say that Na Dunaibh will need at least one goal in order to have a chance of reaching the All-Ireland Final. The management team will also be looking for a good start on Sunday, something that they didn't achieve in the Ulster semi-final against Coleraine side Eoghan Rua. Barring late injuries the team is likely to be close to the same that started against Warrenpoint. That would be Charlie Shevlin; Jessica Roberts, Chloe Hay, Maggie Doherty; Aine O'Connell, Emer Trearty, Michelle Wilkin; Julie Trearty, Caoimhe McLaughlin; Amy McLaughlin, Mary T Boyce, Sinead McBride; Denise Doherty,

Shannon McGroddy, Lauren McBride. The subs used in the Ulster Final were Meabh O'Connell, Danni Shevlin and Eobha Pasoma. The rest of the panel includes Mary Bridget McGeever, Sinead McBride, Caoimhe Coyle, Aoife McMullan, Keira Cairns, Eve Kelly, Katie McGroddy, Kaycie Gallagher, Clíodhna O'Connell and Karen Gavaghan.

This year Barney Curran and Dominic McGroddy are on the management team along with Tanya Roberts-Browne, Emer McGeever and Charles Coyle. Skipper Michelle Wilkin will be driving her players to focus on the big prize of making the All-Ireland Final. Those opportunities are few and far between. 10 years ago Termon won the All-Ireland Senior Club Championship Final. No other Donegal ladies side has ever reached the decider. Shannon McGroddy is one Downings player who has previous experience of an All-Ireland semi-final. She was a member of that 2014 Termon team that went to take the national silverware.

Keeper Charlie Shevlin, Jessica Roberts and full-back Chloe Hay will need to be on their toes and disciplined with a good start very important on Sunday. Julie Trearty was outstanding in the Ulster Final in the middle of the park and will

need to be so again against Kilcock with regular partner O'Connell ruled out again. McLaughlin's Amy and Caoimhe along with with the experienced Shannon McGroddy, Mary T Boyce, Lauren McBride and the goal machine Doherty will also have to deliver up front.

It's been a memorable season to date after the Donegal Final triumph over Naomh Padraig Uisce Chaoin at the O'Donnell Park at the end of September on a final score of 6-12 to 0-9. After the Donegal final success it was on to another piece of history playing in a Ladies Ulster Junior Football Championship match for the first time. It resulted in a 5-04 to 2-10 away win over Butlersbridge. Then it was that big semi-final in front of a large home support. There was a sense of sheer joy and relief after getting over the winning line against Colrain's Eoghan Rua. It was very close all the way through the semi-final with just a point separating the two sides when Monaghan referee Anthony Marron blew the final whistle after nine minutes of injury time. Denise Doherty's two goals, one in each half, were key scores for Downings.

The second final takes place on Saturday where Coolera/Strandhill (Sligo) host Mungret St Paul's (Limerick) (1.30pm).

Election 2024 - Tribune Opinion Poll

# Three way battle for the last two seats

From Page One

Redress is on 5.56%. Around the constituency, Fine Gael is on 12%: their share is down 1.79% with John McNulty on 6.31% and Nikki Bradley on 5.73%. To be in with a shout for a seat, either of them will need to be over 7% on polling day and hope for big numbers in transfers. Incidentally, McNulty is transferring a third of his vote to Bradley while he's getting less than 20% in return. Pat the Cope is getting a similar return from her vote. Thomas Pringle is polling at 7.1% across the constituency that was his share in the general election. SF's Noel Jordan who's on 4.13% in the poll and will have eaten into his vote: however Pringle is transfer friendly and the SF transfers are in his favour in Donegal with a figure of over 30%. At the last general election, Pringle got a massive 30.7% share of the SF surplus of more than nine thousand votes on the second count. He went on to win the third seat with McHugh and McConalogue getting the final two. The 100% Redress Party is on 7% and Charles Ward will be bidding for transfers to keep him in the race to attract preferences. Significantly the poll for Inishowen shows 100% Redress on 10.26% in what is the epicentre of the defective blocks crisis. However, if he can grow his percentage on Friday, his supporters

say he's in the race with a fighting chance. Mary T Sweeney of Aontú is at 2.64% and there are ten candidates below 2%. All of them have contributed to the process of proportional representation because their transfers will be vital to those hoping to get over the line. Pdraig MacLochlainn, is in a similar position to the Tribune poll in 2020 when he was on 10%. However, by polling day, there was a tsunami of backing and his share increased by 7.9% to see him elected on the first count. There are many vagaries and many non-transferable votes among those candidates that will be eliminated in earlier counts. An estimate of the early transfers show that 35% are non-transferable. Ward is expected to get 15%: MacLochlainn and McConalogue are on 9% each: Bradley, Jordan, Pringle, and Mary T Sweeney each have 6% and Pat the Cope is estimated at 5%. He's also getting over 20% from the Aontú preferences. The transfer of these votes is certain to dominate many hours in the count centre at the Aura centre in Letterkenny at the weekend. The big issue emerging across the political spectrum is the cost of living. A lack of housing, homelessness and health have been top priorities for all of this century and they are likely to be a matter of serious public concern beyond the gen-

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eral election of 2029. Interest in the campaign has increased somewhat, particularly in the aftermath of the visit of Simon Harris to Kanturk on Friday night. The Taoiseach had several landmines to negotiate during the campaign and the fall in FG support tells its own story.

The final Leaders debate offered nothing new or enlightening. Martin was assured: Harris looked as if he just saw a ghost. Mary Lou was the only one to smile. She had the best one line reaction of the night as well. In the contributions on the property crash of twenty years ago and the austerity that followed the SF leader turned to her two colleagues. "Fianna Fail caused the property crash and FG caused austerity."

# Kernans sponsor Finn Harps

Finn Harps have announced that the Kernan Group will be the club's main sponsor for the 2025 season. The Kernans brand will be displayed on the new First Team Home and Away jerseys and across all official club platforms. Finn Harps Commercial Manager Aidan Campbell believes the partnership is a huge boost for the Harps community at an exciting time for the club. "Everyone at Finn Harps is delighted that Kernans have come on board. They have been a terrific sponsor partner for our academy in recent years. A lot of the Kernans staff are regulars at our home games, and Anthony is, of course, a former Harps player, so we are looking forward to making the partnership a huge success." The Kernan family have been involved in retailing since the 1920's. Now in third generation ownership under the stewardship of Anthony Kernan who joined the business in 1990, Kernans have 12 locations throughout Donegal



Anthony Kernan with Harps Chairperson Ian Harkin.

and Brighton. This deep-rooted history gives his current involvement a sense of continuity and passion. Anthony Kernan said, "We're excited to continue our support for Finn Harps, a club that means so much to me. The Kernan Group is proud to sponsor the entire club and help nurture the next generation of talent. It's all about giving young players the chance to shine." Club Chairperson Ian Harkin added "It makes me feel very proud that a thriving local company like Kernans will be sponsoring all our teams from youngest academy sides right up to our senior squad."

## Harps Lotto

There were no jackpot winners in the Finn Harps Super 4 Lotto draw for 21st November. The numbers drawn were 14, 17, 23, 28. The next draw takes place on Thursday 28th November and the jackpot is €5,100. There was one match 3 winner this week winning €200: Sam & Dallan Doherty, Stranorlar. Thanks to everyone who supports our lotto!

# Donegal Seniors back in training

The Donegal senior football squad is officially back in training this weekend as preparations ramp up for the new season. Jim McGuinness will be taking the squad away on a warm weather training camp to build up the team bonding ahead of the National Football League Division 1 opener away to Kerry on Sunday, 26th of January. With Michael Murphy back on board two years after announcing his retirement all eyes will be on whether the 35-year-old's return will be the final piece of the jigsaw as the McGuinness machine drives towards delivering an All-Ireland Senior Football Championship title for Donegal in 2025.

# Mevagh News

Our Annual Festive Christmas Tea - takes place on 6th December at 10.30am to 1.30pm. Come along, sample our festive delights & browse our Bric-a-Brac stall. In aid of Mevagh PAD Group. Mná Mhíobhaigh / Mevagh Women's Group - are meeting on Monday 2nd December at 7.30pm at the Mevagh Family Resource Centre. New and old friends welcome to become members. Breast & Bottle-Feeding Support Group - This group, for Mum's and new babies, and facilitated by the Public Health Nurse runs on the 1st and 3rd

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**November Sales**  
Sat 30th Nov - **Weanling Sale Mixed** 11am  
Booking in Thurs 28th Nov from 8 - 8.30pm.

**December Sales**  
Wed 4th Dec - **Cattle Sale** 12noon  
Sat 7th Dec - **No Sale**  
Wed 11th Dec - **Sheep Sale** 11.30am  
Booking in Tues 10th Dec from 8 - 8.30pm.  
Sat 14th Dec - **Weanling Sale** 11am  
Along with all other cattle  
Booking in Thurs 12th Dec from 8 - 8.30pm.

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Members of Finn Harps and the Kernans Group at the announcement of the overall sponsorship for the new season.

Wednesday of each month. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 4th December from 11am to 12:30pm in Mevagh FRC. Call in for a cuppa and a chat. No booking necessary. Tel: 074 9155055 (FRC) or Tel: 074 9155430 (PHN). Citizens Information - will be available in the centre on Wednesday 4th December from 10am-12pm. 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.

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