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The founder of financial services giant Fexco Brian McCarthy, has become the latest recipient of the prestigious Order of Inisfallen award which recognises outstanding contributions to the economic development of Killarney, Kerry and its tourism industry. Enjoying the Christmas tree decorations were three of Brian McCarthy's Grandchildren, Sophia, Maeve and Isobella. Photo: Valerie O'Sullivan

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A Note from the EDITOR



As we prepare to batten down the hatches with the arrival of Storm Darragh tonight, we have lots for you to enjoy in this week's Killarney Outlook. The town said farewell to one of its favourite sons as Donal O'Grady was laid to rest, the Tree of Light is shining bright in memory of Rena Kennelly who created the Cathedral Crib for over 50 years and Every Drop Counts as Oisín's Campaign is taking place next week. The Killarney Coffee Cup Project are partnering with Christmas In Killarney to donate any 2GoCups back with proceeds going to the charity Alone, The Christmas Gift Fair is set to light up Randles Hotel and it's time to Jingle & Mingle in Kilcummin. Brian McCarthy receives Killarney's highest honour, the Wine & Art Night was a wonderful success and Slimmers are delivering the goods to worthy causes. Residents in Ballydribeen are seeking support to build a playground, the Sing for Charity Choir are set to perform at the Outlet Centre and the Chamber held a successful luncheon this week. Anne Lucey takes a look back on the general election in Kerry, Jimmy takes a look at the O'Donoghue Cup final and we have lots of fantastic Christmas offers and ideas for you all. Enjoy this weeks magazine and stay safe!



Aisling Crosbie



A stunning sunset captured in Fossa by Finian Forde

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THIS WEEK

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FOR OUR UP TO DATE NEWS!

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Killarney Mourns the Late DONAL O'GRADY

Killarney Chamber of Tourism and Commerce has paid a warm tribute to the late Donal O'Grady whose sad and unexpected passing has come as a huge shock to everybody in the town.

The business organisation said Donal was a great public servant who always and forever had Killarney's best interests at heart and he worked tirelessly and with great determination to improve facilities and living conditions for everybody.

Chamber said the O'Grady family has been one of Kerry's great political dynasties as Donal's father, John, his brother Seán and his son Martin have all been elected at a local level to represent Killarney and its people.

In a statement, Chamber Co-Presidents, Johnny McGuire and Pdraig Treacy, said Donal played a very active and progressive role in so many facets of Killarney life.

"His commitment to many community causes was admirable and he leaves a real legacy of public service of which he and his family and supporters can be immensely proud," they said. The business representative body added that Donal was a great supporter of the Tidy Towns campaign and the Killarney Looking Good project and he campaigned hard to keep the town looking its best and to ensuring the necessary supports were put in place to help the town to prosper.

The new skate park, adjacent to the Killarney Sports and Leisure Centre, can also be attributed to his tenacity as he campaigned long and hard, over several years, for it to be put in place.

"The fun and laughter that will ring out from that facility in the years to come will be a fitting legacy to Donal's memory," Chamber said.

"He will be remembered for his commitment and contribution over many years of faithful service during a long and distinguished career in local politics".

Killarney Chamber of Tourism and Commerce added: "Donal O'Grady loved Killarney – and it showed. He always put the welfare and the wellbeing of his town and its people first and his was a strong and influential independent voice".

Damien Switzer also paid tribute to Donal O'Grady on Killarney Down Memory Lane Facebook page

"A hugely popular public servant who served the people of Killarney for over 24 years on Killarney Urban District Council before becoming a Kerry County Councillor.

Donal retired from his role in the fire service as station officer in 2005 and devoted all of his time in his role as a councillor for the Killarney Municipal District.

He was first elected in 1999 and topped the poll in 2004 and served as Mayor of Killarney for two years during his 24 year tenure.

Donal was born in Killarney, and spent his younger years between Killarney and Kilcummin.

A former student of the 'Mon' Presentation Monastery in Killarney followed by a number of years in Clashnagrane National School, Kilcummin. He spent his secondary school years in the Technical College, New Street.

Donal has held a number of roles over the years including: Founding member of the Killarney Drugs Liaison Committee. Founding member of the Kerry Life Education Mobile Unit Ltd. A member of the Killarney Twinning and



Marketing Committee. Director of South Kerry Development Partnership. A member of the Killarney Looking Good Committee.

I am personally glad that Donal saw his son Martin, elected to Kerry county council following in his fathers and grandfathers footsteps. Martin is one of a number of family members who work with Killarney Fire Service. He was truly part of the fabric of Killarney and will be remembered fondly. Condolences to all his family".

Dónal passed away peacefully surrounded by his family after a short illness bravely borne, and in the wonderful care of the Palliative Care Unit, University Hospital Kerry.

Partner of Mary, sadly missed by his loving children Joan, Carla, Colin, Michael, Dorothy, Denise, John and Martin and their beloved mother Julia, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law, his many grandchildren and great-grandchildren, his brother Séan, sisters Joan, Noreen, Sheila, Mary and Kathleen, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews, relatives, neighbours and wide circle of friends.

Dónal is pre-deceased by his baby son John Christopher, his brother's Michael and Sylvie and his parents.

Following Requiem Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral at 10:00am on Tuesday morning Donal Grady was buried in Aghadoe Lawn Cemetery.

Ar Dheis Dé go raibh a anam.

*Tree of Light star
shines bright
in Rena's memory*



The feature star on the spectacular Tree of Light in Killarney was lit on Monday evening of this week and is dedicated to the late Rena Kennelly, the gifted artist who designed and created the magnificent Christmas crib in St Mary's Cathedral for over 50 years.

Rena had been at the helm of that project every Christmas season since the Church was refurbished in the 1970s and her work was created using life-sizes figures, a striking stable full of animals, an artificial lake, fir trees and moss which she sourced herself.

Fittingly, she also helped create the state-of-the-art new crib – designed for a new generation – which was unveiled last year

and she was also responsible for the design of the wonderfully atmospheric sacred space in the cathedral.

Rena, who passed away last March, lived in Aghadoe, Killarney and formerly at Cleeny, Killarney and Ballymullen, Tralee.

Rena's family gathered at St. Mary's Cathedral on Monday for this coveted honour.

The 1,000ft Californian Redwood tree is adorned with over 3,500 energy efficient bulbs.

In previous years the Tree of Light star was dedicated to the memory of Johnny Hickey and Yvonne Quilll for their dedication to the Tidy Towns campaign and Paul Coghlan who is a former President of Killarney Chamber of Commerce.

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EVERY DROP COUNTS AS BLOOD CAMPAIGN IS LAUNCHED IN MEMORY OF OISIN



East Kerry are working with Irish Blood Transfusion Service under Oisín's Campaign in Killarney Heights 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th December.

Oisín Kelly, a member of Naomh Eoin in Carlow, was diagnosed with Osteosarcoma (bone cancer) in 2021, and after a lengthy battle, he sadly passed in August 2023. Throughout his illness Oisín received many blood and platelet transfusions, and he and his family learned that many cancer patients require blood and platelet transfusions as part of their treatment – this was a vital part of the treatment for Oisín.

Oisín aimed to raise awareness about the importance of blood donation, especially among young people, emphasizing its vital nature.

Oisín attended UCC and was a familiar and popular GAA player. He was the beloved boyfriend of Mairead Bennett (Spa Club, Killarney). Mairead along with his family want to continue Oisín memory and asking everyone to sign up with the link below and register.

<https://www.giveblood.ie/campaigns/oisin-kelly/>

Sean O Leary, Kilcummin GAA and Kerry senior panelist, knows the importance of blood donation as he was the recipient when he had a serious car accident in 2021 and ended up in a wheelchair. Supplies were so low that they had to import blood from the UK. There was none here in Ireland to save Sean's life. This is a serious and dangerous situation as 1 in 4 of us will need blood sometime in our lives. Luckily Sean is on the way to a full and healthy recovery and back on the playing field as captain of his club, Kilcummin.

Just asking to spread the word and encourage people to sign up and donate. Please like and share our East Kerry social media platforms on Oisín campaign "EVERY DROP COUNTS, I KNOW" as awareness is vital and knowledge is power.

The Irish Blood Transfusion Service with East Kerry GAA, held the start of the GAA National Role Out of Oisín's campaign in Spa GAA Club. Members of Spa GAA, Spa LGFA, St Paul's Basketball Ladies, David Clifford and Friends attended to start the awareness programme.



Sean O'Leary knows the importance of blood donation as he was the recipient when he had a serious car accident in 2021 and ended up in a wheelchair. He has had a fantastic recovery and is back playing in his role of Captain of Kilcummin GAA.



David Clifford and Mairead Bennett (Oisín's Girlfriend)



Mairead Bennett and Anne Holland (East Kerry)



Staff of the District Hospital getting behind the Campaign: Ann Marie Breen, Michelle Breen, Amanda Guest, Adrian Cronin and Conor McCarthy



Ladies from Spa LGFA and St Pauls Basketball



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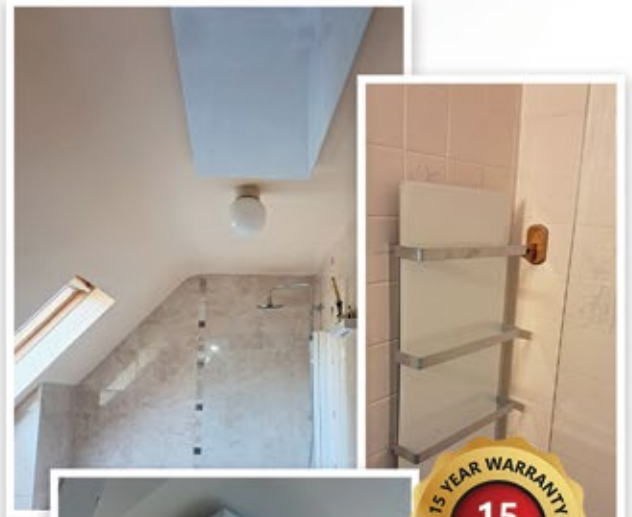
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A CHARITY DRIVE FOR *Christmas in Killarney:*

Christmas in Killarney

Bring Your 2GoCups for a Good Cause!

As the Christmas season approaches, there is no better time to give back to our community, and in Killarney, we have a special opportunity to do just that. The Killarney Coffee Cup Project is partnering with Christmas in Killarney to host a heartfelt charity drive, asking locals and visitors alike to bring any unused 2GoCups they may have accumulated at home, in their cars, or at the office. This is your chance to contribute in a simple yet impactful way – and make this Christmas even more meaningful for those in need.

How it works is simple: Gather any 2GoCups you've collected over time. For every cup collected, the value of that cup will be donated to the charity ALONE.

ALONE, a charity dedicated to supporting older people to age at home throughout Killarney and Kerry, will benefit from your donation. Frank Dillon, Head of Fundraising for ALONE

said, "We would like to sincerely thank the great people in Killarney for their clever initiative and generosity in supporting ALONE. Christmas is such an important time for all of us in ALONE with so many people living on their own throughout the area our services will run all over the Christmas season. You can contact ALONE for support of advice on 0818 222 024." You can drop off your 2GoCups to the Christmas Markets and at Santas Grotto at Deenagh Lodge and know that your gesture will help fund important programs that provide companionship and assistance to those in need, particularly the elderly who may be facing a lonely Christmas season.

Why is this important?

This initiative not only gives us a chance to declutter and get those cups we've accumulated back into circulation but also provides a unique way to support an incredible cause during the Christmas season. It's a

reminder that sometimes, small actions can have a big impact – and that together, we can make a real difference in the lives of others.

So, this festive season, let's clear out those accumulated 2GoCups and spread some Christmas cheer! Your donation, no matter how small, will help ensure that Christmas in Killarney is a time of joy for everyone, including those who need our support the most.

Drop off locations:

Christmas in Killarney's Christmas Market Saturdays & Sundays from 7th December.

Santa's Grotto at Deenagh Lodge during opening hours of Thursdays to Sundays from 5th December.

Let's come together as a community and make this a Christmas to remember for those who need it most.

Formore details see <https://christmasinkillarney.com/sustainability/>

Christmas Gift Fair returns to Randles Hotel

Not too many people know that the "B" side to Bing Crosby's number 1, Christmas hit WHITE CHRISTMAS is the song "Christmas in Killarney". Not a musical masterpiece but a popular tune across The Atlantic and one that puts us on the international stage.

The charming Kerry town of Killarney goes to great lengths to celebrate Christmas and 2024 is no exception with the town beautifully lit as always and fantastic Santa Parades, Ice Skating and Christmas Markets as part of The Christmas in Killarney celebration. One of the more popular and longstanding markets is the Christmas Gift Fair at Randles Hotel. This year's event will be a boutique and intimate Indoor market with Randles' signature mulled cider and mince Pies served on arrival, the fires are lit and plenty of cosy corners to relax in after some retail therapy.

There is a focus on local craft traders and bespoke offerings including Killarney Soaps, Muckross Gin, Fádo Antiques and Alison Walsh Jewellery. For an artistic choice we can highly recommend Peggy Daly's paintings and Amelie Gagne's Jewellery. You can also bag the perfect gift of a handbag from Holden Leather Goods in Dingle

The atmosphere promises to be relaxed and inviting, ideal for lingering with a warm hot chocolate or kicking back with an espresso Martini. Along with the Gift Fair at Randles Hotel there are also street markets on Main Street and lots of retail choice, making Killarney the ideal destination for Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th December. For more information visit randleshotel.com or contact the Hotel on 064 663 5333.



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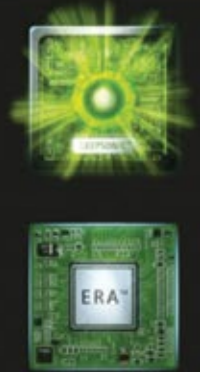
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Kilcummin's Jingle & Mingle

Promises Festive Fun for All



Kilcummin Village, December 15th

Kilcummin is ready to sparkle this festive season with Jingle & Mingle, a new magical community Christmas event taking place on Sunday, December 15th. The evening will be filled with festive cheer, live music, and activities for the whole family to enjoy.

The highlight of the event will be the lighting of the park at 4:30 PM, marking the start of an enchanting evening. To set the mood, The Three O's will serenade the crowd with their beloved Christmas crooner set, filling the air with seasonal classics that will warm hearts and lift spirits.

The park will also feature Santa's Last Drop Post Box, giving children a final chance to post their Christmas wishes before the big day. Younger visitors can enjoy the magic of the season with face painting, adding an extra sparkle to the evening.

No festive gathering is complete without delicious treats! Sheila's Coffee and Crêpes Stall will be on-site throughout the evening, serving warm drinks and delightful crêpes to keep everyone cozy.

Then at 5:30 PM, step into the festive spirit and join us at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Kilcummin, for a magical concert featuring the Stronger Together Choir, Kilcummin Children's Choir, and Kilcummin Comhaltas Branch. Together, they'll present a heartwarming repertoire that embodies the joy and wonder of the season. Everyone is welcome!

Jingle & Mingle is the perfect way to embrace the season's cheer with friends, family, and neighbors while supporting vital local community initiatives.

Celebrate the magic of Christmas in Kilcummin Village with an enchanting evening filled with laughter, music,

and festive joy.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Kerry County Council for their generous support of this event and to Kilcummin Rural Development for their ongoing commitment to our community.

For more details, reach out to any member of the Kilcummin Looking Good Committee.



Pictured are: Pat Fleming Dan Greany Marcella Doyle, Helen Moynihan Dan Horgan Tina McCarthy Sheila O Sullivan Paula O Connor Margaret Ling William Fleming Tony O Connor children Conor, Emma Doyle & Zach Moynihan.

Garvey's SuperValu Castleisland honoured at 2024 National Grocery Retail Awards



Garvey's SuperValu Castleisland won Ireland's Most Creative Fresh Food Retailer and Best Fresh Meat Offering. Pictured are Manager at Garveys, Seamus O'Connor & Kevin McCarthy.

Garvey's SuperValu Castleisland has been awarded Ireland's Most Creative Fresh Food Retailer in a Small Supermarket as well as Best Fresh Meat Offering at the 2024 National Grocery Retail Awards, a double win for the Kerry store. These awards honour the store for its outstanding in-store experience, showcasing a wide variety of fresh meat products, creativity and a strong commitment to customer service.

The awards ceremony, which was once again sponsored by Checkout, was recently held at the Radisson Blu, Golden Lane Hotel in Dublin. Now in its third year, it combines the legacy of Checkout's previous awards, including the Best in Fresh awards, and celebrate best-in-class performances across all areas of grocery retailing.

Garvey's SuperValu Castleisland's award at this year's ceremony, builds on the success of SuperValu's network of independent retailers who maintain and drive the standards of SuperValu stores across the country.



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It's the talk of the town...



With Anne Lucey

Anne Lucey looks at the positive news happening in the town of Killarney

Encouraging women to speak out - continues in Killarney

Well done to five schools - Rathmore, Kenmare, Killarney and Killorglin who took part in the Killarney Soroptimists International Public Speaking competition last week for senior girls in fourth, fifth or sixth year. Congratulations to Grace Foley Killarney Community College, Lucy Johnson Pobalscoil Inbhear Sceine Kenmare and to runner up Anna Roche of St Brigid's, Killarney.

It's a huge increase in participation and full marks to new President Anne Wrenn. Judges were Liz Ryan, Speech and Drama teacher, Vivienne Brady of Toastmasters, and Sheila Casey of SI Killarney. They had the marathon and the difficult task of judging the presentations.

Teachers play a huge part in this and the variety and serious approach to topics ranging from health to human rights, peace and democracy, the planet, friendship and women was commendable over the four hours - including refreshments - on Tuesday at the very lovely East Avenue Hotel.

Staff could not have been more helpful and President Anne thanked the hotel as well as the teachers and the club and judges as well as participants.

The S I Girls Public Speaking competition is almost fifty years old.

It was set up as a joint North-South project during a difficult period on our island for everyone, but for women particularly, and has been running ever since.

The ladies in Killarney have always strongly supported it and indeed Killarney helped revive this event almost two decades ago when it floundered.

"Public speaking for young ladies has never been more important. The competition

encourages girls to develop the skills to speak effectively and with clarity and conviction. And to grow in confidence.

Win or lose, the important thing is to take part," President Anne said.

"We congratulate all of you in advance for putting your name forward," she said.

Last week was the first stage and will be followed in the New Year by a regional heat. The national final will be held in Dublin on 9th March. Best of luck to all.

The Toll into Killorglin proposal - a way of getting something back for the town from huge tourist buses

This was one of the livelier stories of the past few weeks and one I picked up covering the Kenmare MD meeting. New councillor Podge Foley proposed a toll over the bridge into Killorglin. It's actually the case that before the limestone bridge was built in the 19th century there was a wooden bridge with a toll. There was also "airgead an aonaigh", a toll going into fairs in Ireland. So a toll over a bridge is a historic practice.

It is also the case that tolls are levied on tourists in other countries. Visitors to La Rochelle in France, for instance, are asked to pay Euro 16 for driving over the bridge onto the Ile de Ré.

Podge's motion asked for a "tariff" of Euro 20 on all large tourist buses.

New councillors often have the best of ideas and I think the councillor term should be limited to two and if they want to come back after a break, so be it. But they should be sent out to grass after ten years to fatten up with ideas.

The same should hold for TDs.

Podge has been seeking various measures



to enhance Killorglin as a town where tourists stop, rather than pass through.

Kenmare Fine Gael Councillor Teddy O'Sullivan Casey seconded the proposal.

Podge also lamented the lack of focus on the mid-Kerry region in the tourism strategy of Kerry County Council.

The council spend in tourism promotion next year will be over Euro 1.3 million - the figure includes salaries for its special tourism unit. The unit works with Failte Ireland, Tourism Ireland, the IDA and other promoters of tourism. We are falling over with promoters! Podge asked the council tourism office to focus its marketing efforts in attracting tourists to areas such as Mid and South Kerry. Council management told him the tariff proposal "would essentially be a toll on the route" which would have to be introduced in accordance with the provisions of the Roads Act, 1993, as amended.

The Killorglin bridge, on the N70 national secondary routes, dates to 1885, having replaced a wooden bridge overcome by high spring tides.

Is Podge's motion the way forward for other parts of Kerry, overrun with tourists, but gaining nothing?

Lights go out in courthouse - Renovation must be a priority now for our TDs

The lights went out in Tralee courthouse last week and a trial underway in the Circuit Court Room with four days had to be delayed. The jury were sent for tea whilst an electrician was sought. In the family law court the judge sat in the dark.

The upstairs family mediation room was also unavailable due to flooding.

The courthouse was packed for family law. The trial was in camera but there was a senior counsel and a number of barristers and solicitors as well as witnesses. And of course judges and clerks and journalists.

The early 19th century courthouse has been the subject of concern with two decades. Old courthouses have been done up everywhere, but not in Kerry. Tralee has deteriorated considerably since the pandemic.

Lighting and other networks in the building are old as are prisoner facilities.

The Courts Service has rejected local calls for improvements to the building after surveys by the OPW pointed to cost factors.

The council has washed its hands completely - the old "legacy" caretaker arrangement whereby the council provided caretakers has not been renewed and the building is now solely courts service responsibility. Proposals for a new court complex on a half acre site on the western end of Tralee never meant for a court are further out than ever.

The Law Society in Kerry has complained of "Dickensian conditions". No extra capital funding was provided to the Courts Service in Budget 2025, or in the funding of the National Development Plan as revised

for 2024 - 2026, for the construction of new regional courthouses.

A better courthouse has to be a priority for Norma Foley and Michael Cahill to secure funding either for a new courthouse or to do up the existing.

At this stage I think renovating the existing is the most urgent and the better option long term too.



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BRIAN McCARTHY receives Killarney's highest honour

Photos: Valerie O'Sullivan



The founder of financial services giant Fexco Brian McCarthy, has become the latest recipient of the prestigious Order of Inisfallen award which recognises outstanding contributions to the economic development of Killarney, Kerry and its tourism industry. At the Order of Inisfallen investiture at Muckross House, Killarney, Mr McCarthy was formally presented with the award – a special pin and framed scroll – by Cathaoirelach Killarney Municipal District, Cllr Maura Healy-Rae, and Co-President Killarney Chamber of Tourism and Commerce, Johnny McGuire, also included is Brian's Wife, Mary McCarthy, and Conor Hennigan, Order of Inisfallen Chair.

RECEIVING MAJOR NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL AWARDS, IN RECOGNITION OF HIS REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENTS IN BUSINESS, HAS BEEN PART AND PARCEL OF BRIAN MCCARTHY'S BUSY LIFE BUT THE LATEST HONOUR, BESTOWED ON HIM IN KILLARNEY ON THURSDAY AFTERNOON, IS ONE HE SAID HE WILL REALLY CHERISH.

The founder of financial services giant Fexco has become the latest recipient of the prestigious Order of Inisfallen award which recognises outstanding contributions to the economic development of Killarney, Kerry and its tourism industry.

Mr McCarthy worked with AIB in Killorglin until 1981 before circumstances – in the form of a bank strike – saw him identify a huge opening in foreign exchange.

That initial very small scale operation, catering for the currency swap needs of visitors on the streets of Killorglin, quickly grew to great heights and it led to the foundation of a dynamic financial services company that now employs more than 2,800 people worldwide.

At the Order of Inisfallen investiture at Muckross House, Mr McCarthy was formally presented with the award – a special pin and framed scroll – by Mayor of Killarney, Cllr Maura Healy-Rae, who pointed out that it is the most prestigious honour Killarney can bestow.

"There is no more deserving recipient of the

is acknowledged worldwide as a prominent, dynamic and successful business leader," she said.

The mayor said he has demonstrated incredible professional and entrepreneurial abilities, instilled confidence within Ireland's business community and played a pivotal role in fostering job growth and economic progress in Kerry and in the country.

"The most impressive thing of all is that, despite the incredible success, Brian McCarthy is still the same humble, genuine and compassionate man today that he was all those years ago when he first dipped his toe into the mainly uncharted territory that was the foreign exchange business.

"Success hasn't changed him one iota – and that's the true sign of a great man," Mayor Healy-Rae said.

The Order of Inisfallen awards scheme is a joint initiative between Killarney Chamber of Tourism and Commerce and Kerry County Council. It was established in 2005 to recognise outstanding contributions by people to the

county and its tourism industry. Those selected for the honour are invested as Members of the Order of Inisfallen.

The 17 previous recipients include Charles, the King of England, former Taoiseach Enda Kenny, actor Michael Fassbender, entertainer Daniel O'Donnell, industrialist Isolde Liebherr and business personalities Margaret O'Donoghue, Donal Ring and Micheál O'Donoghue.

Other speakers at the award presentation, at which businesswoman Geraldine Rosney was the MC, included the outgoing Chairman of the Muckross House Trustees, Marcus Treacy, and Killarney Chamber of Tourism and Commerce Co-President, Johnny McGuire, who described Brian McCarthy as one of the greatest entrepreneurs and innovators this country has ever produced.

"Brian is very deserving of this recognition and those of us that have watched his remarkable entrepreneurial spirit come to the fore over the past four decades and more know how worthy he is of every success that comes his way," Mr McGuire remarked.



Enjoying one of Brian's stories, his Wife Mary and Son John McCarthy.



Enjoying the Christmas tree decorations were Brian McCarthy's Grandchildren, Maeve and Sophia.



Brian McCarthy was joined by his family, Wife, Mary, Sons, Denis and John and daughters, Susan, Ruth and Liz and all his Grandchildren for the occasion.



Board of Trustee of Muckcross House, Geraldine Rosney delivers the citation, at the Order of Inisfallen investiture at Muckcross House, Killarney



Brian is joined by his Wife Mary, and incoming Chairperson of Board of Trustee Muckcross House, Bernadette Randles



Pictured with Brian are joint Presidents of Killarney Chamber of Tourism and Commerce, Johnny McGuire and Padraig Treacy.



At the Order of Inisfallen investiture at Muckcross House, Killarney, Mr McCarthy was formally presented with the award – a special pin and framed scroll – by Cathaoirelach Killarney Municipal District, Cllr Maura Healy-Rae, and Co-President Killarney Chamber of Tourism and Commerce, Johnny McGuire.



Brian McCarthy, on a visit to Skellig Michael, 6th Century Monastic Site, 12km off the coast of the Iveragh Peninsula, Co Kerry.

Wine & Art Night

A Wonderful Success

Killarney Rotary Club held their Wine & Art night on Wednesday at the Great Southern. About 45 artists and craftspeople displayed their work and as well charity Christmas cards and Kerry Stars calendars were for sale. Daly's Supervalu & Killarney Brewing had a wonderful selection of wines and beers to sample. Ciara Irwin Foley, President of Killarney Rotary thanked those who exhibited, the beneficiaries of the event who provided volunteers to help set up the room on Tuesday and again throughout the evening at the wine stations. Ciara also thanked all her fellow club members for their help. Without all this help we could not take on such a big project in our local community. It will be wonderful to present them all with cheques when the sums are done. Thank you to everybody who bought tickets. The patrons poured in once the doors opened at 7.15pm. The room was buzzing with people catching up with friends and others they may not have met for a while. There were some wonderful prizes given out in the raffle, as door prizes and the competition run in local media recently and thanks to all the businesses who donated kindly. Art sales were good and the Rotary

members had plenty of work to do on the night doing the sales desk, running the auction where artists kindly donated works to be auctioned 100% for the fundraiser. The packing desk was busy and the patrons enjoyed the entertainment from Mike Neeson until closing time. Artist Patricia de Jong said 'It has been the most amazing evening! It was my first year taking part and I can't comment enough on all the volunteers playing an absolute blinder. Well done to all involved it's been a great night.' It was then time to dismantle the stands and pack them up for another year. We look forward to presenting cheques in the New Year.



Rayla Tadjimatova, Teresa & Charles Dice & Ciara Irwin Foley (President - Killarney Rotary Club)



Teresa Irwin and Ciara Irwin Foley (President - Killarney Rotary Club)



Karena Mc Carthy, Christina Nomad Higgins, Ciara Irwin Foley (President - Killarney Rotary Club) & Grace O'Neill Gleeson



Rotarian Sherry OCallaghan sampling wine with local business owner Anne Hannan.



Rotarian Michael Jacobi making sure everyone gets a good look at the auction prices while Rotarian Tom runs the auction.

The lights on Killarney's Memory Tree were lit for the Christmas season on Monday night last. Hundreds gathered at Holy Cross Mercy School and were led in prayer by Fr. Vitalis Barasa and enjoyed festive carols by candlelight. Mass will be offered for all those being commemorated at 1.15pm on Monday, December 16th in St. Mary's Cathedral and everyone is welcome to join in person or online via the Killarney Parish Webcam on www.killarneyparish.com. The Memory Tree will be lit nightly during the the Christmas season until January 6th, the feast of The Epiphany and lights are available to buy online from the school website www.mercyholycross.ie or from the School Office at Holy Cross Mercy School on New Road.

Killarney Memory Tree Lights Up Holy Cross Mercy School





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Huge business supports outlined at Chamber gathering

The Kerry Local Enterprise Office and Kerry County Council have paid out close on €33 million to local businesses under the terms of various support schemes and help programmes implemented after the Covid-19 pandemic.

The information was provided to those in attendance at the final Killarney Chamber of Tourism and Commerce lunch of the year which was held in The Laurels Restaurant on Wednesday.

Head of the Kerry Local Enterprise Office, Tomás Hayes, who was the guest speaker, said his organisation – a unit of Kerry County Council – succeeded the former County Enterprise Board in 2014, when there was a large scale re-evaluation of roles.

The updated brief was to work with small scale manufacturing and exports and innovative products and services with 10 or less people employed.

He said the remit has again changed gradually over the past two years with a much stronger emphasis on the retail and hospitality sectors and his office has been increasingly involved with increased cost of business programmes and schemes over the past couple of months.

He said post pandemic, they have been working on the administration of the two restart schemes, small business assistance and business continuity schemes, the increased cost of business programmes and the power-up grants.

"We're not just dealing with a few hundred applications here – we're dealing with thousands of applications. We reckon over the last period of time we've probably dished out in the region of €33 million to the local economy and that can only be done with the teams within Kerry County Council across revenue, finance and the Local Enterprise Office.

"That has been a huge challenge that, to a certain extent, has probably distracted us from our core activity," My Hayes stated.

He said he was delighted to now be in a position to advise Chamber members of new enterprise projects that are coming through,

particularly a new green for business scheme and energy efficiency grants, which are aimed at focusing more on sustainability. Details of the new schemes were outlined at the lunch by Conor Slattery who is sustainability in business advisor.

He said the free green for business scheme is aimed at smaller businesses who can apply for inclusion to the Local Enterprise Office who will, in turn, appoint a consultant to assess and advise each business in terms of energy and fuel consumption, lighting and heating and renewable energy options.

It is open to all sectors with a cap on businesses with 50 employees or more and, in many cases, the grant is being used for equipment upgrades.

Killarney Chamber of Tourism and Commerce Co-President, Johnny McGuire, availed of the opportunity at the lunch to acknowledge the recent passing of two people he described as "great Killarney champions."

He said Andy O'Sullivan, a great GAA stalwart and proprietor of the Killarney Carpet and Furniture Centre, and former councillor Donal O'Grady both left a lasting legacy in the town through their commitment to the betterment of the community.

"It is fitting that their children are continuing their legacy into the next generation," he said.

He also praised Fexco founder Brian McCarthy who was inducted into the Order of Inisfallen scheme which is an awards programme organised by the Chamber and Kerry County Council.

"His contribution to the economic life of our county and town is immeasurable," Mr McGuire stated. He also thanked all the candidates in the recent general election and, in particular, Linda Gordon Kelleher who facilitated a meeting between the Chamber Executive and the Minister for Finance, Jack Chambers, at which important issues relating to the future of Killarney town were highlighted and acknowledged.

The Chamber chief said Killarney was delighted to have secured a fourth consecutive gold medal in the recent SuperValu National Tidy



Tomás Hayes (Head of Local Enterprise Office Kerry), Johnny McGuire (Chamber President), Katy Jacobi (Killarney Chamber Events Manager) and Conor Slattery (Green for Business specialist) at the Killarney Chamber of Tourism and Commerce members networking lunch. Picture: Eamonn Keogh

Towns Awards.

"I want to acknowledge the commitment and dedication of Kerry County Council management and outdoor staff, who are a shining example of public service, and to thank the many local volunteers for their commitment to keeping Killarney Looking Good," Mr McGuire said.

This week also marked the 50th Meitheal outing of the year in the national park and the regular volunteers were joined by 18 staff of Irish Water whose input was of great benefit.

"We have had great support this year from various businesses and voluntary groups

outside of our town and their input and the increased resources for the staff of the national park are greatly appreciated," he said.

Mr McGuire said he was thrilled to note that a planning application has been resubmitted for the planned Dinis-Torc cycleway and pedestrian route along the lake shore.

"Anyone wishing to make a submission on the plans please do so immediately as the planning decision will be announced on the 24th of January 2025.

"If you are a park user please have your say. The achievement of this path will be of enormous benefit to the safety and enjoyment of the Muckross and Dinis Loop and will be an iconic feature of the Killarney Outdoor Destination Experience," Mr McGuire added.

Killarney Chamber Events Manager, Katy Jacobi, outlined the attractions of this year's Christmas in Killarney Festival with return of the ice rink and the introduction of festive markets and she appealed to those shopping in town this year to remember to support the coffee cup project which encourages against single use cups.



Tracy Coyne (International Hotel), Bridget O'Keefe (Killarney Chamber), Rebecca Brosnan (International Hotel) Donal Culloty (REA Coyne & Culloty) and Catriona White (International Hotel) at the Killarney Chamber of Tourism and Commerce members networking lunch in The Laurels Bar and Restaurant on Wednesday. Picture: Eamonn Keogh



Billy O'Connor (Kerry Phone Centre) Les Brzozka (Killarney Plaza Hotel), Jessica O'Connor (Kerry Phone Centre) and Pat Chawke (Wander Wild Festival) at the Killarney Chamber of Tourism and Commerce members networking lunch in The Laurels Bar and Restaurant on Wednesday. Picture: Eamonn Keogh



Kate O'Leary (The Laurels), Johnny McGuire (Chamber President) and Maureen Hegarty (Killarney Chamber) at the Killarney Chamber of Tourism and Commerce members networking lunch in The Laurels Bar and Restaurant on Wednesday. Picture: Eamonn Keogh



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On Saturday November 30th a further €86,868, the latest proceeds from Radio Kerry Radio Bingo was presented to the four charity partners Kerry Cancer Support Group, Kerry Hospice, Recovery Haven Kerry Cancer Support House and Comfort for Chemo Kerry. The each received €21,717. This brings the total funds raised by Radio Kerry Radio Bingo, since May 2021, to €452,060. Representatives of all 4 charities joined Joe McGill on t4h Saturday Supplement on Radio Kerry. They each gave details of projects they are currently undertaking and told Joe about how the latest funds they received from Radio Kerry Radio Bingo will be used.

Jack Shanahan, Chairman of the Kerry Hospice Foundation said, "Kerry Hospice Foundation is hugely appreciative of the continuing support from Radio Kerry, and its listeners. We will shortly start ground works on our much needed five bed extension to our inpatient unit. Delivering world class palliative care needs continuous investment in both people and facilities. We will pay in full for this multi-million euro extension, as well as funding day to day expenses, including wages, in the pursuit of our mission."

Comfort for Chemo Kerry welcomed the latest allocation of funds saying "Comfort for Chemo Kerry thank Radio Kerry and their listeners for their continued support which will ensure the people of Kerry will be able to receive chemotherapy on their own doorstep. All of the funds will go towards a state of the art chemotherapy unit for which the design has now been agreed.

Breda Dyland of Kerry Cancer Support Group said "Kerry Cancer Support Group is as always extremely grateful for the support received from Radio Kerry Bingo. The funding has been crucial in addressing a 40% increase in demand for our services over the past year. It will also contribute to the purchase of a new bus for our Limerick route, ensuring continued accessibility for those who need our Healthlink transport. We extend heartfelt thanks to the bingo players, whose involvement

€452,060 RAISED FOR 4 KERRY CHARITIES

by Radio Kerry Radio Bingo Players



Paul McCarthy CFCF Breda Dyland KCSG Marisa Reidy RH Sean Lyons KCSG Maura O'Sullivan Jack Shanahan Kerry Hospice

directly aids in maintaining and expanding our essential services."

Marisa Reidy of Recovery Haven said "On behalf of Recovery Haven Kerry, we'd like to firstly thank everyone at Radio Kerry for involving us in this amazing fundraising initiative from the beginning. To receive this kind of funding is just amazing and will help hugely in allowing us to continue providing vital, free support services to those affected

by cancer and their families. This, of course, would not be possible without the support of all the listeners who play Radio Kerry Bingo week on week, and we hope they all know just how much that support means to us all. It is always a pleasure to work with Radio Kerry, alongside these other wonderful cancer support charities, and we never take the generosity of the people of Kerry for granted".

SLIMMERS DELIVER THE GOODS



It's not often you see a Slimming World Consultant with bags full of chocolates.

Hayley Carter runs Slimming World groups in both Killarney and Killorglin, and this week, alongside the kind donations of her members, she was able to spread some Festive Cheer to some children in her local school.

"Christmas can be a challenging time for us slimmers, but the most wonderful thing about being a Slimming World member is that we can enjoy a treat or two and still support our weight loss and health goals"

"However, there tends to be so much of the treats around us, at home and work, so I thought it would be a great idea to share some of the goodies with local charities. My members were only delighted to spread the joy"

Hayley took a visit to St. Francis Special School in Beaufort to meet Headmaster Keith Ó Brolacháin to gift Advent calendars, selection boxes and biscuits to all the children and staff.

"I love being known as the Slimming World Lady. But what I love more is letting others know that we are more than just a Slimming Club... we are a fun, friendly and supportive group of people ready to welcome many more faces"

Hayleys runs groups in Killarney Kdys on Thursday mornings and evenings as well as Killorglin on Saturdays mornings. Please do contact her on 087 7036975 to join or reserve your space for January 2025

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Killarney's Saoirse O'Connor was honoured with the 'Outstanding Performance in School Experience and Professional Practice' Award at the annual Hibernia College conferring ceremony which was held at Dublin's Convention Centre recently.

Saoirse, who is part of the famous musical family with her dad Liam and brothers, Oisín and Killian was joined by fellow Kerry graduate Clodagh Carey from Tralee, who in addition to receiving her Masters qualification, Primary Education graduate, Clodagh Carey, from Tralee, received the overall Student of the Year Award – presented by the College to the student in each cohort with the highest grade across the Primary programme.

Not surprisingly, Saoirse is "on top of the world" with her academic success and told Killarney Outlook, "The whole family has been enormously supportive of me in my educational endeavours. From an early age we were all made to value education as a worthwhile pursuit that not only opens up wonderful career prospects but also takes the mind into fresh pastures."

Saoirse teaches in St. Brendan's College, Killarney, Co. Kerry and sings and plays concertina and keyboards in Liam's band alongside brother Oisín (guitars, keyboards and percussion), and Cillian on drums.

SAOIRSE RECEIVES TOP ACADEMIC AWARD



Killarney's Saoirse O'Connor – who was honoured with the 'Outstanding Performance in School Experience and Professional Practice' Award – pictured celebrating with her dad, well-known Irish Musician, Liam O'Connor, at Dublin's Convention Centre during the annual Hibernia College Conferring ceremony. Saoirse was amongst the 937 graduates from all 26 counties to qualify with Masters in Primary and Post-Primary teaching, or with a Postgraduate Diploma in Inclusive and Special Education.

BALLYDRIBEEEN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION is seeking the support of the people of Kerry



We are almost there, but we still need a little bit of help!

Ballydribeen Residents Association is seeking the support of the people of Kerry.

2024 was a busy year for the Ballydribeen Residents Association as they were working really hard to make the Playground Project a reality. They have held several successful fundraiser events, but they still have €2000 to raise.

The new universal Killarney playground will be located on the grounds of the Dereen Sports Centre beside Killarney Celtic FC and Legion GAA Club. It will become a fantastic asset to our community, especially for our children. We believe it will become a cornerstone of the community,

providing a space where families, friends and neighbours can spend time together and create lasting memories. Our playground project aims to serve as a hub for social interactions, events and shared experiences, providing a welcoming and inclusive space for everyone.

Any donation, big or small, would be greatly appreciated to help us finalise the Playground Project.

Please help to make this happen! To donate, please click on the GoFundMe link. <https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-us-to-build-new-killarney-playground>

Thank you

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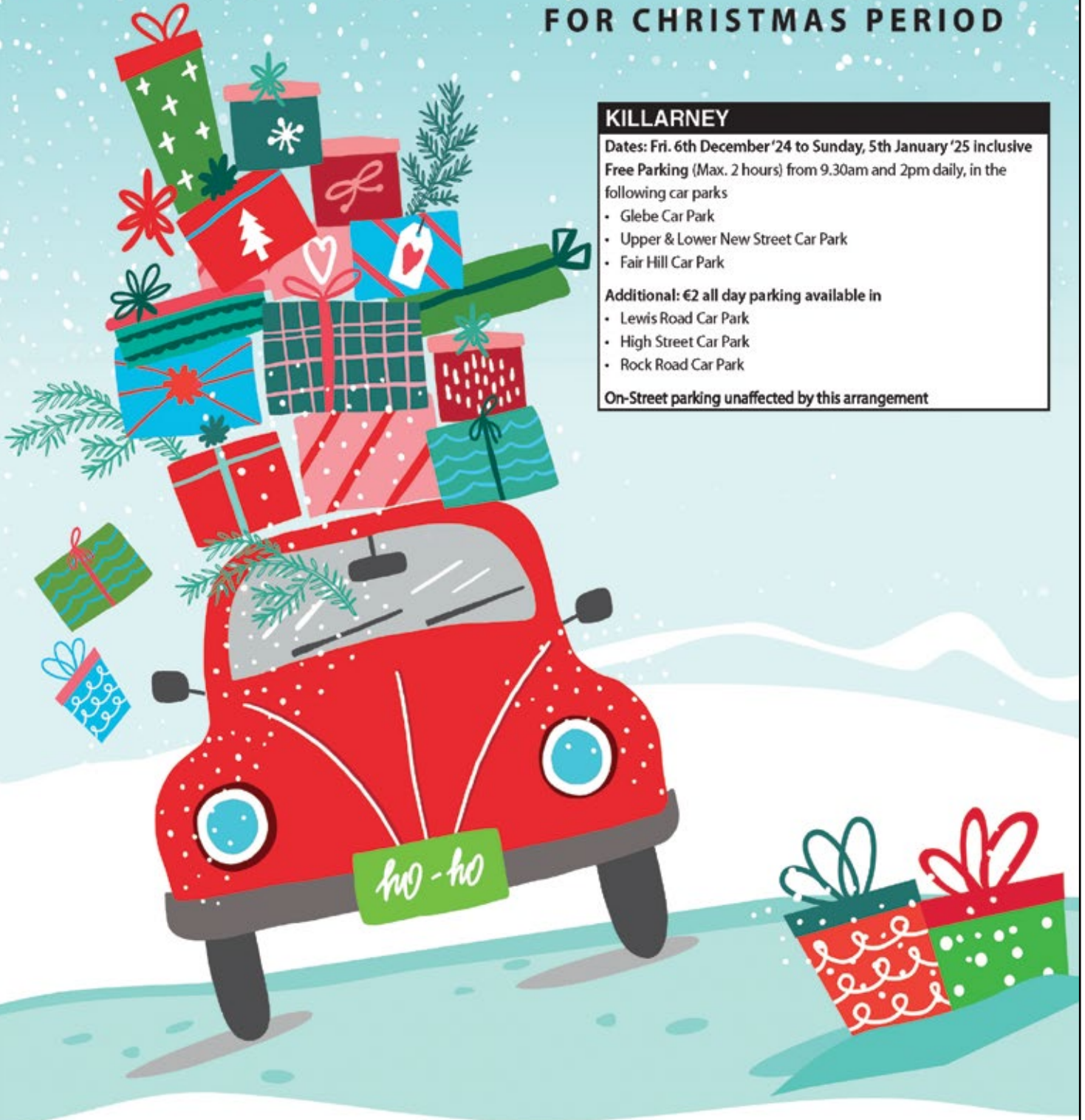
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SING FOR CHARITY CHOIR - in aid of Irish Cancer Society at the Outlet Centre

The Sing for Charity Choir returns this year to bring Christmas cheer and carols to the Killarney Outlet Centre. We will sing for 3 hours from 2p.m. to 5p.m. on Saturday 7th December. The Charity we have chosen this year is the Irish Cancer Society. This charity is close to everyone's hearts. The Sing for Charity Choir is a group of friends who love to sing and use their talents to raise money at Christmas time. Our musicians and collectors are also volunteering their Saturday afternoon for this worthy cause. We are grateful to the Outlet Centre for having us again. Please come along and support this very worthy cause.



Historical Rally Takes Place In Killarney



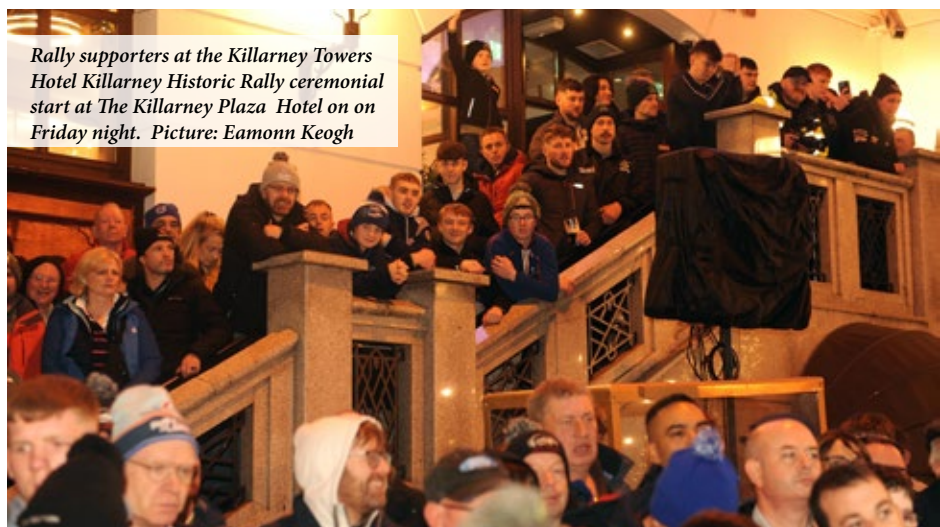
Rob Duggan and Ger Conway (overall winner Modified Category) at the Killarney Towers Hotel Killarney Historic Rally finish ramp at The Killarney Plaza Hotel on Saturday night. Picture: Eamonn Keogh



WRC champion Kalle Rovanperä and co-driver Jonne Halttunen with former WRC competitor Paul Nagle at the Killarney Towers Hotel Killarney Historic Rally finish ramp at The Killarney Plaza Hotel on Saturday night. Picture: Eamonn Keogh



Overall winners Rory Kennedy and Donagh Kelly with Alan Ring (O'Donoghue Ring Collection) and Anthony O'Connor (Clerk of the Course) at the Killarney Towers Hotel Killarney Historic Rally prizegiving ceremony in The Killarney Avenue Hotel on Saturday night. Picture: Eamonn Keogh



Rally supporters at the Killarney Towers Hotel Killarney Historic Rally ceremonial start at The Killarney Plaza Hotel on Friday night. Picture: Eamonn Keogh



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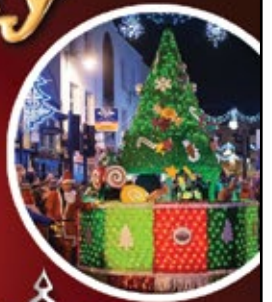
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For Lunch & Dinner

Special Christmas
DINNER MENU
FOR ONLY €32PP

Available Wed/Thurs nights
From now until 20th December.

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62 HIGH STREET, KILLARNEY



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Gort Na Vogue Ltd, Barleymount, Killarney, County Kerry, V93R2KA

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CHRISTMAS MENU

SATURDAY 14TH DECEMBER

3 Courses €30 or 2 Courses €25

STARTERS

- Radicchio, Chestnut & Blue Cheese Salad, served with a honey, olive oil & orange dressing
- Inn Between Prawn Cocktail
- Homemade Cream of Leek & Potato Soup, served with croutons & brown bread

MAIN DISHES

- All served with potato croquette, vegetables & creamy mashed potato -
- Bourbon and Maple Glazed Turkey, with Pear Chutney
- Pan Fried Trout, with lemon and garlic cream sauce
- Grilled Beef Tenderloin, with mustard & tarragon butter
- Leek, Mushroom & Sweet Potato Pie

DESSERTS

- Chef's Classic Christmas Pudding, served with vanilla custard & brandy cream
- Chocolate Orange Cheesecake, served with cream & vanilla ice cream
- Homemade Warm Apple & Berry Crumble, served with vanilla custard & brandy cream

★ Christmas Party Night

SATURDAY 14TH DECEMBER

DJ Kevin Healy-Rae will be playing 80's & 90's Music, Santa will appear with spot prizes & plenty of drink offers & cocktails on the night!!

BOOKING ESSENTIAL.

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an 8 Week Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction (MBSR) Course
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This weekly course offers an opportunity to learn practical techniques to manage stress, increase self-awareness, and bring greater peace into your daily life. As part of the course, you will also enjoy a one-day retreat in a beautiful location, specially chosen to deepen your mindfulness practice.

Spaces are limited, so book soon to reserve your place.

Dates: Weekly from Wednesday, February 12th to Wednesday, April 2nd.
Venue: Killarney Racecourse | **Time:** 9.50am - 12.20pm
Retreat Day: **Sunday, March 23rd** at Loughdale Cottage

For course details please email: mindfulnesswithmish@gmail.com
or text: 087 - 414 6901

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Indoor & Free Admission

Sat 7th/Sun 8th

11.30-5.30pm

Sat 14th/ Sun 15th

11.30-5.30 pm

Support your local craft people.



Carols by Candlelight

With special Appearance

by Jack Patrick Healy

Tuesday, 10th December at 7pm

Arbutus Hotel

Adults: €10 Kids €5

Includes Free Drink and Seasonal Candle



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January 4th Supper Club

Starring the Magnificent

Jack Patrick Healy

and dancing to the Fabulous

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Lighting of the Park at 4.30pm
The Three O's Christmas Carols in the Park at 4.30pm
Sheila's Coffee & Crepes on site all evening
Santa's final drop post box & face painting

Christmas concert

at our Lady of Lourdes Church at 5.30pm (sharp)
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€48 p.p.
3 course
meals

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Drinks
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We are now accepting
CHRISTMAS DAY TAKE AWAY ORDERS.

Cut off date to order your takeaway
Christmas dinner is
December 19th at 2pm

Subject to availability.

Christmas Dinner

Starter

Home-made Vegetable Soup
with Kerry Way Brown Soda Bread
or
Kerry Way Scotch Egg

Main

Roast Turkey Breast with honey
Glaze Ham with bread stuffing
or
Oven Baked Salmon Fillet with a
Lemon and Dill Butter

All the Trimmings

Brussels Sprouts with Bacon,
Mash Potatoes, Jacket Potato,
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& Rich Red Wine Gravy

Dessert

The Mills in Christmas Pudding
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Asking Price: €125,000
 BER: F



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Traditional two storey farmhouse in need of complete renovation, which is on a 0.91 acre site, offering potential for further development, located between Killarney Town and Gneeveguilla Village. The property would qualify for the vacant property refurbishment grant / derelict homes grant, up to €70,000.
Asking Price: €100,000
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Property Details

Back

Folio Number	KY34598F
Title Level	Freehold
Plan Number	9A
Property Number	1
Area of selected plans	1.43 hectares.
Number of Plans on this folio	2
Address	Not Available

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*Taithe Síneann Registration Boundaries and Plan Area are not conclusive. See Section 62(2) of Registration of Title Act 2006 and Rule 6(5) of the Land Registration Rules 2012.

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MONEY MATTERS....

By Dermot Cronin,
Financial Advisor



IS IT MORE DIFFICULT TO GET A MORTGAGE TO BUILD MY HOME THAN A MORTGAGE TO BUY MY HOME?

Yes, it can be more difficult. When you are building your family home there are more of risks of things going wrong than purchasing your home especially in relation to the overall cost. The most obvious and biggest risk is of course the risk of you going over your budget to build and finish your property and not having enough money to complete your home. Lenders when assessing your application need to take this risk into account. Lenders will put emphasis on the cost of construction of your property. If you are making your application through a mortgage broker they should spend time discussing the cost of the construction and loan amounts with you to make sure they are realistic and affordable. If these figures are incorrect and especially if they are too low then your mortgage application could be declined and more importantly you may not have enough money to finish the property. A big plus at the moment for people who are first time buyers and are building or buying a new property that is their family home is that there is a Help To Buy Scheme that you can apply for through the Revenue. Thankfully this was extended recently in the budget. There is up to €30,000 available through this scheme, there are terms and conditions attached to this Help To Buy Scheme. Obviously this is very beneficial in terms of reducing your overall cost and reducing your mortgage amount also. Each lenders criteria for self build mortgages is different & you need to know this before choosing a lender that suits your needs best. A mortgage broker who has access to many lenders and has a lot of experience with self build mortgages should be very helpful to you.

If you require any further information on the above or any other matter you can contact Dermot Cronin at dermotcroninifa@gmail.com or 0646622775 or 0872893649.


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Before After

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3 Days Only 5th - 7th December

HALF PRICE

Now €10/kg
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HALF PRICE

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Now €7.25/kg
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2 FOR €20
PUDDING & CAKE

NEW

NEW

SuperValu Signature Tastes Jewelled Irish Whiskey Pudding/Christmas Cake 750g - 8g (Details In-store or Online)
(Supplier of Irish Whiskey Pudding/Jewelled Christmas Cake: Seery's L.M./Heatherfield)

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MIX & MATCH

NEW

(Details In-store or Online)

€2.35 per 100g

Carroll's Crumbed/Traditional Ham Range - €23.50/kg

2 FOR €5
MIX & MATCH

€2.75 Each

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WHILE STOCKS LAST | All offers valid until December 11th, 2024.



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SAVE UP TO €2.10

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REAL REWARDS PRICE

Non Real Rewards Price: €25.71/kg - €20.45/kg
Real Rewards Price: €17.54/kg - €13.44/kg

WBS €27.49

€6

REAL REWARDS PRICE

SAVE UP TO €6.49

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Real Rewards Price: €37.55/kg

WBS €2

3 FOR €3

REAL REWARDS PRICE

Non Real Rewards Price: €16/kg - €10/kg

BIG PACK

WBS €6.97

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REAL REWARDS PRICE

SAVE UP TO €2.89

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WBS €10

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REAL REWARDS PRICE

+ €2.70 Deposit

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WBS €4.85

3 FOR €12

REAL REWARDS PRICE

Non Real Rewards Price: €57.69/kg

WBS €21.95

€15.62

REAL REWARDS PRICE

SAVE UP TO €6.18

Non Real Rewards Price: €4.25/ltr
Real Rewards Price: €3.94/ltr

WBS €20

€20

REAL REWARDS PRICE

SAVE €15

Non Real Rewards Price: €35

WBS €3.49

€2.25

NON REAL REWARDS PRICE

3 FOR €5

REAL REWARDS PRICE

Pringles Range 165g
Non Real Rewards Price: €13.64/kg

2 FOR

€6

MIX & MATCH

A magical Christmas

(Details In-store or Online)

€2.50

EACH

Keogh's Crinkle Cut Crisps Selected Range 125g - €20/kg

€3

EACH

+ 25c Deposit

MiWadi Zero Sugar Selected Range 1ltr

2 FOR €4

€2.99 Each
SuperValu 6 Deep Fill Mince Pies 372g - €8.04/kg

33% EXTRA FREE

€3.59
Boyno Valley Extra Fib/Extra Squeazy Honey 340g - €10.56/kg

3 FOR €9

MIX & MATCH

CHILL

NEW

€1.50

EACH

McVitie's Biscuits Selected Range 110g - 300g - €13.64/kg - €5/kg

€2.50

EACH

Knorr Pastaria Selected Range 150g - 163g, €16.67/kg - €15.34/kg

ONLY €4

Hellmann's Light/Real Mayonnaise Jar 400g - €6.67/kg



WHILE STOCKS LAST

All offers valid until December 11th, 2024.

KILCUMMIN

KILCUMMIN LOOKING GOOD

Save the Date! Kilcummin Looking Good are hosting a new Christmas event for the village of Kilcummin - JINGLE & MINGLE. This event will be held on the evening of Sunday 15th December from 4.30pm - 7.30pm in Kilcummin Village. Lighting of the Park at 4.30pm, The Three O's Christmas Carols in the park at 4.30pm, Christmas concert at Our Lady of Lourdes Church at 5.30pm featuring the Strong Together Choir, the Kilcummin Children's Choir and Kilcummin Comhaltas Branch. Sheila's Coffee & Crepes on site all evening, Santa's final drop post box & face painting. All are welcome.

SAVE THE DATE

Annual Pink Night Fundraiser for 'Comfort for Chemo' will take place on Saturday 4th January in the Klub Bar at 8pm. Everyone welcome, more details to follow.

KILCUMMIN COMHALTAS

Lines for Kilcummin Comhaltas Annual Christmas hamper draw will be on sale in the Post Office, Village Inn, Klub Bar and in the Rural Development Office, €2 per line or 3 for €5. There are three hampers to be won. Draw will take place on the evening of the 19th December in The Village Inn.

COMHALTAS CHRISTMAS CHOIR

Practice for Children's Christmas Eve Mass, (5pm Mass) with Martina Ryle O'Sullivan will take place in the Church on Monday 9th and Monday 16th December at 6pm to 6.45pm. All Children from 4 years old are welcome as well as musicians of all ages.

KILCUMMIN GAA

O DONOGHUE CUP FINAL 2024: Rathmore 1- 12 Kilcummin 2-07

Despite a great effort and total commitment from players and management we came up short in Fitzgerald' stadium last Sunday losing out by two points to a strong Rathmore outfit.

We started well with a Paul O Shea free and a fine long range effort from Keelan O Shea. Rathmore responded with two points but Matt Keane put us back in front after 12 minutes from play. Paul O Shea added two further points from play and from a placed ball. At this stage our defence was playing really well and we were breaking fast up field to get our scores but Rathmore settled their ship with two further points to leave us ahead by just a point with five minutes left in the first half. A quick ball out of defence found Mark O Shea bearing down on goal but the Rathmore goalie saved brilliantly. From the resultant 45 metre Matt Keane claimed the ball and finished expertly to the net. When Paul O Shea pointed a further free we led at half time by five points 1-6 to 0-4.

Rathmore started quickly in the second half and had scored a goal and a point by the sixth minute. However our players were dangerous on the break and following a great move Matt Keane stepped in again to find the net after ten minutes to leave us ahead by four points 2-06 to 1-05. Rathmore made some changes and their impact was evident as they kicked the next five points to lead by a point with five minutes remaining. Our boys were not giving up and when Paul O Shea pointed the sides were level with five minutes remaining and our supporters were hopeful, but credit to Rathmore who added two late points to run out deserving



winners despite a phenomenal effort from a young Kilcummin team. Final score Rathmore 1-12 Kilcummin 2-07.

Special mention must go to Matt Keane who was named "Man of the Match" just reward for a tremendous effort on his behalf scoring 2-01 and defending when needed.

Well done to the team and mentors and we can only benefit from the experience going forward.

Team: Brendan Kealy, Dara Stack, Chris O Leary, James Williams, Sean O Leary, Dara O Callaghan, Keelan O Shea,(0-1) Paul O Shea, (0-5) Dan Moynihan, Philip O Leary, Cian Foley, Danny Cronin, Matt Keane (2-01), Kevin Gorman, Mark O Shea. Subs used Donal Maher, Gary O Leary, Shane McSweeney, Noel Duggan.

This has been a good campaign with wins over Firies, Spa and Dr Crokes and great credit is due to the manager, James Foley, selectors D.J.Fleming and Fergal Griffin and entire backup team.

LOTTO

There was no winner on Monday 2nd December of the Jackpot for €14,750. Numbers drawn were 05,12,20,25. Consolation prizes of €50 went to Amy Arthur (online); Daniel Doona, Beaufort, |Maurice Guilfoyle, George Evans. The next draw will be on Monday 16th December for Jackpot of €15,000.

MASTERGEEHA FC

U15 NATIONAL CUP ROUND 5: Mastergeeha FC 6-2 Pike Rovers (Limerick)

Scorers; Noah Clifford (2), Daragh Keane (3) & Aidan Huggard (1). The match was played in Kilbreen Park on Saturday 30th November. Well done to our U15 team who are through to the next round of the National Cup.

LOTTO

There was no winner on Friday 29th November 2024 of the Jackpot €2,400. Numbers drawn were 09,11,20,25. Consolation prizes of €50 went to Sinéad Collins, Aghadoe; Kieran Nagle, Mastergeeha; Margaret Cahill, Currow; Gerard O'Connor, Knockanore. The next draw will be on Friday 6th December for Jackpot of €2,600.

Rambling House
CHRISTMAS RAMBLING HOUSE

A special Christmas Rambling House will be held at the Heritage Centre Scartaglen on Monday December 9th at 8pm with a visit from Santa Clause and hopefully he will bring some gifts. All are welcome, refreshments will be served.



Mia Clifford and Mila Lynch meeting Kalle Rovanner at the Historic Rally last weekend. The girls were delighted to meet Kalle who signed the girls jackets and posters.

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GLENFLESK

Written by: Sean Daly

RIP

Glenflesk GAA extends its sympathies to the family and friends of the late Stevie Shine RIP. Stevie served as Assistant Secretary in the inaugural Executive of our Club elected on 10th January 1951. May he Rest in Peace.

EVERY STEP COUNTS

Glenflesk GAA have registered for the MyLife Every Step Counts Challenge 2025. The challenge begins on 8th of January and runs until 12th of February. The goal of this challenge is to collectively hit 4,000 Km for our club and be entered into the provincial draw. The more participants on our team, the quicker we'll hit our target. This is a great post Christmas challenge and a great way of getting the Community together while getting fit also. The following are the steps to join. More information to follow nearer the start date. STEP 1: DOWNLOAD: MyLife from the App Store or Google Play Store. SEARCH: MyLife by Irish Life. STEP 2: JOIN THE CHALLENGE Go to Social > Challenges > MyLife's Every Step Counts Challenge + your province > find your club to join.

EAST KERRY LADIES

Congratulations to the East Kerry U17's on their win over Mid Kerry in the District County Final, on a scoreline of 2:06 to 0:10. Glenflesk were represented by Aoise O'Donoghue, Abbie Doherty, Muireann Healy, Sarah Warren, Cliona Moynihan, Niamh Cantillon and Paud O'Donoghue in management. Hard luck to Orlagh Brosnan and Anna Lenihan who were part of the East Kerry U13 team that lost to Mid Kerry in their final, on a score of 6:13 to 4:06.

MUNSTER FINALS

Best of luck to our East Kerry neighbours Dr Crokes & Firies in their

respective Senior & Junior Munster Finals this weekend.

LOTTO

There was no winner of Glenflesk Lotto which took place on 25/11/24 in Glenflesk Hall. Jackpot €3,800. The numbers drawn were 2, 15, 26, 27. Consolation Prizes of €50 - Lee & Josh Murphy, Lisbaby, Dan Murphy, Lisbaby (Sellers Prize), Ava Doherty, Knockanes (Yearly Ticket), Debbie O'Sullivan, Cools, Headford. Next draw will take place in Glenflesk Hall on Monday 9th December. Jackpot will be €4,000. Thank you to all who support our Lotto, our sellers and Diarmuid Lynch Plumbing & Heating Ltd for sponsoring the tickets.

WINTER SOLSTICE

Celebrate the Winter Solstice this year by climbing the sacred 'Paps of Anú' on Saturday morning 21st December, departing Garries Bridge, Glenflesk, at 6.45am. Carpooling is encouraged from The Kerry Way Pub that morning. There will be tea, coffee and scones available in the Kerry Way after the climb, which they have kindly sponsored and donations can be made here to this years worthy charity, Killarney Water Rescue, Search & Recovery Unit who provide a voluntary service 24 / 7. There will be ceol, craic and a polka set at the summit and also a traditional ceremony.

GIVE BLOOD

The Heights Hotel, Killarney Monday 9th to Thursday 12th of December. www.giveblood.ie 1800 731 137

NOTES

If you would like anything added in the notes please email to pro.glenflesk.kerry@gaa.ie by Sunday evening.

RATHMORE GNEEVEGUILLA

By Michael O' Mahony

EAST KERRY SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

Dr. O'Donoghue Cup Final Full Time

Rathmore: 1-12(15) Kilcummin: 2-7(13)

Congratulations to Rathmore team & management on winning the O'Donoghue Cup in Fitzgerald Stadium on Sunday last, last won by Rathmore 2017.

SHARE THE BUCKET

Gneeveguilla Community Facility Group reminds you that Share the Bucket takes place weekly. The draw is every Friday evening in Teach Fáilte @8.30 pm and can be viewed live on our Gneeveguilla Community Facility Group Facebook Page. This week's jackpot was €219 and the winner was Patricia Cronin. Tickets cost €2 each or 3 for €5. They are available at Teach Fáilte and can be bought online at <https://tinyurl.com/y2ade5om> or in local businesses where you see the Green Share the bucket.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Support Rathmore St. Vincent de Paul in their upcoming annual fundraisers. Many of you regularly support our work. Without this help, we simply would not be able. This year also the local Vincent de Paul group will fundraise outside Kearneys Centra, Ballydesmond on Friday 6th Dec.

9am to 2pm and Kelly's Londis, Hickeys Centra and O'Keeffe's Circle K Forecourt on Saturday 7th December from 10am to 2pm. to support those struggling. Please visit: www.svp.ie/rathmorechristmasappeal24 link for our conference fundraiser page and/or tap on our unique QR code. 100% of all money raised goes directly to people who are struggling with impossible choices this Christmas in our area. You can also donate to our Credit Union and Bank accounts details as follows: Rathmore Credit Union account (IBAN: IE02RDRN99106300120299 BIC:RDRNIE21). Millstreet AIB Bank account (IBAN: IE69AIBK9361

RATHMORE ST VINCENT DE PAUL ANNUAL FOOD APPEAL

All our local schools, creches and preschools will be involved in our annual food appeal which has been very successful in the past. Items will be collected from schools on Thurs. 5th December/Fri. Dec. 6th These donations of non-perishable food items and toiletries help to fill hampers at Christmas for needy families in our area. Our Annual SVP Church Gate Collection will taken up on This weekend 7th / 8th of December at all Churches in the parish and Ballydesmond church

Kerry Heroes of 2024 proudly supported by Fexco

Radio Kerry and Fexco are once again joining forces to honour Kerry Heroes. These heroes are individuals and groups who have shown outstanding community spirit, courage, vision and leadership in the last 12 months here in Kerry. They make us proud to be of Kerry. As 2024 reaches its close, Radio Kerry and Fexco offer you the opportunity to nominate your Kerry Heroes.

There will be eight award recipients and each will receive a specially created 2024 award, crafted and sponsored by Louis Mulcahy Pottery/Potadóireacht na Caolóige, Clogher,

Ballyferriter.

Radio Kerry are inviting the people of Kerry to let us know who they consider to be the Kerry Heroes of 2024. Who do you feel really deserves to be recognised for their work at home, in the community, at work. Plenty of well known Kerry people made us proud this year. There are also plenty of people less well known who contribute so much to our county. In either case the nominations are in your hands ... you don't necessarily have to have been the recipient of the kindness nor do you need to personally know someone to nominate them

for their outstanding contribution to Kerry.

We welcome nominations for Kerry Heroes of all ages. Please let us know, in no more than 500 words, who you wish to nominate, along with a photograph if possible by email hero@radiokerry.ie or by post to Kerry Heroes, Kerry Today, Radio Kerry, Maine Street, Tralee, Co Kerry. Closing date for receipt of nominations is midday on Monday, December 16th 2024. On Monday, December 23rd Jerry O Sullivan will announce the 2024 Kerry Heroes and honour them on a special Kerry Today programme between 9 and 11am on Radio Kerry.



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BEAUFORT

By Bridget Hartnett

LOTTO

The next draw for a jackpot of €3,600 will be on Sunday, 8th December in Galvin's. This is also the Christmas Hamper and Bottle draw with extra prizes of hampers and bottles. Tickets are available from usual sellers, shops, and public houses and online at www.beaufortgaa.com. Please note that online lotto closes at 7pm on draw night. Any tickets purchased after 7pm are entered into the next draw. Thank you to everybody who support the lotto and our lotto sellers.

SCOR NA NOG

Congratulations to Beaufort GAA Club, winners of Kerry Scor na nÓg, Tráth na gCeisteanna last week.

The Beaufort team members were Cormac and Fionán O'Sullivan, Darragh Doyle and Calum Galvin.

LOST AND FOUND ITEMS

A number of items of clothing and other items were left in the in the Clubrooms during the year. They can be claimed by contacting the Club at 087 9975737.



Beaufort, Kerry Scor na nÓg, Tráth na gCeisteanna winners.

LISTRY

Written by: Colette Leslie

LOTTO

Jackpot €5,850. Winning Numbers 3, 6, 21, 28. Not Won. €100 John Joe O'Connor, Currow. €50 Noel & Alison O'Sullivan, Listry. €50 Anthony Griffin, Milltown. Sean Browne, Killorglin Sheila Griffin, Glenbeigh. Jackpot next week : €6,000. Next Draw: December 8th

CONGRATULATIONS to Listry players Killian Fitzgerald, Sean Clifford, Danny Murphy, Cillian O Donoghue and Kealan Riordan who received their East Kerry U15s county championship medals in Spa this weekend. Kerry player Dara Moynihan presented the players with their medals. Congratulations also to Listry's Anthony Kennedy, who was a member of the management team



Pictured is left to right Killian Fitzgerald, Sean Clifford, Denis Murphy East Kerry sponsor, Danny Murphy, Cillian O Donoghue

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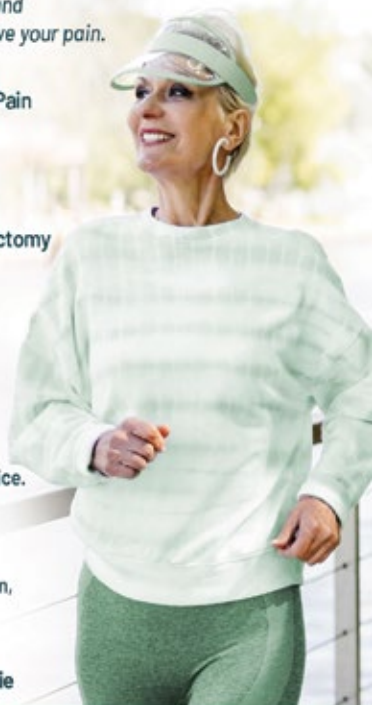
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Noreen

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ASTRID LONGHURST
Life, Inspiration & Body Confidence Coach/Author

COMMUNICATE, COMMUNICATE, COMMUNICATE!

As a life, wellness and body confidence coach, I am always looking for the best ways in which I can communicate with my clients. Some of the things that I've learned along the way is that really listening to another person is one of the best ways in which we can deepen our connection with others (and ourselves).

We all want to be heard but so often, we may find ourselves only half listening to what is really going on as we are too invested in what we are going to say next. This often leads to miscommunication and assumptions about what someone else is saying. This can lead to feelings of disconnection and pulling away from another person.

Communication isn't just in our words; it is in every part of our body. Indeed, verbal communication is only 7% of how we communicate. 38% takes place through tone and voice and the remaining 55% takes place through body language.

How to communicate better

Really listen by taking in the whole of the person. Notice their body language, get a sense of how they are feeling, listen for the type of words they use - are they mostly negative, hopeful, positive, unsure, harsh, kind etc. Clarify anything you don't understand and ask questions to make sure you have heard them correctly.

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Studies have shown the impact physical activity has on mental health and well-being is a very positive one. It is not just the body that benefits from working out but also the mind and our mindset. One such study published on January 2023 came to the conclusion that it also improves sleep patterns, improves symptoms of anxiety and also depression.

Even small amounts of physical activity can make a difference so start small if you are thinking of getting started and be consistent with it. At B Well Fitness Club we very much put the person front and centre when it comes to overall well-being. We have incorporated activities such as yoga and pilates into what we offer, we have a coaching psychologist who works on a one-to-one basis with people but also works with groups on their mindset and motivational techniques and what are the typical stumbling blocks they encounter and then provides them with tools to deal with the very things that are stalling their progress or getting in their way.

We very much want people to be body aware or mindful during their yoga or pilates practice, focusing the mind, using their breathwork and making that mind/body connection. These classes are designed to not only boost our mood but also reduce stress and anxiety.

Classes such as spinning or HIIT classes can be viewed as the other end of the spectrum when it comes to physical exertion, but each in their own way, can improve mental health as they give an endorphin release and can help to increase energy levels.

At B Well Fitness Club it is part of our mission to offer a "one-stop-shop" for our clients. Mind and body work hand-in-hand so why would we ignore one half of that dynamic. Still unsure what to do or where to go next? Why not give us a call on 087-7643449 to discuss.

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BLEPHARITIS

WHAT IS BLEPHARITIS?

Blepharitis causes eyelids to become red, swollen and inflamed. It doesn't normally cause serious damage to the eyes, but it can be very uncomfortable. It tends to be a long-term condition, which means you're likely to need ongoing treatment. Severe cases do have a risk of causing long-term damage, but fortunately these are quite rare.

TYPES OF BLEPHARITIS

There are two main types of blepharitis – anterior and posterior.

Anterior blepharitis

When the front (anterior) part of the eyelids becomes sore, this can be caused by an infection, allergy or a general sensitivity to bacteria present on the eyelids. It can also be associated with some scalp conditions, such as very dry or oily skin and dandruff.

Posterior blepharitis

Also known as meibomian gland dysfunction (MGD) is when the glands that make the oily part of your tears become blocked. Both types of blepharitis can cause dry eye or make it worse if you already have it. Many people will have a combination of blepharitis, meibomian gland dysfunction and dry eye.

RISK FACTORS

Blepharitis is more common in people over the age of 50, but anyone can develop it. This is often because the glands that make the normal tears,

particularly the oily part of the tears, tend to become less effective as you get older.

SYMPTOMS

Blepharitis can cause crusting and white scales may stick to the roots of eyelashes. Your eyelid edges may become red and your eyes will feel gritty, burning, sore or itchy. If you experience these symptoms, make an appointment with your optometrist.

TREATMENT

There is a range of products designed especially for treating blepharitis, such as sterile pads, individual moist wipes and separate cleaning solutions.

As part of the treatment, you need to remove all the crusting and debris from the edge of your eyelids and from between your eyelashes. You should use a special lid cleaning product. Treatment of blepharitis is a long-term procedure. You may not see any improvement for several weeks.

Continue the treatment twice a day for at least one month, then less often as it starts to get better. You will probably need to continue to clean your lids at least twice a week to help prevent the blepharitis from returning.

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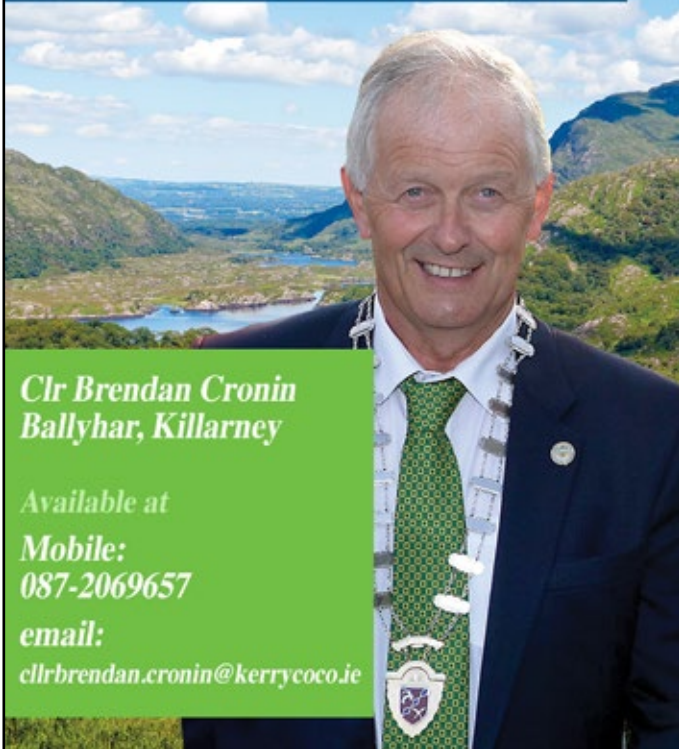
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A MESSAGE FROM
DANNY HEALY RAE



Thank You

I want to sincerely thank all the people who came out and voted for me on Friday, I want to thank and pay special tribute to my exceptionally hard working team of canvassers who stuck with me day and night to ensure every house was canvassed, I want to thank the team of people who put up the posters, organised and distributed the leaflets, those who helped on the day of the election, my very accurate tally team, my dedicated office staff and all who helped in any and every way with my campaign to ensure I was re-elected for the third time to Dail Eireann.

I also want to thank my family who supported me every step of the way.

I look forward to working to the best of my ability for all the people of Kerry.

Deputy Danny Healy Rae
Main Street, Kilgarvan, Co.Kerry

T: 064 6685315 / 087 2316055

E: Danny.HealyRae@oireachtas.ie

MOMENTOUS CAMPAIGN SEES ONE CHANGE IN KERRY

BY ANNE LUCEY

After a three-week campaign and seventeen candidates, there was only one change in Kerry. Albeit a momentous one.

Kerry returned two Fianna Fail TDs - sitting TD Norma Foley and veteran councillor Michael Cahill in a dogfight that went down to the wire, along with two sitting Independents, and one sitting Sinn Féin.

This is the third general election since we became a single constituency, combining the former three seaters of Kerry North and Kerry South.

But it will be the first time in almost 80 years Kerry will not be sending a Fine Gael TD to Dáil Éireann.

Michael Cahill, a sitting councillor with 34 years, based in Glenbeigh and Killorglin took the final seat - 757 votes ahead of sole Fine Gael candidate Billy O'Shea of Killorglin. The seat had been held by Brendan Griffin of nearby Castlemaine in mid-Kerry.

They say all politics is local. And the battle for the last seat in one of the biggest constituencies in the country was indeed local. It was in mid-Kerry.

Brothers Michael and Danny who hail from the Fianna Fail gene pool were elected for the third time.

The Sinn Féin vote was back from his huge performance in 2020. But Pa Daly, a Tralee solicitor and Sinn Féin justice spokesman comfortably took the second Kerry seat on the eight count.

Strategy told for both the Healy Raes and Fianna Fail. Healy Rae supporters voted exactly as 2020, taking into account the increase in Michael's vote. Voters in Kerry dutifully obeyed the map distributed to all houses in Kerry, "respectfully" showing us all how to vote "1&2"

Danny, narrowed into the Killarney area, received 2633 transfers - close to half Michael's surplus of 5,513, just as in 2020. A remarkable response by voters.

But this election showed that Fianna

Fail were just as clever at the end of the day. The party's first preference vote is up six percentage points to 26.23 per cent.

Norma Foley at the count centre was asked if she had sacrificed a larger personal vote in rigidly sticking to dividing the constituency.

She agreed she probably had - but this was "for the good of the party". Norma's first preference rose from 6,856 votes in 2020 to 10,302 votes in this election. "We have improved our vote spectacularly," Norma said. The three-candidate strategy had been controversial but it worked.

In contrast the Fine Gael party fragmentation - with three councillors refusing to canvass at all - meant the vote was almost halved. The fall out will continue until the next election. Or maybe a by-election.

Red Anger in Fine Gael

Having thrown away the seat, Fine Gael in Kerry is in disarray.

Former TD west Limerick and director of elections in Kerry Michael Finucane visited the press room to complain loudly about the lack of energy and input by sitting councillors in Kerry in the campaign. He included relative Jim Finucane who had retired from politics. This was on Saturday night.

There were other stories too. Michael Healy Rae sensing an opportunity had stood outside Keel church asking for "the loan" of the Fine Gael vote. Prominent blues including Fine Gael councillor Tommy Griffin made a point of shaking hands publicly with the TD, observers felt. In other words, the supporters of Fine Gael were free to vote for Michael Healy Rae, was how one of those canvassing with Michael read it. (Tommy Griffin says he couldn't avoid Healy Rae and so shook hands with him).

The voting share in ballot boxes around Keel and west Kerry told its own story - the Fine Gael vote in



Returning Officer Padraig Burke checking preferences, as the counting of votes continues on Day 2 of the 2024 General Election, Kerry Constituency count centre in Killarney. Photo: Valerie O'Sullivan



Heating up... as the counting of votes continues on Day 2 of the 2024 General Election, Kerry Constituency count centre in Killarney. Photo: Valerie O'Sullivan



Staff at Kerry County Council, checking preferences, as the counting of votes continues on Day 2 of the 2024 General Election, Kerry Constituency count centre in Killarney. Photo: Valerie O'Sullivan



Kerry's two Fianna Fail TDs, sitting TD Norma Foley and newly elected TD Michael Cahill congratulate each other.

the two Castledrum boxes slid into both the Healy-Rae and Cahill camps. Michael Healy-Rae got 180; Cahill got 171 - with just 61 for Billy O'Shea. In 2020, Castledrum delivered over 401 Number Ones for Fine Gael's Griffin with Michael Healy Rae getting just 90 votes.

The sole candidate strategy by Fine Gael headquarters and former minister Jimmy Deenihan was imposed - "parachuted without consultation" in the words of Tommy Griffin - after an apparent lack of eagerness by councillors to put their names forward. Only one councillor got stuck in on from the beginning, party loyalist Teddy O'Sullivan Casey accompanied by former councillor Patrick Scarteen.

(Tommy Griffin said he was asked to go after the local elections and said he would think about it after a holiday, but there was no further approach).

The Fine Gael vote was almost halved in Kerry - from close to 15,000 first preferences among two candidates in 2020 to just 7,932.

At the count centre on Sunday, Jimmy Deenihan laid the blame on councilors. Had the councilors nominated by members got involved at convention, this would have led "to a very different team and a very different outcome"; a hugely disappointed Deenihan said. "There will be a lot of soul-searching by us and mistakes made by us must be acknowledged and rectified and we must make sure this constituency is never again without a Fine Gael TD," Sean Kelly, MEP told me.

Rainbow coalition?

Winners and losers - the smaller parties

All candidates were winners. Respect is due to anyone who puts themselves before the public, and risks the embarrassment of getting no vote. Politicians like journalists stick their heads over the water and battle the incoming waves. This is often against the tide of populism. There was no tsunami.

There was a decent enough showing for all parties and others. The Green candidate Cleo Murphy under constant attack by the Healy Rae machine, near neighbours, need not be too disappointed. Cleo was the last of the alternative parties to be eliminated and went out with a decent 3,439 votes.

Michael Healy Rae was the only one to go over quota and increase his vote by almost three percentage points to 18,596. That was expected. The Raes have a huge well-oiled electoral machine rolled out by a

key supporter in every village and a large extended family.

Linda Gordon Kelleher got 2,024 first preferences- but then she was unknown outside Killarney and was hemmed in by the strong men - Michael Cahill and by Danny Healy Rae.

Transfer patterns between the weaker party and non-party candidates were consistent and they went out on a respectable vote. I thought to myself, if Brandon Begley, Irish Freedom Party (816) Catherina O'Sullivan of Aontú,(2897) Cian Prendeville of People before Profit, (1089) Cleo Murphy of the Greens, (3439) Michelle Keane (2,081), Labour's Mike Kennedy (2438) and Thomas McEllistrim (1181) clubbed together, and decided on a single or even a joint canvass, they would be a strong force.

Senate Seat for Billy?

The talk now is of a senate seat for Billy O'Shea. At the end of the day, for a first time candidate in any political field, O'Shea polled strongly. He was a mere 757 votes behind a politician of two generations.

Some FG councilors won't be happy but the moves are already underway to get him a senate seat. And Billy has left the door ajar in a statement post election: "Let's see what the future holds."

The senate is almost obligatory now the county is without a Fine Gael representative and has no FG senator with the death of Paul Coghlan. Jimmy Deenihan was made a senator in 1983 after failing in the general election in 1982. He won a Dail seat in 1987.



Heroes Michael and Danny Healy-Rae indulge themselves in chocolate while awaiting the long counting of votes at the count centre in Killarney on Sunday. Photo: Don MacMonagle



Heating up.. as the counting of votes continues on Day 2 of the 2024 General Election, Kerry Constituency count centre in Killarney. Photo: Valerie O'Sullivan



The Cahill family out in force to ensure that their dad Michael makes history by becoming a TD.



Billy O'Shea with his wife Emir and family as he casts his vote on Friday last.

KERRY POLITICS FOSSILISED?

Mostly male and shades of green - is politics in Kerry going backwards?

By Anne Lucey

On Monday after spending 30 hours in the count centre that sometimes felt like a 1970s dance hall, I was sent to cover a citizenship ceremony in Killarney. Ironically the ceremony was in the Gleneagle hotel, the location of the famous dancehall in the 70s.

Six thousand new Irish were being sworn in the INEC in a well managed two day event.

On Friday we voted for effectively four Fianna Fail TDs returning to Dublin along with their internationally shaded green cousin, Sinn Féin. On this note it was notable SF had no tricolours. Usually they are wrapping the count centre in them. I was amazed too not to see the green and black Palestinian flag. But like Mary Lou - there wasn't a poster of her in Tralee or Killarney - the black and green flag of Palesitne was kept in the Sinn Fein drawer. As was the tricolour.

The weekend's result reflected nothing of the new Irish diversity in this country or even in Kerry, it struck me forcibly.

We are actually lucky to have a woman TD and very lucky to have Norma Foley, a dignified presence whether on the Dail or at a count centre. She is one of only a handful of women returned by Munster voters.

Otherwise, we have four white males, all old Irish families, returning to the Dail. This does not

reflect the new Ireland. Or even the old Ireland. Politically, I always liked the mix of green and blue or even red and green that stemmed from Kerry. The county was a great Labour stronghold. It had a blue TD in one or other part to save us from the more populist and greener Fianna Fail. But not this time. In fact, it feels to me as if Kerry is crawling backwards into the past. Like a crab. At times on Sunday I felt I was back in one of the more raucous traditional dance halls of the late 1970s. Or a house dance in Mickey Meara's in Lismongane. We had a solo of Roses around Cabin Doors, by Cahill's great backer Dan Tim who recently got to drive his sheep over London Bridge. This was followed by the Rose of Tralee and other ancient ditties belted out by the Rae chorus. All very enjoyable, but all reflecting a time that is gone with decades. And that will not come back.

This and the complete lack of engagement by our own new Irish - I didn't come across a single Polish or Ukrainian or Bangladeshi person at the count over two days - apart from three Mexican nuns here for the citizenship ceremony, Is politics truly fossilised in Kerry I wondered?

Lighter shades of blue

A general election campaign leads to better

bonding in a marriage the Fine Gael candidate revealed

With transfers going everywhere and three of five seats on a knife edge, the sole Fine Gael candidate had not thrown in the towel. The Kerry five-seater constituency Killarney was still waiting for a first count late on Saturday night after almost fifteen hours of counting..

Billy O'Shea, the sole candidate, said it was "always going to be a dogfight" with Michael Cahill of Fianna Fail "as both live in the mid-Kerry Killorglin area".

O'Shea hasn't given up yet, saying "transfers are unpredictable."

"It's a battle and from my sporting background, I'm well used to battle from my sporting background. We'll wait and see what transpires." He got a good vote in North Kerry and he wanted to thank the people of north Kerry, Billy said. His main ambition was to get the Fine Gael vote out. Regardless of the outcome, it was a fantastic experience - and one that benefited his relationship with his wife Emir, with whom he had anyway a good relationship.

"Myself and my wife have bonded better and she was definitely my best supporter," he said in reference to the lively campaign wife Emir Irwin ran by his side.

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PRE NCT AND DOE TESTS

KERRY COUNTY COUNCIL STOPPING HOUSE BUILDING IN KERRY

With the country in the midst of a unprecedented housing crisis and builders are putting the blame for this squarely on the shoulders of senior management staff of Kerry County Council, accusing them of making the problem worse.

Builders have expressed the view that it is easier to build houses in Cork than it is in Kerry. In Cork, for example, builders carry out the work, a snag list of any outstanding issues is created, the builders rectify those issues and any bond funds are promptly returned to the builder. Bond funds are amounts of money held back from the builder by the bank until all work has been completed. If the council delays signing off on the completion of the snag list, the bond funds are not released back to builder and they are left out of pocket. In Cork, once the snag list has been signed off, the maintenance of any new housing development is promptly taken over by Cork County Council.

Builders claim that it is much more problematic dealing with Kerry County Council. It can take years for an official snag list to be created. The saga does not end here. When that list is finally completed, more maintenance issues are added. Builders have claimed that this final stage can take years and can add unnecessary financial stress. In effect, builders are being used to maintain an estate, post-build. In many cases, the builder ends up just forfeiting the bond, as it becomes too costly to continue completing the constant snag lists generated by Kerry County Council. Works are rarely carried out with these bond funds and ultimately the money ends up in the road maintenance programme for the whole county.

While waiting for Kerry County Council to take over the maintenance of their estate, the residents are obliged to pay for that maintenance themselves, and all the while, Kerry County Council continue their delaying tactics. These residents already pay road tax which goes towards



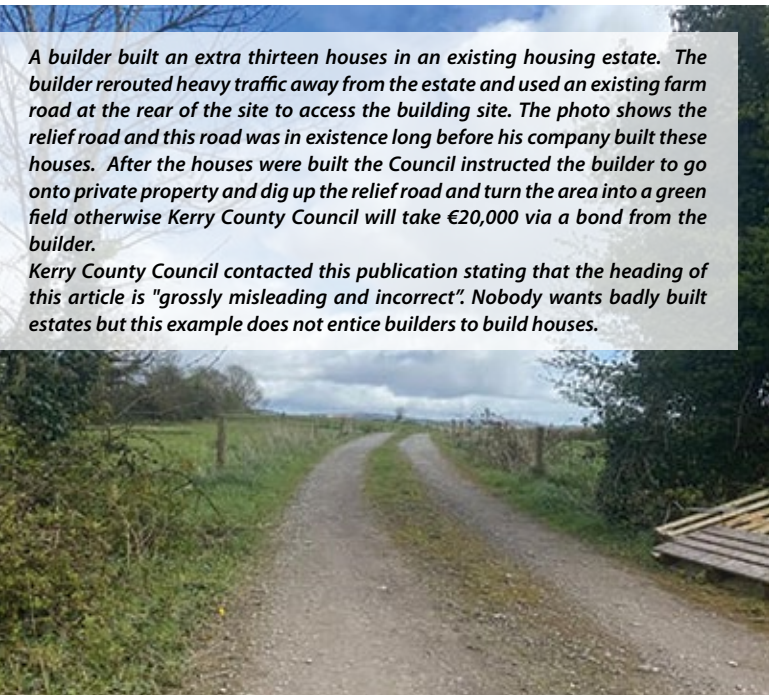
This is a photo of an item on a snag list from a builder. Kerry County Council wants the builder to remove the fence and replace it with a fence that's a few inches taller. Because there is a slope in the green area the fence measures 2 mtrs when measured from the back and 1.85mtrs when measured from the front because of the slope in the green area. Does it really matter if this fence is a few inches shorter. This is an example of the nonsense that builders have to put up with from Kerry County Council.

road maintenance. And they are also paying local property tax. Why are the most pressured group in society being treated so badly? Typically these are young people with young families struggling to pay bills and Kerry County Council has the power to make their lives a little bit easier but unfortunately, the opposite is the case.

A number of County Councillors have said that they do not have the power to change things. They were critical of council management who have just brushed their concerns aside.

A builder built an extra thirteen houses in an existing housing estate. The builder rerouted heavy traffic away from the estate and used an existing farm road at the rear of the site to access the building site. The photo shows the relief road and this road was in existence long before his company built these houses. After the houses were built the Council instructed the builder to go onto private property and dig up the relief road and turn the area into a green field otherwise Kerry County Council will take €20,000 via a bond from the builder.

Kerry County Council contacted this publication stating that the heading of this article is "grossly misleading and incorrect". Nobody wants badly built estates but this example does not entice builders to build houses.



This is a photo of a manhole that was built in 2008. This manhole is in perfect condition after sixteen years.

The specifications on building a manhole has changed recently and Kerry County Council wants all the manholes in the estate dug up and rebuild under the updated specifications and this work will cost the builder €45,000.

Kerry County Council does not accept that this decision is a gross abuse of power. There is no appeal system and no consequence for the decision makers.

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KILLARNEY VALLEY AC

The National Uneven Age and Novice Championships were held in Tramore last weekend. A huge congratulations to all our athletes who competed. You have done your club and your province proud. In the U15 Boys 3.5K Conor Duffin medaled coming 11th out of a field of 130 and also securing Gold for the Munster Provincial Team. In the U19 Girls 5K, Grace O'Meara came 17th and Maria Murnane came 26th out of 63 competitors and both scored for Munster's Bronze Provincial Team. In the U19 Boys 5K, Karl James O'Neill came 40th out of 70 competitors with a time of 17.48mins. In the Novice Men 6K, Conor Kissane came 31st out of 217 competitors with a time of 20.04mins. Don't miss your chance to start the new year strong. Killarney Valley AC will run a Couch to 5K program on 7 January every Tuesday and Thursday night for 8 weeks. You can book now on our website www.killarneyvalleyac.ie

KILLARNEY COUGARS BASKETBALL CLUB

JUVENILE NEWS

The week was busy with games at all levels with some long journeys involved with mixed fortunes throughout the week.

U16 GIRLS KERRY LEAGUE

Vixens Athea 23 Killarney Cougars 49

The Cougars made the long journey to Athea on Sunday morning and produced another strong performance to take the win. The Cougars led throughout despite a strong press from the home side but the Cougars led by 15 at halftime and finished comfortable winners, Good performances from Madison Angland, Fleur O'Neill and Zara McCarthy.

U16 BOYS KERRY LEAGUE

Cobras 61 Killarney Cougars 47

The Cougars travelled to Causeway on Monday evening last and produced a strong performance before running out of steam in the final quarter to the home side who secured the win in the closing minutes. The Cougars had good performances from Ross O'Gorman, Kevin Breen and Mark Bowler



Killarney Swimming Club members Liam O'Mahony, Adam Tomlinson, Juan Avila, StJohn Lynch, Ronan O'Leary, Zarah Tomlinson, Aoife Coffey, Maria Avila, Madeline Lynch, Aoibhinn O'leary, Natalia Spodymek.

U14 GIRLS KERRY LEAGUE

Chorca Dhuibhne 17 Killarney Cougars 37

The Cougars travelled to Dingle on Saturday evening and a strong final quarter was needed to secure the win. The Cougars led throughout the game and held a narrow advantage at half 14-11 but a big run in the final quarter ensured a deserving win. Good performances from Elise Mosca, Aoife Coffey, Mia Cox, Maria Avila, Regan O'Shea Emma Moynihan and Doireann O'Connor.

U14 BOYS KERRY LEAGUE

Killarney Cougars 50 Chorca Dhuibhne 28

The Cougars continued the winning run in the league with a comfortable win over the visitors from West Kerry. The Cougars lead by ten points in the opening quarter and were deserving winners despite a strong last quarter by the visitors. Good performances on the night by Dara O'Sullivan, James Rooney, Sean O'Sullivan and James Sheehan.

SENIOR NEWS

BASKETBALL IRELAND

National League Div 1

Killarney Cougars 87 Limerick Sport Eagles 93

A narrow loss to the Eagles was disappointing, the performance from the Cougars provided plenty of positives. The young team demonstrated resilience throughout,

particularly from young players Lynch, Malukas, Glover, and Strongman, the Cougars can look to build on this performance. Our game was generously sponsored by our Gameday partner the Bons Secours Hospital Tralee their support for the event is much appreciated, the next home fixture will see the Cougars welcome the Titans from Galway to the Presentation Gym before Christmas.

Top scorers

Killarney Cougars: Gerdas Malukas 28, Kani Glover 25, Joshua Strongman 22, Jack Lynch 4
Limerick Sport Eagles: Ignacio Folguerias 25, Alexander Carlisle 23, David O'Connell 14

KILLARNEY SWIMMING CLUB

In our final meet of the year, Killarney Swimming Club had 20 swimmers competing at the Future Challenger Meet in Tralee on Sunday.

Results: Aoife Coffey 2nd 200 Free, Aoibhinn Heinemann 2nd 200 IM, Noah Keogh 2nd 100 Free, Evan O'Donoghue 2nd 200 Free & 2nd 200IM & 3rd 100 Breast, Pdraig Quill 3rd 100 Free & 1st 50 Breast, Zarah Tomlinson 1st 50 Free & 2nd 50 Breast & 3rd 100 IM. Many of our swimmers came home with bands for achieving specific times. We gained 25 huge PBs. This was a super end to the year for the club. We will continue to train until just before Christmas.



Academy Girls from Killarney Cougars & St Colman's at the National League Division One game at the Presentation Gym on Saturday evening.



Killarney Cougars National League Div 1 team versus Limerick Sport Eagles.



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KILLARNEY ATHLETIC AFC NOTES

U14 DIVISION 2 NORTH RESULT

A solid performance by our U14B's this evening as they came away with the 3 points after travelling to Tralee to play Park.

A great response to get their season back on track after losing in their previous fixture, keep this momentum going now lads!

MOTM - Dylan O' Connor

U12 GIRLS SOUTH

Killarney Athletic White v Kenmare

1-2 to Kenmare

Athletic had a great 1st half, and went 1-0 with a fine touch from Aoife Delaney, after a great flick through from Julie Quinlan. Some great saves from Jane Brosnan kept Athletic with the lead at half time. Kenmare really came out in the second half with a determination to win and had two quick goals in the second half. Athletic tried hard to get the equaliser at least, but the Kenmare defence held strong. A good game in bad conditions. Clara O Donohue and Alannah McGlynn were excellent throughout the game.

U12 GIRLS SOUTH

Iveagh FC v Killarney Athletic Blue.

Iveagh win 6-0

A tough game in very poor conditions, wind and rain being the order of the day. The girls came up against a strong Iveagh team today. We showed some great football at times, but Iveagh were excellent on the break and got some quick goals in both halves. We were very unlucky not to get on the score board in the second half with some link up play between Rian O Donnell and Caitlin Hickey. Rian being unlucky to have her shot saved in the end.

U13 BOYS DIVISION 1

Ballyhar 4 Killarney Athletic B 1

Goal: Eric Reed

The first half was an even affair. Ballyhar were strong on set pieces and took the lead early on when Athletic failed to clear their lines. Athletic responded well and scored an equaliser before half time through a well taken finish by Eric Reed. Weather conditions deteriorated in the second half and Athletic found themselves playing into the strong wind and rain. Ballyhar, to their credit, took full advantage scoring 3 goals to claim the win.

U14 GIRLS DIVISION 1

LB Rovers 5 - 4 Killarney Athletic A.F.C. B.

Leah Heineman 3-Croi O'Carroll 1

Athletic travelled to LB Rovers today for which proved to be a very entertaining match. LB started strongly and hit the post a couple of times, but Athletic soon settled and soon pulled ahead with a fantastic goal from Leah Heineman from a tough ball through midfield which left her 1v1 with the Rovers keeper. Leah slotted the ball past the keeper for 1-0 lead. Athletic kept the pressure and Leah grabbed 2 more similar goals with tough balls from midfield. Athletic 3-0 up at half time. The second half proved to be a much changed half and LB rovers started to grab the goals and the game was level at 3-3, 15 minutes into the second half. The Athletic girls started to tire due to only 1 sub available but kept on trying. However Rovers grabbed another goal with 10 minutes left. Athletic head didn't drop and were soon level with a great goal from Croi O'Carroll. Game 4 - 4 with 5 minutes left. Athletic tiredness started to show and a long ball from Rovers resulted a snatched goal for Rovers with 2 minutes left. Game finished LB Rovers 5 - Killarney Athletic 4

U14 GIRLS NATIONAL CUP

Killarney Athletic A.F.C. 8 - 0 Castleisland

Ella Crowley 3, Lillian Slattery 2, Esme O Sullivan 1, Aoife Kelleher 1, Ellie OSullivan 1

After a slow start the whole panel of girls played a great game.

Thanks to Castleisland for a sporting game.

BALLYHAR DYNAMOS FC

TEAMS

The club u9s travelled to Milltown FC for a series of mini games during the past week. All the skills of the game were on display.

On Saturday last the u12B squad welcomed Fenit Samphires C to Murt Scott Park in a Division 2 North game. The visitors took the win on a 0-6 victory on a day of miserable weather conditions. Squad: McCarron, Collins, Cizmor, Barton, McKenna, Fox, Goodman, O Flaherty, Nolan, O Sullivan & Moynihan.

Both U13s squads also had home games with the A squad defeating Killarney Athletic B on a scoreline of 4-1. Goalscorers were Jack Duggan x 2, Darragh McLaughlin & Ruairi Casey who were well supported by Evan Greensmyth, Rueben O'Leary Griffin, Brian McMahon, Ciaran Ferris, Josh Nelligan, Diarmuid Fitzgerald, Ollie Kirwan & Liam Smyth.

The U13 B squad welcomed Listowel Celtic C and



went onto win on a 5-0 scoreline thanks to goals by Jack Cooper with a hat trick, Jack Sheehy x 1 & an unfortunate own goal. All the squad played well with Lachlann Leslie, Diarmuid Fitzgerald, Tadhg Fitzgerald, Ewan Myers, Dermot Nealon, Paddy Hurley, Euan Costelloe, Elliot Lyne, Rian Comerford all playing their part.

The club u15s squad travelled to Moneygall FC (Co. Offaly) in the 4th round of the National cup where they advanced to the last 32 in an open draw following a 3-8 victory thanks to goals from Ryan Vickers x 3, Ryan Quilter x 2 and one each from Dylan Fitzgerald, Diarmuid Casey & Jamie Murphy having led 2-3 at the break. Daniel Duggan was solid in goals with Eoin Casey, Daire Cornally, Brendan Allman, Jamie O'Brien, Alan Morteck, Adam Fleming, Jack Kelly & Sean O'Leary also effective on the day. Best of luck to the players & management in the next round.

KERRY SCHOOLBOY/GIRL SOCCER

After the weather caused widespread postponements two weekends ago, we were back to normal service at the weekend, with over 50 games taking place across local league action and National Cup and Trophy competitions.

NATIONAL

BUSY WEEKEND OF NATIONAL ACTION FOR KERRY GIRLS TEAMS

After the postponement of action last weekend, Girls National Cup and Trophy action returned this weekend, which saw a mixed bag of results for those involved.

In Round 3 action in the U12 Girls National Cup, St Brendan's Park advanced with a 2-1 win away to Ennis Town. Caoimhe Field shone for Park, scoring both of their goals to secure the win. It was a similar scoreline for Castleisland, as they



Ballyhar Dynamos FC u13 A squad following their KSB League Division 1 victory over Killarney Athletic B at Murt Scott Park on Saturday last.



Ballyhar Dynamos FC u15s who have qualified for the last 32 of the the National Cup thanks to their 3-8 away win last weekend to Moneygall FC of Co. Offaly.

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advanced in the competition with a result in a tightly contested game with Broadford United. Killarney Athletic advanced to the next round of the U14 National Cup, with a 6-0 win over Castleisland. Goals for Athletic came from Ella Crowley (2), Lillian Slattery, Esme O'Sullivan, Aoife Kelleher, and Ellie O'Sullivan. Inter Kenmare meanwhile awarded a walkover to Killavilla United.

Killarney Celtic edged out Listowel Celtic in a thrilling 2-1 encounter in Round 2 of the National Trophy. Clodagh O'Connor and Leah Mannix found the back of the net for Celtic, while Ali Sheehan scored for Listowel. Mastergeeha also progressed with a walkover against Castleisland.

Finally in Round 3 action in the U16 National Cup, Newcastle West Town claimed a hard-fought 2-1 victory over St. Brendan's Park.

KERRY BOYS SECURE SAFE PASSAGE TO NEXT STAGE OF NATIONAL CUP AND TROPHY

It proved a very impressive weekend for Kerry teams playing in National competitions at the weekend, aside from two all Kerry clashes, only one other Kerry team failed to secure safe passage.

In the U13 Boys National Cup, Newcastle West Town proved a step too far for Milltown with an impressive 6-0 victory. Elsewhere in Round 4, Dingle triumphed 6-2 over Inter Kenmare, goals by TJ Ó hAinfein (2), Conall Ó Sé, Sonai Mc an tSítigh, Tommy Ó Shúilleabháin, and an own goal helping them to victory. Inter Kenmare's goals came courtesy of Ben Leonard and Shay O'Connor. Killarney Celtic edged BT Harps in a 2-1 thriller, with David Ajibare netting both goals for Celtic to also ensure safe passage.

Listowel Celtic delivered a commanding 6-0 win against Kilfrush Crusaders in the National Trophy, powered by Michael D. O'Mahony's hat trick, Jack Heffernan's brace, and a goal from Robbie Barry. Castleisland secured a 3-1 victory over Mungret Regional, to also advance in the 13's National Trophy.

Mastergeeha showcased their attacking flair in a 6-2 win over Pike Rovers B, while Ballyhar Dynamos also delivered an attacking masterclass against Moneygall with an 8-3 win. Ballyhar's Ryan Vickers led the charge with a hat trick, supported by Ryan Quilter (2), Jamie Murphy, Diarmuid Casey, and Dylan Fitzgerald. The pair ensured safe passage into the next round of the

15's National Cup, with emphatic results. Elsewhere in Round 3 action of the U15 Boys National Trophy, in a tightly contested match, Killarney Celtic edged Castleisland 2-1. Luke Clancy and Kiernan Kelly scored for Celtic, while Ronan O'Connor provided Castleisland's lone goal. St. Brendan's Park displayed their attacking exploits with a 7-1 win over Lough Derg.

**GIRLS
NARROW WINS IN 12'S NORTH**

One goal proved the difference in both games in the 12's Girls North at the weekend, Camp Juniors and Fenit securing all three points courtesy of one goal margin results.

Camp Juniors came out on top in a hard-fought 2-1 victory against Tralee Dynamos. Rosa Gordillo scored for Dynamos, but Camp had enough in the tank to secure the points. Elsewhere, Fenit secured a narrow 1-0 win over LB Rovers, thanks to a crucial goal by Saoirse Reen.

TITLE RACE HEATS UP IN 12'S SOUTH

Iveragh and MEK are now deadlocked at the summit of the 12's Girls South after the weekend's events, three points clear of the chasing pack.

MEK displayed a dominant attacking performance to claim a 5-2 victory over Inter Kenmare B. Emily Kavanagh and Abbie Coffey Straka each scored twice, while Amelia Breen added another goal for MEK. Inter Kenmare B's goals came from Fallon O'Shea and Laoisa Smyth.

Iveragh also showed their clinical nature, with a 6-0 win over Killarney Athletic A. Elsewhere Inter Kenmare A narrowly edged out Killarney Athletic B in a tightly contested match. Laoisa Smyth and Lily Noonan Murphy were the scorers for Inter Kenmare A, while Aoife Delaney provided the lone goal for Killarney Athletic B.

LB ROVERS SECURE HARD FOUGHT WIN IN 14'S DIVISION 1

It was a hard earned three points for LB Rovers on Saturday, as their U14 Girls battled against Killarney Athletic. The result very much keeps LB in the title race, as they sit three behind the leaders and are tied with Killorglin in second.

In a thrilling nine-goal encounter, LB Rovers edged out Killarney Athletic B with a 5-4 victory. Eilidh Cregan starred with a hat trick, while Kitty Dineen and Seoda Barron each added a goal to secure the win for LB Rovers.

KILLARNEY CELTIC EXTEND UNBEATEN RUN IN 16'S PREMIER

Three wins from three has Killarney Celtic looking quite strong in the early part of the season, as they sit three points behind the leaders Camp Juniors. Listowel Celtic meanwhile picked up their first win of the season at the weekend.

Killarney Celtic were at their sparkling best in a 6-0 victory over Killarney Athletic. Holly Forrest led the way with two goals, while Amelia Carroll Kelly, Ali Bowler, Sadbh O'Brien, and Sadbh O'Halloran each added to the tally.

Listowel Celtic impressed with a strong 4-1 win against Inter Kenmare. Laura Meehan starred with two goals, supported by strikes from Éadaoin Larkin and Leona Meaney.

**BOYS
LB ROVERS SET THE PACE IN 13'S DIVISION 1**

Five wins out of five has LB Rovers top of the pile in the U13 Division 1 table, another hard earned three points keeping the chasers Killarney Celtic B narrowly behind.

In an exhilarating nine-goal thriller, LB Rovers edged past Tralee Dynamos with a 5-4 win. Jake Bennett and Michael Pierce scored two goals each, with Will Keane adding another, to secure a dramatic win for LB Rovers.

Killarney Celtic B sit a point behind, as they shared the spoils in a tightly contested 2-2 draw with St Brendan's Park B. Jace Flynn and Mark Van Der Merwe were on target for Celtic. Elsewhere Ballyhar put on an attacking masterclass, with a 5-1 victory over Killarney Athletic B. Eric Reed scored the lone goal for Athletic.

ATHLETIC STEP UP TITLE RACE IN U14 DIVISION 2 NORTH

Killarney Athletic are now just a point behind the leaders Dingle as they picked up another three points at the weekend.

Athletic B delivered a dominant performance defeating Park C 6-0. Conor Brosnan, Dylan O'Connor, Dylan Treimut, Nathan Jordan, and Robert Sychta were amongst the Athletic goal scorers.

DYNAMOS AND MEK MAKE THREE HORSE TITLE RACE IN 15'S DIVISION 1

Wins at the weekend for Tralee Dynamos and MEK Galaxy, saw the pair join Castleisland on nine points, as all three have staked an early claim to the league title.

Tralee Dynamos put on an attacking clinic with an 8-2 victory over Fenit. Danny Lane led the charge with an incredible four goals, supported by strikes from Eddie Carmody, Jaden Kareem, and David Cullinan, along with an own goal.



Killarney Athletic U14 Girls



Kerry U12 Girls Inter League team

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Fenit's efforts saw Evan Neary and Cormac Lawlor each score.

MEK secured the points with a 3-0 win over Listowel Celtic. Harry O'Mahony was the star of the match with a brace, while Oisín Nagle added a goal to complete a strong performance for MEK.

KILLARNEY CELTIC

CELTIC LOTTO

Numbers drawn 3,16,18,27. No jackpot winner. Match 3 winners received €75. Next jackpot €14,000 on Monday December 9th. Tickets available from The Dungeon Bookshop, Amber Shop (Top of Ross Road), club members and online through clubzap.

CHARLEVILLE CHEESE PREMIER

Killorglin AFC 3-4 Killarney Celtic

Stephen McCarthy 4

Celtic collected another win in Premier A last weekend. Celtic were always in the driving seat but Killorglin never gave up and pushed all the way to the final whistle. Stephen McCarthy got all 4 goals to finish off good approach work.

CHARLEVILLE CHEESE PREMIER B

Killarney Celtic B 1-2 Mainebank

Stephen McCarthy

CHARLEVILLE CHEESE U17

Castleisland AFC 3-0 Killarney Celtic

Celtic battled hard but tired in the late stages of the game and Castleisland capitalised to gain the victory.

U15 SFAI NATIONAL CUP

Castleisland AFC 1-2 Killarney Celtic

Luke Clancy, Kiernan Kelly

In a fine contest Celtic got over the line away to Castleisland. Celtic hit the front when Luke Clancy found the net but Castleisland were back on level terms by half time. The 2nd half was a close affair but Celtic grabbed the win late on when Kiernan Kelly goaled to send Celtic into the open draw.

U15 DIV 2

Killarney Celtic B 1-1 Mastergeeha

Simon Sirotiak

Celtic B played out a 1-1 draw with Mastergeeha last Saturday. Mastergeeha hit the front in the 2nd half when they counter attacked off a Celtic play. Chances came and went begging before Simon Sirotiak finally found the net to reward the good play of the Celtic squad.



Killarney Celtic U15B squad vs Mastergeeha

U13 SFAI NATIONAL CUP

Killarney Celtic Green 2-1 BT Harps

David Ajibare

In a good contest Celtic qualified for the next round of the SFAI National Cup after coming from behind against BT Harps. David Ajibare was put through and he finished smartly to level the game up and the teams retired to the break at 1 apiece. Celtic continued to press in the 2nd half and the winner came when good midfield pressure forced a backward pass which David Ajibare latched onto and finished to the net to give Celtic the win.

U13 DIV 1

St Brendans Park B 2-2 Killarney Celtic White

Jace Flynn, Mark Van Der Merwe

In an exciting contest Celtic White played out a draw in Tralee. Celtic hit the front through Jace Flynn before Park responded to lead 2-1 at the break. Celtic gained a deserved point when Mark Van Der Merwe hit a screamer to the net late in the game.

U13 DIV 2 NORTH

Killarney Celtic Stripes 0-4 St Brendans Park C

Celtic Stripes tried hard but Park were a little too strong on the day.

U13 DIV 2 SOUTH

Killarney Celtic Hoops 2-1 Dingle Bay B

Conor Randles, Oliver Reczetar

Celtic Hoops kept up their recent good work with a hard fought win over Dingle Bay. 0-0 at half time. Celtic opened the scoring when Conor Randles lobbed the ball over the keeper and they doubled their lead when Oliver Reczetar finished from close range. Dingle pulled 1 back

but Celtic held on for the win.

GIRLS

U17 PREMIER

Killarney Celtic 4-0 Iveragh

Michelle O Connor 2, Niamh Fitzgibbon 2

Celtic gained a good win after a fine 1st half. Celtic led 4-0 at the break. The 2nd half was a tighter affair but Celtic controlled matters to take the win.

U16 PREMIER

Killarney Celtic 6-0 Killarney Athletic

Holly Forest, Amelia Carroll Kelly, Ali Bowler, Sadhbh O'Brien, Sabh O'Halloran

Celtic ran out convincing winners in this local derby.

U14 SFAI NATIONAL TROPHY

Killarney Celtic 2-1 Listowel Celtic

Clodagh O'Connor, Leah Mannix

Our young squad gained a fine win last weekend. Listowel with the aid of the wind led 1-0 at the break. Clodagh O'Connor struck to get Killarney level and Leah Mannix put Killarney in front. Listowel threw everything at the Killarney goal in the last few minutes as they strove to equalise but Killarney withstood the pressure to hold on for the win.

CONGRATS to Mark Van Der Merwe and Colm O'Sullivan who made the KSBGL team of the Week. Congrats to Clodagh O'Connor and Holly Forest who made the Girls Roll of Honour.

Congrats to all the girls who finished the Disney Playmakers programme and many thanks to Geraldine, Caoimhe and Sofia for their help in running the programme.



Killarney Celtic U13 National Cup



Killarney Celtic U14 Girls National Trophy



Transition Year students from St. Brendan's College presenting over €850 they raised on a 'no uniform day' in aid of the the Killarney Lions Club annual Christmas Food Appeal. Pictured are: John Fuller, Killarney Lions Club, Fionn Doyle, Shay McCormack, Cathal Regan, Rory O'Connor, Thomas Harrison, Ian O'Leary, Ivan O'Shea, Conor Regan, Jack Spillane and TY Coordinator Eimear Buckley.



Patricia Foley BarleyMount, Fossa after 24 years with St John of God's Kerry Service, Beaufort with her present and past colleagues in Jack's Restaurant, Cromane last weekend

The Week Through the Eye of the lens



Sean O'Sullivan, pictured at his graduation in Property Services & Auctioneering with his parents John O'Sullivan and Aisling Crosbie and his sisters Keelin and Abbie.



Dana Daneshvari, General Manager, Johnson & Johnson Innovative Medicine; and Dr Alan Morrison, Vice Dean Undergraduate Affairs, UCC, are pictured with Kate Mary Murphy, Killarney, a UCC student, at Thomond Park, Limerick to mark her receipt of a scholarship from global healthcare company, Johnson & Johnson, as part of its WiSTEM2D Programme. Picture: Conor McCabe Photography.



Mike Foley, Killian Spillane and Sean O'Sullivan pictured at their graduation in Property Services & Auctioneering at Cork College of Commerce.



Fuschia Ward, Killarney Community Hospital enjoying there Christmas night out in The Ross Hotel.

U20 NATIONAL LEAGUE ST PAULS VS MOYCULLEN

KILCUMMIN NS GYM

**ST PAULS 98
MOYCULLEN 67**

Report by Enda Walshe

After an opening day defeat to Tralee Warriors St Pauls bounced back this afternoon with a comfortable win over Moycullen and got their first U20 National League under their belts.

They were dominant from the first tip with Eoin Carroll quickly into his stride. Jack O Sullivan did the heavy lifting also in terms of scoring but Mark Sheehan and Oisín Spring laid the platform for a lot of good work in the opening quarter.

With a 31-14 lead Adam Whitty and TJ O'Sullivan saw court time in the second quarter with Shane Daly and John Hughes also influential with O Sullivan and Carroll again leading the way in scoring.

Moycullen got into the game much better in the third quarter National league player Cian Walsh their leading light. Oisín Spring and Shane Daly made sure the lead was still healthy at 68-47.

The fourth quarter saw Adam Whitty and John Hughes get on the scoresheet and Mark Sheehan hit a purple patch beyond the arc. With the game safe it was good to see U18 players Dara O Sullivan and Cathal Spring on court, emulating their brothers Jack and Oisín. Coach Tim O Sullivan, ably assisted by Paul Sheehan will be very happy with the 98-67 win. They will play the Limerick Celtics early in the New Year.

Shane Daly(6), John Hughes (4), Oisín Spring (9), Dara O Sullivan, Cathal Spring, Adam Whitty (4), Eoin Carroll(30), TJ O Sullivan(3), Mark Sheehan (15), Jack O Sullivan (27).

SCOTTS LAKERS VS LIMERICK CELTICS MATCH REPORT

**MENS BASKETBALL LEAGUE
SATURDAY NOVEMBER 30TH
CRESCENT COLLEGE GYM**

**LIMERICK CELTICS 106
SCOTTS LAKERS 70**

Report by Enda Walshe

Storm Bert may have wreaked havoc in many

parts of the country last weekend but Scotts Lakers ran into a hurricane of a different kind upon their visit to the Crescent College Gym on Saturday night. They travelled with six wins in their locker to take on an unbeaten Limerick Celtics side who had taken on all comers and left a trail of destruction in their wake. It would prove to be a tough night at the office for the young Lakers side but one that can definitely take lessons from.

Following on from last weekend's encounter with the Portlaoise Panthers they have now measured themselves against the two strongest sides in the division and have seen first hand the standard that is there to reach. The Celtics have the look of a squad with designs on the Superleague and if they continue to perform in this manner it may well be only a matter of time before they fulfil that aim.

The game started in a hail of bullets with both sides sharing six three pointers equally. Abdul Oladipupo and Mikah Blackwell got the Lakers up and running but ominously Finn Hughes, Abdul Wurie and Ariyon Williams got their eyes in. The open nature of the contest continued as both sides traded blows with Eoin Carroll and Jack O Sullivan on target. With the Celtics not quiet on their game from outside Wurie was a pest inside and he hit seventeen points in the first quarter. Eoghan Donaghy did eventually land one from outside for the Treaty Men but Darnell Snyers, Jack O Sullivan and Carroll had the Lakers nicely placed at 30-25 at the end of a free flowing quarter.

The opening minutes of the second quarter saw the Celtics blow up a storm with fifteen points in a spellbinding four minutes. Hughes got his radar dialled in from outside with Chima Obikwelu sitting in for Wurie. Eoin Carroll tried to stop the rot but Williams was now rampant at point guard with the onslaught showing no let up. Oladipupo and Blackwell did respond but they were left reeling by further threes from Williams and Hughes to finish the half, a period in which the Celtics hit ten three pointers.

Oladipupo, who had his best outing of the season for the Lakers, started the third quarter in determined fashion and alongside Blackwell they hit the opening eight points of the period. That only served to poke the sleeping bear with Hughes and Williams awaking from their slumber and Wurie reintroduced himself to the game with another basket. With the result not in doubt both sides shuffled their pack giving their benches a run out with the Celtics definitely taking their foot off the accelerator. Oladipupo battled away with Oisín Spring and Shane Daly now on court but such was the nature of the Celtics display you'd almost expect them to score from the car park next.

Jamie O Sullivan did hit a three with Blackwell netting from the free throw line.

At 90-52 the game was well over at the start of the fourth quarter but credit to the Lakers they kept their heads up. Mark Sheehan and John Hughes tried to bring their energy to the game and Jamie O Sullivan, Carroll and Blackwell kept the scoreboard ticking over. Sean Ryan made use of his extended court time for the Celtics to help them break the century mark and continue their remarkable winning run in the league. Eight of their nine wins have been by a margin greater than 25 points so the Lakers find themselves in familiar company. The Celtics juggernaut rolls on!!

Despite being on the wrong end of the result Mikah Blackwell finished at the game top scorer with 29 points, Abdul Oladipupo shot 18, Eoin Carroll 8, Jack O Sullivan 6, Jamie O Sullivan 5, Darnell Snyers 4.

Finn Hughes hit 26 for the Celtics, Ariyon Williams netted 25 and Abdul Wurie had 23.

For the Lakers they will now be looking to get back to winning ways when they travel to Tipperary to face the Talons. There is no disgrace in losing to seasoned sides like the Panthers and the Celtics but they will be looking to snap out of that run when they head to Scoil Ruain in Killenale. It is a repeat of the Round 2 fixture earlier this season when they came out on top on an 80-76 scoreline in Killarney Sports and Leisure Centre. This game is brought forward from its original date of Saturday December 28th and tip off is at 6.30pm.

UTILITY TRUST ST PAULS VS TRINITY METEORS MATCH REPORT

**WOMENS SUPERLEAGUE BASKETBALL
SATURDAY NOVEMBER 30TH
TRINITY SPORTS CENTRE**

**TRINITY METEORS 75
UTILITY TRUST
ST PAULS 62**

Report by Enda Walshe

Trinity Meteors took the league honours ahead of the National Cup quarter final re-match next weekend and will have given Coach James Fleming plenty to ponder ahead of that tie. Central to his thinking will be to limit the influence of Morgan Linehan who tormented the St Paul's defence all

evening and finished with 27 points. Emma Merriweather was a big influence in the paint while Grace Prenter put the finishing touches around the edges.

St Pauls were without the services of the hugely influential Rheanne O'Shea and the GAA tied Lorraine Scanlon and their absence was certainly felt at both ends of the court. All that being said they were well in the game for long periods but a costly spell at the end of the third quarter and the start of the fourth saw the Dublin side put enough daylight between them to carry the spoils.

Megan Ormiston opened the scoring but Lenehan and Merriweather soon got into their rhythm and the teams were tied at 10-10 early doors. Gracen Kerr was influential in the point for St Pauls at this stage but Katie Walshes first act of the game for Meteors was to hit a three from downtown. Lenehan danced in again to make it a seven point game, 17-10 but Kerr stole in for a smooth bucket soon followed by a Mathilde Diop effort and that helped to squeeze up the game.

Lenehan struck early in the second but Denise Dunlea found Ormiston with a nice pass to net. Despite a Grace Prenter three point play, St Pauls enjoyed their best period of the game thanks to the promptings of Diop and Kerr. Ormiston did all the hard work

to put her side within three with Siofra O Shea hitting a big three to level matters. Both teams were now in foul trouble, something Kerr profited from but Sarah Kenny and Lenehans both hit timely threes. Still St Pauls stayed in the conversation with Dunlea, Diop and Kerr making it a four point halftime deficit, 39-35.

The four point lead was maintained at the start of the third quarter in spite of a Leah McMahon three. Simeone O Shea was prominent too in this phase of the game with her five points closing the gap to three, 48-45. Lenehan was conducting the orchestra but it was the late contribution of Catherine Connaire that defined the third quarter, her late points making it a nine point advantage, 56-47.

Simeone O Shea struck from the outside the arc and with Emma Merriweather on the bench with four fouls there was a whiff of a win in St Pauls nostrils. But in the blink of an eye Katie Walshe and tormentor in chief Lenehan came up with two big plays, yielding six points. Sarah Kenny then took up the mantle with support from Prenter and as St Pauls scoring efforts dried up it meant Meteors opened up the biggest lead of the night, 71-52. With the cup tie in mind St Pauls then summoned up a renewed momentum with Meabh Barry kicking off a 10-0 scoring

run. Ormiston and Kerr followed suit but Merriweather, back on court and Lenehan eased the loss to a 75-62 win.

Gracen Kerr top scored for St Pauls with 20 points, Megan Ormiston had 16, Simeone O'Shea 8, Mathilde Diop 7, Leah McMahon 3, Denise Dunlea 3, Siofra O Shea 3, Meabh Barry 2.

Morgan Lenehan led the way for the winners with 27, Emma Merriweather 14, Grace Prenter 12, Sarah Kenny 7, Catherine Connaire 6 and Katie Walshe 5.

The two sides will meet again next Saturday in the Paudie O'Connor National Cup with the game being played in Colaiste Iosagain at 5.30pm. The Cup is of course named in honour of Killarney's own Paudie who was such a leading light in Irish basketball in the 1970s and 80s. A trailblazer before his time he revolutionised the basketball scene in the country with his introduction of American players. Coach James Fleming would dearly love a run in the competition having grown up in the same neck of the woods as Paudie and with the promise of a full deck to pick from they will be plotting revenge on the Dublin side. The winner will then feel the excitement of a cup weekend with the semi finals pencilled in for mid January.

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DEERPARK PITCH & PUTT CLUB

CHRISTMAS TURKEYS

Results of Round 3 last Sunday. Fourball Betterball- First Nett: Sean O'Brien & James Foley 36, Gross: Gearóid Cronin & Daniel Kelly 44, Second Nett: Ger Casey & Dan Kiely 38. Same again this Sunday with usual draw times of 9am and 10.45am. Entry: €5 per draw.

CE SCHEME

A vacancy has arisen on our CE Scheme for the New Year. Please contact Club Chairman Sean Kelly on 086 0508686 for further information.

PRE-CHRISTMAS GET TOGETHER

We look forward to seeing everyone tonight (Friday December 6th) beginning at 9.30pm sharp. Prizes being presented on the night include (i) Victoria House Hotel Multicard, (ii) Club Matchplays (Adult) and (iii) Christmas Hamper. We ask all prizewinners in these competitions to note same. The Dan O'Leary Memorial Shield for Club Person of the Year will be presented on the night also.

U16 PRESENTATION

Scheduled for Saturday December 14th. More details nearer the time.

ST STEPHEN'S DAY

Our 18-Hole Three Ball Scramble for the Danny Nolan Memorial Cup (Nett Winners) and Johnny Kelly Memorial Shield (Gross Winners) will take place again this year on Thursday December 26th at 10am. More details nearer the time.

DEEPEST SYMPATHIES to the family of former Councillor Donal O'Grady on his death last week. May he Rest in Peace.

KILLARNEY GOLF & FISHING CLUB (LADIES)

CONGRATULATIONS to Ursula Daly and Pdraig O'Sullivan winner of the Mixed Foursomes Club Championship 2024

NEXT FIXTURE will be on 8th December 2024. 11 Hole 3-person team event on Killeen Course.

ROSS GC, KILLARNEY

RESULTS

On December 1st we held the Christmas Hampers Competition, kindly sponsored by Killarney Race Co.

The winners were

- 1st: Peter Wickham 35 (11)
- 2nd: David MacIndoe 32 (4)
- 3rd: Timmy O'Donoghue 32 (22)
- 4th: Brendan Collins 31 (21)
- 5th: Donie Broderick 31 (16)
- 6th: Thomas Horan 30 (18)
- 7th: Alan Flynn 30 (5)

Division 1

- 1st: Aidan O'Connor 30 (9)
- 2nd: Niall O'Brien 29 (11)

Division 2

- 1st: Michael J O'Sullivan 30 (13)
- 2nd: Maurice O'Shea 30 (14)

Division 3

- 1st: Denis O'Riordan 30 (40)
- 2nd: Eoin Moriarty 29 (40)



JIMMY O'SULLIVAN-DARCY

takes a look at all things sport...

RATHMORE FIGHT BACK TO CLAIM EAST KERRY TITLE

O'DONOGHUE CUP FINAL:

Rathmore 1-12 Kilcummin 2-7

Kilcummin and Rathmore is a relatively unusual pairing for an East Kerry Championship Final – their only previous meeting at this stage was back in 2005, with the honours going Rathmore's way on that occasion. Rathmore had completed a four in a row back in 2017, but Kilcummin had prevailed over three-in-a-row Dr. Crokes in their semi-final and both teams entered the Fitzgerald Stadium pitch with real intent and ambition.

Kilcummin drew first blood, Paul O'Shea winning and dispatching a close-range free, having switched early on with Kevin O'Gorman from his midfield berth. At the other end John Moynihan almost nipped in for a goal chance, but an alert Kilcummin managed to clear their lines and Keelan O'Shea doubled their advantage off his left leg.

Ciarán Collins opened Rathmore's account in the sixth minute after good work by Cathal Ryan and a foul on John Moynihan saw Shane Ryan level matters with a free. The Kerry keeper, a deadly forward for his club side, was very narrowly wide with a long range effort.

Rathmore were playing a strong press, but Kilcummin were astute in kicking long balls forward and Matt Keane neatly drilled over a score to nudge them in front. Rathmore's defence were very impressive, Dan Murphy in particular, but they were struggling to get their attack moving. Kilcummin looked more dangerous, taking a 0-4 to 0-2 lead through Paul O'Shea after Cian Foley was fouled, and that pair combined again for Paul to put three points between them.

Rathmore sparked into life, Fionn Murphy kicking a great score. Dan Murphy rose high to claim the kick-out and set up Ciarán Collins to clip over. 0-5 to 0-4.

Paul Murphy fisted a good ball across the Kilcummin square, but Rathmore couldn't get a solid fist onto it and once again Kilcummin broke clear. A fantastic kick-pass by James Williams found Mark O'Shea in acres of

space and he bore down on goal, only to be denied by a superb save by William Casey. It seemed as if the big danger was avoided when Shane Ryan's '45 fell short and was fisted clear by a defender. Matt Keane had other ideas, scooping up the loose ball and jinking into space before unleashing a thunderbolt with his left leg. The ball flew past the crowded square and nestled perfectly into the top corner for a stunning goal. Kilcummin were suddenly energised, winning the kick-out and Paul O'Shea slotting over another free to leave a sudden five point gap between the teams.

Half-time Kilcummin 1-6 Rathmore 0-4

Rathmore needed a strong start to the second half and got exactly that. Cathal Ryan set up Shane for a point. Alan Dineen was being closely marshalled when Fionn Murphy sent a good ball in his direction and the wily half back, who was drifting forward a lot at this stage, managed to get just enough of a connection to divert it to the net. All of a sudden it was 1-6 to 1-5 and the game was bubbling in the melting pot.

However, Kilcummin gratefully gobbled up a somewhat wayward kick-out and were practically queueing up for the goal, Matt Keane giving the keeper no chance from close range.

Kilcummin were dropping a bit deeper now, allowing the likes of Brendan O'Keeffe and Dan Murphy to push Rathmore forward.



Action from the O'Donoghue Cup Final. Photo: Anne Holland, East Kerry

John Moynihan claimed and executed a neat mark. Mark Reen, just off the bench, proved his worth instantly with a fine score. Gary O'Leary had an effort at the other end, but it was well gathered by William Casey. A foul on John Moynihan saw Shane Ryan fire over to leave just a single point between the teams. Kilcummin temporarily lost Kevin O'Gorman to a black card for a late tackle on Alan Dineen as he was racing through. Rathmore still dominated possession, but the scoring chances appeared to be drying up under good Kilcummin defensive pressure. Two chances sailed wide. Dan Murphy made a great burst through the packed defence but couldn't quite get his shot off. Mark Reen had an effort fall short. Time was ticking away now and the equaliser was proving very elusive.

When it did arrive, though, it was a thing of beauty, an absolutely superb score from very



Action from the O'Donoghue Cup Final. Photo: Anne Holland, East Kerry

Action from the O'Donoghue Cup Final. Photo: Anne Holland, East Kerry



long range by Shane Ryan.

Level pegging with six minutes of normal time left. Rathmore were the more confident side now. Paul Murphy really stepped up, winning a free for Mark Reen before gathering from Shane Ryan on the run and clipping it over – a less experienced footballer might have been tempted to chance a goal, but Paul was shrewd enough to know the value of a two point lead at that stage. He soon made it three as he fisted over, rendering Kilcummin's lone second half point from Paul O'Shea moot and leaving the famous Dr. Paddy O'Donoghue Memorial Cup making its way to Rathbeg for the ninth time in its history.

Rathmore: William Casey, Cian Dineen, Dan Murphy, Fionn Holohan, Alan Dineen (1-0), Paul Murphy (0-2), Brendan O'Keeffe, Fionn Murphy (0-1), Cathal Ryan, Pádraig Moynihan, Ciarán Collins (0-2), Darragh Rahilly, James Darmody, Shane Ryan (0-4, 2f), John Moynihan (0-1, 1m). Subs Andrew Moynihan (for Pádraig Moynihan, half-time), Mark Reen 0-2, 1f (for James Darmody, 37), Brian Friel (for Darragh Rahilly, 46), Cian O'Connor (for Fionn Holohan, 59)

Kilcummin: Brendan Kealy, Dara Stack, Chris O'Leary, James Williams, Seán O'Leary, Dara O'Callaghan, Keelan O'Shea (0-1), Paul O'Shea (0-5, 3f), Dan Moynihan, Philip O'Leary, Cian Foley, Danny Cronin, Matt Keane (2-1), Kevin Gorman, Mark O'Shea. Subs Gary O'Leary (for Danny Cronin, 38), Donal Maher (for Keelan O'Shea, 46), Shane McSweeney (for Mark O'Shea, 58) Referee: Pádraig O'Sullivan (Furies)

WEST AND NORTH KERRY FINALS

Dingle were always red hot favourites to lift a historic seventh West Kerry Final in a row and so it proved, even with Paul Geaney having a penalty saved. Listowel Emmets weren't quite as hotly tipped against Desmonds in the North Kerry Final but ended up having six points to spare.

NERVELESS CLANMAURICE

WIN A THRILLER TO BOOK ALL IRELAND BERTH

Clanmaurice 1-15

St Brigid's 2-10

Clanmaurice looked very sharp out of the starting blocks, with Caoimhe Spillane notching a fine opener. St. Bridgets responded through Aisling O'Dea, but Patrice Diggin registered her first score and livewire Amy, whose pace hurt the Laois outfit all day, clipped over two more. Aisling O'Dea converted her and St. Bridget's second score but they clocked up two scoreable wides from frees – to be fair, there was a tricky enough swirling wind in a heavy enough Bansha pitch. Amy took her own tally to 0-4 already and put Clanmaurice 0-5 to 0-2 in front. St. Bridgets were already making changes to try and limit the damage the lightning corner forward was inflicting.

Whether as a result of those changes or not, St. Bridgets suddenly roared into life. Aoife Finlay pounced on a loose sliotar in midfield and found Aisling O'Dea, who laid off to their main scorer Eimear Hassett for a point. She soon added another and star player Clodagh Tynan split the posts. 0-5 apiece and level pegging. Clanmaurice's full back line were under pressure now but coping admirably, while Aoife Behan, Kate Lynch, and Patrice Diggin were just about winning the tight battles for possession.

Just when it seemed that the pendulum was swinging away from Clanmaurice, back they came again, Behan sending in a high ball. That's meat and drink to Jackie Horgan, who judged it perfectly, swivelled, and blasted to the net. A free from Patrice Diggin closed out the first half with Clanmaurice just about deserving of their four point lead, but everybody knowing that the second half was going to be a real battle.

That was confirmed straight away as St. Bridgets fired over the first two points of the second half through Jessie Quinlan and an Eimear Hassett free. Patrice Diggin slotted over a free to restore the goal between the teams, and added two more points, one from play. Caoimhe Spillane made it a six point

game and things looked good for the Kerry outfit heading into the fourth quarter.

Aisling O'Dea, who along with Laura Finlay was excellent all through for St. Bridgets, trimmed the gap back to five. A high ball into the Clanmaurice square was left a fraction too long and an alert Jessie Quinlan pounced to smash it to the net – an opportunistic goal, but a well-taken one. 1-12 to 1-10 - the cat was out among the pigeons now!

Patrice Diggin can always be relied on to steady a rocking ship and she split the posts again to put three points between them. St. Bridgets were hunting hard now, and Clodagh Tynan stepped up to a 30m free and coolly lashed it into the net. A spectacular moment for the vast majority of players, but a regular feature for this particular talent.

Level pegging now heading into injury time. Not for the first time, when a game was in the melting pot it was the inspirational Patrice Diggin who really stepped up. She won the puck-out and fired over a brilliant score. Back came a resilient St. Bridgets, looking for an equaliser, but the Clanmaurice defence managed to clear and there was Diggin to slot a brilliant insurance point and ensure Clanmaurice's passage back into the All Ireland Final.

Clanmaurice: Aoife Fitzgerald, Rachel McCarthy, Sara Murphy, Michelle Costello, Aoife Behan, Niamh Leen, Áine O'Connor, Patrice Diggin (0-10, 6f), Danielle O'Leary, Caoimhe Spillane (0-2), Kate Lynch, Laura Collins, Amy O'Sullivan (0-3), Ann Marie Leen, Jackie Horgan (1-0).

St. Bridgets: Laura Dunne, Danielle Healy, Amy Quinlan, Aoife Carroll, Roisín Kilmartin, Clodagh Tynan (1-1, 1-1f), Sarah Creagh, Laura Finlay, Jessie Quinlan (1-1), Tiegán Reilly Bowe, Aoife Finlay, Aiva Coss, Aisling O'Dea (0-3), Grainne Hyland, Eimear Hassett (0-5, 3f, 1'45). Subs Alanna Tynan, Amy Daly, Anne Marie Purcell, Niamh Coss

LADIES ALL IRELAND CLUB SEMI-FINAL

Kilmacud Crokes 5-11

Castleisland Desmonds 1-5

No complaints and no grudges. Desmonds actually played quite well in the first half but left good scoring chances behind them and once they got a grip on the game, All Ireland favourites Kilmacud were admirably clinical and ruthless, landing five goals in a very one-sided second half. Desmonds, whom I had as definite underdogs going into the Kerry County Final, can and should feel enormously proud of themselves after a great year and a great campaign. In the end, it took an assembly team containing inter-county players from no less than four countries (I don't want to say too much but I don't want it to go entirely unmentioned either) to see them off.

Castleisland Desmonds: Jennifer Drumm, Hannah Herlihy, Eilís Lynch 0-1, Hazel Bourke, Gemma Kearney, Kayla O'Connor, Cáit Lynch, Lorraine Scanlon 0-1 (f), Ciara O'Sullivan, Amy Curtin, Andrea Murphy 0-1, Aisling Leonard 0-1, Labhaoise Walmsley, Julia Curtin 1-0, Leah Griffin 0-1. Subs: Niamh Walsh (for Hazel Bourke, 38), Kate O'Connor (for Julia Curtin, 48), Keelin O'Sullivan (for Leah Griffin, 48), Hannah Murphy (for Hannah Herlihy, 53), Rachael Cronin (for Hannah Murphy, 54) Kilmacud Crokes: Derbhla Gower, Niamh Carr, Emer Sweeney, Philippa Greene, Aoife Kane, Molly Lamb, Kate Murray, Grace Kós 0-1, Lauren Magee 0-2, Niamh Cotter 2-4 (1-0 pen, 0-4f), Ailbhe Davoren 0-1, Mia Jennings 1-0, Amy Conroy 1-2, Michelle Davoren 1-1, Éabha Rutledge. Subs: Sinead O'Donoghue (for Grace Kós, 45), Ciara Regan (for Philippa Greene, 49), Doireann Egan (for Amy Conroy, 52), Laura Kane (for Mia Jennings, 52), Christine Moran (for Michelle Davoren, 55)

GAA SPECIAL CONGRESS

There was a really important election last week, one that has ramifications for Irish culture that will reverberate for years if not decades to come. There was a General Election as well but, while I respect all those who put in the time and effort, it didn't feel like it had the same resonance. Maybe that's just me.

The game of gaelic football has undergone big changes over the past couple of decades. More efficiency and less flair. High energy work-rate, much less reliance on skill. Statistics as an end goal in themselves rather than a tool for refinement. Gyms taking precedence over ballwork. Primacy of possession and defensive swarms over attacking ambition. Am I exaggerating? No, I'm not. I love the game, I have followed it all my life. And the modern game is a very, very hard watch. What's more, and may even be more significant as far as Central Council are concerned, less and less people are watching. The Leinster Championship is a non-event. Munster ain't exactly any rollercoaster. And please, let's not play the "Kerry are all catch and kick footballers and blanket defence is only puke football" card. Kerry are as defensive, sometimes more so,

than plenty of other counties.

I'm not detailing any numbers to back up these points, simply because we have all known this for a long time. Does any crathur really want to stand up and say that the games are brilliant? Because that's as outdated as any pretence that climate change isn't happening; those conversations became embarrassing over a decade ago. Last weekend, following the recommendations of a very, very strong sub-committee appointed by Central Council, a number of proposals were voted on by Special Congress. Their purpose? To fundamentally alter the game of gaelic football (hurling is absolutely thriving), reward attacking play, and reduce the mind-numbingly boring possession-at-all costs mantra.

Will these succeed in transforming the game? I have no idea. It's risky. But frankly, doing nothing would have easily been the worst option on the menu, and I think the voting of the delegates (it was a landslide vote in favour of change) generally reflected that. I'm not going through all 49 motions individually, since most of them were interlinked and reference the rulebook. These are the main points.

Motion One

This is an enabling motion so that rule changes made at Special Congress will be adopted on a temporary basis for one year, commencing on January 1, 2025. Central Council shall be entitled to rescind or amend any rule changes made by this Special Congress.

This was a very big one. Essentially, the argument was that these rules should be brought in at inter-county only for the first year. Sligo and Longford preferred that to the committee's recommendation to bring it in across the board. For me, it was important that it be brought in fully. You'll have plenty of naysayers anyway, you always do to any proposed change (status quo bias is a well-established principle) so you may as well run the table. The higher education competitions will not be run under the new rules in 2025.

I know there were a lot of calls to restore the likes of the McGrath Cup to give inter-county teams a chance to experiment with these new rules. I wasn't in favour; there are far too many games crammed into far too tight a schedule already.

Motion Two

Throw-ins to be contested by one player from each team, with the other midfielders on opposite sidelines.

Throw-ins have become a little farcical. They are little more than shoving contests at this stage. These feels a tiny touch extreme, but it certainly won't hurt and may well help matters.

Motion Three

Kick-outs have to land outside a new 40 metre arc.

Retention of kick-outs has become a mantra.

I want contests for possession. That's the essence of hurling, you can't exactly hoard a sliotar, and people love it. So yes, love this.

Motion Four

Teams must have three outfield players in each half at all times.

Yes. Swarm defence is grand for rugby league if that's your game. My worry is that already you have a few managers and pundits talking about how fitness and runners will be paramount because players will need to get from one half to the other at pace. In other words, they are trying to find a way to counter the entire purpose behind this proposal, which is to open play. Jayus, it's like they'd try anything rather than play football!

Motion Five

Attacking marks can only be claimed inside the 20m line, with the forward allowed to play on if they wish and go for goal.

I've never been a fan of the mark. Certainly this idea of a dinky little 20 metre pass and a forward gets a free shot at a score never made much sense to me. It reduces skill, not encourages it. Open play is better.

Motion Six

A score from outside the 40 metre arc from play or frees (not '45s) will be awarded two points, with the umpire signalling such a score by raising an orange flag. Scores from inside the 40 metre arc and over the bar will be awarded one point, while a goal will remain at three points.

I like it. I want kickers rewarded. The game has evolved into sure-thing shooters, recycle rather than risk. That's the biggest problem with the modern game. This rewards risk.

Motion Seven

A player who is fouled has the option of taking a quick solo and playing on rather than lose attacking momentum.

There are people out there who firmly believe that there is no such thing as tactical fouling. And such people are very precious for their innocence and must be treasured and protected. For the rest of us, this rule makes perfect sense.

Motion Eight

The ball will be advanced 50 metres (or up to the 13 metre line) for any foul which purposefully and deliberately delays play.

Again, yup. Play football. Lose the cynicism; it now comes with a price tag.

Motion Nine

Obvious examples of cynical fouling will now carry the sanction of a black card.

The black card did help to improve the game on its introduction and it's role has gradually expanded ever since. I have no problem with it.

Motion Ten

A player who is fouled inside the 40 metre

arc has the option of bringing the free back outside the arc to take a kick worth two points rather than one.

I appreciate the reasoning but I think it's just a fraction too much with the other sanctions that are coming in.

Motion Eleven

A third or subsequent player joining a melee will incur the sanction of a black card.

Was it not a straight red anyway? Shows what I know. I do feel that more times than not, the person entering a melee is trying to break it up and pull someone away from it but they get embroiled in the whole thing instead. So from now on, it's up to every player to simply be smarter than that.

Motion Twelve

A referee has the discretion to allow a longer period of advantage than five seconds if they deem the circumstances appropriate.

You are opening up a bit of a grey area – a question of how much is actually enough. I presume it's a case of let that phase of the attack play out before opting to bring play back. You are asking a fair bit of every referee's judgement.

Motion Thirteen

Dissent towards the referee will result in the free being brought up 50 metres or to the 13 metre line.

Of course I like the principle. Nobody approves of dissent in theory. In practice, this one will generate a fair bit of debate. No problem in Croke Park in the All-Ireland Championship with 27 cameras and everybody miked up. Have fun with that in a rough junior game on a rainy Tuesday night without linesmen.

Motion Fourteen

Team captains are the only players who can seek clarification from the referee in regards to a decision, and only during a break in play. I don't agree with this one. What happens if there is an incident involving your full forward, but your goalkeeper is captain? This rule works in rugby because there are clear lines of demarcation in play and frequent stops. In Gaelic football I think it's unworkable.

Motion Fifteen

New lines will be needed on all pitches to facilitate the implementation of these rules, including two 40 metre arcs on each side and a dashed line to indicate midfield.

A fairly obvious statement in the circumstances.

Motion Sixteen

A public hooter will be used for timekeeping and signal the end of each half.

Timekeeping is always more of a talking point than it really should be. I don't particularly think this is necessary or that it will add anything to the game. On the other hand, it does take a little bit of responsibility

away from overworked referees (and these new rules are enormously burdensome on referees) and it won't do any harm.

Motion Seventeen

Allows officials running the line to immediately bring any instances of foul play to the referee.

My limited understanding of it was that umpires could bring technical infringements to the referee's attention, i.e. squareball, but not instances of foul play. A gap in the rulebook that always seemed like an anomaly to me and the more help that match officials can give referees, the better.

Motion Eighteen

Where a rule requires a player to be inside or outside a particular line of play (e.g. to be a third outfield player in a particular half), both of the players' feet must be on the right side of the line.

It shouldn't even need saying, but you know that some lad or, more likely, manager, was going to chance his arm with it.

MUNSTER U20 FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP 2025

In the Munster U20 Football championship 2025, Clare, Waterford, Limerick & Tipperary play a round robin competition from March 8th with the bottom two teams meeting in the B final on April 1st while Cork meet the top team & Kerry meet the second team of Phase 1 on the same evening.

Cork and Kerry meet on April 8th at a Kerry venue in round 2 of phase 2, with both sides meeting Phase 1 runner up and winner respectively a week later with the Munster final listed for April 29th.

IRELAND VERSUS WALES

Ouch. Very much ouch. The plain fact is that Ireland were taken to school by Wales. They should have won the first game. They scored a very good goal after Ireland fluffed a chance to clear it. Ruesha Littlejohn hit an absolutely precise shot for the equaliser, great hit and real skill, but back off the crossbar and in off the back of the keeper's head? Dress it up all you want, that's a fluke goal. Wales were very much the better side for me on the night, much more composed, and I thought we were fortunate enough to get a 1-1 draw. Littlejohn was absolutely phenomenal over the ninety minutes, but she was lucky enough to stay on the pitch after a rush of blood to the head led to a stupid push on an opposing player. If some-one's going to live in your head like that at this level, you need to at least be charging them rent. Much the same can be said for

Katie McCabe. Best Irish women's player ever, no question about that, arguably one of the best Irish players of all time. But quite frankly, she was ratty and a stronger referee would and should have called her on it.

I expected us to be better at the Aviva. Frankly, I expected us to win. But comments from McCabe and Eileen Gleeson in the build-up were worrying. What was it that Jimmy Deenihan said about Dublin footballers back in the seventies? "Don't talk about the alligator until after you have crossed the river?" Ireland don't particularly like Wales and vice versa. Big deal. But don't go around saying it out loud and fuelling their fires before the game. That's basic. Great team, you admire them, tough task facing us, etc. Yes, it's guff, but that's the role a professional has to play. We were disrespectful of the Welsh players and that's always playing right into their hands. Amateur hour.

Game on. And Katie McCabe, our best player and talisman, is getting a really stupid yellow within five minutes. Yes, there was a bit of a tug on her. But the response was a hack tackle that could have been worse than a yellow. There's no excuses for that.

We did start well. Credit where due. We took the game to them. Couldn't actually get it on the scoreboard – Denise O'Sullivan had a great effort denied by the woodwork, and McCabe wasn't far away with another. Scoring goals is not exactly a forte of any Irish team at the moment.

And Wales absorbed all that we had to throw and gradually but oh, so very surely, took control. Courtney Brosnan made some very, very good saves, and needed to.

Penalty. I thought at first look that it was harsh but when you look at the replay, no, Patten does throw the arm out deliberately. A rush of blood to the head. There was no real need for it but yes, penalty all day long, and Wales duly tucked it away.

Wales were better. Ireland tried very hard, no fault on effort, but it was never convincing. No sense of conviction or controlled purpose. The second goal was just one where we were pushing too hard and a bit too frantically, left space wide open at the back, and Wales just tucked it away. Two goals down? I knew full well that we weren't coming back; I think everybody did at that stage.

Ireland did pull one back, a bit of a bundled effort. One more goal would take it to penalties, and in fairness, Ireland put in a great effort. But the truth is that it would have been a robbery. Wales ended up winning 2-1, and were full value for every bit of it. They are in the Euros on merit.

Ireland have a serious bit of soul searching to do. Don't bother trying to blame Eileen Gleeson, that won't stand up any more scrutiny than the nonsense about Vera Pauw did. This is an okay Irish team, some good young players coming through and hopefully a few more coming, but as of right now, the reality isn't matching the hype. A bad night for Ireland, but maybe it needed to happen.



EAST KERRY NEWS

O DONOGHUE CUP FINAL

2024 O Donoghue Cup Final, sponsored by the Gleneagle Hotel Group Aquila Club and Dr O Donoghue family. Rathmore 1-12 Kilcummin 2-07. Well done to Rathmore on winning the East Kerry Championship.

MAN OF THE MATCH

Congratulations to Kilcummin's Matt Keane, who won the man of the match award, sponsored by Irish Drains, scoring 2 superb goal's, for a well deserved award.

LADIES DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP

Congratulations to East Kerry U17's on winning their County Final against Mid Kerry, and hard luck to the East Kerry U13's who lost to a very good Mid Kerry side.

Over 120 boys put on some great displays of football in an under 15 Post Primary Schools blitz across two venues in Tralee today Friday the 29th of November.

POST PRIMARY SCHOOL BLITZ.

Teams from CBS The Green Tralee (2), St. Brendan's College (2), St. Michael's College Listowel, and Mercy Mounthawk Tralee put on exhibitions in Caherslee and Pat Healy Park Ballyrickard despite wet conditions during the day where all players saw plenty of action throughout with each team playing two games. Many thanks goes to the respective schools and their teachers for organising travel and accompanying players to the venues, to referees Billy Lacey and Jim O' Connor for a great job officiating and to Joe Wallace in Caherslee and to Kerins O' Rahilly's club for the use of their grounds at this time of the year it is greatly appreciated!

Kerry Coaching & Games

CONDOLENCES

Sympathies to the families of Cian Long Coolcorcoran, Killarney, Kerry, and Donal O Grady of Ardshanavooley and Maple Drive, Killarney, Kerry on their recent deaths.

KILLARNEY LEGION

CLUB MASS

There was a great attendance at our annual Club Mass held in the clubhouse last Friday night. Celebrated by one of our own, Fr Mark Moriarty, who is in the parish of St Johns in Tralee, it especially remembered our Legion family and friends who have gone to their eternal rest in the past twelve months. A special thanks to Fr Mark for the beautiful service, Maura Reen and the Scor Musical group who provided the music and everyone who attended. The Mass was organised by our social committee, headed up by Brita Hegarty, and they must also be acknowledged for their efforts.

U15 BOYS

Our U15 Boys Team on Sunday night received their medals for winning U15 County League Div 1, U15 County League Div 9, U15 East Kerry League Div 1 and U15 East Kerry Championship



Man of the Match Matt Keane, receiving award from Johnny Brosnan, on behalf of sponsor Irish Drains.

Div 3. A tremendous year for the team. The boys are looking forward to continuing to work hard, to develop further and continuing to represent Legion in the years to come

U15 DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP

Congrats to Ronan O'Brien, Samuel Scroope, Jack Culloty, Jake Coffey, and James Murphy, who collected their U15 District County Championship medals on Saturday evening which they won with East Kerry this year.

Mark Looney is currently on holidays but was also part of the winning effort.

SCOR NA NOG

Well done to the Legion team that competed in Scór na nÓg on Sunday night last in Trath na gCeist in the Kerry Centre of Excellence in Currans. Eoghan Prendergast, Eli Anderson, David Courtney, and Joseph Hurley Lyne were the quartet and they acquitted themselves very well indeed.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

The Saturday Morning Academy will be holding their Annual Christmas party on Sunday December 15th in Killarney Race Course from 4-6pm.

LADIES DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP

Well done to the East Kerry U17 ladies on a magnificent win in the District County Championship Final on Sunday against Mid Kerry . Kate O Toole, Laura Healy & Beatrice Corridan were all part of the winning effort alongside Coach Jason Stack. It was a fantastic way to finish out the season winning with a last second goal. Mid Kerry 0-10 East Kerry 2-06

RUNNING GROUP

There was a great turnout again to our Tuesday evening of running in Direen . Come along and join in. It is a great way to get a bit fit in a friendly, fun environment. Due to the Club AGM, it will take place on Wednesday night, December 4th, of this week but will revert back to Tuesday on the following week.

MOTHERS AND OTHERS

Please do bear in mind when you're shopping in Tesco's in New Street that our Mothers and Others Group are currently one of the recipients of the blue tokens. Do support them this active

and diligent group.

BEST OF LUCK

We wish Dr Crokes, Furies and Austin Stacks the best of luck in their respective Munster Finals this weekend.

DEEPSY SYMPATHIES

The Club extends its sympathies to the family of the late Donal Grady. The Grady family have been synomous with the Club almost back to its foundation and have always played an active roll in the club right up to the present day. Donal was always a great supporter of our club and events and was a proud Killarney man. We offer our condolences to his entire family and we also think of his brother and friend Sean who is a former chairman of our Club.

DR. CROKES

SAVE THE DATE

Our annual Juvenile Christmas Party will take place on Wednesday 11th December from 5pm-7pm in the Clubhouse.

JUVENILE AGM will take place on Thursday December 19th.

AGM

Our AGM took place on Friday last, it was agreed that specific notice will be given to club members to notify them of future AGM's. If you want to be added to this list please send your contact details to our Club Chairperson or Club Secretary.

CLUB MASS will take place on Friday, November 29th at 7pm in the Clubhouse.

LOTTO took place December 2nd. Numbers drawn were 11, 15, 20, 22. Jackpot of €5,900 was NOT WON. 6 patrons matched 3 numbers and received €70 each. Jackpot for draw on December 9th will be €6,200.

Play online by following the link below and follow instructions attached:https://play.clubforce.com/play_newa.asp?ll_id=734#Anchor(https://play.clubforce.com/play_newa.asp?ll_id=734#Anchor)

KATHLEEN'S GENTLE EXERCISE CLASSES will continue on Tuesday's at 11am in the clubhouse. You don't have to be a member of the club to join.

FR. PADDY'S CARDS Night continues for the next three Wednesday nights from 8pm in the clubhouse. There are special prizes to be won in the weeks leading up to Christmas.

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BINGO

Dr Crokes Bingo continues every Sunday in St. Mary's Parish Hall. Doors will open at 7pm with the first game commencing at 8pm.

CONDOLENCE to the O'Grady Family on the recent passing of Donal O'Grady. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.

NOTES

If anyone has anything they want to add to our club notes please email pro.drcrokess.kerry@gaa.ie

IF YOU HAVE A SPORTING STORY... Contact Aisling on: 086 0400 958

6,000 Welcomes for Ireland's New Citizens

Photos: Don MacMonagle



Clarissan Missionary Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament including Sr. Yahaira Guadalope, left, from Mexico, who received her citizenship with Sr. Rosa Lilia and Sr. Maureen Embe pictured at the Citizenship Ceremonies in the INEC, Killarney on Monday.



Tina Kembo, from Cameroon and living in Newbridge, County Kildare, who published her book entitled 'Dochas', which she describes as a 'book for humanity' pictured after receiving her Irish Citizenship at the Citizenship Ceremonies in the INEC, Killarney on Monday.



Applicants take the Irish Pledge at the Citizenship Ceremonies in the INEC, Killarney on Monday.



Retired Chjef Comaris Van Den Maagdenberg from The Netherlands, who has lived in Ireland for 46 years and received his Irish Citizenship pictured with his wife Marion at the Citizenship Ceremonies in the INEC, Killarney on Monday.



Christine Spillane, originally from Germany and living in Kerry for 27 years pictured with her husband Noel after she received Irish Citizenship at the second day of Citizenship Ceremonies in the INEC, Killarney.



Luiz Castelhano, Camila Gabriela and Nathan Gabriekl from Brazil living in Duleek, County Meath pictured after becoming Irish Citizens at the Citizenship Ceremonies in the INEC, Killarney.



Immaculate Sijabulile Ndlovu from Letterkenny, County Donegal and originally from South Africa who is studying Hospitality Management pictured with her mum Alleta Ndhlovu after receiving her Irish Citizenship at the Citizenship Ceremonies in the INEC, Killarney on Monday.



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The South Kerry Development Partnership CLG Empower Programme aims to assist unemployed individuals to build confidence, skills and purpose/passion to find a way to employment/self-employment and/or education and training. This in person Programme is run in 4 locations – Cahersiveen, Kenmare, Killarney and Killorglin. It consists of 6 morning workshops run over 2 weeks.

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 - Introduction to the programme – what to expect
 - Finding your Purpose and setting goals to achieve
- WORKSHOP 2:**
 - How to Search the Jobs Market and tips to guide and build your own personal brand
- WORKSHOP 3:**
 - How to design and layout a CV and Covering Letter
- WORKSHOP 4:**
 - Career Planning & Confidence Building
- WORKSHOP 5:**
 - Interview Techniques , including mock interviews with Guest HR Manager
- WORKSHOP 6:**
 - Where to next? Financial Aid and Grants Available including educational advice
 - Presentation of Certificates of completion

BY THE END OF THE PROGRAMME, PARTICIPANTS WILL HAVE ALL THE TOOLS TO:

- Prepare a CV / Cover Letter
- Search the jobs market using various platforms
- Prepare for upcoming Interviews
- Be more informed about possible suitable directions that they can pursue
- Determine other supports to various options available to them
- Enhance their confidence levels and be able to set goals which are SMART

For further information and to register your interest in the Empower programme and other training opportunities, please contact:

KILLARNEY AND KILLORGLIN AREAS: JOANNE GRIFFIN | Tel: 087 615 2660 | Email: jgriffin@skdp.net
CAHERSIVEEN AND KENMARE AREAS: CLARE O'SHEA | Tel: 087 356 7874 | Email: coshea@skdp.net



"The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) is co-funded by the Irish Government, through the Department of Rural and Community Development and the European Union through the European Social Fund Plus under the Employment, Inclusion, Skills and Training (EIST) Programme 2021 -2027."

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Women's Under 17 Player of the Year - Laura Falvey receiving her award from the Kerry FC Head of Academy Damian Locke



Ryan Kelliher has been named on the PFA Ireland SSE Airtricity First Division Team of the Year for 2024.

Killarney native Ryan Kelliher has been named on the PFA Ireland SSE Airtricity First Division Team of the Year for 2024. The Kerry FC attacker has had a phenomenal second season in the League of Ireland. He scored 17 goals in all competitions for the leagues newcomers in the 2024 season, just missing out on the league's Golden Boot award in the final few games.

Kelliher, who is 23 years of age, played his underage football with Killarney Celtic before making the move to Kerry FC for the clubs inaugural season back in January of last year. Since then he has become a fan favourite in Mounthawk Park. He's played a total of 72 matches for the Kingdom's sole League of Ireland side, which in itself is an amazing achievement over 2 seasons.

Kelliher becomes the first ever Kerry FC man to make the official player voted Team of the Year in the club's history. Cork City's runaway league win sees the Leesiders have 6 players on the side. The students of UCD have 2 players each, Wexford FC are represented by Aaron Dobb's while the man who beat Ryan to the League's Golden Boot award Dean Ebbe rounds out the 11 named.

Ryan collected his medal at the prestigious awards ceremony last weekend which took place in The College Green Hotel in Dublin.

Ryan also scooped a number of awards at the 2024 Kerry FC Awards night last weekend. Ryan was voted as the Kerry FC Fans Player of the Year for 2024 as well as picking up the clubs 'Golden Boot' award on the night as the highest goal scorer.

Sean O'Connell won the Kerry FC Senior Player of the Year award at the ceremony in the Rose Hotel while Cian Brosnan won the Goal of the Season award for his superb free kick against Athlone on the final day of the season.

Academy awards were also presented on the night as follows:

Mens Under 20 Player of the Year - Tom Healy

Mens Under 17 Player of the Year - Luke Palmer

Women's Under 17 Player of the Year - Laura Falvey

Mens Under 15 Player of the Year - DJ Cussen

Mens Under 14 Player of the Year - Calvin O'Sullivan



Mens Under 14 Player of the Year - Calvin O'Sullivan receiving his award from the Kerry FC Head of Academy Damian Locke



Mens Under 15 Player of the Year - DJ Cussen receiving his award from the Kerry FC Head of Academy Damian Locke



Mens Under 17 Player of the Year - Luke Palmer receiving his award from the Kerry FC Head of Academy Damian Locke



Mens Under 20 Player of the Year - Tom Healy receiving his award from the Kerry FC Head of Academy Damian Locke

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The conditions of a house environment can be a challenging place for houseplants because of central heating which is very drying to houseplants especially for ones that come from humid tropical parts of the world.

There are several ways to improve conditions for your plants in the house. You can avoid placing them in draughts, especially in places where temperatures will fluctuate from very hot to very cold or in very hot areas like above or beside a radiator. Water your plants by placing them in a container of water for about twenty minutes.

For plants that need more humidity place them on a tray of gravel with some water but make sure that the plant is sitting on the gravel not the water.



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A Word of Victory

"The words of the righteous are a life-giving fountain; the words of the wicked conceal violent intentions" (Proverbs 10:11).

Welcome back dear student, here we are post-election and facing the close out of the year. Already lots of people are burnt out and the Christmas partying hasn't even begun. There used to be an advert for tea awhile back, with the parting shot that certain people are "all talk". It was funny because it's true. We have been listening to much talk, analysis, promises and fluster. We sure love to talk - often, just for the sake of saying something. Then there are the few who say little - when they talk it's worth listening to. "The wise say very little and those with understanding stay calm. Even fools seem to be wise if they keep quiet, if they don't speak they appear to understand" (Proverbs 17:27-28). Last week we spoke on the danger of unforgiveness and offence, and a major factor in all strife is - talk! Our enemy the devil is very talkative - constantly whispering evil trying to influence individuals to turn from God and do bad things. But we do not have to listen or pay heed to him! In fact, believers have authority over what we choose to listen to. Sadly, people don't know this and give in to the lies of the devil believing him. We see bad things happening and wonder how people could do such wickedness or behave so horribly - they are under the control of who they are listening to and engaging with. If it's not God's voice, they're in trouble. Porn, violence, rape, gossip, slander, and all kinds of evil are being pumped out of devices daily, and foolish people who engage and listen think there's no harm in any of it. No friend, we must set a guard over our eyes and ear gates for that is what they are - gateways (Matthew 6:22-23; Mark 4:24-25). Any farmer who does not have secure gates is asking for trouble right? In the same way we need strong boundaries and godly principles otherwise anything can happen.

There is a demon called Leviathan, one of the hordes of hell who attacks people's conversations specifically to disrupt relationships: marriages, workplaces, and friends. Folks often wonder why something they are trying to say is misheard or misunderstood by those they are sharing it with, causing offence. It's the effect of Leviathan. The Lord calls him the 'king over all the sons of pride' (Job 41:31-34). Pride is sin to God - it was the reason Satan got booted out of heaven (Isaiah 14:12-20; Ezekiel 28:12-19). He was in rebellion to God, and figured he could do a better job than the Lord. He managed to convince other angels to join him. Sin cannot dwell in God's Presence and so Lucifer (that was the devil's name in heaven) and those who sided with him were thrown out. Those other angels became what we know as demons. They are agents of Satan's army with specific orders to attack and bring chaos to the earth, destroying families, communities, and nations. When Jesus sent out His disciples to heal the sick they came back rejoicing at what they had discovered. "...even the demons are subject to us in Your Name!" (Luke 10:17).

Everywhere Jesus went He took authority over Satan - He cast out demons with 'a Word' (Matthew 8:16). He gave them no opportunity to speak, because that's what the devil does best - mouthing off proud, lofty words that cause chaos and fear. But we have the authority that Jesus paid for with His Blood (Luke 10:18-20). Lord, may we must use and choose our words wisely in agreement with God's Word to see deliverance and restoration.

Bible Study and Prayer every Sunday @ 11am and Thursday @ 7.30pm at Word of Victory Christian Fellowship Killarney V93V6X4

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14TH ANNIVERSARY

IN LOVING MEMORY OF SHEILA FLEMING



LATE OF CLYDINE, KILCUMMIN, KILLARNEY WHO DIED ON 3RD DECEMBER 2010.

*The gates of memory will never close
We miss you more than anyone knows
Gone is the face we loved so dear
Silent the voice we loved to hear.*

Sadly missed by your loving husband Pat, daughter Marcella, Sons David and John, Son-in-law David, Daughter-in-law Katrin and grandchildren.

6TH ANNIVERSARY

IN LOVING MEMORY OF MARGARET O'DONOVAN



LATE OF SHRONEDRAUGH, HEADFORD

WHO DIED ON 9TH DECEMBER 2018.

*Those we love don't go away
They walk beside us every day
Unseen, unheard, but always near
So loved, so missed, so very dear.*

Always remembered by your husband Larry, sons, Laurence, Harry, Richard, daughters Margaret and Mary, your grandchildren Eire and Morgan Óg, Caoimhe, Aoife, Fionán, Timmy, Patrick and extended family.

24TH ANNIVERSARY

IN LOVING MEMORY OF DONAL MURPHY



ANNAGHMORE, HEADFORD, KILLARNEY WHO DIED ON THE 10TH DECEMBER 2000.

*Wrap your arms around him Lord,
Don't leave him on his own,
for it is his Anniversary
and he can't come home.
Call his name so softly
and when he looks your way,
tell him we love him
and we miss him everyday.*

Sadly missed by your wife Kathleen and extended family.

PRAYER TO PADRE PIO

O Jesus, full of grace and charity, victim for sinners, so impelled by Your love for us that You willed to die on the Cross, I humbly beseech You to glorify in heaven and on earth Your servant, Padre Pio, who generously participated in Your sufferings, who loved You so much and labored so faithfully for the glory of Your Heavenly Father and for the good of souls. With confidence I ask You to grant me, through Saint Padre Pio's intercession, these special requests... (Mention here).

M.B

GRATEFUL THANKS

To the Sacred Heart of Jesus,

Our Lady of Lourdes,

St Roch, St Martin De Porres,

Psalm 91, St Michael the

Archangel for many favours

received and that included health.

M.B

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

Dear Heart of Jesus in the past I have asked many favours. This time I ask you this special one, (mention favour). Take it dear heart of Jesus and place it within your own broken heart where your Father sees it. Then in his merciful eyes it will become your favour not mine.

Amen.

Say this prayer for three days. Publication of prayer and favour will be granted.

M.B

NOVENA PRAYER TO ST. TERESE OF LISIEUX

St. Therese, the Little Flower, please pick me a rose from the Heavenly Garden and send it to me with a message of love.

Ask God to grant me the favor I thee implore (mention petition here) and tell Him I will love Him each day more and more.

Amen.

M.B

MEMORARE

Our Lady of Lourdes Feast Day 11th February

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession, was left unaided.

Inspired by this confidence I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful.

O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me.

Amen.

M.B

NOVENA TO ST. CLAIRE

Ask St. Claire for three favours, one business, two impossible and say nine Hail Mary's for nine days with lighted candle. Pray whether you believe or not. Publish on ninth day. Powerful novena.

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be praised, adored, glorified and loved today and every day throughout the whole world forever. Amen

Say six times daily for nine days. Your request will be granted no matter how difficult it may seem. Favour publication must be promised.

M.B

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

O most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, splendor of heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God and Mother of mine, support me by your never failing love and help and protect me. Show me that you are my Mother. May I, unworthy as I am, come one day to exchange your scapular that I had the privilege to wear for the wedding garment of heaven, and dwell with you and all the saints of Carmel in the kingdom of your Son.

(Here make your petition: Let us also pray for those preparing to make their vows.)

Sweet Mother, I place this cause in your loving hands. O Mary, my Mother, I consecrate myself to you forever. I offer you my body with all its miseries, my soul with all its imperfections, and my heart with all its affections and desires. I offer you all my prayers, works, joys and sufferings, my struggles and especially my death with all that it will entail.

I unite all of these, Mother, with your own joys and sufferings. Amen.

Queen and Beauty of Carmel, pray for us.

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