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Choo Choo... The festive magic of Christmas came alive on the streets of Killarney on Saturday night for the weekly magic Christmas parade in the run up to Christmas 2025. A spectacle of colourful floats, magic unicorns, beloved characters, festive elves and of course the arrival of Santa Claus and his reindeers. Pictured on the Killarney Valley Classic & Vintage Club Polar Express are Train driver Michael Clifford, Ticket Master Lisa Hegarty and Guest of Honour Edison Boyle O'Sullivan. Photo: Valerie O'Sullivan

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# A Note from the EDITOR



The countdown is well and truly on with Christmas just around the corner. The Killarney community are invited to Amble with Alice to raise funds for Jack & Jill Foundation, the Sem has launched their annual Christmas Jumper day in aid of the Kerry Hospice and tidings of comfort and joy were celebrated in Woodlawn Park.

Killarney actor Jessie Buckley has been nominated for a Golden Globe, Kilcummin ladies are planning their annual Pink Night and Killarney has honoured the Ann and Con Stack.

Picture for Palliative Under Andy's Arches was a huge success, a walk on the Old Kenmare Road has raised funds for the Ian O'Connell Trust and Kerry FC Players paid a visit to Killarney Sports & Leisure Centre to meet up with members of the Kerry Stars Special Olympic Club.

Hoteliers in Killarney took a night off to enjoy the IHF Ball, Glenflesk GAA Club celebrated a great year on the pitch and the O'Leary Brothers are planning their annual Christmas event.

Killarney Valley AC are planning their January Couch to 5k, the Chamber reflects on a highly successful year and a coffee morning is taking place tomorrow in aid of Gaza.

In sport, three Kerry teams are celebrating their weekend wins, the Sem has retained the Frewen Cup and it was a dream come true for a young Kerry fan who met his hero at the weekend.

Hope you all enjoy this week's Killarney Outlook!

*Aisling Crosbie*

Picture PERFECT



The most perfect image of Lewis O'Connor cycling to Dundag beach wearing his Teddy helmet, captured by his proud dad Arthur  
Photo taken by his Dad: Arthur O'Connor

SEND YOUR PERFECT PICTURE TO:

news@outlookmags.com for inclusion in the Killarney Outlook.

## THIS WEEK

ALL THE NEWS FROM THE KILLARNEY AREA AND BEYOND

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- Billy Ryle - Education
- Anne Lucey - Talk of the town
- What Women Want - Beauty
- B Well Fitness - Fitness
- Astrid Longhurst - Wellbeing
- John O'Sullivan - Gardening
- Denis Kelliher - Recipes

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## An Amble with Alice for Jack and Jill:

# Community Invited to 6km Charity Walk Through Killarney National Park

Killarney is set to come together in compassion and solidarity on Sunday, December 28th, 2025, for An Amble with Alice for Jack and Jill, a 6km charity walk through the breathtaking trails of Killarney National Park.

The walk will begin at 2 p.m., offering families, friends, and supporters the chance to enjoy an afternoon in nature while raising much-needed funds for The Jack & Jill Children's Foundation. The foundation provides specialist home nursing care and vital support to children with complex medical needs across Ireland.

For the Gleeson family, this cause is deeply personal. Their daughter, Alice, has required ongoing medical care, and The Jack & Jill Children's Foundation has played an essential role in supporting both Alice and her parents, Brian and Jessica Gleeson.

"Jack and Jill have been a lifeline for us," the family shared. "Their care, understanding, and presence in our home have given us strength during some of our most challenging moments. We are incredibly grateful, and this walk is our way of giving back."

Participants are encouraged to join the Gleeson family on the picturesque 6km route or to show support by donating whatever they can. Every euro raised will go directly to The Jack & Jill Children's Foundation, helping ensure that other families facing similar challenges receive the same crucial support.



With the spirit of the season still in the air and the beauty of Killarney National Park as the backdrop, the Gleesons hope the community will turn out in force, walking not just for Alice, but for every child and family who depend on Jack and Jill's extraordinary work.

For those unable to attend, donations are warmly welcomed, and all contributions, big or small, will make a meaningful difference.

"We are looking forward to seeing as many supporters as possible on December 28th for an afternoon of hope, solidarity, and community kindness", Susan Gleeson, organiser of the event told Killarney Outlook.



Launching the St Brendan's College Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Kerry Hospice/Palliative Care were students Charlie Griffin, Aaron O'Connor, Colm O'Connor, Finn O'Neill (back) Pat Doolan Kerry Hospice, Hugh Rudden Deputy Principal St Brendan's, Phyllis O'Sullivan Kerry Hospice, teacher Sarah Keane, Angela Curran and Dermot O'Reilly Kerry Hospice and Bridget Lucey Deputy Principal St Brendan's which will be held in the College next Monday. Photo by Michelle Cooper Galvin



Launching the St Brendan's College Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Kerry Hospice/Palliative Care were Aaron O'Connor, Charlie Griffin, Finn O'Neill and Colm O'Connor which will be held in the College next Monday. Photo by Michelle Cooper Galvin

## St Brendan's College Launches Christmas Jumper Day in Aid of Kerry Hospice

Festive spirit was in full swing at St Brendan's College this week as students and staff officially launched their annual Christmas Jumper Day, which will take place next Monday in support of Kerry Hospice / Palliative Care.

The event encourages students to don their most colourful and creative Christmas jumpers, all while raising vital funds for hospice and palliative care services in Kerry. St Brendan's College has a long tradition of supporting the Kerry Hospice Foundation, and staff say the upcoming event is expected to once again generate strong participation and goodwill within the school community. The group gathered for a photo to promote the initiative, as preparations begin for what promises to be a fun and meaningful day at the college.





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# Tidings of Comfort and Joy

at Woodlawn Park as  
Residents Light Memory Tree



**R**esidents of Woodlawn Park, Killarney, gathered on Monday night for a heartfelt and unifying tradition, the lighting of their Memory Tree, honouring loved ones who are fondly remembered at Christmastime.

The community welcomed Cathaoirleach of Killarney Municipal District, Cllr. Martin Grady, who was invited to switch on the tree's lights during a warm and reflective ceremony attended by neighbours of all ages.

A special moment came as first-generation residents, Tim O'Leary, Angela Curran, Mella Wade, Pam Brosnan, Jacquie O'Sullivan, Kathleen

Pyne, Breda O'Connor, Gerry O'Donoghue, Mossie Cremin, Derry Pyne and Denis Carroll, gathered together to mark the occasion. Joining them were third-generation residents Jennifer Pyne, Robyn O'Leary and Sophie Tyler-Curran, symbolising the enduring sense of community spirit in Woodlawn Park.

The Memory Tree lighting has become a treasured annual event, offering comfort, reflection and joy as the neighbourhood comes together to celebrate the season and remember those no longer with them.



First generation residents, from left, Tim O'Leary, Angela Curran, Mella Wade, Pam Brosnan, Jacquie O'Sullivan, back row from left, Kathleen Pyne, Breda O'Connor, Gerry O'Donoghue, Mossie Cremin, Derry Pyne and Denis Carroll. Photo: Valerie O'Sullivan



Cathaoirleach of Killarney Municipal District Cllr. Martin Grady was invited by the residents to switch on the lights of the memory tree. Third generation residents, from left, Jennifer Pyne, Robyn O'Leary and Sophie Tyler-Curran. Photo: Valerie O'Sullivan



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The front page of this month's ELLE magazine.

## Killarney's Jessie Buckley Nominated for Golden Globe

Killarney actor Jessie Buckley has been nominated for a Golden Globe for her role in the new film *Hamnet*, starring opposite Irish actor Paul Mescal, who has also received a nomination. The film has earned further recognition with nominations for Best Screenplay (Motion Picture) and Best Direction for filmmaker Chloé Zhao.

*Hamnet* is a period drama based on Maggie O'Farrell's award-winning novel. It follows William Shakespeare, played by Mescal, and his wife Agnes, portrayed by Buckley, as they cope with the death of their son Hamnet, an event that ultimately inspires Shakespeare to write one of the greatest plays in history, *Hamlet*.

Jessie, the daughter of Marina Cassidy and Tim Buckley, is nominated in the Best Female Actor in a Motion Picture category. She continues to enjoy international acclaim; she currently features on the front cover of ELLE magazine's Women in Hollywood issue.

A former member of Killarney Musical Society, Jessie performed in the Society's production of *Carousel* before going on to find fame on the West End in London. Her latest achievement marks another proud moment for her hometown.

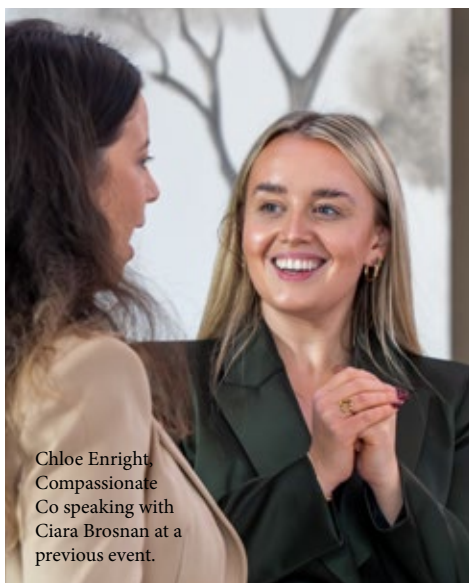
## Let's Talk Health Breakfast PLANNED FOR JANUARY

Back by popular demand, Chloe Enright of Compassionate Co is delighted to be announcing 'Let's Talk Health - Women's Wellbeing Breakfast - Move, Mind, Meditate' which will take place Sunday January 11th from 9:30am - 1pm, in the beautiful Brehon Hotel, Killarney.

Following a hugely successful Let's Talk Health event last December, Chloe says it was a no brainer to run this incredible health-orientated event again this year, with some new faces, additional sponsors and the addition of an incredible keynote speaker. Chloe has designed this event similar to anything she does with Compassionate Co - to empower you to support your health and well-being. Chloe says supporting health and wellbeing ultimately comes from experience and education - when we have the information we need, paired with the experience of what helps us feel well, this enables empowerment when making decisions around our health and well-being. Educate, Experience and Empowerment are what Compassionate Co is centered around. The incredible jam-packed morning will include:

### A Public Health Talk

Drawing on her background in Public Health (BSc, MPH), Chloe will be opening the morning leading an informative session focusing health as a concept, helping us to explore the influences and determinants on our



Chloe Enright, Compassionate Co speaking with Ciara Brosnan at a previous event.

health, and the difference between health and wellness. Merging her experience with education, this session will help you gain an in depth understanding of what health and wellness means for you and what determines how well we are. Chloe will set the stage for the panel talk, outlining key statistics of common women's health issues that will be discussed.

### Healthcare-Led Panel Discussion

Our dynamic panel of clinicians will share evidence-based insights, practical guidance, and real-world perspectives on women's health.

With a panel of practitioners with backgrounds varying from psychotherapy to health research around brain function, this well-rounded group of incredible women will provide essential take home messages for all women.

### Breakfast Segment

The beautiful Brehon Hotel will provide a nourishing breakfast. This segment is also designed to promote connection and conversation, giving attendees the chance to meet and engage with other like-minded women.

### Keynote Speaker

The new addition! We have an incredible keynote address addition this year, offering empowering and actionable take aways.

### Guided Meditation Session

Following a similar format to her sold out breathwork sessions, Chloe will lead a calming, restorative practice to support stress reduction, mental clarity, and overall well-being giving you the ultimate calming experience.

Whether it is a morning with your Mum/daughter/sister, a morning out with your girls or just some solo self-care that you are seeking, this morning is a gorgeous morning in the most elegant location - giving all the luxury feels! The perfect Christmas present to yourself and your health for the year ahead.

For more information contact Chloe on [info@compassionate-co.com](mailto:info@compassionate-co.com)





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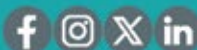
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# KILCUMMIN GAA LADIES' COMMITTEE

## Announces Return of Popular

# Pink Night in Aid of Comfort for Chemo



Back left to right - Willie Fleming, Denis Casey, Susan Healy, Brid Fleming, Ann Marie O Leary, Tom Leslie, Geraldine Pigott, Ann Marie O Sullivan. front left to right, Niamh Dwyer, Kathleen Ryan, Teresa Casey, Mary O Leary.

The Ladies' Committee of Kilcummin GAA Club has announced the much-anticipated return of its annual Pink Night, taking place in The Klub Bar on Saturday, January 3rd. Now in its twelfth year, and supporting Comfort for Chemo for the fifth consecutive year, the event remains one of the club's most cherished community fundraisers.

Guests will be welcomed with a Prosecco reception and chocolate-dipped strawberries, setting the tone for a relaxed and enjoyable post-Christmas evening. While attendees are encouraged to wear pink, organisers stress that dressing up is entirely optional.

"It's all about community, enjoyment, and supporting a great cause," committee member Kathleen Ryan said, expressing gratitude to local sponsors for their continued generosity. "Their support means so much, and it helps make the night a truly special occasion."

Prizes will be presented for Best Dressed Female and Best Dressed Male, adding a fun competitive element to the celebration.

Entertainment begins at 8:00pm, with performances from Derry and Rosie Healy until 10:00pm, followed by Barry McGrath, who will keep the party going late into the night.

A brilliant raffle and a selection of fantastic door prizes, generously donated by local businesses, will feature throughout the evening.

With free admission and a warm welcome guaranteed, the organisers are encouraging everyone to come out and join the pink-themed celebration in support of a vital local cause.

All are welcome, come join the pink celebration!

## KERRY COMMUNITY YOUTH SERVICE

## Secures Digital Literacy Funding to Support Older Adults

Kerry Community Youth Service (KCYS) has been announced as a recipient of the Vodafone Foundation and Rethink Ireland Hi Digital Fund, securing support to expand digital literacy services for older adults across the county.

The €540,000 national fund, revealed on Wednesday, 10th December 2025, backs community projects working to bridge the digital divide for people aged 65 and over. KCYS is the sole Kerry organisation selected.

The funding will allow KCYS to grow its successful Tech & Tea programme, an intergenerational initiative that pairs Transition Year students with older adults for one-to-one digital mentoring. The programme, delivered through schools and youth clubs, helps participants learn essential skills such as using smartphones, tablets, email and online services.

Welcoming the announcement, Jennifer McHugh, Youth Information Coordinator with KCYS, said: "We're proud to expand Tech & Tea across Kerry, connecting generations by empowering young people to help older adults gain the digital skills they need to stay in touch, access services, and feel confident online. Thanks to the Hi Digital Fund, more people in our rural communities will benefit from this award-winning programme."

The need for digital support among older adults remains high, particularly in rural counties like Kerry, where confidence and access can be limited. National figures show that 41% of people over 75 have never used the internet, while significant numbers of adults aged 60-74 remain digitally excluded.

Through the new funding, KCYS will extend Tech & Tea to reach more communities throughout the county, helping older people stay connected, independent, and engaged in an increasingly digital world.



(From left to right) Deirdre Mortell, CEO, Rethink Ireland; Minister Jerry Buttimer, Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht, and Liz Roche, Head of Foundation at Vodafone Ireland, pictured with Jennifer McHugh, representing Kerry Community Youth Service, at the Hi Digital Fund launch, as Rethink Ireland and the Vodafone Foundation announce five community groups as recipients of the digital literacy fund worth €540,000. Pic: Naoise Culhane





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**Anne Lucey**  
looks at the positive news  
happening in Killarney



## NEW HEALTH BUILDINGS STILL EMPTY

A year after it was set to open the Killarney 130 bed community nursing unit has the lights on. But there's no one home.

The new hospital is a depressing sight to pass on a dark night.

Inside the walls of the old isolation hospital sits another empty brand new facility with the taps being turned on and off.

Eight years on, a large kitchen block at the very highly rated Deer Lodge which might have cooked not just for itself but for the neighbouring nucleus of hospitals lies empty.

The kitchen is fully equipped but hasn't a sausage in the large larder. In actual fact, the food for the 40 residents is being delivered.

HSE can't tell me how much the kitchen block cost only that it was part of the 13 million euro development.

I wonder how well any of the large cookers, electric equipment etc are working now having never been used in eight years.

Has no one thought this could be used to prepare meals and wheels instead of bringing them by van from Tralee?

HSE South West told me: "Catering for



Deer Lodge is currently provided by the neighbouring catering department in Killarney Community Hospitals.

This arrangement will end once the new Killarney Community Nursing Unit opens next year, and arrangements are in place for the fully equipped kitchen at Deer Lodge to take over this catering. This includes recruitment of catering staff. Flushing of drains at the facility takes place every week as is standard practice to ensure compliance with Legionella regulations.

As the kitchen at Deerlodge was developed

as part of the construction of the approved centre, a standalone figure for the cost of the kitchen is not available."

Why has this scandal been allowed? I know Cllr Marie Moloney is trying to raise the matter and seek an explanation why the kitchen block has never been used. Particularly why the Killarney Meals and Wheels service could not be accommodated in the unit instead of bringing hot food by van from Tralee.

We have been concentrating on the old buildings - when, clearly, questions need to be posed about newer ones.

## SANTA COMING TO TOWN

Santa has brought a few bits and pieces to Killarney 2025 - but there's a lot left to do in 2026.

There has been a welcome - though not uncontroversial - investment in roads. The pavement works on the Muckcross Road is a late present. Then there are the (controversially) new "straight and narrows" in Fossa and on the Park Road. I am not sure what to make of the large tree planting along the Fossa straight - wasn't the idea to have trees at a distance from cars with all the climate change? However, as someone pointed out to me: "Fossa at long last has the feel of a village". The Rock Road has produced a runway, rather than a cycleway - I see runners more than cyclists. But at least someone is using it

Over 200 social houses are underway in Cronin's Wood. Planning is also beginning to come through for hopefully there will be affordable private housing.

The TFI link buses are a great idea - if only there were bus stops and people knew how to use them properly. I see buses circling the town with none or few passengers on board. We need to use the buses, but it beats me why you have to have a smartphone to make it easy. Put in a few bus stops please, Santa Claus. Money for a new theatre will not be available from the URDF fund, I am told.

But the council is trying to get something from the Department of Housing for a theatre. ( We hope that ship has not sailed because of grant aid secured for the Anam centre).

Unfortunately the third level college for Killarney is way down Santa's list. Minister Michael Healy-Rae is expressing "serious concern" as it is listed still at Stage 1, the very first stage of development with an indicative construction window stretching from 2027 to 2035.

"We cannot allow this project to drift for another decade," the Minister said.

Other major items that Killarney needs from Santa are Toilets and Showers for Dundag, a matter raised by Cllr Maura Healy-Rae recently.

"The absence of facilities is totally inadequate and forces people into very inconvenient situations," she said.

There is welcome renovation of the cottage alongside Muckcross House where my uncle Tom and auntie Delia lived - but many more cottages owned by the NPWS need doing up.

The cycleloop around the lakes is so long on the finger, we almost forget it was ever planned.

Perhaps if we are very good in 2026, we'll also get a minor injuries clinic and the new community hospital will open. We can only look forward!

## COUNCIL PASSES BIGGEST EVER BUDGET

The council budget for next year will see Euro 248 million across key programmes up 10% on this year.

There are a few stand outs that need looking at.

Payroll costs for staff will account for 41 per cent amounting to Euro 102 million of the total spend. Some 1300 staff were employed by the council at the end of last year, an increase of around 30 on the previous year - at a time when fewer basic services are delivered.

Social housing for instance is mainly provided by the many approved housing bodies and water is gone to Uisce Eireann. Refuse is largely gone too. In terms of income, State sector grants from housing to roads, environment and numerous miscellaneous services accounts for almost half or Euro 120.5 million.

The budget has been balanced thanks largely to the revenue from local property tax of Euro 17.6 million, council chief executive Fearghal Reidy said.

Last year the council members agreed on a 10 percent increase over base for three years and this provided for certainty.

The LPT allocation for 2026 in Kerry included an additional Euro 900,000 allocation to reflect the property reevaluation process.

Housing and building is again the programme of biggest expenditure (almost Euro 69 million) followed by roads and transport.

Recoupment from Irish Water for services continuing to be provided by the council will count for Euro 7.7 million euro of the Kerry local authority income. ( More next week on the budget)



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# Killarney honours great business achievers



At the ceremony from left, Muckross House Trustees, Denis Cronin, Chair of Trustees Bernadette Randles, Geraldine Rosney, Shane Treacy, Manager Muckross House and Bernard Collins.

A husband and wife who built a hugely successful international business from humble beginnings in a shed at the rear of their home have been inducted into the Order of Inisfallen – the highest honour the Co Kerry town of Killarney can bestow. Con and Anne Stack saw their company grow from very humble beginnings to a multi-national enterprise that now employs over 600 people.

That remarkable success story was recognised at a ceremony in the historic Muckross House on Thursday afternoon when they received the Order of Inisfallen civic honour which is a joint initiative between Killarney Chamber of Tourism and Commerce and Kerry County Council.

It recognises those who have made an exceptional contribution to the local economy and to the tourism industry.

When they moved to Killarney over 50 years ago, Moyvane native Con and his Ballyduff native wife, Anne, set up Killarney Plastics, having identified a market for fibre glass and glass enforced products.

The company later moved operations to an IDA supported, purpose-built unit and the remarkable dedication shown and groundwork put in by Con and Anne Stack paid handsome dividends as Killarney Plastics became global engineering company Tricel.

It evolved into a major family-led firm, delivering performance and innovation-driven solutions across the water, environmental, construction and distribution industries.



At the ceremony from left, Conor Hennigan, Chair Order of Inisfallen, President Killarney Chamber of Tourism and Commerce, Johnny McGuire, Ann and Con Stack, Cathaoirleach Killarney Municipal District Cllr. Martin Grady.

*Photos: Valerie O'Sullivan*



At the ceremony from left, Con Duggan, Paul O'Neill, ODR Hotels, Diarmuid Leen, AIB, President Killarney Chamber of Tourism and Commerce Johnny McGuire, Former Recipient Order of Inisfallen, Donie Ring, Finbarr Kennelly, Kennelly's Pharmacy.

With 14 companies within the group, Tricel currently employs 620 people, 200 of whom are based in Killarney, and the company is now run by Con and Anne's sons Michael, Con, Richard and Robert.

Speaking at the awards ceremony, Mayor of Killarney, Cllr Martin Grady, said the story of Tricel is inspiring as it went from modest beginnings to international innovation, nurtured by vision, hard work, resilience and innovation.

"Despite this remarkable expansion, the Stack family has never lost sight of their roots. They have remained humble and steadfast supporters of local employment, local investment and local opportunity.

"Their commitment has ensured that generations of families in Killarney, Kerry and beyond have had the ability to thrive close to

home," the mayor said.

Killarney Chamber of Tourism and Commerce President, Johnny McGuire, said all the comments he has heard since it was first announced that Con and Anne Stack were to be honoured had one common theme: It couldn't happen to a nicer couple or a nicer family.

"No words of mine could adequately describe the impact the company has made, both as a manufacturer and as an employer of over 600 people.

"Everything Con and Anne Stack have achieved in business and in life can be attributed to their dignity, their dedication, their commitment, their will to succeed and their incredible work ethic," he said.





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## Picture for Palliative Under Andy's Arches:



Santa's Crew at  
Killarney Furniture &  
Carpet Centre

## Winter Wonderland Fundraiser at Killarney Carpet & Furniture Centre

Killarney Carpet & Furniture Centre was transformed into a magical Winter Wonderland on Sunday, December 7th, as the popular local store invited families to step into a festive scene in support of Palliative Care services. The initiative, affectionately titled "Picture for Palliative Under Andy's Arches," saw the store's showroom converted into a Christmas grotto, complete with a seasonal backdrop perfect for family photographs. Visitors enjoyed warm hot chocolate, soaked up the festive atmosphere, and made donations to Palliative Care.

The event held a deeply personal significance for the O'Sullivan family. Speaking to Killarney Outlook, Niall O'Sullivan said the fundraiser was a fitting tribute to his late father, Andy O'Sullivan.

"This was something that my dad, Andy, would have been very proud of," Niall said. "He loved Christmas, and we could not thank the Palliative Care team enough for the support and care that both he and our family received when he passed away last November."

To honour Andy's memory, the family created a dedicated photo studio inside the store. On Sunday, December 7th, from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m., families dropped in, took as many photos as they wished, and left donations of every size to support the vital work of Palliative Care.

In a generous gesture, the store matched every donation made. The festive photo studio and donation box remain in place from December 7th right through to Christmas Eve, giving shoppers plenty of time to take part.

Niall hoped the community would embrace the event, enjoy a moment of Christmas magic, and help raise funds for a cause that touched many families in Kerry, and it truly was an amazing day.



Deirdre, Martin and  
Lily Leahy pictured with  
Santa



Scarlett O'Sullivan  
pictured with Santa



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# Christmas in Killarney

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# Killarney Rallies Behind Focus Ireland Toy Appeal, Bringing Christmas Joy to Over 200 Children

Killarney Royal Townhouse and Great Southern Killarney have extended heartfelt thanks to the local community following another hugely successful Focus Ireland Toy Appeal, an annual initiative warmly supported across the town.

This year's appeal saw an exceptional outpouring of generosity, with donations ensuring that more than 200 children across the Munster region will wake on Christmas morning to a gift of their own. Organisers said the response reflects the deep community spirit that continues to define Killarney during the festive season.

The event, hosted jointly by the two hotels, was filled with goodwill and festive cheer as families, volunteers and supporters gathered to contribute. A special appearance from Santa added to the magic, delighting children and reinforcing the joyful atmosphere that has become synonymous with the appeal.

Both hotels expressed their sincere gratitude to everyone who donated toys, contributed financially, or volunteered their time to make the initiative such a success.

"We are deeply appreciative of every contribution, large and small," organisers said. "Your support has brought joy, hope and comfort to families who need it most during the holiday season."

The Focus Ireland Toy Appeal remains a cherished tradition in Killarney, and this year's response ensures that its impact will be felt in homes across the region this Christmas.



## Christmas Magic Returns:

### Randles Hotel hosts it's **2025 Christmas Gift Fair this weekend**



Pictured is Sylvia Carcagno of Petit Coeur Kenmare, who will be exhibiting at the Randles Fair this weekend.

The sparkle of the season is set to shine once more as the luxurious Randles Hotel is set to host it's much-loved Christmas Gift Fair this weekend. Now in its fourth year, the event has become a festive favourite for locals and visitors alike, drawing crowds who revel in its warm glow, cosy atmosphere, and irresistible array of gifts.

Over the past three years, the Gift Fair has welcomed excited shoppers from all corners of the town & county, all eager to uncover beautiful surprises for under the tree. The 2025 edition promises to be every bit as enchanting. Guests can expect affordable, unique and carefully curated Christmas gifts and decorations, from artisanal creations to seasonal treats that capture the joy of giving.

Located in the heart of Killarney on the Muckross Road, Randles hotel offers an ideal setting: an indoor – whatever the weather – setting, elegant surroundings, complimentary parking, and the kind of festive charm that makes you breathe a little

deeper and smile a little wider. Shoppers can enjoy a mulled wine as they browse. Each exhibitor has been hand-selected for quality & originality, ensuring every stall holds something truly worth discovering. The Gift Fair has now secured its place as one of the must-attend events on the Christmas in Killarney calendar, promising once again to deliver a celebration of community, creativity and holiday spirit. 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 13th and Sunday 14th December. Whether you're searching for that perfect present or simply wanting to soak in the season, mark your diary — magic awaits at Randles.

For more information visit [randleshotel.com](http://randleshotel.com) or contact the Hotel on 064 663 5333.





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# Old Kenmare Road Charity Walk Raises Funds for Ian O'Connell Trust

A proud Kerry man put county colours aside for a very worthy cause, completing a challenging charity walk to support the ongoing care and rehabilitation of Ian O'Connell. On Saturday, August 17th, Mike O'Riordan set out on the Old Kenmare Road at 10.30am wearing a Cork jersey, raising an amazing €6,410 and also awareness for the Ian O'Connell Trust. Ian expressed his gratitude following presentation of the cheque last week, thanking Mike for organising the walk and encouraging the public to donate. The walk itself was a resounding success. Blessed with good weather and even better company, the group covered the demanding route in two hours and forty minutes, maintaining what Ian later described as "a cracking pace."

The response from the public was fantastic, as always, far exceeding

expectations. Ian extended thanks on behalf of the trust to everyone who donated and to the generous sponsors who came on board, including Classic Windows, John and Marie Devane, Jimmy Brian's Bar, Dunloe Lodge, Rookery Road Apartments, Corkery's Bar, Scotts Hotel, Julie's Hairdressing, Wesco Windows, Slims Groundwork, and drivers, Ian's parents, Michael and Nora.

"Just from myself, I want to say a huge thank you to Mike O'Riordan and the group that walked today and to everyone who donated," Ian said afterwards. "Ye all played a big part. Well done to everyone involved!"

Donations remain open for those who would like to contribute to the Ian O'Connell Trust and support his long road of recovery and rehabilitation.



Mike O'Riordan pictured presenting a cheque for €6,410 to Ian O'Connell.

## Kerry Stars Special Olympics Club Enjoys Inspiring Visit from Kerry FC Players



There was a fantastic evening of football and community spirit at the Killarney Sports & Leisure Centre over the weekend, where members of the Kerry Stars Special Olympics Sports Club welcomed three Kerry FC players and the club mascot, Kub. All three visiting players are Killarney men, and they quickly found themselves tested by the Stars in a lively series of penalty shoot-outs.

A great training session was enjoyed by all, with plenty of competitive action on display. The visiting players were:

- Ryan Kelliher, the club's top scorer
- Dan Okwute, who scored the FAI Cup quarter-final winner against Sligo Rovers
- Luke Doolin, who secured a historic goal to win Kerry's first-ever silverware in the Shield

The players generously signed the club's new footballs, presented a jersey, and signed it for inclusion in the Kerry Stars' upcoming Christmas raffle.

Special thanks were extended to Ciaran Meagher, Commercial Manager of Kerry FC, and to Erin Connolly of Kerry FC for their support in organising the event.

It was an evening full of smiles, new skills, and sporting spirit, and the Kerry Stars Special Olympics Sports Club expressed their appreciation for what proved to be a memorable occasion.

## KILLARNEY PARISH SILVER CIRCLE - Week 9 Results

**1st Prize €500:** Joe & Noreen Pigott, Tralee Road, Seller: Parish Office

**2nd Prize €250:** Conor Spillane, Templenoe, Seller: Danny Ferris

**Winners of €100 each are as follows;**

Jackie Looney, Dalton's Avenue

Norma Jean Leane, C/O Leanes Tool Hire, Denis O'Connor, Westbury, Corbally Mary Casey, Coolgrean Park, Aoife Walshe, Parkmore, Currow

**Winners of €75 each are as follows;**

Laura Griffin, Tiernaboul, Dymphna Horgan, Countess Grove,

Aileen O'Sullivan, Kerry Cheshire, Pearl & Noel Tansley, Scrahan Court

Trevor O'Donohue, Barradubh.

Imelda Healy, Rockfield, Tralee Road, Michael Murphy, Upper Lewis

Road Gavin Walsh, Rock Road, Kieran O'Connor, Glounonea, Kilcummin

Frances O'Sullivan, Elmwood, Mill Road.

Congratulations to all winners, and thanks to all who supported, promoted and sponsored the draw this year. Tickets are still available from the Sacristies and Parish Office

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CARTER**

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ROCKIN'  
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# Hoteliers Enjoy

## A NIGHT OF GLAMOUR & GLITZ

Pictured at the Kerry Branch of the Irish Hotels Federation annual Ball in The Muckross Park Hotel were from left, Caoimhe Wray, Ann Mangan, Rebecca Brosnan Catriona White, Tracey Coyne, Vicki Coyne and Krzysztof Bogdanowicz from The International Hotel. Photos: Don MacMonagle



Jenny De Saules, Josephine O'Driscoll and Ruth Andrews, Chair Failte Ireland with Brian Lawlor, President, Kerry Branch,



Noleen and Rev Simon Lumby, Killarney, Jimmy Dunne and Margaret Cahill.



ATB New Business Relationship Team, from left, Paul Mulvihill, Martha O'Loughlin, Nicola Nolan, Margaret O'Connor and Sinead Slyne.



Caoimhe Spillane, Catriona Nolan, Blissford Barreto, Aoiheann O'Leary, Christina O'Connor, Denise O Sullivan, Jamie Power, General Manager, Brian Doherty, Kerry Hotel Employee of The Year, Erin O Shea, Zeno Dinis from The Great Southern Hotel, Killarney.



Ruth O'Sullivan, Colin Boyle, Jane Boyle, Majella Milward, Pamela Prendiville, Kamila Bielinska from The Manor West Hotel, Tralee.



Garrett Power, General Manager, The Muckross Park Hotel, Brian Lawlor, President, Kerry Branch, IHF, Michael Magnier, National President, IHF, Ruth Andrews, Chair Failte Ireland and Paul Gallagher, CEO, IHF.



Brian and Michelle Bowler, The Aghadoe Heights Hotel, Killarney.



Pictured at the Kerry Branch of the Irish Hotels Federation annual Ball in The Muckross Park Hotel were from left, Angela and John McAllen, Betty and Johnny McGuire.



Luke Casey, Vincent Casey, Bernadette Randles and Tom Randles. 2nd row, Gavin White, Tara Casey, Lynda Randles, Eleanor McElligott, Rachel Randles, Aileen Randles and Niamh Randles from The Dromhall and Randles Hotels, Killarney.





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## A GREAT NIGHT FOR THE PARISH

Glenflesk Junior B Winners with their coaches at the awards last Friday evening in the East Avenue Hotel.

# Glenflesk GAA/LGFA Celebrate a Memorable Occasion

Photos: Seamus Healy

Glenflesk GAA/LGFA enjoyed a memorable night on Friday, December 5th, 2025, as the club gathered in the Killarney Avenue Hotel to honour both past and present champions. The event celebrated the Millennium Cup winning team of 2000 and included a special Ladies' Medal Presentation, creating a wonderful atmosphere of pride, nostalgia and community spirit. Former players, current squad members, families and supporters packed the venue, and tickets for the three-course meal and disco were completely sold out. The highlight of the evening came when the Millennium Cup heroes were recognised on stage, marking 25 years since their historic success, before the club's present-day ladies' team received

their medals to huge applause.

Special guest Bernard Casey provided entertainment on the night, keeping the crowd laughing and adding to the sense of occasion. The event, held in association with GMIB Insurance and 360 Financial Consultants, saw two generations of Glenflesk sporting talent come together to share stories and celebrate achievements. Photographs captured throughout the evening showed smiles, reunions and well-deserved pride as the club toasted yesterday's heroes and today's champions. Committee members described it as "a great night for the parish," one that underlined the strong spirit, tradition and future ambition within Glenflesk GAA/LGFA.



The Millennium Cup team of 2000 with their coaches at the celebration last Friday evening in the East Avenue Hotel.



Joining in the celebrations were Mary Joe Curran, Paud O'Donoghue, Louise Ni Mhuircheartaigh and Catherine O'Sullivan.



Enjoying the celebrations last Friday evening in the East Avenue Hotel, Naoise Ní Rian, Clodagh O'Sullivan, Keelin O'Shea and Lucy Linehan.





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# Killarney mourns the passing of SEAMUS KIELY

There was sadness in Killarney this week when the news of the passing of Seamus Kiely was announced.

Long before the bargain shops arrived in Ireland one Semus Kiely spearheaded cut price electrical items for the Killarney People. With his entrepreneurial skills and knocked down prices Seamus brought many otherwise unaffordable record players, tv's and household items into many a living room in Kerry. It all started in the late 1970's in this shop on High Street, Killarney followed by Kiely's Super Save, an electrical and home entertainment store at Woodlands Industrial Estate.



Kiely's Record and Radio Centre on High Street, Killarney the late 1970's.  
Photo: Don MacMonagle - macmonagle.com archive



The late Seamus Kiely outside Kiely's Super Save on Park Road in 1991. Photo: Don MacMonagle - macmonagle.com archive

Originally from Mangerton View, Seamus Kiely passed away on Wednesday morning in the palliative care unit of Kerry General Hospital.

The Kiely family made their home on Ross Road where he will be missed by the community there.

Predeceased by his sister Gretta and his brother Brian, he is survived by his wife Nuala, daughter Louise, son-in-law Daniel, grandchildren Isabelle, Harry and Henry, and extended family. Following Requiem Mass, today, Friday, at St Mary's Cathedral at 10.30am, burial will take place in Aghadoe Cemetery.

Ar Dheis De go Raibh a anam.

## Killarney Musical Society Prepare for All Shook Up

The cast of Killarney Musical Society 'All Shook Up' are singing, dancing and acting their hearts out three evenings a week. The vibrant musical featuring the music of Elvis runs from Tuesday the 10th February to Thursday 12th February. Members are enjoying every part of the process- "It's lovely getting to know new people- the collective effort it takes to bring a show to life on stage helps us form a powerful bond which is definitely seen on stage" says chorus member Olwyn Trant. The show features well known Elvis hits such as 'C'mon Everybody', 'Can't Help Falling in Love', 'Burnin' Love', 'Hounddog', 'Devil in Disguise', 'Jailhouse Rock' and many more! This is also an extra special year for Killarney Musical Society, as they celebrate 40 years as a society. Who can remember as far back as 'HMS Pinafore' and 'Showboat'? Or even 'South Pacific' or 'The Wiz'? To be in with a chance of winning two tickets to 'All Shook Up' – head over to their Instagram page (QR code below).

**Winner announced Sunday 21st December just in time for that perfect Christmas gift!**



Phil Spillane and Linda O'Donoghue working behind the scenes.



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## RSA Urges Public: “Think Before You Buy”

# Do not gift E-Scooters, Quad Bikes or Scrambler Bikes to children this Christmas

4 December 2025 - The Road Safety Authority (RSA) has launched a new safety campaign urging parents, guardians, family members and friends to think carefully before purchasing gifts for children under the age of 16 this Christmas. Specifically, the RSA is strongly advising against buying e-scooters, quad bikes or scrambler bikes for young people due to the significant safety risks associated with these vehicles.

The RSA is reminding the public that powered vehicles are not toys. They pose real danger, particularly to children who lack the physical, cognitive and motor skills needed to operate them safely.

The new campaign has been developed in collaboration with Dr Irwin Gill, Consultant in Neurodisability at CHI at Temple Street Hospital. Drawing on real clinical experiences, the campaign uses the voices of imaginary children who have suffered injuries after falling from an e-scooter, quad bike or scrambler. These messages, placed alongside simple imagery of the vehicles across outdoor, digital and social media channels, create a direct and human reminder of the risks these gifts can pose.

The central message is clear: before buying a powered vehicle for a child, pause and consider whether it is legal, safe and appropriate. A Christmas gift should bring joy - not endanger



a child's future.

This initiative follows a separate RSA-CHI advertising campaign launched in November, warning parents not to buy e-scooters for children under 16. E-scooters are now the leading cause of traumatic brain injury among children admitted to CHI at Temple Street,

Ireland's national neurosurgical centre.

Sam Waide, Chief Executive of the RSA, said: “The greatest gift parents can give this year is ensuring the safety of their children. Parents should not consider purchasing a quad, scrambler or an e-scooter for any child this Christmas.”

## Killarney Rolls Out the Red Carpet for Twin Town Visitors



Mr. Rumbaugh signing the Visitors Book with Mayor Martin Grady, and members of the Town Twinning Association Sean Counihan, Michael O'Leary and Sheila Dickson

The Killarney Town Twinning and Sister City Association was delighted to welcome Max Rumbaugh, former president of both the Scottsdale Rotary Club and the Scottsdale Sister Cities organisation, along with his wife Edith, an administrator, on a recent visit to the town. The couple spent several days in Killarney taking in the sights and enjoying the Christmas parade.

During their visit, they met with members of the Town Twinning and Sister City Committee, who arranged for Mr. Rumbaugh to sign Visitors Book. He was officially welcomed by Mayor Martin O'Grady, to whom he presented a letter from the Mayor of Scottsdale. The correspondence included, through the Sister Cities programme, an invitation for Mayor O'Grady to visit Scottsdale in the near future.

Max has a particular grá for Rotary, and former Killarney Rotary President Barry Murphy was on hand, at the invitation of the Town Twinning Association, to greet him. The two exchanged pennants and discussed the possibility of future Rotary interaction and shared initiatives between both towns.

The upcoming Student Golf Exchange, organised by the Killarney Town Twinning Association in partnership with Killarney Golf Club, was also discussed. Suggested dates were agreed for Max to bring back to Scottsdale as planning continues for the next chapter in this long-standing international friendship.



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# Killarney Legion coaches hail historic Erasmus+ Sports Project.

Killarney Legion's historic Erasmus+ Sports Mobility project, launched in February with the support of Sean Kelly M.E.P., club executive members and the Kerry Recreation & Sports Partnership, drew to a close this week as grassroots coaches returned from the Club La Santa sports resort in Lanzarote. 10 coaches received support from the Erasmus+ Sports Mobility Coach Shadowing programme, which allowed them, and 8 other colleagues to shadow coaching delivered by the Club La Santa "Green Team" professional coaches and instructors.

This was the first time a GAA club availed of Sports Mobility Erasmus+ funding with an application for funding made to the National Agency, Léargas, with the facilitation of KRSP back in October 2024. The Legion project was titled "Multisport Coach Shadowing for Multi-age Fitness & Conditioning" and saw the Legion coaches learn by observation and participation in activities delivered by Club La Santa sports coaches in a wide range of activities from their sport programme.

Activities shadowed which are transferrable to the Club's on-field and off-field training included Athletics Techniques, Functional Movement, Hyrox, Crossfit, TRX, Circuit Training, Fitball, Hill Reps (V02), stretching & recovery and nutrition programmes. Coaches were also encouraged to shadow some non-transferrable coached activities which would allow them to focus on how the Green Team professional coach prepared communicated and managed delivery.

Legion coaches maintained an online journal



to record their observations, learning and upload media. The club and KRSP intend will issue certificates to reflect their learning and experiences in the project. Feedback from all the participants has been exceptionally positive. The club will be organising some coaching workshops during the winter where participants will have an opportunity to share & transfer learnings from the project.

Legion will be hosting a Léargas Sports Mobility workshop in January 2026 for any sports club who is considering a sports mobility project for 2026. The next Erasmus+ funding call deadline is in February 2026.

In its final Project report, the club has called upon the EU and Léargas, the national agency supporting Erasmus+ projects in Ireland,

to expand The Erasmus+ Sports Mobility programmes to aid grassroots clubs tackle the challenges of coach recruitment, retention and development. The club is also happy to share experiences to assist other Kerry clubs get involved in Erasmus+ projects through Kerry GAA networks or via the Kerry Recreation & Sports Partnership.

Legion's Project lead, Minor Coach and club Vice-Chairman Brian Looney thanked Léargas for the project support, Club La Santa's Sports Director Michael Møller and his "Green team" coaches for their generous guidance and KRSP & Coordinator Gearoid O'Doherty for their facilitation.

## O'Leary Brothers mark over a decade of Giving Back with ANNUAL EVENT IN AID OF MS SOUTH KERRY

For more than ten years, brothers Derek, Karl and Conor O'Leary have organised their much-loved annual Christmas event in support of the MS South Kerry Branch, a cause deeply rooted in their family's story.

The O'Leary brothers' commitment is inspired by their late mother, who lived with Multiple Sclerosis for nearly 30 years before her passing in 2011.

Throughout those decades, the MS South Kerry Branch provided ongoing support, understanding, and compassion for their mother and the entire O'Leary family.

"This event is our way of saying thanks," says Derek O'Leary. "The MS South Kerry Branch were always there for our mother and for us. By running this event every year, we hope we can give back in some small way, and maybe help other families who are going through the same struggles we once did."

The event brings a great atmosphere to Killarney town centre at this special time of year. The funds raised help support vital services for people living with MS in the South Kerry region, including therapy, transport assistance, respite, and emotional support for families.

The O'Leary brothers extend their heartfelt thanks to the people of Killarney and everyone who has supported the event over the years. They extend an invite to everyone to come along and enjoy an evening of classic crooners and Christmas carols in the heart of Killarney, supporting a great cause.





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Check your Christmas tree lights conform to the European Standards. Always switch them off at night or when you are not home.

**On the 2nd day of Christmas**  
Never place candles near your Christmas tree, Cards, Decorations or furnishings.

**On the 3rd day of Christmas**  
Make sure your family and visitors staying for the festive period know what to do in an emergency. Make a fire escape plan.

**On the 4th day of Christmas**  
Decorations can burn easily - don't attach them to lights, heaters, candles or place around a fireplace.

**On the 5th day of Christmas**  
Never overload electrical sockets. Take special care with Christmas lights. Always switch Christmas lights off and unplug them before you go to bed.

**On the 6th day of Christmas**  
Celebrate Christmas and New Year safely. The risk of accidents, especially in the kitchen, is greater when alcohol is consumed.

**On the 7th day of Christmas**  
Most fires start in the kitchen - never leave a cooker unattended.

**On the 8th day of Christmas**  
Ensure your chimney is cleaned twice a year.

**On the 9th day of Christmas**  
Make sure cigarettes are completely extinguished before going to bed.

**On the 10th day of Christmas**  
Check the battery in your smoke alarm every week and use Christmas as a reminder to clean it and remove dust.

**On the 11th day of Christmas**  
Keep candles, lighters and matches out of the reach of children. Never leave burning candles unattended.

**On the 12th day of Christmas**  
Take the time to check on elderly relatives and neighbours this Christmas - make sure they are fire safe.

STOP FIRE

## Happy Christmas

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Photos courtesy of Katie Marie Photographie.



# Norma Foley TD

Minister for Children, Disability and Equality & T.D. for Kerry

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## KILLARNEY VALLEY AC COUCH TO 5K JANUARY 2026

THE TEAM AT KILLARNEY VALLEY AC ARE DELIGHTED TO ANNOUNCE THIS YEAR'S COUCH TO 5K PROGRAMME 2026.

The very successful aim is to get you moving early in 2026 from a walk to a jog. The benefits for your mental and physical health are priceless and are delivered in a safe and social welcoming way on the track at Killarney valley ac.

The qualified coaching team have years of experience and have a trusted system that will guarantee you success at your own level and pace.

The coaching team includes DJ O Sullivan, Brid Stack, Liz Griffin and Jerry Griffin amongst others who will ensure a warm welcome and encouragement throughout.

The course begins on Tuesday the 13th of January and is for two evenings per week on a Tuesday and a Thursday. It continues for 8 weeks with completion of a 5k at the Killarney house park run on the 5th of March.

Registration is online and spaces are limited.

Killarney has facilitated well over a thousand participants to date.



The coaching team includes DJ O Sullivan, Liz Griffin, Brid Stack, and Jerry Griffin

## Creative Communities Grants Scheme 2026 Now Open for Applications

Creative Ireland Kerry, through Kerry County Council's Arts Office, is inviting applications for the Creative Communities Grants Scheme 2026, funded by Creative Ireland and supported by Kerry County Council.

Part of the Kerry Culture & Creativity Strategy 2023–2027, the scheme aims to enable and support creativity in every community. Grants of up to €6,000 are available for community-rooted creative projects that demonstrate strong participation, clear community benefit, and a focus on wellbeing. New collaborations between creative practitioners, organisations and community groups are strongly encouraged. Previously funded groups may also apply to continue and develop their work.



Cathaoirleach of Kerry County Council, Cllr. Michael Foley, welcomed the announcement, noting the continued importance of creative opportunities across the county.

Application forms and full guidelines are available at [arts.kerrycoco.ie](https://arts.kerrycoco.ie) under the Forms/Funding section.

Deadline: 1 p.m., January 22nd, 2026.

An online information session, facilitated by Arts Officer Kate Kennelly and Creative Communities Engagement Officer Emma Carmody, will take place on Thursday, 18th December at 1 p.m.

To register, email [arts@kerrycoco.ie](mailto:arts@kerrycoco.ie)

and indicate your group or role. FAQs will be published online after the session.

## Students Spread Christmas Cheer



Front l/r: Chinva Vongsar, Ellen Casey, Caoimhe Fleming, Aimee O'Connor, Carlota Cano, Helen Credo and Ava Hickey.

Back l/r: Yorgita Prakash, Aswati Kattimuttath, Niamh Keane, Clodagh McMahon, Lakshmi Thajeesh, Riona Walsh, Ellie Kate Sheehy, Aine O'Sullivan and Amy Rose Mangan, Eva Burke, Katelyn Murphy, Ciara O'Donoghue, Marie Barry, Brigh Harkin and Gwen O'Sullivan.

Second-year students of Presentation Secondary School, Castleisland, have launched a heart-warming 'Care Pack Initiative' aimed at bringing joy to residents of nursing homes across Kerry this Christmas.

As part of the project, students created handmade, personalised Christmas cards,, each containing a thoughtful message of goodwill for an individual resident. The cards were crafted with care and creativity, reflecting the true spirit of Christmas and the school's commitment to community kindness.


Teachers involved in the project said that 'the students were eager to reach out to older members of the community, especially those who many find the festive season lonely.'

The Care Pack cards are now being delivered to nursing homes throughout the County, carrying messages of hope, connection and warmth from Castleisland to residents in Killarney and Listowel.


The students hope that the gesture will remind residents that they are remembered, valued and are very much part of the wider community.

The project has been praised for encouraging empathy, teamwork and generosity among the students, while spreading a little extra Christmas cheer where it's needed most.





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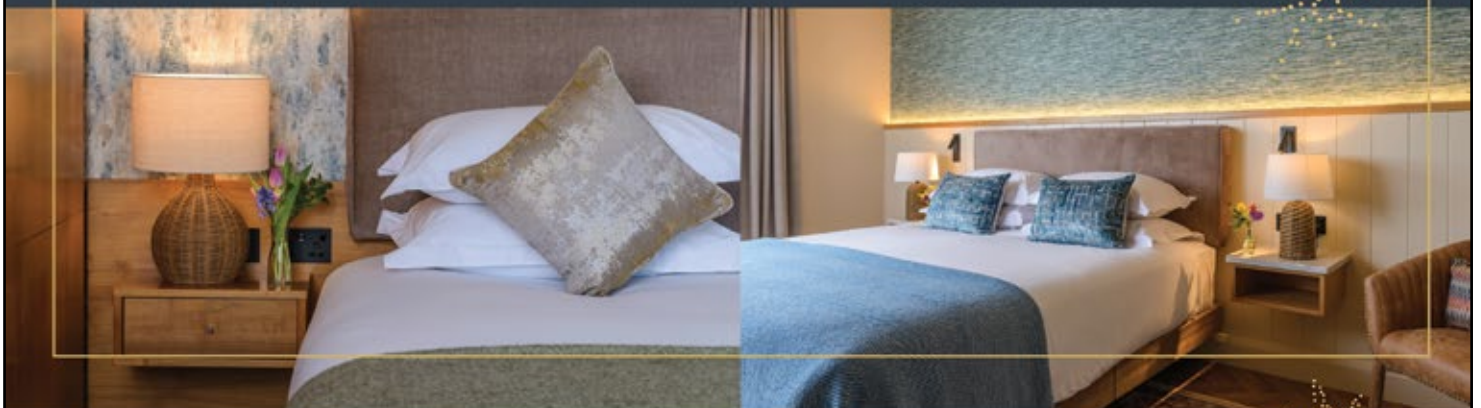
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# Chamber chief reflects on a hugely positive year

The President of Killarney Chamber of Tourism and Commerce has reflected on a very progressive and positive year in 2025 with many highlights that have helped maintain Killarney's reputation as a premier tourist destination.

Johnny McGuire told the annual President's Christmas Luncheon at the Killarney Park Hotel that a number of senior chamber members achieved great success throughout the year, including Patrick O'Donoghue of the Gleneagle Group being named Kerry Business Leader of the Year, Pat O'Leary joining the board of Tourism Ireland and the town doing exceptionally well in both the national tidy towns competition and the Irish Business Against Litter League.

He said Killarney could not achieve what it does without the wonderful contribution from volunteers, right throughout

the community, including those who help out with tidy towns, the mountain meitheal and the numerous festivals, parades and events that chamber hosts every year.

The business organisation also hosted some very engaging guest speakers at many of its gatherings throughout 2025, including retail consultant Eddie Shanahan, IBEC chief Danny McCoy, Minister of State Michael Healy-Rae, Kerry County Council chief executive Fearghal Reidy and cyber security experts Mike Dennehy and Ger McAuliffe from progressive local company Tricel.

In a new departure this year chamber published informative monthly newsletters for members to keep them fully briefed on events happening in Killarney, what the chamber has been doing and what is in the pipeline.

Chamber played a very active part in Killarney's outstanding gold

medal performance in the national tidy towns competition, it made a dramatic improvement in the Irish Business Against Litter League and did really well in the annual county clean-up day that continues to grow and prosper, he said.

Mr McGuire referenced the great spirit of cooperation that exists with the National Parks and Wildlife Service in terms of all aspects of the park and he praised manager Shane Treacy and the Trustees of Muckross House for the wonderful work they are doing in preserving Killarney's most precious asset. He congratulated Con and Anne Stack, founders of Tricel, on being the recipients of the 2025 Order of Inisfallen Award, the Randles family of the Dromhall and Randles Hotels on celebrating 60 years in business and Clr Niall Kelleher and Tom Leslie for spearheading another hugely successful Christmas in Killarney Festival.

The chamber president noted that a decision was taken this year to honour the memory of the late Donal Grady, a former Mayor of Killarney, by dedicating the star at the top of the Tree of Light on the grounds of St Mary's Cathedral to his memory.

Mr McGuire welcomed new chamber vice president, Carol Dempsey, and he said he looks forward to her input and to working closely with her on several projects as the new year



Padraig Treacy and John O'Mahony

unfolds.

He also acknowledged the long-serving co-president Padraig Treacy for his remarkable contribution to chamber and he said he was delighted to confirm that Padraig will remain on in the wings which is where he always likes to be.

The chamber chief concluded his address by taking heart from recent comments made by Taoiseach Micheál Martin who described Killarney as being a great town for getting things done and just getting on with it and as a location that had tourism in its DNA.

And speaking of getting things done, Mr McGuire said chamber recently had a private meeting with Mr Martin at which they lobbied him to introduce the long-promised latte levy so that the coffee cup initiative first introduced in Killarney can get a new lease of life and go on to thrive on a nationwide basis, just like the plastic bag levy introduced some years ago.



Members enjoying the lunch



Micheal O'Donoghue, Linda O'Sullivan, Johnny McGuire, President and Rosemary O'Connor



Carol Dempsey, Sean Buckley, Tom Randles and Róisín Buckley





Society of St. Vincent de Paul

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL | New Street Car Park, Killarney, Co. Kerry  
Contact Mobile: 087 6164888

# ANNUAL

## Christmas Appeal 2025



The St. Vincent De Paul Society are holding their Annual Christmas Church Gate Collection at the Cathedral, Friary, Church of the Resurrection and Muckross.

Beaufort | Glenflesk | Fossa | Kilcummin | Clonkeen | Barraduff

**ANNUAL CHURCH GATE COLLECTIONS**  
**Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th December 2025.**

*No house to house collections this year.  
We take this opportunity to thank each and everyone for your ongoing support.*

*We wish a Peaceful & Joyous Christmas to all*





Killarney Cycling Club teaming up with Killarney Lions Club taking part in the festive magic Christmas parade on the streets of Killarney on Saturday night.



Fiona Carroll and Derry Healy, taking part in the festive magic Christmas parade.



The festive magic of Christmas came alive on the streets of Killarney on Saturday night.



Killarney Cycling Club teaming up with Killarney Lions Club taking part in the festive magic Christmas parade.



John O'Sullivan, driving one of the floats.



The Grinch taking part in the festive magic Christmas parade.



# Christmas in Killarney

Pictures by:  
Valerie O'Sullivan





# Christmas in Killarney

The festive magic of Christmas came alive on the streets of Killarney on Saturday night for the weekly magic Christmas parade in the run up to Christmas 2025.

## More Magic Fills the Air as another Parade Delights Thousands



Christine Carroll, as Queen Puck as the festive magic of Christmas came alive.



Christmas  
in  
Killarney



# Edison Takes the Spotlight at Magic Parade

Edison Boyle O'Sullivan was the special guest of honour aboard the Polar Express Train at last weekend's Magic Parade. The impressive festive train was crafted by members of the Killarney Valley Classic & Vintage Club, adding a nostalgic touch to the event's celebrations. Edison is pictured proudly alongside his granda, Frank O'Sullivan, as the pair enjoyed the magical spectacle.



## Coffee Morning in Aid of Gaza This Saturday



A local community group, Killarney for Palestine, will host a special Coffee Morning this Saturday, 13 December, to raise funds for Médecins Sans Frontières and displaced families in Gaza. The event will take place from 11.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. at The Black Sheep Hostel.

Attendees can look forward to festive treats, home-baked goods and live music throughout the morning. A raffle will also be held, featuring a hamper packed with seasonal goodies as well as vouchers for a range of local businesses, including Dunnes Stores, Noelle's Café, Phoenix Fitness and New Street. Tickets to see Kneecap, who are performing in Killarney this weekend, will also be up for grabs.

Families are encouraged to attend, with a children's face-painting corner planned, along with Palestine-themed merchandise available for purchase.

Organisers say they are looking forward to welcoming everyone on Saturday and wish to thank the public in advance for their support and community spirit.

# CASTLEISLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE win Brendan O Shea football Cup 2025!

The U15 football team from Castleisland Community College edged Intermediate School Killorglin in a thrilling U15 Brendan O'Shea Final to become the 2025 football champions. The U15 team claimed the title after a fiercely contested battle with Intermediate School Killorglin, overcoming a slow start to secure victory in the closing stages. Final score 3-12 to 1-16.

ISK burst out of the blocks, using a strong wind at their backs to establish an early three-point advantage. The team gradually settled into the contest, with well-taken scores from Connie O'Connor and Olly O'Shea reducing the deficit. Killorglin continued to press, however, and pushed their lead out to five points entering the final ten minutes of the opening half. Castleisland responded brilliantly when Adam Walsh finished a superb goal to cut the margin to just two. ISK replied with a point, but the momentum swung again when Charlie Tarrant embarked on a sensational solo run that resulted in a Castleisland penalty. Sean Kerin stepped up and calmly converted, sending the sides in level at half-time.

With the wind now at their disposal, Castleisland dominated much of the second half and chipped away on the scoreboard. The influential Walsh struck again, adding his second—and Castleisland's third—goal to open a six-point cushion heading into the last ten minutes.

ISK, to their credit, refused to yield. A goal and a point in quick succession tightened the contest and heaped pressure back onto



Back Row L to R: Ryan Clifford, Isak Delee O Sullivan, Michael O Connell, Conor O'Donoghue, Tom O'Neil, Fionn Brown, Emmet O'Grady, Connie O'Connor, Sean Kerin, Cillian Murphy.

Middle Row L to R: Ryan O'Connor, Aaron Brosnan, Jame O'Donoghue, Alex O'Sullivan, Aidan O'Connor, David Fealy, Keelan Burke, Darragh Lyons, Frank Salmon, Mr. Nicholson (English teacher & Coach).

Front Row L to R: Darragh McGillicuddy, Jack O'Sullivan, Donal O'Sullivan, Adam Walsh, Olly O'Shea (Captain), Brian McShane, Charlie Tarrant, Leo Flynn.

Castleisland as the clock ticked down. But the decisive moment came late on, when Olly O'Shea landed a crucial free to steady the ship and seal an impressive and hard-earned win for Castleisland Community College.

It was a final played with tremendous heart and skill from both sides, but Castleisland's resilience and clinical finishing ultimately proved the difference.

'We congratulate the team and their coaches - Tommy Nicholson (English teacher) and Peter Stack (SNA) on this excellent win. The success of the players extends beyond football as many of the players were part of the FAI National Schools' Soccer Champions U14 2025 and Basketball Ireland Boys Minor A League Champions and also U14 A Cup Champions 2025, concluded Máiréad Corridan (Principal).





# NEW GP PRACTICE OPENS IN KILLARNEY

Dunloe Medical Practice is opening on 1st December and is being led by **Dr Aidan Daly**, who has worked in Killarney for a number of years. He comes from a strong medical background and is a second-generation GP, following his father who worked as a GP for almost 50 years in Tralee and subsequently in Killarney.

*Training and Experience* Dr Daly has trained in hospital medicine and general practice, with extensive experience across all ages. Before pursuing a career in medicine, Dr Daly studied Marine Science and obtained an MSc in Ecology. He is a member of both the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland and the Irish College of General Practitioners. He is currently the attending physician and medical officer to Killarney Community Hospital.

He has strengths in a wide range of areas within internal medicine, including Cardiology, Paediatrics, Care of the Elderly, Palliative Care, Dermatology, Mental Health, and he enjoys dealing with complex medical cases. His specialist interests include Musculoskeletal Medicine, Joint Injections, and complex neurological conditions such as vertigo and migraines.

*Community Commitment* Dr Daly intends to provide a personalised service to patients of all ages in a relaxed environment. The practice will offer state-of-the-art technology to ensure smooth and efficient delivery of service. Originally from Tralee, Dr Daly now lives in Beaufort with his wife and practice manager, Karina, and their son.



*New patients, both medical card holders and private, are welcome to join Dunloe Medical Practice from 1st December.*

To book an appointment or register T: 064 665 2266 or E: [info@dunloomedical.ie](mailto:info@dunloomedical.ie)

Dunloe Medical Practice | 62 New Street | Killarney | V93X2T2 | [www.dunloomedical.ie](http://www.dunloomedical.ie)

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For course details please email: [mindfulnesswithmish@gmail.com](mailto:mindfulnesswithmish@gmail.com)

Or Call Mish : 087 - 414 6901



# BUSINESS OUTLOOK

GROW YOUR BUSINESS HERE - WITH US!

Dublin hosted more than 250 international delegates from the Chartered Institute of Architectural Technologists (CIAT) over the weekend of 22–23 November for the organisation's AGM and 60th Anniversary celebrations. The event has been widely credited to the work of local Chartered Architectural Technologist Michael O'Keeffe FCIAT of Killarney, whose efforts over three years helped secure the milestone gathering for Ireland.

Mr. O'Keeffe, Chair of CIAT Republic of Ireland, began discussions with Fáilte Ireland over three years ago, leading to a competitive bid supported by Fáilte Ireland's Business Events team. Dublin was selected for its accessibility, cultural appeal and proven ability to host major international conferences.

While the event took place in the capital, the driving force behind it was firmly rooted in Kerry. Michael O'Keeffe is a long-standing figure in Killarney's architectural community and has worked extensively on local building and design projects, particularly in the areas of conservation, planning and sustainable construction. His experience in the tourism-focused built environment of Killarney, where heritage buildings, protected structures and modern development must coexist, helped shape his pitch to CIAT, showcasing Ireland's strengths in design and construction innovation.

Events over the weekend took place across several major Dublin venues, including



*Michael O'Keeffe FCIAT, Chair of CIAT Republic of Ireland, Usman Yaqub PCIAT, newly inaugurated CIAT President and Eddie Weir FCIAT PPCIAT, Immediate Past President at the CIAT 60th Anniversary Gala in the Round Room at the Mansion House, Dawson Street, Dublin.*

Technological University Dublin, the Mont Hotel, the Radisson Blu Royal Hotel and the Round Room at the Mansion House, where the CIAT 60th Anniversary Gala was held. Over €1,500 was raised for Laois Down Syndrome, and Usman Yaqub PCIAT was inaugurated as CIAT President for a two-year term.

Mr. O'Keeffe said he was proud to bring the anniversary to Ireland and to represent Kerry on the international stage. He praised the support of CIAT staff, sponsors and committee members. A Fellow Chartered Architectural Technologist and Gold Award recipient in 2024, O'Keeffe is director of healycornelius design Ltd., based in Deerpark, Killarney, providing architectural design, planning and construction

phase services to private and commercial clients across the town, wider Kerry region and the Munster province.



*Michael O'Keeffe FCIAT, Chair of CIAT Republic of Ireland, addressing the AGM delegates at the Radisson Blu Royal Hotel, Golden Lane, Dublin with Patricia Mulvey FCIAT and Usman Yaqub PCIAT in background.*

## THE ASHE HOTEL

*Announced as Finalist at 2025 Gold Medal Hotel Awards*



The Ashe Hotel, Tralee has been announced as a finalist in four categories at the 2025 Gold Medal Hotel Awards; Ireland's Four Star Hotel, Ireland's Boutique Hotel of The Year, Ireland's Hotel Casual Dining Experience and Ireland's Small Wedding Hotel.

Kamila Bielinska, General Manager of The Ashe Hotel says, 'We are truly honoured that The Ashe Hotel has once again been recognised at the Gold Medal Awards, this time as finalists across four highly competitive categories. This achievement reflects the passion and commitment of our team, who continue to push standards and deliver exceptional guest experiences in every area of the hotel. From our eclectic and contemporary design to our casual dining offering and intimate weddings, we take great pride in creating a warm and welcoming space where every guest feels cared for.'

The Gold Medal Hotel Awards in its 36th year recognises the outstanding achievements of the hotel and catering sector across the country. An important factor in the Gold Medal Hotel Awards is the credibility and impartial nature of the judging process. Every property that undergoes this process is subject to benchmarking against a strict set of criteria and a blind site inspection conducted by the judging panel.

The category winners will be announced on Tuesday 27th January at the Galmont Hotel and Spa, Galway.



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1 Week Only 11<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> December



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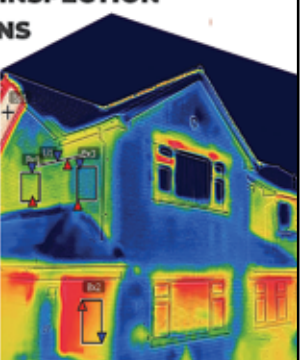
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RATHMORE | GNEEVEGUILLA PARISH

By Michael O' Mahony

SHARE THE BUCKET – GNEEVEGUILLA COMMUNITY FACILITY GROUP

The weekly Share the Bucket draw takes place every Friday evening at 8.30pm in Teach Fáilte and can be viewed live on the Gneeveguilla Community Facility Group Facebook Page. This week's jackpot was €204 and the winner was Páraic Finnegan.

Tickets cost €2 each or three for €5. They are available in Teach Fáilte, online, and in local businesses displaying the Green Share the Bucket. All funds go towards the proposed new community facility. The group thanks all local businesses, shops, pubs and everyone who supports the draw each week.

MINDFUL MORNING – YOGA LE CHÉILE & YOGA TOGETHER

A Mindful Morning in support of those on the cancer journey will take place on 16th December from 10.00am to 12.00pm in Teach Iosagáin, Rathmore. There is no charge for the event and donations are at your own discretion. All proceeds will be donated directly to Kerry Cancer Support Trust CLG. Spot prizes will be available on the day.

To book a space contact Denise on 086 8901234. The event is open to everyone and all are welcome.

RATHMORE & DISTRICT CREDIT UNION – CHRISTMAS GIVEAWAY

Anyone making a transaction online or in any office between 2nd December 2025 and 19th December 2025 will be entered into a draw to win one of three luxury festive hampers.

SYMPATHY

Sympathy is extended to Andy O'Halloran and family, Knocknagree, on the death of his sister Bernadette O'Connor, whose funeral took place in Prosperous, Co. Kildare, on 12th November.

Sympathy is also extended to John and Nuala McCormack, Knocknagree, on the death of his sister Nell Gannon, whose funeral took place in Castlerea, Co. Roscommon, on 26th November.

Sympathy is extended to John Gerard Nagle, Maria, Noreen, their families and the extended family on the death of their father Garrett Nagle, Rathmore Townland. Garrett's funeral took place on Tuesday 2nd December in Rathmore.

May Bernadette, Nell and Garrett rest in peace, and may all who mourn their loss be comforted.

CHURCH AND YOUTH SERVICES

ANNUAL COLLECTION FOR YOUTH SERVICES

KDYS legally became KCYS this time last year and is now one hundred percent independent of the diocese. Appreciation is expressed to all from the diocese who have given their time, ability and energy over the past fifty years. The hope is that KCYS will continue to be a success throughout the diocese.

The diocese committed last year to continuing support through an annual church collection in the years ahead, with the decision to be revisited in the future. Twenty youth clubs are up and running for 2025/2026. Even with the many sporting and cultural activities available, KCYS continues to provide an important opportunity for young people to meet socially. Charities like KCYS also require funding beyond government-supported programmes.

Support is encouraged through youth involvement, volunteering and awareness of KCYS services. A welcome is extended to Colette O'Doherty, now on staff at the diocesan pastoral centre, whose focus will be on faith development for teenagers and young adults.

MILLSTREET / RATHMORE GARDA TEXT ALERT – GNEEVEGUILLA COMMUNITY ALERT

Anyone interested in receiving Garda text alerts is invited to provide their name, phone number and €10 to John Vaughan (087 6336891), Donal Vaughan (087 6212462), Ted O'Connor (086 0848182) or Eileen Fleming (087 1478355).

TUREENCAHILL COMMUNITY CENTRE – CHRISTMAS CONCERT

A Christmas Concert featuring "The Hacksaw" Keili Band will take place in Tureenacahill Community Centre (P51 T663) on Sunday 28th December at 8.00pm. Tickets cost €20.

RATHMORE ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Support is requested for the upcoming annual fundraisers. Without ongoing help, the group would not be able to support those struggling in the community.

One hundred percent of funds raised go directly to people facing difficulties locally this Christmas. Donations can be made through the online fundraiser page or by scanning the unique QR code. For further information please call 087 346 2332.

CONTACT FOR NEWS ITEMS

If you would like to add to these notes, please email Michael O'Mahony at momahony14@gmail.com or call/text 087 667 6817 before 6pm.

LISTRY PARISH

Written by: Colette Leslie

LOTTO

Jackpot €13,750. Numbers Drawn: 01, 03, 15, 18. Not Won. €100 Conor O'Sullivan, Beaufort Bridge. €50 Ellie Mai, Amelia & Joseph Wrenn. €50 Liam Griffin c/o Arbutus Hotel. €25 Denis Griffin, Lissivane West. €25 David Murphy c/o Faha Court. Jackpot Next Week 14/12/2025 €13,900

Hampers: Richard Walsh, Ellie Mai, Amelia & Joseph Wrenn

MINORS

Well done to our Minors who defeated Spa today in East Kerry Minor final on score line of 3-11 to 8 points.

U16

Listry U16 team p will play Na Gaeil in the Co League final this weekend. Fixture details TBC.

CHRISTMAS IN LISTRY

Listry Christmas tree lighting at Listry GAA Friday the 12th December at 6pm and a meet and greet with Santa ,festive fun ,face painting come along .



All ready to celebrate with Glenflesk GAA, Frances O'Doherty, Niall O'Callaghan, Aileen O'Doherty and Kieran O'Callaghan. Photo Seamus Healy.



Relaxing before the big celebrations last Friday night with Glenflesk GAA Club are Caoimhe Moynihan, Clodagh McCarthy, Amy McCarthy, Allana O'Sullivan and Sarah Warren. Photo Seamus Healy





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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 [info@dermotcronin.ie](mailto:info@dermotcronin.ie) or 0646622775 or 0872893649.*

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## KILCUMMIN PARISH

Written by: Helen Moynihan

### KILCUMMIN'S "JINGLE & MINGLE"

Kilcummin's annual Jingle & Mingle Christmas celebration takes place this Sunday, 14th December 2025, with festive fun for all ages. This year features a new Mini Merry Market in the village park, along with the "Lighting of the Park" at 4.30pm by Kerry All-Star David Clifford, Christmas carols, children's activities, and treats from Sheila's Coffee & Crêpes. A Christmas concert follows at 5.30pm, showcasing St. Brigid's School Choir, the Kilcummin Children's Choir, and Kilcummin Comhaltas. All are welcome to join this community celebration supported by Kerry County Council and local groups.

### THE SLIABH LUACHRA MUSIC TRAIL

The Sliabh Luachra Music Trail is coming to Kilcummin on Sat 13th Dec. @2pm at Kilcummin Recreational Hall. All ages & instruments welcome.

### NOTICE

Items for inclusion in our Christmas edition of the weekly newsletter should be emailed to [info@kilcumminparish.com](mailto:info@kilcumminparish.com) or dropped into the Rural Development Office by Thursday 18th December.

### PINK NIGHT - SAVE THE DATE

The Ladies' Committee of Kilcummin GAA Club are delighted to announce the return of its annual Pink Night, taking place in The Klub Bar on Saturday, January 3rd. Now in its twelfth year—and supporting Comfort for Chemo for the fifth year running—this much-loved event promises a fantastic evening of fun and fundraising for all. Guests will be greeted with a prosecco reception and chocolate-dipped strawberries to set the tone for a relaxed post-Christmas celebration. While everyone is encouraged to wear pink, dressing up is completely optional—the true spirit of the night is community, enjoyment, and support for a great cause. Prizes will be awarded for Best Dressed Female and Best Dressed Male. The festivities begin at 8pm, with entertainment from Derry and Rosie Healy from 8 to 10:00pm, followed by Barry McGrath playing late into the night. A brilliant raffle will take place on the night, along with fantastic door prizes kindly provided by our wonderful local sponsors, whose continued support is deeply appreciated.

### KILCUMMIN GAA NOTES By Donal Barry

#### UNDER 16'S

Our Under 16 team finally ended their long season on Sunday when they were defeated by Na Gaeil in County League Division 1 semi-final which took place in Caherslee in Tralee. Having put in an encouraging first half Kilcummin trailed 0-7 to 2-4 but a brace of early goals by Na Gaeil early into the second half took the game beyond the teams reach.

#### 50TH ANNIVERSARY

While not having anyone from the club directly involved in the Kerry golden era team of 1975-1986 it was great to see club stalwart Willie Maher



Preparing for Pink Night are Back left to Elaine Coffey, Marie Brosnan, Eileen O Leary, Geraldine Pigott, Kay Fleming. Front right to left Niamh Dwyer, Teresa Casey, John O Sullivan Klub bar manager

take his place on stage at Gleneagle Arena last Friday night in Kerry GAA's 50th year celebration. Willie who played his club football with Milltown/Castlemaine during that time has made a huge contribution to the club since his arrival as well as managing the senior team to Intermediate All Ireland glory in 2019. There were presentations to all Kerry players who played during 1975 to 1986 on the night.

#### LOTTO

There was no winner of our lotto on Monday 1st December for the Jackpot of €5,250. Numbers drawn were 01,12,13,14. Consolation prizes of €50 went Jack Slattery; Donal Maher; Nathan & Callum McCarthy; Paul O'Shea. Our next draw will be on Monday 15th December for Jackpot of €5,500.

## BEAUFORT PARISH

By Bridget Hartnett

### AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the GAA Club was held on Sunday last. All Officers were returned unopposed.

### LOTTO

There was no winner in our last Draw for a Jackpot of €8,800 on Sunday night. Numbers drawn were 12, 14, 19, 26. Consolation Prize winners €80 Denise Healy, Keelohane. €50 each to Sophia O'Donoghue, Black Valley, Alice O'Connor, Carnahone and Ger Doherty, Carnahone.

The next Draw on 21st December will be our Christmas Draw for a Jackpot of €9,000 and also some Christmas Hampers. If you're not in you can't win! Tickets available from usual sellers, bars and shops. Lotto can also be done online on <https://beaufortgaa.clubforce.com/products/lotto/beaufort-gaa-club>

### DID YOU KNOW.....

1 in 4 women die from heart disease and stroke?

In conjunction with the Healthy Club Project, thanks to everyone who attended this informative talk and discussion on women's

heart health and a big thank you to Sharon Butler of the Irish Heart Foundation for delivering this event.

### ANNUAL GAA QUIZ

The Annual GAA Quiz will be held in Kate Kearney's Cottage on Monday, December, 29th at 7.30pm. Tables cost E40 per table of 4 and Juvenile tables U16 will cost E20. Raffle also on the night.

### MEDAL PRESENTATION

Thanks to our Senior County star Mike Breen who presented Mid-Kerry Shield medals to our Minor players recently. He also presented medals to the U14 boys who recently won the Mid Kerry B final. Thanks to Mike Breen for taking the time to present them with their medals. Mike is a great role model for our younger players and is always so generous with his time.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Daingean Ui Chuis, An Ghaeltacht and Ballymacelligott on winning all 3 Munster Club Championships Finals over the weekend.



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## CHRISTMAS OPENING HOURS

Date	Rathmore	Milltown	Ballydesmond
<b>Tuesday 23/12/25</b>	10am to 4pm	10am to 4pm	Closed
<b>Wednesday 24/12/25</b>	10am to 1pm	Closed	Closed
<b>Thursday 25/12/25</b>	Closed	Closed	Closed
<b>Friday 26/12/25</b>	Closed	Closed	Closed
<b>Saturday 27/12/25</b>	Closed	Closed	Closed
<b>Tuesday 30/12/25</b>	10am to 4pm	10am to 4pm	Closed
<b>Wednesday 31/12/25</b>	10am to 1pm	Closed	Closed
<b>Thursday 01/01/26</b>	Closed	Closed	Closed
<b>Friday 02/01/26</b>	10am to 6pm	1pm to 6pm	10.30am to 5.30pm

*Seasons greetings to all our members & friends*



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## ASTRID LONGHURST

Life, Inspiration & Body Confidence Coach/Author

### HOW TO HAVE A STRESS FREE CHRISTMAS

The festive season is sometimes anything but festive. Many people feel stressed out with extra planning, shopping and an anxiety around hoping everyone in the family will get along okay. Make it a peaceful and stress-free Christmas with the following tips:

- **Simplify your plans** - Choose traditions and activities that actually bring you joy and let go of the rest. Do it YOUR way, whatever that means for you.
- **Create Quiet, Cozy Moments** - Plan small breaks just for you: a hot drink in silence, a walk, reading by the tree, listening to calm music. These reset your nervous system and help you stay grounded.
- **Set Realistic Expectations** - Christmas doesn't have to be perfect. Give yourself permission to have an "imperfect" holiday — mismatched wrapping paper, easy meals, or last-minute changes are all okay. Focus on presence, not perfection.
- **Communicate Early and Kindly** - Let family and friends know your boundaries and plans ahead of time. Clear expectations reduce misunderstandings, overwhelm, and pressure.
- **Be especially kind and gentle with yourself** if this is the first Christmas without a loved one or a change in family circumstances. Perhaps you can do something in a different way or even get involved in helping out with a charity organisation.

Wishing you all peace this Christmas.

**www.astridlonghurst.com**

# Noreen

WHAT WOMEN WANT

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### GIVE THE GIFT OF GLOWING SKIN

Finding proper "me time" is harder than ever so this Christmas, gift something that truly pampers. Treat your loved one to a facial or massage at their favourite salon or even better, book it together and make a day of it with lunch after. Glowing, healthy skin is top of every woman's wish list with more people choosing radiant skin over heavy make-up.



hydrate and add instant radiance in just 10 minutes.

For something extra special, choose a cosmeceutical serum or nourishing face oil, the kind of product people love but rarely buy for themselves. Dermalogica Multivitamin Recovery Mask (€77) is a Christmas set favourite, we call it "the ambulance in a tube" for tired, stressed skin.

**Noreen Mangan**



Tel: 0646630712

[www.whatwomenwant.ie](http://www.whatwomenwant.ie)

Fitness Expert  
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TIPS TO HELP  
 YOU STAY MOTIVATED

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 FITNESS CLUB

### HOW DO I STAY ON TRACK WITH MY FITNESS GOALS COMING UP TO CHRISTMAS?

Staying on track with your fitness goals during the holiday season can be challenging, but with some strategic planning, you can enjoy the festivities and maintain your progress. Here are some tips to help you stay motivated and disciplined:

**Set Realistic Goals:** Adjust your goals temporarily if needed. Focus on maintaining your current level rather than making significant gains.

**Plan Ahead:** Schedule workouts around holiday events and try to fit in active activities like walks or quick gym sessions.

**Stay Active:** Incorporate physical activity into holiday traditions, like family walks or outdoor activities.

**Moderation with Treats:** Enjoy holiday treats in moderation. Go for small portions rather than overindulging.

**Prioritize Nutrition:** Keep balanced meals in mind, emphasising vegetables, lean proteins, and whole grains.

**Stay Hydrated:** Drink plenty of water, especially when consuming rich holiday foods.

**Be Flexible:** Allow yourself some flexibility without guilt. Missing a workout or indulging occasionally is okay.

**Track Progress:** Keep a simple record of your workouts and eating habits to stay accountable.

Remember that Christmas time is about enjoying spending time with loved ones. Keep a positive mindset.



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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.

For more information, honest advice or to make an appointment contact us on 0646636477



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# Essential Tips to Support Neurodivergent Children During the Festive Season

Christmas is often described as magical, but for neurodivergent children or those with additional needs, the festive season can bring sensory overload, disrupted routines, and heightened anxiety.

Sensational Kids, charity and social enterprise supporting children with additional needs, is committed to making Christmas enjoyable for every child. To help families navigate this busy time, Sensational Kids has released practical strategies to create a calmer, more inclusive festive season.

## TIPS FOR A CALMER CHRISTMAS:

**Maintain Routines** – Keep daily schedules, mealtimes, and bedtime consistent. Prepare for any changes in advance.

**Manage Bright Lights** – Opt for steady-glow Christmas lights instead of flashing ones. Allow your child to wear a hoodie, cap, or sunglasses in brightly lit spaces, and limit time in visually busy environments.

**Prepare in Advance** – Use visual schedules or social stories to explain upcoming events, visitors and changes.

**Choose Events Wisely** – Select a few activities your child will enjoy - don't feel pressured to attend everything.

**Create a Quiet Space and Safe Space** – Create a calm zone where your child can go if overwhelmed.



**Sensory Toys** – When thinking of stocking filler presents – consider sensory toys. This could be something like fidget spinners or liquid timers.

**Seek Sensory-Friendly Options** – Attend events during off-peak times and prepare your child with photos or social stories.

**Pack a Comfort Kit** – Regulation Tools – Bring ear defenders, weighted items, fidgets, chew toys, snacks and a favourite book in a small backpack.

**Have an Exit Plan** – Be ready to leave if your child becomes overwhelmed.

**Communicate Needs** – Inform visitors about

your child's preferences—such as avoiding hugs or needing quiet spaces.

**Consider Food, Smells, Sounds & Textures** – Serve up their favourite food alongside festive dishes to ensure comfort. Give them familiar scents to wear. Let them know they can opt out of certain clothing. Avoid buying loud or overly stimulating toys and find 'no bang' crackers.

Create a Christmas that works for you and celebrate their way – Continue regulation strategies and focus on what brings joy to your child.

## Caring for Kerry – Winter Brings Extra Challenges for Older People

The HSE South West Caring for Kerry campaign continues this week with a reminder that older people can take practical steps to stay well at home and avoid unnecessary hospital visits during the winter months.

Winter often brings additional challenges for older people, particularly in maintaining health and safety at home. As part of the campaign, experts from the Older Person's Hub at Baile Mhuire, Tralee and University Hospital Kerry are sharing practical advice designed to help older people remain safe and well throughout the season.

Dr. Mary Randles of the Geriatric Emergency Multidisciplinary Service (GEMS) at University Hospital Kerry said.

"Simple steps taken at home can make a significant difference in staying well this winter. Good nutrition, home safety, and vaccination are key

to reducing risks and ensuring older people can remain safe and independent."

Dr Randles added: "One of the main ways you can prevent slips, trips and falls at home is making sure that your house remains

free of clutter, so loose rugs, loose wires, pets – consider having a bell on a pet so you can hear them coming and you don't trip over them; and making sure you're wearing safe footwear."

She also recommended the "Take Control Reduce Your Risk of Falls" resource available on hse.ie.

### Top Tips for Staying Well at Home This Winter

Stay well nourished: eat balanced meals including protein and dairy to keep bones strong, and vitamin D to help absorb calcium.

Keep a well-stocked pantry with long-life foods such as tinned fish and beans, and ensure the freezer has essentials like bread and milk.

Take advantage of services such as Meals on Wheels, which can deliver hot meals directly to your home.

Make sure prescriptions are filled in advance to avoid running out of essential medication.

Consider using a pendant alarm or falls watch, which can alert services quickly in the event of an emergency.

HSE South West is also reminding older people and those with underlying health conditions of the importance of keeping up to date with winter vaccinations, including flu and COVID-19. Vaccination remains one of the most effective ways to reduce the risk of serious illness and hospitalisation during the colder months.







# DANNY HEALY-RAE<sup>TD</sup>



Cllr MAURA  
HEALY-RAE

## WEEKLY CLINIC ON: SATURDAY AT SCOTT'S HOTEL, KILLARNEY AT 11AM

*We are available to meet constituents at any time.  
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## BUSES TO BELFAST FOR CATARACTS, HIPS AND KNEE PROCEDURES

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PLACE ON ONE OF THE DECEMBER BUSES TO BELFAST NOW.**

### Danny Healy Rae TD - Monthly Clinics

#### 1st Monday

8.15 PM  
8.30 PM  
9.00 PM  
9.30 PM

#### Rathmore & Gneeveguilla

Top of the Hill, Rathmore  
Bridge Bar, Rathmore  
Dennehy's Bar, Rathmore  
Richie McAuliffe's, Gneeveguilla

#### 3rd Friday

7.30 PM  
8.00 PM  
8.15 PM  
9.00 PM  
9.30 PM

#### Castleisland Area

River Island Hotel, Castleisland  
The Kingdom Bar, Castleisland  
The Crown Hotel, Castleisland  
Hughes Bar, Cordal  
Lyon's Bar, Scartaglen

#### 1st Wednesday

8.00 PM  
8.30 PM  
9.00 PM  
9.30 PM

#### Killarney Area

Torc Hotel, Lissivigeen  
The Village Inn, Kilcummin  
Old Killarney Inn, Aghadoe  
The Golden Nugget, Fossa

#### 4th Thursday

7:00 PM  
7.30 PM  
8.15 PM  
8.45 PM  
9.15 PM  
9.45 PM

#### Killorglin Area

Golden Nugget, Fossa  
Galvin's Bar, Beaufort  
O'Grady's Bar, Killorglin  
Larkin's Bar, Milltown  
Griffins Bar, Castlemaine  
Anvil Bar, Boolteens

#### 1st Thursday

8.30 PM  
9.00 PM  
9.30 PM  
10:00 PM

#### Glenflesk & Barraduff

The Kerry Way, Glenflesk  
Spillane's Headford  
Murphy's Bar, Barraduff  
Sweeney's Bar, Barraduff

#### 4th Friday

8.30 PM  
9.30 PM  
10.00 PM  
10.45 PM

#### Kenmare & Sneem Area

The Roughty bar, Kenmare  
Riney's Bar, Sneem  
Blackwater Tavern  
O'Connor's Bar Kenmare

#### 1st Friday

9.30 PM  
10:00 PM  
10:30 PM

#### Tuosist & Lauragh

Sailors Bar, Killaha West  
Helen's Bar Kilmacalogue  
The Lake House Tuosist

#### Last Monday

8:00 PM  
8:30 PM  
9:00 PM  
10:00 PM

#### Farranfore Area

Ulick's Bar, Farranfore  
James Daly's Bar, Farranfore  
Cunniffe's Bar, Currow  
John Hendersons, Fries

#### 3rd Monday

8.30 PM  
9.00 PM  
9.30 PM  
9.45 PM

#### Knocknagoshel & Brosna

O'Connor's Bar, Knocknagoshel  
Walsh's Bar, Knocknagoshel  
Kate Pat's Bar, Brosna  
Sportsfield Bar, Brosna

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PLEASE CONTACT

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Maura **087 7816432** Johnny **087 2354793** Eileen **087 9975419**

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## Over €5.9 million for Kerry Farmers in Eco-Scheme Balancing Payments

Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Kerry T.D Norma Foley has welcomed confirmation that Kerry farmers will receive €5,988,458 in balancing payments under the 2025 Eco-Scheme.

The commencement of the Eco-Scheme balancing payments will bring the total paid under the 2025 Eco-Scheme since October to almost €288 million with 112,610 farmers now in receipt of an Eco-Scheme payment across the country.

Minister Foley said: "I welcome confirmation that balancing payments totalling over €5.9 million have begun issuing from the Department of Agriculture, Food and The Marine to farmers across the county of Kerry today. The aim of Ireland's Eco-Scheme is to reward farmers for undertaking actions beneficial to the climate, environment, water quality and biodiversity and these payments issuing from today are a vital income support for farm families across Kerry."

Farmers wishing to contact the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine regarding their Eco-Scheme, Basic Income Support for Sustainability (BISS), Complementary Redistributive Income Support for Sustainability (CRISS), Complementary Income Support for Young Farmers (CISYF) or Areas of Natural Constraints (ANC) payments can call the Direct Payments Helpline at 057-8674422. Farmers can also submit any queries they may have online via [www.MyAgfood.ie](http://www.MyAgfood.ie).

## INAGURAL MEETING OF NEW LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

The inaugural meeting of the new Kerry Local Community Safety Partnership (LCSP) took place on 2 December 2025 at the Tralee Bay Wetlands Centre in Tralee. Local Community Safety Partnerships are replacing Joint Policing Committees across the country.

The aim of the Local Community Safety Partnership is to prioritise the voice of local people in identifying and addressing community safety issues. This will occur in collaboration with a broad range of relevant stakeholders including local councillors and Council management, An Garda Síochána, community and resident representatives, business and education representatives, and a range of statutory agencies including the HSE and Túsla.

At the inaugural meeting, Cllr Niall Kelleher was elected as chairperson of the Kerry Local Community Safety Partnership and Derry Ó Murchú from Dingle was elected as vice-chairperson.

Cllr Kelleher said: 'The future of community safety in Kerry starts with all of us working as one. This new partnership approach is being introduced to encourage greater community participation and empowerment, involving all sections of the community working together to foster greater feelings and experiences of safety in localities throughout Ireland.

'A shared approach to problem solving can ensure that potentially harmful situations do

not develop in any given community. Harm prevention and interventions

should be delivered pro-actively, by the service best placed to deliver it, and in a joined-up, integrated way with other services.

'The Partnership will take a strategic approach to their work so that issues arising can be dealt with in a coordinated manner and addressed collectively by relevant service providers in partnership with the community,' said Cllr Kelleher.

Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration, Jim O'Callaghan said:

'I am extremely pleased that the Kerry Local

Community Safety Partnership has been established, and its first meeting has taken place. This marks another significant step on the rollout of these partnerships nationwide and this government's new approach to community safety.

'The next step for this Partnership is to develop and implement its own, tailored community safety plan. The National Office of Community Safety based in my Department, will be on-hand to support the Partnership as it begins its important work.

'I would like to thank everyone involved in Kerry LCSP for being part of this significant new chapter in community safety. I look forward to following their progress,' said the minister.



Vice-Chair and Chair of the new Kerry Local Community Safety Partnership, Derry Ó Murchú and Cllr Niall Kelleher pictured with members of the new Kerry Local Community Safety Partnership at its inaugural meeting in Tralee last week. Photo: Michelle Breen Crean Photography



**Cllr**  
**John O Donoghue**

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**CLLR**  
**BRENDAN CRONIN**

*Independent member of KCC*



Cllr Brendan Cronin  
Ballyhar, Killarney

Available at  
Mobile:  
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# CAHILL WELCOMES OVER €211,000 for Kerry Under €7 Million Local Enhancement Programme 2026

Fianna Fáil TD for Kerry, Michael Cahill, has warmly welcomed today's announcement by Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht, Dara Calleary TD, of a €7 million Local Enhancement Programme (LEP) for 2026, with €211,006.90 allocated specifically to Kerry.

Deputy Cahill said the funding will make a real and immediate difference to small community organisations across the county.

"This is a very welcome investment for Kerry. The Local Enhancement Programme has always delivered meaningful, practical supports to our local volunteer groups, community centres, parish halls, and organisations serving disadvantaged and marginalised communities."

"The €211,000 announced for Kerry today will help fund essential small capital works, accessibility improvements, energy-efficiency upgrades, and the purchase of vital equipment that many groups rely on. These grants often allow communities to take that important

next step, whether that is improving facilities, enhancing participation, or lowering running costs," Cahill stated.

"Right across this county, we have exceptional volunteers and community groups who work tirelessly for their neighbours. This funding is recognition of that dedication and will support them in continuing their outstanding work. Under Fianna Fáil in Government, investment in rural Ireland continues to grow, and today's announcement is another clear example of that commitment."

"I would urge any community organisation with a project in mind to contact the LCDC in Kerry for guidance on applications. These grants are designed to be accessible, to target need, and to help groups deliver improvements that have an immediate local impact."

The Local Enhancement Programme is a key measure under the Government's rural development strategy Our Rural Future, and Deputy Cahill said today's announcement



reflects the Government's ongoing focus on strengthening rural communities:

"This is investment in people, in place, and in the future of rural Ireland, and it is particularly important here in Kerry where our communities remain the backbone of local life."

## Minister Michael Healy-Rae Welcomes Major Government Commitment to Begin Construction of New Tralee Courthouse

Minister of State at the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Michael Healy-Rae TD, has today welcomed the confirmation in the Justice Sectoral Plan of the National Development Plan Review 2025 that funding has been secured and construction will commence on a brand new Courthouse for Tralee.

The Sectoral Plan clearly states that a "new Courthouse in Tralee" is included in the Courts Service capital programme, with the Minister for Justice confirming that funding is now in place to begin the project and that construction will start during the 2026–2030 period.

Minister Healy-Rae said: "This is a major investment in County Kerry and in the future of Tralee. For far too long, the need for a modern, fit-for-purpose courthouse has been accepted by everyone, but action never followed. Today's publication finally changes that. The Government has now committed to moving this project forward and beginning construction in this NDP cycle."

The Minister also acknowledged the ongoing concerns locally around the future of the historic Ashe Street Courthouse:

"I know that the condition and future use of the old Courthouse is a real worry for people in Tralee. It is a landmark building and a significant part of our town's heritage. With the Government now progressing a new courthouse, we must in parallel develop a clear plan for the old building, one that protects it,



respects its history, and ensures it remains a valuable asset for the town. That process needs to begin immediately."

Minister Healy-Rae emphasised that this announcement represents a strong signal of confidence in Tralee:

"This is meaningful investment into Tralee's infrastructure and public services. Modern court facilities are essential for access to justice, for families, for victims, for legal practitioners, and for the wider community. This project will

support jobs, drive footfall into the town, and anchor judicial services in Kerry for decades to come.

He concluded: "I will continue working with the Minister for Justice, the Courts Service, and Kerry County Council to ensure that this project remains on track and that the old Courthouse is not forgotten about. Tralee deserves both a modern justice facility and a clear future for one of its most historic buildings."





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## KILLARNEY VALLEY

### ATHLETIC CLUB

Club runners of all ages travelled to Abbottstown this week for the National Championship in Cross Country at Sports Ireland HQ. Our u11 boys, James Doody, Charlie Jay Kelliher and Dylan O'Connor performed well with James helping Team Munster to a bronze medal. Maria Murnane had a great run in the u19 Girls 4500m. KVAC fielded a team consisting of Risteard Clifford, Connor Kissane, Jevhen Kurbanov, Brendan Joy and Conor Crowley in the Novice Mens 5000m and secured 8th place in the country. A great result.

Elsewhere Daire O'Brien and Patrick Kissane ran well in the Newmarket 5k while Sinéad Hickey dealt admirably with hot conditions to run another sub 4 marathon in Valencia.

The club would like to thank all who came out to support our recent pub quiz and especially those who generously sponsored prizes. It was a successful night and greatly enjoyed by all.

Our Couch to 5K program for 2026 has been launched and is now available to book online on our website [www.killarneyvalleyac.ie](http://www.killarneyvalleyac.ie). It will start on 13th January twice per week for 8 weeks (Tuesday and Thursday at 7.15pm). The goal is for all to be able to complete the Killarney Parkrun on Saturday 7th March 2026 in a fun non-competitive environment.

Please email the club on [killarneyvalleyac@gmail.com](mailto:killarneyvalleyac@gmail.com) if you would like to join the club.

### KILLARNEY RFC CLUB

Another action-packed weekend of rugby at Aghadoe and on the road saw our teams battle hard across various competitions.

#### WEEKEND RESULTS SUMMARY

It was a weekend of mixed fortunes for the club, highlighted by an impressive win for our Senior Men and a defeat on the road for the U16 Girls.

#### SENIOR MEN MAINTAIN MOMENTUM

A huge congratulations to our Senior Men's J1 side who secured a crucial win at home against Scariff RFC in the Junior Martin O'Sullivan Cup. The lads put in a fantastic performance, winning 56 - 26 to keep their cup ambitions alive in their final game of 2025. Well done to the whole squad and management team!

#### YOUTHS SHOW HEART AND DETERMINATION

Our U16 Girls travelled to Clonakilty RFC to take on Clonakilty RFC in the League and, despite a huge effort, came away with a 37-14 loss. This was a tough match, but the coaches were proud of the fight and commitment shown by the girls right up until the final whistle. They continue to gain valuable experience in a competitive league.

Unfortunately, our U16 Boys game against Bruff RFC was postponed due to a waterlogged pitch at the Bruff venue. The fixture has been rescheduled for Sunday, 14th December instead.

#### UPCOMING FIXTURES & CLUB NEWS

Mini Rugby continues at Aghadoe on Saturday mornings—new players are always welcome! Details of this week's training schedule for all Youth and Senior teams can be found on

Killarney Rugby Club Senior Men's Team



[killarneyrugby.com](http://killarneyrugby.com)

As the festive season approaches, please continue to support all our teams, from Mini to Senior, as they enter a crucial phase of their seasons.

### FOSSA BRIDGE CLUB

#### RESULTS FOR THE 4TH DECEMBER

N/S

1st: Finola Spillane & Ger Foley

2nd: Anne Looney & Michael McHugh

3rd: Eileen Murphy & Joan Moore

E/W

1st: Horst Rosler & Ron Carron

2nd: Maura B Moynihan & Joan King

3rd: Patricia Lynch & Ann Clerkin

Congratulations, well done.

#### REMINDER

Next Thursday 18th December, we are having our lovely Christmas lunch at The Killarney Golf & Fishing Club. Bridge will also be played prior to lunch at the same venue. See you all at The Golf & Fishing Club.

If anyone would like to add their name for the lunch, please contact our secretary, Karen prior to arrival.

### MUCKCROSS ROWING

#### CLUB

##### MUCKCROSS HOR

Last weekend's planned outing to the National Rowing Centre for the Muckcross Head Of the River event was sadly cancelled due to the high winds which made for unsafe conditions. The club is exploring an alternative March 2026 fixture with Rowing Ireland. We will update members as we have further details to share.

#### TRAINING

Training for all our members continues weekend mornings at the boathouse (weather permitting) and midweek at the Muckcross Community Centre.

#### CHRISTMAS QUIZ

As the countdown to Christmas continues, we are looking forward to our Christmas Table Quiz fundraiser. Gather friends and family for a festive night of fun and trivia. The quiz will take place in Colgans Bar, Muckcross Park Hotel on Monday 29th December 2025 at 7pm. Save the date! Further details will be available on the club's social media.

### KILLARNEY SWIMMING

### CLUB

Killarney Swimming Club held its inaugural internal gala on Saturday, 6th December, marking an exciting milestone for the club. The event provided swimmers with valuable experience competing under full gala conditions in their home pool, while also giving parents the opportunity to learn and practise essential gala duty roles.

Swimmers each competed in two events:

- Senior Elite and Competitive squads swam 200 IM and 100 Freestyle

- Junior and Development squads swam 100 IM and 50 Freestyle

The evening saw excellent performances across all squads, with several athletes setting new Killarney Swimming Club records. These record-setting swims now establish official benchmarks for future club competitions.

The gala showcased strong skills, team spirit and great determination from all involved. For some swimmers, it was their first time racing; for others, an important opportunity to measure progress at this point in the season.

Killarney SC extends its thanks to the coaching team, parents and volunteers whose support made the event possible.

A special word of thanks to Tim and Mike from Kingdom Swimming Club for their invaluable help with set-up and throughout the evening.

The club looks forward to building on this success in future internal galas and upcoming meets.



Swimmers Sarah Quirke, Ella Cremin, Lara O'Brein Leahy, Raegan Browne, Beibhinn Kiely, Aoibhinn Heinemann, May O'Mahony and Aoife Coffey



Swimmers Caoimhe Casey and Siobhan Looney.





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# Catherine Carty Appointed First Female Chair of Kerry Recreation & Sports Partnership



Kerry Recreation & Sports Partnership (KRSP) has appointed Catherine Carty as its new Chair, the first woman to hold the position. She follows previous chairs including Mícheál Ó Muirheartaigh, Jimmy Deenihan and Colm McEvoy.

Catherine Carty is the UNESCO Chair on Transforming the Lives of Persons with Disabilities in Education, Sport, Recreation and Fitness at Munster Technological University. She manages international research and

policy work, promoting inclusive, rights-based approaches to sport and education.

A former lecturer on MTU's Health and Leisure programmes since

the early 1990s, she has shaped generations of graduates in physical activity, health promotion and sport. She directed the ISAPA 2025 international symposium in Tralee, which attracted 700 delegates from five continents and highlighted Ireland's role in adapted physical activity and governance.

Catherine Carty has contributed to multiple EU-funded inclusion projects and served on the WHO Guidelines Development Group for global physical activity standards, chairing the Disability Subgroup. She also helped develop ISO Global Active City Standards.

Her appointment supports KRSP's work to promote access and participation in sport and recreation across Kerry, especially for communities facing barriers.

Ms. Carty said she looks forward to working with the board to "provide diverse opportunities for all the people of Kerry." Cathaoirleach of Kerry County Council, Cllr. Michael Foley, welcomed the appointment, noting her "local and international experience and global leadership in inclusive sport."

## COFFEE MORNING AT THE BANK RAISES €1,385

A recent Bank of Ireland coffee morning in support of the Kerry Hospice Foundation proved a tremendous success, raising the grand sum of €1,385. The event brought together staff, customers and supporters for a morning of refreshments, goodwill and community spirit, all in aid of a cause that continues to make an important difference for patients and families across Kerry.

The organisers thank everyone who baked, donated and attended, helping to ensure another successful fundraiser for Kerry Hospice.



Pictured are (L/R): Tom Keane, Angela Curran, Catherine O'Reilly (Kerry Hospice Foundation), Gillian Edwards, Denise Doolan, Mary O'Leary, Lorna O'Sullivan, Pat Doolan (Kerry Hospice Foundation) and Hugh Gleeson.

## Transition Year Students Craft Christmas Wreaths for Recovery Haven



In the photo from left standing John Breen (Recovery Haven), Pia Thornton (Art teacher) Sinéad O'Mahony (Art teacher) Máiréad Corridan, (Principal) Paudie Fleming (Deputy Principal). Kneeling from left: Iratia Julia, Amy Crowley, Kate Harmon.

Transition Year students at Castleisland Community College have been busy spreading festive cheer while supporting a vital local charity. Under the guidance of their art teacher, Sinéad O'Mahony, the students designed and created beautiful handmade Christmas wreaths, which are now on sale both in the school and at The Forge, Castleisland.

What makes this project extra special is its purpose: all profits from the wreath sales will go directly to Recovery Haven Kerry Cancer Support House. Recovery Haven provides caring and therapeutic services to individuals and families affected by cancer. Among its many supports is an eight-week programme for children aged 8–12 who have lost a parent to cancer, offering them a safe space to heal and connect with others who share similar experiences.

The wreath-making project not only allowed students to showcase their creativity but also gave them the opportunity to contribute meaningfully to their community. By combining art, teamwork, and compassion, the transition year group has created something that is both festive and impactful.

'As Christmas approaches, these wreaths are more than just decorations—they are symbols of hope, care, and community spirit,' concluded Máiréad Corridan (Principal).



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## Kilcummin Gaelic4Mothers & Others Present €1,000 Cheque to Temple Street Children's Hospital

The Kilcummin Gaelic4Mothers & Others football team has proudly presented a cheque for €1,000 to Temple Street Children's Hospital, following the success of their recent Halloween-themed Quiz Night.

The fundraiser drew a fantastic crowd, with teams from across the community turning out for an evening filled with fun, friendly competition, and Halloween spirit. Organisers praised the enthusiasm and generosity shown on the night, noting that the event exceeded expectations.

The funds raised will support the vital work carried out at Temple Street, helping to provide essential care and services to children and their families.

The team extended heartfelt thanks to everyone who attended, donated prizes, volunteered, or contributed in any way to the event's success.

A spokesperson said the group was "delighted to support such an important cause," adding that the community's backing made the achievement possible.

Well done to all involved in making the night both memorable and meaningful.

*Back left to right: Ann Marie O Leary, Kate Cronin, Elaine O Leary  
Front left to right: Niamh Dwyer, team coach Tom Leslie and Ann Marie O Sullivan*

## KILLARNEY STUDENTS JOIN FORCES to Boost Biodiversity and Fight Litter

The Mayor of Killarney, Cllr. Martin Grady, has praised the collaborative efforts of three local secondary schools after students joined forces with the Killarney Tidy Towns Committee, Kerry County Council and the Meitheal to strengthen environmental action across the town.

Students from St. Brendan's College, St. Brigid's Secondary School and Killarney Community College delivered impressive presentations at a recent community meeting, outlining the proactive steps each school is taking to promote biodiversity, tackle litter waste and protect the local environment.

As part of their initiatives, the schools conducted detailed surveys to identify litter-prone areas around Killarney. Students then carried out targeted clean-ups, while also raising awareness about the causes and consequences of littering. Practical environmental projects were also highlighted, including the construction of bird feeders in woodwork classes, now mounted throughout school grounds to support local wildlife.

One of the central strategies shared by all three schools is the ongoing development and nurturing of on-campus garden spaces. These green areas, teachers explained, serve far more than decorative purposes: they enhance biodiversity, provide habitats for pollinators, support the local ecosystem and offer students of all abilities a calming, hands-on learning environment.

Mayor Grady, along with members of the Tidy Towns Committee,

commended the students and staff for their dedication, noting that their work is already making a visible difference in the community. He added that the committee looks forward to building on this partnership in the months ahead.



*Mayor of Killarney Martin Grady with members of Killarney Tidy Towns and students from the three Killarney Secondary schools.*

## TYs Shine in Musical Production of GREASE

St Brigid's Presentation Secondary School's Transition Year students delivered an incredible performance of GREASE last week, showcasing a wide range of talent. Every student participated, taking on roles as singers, dancers, and MCs, with a strong spirit of inclusion throughout the production.

The audience was treated to a spectacular display of hard work, dedication, and hours of rehearsal, all of which lit up the stage. It was evident that the students thoroughly enjoyed themselves, and their energy and enthusiasm made the show truly unforgettable.

The school extends heartfelt thanks to Fiona Crowley Stage School and to all the teachers involved, proving once again that it takes a village to bring a production like this to life. St Brigid's could not be prouder of their talented TYs!







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<sup>A</sup>Including VAT, excluding delivery and related charges.



## ROSS GC

### RESULTS

On Thursday 4th our Seniors held their Annual Christmas Hampers Competition and followed this with a Christmas Party and prizes presentation. A great day was enjoyed by all.

The winners were :-

1st: Sean Hickey

2nd: Mike O'Leary

3rd: Maurice Coffey

4th: Niall Brosnan

5th: Donie Broderick

6th: Ned Buckley

Golfer of the Year: Dermot O'Connor.

Best Score all year: Donal Doherty.

Longest Drive: Cormac Bonner.

Nearest the Pin: Mike Moriarty and Colm O'Keeffe.

## ROSS LADIES GOLF CLUB

### LADIES CHRISTMAS HAMPER WINNERS 2025

1st: Mary Moynihan, Kitty O'Grady & Sheila O'Mahony

2nd: Jennifer Nash, Noreen O'Mahony & Mona Looney

3rd: Eileen O'Riordan, Emer Brosnan & Susan Good

Congratulations to All

### WEDNESDAY MORNINGS MEET & PLAY

Meet and play every Wednesday morning. Meet in the Club House 10.00am tee off 10.30am. Enter via the BRS App. All Members welcome.

### GOLF LESSONS

New PRO Jonathan Clery is available to give golf lessons at Ross Golf Club. Please contact Jonathan directly on 086 2143510.

## DEERPARK PITCH & PUTT CLUB

### CHRISTMAS TURKEYS

Sponsored by Tim Jones Butchers- Round Five- Two Ball Betterball- First Nett: Ger Casey & Hugh O'Sullivan 37, Gross: Gearoid Cronin & Niall O'Loughlin 47 (B9) and Second Nett: Robbie O'Brien Snr & Dan Kiely 38½. Next Sunday sees Round Six where the prizes for the first six rounds of the Turkeyes will be presented after next Sunday's Dec 14th's event. Round Seven on Dec 21st will be presented after that event.

### PRE-CHRISTMAS GATHERING IN MURPHY'S

Reminder to all members of our Pre-Christmas Gathering in Murphy's Bar tonight (Friday Dec 12th). Gather from 8.30pm for presentations at 9.30pm with finger food served. All non-Turkey prizes will be presented at this namely the Club Matchplay, Club Strokeplay, Christmas Hamper and Club Player of the Year alongside outstanding Willie Parker Memorial Prizes.

### DOUBLES MATCHPLAY

Our Doubles Matchplay (sponsored by Utility Trust) Final with see the pairing of Brian McCarthy & Conor O'Riordan face Bobby Kelly & Sean O'Brien in the decider which is due to be played before Christmas.

### CHRISTMAS GIFTS

The club wishes to let its members know that the O'Neills website is updated with some new items in the club range. Anyone interested in



Photographed at the Ross GC for the presentation of the Seniors Hampers prizes are (l to r): Ned Buckley, Niall Brosnan, President Maurice Coffey, Captain Daniel Cronin, Winner Sean Hickey, Mike O'Leary. (Missing from the photo is Donie Broderick).

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Club Membership as a Christmas Gift is also asked to contact 0872954489 for more information.

### MEMBERS ONLY

A reminder to the general public that as of November 1st until the end of next February the course is open only to members except in the case of a pre-arranged booking through the club phone on 0877823138.

### ST STEPHENS DAY

Our traditional 18-hole Three Ball Scramble will once again take place on December 26th this year at 10am. Entry €5 per player.



At the Dr Crokes Golf Society Prizegiving function in The Tatler Jack were front from left, Brian O'Callaghan, John McEnery, winner of the Dingle outing, David Looney, Tatler Jack, sponsor, presenting the Christmas Hamper prize to Michael Howard and Harry O'Neill. Back from left are Gavin O'Shea, Joey Sheehan, Matt O'Neill, Mike O'Leary, John Lynch, Vincent Casey presenting the player of the year award to Johnny O'Connor and Brendan Keogh.

The new Society Captain for 2026 is Niall Botty O'Callaghan and President for 2026 is Matt O'Neill.



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## BALLYHAR DYNAMOS FC

### LOTTO

No.s 13, 14, 16, 24. No winner of the Jackpot. 5 x €25: Florrie O Sullivan, Currans. Ger O Connor, Glencar. Doreen Flaherty, Furies. Sean Collins, Furies & Dan Quilter, Furies. Next draw for a jackpot of €3100 will take place on Sunday next 14th December at Henderson's Bar, Furies. Tickets available from Committee members, Sheehans Filling station, Farranfore, Spar & Hendersons Shops, Furies & Butlers Bar, Furies. Thanks to all who support & help out with the club lotto.

### TEAMS

The u9 girls travelled to Camp Juniors where they participated in a series of mini blitz games against Camp FC, Castleisland FC & LB Rovers. The u10 girls welcomed Camp Juniors & both proceeded to serve up an entertaining game. The u10 boys (team white) played Camp Juniors u10s at Murt Scott Park on Sunday last where all the skills of the game were on display. Thanks to the Parents & Coaches for facilitating there fixtures.

The U12 B squad travelled to Ballyheigue on Saturday last. The game was tied at 1-1 at the break with Tadhg Fitzgerald on the scoresheet. The home team had the better of the second half taking the win but Ballyhar had excellent displays from Eoghan Clifford, Leo Duffin, Daithi Fleming, Sean Daly, Jamie O Connor, Jack O Callaghan, Adam Dineen, Rian Flynn & Shane O Connor.

The U14 Division 1 squad drew 0-0 at home to Killarney Celtic B with fine performances from Adam Quirke, Josh Nelligan, Mark Van Der Merwe, Elliot Lyne, Ciaran Ferris, Thomas Flaherty, Brian McMahon & Lorcan O Mahony. The Club U16s welcomed BT Harps from Templemore, Co Tipperary in Round 4 of the National Trophy where Ballyhar took the win on a 2-0 scoreline thanks to goals from Cillian Casey & Shane Edwards. All the squad played well with Dan Duggan, Daire Cornally, Alan Mrotek, Jamie O'Brien, Jack Kelly, Ryan Quilter, Paddy O Shea & Brendan Allman playing well.

The club seniors had two games recently defeating Ballyheigue B away 0-2 with Patrick O Connor & Mike Daly on the scoresheet with Padraig O Connor, Ger Fitzgerald, Declan O Connor & Robert Kelly playing well.

The Squad travelled to Inter Kenmare on Sunday

last where the home team took the win on a 1-2 scoreline, Padraig O Connor gave Ballyhar a 0-1 lead early in the 2nd half but two goals in the last twenty minutes saw Inter take the win. Charles O Doherty, Danny Cronin, Mike Daly, John Power, Niall Donohue, Alan Moriarty & Diarmuid Brosnan were best on the day.

## KILLARNEY ATHLETIC

### AFC

#### KDL PREMIER A RESULT

**Killarney Athletic 5 - 1 Ballyheigue**

Terry Sparling x 2, Jack Cooper x 1, Matthew Horgan x 1, Donie Kelliher x 1

#### U14 NATIONAL TROPHY

**Killarney Athletic A 5 - 1 Croom United**

Alan O'Donoghue x 1, Sean Quill x 1, Miron Svyripa x 2, Lucas Uchytal x 1

The lads played their 3rd round match in the National Trophy today at home versus Croom Utd from Limerick. The boys played well in tough conditions on the pitch today. They controlled most of the first half and went in leading 2-0 from two well taken goals from Alan O'Donoghue and Sean Quill. The second half was much of the same with Athletic creating many chances. Miron Svyripa finished two well taken goals and Lucas Uchytal finished the game with a well taken header from Sean Quills corner to finish the game with a well-deserved 5-1 victory. Thanks to the ref and Croom Utd for a very sporting game. Man of the match for Athletic was Miron Svyripa with two goals as he lead the line well from the front for the lads. Well done boys!

#### KILLARNEY ATHLETIC U13 - NATIONAL TROPHY AWAY DAY IN CHARLEVILLE!

The lads hit the road early for a big National Trophy clash in Charleville, and they were met with a tough, zippy surface that made every touch and tackle feel like hard work. But Athletic settled brilliantly and struck first - a lovely move finished off by Darragh O'Toole, putting us 1-0 up and full of confidence. Charleville, to their credit, battled back strongly and managed to grab two goals before half-time, piling the pressure on our boys and setting up a serious challenge for the second half. But this group battled and with fresh legs coming off the bench and a real spark of energy throughout the

team, Athletic pushed higher, pressed harder, and completely flipped the momentum. The comeback was on. Two rapid-fire goals turned the game on its head - a cool finish from Rian O'Reilly and a sharp strike from William S put Athletic 3-2 up and in full control heading into the final stages. The lads showed real heart, composure, and togetherness to see it out for a brilliant away victory on Cork soil. A big thank you to Charleville, who gave everything in a sporting contest, to the referee for handling the game well, and to all the travelling parents and supporters who made the trip and backed the boys all the way. Athletic march on!

#### BOYS U12 DIVISION 3 RESULT

**Killarney Celtic D 0 - 6 Killarney Athletic D**

Goalscorers: Ollie Pyne x 5 Marc Moynihan x 1

A great effort all round by our young blues this morning as they came away with the 3 points. Very impressed with how they approached the game today, positive, worked for each other & always looking to make the right decisions. Super work lads! MOTM - Ollie Pyne

## KILLARNEY CELTIC

### CELTIC LOTTO

Numbers drawn 9,10,15,21. No Jackpot winner. Match 3 winners received €75. Next jackpot €5,200 on Monday December 15th. Tickets available from The Dungeon Bookshop, Amber Shop (Top of Ross Road), club members and online through clubzap.

#### KDL PREMIER

**Camp 0-10 Killarney Celtic**

Matt Keane 4, Eoghan Crowley 2, Padraic Looney, Liam Carey, Nattagun Ryan, Cian Doe

Celtic rebounded back to the form with a clear cut win over Camp. Celtic were ahead on 20 minutes when Eoghan Crowley converted. 4 more goals followed as Celtic led 5-0 at the break. 3 more quick fire goals had Celtic 8 to the good by the 55 minute mark. Celtic closed out the scoring to move back into 2nd spot in the table.

#### U16 PREMIER

**Killarney Celtic 1-1 Killarney Athletic**

Kiernan Kelly

Celtic and Athletic once again finished level after this encounter. Celtic played well but Athletic stayed in the game and at the end both teams



Ballyhar Dynamos FC u12 B squad who were defeated away to Ballyheigue FC in Division 3 of the Kerry schoolboy league.



Ballyhar Dynamos FC u16s who defeated BT Harps [Tipperary] in round 4 of the National Trophy at Murt Scott Park on Saturday last.





# CHANGES TO OUR CHRISTMAS COLLECTION DAYS

**Thursday  
25th  
December**

will now be  
collected on

**Saturday  
20th  
December**

**Friday  
26th  
December**

will now be  
collected on

**Saturday  
27th  
December**

**Thursday  
1st  
January**

will now be  
collected on

**Saturday  
3rd  
January 2026**



**Collections resume as normal after this**

**ALL OTHER COLLECTION DAYS ARE AS NORMAL**

UNLESS YOU RECEIVE A TEXT FROM US ADVISING OTHERWISE

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Killarney Celtic U14B squad vs Ballyhar



Killarney Celtic U14 Girls

had to settle for a draw.

## U15 DIVISION 1

**Killarney Celtic B 0-2 Camp**

## U14 DIVISION 1

**Ballyhar Dynamos 0-0 Killarney Celtic B**

Celtic B battled hard to gain a valuable point.

**St Brendan's Park 0-3 Killarney Celtic C**

Jamie Downing 2, Sam Fleury

League leaders Celtic C had a clearcut win against St Brendan's Park

## U12 DIVISION 1

**Killarney Celtic B 1-5 MEK**

John Tkachenko

MEK were quicker out the blocks to gain a foothold in the game as Celtic B battled hard but unsuccessfully to get back in the game.

## U12 DIVISION 3

**Killarney Celtic D 0-6 Killarney Athletic D**

## GIRLS

**St Brendan's Park 2-4 Killarney Celtic**

Molly Philpott 3, Aimee Shine

Celtic put themselves back into contention in the league with this win last Saturday. Both sides gave of their all but Celtic just edged ahead overall to claim the points.

**CONGRATS** to Kyle Fleming U14 who made the KSBGL Team of the Week and to Molly Philpott U14 who made the KSBGL Girls Roll of Honour

## MEK GALAXY CLUB

### U12 BOYS DIV 1

**Killarney Celtic B 1 : MEK Galaxy A 5**

### U12 BOYS DIV 3 NORTH

**Castleisland C 1 : MEK Galaxy B 3**

### U16 GIRLS PREM. DIV

**Inter Kenmare 1 : MEK Galaxy 3**

### FIXTURES FOR UPCOMING WEEK

**Saturday 13th Dec.:**

U14 Girls Div. 1: MEK Galaxy v Inter Kenmare @ 10am

U16 Girls Prem. Div.: MEK Galaxy v Fenit Samphires @ 11.30am

U13 Boys Div 1.: Mastergeeha v MEK Galaxy A @ 9.30am

U13 Boys Div 1.: Ardferth v MEK Galaxy B @ 9.45am

**Sunday 14th Dec.:**

U12 Girls Div. 1: MEK Galaxy B v Killarney Athletic B (Fossa Astro)

### ACADEMY FOOTBALL

Academy Football

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are more than welcome. Check out our socials or ring Paul on 087 640 9799 for more info.

For any more news on upcoming club events, news, fixtures and results, keep an eye on our socials!

## MASTERGEEHA

### U13 GIRL'S PREMIER

**Mastergeeha 2-2 Iveragh**

Goal Scorers: Aine Herlihy & Gracie Maher

Going 2-0 up with 15 minutes to play, it looked like we were heading for all three points but Iveragh had other ideas. Two quick fire goals in the space of four minutes brought them level and set up a tense finish, with both sides pushing hard for a winner that never came.

The breakthrough came 12 minutes into the first half when Aine Herlihy struck a superb effort from outside the box, rifling it into the top of the net to give us a 1-0 lead. More chances followed, with several efforts drifting just inches wide, but we went into the break with the narrow advantage.

Early in the second half, Gracie Maher did what she does best, taking on the entire defence before coolly slotting home to double our lead. At 2-0 we looked comfortable, but credit to Iveragh, who never stopped battling. They pulled one back after 15 minutes and just four minutes later, a scramble in the box resulted in their equalizer.

The final stages were end-to-end. We created several more good chances but couldn't find the finishing touch, and the game ended 2-2.

Thanks to Iveragh for a very competitive match, and a special mention to Kate Doolan, our U12 player, who stepped up brilliantly today with several players unavailable due to other sports.

### U12'S PREMIER LEAGUE BOYS

**Mastergeeha A 1 v Fenit Samphires**

Goal scorer: Sean Breen

MOTM : Nathan Cronin

Tough physical game in poor conditions with rain and wind today in a home fixture for our U12s in Mastergeeha against Fenit Samphires.

Mastergeeha went down 1-0 15 minutes in with a good finish by Fenit Samphires. Mastergeeha didn't sit back and brought it back to 1-1 with a great throw by Dara O'Keeffe down the line with an overhead touch by Mathew Cahill to find the feet of Sean Breen that broke through the defence to finish it. A superb finish and great

composure. Mastergeeha very unlucky not to finish three chances in the closing minutes with a shot by Mathew Cahill that rattled the crossbar and Oliver Stacchowick. A great performance by Ronan O'Leary in goal to keep us in the game with three fantastic saves in the second half. Overall great team performance by Mastergeeha with a better second half, all players worked very hard to pull goal back to get a 1-1 result.

Mastergeeha MOTM today with a superb game was Nathan Cronin, took a knock in the first half and played outstanding clearing big high balls and causing headaches down the left side for Fenit Samphires, Nathan with a solid all round performance in defence with Josh O Sullivan to his right.

Our next game is Adare at home in the National Cup Round 4 next Saturday.

### U12 BOY'S DIVISION 1

**Inter Kenmare A 2-1 Mastergeeha B.**

Our Boys had an away Fixture in Kenmare on Saturday Morning last against a strong Inter Kenmare side .We showed great resilience and loads of positives to build on. Dylan was solid in Goal with some vital saves. Our goal came from our captain Jake Kelly and also the Man of the Match on the day. Thanks to Inter Kenmare for hosting, Tom Kerrisk for top refereeing, and all parents for the brilliant support.

### U14 BOY'S DIVISION 1

**Tralee Dynamos A 2 v Mastergeeha A 6**

### U14 BOY'S DIVISION 2

**Listowel Celtic B 6 v Mastergeeha B 2**

### U16 BOY'S DIVISION 2

**Iveragh A 4 v Mastergeeha B 0**

### LOTTO

There was no winner of our lotto on Friday 6th December for the Jackpot of €2,800. Numbers drawn were 18,19,21,23. Consolations Prizes of €50 each to the following, Catriona Hughes online, Sandra O Connor Knocklebede, Sheila McCarthy Kilbrean, Samantha McGillicuddy Teirnabaul. Our next draw will be on Friday 12th December at the Village Inn for Jackpot of €3,000.

## KERRY SCHOOLBOY/ GIRLS SOCCER

### NATIONAL:

### MIXED RESULTS FOR KERRY GIRLS IN NATIONAL ACTION

Three Kerry clubs strived to advance in their



receptive National Trophy ties at the weekend, but only Inter Kenmare would advance in the end, as Fenit Samphires and Killorglin bowed out.

In the U12 Girls National Trophy, Fenit Samphires battled bravely away to Ennis Town but suffered a 2-1 defeat, despite a fine finish from Lauren McCarthy that kept them in the contest to the end. In the U14 Girls National Trophy, Killorglin suffered a 4-0 defeat on home soil to Kilavilla. The U16 Girls National Trophy brought a brighter result for Kerry interests, with Inter Kenmare delivering an impressive 4-0 victory over Glantine Mountcollins United. Brittney Bevan was in sharp form with a brace, while Sadbh O'Mahony and Lily Noonan Murphy added well-taken goals to complete an impressive showing at home.

### **BALLYHAR AND KILLORGLIN ADVANCE TO NATIONAL STAGES**

Big wins at home for Ballyhar Dynamos and Killorglin earned their place in the National stages of the U16 Boys National Trophy, while Killarney Athletic advanced to Round 4 of the 14's trophy, while St Brendan's Park bowed out of the 12's National Cup.

In the U12 Boys National Cup Round 4, St. Brendan's Park A bowed out after a 5-2 defeat to a strong Bridge United side. Igor Jasiński and Conor Roche found the net for Park. There was far better fortune for Killarney Athletic in the U14 Boys National Trophy Round 3 as they powered to a 5-1 victory over Croom United. Miron Svyrypa struck twice in a standout display, with Alan O'Donoghue, Sean Quill and Lucas Uchytel also on target.

In the U16 Boys National Trophy Round 4, Ballyhar advanced thanks to a solid 2-0 win over BT Harps, with goals from Cillian Casey and Shane Edwards sealing a deserved result. Killorglin joined them in progressing after a thrilling 5-2 triumph over Shannon Town. Kieran Patton netted a brace, while Rian Foley, Peter O'Shea and Darragh O'Connor also got on the scoresheet.

### **CLEAN SWEEP FOR INTER LEAGUE SIDES**

Four games, four wins, the Kerry Inter League sides had an unblemished return from their respective contests at the weekend, as the U14 Girls, along with the U12, U13 and U14 Boys were all in action.

The U14 Girls, who put in an impressive showing to defeat Limerick Desmond 4-2 on the Killarney

Celtic Astro. Roisín Cronin grabbed two goals, while Leah Mannix and Bella Clifford also found the net. The U12 Boys meanwhile had a superb away win, as two well-taken goals from Robbie O'Sullivan secured a 2-1 victory over Cork Athletic.

The winning streak continued, as the U13 Boys Inter League side defeated Limerick Desmond 2-1 in Christy Leahy Park thanks to strikes from James Tansley and Tadhg Gilligan.

The U14 Boys also claimed a win on the Killarney Celtic Astro, defeating Limerick County 2-1, Luke Clifford and Jack Clifford both finding the back of the net.

### **GIRLS:**

### **CASTLEISLAND TAKE THE SPOILS AS MASTERGEEHA AND IVERAGH DRAW**

Another big weekend of action in the Amber Killarney U13 Girls Premier, saw Castleisland close the gap to the chasing pack with a fine win on the road, as Mastergeeha and Iveragh who sit ahead of them could not be separated. Castleisland enjoyed a strong away win as Bella Clifford struck twice and Grace Kerins added another in a 3-0 victory over Listowel Celtic. Mastergeeha and Iveragh played out a lively 2-2 draw, with Mastergeeha goals from Aine Herlihy and Gracie Maher matched by a superb Tiernagh McGill brace that earned Iveragh a share of the points.

### **CAMP CLOSE THE GAP IN DIVISION 1**

With leaders Inter Kenmare not in action due to a postponement, Camp Juniors closed the gap at the summit of the Amber Killarney U13 Girls Division 1 table, with a win on the road against Fenit.

Camp came out on top in a lively 4-2 win over Fenit, with Ciara Curran firing a brace and further goals from Aoibhinn Lyne and Robyn Flynn proving enough despite a strong two goal display from Fenit's Fiadh McElligott. LB Rovers and Tralee Dynamos played out an entertaining 2-2 draw, as Seoda Barron's double for LB was cancelled out by goals from Harriet Ryan and Rosa Gordillo for Dynamos. The meeting of Killarney Athletic B and Inter Kenmare A was postponed due to an unplayable pitch.

### **CELTIC LEAVE TRALEE WITH ALL THREE POINTS**

A composed showing by Killarney Celtic earned them all three points in their O'Sullivan's Bakery U14 Girls Premier clash with St Brendan's Park. Celtic claimed a 4-2 win in the end, driven by

a superb Molly Philpott hat-trick and a well-taken strike from Aimee Shine. Park battled throughout and kept themselves in the contest thanks to two goals from the in-form Caoimhe Field, but Celtic's attacking edge ultimately proved decisive.

### **MEK THE NEW LEADERS IN 16'S PREMIER**

Another strong showing by MEK Galaxy in the U16 Girls Premier, brought three points against Inter Kenmare, which knocked the league leaders off top spot, putting MEK now in the driving seat.

MEK Galaxy produced an impressive away performance to defeat Inter Kenmare 3-1. Edel Nash struck for the hosts, but MEK's firepower proved the difference, with Izzy Lyons bagging a brilliant brace and Isabelle O'Connor adding a composed finish to seal the points for the visitors.

### **BOYS:**

### **GOALS GALORE IN U12 LEAGUES**

The EBS U12 Boys leagues served up a busy and entertaining slate of fixtures, none more dramatic than the Premier thriller in Killarney where Park A defeated Killarney Celtic A 4-3. Conor Roche struck twice, with Igor Jasiński and Kyle O'Sullivan also finding the net for the visitors, while Celtic responded through Cian O'Connell, Tymur Misiura and Fionn Murphy in a game that went right to the wire. Mastergeeha A and Fenit A played out a tight 1-1 draw, and Dingle A were awarded a walkover against Camp A, while Killorglin A proved too strong for Castleisland A in a 3-0 victory.

In Division 1, Inter Kenmare A claimed a valuable 2-1 win over Mastergeeha B thanks to goals from Colm Moriarty and Cillian Kelliher, with Jake Kelly replying for the visitors. LB Rovers A enjoyed a 5-0 success over Park D as Anlon O'Brien and Jack Sheehy scored braces, with Bobby Mannix also on scoresheet.

Park B had an 8-3 triumph over Killorglin B, highlighted by a hat-trick from Nahom Yosef, a brace from Ríos O'Loinsigh Murray and further strikes from Rian Bailey and Paddy O'Toole. MEK A completed the Division 1 action with a strong 5-1 win away to Killarney Celtic, Ryan Ferris, Mally Spillane, Ollie Furlong, Conor Lucey and an own goal helping them to victory, while John Tkachenko hit the home side's consolation.

Division 2 saw Listowel Celtic B earn a solid 2-0 win over Park C through goals from Darragh Keane and Callum Foley, while Tralee Dynamos A



Kerry U12 Boys



Mastergeeha U13 Girls



were in free-scoring form during their 8-2 victory over Killorglin C. Castleisland B also recorded a convincing result, overcoming Fenit B 4-0 with Finn Lynch netting twice alongside efforts from Robbie Normoyle and Ronan Barrett.

In Division 3, Ballyheigue impressed with a 6-1 win against Ballyhar B, while Tralee Dynamos B put in a strong showing on the road with a 6-0 success over Inter Kenmare B. MEK B continued the trend of away victories with a 3-1 result at Castleisland C, and Killarney Athletic D rounded off the weekend in style as Ollie Pyne's five-goal haul and a strike from Marc Moynihan secured a 6-0 win over Killarney Celtic D.

## U14 GIRL'S INTER LEAGUE

Kerry 4-2 Limerick Desmond

## U12 GIRL'S NATIONAL TROPHY ROUND 3

Ennis Town 2-1 Fenit Samphires

## U14 GIRL'S NATIONAL TROPHY ROUND 3

Killorglin 0-4 Kilavilla

## U16 GIRL'S NATIONAL TROPHY ROUND 3

Inter Kenmare 4-0 Glantine Mountcollins United

## AMBER KILLARNEY U13 GIRL'S PREMIER

Mastergeeha 2-2 Iveragh

Listowel 0-3 Castleisland

## AMBER KILLARNEY U13 GIRL'S DIVISION 1

Fenit 2-4 Camp

LB Rovers 2-2 Tralee Dynamos

## KILLARNEY ATHLETIC B P-P INTER KENMARE A

O'Sullivan's Bakery U14 Girl's Premier

Park 2-4 Killarney Celtic

## U16 GIRL'S PREMIER

Inter Kenmare 1-3 MEK Galaxy

## BOYS

## U12 BOY'S INTER LEAGUE

Cork Athletic 1-2 Kerry

## U13 BOY'S INTER LEAGUE

Kerry 2-1 Limerick Desmond

## U14 BOY'S INTER LEAGUE

Kerry 2-1 Limerick County

## U12 BOY'S NATIONAL CUP ROUND 4

St. Brendan's Park A 2-5 Bridge United

## EBS U12 BOY'S PREMIER

Killarney Celtic A 3-4 Park A

Mastergeeha A 1-1 Fenit A

Dingle A 3-0 Camp A w/o

Killorglin A 3-0 Castleisland A

## EBS U12 BOY'S DIVISION 1

Killarney Athletic B P-P Iveragh A

Inter Kenmare A 2-1 Mastergeeha B

LB Rovers A 5-0 Park D

Park B 8-3 Killorglin B

Killarney Celtic 1-5 MEK A

## EBS U12 BOY'S DIVISION 2

Listowel Celtic B 2-0 Park C

Killorglin C 2-8 Tralee Dynamos A

Castleisland B 4-0 Fenit B

## EBS U12 BOY'S DIVISION 3

Ballyheigue 6-1 Ballyhar B

Inter Kenmare B 0-6 Tralee Dynamos B

Castleisland C 1-3 MEK B

Killarney Celtic D 0-6 Killarney Athletic D

## U14 BOY'S NATIONAL TROPHY ROUND 3

Killarney Athletic AFC 5-1 Croom

## THE GOLDEN NUGGET U14 BOY'S PREMIER

Park 6-0 Listowel Celtic

Dingle 6-1 Castleisland

Killorglin 3-0 Fenit A w/o

## THE GOLDEN NUGGET U14 BOY'S DIVISION 1

Park B 0-3 Killarney Celtic C

Ballyhar A 0-0 Killarney Celtic B

Tralee Dynamos A 2-6 Mastergeeha A

LB Rovers A 3-5 Camp A

## THE GOLDEN NUGGET U14 BOY'S DIVISION 2

Listowel Celtic B 6-2 Mastergeeha B

Tralee Dynamos B 1-4 Park C

## THE GOLDEN NUGGET U14 BOY'S DIVISION 3

## 3

Killorglin C 4-3 Milltown

Iveragh B 6-0 Killarney Athletic C

## U16 BOY'S NATIONAL TROPHY ROUND 4

Ballyhar 2-0 BT Harps

Killorglin 5-2 Shannon Town

## TC CONSTRUCTION U15 BOY'S DIVISION 1

Killarney Celtic B 0-2 Camp Juniors A

## POWER TRAVEL U16 BOY'S DIVISION PREMIER

Inter Kenmare A 5-0 Tralee Dynamos A

Killarney Celtic A 1-1 Killarney Athletic

## POWER TRAVEL U16 BOY'S DIVISION 1

Dingle A 3-3 Inter Kenmare B

## POWER TRAVEL U16 BOY'S DIVISION 2

Iveragh A 4-0 Mastergeeha B

## BOYS TEAM OF THE WEEK

1. Harry Rooney (Tralee Dynamos U14)
2. Alec Cronin (Inter Kenmare U16)
3. Mason Reen (Mastergeeha U14)
4. Kyle Fleming (Killarney Celtic U14)
5. Jamie O'Brien (Ballyhar Dynamos U16)
6. Eoghan Gilligan (Fenit Samphires U12)
7. TJ Ó hAinfein (Dingle Bay Rovers U14)
8. Cian O'Regan (St Brendan's Park U14)
9. Ollie Pyne (Killarney Athletic U12)
10. Muiris Quirke (Milltown U14)
11. Miron Svyripa (Killarney Athletic U14)

## GIRLS ROLL OF HONOUR

1. Shauna Sheehy (Listowel Celtic)
2. Robyn Flynn (Camp Juniors)
4. Haley Powel (St Brendan's Park)
5. Aoife Reidy (Castleisland)
3. Brittney Bevan (Inter Kenmare)
6. Molly Philpott (Killarney Celtic)
8. Seoda Barron (LB Rovers)
7. Tiernagh McGill (Iveragh United)
10. Isabelle O'Connor (MEK Galaxy)
9. Fiadh McElligott (Fenit)
11. Aine Herlihy (Mastergeeha)

# Harry Halwax secures Kingdom switch from Longford Town

Kerry FC are delighted to announce the signing of goalkeeper Harry Halwax, who signs for the Kingdom after an impressive season with Longford Town in 2025.

The 23-year-old Dublin native will be a familiar face to Kerry FC fans from his time with Longford, where he made 42 appearances for the fellow SSE Airtricity Men's First Division outfit. He also has previous First Division experience with Cabinteely, where he played 13 league games in 2021.

Halwax also enjoyed some time cross-channel with Derby County at Under 18, 19 and 21 levels, winning the English Youth League in 2019. Harry also had a spell at Queens Park Rangers during his spell in England.

Harry Halwax will bring a wealth of experience to the side, with over 50 appearances at this level over the last number of years and joins Matt Connor in Kerry's goalkeeper armoury for 2026. Harry also represented the Republic of Ireland at Under 16, 17 & 18 levels.

Speaking after he arrived in Mounthawk Park, Harry Halwax told [kerryfc.com](http://kerryfc.com), "I'm really excited to be joining Kerry for the 2026 season. After having conversations with Billy and Colin,



and the FAI Cup success the club had last season, I knew it would be the right club for me. I'm buzzing to meet the players and start the new season, and hopefully it's a successful one. Looking forward to seeing all the Kerry fans in 2026!"

Also speaking after securing Harry Halwax's services for 2026, First Team Manager Colin Healy said, "We are delighted to have Harry

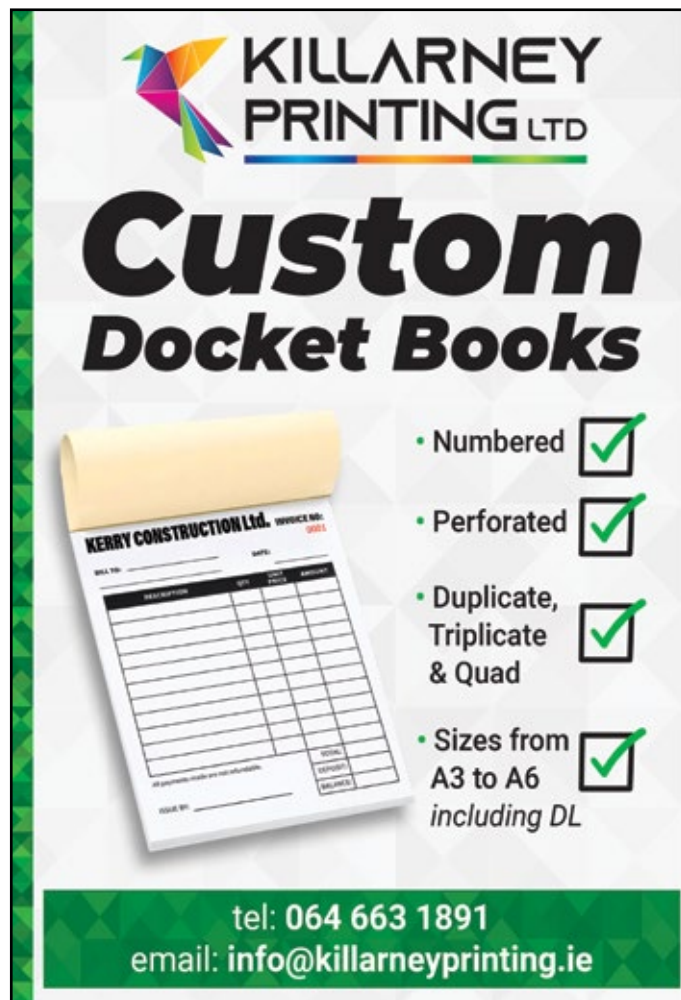
Halwax signed up for the 2026 campaign. A very strong, young goalkeeper who has plenty of experience at this level. We want good competition between our goalkeepers for places in the squad, and adding Harry now will really strengthen our position between the sticks. I'm looking forward to getting him down to Kerry and onto the training pitch in the coming weeks."





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JIMMY O'SULLIVAN-DARCY

takes a look at all things sport...

## Late Surge Takes Dingle Over the Finish Line

**MUNSTER SENIOR CLUB FINAL:  
Dingle 1-19 St. Finbarrs (Cork) 0-20**

In the end, it was ecstasy for Dingle and agony for St. Finbarrs. But I say "in the end" because the truth is that the Cork champions looked the better side here from start to almost finish. Note, 'almost'. Dingle still had just barely enough left in the tank for one more burst. They had a penalty call denied – I wasn't sure at the time, and it doesn't matter now – but they still had one last chance and the right man there to take it. This certainly wasn't any grand larceny. But this one was definitely won against the head.

Paul Geaney opened the scoring and Conor Geaney clipped over a nice point to give Dingle a bright start. Both teams were making tactical switches, with Mark O'Connor clearly detailed to man-mark Brian Hayes. I'm not the only one saying the Corkman has been the best club footballer on show over the past month in any province, and given Mark's role for the Geelong Cats, putting him on Hayes was an obvious decision. It was definitely needed; Hayes made a brilliant catch to set up John Wigginton-Barrett (I will bet any money that lad absolutely hated 'Downton Abbey' while in secondary school) for St. Finbarr's opening score. Dylan Geaney made it 0-3 to 0-1 in Dingle's favour.

At which point the leading man took centre stage in this drama. We all saw the danger of Hayes on the horizon. We all knew that Steven Sherlock was a good footballer; I'd have argued that he was discarded too quickly by a Cork side that never knew how to properly utilise him. But this kind of football? Sherlock simply took this game by the scruff of the throat. He fired over a two pointer (God between and all harm, when I saw him shaping for the shot, I thought "way too ambitious" – he nailed it). Tom O'Sullivan, with his usual roving commission from Dingle, picked off a point. Then up stepped Sherlock again, adding another orange flag from a free. Same kind of distance, same kind of ease.

Sherlock was beginning to find space with real ease now and his team-mates were realising it. Dingle appeared to have switched Tom O'Sullivan to picking up Sherlock when Finbarrs had possession but roving when Dingle had it. It looked 'neither flesh nor fowl' to me, not one thing or the other, but I was struggling to track the movements on either side. What's certain is Sherlock's impact as he fired over for another orange flag. 0-8 to 0-4 now, and St. Finbarr's were fully deserving of their lead at the end of the first quarter.

And then Paul Geaney scythed in and fired home from a tight enough angle. This is what he does. Honestly, there were people three years ago telling me that he should be retiring from the Kerry team. Yes, because we have so many footballers like this to spare. There's a few of ye



2025 AIB Munster GAA Football Senior Club Champions  
Dingle celebrate their win over St Finbarr's  
Photo: Domnick Fitzgerald

I wouldn't trust to boil a kettle. And if any of ye are wondering, I don't really know Paul or any of the family. None of that is me being diplomatic. There was no goal on there when he received the ball.

Mark O'Connor showed his class as well, notching a point to square things up. Brian Hayes wasn't letting him off unanswered, and split the posts himself a minute later. Steven Sherlock curled over another stupendous score from well outside the arc. Paul Geaney with a free pulled one back but Dingle were definitely struggling and Sherlock struck again with a two pointer free and added a white flag just before the break. It felt to me that Dingle were only clinging on and hoping for that whistle and a chance to regroup. 0-14 to 1-6 to the Barrs, and deservedly so.

Dingle again made a strong start to the second half, Dylan Geaney clipping over two fine points. Back came Sherlock with a point from play and he added yet another two point free.

Conor Geaney with a free. Paul was departing the fray after taking an accidental bang to the head. A return looked unlikely.

Sherlock with a free. 0-19 to 1-9. Twenty minutes left, and Dingle were obviously going to need every second of it.

Was it that Dingle abandoned caution and just went all-out for scores? Did St. Finbarrs go a little bit conservative and snatch at a couple of chances with that big lead? Human nature accounts for both. Regardless, Dingle began to claw their way back. Dylan Geaney fired over a two pointer.

Tom O'Sullivan and Brian Hayes swapped points again. 0-20 to 1-12.

Dylan Geaney with two frees. Both pressure kicks but well inside his range and he calmly steered them over. Barrs were struggling now. Scoring chances without reward. Paul Geaney in on goal once again....was that a foot block? It's the old debate. Was his foot going to block a ball

already in motion, or was he going to impede Paul's kicking motion? You can argue either way. I felt that it was far enough away from the actual kick to give the benefit of the doubt – but it's easy for me to be judicial sitting typing on the laptop. Ye know yer selves; I wasn't doing any shouting at the time!

Dylan Geaney with a two pointer. Dying seconds now. Two wides for the Cork side, Sherlock wayward with a difficult one that would probably have sealed it. No matter. All St. Finbarrs had to do is hold possession. Like I say, a year ago it would have been a lot easier, but it's a different game now. St. Finbarrs caught for over-holding. Did Ian Maguire hold it too long? Yes. It's that simple. And a Barrs player absolutely did try to impede the free being taken quickly. Everyone can debate that all they want – he picked up the ball and he pulled it away when a Dingle player reached for it. Pundits love to make hay out of these – I can't listen to the likes of Sky Sports anymore, I really can't, and don't even get me started on the podcast 'banter' nonsense. Decisions like these are digital. Did he do it? Yes or no? Yes, he did.

Brought up. Correctly. And because it was brought up, Dylan Geaney had the option of kicking it outside the arc.....

It was a difficult kick. Very difficult. But in these circumstances and with the form Dylan had been showing? I think all of us, Cork and Kerry alike, knew full well where that ball was going even before he kicked it.

Tough on St. Finbarrs. They could have won this; they should have won this. I really do feel sorry for them. But, without wanting to salt any wounds, they had chances to win it that they couldn't take and they made a late and costly error. Even tougher on Steven Sherlock, who gave a performance for the ages. The man of the match award was only a formality and a cold consolation. I will say that Jimmy Barry Murphy in his interview afterwards reminded everybody



what real class looks like. Irish people throw the word 'legend' around too often, but sometimes it really is the one that applies.

Dingle won't, and shouldn't, care how they got over the line. Munster champions for the first time in their history, and they did it in the most dramatic way possible.

Dingle: Gavin H Curran, Brian O'Connor, Tom Leo O'Sullivan, Tom O'Sullivan (0-2), Aidan O'Connor, Conor Flannery, Patrick O'Connor, Mark O'Connor (0-1), Billy O'Connor, Tadhg de Brún, Paul Geaney (1-2, 1f), Conor Geaney (0-4, 1tpf, 1f), Matthew Flaherty, Dylan Geaney (0-9, 2tp, 2f), Niall Geaney. Subs: Mikey Geaney (for Paul Geaney, temp., 41-47 mins), Ned Ó Riain (for Billy O'Connor, 41 mins), Mikey Geaney (for Tadhg de Brún, 48 mins), Cathal Bambury for Matthew Flaherty, 60 mins)

St. Finbarrs: Darragh Newman, Billy Hennessy, Luke Hannigan (0-1), Sam Ryan, Enda Dennehy, Alan O'Connor, Ciarán Doolan, Ian Maguire, Brian Hayes (0-2), William Buckley, Steven Sherlock (0-16, 4tpf, 2tp, 1f), Conor Dennehy, John Wigginton-Barrett (0-1), Ethan Twomey, Rickey Barrett. Subs: Eoin McGreevy (for Rickey Barrett, 41 mins), Cillian Myers-Murray (for John Wigginton-Barrett, 55 mins), Dylan Quinn (for Ethan Twomey, 55 mins)

Referee: Chris Maguire (Clare)

## An Ghaeltacht Double Up Corca Dhuibhne Celebrations

### MUNSTER INTERMEDIATE FINAL: An Ghaeltacht 2-12 Aghabullogue (Cork) 1-8

The first score took a while to arrive but it was a beauty when it did, the imperious Brian Ó Beaglaoich dictating play and setting up Éanna Ó Chonchúir for a goal. Éanna had plenty to do when he received the ball, but a great turn caught two defenders by surprise and a third one just couldn't close the gap in time. John Corkery replied with a superb two pointer and Aghabullogue took the lead when Matthew Bradley found the net. After taking a few minutes to size each other up, both teams were going at it hammer and tongs now and sure enough, up came Brian Ó Beaglaoich to set up younger brother Ruaidhrí for a goal. Some start to a game!

An Ghaeltacht were beginning to push on now, though. Ruaidhrí and his cousin Cathal (look, every one of them are footballers, but don't ever ask me precisely the blood links between all the Ó Beaglaoich or Geaney clans) notched points and Gavin Ó Cinnéide added a free. An Ghaeltacht in control, but back came Aghabullogue just before the break with two pointers from John Corkery and Adam Murphy. Level pegging at the break, 2-3 to 1-6. I did feel, though, that An Ghaeltacht's shooting would improve massively when they turned with the wind. Look, nobody in Kerry likes it being pointed out, but because our grading system includes divisional teams, our Intermediate and Junior teams are effectively playing a grade above when it comes to Munster competitions. That was how it looked as well. Gavin Ó

Ballymacelligott celebrate their win over Buttevant



Cinnéide sent a two pointer sailing over. Éanna Ó Chonchúir added a point and Cathal Ó Beaglaoich slotted a '45. Four points in it now. Aghabullogue were still winning ball and playing well, but just lacked that cutting edge to convert it on the scoreboard. That said, things might have gotten interesting if Seán Ó Luing hadn't denied Matthew Bradley with a fantastic save. I think An Ghaeltacht would still have pushed on. As it was, Aaron O'Sullivan did pick off a point but Conor Corduibh replied straightaway and a trademark Cathal Ó Beaglaoich two pointer (he might be kicking those i geansaí eile in the National League next year) effectively put the game out of reach. Matthew Bradley did pull one back but Pádraig Ó Sé put the seal on their victory.

Special mention to Aodhán Breathnach. As plain Aidan Walsh, he won a Munster Intermediate hurling title with Kanturk in 2017.

This isn't An Ghaeltacht's first sojourn on the All Ireland trail as a club. The last two ended in tough defeats – I don't think too many would begrudge them this time, but there is plenty of road left yet!

An Ghaeltacht: Seán Ó Luing, Cian Ó Murchú, Rónán Ó Beaglaoich, Adam Mac Amhlaoibh, Pádraig Ó Sé (0-1), Brian Ó Beaglaoich, Aodhna Beaglaoich, Aodhán Breathnach, Cathal Ó Beaglaoich (0-4, 1'45, 1tp), Gavin Ó Cinnéide (0-3, 1tp, 1f), Ruaidhrí Ó Beaglaoich (1-1), PJ Mac Laimh, Conn Ó Riagáin, Éanna Ó Chonchúir (1-1), Tomás Ó Sé (0-1) Subs: Peter Paul Sauerland (for Ruaidhrí Ó Beaglaoich, 30 mins), Conchúir Ó Corrduibh 0-1 (for Conn Ó Riagáin, 42 mins), Seán Ó Gairbhí (for Gavin Ó Cinnéide, 48 mins), Seán Ó Cuinn (for Ruaidhrí Ó Beaglaoich, 58 mins), Cian Mac Gearailt (for Tomás Ó Sé, 61 mins).

Aghabullogue: John Buckley, Dhani Merrick, Conor Smyth, Paul Dilworth, Paul Ring, Shane Tarrant, Breandán O'Sullivan, Colm Gillispie, Adam Murphy (0-2, 1tp), Aaron O'Sullivan (0-1), John Corkery (0-4, 2tp), Pádraig O'Sullivan, Matthew Bradley (1-1), Evan O'Sullivan, Luke Casey. Subs: Oisín O'Connell (for Shane Tarrant, 18 mins), David Thompson (for Luke Casey, 34 mins), Cialan O'Sullivan (for Pádraig O'Sullivan, 38 mins), Odhran O'Connell (for Evan O'Sullivan, 55 mins).

Referee: Jonathan Hayes (Limerick)

## Ballymac Make it a Kerry Treble in Munster

### MUNSTER JUNIOR CLUB FINAL: Ballymacelligott 3-12 Buttevant (Cork) 0-8

There was a sense over the last two or three years of Ballymac being on the rise, especially with the emergence of young players like Donal Daly, Daire Keane, Jack Joy, Niall Collins, and current Tralee CBS midfielder Máirtín McKivergan. However, for a lot of the games that I saw, by far and away the most influential player was midfielder Aidan Breen. I was told that he had been in training with the Kerry senior team at one stage – I was told it because I asked the question, and I had a reason for asking. Ballymac doesn't have the population base historically to be plying their trade in Division One, but they have always batted above their weight and deserved to be there. That meant, of course, that they were carrying the favourites tag into every Kerry Junior Premier Championship. And they were always going close....without getting over the finish line. Usually the bridesmaid, never the bride. Ironically, the year that they did go on to win it, is the year that they actually got relegated to Division Two. And somehow, since that relegation, they seem to have gone on from strength to strength. Last Saturday, of course, they were swimming in their deepest waters yet, a first ever Munster Junior Final against Cork champions Buttevant.

It was the Cork side who had the wind at first and they made quick use of it, Kevin Lenahan and David Hanlon (tpf) putting them four points in front with just two kicks.

Then Ballymac started revving their engines. Micheál Reidy, Darragh Broderick, and Breen (whose clever drifts into attack to draw focus and free space have obviously been polished on the training ground) with two frees were back level. Breen made a great turnover and found Donal Daly already accelerating....before Buttevant could react, it was in the net. Seamus Madigan and Conor Hanlon replied to leave Ballymac leading by just one at the break, 1-4 to 0-6. But with that strong wind....

And so it proved. Sometimes nature really must take its course. With that breeze at their back, Ballymac totally lorded the second half. Jack Joy pointed. Niall Collins lofted over a brilliant two



pointer. Conor Hanlon (f) trimmed the gap back to a goal and Christy Leen was forced to react fast to deny a goal, but Ballymac simply drove on again. Aidan Breen notched another two points, these from play, and Máirtín McKivergan added another. Christy Leen was called into action again, this time a spectacular save, but it made little difference. Daire Keane came off the bench for a point, McKivergan drove home another goal, and Jack Joy wrapped it up late on with a clinical penalty. Ballymac become the nineteenth Kerry club since its inception to win the Munster Junior Club title and advance to an All Ireland semi-final.

**Ballymac:** Christy Leen, Eoin Creedon, Daniel O'Shea, Eoin Moriarty, Cathal Dunne, Tadhg Brick, Micheál Reidy (0-1) Aidan Breen (0-4, 2f), Darragh Broderick (0-1), Adam Sheehy, Máirtín McKivergan (1-1), Jack Joy (1-1, 1-0 pen), Niall Collins (0-2, 1tp), Donal Daly (1-1, 1f), Darragh Regan. Subs: Daire Keane 0-1 (for Darragh Regan, 43 mins), Brian Cassidy (for Darragh Broderick, 60 mins), Diarmuid Galvin (for Cathal Dunne, 61 mins), Seán Rice (for Eoin Moriarty, 61 mins), Andy Rogers (for Niall Collins, 61 mins).

**Buttevant:** Ronan Donovan, Michael Walsh, Jamie Whelan, Kevin Crowley, Seamus Madigan (0-1), Kevin Bowles, John O'Neill, Anthony O'Neill, Kevin Lenahan, Aaron Trimm, Conor Hanlon (0-3, 2f), Mark Lenahan (0-2, 1tp), David Hanlon (0-2, 1tpf), Michael O'Neill, Donal Ryan. Subs: Kevin Sheehan (for Donal Ryan, 38 mins), Billy O'Riordan (for John O'Neill, 44 mins), Ben O'Connor (for Seamus Madigan, 54 mins), Jamie O'Brien (for Kevin Crowley, 60 mins), Shane O'Callaghan (for Kevin Lenahan, 60 mins).

**Referee:** Timmy McGrath (Limerick)

## Corn uí Mhuirí Quarter-Final Draw

Tralee CBS v St. Brendans Killarney  
St. Francis Rochestown v IS Killorglin  
Pres. Milltown v St. Pats Castleisland  
Clonakilty CC v Clonmel HS

## Soccer

Look, I don't know if the World Cup is creaking under the weight of its own self-importance these days. I'm not suggesting that it's anything other than the biggest sporting event in the world. There is a strong argument that it's the only sport that really impacts the global consciousness in this day and age. More people actually take part in athletics, but athletics falls under such a large umbrella that it can't be described as a singular event. You could make a strong argument for the Olympics, but does it really? I don't think it has the same audiences in attendance or in viewing figures.

I expect I'm marking myself as part of a particular generation (let's not do that 'Millennial', 'Gen X', 'Gen Z' box-ticking nonsense) when I saw that the Olympics have never had the same lustre since those clips of a snorting Ben Jonson looking more like a bull than a human being in Seoul.

No, the World Cup is simply bigger. Even the US has gotten in on the act. The Superbowl is

big, but it's not the World Cup Final. Soccer is also much more popular in terms of juvenile participation than you think – the political term of 'soccer mom' is more literal than people think. By the way – and this is a little bugbear of mine – the whole "Europeans call it 'football' and take offence at it being called 'soccer' " thing was nonsense from the very start. Urban myth, it never happened. English people have called it 'soccer' from the start, deriving from 'Association Football' as opposed to 'Rugby Football' which was also growing in popularity at the time.

At almost any time in its long and illustrious history (you have to say "illustrious in a sentence like this; it's a rule) having a World Cup played in the US would have been a masterstroke. But my own belief is that the US was already beginning to have real fears about immigration, especially from its Southern border, by the end of the sixties, and those fears have only grown since. Soccer was perceived as a latino game. American football is America's favourite game at around 40% (ironically, since the sixties, when franchises starting to form one coherent competition), baseball at around 12% (declining faster than you think but still huge), and basketball (just behind it). Roughly 6% of American follow soccer to some extent. But that's growing, and the MLS, seen mostly as a nice retirement package for top players previously, is really gaining credibility. Of course, there is no concept of promotion or relegation – the idea of capital investment with such risks attached is incomprehensible in their economy. David Beckham took a bigger gamble than most people realise with that investment into Inter Miami.

This isn't going to be any diatribe. I think it's relatively uncontroversial to say that FIFA has very little credibility as an actual sports organisation. If nothing else, the failure to invest money into....well, anything other than themselves, but particularly growing the game in countries like the US or India, shows that. Awarding the World Cup to Qatar was, in its own way, spectacular. That was not so much sportswashing as baby with the bathwater kind of stuff. It was ridiculous.... but everybody, including all the countries that intended wearing rainbow armbands in support of LGBTQ rights and pundits who travelled to Qatar to condemn people being in Qatar in such circumstances (the Garys, Neville and Lineker, being prime examples), took the money on offer and hushed up. This World Cup is going to be worse in that respect. Gianna Infantino has already acknowledged that this World Cup needed Cristiano Ronaldo far more than Cristiano needed this World Cup. Don't worry about the 'rule book', Cristiano, that's only a suggestion box. Let me take care of that for you... Can America do that? Remember, it was the US sports authorities who unabashedly exposed FIFA corruption and brought down the fall of Sepp Blatter (who personally picked his protege Gianni Infantino as his successor). But that was a very different US. Nowadays?

In its current state? Let's be honest. The World Club Cup was an overblown disaster from start to finish, and the US was more stable back then, not less. Supporters didn't know in time where their teams would be playing, so a lot of stadia were high on empty. Almost every visiting team

was critical of the extreme heat and a lot of games were delayed by lightning – that's going to be an even bigger issue next year.

Dynamic pricing. FIFA take a decent cut, ranging from 5% to 15%, out of every transaction. And you don't know where your team is going to be playing – Donald Trump has already stated that he is considering removing games from troubled (i.e. 'democrat') cities. FIFA have a vested interest in keeping people in the dark until the last minute to push prices up.

Public transport is going to be a problem. You are talking about venues thousands of miles apart in some cases. A lot of stadia aren't near train stations. That doesn't sound like a big deal? Think about Lansdowne Road. Getting out after matches isn't too bad these days, is it? Now, take away the dart station. See the difference?

I did say that the heat could be a problem. But so could ICE. As in, difficulty getting visas and the possibility of people being seized and, at best, expelled, by people without warrants or badges and their faces covered. And when I say 'expelled at best'....

The one thing we can be sure of is that there won't be any violence. After all, didn't FIFA do themselves proud by giving their inaugural In theory, Mexico and Canada are also hosting this World Cup. Neither of those is a problem. Neither of those is also getting the slightest mention. The good news is that if Ireland qualify (and that particular 'if' is so big it's probably visible from space), our group stage would mostly be in Mexico.

Can the US handle hosting a World Cup next year? Much more to the point, does it really want to?

I really, really doubt it.

## Sem Retain Frewen Cup in Thrilling Finish

### FREWEN CUP FINAL:

#### St. Brendans 3-7 Clonakilty CC 0-15

St. Brendans Killarney managed to retain their Frewen Cup title in Banteer last Wednesday after a hard-fought battle against an excellent Clonakilty, with only a single point between the sides in a nail-biting finish. In fact, Clonakilty had one last two point effort to snatch victory in the dying seconds, but the outstanding St. Brendans' keeper James Murphy once again reached high to grasp it firmly and burst out of his goalmouth to seal a precious victory.

The Sem took control of proceedings early, with the impressive Darragh Keane popping over the opening score off his left leg. Clonakilty had chances, with both sides coughing up a few tentative turnovers, but Rory Twohig's '45 effort and a good Joe Twomey chance both curled wide.

The Sem were more clinical, with Darragh Keane doubling his tally and then adding a free won by Cian Hegarty.

There was high drama in the 11th minute, Keane once again slicing through and drilling a superb shot towards the bottom corner, only to be denied by a superb fingertip save. Cian Hegarty volleyed the rebound but it came back off the post, with the Legion man scooping it up and wisely taking the point on offer. 0-4 to 0-0,





Richard Murphy presenting St. Brendan's Captain Roan Guerin with the cup.



The victorious Sem team

but that was no fair reflection on the quality of Clonakilty's play. Just at the end of the first quarter Conrad Murphy broke from midfield to split the posts and get them on the scoreboard. A sweeping move that saw Jack Culloty cleverly pick out Jake Culloty who was pulled down in the square. Up stepped Darragh Keane to fire home a clinical penalty and make it 1-4 to 0-1. Riley O'Donovan picked off a second Clonakilty point but they were guilty of dropping a lot of chances short into the keeper – no less than a half a dozen in total in that first half. Cillian O'Donoghue and Jack Culloty added points for the Sem but just before half-time, Rory Twohig gave the Cork school hope with a great two pointer free.

#### Half-time St. Brendans 1-6 Clonakilty CC

Clonakilty didn't need to be told how many decent chances they had left behind them in the first half and it was instantly very clear that they had no intention of repeating it in the second half. Riley O'Donovan kicked a beauty right at the start. Ronan O'Brien denied Tom Whooley another with a great block. Clonakilty were having something of a monopoly in midfield now, and Tadhg O'Brien fisted over a Rory Twohig '45 before setting up Tom Whooley to cut the gap down to two points. Clonakilty had introduced a lively Olan White at half-time and he came up with a point. The Sem had just

one shot in the entire third quarter and that one cured off wide. Clonakilty were missing a few themselves but were well on top and it was no surprise when Whooley brought them level. Riley O'Donovan nudged them in front and a foul on Howard O'Donovan saw Whooley make it 0-11 to 1-6.

The Sem were being completely and utterly outplayed at this stage but a response in adversity is the measure of a great team. With Daniel Cronin managing to win a vital ball in midfield, he moved the ball quickly to Samuel Scroope, who found Jack Culloty for a superb goal against the run of play. Straight from the kick-out Cillian O'Donoghue clipped over and the Sem were back in front 2-7 to 0-11.

The game was really in the melting pot now and both sides were playing top quality football. Conrad Murphy unleashed a rocket towards the Sem net but James Murphy with a brilliant reflex save managed to tip it over.

Back came the Sem at the other end, Darragh Keane neatly dancing his way through and coolly rounding the keeper before firing to the net.

The drama was a long way from over. Cork minor Tom Whooley trimmed the gap back to a goal. Riley O'Donovan, arguably the man of the match, had both the confidence and the skill to send a free over from outside the arc. At the

other end Darragh Keane once again nipped into the square, only to be felled – the Sem felt that they should have had a penalty but referee Seán Carey deemed it a fair challenge. Just one between them now, and the impressive O'Donovan had another effort from distance.... but Jmaes Murphy read it perfectly and the Sem celebrations could begin in earnest.

St. Brendans: James Murphy, Kiernan Kelly, Roan Guerin, Ronan O'Brien, Conor Clifford, Cian Stack, Conor Lynch, Daniel Cronin, Jake Coffey, Mark Looney, Samuel Scroope, Cillian O'Donoghue (0-2), Cian Hegarty (0-1), Jack Culloty (1-1), Darragh Keane (2-3, 1-0 pen, 1f). Subs Tadhg O'Donoghue (for Kiernan Kelly, 44), Liam O'Mahony (for Cian Hegarty, 50), Éanna Hennigan (for Jake Coffey, 53), Joe O'Connor (for Daniel Cronin, 60)

Clonakilty CC: Rory Twohig (0-2, 1tpf), Daniel Donovan, Ewan Knowles, Paddy Haughney, Anthony Hunt, Howard O'Donovan, Fionn O'Donovan, Conrad Murphy (0-2), Tadhg O'Brien (0-1), Darragh Keohane, Riley O'Donovan (0-5, 1tpf), Callum Collins, Joe Twomey, Tom Whooley (0-4, 1f), Christos Delios. Subs Olan White 0-1 (for Darragh Keohane, half-time), Loughlin Rohan (for Anthony Hunt, half-time), Charlie Moore (for Joe Twomey, 52) Referee: Seán Carey (Limerick)



## Dream Come True for Young Kerry Fan

It was a dream come true for Reuben Collins when he met his Kerry hero, Seanie O'Shea, at the launch of the new Kerry jersey in the Kerry GAA Store at the Outlet Centre. Bursting with excitement, Reuben proudly stood alongside the Kingdom star, soaking up every moment of the special occasion.

Adding to the joy of the day was Reuben's little brother, Roman, who was right there beside him enjoying all the fun and atmosphere. With smiles all around and the buzz of fellow supporters, it was a day the Collins boys won't forget anytime soon, made even more memorable by meeting one of Kerry's finest.



## FOSSA

### LOTTO

The numbers drawn on 07/12/2025 for a jackpot of €4,950 were 4, 11, 15, 17. There was no jackpot winner. The €40 consolation prize winners were; Ailish McDonagh, Beatrice Colleran, Mark Fee, Sean Leane, Liam Walsh. The Meat Voucher winners were; Tadgh Brosnan, Dee O'Reilly, Sean Kelly, Cronin Grandchildren.

Tickets are available from our sellers and can also be bought online with the following link <https://fossagaa.clubforce.com/products/lotto/fossa-gaa-club-lotto>

### CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to East Kerry U17 team and management, the 2025 Meadowlands U17 Divisional County Champions who were presented with their county medals in Fossa, the home Club of Captain Lily O'Shaughnessy.

The medals were presented by Nora Fealey, Kerry LGFA Chairperson and Hannah Devlin, East Kerry Ladies Chairperson in Fossa Clubhouse. This EK team were unbeaten throughout the competition and tonight were deservedly celebrated for their outstanding success. Fossa Ladies were well represented by Anne O'Shaughnessy, Naoise O'Connor, Grainne Kelleher, Tara O'Sullivan, Emily Buckley, Lily O'Shaughnessy, Kelsey Cummins, Faye Lynch, Fiona Brunner & Clodagh Clancy.

### NATIONAL CLUB DRAW - FOSSA GAA

For the 1st time Fossa GAA are participating in the GAA National Club Draw and all the money from every ticket sold by Fossa stays in our Club. The easiest way to support this is buy your ticket(s) via Foireann. You can log into your own account and you will see on right "Enter Draw". The following executive members can also enter you to the draw via their own Foireann account: Pat Sheehan, Domhnall O'Sullivan, Peter O'Shaughnessy, Siobhan Kissane, Maria Vaughan, Katherine Butler, Karen McGlynn, Mike Cahillane, Amy Moriarty, Peter Kelliher, John O'Neill, Michael Talbot & Merry Talbot.

Physical tickets will also be available and will be in circulation next week.

Please support the draw and it is hoped members will buy and also sell tickets; there are great prizes to be won, see our Facebook page to view the prizes and all money stays in our Club.

## CHRISTMAS 2025

Excited news heading into Christmas 2025 - we have launched a new edition Paudie and David Clifford Jersey available to shop in our link below: <https://6f06fc-2.myshopify.com/> FREE postage for Ireland & UK before the 23rd November.

## EAST KERRY

### KILLARNEY MEDALS AND TROPHIES EAST KERRY DIVISION 2 MINOR CHAMPIONSHIP Listry 3-13 Spa 0-06

Helped by a powerful first half display, Listry deservedly won this East Kerry Division 2 Minor Championship Final against Spa, in a match where the outcome was never in doubt from early on.

After Killian Fitzgerald had given Listry the lead with a well hit 45, Joey McCarthy replied with a point for Spa. This was their only score of the half. From here Listry took over. With James Clifford and Danny Murphy both scoring well taken goal's and a 2 point free from Fitzgerald, and strong defense forcing error's from Spa, Listry went in at half time with a 2-07 to 0-01 lead, and well on their way to victory.

A fine score from Fergal Murphy put Listry further ahead. Spa then had their most profitable period of the game, with 2 McCarthy free's, and a Caolan Mitchell point. Listry though, struck back with a Lachlan Mitchell perfectly judged lob for a goal, followed by another Clifford point. McCarthy got his fifth point from a free just before the end, but Listry were worthy winner's, and continue on a streak of winning final's for the club.

### MUNSTER FINALS.

Congratulations to Ballymacelligott, An Gaeltacht and Dingle on their Munster Final wins last weekend.

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**LOTTO** took place on December 8th. Numbers drawn were 4, 14, 15, 25. Jackpot of €15,500



Listry Captain Eanna Murphy receives trophy from Noel Kennedy of the East Kerry Board, after Win in Killarney Medal's and Trophies East Kerry Division 2 Minor Championship Final.

was NOT WON. 3 patrons matched 3 numbers and receive €135 each. Jackpot for draw on December 8th will be €15,800. 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) ([https://play.clubforce.com/play\\_newa.asp?ll\\_id=734#Anchor](https://play.clubforce.com/play_newa.asp?ll_id=734#Anchor))

**FR. PADDY'S CARDS NIGHT** will continue on Wednesdays from 8pm in the clubhouse. All are welcome.

**GENTLE EXERCISE CLASS WITH KATHLEEN** continues on Tuesdays from 11am in the clubhouse. Everyone is welcome.

**GENTLE YOGA** for both men and woman takes place on Thursdays from 6:15pm-7pm. It is €40 for 4 weeks, valid for 5 weeks.

**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.

**CONDOLENCES** to the family of Denis O'Donoghue on his recent passing.

### NOTES

If anyone has anything they want to add to our club notes please email communications. [drrokcs.kerry@gaa.ie](mailto:drrokcs.kerry@gaa.ie)



The Glenflesk u17 Ladies with coaches last Friday evening in the East Avenue Hotel.



Retiring after 35 years service referee Jimmy O'Shea with his wife Bernie and son Michael at the Glenflesk Millennium Cup anniversary and ladies teams awards celebrations last Friday night. hotos Seamus Healy.





## KERRY'S GOLDEN ERA'S TEAM

*The team of the Kerry Golden Years Era (1975-1986) who were honoured by Kerry GAA at the Gleneagle Arena on Friday Evening.*

*Photo By : Domnick Walsh © Eye Focus LTD*



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## UTILITY TRUST ST PAULS LAKERS VS TEMPLEOGUE MATCH REPORT

**Dominos Mens Division One National Cup Quarter Final | Saturday December 6th | TUD Tallaght**

**Templeogue 95**  
**Utility Trust St Pauls Lakers 84**

*Report by Enda Walshe*

Utility Trust St Pauls Lakers made their exit from the National Cup when they came a cropper to a more physical Templeogue side who probably had a little bit more variety off the bench and a better spread of scoring. It's fair to say that the Lakers did miss the presence of both Jack O'Sullivan and Rui Sariava and had both or either been available it would have afforded Coach Luke O'Hea great options.

The game was tight in the first half but the Dublin side made their move in the third quarter, where they outscored the Lakers 28-18 and that was the game changing moment. Templeogue defended smartly, putting a variety of markers on Steve Kelly who was the subject of very close attention while the presence of Wilfred Omorusi, Conor Gallagher and Hector Parras inside at various stages meant under the basket was like Times Square.

The Lakers had made the better start with Sam Grant and Kelly to the fore and led at half time 52-50 after the first quarter finished level 26-26. A feature of that quarter was the remarkable shooting of eight three pointers inside the first five minutes, shared equally between the sides, a statistic that was never going to be maintained. Kelly had some success also driving to the basket but the Dubliners sealed off that avenue with the towering presence of Gallagher and Omorusi and some tactical fouling. They had the better of the third period with Adam Tighe, relative of Kerry GAA County Board Chairman Patrick O Sullivan, hitting two crucial threes which prised open that bit of daylight. From there on the Lakers were always chasing the game, something they tried valiantly to do to the bitter end.

As mentioned the game opened in a blaze of long range accuracy with Mikey Gormley and Evan Cook on target for the hosts. Steve Kelly and Sam Grant stayed in tow with them and that helped the Lakers into a 13-12 lead. Templeogue then introduced Omorusi off the bench and his athleticism immediately paid dividends with eight points. That was tapered though by the ongoing contribution of Grant and Kelly and with Eoin Carroll also chipping in, the quarter ended as it finished, level, at 26 a piece.

The Lakers made a good start to the second quarter with Marko Bencic on court,



Tip off.... Dominos Mens National Cup Quarter Final.

displaying his ability from beyond the arc and also pulling down some offensive rebounds. Kelly was also in good order and when Bencic hit his second three, the Lakers led 39-32. But Cook stepped forward for Templeogue and his trickery alongside Omorusi brawn got them in front again, 42-40. But Grant and Kelly were continuing to combine, one Grant basket particularly memorable for a brilliant Kelly assist. The duo helped the Lakers into a half time advantage, albeit a small one, 52-50, with Gallagher and Gormley prominent for Templeogue.

Grant, Carroll and Mark Sheehan, with a lovely left hand finish, gave the Lakers a positive start to the second half but Templeogue were looking like a team that had figured out how to win the game. Gallagher was using all his experience, Cook was refreshed with a sit down while Millan Lopez upped his input. Sam Grant did have the score of the game when he stuffed home after a sublime Bencic pass but the one thing the Lakers didn't cater for was the appearance of Adam Tighe. At a crucial moment he hit two three pointers and with Gallagher and Omorusi getting joy inside the home team were able to take the lead and open the biggest gap of the day, ahead now 78-70.

The one thing the Lakers didn't need was Templeogue and Cook netting early in the fourth but that's what happened, twice, and

that pushed the lead out to 12. Grant with a three and an inside shot made it 86-75 with five minutes on the clock as the Lakers chased the game. They did have some good opportunities but it was almost as if the ball refused to go in. Having said that, Kelly did chip the lead down to eight, 88-80, with just under four minutes to go but Hector Parras hit a three to put the kibosh on that. Gormley and Omorusi put the finishing touches to the scoreline and despite late points from Carroll the game was done at 95-84.

Sam Grant top scored with 30, Steve Kelly had 29, Eoin Carroll 17, Marko Bencic 6 and Mark Sheehan 2.

For the winners Evan Cook shot 24, Wilfred Omorusi 22, Millan Lopez 13, Michael Gormley 10, Hector Parras 7, Adam Tighe 6.

The Lakers are back on the road to Dublin again this Saturday December 13th when they travel to the Tolka Rovers Sports Complex for a date with the hosts. After a slow start the Lakers have climbed up the table and with a congested look near the top any form of the winning run can shoot you into contention. Tolka have a 6-3 winning record and will be keen to add to their total. Tip off is at 7.30pm. The following three fixtures have a distinct Galway feel to them with the Lakers entertaining Maree on December 20th, and then travelling to Moycullen (December 27th) and the Titans (January 10th).

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**Basketball Ireland Dominos National League Div 1**

**Killarney Cougars 92  
Tipp Talons 88**

The Cougars roared to a dramatic victory over the Tipp Talons on Saturday evening in the National League Division 1 action, snapping Talons impressive five-game winning streak and keeping them from soaring to top of the League.

In front of a lively crowd at the Presentation Gym, the Cougars delivered a performance packed with grit, flair, and late-game heroics. With momentum swinging throughout the contest, it was the home side who held their nerve in the dying minutes, sending the home supporters into celebration mode at the final buzzer. The win not only halts Tipp's charge up the table but also serves notice that the Cougars could be finally hitting their stride at this mid-point in the season.

Tipp Talons started the brighter of the two sides, with impressive inside baskets from Matthew McHale helping the Talons open an early 5-0 lead. But once the Cougars settled, they responded in style, exploding for five three-pointers in the opening quarter. Paul Adedeji struck twice from deep, while Sean Conway, Simon Olanipekun, and young Josh Vermiglio all found their range as Killarney surged to a 30-point first quarter and a well-earned 30-24 lead.

The Cougars continued their strong performance in the second quarter, led by nine points from Sean Conway, to take a deserved 51-42 halftime advantage. Tipp battled throughout and were well led by Michael Pierre and Aleksandar Kovacevic, pushing the Cougars all the way as they chased a sixth consecutive victory.

The young Cougars side held firm, and despite the Talons closing to within a single point at 59-58 midway through the third, Killarney responded brilliantly. Kenny Shimwa



impressed with eight points in the quarter, helping the home side restore momentum and carry a 72-62 lead into the final period. The visitors again started strongly in the fourth and enjoyed their best spell of the game, but Killarney's composure and defensive intensity a real hallmark of this Cougars team proved crucial.

Throughout the final stages, and especially in the last minute, the Cougars produced resolute defence, with Vermiglio, Conway, and Olanipekun forcing crucial turnovers.

With the game on a knife-edge, Olanipekun hit a huge basket to keep Killarney in front at 90-88, before Sean Conway sealed the win with two calm free throws in the dying seconds.

Conway finished with a dominant 30 points and 12 rebounds, while Olanipekun delivered a superb near triple-double — 21 points, 10 assists, and 9 rebounds.

- Top scorers**  
**Cougars**  
*Sean Conway 30*  
*Simon Olanipekun 21*  
*Kenny Shimwa 20*  
*Paul Adedeji 10*  
*Josh Vermiglio 6*  
*Adam Linehan 5*
- Talons**  
*Micheal Pierre 24*  
*Aleksandar Kovacevic 20*  
*Mathew McHale 19*  
*Niall Walsh 14*  
*Emmanuel Kabengele 6*  
*Rion Krasniqi 3*  
*Mirza Begonovic 2*

Next up, the Cougars welcome the high-flying Drogheda Wolves to the Presentation Gym next Saturday evening for the final home game of 2025 .

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**REMAINING FIXTURES FOR THIS WEEK:**  
9th: Div 4 Men Away to Moyvane  
10th: Div 3 Ladies Home to Moyvane  
10th: Div 5 Men Away to Tralee

**FIXTURES FOR NEXT WEEK:**  
15th: Div 4 Ladies Away to Ballyheigue  
17th: Div 3 Men Away to Moyvane

The Kerry County Ladies and Mens Leagues are well under way at the moment.  
Good luck to all competing.



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## Christmas Outlook

The last Killarney Outlook of 2025  
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If you would like to place an advertisement or Christmas Message in our Christmas Edition

**Call: Emma 087 6593427**

Our first edition of 2026 will be published on **Friday 9th January 2026.**

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## Gardening with Killarney Outlook

by John O'Sullivan

### HEDGING

Hedges can make a much more natural background to a garden than a wall or a fence. They can provide shelter and are cheaper and require a small amount of maintenance. Because a hedge allows the wind to filter through it reduces its velocity. Tall or low growing, clipped or informal, there is a hedging plant for every purpose. One thing to remember about a hedge is that it is intended to be a permanent feature in the garden so therefore should be chosen with care and planted in well prepared soil. to choose the right hedge for your garden here are a few pointers to think about

1. The type of soil you have.
2. How exposed the garden is, i.e. what direction is it facing.
3. The eventual height and width the hedge will be.
4. Does it need to be evergreen.

When you have chosen the type of hedge that you want it is time to prepare the soil. start preparing the soil by digging thoroughly and forking in some well rotted farmyard manure. Hedges can be planted all year around, but the ideal time is between November and March as all hedging plants will be dormant at this time. What that means is when you go to buy your hedging plants they are lifted straight from the ground and are called bare-rooted hedging. This enables you to replant straight back into the ground when you get them home. Just make sure when planting that the roots are spread out well as this will encourage them to root quickly when the growing season starts. Now is the perfect time to plant hedging, however if you wish to wait until the end of March you can plant container grown hedging all year around. Next week I will focus on trees.

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## CHRISTMAS BROADCAST ON KERRY RADIO WITH DAVID SHEEHAN

The gifted school choir of St Brigid's Presentation Secondary School, Killarney, recently had the honour of recording with David Sheehan for a special Radio Kerry Christmas broadcast, airing on Christmas morning. The feature also includes contributions from Scartaglen National School, creating a warm and collaborative celebration of local talent.

The programme offers a mix of interviews with students, their reflections on the meaning of Christmas, festive music performed by the St Brigid's choir, Christmas poetry, and a strong focus on the school's CEIST values. As part of this, students spoke beautifully about their TY-led Christmas Hamper initiative—an annual act of compassion that supports families within their own school community with care and kindness during the Christmas season.

St Brigid's extends sincere thanks to Ms Healy and Ms McCann, the dedicated coordinators of the school choir, and to Ms Finnerty, the school's ethos coordinator, for their work and preparation in bringing this special opportunity to life. Tune in on Christmas morning!







# KERRY COUNTY COUNCIL STOPPING HOUSE BUILDING IN KERRY

**W**ith 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.

## “ERRATIC PLANNING DECISIONS WITHOUT CONSEQUENCES FOR KERRY COUNTY COUNCIL”

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 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.*



*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.*





## A Word of Victory

*"The Lord is my Light and my Salvation – whom shall I fear? The Lord is the Refuge and Fortress of my life – whom shall I dread?"*

Welcome back dear student, last week we saw how our Awesome God sent His Son to die for each one of us – taking our sin, so that we could be saved. This is why we celebrate Christmas – the birth of the Lord Jesus. As sinners, we could never save ourselves, so the birth of Jesus brought great joy and relief, in the fear of the Lord. What does the fear of the Lord mean? Toxic fear is one of Satan's greatest weapons against mankind. But the fear of the Lord is different. It's the reverence and honour of our King Jesus; living in obedience and relationship with Him, shunning wickedness – not grieving His Spirit, filled with thankfulness for His Love. "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me" (Psalm 23:4). At times when people pray and seek God earnestly, it can feel like all hell has broken loose upon them. This is a tactic of the enemy – seeking to derail that one, to make them give up! But remember friend, the devil is a liar, a murderer, a cheat, and a thief. His intent is pure evil – distraction by chaos, to rob you of Joy and Peace. But God is Faithful, and True to His Word.

Everyone goes through dark seasons. It could be sickness, family problems, insecurity, poverty, mental turmoil, or the anguish of grief. These are temporary periods of trial and fire: potholes on the journey through life (Psalm 66:8-12). Dear one, please get up again though – for life is still worth living! Jesus sacrificed for us to enjoy a good Life (John 10:10). There is great promise over you – God's plans for you are for good, not harm, to give you a future, and a Hope (Jeremiah 29:11). The Lord paid a huge ransom for us. He gave His Life, His Blood, His Freedom, and His Peace, so the curse would be broken for anyone who believes in Him and receives Salvation through His Name (John 1:12; Isaiah 53:5). Yes we walk through dark valleys at times. Not every day will be a mountain top experience. But it's in the hard places that we sense the tender touch of God's Love. What does the shadow of death feel like? Ominous, cold, lonely, hidden, dark and hopeless; yet God's Word promises that not only is our Good Shepherd there with us, but He is preparing a party table – in the midst of the mess – tenderly spoiling us, in spite of our enemies. Praise God! (Psalm 23:5).

Psalm ninety-one mentions another place of shadow. The shadow of the Most High. It's a safe space reserved for those who dwell in God's Presence – a place of rest and contentment, protection, and restoration. So, these are two opposites: the shadow of the valley of death versus the Shadow of the Shepherd of our souls. "Be merciful to me O God for in You my soul takes refuge, in the shadow of Your wings I will take refuge, 'til the storms of destruction pass by" (Psalm 57:1). Friend, in God's Shadow is safety and provision – a place where you're seen, loved, directed, comforted, and refreshed. It is a warm place. The language used in Psalm ninety-one describes a picture of a mother hen as she protects her baby chicks under her wings from predators. "For You have been my Help, and in the shadow of Your wings I will sing for Joy" (Psalm 63:7; Psalm 98; Luke 2:10). 'Joy to the world the Saviour is born'. Hallelujah!

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


Word of Victory Christian Fellowship Killarney


@WOVKillarney


Text for Prayer: 087 639 6744

[wordofvictory.ie](http://wordofvictory.ie)

Podcasts on Spotify: A WORD OF VICTORY

## PRAYER TO SAINT MARTIN DE PORRES


Most humble Saint Martin whose burning charity embraces all, but especially those who are sick, afflicted or in need, we turn to thee for help in our present difficulties and we implore thee to obtain for us from God health of soul and body, and in particular the favour we now ask.....

May we, by imitating thy charity and humility, find quiet and contentment all our days, and cheerful submission to God's holy will in all the trials and difficulties of life.

St Martin Pary For Us  
Amen.

## 1ST ANNIVERSARY

IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
**DERMOT O'CALLAGHAN JNR.**



FAILTE HOTEL, COLLEGE ST  
WHO DIED ON THE 15TH  
DECEMBER 2024.

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

Sadly missed by your loving son  
Colm, partner Carla, mother Eileen,  
family and friends.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated for  
Donal and Dermot on Saturday, 24th  
January 2026 at 6.15pm, St.Mary's  
Cathedral.

## ANNUAL CHRISTMASS APPEAL

The St. Vincent de Paul Society are holding their annual Christmas Church Gate Collections on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th December 2025. Wishing you a Peaceful Christmas and Happy New Year

## KILLARNEY MEMORY TREE AT HOLY CROSS MERCY SCHOOL 2025

Killarney Memory Tree. Mass will be offered for all those being commemorated at 1.10pm on Tuesday, Dec 16th in St. Mary's Cathedral.

## CHRISTMAS PARISH GREETING CARDS

for sale at the Cathedral Bookstand, in the Sacristy and the Parish Office.

## FORÓIGE WISHES TO START A YOUTH CLUB IN KILLARNEY

and we would like to hear from Adult Volunteers who would like to get involved. Foróige Clubs provide space for young people to develop leadership, life skills and have fun. Foróige have three different club types: Foróige Juniors (10-12), Youth Club (12-17) and Special interest (10-17). It is fun, rewarding, exciting and hugely beneficial for all involved. Please get in touch with Trudy McQuaid, Club Development Officer, Foróige if this is something that interests you on 086 834 4978

## AL-ANON:

Help and hope for the families and friends of alcoholics. MEETINGS- Every Tuesday at 8.30pm St. Claire's House, Beech Road, Killarney (Enter via small gate on the left of Islamic centre) Website- [al-anonuk.org.uk](http://al-anonuk.org.uk) Helpline- 01-873-2699

## BINGO IN ST MARY'S PARISH HALL:

every Thurs at 8.30pm.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & 1ST ANNIVERSARY

IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
BREDA HEALY



KNOCKANES, HEADFORD  
WHO DIED ON 26TH  
DECEMBER 2024.

On Breda's first anniversary, we, her sisters Eilish, Joan and Noreen, her brothers-in-law John and Pdraig, her nieces and nephews, and her extended family, wish to remember a special person who brought love and laughter to everyone who knew her. We wish to thank her GPs, Drs Donal Coffey and Tadhg Iarla Curran, the staff at Ross Medical and Kennelly's Pharmacy for the wonderful medical care they provided over many years. A huge thank you to the Emergency Services, the staff at University Hospital Kerry and the Bons Secours Hospital for their professionalism and care. We will always remember the kindness of the Palliative Care Team in University Hospital Kerry during Breda's final days. We would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to Tom Murphy Undertakers, Barraduff, for their professionalism and care during this difficult time. Our deepest gratitude to Fr Jim Linehan for his guidance and support during Breda's funeral, and to his co-celebrants, Fr Johnny O'Donoghue, Fr Danny Broderick and Fr Pat Stevenson. We extend our thanks to the sacristans, Patricia and Denis O'Donoghue, to Jerry Mullane for live-streaming the service, and to all those who participated in the choir and helped make Breda's funeral Mass so special. We were truly touched by all those who attended Breda's removal and funeral Mass,

and by the wonderful memories you shared with us. We greatly appreciated all the messages of condolence, Mass cards, phone calls and floral arrangements. A special thanks to those who provided guards of honour: the Kerry Stars, the Marion Players Rathmore and the neighbours in Clonkeen. Thank you to all the friends and neighbours who brought food and refreshments to our home, and to those who helped with the catering and traffic control on the night of Breda's wake. Your kindness did not go unnoticed. Our deep appreciation to The Kerry Way and the Castle Heights Hotel for the lovely food. For twenty-seven years, Breda attended services provided by Kerry Parents and Friends in the Old Monastery and Park Court, and was also supported by the Kerry Down Syndrome Association and the Kerry Stars. During this time, she gained work experience with Eileen Carolan and Mary O'Connor Moynihan in Shylocks Hair Salon and in the Deenagh Lodge. She enjoyed her time spent with all of you, and we will never forget your kindness to her. We would like to take this opportunity to thank our in-laws, the Coakleys, O'Connors and Cashmans, for the love and kindness they showed Breda over many years. To the neighbours in Knockanes, Rathmore, Faha and Clonkeen, a huge thank you. You always made Breda feel welcome and part of each community. As it is impossible to thank everyone individually, please accept this acknowledgement as a token of our appreciation. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for your intentions.

*Those we love don't go away,  
They sit beside us every day.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & 1ST ANNIVERSARY

IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
DONIE DOODY



COOLGARRIVE, KILLARNEY  
WHO PASSED AWAY ON  
12TH DECEMBER 2024.

As we lovingly remember Donie on his first anniversary, his wife Eileen, son Patrick, daughters Marie and Deirdre, sons-in-law Patrick and Tom, grandchildren Connall, Darragh, Rian and James, and his brother Pat, would like to express our deepest gratitude and heartfelt appreciation to all who sympathised and supported us during this difficult time. A sincere thank you to all who attended the rosary, removal, Funeral Mass and burial. We appreciate the time involved where people stood and queued to attend the removal and Mass. Thank you to those who travelled long distances to be with us and joined the mass online. Thank you for the messages of condolence, Mass cards, letters, flowers, to those who called to our home, and for all who spoke so kindly of him, we extend our profound thanks. We are deeply grateful to the friends and colleagues including those from Kerry Health services, SIPTU and Kerry Independent Alliance Party who provided the Guards of Honor at the removal, Funeral Mass and on the way to his final resting place. It was incredibly moving to see so many send Donie on his final journey.

We would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to O'Shea's Funeral home for their professionalism, kindness and care during such a difficult time. A sincere thank you to chief celebrant Fr Kieran O'Brien, Fr Denis O'Mahony and Fr Tom Looney, to Sacristan Tadhg and to family, friends and colleagues who participated in creating such a beautiful mass in celebration of Donie's life. A special thank you to Lily MacMonagle for the lovely music. We would like to express our sincere appreciation to the medical team at University Hospital Kerry who cared for Donie on the day he passed. Even though his passing was unexpected, we are grateful for the care he received and for the compassion shown to our family in those difficult moments. As it would be impossible to thank everyone individually please accept this acknowledgment as an expression of our thanks and appreciation. The holy sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for your intentions. *'May he rest in peace.'* *Death leaves a heartache no one can heal  
Love leaves a memory no one can steal.  
No matter how life changes  
No matter what we do  
A special place within our hearts  
is always kept for you.* Donie's Anniversary Mass will be held on Saturday, 13th December at 6.15pm in St Mary's Cathedral, Killarney.

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA  
PRAYER TO ST. ANTHONY

O holy St. Anthony, gentlest of saints, your love for God and charity for His Creatures, made you worthy, when on earth, to possess miraculous powers. Miracles on your word, which you were ever ready to speak for those in trouble or anxiety. Encouraged by this thought I implore of you to obtain for me (state your requests). The answer to my prayer may require a miracle, even so, you are the saint of miracles. O gentle and loving St. Anthony, whose heart was ever full of human sympathy, whisper my petition into the ears of The Sweet Infant Jesus, who loved to be folded in your arms; and the gratitude of my heart will ever be yours. Amen.

GRATEFUL THANKS

Grateful Thanks  
To the  
Sacred Heart of Jesus  
Our Lady of Lourdes  
St Charbel St Carlo Acutis  
For favours received  
for health

**IN MEMORIAM**  
TO PLACE A MEMORIAL ON  
THE KILLARNEY OUTLOOK  
Please email details to:  
[graphicdesign@outlookmags.com](mailto:graphicdesign@outlookmags.com)  
and the verse and photo you  
would like to include.  
If it is a repeat anniversary we  
will have your photo and verse  
on file, just call Emma on:  
**087 6593427**  
Please include a contact name,  
address and telephone number.  
**Full Column: €30**  
**2/3 Column: €25**  
**1/3 Column: €20**  
**Prayers: €10 each**  
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by calling **066 7143505**  
from 9am-1pm Monday to Friday



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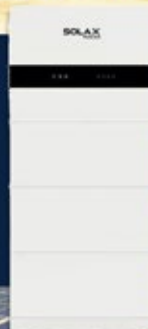
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