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Trevor O'Donoghue pictured with his proud mother Teresa at his new exhibition at Killarney Library. In collaboration with Cystic Fibrosis Ireland (CFI) 'The Cost of Breathing' photography exhibition was opened on the 10th February 2026 and will continue until February 20th before a nationwide tour. See Page 4



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A Note from the

EDITOR



In the week when a powerful exhibition was launched at Killarney Library, we have a jam packed magazine for you to enjoy.

Pioneering water search training is underway in Killarney, Award winning photographer Valerie O'Sullivan is continuing her winning ways and the annual Killarney Daffodil Day Coffee Morning is planned for next Friday.

Killarney is celebrating Sinead O'Shea's €1 million win, a mystery is waiting to be solved in Killarney National Park and Muckross Olympians will be honoured at a new boat launch.

There were awards galore for Kerry tourism businesses, Dr. Crokes were crowned Killarney Town Champions and a local filmmaker's new production is set to feature at the Dublin International Film Festival.

The first Chamber lunch of 2026 was held, a new exhibition on the foundations of Fianna Fail goes on public display and community spirit shined at Davey's Walk for the Kerry Hospice Foundation.

In sport, a legendary Killarney Team will be remembered at the Fitzgerald Stadium this weekend, Spa GAA Club celebrated their players, volunteers and community at their annual awards night and local cheerleaders set their sights on the world stage.

Hope you all enjoy this week's Killarney Outlook!

Aisling Crosbie



Julie Gaffey quietly captured this swan having a siesta.



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- Astrid Longhurst - Wellbeing
- John O'Sullivan - Gardening
- Denis Kelliher - Recipes

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CYSTIC FIBROSIS IRELAND AND TREVOR O'DONOGHUE OPEN

'The Cost of Breathing' exhibition in Killarney Library

Cystic Fibrosis Ireland (CFI) in collaboration with Killarney based photographer, Trevor O'Donoghue, are proud to announce the opening of 'The Cost of Breathing' photography exhibition in Killarney Library on the 10th February 2026.

Cllr Michael Foley, Cathaoirleach, Kerry County Council, cut the ribbon, officially opening the exhibition, while Cllr Martin O'Grady, Mayor of Killarney, was also in attendance.

The launch of the exhibition marks the beginning of a national tour which aims to highlight the societal and economic challenges that many people living with Cystic Fibrosis (pwCF) face, despite advancements in recent years. Research conducted by CFI in 2025 shows the significant financial burden many people with CF and their families regularly face. Among the findings are:

44.9% of pwCF struggling to meet their monthly bills

28.1% of pwCF are unable to work due to their CF

30.3% of those pwCF in full time employment experience enforced deprivation

63.8% of pwCF receiving Disability Allowance experience enforced deprivation

Presenting the data at the CFI National Conference 2026, Sarah Tecklenborg, CEO CFI, commented "Our research highlighted the significant financial burden many people with CF and their families face daily. Whether they are a parent who gives up work for the caring responsibilities required to keep a child with CF well, a person with CF covering the extensive



Trevor pictured with family and friends at the opening of his exhibition.

costs of multiple hospital visits each year or missing education or career opportunities due to CF, there are significant lifelong financial stresses associated with CF"

Cystic Fibrosis Ireland today highlight the enforced deprivation and emerging challenges for people with Cystic Fibrosis, despite the improvement in life experience and expectancy in recent years.

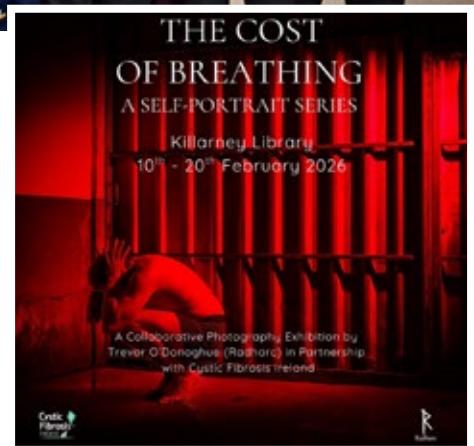
Trevor O'Donoghue of Radharc Perspective & Life Coaching, is a person with CF. He became involved in the project to strengthen awareness of the realities of living with the condition, which is sometimes referred to as a hidden disability/illness.

"Ireland is no stranger to the story of CF. The journey from being a childhood illness to the positivity that we see now, has been paved with many great advocacy and awareness initiatives. However, this exhibition tells an untold part

of that story and asks what it feels like to survive in a system where everything has a cost, even the breath in your lungs," Trevor explains.

"I created seven pieces which were first shown at the online exhibition in October. Each one is embedded in a different emotion, illustrated with a different colour and highlights the very real issues of life with CF. These are based on first-hand, lived experience, but also second and third hand experiences, through discussions with my partner, who also lives with an illness, and others in the CF community in Ireland."

Sarah Tecklenborg, CEO CFI said: "We would like to thank Killarney Library for featuring the exhibition. We are incredibly proud to be working with Trevor and it is very special to begin the national tour



in his home town. 'The Cost of Breathing' is not a comfortable story, but it is one told with hope. Trevor confronts the pervasiveness of social and economic poverty yet shares the positivity of his story. We invite everyone to visit the exhibition and join us on the journey to highlight and address these uneasy truths."

The photographs were first exhibited online in October 2025 and will be available for public viewing in multiple locations around Ireland until June 2026.



Cllr Martin O'Grady Mayor of Killarney Trevor O'Donoghue Radharc
Cllr Michael Foley Mayor of Kerry Nicola Foxe CFI



A hug for her uncle. Trevor pictured with his nice at the opening of his exhibition



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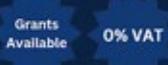
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Pioneering Cadaver Water Search Dog Training Underway in Killarney

A groundbreaking training programme aimed at developing Ireland's first Cadaver Water Search Dogs is now underway in Killarney, marking a significant step forward for specialist search and recovery capability nationwide.

Éadaoin O'Gorman, Training Officer with ISSARD (Ireland's Specialist Search and Rescue Dogs), is leading the initiative as part of the organisation's ongoing development of highly trained dogs to assist in missing persons search, rescue, and recovery operations across the country.

ISSARD, a nationally based voluntary search and rescue organisation, has spent the past two to three years developing land-based Human Remains Detection (HRD), commonly known as cadaver dogs. However, a growing operational need has been identified for dogs capable of working from boats to detect human remains submerged underwater - a discipline not previously developed in Ireland.



Training taking place on the lakes.



Éadaoin pictured with her K9 Yogi



"This is the first programme of its kind in the country," Éadaoin explained. "We are building this capability from the ground up with volunteer handlers, with the aim of providing a valuable national resource for communities when recovery operations require specialist support on water."

The project officially began in Killarney on January 25th, 2026, and training sessions will continue in the area every two weeks throughout 2026 and into 2027. Developing dogs to an operational standard for water search is a long-term process requiring patience, precision, and careful progression. A key partner in the project is Killarney Water Rescue Search and Recovery, whose operational experience and strict safety standards on the water make them ideal training collaborators. Although the dogs involved already have significant experience locating cadaver odour on land, working from a boat presents entirely new challenges.

"On land, dogs can range freely across an area. On a boat, their movement is restricted. They must adjust to an unstable surface, the motion of the water, engine noise, wind conditions, and working in a confined space. All of this changes how they experience and respond to scent," Éadaoin said.

As a result, the training has been deliberately stripped back to basics. Early sessions are highly controlled and largely passive, allowing handlers to observe subtle behavioural changes that indicate scent detection rather than expecting a formal response.

During the first session, a specialist training aid

was placed approximately two metres below the water's surface in calm conditions. Teams worked in controlled search patterns across the lake while handlers closely watched for indicators such as a sudden head lift, the dog's nose moving over the side of the boat, changes in posture, or increased focus and intensity. One dog, Rylee, responded from further out than expected and displayed clear, confident behaviour upon entering the scent area - an encouraging sign at such an early stage of the programme.

Over time, the dogs will be trained to give a clear final response, typically a bark, to indicate the strongest source of odour. Once fully trained and formally assessed, these teams will be capable of deployment to assist in real recovery searches.

Killarney has proven to be an ideal training environment for this specialised work, and ISSARD is committed to developing this capability in the area over the coming years. Outside of her role with ISSARD, Éadaoin is also the founder of Hounds and Helis, where she teaches Mantrailing Dog Training and both land and water-based cadaver dog sport training. She plans to run training classes in Killarney throughout 2026 for members of the public interested in learning more about these disciplines in a structured and responsible way. As the programme progresses, the hope is that these pioneering dogs and their handlers will become an invaluable asset in supporting recovery efforts for families and communities across Ireland.

Valerie Adds Another Award to the Mantelpiece



Award-winning Killarney photographer Valerie O'Sullivan has added yet another accolade to her growing list of achievements after receiving a top honour at the Press Photographers Ireland CLG Annual Awards in Dublin.

Valerie, who works as a freelance photographer, was presented with the AIB Sustainability Award 2026 by Barry Field, Corporate Affairs Director at AIB Ireland, in recognition of her striking photographic reportage titled *Reviving, Restoring, Re-Thatching*.

The award-winning body of work documents the careful re-thatching of an 18th-century family cottage on Valentia Island, capturing the revival of the ancient craft through the skilled hands of master thatcher Richard and his apprentice, Billy. The series highlights the traditional 'fadó' thatching method and celebrates the preservation of heritage skills that are increasingly rare in modern Ireland.

Judges praised Valerie's entry, noting her "delightful use of colour and composition" in telling the story of restoration and renewal through imagery.

Speaking after the awards ceremony, Valerie said she was thrilled with the recognition.

"I'm delighted to win two awards at the Press Photographers Ireland and AIB Ireland annual photographic awards in Dublin," she said. "The picture montage, *Restoring, Re-Thatching, Reviving*, tells the story of restoring an 18th-century family cottage on Valentia Island using traditional methods, with master thatcher Richard and his apprentice Billy practising this ancient craft."

Valerie's work continues to shine a light on Ireland's cultural heritage through powerful visual storytelling, earning her national recognition while bringing local stories to a wider audience.



Reviving, restoring, re-thatching

Re-thatching the O'Neill old family dwelling house at Tinnie's Lower, Valentia Island, County Kerry. It is one of the only remaining rope thatched dwelling houses in Ireland. This rare form of thatching uses purple moor grass known locally as 'Fadac' - luckily the Fadac is harvested on the north side of the Island. The vernacular farmstead dates back to the early 1800's. The O'Neills live close by. When Master thatcher, Richard Ó Loideoin and his apprentice Billy, pulled back the tarpin cover from the cottage, they discovered the unique structure had its original roof intact. Together they are dedicated to the preservation and conservation of this unique form of thatching.

Photo: Valerie O'Sullivan



Photographers Ireland 'AIB Press Photographer of the Year 2026 -

PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR WINNER - MARK CONDREN - PROUD KERRYMAN - A photograph of murdered farmer Mike Gaine is placed in front of his remains at his funeral mass at the Holy Cross Church, Kenmare, Co.Kerry. Photo: Mark Condren / Mediahaus Ireland



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Plans in Place for Killarney Daffodil Day Coffee Morning



Members of the Irish Cancer Society, Killarney/South Kerry Branch pictured at the Killarney Towers Hotel preparing for their annual coffee morning. From left: Kathleen O'Shea, Shaun McSweeney, Louise Walsh, Killarney Towers Hotel, Eleanor O'Doherty and Eugene O'Sullivan.

The Irish Cancer Society's Killarney Daffodil Day 2026 Coffee Morning will take place on Friday, February 20, at the Killarney Towers Hotel from 10.30am to 12 noon.

Organisers are inviting the local community to come along, enjoy a cup of tea or coffee, and support a vital cause, reminding people that "Every donation makes a difference."

The event is part of the national Daffodil Day campaign, which raises essential funds for cancer support services, research and care for patients and families across Ireland.

The impact of these donations is significant. In 2025, public support helped fund over 5,900 nights of Night Nursing care, allowing patients at the end of life to spend their final days at home surrounded



Killarney Daffodil Day 2026
Coffee Morning

When: 20th Feb, 10.30am—12 noon
Where: Killarney Towers Hotel

by loved ones. More than 29,800 free lifts were provided to bring 2,800 patients safely to and from cancer treatment.

Supporters also helped enable over 26,700 conversations through the Irish Cancer Society Support Line and Daffodil Centre nurses, while more than 14,300 free counselling sessions were funded for those affected by cancer. In addition, 179 families received assistance through the Irish Cancer Society Children's Fund to help with the cost of a childhood cancer diagnosis.

All are welcome to attend the coffee morning, show their support and contribute to the ongoing work of the Irish Cancer Society.

Front-Page Recognition for Killarney Valley AC Coach at European Championships

Killarney Valley Athletic Club is celebrating a proud moment on the international stage as Sprints and Jumps Coach Tomás Griffin, widely known as "Griffspeed", features as the cover image in the official booklet for the upcoming European Masters Athletics Championships.

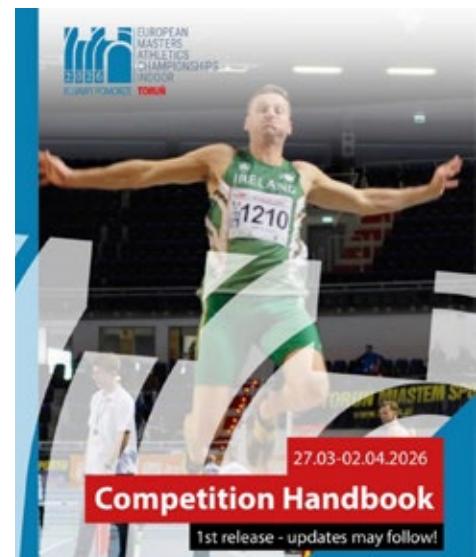
The striking action photograph is a fitting tribute to a man whose lifelong contribution to athletics spans decades, disciplines and generations. Tomás Griffin's competitive record speaks for itself, marked by success at youth, senior and masters levels in both national and international arenas.

HIS ACHIEVEMENTS INCLUDE:

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- CSIT European Gold Medallist in the 4x100m Relay (NACA National Team)
- Irish Masters Champion in the 100m, 200m and Long Jump
- European and World Masters Top-5 finisher in Long Jump and Sprints

Currently, Tomás channels that elite experience into coaching, bringing a depth of knowledge and high performance standards that benefit every athlete he works with at Killarney Valley AC.

From accomplished athlete to respected coach, his presence continues to raise the bar for those around him. The club is immensely proud to see his legacy recognised on a global platform and honoured in such a prominent way at the European Championships.





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**Anne Lucey**

looks at the positive news happening in Killarney



THE TRUE COST OF SO-CALLED GREENWAYS BEGINNING TO DAWN

The good news is Kerry may shortly have up to 100 kms of greenways. In reality, these are roadways needing maintenance. And because they are "off-road" ways, they will need things like toilets and car parks. Just like motorways, in fact.

Record sums have been assigned to Kerry's network of greenways in 2026. Millions will be spent on the South Kerry Greenway.

The bad news - this money is only for capital works.

Teddy O'Sullivan Casey of Kenmare raised the issue at the local council meeting. He wants dedicated maintenance crews.

There isn't a bob for maintenance, the Department of Transport told me after the meeting. And yes, the TII and local authorities all over the country are raising this, the Department said.

The South Kerry Greenway will reach a quarter of a way around the 120 km Ring of Kerry. I

*The South Kerry Greenway from Goldens Shop, Kells to the Old Railway Station at Kells.
Photo: Valerie O'Sullivan*



wonder did this council and our councillors bite off more than they could chew going gung-ho for greenways?

We can't fill the potholes on major or minor roads. And on this note: Is it too much to question why only motorways are tolled. Could minor roads to popular mountain areas, some of which are semi-private, part-paid for by some residents, not also be tolled?

All that is left on Mangerton where hundreds of cars descend from Cork each weekend is the proverbial steam...with people speeding to the mountain and then running behind the

furze bushes when short-taken. Meanwhile the narrow roads, and farm gateways are regularly blocked, despite the signs asking the Corkonians to respect residents. Would a toll at the end of the road be a good idea? I can't see why our councillors are not pushing for tolls for minor roads. They may yet need to toll to pay for the greenways. By the way, Corkonians needn't bother taking offence: I and other Kerry students put up with years of books of Kerrymen jokes written by a UCC maths lecturer during our time in that city.

RECOGNITION FOR WOMEN STILL OUTSTANDING IN KILLARNEY

John O'Donoghue, councillor, recently enquired as to why at the Mission Memorial in The Fern Garden, there is no mention of the enormous contribution made by women, particularly nuns. He gave a fine address on the issue - not before time.

(That monument on Mission Road was not erected that long ago by the then all male council and it should have been gender proofed and gender balanced from the off, is my thinking.

But then we have more monuments to birds, fish, deer and even otters in Killarney than we have to women!

John went on to say how Ireland and Killarney have a long and rich history of missionary work abroad. Women numbered at least as many as the men, "and quite likely far exceeded the number of their male counterparts, largely through the efforts of the various orders of nuns."

In response, the council said they would welcome engagement or recommendations for women's names to be added to the memorial.

There has been a change of heart since, John tells me. It is now likely to erect something dedicated to all the women who worked on the missions.

I have a further suggestion - women in Killarney have for too long been caught between the Spéir Bhean and the Blessed Virgin. And soon the nuns, if John has his way. It is high time for a down to earth monument to on the ground women who stayed local. My suggestion is something akin to Molly Malone, but instead of a fishmonger with a wheelbarrow, a respectable waitress in a black and white high collar carrying a tray and with a sense of great energy and movement. This would recognise women's enormous contribution in building the hotel industry in Killarney. Most of the big hotels in Killarney were begun by people's grandmothers, mothers, wives, sisters and so on. Theirs was a hands-on effort. So a smiling woman in a spotless white apron and cap stepping out onto the street at the Market Cross would be a fun and ideal tribute to the women of Killarney.

SPECIAL NEEDS ASSISTANTS CATEGORY COULD THEY BE RENAMED CLASSROOM ASSISTANTS?

One can't help being suspicious about the cuts to Special Needs Assistants (SNAs). No sooner have we heard primary school population nationally is dropping significantly than cuts are introduced. The give away in the National Council for Special Education response was the line "support in schools may fluctuate including falling enrolments, reduced or increased care needs and changing demographics as children move from primary to post-primary schools."

The NCSE points out how the growth in SNAs in Kerry has been significant from 616 in 2020/21 to 861 in 2026. I am uncomfortable with too much labeling. And too narrow diagnoses. Paul Favier, principal of the two teacher Glenflesk NS which is set to lose half its quota of SNAs has a well-considered view of the whole thing. The criteria for SNAs, set down in 2014 needs to be changed, Paul says. Like myself he has difficulty with the narrowness of the title SNA. Kerry has changed much with the huge influx in population and the needs of children traumatised by war and displacement and living in hotels and such are not under the criteria. The criteria should be broadened, Paul believes.

Would it not be altogether more

sensible to have a name change and have as in other countries classroom assistants, I ask? Most SNAs help out not just with their charges but with the general school needs of children in the playground and in the classroom. If you think about it, healthcare has undergone a transition with care assistants working alongside nurses. Society has become much more complex in the past decade in Ireland. Children, even those without formal labelling or diagnoses, are suffering anxiety, there is family breakdown, immigration and emigration and you would want to be remarkable indeed not to suffer some kind of syndrome. There is also huge change for the local indigenous population, adults and children, something that is rarely factored.

So, a kinder, more inclusive label would be for classroom assistants for all teachers to help all children in all schools while also keeping the special units.

And whilst we are at it, would we not include early childhood education in all schools and pay the early educators. Some solutions are so obvious.



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Lime, Thai Dipping Sauce €13.95 (1,3,4,6,7,11,12)
Asian Style Steak Salad
Sweet Chilli, Coriander & Peanuts €15.95 (4,5,6,11,12)

~~~~~  
**Chicken Schnitzel**  
Jalapeño Salsa, Caesar Salad, Fries €23 (1,3,4,6,7,10,12)  
**40 Main Proper Scampi**  
Fries, Tartar Sauce €34 (1,2,3,6,7,10,12)  
**Thai Red Duck Curry**  
Pineapple, "Bits N Bobs", Rice €27.50 (4,5,6,9,11,12)  
**Double Smash Burger**  
1001 Island, Swiss Cheese, Frickle & Fries €22 (1,3,6,7,10,12)  
**10 Oz Rib Eye**  
Mixed Salad, Fries, Old Bay Hollandaise & Pepper Sauce €38.95  
(3,6,7,9,10,12) ( Add Scampi €6) (1,2,3,6,7,12)  
**Cauliflower Steak**  
Miso Butter, Spinach, Hummus, Nuts, Seeds & Grains €24.50 (6,7,8,11,12)

~~~~~  
Dessert Special
Affagato, Biscoff Butter & Biscuit Crumb €6.50 (1,3,7,12)
ask your server for full dessert menu

1. Gluten | 2. Crustaceans | 3. Eggs | 4. Fish | 5. Peanuts | 6. Soybeans | 7. Milk | 8. Nuts | 9. Celery | 10. Mustard | 11. Sesame
Seed 12. Sulphur 13. Lupins 14. Molluscs



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Killarney Celebrates as Sinéad O'Shea Wins €1 Million Prize

There were jubilant scenes in Killarney last weekend as Sinéad O'Shea received a cheque for an incredible €1,000,000, sparking celebrations among family and friends. The life-changing prize was presented by the team from online gameshow Ooosch Giveaways at a gathering in The Laurels lounge, where the atmosphere was filled with excitement and pride for the popular local woman from O'Sullivan's Place.

Sinéad had been relaxing at home on Wednesday night, watching Netflix, when her phone rang with the news that she had become a millionaire. She is only the second person ever to win €1 million through Ooosch Giveaways.

Already thinking ahead, Sinéad shared that her first treat will be a round of golf with friends at the renowned Adare Manor.

Among those leading the celebrations at The Laurels was Sinéad's mother, Anne O'Shea, along with her siblings Padraig, John, Colm, Aidan & Áine and her nieces, nephews and friends. Sinéad's late father, Paddy 'Bomber' O'Shea, was a well-known figure in Kerry GAA circles thanks to his lifelong involvement with Dr Crokes GAA Club.

Photos Courtesy of Ooosch Giveaways Facebook



Sinead with family and friends celebrating her €1 million win at The Laurels.



Sinead with her mum Anne, sister Aine and nieces Leah and Laura.



Cheers.... here's to €1 million. Representatives from Ooosch present Sinead with her cheque.

St. Patrick's festival Killarney

Ireland's Family Festival



13th
March
12.00pm

TICKET
EVENT

An Evening of
Artistic Performance
at the West End House
School of Arts

Join us for our opening event of
St. Patrick's Festival 2026 that
includes, drama, comedy and music!

Tickets €5.00 | Doors 6.45pm | West End School of Arts

15th
March
12.00pm

TICKET
EVENT

ABLEFEST
Killarney

MUSIC & ARTS FESTIVAL

Ablefest - A festival of
inclusivity where those with
additional needs, their families
& friends can immerse
themselves in music, art and
activities. Country singer Jake
Carter will headline the event
with many other local musicians
and entertainers taking part.

Adults: €25 | Child (U16): €10
Family Ticket: €50 (2 Adults & 3 children)

Beech Road Car Park

NEW

BATTLE OF THE BANDS

REGISTER YOUR BAND

We are looking for Kerry's & Ireland's
next big music superstars.

Battle LIVE on the main stage. Open to all musical
genres Rock, Traditional, Metal, Country etc.

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www.stpatricksfestivalkillarney.ie

Echoes of Killarney Future

13TH - 17TH MARCH 2026

6th-23rd
March 2026

Painting the town Green
The Greening of Killarney's
Iconic Buildings & Monuments



14th
March
12.00pm

THE GREAT DUCK DASH

BUY
YOUR
DUCK

Adopt a rubber duck for the race, and you could be our lucky
winner! Prizes await the fastest and most fortunate ducks!

All proceeds to Down Syndrome Ireland (Kerry Branch).

Ducks €5.00 | Start - Demesne Playground

16th
March
9.00pm

Céili Mór

With the Ui Briain Ceili
Band. Come to dance
or enjoy the spectacle.
Our Ceili Mór will
celebrate tradition and
pure Irish spirit.

Tickets €10.00 | Great Southern Hotel

TICKET
EVENT

St. Patrick's Day BIG PARADE

Parade starts at 2.00pm from Mission Road
Festival Zone open from 12 noon till 6pm.



17th
March
2.00pm

DUNK FOR THE STARS

A star-studded line up of
well-known faces will be
sitting nervously on the dunk
tank, just waiting for YOU to
send them splashing down!

In Aid of Kerry Stars

€10.00 Per Ball | Festival Zone - from 4.00pm

BUY
YOUR
BALL



SHOCK AT PROPOSED LOSS OF SNA'S at Fossa National School

HERE HAS BEEN WIDESPREAD SHOCK AT THE NEWS THIS WEEK OF THE PROPOSED LOSS OF FOUR SPECIAL NEEDS ASSISTANTS AT FOSSA NATIONAL SCHOOL.

Cathaoirleach of the Killarney Municipal District, Martin Grady was requested by teachers and parents of students from Fossa National School to contact the Minister's Office regarding this substantial loss to the teaching staff at the school.

"This is not acceptable, Cllr. Grady said, "the students were assessed prior to been allocated SNA'S and miraculously SNA's are now to be axed, those children weren't reassessed to justify these cuts, the school as a whole was reassessed not the individuals. "The Government have no issue populating the country but won't provide sufficient resources across the sectors in this case education." This decision must be appealed. I fear this will be the case in other schools across the county, If left unchallenged"

Writing to the Minister, Cllr. Grady said:

Dear Minister,
I am writing in my capacity as Mayor of Killarney to express my serious concern regarding the recent NCSE review outcome which has resulted in the proposed loss of four permanent Special Needs Assistant (SNA) positions at Fossa National School, Killarney. This represents an alarming 40% reduction in SNA support within a school community of 247 pupils, with mainstream support reducing from six SNAs to just two.

This decision has caused deep shock and distress among staff, parents and the wider school community. SNAs play a critical and irreplaceable role in supporting children's educational development, wellbeing, and integration within the classroom and broader school environment. The removal of four posts will place significant strain on remaining staff and will inevitably impact the quality of support available to students, including those with additional needs as well as the wider student body.

I am particularly concerned by reports that the review was conducted following a short inspection visit which, it is understood, did not include consultation with the SNAs themselves. There is a strong local



view that this assessment may not accurately reflect the daily realities, level of care needs, and operational demands within the school.

The recent announcement under Budget 2026 of an additional 1,717 SNA posts, bringing the national total to 24,900, was widely welcomed as a commitment to inclusion and educational equality. However, the situation facing Fossa National School appears to contradict the spirit of that investment. Furthermore, uncertainty surrounding redeployment arrangements has created significant anxiety and insecurity for staff.

I respectfully urge that this decision be urgently reviewed. It is essential that transparent communication is provided regarding redeployment processes and future supports, and that every effort is made to retain the existing SNA capacity within the school. Supporting SNA provision is fundamentally an investment in equality, inclusion, and the right of every child to access education in a supportive environment.

I understand that the school has a limited window to lodge an appeal, with a closing date of 13 February. Given the urgency and the potential long-term consequences of this decision, I would greatly appreciate your immediate engagement with this matter and your support in ensuring a fair and thorough reassessment.

Thank you for your attention to this critical issue. I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,
Mayor of Killarney
Cllr Martin Grady

RESPONSE FROM THE MINISTERS OFFICE

Our Ref: EDU-MOSSE-00528-2026

Dear Cllr. Grady,
I refer to your recent correspondence in relation to SNA support at Fossa National School.

The National Council for Special Education (NCSE) has responsibility for coordinating and advising on the education provision and care support for children and young people with special educational needs in our schools, including the allocation of special needs assistant (SNA) support to schools.

Reflecting the central role SNAs play in the successful inclusion of students with additional and significant care needs in schools my department has been steadily building the level of SNA support in our education system. By the end of the 2026/27 school year there will be close to 25,000 SNAs in our mainstream classes, special classes and special schools. They play a key role in supporting children and young people with special educational needs as part of a whole school approach which also includes almost 22,000 special educational teachers.

There are many reasons why the level of need for SNA support in schools may fluctuate including falling enrolments, reduced or increased care needs and changing demographics as children move from primary to post-primary schools.

The NCSE reviews of SNA allocation in a school is a very detailed examination of the care needs in all settings within the continuum of provision in a school so as to ensure that SNAs are allocated to schools to support students who have the greatest level of significant care needs. Where an NCSE review identifies a decrease in the level of care need in a school and where this decrease is significant, it results in a reduction in the SNA allocation to that school. Schools that are not satisfied with the outcome of their SNA review may avail of the NCSE's internal appeal mechanism. Furthermore, where a school is not satisfied with the outcome of the appeal on the basis that they consider the process was not followed, the school can refer the matter to the independently chaired Appeals Advisory Committee

(AAC). Further information on these processes is available from the NCSE website www.ncse.ie.

While the NCSE allocation and review processes are essential to ensure SNA support is provided where it is most needed, I do not underestimate the impact of a reduction in allocation on SNAs personally. This is among the reasons my department is working with the NCSE to develop an SNA redeployment scheme. This important policy initiative which is in the final stages of development will ensure that as far as possible, competent, knowledgeable, and experienced SNAs are retained in our schools.

The SNA redeployment scheme is being implemented for the 2025/26 school year, providing an opportunity for redeployment of SNAs as the need arises for the start of the 2026/27 school year. It is important to note that SNAs in surplus posts identified through the NCSE's SNA Review process will remain in the relevant school for the rest of the 2025/26 academic year. Assuming no change to SNA allocations in the meantime, eligible SNAs in standard posts (both full-time and part-time) who opt for redeployment may be redeployed to a new post in September 2026.

Updates and final details of the SNA Redeployment Scheme, including a circular and comprehensive guidelines, will be published on the NCSE website and the SNA Information Hub on www.gov.ie as work progresses.

My department and the NCSE are committed to delivering an education system that is of the highest quality and where every child and young person feels valued and is actively supported and nurtured to reach their full potential.

Yours sincerely,
Matthew Errity
Private Secretary to Michael Moynihan T.D
Minister of State for Special Education and Inclusion

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Optimism and Ambition Mark First

Killarney Chamber Luncheon of 2026



Damian Clifford (CSG), Laura Dillon (CSG), Johnny McGuire (Killarney Chamber of Tourism and Commerce President) and David Moran (CSG) at the Killarney Chamber of Tourism and Commerce members luncheon in The Dromhall Hotel Killarney. Picture: Eamonn Keogh



Patrick O'Donoghue (Gleneagle Group CEO), Johnny McGuire (Killarney Chamber of Tourism and Commerce President), Breffni Ingerton (Gleneagle Group Director of Business Tourism) and Ciaran Cronin (Gleneagle Group CFO) at the Killarney Chamber of Tourism and Commerce members luncheon in The Dromhall Hotel Killarney. Picture: Eamonn Keogh

A strong sense of positivity and ambition for the year ahead was evident at the first Killarney Chamber of Tourism and Commerce luncheon of 2026, held at the Dromhall Hotel and attended by members from across the local business community.

President Johnny McGuire welcomed attendees in Irish and English and reflected on the success of the recent Christmas Festival, thanking Chairman Niall Kelliher and the many volunteers whose efforts ensured its success.

New members were introduced, including Laura Dillon of CSG Accountants, who recently opened a new office on New Street, and Brian Foley, owner of Activate Gym in Ballycasheen, who is set to host the inaugural "Killarney's Fittest Business" initiative next weekend.

There was particular pride in the international recognition being received by people with Killarney connections. The town is enjoying positive publicity following Jessie Buckley's Oscar nomination, while Ruairí O'Flaherty's Grammy success was noted as another welcome boost for the area.

Members heard that funding for the Monsignor Flaherty Humanitarian Award will be reinstated this year. Updates were also provided on a number of local projects, including Green Lawn Car Park, planned public realm works from AIB to the Ross Hotel, pathway upgrades at Tomies, the pending planning decision for works from Dinis to Torc, proposed improvements at Deenagh Lodge, and an economic report on Killarney being prepared by Jim Power. Businesses were encouraged to support Tidy Towns efforts, while volunteers are being sought for park work at Dundag. The Chamber also welcomed Pat O'Leary's appointment to the board of Tourism Ireland and encouraged members to attend the Tourism Ireland workshop at the Brehon Hotel on March 3.

Patrick O'Donoghue of The Gleneagle Hotel addressed the gathering and outlined ambitious plans for 2026. He noted that the newly named Killarney Arena (formerly the INEC) contributes approximately €60 million annually to the local economy, with an estimated 300,000 visitors expected this year.

Among the major events planned is the hosting of Oireachtas Rince na hÉireann, the All-Ireland Dance Championships, from February 15–21, expected to bring between 4,000 and 5,000 visitors per day to the town. The Irish Hoteliers Federation Ball will also take place later this month, featuring a Jessie Buckley-themed Oscars Ball as a highlight. The 20th anniversary of BikeFest is set to be bigger than ever over the June Bank Holiday weekend, with accommodation already in high demand. Plans are also in place for three citizenship ceremonies during the year, Oireachtas na Samhna in November, and a series of high-profile acts at the Killarney Arena throughout 2026.

The new team at the Killarney Chamber office was also introduced: Norma O'Regan as CEO, Sofia McGrath as Office Manager, and Claire Frawley overseeing events.

Overall, the message from the luncheon was clear: Killarney is entering 2026 with confidence, momentum and a strong calendar of events set to benefit the entire community.

Muckross Olympians honoured at new Boat Launch



On Sunday 22nd February, Muckross Rowing Club will mark a very special occasion in the club's long history as it celebrates the official launch of its three newest racing boats. The club is delighted to honour three of its most successful members, who achieved major success as rowers on the national and international stage during their rowing years. The club's new boats will be named in honour of Paul Griffin, Sean Casey and Cathal Moynihan whose international rowing careers scaled to the ultimate stage of the Olympic Games when they represented Ireland in 2004 and 2008. The three athletes donned the green jersey first at a young age with representation in junior and U23 international competition before all progressing to represent Ireland at Senior level. It is a great source of pride for the club that three of its members fulfilled their aspirations and represented club and country so successfully. The sport of rowing has since grown significantly in Ireland and the achievements of Ireland's High Performance rowers through the 1990-2000s is widely recognised for paving the way for the international success that has followed in the years since. The club is delighted to recognise the achievements of Paul, Sean and Cathal and to name the club's newest racing boats in their honour.

The special triple boat launch event will take place on Sunday 22nd February at 2pm at the club's boathouse. All are welcome and the club hopes to see as many members past and present, supporters, friends and family. The club is also encouraging everyone to spread the word to those who may have an interest in attending.

HYROX KILLARNEY 3.0 IS BACK!

HYROX Killarney returns to

**KILLARNEY RACECOURSE
SATURDAY, 28TH FEBRUARY
& SUNDAY, 1ST MARCH**

*Promising another unforgettable weekend of
fitness racing and community spirit.*

Organised by Belief Fitness Hub, Josie & Eric McDonnell, this is the third edition of the event following two hugely successful races in June and October, which drew athletes and spectators from all over Ireland to the heart of Killarney.

This event features a Special Guest appearance from Ireland's HYROX World Champion, competing in the Men's Pro Solo division on Saturday at 2pm, followed by an exclusive HYROX Workshop at 4:00pm for anyone looking to improve their race performance.

Expect more than just racing — HYROX Killarney is a full Health & Fitness Community Day. Bring the family, enjoy a coffee at the Racecourse Café, book a yoga session with Nave Yoga, relax in the sauna or ice baths, and soak up the stunning scenery of Killarney National Park while watching top-class fitness action .



**FREE ENTRY
FOR ALL
SPECTATORS**



**KILLARNEY'S
FITNESS
SIMULATIONS**



Follow @killarney.fitness.simulations
for all updates and action over the weekend.

**Come for the race
Stay for the atmosphere!**



Kerry tourism businesses honoured at CIÉ Tours Annual Awards of Excellence

Twelve Kerry tourism businesses were honoured at the CIÉ Tours Annual Awards of Excellence. CIÉ Tours, the largest carrier of US visitors to Ireland every year, held its annual awards of excellence, celebrating Irish hoteliers and tourist experience operators who have been singled out by the 30,000 visitors who came to Ireland with CIÉ Tours in 2025.

The Europe Hotel & Resort was awarded gold for 'Best 5 Star Hotel'. Known for its elegance and luxury, the hotel lies on the shores of Lough Lein overlooking the vast and magnificent Kerry landscape.

Ballygarry Estate Hotel was named 'Best 4 Star Hotel'. The hotel is situated in the heart of the Wild Atlantic Way and combined with its highest standards of service; visitors can choose to unwind or take in the beautiful surroundings and amenities on offer at the hotel.

Great Southern Killarney received a gold award for 'Best Hotel Service & Hospitality'. Commended for its charm and warm welcome, the hotel ensures that its guests have a memorable stay.

Killarney Plaza Hotel, International Hotel Killarney, Dingle Skellig Hotel, Killarney Towers Hotel, The Rose Hotel and Killarney Avenue Hotel received merit awards in the Munster hotel category.

Killarney Horse & Carriage Tours, Tangney Tours Jaunting Car and John B Keanes pub were recipients of a merit award in the Munster visitor experience category.

CIÉ Tours is the leading inbound tour operator for North American visitors to Ireland for over 90 years and in that time has brought over 3 million visitors from North America to Ireland.

Photography by John Ohle



Recipients of the Munster Hotel Merit with Stephen Cotter, Managing Director of CIE Tours, Aidan Murphy, Chairman of CIE Tours and Séan Canney TD, Minister of State at the Department of Transport.



Pictured L-R: Stephen Cotter, Managing Director CIE Tours and Anne Marie Collins, International Hotel Killarney



Pictured L-R: Aidan Murphy, Chairman of CIÉ Tours, Michael Brennan and David Cronin, The Europe Hotel & Resort Killarney with Séan Canney TD, Minister of State at the Department of Transport.



Pictured L-R: Aidan Murphy, Chairman of CIÉ Tours, Danielle Murrihy, Great Southern Killarney with Séan Canney TD, Minister of State at the Department of Transport.



Pictured L-R: Stephen Cotter, Managing Director, CIE Tours with Denis McCarthy, Killarney Avenue Hotel, Damien O Grady and Margaret O'Donohue, Killarney Towers and Chris McAtee, Killarney Plaza Hotel.



Recipients of the Munster Visit Merit with Stephen Cotter, Managing Director of CIE Tours, Aidan Murphy, Chairman of CIE Tours and Séan Canney TD, Minister of State at the Department of Transport.

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2025

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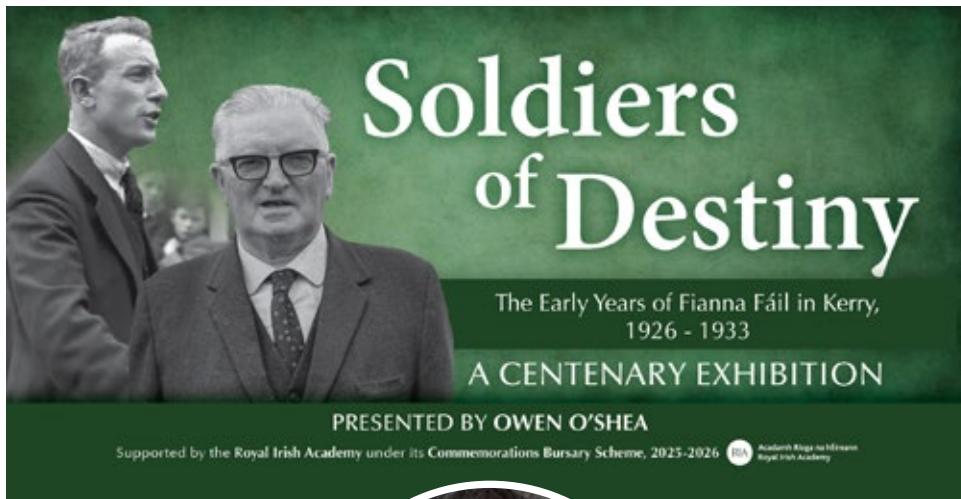
Box Office 064 6671555 | gleneaglearena.ie | ticketmaster.ie

Tickets are subject to a service charge and €1 facility fee.

NEW EXHIBITION ON FOUNDATIONS OF FIANNA FÁIL IN KERRY

Centenary exhibition on early years of the party in Kerry constituency

Fianna Fáil vote in Kerry was its highest in the country within seven years of its foundation



An exhibition on the early years of Fianna Fáil in County Kerry will go on public display at Kerry library branches during February and March. This year marks the centenary of the foundation of the party in 1926 and the exhibition, presented by historian Dr Owen O'Shea, focuses on how the party developed and grew in Kerry in the late 1920s and early 1930s.

The exhibition is called "Soldiers of Destiny, Fianna Fáil in Kerry 1926-1933" and is supported by a Commemorations Bursary from the Royal Irish Academy. It tells the story of Fianna Fáil in Kerry from its foundation in May 1926 to the general election of 1933 when the party's vote in the Kerry constituency was the highest in the entire country. New research about the establishment of party branches, the results of elections, the role of newspapers and propaganda all form part of the display as do profiles of the seven Fianna Fáil TDs who represented Kerry between 1926 and 1933.

"The foundation of Fianna Fáil was a transformative moment in Irish politics and represented a new phase of Civil War politics in Ireland. In this, its centenary year, I am presenting the story of the party in Kerry where its organisational and electoral successes were without parallel in this period," said Owen O'Shea.

“Éamon de Valera’s party set about establishing a network of branches in Kerry with enormous speed and the Fianna Fáil vote in the constituency grew rapidly from 33% in 1927 to 68% in 1933”

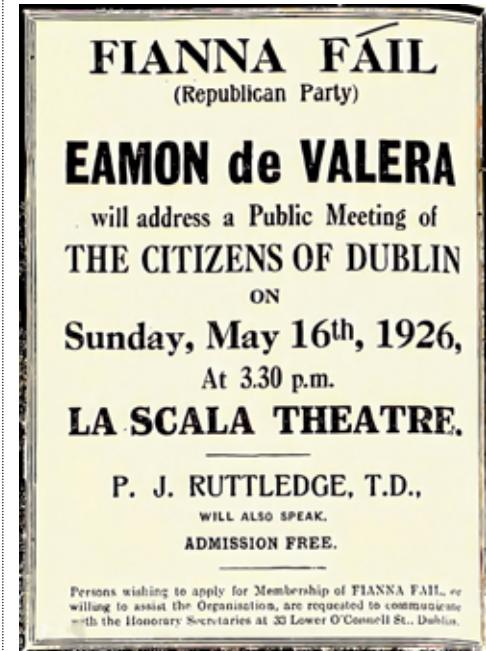
The exhibition will be on display at Tralee

Library from 16 to 28 February and at Killarney Library from 10 to 31 March and can be viewed during library opening hours.

opening hours. The seven TDs who represented Kerry during those years were Denis Daly, Fred Crowley, Tom McEllistrim, William O'Leary, Thomas O'Reilly and Jack Flynn. Their stories are being shared for the first time as are many of the election posters, newspaper advertisements and material from the time.

political material from the time. "I am very grateful to the Royal Irish Academy for funding this exhibition and I hope it will attract anyone with an interest in Irish history and politics," he added.

The content of the exhibition is based on Owen O'Shea's most recent book *From Bullets to Ballots: Politics and Electioneering in Post-Civil War Kerry, 1923-1933* which was published last October by UCD Press.



Poster announcing the inaugural meeting of Fianna
Fáil in 1926.



Tom McEllistrim who was the only Kerry Sinn Féin TD to join Fianna Fáil in 1926.



Advertisement for the Kerry Fianna Fáil candidates, Kerryman, 4 June 1927.



ABLEFEST
Killarney
- MUSIC & ARTS FESTIVAL -
2026

Sunday 15th March



Festival Zone
Beech Road Car Park, Killarney
12pm-4pm

Inclusive music and arts festival, celebrating individuals of all abilities, together with their families and friends.

Tickets on sale on www.stpatricksfestivalkillarney.ie

€50 Family (2 Adults & 3 kids) | €25 adults | €10 children






[@ablefestkillarney](#)





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NEW PATIENTS
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Dunloe Medical Practice 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.



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Kayne's Bar & Brasserie Introduces "Prosecco Lunch" – The Sparkling Social of 2026.



2026 is set to sparkle at Kayne's Bar & Brasserie with the launch of its newest daytime indulgence: Prosecco Lunch – a leisurely, laughter-filled afternoon designed for clinking glasses, sharing stories, and just the right amount of sparkle.

This new addition to the Kayne's offering invites guests to enjoy one item from the lunch menu accompanied by four glasses of bubbly Prosecco, creating the perfect excuse to gather the girls, celebrate a milestone, or simply turn an ordinary afternoon into something worth dressing up for.

From the moment guests arrive, the tone is set. A generous spread of nibbles lands at the table – a feast made for grazing, catching up & settling in for the afternoon.

Then comes the main event. Guests can choose from a selection of Kayne's favourites, including; Pil Pil Prawns with Basmati Rice, Chicken Wings & Fries, Goat's Cheese & Toasted Brioche, Mild Yellow Vegetable & Tofu Curry Baby Potato & Pea Crush Smoked Salmon or Smoked Bacon, Brisket Loaded Dirty Fries, and of course, the much-loved Kayne's Toasted Special.

Whether it's a birthday, engagement, reunion, baby shower, or simply "we survived the week," Prosecco Lunch offers the ideal setting – relaxed, stylish, and deliciously indulgent. Available to book daily throughout 2026, weekends are already proving particularly popular, with early reservations strongly advised for special occasions.

Speaking about the launch, Eldridge Colaco F&B Manager at Kayne's said:

"We wanted to create something that feels celebratory without needing a reason. Prosecco Lunch is all about slowing down, enjoying the renowned good food at Kayne's, and making memories around the table."

With its warm atmosphere and lively buzz, Kayne's Bar & Brasserie continues to evolve its offering, giving locals and visitors alike new reasons to gather in the heart of Killarney.

To book your Prosecco Lunch and mark the moment in style, call the team at Kayne's today on 0646639300 or email info@kayneskillarney.com, to secure your preferred date.



A NIGHT OF CHAMPIONS at the Gleneagle Arena

What a night! The atmosphere at the Gleneagle Arena was electric as Killarney Rugby Club crowned their very first Killarney Town Champions. A massive congratulations to the Dr. Crokes GAA team, Kayleigh Cronin, Eoin Brosnan, Billy Courtney, and Cian McMahon, who showcased incredible skill and grit to take home the title and the €1,000 top prize! The talent didn't stop there! Huge kudos to Amanda Brosnan, who proved she has nerves of steel by becoming our first-ever Killarney Kicking Queen. Amanda's clinical finishing earned St. Paul's Basketball Club a well-deserved €1,000 prize.

This event was a celebration of Killarney's vibrant sporting community. "As the town's rugby club, it was a privilege to introduce so many athletes from different backgrounds to our 'strange oval ball.' Seeing families and fans of all ages enjoying a night out together was the real highlight for us", Club PRO Pierce O'Neill said.

The night reached such high production standards thanks to The Gleneagle Arena Team: For providing a world-class venue and

support.

Kerry College Camera Crew: Your incredible work on the action replays and highlights brought the event to life!

The Supporters: To every club member and fan who filled the seats, thank you for your energy and your contributions toward our clubhouse development.

The feedback has been phenomenal, and we are already listening to the "endless list" of creative ideas you've sent our way. This wasn't just a night for Killarney Rugby Club; it was a night for Killarney Town.

"We have built an exciting foundation, and we can't wait to see this event grow in the years to come. All proceeds from the night go toward our new Clubhouse Development at Aghadoe, bringing us one step closer to our goal", Pierce added.

Special thanks to Brendan Fuller for keeping the energy high all night!

Killarney Businesses Shortlisted for National Spider Awards 2026

Two well-known Killarney businesses have earned places on the prestigious Spider Awards 2026 shortlist, highlighting innovation and digital excellence within the town.

Kilkenny Design, based in Killarney has been shortlisted in the Best Use of Disruptive Technology category. The nomination recognises the company's forward-thinking approach and its use of innovative technology to enhance customer experience and retail operations.

Meanwhile, The Killarney Park Hotel has been shortlisted in the Best Website, SME category, acknowledging the hotel's outstanding online presence, user experience and digital engagement with customers.

The Spider Awards are regarded as Ireland's leading digital awards programme, celebrating organisations that demonstrate excellence in digital innovation, creativity and online performance.

The dual recognition for Killarney businesses reflects the strong commitment within the local business community to embracing technology and maintaining high standards in the digital space.



KILLARNEY FILMMAKER'S LATEST FILM TO FEATURE AT THE DUBLIN INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

A SHORT FILM BY A KILLARNEY FILMMAKER IS SET TO FEATURE ON THE BIG SCREEN AT THE PRESTIGIOUS DUBLIN INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL LATER THIS MONTH.

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DUBLIN INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

19 FEB – 01 MAR 2026

Fresh Film Hothouse

WATCHING THE WASHING MACHINE

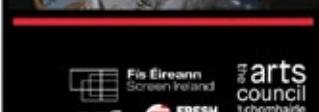
Director: Ellen McSweeney

Both meditative and playful, Ellen McSweeney's thoughtfully visualised short film sees a young woman traverse her memory and time itself through the entrancing lull of her washing machine.

Venue: Light House Date: 27-Feb







Fís Éireann Screen Ireland

arts council

RTÉ

FRESH FILM

Ellen McSweeney's thoughtfully crafted short film, *Watching the Washing Machine*, has been selected for screening as part of the Fresh Film Hothouse programme at the festival, which runs from February 19 to March 1, 2026.

The film will premiere at the Light House Cinema in Dublin on February 27. Described as both meditative and playful, the short follows a young woman as she journeys through memory and time, prompted by the entrancing lull of her washing machine.

The selection marks a significant achievement for the Killarney woman, with the Dublin International Film Festival renowned for showcasing world-class Irish and international cinema.

Directed by Ellen McSweeney, the daughter of Sheila O'Donoghue and Mike McSweeney and produced by Rachel Griffin, another Killarney native, and daughter of Jerh and Aileen Griffin, along with Amber Leah, *'Watching the Washing Machine'* showcases an impressive creative team. Vega Antonini served as Director of Photography, with Rhian Woods and Niamh Curtis as First Assistant Directors. John O'Neill was Gaffer, Amber Leah Sound Recordist, Claire Schmidt handled Sound Design, Rufus Miller composed the score, and Abbi Henderson led Set Design.

Audiences are invited to attend the screening at DIFF, with booking details available through festival channels. The production team also extended thanks to Screen Ireland, RTÉjr and the Arts Council for their support.

Supported by organisations including Fís Éireann/Screen Ireland, RTÉ and the Arts Council, the Hothouse programme highlights emerging filmmaking talent, and Ellen's inclusion is a proud moment for her hometown.



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Employee Awards Celebrated at the Gleneagle Group

The Gleneagle Group hosted its annual Employee Awards Gala at The Killarney Oaks Hotel on Sunday night, bringing colleagues together to celebrate excellence, commitment and teamwork across the organisation.

The awards ceremony recognised outstanding employees from The Gleneagle Hotel, The Maritime Hotel and Gleneagle Group shared services, acknowledging individuals who go above and beyond in their roles. The gala evening provided an opportunity to reflect on another strong year for the business and to celebrate the dedication and professionalism of its teams.

Speaking at the event, CEO Patrick O'Donoghue said: "This evening is about celebrating the people who make the Gleneagle Group what it is. 2025 has been another strong and progressive year for our business, with record guest numbers, continued investment across our properties, and real progress in our people, sustainability and community initiatives. None of this happens without the dedication, professionalism and pride shown by our teams every day. Every role and every contribution matters, and tonight is our opportunity to say thank you and to recognise those who have gone above and beyond. I am incredibly proud of what we have achieved together and excited for what lies ahead."

At The Gleneagle Hotel, Mikaela Woods was announced as Employee of the Year. Lesia Ivanyshyn received the Best New Starter award, with Chido Dube recognised with the Leadership Award. Mark Hickey was honoured for Excellence in Customer Service, while Mohammed Anzy was named World's Best Colleague. Pedro Pinto received Manager of the Year, and Naoishe Purcell was awarded Assistant Manager/Supervisor of the Year.

Across Gleneagle Group shared services, Cathal Flaherty was named Employee of the Year. Cariosa Fleming received the Excellence in Action Award, while Michael MacSweeney was recognised with the Excellence in Customer Service Award. Special Recognition Awards were also presented to Sylwia Godzik and Ann O'Leary for their work on the HR systems upgrade and integration, and to the Gleneagle Arena Ushers in recognition of their outstanding work supporting patrons attending events. The annual Employee Awards celebrate the people behind the Gleneagle Group's success, recognising the passion, pride and care shown by employees who deliver memorable experiences for guests and support one another across the organisation.

Photo: Valerie O'Sullivan/



At the Gleneagle Group Employee Awards 2025 at the Killarney Oaks Hotel, Patrick O'Donoghue, CEO, Gleneagle Group, presents the Gleneagle Arena Ushers Team with the Special Recognition Award.



At the Gleneagle Group Annual Employee Awards 2025 at the Killarney Oaks Hotel, Patrick O'Donoghue, CEO, Gleneagle Group presents Mikaela Woods with the Gleneagle Hotel Employee of the Year Award.



At the Gleneagle Group Annual Employee Awards 2025 at the Killarney Oaks Hotel, Patrick O'Donoghue, CEO, Gleneagle Group presenting Cathal Flaherty with Shared Services Employee of the Year Award 2025, other winners included, Michael MacSweeney, Anita O'Donoghue, Fiona O'Connor, Cariosa Fleming and Olivier Papin.



At the Gleneagle Group Annual Employee Awards at the Killarney Oaks Hotel, Patrick O'Donoghue, CEO, Gleneagle Group and Eilis Loughrey, Director of People and Culture (4th left), present Ann O'Leary and Sylwia Godzik, with a Special Recognition Award.



At the Gleneagle Group Annual Employee Awards 2025 at the Killarney Oaks Hotel, Patrick O'Donoghue, CEO, Gleneagle Group presents Mark Hickey with the Gleneagle Hotel Excellence in Customer Service Award.



At the Gleneagle Group Annual Employee Awards at the Killarney Oaks Hotel, Patrick O'Donoghue, CEO, Gleneagle Group and General Manager John Dolan, present Mikaela Woods with Employee of the Year; left, Naoishe Purcell, Assistant Manager of the Year; and Pedro Miguel Faria Pinto with Manager of the Year. Other winners included Lesia Ivanyshyn, Mark Hickey, Mohammed Anzy, Chido Dube and Adam Sikorski.



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Network Ireland Kerry

Explores AI in Marketing at February Event

Network Ireland Kerry hosted a well-attended February event at The Brehon Hotel, Killarney, focusing on how businesses can use AI to work smarter while maintaining a human touch.

Titled "The Age of AI: How to Scale Trust, Content & Conversation Without Losing the Human Touch," the session featured speakers Eimear McDonnell and Brigeen O'Sullivan of Match Marketing, Anita Michalak of The Digital Talk, and Tara Elzingre of Tara Elzingre Consultancy. They demonstrated how AI can support everyday tasks such as research, content creation and campaign planning, freeing up time for strategy and creativity.

AI was described as a helpful tool that enhances, rather than replaces, human expertise. The event encouraged open discussion, with attendees sharing experiences, tools and practical ideas in a supportive setting.

Network Ireland Kerry President Aisling Foley said the event reflected the organisation's commitment to shared learning and peer support for women in business.

Upcoming events include a Connecting the Communities Coffee Morning at gteic Ballinskelligs on March 4, International Women's Day celebrations in Limerick on March 7, and a Women Leaders in Tech Coffee Morning at The Rose Hotel, Tralee, on March 25.



Pictured at the Network Ireland Kerry February event, 'Marketing in the Age of AI: How to Scale Trust, Content & Conversation Without Losing the Human Touch,' held in The Brehon Hotel, Killarney on Wednesday (February 4th) were: Sarah Treacy (OCKT Accountants), Sinead Buckley (Teenzone), Karen Buckley (Loughdale Cottage), Siobhan Kelly (Cara CU) and Sheila O'Callaghan (The Lake Hotel). Photo: Michelle Breen Crean Photography



President of Network Ireland Kerry, Aisling Foley, and Norma O'Donoghue (Visual Merchandiser), pictured catching up at the Network Ireland Kerry February event, 'Marketing in the Age of AI: How to Scale Trust, Content & Conversation Without Losing the Human Touch,' held in The Brehon Hotel, Killarney on Wednesday (February 4th). Photo: Michelle Breen Crean Photography



Pictured at the Network Ireland Kerry February event, 'Marketing in the Age of AI: How to Scale Trust, Content & Conversation Without Losing the Human Touch,' held in The Brehon Hotel, Killarney on Wednesday (February 4th) were: Mary B Teahan (Irish Drain Services), Lottie Lyne (We Love Nonie Global) and Ruth Allen (Balance 21). Photo: Michelle Breen Crean Photography

Landowners Urged to Cut Overgrown Hedges to Improve Road Safety

The Road Safety Authority (RSA) and the County and City Management Association (CCMA) are calling on landowners to cut their hedgerows by the end of the month to ensure they are not causing a road safety hazard. Under the Wildlife Act 1976, hedge-cutting is prohibited from 1 March to 31 August, except in cases where overgrowth poses a road safety hazard. Properly maintained hedges ensure vulnerable road users are not forced onto the road by overgrown hedges. It additionally affords motorists a clear view of what is in front of them or around a bend, especially on rural roads in the case of sightlines at junctions or obstructions to road signs.





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FOSSA NATIONAL SCHOOL U11 & GAELSCOIL FAITHLEANN U13 CROWNED QUIZ CHAMPIONS

The Great Southern Hotel was the venue to host 74 Primary School Quiz teams from all over South & East Kerry on Sunday in the annual Killarney Credit Union School Quiz.

Fossa National School, Killarney emerged victorious in the Under 11 category with St Olivers NS in 2nd place. Gaelscoil Faithleann, Killarney won the U13 category with St Olivers second in this category. All four teams will go on to represent Killarney Credit Union in the Chapter competition on March 8th in Ballyroe Hotel Tralee.

This year, 295 primary school pupils participated in the quiz from over 25 schools from all over South & East Kerry. Killarney Credit Union has been hosting the school quiz for over 20 years.

In the Under 11 category, first place went to Fossa National School represented by Oisín Wilson, Keelan Swarbrick, John Larkin and Cian Ó Cléirigh. Second place went to St Olivers NS with team members Hannah McCarthy, Fionn Delaney, Beatrix Gomez Keaney & Ollie Pyne. Third place was awarded to Lissivigeen NS and the team members were Luke Sheehan, Jimmy Morrissey, Fionn O'Sullivan & Ailbhe O'Sullivan.

In the U13 section first place went to Gaelscoil Faithleann, Killarney represented by Conn Ó Súilleabháin, Joanna Ní Chróinín, Conor Ó Domhnaill & Aideen Ní Bhuachalla. Second place went to St Olivers, Killarney represented by Amelia Angland, Liam Molokomme, Phillip Dian & Arran O'Sullivan. Third place in this competition went to St Johns NS, Kenmare represented by Monty Read, Carter O'Neill, Róise Harrington & Sabina Coyne.

Board Director & Quizmaster on the day Joy Clifford-Vaughan congratulated and thanked all schools that took part. She said "I would like to acknowledge the long distances that many schools had to travel today and thank them for participating in the quiz. Lastly we would also like to acknowledge the staff, management and volunteers who helped out on the day in correcting, stewarding and adjudication."

Mark Murphy, CEO, Killarney Credit Union said "We would like thank all those that participated in the quiz this year. We would like to thank the pupils, and also the parents and teachers who prepared the teams that attended on the day. The standard was very impressive."

Each of the winners received trophies and a perpetual cup was given to the first placed winning national schools.

The first and second placed winning teams in each category will go on to represent their school in the Chapter Quiz on Sunday 8th March 2026 in the Ballyroe Hotel, Tralee.



Fossa NS U11 Winners



Gaelscoil Faithleann U13 Winners



St Olivers U11 2nd place



St Olivers U13 2nd place

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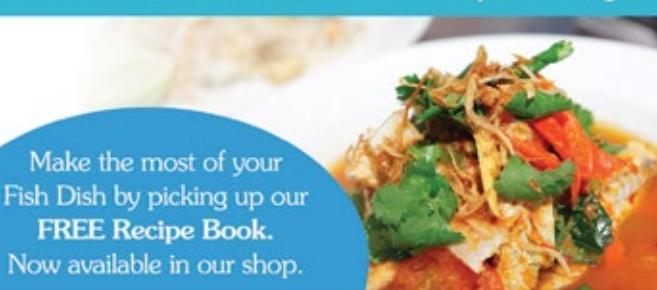
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Mystery in the Woods...

Rubber Waders Found 50 Feet Up Oak Tree in Killarney National Park



Tea and chats...
volunteers at the
Meitheal enjoying a
cuppa at Dromrower.

Volunteers working at a woodland restoration site in Killarney National Park were left baffled this week after discovering an unusual sight high above their heads: a pair of full-sized rubber waders lodged some 50 feet up in the branches of a mature oak tree.

The discovery was made by members of the Killarney Mountain Meitheal as they settled into their newly relocated work "kitchen" area at the Dundag site, moved further uphill to take advantage of the sweeping views. What initially appeared to be an unidentifiable object silhouetted against the canopy soon revealed itself, after some careful squinting from the forest floor, to be a pair of waders now apparently repurposed as elevated accommodation for local squirrels. How the waders reached such a height remains a mystery.

Attention has turned to one prime suspect: the white-tailed sea eagle. With an impressive wingspan of up to eight feet and a reputation for dramatic aerial manoeuvres, the eagle is considered the only local resident capable of delivering such an item to the treetops. The perpetrator, if indeed feathered, is believed to still be at large - perhaps soaring over the Lakes of Killarney in search of a matching jacket.



The waders lodged 50 feet up a mature oak tree. Photo: Peter O'Toole

While the case remains unsolved, the discovery has added a touch of intrigue and humour to the group's regular conservation work in the park. Volunteers are now inviting the public not only to lend a hand but also to offer their own theories on how the airborne waders came to rest in their lofty perch.

The Killarney Mountain Meitheal meets twice weekly and welcomes new volunteers of all backgrounds. Whether drawn by the physical work, the scenic surroundings, or the chance to investigate woodland oddities, all are encouraged to join.

Volunteer Details:

When: Every Sunday and Tuesday, 9:00am-12:30pm (weather permitting)

Where: Meet at Dundag Car Park, Killarney National Park

Tea break: 11:00am

Directions to Dundag (Dromrower site):

Take the first left after entering the main Muckross House gate. Drive to the end of the road to Dundag car park. Enter the site through the fence opening - the group can usually be seen and heard from there.

Mind the house and round the dresser...

FOSSA TWO MILE COMHALTAS PLANNED FOR MARCH



Fossa Two Mile upcoming Céilí will be held on Sunday 22nd March 2026 from 3-6pm at Fossa Community Hall. Music by Johnny Reidy Ceili Band. Admission €10. We look forward to seeing you all there.

Annual Rambling House 2026 will be held on Sat 14th March at The Castlerosse Park Resort, Fossa. Admission Free, Raffle on the night, tea and coffee. All very welcome.

Sult na nÓg will take place on Sat 7th March in Dúchas Comhaltas Centre, MTU Tralee.

This competition is aimed at younger competitors and it is confined to junior members registered in branches in Co. Kerry.

Ceolchoireann Thraididiúnt Mhúscraí Concert Sat 21st March at Dúchas Comhaltas Centre, MTU Tralee. Tickets €10. Adult €5. Junior/Student can be ordered from branch secretaries or purchased on Eventbrite.ie



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Monday April 6th.....	Maths H (Paper 2)
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Wednesday April 8th.....	Physics H
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Friday April 10th.....	Geography H
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Luke Sills and Donal Walsh Remembered as Tralee CBS Capture Corn Uí Mhúirí Title

Tralee CBS claimed their 17th TUS Corn Uí Mhúirí title with a nine-point victory over High School Clonmel in a thrilling final played in Mallow.

While the win was widely celebrated by players, staff and supporters, thoughts on the day were also firmly with two past pupils whose memories remain deeply woven into the fabric of the school community - Luke Sills and Donal Walsh.

Luke, who tragically lost his life in a drowning accident just before the Leaving Certificate examinations last May, had played alongside many of the team throughout their school years, despite being a year ahead of them. His presence was keenly felt as the team took to the field for one of the most important matches in the school's sporting calendar.

The late Donal Walsh was also remembered on the day. A former pupil of Tralee CBS, Donal is widely remembered for his courageous cancer awareness and anti-suicide advocacy, which touched lives across Ireland.

As celebrations took place after the final whistle, the team and school community took time to honour both Luke and Donal. A commemorative flag, organised by Killarney man, Anto Cronin, a teacher at the school, was displayed to ensure their memory remained part of a proud and emotional occasion for the school.



CBS The Green Joint Captains Fionnan Ryan and Mairtin McKivergan pictured with the Corn Uí Mhúirí



The victorious team with the flag remembering Luke and Donal in the background.

€2,500 Raised for Palliative Care at Fáilte Hotel Fundraiser

A recent fundraising event featuring a night of theatre, music and entertainment at The Fáilte Hotel, Killarney raised €2,500 for Palliative Care services.

Guests enjoyed performances from the West End House School of Arts along with live music on the night, while a raffle and bucket collection also contributed to the total raised for the worthy cause.

Pictured at the event in front are Megan and Valerie O'Callaghan and Ciara Curran. Back from left are Charlie Hughes (West End House School of Arts), Niall 'Botty' O'Callaghan and Cathal Walshe of the Killarney branch of Kerry Hospice. Picture: Eamonn Keogh



Presentation Monastery Killarney is inviting the local community to put their knowledge to the test at a lively Quiz Night taking place later this month in the Killarney Avenue Hotel.

The event, scheduled for 7:30pm on Wednesday, 26th February, promises an evening of fun, friendly competition and fantastic prizes, all in support of the school. Organisers say the quiz is designed to be a welcoming night out for families, friends and neighbours, with everyone encouraged to take part.

Renowned local quizmaster Cathal Walshe will be on hand to challenge teams with a wide range of questions covering general knowledge, sport, history, entertainment and more. A selection of top raffle prizes will also be up for grabs on the night.

Admission is priced to make the event accessible to all, with adults €10 and children €5, and the organisers are keen to see a strong community turnout.



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UCC Academic Scholarship for Caitríona Murphy

Castleisland Community College is celebrating the outstanding success of past pupil Caitríona Murphy, who has been awarded a UCC Entrance Scholarship in recognition of her exceptional Leaving Certificate results.

Caitríona achieved the maximum 625 points in the 2025 Leaving Certificate examinations—an extraordinary accomplishment that places her among the top-performing students in the country. Her results included an incredible seven H1 grades, each representing a score of 90% or higher. The subjects in which she excelled were Irish, English, Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry, French, and Business.

Her academic achievements have now paved the way for her studies at University College

Cork, where she is currently pursuing a degree in Pharmacy. Teachers and staff at Castleisland Community College have expressed immense pride in her dedication, discipline, and commitment to excellence.

'Caitríona's success serves as an inspiration to current and future students, highlighting what can be achieved through hard work and a passion for learning. Her accomplishments also reflect the strong academic culture fostered within Castleisland Community College. The entire school community extends its warmest congratulations to Caitríona and wishes her every success in her studies and future career,' concluded Máiréad Corridan (Principal).



ALONE Urgently Seeks Volunteers



Make someone feel amazing.



ALONE, the organisation that enables older people to age well at home, is urgently seeking volunteers for their Support and Befriending services in Kerry. Demand for our services continues to grow in the Kerry region. Many older people in our communities are experiencing loneliness and isolation. ALONE's volunteers play a vital role in offering companionship, practical support, and a friendly voice to those who need it most. In 2025, ALONE supported almost 46,500 older people across our services. Almost half of this group reported feeling lonely while 16% had not been out socially in the last six months. Sean Moynihan, CEO of ALONE, said: "Loneliness can have a profound effect on a person's health and wellbeing. Every day, ALONE volunteers make a life-changing difference for older people across the country, and we are deeply grateful for their dedication. Just one hour a week can transform an older person's life. By volunteering, you help build stronger, more connected communities where no one feels alone."

Volunteering involves calling or visiting an older person regularly for companionship and practical support, providing help to solve everyday problems and linking them in with local events and activities.

Volunteering with ALONE is flexible, rewarding and has huge benefits for both the older person and volunteer. Our latest volunteer and older person surveys show that:

· 93% of older people said that the Support and Befriending Service positively impacted their lives

· 84% of older people believed that their loneliness had decreased and their happiness had increased

· 98% of volunteers said they enjoyed the social interaction,

· 96% felt they were contributing to their community,

"Just putting a smile on the person's face I visit is enough for me to know I am making a difference." said an ALONE Volunteer.

If you would like to volunteer or learn more, please visit www.alone.ie/volunteer or call 0818 222 024. Together, we can ensure no older person feels alone.

THE RSA'S FREE CHECK IT FITS SERVICE IS ON THE ROAD AND COMING BACK TO KILLARNEY

Over half of child car seats (54%) checked by the Road Safety Authority's Check It Fits service were incorrectly fitted and needed some type of adjustment to make them a safe fit. If a child's car seat isn't fitted correctly, it could lead to a serious or fatal injury in the event of a collision.

The RSA are delighted to announce that their face-to-face child car seat checking service – Check it Fits – is on the road visiting locations around the country and is coming to Killarney on 17th February.

*Schedule of the event: Aldi Killarney, Park Rd, Avenue, Killarney, Co. Kerry, V93 W528
Tuesday, February 17, 2026 10.00 am - 05.30 pm*



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What is a primary health centre?

An open letter

What is a primary health centre and what is its function? It is surprising that this question has not been asked even once in the last year or two considering the needless turf war that has existed in regards to the redevelopment of the Aras Padraig site in Killarney. A dispute that has completely blindsided many involved and led to a real possibility of Killarney rejecting €16 million in targeted funding due to it being tied to specific rules and plans that show a high socio-economic return. Funding that any other town would bite your hand off to receive.

Not one councillor spoke about the vital role that a primary care centre plays in a community. Opinions from elderly, people with disabilities and young parents navigating parenthood for the first time were not specifically sought. Not one journalist sought to investigate the role of a primary health centre or visit current community nursing, early intervention or other cramped health facilities that are scattered around the town or further afield in Tralee or Cork causing unnecessary and difficult travel for people whose comfort is a necessary component in their care.

I am a father of a child with complex medical needs who turns 10 years this April. I have ten years of experience of navigating the health system both locally and nationally. It is not always a pretty picture especially when it is mixed with politics, most notably parish



Steve and Teresa O'Mahony with their daughter Alexis.

pump politics. I do know one thing more than anything and that is that those with a disability are the voiceless. As a father it is my civil duty to speak about this and the whole sorry saga

which in my humble opinion has been led by fear and mistrust and shown the voiceless being cast aside yet again. On behalf of my daughter Alexis, I ask that the rhetoric of "the Aras Padraig is for the people of Killarney" be immediately dropped. It is an insulting phrase that completely dismisses the immediate needs of the most vulnerable in our society. People that rely on primary care centres and their services are also "people of Killarney" and their needs should not be cast aside. As the long wait for a modern and necessary primary care centre continues we ask that councillors act in a more proactive rather than reactive way. We ask that journalists act with more balance and integrity and investigate the immediate need for such a centre in Killarney. It is obvious that the pens have gone dry seeing the witch hunt in regards the Aras Padraig site has subsided. The silence is deafening. If half the energy devoted to this story was reinvested in the need for such a centre in our town we would all be smiling. Maybe such a story may not generate the online and social media likes and clicks that are the bane of our society. A primary health centre and the services it provides is a lot more than a physical building. If you want to know more, we await your questions.

Regards,
Steve O'Mahony.

Mystery Birthday Sign Found Blowing Along Killarney Estate Road

A wandering birthday sign spotted along an access road behind McDonald's in Killarney may hold the key to reuniting a local woman with a memento from a milestone celebration. The sign, which appeared about a week ago, was seen blowing freely along the roadway serving several housing estates before eventually coming to rest on a green area beside Burr Ridge estate. Residents believe it may have escaped from a recent birthday party and are hoping its owner - a woman named Sheila - might be traced and reunited with the wayward decoration. It is thought that someone who

attended the celebration may recognise the sign and alert Sheila to its current resting place.

While the incident has prompted some amusement, locals note a more serious concern. Residents say green areas around the estates are increasingly being used as dumping grounds for various unwanted items, detracting from the appearance of the neighbourhood and creating unnecessary litter.

For now, the birthday sign remains in place, awaiting collection - and perhaps the happy return to the birthday girl it once celebrated.



K.W.O.T.E.

Killarney Women's Organisation for Training and Empowerment.

Our monthly meeting is on Wednesday 18th February at 2PM in the Parish Centre next to the Church of the Resurrection V93WN32.

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Community Spirit Shines at Davey's Walk for Kerry Hospice Foundation

St. Stephen's Day once again brought the local community together in remarkable fashion as walkers gathered for Davey's Walk from Blackwater Tavern to Loughbrin Lake in aid of the Kerry Hospice Foundation (KHF). The annual event, which has become a cherished tradition, saw friends, families, and supporters unite in a shared effort to raise funds for the vital services provided by KHF to families across County Kerry. The day was marked by generosity, kindness, and a strong sense of community spirit that has come to define the walk each year.

This year's event raised an impressive €33,429.50 for the foundation. The funds come at a crucial time, as KHF is currently expanding its palliative care unit with the addition of five new rooms and other enhancements to ensure continued high-quality care for those who need it most.

Support for the walk came from near and far. Donations were received in person, online, and from those who were unable to attend but wished to contribute. A special acknowledgment was extended to friends and supporters in the United States, whose generous annual donations continue to make a meaningful difference.

Carmel and Davy Breen expressed sincere gratitude to everyone who contributed spot prizes, purchased raffle tickets, and supported the fundraising efforts in countless ways throughout the day.

Special thanks were paid to Teddy, Mary and Kieran O'Neill of Blackwater Tavern for their hospitality and support, as well as to Mossy O'Leary, Timothy Clifford, Dan Sullivan, and



L-R: Cathal Walshe PRO Killarney branch of KHF, Pat Doolin Chair Killarney branch of KHF. Teddy O'Neill Blackwater Tavern, Tim Clifford, Carmel & Davy Breen organisers, Dan Sullivan, Mary O'Neill Blackwater Tavern & Dermot Reilly Treasurer Killarney branch of KHF. Davy raised an amazing €33,429.50.

Colm Breen for their time, commitment, and hard work behind the scenes, all of which helped make the event run smoothly.

Cathal Walsh from the Kerry Hospice Foundation was also thanked for his continued loyalty and support of the walk each year, and for speaking so sincerely on the day about the importance of community involvement and charitable work in ensuring these essential services remain available.

As the day drew to a close, organisers Carmel and Davy Breen expressed their heartfelt appreciation to everyone who played a part in the success of the event, noting how much every donation, message of encouragement, and kind gesture meant to them.

With another successful year complete, the community is already looking forward to Davey's Walk returning again in 2026.

AGE & OPPORTUNITY AT ST. BRIGID'S

On Thursday, February 5, St. Brigid's worked alongside Age & Opportunity and Kerry Recreation and Sports Partnership to support the inaugural Regional Go for Life Game Day at Killarney Sports and Leisure Centre.

Transition Year students assisted with registration and scorekeeping and led a lively group warm-up to begin a day filled with fun, activity and friendly competition. The Go for Life Games celebrate participation in sport for older adults, with teams taking part in adapted games such as Flisk, Scidil and Maláí. The event concluded with chair aerobics and stretching, leaving participants energised. Staff expressed pride in the enthusiasm and kindness shown by the students throughout the day.



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SPA PARISH

SPA GAA ACADEMY

Our hugely popular Spa GAA Academy returns on Saturday 7th March, welcoming boys and girls from 3+ years to begin their GAA journey in a fun, friendly and inclusive environment. The academy focuses on fundamental movement skills, games and fun, helping children build confidence while making new friends. Keep an eye on our socials over the coming weeks for full details, times and registration info.

Fixture News

Our Senior Men's team begin their East Kerry Super League campaign on Sunday 15th February at 12 noon, home against Killarney Legion. All fixtures are subject to change, keep an eye on the fixtures section of our website www.spagaa.com for any changes

REFEREE FOUNDATION COURSE

Kerry GAA will be running a Referees Foundation Course over 3 nights in late February or early March 2026. If you are interested in attending, please contact club secretary Eileen Aherne on 085 8414804. The course is for over 18s only.

SPECIAL GUEST FOR SPA CHALLENGE MATCH

There was a special guest in Spa last Saturday, as Brian Fenton brought his Raheny team down for a pre-season challenge match. Brian is a seven-time All-Ireland Senior Football Champion with Dublin and a two-time GAA Footballer of the Year, and he also has strong family roots in Spa, with his father Brian hailing from the parish. Thank you to Raheny for making the trip to Killarney

CLUB MEMBERSHIP

Reminder that 2026 membership subscriptions are now due. Existing Gym Fobs were deactivated on 31st January for members who hadn't renewed by then. To renew your membership, visit our website www.spagaa.com



Brian Fenton with some of our young Spa members, credit Anne Holland

DOWNLOAD OUR APP

The best way to stay up to date on Spa GAA news, events, fixtures and results is to download the ClubZap app and subscribe to Spa. You can also visit our website www.spagaa.com for all the latest news and updates, which includes information on how to download our app.

CLUB LOTTO

Spa Lotto 9/2/2026. Numbers drawn: 1, 3, 21, 24. No winner. Lucky Dips: Eileen Moloney, Online; Mary McCarthy; Ann McGuillycuddy; Kay O'Leary; Next week's draw will be on Monday 16 February for a jackpot of €8,400

RATHMORE | GNEEVEGUILLA PARISH

By Michael O' Mahony

CONGRATULATIONS

Gneeveguilla athletic club's results at the Munster Senior and Masters Indoor T&F in Nenagh on the February bank holiday monday.

Heather O Donoghue Mc Carthy Silver and Bronze in Senior WFD and Shot respectively.

Onagh Quinn, Gold in Long Jump and Bronze in Shot.

Gemma O'Connell : Silver in Long jump, Silver in Shot and Bronze in WFD.

Sheila O Donoghue 3 Golds 1 silver, Shot, WFD and Long Jump

Fred Sullivan : Gold in WFD and Silver in Masters Relay.

Freddie Whoriskey Bronze in Shot and a Silver in Relay.

Denis O'Donoghue Silver in WFD and Silver in Relay.

Niall O'Donoghue 2 Golds : in 200m and WFD, Silver in Shot and Silver in Relay.

Paddy O'Donoghue Golds in Men 90 Shot and WFD (these are both Munster and national records).

David Fleming Gold in M85 Shot Putt (Munster record).

Sean Murphy Bronze in Shot.

LOTTO

No winner in last week's lotto draw, €9,400 Jackpot for Friday Feb 13th.

RATHMORE COMMUNITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE FOR 2026

Chairman: Cllr Niall Kelliher

Vice chairman: Denis Macrohan

Secretary: Maire M'Leverley

Assistant secretary: Siobhan Dennehy

PRO: Jacentha Murphy

Tidy town: Theresa Higgins

Outgoing community Members who step down - Antoinette O'Leary, Evelyn Murphy, Brian Miley, Colm Kelly, thanks for the hard work with dedication over the past years and for everything you did for our town.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Rathmore Wed from 6-7pm. Knocknagree Thur morning 10am -11am

Eucharistic Adoration: Gneeveguilla every Tue from 10am – 8pm

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

on Tues 17th Feb 2026 Rathmore Church @ 11.00am - Knocknagree Church @ 3.00pm -

CLIR. MAURA HEALY-RAE

To ask Kerry County Council to improve the lighting at the pedestrian crossing adjacent to the church in Rathmore. This crossing is surrounded by community services, amenities and businesses and is currently

substandard. Furthermore, Kerry County Council previously committed to upgrading this crossing and the others further on in Rathmore town; what is the current update on this?

Reply: An application will be made to the Defect Management Section of Transport Infrastructure Ireland to seek funding to upgrade the public lighting at this pedestrian crossing. Proposals in relation to upgrading the pedestrian crossings in Rathmore town are progressing through the design phase to enable a technical approval and funding application to Transport Infrastructure Ireland. Subject to receiving that approval the necessary statutory process will commence. Also, I allocated in full to the provision of a new public light at Station road, Rathmore.

1LIFE SUICIDE HELPLINE

1800 24 7 100; Text 'Help' to 51444 for 1 to 1 support; Website www.life.ie

SHARE THE BUCKET

Gneeveguilla Community Facility Group reminds you that Share the Bucket takes place weekly. The draw is every Friday evening in Teach Fáilte @8 pm and can be viewed live on our Gneeveguilla Community Facility Group Facebook Page. This week's jackpot was €204 and the winner was Sheila O'Donoghue. Tickets cost €2 each or 3 for €5. They are available at Teach Fáilte and can be bought online at <https://tinyurl.com/y2ade5om>. or in local businesses where you see the Green Share the bucket.

Your support is greatly supported and all funds will go towards our new proposed community facility. We would like to thank our local businesses, shops and pubs who continue to support our project and thanks too to everybody who purchases tickets every week.

RADIO MASS

10am Mass on Radio Kerry each Sunday morning from Our Lady and St. Brendan's Church, Tralee. When logging on for Mass set some time aside, free of distractions. Maybe light a candle. Try to resist the temptation to do household chores as you follow the Mass.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

LOCAL CONFIDENTIAL, CONTACT 087 3462332

RATHMORE ST PATRICK DAY PARADE on Sunday March 15th. More Details later

NOTES

Notes if you would like to add to the notes please email Michael O'Mahony (momahony14@gmail.com) or ring or text 087-6676817 before 6pm



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Money Matters

By Dermot Cronin
Financial Advisor

WHEN CAN YOU ACCESS YOUR PENSION & WHAT ARE YOUR OPTIONS WHEN YOU WANT TO RETIRE?

You can normally get access to your pension from age 60, a lot of the rules depend on whether you are an employee or self-employed. If you are coming close to retirement then you are probably wondering what options you have when you want to get access to your pension. It depends on what type of pension you have but generally there are four options:

Tax Free Cash: Most people will be entitled to a tax free lump sum, the amount varies however generally you will get at least 25% of the value of your pension in a tax free cash lump sum.

Taxable Cash: You may also be able to take a sum of your pension in taxable cash.

Annual Pension: This is a guaranteed income usually paid monthly for the rest of your life that is purchased with the money left after your tax free lump sum, this is subject to taxation.

Approved Retirement Funds: You may be entitled to keep some of your money in an approved retirement fund, money can be taken from the fund to give you a regular income, usually monthly. This is subject to taxation also. Taxation at retirement is often much lower than when you are working.

It is extremely important that you take your time and have all the options explained to you in plain simple English and that you understand all your options clearly before you make your final decision. As well as the above there is much more to be discussed about your pension. You should discuss your retirement options with a financial advisor who has access to a number of different pension providers before making any decisions, he or she will help you with the above options and any other queries you may have.

To discuss the above or any other matter Dermot Cronin QFA can be contacted at 0646622775 or info@dermotcronin.ie

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GLENFLESK PARISH

Written by: Sean Daly

EAST KERRY

Our Senior mens team had their first outing of the year away to Listry in the East Kerry Super League. The game ended in a draw 1:13 to 1:13.

COMMUNITY GAMES

We have started our events for 2026 and there will be lots more events coming over the next couple of months! Keep an eye on our Facebook page where we will advertise a wide range of events which we hope to enter individuals and teams for all ages from Under 8 to Under 16. All children living in Glenflesk are welcome to take part. If you require further information about a specific event, please contact Niamh on 087 6207179 or Seán on 087 9743828.

KERRY LADIES

Well done to Ava Doherty and Kathryn Ryan who were part of the Kerry team who beat Meath in Division 1 of the National Football League.

LOTTO

There was no winner of Glenflesk Lotto which took place on 3/2/26. Jackpot €5,400. Numbers drawn: 12, 14, 16, 26. Consolation Prizes of €50: Siobhán Favier c/o Spillanes Bar, Ollie Favier (Sellers' Prize), Tom Murphy, Calfmount, Phyllis O' Sullivan, Dalton's Avenue. Next draw will take place on 16/2/26. Jackpot will be €5,600.

KILLARNEY TOWN CHAMPIONS

Well done to Jeff O'Donoghue and the three Roche brothers Darragh, Dylan and Ian who represented Glenflesk at the Killarney Rugby Club 'Killarney Town Champions' event last Friday night in the Gleneagle Arena.

MEMBERSHIP

2026 Club Membership is now due and available to purchase on the following link: <https://shorturl.at/VTvli>

KILCUMMIN PARISH

Written by: Helen Moynihan

KERRY COMMUNITY GAMES

Kerry Community Games Annual Church Gate Collection will take place on the 21st & 22nd of February at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Kilcummin. Your continuous support is greatly appreciated.

DOG FOULING

We are aware of the issue of dog fouling not only is it very unsightly and unhygienic, it is an offence to allow a dog under your control to foul a public place. Failure to clean up after your dog can lead to "on the spot" fines and /or prosecution. If you wish to report dog fouling as a problem in your area, phone 066 7162000 or email environ@kerrycoco.ie

KILCUMMIN GAA

KILCUMMIN GAELIC4 MOTHERS & OTHERS

Ladies age 25 + ...want to get out of the house for an hour's fun, laughs guaranteed! then this is for you...NO experience or fitness ability needed!!! Please come along to our information evening to hear all about it. Friday 13th at 8pm at the Klub bar, light refreshments on the night. See you there!

LOTTO

There was no winner of our lotto on Monday 9th February for the Jackpot of €6,500. Numbers drawn were 2, 8, 10, 25. Consolation prizes of €50 went to Dale McCarthy, Joan Brosnan, Andrew O'Sullivan and John Canavan. Our next draw will be on Monday 23rd February for Jackpot of €6,750.

LISTRY PARISH

Written by: Colette Leslie

LOTTO

Feb 8th 2026, Jackpot €15,100. Numbers Drawn: 6, 10, 18, 25. WINNER: Bernie Nolan, Listry Cross. Jackpot next weekend 15/02/2026 €3,000.

Fixture

Listry play Gneeveguilla at home on Sunday 15th at 12 noon.

AGM

Following the Listry GAA AGM see the list of elected officer Patron : Patrick Sugrue. President : JJ Tangney. Vice Presidents: Mike Kennedy, Pat Quirke, Richard Fitzgerald. Chairman / DLP: Denis Murphy. Vice Chairman: Donagh O'Regan. Secretary: Anthony Clifford. Ass Secretary: Mike Tangney. Treasurer: Andrew O'Sullivan. Ass Treasurer: JJ Courtney. PRO: Colette Leslie. Co Board Delegate: Mike Kennedy. East Kerry Board Delegate: JJ Tangney. Health & Wellbeing: Ann O'Brien. Childrens Officer: Eilish Dunworth. Coaching Officer: Peter Ahern. Membership Officer: Mike Tangney. Development Officers: Noel O'Sullivan & Jerome Kennedy. Scor Officer: Vacant. Disciplinary Committee: Fergus Clifford, Richard Fitzgerald, Miriam O'Dowd. Determining Committee: Mark Curran & Breeda Lenihan. Juvenile Chairman: Mark Curran. Juvenile Secretary: Tim Scannell. Auditors: Pat Quirke & Cathal O'Shea



Supporters at the Listry V Glenflesk game at the weekend. Photo: Seamus Healy



The seniors party in Listry took place on Tuesday 10th February. Special congratulations to Michael Leslie who celebrated a significant birthday recently. Thanks to all who made this a special day and thanks to Joanne Murphy for the very enjoyable chair yoga

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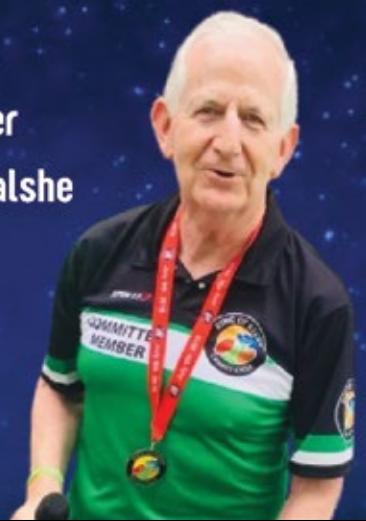


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Local Cheerleaders Set Their Sights on the World Stage



Presentation Secondary School, Castleisland marked Safer Internet Day 2026 with an engaging and interactive programme focused on this year's theme of Artificial Intelligence and its impact on young people's online lives. The event welcomed sixth class pupils from Gaelscoil Aogain and Muire gan Smál, who took part in a series of workshops led by Webwise youth panelists Saoirse Collins and Gracie Mills.

Saoirse and Gracie, who attend regular meetings and training days with Webwise throughout the year, shared their knowledge and experience of online safety, digital wellbeing, and the growing role of AI in everyday technology. Supported by a committed group of Transition Year students, the workshops explored how AI is used online, its benefits, and the potential risks, helping pupils to develop critical thinking skills in a rapidly changing digital world.

The sessions combined informative input from the girls with fun activities and games, keeping pupils actively involved throughout. The interactive approach encouraged discussion, questions, and reflection in a supportive environment.

The event was coordinated by Annette Leen, Leader of Digital Learning in Presentation Secondary School, Castleisland. "Gracie and Saoirse did a fantastic job educating their peers about the benefits and challenges of Artificial Intelligence. They showed great leadership and teamwork skills throughout the organisation process" said Ms. Leen.

"Safer Internet Day is celebrated nationally and internationally and is a very worthwhile event. It highlighted the value of student voice, making the celebration both educational and inspiring, while reinforcing the importance of staying safe, critical, and curious in an increasingly AI-driven online world."

A team of athletes from Scorchers Killarney is preparing to compete at the All Star World Championships in Orlando, Florida this April and is appealing for community support to help make the journey possible. The group, representing a wide age range, trains for approximately six hours each week while balancing school, work and family life. Their preparation combines strength, flexibility, technical skill and precise teamwork.

Head Coach Katlyn Moynihan brings significant experience to the role. Holding a BSc in Coaching & Sports Performance, she has represented Ireland at World Championships four times. She placed 6th at the 2023 ICC World Cup in Orlando and achieved 3rd place at the 2024 World Championships with Alliance Cheerleading. An ICU-qualified coach, Katlyn retired from competition in 2025 to focus on developing athletes and creating world-level opportunities in Killarney.

Scorchers has a strong history at international level, with athletes previously competing at the All Star World Championships in 2019, 2024 and 2025. The club now has over 70 members and trains in its own gym on Muckross Road, catering for children from age four through to senior athletes.

Competing at this level involves significant costs including travel, accommodation, uniforms and entry fees. The team is running fundraising initiatives and has set up an iDonate page to support the effort. A Quiz Night will also take place on March 27th at the Killarney Avenue Hotel.

Club owner Jackie Jeal emphasised the importance of local support, noting that every donation and gesture of encouragement helps the athletes move closer to their goal.

Updates on the team's journey and fundraising efforts can be followed on Instagram at [codeblack_scorchers](#) and on Facebook at Scorchers Killarney.

Safer Internet Day 2026:

Exploring AI and Online Safety at Presentation Castleisland



L to R Eva Burke, Aine O Sullivan, Ellie Kate Sheehy



L to R Mollie O Grady, Aoibhinn Brosnan



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ASTRID LONGHURST
Life, Inspiration & Body Confidence Coach/Author

KEEPING YOUR DREAMS ALIVE: A DAILY PRACTICE OF BELIEF

Keeping your dreams alive is not about grand gestures or sudden breakthroughs; it is about quiet, consistent commitment. Dreams fade when they are treated as fantasies rather than living possibilities. To keep them breathing, you must give them regular attention, just as you would a relationship or a skill you value.

Life will offer distractions, disappointments, and practical reasons to give up. These moments are not signs that your dream may be unrealistic; they are invitations to refine it. Dreams evolve as you do. When you allow them to adapt to new seasons of your life, they become more resilient and more authentic.

One powerful way to protect your dreams is to create space for them in your routine. Even ten focused minutes a day can reconnect you to what matters most. Small actions build into momentum, and momentum restores belief.

Coaching tip: instead of asking "Is this dream still possible?", ask "What is one small step I can take this week to honour it?" This shifts your mindset from doubt to doing. Write that step down, schedule it, and treat it as non-negotiable.

For more inspiring coaching tips please follow me on Instagram @romancingyourbody

www.astridlonghurst.com

Noreen answers your beauty questions...

GREAT SKIN NEEDS CONSISTENCY

Professional treatments are powerful, but they are only one piece of the puzzle. A facial can ignite transformation boosting your skin's circulation, accelerating renewal, calming inflammation and correcting skin concerns. What happens after your appointment is what determines whether these results fade or flourish. Your daily routine is where progress is protected. Consistent cleansing, barrier repair, hydration and SPF are what allow your skin to heal, strengthen and respond better to future treatments. Without this support, even the most advanced facial becomes a short-term glow rather than long-term improvement. This does not mean having a 12-step routine or being perfect but



it is about using the right products regularly to support your skin's barrier and biology between visits. Think of in-clinic treatments as a catalyst and your home care is the commitment. When both work together, your skin will look better, behave better, age better and stay healthier for longer.

Noreen Mangan

Tel: 064 6630712

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TIPS TO HELP
YOU STAY MOTIVATED



RECOVERY TECHNIQUES AND INJURY PREVENTION

Recovery Techniques and Injury Prevention are vital components of a comprehensive fitness routine. Recent advances have introduced innovative methods and tools to optimise recovery, reduce injury risk, and enhance overall performance. Here are some key trends and techniques:

Foam Rolling and Self-Myofascial Release

Foam rolling helps release muscle tightness and improve blood flow. Newer tools like massage balls, foam rollers with vibration, and percussion devices offer targeted relief.

Percussion Massage Devices

Handheld devices like Theragun or Hyperice deliver percussive therapy to reduce soreness and speed up recovery.

Recovery Apps and Wearable Tech

Apps track sleep quality, hydration, and activity levels, offering personalized recovery plans.

Wearables monitor heart rate variability (HRV), sleep patterns, and activity, guiding optimal rest and activity cycles.

Sleep Optimization

Techniques include sleep tracking, blue light management, and sleep environment improvements.

Some devices and apps analyse sleep data to recommend adjustments for better rest, crucial for muscle repair and mental health.

(continued next week)



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SHOW YOUR EYES SOME LOVE THIS VALENTINES.

It's easy to overlook your eyes when it comes to caring for your health, but there are simple things you can do every day to help keep your eyes in shape.

Here are some easy ways to get started.

Have regular sight tests

As well as an eye health check, a sight test might help detect signs of underlying general health conditions, such as diabetes, high cholesterol and high blood pressure.

Eat healthily

Eating a healthy, balanced diet reduces your risk of eye disease. Include lots of omega-3 fats, found in oily fish, and lutein, found in dark-green, leafy vegetables such as spinach and kale. Vitamins A, C and E are also helpful, so eat at least five portions of fruit and vegetables a day.

Stop smoking

Many people are unaware of the link between smoking and eye disease. If you smoke, stop. Smoking significantly increases the risk of developing eye diseases, such as cataracts and age-related macular degeneration.

Wear prescribed glasses

Many eye and vision problems develop or increase as we get older. Contrary to the myth, wearing glasses and contact lenses doesn't make your eyesight worse – they help your eyes work more efficiently.

Take regular breaks

When you work on something close up, such as a computer, tablet or smartphone, your eye

muscles are active. Follow the 20/20/20 rule – every 20 minutes, look at something 20 feet away, for 20 seconds. And don't forget to blink, as this helps prevent your eyes drying out.

Wear sunglasses

As well as making your vision more comfortable in the sun, sunglasses protect your eyes from UV light. When choosing sunglasses, you should always make sure that they carry the CE mark. Exposure to UV when young does most harm, so protect children with sunglasses, as well as a hat and sunblock.

Avoid dry eyes

Eyes become dry, tired and sore if you are not producing enough tears or you have poor-quality tears. Lubricating eye drops can soothe irritation and reduce discomfort. You may find taking omega-3 supplements helps over time. Drink plenty of water and remember to blink often. If your eyes are persistently dry, tell your optometrist.

Research your family history

Many eye conditions run in families, from simple long and short sight to more serious diseases, such as glaucoma. Knowledge of problems with sight can help detect a condition before it becomes serious.

Remember your optometrist is the first person you should visit if you have any eye concerns. They can assess the problem and, if necessary, refer you to the right place for treatment.

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Insurance Worries

Those of us who depend on Insurance to protect our health, property, etc, can be very concerned and rightly so, as to what exactly is covered, according to Kerry Fianna Fáil TD, Michael Cahill.

"Many properties are quoted as being covered for flood cover until one delves deeper and checks the in-depth Policy Document, now being brought to light due to the enormous interest following renewed flooding throughout the country" stated Deputy Cahill.

"Today in Ireland, there are hundreds and hundreds of families who can not get insurance against flooding in respect of their homes and properties. I am aware of cases in Cromane and elsewhere where homes were flooded and the homeowners were not able to obtain Insurance against flooding afterwards. I am aware of a case whereby a family had been paying House Insurance for almost 40 years, who along with their neighbours spent tens of thousands of euros and they now for the first time, cannot procure insurance and this is so wrong" said the Fianna Fáil Spokesperson on Tourism and for Older People.

"I have raised this issue directly with An Tánaiste, both in the Dáil and personally and he is well aware of issues pertaining to insurance. I am also prepared to bring a delegation to



Dublin to ensure that an Insurance Scheme is available, not just to cover businesses, but to also cover family homes. Personally, I am of the view that the Insurance Companies need to get more positive with their input into this major issue that affects us all so very much. They must play their part and not expect the Government to cover the entire cost of introducing such a scheme" said the Rossbeigh based TD.

"I have also raised this matter with Robert Troy,

Minister of State at the Department of Finance with special responsibility for Financial Services, Credit Unions and Insurance. Minister Troy is currently looking at a scheme for businesses across the country who are experiencing difficulty in obtaining insurance and I have requested that a scheme for homes and properties be included" stated Deputy Cahill.

"We are all aware that the number of incidents of flooding is very much on the increase. Many homes and properties across County Kerry and throughout the country are being flooded for the first time ever. Families should be allowed sleep in peace in their beds without the added burden of worrying about insurance, each time it rains heavily or when there is a high tide, storm or both. We must get this flooding plague sorted out sooner rather than later and to the satisfaction of home owners. Insurance must be available to all existing residents. Insurance companies need to be more responsible to their clients and should not be allowed pick or choose" said the Fianna Fáil man

"I will pursue this important issue and ensure that the Government introduces a scheme for all affected homeowners" added Michael Cahill TD.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

LIFTING CAPS ON DIFFERENTIAL RENTS IN KERRY AND DUBLIN CITY

It appears some local authorities are implementing a policy whereby any tenant on a maximum rent under a nation wide differential rent scheme, are going to raise the maximum rent by decree of the authority.

This means, a tenant of say fifteen, twenty twenty-five years or more who are paying the full economic cost of the house or unit, which was always equated to the maximum rent, over the years, will now have a new criteria which will be in excess of the original cost, can be continually be increased as the years pass by.

God knows the chicanery and downright immoral, if not illegal practices the financial institutions tried on over the past fifteen or twenty years but if they tried to rewrite the caps on mortgages by just declaring it to be so, they the banks or institutions, would have to make a rather hurried exit from the country.

Kind Regards,
Sean O'Grady, former mayor Killarney.

Minister Michael Healy-Rae Secures More Balanced Approach on Short-Term Letting Restrictions



Minister of State Michael Healy-Rae has welcomed today's Government agreement in principle on the next phase of short-term letting reform and confirmed that, following his engagement at Government level, the approach will now focus restrictions on larger towns with populations over 20,000, ensuring rural and tourism-dependent communities are not unfairly caught by a blanket measure. Minister Healy-Rae said: "I want to be very clear, I pushed hard for this change because the earlier population threshold being spoken about would have hit too many rural towns and communities that rely on legitimate,

family-run self-catering to support jobs and local income. Moving the focus to towns over 20,000 is a fairer, more targeted approach and it's the right balance between supporting housing supply, while protecting rural economies in Ireland." The Minister said the outcome underlines the importance of rural Independent voices being in Government:

"This is exactly why rural Independent voices matter in Government, to make sure policies are grounded in reality and that rural Ireland is not treated as an afterthought"

Minister Healy-Rae also acknowledged the role of An Taoiseach Micheál Martin in progressing the matter at Cabinet level:

"I also acknowledge the Taoiseach's leadership in bringing this to agreement. Housing is a national priority, but so is protecting livelihoods in rural Ireland and this approach reflects that balance."

Minister Healy-Rae added that the move towards stronger regulation and better data including a national register and stronger enforcement must be used to target non-compliance fairly and effectively, while recognising that tourism accommodation remains vital to many local economies.

Healy-Rae's Bar Kilgarvan

Annual Doubles Darts Tournament



Saturday 21st February 2026

Entries in by 6 pm

Contact:

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DEPUTY DANNY HEALY RAE RAISES THE ISSUE FLOODING IN KERRY IN DAIL EIREANN

Deputy Danny Healy Rae has raised the issue of flooding in Kerry in Dail Eireann this week. He thanked the Minister for his involvement and assistance with funding to clear the Flesk river at Glenflesk in 2018 which made a dramatic improvement to the problem with flooding there. It is important that more rivers are cleared out to prevent flooding and I also asked him to address the issue of courthouse bridge in Kenmare and the pipe that is crossing the eye of the bridge and appealed with him if there is a quick way of dealing with this to alleviate flooding in the town of Kenmare area.

Here is Deputy Healy Rae's full speech

I thank the Minister of State for being very hands-on and for coming to Kerry again recently. Back in 2018, he gave us funding to clear the Flesk river. For ten years before that, we were constantly

being told that it would make no difference to clear the river, that it would only make 10 mm of a difference. The highest flood that has been there in the last eight years did not come within 8 ft of the road level and it used to be 3 ft on top of the road before that. They wanted to raise the road and do everything else but the fact is, as Deputy McGrath said, we need to clean the river. That was what always happened until 2002, until some genius decided that farmers could not touch the river any more, clean it out or do what they had been doing for centuries. If they did, they would lose their farm payments. That is why the thing is getting worse and worse. Many of our rivers are still in desperate need of being cleaned. Like Deputy McGrath says, everything comes down from the hills - silt, sand, gravel and every other kind of muck - and lands in the river. If the river is

not cleaned out, where is it going to go only spill out over the banks onto roads and into houses? That is the trouble we are having.

Minister in your last visit to Kerry you saw the courthouse bridge and the pipe that was crossing the eye of the bridge. That is what has been flooding the town of Kenmare for many years. I am appealing to the Minister of State to see again if there is any quick way of removing that. Whatever other work needs to be done can wait. Removing that would alleviate the serious problem in Kenmare at the present time. There are other ideas in other towns and places about holding back the water and creating flood plains. The Minister of State must get himself stuck into them and tell them that the easy way of sorting it out is to clear the rivers. There are no two ways about it.

Jessica Donates Hair and Raises Funds for LauraLynn

Jessica Pierce, a third class pupil at Scoil Bhríde Loreto, Killarney, has shown remarkable generosity by donating 33cm of her hair to the Locks of Love initiative in aid of the LauraLynn Foundation.

As well as making the thoughtful hair donation, Jessica also raised an impressive €755 for the charity through her efforts.

Jessica is pictured with her family's pup in training, Walker, who is currently preparing to become an Irish Guide Dog in the near future.



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Mercedes-Benz Vans Arrive at Newmarket Motors with Special Launch Weekend

In a significant development for motoring in the South-West, Newmarket Motors has been appointed an approved dealer for Mercedes-Benz light commercial vehicles. The move brings one of the world's most respected automotive brands to a dealership already recognised for its award-winning service and longstanding reputation for trust and reliability.

To mark the appointment, Newmarket Motors will host a Mercedes-Benz Open Weekend from 19th to 21st February, inviting businesses, tradespeople and drivers to explore the latest range of Mercedes-Benz vans. Visitors can meet the dealership's specialist team, learn more about the manufacturer's engineering standards, and experience the vehicles first-hand. To better accommodate those working on the road, the dealership will extend its opening hours to 8pm on the 19th and 20th.

Across the weekend, a selection of offers and incentives will be available to customers who purchase, adding further value to what is expected to be a well-attended event.

Newmarket Motors has built a strong customer base through its commitment to quality, aftersales care and community service. The addition of Mercedes-Benz light commercials strengthens its offering further, positioning the dealership as a key destination for commercial vehicles.

For further press information, please contact:

Denis Scullydenis.scully@newmarketmotors.ie | 0863886662**Eoin O'Sullivan**eoin.osullivan@newmarketmotors.ie | 0879100087*Denis Scully and Cathal Browne of Newmarket Motors Sales Team.*

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ROSS GOLF CLUB (GENTS)

ON FEB 7TH AND 8TH WE HELD A THREE MAN CHAMPAGNE SCRAMBLE COMPETITION

The winners were:

1st: Denis O'Riordan 53 points, Donald McSweeney, D.J Hayes

2nd: Daniel Shine 53 points, Steve Shine, John O'Reilly

3rd: Anthony O'Mahony 52 points, Shane Dennehy, Mark O'Donoghue

FIXTURE

On February 14th and 15th we will hold a Single Stableford Competition

KILLARNEY GOLF &

FISHING CLUB

LADIES COMPETITION - 11 HOLE FOURBALL

BETTERBALL COMPETITION HELD ON FEBRUARY 7TH & 8TH ON KILLEEN COURSE.

1st PlaceL Elizabeth Kelliher & Anne Moynihan 26pts

2nd Place: Mary Shanahan & Lelia Moloney 25pts (last 9)

3rd Place: Geraldine Collins & Anne Duggan 25pts (last 9).

NEXT FIXTURE is an 18 Hole Stableford Competition to be held on February 14th & 15th in O'Mahony's Point.

DEERPARK PITCH & PUTT CLUB

SUNDAY DRAWS

Two Ball Betterball- First Nett: Colm O'Dowd & Dan Kiely 37, Gross: John McGrath & Noel Moynihan 43 and Second Nett: Eileen McCarthy & Margaret O'Brien 38. Hole-In-One: Ger Casey (18th Hole).

2026 MEMBERSHIP

Please note membership for this year will be due as of March 1st. Membership Rates will be the same as 2025. Further details in the weeks ahead.

GREAT START TO 2026 AT BEAUFORT GOLF CLUB



Beaufort Golf Club Members at Drive In

Tee it high and let it fly – must have been the thought going through Lady Captain Mary Garvey's head as she made her way from Glenbeigh to Beaufort Golf Club on Sunday last for her official drive in. And while the sky was dry and blue, it reflected on the course when a large turnout of lady golfers donned their official ladies club blue tops in support of their new leader for the 2026 golf season. Lady Captain Mary was at the clubhouse bright and early to welcome each and every lady and distributed her fully detailed and well-planned calendar to everyone. And the fantastic news is that with all the new vibrant changes at Beaufort Golf Club with the change of Management that this year Lady Captain Mary is delighted to announce that Beaufort Golf Club will host a Ladies Open Day. She promised plenty more details on that big event to come. There was a large gathering at the clubhouse with old golf friends catching up and new faces mingling and get acquainted with the members. Lady Captain Mary bravely stood up first and teed off like as if she was on the first hole in Augusta to launch the start of her year as honourable Lady Captain. Following that Captain Charlie McAuley and President Michael Lynch each teed off to also start their season in their honourable roles. Following that the three honourable dignitaries enjoyed the champagne, before the large number of golfers braved the fairways to enjoy a fun filled scramble.

The prize winners on the day were :

1st Place : Geraldine Collins, Vincent Hussey, Michael A. O Sullivan & Alan Smith.

2nd Place : Mike Gleeson, Paudie O Shea, Pat Quill & Timmy Brosnan

3rd Place : Karen Tess, Captain Charlie McAuley, President Michael Lynch

& Manjit Gill.

And Lady Captain Mary concluded her day by thanking everyone for showing up, wishing her well and participating in the Golf. She also took the opportunity to wish the new management at Beaufort Golf Club every success for the future.

Captain Charlie McAuley, Lady Captain Mary Garvey and President Michael Lynch



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KILLARNEY VALLEY

ATHLETIC CLUB

KVAC athletes enjoyed a highly successful outing at the Kerry County 5k Road Race in Kilmolely, hosted by St Brendan's AC, with strong performances across all categories.

The Men's Senior race saw a clean sweep for KVAC, as Conor Kissane took first place ahead of James Doran and Conor Crowley. Along with Paul Doolan, the trio secured team gold for the Senior Men.

In the Junior Men's race, Conor Duffin finished second and Michael Crowley third, and together with Liam Murphy they claimed Junior Men's team gold. The Junior Women's team also struck gold, with Marian Murnane (2nd) and Kirsten Kenny (3rd) joined by Tara O'Sullivan.

Natalie Breen won individual gold in the Master's Women's race, while teaming up with Caitriona Shanahan and Krystyna Paliy to take team silver. KVAC coach Karen Kelly rounded off the day by winning silver in the O50 category.

Tickets for our Streets of Killarney 5 Mile are selling well. This race has sold out in the previous two years so go to <https://eventmaster.ie/event/EWvBi4EF74> to secure your ticket.

For anyone wishing to join the club you can email us at killarneyvalleyac@gmail.com.

WORKMAN'S ROWING CLUB

A welcome respite in last week's challenging weather conditions allowed our crews to take to the water and compete at the St. Michaels Head of the River, held at O'Brien's Bridge, Co. Clare. The event provided an excellent early-season opportunity to test ourselves against a strong field of crews from across the country.

Our MJ16 crews delivered another outstanding performances throughout the day, racing with determination and composure against a wide range of highly competitive national opposition. Their results and racing standard were extremely



Aaron O Connor, Zac Donaldson, Grace Mannix, Kayla Wharton, Faye Mannix & Roisin O Donoghue.



Grace Mannix, Kayla Wharton, Roisin O Donoghue, Faye Mannix, Liadh Counihan & Michael J Burns.(Coach)

encouraging and offer very positive indicators for continued success/progress as the season develops.

The WJ16 crew also produced an excellent performance, rowing with confidence, cohesion, and intensity. They exceeded expectations in both execution and outcome, highlighting the crew's hard work and commitment and marking a very promising step forward for the club.

LOOKING AHEAD

The Cork Head of the River is scheduled for later in the month, and all crews are very much looking forward to the challenge ahead. Preparations are well underway, and fingers are firmly crossed that the weather will be as accommodating as it was last weekend, allowing for another strong day of racing and continued progress on the water.

ONGOING TRAINING

Regular training sessions continue as scheduled throughout the week and consistency remains a cornerstone of our progress, as each session builds the fitness, technique, and resilience needed for the challenges of the season ahead.

MUCKROSS ROWING CLUB

ST. MICHAEL'S HOR

Well done to all our crews who competed in the St. Michael's Head Of the River on Saturday last. Following the heavy rain in the days and weeks prior, there was a reprieve in the conditions for the event and competitors were able to enjoy calm water albeit against a strong river flow over the 3.2km course. The club was represented by 15 crews with four top three finishes. Congratulations to John Buckley, Paul Kennedy, Brendan O'Neill and Siobhan Galvin (cox), winners of the Mens Masters Eight as part of the composite crew with Castleconnell, Fermoy and UL. Three Muckross crews also placed second. Well done to the Womens Masters Double (Denise Casey, Meadhbh Terry), Mens Masters Quad (Danny Lyne, Noel Kelliher, PJ Walsh, Ed Lyne) and Mens Masters Four (Tim O'Shea, Marko Tot, Jeremy Kenny, Maurice Coffey). Well done also to the Mens J18 Double of Diarmuid Moynihan and Finn Moloney on

Double Gold for Keelie O'Connor as Killarney Valley AC Women Shine at Munster Indoors

There is something special happening at Killarney Valley AC, with the club's women athletes delivering standout performances across the board.

Keelie O'Connor is a prime example of how talent, consistency, belief and hard work can produce exceptional results. Competing in Athlone this weekend in the National League, she set a new personal best of 7.79 seconds in the 60m.

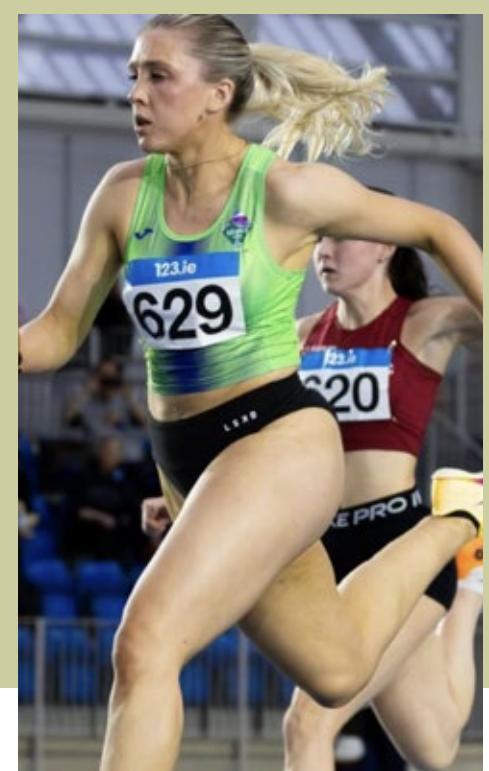
The previous weekend in Nenagh, Keelie claimed double gold in the 60m and 200m to be crowned Munster Senior Indoor Champion for 2026. Her recent success builds on an impressive 2025 season, where she won Munster gold in the 60m indoors and followed it up with 100m gold during the outdoor championships in the summer.

On current form, there is every chance Keelie

could join fellow Killarney Valley AC athlete Sarah Leahy in the women's 60m final at the National Championships, which take place in less than three weeks at the National Indoor Arena in Abbotstown, Dublin. Having two athletes from the club in such a high-calibre final would be a fitting reflection of the outstanding work being done at Killarney Valley AC.

The club's future also looks bright. Young athlete Lauren McEvoy secured gold in the women's U20 60m at the Munster Championships and is already being recognised as one to watch.

Lauren was also part of the Killarney Valley AC 4x100m relay team that captured senior gold at the Munster Championships on what proved to be a memorable day for the club. The winning team consisted of Megan O'Reilly, Lauren McEvoy, Béibhinn O'Donoghue and Naoise Cronin.





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their fourth place finish. Special thanks to Eoin Moynihan for towing the boat trailer.

BOAT LAUNCH

The club is pleased to announce that we will be officially launching our three newest boats at a launch event on Sunday 22nd February at the club boathouse. We are delighted to be naming the three racing boats in honour of Paul Griffin, Sean Casey and Cathal Moynihan who represented club and country at the highest international level, culminating in the Olympic Games of 2004 and 2008. Further info on our social media pages.

UPCOMING

Sligo HOR, Sat Feb 14th; Cork HOR, Sat Feb 28th, Muckross HOR (rescheduled), Sat Mar 21st.

FOSSA BRIDGE CLUB

RESULTS FROM 5TH FEBRUARY

N/S

1st: Anne Looney & Michael McHugh

2nd: Pauline Lyne & Phyllis O'Regan

3rd: Mary Rose Felle & Mary Shanahan

E/W

1st :Kathleen Coen & Hazel O'Connell

2nd: Margaret O'Sullivan & Maura Horan

3rd: Patricia Lynch & Ann Clerkin

Well done everyone.

President Margaret O'Sullivan recently held her fundraiser for "Comfort for Chemo". There was a wonderful turn out and much needed funds raised. More on this next week.

Bridge continues every Thursday morning at 10am at The Castlerosse Hotel.

KILLARNEY RUGBY CLUB

MATCH RESULTS

U18.5 Girls: KILK 34 – 48 Clonakilty RFC

Our KILK girls (Killarney, Iveragh, Listowel, Killorglin) gave it their absolute all in the Munster

League Final at Rockwell College on Sunday. In a high-scoring, thrilling encounter, the girls fell just short against a clinical Clonakilty side. Despite the result, this group should be immensely proud. Reaching a provincial final is a testament to the miles traveled and the incredible work put in on the training pitch all season. The future is exceptionally bright for this squad.

Mens Senior J1: Killorglin RFC 26 – 22 Killarney RFC

It was "Derby Day" at Ballymalis as our Seniors took on neighbors Killorglin in the Munster Junior League. In a physical, end-to-end battle, Killarney secured a narrow but vital 26-22 win. The pack laid the foundation in a tough away environment, and the result keeps our momentum building in Division 3.

U14 Boys: Killarney RFC 10 – 38 St Mary's/Richmond/Thomond

Our U14s hosted a combined Limerick powerhouse at Aghadoe on Sunday morning. Despite some fantastic individual tries and a resilient defensive effort, the visitors' clinical edge proved the difference. The boys showed great heart until the final whistle and will look to bounce back in their next Shield fixture.

MINIS RUGBY

Our U8s, U10s, and U12s had a fantastic day out in North Kerry on Saturday for the Listowel Blitz. Great skills were on display across all age groups. A reminder that because of the travel, there was no Fawns training this past weekend, but we look forward to seeing everyone back at Aghadoe next Saturday!

KILLARNEY BADMINTON CLUB

Breaking news: 3 Irish national medals for Sinead Galvin at Irish National Masters held in Dublin at weekend, gold in singles, silver in doubles with



Evan Lemass winner div 4 singles and Adele O'Brien winner div2 singles.

partner Mirim and silver in mixed with partner Tom. A great weekend of badminton in Ballydoyle, a mammoth task for organisers with over 200 entries, well done all

What a weekend for our Killarney club, well done to Caroline Lemass on been selected on Kerry F team. There were six teams in the Grade F in Borrisleigh Sunday, well done Caroline but not Kerry's day.

As his mother represented Kerry ... Evan Lemass was busy defending his Kerry division 4 singles county title on Friday night. It was a great final, well done Evan Lemass on retaining his title.

As Evan Lemass was on one court across the way Adele O'Brien was on court defending her div 2 singles title. It was a great final against tough opposition. Well done Adele on a fantastic final and retaining title

What weekend of badminton for Killarney club, mixed leagues are on going so keep an eye on schedule for the coming week .

Good luck to all playing in the Kerry county division 2 and 4 doubles competition

Good luck to graded Kerry teams and Killarney players playing inter county at weekend.

St. Brigid's Presentation Secondary School also recently celebrated Ceiliúradh CEIST, joining 107 CEIST schools across Ireland in reflecting on their shared ethos rooted in Catholic faith and Gospel values.

The day, linked to the spirit of St. Brigid's Day and its themes of care, community and faith, was marked with a prayer service broadcast throughout the school. A sixth-year student led the CEIST prayer, The Calling, while a first-year student lit the CEIST candle as a symbol of the school's commitment to its values.

The school extended thanks to the Amber Flag team for hosting a tea and coffee morning, the Ethos team for organising the prayer service, and the Irish musicians and dancers whose participation helped make the day memorable for the entire school community.



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FOSSA

LOTTO

The numbers drawn on 08/02/2026 for a jackpot of €6,300 were 1, 4, 12, 19. There was no jackpot winner. The €40 consolation prize winners were; Colin Myers, Tim O'Brien, M Falvey, Jerry O'Connor, Teresa Kelly.

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

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.

EAST KERRY SUPERLEAGUE

The senior team began their superleague campaign away to Gneeveguilla on Sunday morning. Played in bright winter sunshine, this was a very good workout for both teams who served up a fine game of football, considering it was their first competitive action of the year. Fossa started very well and were three points up through scores from Ted O'Gorman, Cathal Breen and Harry Buckley before Gneeveguilla equalised with a goal in the 11th minute. A clever flick by Cian O'Shea ended up in the net for a goal in the 15th minute, it was nip and tuck to the half time break with scores from Jack Clifford and Harry Buckley keeping Fossa in touch and they trailed at the break, 1-08 to 1-07. Fossa started the second half with the wind to their backs and they made it count with three points from the impressive Jack Clifford and a point from play by Ted O'Gorman in the first seven minutes. Gneeveguilla did fight back and Shane O'Sullivan pulled off a point blank save to deny them a goal, however two excellent long range scores from Harry Buckley and a fantastic two pointer from Tadgh O'Shea left Fossa winners on a score of 1-15 to 1-11. They are at home to Kilcummin in Round 2 next Sunday morning at 12 noon.

KILLARNEY LEGION

EAST KERRY LEAGUE

Last Sunday saw the return to action of our senior team as we hosted Firies in round one of Div 1A at Derreen. A closely fought first half saw us ahead 0-07 v 0-05 at halftime but a well converted Ryan O Grady penalty at the start of the second half put us into a commanding position that we held until the final whistle. Final score: Killarney Legion 2-15 v Firies 1-06



Killarney Legion Lotto jackpot winner Grainne O Sullivan and her daughter Grace along with club chairman John Keane and Club Lotto coordinator John Foran at the presentation of the jackpot winning cheque for €7200

BINGO NIGHT

What a great night last Friday at our fundraising Bingo night. A very large turnout enjoyed a fun night at the East Avenue Hotel with all Proceeds going towards our Academy section of the club. A big thank you to the organisers and to all those who attended.

BEST WISHES

Congratulations to Padraig Lucey and Niamh on the birth of their first child, a baby boy Ben.

ACADEMY

The 3-6 year old section of the Academy are back in action with a fun indoor session at Loretta National School v93 AY90. It's an hour of learning the skills of Gaelic football in a friendly and fun environment with fully vetted coaches. It's on from 10-11 am on every Saturday morning up until and including Saturday 7th March and then on the 14th March we have a full Academy return outdoors in Derreen. All new kids are very welcome. Any query please contact Justin 086 3684108 or Derek 089 2299769

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is now due for all members. Sign up in the Clubzap app or click on your renewal email. Any queries please contact Fiona 085 8263358

FUN RUN

We are continuing our running sessions on the back of last years success! Every Thursday Night at 7:30pm - 8:15pm on pitch 3. These sessions are open to everyone from U13 to adults. The beauty of the sessions is that everybody runs at their own pace. Come along for a bit of fun and get fit!

CONGRATULATIONS

Congrats to Denis Sheehan on his most recent promotion to the rank of commandant in the Irish Army. The country is in good hands.

LOTTO

Lotto numbers: 8, 12, 20, 23. Bonus 26. Match 3s: Kitty Moynihan, Nanette O Leary, Pat Moynihan. Please support Legion Club Lotto. Play online or buy at Hegartys, Sheahans Muckross Road, Bowlers Rock Road, Healy's New Street or any of the bars that sell tickets. This weeks jackpot Thanks for your support.

SYMPATHY

The club sends its sincere condolences to Joe

Lyne and his wife Liz and to all the Lyne family on the passing of Joes mother Elizabeth (Liz). Ar Dheis De go raibh a Anam

FIXTURES

Senior EK League

Spa v Legion at Spa Sunday 15 February at 12 noon. All support welcome

NOTES

Anyone with any item they would like to see included in the weekly club notes (births, engagements, congrats, etc) please message Elaine 086 8398821 or Kevin 087 2484394

MILLTOWN/ CASTLEMAINE CLUB LOTTO

Sponsored by Almas Takeaway, Milltown

The most recent fortnightly club lotto draw took place on Wednesday, February 4th 2026 at the club grounds.

Lucky Numbers: 13, 27, 29 Bonus Ball: 11. No Jackpot or match 3 winners. Lucky Dip Winners: €50: Maire Twiss, Callinafercy. €50: Kieran Hogan, Milltown. €25: Donal Ladden, Castlemaine. €25: Isaac Mangan, Milltown. €25: Mona Joy, Killorglin. €25: Matty Roche, Callinafercy

Our next club lotto draw is scheduled to take place on Monday, February 16th at 19:30pm in the Clubhouse where the jackpot will be €13,000.

Get your draw tickets or renew your yearly tickets online on Clubforce or get your tickets for the next draw from all the usual local outlets.

MID KERRY SENIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE

2026: Group B, Round 1 Fixture Update

Milltown/Castlemaine's Senior Men's team and management were due to get their 2026 season underway on Sunday, February 8th against Beaufort at the Paddy Burke Memorial Park, Milltown but this fixture was POSTPONED and will be rescheduled for a later date which has yet to be confirmed. Keep an eye on our club social media channels for more information regarding the new fixture.

MID KERRY SENIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE

2026: Group B, Round 2 Fixture

Milltown/Castlemaine's Senior Men's team and

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Action from the Glenflesk V Listry game on Sunday. Photo: Seamus Healy

management will now begin their 2026 season on Sunday, February 15th when they take on Keel at 1:00pm. Whilst it should be a home fixture for Keel, their pitch is currently undergoing redevelopment so the match will now be played at the Paddy Burke Memorial Park, Milltown. All support would be most welcome for the lads.

MILTON/CASTLEMAINE GAA - GAELIC 4 MOTHER'S AND OTHERS

Our Mothers and Others Club team is looking to get back to the pitch in March! We have lots of exciting things planned for this year. Guest coaching by Kerry Ladies Alumni, Pilates, yoga, strength training, and so much more, and of course we can't forget a good bit of craic! Feel free to contact Caitlin 087 247 1416 with any queries or you will find the group on Facebook also.

CREDIT UNION COUNTY SENIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION 2 FIXTURES CONFIRMED

Milltown/Castlemaine's Senior Men's team will play in Division 2 of the Credit Union County Senior Football League in 2026 which commences in the middle of March.

Fixtures are as follows:

- Round 1 - Laune Rangers (A)
- Round 2 - Glenbeigh/Glencar (A)
- Round 3 - Listowel Emmets (H)
- Round 4 - Firies (A)
- Round 5 - Templenoe (H)
- Round 6 - An Ghaeltacht (A)
- Round 7 - Ballymacelligott (H)
- Round 8 - St. Mary's Caherciveen (A)
- Round 9 - Castleisland Desmonds (H)
- Round 10 - Keel (A)
- Round 11 - John Mitchels (H)

All dates and times will be confirmed closer to the time of the fixtures commencing.

CREDIT UNION COUNTY SENIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION 6 FIXTURES CONFIRMED

Milltown/Castlemaine's Senior Men's 'B' team will play in Division 6 of the Credit Union County Senior Football League in 2026 which also commences in the middle of March.

Fixtures are as follows:

- Round 1 - Glenflesk 'B' (H)
- Round 2 - Kilcummin 'B' (A)
- Round 3 - Tuosist (H)

- Round 4 - Dr. Crokes 'C' (A)
- Round 5 - Ballylongford (H)
- Round 6 - Austin Stacks 'B' (A)
- Round 7 - Killarney Legion 'B' (H)
- Round 8 - Gneeveguilla 'B' (H)
- Round 9 - Asdee (A)
- Round 10 - St. Michael's Foilmore 'B' (H)
- Round 11 - Firies 'B' (A)

All dates and times will be confirmed closer to the time of the fixtures commencing.

MILTON/CASTLEMAINE U16 AND SENIOR LADIES: UPDATE

Our U16 and Senior ladies have been enjoying pre-season training over the past few weeks with a mix of Strength and Conditioning and football skills in our club gym and at the Nagle Rice Community Centre.

Many thanks to all our volunteers for helping out, especially Bjorn and Ian for spearheading the start of the season. Our club continues to grow yearly with the dedication of our volunteers. If you are interested in joining any of our teams please make contact via social media.

REFEREES FOUNDATION COURSE:

Kerry GAA will be running a Referees Foundation Course over 3 nights in late February or early March 2026.

The County Board are asking all clubs including Milltown/Castlemaine GAA to nominate suitable participants to undergo the Foundation Course and represent our club as a referee moving forward.

If you or someone you know within the club is interested in becoming a Referee, please contact Club Secretary Susan Sheehan by emailing secretary.milltowncastlemaine.kerry@gaa.ie and Susan would be happy to go through the Kerry GAA Referees Registration Form with you.

Please note for anyone interested that all referees must be 18 years of age or over and must be available to attend all 3 nights of the Referees Foundation Course before taking up the whistle for the 2026 season.

DR. CROKES

MEMBERSHIP is now due. Membership can be paid through the club app. Download today

<https://member.clubspot.app/club/dr-crokes-gaa/fundraisers>

FR. PADDY'S CARDS continues on Wednesdays at 8pm in the clubhouse.

KATHLEEN'S GENTLE EXERCISE CLASS for seniors will return in the clubhouse on Tuesday February 3rd at 11am. All are welcome.

LOTTO took place on February 9th Numbers drawn were 1,12, 26, 28. Jackpot of €18,300 was NOT WON. 13 patrons matched 3 numbers and receive €35 each. Jackpot for draw on February 9th will be €18,500. Play online by following the link below and follow instructions attached <https://member.clubspot.app/club/dr-crokes-gaa/fundraisers>

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.

NOTES

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

EAST KERRY NEWS

Division 1A:

Legion 2-14 Firies 1-06, Kenmare 0-16 Rathmore 3-08

Division 1B:

Gneeveguilla 1-11 Fossa 1-15, Glenflesk 1-13 Listry 1-13

Division 2:

Cordal 3-13 Kilgarvan 0-15, Scartaglen 0-03 Dr. Crokes 0-15

Round 2

Sunday 15th February at 12 noon

1A: Firies V Kenmare, Spa V Legion, Rathmore bye

1B: Listry V Gneeveguilla, Fossa V Kilcummin, Glenflesk bye

Division 2 Sunday 15th February at 12 noon

Dr. Crokes V Cordal Friday February 13th 7.30pm, Kilgarvan V Currow, Scartaglen bye

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Utility Trust St Pauls Lakers vs Team North West Report

Dominos Men's National League Saturday February 7th Killarney Sports and Leisure Centre

**Utility Trust St Pauls Lakers 109
Team North West 69**

Preview by Enda Walshe

A glance at the league standings would tell you this game would only be a matter of form as the basement team Team North West had found wins hard to come by this season. Utility Trust St Pauls Lakers on the other hand were on the lookout for their tenth win in a row, their thirteenth of the season and intent on keeping their position at the top of the Southern Conference. And so it proved as Luke O Heas side went about their business in an efficient manner, running out 109-69 winners.

They did so as they entered the game with the right mindset and those who had been performing all season did so again. Steve Kelly was agonisingly short of a treble double, netting 25 points, dishing out 15 assists and pulling down 9 rebounds. Eoin Carroll shot 19 points, pulled down 12 boards, Sam Grant matched his scoring return, Jack O Sullivan hit 15 points and was also a huge factor under the boards while Mark Sheehan went inside and out for his 17 points. Pablo Murcia, Marko Bencic, Oisin Spring and Dara O Sullivan also contributed on the scoresheet while Adam O Neill and Cathal Spring also got court time. Hard to find a negative in the night and credit also must go to Team North West who travelled the length of the country to compete.

The win keeps the Lakers in pole position in the Southern Conference but a massive week lies ahead with the Killarney Derby on Thursday night in the Presentation Gym and the visit of Conference chasing and National Cup champions Limerick Sport Eagles. It's the most pivotal week in the Lakers season to date but fair to say they face it in the best possible mindset, winning and full of confidence.

They had their feet in the stirrups early in this game despite Thomas Dirienzo and Chuk Anene netting early for the visitors. Thomas REeynolds added an early three as well to put the Donegal side 7-6 up with Jack O Sullivan and Eoin Carroll getting the Lakers points. Sam Grant, Mark Sheehan and Steve Kelly were next on the scoring list, pushing their side 16-9 clear. Grant and Sheehan netted from beyond the arc as Kelly's incisions into the arc continued to reap dividends for him and others. Dirienzo, Cassidy and Anene tried to carry the fight but Sheehans accuracy was stalling them, his two outside shots helping the Lakers 34-18 in front at the end of the first.

Team North West enjoyed the better of the early exchanges in the second quarter, Dirienzo and

Cassidy closing the gap to 36-25 momentarily but O'Sullivan, Grant and Carroll opened their legs again to push their side 49-29 clear. Dara O Sullivan now joined brother Jack on the floor and wasted little time finding his range, as did Bencic and that helped the Lakers 54-34 ahead. Kelly and Grant ensured the gap was stretched to 22, 58-36 by the halftime buzzer, Grant nipping in at the death.

With a full squad at his disposal O Hea ran it as much as he could as Carroll and O Sullivan answered Anene early riposte. Carroll was working tirelessly inside with Kelly pulling the strings, a Grant three encapsulating a nice period of play for the Lakers. Noah Martin climbed off the bench to hit a three for his side but Kelly replied almost immediately and despite Dirienzo's urgings the Lakers had driven on, 81-54 to the good.

The result was never in doubt and with two big games ahead Grant sat it out while Kelly participated in four minutes of it. There was still time for Mark Sheehan to skip inside the arc and finish with effect, Oisin Spring nailed a three, Pablo Murcia hit five of his own with Marko Bencic also profiting. Six points a piece for Kelly and O'Sullivan brought the Lakers total to 109 while Dirienzo, Anene and Cassidy helped their side reach 69. A comfortable night for the Lakers but tougher tasks lie ahead.

Steve Kelly hit 25, Sam Grant 19, Eoin Carroll 19, Mark Sheehan 17, Jack O Sullivan 15, Pablo Murcia 5, Marko Bencic 4, Oisin Spring 3, Dara O'Sullivan 2. For Team North West Thomas Dirienzo had 24, Chuk Anene 15 and Luke Cassidy 11.

With the Thursday Derby date on the agenda against Killarney Cougars, 8pm tip off in the Presentation Gym, there will be little time for reflection as the Limerick Sport Eagles come to town on Saturday night. That game tips off at 7.30pm and could well be the deciding game in the Southern Conference.

Utility Trust St Pauls vs Trinity Meteors Report Dominos Womens Superleague Saturday February 7th Killarney Sports and Leisure Centre

**Utility Trust St Paul's 65
Trinity Meteors 55**

Preview by Enda Walshe

A storming third quarter built on a defensive intensity went a long way towards helping Utility Trust St Pauls overcome the challenge of a stubborn Trinity Meteors who held a 39-32 half time lead. The Dublin side had the upper hand in that first half, thanks in part to the performances of their professional duo of Ava Learn and Kylie Horstmeyer. The home side were thankful for the contribution of Maisie Burnham in that period as her scoring

kept them in the contest and throughout the game her ability from the free throw line was key. At the defensive end the limiting of Irish international Hazel Finn was another big factor in the final analysis as it blunted the Meteors' rise. It was their sixth win in a row and with two big games in the coming weeks against Flomax Liffey Celtics and Killester it promises to be a fascinating end to the season.

It was the visitors who made the sharper start to the game with Aisling Moran and Ava Learn converting. Maisie Burnham was causing the Meteors trouble and she opened her side's account from the free throw line. Tara Cousins and Learn traded further scores but Burnham was still profiting from the charity stripe. The Meteors owned the next few minutes with Catherine Connaire and Hazel Finn alongside Learn pushing it out to 15-12 but that stirred the hosts with Leah McMahon and Lovisa Hevinder accurate from outside. A Hevinder two pointer was the final basket of the quarter, making it 22-19 to her side.

The second quarter wasn't the best for St Pauls as they struggled offensively and Meteors reaped the rewards. Burnham and Siofra O Shea had given them a solid start but Helena Keane and Horstmeyer were in full flow, the latter from long range, and that helped push her side 33-26 clear with three minutes to go. Martina Destro extended it further but Burnham helped steady her side's ship, again drawing fouls and converting. Tara Cousins had the last word in the half and it left the deficit at a manageable seven, 39-32.

The roles were very definitely reversed in the third quarter as St Pauls put the squeeze on Meteors. It didn't start according to plan as Moran hit the Dubliners opening basket. But the worm was starting to turn with Cousins, Lorraine Scanlon and Burnham halving the deficit. Moran struck again prompting a Horstmeyer flurry and with 3.36 to go in the quarter the Meteors halftime advantage had been restored. But they didn't count for a rousing finale, inspired by a Hevinder three and with Burnham in tow the duo helped their side in front, 48-47, as the team took the three quarters break.

With momentum on their side Burnham hit the opening four points of the final period and it was also noticeable that the home defence had got to grips with the Meteors weapons. Learn did temporarily gain a foothold but the likes of McMahon, Scanlon and Burnham were having none of it and midway through the quarter the lead was now 58-49. Again Learn threatened a comeback but Scanlon, with some nice work under the basket, closed off that avenue. Finn did break free of the shackles but St Pauls were not to be denied with Burnham, Scanlon and Cousins putting the gloss on a 65-55 triumph. Maisie Burnham was the undoubtedly star of the show with 29 points, Tara Cousins had 12, Lovisa Hevinder 10, Leah McMahon and Lorraine Scanlon 6, Siofra O Shea 2. Kylie Horstmeyer 14, Ava Learn 13, Catherine Connaire 8, Hazel Finn and Hazel Moran 6.



The big games keep on coming with Flomax Liffey Celtics visiting the Killarney Sports and Leisure Centre this Saturday February 14th at 4pm. The Kildare side have a 50% win record in the league and had a moral boosting win over Brunell last time out. Irish International Sorcha Tiernan would be their star turn while Kate Williamson and Brooke Kane would be their major assets. This is St Pauls last home fixture of the regular season so all support is welcomed!!

Report BI NL Div 1 Basketball Ireland National League Division

Tolka Rovers 100 Killarney Cougars 69

Killarney Cougars travelled to the capital on Saturday evening for a clash with Tolka Rovers at the Tolka Sports Complex on Saturday night in Round 18 of the National League Div 1. The Cougars made an encouraging start and showed real composure in the opening exchanges to lead in the opening minutes.

A strong first quarter performance saw the visitors competitive throughout, with the Cougars holding the lead, looking sharp at 22–20 after seven minutes with Josh Vermiglio and Simon Olanipekun finding their range early in the game. However, Tolka finished the quarter strongly, going on a decisive 17–1 run, as Derek Murphy and Stephen Commins caught fire from long range with five three pointers. The home side closed the quarter ahead 35–25. The second quarter remained competitive, with the Cougars enjoying a good spread of scoring and working well to create opportunities. However, Tolka's accuracy from beyond the arc proved costly, as they added a further four three-pointers to extend their advantage. Despite good looks at the basket, the Cougars were unable to convert key chances, and Tolka went into the break leading 60–43 with Paul Adedeji and Joshua Phillips enjoying a strong period.

A similar pattern unfolded after halftime. The Cougars continued to work hard and match Tolka for stretches in the third quarter, but again struggled to capitalise on opportunities created. Tolka's consistency from the perimeter saw them maintain control, edging the quarter 21–15 to push their lead further.

Fatigue began to show in the final quarter as Tolka's depth off the bench came to the fore. The home side closed out the game efficiently, with their total of 14 three-pointers proving decisive in an entertaining contest.

Derek Murphy delivered a standout all-round performance for Tolka Rovers, finishing with 25 points, 16 rebounds and 9 assists, while Stephen Commins was deadly from long range, knocking down five three-pointers. Sean Commins (20), Daniel Ayoade (12) and Sean McManus (11) also contributed well for the hosts.

For Killarney Cougars, Paul Adedeji led the scoring with 21 points, followed by Simon Olanipekun (18), Kenny Shimwa (14) Joshua Phillips (11) and Josh Vermiglio (5) in a spirited team effort. Next up on Saturday a meeting with Maree Galway.



Kerry Airport U18 Girls

Vixens 38 Killarney Cougars 50

A strong away win for Cougars U18 Girls with a solid team performance throughout

KILLARNEY ATHLETIC

AFC

UNDERAGE AWARDS

Killarney Athletic AFC Underage Awards night and Bingo will take place on Wednesday the 18th in The Killarney Oaks Hotel @ 7.30pm Come along and support our young players and have a great night as well.

KERRY DISTRICT LEAGUE PREMIER A RESULT

Tralee Dynamos 3 - 2 Killarney Athletic

Jack Cooper x1, Oisin O'Sullivan x1

BOYS U15 NATIONAL CUP, RD 32 RESULT

Tuam Celtic 1 - 2 Killarney Athletic

Sean Quill x 1, Max Moynihan x 1

Our young Blues had a fantastic hard fought win this afternoon in Tuam. A very tightly contested game from start to finish with Tuam pushing us all the way. We opened the scoring after 15 minutes. Max Moynihan low driven shot was saved, Sean Quill reacted quickest and slotted the ball into the corner of the goal. 1-0 at the break. Into the second half, with both teams attacking without much joy. It took a piece of magic to score the all important next goal 10 minutes into the second half. Great play down right wing from Shéa Driver who passed to Max Moynihan outside the penalty area. Max curled a beautiful shot into the top corner to give us some breathing space. This did not discourage Tuam, and to their credit they put us under serious pressure for the rest of the game. They got a deserved goal in injury time to make it 2-1 but we held out to secure our place in the next round. Thanks to Tuam for a very tough, good game and for their hospitality after the game, with plenty of food and refreshments both players and parents. Well done to all the squad today. They dug in, left it all out on the pitch get the win. Well done boys

BOYS U15 SHIELD

Woodlawn in the glorious sunshine, was the setting for this U15 Shield game as our B & C teams faced off.

Some lovely football on display and great fun had by all, with the B team progressing to the next round.

Well done to all the lads, and thanks to the referee for a well- officiated game

U14 BOYS TOM HAYES TROPHY

Killarney Athletic B 2 Killarney Celtic B 1

Goals: Trey Hurley, Cillian Sheahan POTM: Cillian Sheahan

Athletic progress to the next round of the trophy after a hard-fought win in Woodlawn



Killarney Athletic U15 Boys National Cup

on Saturday morning. After a tight start to the game, Trey Hurley opened the scoring with a superb long range free kick all of 40 yards out from goal after 15 minutes. The first half ended 1-0. The second half was more open. Athletic continued to press and came close on a couple of occasions, hitting the inside of the post from a corner. Celtic pulled a goal back 5 minutes from time with a well-taken finish. However Athletic kept up the intensity and were duly rewarded with 2 minutes left. Athletic won the ball back through a high press and it broke to Cillian Sheahan on the edge of the box who glided past two defenders and calmly finished into the bottom corner. Great effort all round.

UNDER 14 CUP

Park B 4 - 3 Killarney Athletic

Daniel Cremin x 2, William Sjorgen x 1

An incredible effort by the lads today who are all under 13 in the cup this morning. They never gave up and competed for everything right until the very end and scored some brilliant goals. Thanks to the ref and Park for a great game.

BOYS U12 PREMIER RESULT

Killarney Athletic A 4 - 0 Listowel Celtic A

Our in form u12 team welcomed Listowel this morning to Woodlawn for a very entertaining league game. We started well and had a number of chances before Leon got the opener when he got across his man at the front post to convert with a tidy finish from a corner. It could have been 1 all going into half time if it wasn't for an excellent save from Fionn Herlihy. Listowel made a strong start to the second half with our defence under pressure but the defended brilliantly. Our second goal came when Rian O Reilly dropped the shoulder at the edge of the

box and thundered the ball into the top corner to put us 2 up. Rian got our third after great work from Joe O Shea on edge of the box setting up Rian to curl it into the bottom corner. The in form Joe O Shea got the goal he deserved when he was played through by Rian on the half way line and he outpaced the defender and converted his 1 v 1 to make it 4-0. This was this team's fifth clean sheet of the season with all our defenders outstanding today. It was a squad effort with notable contributions from all our subs who came on. Thanks to Listowel Celtic for such a sporting game and we wish them luck for the rest of the season. Best on the day were Conor Scannell, Joe O Shea and MOTM Rian O Reilly.

U13 GIRLS DIVISION 1

Killarney Athletic 0 MEK 3

Two very evenly matched teams where the score doesn't reflect the actual game. In the first half both teams had their chances but MEK were able to finish theirs. The first from a corner where the ball reflected to MEK who slotted home with a fine shot. Just before half time MEK grabbed their second due to a bit of confusion between the Athletic keeper and the backs allowed MEK to grab a quick shot into the bottom corner. The second half was much the same with Athletic pushing and creating some chances. MEK grabbed the third from a break with MEK striker running onto a through ball. However Athletic had a good reason to question as it looked very much MEK off side. The rest of the game was Athletic pushing and created a lot of chances but could n't find the back of the net. Thanks to MEK for a good game

U13 GIRLS PREMIER



Killarney Athletic U14 Boys Tom Hayes Trophy



Killarney Athletic U13 Girls



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€15,000	€106 per week	€82 per week	€68 per week
€20,000	€141 per week	€109 per week	€90 per week
€25,000	€176 per week	€137 per week	€113 per week



Figures shown are for guidance only and subject to approval and terms.



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in Rathmore, Milltown & Ballydesmond**

Listowel Celtic 3-1 Killarney Athletic A

Abbey O'Leary x 1

Captain for the day- Rebecca Coffey

Listowel Celtic avenged their 2-0 defeat in the reverse fixture, with a win today. The opening 20 minutes were tightly contested, with both sides sharing possession. Listowel Celtic struck first in the 22nd minute when a ball broke to a lone striker, who finished superbly into the bottom right-hand corner. Killarney Athletic responded well and equalised five minutes later through Abby O'Leary, who fired low into the bottom right-hand corner from just outside the box to make it 1-1 at halftime. Celtic made a blistering start to the second half, regaining the lead just 30 seconds after the restart to go 2-1 up. Athletic pushed for an equaliser and came close when a through ball from Flora Walsh sent Julie Quinlan one-on-one with the keeper, but her effort was saved. Despite continued pressure from Athletic, listowel Celtic extended their lead in the 17th minute of the half when a corner led to a third goal. Athletic continued to press, with Clara O'Donoghue forcing a fine save, but no further goals followed. The game finished 3-1 to Listowel Celtic.

Despite the loss, Killarney Athletic Captain Rebecca Coffey delivered a superb defensive display and is our Player of the Match. A good tough match for the girls, and they showed great fight and spirit looking for their equalisers.

BOYS U12 BOWL COMPETITION

Killorglin C 2 - 5 Killarney Athletic D

Jack Looney x 3, Fionnán O' Connell x 1, Ciro Rodolfo Neumann x 1

Our young blues travelled to Killorglin this morning for an early kick-off and started brightly, taking a deserved 1-0 lead after about 10 minutes. Killorglin responded well and gained control for spells, scoring twice before half-time to lead at the break. The second half was a completely different story. The lads kicked into gear both offensively and defensively, showing great intensity, teamwork and focus throughout. The lads had to stay switched on, particularly against a very lively Killorglin No.12 and they dealt with the challenge superbly. A brilliant all-round team effort and a fully deserved win, which sees us progress to the next round of the Bowl. Thanks to Killorglin for a competitive game and to the referee.

KILLARNEY CELTIC

CELTIC LOTTO

Numbers drawn 6,17,18,23. No Jackpot winner. Match 3 winners received €50. Next jackpot €7,000 on Monday February 16th. Tickets available from The Dungeon Bookshop, Amber Shop (Top of Ross Road), club members and online through clubzap.

KDL PREMIER

Ballyheigue Ath 1-2 Killarney Celtic

Kennedy Amechi, Nathan Aherne

Celtic A stayed on course for a place in the league final after a win last weekend. Celtic were ahead after 16 minute and doubled their lead by the 25th minute. However Ballyheigue pulled a goal back before half time to leave Celtic 2-1 up. Despite the best efforts of both teams no further goals were forthcoming and Celtic left with the



Killarney Celtic U10 Girls Green Team vs Killarney Athletic

3 points.

MUNSTER U17 CUP

Kinsale 1-2 Killarney Celtic

Stephen Shine, Kiernan Kelly

Celtic U17s qualified for the semi final of the Munster U17 Cup after coming from behind in Kinsale. After an early setback which saw Kinsale take a halftime advantage Celtic overturned the tie in the 2nd half. Kiernan Kelly won a penalty which Stephen Shine converted and then Kiernan Kelly was back again to net the winner. Celtic will meet Pike Rovers away in the semi final

U17 DIV 1

Killarney Celtic B 1-3 Tralee Dynamos B

Jason Harrington

Celtic B started slowly and were 2 down before they pulled 1 back. Celtic pushed hard for an equaliser but Dynamos broke to seal the game.

U14 PREMIER

Killarney Celtic 4-2 Castleisland AFC

Luke Clifford 3, Sean Doyle

Celtic came out on top in a must win game to stay in touch in the league. Luke Clifford and Sean Doyle grabbed the vital goals.

U14 TROPHY/SHIELD

Killarney Athletic 2-1 Killarney Celtic B

Eoin Murphy

Celtic battled their way back into the game but Athletic struck for the winner.

Ballyhar 1-1 Killarney Celtic C.

Celtic won on penalties

Rory Murphy

Celtic C kept playing right to the end and were rewarded with an equaliser right at the end.

Killarney Celtic D 4-6 Listowel Celtic

Oskar Kozub 2, Muhammet Gazal 2

A late Listowel surge gained the day in this exciting encounter.

U12 TROPHY/SHIELD

Killorglin B 2-1 Killarney Celtic

Adam Kelleher

Celtic were 1st to score but Killorglin were ahead by the break and despite creating chances no more goals were added so Killorglin advanced in the Trophy.

Killarney Celtic C 2-2 MEKA. 3-3

After Extra Time MEK win on penalties

Fionn O'Sullivan 2, George Burchill

Celtic C put up a brave show against MEK A but went down on penalties.

U12 BOWL

Killarney Celtic 1-1 Ballyhar B.

Ballyhar win on penalties

Olga Kumor

Celtic D came from behind to push this game into extra time where neither team could find the breakthrough so the game went to penalties which Ballyhar won.

CONGRATS to Muhammet Gazal U14 who made the KSBGL Team of the Week. Well done to Ava Casey and Nancy Creedon who made the KSBGL Development Team of the Week

MASTERGEEHA

U13 GIRL'S PREMIER

Park 1 v Mastergeeaha 2 5/2

Laura Breen, Aine Herlihy

Mastergeeaha took on the league leaders in another thrilling encounter and it certainly lived up to expectations. We started the game on the front foot, creating plenty of early chances, though the Park goalkeeper was in excellent form. The breakthrough came after six minutes when Gracie Maher's bullet of a shot was saved, but Laura Breen was quickest to react, blasting the rebound home to give us a deserved lead. Five minutes later, Captain Aine Herlihy took advantage of a defensive error and doubled our lead to make it 2-0. Park responded well and, two minutes before half time, pulled a goal back to leave the score at 2-1 going into the break. The second half saw Park come out guns blazing, piling on the pressure in search of an equaliser. However, Lucy Devane, Clodagh O'Sullivan, Olivia O'Connor and Lily O'Donoghue worked tirelessly at the back to keep them at bay. Between the posts, Mia Doherty pulled off some great saves when it looked like the equaliser was inevitable. Further up the pitch, Laura Breen, Annie Mai O'Donoghue, Sophie Moynihan and Aine Herlihy ran their legs off to help maintain our narrow lead. Gracie Maher was unlucky not to get on the scoresheet, as she was closely marked throughout the half. Park continued to push right until the final whistle, but there was simply no way through, and we held firm to secure a very important three points. Thanks to Park for a very sporting and competitive game, we wish them the best for the rest of the season and no doubt we'll meet again very soon. Thanks also to Adrian Quirke for officiating the game fairly throughout.

BOYS FIXTURES

U12 JOHN MURPHY BOY'S SHEILD / TROPHY ROUND 1

Mastergeeaha D 0 v Iveragh A 5

Our Mastergeeaha D Team welcomed Iveragh A to Kilbrean Park on Saturday morning for the

first of 2 games involving ourselves and Iveragh at U12 level. It was a game that our boys gave it their all to the final whistle but facing Iveragh A was always going to be a difficult task. We wish Iveragh the best in the next round of the competition.

Mastergeeha B 1 v Iveragh B 0

A great win for the boys in Mastergeeha. From the first whistle they were flying, huge work rate and great football. The breakthrough came when Dara Sheahan slipped Jake Kelly through, and he was taken down in the box. Jake stepped up and buried the penalty for a fully deserved 1-0 lead.

At the back, the lads were rock solid. Daniel O'Keeffe and Cillian O'Dwyer were calm and commanding, with Zach Moynihan outstanding after switching to the left. Dylan O'Sullivan was superb too, quick off his line and pulling off some fantastic reaction saves.

In midfield, Kyle Morrissey (Man of the Match) was immense, driving us forward while Jack Sheahan was everywhere, breaking up play and picking out some super passes. Out wide, our captain Dara Counihan, John Leahy and Dara Sheahan worked tirelessly all game.

A big shout-out to Cillian Brosnan who put in a great shift. And up front, Jake Kelly was a constant threat with his strong, direct running. Credit to Iveragh who never stopped trying and for a sporting game. Thanks to Dan Clifford for refereeing.

Mastergeeha C 0 v Listowel Celtic C 1(AET)

Mastergeeha U12 C team welcomed Listowel Celtic C to Kilbrean Park on Saturday afternoon in the second round of the cup. Defences were on top throughout the game with Michael O'Connor, Jerry Gallivan and Jack Lucey defending strongly and Jack O'Shea dealing comfortably with any efforts that breached the backline. Jack Rogan came closest to breaking the deadlock when his half volley from distance went just wide of the post. In the second half, Listowel had several shots on target, all confidently dealt with by Ben O'Leary. With the game remaining scoreless at full time, extra time was necessary. Unfortunately, with just two minutes left, Listowel scored from a deflected shot, securing their place in the next round of the Cup.

Captain: Ryan Dewhurst

Best for Mastergeeha: Michael O'Connor, Jerry Gallivan, Jack Lucey, Jack O'Shea, Ben O'Leary
Thanks to the referee Dan Clifford and to Listowel for a very sporting and competitive game.



Mastergeeha U12 B Cup Game

We wish Listowel the best of luck in the next round.

U13 BOY'S TROPHY/SHIELD ROUND 1

Mastergeeha B 2 v Park C 5

U16 BOY'S DIVISION 2

Park 3 v Mastergeeha B 1

MASTERGEEHA LOTTO

There was no winner of our lotto on Friday 6th February for the Jackpot of €4,600. Numbers drawn were 6,12,14,17. Consolations Prizes of €50 each to the following, John & Margaret Lenihan, Noreen Nagle Mastergeeha, Archie Lenihan Rathangan and Aileen O'Leary Mountain View. Our next draw will be on Friday 13th February at the Village Inn for Jackpot of €4,800.

SCHOOLBOY/GIRL SOCCER NATIONAL

PARK BOOK LAST 16 NATIONAL CUP PLACE

After their previous fixture with Bradford United was abandoned due to an injury to goalkeeper Grace O'Regan, St Brendan's Park booked their place in the next round of the U16 Girl's National Cup with a strong 4-2 victory over Bradford United at Christy Leahy Park.

Park produced an impressive attacking display, with Taylor Kate Leane and Arina Sucaci proving the difference makers with two well taken goals to fire Park into the last 16.

MIXED WEEKEND FOR KERRY BOYS TEAMS

It was a busy weekend of National Cup and Trophy action across multiple age groups, with mixed fortunes for local sides. In the U12 Boy's

National Cup Last 32, Dingle Bay Rovers bowed out after a narrow 2-1 defeat away to Leeside United, while in the U12 Boy's National Trophy Castleisland were beaten 3-1 by Carrick Rovers Yellow, with John Griffin on target for the home side.

At U13 level, St. Brendan's Park exited the National Cup following a 5-0 loss to Aisling Annacotty, but there was success for Inter Kenmare who powered through with a 7-2 win over Muirhevna Mor FC. Alastair O'Sullivan led the way with a hat-trick, while Tadhg Clifford and Shay O'Connor were both on the double.

The U14 Boy's National Cup saw Dingle Bay Rovers impress with a 5-2 victory over Salthill Devon, thanks to goals from TJ Ó hAinfein (2), Tommy Ó Shúilleabháin, Conall Ó Sé and Liam Mac Gearailt, elsewhere Killorglin suffered a 6-0 defeat to Corduff FC.

Killarney Athletic progressed in the U15 Boy's National Cup with a strong 2-1 win over Tuam Celtic, goals coming from Sean Quill and Max Moynihan, while Castleisland advanced in the U15 National Trophy with a 4-1 win against Park Celtic Summerhill, Dylan Downey with a brace, while Yevhennii Momontov and Alex Ryan also found the net.

At U16 level, Castleisland were knocked out of the National Cup following a 3-1 defeat to St. Francis FC despite Ronan O'Connor's goal, while Tralee Dynamos were edged out 7-6 on penalties after a 2-2 draw with Clonmel Town, Eddie Carmody scoring both goals.

Killorglin's National Trophy run ended in dramatic fashion, losing 12-11 on penalties after a 1-1 draw with St. Francis 2, and Ballyhar Dynamos



MEK U13 Premier Girls



MEK U13 Division 1

exited following a 3-1 defeat to Castleknock Celtic, with Daire Cornally on the scoresheet.

GIRLS

PARK CROWNED U13 PREMIER CHAMPIONS

St Brendan's Park were crowned champions following a decisive week of action in the Amber Killarney U13 Girl's Premier, sealing top spot despite mixed results across their fixtures.

Their title was confirmed after a dramatic 3-2 victory over Castleisland, with Hayley Powell, Caoimhe Field and Faith Breen all on the scoresheet. Castleisland stayed right in the contest thanks to a fine brace from Bella Clifford, but Park did just enough to secure the crucial three points that ultimately delivered the championship.

Earlier in the week, Park were defeated 2-1 by Mastergeeha, with Laura Breen and Áine Herlihy scoring for the visitors. Listowel Celtic also enjoyed a strong outing, defeating Killarney Athletic 3-1 as Katelyn Joy struck an excellent hat-trick, Abbey O'Leary replying for Athletic. Elsewhere, MEK claimed a narrow 1-0 win away to Killorglin, Emma O'Connor grabbing the decisive goal.

DYNAMOS AND MEK SECURE DIV 1 WINS

Tralee Dynamos and MEK Galaxy B both secured three pointers in the latest round of fixtures in the Amber Killarney U13 Girls Division 1.

Tralee Dynamos claimed a narrow but important 1-0 victory over Camp, with Sadhbh O'Brien grabbing the only goal of the game, while MEK enjoyed a solid 3-0 away win against Killarney Athletic B, with Síomha Nic Gearailt, Eve Brady and Eola Hilario all finding the net.

FIVE STAR DYNAMOS OVERCOME DINGLE

Tralee Dynamos enjoyed a strong outing in the Muckross Park Hotel U15 Girls Division 1 as they secured a 5-2 victory over Dingle.

Tia Falvey led the way with an impressive hat-trick, while Ciara Hayles and Farren Ní Dhálaigh also found the net. Dingle battled well and were rewarded with two goals of their own through Niamh Ní Sé and Eilís Nic Gearailt.

PREMIER TITLE RACE HEATS UP

Another competitive round of action from the U16 Girl's Premier saw leaders St Brendan's Park secure a big win over title rivals MEK, while Killarney Athletic moved up the order with a win over Inter Kenmare.

Park defeated MEK 7-1 to increase their lead at the summit. Laura Heaphy was in outstanding form, netting a superb hat-trick, while Alannah Crossan, Taylor Kate Leane, Sofia Rybanska and Sophie Doona also got on the scoresheet.

Killarney Athletic picked up a valuable three



MEK & Castlemaine Utd U10s. pictured at a friendly game played in Castlemaine on Saturday morning.

points in the U16 Girl's Premier with a hard-fought 3-2 win away to Inter Kenmare. The visitors struck the decisive blows through goals from Lillian Slattery, Esme O'Sullivan and Ella Murphy in an entertaining contest. Inter Kenmare stayed right in the game throughout and were rewarded with goals from Grace O'Sullivan and Edel Nash.

BOYS

JOHN MURPHY COMPETITIONS GET UNDERWAY FOR 12'S BOYS

There was plenty of drama and excitement across the U12 John Murphy Boy's Shield, Trophy and Bowl competitions as it delivered action, goals, penalty shoot-outs and standout individual performances.

Iveragh A made a strong statement in the Shield with a 5-0 win over Mastergeeha D, led by a superb Michael John Moran hat-trick, while Robbie and Will O'Sullivan also found the net. Mastergeeha B defeated Iveragh B 1-0 thanks to Jake Kelly, and Tralee Dynamos A impressed with a 4-1 victory over MEK B.

Inter Kenmare A and Ballyheigue served up a nine-goal thriller, with Inter squeezing through 5-4 as Christian Kistianok struck twice. Penalties were needed as MEK A defeated Killarney Celtic C 8-7 on spot-kicks after a 3-3 draw, and Listowel Celtic B enjoyed a solid 4-0 win over LB Rovers B. Killorglin B defeated Killarney Celtic B 2-1, while Ballyhar won 4-1 away to Killarney Athletic C.

In the Bowl knock outs, Mikey Diaconu stole the headlines by scoring all five goals in Dingle B's 5-2 win over Inter Kenmare B, Castleisland B defeated Park C 5-1, Killarney Athletic D defeated Killorglin C 5-2 while Castleisland C, Tralee Dynamos C and Ballyhar B all progressed via penalty shoot-outs after tightly contested draws.

DRAMA GALORE IN TOM HAYES SHIELD/

TROPHY ROUND 1

There was plenty of action and drama across the U14 Tom Hayes Boy's Trophy and Shield Round 1 as a busy programme of games produced goals, shoot-outs and several eye-catching performances.

Killarney Athletic B defeated Killarney Celtic B 2-1, with Trey Hurley and Cillian Sheahan on target, while Adam Kelleher replied for Celtic. Iveragh B enjoyed a strong 4-1 win over Killorglin C thanks to goals from Jamie Griffin, Joshua Ojibayah and Sean Óg O'Shea. Ballyhar B also progressed with a solid 3-1 victory against Milltown, and Camp A advanced following a walkover against LB Rovers B. Tralee Dynamos A were in fine form as Dylan McCarthy netted a superb hat-trick in their 3-1 win over Killorglin B.

Listowel Celtic B came through a high-scoring encounter, defeating Killarney Celtic D 6-4, Conor O'Mahony netted a hat trick, while Bradán Byrne scored a brace and Zach Moloney also found the net. Killarney Celtic's goals arrived with a brace each from Oskar Kozub and Muhammad Gazal. Park C advanced with a 5-2 win over Mastergeeha.

LB Rovers A had a 7-1 win over Castleisland B, featuring a brace each from Elyes Tarkhani and Luke Scanlan, alongside goals from Gearoid Moriarty, Aidan Spillane and Michael Pierce. The tightest contest saw Ballyhar A and Killarney Celtic C draw 1-1 after extra time before Celtic advanced 5-4 on penalties. Rory Murphy scored their goal, while Rowan Murphy, Jamie Downing, Andy Daly, Padraig O'Sullivan, and Josh Buckley all scored their penalties. Park B defeated Killarney Athletic C 4-3 in a thrilling finish to round off an entertaining opening round, Kirles Al Hadai, Ostap Dudnik, Darragh Murphy, Fisel Almehdi.



Ballyhar Dynamos FC seniors who defeated Lenamore Rovers FC at Murt Scott Park in the Celsius menswear challenge cup on Sunday last.



Ballyhar Dynamos FC u16s who were Defeated away after extra time to Castlenock FC in the last 32 of the National trophy on Sunday last.

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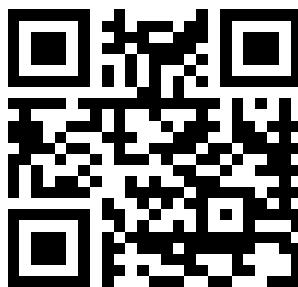


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JIMMY O'SULLIVAN-DARCY
takes a look at all things sport...

ALL THINGS SPORT

I always like to have a look back at East Kerry's kind of sporting past in this column every now and then. Nowadays, of course, you'd fill a column just with the sporting events of that week, and probably much better than I do, but I just think that every now and again, a bit of breathing space is grand for all of us. I also think that generations before us put a lot into making sure that their children and children's children have sport in their communities, and that social debt should be acknowledged.

I thought that this would be a good week to look back at a hundred years ago. Normally I'd have a bit of a match report and my opinion on Ireland's opener in the Six Nations. Yeah, nobody wants that this week. I'm nervous about Italy, to be truthful. Italy? Look, I'm well aware of Wales' travails, and I'd be worried about the Welsh game. That's where we are. And as for the nonsense about the selection at out half? Oh yeah, sure if we had started somebody other than Prendergast, we'd have been blowing the likes of Antoine Dupont out of our way. See, Hollywood? Fantasy movie plots are not hard, people, start doing better.

Kerry didn't have a National League mens' game this week. I honestly didn't expect Kerry to be put to the pin of their collar to beat London in the hurling. No disrespect to London, in fact every credit to them for keeping our games and culture alive and helping many an Irish person through tough times in what can be a very tough city, but I think they will struggle in both league and championship. I had not expected the Kerry minor hurlers to win the Todd Nolan Tournament; that's a much bigger win than most of ye realise.

I was in Mallow at the time for the Corn uí Mhúirí. Radio Kerry had the hurling commentary online; highly enjoyable. We all know that Timmy and Ambrose call the football matches as they see it, Andrew Morrissey and Mike O'Halloran don't pull any punches in the hurling either! The Corn uí Mhúirí was actually a tougher contest than I expected. Clonmel made a great start but faded rapidly at midfield and it looked like one way traffic. Then Clonmel's Luke Foley started popping those big two pointers, they got in for a goal, and suddenly it was a thriller. Gearóid White settled things with a great goal and the Green pulled away, but it was a highly enjoyable outing.

The Kerry ladies seem to be getting dragged from pillar to post when it comes to their away fixtures. Allowances can be made for time of year and weather. I know it's annoying, but I think people are doing their best. Regardless, that's a good win for Kerry and a really impressive first start for two goal Leah McMahon.

The domestic soccer season hasn't really kicked off, so that can be safely skipped. As for across the water....I'm fond of an occasional cliché myself, but Premiership pundits no longer seem connected to reality in any way.



CBS The Green Joint Captains Fionnan Ryan and Mairtin McKivergan receive the Corn Uí Mhúirí.
Photo: Adrienne McLoughlin



Action from the Kerry V Meath. Photo Paul McEntagart

How about the big one? The US Superbowl? That one time where sports lovers around the world gather in the middle of the night to drink beer (domestic, not American. Let's get real here), eat snacks (American, but with slightly less sugar and slightly more nutrition) and watch....everything except the actual game. Don't deny it; I've often been the soldier in that particular trench.

I have neither the energy nor the interest any more. Apparently the game itself was a blowout, the Seahawks didn't have to be at their best to see off the New England Patriots (I bet there are a lot of native Americans who wish that sentence was historically accurate). No, this year all the interest was around America's slide under MAGA towards the farthest extremes of the right. At the NFL's main event, nobody was really interested in the actual NFL bits. They were just interruptions to the real show. Green Day were anodyne enough, to be honest, softening lyrics to be very carefully politically correct. No surprise to me; they have always struck me a little bit as a boy band pretending to be punk rockers. It was always a little bit too

polished, a little bit too forced. Bad Bunny, on the other hand, was brilliant. Not that I have a word of Spanish, but the sheer fact he looked both proud and happy to be on that stage..... America, despite everything, still might be a lot more Minneapolis than Mar-a-Lago.

I didn't see the 'other' half-time show. The.... how do I put this? The....caucasian one? Kid Rock....I think there comes a time where you should stop calling yourself 'kid'. There's a bit of a 'Stranger Things' timeline going on there. Is it true that twitter couldn't show it because of copyright? Did Darth Vader really make a guest appearance? Is it true that ICE almost arrested some people, but it turned out that an Ivy League fraternity had picked up a suntan while skiing in Aspen?

This week's column is not going to answer any of these hard questions, because this week's column is going all the way back to 1926. Where, to be honest, if Donald Trump had turned up in Kerry, they would most likely have mistaken him for some kind of foodstuff.

IRELAND IN 1926

A fledgeling nation was beginning, just about, to find its feet. Veterans of the Great War, the War of Independence, and most bitterly, the Civil War were tentatively eyeing each other in a new found peace. The gunsmoke had just about cleared, but not the tension. Ireland was intent on glorifying its ancient past but erasing its more recent one. Seán O'Casey's 'The Plough and the Stars' refuses to play that game and is not greeted with acclaim, far from it.

Cosgrave was a sure hand on the nation's tiller, encouraging a National Census among other things (Ireland had almost 3 million people), but Eamonn De Valera, having resigned as President of Sinn Fein, was in the process of founding a Fianna Fail party in May to challenge. Among other things, he was no fan of our huge economic ties to England; though he was astute as any Irish politician ever, I'm not sure De Valera ever fully understood that Ireland was mostly a nation of small farm holdings with very little real industry. Electrification was still a lot of a decade away for many people. Our biggest export for many years would be our young people.

Ireland did have a strong educational base and a lively youth culture. This was the Jazz Age in the US and Ireland had plenty of people to dance the Charleston as well. F. Scott Fitzgerald and P.G. Wodehouse have both written well, albeit from very different perspectives, on the hedonistic habits of the upper classes. That didn't affect most Irish people, though, and certainly not in Kerry, where you would have been rightly accused of having 'notions'.

KERRY SENIOR TEAM NATIONAL LEAGUE

This was only the second year of the National League and it certainly hadn't been an instant success, with a majority of counties unwilling to contemplate a year round competition. Kerry was an exception, and they had a strong opening win away to Clare, 3-6 to 1-4, John Joe Sheehy and Jmaes Bailey doing most of the damage.

It was even easier at home against Cork, whose focus was really on winning the inaugural Hurling League. Their footballers failed to register a single score against Kerry, who clocked up 2-6.

Waterford did get a goal, but John Joe Sheehy himself had 0-7 as Kerry ran out winners on a 0-12 to 1-0 scoreline.

Limerick did score three goals in Listowel, but Kerry had four and another comfortable win.

First game outside of Munster, and Croke Park was the venue as Kerry played Laois. This was an absolute cracker, Laois prevailing over a full strength Kerry by 1-6 to 1-5.

Back to Tralee, back to Munster opposition, and back to winning ways as Kerry beat Tipperary by 0-5 to 0-2.

It was Laois who qualified to meet Dublin in the Final, and they beat the Metropolitans by 2-1 to 1-0.

There would be no National League played the following year, but as the GAA's popularity grew, it would return a year later, a famously all-

conquering Kerry team claiming four in a row.

CHAMPIONSHIP

It is impossible to talk about the 1926 Championship without referring to the 1925 one. Which was, frankly, the worst one ever. Dublin racing four finals on the trot and winning three (Kerry won in 1924) prompted a motion to have Dublin-resident players available to their 'home' counties. The Dubs were promptly dismissed in the first round of the Leinster Championship. Kerry went on to play Cavan in the semi-final. Cavan objected to Phil O'Sullivan because he had played in the Dublin county championship, meaning that he had 'committed' to Dublin. Kerry promptly objected to Cavan star James P. Murphy on similar grounds. Kerry wanted a Special Congress to debate the matter. Central Council, under new President Liam Clifford (he spearheaded the development of facilities in particular) decided that both sides were correct....so they threw them both out. Extremely messy, but I'm fine with it. Objection and counter-objection were becoming de riguer; the practise had to be discouraged.

Only it got worse. Wait for this....Mayo were the 1924 Connaught champions. The 1925 one wasn't finished by the All Ireland semi-final against Wexford, so Mayo were allowed to represent Connaught and beat Wexford. With Kerry and Cavan thrown out, Mayo were All Ireland champions. Except that Galway then defeated Mayo in the 1925 Connaught Final. They claimed the Sam Maguire. At a Central Council meeting to decide the issue, the Galway delegates were staying overnight – but the Mayo delegates had to get the last train home. So, at a long and protracted meeting, Galway prevailed and were declared champions. It was embarrassing nonsense from start to finish.

Obviously, there was pressure on the 1926 Championship. It had to – literally had to – be better.

Kerry saw off Clare in a dull opener by 0-6 to 1-1. Not particularly impressive. John Joe Sheehy kicked 0-4, but teams and scorers are not properly recorded.

Cork were very much underdogs going into the semi-final (the final against Tipperary was advertised even before the semi-final was played!), concentrating more on hurling (they won the inaugural National Hurling League this year) but actually hit Kerry for two early goals. However, Paddy Farren from Ballybunion pulled a goal back and Kerry pulled away to win by 1-9 to 2-1.

Tipperary in the Munster Final, played in the Athletic Grounds (it became Páirc uí Caoimh in 1976). A contemporary match report mentions an early 'fracas'. Now, these are people who would later refer to World War II as an 'Emergency'. I'd say a 'fracas' meant blue murder altogether – and don't be trying to tell me that the likes of Joe Barrett or Jack Walsh were holding back! Kerry won by 0-11 to 1-4, John Joe Sheehy with 0-7.

Cavan in the semi-final. After the previous year, I'd say both sides wanted a go at each other. No love lost. And Cavan were good, make no

mistake about that. Jim Smith was one of the greats. His first appearance in Croke Park had not been a happy one; he had played on Bloody Sunday when Michael Hogan was killed. Johnny McGorry, Patsy Lynch, Frank Boyle, Louis Blessing...those lads wanted to meet Kerry on grass, not any boardroom meeting, and the feeling was mutual.

Cavan were coming, but they weren't quite ready yet. In fact, they only scored a single point, while Jackie Ryan kicked 1-4 as Kerry won surprisingly comfortably.

Kildare in the final. An entire generation had grown up on stories of Kerry v Kildare. Their four game saga in the 1903 championship had been the making of the GAA. Paul Doyle, Mick Buckley, Moreover, high jumper Larry Stanley had transferred back from Dublin to Kildare, and Stanley was a national superstar. The high jumper was Ireland's first ever track and field competitor at the Olympic Games. Kildare's best footballer ever – and yes, I did see the likes of Glenn Ryan and John Doyle. I repeat with confidence; Larry Stanley was Kildare's best ever footballer.

And this was his finest hour. Con Brosnan, Bob Stack....arguably the greatest midfield pairing ever, but they couldn't contain Stanley. This was one of the great all-time displays. Kerry were completely under the cosh. They would have been swamped entirely but for Jack Murphy at corner back. The corner back was a colossus, and nothing less was required. Time and again he burst clear with the ball. Nonetheless, Kildare were leading by 0-6 to 0-3 in the closing minutes. With time almost up, Con Brosnan sent in a high ball. Bill O'Gorman salmon-leaped to gather, pivoted, and blasted a rocket with his left leg. A goal, and a draw. We were lucky enough.

Jack Murphy, man of the match, had kept Kerry in the game almost single-handedly. He just threw his clothes on over his playing outfit and exited the dressing room. Unfortunately, walking around in the still damp clothing gave him pneumonia, and by the time of the replay, the Cahirsiveen giant had passed away. The South Kerry Championship Trophy is named after him to this day.

Kerry back against Kildare. Sigerson Clifford was unquestionably the Bard of Kerry Football, and his poem about travelling to that Final on the train is my personal favourite, even before "I Am of Kerry" or 'The Boys From Barr na Sráide'. The poem is called 'Goal for Kerry' but its proper title was 'The Ghost Train to Croke Park' and it is truly evocative of a communal experience through a child's eyes. The Ghost Train....arrah, a thousand stories could be told on that one subject alone.

Once again, there was almost 38,000 in Croke Park, including on a one year old 'Hill 16'. Supposedly it was made with the rubble from the 1916 Rising – nonsense, but good marketing.

It was another tight and tough affair, but Tom O'Mahony's second half goal was to prove crucial as Kerry won the All Ireland. Tralee native Paddy Whitty donated his medal to Jack Murphy's family.

Kerry: Johnny Riordan (Boherbue) goal, Pat

ALL THINGS SPORT

Clifford (Ballymac), Joe Barrett (Rock St.), Jack Walsh (Craughdarrig), Paul Russell (Dr. Crokes), Jerry 'Pluggy' Moriarty (Rock St.), John Slattery (do.), Con Brosnan (Newtownsandes), Bob Stack (Doon), Jackie Ryan (Rock St.), John Joe Sheehy (Boherbue) capt., Denis Rory O'Connell (Rock St.), Tom O'Mahony (Newtownsandes), Bill Gorman (Rock St.), Jim Bailey (Rock St.). Subs: Dan Joe Conway (Strand St.), Mike Coffey (Beaufort), Paul O'Sullivan (Finuge), John Bailey (Ballymac), Paddy Whitty (Tralee).

The selection committee consisted of Tom Costello (Tralee) chairman, Humphrey Murphy (Currow & Killarney), Dick Fitzgerald (Killarney), Patrick Foley (Dingle), Jack McCarthy (Tralee), Tom O'Connor (Tralee), Jack Walsh (Asdee), Bob Stack (Doon), Jerry McEllistrim (Tralee), John Joe Sheehy (Captain) and Den Joe Bailey (Co. Secretary).

JUNIOR

The Kerry Juniors had comfortable wins over Clare, Waterford, and Tipperary to win Munster, but came a cropper against Dublin in an All Ireland semi-final that was delayed until June 1927.

There were some very interesting names of that Kerry Junior team. Miko Doyle and John Joe and Tim Landers (I believe Bill was playing with the Kerry team that won the New York Championship at the time), Ned 'Pedlar' Sweeney, Dan Ryan, JJ McCarthy, Tommy Barrett, Paddy Whitty, Bill O'Gorman....Kerry had plenty of talent coming through. Other names should sound familiar....Eugene Powell, Sammy Locke, Frank Sheehy (future County Board Chairman; the Listowel Emmets' ground is still named after him), Jack Sewell....

RADIO

It was actually the hurling championship that had the nation transfixed. A three game saga saw Cork finally see off Tipperary after a second replay in Thurles. On the other side, Kilkenny had come through Leinster and faced off against Galway. Such was the interest that a fledgeling 2RN decided to broadcast the game on radio, and incredibly ambitious feat. Paddy Mehigan, known by his byline of 'Carbery' or 'Pato' was the best GAA correspondent of his generation (nobody else comes close) was the chosen commentator. It was one of the first ever live sports broadcasts in Europe (it was actually fairly common in the US, but don't let that spoil a good story) and was a huge success. In fact, the popularity of gaelic games was a huge factor in the rapid growth in radio popularity and communal gatherings to listen to games being broadcast would become social highlights in the coming decades. Not quite De Valera's famous (and mostly misquoted) 'dancing at the crossroads', but not all that far away either!

For the record, Cork would go on to achieve a league and championship double.

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Only four teams entered the County Football Championship. Tralee beat Killarney by 3-4 to 1-1 in one semi-final, while Listowel had a

comfortable win over Dingle in the other. Listowel had a lot of good footballers. Jack Walsh, Standish Kerins, Roger Aherne, Tom O'Mahony, Pat Farran, John Bailey, Tom O'Mahony....the famous midfield pairing of Bob Stack and Con Brosnan. They would all grace the green and gold.

Even so, everyone knew who were raging favourites going into the final, and Tralee duly obliged with a 7-7 to 2-1 victory over Listowel. Sammy Locke had a hat-trick, Pedlar Sweeney had a brace. The team reads like a who's who of Kerry football of the era. Tralee players who didn't even play in the final, having appeared in the semi-final, included Paddy Whitty, Dan Joe Conway, Patsy Curtin, Miko Doyle, Jackie Ryan....no team in Kerry had a chance of even coming close.

There was actually far more interest in the hurling. Twelve teams entered. Strand Road, Boherbee, Abbeydorney, and Listowel saw off Kenmare, Killarney, Lixnaw, and Causeway. In the second round, Kilflynn, Rock St., Listowel, and Boherbee prevailed against Killorglin, Rathmore, Strand Road, and Abbeydorney.

Rock St. beat Kilflynn 4-3 to 2-1 in the first semi-final, while Boherbee beat Listowel by 6-3 to 2-1 in the other.

Rock St. versus Boherbee. An all-Tralee Final. Best of friends, best of enemies. Joe Barrett captained Rock St., John Joe Sheehy captained Boherbee. Rock St. won out by 4-2 to 0-2, though Pat O'Shea notes in 'On The Ball' that the play was much closer than the scoreline, the Boherbee forwards spurning a number of opportunities.

The truth is that Tralee were so dominant in Kerry GAA that it was dissuading other teams from even entering. Even a County Board completely dominated by Tralee (each County Championship team had two delegates, which meant that Tralee had 12 delegates while the entirety of South Kerry had none) could see the problem. Within two years, after much negotiation behind the scenes, Tralee were convinced to split into three clubs, Rock St. (it would become Austin Stacks), Strand Road (it would become Kerins O'Rahillys) and John Mitchels.

COLLEGES GAA

Education in 1926 in Ireland was not quite the force it would become. 12% of the population were illiterate. Secondary school was expensive, socially stratified, and largely urbanised. The curriculum had a heavy emphasis towards academic subjects like latin and greek, and even more so towards Irish language and culture (the GAA was among Irish institutions trying to promote an Irish version of Santa Claus, Finn Varra Maa, 'Fiobharr Maith' based on a Thomas Nally play. It actually leaves me speechless. Just google it. Suffice to say, it didn't catch on; Santa Claus made his first appearance in Irish stores in 1926). Frankly, Irish history was frequently mythologised. Corporal punishment was standard. But, tyrannical as it might sound nowadays, Ireland's primary school system actually had a very high standard, and was greatly strengthened by the 1926 School Attendance Act which mandated education for

all 6-14 year olds.

Dr. Eamonn O'Sullivan was already making waves as an innovative trainer of the Kerry team, though not that long out of college himself. His influence extended much further in the GAA, and indeed in community life in Killarney in particular, than is generally acknowledged. One of the things that he strongly promoted was more games for young people – I suspect that the English public school motto of 'mens sana in corpore sana', healthy mind in a healthy body, was a core belief of the man. He wasn't the only advocate of gaelic games being advanced through the school system, but he was the most influential, and in 1926 a proper Kerry Colleges Committee was established. Canon John Breen (the Sem) was President, Br. Turner (Tralee CBS) was Vice President, and Dr. Eamonn was Treasurer. 'Public Relations Officer' was a concept for the future, but The Kerryman's 'P.F.' (Pádraig Foley) strongly endorsed the idea in print – and newspapers back then were as influential as all of social media combined nowadays. 'P.F.' did not write 'news' per se; he issued pronouncements.

It was decided to play a Kerry Cup competition, with Bishop Charles O'Sullivan donating a Cup. It's interesting now to look back and see the participating teams – St. Brendans Seminary, Tralee CBS, St. Michaels Listowel, Tralee Technical Schools, Jeffers Institute Tralee (Bishop Dr. Moriarty had brought the Sisters of Mercy to open a school for the poor in Moyderwell in a property rented by a Mr. Jeffers. Opened in 1861, it was demolished in the 1960s when the school became the St. Marys Primary School (The Mercy), built using the original sandstone. The Kerry County Library stands where the original Jeffers Institute stood), and the The Monastery, Killarney (yes, they competed in post primary competitions). In the final, St. Brendans Killarney, captained by Denis Curran (he became a priest, and I do know that a Fr. Denis Curran was parish priest down in Sneem in the late 1930s) and including one of Kerry's greatest players and administrators in Johnny Walsh from Ballylongford, beat Tralee Technical Schools by 2-3 to 0-2.

A Dunloe Cup costing £20 (serious money back then, very serious!) was presented by a Mr. Harrington for a U15 competition. As well as the O'Sullivan Cup teams, Killorglin, Cahirsiveen, and Dingle also entered, but in the end it was Tralee CBS who defeated the Sem by 1-7 to 1-1 in the first ever final. A hundred years later, Pres. Milltown would win their first ever Dunloe Cup, beating none other than the Green in the final.

SOCCER

While it was played informally in Kerry, any suggestion of establishing soccer as a rival to GAA in Kerry had far less of a chance than any snowball in hell. Cork was the only Munster county where the game had a foothold (Fordsons entered a factory team into the league of Ireland), and even then it was only a distant cousin to Dublin, which was itself supposedly subordinate to Belfast. Soccer in England had its roots in industrial cities and Belfast had stronger ties, but already there was

huge resentment. The FAI (Dublin) had split from the IFA (Belfast) in 1921, but both sides were selecting 'Irish' teams (sometimes with the same players). The FAI had only been formally recognised in 1924, and reluctantly at that. Not only that, but there were already strong rumours about secretarial maladministration and some strange accounting.

The FAI had sent a team to play two games at the 1924 Olympics and had played two other amateur games, but it was in 1926 that they played their first ever full international, taking on Italy in Turin and losing 3-0.

Domestically Shelbourne beat Shamrock Rovers to the title, but here was something of a shock in the FAI Cup as Fordsons beat

Shamrock Rovers 3-2 in Dalymount Park on St. Patricks' Day.

RUGBY

The GAA was gradually taking its place in popular affections, but only just. Ireland had a great rugby history and Kerry had produced a number of internationals itself. In 1926 they came agonisingly close to glory, beating France and England (19 to 15) to set up a meeting with reigning champions Scotland. Ireland won out by 3-0 in Edinburgh (Jack Gage got the only try, which was worth three points at the time) and suddenly there was a Slam (a 'Quadruple Crown' as it was called at the time) as well as a Triple Crown (our first since

1899) on the table against Wales. 6000 Irish fans made their way to Swansea – almost unfathomable numbers for the era. There was an estimated 50,000 spectators. Apparently the majority of the crowd sang 'God Save the King' with gusto according to newspaper reports – I suspect that the word 'apparently' is doing a bit of heavy lifting there! It was a cracking game, by all accounts. Ireland led by 8-5 at half-time, but Wales came back to snatch a lead through Rowe Harding. A drop goal was worth four points at that time and Tom Hewitt had one last, late attempt to snatch victory...but the attempt fell just short. Ireland shared the championship with Scotland, but it could have been so much more.

Spa GAA Celebrate Players, Volunteers and Community at Annual Awards Night



Spa GAA Honorees (back from left to right): Darragh Brosnan, Gary Vaughan, Paudie Horgan (on behalf of Michael Horgan), Saoirse Kelly, Niamh Daly. (front from left to right): Anna O'Connor, Jarlath Burns, Michael Cronin, Eileen Aherne



Spa's three-in-a-row All-Ireland Scór Set Dancing champions (from left to right): Mairéad Mangan, Meghann Cronin, Kianan O'Doherty, Anna O'Connor, Tadgh Hickey (Club Chairperson), Diarmuid O'Donovan, Katie Cronin, Darragh Brosnan, Katie O'Connor, Triona Mangan (missing from photo, Liam Spillane).

All photos: Anne Holland

Spa GAA held its Annual Awards Night on Saturday, 7th February, in Hilliards, Killarney, with a large crowd in attendance for one of the club's most important social events of the year.

The night featured a distinguished list of guests, including GAA President Jarlath Burns, Kerry GAA Chairperson Patrick O'Sullivan, All-Ireland champion Dara Moynihan, Noel O'Sullivan, Great Britain GAA Delegate to Croke Park, and Spa's three-in-a-row All-Ireland Scór Set Dancing champions (Katie O'Connor, Anna O'Connor, Meghann Cronin, Katie Cronin, Liam Spillane, Kianan Doherty, Darragh Brosnan and Diarmuid Donovan).

Addressing the gathering, Patrick O'Sullivan praised Spa GAA's contribution to the local community and acknowledged the enormous work carried out by volunteers behind the scenes. GAA President Jarlath Burns delivered an engaging address, highlighting the importance of the GAA to Irish life and commending Spa GAA for its involvement across all strands of the Association, with particular reference to the club's cultural and Scór successes.

Club Chairperson Tadhg Hickey hosted the event and paid tribute to the volunteers and members who continue to drive the club forward before presenting the awards.

Player awards were presented to Niamh Daly (Young Ladies Player of the Year), Darragh Brosnan (Young Men's Player of the Year), Michael Horgan (Junior Player of the Year), Gary Vaughan (Men's Player of the Year) and Saoirse Kelly (Ladies Player of the Year), all recognised for their excellent performances throughout the season. The Cultural & Social Award went to Eileen Ahern for her long-standing service to the club, while the Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Michael Cronin in recognition of his decades of dedication to Spa GAA. Spa GAA also extended thanks to Hilliards Killarney for hosting the event and to the Awards Night Committee for organising another successful and memorable evening.

Killarney Businesses Take Part in 'Killarney's Fittest Business' Health Initiative

Local companies are in training for the being encouraged to get involved as "Killarney's Fittest Business" enters its final week ahead of next Friday's finale event.

The free six-week team challenge was designed to bring workplaces together in a fun and inclusive way while promoting healthier habits, will conclude alongside the Grand Opening of the new Activate and FORM facilities on Saturday, February 21st from 10:30am to 1:00pm.

Inspired by the spirit of Ireland's Fittest Family, the initiative is aimed not at elite athletes, but at ordinary workplaces and colleagues of all ages and abilities. Businesses can enter teams of three or four people, with larger companies welcome to register multiple teams.

"The goal is to create momentum, camaraderie and a positive start to the year for local businesses, while supporting their wider mission to improve and prolong the lives of 10,000 people living in and around Killarney", Brian Foley, owner of Activate Gym said.

"We want this to be more about team-building than hardcore fitness," a spokesperson said. "This is for everyone - not just sporty 20 or 30-somethings. We'd love to see teams made up of colleagues in their



50s, 60s or 70s taking part and enjoying it together."

Each participating team has been paired with a coach from Activate or FORM, with weekly challenges including step targets, basic fitness tasks and small habit changes designed to keep teams motivated and accountable.

The programme will culminate in a lively "finale day" next Saturday where teams will take part in light-hearted stations featuring simple cardio challenges, strength tasks and teamwork exercises involving balance, coordination and problem-solving, all set in a supportive and energetic community atmosphere.

Importantly, the entire initiative is completely free, with no fees or hidden costs for participating businesses.

Organisers hope the event will become an annual fixture in the Killarney calendar, celebrating community spirit, encouraging healthier lifestyles and strengthening connections between local businesses.

"We are still accepting spaces for the day so companies can still sign up" Brian added.

Food for Thought: Energising Healthy Eating at St. Brigid's

As part of the Healthy School initiative at St. Brigid's Presentation Secondary School, a recent day was dedicated to promoting healthy eating and raising awareness about positive food choices. Students prepared and served a variety of nutritious foods and snacks for the entire school community.

The day began with Ms. O'Donoghue's Y.S.I. group, Nourish to Flourish, who hosted a porridge morning with a selection of healthy toppings. The Transition Year group focused on highlighting the importance of breakfast and healthy starts to the day. Later, at the 11 o'clock break, the Healthy School team, led by Ms. O'Donnell, offered morning muffins, breakfast bars, protein balls, hummus and fresh fruit. These wholesome, convenient options were designed to suit busy student lifestyles while providing nourishing benefits without added sugars. The school thanked all who contributed to the success of the initiative.



Jarlath Burns & Michael Cronin at the Spa GAA Awards Night



Dara Moynihan & Mike Doolan (Club Vice Chairperson) at the Spa GAA Awards Night

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McMahon on Target for Kerry

Kerry 4-10 | Meath 2-12

By Deniese O'Flaherty

The old adage goals win games proved true as Kerry got back to winning ways when they defeated Meath in an entertaining contest in the Lidl NFL Division 1 game played at the Meath Hill GAA Grounds.

The Kingdom scored three goals in the first half and then added a fourth in the second half. Leah McMahon scored two goals while Síofra O'Shea was superb in the forward line scoring 1-6 (four frees).

Kerry made a great start to the game with a goal in the second minute through Leah McMahon in her first start for Kerry. Meath got their first score in the sixth minute, a point from Emma Duggan. They followed that up with another to cut the gap to one in the seventh minute.

A nice ball in from Anna Galvin found McMahon and she made no mistake grabbing her second goal. Kerry followed up with points from Dannielle O'Leary and O'Shea to put six between the sides after 12 minutes.

Meath responded from that Kerry spell with a pointed free from Duggan and a neat goal from Orla Finnegan. Twice in seven minutes Meath came to within one point of Kerry.

The excellent O'Shea kicked two points (one free) to put three between the sides in the 28th minute but Duggan and Ciara Smyth fired over points in stoppage time to leave Meath trailing by one at the break at 2-5 to 1-7.

Three minutes into the second half Kerry got their third goal with a lovely finish from O'Shea. Duggan was on target yet again firing over a free minutes later. Every time Meath came to within a point of the Kingdom the reigning league champions were able to hit back with a score.

With two in the game Kerry got their fourth goal in the 53rd minute when Mary O'Connell fired a good shot to the net but Kerry were dealt a blow when Cáit Lynch had to go off injured in the 57th minute.

The lead was seven points in the 60th minute when O'Shea fired over another free. Meath got a second goal less than one minute later through midfielder Orlaith Sheehy. Duggan hit over another point before O'Shea finished the scoring with a point near the end.

Scorers - Kerry: S O'Shea 1-6 (f), L McMahon 2-0, M O'Connell 1-1, N Ní Chonchúir, N Carmody, R Dwyer 0-1 each.

Meath: E Duggan 0-7 (4f), C Smyth 0-4, O Finnegan, O Sheehy 1-0 each, M Byrne 0-1.

KERRY: C Butler; E Lynch, A Doherty, A Dillane; K Ryan, C Lynch, K Brosnan; M O'Connell, A Galvin; M O'Connor, N Ní Chonchúir, C Evans; S O'Shea, D O'Leary, L McMahon. **Subs:** K McGrath for Ryan and N Carmody for O'Connor (ht), E Ní Laighin for Dillane (42), R Dwyer for McMahon and N Quinn for Lynch (44).

MEATH: R Murray; Á Sheridan, M.K. Lynch, O



Action from the Kerry Meath game. Photo: Paul McEntagart



Action from the Kerry Meath game.
Photo: Paul McEntagart



Action from the Kerry Meath game.
Photo: Paul McEntagart

Gore; C Lawlor, S Wall, K Birmingham; O Sheehy, N Gallogly; S Murphy, C Smyth, M Farrelly; E Duggan, O Finnegan, M Byrne. Subs: L O'Neill for Murphy (26), K Kealy for Gore (38) and R Casserly for Byrne (40), O Smith for Lawlor (46), A Reilly for Birmingham and M Thynne for Finnegan (49).

Referee: Maggie Farrelly (Cavan).

There is a venue change for the next round of the of the Lidl National Football League Division 1 Round 3

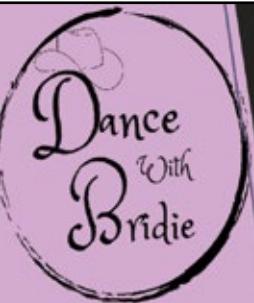
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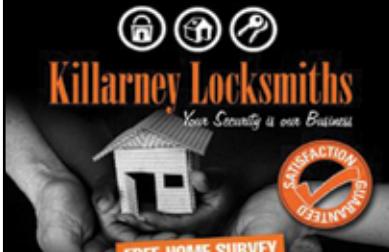
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LEGENDARY KILLARNEY TEAM to finally get their moment in the sun

A team that were crowned Senior County Camogie Champions 58 years ago will be remembered at half time at Fitzgerald Stadium on Saturday 14th when Kerry host Laois in the Centra National Camogie League Division 2A Round 1 opener at 2pm

The Killarney Camogie side of 1968 and 1969 that were crowned Kerry county champions having defeated Ballyduff will be presented to the crowd and will finally get their hands on the Cup that they won which they were not presented with nearly all of 60 years ago.

On the day that they won their title in 1968 the cup was not present and was also missing for presentation in 1969 but having trawled through the county, the Kerry Camogie County board have finally located the cup, and it will finally be presented to members of that historic team.

It was also a unique hurling double for Killarney who also saw them crowned Senior County Hurling Champions in 1969 having defeated Austin Stacks 2-6 to 2-5

The Camogie team who were trained under the tutelage of the late Tom Galvin and Dermot Moynihan will see some of the remaining players attend the game, while family members will represent those who are deceased in what should be a great afternoon of nostalgia and fun.

By Donal Barry



The winning team and panel



The winning team

Back left: Tom Galvin RIP, Maureen Riordan RIP, Sheila Buckley, Peggy Ryan, Marie O' Connell RIP, Maura Fitzgerald, Bernie Moynihan, Mary O' Sullivan/O' Connor, Dermot Moynihan

Front row: Mary O' Donoghue, Joan Shanahan, Breeda Corcoran, Joan Horan r.i.p, Peggy Manix r.i.p, Cait Moynihan, Norah O' Connor. Missing from photo Mary Moynihan O' Sullivan/Darcy, Michelle Cooper Galvin, Mary O' Sullivan RIP.

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by John O'Sullivan

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A Word of Victory

"Though I am surrounded, and in the midst of troubles You will revive me. You protect me from the anger of my enemies. You will reach out Your hand, and the Power of Your right hand will save me. The Lord will work out His plans for my life (He perfects that which concerns me). For Your Faithful Love O Lord, endures forever. Don't abandon me for You made me. (Psalm 138:7-8)."

Welcome back dear student, last week we saw the link between the heart and the words that flow from it. "As a man thinks in his heart, so is he (Proverbs 23:7). Perception and belief can control outcomes. The Lord weighs our hearts - how interesting (Proverbs 21:2). The world weighs achievements, beauty, popularity and possessions and exalts them, but God looks at and examines the heart. I picture the Lord with a magnifying glass, carefully investigating details that others miss, or deem uninteresting. The Good Shepherd knows every detail of His beloved sheep (John 10:27; Psalm 139:1-4). The heart may be hidden from view, but the mouth reveals its contents (Matthew 12:34; Matthew 15:18).

Have you ever had a hunch, but just couldn't put your finger on what was wrong? Folks often flatter us with their lips, and then condemn, slander, or accuse us behind closed doors. "His words are as smooth as butter, but in his heart is war" (Psalm 55:21). This behaviour is not of God: it is a demonic work of the flesh. Words and actions that don't line up bring confusion and darkness. Discernment sees beyond what's portrayed, and for this we need the Holy Spirit's Power. Jesus said, "Repent for the Kingdom of God is at hand!" (Matthew 4:17). Many have experienced trauma from the power of word curses that others have pronounced upon them and believed those negative things about themselves as a result. These toxic emotions fuel anxiety, self-hatred, and low self-esteem. A lot of sicknesses and problems in life are rooted in this. Suppressed anger, and unforgiveness towards others - or towards oneself, cements the negative wounds in the heart, and breeds isolation. But God knows - for He is the God Who Sees you (Genesis 16:13; Luke 4:18). The ministry of Jesus is Healer - He binds up the wounds of the broken-hearted. "Give your burdens to the Lord, He will sustain you" (Psalm 55:22). Our lead Scripture highlights God completing His perfect plans as we surrender to His Love. This requires yielding, trust, and humility. When we repent, and humble ourselves before God, we give Him the freedom to move. We learn to trust Him to work out everything in His timing. We follow His process, patiently growing through trials, joyfully believing that God will not forsake us, because He is Faithful to His Covenant of Love and Mercy. The Word tells us to cast our burdens on the Lord, but in casting there's a vulnerability - handing over the reins to the Lord. It can be a hard place to sit quietly and leave God at the controls. There's a funny fake video where Jesus is at the wheel, and his passenger is stuck to the car seat in utter terror at His wild driving! God doesn't promise a smooth ride, sometimes it feels like a rollercoaster. But hold fast, and don't faint or give up dear friend! "...God opposes the proud, but He gives Grace to the humble. So, humble yourselves under the Mighty Power of God and, at the right time, He will lift you up to honour. Give all your worries and cares to God, for He cares for you" (1 Peter 5:5-7; 2 Chronicles 20:15). God promises that the battle belongs to Him, and to Him, this is no battle at all!

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NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF LOURDES

Our Parish Novena to Our Lady of Lourdes continues and concludes on Wednesday 11th February (Feast of our Lady of Lourdes) with Mass being celebrated at 2pm in St Mary's Cathedral. The Novena prayer will be prayed in St Mary's Cathedral 10.30am, 6.15pm Masses online and Saturday Vigil 6.15pm and Sunday 8.00am, 10.30am & 12noon. A sacred space devoted to Our Lady of Lourdes is erected in St Mary's Cathedral during the Novena with specially commissioned Novena candles available throughout the nine days. There will be a Novena leaflet available in the Cathedral for the Novena, so please join us.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION ENVELOPES

The Envelopes are now available from the Parish Office. These envelopes are a source of income for the parish. We would greatly appreciate if the contact people or volunteers could help with distribution, please contact the office to arrange collection of boxes from next Monday onwards, to distribute in their particular area. If you currently do not use an envelope or are new to the Parish and would like to have a box of envelopes, please contact the Parish Office and we'll organise that for you. Your contribution to the Parish is greatly appreciated. Many thanks for your continued support.

KERRY DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA Led by Fr Noel Spring on the 11th of May, 6 nights from Shannon to Porto Direct, 4* half board. For Further Information, please contact Barters Travelnet 021 4851700 or kcallaghan@travelnet.ie

KERRY DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES from the 10th June— 15th June, from Kerry to Tarbes Direct, Full board for further info, please contact Nora 087 931 8976 Pilgrimage@dioceseofkerry.ie

SECOND COLLECTION: This Weekend of the 7th/8th of February in support of the Lourdes Helpers for our Kerry Diocesan Pilgrimage in June. This is our only way of obtaining funding in 2026. The mission is to take our sick to Lourdes who could not otherwise travel , for this we need helpers and nurses.. The fund also assists Pilgrims who may not be able to afford the full fare. This collection goes towards this effort and your support is very appreciated.

ANNUAL SOROPTIMISTS PANCAKE MORNING on Shrove Tuesday 17th February 2026 at 10.30a,m in the Killarney Avenue Hotel. Your Support is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

KILLARNEY FOR PALESTINE presents the only Kerry screening of the Oscar-nominated film The Voice of Hind Rajab, the true story of a 5-year- old girl in Gaza. Join us at the Brehon Hotel on Sun., Feb. 22 at 6.30pm for this free community event. Tickets must be booked in advance and there is no admission/ booking fee (there is an option to donate when booking the tickets).

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WHO DIED ON THE
12TH FEBRUARY, 2005. R.I.P.

Remember her with a smile today

She wasn't one for tears.

Reflect instead on memories

Of all the happy years.

Recall to mind the way she spoke

And all the things she said.

Her strength, her wisdom, the way she was,

Remember them instead

To us you were so special,

Loving, kind and true,

You will never be forgotten because

you were you.

Always remembered your loving husband Charles, daughters Maeve, Triona, Fiona and Neila, son Jeremiah, your sons-in-law, daughter-in-law and grandchildren.

Anniversary Mass in Christ the King Church, Knocknagree on Saturday, 14th February at 7.30pm. (can be viewed online).

*'When a loved one becomes a memory
That memory becomes a treasure.'*

IN MEMORIAM

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ANNIVERSARY

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
CASEY
JOHN (JACKIE)
AND HIS
WIFE NOREEN



BALLINILLANE,
BALLYHAR KILLARNEY
WHO DIED ON
21ST FEBRUARY 1975
AND HIS WIFE NOREEN
WHO DIED ON
13TH FEBRUARY 2018

On a quite February morning

Ye heard the Angels call

Ye took the hand of Jesus

And quietly left us all.

Happy memories keep for ever

Of days when we were all together.

They bring a smile after a tear.

And always a wish that you were still here.

Loved and always remembered
by your daughters, Sheila, Joan, Noreen
Geraldine Eileen and Catherine.

Sons-in-law, grand children and great
grand children.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
& 1ST ANNIVERSARY

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
PATRICK JOSEPH
DOWNEY



OLD ROAD, RATHMORE &
FORMERLY OF KILCUMMIN,
KILLARNEY.

As we lovingly remember Joe on his first
anniversary, we, his family would like to
thank all those who attended the rosary, the
removal, the funeral Mass and the burial.
To all those who sent Mass cards, texts, and
online condolences. Thanks to everyone
who travelled from far and near to celebrate
Joes Mass.

A special thanks to our extended family,
who supported us during this sad and
difficult time. It's much appreciated. Also,
to the kind neighbours and friends who
provided food and visited our home.

A sincere gratitude to Fr Pat for celebrating
such a beautiful, meaningful Mass. To Joan
for the lovely music and to everyone who
participated in the Mass. To Breda, the florist
for the beautiful flowers you put together
for Joes funeral. We would also like to thank
the medical staff and UHK Palliative Care
team who cared for Joe in his final days.

Thanks to the O'Mahony undertakers (Sean
and Christy) for their professionalism
and dignified manner and also the grave
diggers.

As it would be impossible to thank everyone
individually, please accept this as a token of
our appreciation, the holy sacrifice of the
Mass has been offered for your intentions.

Joe's first anniversary Mass will be
celebrated on Friday, 13th of February at
7pm at St Joseph's Church, Rathmore.

MEMORARE

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

Inspired by this confidence I fly unto thee, O Virgin of
virgins, my Mother.

To thee do I come, before thee I stand,

sinful and sorrowful.

O Mother of the Word Incarnate,
despite not my petitions,

but in thy mercy hear and answer me.

Amen.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
& 1ST ANNIVERSARY

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
NUALA ALLMAN
(NEE O'SULLIVAN)



BALLINCARRIG WEST, FIRIES
WHO SADLY PASSED AWAY
ON 16TH FEBRUARY 2025.

As we lovingly remember Nuala on her 1st
anniversary, we her family wish to extend our
heartfelt thanks and appreciation for the many
expressions of sympathy, kindness and support
shown to us following our deeply sad loss.

We are sincerely grateful to everyone who
attended the house, removal, funeral Mass and
burial. We also appreciate all who sent
Mass cards, messages of comfort, and online
condolences.

Our sincere gratitude to Fr. Danny Broderick,
Deacon Conor Bradley and Fr. McGillycuddy for
their support, guidance and for so beautifully
celebrating Nuala's Requiem Mass. Thanks to
Helen and Denis for the beautiful music and
singing.

Heartfelt thanks to the staff and pupils of Faha
National School for the guard of honour provided
in such terrible weather.

Our deepest thanks to Dr. Conleth Murphy and
his dedicated team at the Bon Secours Hospital,
Cork, for the care given to Nuala over the years
and especially during her final days. We will
always be grateful for the compassion, kindness,
and respect shown to her. To Eamon O'Connors
Undertakers in Firies, thanks for your patience,
kindness and professionalism. Thank you to Faha
Court and staff for taking such good care of us.
A special word of thanks to Sr. Margaret Mary,
who visited Nuala many times each day while
she was in hospital. Thank you for the prayers,
conversations, and laughter you shared with her,
these moments will always be remembered.

As it would be impossible to thank everyone
individually, please accept this
acknowledgement as an expression of our deep
gratitude. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass has
been offered for your intentions.

*On a quiet morning,
You heard the angels call,
You took the hand of Jesus,
And quietly left us all,
In a world full of people,
We sometimes feel alone,
For part of us went with you,
The day God called you home.*

Forever missed and never forgotten by
her husband John, and sons Declan,
Adrian, Niall and Kieran.

First Anniversary Mass for Nuala will
take place on Saturday, 14th of February
at 6pm in the Church of the Immaculate
Conception, Listry.

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