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Aer Lingus crew members Shane Lynch and Megan Fuller welcomed the family of Best Actress nominee, Jessie Buckley, to Dublin Airport as they boarded Aer Lingus flight EI69 bound for Los Angeles. Marina Cassidy and Tim Buckley, and Jessie's sister Lily, are traveling to LA to support Jessie at one of the most prestigious nights in global cinema. Photographer: Leon Farrell / Photocall Ireland



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# A Note from the **E** DITOR



As the town prepares for an epic St. Patrick's Festival, all eyes will be on the Oscars on Sunday night as Jessie Buckley vies for her first Oscar for her role in Hamnet.

The County Clean Up is set to take place on Saturday April 11th, a community cafe for people living with Dementia will open its doors next week and Killarney is mourning the passing of Fr. Paddy O'Donoghue.

Excitement is building ahead of Ablefest this Sunday, The Gathering celebrated the best of Traditional Irish Music and the community is encouraged to Drink Tea for MND.

A Taste of Palestine Fundraiser is taking place in Killarney on March 21st, the Soda Bread Sessions have been launched by Bake Killarney and Raheen National School is going back to the 80's for a fundraising disco.

The Kilcummin Community has raised over €8,000 for Comfort for Chemo, local Cheerleaders are heading for Florida and a charity auction has raised funds for the Philippines.

In Sport, athlete Sarah Leahy has broken her second national record this year, Killarney Judo Club enjoyed a large medal haul at the Galway Open and Killarney Cycling Club has announced its 2026 mentoring programme.

Hope you all enjoy this week's Killarney Outlook!

*Lá Fhéile Pádraig sona daoibh*

*Aisling Crosbie*



*A striking view of The Cathedral beneath the New Moon, captured by Mike Fuller.*



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*for inclusion in the Killarney Outlook.*

# THIS WEEK

ALL THE NEWS FROM THE  
KILLARNEY AREA AND BEYOND

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# Jessie Fever Hits Killarney

## as Town Rallies Behind Oscar Hopeful



Excitement is building in Killarney this weekend as the town throws its support behind local star Jessie Buckley ahead of the Oscars in Los Angeles.

Businesses across the town have united to show their pride in the acclaimed actor, with several long-established family-run shops on High Street decorating their windows with giant flags and messages wishing her luck.

Leading the effort are Who's4Shoes, Killarney Carpet and Furniture Centre, Murphy Brown's, and Tom Cronin's Butcher. The four traditional businesses have come together to celebrate Buckley's success and encourage the hometown favourite as she competes for one of the film industry's most prestigious awards.

All four businesses are family-run staples of High Street, making their support particularly meaningful. Jessie herself comes from a strong tradition of family enterprise, with her family owning The Arbutus Hotel in the heart of the town.

Support for the actor can be seen throughout the town. Johnny McGuire has also decorated his premises, Bricín on High Street, with good-luck messages for the Killarney native.

Meanwhile, The Arbutus Hotel has proudly displayed a photograph of Jessie on the front of the building in honour of her achievements. The same image has also been incorporated into the promotional imagery for the town's Killarney St Patrick's Day Festival and can be seen on posters across Killarney as the town prepares for the five-day celebration taking



Jessie's image has also been incorporated into the town's St. Patrick's Day Festival campaign and can be seen on posters across Killarney

place this weekend.

The Buckley family were at Dublin Airport on Wednesday to travel to Los Angeles for Sunday's ceremony. The Killarney star is nominated for Best Actress for her performance

in the film Hamnet.

"We're just so excited and so emotional as we head off to support our beautiful girl," said her mother, Marina Cassidy, when interviewed on RTE.

"She did a magnificent job, portraying a mother's story. And how significant it is that the Oscars are on on Mother's Day," she added.

"Never would you expect that you'd be spending Mother's Day at the Oscars in LA, but to be there as a mom and to look up at your precious and beautiful little girl, well, there's nothing better than that."

Her father, Tim Buckley, admitted he is feeling some nerves ahead of the big night.

"It's like the pre-match tension in many ways. It's going to be a wonderful occasion, and we have our fingers crossed," he said.

For Jessie's younger sister, Lily Buckley, the moment is also very special.

"It feels so surreal," she said.

"You don't really imagine going to these things. It's such a nice opportunity to get reunited as a family. It's a proud moment.

The 98th Academy Awards, hosted by Conan O'Brien, will be shown live on RTÉ One and RTÉ Player from 11:00pm on Sunday, 15 March, and the ceremony will also air on RTÉ2 on Monday evening from 9:30pm.

As the Oscars approach, one thing is certain - Jessie Buckley carries the full support and pride of her hometown with her as she steps onto the global stage.





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# OVER 650 TONNES OF WASTE COLLECTED IN 15 YEARS



At the launch in Killarney National Park, Paul Neary, Kerry County Council, Director of Services, Noel O'Reilly, KWD, Colm Cooper, Ambassador, Leas Cathaoirleach Kerry County Council, Cllr. Marie Moloney, Johnny McGuire, Vice President Killarney Chamber of Tourism and Commerce, Colm Nagle, Acting Senior Engineer Environmental Department, Michael Gleeson, Killarney Tidy Towns, Brian Bruton, KWD. Photo: Valerie O'Sullivan

Over 650 tonnes of waste have been collected and disposed of since the County Clean Up began in 2012 and registration for this year's event will open on Monday next.

Since its inception, the annual County Clean Up – which takes place with the support of KWD Recycling and Kerry County Council – has seen thousands of volunteers fill almost 75,000 bags

of litter and has helped to reduce waste and illegal dumping in the county.

The 14th annual County Clean Up will take place on Saturday, 11th April and a call is going out to individuals and communities to take part and help to make the county spick and span. Kerry GAA great, Colm 'The Gooch' Cooper is the County Clean Up Ambassador once again this year.

The Cathaoirleach of Kerry County Council, Cllr Michael Foley urged community and voluntary groups to participate and to register from Monday next on the designated online portal [www.countycleanup.com](http://www.countycleanup.com)

'We are asking for local resident's associations, schools, youth groups, sporting groups, businesses, families or simply a few friends to get together and gather litter along the major routes and the local country roads throughout Kerry,' said Cllr Foley.

'The County Clean Up is unique in the country for its longevity and the scale of the waste which has been collected and disposed of. I would urge anyone who hasn't been involved before now to get involved in this special community initiative.'

Noel O'Reilly from KWD Recycling said: 'KWD Recycling is proud to be involved in the County Clean Up which is now in its 14th year. It is a very important day for communities across Kerry who have worked with us to make a huge difference in fighting littering.'

'We are urging groups to sign up so that they can obtain their clean up packs and so that we know where the litter being collected is left for disposal,' he said.

Volunteers can register from Monday, 16 March at [www.countycleanup.com](http://www.countycleanup.com) or email [countycleanup@kwd.ie](mailto:countycleanup@kwd.ie).

## CALLS FOR URGENT PRIORITISATION OF St. Oliver's National School Parking

Mayor of Killarney Municipal District, Councillor Martin Grady, has successfully passed a motion at the recent meeting of Killarney Municipal District calling on the Department of Education to prioritise the development project at St. Oliver's National School, Ballycasheen, Killarney.

The motion past with support from fellow Councillors with no objections to request the prioritisation.

The motion follows the recent announcement by the Department of Education of 105 schools that are to be included in the upcoming two-year National Development Plan programme, with St. Oliver's National School among those listed.

Councillor Grady has requested that Killarney Municipal District formally write to the Department seeking that the school be prioritised for the timely delivery of the overall project. He stressed that the development must include the provision of additional parking and dedicated drop-off and pick-up facilities. St. Oliver's National School is one of the largest schools in the region, with more than 700 pupils and over 100 staff members attending the Ballycasheen campus each day. The lack of sufficient parking and proper drop-off and pick-up facilities around the school has created serious congestion during peak times.

Councillor Grady warned that the current situation is both unsafe and unfair for everyone involved. "As a parent who drops children to the school myself, I see first-hand the chaos that takes place every morning

and afternoon," said Councillor Grady. "There is gridlock, double parking and simply nowhere safe to drop off children. The situation has become extremely difficult."

He noted that there have already been a number of minor accidents at the location, along with many near misses, raising serious concerns for the safety of pupils, staff, parents and local residents. "It is unsafe for the children, unsafe for the parents who are trying to drop them off, and unsafe for the staff who work there. It is also very unfair on local residents who are dealing with this level of congestion every day," he said.

Councillor Grady emphasised that he has raised this issue on several occasions and is again urging the Department of Education to treat the matter with urgency.

"With over 700 pupils and more than 100 staff attending the school daily, proper infrastructure must be put in place. I am calling on the Department to prioritise St. Oliver's National School, Ballycasheen, in the two-year National Development Plan programme and ensure that additional parking and a safe, dedicated drop-off and pick-up facility are delivered as part of the project."

The motion was supported at the meeting, and Killarney Municipal District will now write to the Department of Education requesting that the project be progressed as a priority.

Gridlock is causing chaos at St. Oliver's National School.





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# KILLARNEY MOURNS THE PASSING OF FR. PADDY

*A Tribute by Dr. Crokes*

Fr. Paddy O'Donoghue entered this earthly world on Wednesday 27 October 1937, born to Margaret O'Donoghue and her husband Dr. Patrick and lived in High Street, Killarney, where Foley's restaurant is now. The O'Donoghue family later moved a hundred yards away to where the Park Place Hotel once stood. Mrs. O'Donoghue established a hotel at this premises, which was later owned and managed by Fr. Paddy's brother Michael and where many Kerry teams dined after training. Fr. Paddy's father was very involved in GAA matters in East Kerry and was a much-loved, dedicated, generous and considerate medical practitioner to many in Killarney and the surrounding hinterland. Following his untimely death at the young age of 47, the East Kerry Board named their premier competition in his name. The Dr. O'Donoghue Cup has been presented to the East Kerry Football Champions since.

Fr. Paddy was only 10 years old and attending the Presentation Monastery School, when his father died and would soon continue his secondary education in Knockbeg College, Carlow. In his final year at Knockbeg, Fr. Paddy had the distinction of winning a Leinster Colleges medal for both hurling and football in the same year – 1955.

It was also in 1955 that Fr. Paddy followed his priestly vocation and remaining in the sunny south-east, entered St. Patrick's Seminary in Carlow. Ordained in 1961, Fr. Paddy started this new chapter of his life as a teaching priest in St. Catherine of Sienna parish, Mobile, Alabama, USA. Having served 43 years in a number of parishes in Alabama, Fr. Paddy retired from Trussville parish in 2004.

Alabama's loss was Killarney's gain, as Fr. Paddy became a familiar figure around his native town. Although retired, he regularly assisted his colleague priests in saying Mass in Killarney parish churches. He also returned to his GAA roots in Dr. Crokes GAA Club, with whom he played in his younger years and was a dedicated and active member as well as being a Vice-President. When asked about his achievements



Fr. Paddy O'Donoghue, RIP, pictured with the original and replica Dr. O'Donoghue Cups - East Kerry Senior Football Championship Cup - named in honour of his father. Photo: Matt O'Neill

with Dr. Crokes, Fr. Paddy declared that he never won a medal with Dr. Crokes, as he had to return to Carlow, when it came to the business end of competitions. However, a notable corner forward, he was selected on the Kerry Junior team with his clubmate Jackie Looney (Dr. Crokes' President) to win a Munster title. Fr. Paddy came on as substitute to score a vital point. The team lost the All-Ireland semi-final and it's no wonder – hadn't Fr. Paddy returned to St. Patrick's Seminary and was not available for selection.

Fr. Paddy was a noted card-shark and shortly after his return to Killarney, he started Fr. Paddy's Card-Night in Dr. Crokes' Clubhouse. People came from far and wide and are still coming to play progressive 31 each Wednesday evening at 8.00pm. As Fr. Paddy would say, "Bring a fiver and bring a partner". Everyone

was welcome.

Coming from a family of six girls and three boys, Fr. Paddy has a large contingent of nieces and nephews and their children and Fr. Paddy spent a lot of time attending, supporting and following their sporting efforts across a number of clubs and schools. Fr. Paddy enjoyed the company of the younger generations and was often seen out with them for walks, being pulled along by a dog or two.

The news of Fr. Paddy's death broke on Tuesday and was met with great sadness. It will be difficult to fill the void that was Fr. Paddy around Killarney and particularly in Dr. Crokes GAA Club. The members of Dr. Crokes offer our sincere condolences to Fr. Paddy's sisters Maura, Eileen, Frances and Finola and his wider family members. Go raibh suaimhneas síoraí air.



Fr. Paddy pictured with "Paddy's Angels", Deborrah Ann O'Shea, Catherine Keogh and Frances O'Sullivan.





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## LAUNCH OF 'THE REPLAY'

# Bringing the Voice of Mícheál Ó Muircheartaigh Back to Irish Homes and reconnecting lost memories

A powerful new national initiative supporting people living with dementia has launched today at Croke Park, using Mícheál Ó Muircheartaigh's iconic GAA commentary to spark memory, connection and joy through the proven benefits of reminiscence therapy.

The Replay is a unique online audio archive that brings together a full catalogue of Ireland's rich GAA history in the form of audio match commentary from All-Ireland Gaelic football and hurling finals between 1985 and 2010, commented on by the late, great Mícheál Ó Muircheartaigh.

The Replay is developed in collaboration between The Alzheimer Society of Ireland, the GAA and RTÉ Archives, with the full support of the Ó Muircheartaigh family. It brings together decades of historic All-Ireland commentary, creating an accessible platform designed to support emotional wellbeing and meaningful engagement for people living with dementia, their carers, and their families. The Replay is designed to ignite the imagination and trigger fond memories amongst the wider population too supporting positive ageing and brain health more generally.

Captured in an accessible online platform — [www.TheReplay.ie](http://www.TheReplay.ie) — matches are easily searchable by game, year or county through a simple, intuitive user interface, allowing families, carers and communities to revisit the sounds that defined generations.



In attendance during the launch for 'The Replay' - Bringing the Voice of Mícheál Ó Muircheartaigh Back to Irish Homes - during a special promotional event at Croke Park in Dublin to bring one of Ireland's most iconic voices back into Irish homes and reconnect lost memories, are from left, Aonghus Ó Muircheartaigh, RTÉ director general Kevin Bakhurst, Eadaoin Ní Mhuircheartaigh, Doireann Ní Mhuircheartaigh, Helena Ní Mhuircheartaigh, Niamh Ní Mhuircheartaigh, Neasa Ní Mhuircheartaigh and Eamonn Ó Muircheartaigh. Photo by Brendan Moran/Sportsfile

For decades, Mícheál's evocative and poetic voice brought All-Ireland finals and unforgettable sporting moments into kitchens, sitting rooms, community centres and care settings across the country. Now, through The Replay, those same moments are being harnessed to support emotional wellbeing and meaningful connection. At its heart, The Replay

is about more than nostalgia. It is about memory, identity, belonging and the enduring power of a voice that once stopped a nation.

The Replay is now live and freely accessible online, offering a complete catalogue of All-Ireland football and hurling finals from 1985 to 2010, moments that shaped counties, communities and the nation.

## Community Café Supporting People Living with Dementia Opens Its Doors in Killarney



A welcoming community initiative aimed at supporting people living with dementia and their families will take place in Killarney this March. The Killarney Alzheimer Café will be held on Wednesday, 18 March 2026 from 11 am to 1 pm at Coollegrean, V93 VXY8, located at the entrance to Killarney Nursing Home.

The café provides a relaxed and supportive environment for people living with Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia, as well as their carers, families, friends, and health and social care professionals. Attendees can enjoy tea, coffee, and conversation while connecting with others who understand the challenges of

dementia.

Held on the third Wednesday of every month, the Alzheimer Café offers both social interaction and helpful information. Each session includes a guest speaker who shares practical advice and insights related to dementia care and wellbeing.

This month's speaker will be Lorraine from Chimes Hearing, who will discuss hearing health and its importance for people experiencing cognitive changes. Hearing difficulties can sometimes worsen confusion and communication challenges, so learning how to manage hearing health can make a

meaningful difference to quality of life.

The café aims to create a warm, informal space where people feel comfortable asking questions, sharing experiences, and accessing reliable information about dementia supports available locally.

Organisers encourage anyone affected by dementia to attend, whether you are living with the condition, caring for someone who is, or working in healthcare or community support.

For further information, people can contact Lynda Phillips on 087 3556508 or by email at [lynda.phillips@alzheimer.ie](mailto:lynda.phillips@alzheimer.ie)

More resources and information about dementia supports are also available from The Alzheimer Society of Ireland.

The Killarney Alzheimer Café continues to grow as a valuable local support network, reminding those affected by dementia that they are not alone and that understanding and community support are always close by.

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



## JESSIE PAYS TRIBUTE TO MOM AND DAD

Just when I was beginning to think I was Jessied out of it, and this celebrity adulation was all too much, Jessie Buckley gave an amazing interview on Desert Island Discs on Sunday. We got a glimpse of just how much her family, parents Tim and Marina, mean to her.

Desert Island discs is the long running BBC4 radio programme where a celebrity is being cast away on a desert island. They get to choose the music that has marked their lives, a luxury item and a book. Shakespeare and the Bible are included already.

Jessie became emotional speaking of her "extraordinary" Dad and Mom.

Among the eight songs was her mother Marina's "Holy Night".

"My Mom is a pretty extraordinary woman," Jessie said, her voice breaking. Opera singer-harpist Marina had gone back to university and retrained as a music psychotherapist and now worked with children in palliative care in Dublin.

"She is writing her own story right now at 60 years of age. I am so proud of her," Jessie said.

Her parents were no longer together, she told interviewer Lauren Laverne.

Her mother's need to tell a story through singing was what first inspired her.

Jessie grew up in a family where money didn't matter as much as being rich in soul, she said.

Jessie also referred to growing up in nature in Killarney - the family lived largely at the foot of Mangerton Mountain - and of being close to nature everywhere in Killarney.

Her introduction to theatre was a performance of Jesus Christ Superstar at Áras Phádraig

where she had to be brought back stage by her parents to be reassured the actor Mike Murphy was not crucified and was still alive.

And just like many teenagers, Jessie had an eating disorder as a teenager and depressions. "I had an eating disorder. It took time... It was difficult but I do not for a second regret it. .. You can't go through life unaffected, but you can transform it," she said.

And like many Gen Zs and those slightly older, Jessie attends regular therapy, we learned. Her luxury would be her bath from her Norfolk home.

Her choice of book for her island was a bound collection "of every single poem my Dad has written", she said. It was a lovely tribute to her parents. Whether she wins or loses the Oscar on Sunday, Jessie is a credit to them and to Killarney.

## STRONG TALK ON HOUSING - LOCALLY AND AT EUROPEAN LEVEL AT LAST

Killarney councillor John O'Donoghue is speaking out strongly on housing. We need leaders in our community and particularly in politics. And John laid it on the line at the Killarney MD.

Working couples are considering giving up their jobs in order to qualify for social housing in Killarney - because this was their sole means of getting a roof over their heads, he said.

There has been no affordable housing scheme in Killarney, or Tralee, we recall. Ridiculous prices are being paid for anything new.

John wanted to know if any of the new developments would include an affordable housing element.

No, the 20 per cent of new estates in Killarney would be ring fenced for social, not affordable housing, he was told.

Working people could not qualify for social housing and yet couldn't afford to buy a house in Killarney, John said.

"These people, the squeezed middle classes as I'll refer to them, are being forgotten about in our country with every kind of support coming for those who can't or don't work. Yet the ones who make up the bulk of the taxpaying people in this country are starting to feel that they receive very little in return for their hard work. I am now starting to be asked the question for the first time ever by people, 'Would I be as

well off quitting my job and going on the housing list as it seems to be the only hope I ever have of getting a house?'" John said.

The EU too is finally waking up - something this column has long called for.

Europe, not the Dáil, decides practically all our laws now. It says changes in planning, finance and bureaucracy are needed.

But planning here was downright abused in the Tiger era.

I recall sitting through Section 4s in Cromane for instance, where planning permissions were moved by councillors against planners advice and dozens of holiday homes were built- a place that is now screaming for coastal protection. Cromane wasn't the only place. Look at Dunquin!

We can't have the scattergun approach of the Tiger. We also need to stop blaming the councils as bodies, as housing minister Browne and Taoiseach Micheal Martin do.

Since the bust, council planners were straightjacketed by top-down government policy and were given no room to maneuver.

What we do need from the Government, and Minister Browne in particular are laws to dramatically reduce and keep rents low. More Section 47s to stop companies and investment funds buying up residential housing are also needed.

## 1800S GLASSHOUSE SET FOR REFURB



Ambitious plans by the National Parks and Wildlife Service to refurbish the Malone Glasshouse in Muckross have been given the go-ahead.

The glasshouse structure was originally located on the grounds of the Malone House at Lower Countess Road which in turn is associated with Killarney House Grounds. Old maps show the gardens of Killarney House including a historic Water Pump location and the original location of the Glasshouse in Countess.

An underground tunnel linking the gardens and Killarney House still exists, I am told.

The glasshouse built in the 1800s was donated in memory of Peter Malone by his wife, Peggy, to Muckross House in the late 1980s and has become a centrepiece for Muckross House's walled garden.

Features include the cast iron ornate frame, the roofline and vents. A survey by conservation engineers, found a range of works needed to be carried out to restore the lantern ventilation openings, as well as reuputting of glass and additional drainage

The existing heating system also needs upgrading. The tender and rare plants - ranging from amaryllis to daturas- will have to be "de-canted" to the nearby glasshouse temporarily.

Specialist craftsmen and costly scaffolding will be required.

"It will be necessary that the works are carried out by tradespersons with relevant experience on similar type period structures," according to the conservation report by MOC Architects, Killarney accompanying the application.

It will be the second garden structure to undergo refurbishment in Muckross. (By the way, is it "Mucros" or "Muckross", they'd want to decide!) But be aware of the Muckross Crows: they like the putty. Ornithologists and architects were brought in to stop the crows eating the linseed oil rich putty in the lean-to in 2024.

Some said it wasn't the putty - but devilment that had the crows leading the architects in the merry dance!

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Festival  
Killarney

17th  
March  
3.00pm

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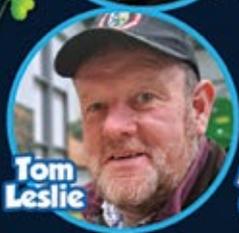
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Dan O'Connor



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# SCOUTS PREPARE FOR Life-Changing Charity Trip to South Africa

Young scouts from Fossa and Killorglin are preparing for a meaningful international journey as they plan a charity trip to South Africa later this year. Members of the 14th Kerry Killorglin and 8th Kerry Fossa Scout Groups will travel to work with local communities, support youth initiatives, and take part in environmental projects.

Scouting has been an important part of life in Ireland for more than 100 years, and the tradition remains strong in Kerry. Local scout groups regularly take part in community events, hiking trips, camps and volunteer activities. Through these experiences, scouts learn teamwork, develop practical skills and build lasting friendships while growing in confidence and independence.

During their time in South Africa, the group will work closely with several organisations, including St. Peters Christian College in Mhluzi, Middleburg, Mpumalanga, and the Amajuba Youth Care Centre. The scouts will assist with development projects, support young people and contribute to environmental work. The trip will give participants the opportunity to make a practical difference while also experiencing a different culture and way of life.

For the scouts involved, the journey represents much more than travel. Helping others is a core value of scouting, and the group hopes the experience will challenge them to step outside their comfort zones while learning new skills and gaining a broader perspective on the world.

However, organising a trip of this scale requires significant preparation and fundraising. The scouts are currently raising money to cover travel expenses and to help fund the community projects they will assist with while in South Africa.

The group has already received strong support from families, scout leaders and the wider local

Members of the Fossa and Killorglin Scouts who are planning a charity trip to South Africa.



community. Organisers say the encouragement has been invaluable as the young scouts work toward making the trip a reality. Community members who wish to support the initiative are encouraged to contribute to the group's fundraising efforts, helping ensure the scouts can complete their journey and make a positive impact abroad.



To make a donation, scan the QR Code

## Killarney Regatta Returns to Mahony's Point This June

The annual Killarney Regatta will take place on Sunday, June 28th, 2026, at Mahony's Point.

The event brings with it great anticipation as the famous Killarney Six-Oar boats return to the water, continuing a proud local tradition that spans 238 years.

Spectators and participants alike are warmly invited to attend. Whether you are taking part in the racing or watching from the shore, it promises to be a wonderful occasion celebrating one of Killarney's longest-standing traditions.

All are welcome to come along and witness this unique spectacle on the lakes of Killarney.

## Minister Foley confirms €230,000 in funding for Students with Disabilities in Kerry

Minister for Children, Disability and Equality and Kerry T.D Norma Foley has confirmed €230,000 in funding for students with disabilities in Kerry.

Kerry ETB will receive €150,000 from the Fund for Students with a Disability to provide assistive technology, personal assistants, transport supports and academic and exam supports for students with disabilities in Post Leaving Certificate (PLC) courses.

Kerry ETB will also get a further €80,000 from a new Transport Fund for Learners with Intellectual Disabilities. This will provide transport supports for the first time to students with intellectual disabilities across further education and training, rather than just PLC courses.

**Minister Foley said:** "We want disabled people to be able to get a good education just like everyone else. I welcome the €230,000 in funding which will help Kerry ETB provide supports and transport for disabled people in further education and training. I would like to thank my cabinet colleague, Minister for Further and Higher Education James Lawless for his assistance. Supporting disabled students in education fits with the motto of the National Human Rights Strategy for Disabled People - equal voices, equal actions, equal futures." SOLAS has now provided guidelines for the new fund and distributed funding to all 16 ETBs, with learners set to benefit in the coming weeks.

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# Kerry Mountain Rescue Launches New Specialist Rescue Vehicle in Killarney



Minister for Rural & Community Development & the Gaeltacht and Minister for Social Protection, Dara Calleary, T.D., With Minister Norma Foley, T.D., members of Kerry Mountain Rescue Team, Mike Finn and John Hussey, and members of Killarney Municipal District, Cllr. Leas Ceann Cathaoirleach, Cllr Maire Moloney, Cllr. Niall Kelleher, Cllr., Niall Foley, Cathaoirleach Cllr., Martine Grady.

The Kerry Mountain Rescue Team officially launched the newest addition to its fleet today at its rescue station in Killarney - a Mountain Rescue specification Ineos Grenadier supplied by Orangeworks Automotive.

The vehicle was formally launched by Dara Calleary TD, who joined team members and invited guests to mark the occasion. The team expressed its sincere gratitude to Kerry County Council for providing a €150,000 grant through the Community Recognition Fund, which made the purchase of the specialist vehicle possible. Speaking at the launch, Cllr Marie Moloney, Leas-Cathaoirleach of Kerry County Council, highlighted the importance of supporting volunteer emergency services that operate in challenging environments across the county. Representatives from Kerry County Council, local councillors, TDs, supporters of the Kerry Mountain Rescue Team, donors, and members of other voluntary organisations attended the event. Personnel from the Irish Coast Guard



Pictured at the unveiling of the newest addition to the fleet are from left, John Hussey, KMRT, Dave Bassett, Ineos Grenadier, Rob Fell, Mike Finn, Aidan Forde, Jimmy Laide, KMRT, Leas Cathaoirleach Killarney Municipal District, Cllr Marie Moloney, Minister Dara Calleary, T.D., Minister Norma Foley, T.D., Director of Services, Martin O'Donoghue, Alex Grassick, Kerry County Council. Photos: Valerie O'Sullivan

and An Garda Síochána were also present to show their support.

The new Mountain Rescue-spec vehicle will significantly enhance the team's ability to respond to emergencies in remote terrain. It is designed to transport casualties safely and efficiently from mountainous areas to awaiting ambulances, improving response times and patient care in difficult conditions.

The Kerry Mountain Rescue Team said the addition of the vehicle will strengthen its operational capability and help volunteers continue their vital work keeping people safe in the mountains of Kerry.

Kerry Mountain Rescue Team is entirely voluntary, with 35 active team members from all walks of life. They train regularly in a range of disciplines such as casualty care, technical rope-work and search management.



Cruise Control...Kerry Mountain Rescue Team members, John Hussey, left and Mike Finn, with Minister for Rural & Community Development & the Gaeltacht and Minister for Social Protection, Dara Calleary, T.D., was in Killarney on Friday to unveil a new state-of-the-art 4x4 'Ineos Grenadier' rescue vehicle for Kerry Mountain Rescue Team Photo: Valerie O'Sullivan



Mike Moloney, with members of Kerry Mountain Rescue Team, presents the team with a cheque of €1200 from the proceeds of his 70th Birthday celebrations where he asked guests to donate to the rescue team instead of giving presents. Included are John Hussey, John Cronin, Mike Finn, Mike Moloney's Wife Cllr Marie Moloney, Don Murphy, Mags Griffin.



Minister for Rural & Community Development & the Gaeltacht and Minister for Social Protection, Dara Calleary, T.D., With Minister Norma Foley, T.D., members of Kerry County Council, and members of the Irish Coast Guard, Michael Cahill, T.D., Minister Michael Healy-Rae.



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# Training the Next Generation: Volunteers and Students Work Together to Protect Killarney National Park

A bright Tuesday morning at Dromrower Wood in Killarney National Park provided the perfect setting for volunteers and students working together to help protect one of Ireland's most treasured landscapes.

Members of the Killarney Mountain Meitheal were joined by Transition Year students from Presentation Convent Secondary School for a hands-on conservation session focused on removing the invasive plant *Rhododendron ponticum*.

With clear skies and strong attendance, volunteers made significant progress clearing the dense rhododendron growth that has long threatened native woodland. Removing the invasive species helps restore the natural balance of the forest by allowing sunlight to reach the woodland floor, encouraging native plants and wildlife to thrive.

Organisers said the involvement of young people was the highlight of the day. The students brought enthusiasm and energy to the task, while also gaining valuable experience in practical conservation work.

For the Meitheal group, the project is about more than just clearing invasive plants. It is also about passing on knowledge and skills to the next generation so that the protection of the National Park continues long into the future.



Members of the Killarney Mountain Meitheal were joined by Transition Year students from Presentation Convent Secondary School for a hands-on conservation session focused on removing the invasive plant *Rhododendron ponticum*.

"Killarney National Park is a shared natural heritage," volunteers explained. "By involving young people now, we help ensure that future generations understand the importance of caring for this landscape."

The Meitheal welcomes volunteers of all ages and backgrounds to join its regular conservation mornings. Sessions take place every Sunday and Tuesday from 9.00am to 12.30pm, weather permitting, with volunteers meeting at Dundag Car Park within the park.

New volunteers are encouraged to attend

for as much or as little time as they can give. Community groups, clubs and workplaces are also invited to organise group volunteer outings with the Meitheal.

After a morning of work in the woods, volunteers traditionally gather for tea and conversation at 11.00am — an opportunity to share stories and enjoy the sense of community that has become a hallmark of the group's efforts to protect the park.

## Minister Foley welcomes confirmation of increased Housing Adaptation Grant funding of €5.3 million for Kerry

Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Kerry TD Norma Foley has welcomed confirmation of €5.3 million in increased Housing Adaptation Grant funding for Kerry.

The grant provides funding for home modifications to make houses more suitable for individuals with long-term disabilities.

The Department of Housing has increased Kerry County Council's allocation for the scheme from €3.5 million last year to €4.3 million this year. Kerry County Council will provide a further €809,000 from its own funds, bringing the total



funding to €5,397,147.

Minister Foley said the increased funding for the Housing Adaptation Grant this year will allow Kerry County Council to support people to continue to live independently in their own homes.

"This funding will have a huge impact on the quality of life of

many older people and people with disabilities throughout county Kerry. Home adaptations are vital to ensure that people who are reaching an age in life when they are less mobile have the option to continue to live

independently in their own homes," she said.

Last year, the Government has increased the maximum level of Housing Adaptation Grant for Disabled People from €30,000 to €40,000 so people can carry out necessary works to make a house more suitable for their needs.

The grants to assist older people to have necessary repairs or improvements carried out on their homes were increased from €8,000 to €10,700. And grants for mobility aids were increased from €6,000 to €8,000.

The Housing (Adaptation Grants for Older People and Disabled People) Regulations 2024 provided the legal basis for the introduction of the recommendations set out in the review completed in 2024.

## CALL TO EXTEND ANSEO BUS SERVICE TO 5KM

*At the recent Killarney Municipal District Meeting, Cllr. John O'Donoghue said: Nonwithstanding the fact that it is a pilot project, given that the TLI themselves have publicly announced what a huge success the Anseo Bus Service has been, that we write to them and request that its range be extended ahead of the summer months, preferably to 5km.*

This is not intended as a criticism of the scheme it has been a huge success something even the TLI themselves have publicly acknowledged by way of a big press release.. My motion is asking that the range be extended to five kilometres because this will allow far more people to access the bus service and it will further

enhance an already wonderful service. As there are 3 buses servicing the area under this scheme, I feel capacity will not be an issue. As the TLI I have publicly stated, that it has been a huge success so it will clearly be continued on after the pilot stage is over so I am asking that ahead of the summer months it be extended to allow people living a little bit further out from town, including in some of our villages, access this service. The lack of public transport in our county is often mentioned, here we have a chance to alleviate that a little if common sense can prevail over bureaucracy. Our town is choked with traffic for much of the year, particularly during the summer months. Here we have a golden opportunity to give the option to leave the car at home, I really hope we take it.

Best wishes to **Jessie Buckley** ahead of her Oscar nomination.

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# Kerry Stars Shine at the Launch of Ablefest 2026 in Killarney

Excitement is building in Killarney as Ablefest returns on Sunday, March 15th from 12pm to 4pm at the St Patrick's Festival Hub at Beech Road Carpark. Now in its second year, the inclusive festival is set to be bigger, brighter and bursting with even more fun, laughter and community spirit.

Ablefest is all about celebrating inclusion and creating a welcoming space for people of all abilities, along with their families, friends and supporters. For four fun-filled hours the hub will come alive with music, creativity and plenty of opportunities to dance, play and make memories together. From toe-tapping tunes to hands-on activities, there will be something for everyone to enjoy.

Among the highlights will be live entertainment, including a headline performance from Jake Carter and his band. Festivalgoers can also enjoy a Silent Disco, drumming sessions, face painting, puppet shows and sensory-friendly spaces - ensuring that every visitor can join the fun in a way that suits them. With so much happening, Ablefest promises magical moments around every corner and plenty of reasons to get into the festival groove.

The launch at Killarney Leisure Centre on Thursday was also a wonderful opportunity to shine a spotlight on the Kerry Stars athletes who will represent the county at the Special Olympics Summer Games in Dublin this June. Luke Scollard from Scartaglen takes part in athletics, therapeutic horse riding and swimming with the Kerry Stars. At the Summer Games he will compete in the 4K Shot Put and the 200m run, where he'll be hoping to really throw down the gauntlet and sprint for success. Joe Buckley from Faha is involved in athletics, basketball and soccer with the club. Joe will be taking to the track and field in Dublin where he will compete in the 100m sprint and mini javelin - proving he's ready to go the distance and make his mark.



The Kerry Stars were front and centre at Killarney Leisure Centre on Thursday as Ablefest was officially launched. Front row (L-R): Luke Scollard, Joe Buckley, Caoimhe Brosnan and Sophie Twiss - gearing up for the Special Olympics Summer Games in Dublin this June. Back row (L-R): Olive Horgan, Shirley McGough, Belle Vega Griffin, Emilia Rypalska, Stella Moloney and Catherine Doyle.

Photo: Marie Carroll-O'Sullivan

Caoimhe Brosnan from Kilcummin participates in athletics, basketball, soccer and swimming with the Kerry Stars. At the Summer Games she will compete in the 25m freestyle and 25m backstroke, where she will undoubtedly make a splash for Kerry.

Sophie Twiss from Miltown enjoys therapeutic horse riding and swimming with the Kerry Stars. Sophie will also be competing in swimming at the Summer Games, taking part in two events as she prepares to dive into the action in Dublin.

The launch event highlighted not only the upcoming festival but also the incredible talent,

determination and team spirit of the Kerry Stars athletes. Their achievements perfectly capture the heart of what Ablefest is all about - participation, celebration and making sure everyone has their moment to shine.

As the countdown begins, organisers are encouraging everyone to come along, soak up the atmosphere and join the celebration. With music, colour, creativity and community at its core, Ablefest is sure to strike the right note once again. For more information, log onto the St Patrick's Day Festival website and click on Ablefest. QR Code attached also.

## OPW announces Irish Sign Language Tours (ISL) at OPW locations nationwide

The Office of Public Works (OPW) is delighted to announce a series of accessible tours at various OPW locations nationwide, including Ross Castle, specifically designed for the Irish Sign Language (ISL) community. These tours are part of an exciting initiative to make heritage sites accessible to all. Visitors can enjoy a unique experience led by expert guides and accompanied by an ISL interpreter, highlighting the rich history and hidden gems at these historical locations.

Minister of State with responsibility for the Office of Public Works, Kevin "Boxer" Moran T.D. stated, "We are delighted to offer these accessible tours at OPW locations across the country. Ensuring that

all visitors can enjoy and participate in our cultural heritage is a priority and we are committed to expanding the availability of ISL interpreted tours at OPW heritage sites nationwide."

The tours will run from March right through until September and are offered free of charge, however spaces are limited. Visitors are advised to contact the site and book in advance to avoid disappointment.

This initiative aims to make our cultural heritage more assessable and inclusive to all and encourages visitors to avail of the OPW's carefully curated and engaging visitor experiences. For more information please click on the following link: [www.heritageireland.ie](http://www.heritageireland.ie).





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# The Gathering Celebrates the Best of Traditional Irish Music



Celebrating International Women's Day, musicians from left, Eileen O'Donoghue, Grace Angland, Orla McAuliffe, Gretta Curtin, Eileen O'Brien, Brogan McAuliffe, Sheila O'Donoghue, Mahilet and Hy-Ha O'Leary, at the Gathering Festival of Traditional Irish Music, Concerts and Sliabh Luachra set dancing at the Gleneagle Hotel, Killarney at the weekend.

Photos: Valerie O'Sullivan



Lucky Juno support dog enjoying the concert with her Pupils from St. Oliver's Primary School, Killarney, taking part in the Traditional Gathering Festival Schools Outreach Music Programme supported by Killarney Credit Union, which included Musicians, Dancers.



Taking part in the set dancing workshop, at the Gathering Festival of Traditional Irish Music, Concerts and Sliabh Luachra set dancing at the Gleneagle Hotel, Killarney at the weekend



Nicholas Rozmerita, a Pupil at St. Oliver's Primary School, Killarney.



Full steam ahead.. at the Gathering Festival of Traditional Irish Music, Concerts and Sliabh Luachra set dancing at the Gleneagle Hotel, Killarney at the weekend.

Mirror mirror...  
Well known Set  
Dancer Bill Lynch,  
taking part in the  
ceili mór.



Edwina Guckian teaching at the  
Sean Nos dancing workshop,  
at the Gathering Festival.



Daisy O'Brien, left and Zi Xi Lin, Pupils from St. Oliver's Primary School, Killarney  
taking part in the Traditional Gathering Festival Schools Outreach  
Music Programme supported by Killarney Credit Union



Celebrating International Women's Day, Shiela  
O'Donoghue, left, Mahilet and Vy-Ha O'Leary



John O'Shea Organiser of the  
Gathering Festival.



Súin Morrissey, taking  
part in a session, at the  
Gathering Festival.



junior pupils from St. Oliver's  
Primary School, Killarney.



Mathona O'Connor



Mathona Long, left and Catriona Morrissey,  
at the Edwina Guckian Sean Nos dancing workshop.



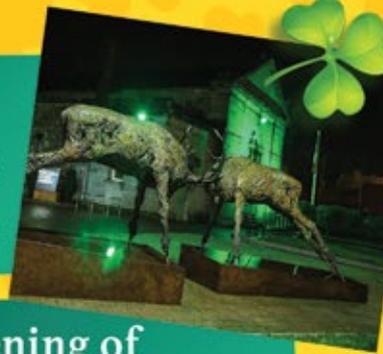
Ollie Pyne, left, River Kelliher and Mark Zulcas,  
pupils from St. Oliver's Primary School, Killarney.



# St. Patrick's Festival Killarney 2026

6th-23rd  
March 2026

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

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14th  
March  
12.00pm

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15th  
March  
12.00pm

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- 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: €10  
Family Ticket: €50 (2 Adults & 3 children)

Beech Road Car Park

**NEW**

16th  
March

**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. Winners to receive Studio Record Time. Participants aged 10 to 21 yrs.

Register your interest at [stpatricksfestivalkillarney@gmail.com](mailto:stpatricksfestivalkillarney@gmail.com)

16th  
March  
9.00pm

**Céili Mór**  
**NEW**

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

Tickets €10.00 | Great Southern Hotel

**TICKET EVENT**

17th  
March  
4.00pm

**DUNK FOR THE STARS**  
**BUY YOUR BALL**

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 3.00pm



In association with and supported by



St. Patrick's Festival Killarney

Ireland's Family Festival

17th  
March  
12.00pm

## Pre-Parade Entertainment

with Pádraig Buckley & Killarney School of Music  
12.30pm to 1.30pm from The Reviewing Stand on Main Street.  
Join in all the fun of the festival.

CELEBRATING  
OUR NATIONAL  
HOLIDAY IN STYLE!



# St. Patrick's Day FESTIVAL PARADE

Echoes of  
Killarney Future

FREE EVENT

...come along and enjoy the fun!



**Child collection Point**  
Parents/guardians can collect children participating in the parade at the child collection point in the Festival Zone, Beech Road car Park.

## FESTIVAL ZONE + FOOD COURT

(12pm to 6 pm) Beech Road Car Park Lower.  
Kiddies Fair Ground Rides, Kids Entertainment  
Balloon Modelling, Face Painting and Kids  
Video Disco, Magic with Puppets, Animal  
Roadshow & Much Much More...

## PARADE ROUTE 2026



## FREE PARKING

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- Penney's car Park V93 TK22
- St. Brendan's college V93 IP49
- Killarney Community college V93 NA48
- Presentation Monastery NS V93 FP49
- Killarney Race course V93 KR0H
- St. Olivers School, Ballycasheen V93 WS94

Scan the QR code to book tickets for all ticketed events



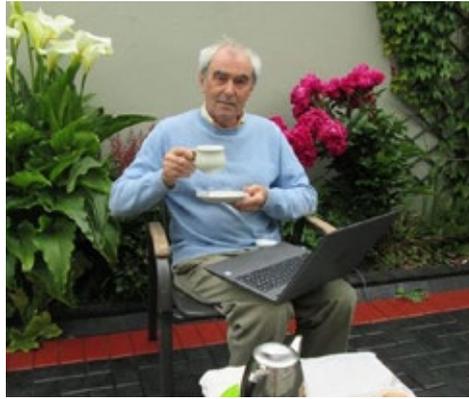
www.stpatricksfestivalkillarney.ie

# Community Encouraged to Support “Drink Tea for MND” Fundraiser

It is hard to believe that twelve months have passed since the last “Drink Tea for MND” initiative was held. This year, on behalf of Kerry Friends of Motor Neurone, the public is once again being urged to support the important fundraiser, which provides vital assistance to people living with Motor Neurone Disease (MND) across Ireland.

Funds raised through the initiative help provide financial support for home care and specialist medical equipment for more than 470 people affected by Motor Neurone Disease throughout the twenty-six counties. The campaign is one of the most important annual fundraisers organised by the Irish Motor Neurone Disease Association (IMNDA), helping to ensure essential services remain available for those who rely on them.

Over the years, the organisation has expanded the support it can offer. In 2011, the IMNDA had just two nurses covering the entire country. Thanks to dedicated fundraising efforts and support from the public, that number has now grown to seven specialist nurses who work



*Christy Lehane is encouraging everyone to Drink Tea for MND*

closely with people living with MND and their families. Last year alone, these nurses carried out 1,131 home visits, providing vital care and support.

Despite this progress, the cost of delivering these services continues to rise. That is why organisers are appealing to communities once again to get involved in “Drink Tea for

MND.” First launched in 2018, the initiative has become the largest fundraising campaign organised by the IMNDA.

Last year’s event raised an impressive €150,000. However, organisers note that approximately 85 per cent of the association’s income comes from fundraising activities such as tea parties and community events.

People are encouraged to host their own tea parties or coffee mornings at any stage during the month of March to support the campaign. Those who cannot organise an event can still contribute by making a donation online at [www.imnda.ie](http://www.imnda.ie) or by contacting the organisation directly at 01 6703552.

Supporters are thanked for their continued generosity and commitment to helping those living with Motor Neurone Disease. By simply putting the kettle on and gathering family and friends together, communities can once again make a meaningful difference through “Drink Tea for MND.”

## Uplifting Message at this year’s SKDP Women’s Day Event



*Pictured at the event are: Front L-R: Julie Brosnan; Sheila Dickson; Sherin Abdelnabi from Sister Sheds; Jurga Butkut. Back L-R: Siobhan Griffin; Latifa Jawadi Tetyana Olkhovska; Iryna Puzdria; Michelle Hand*

“We Rise by Lifting Others” was the message delivered to women attending this year’s Women’s Day event held in Killarney this week. More than 150 women from many different countries attended the event in The Brehon Hotel. Organised by South Kerry Development Partnership CLG, through the SICAP Programme, the event aims to inspire migrant women of different backgrounds and cultures to come together and celebrate their own unique cultures and make connections with each other.

Speakers at the event included Sherin Abdelnabi from the Sister Sheds organisation and former advisor on women’s affairs to the Afghani Government Latifa Jawadi. Attendees were also able to interact and get support & advice from 15 different service providers who had information stands at the event.

This is the second year it has been organised and one of the event organisers, SICAP Inter-Cultural Support worker Iryna Puzdria said it is a wonderful opportunity for women of all backgrounds and cultures to join together and support each other on their integration journey in Ireland. “Having the opportunity to speak with and hear the stories of others provides hope and inspiration to women, particularly those who have recently arrived in Ireland” Iryna said. Tetyana Olkhovska, also a SICAP Inter-Cultural Support worker with SKDP added that the event is an excellent opportunity for women to engage with key services in the region. “All of us in SKDP look forward to working with and supporting these women as they develop and integrate into their new lives in Ireland” Tetyana concluded.

*Muckross Rowing Club Junior Ladies crews celebrating International Women’s Day at their boathouse in Muckross on Sunday, with their coaches, Aine and Shona O’Sullivan, Elaine Daly, Aoife Concannon, Sharon Cooper O’Connor, Chairperson Muckross Rowing Club and Aine Sweeney. Photo: Valerie O’Sullivan*



# GLENEAGLE ARENA

## Upcoming 2026

### St. Patrick's Celebration Live

Enjoy a weekend celebration of live music, dance & special guests.

13 MAR <b>THE MERSEY BEATLES</b>	14 MAR <b>MIKE DENVER &amp; GUESTS</b> In Concert
13 MAR <b>JACK KEOGH</b> Dance	15 MAR <b>JIMMY BUCKLEY</b> Dance
13 MAR <b>SERENA TERRY</b> Therapy	16 MAR <b>PETER BURKE</b> Dance
14 MAR <b>STUART MOYLES</b>	17 MAR <b>CHRIS DALLAT</b> Dance

<b>DAN MCCABE</b> WITH SPECIAL GUEST <b>GEARÓID MCCARTHY</b> FRI 20 MAR 2026 FROM €44.20		<b>THE DUBLINERS</b> ENCORE SUN 12 APR 2026 FROM €38.50		<b>THE PIANO MAN</b> SUN 19 APR 2026 FROM €33.65	
<b>I'M GRAND MAM</b> HAPPY CAMPERS SAT 21 MAR 2026 FROM €40.20		<b>FRANCIS ROSSI</b> MON 13 APR 2026 FROM €46.70		<b>JASON BYRNE</b> HEAD IN THE CLOUDS FRI 24 APR 2026 FROM €31.50	
<b>AN AUDIENCE</b> WITH LIVERPOOL LEGENDS THUR 26 MAR 2026 FROM €41.20		<b>MARK MEHIGAN</b> HOUSE OF LOONS THUR 16 APR 2026 FROM €33.65		<b>DAMIEN</b> DEMPSEY SAT 25 APR 2026 FROM €34.65	
<b>JACK PATRICK</b> HEALY ORANGE IS THE NEW JACK SUN 05 APR 2026 FROM €21.00		<b>NATHAN CARTER</b> FRI 17 APR 2026 FROM €39.20		<b>AN INTIMATE</b> EVENING WITH PAUL YOUNG FRI 01 MAY 2026 FROM €43.20	
<b>QWEEN &amp; THE</b> DUBLIN GOSPEL CHOIR FRI 10 APR 2026 FROM €28.00		<b>THE 30+ CLUB</b> SAT 18 APR 2026 FROM €18.25		<b>DIVERSITY</b> FRI 01 MAY 2026 FROM €28.50	

ON SALE WEDNESDAY 18TH MARCH 2026

GLENEAGLE ARENA



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# KILLARNEY EXHIBITION AND LECTURE ON FOUNDATIONS OF FIANNA FáIL

## Talk on centenary of party at Killarney Library on 26 March

A widely acclaimed exhibition on the origins and early years of Fianna Fáil in Kerry will open at Killarney Library on 10 March for a three-week period and will coincide with a free public lecture on the subject at the library on 26 March.

This year marks the centenary of the foundation of the party in 1926 and the exhibition,

presented by historian 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 was officially opened by An Taoiseach Micheál Martin recently at Tralee Library. Mr Martin said the exhibition "has provided a deep insight into the foundations and rapid growth of one of democratic Europe's most successful political parties."

Owen will deliver a talk on the same subject on Thursday, 26 March at Killarney Library at 7pm as part of the programme of lectures from the Kerry Archaeological and Historical Society. The lecture is free and open to members of the public.

"The foundation of Fianna Fáil 100 years ago 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



Owen O'Shea with his exhibition on the early years of Fianna Fáil in Kerry. Photos: Michelle Breen Crean Photography



An Taoiseach inspects the new exhibition of material relating to the early years of Fianna Fáil in Kerry with Dr Owen O'Shea.

68% in 1933."

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 and 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. It will be open at Killarney Library during library opening hours until 31 March.

## Minister Foley welcomes increased of funding of over €1.1 million to turn around vacant social housing in Kerry

Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Kerry TD Norma Foley has welcomed confirmation of increased funding of over €1.1 million for refurbishing social housing in Kerry.

Kerry County Council is getting the funding to improve the turnaround time of social housing when tenants move out and new tenants move in. It will also help to fund the active maintenance programme for social housing so that the existing housing stock

is kept in good condition continuously.

The funding being provided for Kerry County Council's voids and maintenance programme has been increased to €1.165 million this year, compared to around €932,000 last year.

Minister Foley said: "I welcome confirmation of this increased funding of €1.1 for refurbishing social housing in Kerry from my cabinet colleague, Minister for Housing James Browne."



# PARK HOTEL KENMARE

## Mother's Day Lunch *Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> of March*



This Mother's Day, treat the mother figure in your life to a memorable Sunday lunch at Landline.

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# KERRY STARS HOST SUCCESSFUL Vincent Lacke Memorial Soccer Tournament

The Kerry Stars Special Olympics Sports Club recently hosted the second Vincent Lacke Memorial Soccer Tournament, a special day of sport, remembrance and community spirit in honour of their much-missed friend and teammate.

Vincent was a beloved member of the Kerry Stars club and, although he is sadly missed, the annual tournament celebrates his life and the wonderful memories he created with fellow athletes and volunteers. The event was made possible through the dedication, planning and organisation of the club's soccer coaches and volunteers who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure another successful tournament.

Male and female teams from Kerry Stars took to the pitch alongside visiting teams from Mallow and Cork Leeds. A mixed women's team made up of volunteers from the participating clubs also joined the action, adding to the spirit of fun and camaraderie throughout the day. All players gave their best performances, with organisers praising the effort and enthusiasm



shown by every athlete and volunteer.

At the end of a fantastic day of football, the Mallow male and female teams were presented with the perpetual trophies.

The tournament could not have taken place without the support of many groups and individuals. The Order of Malta provided assistance on the day, while the staff of the Killarney Sports and Leisure Centre helped facilitate the event. Parents, families and volunteers also played a vital role in ensuring everything ran smoothly.

Vincent's sister Mary Lyne attended with her husband Mikey, cheering on all the teams. The family hope that relatives from America will be

able to travel over to attend the tournament next year.

Staff from Tesco also came along to support the event, with store manager Brendan presenting the trophies and medals to the athletes. Vincent had been a valued member of the Tesco team, working with the company for over 20 years, making their involvement especially meaningful.

The day truly reflected a strong community effort. Volunteers and families kept everyone fuelled with refreshments throughout the tournament. Caroline and her friends prepared ten trays of sandwiches, Tesco donated doughnuts and pastries, and athlete Jane Curran's homemade

shortbread and butterfly buns proved particularly popular.

On the sporting side, male team coach Pat Fuller led the warm-up alongside athlete fitness coach Cliona Palmer, ensuring teams were ready for action. Female soccer coach Cathleen kept the day running smoothly, coordinating referees and players to keep matches on schedule.

The club expressed heartfelt thanks to all volunteers, referees, helpers and supporters who contributed to such a memorable day. With another successful tournament completed, the Kerry Stars are already looking forward to hosting the event again next year in memory of Vincent

## Killarney for Palestine Hosts 'A Taste of Palestine' Fundraiser in Aid of Gaza



Taste of Palestine. Photo by Mahmoud Ajjour

Killarney for Palestine is delighted to invite the community to A Taste of Palestine, a vibrant cultural and culinary fundraiser taking place on Saturday, 21st March, from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Noelles Cafe, Market Lane, Killarney.

This family-friendly afternoon promises a warm welcome and a rich celebration of Palestinian heritage, featuring an array of beautiful traditional dishes and sweet treats for

attendees to sample. Guests can look forward to live cookery demonstrations throughout the day from Bilal Aldarabe (Dura, Palestine), offering a unique insight into the flavours and techniques of Palestinian cuisine.

The event will also include children's crafts and facepainting, along with a raffle featuring exciting prizes. All proceeds from the day will go directly toward supporting displaced

families living in Gaza.

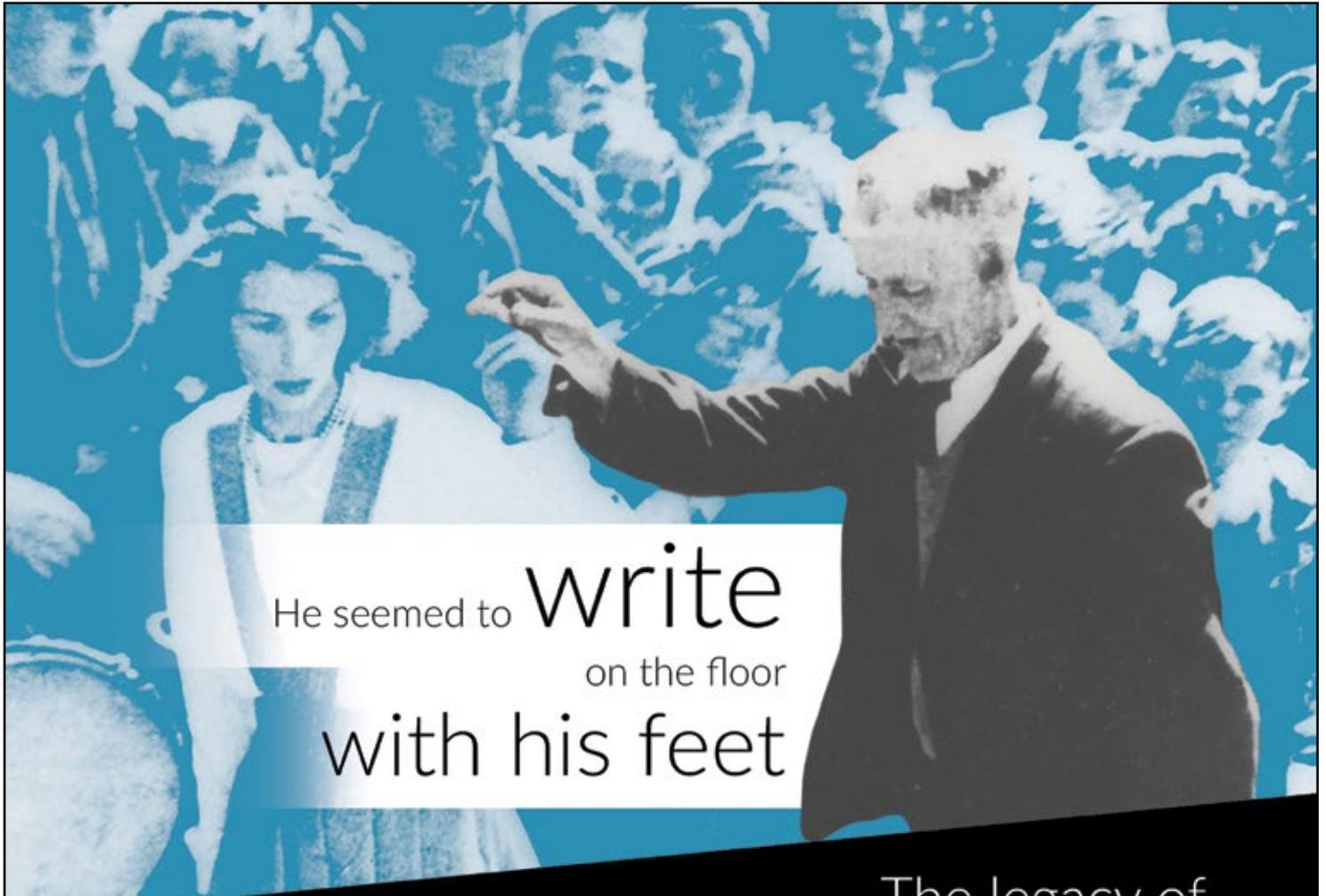
Taher and Noelle, owners of Noelles Cafe, who are generously hosting and supporting the event, shared their heartfelt motivation behind the fundraiser: "As a multicultural café, we are deeply aware of how food connects people across borders. Our customers come from all over the world, and we believe our café should reflect compassion, solidarity, and community.

This event is about humanity. It is about coming together as a local community to support families in need. We are honoured that members of our community are contributing traditional Palestinian dishes, alongside everything we will be providing on the day.

In difficult times, even small acts of kindness can make a meaningful difference. That is what March 21st at Noelle's is about. We warmly invite the people of Killarney and the surrounding areas to join us, share a meal, and stand together in support."

Killarney for Palestine extends its sincere gratitude to Noelles Cafe and all volunteers contributing to the event. The group encourages everyone to come along, enjoy a taste of Palestine, and show solidarity with those who need it most.

**Event Details: A Taste of Palestine – Fundraiser for Gaza, Saturday, 21st March, 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Noelles Cafe, Market Lane, Killarney**  
Donations welcome on the day | All proceeds go directly to displaced families in Gaza



He seemed to **write**  
on the floor  
with his feet

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**Jeremiah Molyneaux:**

The Last of the Travelling Dancing Masters of North Kerry

Sat 7th - Sun 22nd March, 2026

11am - 4pm, The Schoolhouse, Muckross Traditional Farms

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Tradition of North Kerry

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# Bake Killarney Launches "Soda Bread Sessions" for St. Patrick's Day



Laura's mum  
Kate baking  
Soda Bread



Laura Sourke



Laura's nan Alice  
baking Soda  
Bread

A new celebration of traditional Irish baking is coming to Killarney this St. Patrick's Day as Bake Killarney hosts the launch of The Soda Bread Sessions, inviting the community to experience the magic of authentic soda bread making. Taking place from 10am to 1pm at the Enterprise Centre on St. Mary's Terrace, the event will feature free baking demonstrations and tastings, giving visitors the chance to watch soda bread being made and enjoy it fresh from the oven.

At Bake Killarney, the newly launched Soda Bread Sessions experience celebrates not only the heritage of Irish baking, but also the personal family story behind the recipes themselves.

The story begins with Alice, whose kitchen was always filled with the comforting smell of freshly baked bread. Like many women of her generation, baking wasn't a hobby - it was simply part of everyday life. Using basic ingredients such as flour, buttermilk and baking soda, Alice would make brown and white soda bread for her family, often teaching the next

generation by example rather than written instructions.

Her daughter Kate grew up watching those same traditions unfold. The recipes were never written down; they were learned by eye, by feel and by memory. Measuring flour by hand, mixing the dough and cutting the familiar cross into the top of the loaf became second nature. Those quiet moments in the kitchen became the foundation of a lifelong love of baking.

Years later, Kate passed those same traditions on to her daughter Laura Sourke, continuing the family's connection to Irish baking. What once happened in a family kitchen has now grown into something that can be shared with visitors from around the world.

Today at Bake Killarney, Laura and her husband Dan welcome guests into a working bakery where the traditions learned from her mother and grandmother are still very much alive.

At the heart of the Soda Bread Sessions is that treasured family tradition. Rather than relying on precise measurements, Laura continues the style of baking she learned growing up -

guided by instinct rather than strict recipes. "There's no exact recipe," Laura explains. "My grandmother never measured anything - she just knew by feel. I do the same, adjusting as I go. It's a bit of freestyle baking, but it always turns out beautifully." That relaxed, intuitive approach is part of what makes the bread so special. Each batch is mixed, shaped and baked with a feel for the dough that only comes from years of experience, resulting in a rich, hearty loaf that perfectly captures the warmth of Irish home baking.

Visitors to the event will be able to see the process up close, from mixing the dough to watching it transform in the oven, before tasting the finished bread served the traditional way.

The Soda Bread Sessions are designed to celebrate Irish food heritage while creating a welcoming, community-focused experience for locals and visitors alike. With St. Patrick's Day festivities taking place across the town, the event offers a chance to slow down, enjoy a slice of tradition and learn about one of Ireland's most iconic breads.

*Everyone is welcome to attend the free launch event, where the aroma of freshly baked soda bread promises to be hard to resist.*

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Sunday 15th March

# ABLEFEST Killarney

St. Patrick's Festival Killarney

- MUSIC & ARTS FESTIVAL -

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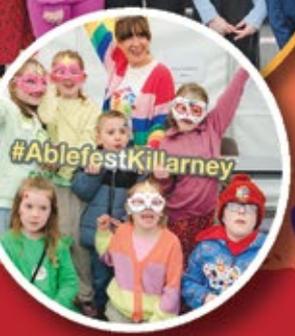
## Festival Zone

Beech Road car Park, Killarney  
12pm-4pm

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

### LIVE MUSIC LINE UP

# DJ DONAL RETROGRADE SUPER CEILI JAKE CARTER



Tickets on sale on

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

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

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# Killarney Credit Union Launches Social Impact Report Highlighting Community Impact and Member Value



Killarney Credit Union has launched its latest Social Impact Report, showcasing the meaningful difference the credit union continues to make in the lives of its members and the wider community.

The report highlights how Killarney Credit Union has supported local families, businesses, and community organisations over the past year through accessible financial services, community investment, and initiatives designed to promote financial wellbeing.

"Our credit union exists to serve people, not profit," said Mark Murphy, CEO. "This Social Impact Report demonstrates the real value of the credit union model - keeping money in the community, supporting members through every stage of life, and helping build a stronger, more resilient local economy."

#### Key highlights from the report include:

- **Community Investment:** Over €60,000 invested in local community initiatives, charities, and sponsorships throughout the communities of South & East Kerry.
- **Member Support:** 2842 loans totalling €27.1 million issued to members, helping fund homes, education, small businesses, and everyday needs.
- **Green Loans :** €6.2 million paid out in Green Loans helping members to make more affordable greener choices in funding home and transport initiatives.
- **Achievement:** Killarney Credit Union winning the Members Choice Credit Union of the year in October.

The Social Impact Report also reflects the credit union's ongoing commitment to responsible lending, financial inclusion, and sustainable community development.

"Every loan, savings account, and conversation with a member represents an opportunity to make a positive difference," added Bernard Hourihan, Chairperson, Killarney Credit Union. "This report captures those stories and demonstrates how cooperative finance strengthens communities."

Members and the public can access the full Social Impact Report at [www.killarneycu.ie/community/social-impact](http://www.killarneycu.ie/community/social-impact). Killarney Credit Union is a member-owned financial cooperative serving the communities of South & East Kerry. Killarney Credit Union provides savings, loans, and financial services designed to meet the needs of local people while reinvesting in the community.

*Bernard Hourihan Chairperson, Mark Murphy CEO, Ger Galvin and Patrick Sheehan Killarney Credit Union with representatives of groups, clubs and organisations who received sponsorship in the last financial year Killarney Celtic FC, Killarney Cardiac Response, Fossa GAA Club, Kerry Hospice, Dr Crokes GAA Club, St Oliver's National School, Fossa GAA Club at the launch of the Killarney Credit Union Social Impact Report Highlighting Community Impact and Member Value at Killarney Credit Union. Photo by Michelle Cooper Galvin*



*Bernard Hourihan Chairperson, Mark Murphy CEO, Patrick Sheehan Killarney Credit Union with representatives of groups, clubs and organisations with representatives who received sponsorship in the last financial year from Killarney Credit Union Killarney Musical Society, St Brendans College, Gaelscoil Faithleann, St Pauls Basketball, Killarney Legion, Kerry Mental Health, East Kerry Scór and Killarney Park Run. at Killarney Credit Union. Photo by Michelle Cooper Galvin*



*Bernard Hourihan Chairperson, Mark Murphy CEO, Patrick Sheehan Killarney Credit Union with representatives of groups, clubs and organisations with representatives who received sponsorship in the last financial year from Killarney Credit Union Killarney Athletic, Team Hope, Ballyfinnane Community Centre, Kilcummin Comhaltas, Killarney Club 7s, Farranfore Run, Killarney Valley Classic & Vintage Club, Down Syndrome Kerry, Killarney Cycling Club, Killarney Cougars and Glenflesk GAA. at Killarney Credit Union. Photo by Michelle Cooper Galvin*

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## Return of the 80s & 90s to the Killarney Avenue Hotel

In association with Raheen National School



Revelles revisited Members of Killarney Avenue Management Team, DJ Botty O'Callaghan and Raheen National School Parents Association on the door in 2025.  
Photo Marie Carroll O'Sullivan:

This Easter Saturday, 4 April, the Killarney Avenue Hotel becomes a time machine carrying us back to the nights when the dancefloor was packed, the slow sets were legendary, and every song held a memory. From 9pm until late, DJ Botty O'Callaghan will bring the soundtrack of the 80s and 90s roaring back to life. After the overwhelming response in 2025, and countless requests for "one more night," Raheen National School is delighted to revive this celebration of two unforgettable decades. Last year, people returned from all over Ireland, and even the UK, to share stories of first dates, engagements, weddings, and nights that began in Revelles and stayed with them for years. For some, it was a reunion with the music of their youth. For others, it was their first glimpse of what a real slow set once meant. This year promises the same magic: the same laughter, the same memories, and the same feeling of stepping back into a moment you thought was gone.

Strictly over 18s. All proceeds support the Raheen National School Parents Association. Tickets (€20) available from Raheen N.S., Parents Association members, and local retailers including the Killarney Avenue Hotel, Caragh Restaurant Killarney, O'Donoghue's and Frankie's Barraduff, and Top Oil Glenflesk Service Station. Tickets will also be available on the door on the night.

## RELAY FOR LIFE KERRY IS LAUNCHED

The launch of Relay for Life Kerry took place on Wednesday 4th March. The first of its kind in Kerry, relay for life is a 24 hour walking event which celebrates survivors, remembers those we have lost and stand united with those facing cancer. The event will take place on 5th & 6th September 2026.

Speakers from the Irish Cancer Society including Ciara Hughes Relay for Life Campaign Manager and John Sheehy, a volunteer driver with the Irish Cancer Society who brings patients to their appointments were present. The Relay For Life Kerry Event Chair, Mary Leane also spoke along with the local survivor ambassador Aisling Keane who is now in remission.

*Relay for Life Kerry is now calling all those who want to get involved in the event. This can be entering a team, registering for the Survivor experience. Please check out Relay For Life Kerry on Facebook, Instagram or the event page on the Relay For Life website to register or find out more information.*



Pictured in photo is Relay For Life Kerry Committee L/R Caroline Kelly, Eirn Lyons, Eilish Lyons, Martin Leane, Mary Leane, Aisling Keane, Maggie Mangan, Anne Marie Dillon and Cliona Leane.

## Fossa National School 5th Class Raise €1,040 for Charity



Pictured is Caoimhe Mc Carthy presenting the cheque to Sohan Reen representing the Jack & Jill Foundation.

Students in 5th Class at Fossa National School recently organised a successful charity bake sale in support of the Jack and Jill Foundation.

The event received fantastic support from students, parents, and staff, with the entire school community coming together to contribute. Thanks to the generosity of the wider community, the bake sale raised an impressive €1,040.00 for the charity.

The Jack and Jill Foundation provides vital in-home nursing care and support for families of children with severe learning disabilities across Ireland.

Pictured are the 5th Class students presenting a cheque for €1,040 to Siobhan Reen, representing the Jack and Jill Foundation.

The students were delighted with the success of their fundraiser and proud to support such an important cause.



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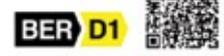


Set on approx. 0.22 acres in a quiet cul-de-sac, this bright and spacious 3 bed 3 bath detached bungalow (approx. 1,100ft<sup>2</sup>) offers an exceptional opportunity in one of Killarney's most sought-after areas. Just a short stroll from the town centre, Killarney House & Gardens, and the National Park, the property combines convenient access to local amenities with a peaceful, residential setting.

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SPA PARISH

By Leanne Cronin



Spa U6s Receiving their new Footballs from the Killarney Club 7s Committee



Tadhg O'Sullivan and Timmy McGuillicuddy receiving their Lotto Cheques

**SPA ACADEMY BACK IN ACTION**

Spa GAA Academy made a fantastic return last weekend with great numbers of young players back on the pitch and plenty of new faces joining in. Boys and girls aged 3 to 12 years enjoyed a lively morning of football, skills and games, with huge energy from both the players and the club's dedicated coaches and volunteers. A special thank you to our Killarney Club 7s Committee, who generously provided a new football for every child in attendance – a wonderful gesture that allows our young players to keep practising and enjoying the game at home. The Academy continues every Saturday from 10am to 11am, and new players are always welcome.

**HISTORIC FIRST MATCH FOR SPA MINOR GIRLS TEAM**

History was made on Monday night as Spa fielded a Girls Minor team for the very first time. The occasion highlighted the success and importance of the club's Academy in recent years and marked a significant milestone for women in sport within the wider community.

**SPA U14 GIRLS ATTEND NOVEMBER "AHEAD OF THE GAME" WORKSHOP**

Spa GAA's Health & Wellbeing Committee recently organised a November Ahead of the Game workshop for the club's U14 girls, with guest facilitators Conor Bohane and Julia White leading the session. The well-attended evening brought together players, parents and coaches to focus on mental fitness, wellbeing and the importance of open conversations in sport. Both speakers shared insights from their own sporting journeys and encouraged the girls to value resilience, teamwork and communication both on and off the pitch.

**SPA GAA LOTTO JACKPOT WINNERS**

Cheques were recently presented to our joint Lotto winners from last month. Huge congratulations to Tadhg O'Sullivan and Timmy McGuillicuddy, who shared the fantastic €8,700 jackpot. They are pictured here receiving their cheques from Jim Gleeson, Tadhg Hickey and Laura Wickham. Our Club Lotto takes place every Monday evening, and tickets can be purchased online at [www.spagaa.com/draws](http://www.spagaa.com/draws)

**SPA MINOR BOYS THROUGH TO DIVISION E MINOR SHIELD FINAL**

Congratulations to the Spa Minor Boys team who defeated St Marys /

Renard 9-23 to 3-9 to reach the Division E Minor Shield Final. Details of the Final will be on the Club Socials and website [www.spagaa.com](http://www.spagaa.com) once known.

**SPA SENIOR MEN'S COUNTY LEAGUE CAMPAIGN BEGINS**

Best of luck to the Spa Senior Men's team as they get their Credit Union Senior Football County League Division 1 campaign underway against Killarney Legion on Sunday 15th March. The game takes place away in Direen, and all support for the team would be greatly appreciated.

**HAPPY MOTHERS DAY TO OUR SPA MEMBERS**

Spa GAA would like to wish all the wonderful mothers in our club and community a very happy Mother's Day. We thank you for everything you do to support our players and club, from the sidelines to behind the scenes, your contribution is truly appreciated. We would also like to highlight our growing Mothers & Others team, a fantastic initiative that offers a fun and social way to get involved in Gaelic football. New members are always welcome, and anyone interested can contact Susan Waters on 087 9010999 for more information.

**SPA GAA SET FOR ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE**

Spa GAA will once again be taking part in the Killarney St Patrick's Day Parade this year. With the theme "Echoes of Killarney Future," our organising committee along with many of our young members have been busy putting together ideas and preparations for what promises to be our best showing yet. Be sure to keep an eye out for the Spa GAA group as the parade makes its way through the town!

**CLUB MEMBERSHIP**

Reminder that 2026 membership subscriptions are now due. To renew your membership, visit our website [www.spagaa.com/membership](http://www.spagaa.com/membership) products or contact one of our registrars Ger Mangan – 087 251 2266 / Deirdre O'Sullivan Darcy – 085 121 6359

**CLUB LOTTO**

Spa Lotto 9/3/2026 Results. Numbers drawn: 17, 19, 23, 28. No jackpot winner. Lucky Dips €50 each: Hugh O'Donoghue, Online; Kathleen Kelly, Ballyspillane; Rita McKenna, Mill Road; Sinéad Garnett, Muckross; Next week's draw will be on Monday 16 March for a jackpot of €3,600. Play online [www.spagaa.com/draws](http://www.spagaa.com/draws)



The Spa Minor Boys Team who played in the Shield Semi Final



Spa Ladies Minor Team

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**GLENFLESK PARISH**

*Written by: Sean Daly*

**EAST KERRY**

Super League Result: Glenflesk 3:08 Kilcummin 1:12

**MINORS**

Hard luck to the minor team who were beaten by Ballyduff in the Club Championship last Saturday 1:12 to 1:10

**LOTTO**

There was no winner of Glenflesk Lotto which took place on 2ND March. Jackpot €5,800. Numbers drawn: 4, 7, 18, 28. Consolation Prizes of €50: Sinéad O'Connor, Knockanes, Mary O'Brien, Inch, Mary Woodcock (Sellers' Prize) & Bridie Palmer, Killaha. Next draw will take place in Glenflesk Hall on

Monday 16th March. Thank you to all who support our Lotto.

**SCÓR NA BPÁISTÍ**

Well done to our Scór na bPáistí quiz team of Aban Murphy, Emily McMahon, Seoidin Dunne & Amy O'Connor who competed very well in Abbeydorney recently.

**COMMUNITY GAMES**

Glenflesk Art & Handwriting competitions will be held in Glenflesk National School on Sunday March 22nd starting at 12pm. All children living in Glenflesk parish are welcome to attend. For further details please see Glenflesk Community Games Facebook page.

**RATHMORE | GNEEVEGUILLA PARISH**

*By Michael O' Mahony*

**ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE FEVER HITS THE AREA**

The Rathmore St. Patrick's Day Parade will take place on Sunday, March 15th at 12:30pm. The Grand Marshal for this year's parade is Donal O'Leary, Rathmore, a well-known GAA personality and current Chairman of the Kerry GAA Supporters Club. For enquiries, contact Eilish at 087 6812182.

**KNOCKNAGREE ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE**

The Knocknagree St. Patrick's Day Parade will take place on Tuesday, March 17th at 11:00am. Flags and bunting are already being displayed around the village in preparation for the celebrations. Householders are encouraged to display the Irish colours to help add to the festive atmosphere.

**GNEEVEGUILLA ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE 2026**

The Gneeveguilla St. Patrick's Day Parade will take place on Tuesday, March 17th, with participants meeting at Taylor's Lane at 10:10am.

This East Kerry community celebration welcomes local clubs, schools and residents to take part and showcase Irish culture and community spirit.

Date: Tuesday, March 17th, 2026. Meeting Time: 10:10am. Location: Taylor's Lane, Gneeveguilla. Contact: Eilish – 087 6812182

**MILLSTREET ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE**

The Millstreet St. Patrick's Day Parade will take place on Tuesday, March 17th at 5:00pm, organised by the Millstreet Community Council.

The parade traditionally features the Millstreet Pipe Band, community floats and a variety of themed entries. Previous years have included categories such as Best Commercial Float, Vintage Vehicle and Best Dressed Pet.

**CARRIGANIMA ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE**

The Carriganima St. Patrick's Day Parade will take place on Sunday, March 15th at 3:00pm. The Millstreet Pipe Band will lead the parade, followed by a full day of entertainment. Music in the pub will be provided by The Left Hand Drive Band from 4:00pm to 6:00pm, followed by Up In Smoke performing on stage from 7:00pm to 9:00pm. Local groups, clubs and schools are all welcome to take part. A special children's parade will also take place, beginning at the church. Young participants are encouraged to bring along their toy cars, bikes or go-karts and join the fun. For details, contact Sean at 087 2600640.

**SCHOOL ENROLMENTS**

**Hollymount National School** now enrolling for September 2026. Small local school with a family atmosphere. After-school club available. Wide range of extra-curricular activities. Favourable class sizes. Application forms are available from the school office or can be emailed on request. Contact: 064 7758269 office@hollymountns.ie

**Knocknagree National School** is now accepting enrolments for the 2026–2027 school year. The school caters for pupils from Junior Infants to Sixth Class and also includes a dedicated autism class. A Breakfast Club and After-School Care service is available.

**GNEEVEGUILLA ATHLETICS NEWS**

Congratulations to Caoimhe Ward, who finished 2nd in the Shot Put, and

Ella Stack, who placed 4th in the High Jump in the Under 13 category at the Munster Indoor Championships in Nenagh.

Both athletes have now qualified for the All-Ireland Championships in Athlone at the end of the month.

Best of luck also to all athletes travelling to Athlone this weekend for the National Masters Championships.

**GNEEVEGUILLA LOTTO**

There was no winner of last week's Lotto jackpot. The jackpot for Friday, March 13th now stands at €10,200. There will also be a bonus draw for €1,000. From now until Good Friday, all weekly tickets will be entered into a draw for two Easter hampers.

**CHURCH OF THE HOLY ROSARY, GNEEVEGUILLA**

Rosary: Every Wednesday at 8:00pm

Stations of the Cross: Every Friday during Lent at 7:30pm

Divine Mercy: First Friday of each month at 3:00pm

The Five First Saturdays Devotion, requested by Our Lady of Fatima, will take place this Saturday at 9:15am.

All services are live streamed.

**GNEEVEGUILLA COMMUNITY FACILITY GROUP**

The Share the Bucket draw takes place every Friday evening at 8:00pm in Teach Fáilte and can be viewed live on the Gneeveguilla Community Facility Group Facebook page. This week's jackpot was €210, and the winner was Tadhg O'Connor. Tickets cost €2 each or 3 for €5 and are available at Teach Fáilte, in local businesses displaying the green Share the Bucket sign.

All funds raised go towards the proposed new community facility. Thanks to the local businesses, shops, pubs and everyone who continues to support the project.

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

Local confidential contact: 087 3462332

**RATHMORE RAVENS BASKETBALL CLUB PRESENTS UP SYNC**

**NIGHT** this Friday 13th March 2026. Doors open 6-30pm -show 7-30pm. The HEIGHTS HOTEL Killarney. Price ADULT €25 CHILD €15 under 18). For tickets contact 0863747780, or 0879109257. Update will be on instagram & facebook page

**RATHMORE COMMUNITY COUNCIL 301 CLUB**

Results €500: Raymond Moynihan Rathmore. €100 Desiree Kelleher & Benny Moss, Rathmore €100 The Buckley Family Kilmeeady, Millstreet. €100 Tiernan & Seimi Moynihan €100 John & Anita O'Connell. €100 Alex & Bernie Nagle shrine

**COMMUNITY NOTES**

If you would like to include an item in the weekly notes, please email Michael O'Mahony at momahony14@gmail.com or call/text 087 6676817 before 6:00pm.

**LISTRY PARISH**

*Written by: Colette Leslie*

**LOTTO**

March 8th 2026. Jackpot €3,450. Numbers Drawn: 4, 6, 14, 19. No Winner. €100 D O Sullivan, Ballymalis. €50 Eve Cooper, Miltown. €50 Phil Ahern, Faha. €25 Jerry O Connor (Online). €25 Jerry O Connor (Online) Jackpot next weekend 15/03/26 €3,600

**SENIORS**

Best of luck to our senior team and management who play the first game

of the Co League at home V Ardferf Sunday 15th at 3pm.

**SENIORS' DAY**

A lovely day was had at our Listry Seniors Day last week. Thanks to Cathriona and all for a lovely meal. Thanks to Clodagh from the Flower Cart for the beautiful flower arranging and thanks to everyone who attended to make this a special day.



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## Money Matters



**By Dermot Cronin**  
Financial Advisor

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- When can you access your pension?

These are just some of the important questions you need to know the answers to. You need this information in order to check and compare your pension to what is available in the market place today from pension companies who may be able to get you a better return for your money and therefore getting you a higher lump sum and income on retirement. So whether your pension is from your present employment, an ex employer, you were self employed in the past or are self employed now it is very important that you have your pension reviewed and assessed by a financial advisor.

For more information or to make an appointment to discuss the above or any other query you have contact Dermot Cronin QFA, at 064 6622775, or [info@dermotcronin.ie](mailto:info@dermotcronin.ie)



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**KILCUMMIN PARISH**

Written by: Helen Moynihan

**KILCUMMIN COMMUNITY ALERT**

Kilcummin Community Alert would like to thank all those who contributed to their Church Gate Collection last weekend. We provide a service to seniors over 65 who would like to keep living in their own home. A personal alarm can be worn as a pendant or bracelet, connected to a monitoring centre 24/7. We administer the scheme on behalf of Pobal. Please contact Robert Keane on 087 6270677 for more information.

**KILCUMMIN COMMUNITY GAMES**

Kilcummin Community Games Art/Handwriting competitions for ages U8 to U16 will take place on Thursday 19th March in Kilcummin NS from 5.30pm to 7.30pm. Please note your child/children must reside in Kilcummin Parish. All updates and more information on our events will be on our Facebook page.

**RAISED BEDS**

Kilcummin Looking Good is delighted to offer raised planting beds to individuals, families or groups in our community who would like to grow their own flowers, herbs or vegetables. These beds provide a fantastic opportunity to connect with nature, enjoy some fresh air, and contribute to the beauty of our village. Whether you're a seasoned gardener or just starting out, we welcome you to take part in this community initiative. By adopting a bed, you can grow your own fresh produce or flowers. Enjoy a rewarding outdoor activity. Meet like-minded people and build community spirit. Help make Kilcummin an even greener and more beautiful place. Interested? To find out more or to reserve a bed, contact Kilcummin Rural Development Office on 064 6643357 (Office Hrs.)

**TABLE QUIZ NIGHT**

Special Olympics Sports Club are holding a quiz night to raise funds for

our 4 athletes to attend the Special Olympics Summer Games in June. Quiz will take place on Friday, 13th March in Kilcummin GAA Hall. Quiz starts 7.30pm Sharp, doors open at 7pm. €10 per person, teams of 4 (individuals welcome – we'll match you to a team). Quiz, Raffle, Spot Prizes and €100 Cash Prize for Winning Team. For more information, please contact 087 2365664. Great night guaranteed.

**LINE DANCING**

Kilcummin line dancing classes with Carmel from Mid Kerry Moves will take place for beginners on Fridays, 7-8pm in the Kilcummin GAA Club, from March 20th to April 17th. €50 for 5 weeks, payable on the first night. Call to book your place on 087 6437686.

**LOTTO**

There was no winner of our lotto on Monday 09th March for the Jackpot of €7,000. Numbers drawn were 13,16,21,23. Consolation prizes of €50 went to Joe Scanlon, Ballinmanagh, Sean Reidy, Coolick, JD O'Sullivan, Mike O'Leary, Knocklebede. Our next draw will be on Monday 23rd March for Jackpot of €7,250. Thank you for your continued support.

**KILCUMMIN GAA**

**EAST KERRY LEAGUE Glenflesk 3-8 Kilcummin 1-12.**

We lost out by two points in Glenflesk despite a good goal from Mark O'Shea, but happy to have given debuts to a number of players over the three games. Jack Aherne and Zach Cronin will be happy with their performances in their first appearance. Wishing a speedy recovery from injuries to Cian Foley, Oisín O'Leary and Dylan Cronin.



Killeentierna Youth Members who had a night out in Bowling Buddies on Friday March 6th. L to R: Jamie Teahan and Daniel Collins



Killeentierna Youth Members who had a night out in Bowling Buddies on Friday March 6th. L to R: Lexi O'Connor, Katie Walsh, Abbie O'Connor, Jade O'Connor, Mollie O'Grady, Aoibhin Brosnan

**Kilcummin Community Raises €8,615 for Comfort for Chemo**

Once again, Kilcummin GAA and the local community came together in January to host two successful fundraisers in aid of Comfort for Chemo.

According to Kathleen Ryan, one of the organisers of the 31 Card Tournament, this year's event was among the best yet, attracting a large attendance and creating a wonderful atmosphere. The evening was held in memory of the late Dermot "Brady" Moynihan. The annual Pink Night, which has been running since 2013, was also a great success. Elaine Coffey of the organising committee revealed that a combined total of €8,615 was raised from the two events.

She acknowledged the generous support of the many sponsors and extended special thanks to Derry and Rosie Healy, as well as DJ Declan McCarthy, for helping to make the night such a memorable occasion.

Mary Horgan and Bríd O'Connor accepted the cheque on behalf of Comfort for Chemo and highlighted the importance of community events like these, which help provide comfort and support to cancer patients undergoing treatment.





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# Gallivan Financial Continues Dublin Expansion with Acquisition of Doyle Pension & Insurance Management



Fergal Smith, Gallivan Financial Managing Director, Stephen Doyle, Founder and Chief Executive of Doyle Pension & Insurance Management, and Tadhg Gallivan, co-founder of Gallivan Financial.

Gallivan Financial, a leading financial planning and wealth management firm headquartered in Killarney, has acquired Doyle Pension & Insurance Management, a Dublin-based advisory firm, for an undisclosed sum. Gallivan's recent organic growth combined with this recent deal, now brings the company's total assets under management (AUM) to more than €1.3 billion in total. Gallivan Financial has plans to grow the business further in order to expand its assets under management to more

than €2 billion in the near future.

The agreement to buy Doyle Pension & Insurance Management means that Gallivan Financial has added six new businesses to the group since May 2023. The Doyle acquisition means that Gallivan Financial is now the largest fully Irish owned wealth and pensions advisory firm in the country.

Gallivan Financial is majority-owned by the Gallivan family, who sold its Gallivan Murphy Insurance Brokers (GMIB) business to U.S.-

based Assured Partners in 2022. Gallivan Financial was not part of that transaction and is currently engaged in a significant expansion strategy.

The acquisition of Doyle Pension & Insurance Management further strengthens the Gallivan Financial presence in the Dublin market, with further acquisitions anticipated in 2026.

Fergal Smith, Gallivan Financial Managing Director, said:

"Achieving the €1 billion AUM milestone is a defining moment for our business and reflects the strength of our team, our strategy, and the trust placed in us by our clients and partners. Doyle Pension & Insurance Management brings deep technical expertise and long-established client relationships, making this an excellent fit as we continue to expand our Dublin footprint and national presence. Gallivan Financial is now targeting AUM of €2 billion in the medium term as we continue to expand through acquisitions and organic growth."

Doyle Pension & Insurance Management is a long-established professional services firm that delivers tailored investment and pension solutions for clients and has built a reputation for quality technical excellence and professional insight. The firm has grown its client base to approximately 3,000 customers and now manages €260 million in assets on behalf of private clients and businesses across Dublin and the surrounding region.

The acquisition of Doyle Pension & Insurance Management marks another significant milestone in Gallivan Financial's nationwide expansion strategy. "We have made three acquisitions in the Dublin market in less than 12 months, and we see significant additional scope for consolidation within the wealth management sector in Dublin and across the Irish economy," Mr Smith said.

## Progress on Residential Zoning for Castleisland LEA Settlements Welcomed

Cllr Jackie Healy-Rae has welcomed the progress being made under Proposed Variation No. 3 of the Kerry County Development Plan 2022–2028, which will introduce a new settlements plan for the Castleisland–Corca Dhuibhne Municipal District.

The variation will incorporate updated settlement plans and zoning frameworks for towns and villages across the Municipal District, providing a clearer planning framework for the future growth of communities and housing development in the area.

Speaking following a number of recent meetings with planning officials and councillors, Cllr Jackie Healy-Rae said the proposals represent an important step in allowing towns and villages in the Castleisland Local Electoral Area to grow and deliver much-needed housing.

"I have been working closely with officials and fellow councillors through the Variation 3 process, and the initial meetings have now taken place where councillors have proposed



significant levels of residential zoning across the Castleisland LEA. As councillors we are very conscious that our towns and villages must have the ability to grow, and the only way that can happen is if land is appropriately zoned for housing."

Cllr Healy-Rae pointed to the proposed zoning levels across the Castleisland LEA settlements, which

include:

- Castleisland: 15.5 hectares of R1 residential zoning and 13.8 hectares of R4 zoning, with capacity for approximately 388–579 new homes.
- Farranfore: 9.1 hectares of R1 residential zoning and 7.9 hectares of R4 zoning, allowing for 181–318 homes.
- Firies: 6.6 hectares of R1 zoning and 2.3 hectares of R4 zoning, allowing for 133–232 homes.
- Brosna: 2.9 hectares of R4 zoning, with potential for approximately 58 homes.
- Carrow: 3.1 hectares of R4 zoning, with capacity for around 61 homes.

•Gneeveguilla: 2.8 hectares of R4 zoning, allowing for around 57 homes.

•Knocknagoshel: 1.2 hectares of R4 zoning, providing capacity for around 24 homes.

•Scartaglin: 4.9 hectares of R4 zoning, allowing for approximately 99 homes.

"These proposals are about giving our communities the opportunity to grow in a planned and sustainable way. For too long we have seen young people struggle to find sites or housing opportunities in their own communities. By ensuring that adequate residential land is zoned in places like Castleisland, Farranfore, Firies, Brosna, Currow, Gneeveguilla, Knocknagoshel and Scartaglin, we are planning for the future of these areas."

Cllr Healy-Rae also stressed that the process is still ongoing and that public input will play an important role in shaping the final plan.

"The proposed zoning changes agreed by councillors will now go forward for public consultation, giving members of the public an opportunity to make submissions and have their say. This is an important stage in the process, and I would strongly encourage people to engage with the consultation when it opens."

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# All-New Battery Electric Toyota C-HR+ Arrives in Kelliher's Toyota Tralee

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The team at Kelliher's are incredibly excited for the arrival of the all-new, fully electric Toyota C-HR+. This model represents a bold new chapter for Toyota, combining the striking design and dynamic performance that drivers already love with the added confidence and innovation of our latest electric-vehicle technology. With a driving range of up to 606 kilometres, the Toyota C-HR+ is built to empower everyday journeys and longer adventures alike.

With prices starting from €42,160\* or €374 per month with Toyota Easy PCP finance, smart shoppers can take advantage of a special introductory offer for the month of March, with the choice of a €2,000 Trade-In Booster or a low 3.9% APR.

Customers, particularly those purchasing a battery electric vehicle for the first time, can be assured that the Toyota C-HR+ has all the Quality, Durability and Reliability that are a hallmark of the brand. This is reflected in the Toyota EV Battery Extended Care Programme, which covers the battery each year for up to 10 years of vehicle age or up to one million kilometres driven, subject to an annual battery health check.

\*\*Toyota's confidence in the quality of the battery is reflected in a guarantee it will retain at least 70% of its capacity up to 10 years, covered by the original EV Manufacturing Warranty until 8 years or 160,000

kilometres, and with the additional Extended Battery Care up to 10 years or 1 million kilometres driven that is activated by an annual EV service Health Check (T&Cs apply).

Toyota C-HR+ Test Drive Event will be held at Kelliher's Toyota, Tralee from 9th to 21st March 2026

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- Avail of an exclusive €2,000 Trade-In Booster or a low APR of 3.9% with Toyota Easy PCP Finance
- Book a test drive on [www.kelliher.ie](http://www.kelliher.ie) today or just simply call in!



# Rathmore Set for Colourful St Patrick's Day Parade

Excitement is building in Rathmore as the town prepares for its annual St Patrick's Day Parade, which will take place on Sunday, March 15th, 2026, at 12.30pm. Young and old are warmly invited to come along and enjoy the spectacular display of creativity, colour and community spirit that Rathmore has become known for.

As Ireland's first St Patrick's Day parade, the event promises a wonderful day filled with fun, music and celebration. This year's theme, "Roots - Our Heritage, Craic agus Ceol," celebrates the traditions, culture and strong sense of community that make Rathmore so special.

Leading this year's parade as Grand Marshal will be Donal O'Leary, a man well known throughout the community for his long-standing involvement with Rathmore GAA. Donal has also enjoyed great success as part of the Rathmore Quiz team at All-Ireland level, travelling the length and breadth of the country competing and bringing home many titles and victories over the years. It is a great honour for the community to have such a respected gentleman leading the parade.

This year's theme will see participants competing across a range of categories, with the top prize being the Frank Buckley Memorial Cup for Best Overall Float. Additional awards will be presented for Best Sports Club, Best School Group, Best



Agricultural/Vintage Group, and Best Organisation or Business.

A wide range of local groups will take part on the day including Rathmore GAA, Rathmore LGFA, Holy Family National School, Shrone and Hollymount National Schools, Rathmore Panto Group, Millstreet Pipe Band, Cullen Pipe Band, and many others. With such a strong lineup expected, the judges will certainly have a difficult task deciding the winners. Adding to the excitement, two competitions are currently running on the Rathmore Community Council Facebook page, giving people the chance to win tickets

for upcoming shows at the INEC - Abbaesque and Remembering Joe - The Joe Dolan Show. The winners will be announced on parade day, along with the presentation of the float prizes in the Rathmore Community Hall, where refreshments will be served afterwards.

Speaking ahead of the event, Jacentha Murphy, PRO of Rathmore Community Council, highlighted the importance of community involvement.

"Community is first of all a quality of the heart. It grows from the spiritual knowledge that we are alive not for ourselves but for one

another."

She added that Rathmore is fortunate to have such a strong and supportive community that comes together throughout the year to organise local events. From the Rathmore Panto, now in its 38th year raising funds for Kerry Parents and Friends Association, to St Patrick's Day celebrations, Christmas in Rathmore, and the dedicated work of the Tidy Towns group, the focus is always on people coming together to support one another.

On behalf of the committee - Chairman Niall Kelleher, Vice Chairman Denis McCrohan, Secretaries Marie Cleverley and Siobhán Dennehy, Treasurers Timmy O'Brien and Donal O'Connor, and Tidy Towns representative Therese Higgins - a sincere thank you was extended to Kerry County Council, local representatives, local businesses, sporting bodies and voluntary organisations in Rathmore and the surrounding areas. Their continued support and dedication help make events like the parade possible.

**Everyone is encouraged to come along on March 15th at 12.30pm to enjoy Paráid Lá Fhéile Pádraig Rathmore and experience the fantastic community spirit the town has to offer.**

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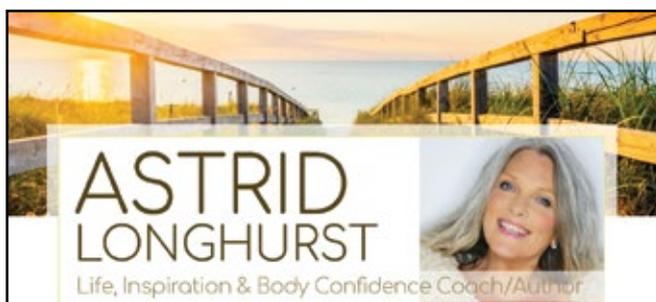


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### JUST BE KIND

Kindness is one of the simplest and most powerful choices we can make each day. A smile, a small act of help, or a few thoughtful words can completely change someone's day. Often, we move through life assuming that everyone else is doing fine, but the truth is that many people carry struggles that are invisible to others.

Behind a calm face there might be grief, stress, loneliness, or fear. Someone who seems quiet may be battling anxiety. A person who looks strong might be holding together a life that feels fragile. Because we cannot see the full story of someone else's life, kindness becomes incredibly important. It creates a space where people feel respected, safe, and valued.

Being kind does not mean we have to solve everyone's problems. Sometimes it simply means choosing patience instead of frustration, listening instead of judging, or offering encouragement when someone feels unseen.

**Coaching Tip: Pause Before You React**

Before responding to someone—especially in a moment of frustration—take a brief pause and ask yourself one question: "What might this person be going through today?" You may not know the answer, but this small moment of reflection can shift your mindset from judgment to empathy.

Sometimes the kindest response begins with a single thoughtful pause.

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### USING APPS TO TRACK YOUR PROGRESS

With the availability of different apps it is getting easier to track your workouts, work to a plan and be prepared as well as possible from a training and nutrition point of view. What is the best app for you will depend on what your targets are but it is always sensible to track nutrition when following a training programme as both go hand in hand to get the best results.

For nutrition tracking My Fitness Pal is one that is widely used and one that we here at B Well Fitness Club recommend to members all of the time. This allows you track what you are consuming and you can see your protein, fats and carbs breakdown as well as seeing if you are meeting your nutritional needs on a daily basis.

If you are running or planning on taking part in a 10k, Half Marathon or full Marathon there are multiple apps available to help you plan your training.

Some running apps to check out include; - Strava - Runna - Map My Run - Training Peaks - Runkeeper - Garmin Connect - Nike Run Club and it is possible to actually connect different apps for even more information.

I am currently using Runna to see what it is all about and so far it looks quite impressive. I am preparing to the Run Killarney Half Marathon next May and want to see the features that the app offers and how it will help me prepare. It will also give me the details I need to be aware of so that I am in a position to offer clients information so they can decide what apps might be for them to help them prepare for their own event.

Some people aren't into downloading loads of apps to their phone but there is nothing wrong with downloading one or two that will provide you with the kind of information you deem necessary to improve your event preparations or your fitness goals.

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## SCRATCHED CORNEA

A scratched cornea is one of the most common types of eye injury

### What is the cornea?

The cornea is the clear front part of the eye. This part of the eye is packed with nerves – it has many more nerve endings than your fingertips. This is why a scratched cornea can be very uncomfortable. However, this discomfort will only last a short time while the eye heals.

### What should I do if I scratch my cornea?

A corneal abrasion is a common eye injury.

If you are experiencing any eye pain or discomfort, or you suspect you have a corneal abrasion, you should always consult your optometrist for advice.

### What causes a corneal abrasion?

A corneal abrasion normally happens after an accident or injury to the front of the eye. They are often caused by fingernails, or an accident in the home or while gardening. Sometimes, if a small piece of grit gets trapped in your eye, rubbing the eye or blinking may cause a corneal abrasion.

### What are the symptoms of a corneal abrasion?

There are several symptoms associated with corneal abrasion, and you may only experience a few, but they can include:

- Pain, which may feel worse when you open or close your

eye

- A feeling that there is something in your eye or irritation
- Your eyes watering far more than usual
- Redness
- Sensitivity to light
- Blurred vision or loss of vision

### How long does it take to heal?

Corneal abrasions will normally heal completely within 48 hours. If the abrasion is in the centre of the cornea, your vision may be slightly blurred. It is also normal that your eye will be a little red and you may find bright lights uncomfortable until the abrasion has healed.

### Treatment

You may be given lubricating drops (artificial tear drops, gel or ointment) to make your eye feel more comfortable and help to keep it moist.

You may be given antibiotic drops or ointment to stop the abrasion becoming infected. These aren't always needed. The following may also help:

- Over-the-counter painkillers such as paracetamol will help with the pain
  - Avoid rubbing or touching your eye as this may make the abrasion worse or slow down the rate of healing
  - Wearing sunglasses may help if you are sensitive to light
- If your vision starts to become more blurred, or if the pain and redness increase, you should get advice from your optometrist. If they are not available, go to A&E.



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# The HPAT should have been dropped in new undergraduate medicine entry requirements from 2027

## MEDICINE

Up to 2008, places in undergraduate medicine degree courses were allocated on the basis of Leaving Cert points alone. The maximum score which an applicant could achieve was 600. However, major changes to the undergraduate medicine admission process were implemented from 2009 entry.

## MODERATED

Under the new system which began in 2009, and ends in 2026, Leaving Cert points for medicine are moderated at a maximum of 565. The first 550 points are awarded as normal. In the case of the remaining maximum 75 available points, each five points scored is valued only as one point. For example, a candidate for medicine with a score of 585 is awarded 550 as normal with the remaining 35 points valued only at 7 points (35 divided by 5), bringing the score to 557. So the maximum score of 625 in the Leaving Cert is worth only 565 to medical applicants. A minimum score of 480 points in a Leaving Cert exam is required before an applicant is considered for a medical place.

## CONFUSING

If that moderation wasn't controversial and confusing enough, an Australian psychometric test of "logical reasoning and problem solving, interpersonal understanding and non-verbal reasoning" has to be taken by all medical applicants on the year of application. The Health Professions Admission Test, commonly called HPAT-Ireland or HPAT, is valued at 300 points. The HPAT was introduced, we were told, to follow international good practice and remove the exclusive reliance on the Leaving Cert to enter medicine. Leaving Cert score and HPAT score are then added together to determine the total score for medical application. The maximum total which can be currently achieved is 865 points made up of 565 from Leaving Cert and 300 from HPAT.

## NEW

A new method of calculating points for entry to medicine will apply from 2027 entry. The requirements for medicine are being changed primarily to refocus on achievement in the Leaving Cert exam, which has proven to be a

stronger predictor of student performance in the medicine degree course than the HPAT.

## UNCOMMON

Another reason given for changing the medical entry requirements is to remove points' moderation and bring the Irish medical schools in line with international practice for admission to medicine. Moderation of points scored from school leaving examinations is not a commonly applied approach either for other health professional programs or other academic programs.

## CONCERNS

However, there is no doubt that the main reason for changing the medicine entry requirements is due to concerns that students have found ways to practice for the HPAT. While the 2½-hour test was initially envisaged as one which candidates could not study for, there is now an extensive private tuition industry where students can spend up to €1000 preparing for the assessment. About 3,000 students take the test each year, which is required to study undergraduate medicine at the University of Galway, RCSI, TCD, UL, UCC and UCD. Latest data from the HEA also shows that about 33% of medicine students are from affluent backgrounds, compared with 18% across all courses. Only 3% of medicine students are from disadvantaged backgrounds, compared to 11% overall.

## DROPPED

In my opinion, the HPAT, which causes huge personal, emotional, time and financial stress for applicants to medicine each year is a very weak and a non-credible predictor of student performance in the medicine degree course. If the HPAT had any credibility it would be widely used across the health care and social degree course sectors. I feel strongly that the HPAT should be completely dropped by the Universities as an instrument of applicant selection.

## REQUIREMENTS

For entry from 2027, the CAO entry requirements to undergraduate medicine courses will be as follows. Leaving Cert exam scores will no longer be moderated. Full points scored by applicants in the Leaving Cert exam

will be applied in the calculation. The maximum HPAT score will be reduced from 300 to 150. The HPAT must be sat by all medical applicants on the year of application for medicine. A minimum score of 480 points in a Leaving Cert exam will also continue to be required before an applicant is considered for a medical place.

## MAXIMUM

In summary, for medicine from 2027, the full Leaving Cert exam up to the maximum score of 625 is allowable. The maximum score achievable in the HPAT will be 150. The combined maximum score achievable for medicine will be 775 (625 Leaving Cert plus 150 HPAT). It's a welcome development but would have been better without the HPAT!

## CHECKLIST

- Leaving Cert medicine points are moderated at a maximum 565 for the last time in 2026
- The HPAT is valued at 300 points for the last time in 2026
- The maximum total which can be currently achieved for medicine is 865 (565+300)
- A new system of calculating points for entry to medicine will apply from 2027 entry
- Leaving Cert exam scores will no longer be moderated from 2027
- The full Leaving Cert exam up to the maximum score of 625 is allowable
- A minimum score of 480 points in a Leaving Cert exam will continue to be required
- The maximum HPAT score will be reduced from 300 to 150 from 2027
- The HPAT must be sat in the year of application for medicine
- The combined maximum score achievable for medicine will be 775 (625 + 150)
- THE HPAT is required to study undergraduate medicine at U of G, RCSI, TCD, UL, UCC & UCD

Billy Ryle is a Career Guidance Counsellor and Educational Commentator  
 Email: rylebilly@gmail.com  
 Tel: 087 9808979

Amy Fitzgerald, Naoise O'Connor, Megan O'Reilly, Hannah Kelliher from St. Brigids Presentation Secondary School, Killarney Co. Kerry exhibited at the 2026 Certified Irish Angus Schools' Competition at Croke Park on Friday 6th March. The competition, run in association with processor partners ABP and Kepak, challenges students to rear five Irish Angus calves and learn about the care and attention required to produce quality beef for consumers. Five schools that best demonstrate an understanding of the project along with innovative ideas will be presented with Irish Angus calves at the National Ploughing Championships in September this year.





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# €4,000,000 in Retrofit Funding Allocated to County Kerry Will Improve Energy Efficiency of Social Homes

Fianna Fáil TD Michael Cahill has welcomed the allocation of €4,000,000 for County Kerry under the Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme to support the retrofit of social homes across the county.

The funding forms part of a wider national package announced today by the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, James Browne. The package will see €140 million provided to local authorities through the Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme to support the retrofit of around 3,500 social homes nationwide. This represents an increase of €50 million on the amount allocated and

drawn down by local authorities in 2025.

The funding is part of approximately €260 million in Exchequer support available through the Department's wider suite of local authority home improvement programmes. Alongside today's announcement, the Minister confirmed that the average grant available per property under a local authority's annual retrofit programme will increase from €34,000 to €38,000.

Speaking following the announcement, Deputy Michael Cahill said:

"The Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme has transformed houses across the county by

improving the quality of homes and making them more energy efficient, while helping us meet our climate targets.

"As we continue to increase the delivery of homes across the country, schemes like this ensure our existing housing stock is brought up to the highest standards.

"These schemes make homes warmer, safer and cleaner, improving the lives of those who live in them while ensuring energy is used more efficiently in a way that benefits the environment."

## Mayor Calls for Urgent Update on Minor Injuries Clinic for Killarney

The Mayor of Killarney Municipal District has called on the Health Service Executive (HSE) to provide an urgent update on plans to establish a Minor Accident and Injuries Clinic in Killarney. The motion was passed at a recent meeting of Killarney Municipal District following growing concern after the HSE issued advice on 6 February directing people in Kerry to attend minor injuries clinics in Bantry and Macroom. A third clinic is also located in Gurrabraher in Cork. These facilities provide treatment for minor injuries such as sprains, small fractures, cuts and burns.

Mayor Grady acknowledged the dedication of frontline healthcare staff working in these services.

"I want to commend the staff on the ground, doctors, nurses, administrative staff, catering teams and cleaning staff - who work tirelessly every day and do their very best for people when they need care," he said.

However, Mayor Grady said it is deeply concerning that residents of Killarney and the wider South Kerry region are being directed to travel to another county for treatment.

"Killarney has no Minor Accident and Injuries Clinic, yet the HSE is asking people here to travel



to Cork for treatment," he said. "That simply isn't good enough for a town the size of Killarney, particularly when our population increases significantly during the tourism season."

He said the absence of a local clinic is placing additional pressure on the Emergency Department at Kerry University Hospital, where average waiting times are currently around eight hours.

Mayor Grady said establishing a clinic in Killarney would help reduce overcrowding at

Kerry University Hospital by diverting patients with minor injuries - such as sprains, cuts and minor fractures - away from the Emergency Department, where waiting times remain above the national average.

The Mayor also expressed disappointment at delays relating to the 130-bed unit which has remained idle for almost two years. This delay has prevented the relocation and vacancy of St Columbanus' Home, which has been identified as the proposed location for the clinic.

"This project has been on the cards for a long time," he said. "The HSE needs to break a sweat and get things moving to finally deliver this facility for the people of Killarney and South Kerry."

He added that it is difficult to understand why smaller towns in Cork have minor injuries clinics while a major town such as Killarney continues to go without one.

The motion calls on the HSE to clarify the current status of the project and to outline a clear plan and timeline for delivering a Minor Accident and Injuries Clinic for Killarney and the wider South Kerry region.

## Minister for Children, Disability & Equality and Kerry T.D. has welcomed the announcement of €48,600 to support Kerry's Agricultural Shows in 2026

This funding will support the work of each of the six Kerry Show Committees as they prepare for the upcoming show season.

Minister Foley said:

"I welcome the announcement of €48,600 for the six Kerry Agricultural Shows, which are an integral part of our community, showcasing Kerry's wonderful



agricultural sector as well as being fun and great social events for people of all ages. The confirmation of this funding assists the Shows' Committees in their work, planning and organising the Shows in the months ahead"

Kerry Shows to receive funding are:

- Blennerville Pony and Agricultural Show – €6,700
- Castlegregory Agricultural Show – €8,400
- Glencar Show – €6,700
- Kilgarvan Show – €8,400
- Kingdom County Show – €10,000
- West Kerry Show (Dingle) – €8,400



# DANNY HEALY-RAE TD



Cllr MAURA  
HEALY-RAE

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### Danny Healy Rae TD - Monthly Clinics

<b>1st Monday</b>	<b>Rathmore &amp; Gneeveguilla</b>	9.45 PM	Sportsfield Bar, Brosna
8.15 PM	Top of the Hill, Rathmore	<b>3rd Friday</b>	<b>Castleisland Area</b>
8.30 PM	Bridge Bar, Rathmore	7.30 PM	River Island Hotel, Castleisland
9.00 PM	Dennehy's Bar, Rathmore	8.00 PM	The Kingdom Bar, Castleisland
9.30 PM	Richie McAuliffe's, Gneeveguilla	8.15 PM	The Crown Hotel, Castleisland
<b>1st Wednesday</b>	<b>Killarney Area</b>	9.00 PM	Hughes Bar, Cordal
8.00 PM	Torc Hotel, Lissivigeen	9.30 PM	Lyon's Bar, Scartaglen
8.30 PM	The Village Inn, Kilcummin	10.00 PM	Flemings Bar, Scartaglen
8.45 PM	The Club, Kilcummin	<b>4th Thursday</b>	<b>Killorglin Area</b>
9.00 PM	Old Killarney Inn, Aghadoo	7:00 PM	Golden Nugget, Fossa
9.30 PM	The Golden Nugget, Fossa	7.30 PM	Galvin's Bar, Beaufort
10.00 PM	The Faha Court, Faha	8:15 PM	O'Grady's Bar, Killorglin
<b>1st Thursday</b>	<b>Glenflesk &amp; Barraduff</b>	8.30 PM	Francie Sheahan's Bar, Killorglin
8.30 PM	The Kerry Way, Glenflesk	8.45 PM	Clifford's Tavern, Killorglin
9.00 PM	Spillane's Headford	9.15 PM	The Plough, Milltown
9.30 PM	Murphy's Bar, Barraduff	10.00 PM	Griffins Bar, Castlemaine
10:00 PM	Corner Bar, Barraduff	<b>4th Friday</b>	<b>Kenmare &amp; Sneem Area</b>
<b>1st Friday</b>	<b>Kenmare, Tuosist &amp; Lauragh</b>	8.30 PM	The Roughty Bar, Kenmare
8.45 PM	Roughty Bar, Kenmare	9.30 PM	Riney's Bar, Sneem
9.00 PM	O'Connors Bar, Kenmare	10.30 PM	Blackwater Tavern
9.30 PM	Sailors Bar, Killaha West	<b>Last Monday</b>	<b>Farranfore Area</b>
10:00 PM	Helen's Bar Kilmacalogue	8:00 PM	Ulick's Bar, Farranfore
<b>3rd Monday</b>	<b>Knocknagoshel &amp; Brosna</b>	8:30 PM	James Daly's Bar, Farranfore
8.30 PM	O'Connor's Bar, Knocknagoshel	9:00 PM	Cunniffe's Bar, Currow
9.00 PM	Walsh's Bar, Knocknagoshel	10.00 PM	Butlers Bar, Furies
9:30 PM	Kate Pat's Bar, Brosna	10:15 PM	John Hendersons, Furies

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Danny **087 2316055** Office **064 6685315**

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

Email: [danny.healyrae@oireachtas.ie](mailto:danny.healyrae@oireachtas.ie) | [johnnyhealyrae@gmail.com](mailto:johnnyhealyrae@gmail.com) | [maurahealyrae@gmail.com](mailto:maurahealyrae@gmail.com)



Photos: Michelle Cooper Galvin

John Long Chairman Chapter 8 ILCU presenting the Chapter 8 ILCU Table Quiz Under 13 overall cup to Gaelscoil Mhic Easmainn Muinteoir Donal O'Suilleabhain with winning team (left) Jack O'Connell, Debhinn O'Suilleabhain, Roisin Ni Dhubhghaill,, Grace An Chnoic (right) John O'Regan Chapter (second row from left) 2nd prizewinners St Oliver's Primary School team Amelia Angland, Liam Molokomme, Philip Dian and Arran O'Sullivan, 3rd prizewinners Scoil Mhathaie De Caragh O'Neill, Wura Adegbola, Chloe Drummand and Mia O'Hanlon (back row from left) Therese Buckley Killarney Credit Union, Gaelscoil Mhic Easminn Principal Liam O'Conchubhair, St Oliver's Primary teacher Maria Ryan, Scoil Mhathair De teacher Frances Walsh, Tom Lawlor Cara Credit Union, Scoil Mhathair De teacher Joan Shine and Siobhan Donnelly Cara Credit Union at the Chapter 8 Credit Union School Under 11 Table Quiz Kerry Qualifiers in the Ballyroe Hotel, Tralee on Sunday.



John Long Chairman (seated fifth from left) presenting the Chapter 8 ILCU Table Quiz Under 11 overall cup to Scoil Naoimh Eoin Baiste Muinteoir Nuala Ni Gearailt with winning team (left) Maitiu, Mac Gearailt, Fiach O'Dochartaigh, Daniel O'Dochartaigh and Eabha Staunton and (right) Siobhan Donnelly Cara Credit Union (second row from left) 2nd prizewinners Fossa National School team Cian O'Cleirigh, Oisín Wilson, Keelan Swarbrick and John Larkin, 3rd prizewinners Scartaglen National School team Eilie McAuliffe, Connor O'Mahony, Sean Vaughan and Alex Teahan (back from left) Fossa NS teacher David Kenny, Therese Buckley Killarney Credit Union and Tom Lawlor Cara Credit Union at the Chapter 8 Credit Union School Table Quiz Kerry Qualifiers in the Ballyroe Hote, Tralee on Sunday.



John Long Chairman Chapter 8 ILCU with runners Up St Oliver's Primary teacher Maria Ryan and the school team Amelias Angland, Philip Dian, Aaran O'Sullivan and Liam Molokomme with (back) Karena McCarthy and Therese Buckley Killarney Credit Union and John O'Regan Chapter 8 at the Chapter 8 Kerry Credit Union U13 School Table Quiz Kerry Qualifiers in the Ballyroe Hotel, Tralee on Sunday.



John Long Chairman Chapter 8 presenting the ILCU Chapter 8 Table Quiz Under 11 2nd prizewinners Fossa National School team Cian O'Cleirigh, John Larkin,, Keelan Swarbrick and Oisín Wilson (back from left) Therese Buckley and Karena McCarthy Killarney Credit Union and Teacher Danny Kenny at the ILCU Chapter 8 School Table Quiz Kerry Qualifiers in the Ballyroe Hotel, Tralee on Sunday.

## Local Cheerleaders Aim for World Stage Glory

A group of cheerleaders from Scorchers Killarney are preparing to compete at the All Star World Championships in Orlando, Florida this April. The team, made up of athletes of various ages, trains around six hours each week while balancing school, work and family commitments.

Head coach Katlyn Moynihan, a former international competitor who has represented Ireland at the World Championships four times, now focuses on developing athletes and providing world-level opportunities in Killarney.

Scorchers has over 70 members training at its Muckcross Road gym and has previously sent athletes to the All Star World Championships in 2019, 2024 and 2025.

To help cover travel and competition costs, the team is fundraising through an iDonate page and donations can be made through the following link <https://www.idonate.ie/crowdfunder/scorcherscheerleading>.

The club will host a Quiz Night on March 27 at the Killarney Avenue Hotel. The club is encouraging the community to support the athletes as they prepare to represent Killarney and Kerry on the world stage.



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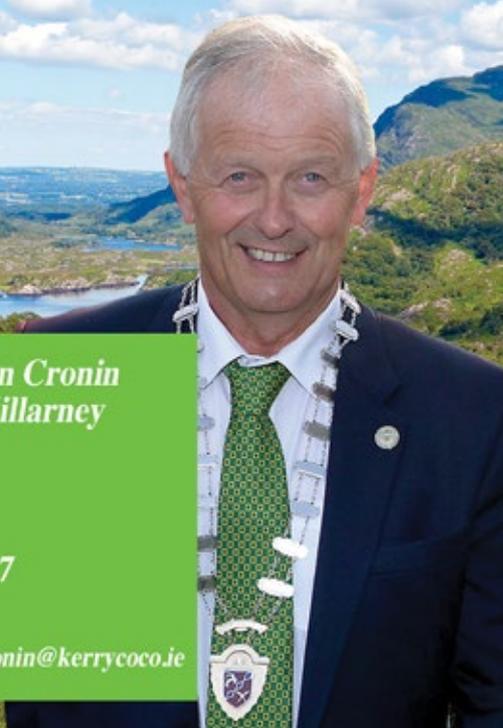
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# Dominos Womens Superleague

Sunday March 8th  
Parochial Hall, Cork

**Brunell 62**  
**Utility Trust St Pauls 73**

Report by Enda Walshe

It will go down as a great achievement by Utility Trust St Pauls to finish the season with a 14-4 record the exact same as Killester, and in the process claim a home quarter final and a possible home semi final in the playoffs. It must be remembered that this is only James Fleming's side's second season in the Super League and to secure a top two spot is to be applauded for now. It comes after a 73-62 victory over Brunell in the Parochial Hall where a superb first half performance sowed the seeds for the win. They will now welcome Flomax Liffey Celtics to the Killarney Sports and Leisure Centre on the weekend of March 21st/22nd and if they emerge from that test, they will again have home advantage and be just one step away from a trip to the National Basketball Arena in Tallaght.

This latest win was built around some superb offence at times, with Lorraine Scanlon, Lovisa Hevinder, Maisie Burnham and Tara Cousins combining for 65 points. But they also defended with great intensity and won the battle under the boards, pulling down 51 boards to Brunells 30. That gave them a great platform to perform as they led by as much as 19 at one stage in the second half, 49-30. But Brunell is a proud side and they did whittle down the lead to seven in the closing stages but St Pauls were not to be denied. Brunell now find themselves in a Cork Derby against UCC Glanmire and the winners of that tie will face whoever prevails in the St Pauls / Liffey Celtics joust.

St Pauls opened this game with great fluency, so much so that by the five minute mark, all the starting players had put their name on the scoresheet. Tara Cousins opened her sides account with a drive to the basket with Maisie Burnham, Lovisa Hevinder(3) helping them into a 7-6 lead, Brailyn Joseph prominent for Brunell. Cousins then hit a three following a great team move which was immediately followed by a Burnham brace. Siofra O Shea and Lorraine Scanlon made it the perfect five and that saw St Pauls 16-9 ahead. Brunell called a time out to steady the ship but Burnham and Scanlon on the fast break had their side 20-12 to the good after ten minutes.

Burnham opened the scoring in the second quarter with a virtuoso score as Edel Thornton was trying to influence matters for her side. Hevinder netted from the charity stripe and when Burnham netted again it was 26-17, with Thornton hitting a big three. Brailyn Joseph was starting to impose herself inside and that helped Brunell get a footing in the game. Leah McMahon slipped in with a nice move and thanks to good work from Hevinder the lead was held at ten, 34-24. Brunell were battling hard trying to hold



Action from the Dominos Men's National League. Photo: Photography and Design By Molly

out the St Pauls offence but two buzzer beaters by Hevinder for a two and Siofra O Shea for three would have deflated them. The Cork side were now also in team foul trouble, something Cousins punished them for. Lorraine Scanlon had the last word of the half, St Pauls 43-28 clear.

The second half opened in a blaze of glory for St Pauls with Hevinder and Burnham both netting from downtown and Brunell suddenly found themselves 49-30 behind. But to give them their due they battled away with Thornton, Joseph and Katie Walshe getting them back on track. But St Pauls again produced two sucker punches, with O Shea and Cousins striking from distance without reply. Kyaja Williams and Thornton tried to respond but Hevinder finished the quarter scoring and her side 57-41 ahead.

Brunell met the final quarter with greater intensity hitting the opening eight points through Thornton, Francesca Kyamagero and Williams. But yet again a well timed three, this time from Burnham, soon followed by three points from the charity stripe by the same player helped prise open a match winning lead. Joseph and Thornton tried hard for Brunell but Scanlon and Cousins helped keep them at bay, with the lead shaved to seven heading down the stretch. But they did so at the expense of fouls and Cousins punished them to the full, helping St Pauls leave the Parochial Hall with the full complement of points.

Maisie Burnham was the games top scorer with 22, Tara Cousins had 17, Lovisa Hevinder

16, Lorraine Scanlon 10, Siofra O Shea 6, Leah McMahon 2.

Brailyn Joseph had 20 for her side, Edel Thornton 19, Kyaja Williams 9, Katie Walshe 8.

**Dominos Men's National League**  
**Saturday, March 7th**  
**Killarney Sports & Leisure Centre**

**Utility Trust St Pauls Lakers 72**  
**Drogheda Wolves 83**

Report by Enda Walshe.

This was a game the Lakers could never quite get a grip on despite leading after the first quarter. The Drogheda Wolves are a big powerful side with Chima Obikwelu and David Oputa a menace inside and Vernon Jackson a smooth operator in the point guard position. That trio combined for 62 points and with Franciszek Chmielecki and Francisco Dias offering good support at crucial times, they always seemed to be a step ahead of Luke O Heas side. And while a defeat is never welcomed it does not necessarily change the narrative for the final weekend of the season. The Lakers will head to Maree on Saturday evening knowing that it's a winner takes all clash

If you emerge triumphant you will have a home quarter final against Carrick Cruisers. Defeat will mean the sat nav will be set for Ballymakenny

College and another joust against the Drogheda Wolves. The positive is the Lakers have secured a playoff berth either way but ideally you want to be heading into the playoffs in a good frame of mind. The Maree game will now have the feel of a cup tie and that can have the habit of bringing out the best in players.

The Wolves made the fastest start to this game with Franciszek Chmielecki and Chima Obikwelu netting early but Mark Sheehan hit a three from the corner. Vernon Jackson got the Wolves reply but the Lakers now hit a period of ascendancy kick-started by Steve Kelly. Sam Grant hit another from beyond the arc with Kelly and Jack O'Sullivan making it 12-8, David Oputa getting off the mark for Drogheda. Eoin Carroll was next on the Lakers score sheet but Oputa, Chmielecki and Jackson pulled their side level again. Oputa continued to be productive inside for the Wolves but the introduction of Pablo Murcia and a three from Kelly had the Lakers noses in front at the end of the first, 20-19.

Murcia brought his purple patch into the second quarter and despite Jackson netting again, the Lakers were now 25-21 ahead. But ominously Oputa's hand was getting hot and alongside Francisco Dias they got their side 29-26 ahead. Murcia was still a big influence at this stage and with the aid of Kelly they got the Lakers back in front. Oputa continued to torment alongside Obikwelu and it took baskets from Kelly and Rui Saraiva to keep the Lakers in touch. Oputa wasn't finished yet though and the hosts would be grateful to Kelly and Grant for keeping them in touch at half time, only three back, 41-38.

The third quarter saw the Wolves inch another bit further ahead. The Lakers started the half brightly with Jack O'Sullivan hitting from downtown. Steve Kelly and Jackson then exchanged scores and the sides were level at 45 each with 7.25 to go in the quarter. But Jackson's influence was



The St Pauls Womens Team captured the County League Division 2 title in Castleisland last weekend, defeating Kenmare in the final. Back Row..Ava O Doherty, Aidan Cremin ( Coach) , Naoise O Connor, Lyselle O Shea, Annie Brosnan, Liadh Tobin, Shelly Clifford, Julie Delaney, Jim Delaney. Front Row...Clodagh O'Sullivan, Siobhan Burns, Mags Cronin, Amanda Brosnan, Ava Sheehan, Jade Potts Kneeling, Holly Tobin, Ruby Healy, Ogie Clifford.

starting to grow, he hit twelve points in this quarter, a mixture of drives to the basket and some neat jump shots. O'Sullivan and Carroll initially kept pace with Jackson but Cian Crowley and Obikwelu then waded in to open up their biggest lead of the game, ten, it was now 58-48. Carroll, Murcia and Mark Sheehan then managed to whittle it down to 64-56 as the teams turned for home.

The Lakers needed a quick start to the final period but it was the visitors who supplied that through Jackson, Chmielecki and Dias. Kelly, O'Sullivan and Murcia worked hard to reel in the Wolves but Dias and Jackson were hard to pin down as they maintained a ten point lead, 75-65. A Grant three briefly ignited hopes of a comeback

but Dias struck a long two which dispelled that notion. Obikwelu emphasised that point and despite O'Sullivan hitting further points they could prevent the Wolves from leaving the gym with the spoils, on an 83-72 scoreline. This result confirmed the Drogheda's side second placing in the Northern Conference. The Lakers and Maree will have to fight another day, this Saturday at 7pm in the Calasanctius College.

Steve Kelly was the Lakers best with 21, Pablo Murcia had 14, Jack O'Sullivan 12, Sam Grant 10, Eoin Carroll 8, Mark Sheehan 5, Rui Sariava 2. Vernon Jackson had a game high 28, David Oputa 24, Franciszek Chmielecki, Chima Obikwelu and Francisco Diaz 10 each.

## St Paul's Members Tour New Derreen Sports Development

Work is continuing on the new Derreen Sports CLG development and members of St Paul's Basketball Club recently had the opportunity to see the progress first-hand during a guided tour of the facility on Saturday. The tour was led by Niall 'Botty' O'Callaghan, who has been a driving force behind the project. The development is being delivered by Derreen Sports CLG, a not-for-profit company working in partnership with Kerry Stars Special Olympics Club, St Paul's Basketball Club and Killarney Judo Club.

Once completed, the new facility will include a modern sports hall, gym and a range of dedicated spaces designed to provide long-term sporting and community benefits for the area. The sports hall will feature two full-size basketball courts, which will be a major boost for the many teams within St Paul's Basketball Club.

Niall O'Callaghan, who is spearheading the development alongside Aidan Forde of Killarney Judo Club and representatives of the Kerry Stars Special Olympics Club, outlined the progress made so far and explained how the project has been funded.

Funding has been secured through the Community Recognition Fund administered by Kerry County Council, along with additional support from the Sports Capital Programme and LSSIF funding through the Department of Sport. He also noted that further funding, investment, grants or sponsorship would be welcome as the project moves towards



A group of St. Paul's Basketball Club members on a visit to the new Derreen Sports CLG development on Saturday. Picture: Eamonn Keogh

completion.

St Paul's Basketball Club chairman Paul Sheehan also addressed members during the visit, highlighting the significant progress that has been achieved to date. He expressed optimism that the new facility will be ready in time for the 2026-2027 basketball season.

The development is expected to provide a major boost for sport in the Killarney area, creating a modern, shared space for clubs and the wider community for many years to come.

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## CASTLEROSSE GOLF CLUB

### LADIES BRANCH CAPTAINS' DRIVE-IN

The Captains' Drive-In was held on Saturday, 7th March, 2026. Men's Captain, Kieran O'Brien and Lady Captain, Finola Geary, were delighted with the fine weather and the great turnout for the Mixed Scramble. The Captains would like to thank Mark Bowe and the Castlerosse Hotel for very generously sponsoring the lunch on the day.

#### Results of the Drive-In Mixed Scramble

1st: John Carlton, Eileen Lucey, Peter McGrath  
2nd: Captain Kieran O'Brien, Josephine Nolan, Barbara O'Shea

#### SOCIAL GOLF

Social golf every Wednesday at 10.30am. Book on BRS.

#### GOLF LESSONS

Kieran Crehan is available to give golf lessons. Contact Kieran directly on: 087 2748777.

## ROSS GOLF CLUB (GENTS)

### ON MARCH 7TH AND 8TH WE HELD THE FIRST ROUND OF THE M D O'SHEA SPRING LEAGUE.

This was a club sponsored stableford competition and the winners were :-

1st: Sam Guerineau 34 (27)  
2nd: Donie Broderick 34 (14)

#### Division 1

1st: Barry O/Grady 34 (10)  
2nd: Peter Wickham 34 (10)

#### Division 2

1st: Steve Shine 34 (17)  
2nd: David Murphy 33 (13)

#### Division 3

1st: Gerard Murphy 33 (21)  
2nd: Mark O'Donoghue 33 (19)

#### FIXTURE

On March 14th and 15th we will hold the second round of the M D O'Shea Spring League with a single stableford competition.

## KERRY PITCH & PUTT CLUB

Last Sunday in Tralee saw the Tim Scannell Memorial Inter-Club Matchplay get underway as this year's event has seen a total of 12 teams entered across the four clubs with three groups of four and all groups winners plus the best second place side across the three groups advancing to semi-finals later this month. Last weekend's opening round matches took



Captain drive in 2026, Kieran O'Brien Mens Captain and Finola Geary Lady

place in primarily dry conditions as Group A saw victory for Tralee's Fifth Team and Castleisland's First Team in their matches. Tralee 5 were 4-2 winners over Deerpark 3 as Castleisland 1 had a 4-2 victory as well over Listowel B. Group B meanwhile saw double Tralee victories as their Second team defeated Listowel A 5-1 as the closest match of the day was a 3.5-2.5 affair between two Tralee teams as the Fourth Team defeated the First Team.

Group C saw a clean sweep for Tralee in terms of matches on their home course as their Third side defeated Deerpark 1 4.5-1.5 with Deerpark 2 winning the final match of the day over Castleisland 2 by 4-2. Round 2 of the competition takes place this Sunday in Deerpark with Group A seeing Deerpark 3 take on Listowel B and Tralee 5 facing Castleisland 1. Group B will see Listowel B and Tralee 1 face off as the all Tralee affair here this week will see Tralee's Second and Fourth sides face off. Group C will see Deerpark 1 face Castleisland 2 as Deerpark 2 will take on Tralee 2.

A reminder to all clubs and competitors that the event is dress code throughout as entries for the Munster Scotch Foursomes are still being taken by National up until Thursday March 12th we ask clubs to note.

## ROSS LADIES GOLF CLUB

### RESULTS SATURDAY 7TH MARCH 2026 9 hole single Stableford competition

1st: Dora Campbell  
2nd: Muireann Hayes  
3rd: Emir Coffey

#### COMPETITIONS

Saturday 14th March 2026, 9 hole single Stableford competition. Enter via the BRS App

#### St Patrick's Day Mixed Scramble

### WEDNESDAY MORNINGS MEET & PLAY

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

#### GOLF LESSONS

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

## DEERPARK PITCH & PUTT CLUB

### TIM SCANNELL

Sunday's opening round of the Tim Scannell saw a victory for our Deerpark 2 team over Castleisland 2 by 4-2 but unfortunately both our 1 and 3 sides lost out to Tralee opposition by 4.5-1.5 and 4-2 respectively. We host this Sunday's round of the competition which means no Sunday draws but there will be draws at the usual times on St Patrick's Day- Tuesday March 17th- at the usual times of 9am and 10.45am.

#### MEMBERSHIP

As March 1st has now passed, 2026 fees are now officially due. Due to the high number of applications received thus far, the Committee has decided to put a hold on accepting further new member applications for a period up until this Sunday March 15th. While we are still accepting renewals from 2025 at present, we ask our 2025 members who have not already done so to ensure they are joined up prior to this Sunday as the Committee will be making a further decision on membership numbers for the year following that date.



Presentation to the Winners of the Castlerosse GC Captains Drive In - Kieran O'Brien, Mens Captain, John Carlton, Eileen Lucey, Peter McGrath, Finola Geary Lady Captain, Donie O'Reilly Mens Handicap Secretary



Runners Up of Castlerosse GC Captains Drive In - Kieran O'Brien, Josephine Nolan, Barbara O'Shea, Donie O'Reilly Mens Handicap Secretary

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## KILLARNEY VALLEY

### ATHLETIC CLUB

Killarney Valley AC's young athletes delivered an impressive set of performances at the Munster U12-U14 Indoor Championships, claiming two provincial titles and multiple podium finishes across a busy weekend of competition in Nenagh.

Kayla O'Sullivan was crowned Munster Champion in the Girls U13 60m, clocking a winning time of 8.50 seconds, while Teagan Lyne also struck gold in the Girls U14 60m Hurdles with a strong run of 9.69 seconds. In the U13 60m Hurdles final, Lily Horgan finished fourth in 10.81 seconds and Marcela Piechowiak placed seventh in 10.97 seconds.

Day 2 saw further success for the club's boys, with Gary Arthur claiming bronze in the Boys U12 60m Final and James Doody securing another bronze medal in the Boys U12 600m Final after a powerful performance.

Killarney Valley AC also showed impressive depth in the relay events, with U12, U13 and U14 girls' and boys' 4x200m teams placing high in the rankings from the heats. Across the two days, many athletes recorded personal bests, highlighting the club's continued development ahead of the outdoor season.

Meanwhile, Sarah Leahy recorded a national indoor 100m record with an 11.72 run on International Women's Day.

Congratulations to all who completed this years club Couch to 5k series and ran their 5k at Killarney House parkrun on Saturday. Best of luck to you all as you continue your running journey.

Our Streets of Killarney 5 mile race, on the 3rd April (Good Friday), has about 30 tickets left so be quick if you don't want to miss out - <https://eventmaster.ie/event/EWvBi4EF74>

For anyone wishing to join the club you can email us at [killarneyvalleyac@gmail.com](mailto:killarneyvalleyac@gmail.com).

### KILLARNEY RFC CLUB

What a weekend for the Black and Red Army! From the youngest stars in the club, travelling to Mid-Kerry, to our Seniors producing a masterclass in Fethard, it was a weekend that showcased the incredible depth and talent within Killarney RFC.

#### SENIORS STORM INTO NEXT ROUND

##### Fethard & District 7 – 46 Killarney RFC

Our Senior Men's J1 side continued their sensational run in the Bank of Ireland Munster Junior Cup with a dominant display away to Fethard & District. Despite the travel, the lads started with incredible intensity, crossing the line multiple times to secure a comprehensive 46-7 victory. The scoreline reflects clinical backline performance and a dominant set-piece. We now march on to the next stage of the competition with massive momentum. Tries from Matt McAuliffe, Finn Kennelly, Harry Kelly, Mikey Moriarty, Craig McKenzie Vass, and a hat-trick from Donnacha Greal, with conversions from Harry Kelly (2) and Ciaran O'Brien.

#### JUNIOR CUP

The next round of the Junior Cup will be at home in Aghadoe on Sunday, 22nd March. V Ballincollig.

#### Youths Round-Up

**U18.5 Girls:** Clinical in Kilballyowen Bruff RFC 5 – 36 Killarney RFC Our U18.5 Girls put in perhaps their best performance of the season on Saturday evening. Playing under the lights in Bruff, the girls showed incredible structure and pace, running in several high-quality tries to finish 36-5 winners. A massive statement win for this squad in the Cup!

**U16 Girls:** Thriller in Mallow Mallow RFC 14 – 14 Killarney RFC The U16 Girls were involved in a nail-biter on Saturday. In a game where neither side refused to blink, a 14-14 draw was a fair reflection of two very evenly matched teams. The Killarney defence was heroic in the closing minutes to ensure they came home with a hard-earned share of the spoils.

**U16 Boys:** Tough Day in Waterford. Our U16 Boys made the long trip to Kilbarry on Sunday. While the scoreline favoured the hosts, it doesn't quite tell the story of the grit shown by our lads, who battled until the very last whistle against a very physical Waterford side.

#### MINIS BLITZ: KILLARNEY TAKE OVER KILLORGLIN!

Saturday morning saw a massive exodus from Aghadoe as our U8, U10, and U12 teams travelled to Killorglin RFC for a West Munster Blitz.

It was a fantastic morning of rugby with our young players showing off the skills they've been honing all season. The sportsmanship and standard of play across all age grades were a credit to the coaches and parents. A huge thank you to Killorglin RFC for the warm welcome and the post-match refreshments!

Note: Our Fawns (U6) had a well-deserved weekend off, but will be back in action this coming Saturday.

### FOSSA BRIDGE CLUB

#### RESULTS OF THE "SIM PAIRS" HELD ON THE 05TH MARCH

N/S

1st: Ger McSweeney & Conor Dwyer

2nd: Phyllis O'Regan & Pauline Lyne

3rd: Marie Moloney & Joan Lenihan

E/W

1st: Margaret O'Sullivan & Maura Horan

2nd: Doreen Brosnan & Teresa Sheahan

3rd: Joan Moore & Eileen Murphy

Well done to all.

The "Sim Pairs" are played nationwide where multiple clubs in the country play the exact same pre-dealt hands concurrently.

Our own, Ger McSweeney & Conor Dwyer came third overall on the Thursday session which is a wonderful achievement. Congratulations to these two fine gentlemen.

Also congratulations to our other members, Pauline Lyne & Joan Lenihan who came 9th overall on the Monday session for Killarney Bridge Club and also to Joan Culloty & Kathleen Coen who came 10th overall on the Tuesday session for The Euro Bridge Club.

Great to see all our local clubs featuring on a national level. Well done.

We would like to thank Karen O'Keeffe and Ger Foley for the huge amount of work organising our "Sim Pairs". Thank you both.

## MUCKCROSS ROWING

### CLUB

#### WOMEN IN SPORT WEEK

Last week was Women in Sport Week with Sport Ireland declaring 'Same Energy' as the theme for the 2026 edition of the annual initiative. The week culminated on International Womens Day on Sunday 8th March. On the day, Muckross RC was delighted to hold a special morning of celebration at the club's boathouse with the women of the club coming together for a Womens Row as well as a Breakfast at the Boathouse. It was wonderful to see such great representation on the morning from our junior rowers to coaches, committee members, parents and supporters. Special thanks to club coach Aine Sweeney, who was the driving force behind Sunday's celebration, to all involved with the breakfast and supplies, to our Chairwoman Sharon Cooper and to photographer Valerie O'Sullivan who captured the occasion.

#### MUCKCROSS HOR

Following the cancellation of our annual Muckross Head Of the River in December due to the weather conditions, the event has a rescheduled fixture of next Saturday, March 21st at the National Rowing Centre in Farran, Cork. On the approach to regatta season, the event is also getting a temporary update to the time trial format with a reduced 1950m course and Fixed Head timings. It is hoped the adjusted format will suit crews gearing up for the regatta season and looking ahead to the national championship regatta in July which will feature time trials as part of qualification.

## KILLARNEY BADMINTON

### CLUB

A busy week for Killarney club members who have travelled from Listowel to Birmingham. Well done to all who played and represented the Killarney club in Listowel last week. We had some notable medals in all division.



Killarney Badminton Club members Caroline Lemass and Daniel Weiland

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Fossa Rowing Club members and supporters enjoying the annual table quiz last weekend



## FOSSA ROWING CLUB

### TABLE QUIZ

The Golden Nugget was absolutely hopping with excitement for our annual table quiz last Friday night. It was lovely to see such a huge turnout with the room full of rowers, their families, and supporters of all ages. It was a tight competition, and the questions were thoroughly enjoyed. We are looking forward to our next one already!

Special thanks to Caroline and Mark at the Nugget for having us, and to Angela Daly and Ciara O'Donoghue for writing our questions. Also, our quizmaster Steven Blennerhasset, popping jokes the whole way along and giving shout-outs to the funny quiz team names, funny answers and talented doodlers. A massive thank

you also to all of our organisers, correctors, raffle prize donors and raffle ticket sellers. We couldn't have done this without ye.

### CONDOLENCES

Fossa Rowing Club would like to offer our sincerest condolences to the family of the late Pat Doherty, who passed away last week. Pat was a wonderful supporter of the rowing club, documenting the building of the boathouse in photographs and taking the photos for the commemorative Christmas card. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam

### ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

Excitement is building ahead of this year's Killarney St. Patrick's Day festival, and we are delighted to be taking part again this year.

We will meet on Mission Road from 1 pm, and all are very welcome to join.

### FLESK VALLEY INDOORS

Best of luck to our underage rowers who are taking part in the Flesk Valley Indoor Championships at the Killarney Racecourse on the 22nd of March. Fossa Rowing Club will be very well represented on the day and our rowers are truly looking forward to it. Good luck one and all!

### KILLARNEY REGATTA

The Killarney Regatta has been set for Sunday the 28th of June next at Killarney Golf and Fishing Club. More details to follow.

# CHARITY AUCTION RAISES FUNDS FOR THE PHILIPPINES

The charity auction held on Tuesday the 10th of March, by the Killarney Women's Shed, was a major success. Killarney Women's Shed teamed up Philipino community in Killarney to raise funds by hosting a charity auction of up-cycled furniture.

The fundraiser followed the aftermath of the devastating Typhoon Tino in the Philippines on the 30th of September 2025. The disaster began when a 6.9-magnitude earthquake - the strongest ever recorded in that area - struck the region, followed four weeks later by a powerful typhoon. The typhoon brought winds of up to 185 km per hour, resulting in 269 deaths and displacing more than 700,000 people. Many families remain in temporary tents and schools as infrastructure and agricultural lands were decimated.

This charity auction raised funds for a vital cause. Mayor of Killarney Cllr Martin Grady said, "I would like to sincerely thank everyone who supported the event".

"Thank you to those who donated pieces of furniture, those who decorated and upcycled the items, those who bid on the pieces, those who purchased raffle tickets, and everyone who helped out in any way. From those who organised the event to those who made the tea and welcomed guests - every contribution played an important role", Cllr. Grady told Killarney Outlook.

"It truly shows that the people of Killarney and the surrounding areas have generous hearts and are always willing to help those in need", he added.



Pictured Aine Griffin, Anne O Leary, Mayor of Killarney Cllr Martin Grady, Chandra Arias, Sheila Martin and Rosie Grady.

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## KILLARNEY ATHLETIC

### FAI JUNIOR CUP

**Mountshannon Celtic 1 - 2 Killarney Athletic A.F.C**

*Josh Bowler x 1, Brian O'Shea x 1*

A good win away on the road for our Senior A Team today. Well done and thanks to Mountshannon for a good, tough game. Well done to players & management

### BOYS U16 CUP/SHIELD

**Camp A 3 - 4 Killarney Athletic B**

*Martin Villa x1, Rob Murphy x2, Malacy Audley x1*

Our young Blues made the journey to Camp and came out the right side of a 7 goal cup tie played in tough conditions and a terrible pitch. In truth Athletic dominated the tie and will wonder how they failed to put a resilient Camp side away earlier having taken the lead 3 times before eventually Mal Audley scored the winner 5 minutes from time. On a day where conditions made good football very difficult we still produced some excellent performances from Adam Doyle at the back, Brendan McHugh in midfield and Martin Villa and player of the match Rob Murphy sharing 3 goals between them. Well done to the boys for digging out a deserved win and putting themselves into the hat for the next round. Player of the match Rob Murphy.

### BOYS U14 PREMIER

**Killarney Athletic A 2 - 1 Castleisland A**

*Sean Quill x 1, Miron Svyripa x 1*

The lads had a very tough match this morning travelling to Castleisland to face a very strong Castleisland team. The boys controlled the first half with fabulous technical play and strong midfield performance to control the vast majority of the first half. They went up 1-0 from a beautiful corner kick from Sean Quill. Athletic kept the pressure up and Myron Svyripa finished slotted home 2 minutes later to take the lead to 2-0 which was well deserved. Castleisland struck back from their very dangerous striker with a well taken goal to make it 2-1 at half. The lads fought hard together in the second half, they were tight and disciplined and negated Castleisland from scoring a tying goal in the second half. Very strong midfield performance from Rory Moynihan, Ronan Browne and Lucus Uchtyl all day. It was the first victory ever for the boys over Castleisland since they started playing for Athletic. So a good day out for the lads against a fabulous Castleisland team. Man of the match was Rory Moynihan with a dominant display in centre midfield who showed immense

leadership qualities leading the lads to this hard fought victory. Thanks to Castleisland team and management for a very sporting game.

### BOYS U12 PREMIER

**Killarney Athletic A 0 - 2 Dingle Bay Rovers A**

A bad day at the office for the boys. We never got to grips with the windy conditions and were slow out of the blocks. We went into half time one down after a very dubious penalty. We played into the wind in the second half and struggled against a well organised DBR who sat back and soaked up all the pressure. A fine goal by the home side put them 2 up with 15 to go but we rarely threatened and struggled badly. Nothing went right on the day and we performed well below par. Well done to DBR on a good win and we wish them well for the rest of the season.

### MEK U12S VS KILLARNEY ATHLETIC U12B

**MEK 4 - 3 Killarney Athletic**

A brilliant match today away to MEK, unfortunately the result didn't go our way, but it was an absolute cracker of a game. Each & every blue put in a huge performance, displayed great work rate, skills & desire to get the equaliser we craved & deserved so much. Special mention to our midfield who worked tirelessly throughout the match Captain Mac Dara O' Sé. Goals: Alex Durbala x 1, Filip Niedzialek x 2. MOTM: Filip Niedzialek

### GIRLS U13 CUP

**Killarney Athletic B 0 v 7 MEK**

Tough ask tonight where Athletic met MEK team who play a league above us. The first half was struggle and despite a lot of effort the girls were unable to keep up with the speed of the MEK attack and found ourselves down 6-0 at half time. The second half was a much better performance. The girls created some excellent chances and were unlucky not to grab a couple of goals but wasn't to be. MEK grabbed another one towards the end to make it 7-0. Thanks to MEK for a good game

### GIRLS U15 MARY LYNE CUP RESULT

**Killarney Athletic 5-0 Dingle**

*Scorers: Ella Crowley x1, Roisin O'Sullivan x1, Lillian Slattery x2, Ellie O'Sullivan x1*

Killarney Athletic delivered an impressive performance in the U-15 Girls Cup as they secured a commanding 5-0 victory over Dingle. Athletic started the game brightly and were rewarded early when Ella Crowley opened the scoring, giving the home side the perfect start. The team continued to press forward with

confidence, controlling possession and creating several chances. Roisin O'Sullivan soon doubled the advantage, finishing well to put Killarney firmly in control of the contest. With momentum on their side, Killarney Athletic maintained the pressure and were rewarded again when Lillian Slattery struck twice, adding two excellent goals to extend the lead and effectively put the result beyond doubt. Despite the comfortable lead, Killarney continued to play positive attacking football. Ellie O'Sullivan completed the scoring with a tidy finish, capping off a superb team performance. It was a dominant display from Killarney Athletic, with strong teamwork, clinical finishing, and a solid defensive effort ensuring they kept a clean sheet while progressing into Round 2 in the U-15 Girls Cup, thanks to Dingle for a sporting game and Tom for officiating, well done girls

### U15 GIRLS CUP

**Killarney Athletic 0 - 5 Iveragh**

First game back for Athletic since October. Girls tried hard but Iveragh midfield and forwards were too strong and led 3-0 at half time. Much better second half for Athletic who created numerous chances but were unlucky not to find the back of the net. With Athletic pushing forward meant we left openings at the back and Iveragh grabbed 2 goals. Thanks to Iveragh for a good game

## MASTERGEEHA FC

### U13 BRID DEVANE PERPETUAL GIRLS CUP

**Mastergeeha 7 v Tralee Dynamos 1**

*Gracie Maher (5), Sophie Moynihan, Melissa O'Leary*

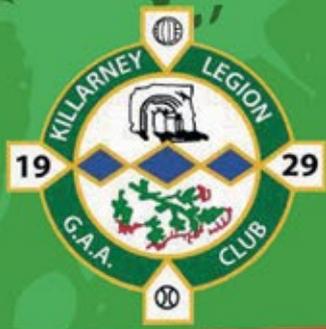
Yesterday we faced Tralee Dynamos in the first round of the Brid Devane Perpetual Cup. Mastergeeha produced a very strong performance in the first half, with Gracie Maher once again stealing the show by scoring an incredible five goals. Sophie Moynihan added another to the tally, leaving the score 6-0 at half time after a dominant opening 30 minutes. Tralee Dynamos came out a completely different team in the second half and created a number of great chances. Sophie Moynihan made three excellent saves to deny Dynamos. Their goal came from a superb free kick from outside the box that flew high into the top corner. Melissa O'Leary scored our only goal of the second half, leaving the final score Mastergeeha 7 - 1 Tralee Dynamos. Well done to all our girls today who were in top form and put in an outstanding



Ballyhar Dynamos FC U14 girls, Division 1 league winners away to MEK FC.



Mastergeeha FC Under 13 girls team



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performance. Thanks to Tralee Dynamos for a very sporting game and we wish them the best of luck for the rest of the season. Also, many thanks to Muhammad for officiating the game.

### U15 MARY LYNE PERPETUAL GIRLS CUP

*Camp 3 v Mastergeeha 0 w/o*

### BOYS CUP

### U12 BOYS CUP/TROPHY

*Mastergeeha A 0 v Killarney Celtic A 1*

### KERRY SCHOOLBOYS U12S BOYS JOHN MURPHY CUP

*Mastergeeha FC 0- 1 Killarney Celtic*

*MOTM : Thomas Corkery*

Mastergeeha U12s boys played in the Kerry Schoolboys John Murphy U12's Boys Cup on Saturday morning against Killarney Celtic U12s. Mastergeeha very unlucky to miss a couple of chances in the first half from Thomas O'Sullivan and Dara Burchill. A tough physical first half from both teams 0-0 at halftime. Our defence of Sean Breen, Josh O'Sullivan, Nathan Cronin and Aidan McGuire were outstanding. Ronan O'Leary very well in goal also. Mastergeeha very unlucky again in the second half with some close chances. Our midfield of Dara O'Keeffe, Mathew Cahill, Ronan O'Neill, Thomas Corkery and Dara Burchill really worked hard today. Killarney Celtic getting a goal in the 46th minute. Thomas O'Sullivan huge work upfront. Mastergeeha having a strong dominating second half but unlucky not to get one back to level. A great overall team performance by Mastergeeha this morning, some great football on display by both teams. Best wishes to Killarney Celtic in the next round.

### U16 BOYS TUCKER KELLY TROPHY/SHIELD

*Mastergeeha B 3 v Inter Kenmare B 0 W/O*

### BOYS LEAGUE

### U12 BOYS DIV 1

*Park D 1 v Mastergeeha B 1*

A brilliant display from our lads away to Park D in Division 1. We played into a strong breeze in the first half, but the boys rose to the challenge and produced some superb football against an excellent Park side. Just before half-time, a perfectly timed through ball sent Dara Counihan racing clear. With defenders chasing him down, he carried the ball and finished brilliantly past the advancing keeper to make it 1-0. With the wind behind us in the second half, we hoped to push on, but Park created the better chances. Our defence held strong again, and our keeper produced several excellent saves to protect



*Killarney Celtic U14 C Div 1 winners*

the lead. Deep into added time, Park found an equaliser in the 64th minute, ending the game 1-1. Despite the late goal, this was a fantastic team performance and a fully deserved point. Today's joint Man of the Match goes to Dara Counihan for his superb goal and to Jack Sheahan for an incredible shift in midfield. A big thank you to Park FC for hosting us and to referee Ger O'Connor for officiating.

### U14 BOYS DIVISION 1

*Mastergeeha A 4 v Killarney Celtic C 0*

### MASTERGEEHA LOTTO

There was no winner of our lotto on 6th March for the Jackpot of €5,400. Numbers drawn were 1, 12, 16, 21. Consolation Prizes of €50 each to the following, Paul Cronin, Diarmuid O'Neill Mastergeeha, Sinéad & Marion Collins Aghadoe and Denise Flavin C/O Village Inn. Our next draw will take place on Friday 13th March at the Village Inn for a Jackpot of €5,600.

## KILLARNEY CELTIC

### LOTTO

Numbers drawn 9,14,15,25. No Jackpot winner. Match 3 winners received €150. Next jackpot €7,800 on Monday March 16th. Tickets available from The Dungeon Bookshop, Amber Shop (Top of Ross Road), club members and online through clubzap.

### KDL CHAMPIONSHIP

*Killarney Celtic B 1-2 Castlegregory Celtic*

*Eoghan Crowley*

Celtic B were edged out in this vital league game last weekend. Celtic B remain top of the division but must now wait on other results to see if they make the league final. Playing before a good sized crowd Celtic B hit the front when

Ramin Khan set up Eoghan Crowley to score. However Castlegregory responded quickly to level and were ahead by the break. Hard as both sides tried, no further goals were forthcoming and Castlegregory took this vital win.

### JIMMY FALVEY YOUTHS CUP

*Killarney Celtic 0-3 Killorglin AFC*

### KDL U17 PREMIER

*Killarney Celtic 1-3 St Brendan's Park*

*Kiernan Kelly*

A young Celtic went down to St Brendan's Park last week.

### U16 TROPHY SHIELD

*Killarney Celtic B 2-3 Fenit A AET*

*Pablo Canales Almira, Ben O'Sullivan*

Despite a brave effort Celtic exited the Trophy as they now drop into the Shield competition.

### U14 PREMIER

Killarney Celtic defeated Inter Kenmare with Cillian Scannell, Luke Clifford and Jack Clifford on the scoresheet. Celtic kept in touch with the league leaders as they recorded a good victory in Kenmare last weekend. Celtic were strong from the start as they continued their pursuit of the league leaders.

### U14 DIV 1

*Mastergeeha A 4-0 Killarney Celtic C*

Despite this loss Killarney Celtic C were crowned champions. Well done to the players and coaches.

### U14 DIV 3

*Fenit 3-2 Killarney Celtic D*

*Muhammet Gazal, Oskar Kozub*

*Killarney Celtic D 1-1 Killarney Athletic C*

*Thomas Clarke*

### U12 CUP

*Mastergeeha 0-1 Killarney Celtic*

*Cian O'Connell*



*Ballyhar Dynamos FC ladies social soccer panel who participated last weekend in a successful blitz organised by the Kerry District League.*



*Ballyhar Dynamos u9s who welcomed Mastergeeha FC last weekend, where both squads displayed the skills of the game. Thanks to the Parents & Coaches of both squads for enabling the fixture.*



Castleisland U16 Boys



MEK and Killarney Athletic U10s who played a friendly in Fossa yesterday.

A 2nd half goal from Cian O'Connell was enough to put Celtic A in the next round of the Cup after a hard fought win over Mastergeeha. Celtic were strong throughout the game as they held Mastergeeha at bay before striking for the vital winner.

#### U12 DIV 1

##### **Killarney Celtic C 2-1 Killarney Celtic B**

*Cillian Murphy, Fionn O'Sullivan for C team.*

*Liam Myers for B team*

A late goal by the C team saw them take all 3 points against the B team. Celtic C led at half time before Celtic B equalised. With time running out, Celtic C came with some good passing to create the opening for the winning goal.

#### U12 DIV 3

##### **Killarney Celtic D 2-4 Ballyheigue**

*Bogdan, Samir Cenjai*

Celtic D led twice but Ballyheigue countered to take the points.

**CONGRATS** to Cillian Scannell U14 who was named on the KSBGL Team of the Week

## KERRY SCHOOLBOY/GIRL SOCCER

### NATIONAL

#### **PARK SUFFER HEARTBREAKING EXIT IN NATIONAL CUP QUARTER FINALS**

It was a tough defeat for the St Brendan's Park U16 Girls as they bowed out of the U16 Girls National Cup at the Quarter Final stage after a 3-2 defeat to Midleton.

Park produced a superb performance and looked to be on course for a famous win. A goal from Malwina Jankowska along with an own goal saw them take a 2-1 lead with just five minutes remaining.

Midleton FC struck twice late on, once from the penalty spot and again from a corner, to turn the game around in the closing moments. The girls gave an outstanding display from start to finish and fully deserved their lead. They even had chances to extend it early in the second half, only to be denied by two brilliant saves from the Midleton goalkeeper, but as legs got heavy late on, Midleton pounced to take the win with a last gasp goal.

### GIRLS

#### **MEK WIN HARD FOUGHT PREMIER CLASH**

MEK claimed a narrow 3-2 victory over Castleisland in the Maher's Meats U12 Girls

Premier Division after a closely contested encounter.

Castleisland kept the pressure on throughout the game with goals from Niamh O'Donoghue and Aine Enright putting them in the lead twice, but MEK responded well. Katie Foley struck twice, while Tiarna Falvey also found the net to secure the win.

#### **GOALS GALORE AS BRID DEVANE CUP GETS UNDERWAY**

There was plenty of action and goals in the U13 Brid Devane Perpetual Cup as several sides booked their places in the next stage with strong performances.

MEK A produced a dominant display to defeat Killarney Athletic B 6-0. The goals came from Abbie Coffey Straka, Teegan O'Sullivan, Emma Foley, Lauren Fleming, and Katie Foley to see them through to the next round.

Mastergeeha also impressed as they overcame Tralee Dynamos 7-1. Gracie Maher led the scoring with an outstanding five-goal haul, while Sophie Moynihan and Melissa O'Leary also found the net.

In a tighter contest, Iveragh recorded a 2-0 victory over Fenit, with Tiernagh McGill scoring for Fenit.

Inter Kenmare A needed extra time to get past Killorglin, eventually winning 4-1 after a hard-fought encounter. Mila Riney Scannell scored twice for Kenmare, with Fallon O'Shea and Lilly Murphy Noonan also on target. Chloe O'Sullivan had earlier scored for Killorglin.

Penalties were needed for Killarney Athletic A to advance, as they were held to a 2-2 draw away to Camp Juniors after extra-time, before winning 4-3 on penalties. Abbey O'Leary gave the visitors an early lead, before Camp hit two quick fire goals to lead 2-1 at the break.

Clara O'Donoghue equalised in the second half, and after a scoreless additional period, the game headed to penalties. Alannah McGlynn, Clara O'Donoghue, Abbey O'Leary and goalkeeper Erica O'Sullivan converted their penalties, O'Sullivan netting the winning penalty. Elsewhere, Castleisland progressed with a 3-0 walkover against MEK B.

#### **O'CONNOR AND O'SULLIVAN FIRE BALLYHAR TO NARROW VICTORY**

Ballyhar Dynamos secured a hard-fought 2-1 victory over MEK in the O'Sullivan's Bakery U14 Girl's Division 1.

In a closely contested match, Ballyhar made their

chances count with goals from Mollie O'Connor and Niamh O'Sullivan, which proved enough to claim all three points.

#### **DRAMATIC ENCOUNTERS AS MARY LYNE CUP GETS UNDERWAY**

There was plenty of excitement in the opening round of the U15 Mary Lyne Perpetual Cup as teams battled for places in the next round, with goals, extra time drama and a penalty shoot-out deciding several contests.

Fenit advanced with a 3-1 win against Castleisland. Aoibhinn Corridon, Ella Sayers, Erin Harty all found the net for Fenit, while Roisin Cronin scored for Castleisland.

Killarney Athletic A produced a strong performance to defeat Dingle 5-0. Goals came from Lillian Slattery, who struck twice, along with Ella Crowley, Roisin O'Sullivan, and Ellie O'Sullivan.

Iveragh also moved into the next stage with a 5-0 victory over Killarney Athletic B. Amy Rose Shanahan scored twice, while Faye O'Sullivan, Leanna Foran, and Zoe Gleeson also found the net.

One of the most dramatic games of the round saw Tralee Dynamos overcome Killorglin after penalties. The sides finished 4-4 after extra time, with Mia Robertson scoring twice for Killorglin alongside goals from Chloe Falvey and Niamh Murphy. Dynamos goals came from Tia Falvey (two), Caoimhe Daly, and Lucy Wynne. Dynamos eventually prevailed 5-3 in the penalty shoot-out to progress. Camp progressed after a 3-0 walkover victory over Mastergeeha.

### BOYS

#### **NARROW WIN FOR KILLARNEY CELTIC IN U12 JOHN MURPHY CUP**

Killarney Celtic A secured a hard-fought 1-0 victory over Mastergeeha A in the U12 John Murphy Boy's Cup/Trophy to advance into the next round.

In a closely contested encounter, chances were limited as both sides battled strongly throughout. The decisive moment came when Cian O'Connell found the net for Killarney Celtic, scoring the only goal of the game.

#### **KILLORGLIN AND DINGLE PICK UP PREMIER WINS**

There was a mix of high-scoring action and tight contests in the latest round of the EBS U12 Boys Premier Division, with Killorglin delivering the standout attacking display of the week to pick up a win alongside Dingle Bay Rovers.

Killorglin produced an excellent performance to defeat Camp 8-2. The goals were shared around the team, with Gerald O'Grady and Cillian Gleeson both scoring twice, while Avery O'Sullivan, Liam O'Connor, and Sean O'Sullivan also got on the scoresheet. James O'Mahony netted Camp's two goals in reply.

Elsewhere, Dingle recorded a solid 2-0 win over Killarney Athletic, with Jamie Murphy and Finn MacGearailt finding the net to secure the three points. Castleisland and Park could not be separated elsewhere as their game finished 0-0.

**GOALS AND BIG WINDS IN U14 TOM HAYES COMPETITIONS**

There was plenty of action across the U14 Tom Hayes Cup, Trophy and Shield competitions, with a number of high-scoring games and impressive attacking displays as teams battled to progress. In the Tom Hayes Cup/Trophy, Dingle A produced a strong performance to defeat Tralee Dynamos A 6-2. Goals came from Conall Ó Sé, TJ Ó hAinfein, Robbie Smyth, Muiris Ó Shuilleabháin, Noah Eadie, and Donnacha Ó Murchú in an impressive attacking display.

In the Tom Hayes Trophy Knock-out, Park C advanced with a 4-1 victory over Listowel Celtic B. Anton Wattam was the standout performer with a superb hat-trick, while William Peevers was also on target.

The Tom Hayes Shield Knock-out produced two more entertaining ties. Ballyhar A delivered a

clinical attacking display to defeat Milltown 6-0, with goals from Darragh McLaughlin (2), Josh Nelligan, Jack Duggan, Ollie Kirwan, and Ruairi Casey. Meanwhile, Castleisland B edged a thrilling contest against Inter Kenmare B, winning 5-4 despite a hat-trick from Daniel Oshimade for Inter Kenmare, with Kealan O'Sullivan also getting on the scoresheet.

**CLOSE ENCOUNTERS AS TUCKER KELLY COMPETITIONS GET UNDERWAY**

There was plenty of excitement across the U16 Tucker Kelly Trophy and Shield fixtures, with extra-time drama, and several tight contests deciding who progressed.

One of the closest ties saw Fenit A defeat Killarney Celtic B 3-2 after extra time. Pablo Canales Almira and Ben O'Sullivan scored for Celtic, but Fenit responded through Cian Slattery and a brace from Conor O'Sullivan to secure the win.

Killarney Athletic B also came through a high-scoring encounter, defeating Camp A 4-3. Rob Murphy struck twice for Athletic, while Martin Villa and Malacy Audley added the other goals. In another thrilling contest, Killorglin A overcame Iveragh A 4-3, with Darragh O'Connor delivering a superb four-goal performance. Matthew Murphy scored twice for Iveragh, while Dominic Courtney also found the net.

Castleisland B needed extra time to defeat Tralee Dynamos B 1-0, with Evan Cronin scoring the decisive goal to send Castleisland into the next

round.

Mastergeeha B and MEK A both advanced with 3-0 walkover victories over Inter Kenmare B and Listowel Celtic A respectively, while Castleisland A also progressed after a 3-0 walkover win against Dingle A.

**BOYS TEAM OF THE WEEK**

1. Fionn O'Connor (Fenit Samphires U16)
2. Cathal O'Connor (Fenit Samphires U14)
4. Donnacha Ó Murchú (Dingle Bay Rovers U14)
5. Evan Griffin (Tralee Dynamos U15)
3. Ben Smith (St Brendan's Park U14)
6. Brian Nolan (LB Rovers U12)
8. Darragh O'Connor (Killorglin U16)
10. Rob Murphy (Killarney Athletic U16)
7. Cillian Scannell (Killarney Celtic U14)
9. Anton Wattam (St Brendan's Park U14)
11. Mikey Diasconu (Dingle Bay Rovers U12)

**GIRLS ROLL OF HONOUR**

1. Elizabeth Dowling (Inter Kenmare)
2. Malwina Jankowska (St Brendan's Park)
4. Aoife Carey (Fenit Samphires)
5. Reagen Browne (Killarney Athletic)
3. Emily Coffey (MEK Galaxy)
6. Nessa McAuliffe (Castleisland)
8. Katie Foley (MEK Galaxy)
7. Gracie Maher (Mastergeeha)
10. Mia Robertson (Killorglin)
9. Tiernagh McGill (Iveragh)
11. Gabaji Traskovskaja (Inter Kenmare)

# Killarney Cycling Club Announces 2026 Mentoring Programme

Killarney Cycling Club is proud to announce the return of its highly anticipated Adult Mentoring Programme, starting on April 2nd. The initiative provides a structured, supportive pathway for adults aiming to tackle the 180km Ring of Kerry Charity Cycle or those simply looking to master group riding safety.

Recognizing that the leap from solo cycling to club riding can be intimidating, the 10-week programme begins in the club's room in St. Mary's Parish Hall. The first two sessions are held indoors on static bikes, allowing participants to receive personalized coaching on bike fit, gear selection, and road etiquette in a controlled environment before heading outdoors.

"Our goal is to build confidence as much as fitness," says Dan O Connor of Killarney Cycling Club. "Whether you're eyeing Molls Gap or just want to feel safer on the road, we provide the technical foundation and the community spirit to get you there."

**Key Programme Details:**

- **Launch Date:** Thursday April 2nd at 6.45pm
- **Location:** Killarney Cycling Clubroom, St. Mary's Parish Hall (V93HX44).
- **The Progression:** Two Thursday indoor technical sessions followed by eight Wednesday guided evening road rides, gradually increasing distance from 20m to 70km
- **Expert Guidance:** All sessions are led by experienced club mentors focused on safety, stamina, and "rules of the road."

To take part, participants will need a roadworthy bike, a helmet, a drink, front and rear lights, a spare tube, and a positive attitude!

**About Killarney Cycling Club:** Killarney Cycling Club is a community-focused organization dedicated to promoting cycling for all ages and abilities. Through its mentoring initiatives, the club continues to foster a culture of safe, social, and competitive cycling throughout the Killarney area.

To register, please contact Fiona 085 789 7725/Seán 0863956079



Pictured are : Satty O Riordan, Sylven Veerasoo Martin O sullivan and Audrey Veerasoo who are five of the 18 participants who completed last year's mentoring programme with Derry Doyle of KCC

# KERRY COME AWAY WITH A DRAW

## Treaty United 2-2 Kerry FC

On Friday night, Kerry FC travelled to Limerick City as they took on Treaty United in the Markets Field for their second away game of the season. It was Kerry FC's first Munster Derby of the campaign as the stakes were high straight from the off.

In the four league matches between the sides in 2025, the scales did not tip either way. A win a piece, and two draws meant that neither side had a bragging rights edge heading into this one. An eighty-fourth-minute equaliser from Ewan Lee for Kerry FC in their last trip to Limerick meant the spoils were shared late on in that encounter.

There was an added stipulation heading into the game. Both sides were yet to pick up a victory in the opening three fixtures of the season. Treaty have lost all three of their opening games, whereas the point picked up by Kerry FC last week at home to Longford Town had them both in dire need of a three-point bonus so that they don't fall behind early on in the campaign. It was all to play for as a good crowd showed up in support for both sides in the Treaty County.

### FIRST HALF

Kerry FC started brightly after the opening whistle, looking to move the ball quickly and apply early pressure in the Treaty half. In the second minute, a foul by Mark Walsh presented Kerry FC with a free kick in a dangerous position, though the resulting effort drifted narrowly wide of Jack Brady's left-hand post.

The visitors continued to threaten as the half developed. In the thirteenth minute, Vince Borden delivered a low, driven cross across the six-yard box that flashed dangerously through the area, but Luke Palmer arrived just a fraction too late to apply the finishing touch.

Treaty United created their first significant opportunity in the fifteenth minute when Ben Feeney drove a shot toward the near post. Kerry goalkeeper Harry Halwax reacted sharply, producing a strong save to keep the scores level.

Kerry's pressure paid off soon after. In the seventeenth minute, Finn Barrett delivered an excellent free kick from deep into the Treaty penalty area. The ball found Ewan Lee unmarked at the back post, and the midfielder made no mistake, smashing his finish past Brady to give Kerry FC a deserved 1-0 lead.

The hosts attempted to respond, but Kerry remained disciplined defensively. Sean McGrath was shown a yellow card in the twenty-sixth minute following a challenge in midfield. Shortly afterwards, Halwax was called into action again, producing another impressive stop from close range to deny Darren Nwankwo.



Ewan Lee for Kerry FC.

As the half moved into its closing stages, possession was shared between the sides with few clear-cut chances created. Kerry remained organised at the back and carried their advantage into the interval after two minutes of added time, leading 1-0 thanks to Lee's well-taken goal.

### SECOND HALF

Treaty United began the second half with greater urgency, searching for an equaliser. In the forty-sixth minute, Ben Feeney struck from a tight angle on the right side of the box, but his effort clipped the outside of the post and went behind, relieving the pressure on Halwax's goal. The pattern of the game settled into a balanced contest, with both teams enjoying spells of possession without creating clear opportunities. Kerry introduced Eric Koufie in the sixty-first minute, replacing Luke Palmer as the visitors looked to maintain their attacking threat.

However, Treaty United drew level shortly afterwards. In the sixty-fifth minute, Cian Curtis met a loose ball on the edge of the area and struck a half-volley that took a slight deflection before beating Halwax to make it 1-1.

Kerry responded almost immediately. In the sixty-seventh minute, substitute Eric Koufie was brought down inside the penalty area, prompting the referee to point to the spot. Cian Murphy stepped up in the sixty-eighth minute and calmly slotted his penalty into the bottom right corner, sending Brady the wrong way and restoring Kerry's lead while also marking his first competitive goal for the club.

The visitors worked hard to protect their advantage as the game entered its final stages. In the seventy-seventh minute, a high, looping ball into the Kerry area threatened to reach Darren Nwankwo, but captain Kilian Cantwell reacted well to clear the danger for a corner,

which eventually came to nothing.

Kerry FC continued to defend resolutely, though Eric Koufie received a yellow card in the eighty-third minute during a tense closing spell.

Treaty United found their equaliser late in the match. In the eighty-ninth minute, the referee awarded the home side a penalty after Ewan Lee was adjudged to have fouled Fionn Doherty inside the area. Cian Curtis stepped forward and converted from the spot to bring the game level at 2-2.

Kerry made a final change in the ninetieth minute, with Kieran Cooney replacing Sean McGrath as the visitors looked to see out the remaining moments.

Despite both sides pushing in the closing stages, neither team could find a decisive third goal. The referee brought proceedings to an end shortly afterwards, with Kerry FC taking a point from a competitive encounter at the Markets Field. The Kingdom now turns its attention to Ferrycarrig Park as they face Wexford FC away once again next Friday.

**Treaty United Team:** Jack Brady; Ben Lynch, Cian Curtis (GOAL '66, PEN '90), Ben Lee, Jason Folarin Oyenuga, Darren Nwankwo, Mark Walsh, Robbie Lynch, Mark Murphy, Raphael Ohin.

**Used Subs:** Steven Healy, Jevontae Layne, Roy Lawlor, Fionn Doherty, Ronan Manning.

**Kerry FC Team:** Harry Halwax; Finn Barrett, Sean O'Connell, Kilian Cantwell (C), Sean McGrath, Cian Murphy (GOAL PEN '68), Jonas Häkkinen, Luke Palmer, Vince Borden, Niall Brookwell, Ewan Lee (GOAL '17).

**Used Subs:** Eric Koufie, Kieran Cooney

**FOSSA**

**LOTTO**

The numbers drawn on 08/03/2026 for a jackpot of €6,900 were 5, 7, 14, 28. There was no jackpot winner. The €40 consolation prize winners were; Eilis Myers, Tim Buckley, Norma Naughton, Angela Daly, Niamh Ni Eithir.

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

**MINOR CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP**

Fossa were away to Finuge in the Shield Semi-final on Saturday afternoon, despite being depleted with a raft of injuries they put in a very spirited performance. Finuge had the aid of a strong breeze in the first half and made it count with three goals in the opening thirty minutes. Fossa came out in the second half and threw everything they had at this game, young Ben O'Sullivan and Harry O'Connor got the first two scores of the half. A brace from Shay McCormick, Eoin Bennett and Harry O'Connor got Fossa back into the game, Conor O'Mahony attacked down the wings and Fossa created a few goal scoring chances. Shay McCormick did hit the back of the net in the 25th minute which was quickly followed by a Luke Rennie point but, ultimately, the three first half goals were the difference as it gave Finuge breathing space; it finished Finuge 3-12, Fossa 1-09.

**MINOR LADIES COUNTY LEAGUE**

Our Arcon Construction sponsored Fossa Minor Ladies made the trip to Gallarus to play Corca Dhuibhne in Round 1 of the 9/11 aside U18 County League. In atrocious conditions, Fossa won the toss and elected to play with the gale of wind. As ever, wind this strong is not always a help but the Fossa attack notched up 0-8 and our solid hard working defence held the home team to 0-1. Against the worsening elements in the 2nd half, Fossa defended bravely as a team making it hard for the home team to score. A couple of wind assisted goals saw the game still up from grabs into the last five minutes but despite drawing level the home side were held at bay, Fossa struck the last blow to win by the minimum margin 1-09 to 3-02. Next week in Round 3 the girls are away to Beale on Sunday.

**EAST KERRY**

**DIVISION 1A**

Legion 0-17 Kenmare 0-16

**DIVISION 1B**

Glenflesk 3-08 Kilcummin 1-12

**DIVISION 2**

Scartaglin 1-06 Currow 1-13

**SUPER LEAGUE** back game fixtures in Div. 1B

First team named is at home

**DIV 1B:** Kilcummin V Listry, Gneeveguilla V Glenflesk

**DIV. 2 FINAL**

Dr. Crokes V Currow – Venue: TBC

Unless stated, all above games are Sunday 22nd March at 12 noon

**DR. CROKES**

**MINOR CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP**

Dr. Crokes 0:08 Firies 1:12



Killarney Legion lotto winner Trevor Farry with Lotto coordinator John Foran on left and club Chairman John Keane on the right

On Saturday last we travelled to Firies for the Club Championship semi-final. Despite being without a number of regular players, the team delivered a very strong performance. Firies ultimately came out on top on a scoreline of 1:12 to 0:08, but our players showed great commitment and work rate from start to finish.

**MEMBERSHIP** is now due. Membership can be paid through the club app. Download today <https://member.clubspot.app/club/dr-crokes-gaa/fundraisers>

**CROKES CUBS AND ACADEMY** take place every Saturday. Hurling from 10am-11am and football from 11:15am-12:15pm. All new members welcome.

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

**KATHLEEN'S GENTLE EXERCISE CLASS** for seniors continues each Tuesday at 11am in the clubhouse. All are welcome.

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

**LOTTO** took place on March 9th Numbers drawn were 4, 11, 19, 21. Jackpot of €19,400 was NOT WON. 32 patrons matched 3 numbers and receive €25 each. Jackpot for draw on March 16th will be €19,700. 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](mailto:drcrokes.kerry@gaa.ie)

**KILLARNEY LEGION**

**AWARDS NIGHT**

The annual Killarney Legion Awards Night will take place at The Killarney Avenue Hotel on tonight Friday, March 13, beginning at 7:30pm. The awards night is a highlight in the club's calendar and provides an opportunity to recognise and celebrate the achievements of

both young and senior members throughout the past year. Following is a list of this years awards winners

- Senior Men's Player of the Year – Ryan o Grady
- Senior ladies - Zena Shine
- Junior men - Callum O Donoghue
- Young ladies - Laura Healy
- Young player men - Josh Bowler
- Minor boys - Luke Courtney
- Minor girls - Emily Brosnan

**MINOR COUNTY SEMI FINAL**

**Minor club championship division 1 semi final. Legion 0-16 Laune Rangers 1-12. AET**

Our minor A team played Laune Rangers in Dereen today in a fiercely contested county semi final.

Laune Rangers started the 1st quarter strong which saw them lead 0-4 to 0-1. The lads grew into the game and with the wind behind us we started to gain control and lead 0-5 to 0-4 with a few minutes to go before halftime. Quick thinking from Laune Rangers let them in for a goal. Again the lads worked a free which lead to a 2 pointer which let the score 0-7 to 1-4 for Halftime .

The second half was very tight and there was only a point in it all through the 2nd half.

After an hour it was 0-11 to 1-08. Extra time was similar with both teams traded scores and periods of possession.

We took the lead with time almost up and secured possession from the kick out to hold out for a super win.

As coaches we're delighted with all the boys today. This was a huge effort from the whole panel and everybody contributed. They never gave up and they needed to against a very determined Laune Rangers team. Thanks to Laune Rangers for a great game and to Gary Kissane and his umpires for reffing.

Next up is the final v Listry. Date is TBC

**MOTHERS AND OTHERS**

Our Mothers and Others group are starting back again on Thursday 12th March 8-9pm . This activity is both sporting and social and we are inviting any woman/girl to join us for a hours fun each week. No football experience necessary as all training will be given . Fitness or lack of fitness is not an issue so just come along



www.spagaa.com

# SPA GAA ACADEMY

## THE GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING!

Spa GAA Academy made a hugely successful return last Saturday morning, with fantastic numbers of young players back on the pitch and plenty of new faces joining the fun.

There was a brilliant atmosphere around the club as boys and girls aged 3 -12 took part in a lively session filled with football, skills and games.

Their energy and enthusiasm was matched by the dedication of Spa's coaches and volunteers, who ensured everyone had an enjoyable start to the new Academy season.

Adding to the morning's excitement was the ever-popular club mascot Spark, who was there throughout the session offering high fives and encouragement to the young players.

Off the pitch, there was plenty happening too, with the coffee dock busy serving parents and supporters while the club shop had lots of customers!

The Spa GAA Academy will now continue every Saturday from 10am to 11am, providing a fun, welcoming environment for children in Killarney and the surrounding community to learn new skills, make friends and enjoy Gaelic football.

The morning also finished with a very special surprise for all who attended. Thanks to Spa's Killarney Club 7s Committee, **every child received a brand new football to take home**, allowing them to continue practising their skills and enjoying the game outside of Academy time **making the Spa Academy the gift that keeps on giving.**

Spa GAA would like to thank the Killarney Club 7s Committee for their continued support and for investing in the future of the club. The ever popular and hugely successful Killarney Club 7s tournament returns this June Bank Holiday weekend for its fifth year, promising another fantastic festival of football in Killarney.



and meet new friends and have some fun . All new players welcome. Any further information you might need on this please contact Blaithin on 0876963979

**ACADEMY**

Weeeeeere baaaaack!!!!

Our underage academy starts back this Saturday morning at Dirreen . 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

**SENIOR EK LEAGUE**

Dirreen provided the venue for the The Division 1A Round 5 of the East Kerry Super League between Killarney Legion and Kenmare. A good crowd enjoyed a competitive game between

these two teams and it went right down to the wire before coming up with a narrow victory for the home side. Kenmare travelled with a strong team and the Legionnaires were up against it in the first half playing into a stiff breeze and trailed at half-time 0-05 to Kenmare's 0-12. Legion management used the occasion to blood many new players who did not look out of place in the senior set-up with many catching the eye with some fine performances. With the wind at their back Legion took the bit by the teeth and gradually reduced the deficit drawing level with a minute left on the clock. Legion went on to score the deciding point in injury time in what was an entertaining encounter for all in attendance. Finam Score: Killarney Legion 0-17, Kenmare 0-16.

**EK LEAGUE RDS**

*Killarney Legion 0-17 Kenmare 0-16*

**FIXTURES**

**County League Division 1 - Rd 1**

Legion v Spa, Sunday 15th March, Derreen 3pm

**ST PATRICKS DAY PARADE**

All boys and girls are welcome to join us as we march in the annual st Patrick's day parade on Tuesday. All those taking part please assemble at mission road at 1.15pm. Please keep a check on social media and Clubzapp for our allocated number or just look out for our banner.

**SYMPATHY**

The club offers its condolences to the family and friends of Fr. Paddy O Donoghue and to all in the Dr. Crokes community. At Dheis De go raibh a Anam Dilis.

**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

# Athlete Sarah Leahy breaks her second national record this year

Sarah Leahy from Killarney valley ac has set a new National record for the indoor 100m.

Sarah ran a very impressive 11.72 seconds to break the record in the UK.

What makes this record very special is that already in 2026 Sarah broke the record also for the indoor 50m which stood for more than 20 years.

To hold two national records in one's career is a very special achievement for the flying Killarney valley woman.

With the indoor season for 2026 almost at an end Sarah's focus is now on the outdoor season with both the 100m and the 4x100m relay for which Sarah was a member of the Irish team that also set a new national record in 2025 in London.



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# ST PATS EAST KERRY HURLING UNDER 6/8/10/12

## Starting in March

### When/Where

U10/12 Saturdays 2pm  
Fossa NS (Astro)  
Switch to Thurs 6pm in  
Kilcummin GAA in Apr

U6/U8 Thursdays 6pm  
Spa GAA Hall (Indoor)  
Starting 19th Mar

All groups will move to  
outdoor hurling in  
Kilcummin GAA in  
April (weather  
permitting)



### What

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JIMMY O'SULLIVAN-DARCY

takes a look at all things sport...

## HURLING

### Comfortable Win for Kerry National League:

**Kerry 6-24 Mayo 0-15**

It's one of those games that competitions throw up that don't really do anybody any favours and isn't really anybody's fault. Kerry were always going to beat bottom of the table Mayo, who have yet to record a single win this year. Unfortunately, with scoring difference very likely to come into play when promotion is up for grabs Kerry really had to go all-out and fill their boots. Realistically, you'd prefer if Kerry could afford to give fringe players a run out and step off the gas once a winning margin has built up. Nobody wants to be hammering teams – every Kerry hurler knows full well what the receiving end can feel like. But we had to rack up those scores, and we did.

I'm not going into the game itself. Kerry opened with four points in four minutes. We lost Jordan Conway to injury early on, but his replacement Gavin Dooley promptly set up Oisín Maunsell for our first goal. Michael Slattery added another before Dooley found the net himself. 3-9 to 0-3 at the end of the opening quarter. By half-time Kerry were ahead by 24 points. Gavin Dooley struck for 1-1 on the restart.....look, I think we can gently draw a veil across the rest of the game. Mayo rallied, showed a lot of guts in the circumstances, and Kerry will be happy with the form they are showing in their last couple of games, but this was never going to be a crunch tie.

That comes in two weeks' time against Meath, and that is almost certainly a winner-take-all match-up. Laois, with ten points, look set for a League Final berth (they will be strongly expected to beat London). If we beat Meath – I really cannot emphasize that 'if' enough, Meath are a right good team and only beat them by 1-20 to 0-20 in the corresponding fixture last year – then we should pip Westmeath to second place on scoring difference. The fine margins!

## CAMOGIE

### National League Div Two: Kerry 0-10 Westmeath 0-8

Just like their male counterparts, Kerry's camogie team have put themselves in pole position to reach a League Final after racking up a third win on the trot. Kerry were back in Austin Stack Park to take on Westmeath and the Tralee venue seems to suit them. Certainly they made a bright start, Patrice Diggin notching two early frees. Westmeath got on the scoreboard with a Caoimhe McCrossan free. Good work by Danielle O'Leary saw Amy O'Sullivan split the posts, with veteran Megan Dowdall replying for the visitors. Kerry lost the impressive Kathryn Ryan to injury, albeit with Patrice Diggin pointing the resultant free. That gave Kerry a 0-4 to 0-2 lead at the break, but the

truth is that while both teams could be happy with their general play, the scoring return was a poor reflection of it. At the moment, Kerry seem a little bit too reliant on Diggin, Horgan, and O'Sullivan for all their scoring power.

Julie McLoughlin quickly had Westmeath back on level terms early in the second half. Patrice nudged Kerry back in front but Westmeath were very definitely the better side now. They picked off points from Meadhb McLoughlin, Sheila McGrath and Megan Dowdall while also forcing Aoife Fitzgerald into two great saves. Westmeath led by 0-7 to 0-6 at that stage and things looked ominous, but Kerry made some good changes to switch the play. Patrice Diggin restored parity and, although Caoimhe McCrossan did notch another Westmeath point, Caoimhe Spillane, Amy O'Sullivan, and Patrice again were able to see the game out. A close enough call, but a great win in the circumstances in a very tight division. Kerry travel the long road up to Derry in two weeks' time with their fate in their own hands. Even a draw would secure a berth in the final, while a draw would bring scoring difference into play. Last year in the corresponding fixture Kerry won an absolute thriller by two points; let's hope for the same again.

## SIX NATIONS

I read and watched a lot of previews of this year's Six Nations, and as far as I could tell, there was absolute unanimity. France were absolutely going to sweep the table; nobody could live with them. England, whose winning sequence apparently stretched back almost to the days of Empire (I love English pundits in some ways, their teams are either the best in the world bar none or absolutely dreadful, there are no in-betweens) were locked in second place. To be fair, Ireland would have a chance of catching England, but would most likely have to settle for third. Scotland fourth, and Wales were going so bad that fifth place would actually be a bit of a battle. Ah, Nostradamus, if we ever needed you.... Look, I didn't see the games. It was one of those weekends where I was basically chasing my tail and never really caught up with it. But I did enjoy the updates.

### Ireland 27 Wales 17

Wales are in the doldrums. Unfortunately it's been predictable for the the bones of a decade. The valleys have neither the population nor the resources. The domestic game has really been labouring for a long time and that's always going to catch up with you. A shame; I'm of a generation that grew up on stories of JPR, Barry John, Gareth Edwards.

For those of you of a Welsh persuasion who grew up on stories of Gavin Henson.....look, you really do have my deepest sympathies. After that showing against England, Ireland



were hot favourites here. And once Stockdale went over, I assumed Ireland would dominate a war of attrition. I suppose technically that description fits the game. It sounds like Conan was unlucky not to get another. Mind you, it also sounds like Wales were giving Ireland as good as they got. What's the old saying? You might break them, but you'll never break their hearts? Edwards converted a penalty. Points on the board. Just before half-time, Jack Crowley got over for our second try. Well, not quite 'just before'. There was still a bit of time left on the clock.....Rhys Carre's try. Something else. Arguably the standout moment of the Six Nations. I think that break was just so audacious, especially from a prop, that it caught everybody by surprise. Fair play to the man.

12-10 at half-time. A harder battle than most of us expected. No harm in that. Great start to the second half by Ireland. Conan bulldozes over. Crowley with the conversion. Nine points in it. Sounds a little flattering, but we'll take it. You'd fancy Ireland's depth to begin to count as the game goes on. Except somebody forgot to tell Wales the script. With 64 minutes gone, Botham gets over. Edwards splits the posts, and it's a two point game.

Thank God. Stockdale with the offload and Jamie Osborne goes over.

A good result for both teams. Ireland's win gives them a chance. Wales haven't had a win in a long time but they came out of this one with their heads up. They've had worse days and worse defeats recently.

### Scotland V France

Oh Flower of Scotland.....I wasn't expecting that! I'd say no-one was. France would have too much verve, too much panache, too much pace. Scotland would swing missing haymakers, France would jab them to defeat. Hah! Hard not to love the Six Nations on days like these.

I didn't see the game, so apropos of nothing I'll just tell ye a story instead. I can't think of Scotland and France together without remembering the stories of poor Mary, Queen of Scots. She may have had the slight foible of religious fanaticism and approved of burning heretics (pr for the course, really), but she strikes me as a much nicer person than her vicious

harp of a cousin. In 1561 she sailed from France to take up her father's Scottish throne. Supposedly she felt a bit seasick, so the sailors made up a soft jelly from oranges to soothe her stomach. A 'remedy of the sea'. A 'mar malade'. Yup. They invented marmalade.

Alas, it's nonsense. Marmalade was well known and popular in France and Spain long before her voyage towards doom. But it's a good story, isn't it?

### Italy 23 England 18

The English fans are as sound as you are ever going to meet, they really are. They understand that everybody wants them to lose. It's not personal, not for most of us anyway. It's not even really bound all that much to history. Thankfully, for most of us those embers have gone cold; I'd sooner make a better world for descendents than engage in avenging ancestors. It's just that England are the big guns. The likes of Ireland enter World Cups and Olympics because we are going to have a great party. England actually expect to win these things.

I mean, England versus Italy would be a fair match in soccer – at least until the English media inevitably hang millstones around their players' necks. Rugby? Italy are everybody's little favourite. God love them, you wouldn't begrudge them an 'oul score now and again. Brave little terriers, to be running with the big dogs. Every now and then the debate will open up as to whether they should they be replaced with Georgia (no. I'm sorry, but Georgia aren't competing at this level) or should the competition revert back to the Five Nations (I have always inclined in that direction).

England, whose Six Nations campaign is reminding me a lot of my first times attempting to chat up a young lady in the nightclubs (let's just say, it's not going well....) are surely going to sweep Italy out of their way.

I haven't seen it yet. I'm saving this one for those long winter nights. This sounds like a Game of Thrones episode directed by Monty Python, and I'm looking forward to it.

### How Ireland Can Win the Six Nations

Ireland have to win, Scotland would pip us in the event of a draw. and basically they will need a bonus point. In fact, it's so finely poised that if we win by less than three and Scotland get a bonus point, they would still finish just ahead of us. Mathematically, if we beat Scotland without a bonus point and France lose to England with no more than one bonus point, we would still win the title. I think we can probably write off that scenario; you'd probably have gotten better odds of Scotland beating France and Italy beating England.

More realistically, if Ireland win with a bonus point and France draw without one or lose, we take the title.

On paper it's quite realistic. You'd expect a mortified England to come out against what they used to call the 'auld enemy' – Agincourt, Crécy, Poitiers, Waterloo, etc. - with a bit more fire in their bellies. Except that's very similar to what I said after we battered them, and those particular coals still have yet to ignite.

## SOCCKER

### Ladies World Cup Qualifiers

It's not exactly hard to sum up. Good performances, lots of positives....but the scoreboard is always the main arbiter and it hasn't been kind to us recently.

### Ireland 1 France 2

Ireland opted to narrow the pitch, always a concession that the opposition are the better side on the ball. I have no problem with that, you find it out any way that you can. And in fact, Ireland made a great start here. Nothing exceptional, not exactly free-flowing, but doggedly solidly and quietly competent on the ball. I liked the composure and the occasional bit of ambition, I got tired long ago of the whole 'give it a lash' mentality. Ye are professionals; be professional. Jaysus, I sound like Roy Keane; better watch out for that. Ireland were playing to their strengths here.

Mind you, I don't see where the goals are going to come from; that remains a serious bugbear for this team. Marissa Sheva had a free header on goal early on; you have to ask harder questions of the keeper in those situations, but she just couldn't get any power into it.

Great pass by Patten and Emily Murphy gets onto the end of it. It's a straightforward enough save in the finish, but that was very good play. I really like the look of Emily Murphy, aggressive purely in the game sense. She looks in the mood to hunt everything and to do it in a disciplined fashion; we celebrate too much of the former without the latter sometimes.

Goal. What the...I did not see that coming. Katie McCabe did brilliantly to read the ball down the wing and intercept and drive forward. Ball forward to Murphy – is it me, or did she hesitate a split second before deciding on the soft touch sideways into McCabe's path? Regardless, it worked and Katie fired home. I don't know about the "clinical finish", I kind of thought either defender or keeper should have done a bit better, but they were all wrongfooted. You know those ones that are rolling past you just as you realise you actually could have reached it?

Ah, no. If RTE commentators want to pretend that one was curled with precision past outstretched fingers and into the top corner, fair enough, fill yere boots. As long as it is in the net I don't particularly care, do I?

Yellow card for Katie. She's claiming that she slipped as she went to tackle a player on the wing. Umm, you slipped because you came in too hard and too fast to snuff out a non-existent danger. I'm afraid I agree with the referee; there was a touch of recklessness sans malice about it.

Good defending by Ireland. Unglamorous, no heroics, just really hard work to keep France from settling into a rhythm. They create one or two half chances but nothing major. France haven't looked themselves here, but Ireland can take a lot of credit for that.

Second half. France looking a bit more composed but Ireland are still making it hard, not letting them settle. Free by McCabe, Caitlin

Hayes drifting into space....jaysus, that is absolutely brutal defending by France. Except that the finish is even worse. No, I'm sorry now, but the RTE commentators seem content to gloss over that one a little bit. "Difficult chance". What are you talking about? It's literally a free header in the six yard box. I'm not having a dig at Hayes, I genuinely rate her highly, but that was a poor attempt and should be acknowledged as such.

The keeper just about wins a race for possession with Murphy. Brave by both players. Honestly, I'm really impressed with Emily Murphy overall. Whether she has any finesse when it comes to finishing chances I don't know (with Ireland's lack of creativity up front, I fear we may never find out) but this is the kind of forward that defenders hate.

Ouch. Malard just on the pitch, and she slices through before producing a brilliant finish. Picked her spot and found it. RTE (and subsequently a lot of match reports) say that she glided past Katie McCabe far too easily. Little harsh, no? Katie was wrongfooted, definitely, but it was a great first touch by Malard and a clever burst of acceleration. One of those where I would be crediting the attacker far more than I would be blaming the defender.

Ireland tired. I don't think it was that they got deflated. I just think that Ireland's high intensity game took its toll. Ten minutes left, and it's a pinball in the square. Just a matter of which side gets the vital foot to it, and it happens to be Malard who pokes it in. Nowhere near as polished as the first goal, but as rough diamonds go, that one could be just as precious when the group stage is finally tallied.

It's all Ireland at the finish. France scrambling to clear their lines. Call for an Irish penalty? Ah, stop, now, let's keep our dignity, that was no more a penalty....one last throw of the dice. McCabe into the box, Denise O'Sullivan with a rocket....headed off the line. Or more accurately, collided with an unaware head on the line. Desperately, desperately unlucky. Ireland deserved a draw But, as Clint Eastwood drawled to Gene Hackman in 'Unforgiven', "deserve's got nothing to do with it".

### Netherlands 2 Ireland 1

It never really felt the same. It really did feel for a long time against France as if we could actually beat them if a few breaks went our way. It just never felt like that against the Dutch, even though you did have a strong Irish support.

We actually started well, Katie swinging in a corner and Caitlin getting a head to it. Wide, but solid effort and maybe a little bit of a warning note. She got another glancing header a couple of minutes later – it was never going to really find the net, the defender did enough and the keeper was ready, but at least Ireland were showing that they came to play.

The Netherlands settled and started to play around a bit. Interestingly, though, Ireland stayed calm and collected. No diving in, no trying to force it. Just not leaving anything open. I have to say, this Irish team has matured over the last number of years from frantic assassins to solid professionals. As I say, they have a fierce problem with actually creating and scoring goals – there's a reason our top

scorer by a mile is basically a set-piece full back (I know she brings a lot more than that to the table) but it'll take a good team to score against them as well.

Ahh...forget I spoke. Dutch goal. Low cross to the back post and a tap-in. Okay, it wasn't exactly route one, but they didn't have to switch on any satnav either. You just can't give goals like that away.

I expected the Netherlands to push on but Ireland, despite having to scramble a few times, had a few moments of their own. Neither side was really threatening, though, to be honest. Holland probing, Ireland containing for the most part.

Half-time. 1-0. A fair enough reflection.

Good start to the second half for Ireland. And suddenly it's a great start as Patton heads across to the uth box. Damn all danger, the keeper is going to knock that away comfortably despite Patton's challenge.

Ah, ref. Ah, stop. That's embarrassing. A penalty? Genuinely, I would drop any goalkeeper from my squad who didn't come out and do exactly what Kop did. It's not the worst decision I have ever seen (Schumacher on Battiston in 1982, since you ask) but it's certainly top ten.

Katie calmly slots the penalty low to the right. While keeping an absolutely straight face, which is more than I could have done. I'm guessing the ref's name begins with 'O' or 'Mac' for some reason.

The Netherlands had two chances straight after but couldn't keep them down. Ireland are looking a little ragged now but hanging in there.

Less than ten minutes to go. I'd take a draw, to be honest. It would get us on the board at least. We haven't been as good as we were against France but we have certainly been decent.

We're not getting a draw. After all that effort, the goal that undid us was just a scrambler in the box poked home. Could Courtney Brosnan have done better? I'm not sure, those ones are tricky.

2-1. Once again, decent performance, bad result. Napoleon claimed that he preferred his generals to be lucky rather than brilliant. I'd say Carla Ward knows what he meant. This could be a long campaign.

## HOGAN CUP FINAL PREVIEW

I'm guessing that most of the people reading this wouldn't exactly have Tralee CBS listed as their first choice Kerry college to contest a Hogan Cup Final! Too bad, it would be churlish to to recognise it and to wish that great alma mater well. They beat the Sem this year by a single point in the O'Sullivan Cup Final and then by three in the Corn úí Mhuirí semi-final. In fairness, the Sem did really well on both occasions (Tralee were strong favourites both times) and the boot has often been on the other foot.

Tralee CBS is arguably the oldest nursery of Kerry football, famously recording four titles on the trot in the early days of the competition in the 1930s. That team included the likes of



Tralee CBS who are in the final of the Hogan Cup facing Coláiste Mhuire Mullingar. Photo: Adrienne McLoughlin

Paddy Kennedy, Miko Doyle, Tim Landers, and Tom Moriarty. Since then the school has produced a who's who list of Kerry footballers nurtured by coaches like Micheál Ó Ruairc, Br. Franklin, Br. Michael de Salles Murray (for whom the Corn úí Mhuirí is named) and later the likes of Br. Turner and Tony and John O'Keeffe. The fact that Tralee CBS of all Kerry schools hasn't won a Hogan Cup has always felt like a small bit of a gap on the CV. There are reasons, of course, good ones. Technically the Hogan Cup started in 1946, but there wasn't a competition run from 1949 to 1966. Tralee CBS, the fabled 'Green', had amassed 11 of their 17 Munster titles by then. They won their next in 1976 (the first time the Corn úí Mhuirí was presented), a team recently honoured at the 50th anniversary. It was another long wait until 1999 when Declan Quill's goal saw off Flannans and they repeated the feat a year later.

It was only in 2007 that Tralee CBS finally reached their first and, until this year, only Hogan Cup Final. Ulster was really beginning to assert itself in GAA at all grades at that time (they would win six out eight Hogan Finals) and a great Tralee side had no answer to the power of Omagh CBS.

That Tralee CBS team lined out as follows: Kevin O'Shea; Danny O'Sullivan, Liam Kissane, Gary Rolls; Denis McElligott, Bryan Costello, Seán Higgins, Barry Shanahan, Stephen Browne, Benny Dillon, Shane Carroll, Barry John Keane, Alan O'Donoghue, Paul Culloty, Barry John Walsh. Subs: John Keane, Ross O'Callaghan.

In 2020 the Green got another chance to tilt at a Hogan, a title that I believe they would have won, but unfortunately the competition like so much else fell by the wayside because of the covid pandemic.

## COLÁISTE MHUIRE MULLINGAR Focus on Coláiste Mhuire Mullingar

They're good. No point in dancing around it, Mullingar have a serious amount of talent. They have completed back to back Bosco Cup titles in Leinster. Eight of the current team are in their third year playing senior, while ten of them were on the pitch at the final whistle last year when they saw off Coláiste na Tríonóide Athy to claim their first Bosco Cup in 42 long years. Like Tralee CBS, they have a lot of dual talent;

no less than nine of their footballers helped the hurling team to their first ever Leinster A semi-final this year.

This year the reigning Leinster champions ran through their group fairly comfortably. That put them into a quarter-final against St. Pats Navan and that one was their toughest battle by far, eventually prevailing in the rain by 1-12 to 0-14 in extra-time. Naas CBS, the last Leinster side to win a Hogan (they beat the Sem in 2022) were the semi-final opponents. After a slow start, William Scahill in particular put on his shooting boots to rack up 1-11 as the Mullingar side triumphed by 2-16 to 0-14 and reach back to back Leinster finals. Facing them were fellow Westmeath side Marist Athlone (one suspects that the Westmeath U20s will be worth watching this year) and once again it was Scahill who got the goal to break the deadlock and help his side to a 3-16 to 2-13 victory.

That set up that cracking Hogan Cup semi-final. Mullingar looked shaky enough in the first half, conceding a clumsy enough penalty to trail at the break when they should really have been four or five ahead at that stage. They haven't led at half-time in any of their last three games but have been outstanding in the second half and have been clinical every time a game comes down to the wire.

I don't like singling out particular players, but it's impossible to ignore the impact of William Scahill. When it comes to college players, you had the likes of John O'Keeffe in 1969, Seamus Moynihan in '92, David Clifford in '16 with the Sem (against Conor Glass of Maghera), Mike Frank Russell in '96 with 1SK, Declan O'Sullivan of Coláiste na Sceilge duelling with Michael Meehan of Jarlaths in 2002, the Kerry school lost that one but triumphed in 2009 against a Paul Cribben inspired Edenderry, you had Mark O'Connor and Tom O'Sullivan with that great PS Chorca Dhuibhne team....elite players even at the highest level. Scahill already belongs on that kind of list, and I wouldn't say it lightly. 2-5 in last year's Leinster Final, 1-11 in this year's. Big, strong, two-footed, incredibly accurate, especially from distance, superbly skilled....

Mind you, this is no one man team. Coláiste Mhuire's technical skills look really impressive to me and a sign of that is their players' versatility. Criostóir Ormsby and big Rory O'Brien are mainstays in a very formidable midfield. Goalkeeper Adam Buckley and inside forwards Scahill (he tends to drift out to two

point range) and Finn Higgins appear to be mainstays, but other than that, you are looking at a lot of positional switches over their last three team selections. The likes of Michael Moloney, Seán Byrne, and Michael Weir are very comfortable in either end of the field. Coláiste

Mhuire started with Moloney and Byrne in the fullback line against Abbey and I'd expect the same against Tralee, but they won't stay there. Up front alongside Scahill and Higgins you are likely to find Weir, the experienced Paul Keating, Stephen McWade (another great

sharpshooter and accurate from frees), Conor Cleary, Pádraig Monaghan, Seán Hayes, Eoin Meehan, Kian Loughlin.....Coláiste Mhuire have very impressive depth, whoever comes off the bench really will be as good as whoever starts.

# St Mary's Basketball Club Teams Set for Barcelona Tournament

Four teams from St. Mary's Basketball Club, Castleisland have earned the incredible opportunity to compete in the Euro Youth Basketball Cup Tournament in Barcelona, Spain, in June 2026.

The prestigious international tournament brings together leading youth teams from across Europe and beyond, and it is a tremendous honour for the club's young athletes to represent their club, their community, and their country on such a major stage.

To help support the teams travelling to Spain, a fundraising Tractor, Car and Motorbike Run is being organised with the support of Ballymac

Vintage Club. The event will take place on Sunday, March 22nd, departing from Castleisland Mart Yard at 1pm. Separate routes will be organised on the day for tractors and for cars.

The club would like to sincerely thank BG Motors for coming on board as a sponsor for the event, as well as everyone who generously sponsored hampers and other prizes for the fundraiser.

Community support is greatly appreciated as the teams prepare for what promises to be a memorable sporting experience in Barcelona.



Pictured at the launch of St. Mary's Basketball Club Tractor, Car & Motorbike Run (L-R) George Glover, Brian Glover, Tom Glover, Jason Fleming, Ruth Fleming, Patrick O'Donoghue, Abbie O'Donoghue, Isabel Walmsey, Chloe O'Donoghue, Triona O'Donoghue, Liam Glover, Marguerite Walmsey

# KILLARNEY JUDO CLUB ENJOY MEDAL HAUL

On Saturday, 21 club members and their families travelled to compete at the 51st Galway Open, which attracted more than 350 competitors. With such large numbers taking part, the contest was highly competitive throughout the day.

Coinciding with International Women's Week, the club's female competitors delivered outstanding performances, winning gold medals in five categories. Sisters Michelle and

Danielle Walsh were among those to top the podium, each securing gold in their respective divisions.

The club's male competitors also faced very strong opposition, with some categories featuring pools of up to 15 players. Despite the challenging fields, all represented the club with distinction. Adam Tomlinson produced a particularly impressive display, demonstrating a wide range of throws and turnovers to finish

fifth in the largest group of the day. Overall, the club enjoyed an excellent medal haul, bringing home six gold, two silver and eleven bronze medals.

The club also played a role in supporting the smooth running of the competition, with Patrik Polubnak and Shaun Hester continuing to develop their skills as referees.

For further information about the club, please contact Tim on 086 2601591.



Members of Killarney Judo Club.



Robyn Bowler Hegarty (Bronze) and Zarah Tomlinson (Gold).



Saba Kandelaki celebrating Gold with his family.

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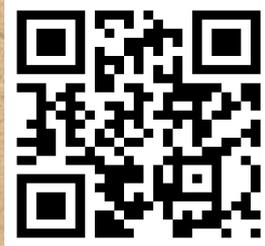


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### Ideal Candidate

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- Experience in nursing care of the older person
- Compassionate, professional, and team-oriented

*Full job specification/description available on request.*

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 Tel: (064) 6635005 | E: killarneycommunityservices@gmail.com



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## ON LOOKING UP

*By Nicky Barry*

To sit outside my local, with a pipe and pint in hand,  
Just looking up at the blue sky, is something rather grand,  
For when you get to thinking, of the Middle East,  
You realise how safe we are, for the meantime at least.  
At dusk the ravens all take wing, and fly from  
Coltman's Castle,  
Right across the Cricket Field, to their Ha-Ha haven.  
There's not a single drone in sight,  
nor a missile to be seen,  
High up in the twilight sky, on death missions obscene.  
Tourist busses come and go, with folks from  
the world wide,  
Just thrilled to be in Paradise, where beauty's  
home abides.  
Meanwhile on the telly, tourists in the Middle East,  
Are stranded in their thousands, while Trump's  
planes unleash,  
The might of his air force, bombing cities in Tehran,  
And army installations, making nuclear bombs.  
He claims he didn't start this war, which is a big lie,  
But that doesn't seem to matter, as he rants on Sky.  
He's in the Oval Office, with all his goons on side,  
Gazing at their leader, with wonder in their eyes.  
He denigrates Keir Starmer, for not being like Churchill,  
While the world looks on in horror, and feels the  
deadly chill.



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### THE ORGANISATION

The Social Action Group Rathmore, (SAG) Company number 147496 and Charity number 20022532, is a social inclusion organisation operating in the east Kerry and north Cork area. Through its work, the SAG is working to build an inclusive, vibrant community to provide better life opportunities for people in the community across the lifespan. The Board of the SAG is seeking to appoint a CEO to lead the SAG into the next stage of its development and to drive its ambitious plans for the future.

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Reporting to the Chairperson of the SAG the Chief Executive Officer will take responsibility for the strategic and operational management of the SAG. This is an exciting opportunity for a positive, inspiring individual who is dedicated to improving outcomes for individuals and communities with a real commitment to social inclusion.

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Informal enquiries on this post are welcome please contact Anne Fitzgerald Company Secretary on 086 8133375 or email [anne.fitzgerald@sag.ie](mailto:anne.fitzgerald@sag.ie)

For an application pack please email [ceo@sag.ie](mailto:ceo@sag.ie)

### TO APPLY:

Interested candidates are requested to complete and provide

- SAG Key Approaches Form
- A detailed Cover Letter
- Curriculum Vitae

and send by email to [anne.fitzgerald@sag.ie](mailto:anne.fitzgerald@sag.ie) Please put SAG CEO into the subject line. Closing date for receipt of applications is **COB 18th March 2026** (no late applications will be accepted).

*The SAG is committed to a policy of equal opportunity and encourage applications under all nine grounds of the Employment Equality Act.*

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# KERRY TO HOST NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ROAD SAFETY



Pictured: Tim Willoughby, Head of Digital Services An Garda Síochána, Garda Gary Carroll of Roads Policing, Garda Super John Ryan, Minister Jerry Buttimer TD, Catharina Gunne, Ass Garda Commissioner and Mike Foley Mayor of Kerry at the National Road Safety Conference hosted by Kerry County Council in association with Transport Infrastructure Ireland, at the Gleneagle Arena in Killarney. Over 300 delegates from all over Ireland arrived for the 2 day Photo By: Domnick Walsh © Eye Focus LTD

A national conference and exhibition which focuses on road safety is to be held in Killarney next month. The two-day event on 11 and 12 March is called 'Safer Roads', is being hosted by Kerry County Council in association with Transport Infrastructure Ireland.

Over 300 delegates from across the roads sector and road safety profession will hear from twenty-eight keynote speakers and take part in four panel discussions involving leading road safety experts. Among the topics being discussed will be the upcoming changes in speed limits, roads enforcement, scooters and scramblers, and how digital technology can help to create safer roads.

The Safer Roads conference will focus on all aspects of road safety including road design, engineering, enforcement, road killer behaviour, collision trends, technology, education, cycling, e-mobility and scramblers, active and sustainable travel.

Cathaoirleach of Kerry County Council, Cllr Michael Foley, welcomed the initiative, saying "Kerry County Council is delighted to host the second national road safety conference, and we are looking forward to welcoming delegates from across Ireland and further afield to Killarney. The issue of road safety remains a key priority for the local authority and for many agencies who are working together to reduce the dangers on our roads." Kerry County Council's Road Safety Officer Declan Keogh said: "The Safer Roads road safety conference provides a platform and forum to road safety professionals and stakeholders alike, to engage with each other, learn from each other, and to share knowledge and experience with one another, to broaden the knowledge and approach in helping to improve road safety and create safer roads for all road users of every mobility."

Alastair de Beer, Head of Road Safety at Transport Infrastructure Ireland said: "The Safer Roads Conference in Kerry has quickly become a national event bringing together Ireland's road safety community and international expertise; and TII is proud to support in the delivery of such a key event as a sponsor.

"By uniting experts in road safety, engineering, enforcement, education, mobility, and emerging technologies such as AI, the conference provides a valuable platform to share best practice, explore innovative solutions, and strengthen collaboration toward reducing collisions and saving lives. TII is pleased to endorse this two-day event and its commitment to making Ireland's roads safer for all," said Mr de Beer.

Further information about the conference can be found at <https://www.saferoads.ie>

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with Killarney Outlook

by John O'Sullivan

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The most important factors to consider are the tree's eventual height and spread. Some ornamental small trees can still reach 20-25 feet, which may be too large for a very compact garden. Fortunately, there are plenty of alternatives that suit smaller spaces.

For example, weeping trees rarely get too tall and can be easily pruned to maintain their shape. Columnar trees grow upright and narrow, making them ideal when you want height without excessive spread. Another option is standard trees, which are typically planted at 3-4 feet tall and grow from the top down, staying close to the height at which they were planted.

With the right choice, even a small garden can enjoy the beauty, shade, and structure that trees bring, without overwhelming the space.



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## KWOTE MEETING

K.W.O.T.E., Killarney Women's Organisation for Training and Empowerment. Our monthly meeting is on Wednesday 18th March at 2PM in the Parish Centre next to the Church of the Resurrection V93WN32.

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## A Word of Victory

*“Through skilful and godly Wisdom, a house - a life, a home, a family - is built, and by understanding it is established (on a sound and good foundation), and by knowledge its rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches”  
(Proverbs 24:3-4 Amplified Bible).*

Welcome back dear student, no dedicated builder builds a house planning for it to fall down. Everything is done well, to ensure that the walls, and roof are strong enough to withstand every circumstance. It's essential the foundation is laid correctly in order to anchor the structure. God speaks often in Scripture about the 'house' – as a symbol of one's life. Did you know that God is a Builder? “For every house has a builder, but the One Who built everything is God” (Hebrews 3:4). The house picture is not just the individual's life, but one's legacy. Next week we will celebrate the legacy Patrick left here in Ireland: as part of God's family of faith. Biblically, a house suggests one's life and ministry, and also, one's household - family we build and leave behind - like the 'House of David' in God's Word. Understanding that God is the Master Builder of all brings us into a place of humility and trust, looking to Him for our stability and future: rather than relying on our own efforts. Jesus mentioned this when He encouraged people to build their lives upon faith in Him as God's Messiah – the Eternal Rock, as opposed to building on sand - human effort, which will give way at some point with disastrous consequences (Matthew 7:24-27).

When we build our lives upon Jesus, the Word of God, we enrich not only ourselves, but our posterity as mentioned in our lead Scripture above (Isaiah 59:21). Jesus is our Wonderful Counsellor. By the power of His Holy Spirit, He gives us Wisdom and insight to reign in life, far beyond our own intellect or education (Isaiah 9:6-7). “Wisdom is the principal thing”, the Word tells us (Proverbs 4:7). James wrote that ‘if any of us need Wisdom, to ask God Who gives it generously’ (James 1:5-6). God's Wisdom directs us in the right way, unfolding His knowledge and plans as we grow to know Him more. Builders work off detailed plans to accurately build good houses. God has blueprints for us to follow, but to find them we must go to Him, and ask! Pride prevents some people from accessing God's resources. They think they know better themselves, or perhaps, past trauma causes them to find it hard to trust anyone. Our Creator knows us more than we know ourselves, and His plans for us are “for good, and not evil, to give us a future and a Hope” (Jeremiah 29:11).

Without Light folks have to grope around in darkness trying to find the way. But when the lights are on, everything is visible and makes sense (Proverbs 4:18). There are no secret traps in a well-lit area (Psalm 119:105). We need God's Wisdom daily, not just on big occasions. Relief comes from leaning upon God's Wisdom. “God has united you with Christ Jesus. For our benefit, God made Him to be Wisdom itself. Christ made us right with God; He made us pure and holy, and He freed us from sin” (1 Corinthians 1:30). Because of what Jesus did for us by paying for our sins, He delivered us from the power of death and hell (John 12:35-46). Faith in Him, and trusting His ways and plans, enables us to build noble lives, and noble family bloodlines – forgiven and redeemed from the past, our foundations underpinned and repaired, so we can face the future strong, stable, and joyful! Happy St Patrick's Day friends.

**Upcoming diary date: Jean Watson ministers at WOV on 26th March!**

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

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**ANNUAL NATIONAL APOSTALATE OF EUCHARISTIC ADORATION PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK;** Sunday 19th of April 2026. Coach travelling from Killarne, Farranfore, Castleisland, Abbeyfeale. Further details nearer the time. Contact Breeda 087 6742306 or Margaret 087 2976304

### ACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CHILDREN OF OUR PARISH who celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation with Bishop Ray on Friday last. We pray God's blessing on them, their families and their sponsors. Thanks to all in our schools, Churches and music ministry for all they did for the celebrations to have been as lovely as they were.

### LENTEN ONLINE TALK SERIES:

The Diocese of Kerry invites you to its Lenten online talk series, “Beyond Almsgiving,” exploring poverty in the light of Catholic Social Teaching, on 10 March, and 24 March at 7.30 pm. Speakers include Dr Aoife McGrath (Maynooth) and guest speakers from SVP and Trócaire. Information and registration: [www.dioceseofkerry.ie](http://www.dioceseofkerry.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](mailto:Pilgrimage@dioceseofkerry.ie)

### KERRY DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA

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### JOIN US FOR OUR LADIES' CRAFTING GROUP!

Meetings will be held on the 4th Monday of each month. This group is for women who are hard of hearing, and offers a fun, supportive, and inclusive space to learn new skills, enjoy great conversation, and make connections. Come along for company, creativity, and a cup of tea! 10.30am-12.30am at the Chime unit 1b Park place, High Street, Killarney V93 CDP9 Contact: 064 6620052 or 0860105200

### AL-ANON : HELP AND HOPE FOR THE FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF ALCOHOLICS.

MEETINGS - Every Tuesday at 8.00pm at St. Claire's House, Beech Road, Killarney (Enter via small gate on the left of Islamic centre) Website- [al-anonuk.org.uk](http://al-anonuk.org.uk) Helpline- 01-873-2699

**SECOND COLLECTION;** Weekend of the 14th /15th March for the Emigrant Services, All support welcomed and appreciated.

**BINGO** at St. Mary's Parish Hall, will be held on Thursdays@ 8.30pm

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**14TH ANNIVERSARY**  
IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
**DONAL MULCAHY**



ARD MHUIRE, RATHMORE  
WHO DIED ON  
ST. PATRICK'S DAY, 2012.

*No length of time can take away  
Thoughts of you, from day to day  
Though absent, you are always near  
Still loved, still missed, still very dear.*

Sadly missed by all the family.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & 1ST ANNIVERSARY**  
IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
**JEREMIAH (JERRY) O'SULLIVAN**



UPPER COOM, GNEEVGUILLA  
WHO PASSED AWAY ON  
17TH MARCH 2025.

As we lovingly remember Jerry on his First Anniversary, we wish to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to all who sympathised with us on the sad occasion of his passing.

**IN MEMORIAM**  
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If it is a repeat anniversary we will have your photo and verse on file, just call Emma on:  
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Please include a contact name, address and telephone number.

**Full Column: €30**  
**2/3 Column: €25**  
**1/3 Column: €20**  
**Prayers: €10 each**

Payment can be made via credit card by calling **066 7143505** from 9am-1pm Monday to Friday

A sincere thank you to all who called to our home and attended the rosary, removal, Requiem Mass and burial. We are grateful to those who travelled long distances to be with us, sent Mass cards, sympathy cards and letters, brought food to our home and left messages of condolence on RIPie. Your kindness and support meant more to us than words can express.

We wish to acknowledge and thank everyone who helped and supported Jerry during his illness. We are especially grateful to the staff of University Hospital Kerry and the Pastoral Care Team for the care, kindness and compassion shown to him throughout his illness. We also wish to express our special and heartfelt thanks to the Palliative Care Community Team for their dedicated support and guidance, and for the compassion, dignity and kindness shown to Jerry and to our family during his final days.

Sincere thanks to Fr. Sean Cremin for celebrating Jerry's Funeral Mass while home from his missionary work in Southern Sudan, and to Fr. Pat McCarthy for concelebrating the Mass. Gratitude is also extended to Fr. Pat O'Donnell for his support, compassion and kindness throughout this difficult time. We thank Joan Collins and Sheila Mc Sweeney, for the beautiful singing and music at the Funeral Mass and at the graveside.

Heartfelt thanks to O'Mahony Undertakers for their care, professionalism and guidance. We are very grateful to the staff and volunteers of Gneeveguilla GAA Club for the use of the premises and for providing food and refreshments. Your support and generosity are greatly appreciated.

As it would be impossible to thank everyone individually, please accept this acknowledgement as an expression of our heartfelt gratitude for your kindness and support. A Mass will be offered for your intentions.

*"A golden heart stopped beating,  
Hardworking hands at rest,  
It broke our hearts to see you go,  
God only takes the best."*

Sadly missed and lovingly remembered by his wife Mary, his children PJ, Kathy, Maureen, Jennifer and Tadgh, grandchildren, his brothers and extended family.

First Anniversary Mass for Jerry will take place on Tuesday, 17th March at 9:30am in the Church of the Holy Rosary, Gneeveguilla.

**NOVENA TO ST. JUDE**

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever.

Oh Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us.  
St. Jude worker of miracles, pray for us.

Helper of the hopeless, pray for us.

Say this prayer nine times a day, by the eighth day the prayer will be answered.

It has never been known to fail.

**A PRAYER TO OUR LADY OF LA SALETTE**

Remember, dear Lady of La Salette, true Mother of Sorrows, the tears which thou didst shed for me on Calvary; be mindful also of the unceasing care which thou dost exercise to shield me from the justice of God; and consider whether thou canst now abandon thy child, for whom thou hast done so much. Inspired by this consoling thought, I come to cast myself at thy feet, in spite of my infidelity and ingratitude. Reject not my prayer, O Virgin of reconciliation, convert me, obtain for me the grace to love Jesus Christ above all things and to console thee too by living a holy life, in order that one day I may be able to see thee in Heaven.

Amen.

**ST. PEREGRINE**  
THE PATRON SAINT OF CANCER PATIENTS

Oh great St. Peregrine you have been called the Mighty, the wonder worker because of the numerous miracles you obtained from God for those who have had recourse to you.

For so many years you bore in your own flesh this cancerous disease which destroys the very fibre of our being and you who had recourse to the source of all grace when the power of man could do no more you were favoured with a vision of Jesus coming down from his cross to heal your affliction please ask God and Our Lady to cure the sick we entrust to you..... (names)

Aided in this way by your powerful intercession, we shall sing to God, now and for all eternity a song of gratitude for his great goodness and mercy. Amen

**NOVENA PRAYER TO ST JOSEPH**

O Saint Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God, I place in you all my interests and desires.

O Saint Joseph, assist me by your powerful intercession and obtain for me from your Divine Son all spiritual blessings through Jesus Christ, Our Lord; so that having engaged here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of Fathers.

O Saint Joseph, I never weary contemplating you and Jesus asleep in your arms; I dare not approach while He reposes near your heart. Press Him in my name and kiss His fine head for me, and ask Him to return the Kiss when I draw my dying breath. Amen

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