## KILLARNEY Outlook

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Lauren Kelly, Brogan Kelly and Rachel Nolan, at the May Festival Race meeting at Killarney Racecourse on Sunday. Photo: Valerie O'Sullivan







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## A Note from the DITOR



With the sun still shining and the skies still blue, we have lots for you to enjoy in this week's Killarney Outlook. The talented artist featured in last week's magazine has been revealed as Paul Egan from Tralee who is planning an exhibition in Killarney over the Summer, St. Brendan's welcomed the Consul General of Ireland in Munich to the school and there was a heroes welcome for the World Champion Cheerleaders in

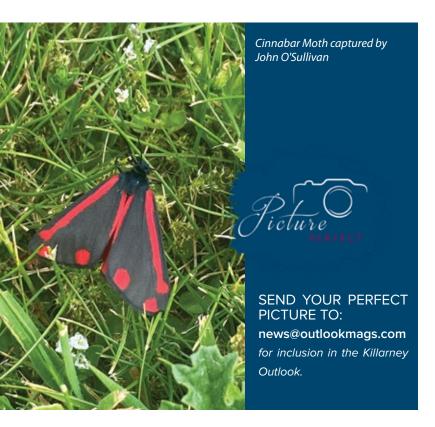
Killarney Chamber of Tourism and Commerce held a very interesting breakfast meeting with guest speaker Eddie Shanahan, a charity bike run is taking place tomorrow in memory of a much loved family man and Kerry Stars say thank you to their volunteers.

The Opus 96 Choir are celebrating the 60th anniversary of The Sound of Music, Killarney National Park is on a Bio Blitz mission and the May Races enjoyed a fantastic first meeting of the season.

We have wonderful photographs from First Holy Communion ceremonies in the parish, St. Paul's held their awards night and members of Fossa Rowing Club took part in Darkness Into Light.

Hope you all enjoy this week's Killarney Outlook!

Disling Crosbie



## THIS WEEK

**CHECK OUT PAGE 4** FOR OUR UP TO DATE NEWS!

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# EXHIBITION PLANNED FOR PAUL'S AMAZING WORK

n last week's Killarney Outlook we highlighted amazing art work by an unknown artist.

In this week's Killarney Outlook we can reveal that the artist is indeed Paul Egan from Tralee.

Paul, contacted the Killarney Outlook to let us know that he is the artist responsible for the two murals in Killarney along with two more which he has completed in Tralee.

"I specialise in grafitti realism pop art, realistic portraits done in spray paint", Paul told Killarney Outlook.

A three month exhibition of Paul's work is taking place at Killarney this summer in the Department of Tourism, Culture and Arts building on New Road Killarney from mid June, July, August and September and his work is currently it is on display in St. John's Church, Listowel.



David Clifford



Jackie Healy Rae







Tom Crean

## Consul General James C O'Shea VISITS ST BRENDAN'S



James C O'Shea Consul General of Ireland in Munich (seated left) with Teacher Eimear Buckley, Sean Coffey Principal (back from left) German teacher Angela Daly, Harry Bolger Head student, Evan Lemass Student Council and Keelin O'Sullivan, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade during his visit to St Brendan's College Killarney last Friday. Photo by Michelle Cooper Galvin

he Consul General of Ireland in Munich, James C. O'Shea, accompanied by Keelin O'Sullivan from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, both of whom happen to be natives of the Killarney area, spoke to Transition Year students at St. Brendan's College, Killarney on Friday 9 May as part of the Global Ireland Schools Programme. This programme brings Irish diplomats to secondary schools around the country to talk to students about the work they do overseas.

Consul General James C. O'Shea spoke about his career to date, and his current work in serving Irish citizens and promoting Ireland's interests, values and relationships in the two southern German states of Bavaria and Baden-Württemberg. The Consulate General of Ireland in Munich was established just last August and is part of an overall strengthening of Ireland's presence overseas. Keelin O'Sullivan spoke about her current work on Ireland's international development cooperation programme, and her experience as a member of Ireland's team at the United Nations in New York.

The talk follows an exchange of students from St. Brendan's College and students from Gymnasium Roth in Bavaria, which saw visits undertaken in both directions during the past six months with the support of the Killarney Town Twinning Association, who helped to make the contact, since Killarney is twinned with the town of Pleinfeld, not far from Roth.



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## Heroes welcome for

## Emily O'Connor

### at Kilcummin homecoming

Irelands first ever World Cheerleading medals were on display in Kilcummin on Wednesday night as friends, clubmates and the greater Kilcummin community gathered to welcome home their hero 13-year-old Emily O Connor. Emily was joined by Tralee's Finn Hurley were both part of Team Ireland team that made history at the 2025 ICU World Cheerleading Championships in Florida, securing their first-ever world medal as their youth coed team, aged 12-14, brought home the bronze medal in the youth coed medium division and capped off a fantastic few days when they took home a Silver medal in the ICU International Cheerleading Cup.

"It was amazing experience, and we are so proud of getting medals after all the hard work and practice over the years before the worlds." Emily told up to two hundred people that gathered in the Kilcummin Millennium park which was adorned by Irish flags and bunting to celebrate the special occasion.

Emily's parents Padraig and Sinead O'Connor along with brother Ronan made the trip to Florida to support Emily and Team Ireland as they competed against over fifty countries from all over the world.

Making the night special was the fact that Tralee's Finn Hurley also joined in the celebrations as he was joined by parents Des and Gemma Hurley.

Both Finn and Emily have been training for over six months at team Ireland's home base in Tuam in Co. Galway but all the travelling was worth it when they received the news of their placings

"We were really nervous as we heard all the other teams getting placed but when they said Bronze for Ireland, we were so happy that we all celebrated. It is amazing to think we were the first ever Irish people to get a medal at a world cheerleading championships" Emily told the crowd.

And the next medal hopefuls are already in training as Emily's teammates from Legacy Elite were also there to join in the celebrations.



Emily's parents Padraig and Sinead O'Connor along with brother Ronan



Emily and Finn pictured with their families



Emily pictured with her friends at the homecoming



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## Minister Norma Foley TD launches

## 'BEYOND BOUNDARIES',

a new strategy for Acquired Brain Injury Ireland



Minister Norma Foley, TD has launched a new five-year strategy for Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Ireland during a visit to its Resource Centre in Castleisland, Co Kerry. The strategy, titled 'Beyond Boundaries', represents an ambitious vision for the future of the organisation and for the people it serves. Pictured at the Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Ireland in Castleisland for the launch. Photo By: Domnick Walsh © Eye Focus LTD

inister Norma Foley, TD has launched a new five-year strategy for Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Ireland during a visit to its Resource Centre in Castleisland, Co Kerry. The strategy, titled 'Beyond Boundaries', represents an ambitious vision for the future of the organisation and for the people it serves.

While the strategy affirms the organisation's long-standing mission to provide excellent, person-centred neurorehabilitation in the community for survivors of brain injury, a new focus will see ABI Ireland drive for development of neurorehabilitation services for those under 18 and over 65.

Minister Foley welcomed the new five-year strategy from ABI Ireland.

"In Government we are acutely aware of the lifechanging impacts of an acquired brain injury for the person, as well as for their family. Access to timely, personalised neurorehabilitation can support those affected to increase their independence, maximise their ability, and participate as active citizens in our society.

There are clear commitments in the Programme for Government to complete the national rollout of HSE Community Neurorehabilitation Teams and to develop more regional inpatient rehabilitation beds. There

are also commitments to provide community-based multidisciplinary rehabilitation services in every HSE Health Area and to increase the number of neurology nurse specialists and the number of consultant neurologists. We want to improve the rehabilitation pathway for survivors of brain injury, all the way from acute hospital to home.

I commend the team at Acquired Brain Injury Ireland on the publication of their new strategic

An estimated 19,000 people in Ireland acquire a brain injury every year. Through a range of community-based neurorehabilitation services, ABI Ireland supports as many of them as possible to return to leading more independent lives.

The ABI Ireland Resource Centre in Castleisland, Co Kerry, provides group and cognitive rehabilitation in a supportive environment. Brain injury survivors from across the county gain peer support and are encouraged to nurture new interests and social connections. Other services in the county include brain injury case management and access to clinical specialists in OT, social work and psychology. Though the Resource Centre and other rehabilitation services in Kerry are only



Minister Norma Foley and Muriel O'Sullivan from Killarney Photo By : Domnick Walsh © Eye Focus LTD

funded to operate part-time, they have made a significant impact for those they have reached. Over the lifetime of its new strategic plan, ABI Ireland will work to extend access to all its services, so that as many survivors as possible receive the support they need in the right place and at the right time. It will campaign for investment, build a strong organisation, and grow its expert staff teams to ensure it can maximise its impact.

ABI Ireland's new strategy, 'Beyond Boundaries' can be read in full and downloaded from its website: www.abiireland.ie

Last week, Aidan Connolly Sliabh Luachra Musician in Residence who visited the Killarney Community College sharing his knowledge and talent with the music students. Traditional music is alive and well in Killarney Community College.









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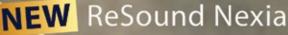
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## Killarney told collaborate more for a stronger brand

**B**usinesses in Killarney should avail of every opportunity to learn from each other and work closer together because, ultimately, they operate in the same environment and encounter many of the same pressures and issues.

That was the message delivered to local traders by renowned retail consultant Eddie Shanahan at a breakfast briefing hosted by Killarney Chamber of Tourism and Commerce.

Mr Shanahan told the gathering at the Killarney Plaza Hotel that they should consider collaborations to make Killarney a stronger overall brand that is greater than the sum of the parts.

"When you unite with a common cause you create empowerment, engagement, impact, worthwhile benefits and a rising tide that lifts all boats – except maybe those with holes in them," he said.

He observed a great energy in Killarney and said it is a strong brand but there needs to be a roadmap where everyone is driving in the same direction.

"Strong brands are consistent and consistency is the basis of trust and loyalty. Brands are built cumulatively and over time and they are the product of a thousand small gestures," he said. Mr Shanahan said the challenge is to build Killarney as a "superbrand" where competitors become community, with agreed brand values and strong performance standards.

The town needs to be focused on a core customer group or groups driven by collaborative innovation and cross promotion in a town and its environs that is accessible and accommodating.

Mr Shanahan, who specialises in the provision of enterprise development services to Irish and international clients, including state agencies, said there are both macro and micro issues to consider when the town is drafting a strategic plan for the future, with the former concerning the wider environment and reputation of Killarney and the latter relating to situations that apply on a day-to-day basis.

"In terms of the macro issues, I suggest a green approach that leverages compact development with good infrastructure.

He said engaging with residents, workers and visitors is critical as a vibrant community is the basis for vibrant business.



John McEnery (J Mac), Tanya Coyne (Eason's Bookshop), Killarney Chamber President Johnny McGuire, Mary Counihan (Adam's Jewellers) and Finbarr Kennelly (Kennellys Pharmacy) at the Killarney Chamber of Tourism and Commerce members breakfast briefing in The Killarney Plaza Hotel. *Photos: Eamonn Keogh* 



Ciara Brosnan (Who's for Shoes), Jessica Galvin (Killarney Grand), Pam Tracey (Solar Beo) and Catriona White (International Hotel) with guest speaker Eddie Shanahan, renowned retail consultant and industry expert, at the Killarney Chamber of Tourism and Commerce members breakfast briefing in The Killarney Plaza Hotel.

"Give locals a reason to stay, live and work and give visitors a reason to discover and return by creating a competitive, sustainable experience that is world class and respectful of the planet," Mr Shanahan suggested.

"A thought-out green agenda will be a key catalyst in building a strong, vibrant community, in creating new business opportunities, providing new jobs and attracting visitors to a considered, sustainable and worthwhile experience," he said.

The business expert said key requirements for Killarney going forward include:

- Improvements in green infrastructure
- Better public transport and cycle lanes
- More green spaces and sports facilities
- Pedestrianisation and scheduled access for deliveries
- Adequate parking and park and ride facilities
- Improved healthcare
- More housing and an end to dereliction Good schools

"While these issues are for politicians and council executives, they also need to be top of your agenda as traders, job creators and taxpayers who make a critical contribution to the local economy," Mr Shahahan told the

business interests in attendance.

He said, in business, the customer has to be the focus at all times and every business should audit and improve what it offers through that lens.

"Do we think like customers when planning for the future? Do we look in over our counters as well as looking out and do we empower our teams to do likewise as they are our frontline ambassadors?" he asked.

Mr Shanahan said footfall is useless unless it is converted. Modern retailing is a multi-channel operation and, for example, while a business operating without a website is all but invisible, just getting noticed is not enough.

"Creating moments that keep customers remembering long after they have stopped looking is what's required in today's highly populated and noisy marketplace.

"There is no point in relying on a history of hospitality or scenery – it's the worthwhile awareness, engagement, connection and service in the here and now that matters. We win marketshare by winning mindshare first," he told the Chamber breakfast briefing.

Mr Shanahan said one question businesses in Killarney should ask themselves is what people say about them when they are not in the room? "A reputation is as powerful or as destructive as what other people say about us. This can be a useful issue to address, especially if there is something that our customers do not believe about our current message".

Mr Shanahan's key advice to local businesses was: "Know your tribe. Focus on your core customers. Do fewer things but do them better and know where the reward of profit lies. Find your lane and stay in it".

The renowned retail and fashion expert acknowledged that many businesses lost good staff who moved on to other sectors or other parts of the country as a result of the pandemic and, in many instances, they have been replaced by poorly trained or untrained part-timers who are not career professionals. But, he insisted, the buck stops with the business owner or manager and not on the shop floor, not at the serving table or behind

the hotel reception desk.

Mr Shanahan said good service is well trained, motivated, confident, relaxed, thoroughly informed, conversational, empathetic to customers' needs and it is delivered by true ambassadors for the business,

It should not be uptight, disingenuous, careless or ill informed and it can only be improved by proper staff appraisal programmes and career



Bridget O'Keeffe (Killarney Chamber Sustainability Group), Norma O'Regan (Killarney Chamber) and Paul O'Neill (Wander Wild Festival) with guest speaker Eddie Shanahan, renowned retail consultant and industry expert.



Killarney Chamber President Johnny McGuire, Jessica O'Connor (Kerry Phone Centre) and Paul O'Neill (Wander Wild Festival) with guest speaker Eddie Shanahan, renowned retail consultant and industry expert.



Killarney Chamber President Johnny McGuire with guest speaker Eddie Shanahan, renowned retail consultant and industry expert.



#### **EDDIE SHANAHAN'S TEN COMMANDMENTS** FOR BUSINESS OWNERS

- The market is our boss
- 2. Distraction is our enemy
- The customer is our focus
- Innovation is our enable
- Theatre is our engagement
- 6. Great service is our loyalty generator
- Strong branding is our communication channel
- 8. Cash flow is our lifeblood
- 9. Profit is our reward
- 10. Constantly strive to create desire



Pat O'Leary (Kerry Tourism Industry Federation), Killarney Chamber President Johnny McGuire and Mike Buckley (Kerry Coaches) with guest speaker Eddie Shanahan, renowned retail consultant and industry expert.



Denis Spillane (Deros Tours), Killarney Chamber President Johnny McGuire, Darren Mallon (Deros Tours), Rosemary O'Connor (Killarney Organic) and Paul Byrne (Poet) with guest speaker Eddie Shanahan, renowned retail consultant and industry expert.

#### IT'S THE TALK | OF THE TOWN



Anne Lucey looks at the positive news happening in Killarney

#### **COUNCIL MATTERS:**

Blue skies thinking needed on Blue Pool and other parking issues



Very little parking at the Blue Pool Wood.

Yet again, traffic issues dominate council matters. If I had a euro for every time parking and traffic movement in Killarney - not to mention "the war", traffic calming measures - comes before your council meetings, I would be able to join the small number of people who now own most of the property in Killarney!

The lack of parking at the Blue Pool on the Mangerton Road was an issue raised by Michael Gleeson before his nephew John O'Donoghue even glanced at the Killarney council. Parking demand has increased. And you have to drive very carefully on the Mangerton Road now.

Following a motion by Cllr John, asking for a progress report on a Blue Pool car park, the council says it is liaising with the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) because it is the park which will have to provide the site.

We also have the privately owned lawn in The Green Lawn which is to be leased by the council from the property owner for a car park. In reality this will be for people walking the Demesne and Killarney House, again owned by the NPWS.

Cllr Martin Grady has put it succinctly:" there isn't one no car park between Ross Castle and Tomies Mountain". And Martin questions why

the council is paying for car parks for the NPWS. Is it time to think outside the box? In France cities now have huge multi-storey car parks, well outside the urban areas. Free shuttle buses are provided to and from these parking buildings.

We don't have to go to France. In Co.Clare this summer, a new hop-on, hop-off shuttle bus service connecting towns, villages, and top visitor attractions has been launched. The free Burren and Cliffs Explorer is a joint initiative of Clare County Council and the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS), supported by Fáilte Ireland. The service links destinations including Ballyvaughan, Corofin, Carran, Kilfenora, Doolin, Liscannor, and Lahinch. It also stops at key hubs like Lisdoonvarna and Miltown Malbay, where free parking is available.

Could the much loved Killarney red bus service be expanded and joined by other services to villages surrounding Killarney? I hear again and again about how the council has lost power. But the council can still matter if it is innovative. What is being advanced far too frequently in Killarney by council members and management is more and more surface car parking. Blue skies thinking needed.

#### PARNELL IN KILLARNEY

This Friday 16th, is the anniversary of a historic mass meeting which saw Charles Stewart Parnell address a crowd of up to 3,000 people on the O'Sullivan lands near Beaufort Bar on Sunday, 16th May 1880.

A stone monument erected by descendant Padruig O'Sullivan marks the spot and engraving has been carried out by Tom O'Sullivan. Research has been undertaken by Mary Coghlan, Padruig O'Sullivan, Tom O'Sullivan and Eanna O'Malley who all have a keen interest in local history.

The subject of the mass meeting? Much the same as today: people being evicted from their homes and having no right to a home of their own. Most houses and lands were owned by a small wealthy group. Plus ca change, plus c'est

la meme chose.

Swap the 19th century terminology for today where homes are seen as "property" and investments; the big landlords are the companies of today, and you get my drift. But what also strikes me is how timid we have become in this State we now call our own. When it comes to basic fundamental rights. There is no one out on the streets or calling on the masses to support a movement for the basic right to a home of their own these days. Back to the history. The 1880 meeting was held in Patrick O' Sullivan's field - south of Beaufort Bar. Another account by an Anne O'Sullivan, daughter of Patrick, formerly Beaufort Hotel, opposite the Beaufort Bar, stated that prior to the location of the meeting being agreed, the Parnellites canvassed local tenants for a suitable site. Patrick O'Sullivan then made his field available.

O'Mahony, the landlord at the time, who resided in Dunloe Castle let it be known that any of his tenants who facilitated the meeting would be evicted from his lands. The fact that the turnout was so large, O'Mahony decided to leave matters rest.

Reports tell how Parnell arrived in Killarney by special train at three o'clock. A Government reporter was on the platform and a posse of police were in attendance. When the meeting had fully assembled, the numbers were estimated at 3,000.

"They were assembled to proclaim to the world that the present land laws required a change and to to punish the men who attempted to drive the people from their homes (cheers)

Mr. Parnell, who was received with vociferous cheering said it was the largest land meeting he had attended since in the County Mayo twelve months previously.

"The people of Ireland were now united in a great movement – the greatest undertakings that anyone could engage in – the task of obtaining for the people the land of their native country..." the Dundalk Democrat reported.

#### INNISFALLEN MARKER

Inisfallen is one of the hidden treasures of Killarney. New signage by the National Parks and Wildlife Service may help revive interest in this monastic island whose school was akin to a university. Sons of nobles would be sent to study and the annals now in the hands of the university in Oxford were partly composed there.

The large new sign board on the pier will be read by those boarding the big boats for a tour of the lake of learning. It tells how Inis Faithleann was the home of a monastery founded by St Finian the Leper in 640 AD.

"The island was a place of solitude for the monks to think and pray," it continues.

What we have here of course is part of a movement that spread through Christianity

from the Desert Fathers to Skellig Michael. Mont St Michel in France is another such monastic island - just off the coast in France and walkable when the tide is out.

Back to our own monastic island, the annals are given honourable mention on the new signage.

"The annals are currently housed in The Bodleian Library, in Oxford, but there is hope they will return to Killarney in the not too distant future," it states.

Hear, Hear to that brave statement. It may even help light a fire of indignation and help speed their return. Rightly the role of the McShains in gifting the island to the Irish State is acknowledged.

This is a great start to what is to be a programme of historical reference throughout the park.





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John & Mary Murphy, Killorglin.

## KERRY COUNTY COUNCI **TOWN CENTRE FIRST HERITAGE REVIVAL SCHEME**

erry County Council is hosting a second public engagement session for THRIVE Killarney on Tuesday 20th May from 6-8pm in the Sika Room at the Killarney Plaza Hotel. Following on from a successful first engagement evening in February this year, this event will be focused on shaping an Integrated

Urban Strategy for Killarney Town Centre. There will also be a discussion on heritage buildings in the town. The evening forms part of THRIVE Killarney and

a short presentation will take place at 6:15pm. A workshop will take place afterwards for people to share their feedback and ideas.

The THRIVE programme supports local authorities and their citizens to reimagine town centres and to transform publicly owned vacant or derelict heritage buildings within those town centres through renovation, renewal, and adaptive reuse.

All are welcome to drop in at any time to listen, take part and speak to those working on the project and share their thoughts on the Killarney project.

THRIVE - Town Centre First Heritage Revival Scheme, an initiative co-funded by the

## KILLARNEY

THRIVE Town Centre First Heritage Revival Scheme

## **HAVE YOUR SAY!**

Government of Ireland and the European Union through the ERDF Southern, Eastern and Midland Regional Programme 2021-2027.

further details, please contact townregenerationunit@kerrycoco.ie.

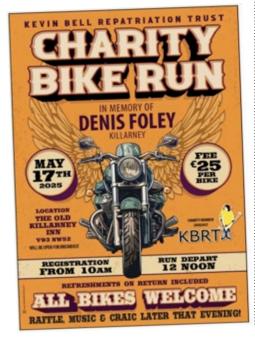
This initiative is co-funded by the Government of Ireland and the European Union through the ERDF Southern, Eastern, and Midland Regional Programme 2021–2027. Visit the Southern Regional Assembly website at http://www. southernassembly.ie/



## **CHARITY BIKE RUN** IN MEMORY OF DENIS

THE FAMILY OF DENIS FOLEY FROM KILLARNEY ARE PLANNING A FUNDRAISER THIS WEEKEND IN AID OF THE KEVIN BELL REPATRIATION TRUST.

"In the late hours of October 7th 2024, we got the worst news possible; our dear Denis had died in a tragic accident in Spain", Denis's



niece Grace Foley told Killarney Outlook.

"Our lives were turned completely upside down. In the time that followed, one of the greatest comforts to us was the support we received from the Kevin Bell Repatriation Trust. Their support in getting Denis home to Killarney took so much of the burden from our minds and allowed us to grieve without that added worry. On behalf of the Foley family, Denis's soulmate Joan and all his friends,

I would like to express our eternal gratitude to this incredible organisation.

What started as a hobby went on to take Denis to Route 66 in America, around Europe and Ireland and to his final journey in Northern Spain. Denis was a gentleman with a roqueish smile, a beautiful love of dogs, a beloved brother, partner, uncle, cousin and

friend. We will miss him forever", Grace added. Denis' friend Aidan Foley and fellow Killarney Bikers have organised a Charity Bike Run in memory of Denis that takes place this Saturday at the Old Killarney Inn. Registration takes place from 10am and the run departs at 12pm.

All bikes are welcome and the fee is €25 per bike. Refreshments will be provided on return with a raffle and music later in the evening.

Aidan has created an idonate page where people can donate to the Kevin Bell Repatriation Trust. When speaking about the



charity organisation Aidan says, 'Their support during such a heartbreaking time meant more than words can express, and now I want to give back so they can continue helping other families in need".

Anyone who would like to donate can go to this link: https://www.idonate.ie/fundraiser/ AidanFoley12





## O'CALLAGHAN COACHES WIN 'Outstanding Employer Award'

#### at the Failte Ireland Employer Excellence Awards for 2nd year running!

Callaghan Coaches are delighted to announce that they have received the 'Best Employer - Small Business Award' and 'Outstanding Employer Award' the top award of the night at the Failte Ireland Employer Excellence Awards for the second year running!

O'Callaghan Coaches were recognised at Fáilte Ireland's third Employer Excellence Awards which took place in Fitzgerald's Woodlands House Hotel & Spa, Co. Limerick last night Wednesday 7th May. The awards ceremony acknowledges businesses who have demonstrated commitment to making the tourism industry an appealing and rewarding place to work through their continuing participation in Fáilte Ireland's Employer Excellence programme.

It was a real privilege to be in the Woodlands Hotel in Adare last night alongside Johannes, representing everyone at O'Callaghan Coaches at the Fáilte Ireland Employer Excellence Awards. It was a proud moment to receive the award for Best Small Business, and then an absolutely incredible surprise to be called out again at the end of the night as the Overall Top Employer in the Tourism Sector in Ireland. Words can't fully express what this recognition means to us. To receive such an accolade among so many prestigious tourism businesses and leaders is truly humbling. These awards are a reflection of our entire team, we are all so proud. Thank you to everyone who makes O'Callaghan Coaches what it is. This success belongs to all of us.' Philip O'Callaghan, Director at O'Callaghan Coaches.



Fáilte Ireland CEO Paul Kelly - O'Callaghan Coaches Director Philip O'Callaghan - Operations Manager Johannes Horn





## KERRY STARS THANK THEIR VOLUNTEERS

Members of the Kerry Stars Special Olympic Club are saddling up and enjoying horse riding at Clippity Clop.

"We started Therapeutic horse-riding lessons recently at Clippity Clop in Farmers Bridge in Tralee and the club members are really enjoying it", Claire Doherty from the club told Killarney Outlook.

It is on every Tuesday for May, June and July from 6.30 for an hour. "Not only is great for balance, confidence and coordination it is a great social night for our athletes to mix and meet new friends", Claire added. "As it is National Volunteer week, we would like to say thank you to to Orla Brosnan and her Team at Clippity Clop and also to say a huge thank you to all our amazing volunteers who help our athletes in so many ways", Claire added.







## **Kerry Jobs Fair 2025:**

### Connecting Job Seekers with Leading Employers in Kerry

Job seekers and employers will have a unique opportunity to connect at the Kerry Jobs Fair 2025, scheduled for Wednesday, 20th May, at the Rose Hotel in Tralee. The event will feature over 30 of the county's leading companies, offering hundreds of vacancies across various sectors.

Organised by NEWKD Local Development Company in partnership with The Rose Hotel and Tralee Chamber Alliance, this free event is open to the public based on on-site registration. Attendees can explore opportunities in sectors such as office administration, IT, accounting, finance, hospitality, manufacturing, food production, and retail.

The event will put both job seekers and employers in touch with a wide range of information and supports all aimed at supporting employment. Alongside employer booths, a careers clinic will provide job search support, including CV and job interview preparation, as well as information on upskilling and professional development. There will also be information workshops for both employees and employers on employing none Irish citizens.

Efforts have been made to support Ukrainian refugees and international protection applicants in attending the fair. Information will be provided prior to the event, and interpreter services will be available on the day.

NEWKD, as part of the Kerry Community Response Forum facilitated by Kerry County Council, emphasizes employment as a crucial aspect of integration for refugees in Kerry.

During the event, employers will have a unique opportunity to gain insights into the specifics of employing migrants, get answers to the most frequently asked questions, and raise



Organisers JOBS FAIR: Aisling Foley Sales and Marketing Manager of The Rose Hote, Olha Ponomarenko NEWKD community worker, Mark Sullivan The General Manager of The Rose Hotel, representative of Tralee Chamber, Robert Carey SICAP manager by NEWKD

any concerns they may have. The workshop for employers will be conducted by Frank O'Boyle who manages Information and Advocacy Service in Irish Refugee Council.

In addition to the job fair, various information sessions will be available for all visitors:

**CV Preparation Workshop:** Led by Sean Connell, HR at NEWKD.

**Secrets of a Successful Interview:** Presented by Lydia Oboryna from the Open Door Initiative. **Employment Law for Migrants:** Promoting awareness of rights and opportunities for newly arrived migrants.

Accessing the Labour Market: Information on the status of temporary protection beneficiaries

by Okasna Sarzhevska from the Irish Refugee Council.

**Entrepreneurship Workshops:** Sessions on starting your own business, finding finance, and accessing grants.

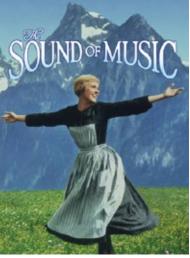
The Newkd Kerry Jobs Fair 2025 is proudly supported by the Rose Hotel, and the Tralee Chamber Alliance. Funding is provided as part of the SICAP programme implemented by NEWKD

SICAP is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development and locally by the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC).

## **CHOIR CELEBRATE**

#### **60TH ANNIVERSARYOF THE SOUND OF MUSIC**





OPUS 96 CHAMBER CHOIR ARE DELIGHTED TO CELEBRATE THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOUND OF MUSIC (1965-2025). THE VENUE FOR THIS MEMORABLE CONCERT IS ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH, SNEEM ON SUNDAY, MAY 18TH AT 5.30PM.

The programme will also include Songs of the Sea and traditional Irish airs, promising a varied and uplifting evening of music. Under the direction of Martina Ryan Murphy, Opus 96 will bring their signature blend of harmony and emotion to the performance of this timeless music. They are delighted to be joined by the South Kerry Rosen Choir for this wonderful evening of music.

Tickets €15 available at the door.



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## Killarney **National Park** On a Bioblitz Mission...

Biodiversity Week 2025 & Natura 2000 Day Bioblitz

he highlight of Biodiversity week 2025 in Killarney National Park is a friendly competition with our fellow European nature sites and reserves - The 'Natura 2000 Bioblitz' and your mission with family and friends, is to help identify and record as many species in Killarney National Park as possible. On Saturday 24th May, Muckross School House will be open from 10.00am -3.00pm. Various identification walks will take place throughout the day. Conservation Rangers, Ecologists and nature experts will be on hand to help identify your findings. No

booking is required. Using the Obsidentify app https:// observation.org/apps/obsidentify/

At any time between 17th and 25th May 2025 (whether fishing, hiking, jogging, cycling, kayaking, or strolling) simply record what you see. All your scans in that period will count for the EU-wide Natura 2000 Day BioBlitz! Ask our ecologists and experts to identify what you've found! They will be on hand to ID your finds throughout the week.

Simply share your photo on Twitter or Instagram with #BackyardBioblitz, and tag us on Twitter @IrishEnvNet or Instagram @national.biodiversity.week

• Killarney National Park Biodiversity week kicks off on Wednesday 21st May with a guided nature walk ,from 10.00 am - 2.00pm Derrycunnihy Church to Lord Brandon's Cottage.

Discover the most incredible flora and fauna, unique to Killarney National Park. BOOKING ESSENTIAL



https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/killarney-national-park-biodiversityweek-4298043

- Thursday 23rd May continues with the Biodiversity of Ross Island, Guided walk from 10.00am - 12.00 noon BOOKING ESSENTIAL https://www. eventbrite.com/cc/killarney-national-park-biodiversity-week-4298043
- Saturday 24th Main Bioblitz event at Muckross School House 10.00am 3.00pm with different experts guiding identification walks. No booking required, just turn up!







## 82 social homes reactivated from vacancy in Kerry in 2024

Kerry County Council shifts towards "planned maintenance" model leading to faster re-letting and more consistent occupancy

The Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, James Browne this week, published figures showing nationally that 2,357 vacant social homes were brought back into active use in 2024 under the Voids Programme.

Making more efficient use of existing housing stock is another approach being utilised to bring more homes back into active use. The Voids Programme supports local authorities in preparing vacant homes for re-letting and builds on the ongoing work to tackle vacancy and dereliction to ensure vacant properties are re-used for housing.

Kerry County Council has shifted towards a planned maintenance model which leads to quicker repairs, continuous use, and faster re-letting of social homes-73 homes returned to use in 2023 and 82 in 2024. This trend is expected to continue in 2025 and will mean ongoing upkeep and more consistent occupancy.

Overall, in the last ten years, 878 social homes in Kerry have been brought back in use under the Voids Programme.

Minister Browne said: "I commend Kerry County Council for their partnership in returning these homes to active use over 10 years from 2014-2024. Their efforts will have a meaningful impact on 878 households."

Since 2020, the government has spent almost €190 million to return 13,177 homes to active use. This is more than half (51%) of the homes returned over the lifetime of the programme since 2014 (25,672 units).



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Action from the second race the Mongey Communications Maiden Hurdle, on the final jump at the May Festival Race meeting at Killarney Racecourse on Sunday, the race was won by No.14 Romany Brown, followed by 15. Wholelotofbusiness and No. Dream Diamond. *Photos: Valerie O'Sullivan* 



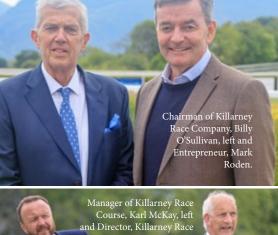
Terrence Mulcahy, Director Killarney Race Course, left and Denis McCarthy, O'Donoghue Ring Hotels, at the May Festival Race meeting at Killarney Racecourse on Sunday.



Ádah and Fíadh O'Brien, Dara McKay and Kate Neenan.



Aideen, Darragh and Lucy Murphy.

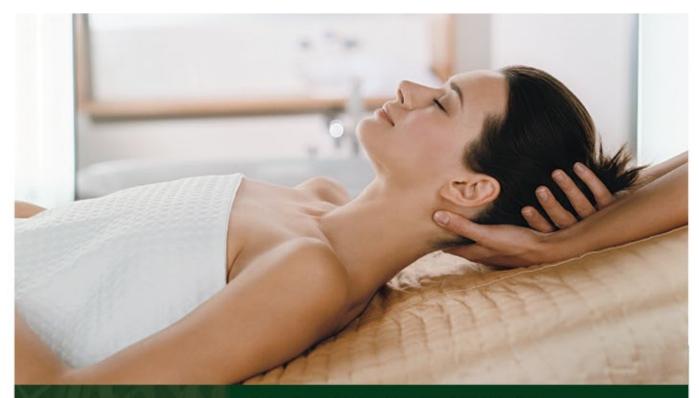












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#### Spa Day Your Way - Weekend

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# EXCITING KERRY NEW YEAR'S EVE CHARITY GALA BALL TO BENEFIT LOCAL CHARITIES

he Humanity Ball, a prestigious black-tie New Year's Eve charity gala ball taking place in Tralee's Ballygarry Estate Hotel & Spa on 31st December, 2025, was officially launched today by Norma Foley, T.D., Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth.

The Humanity Ball, with a jazz drinks black-tie dinner, reception, entertainment by The Bentley Boys, an auction, special guests and some other surprises along the way. will provide an opportunity to ring in the new year with family, friends and colleagues while contributing to three wonderful charities. The Kerry Hospice Foundation will be the main beneficiary of the fundraising ball with Tír na nÓg Children's Foundation and One for Humanity also set to benefit. The Humanity Ball is spearheaded by The and a committee comprising of people from the world of business in Kerry including Sean Ryan, Maeve Townsend, Ogie Moran, Dick Spring, Keelin Kissane, Alex O'Donnell and Killian Burns.

The Kerry Hospice Foundation is dedicated to supporting the provision of specialist palliative care services in Kerry. With the current in-patient palliative care services unit at capacity, Kerry Hospice Foundation is embarking on the next building phase on the grounds of University Hospital Kerry. Few families in Kerry have been untouched by the care of the Kerry Hospice Foundation. It provides a vital role in the community, offering dignity and comfort to those in need.

The Tír na n-Óg Children's Foundation was founded by Tralee native and current Kerry Person of the Year, Louise Quill. It is dedicated to transforming the lives of vulnerable children in Tanzania where the Foundation's work brings hope and brighter futures to those who need



Humanity Ball chairperson Stephen Stack and a committee comprising of people Spa on 31st December, 2025, was officially launched today by Norma Foley, T.D., Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, from the world of business in Kerry Integration and Youth. Pictured at the launch are I/r: Humanity Ball chairperson Stephen Stack, Jack Shanahan, Kerry including Sean Ryan, Maeve Townsend, Hospice Foundation, Minister Norma Foley, Louise Quill Tir na n-Og Children's Foundation, Padraig McGillicuddy, Ballygarry Estate, Shane Leahy of One for Humanity. Photo By: Domnick Walsh © Eye Focus LTD

#### it most

Founded by Shane Leahy, One for Humanity is making a profound impact in crisis zones like Ukraine and Gaza. The charity focuses on delivering essential supplies and has recently pioneered the deployment of fully equipped mobile medical units, bringing life-saving healthcare to those in urgent need.

Tickets for the Humanity Ball on 31 December 2025 are now on sale at €5000 for a table of 10. Tickets can be purchased online at www. humanityball.com or by contacting any member of the organising committee. Sponsorship packages are also available to support this worthy cause. Further details can be found on the Humanity Ball website at www.humanityball.com



Áine Culloty (Business and & Student Enterprise Mentor) and Jack O Sullivan- a first year student in the school.

### NATIONAL STUDENT ENTERPRISE AWARD FOR JACK!

Jack O Sullivan, a first year student in Castleisland Community College, received a National Student Enterprise Award. He won the Innovation Award in the Junior Category in Mullingar last week. The Innovation Award recognises originality and creativity in the product created. Jack showed fantastic innovation by solving a real problem witnessed on his family farm. He often helps his father on their beef suckler farm in Currow, especially during the busy calving season. The product Helpful Hoist was creating as Jack noticed the need to try and help a weak, newborn calf to stand. The hoist can also be used for a weak and unsteady newborn lamb as well.

28,000 students took part in the competition this year run by the Network of Local Enterprise Office of Ireland. Over 200 students from 85 school enterprises competed in the national finals. It is a practical programme that offers students the opportunity to take a business from idea stage, through market research to production, selling, record keeping, management and finally writing a comprehensive report on the business. 'Jack has certainly learned skills for life,' concluded Ms Culloty (Student Mentor & Business Studies teacher in the school).



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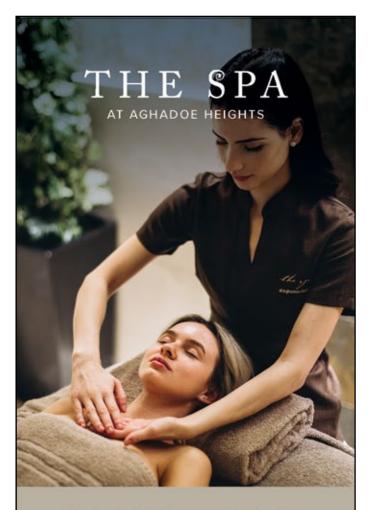


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## Lake Hotel Pastry Chef to Judge Pâtisserie Championship

he Lake Hotel's esteemed Head Pastry Chef, Coralie Pichard, has been chosen to join the expert judging panel for the first-ever Irish Pâtisserie Championship, taking place on May 27th at TU Dublin's Grangegorman campus as part of the DNA "Pastry Unwrapped" Conference. The competition, created by Co-Lab, the pâtisserie training academy of Odaios Foods, and sponsored by Valrhona Chocolate, is set to spotlight Ireland's rising pastry talent. Six elite finalists will go headto-head in a live culinary showdown, presenting three intricate creations: a plant-based café gourmandise dessert, a restaurant-style plated dessert, and an elaborate chocolate showpiece. Coralie Pichard has been Head Pastry Chef at The Lake Hotel for over 3 years and brings over 15 years of culinary experience to the judging panel. A native of Angers, France, Coralie trained as a chef in Lyon before specialising as a pastry chef here in Ireland. Her perfectionism was shaped early in her career whilst cheffing at Michelin star La Trilla Florentine Restaurant in Lyon. Coralie's experience has been filled with a whole host of prestigious establishments both nationally and internationally, including Head Pastry Chef in the 5\* Europe Hotel & Resort. Coralie is ambitious and hardworking, with a natural flair for creativity. She gained confidence in both her craft and high-volume production while working in a catering company in Malta, making up to 4,000 homemade desserts at a time.

With a passion for ingredients, Coralie is an avid gardener and strives to use local produce in her creations, including the use of herbs from The Lake Hotel garden. Coralie has truly elevated the dessert experience and has reinvented the whole pastry section at The Lake Hotel, ensuring that everything, from breakfast pastries and petit fours, right through to evening dining, is homemade.

Coralie combines her passion for patisserie, intricate skills, years of experience and exciting flavour combinations to create truly memorable dining experiences.

The Irish Pâtisserie Championship not only celebrates the best of pastry in Ireland but also seeks to raise the global profile of Irish chefs on the international stage. As a judge, Coralie will help spotlight this new wave of pastry excellence and inspire the next generation of culinary stars.



Lake Hotel Head Pastry Chef, Coralie Pichard who has been selected as judge for Inaugural Irish Pâtisserie Championship in Dublin pictured at work creating her amazing Pâtisserie at the Lake Hotel. Photo: Don MacMonaale

#### **KERRY TRANSITION YEAR STUDENTS RECOGNISED**

#### AT RUBBISH FILM FESTIVAL REGIONAL AWARDS



 $TY\ Students\ from\ Presentation\ Secondary\ School,\ Castleisland,\ winners\ of\ the\ Best\ Movie\ award$ 

Transition Year students from across County Kerry have been honoured for their creativity and environmental awareness in the Rubbish Film Festival Regional Awards, a national initiative that challenges young people to explore climate issues through filmmaking.

The festival invited TY students to create short films and posters with strong messages around waste, sustainability, and climate action. At the Kerry regional awards ceremony, students were celebrated for their originality, teamwork, and powerful storytelling.

#### This year's winners are:

**Best Movie** – Presentation Secondary School Castleisland with "Climate v Carbon"

**Runner-Up Movie** – Gaelcholáiste Chiarraí **Best Poster** – St. Brendan's College, Killarney with "Final Forecast"

Each entry reflected the unique perspective of young people on climate challenges, combining humour, emotion, and a strong call for change.

The Rubbish Film Festival is proudly supported by Kerry County Council, Creative Ireland, and the Department of Education, whose funding has enabled this creative climate education initiative to reach schools across the region.

Now in its 3rd year nationally, the festival runs regional events across 15 counties, leading to a national celebration online on Monday, May 12th that will showcase the best of youth-led climate creativity.

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## MayFest got the season off to a flying start

### at Killarney Racecourse

MayFest at Killarney Racecourse took place on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, kicking off the season at the popular track in great style with good crowds enjoying the races in the sunshine.

Sunday was a well-attended all national hunt eight race card with a family fun theme. Younger racegoers who always benefit from free admission to the Killarney track enjoyed ample free entertainment throughout the afternoon. Facepainting, mascot races, fun activities, shows and more were provided by local performing arts school MACademy.

The buzz continued offtrack when Hollywood celebrity Christopher McDonald who played Shooter McGavin in Happy Gilmore and professional footballer Enda Stevens were spotted in the crowd mingling and taking selfies with racegoers as they enjoyed a day out at the races. The feature race on the card, the Michael J Doyle Memorial Handicap Hurdle saw Batman Girac benefit from an ice cool ride by JJ Slevin to lead home a one-two for champion trainer Willie Mullins.

Monday an evening meeting offering another National Hunt card did not disappoint. Again first and second places were secured for trainer Willie Mullins in the feature race the Boylespots An Riocht Steeplechase (Grade 3). The perceived second-string Hercule Du Seuil beat stablemate Blood Destiny in the colours of JP McManus with Mark Walsh on board. Tuesday closed MayFest in fine style with an exhilarating all-flat card beginning with an extremely close finish to get the crowd excited in which the Aidan O'Brien trained and Wayne Lordan ridden Gun Carriage came out on top beating Standard Deviation by the official distance of 'a nose'. In contrast the feature race, the FEXCO handicap saw Mordor comfortably account for his 14 rivals to win for trainer Gordon Elliott and jockey Chris Hayes. Successful on his sole previous visit to Killarney last summer the impressive winner was sent off at a price of 9/2.



Aisling Crosbie, Editor of the Killarney Outlook presents the owners of Queen Of Thunder with the plate following the horse's win in the Killarney's Outlook Publications Race. Photo: Pat Healy

General Manager, Karl McCay commented "What a start to the season here at Killarney Races, a great few days have been enjoyed by all. There was a real sense of community, lots of families enjoying the facilities and top-class racing, it has been superb few days and the weather really played its part too. Now, it's a case of onwards and upwards for our July Festival and the early indications are good with our early bird discounted tickets already being snapped up online!"

With three more festivals to look forward to in July, August and October if you haven't been it is well worth checking out. Children under the age of 14 go racing free to every meeting at Killarney Races once accompanied by an adult and early bird discounts for all meetings are available online now. Visit Killarneyraces.ie where you can book tickets, hospitality, group packages, club membership and more.

## Exciting casting call opportunity

### announced for new feature film set and shot in Kerry

The creator of smash hit film and TV show The Young Offenders has announced an exciting opportunity for singers to be part of what will be one of the biggest Irish films of 2026.

Mary Man is the inspirational story, based on real-life events, of a Kerry woman outcast from Irish society who has an incredible singing voice, and who challenges perceptions and brings joy to her local community when she competes in a singing competition. Packed with music, comedy and a powerful message about being true to oneself, the film will be shot in and around Co. Kerry in late 2025.

Producers have issued a casting call for singers in lead, secondary and background roles of a new feature film



Filmmaker Peter Foott

to be filmed in Co.Kerry, late 2025. All submissions made for consideration must include a singing demo. Filmmaker Peter Foott said "I've wanted to make this film for some time now. I heard so many stories in the Castlecove, Co. Kerry community about this incredible person, and I wanted to bring Mary's story to life on the big screen. It feels joyful, musical and very cinematic, and we're really eager to feature the best Irish talent possible in this exciting feature film."

The production will be casting all ages from 18+, covering a variety of roles.

For more information and to apply with a singing demo, please visit: www.castlecovepictures.com/casting

### VOICES FROM THE FRIARY

A Charity concert in aid of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, St Brigid's Conference, Killarney will take place in The Friary in Killarney on Sunday May 25th at 8pm.

The concert will feature Soprano Sharon Lyons, Kerry Concert Choir and Kerry Scotia Ensemble. Tickets are €20 and are availabe from Eventbrite or at the door on the night.















## Sun Shines on the Kingdom County Show

---Photos: Domnick Walsh © Eye Focus LTD -----

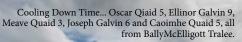
The Kingdom County Show celebrated its 75th anniversary this weekend with a milestone weekend of family fun, farming and festivity. This year's Kingdom County Show took place on Saturday and Sunday at Ballymacthomas, Tralee, an unforgettable weekend packed with fun for all ages. From the thrill of livestock competitions, top-tier equestrian events, and a dog show to the colour and charm of vintage tractors, food and craft stalls, and the ever-popular petting farm and kids' zone.

















## Danielle O'Leary is LGFA Player of the Month for April 2025

KERRY star Danielle O'Leary has been honoured with The Croke Park Hotel/LGFA Player of the Month award for April 2025.

The Rathmore forward (22), who claimed a first TG4 All-Star award last year, has carried that excellent form into the 2025 campaign with a series of outstanding displays.

Danielle was superb in the 2025 Lidl National League Division 1 Final against Armagh on Saturday April 12, when she scored 1-5 in a 4-14 to 0-11 victory for the Kingdom.

Those individual heroics earned Danielle the Player of the Match award on the day at Croke Park.

Danielle has continued in her rich vein of form throughout the TG4 Munster Senior Championship campaign, with Kerry set to contest a provincial Final against Waterford on Sunday May 25.

Danielle collected 1-3 against Cork in the opening round of the round-robin series on Saturday April 26, before notching 0-3 in the Round 2 victory over Waterford, which booked Kerry's place in the Southern showpiece.

Danielle was presented with her award today by Edele O'Reilly, Director of Sales and Marketing, The Croke Park Hotel.



Kerry star Danielle O'Leary is pictured with The Croke Park Hotel/LGFA Player of the Month award for April 2025, at The Croke Park Hotel in Jones Road, Dublin. Danielle scored 1-5 in a Player of the Match performance against Armagh in the Lidl National League Division 1 Final at Croke Park on Saturday April 12. Photo by Stephen McCarthy/Sportsfile

## Amano to play first headline concert in Killarney with support from rising star Lillie Foley





Singer-songwriter and sean nós singer Amano, brings her spring tour home to Killarney for a special live performance of contemporary and traditional work in ANAM Cultural Centre with thanks fo Kerry County Council Arts Office. Joining forces with local rising star Lillie Foley, this will be a night to celebrate and support two young Killarney songwriters making waves in the Irish music scene.

Amano "Amano's concerts are something of a "prayer-formance". Her live work responds to the room, the earth, dreams, politics and presence. In 2024 her project THREAD was nominated for Irish language Album and Song of the year at the Gradaim Nós. Recent collaborators include Liam Ó Maonlaí, Rónán Ó Snodaigh, Kalabanx and Blue Niall. Amano's 2025 singles, 'Burn' and 'The Birthing House', have been received airtime on RTÉ Radio 1, Radio Kerry, and Raidió na Life".

Lillie Foley "An avid singer from a young age, 22 year old Lillie Foley recently graduated from the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance with a BA in Voice. Lillie has released two debut singles in 2025, 'Someday' and 'That's Life', blending the genres of pop, soul and folk." Tickets for Amano and Lillie Foley are available now on Ticketpass.org

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## RSA Urges Motorists to Give Cyclists Space and Slow Down **During Bike Week**

As National Bike Week 2025 rolls into gear, the Road Safety Authority (RSA) is urging all motorists to keep a safe distance and reduce speed when overtaking cyclists - not just during Bike Week, but every day of the year.

Cycling is a healthy, sustainable and increasingly popular form of travel for people of all ages. But cyclists remain one of the most vulnerable road users. Over the past five years (2020-2024) 45 cyclists were killed and 1,278 cyclists were seriously injured.

The RSA is reminding drivers of their duty to share the road safely. Motorists must allow at least one metre when overtaking cyclists in speed zones up to 50 km/h and at least 1.5 metres in zones over 50 km/h. Cyclists can be thrown off course by sudden gusts of wind or by having to swerve around potholes or uneven road surfaces - making these distances a crucial buffer for safety.

Sarah O'Connor, Director of Partnerships & External Affairs said: "Cycling should be a fun and safe activity, whether for commuting, school, or leisure. But too often, we see lives changed or lost in preventable collisions. Drivers must slow down, check their mirrors and blind spots, and give cyclists the space they need. It's not just about rules, it's about

respect and responsibility on the road."

Motorists are also reminded to take extra care at junctions, especially when making left turns, and to check carefully for cyclists before opening car doors.

At the same time, the RSA is calling on cyclists to take personal responsibility for their own safety and that of others. This includes ensuring their bikes are roadworthy, wearing high-visibility clothing, and using lights and reflectors.

Wearing a cycle helmet can reduce the risk of head, neck and facial injuries by 33%. Riders are encouraged to seek advice from bike shops to find a helmet that fits properly and to replace it after any impact.

Bike Week 2025 runs from Saturday, 10 May to Sunday, 18 May, with Bike to Work Day taking place on Wednesday, 14 May. The week-long celebration features community rides, safety workshops, school events and more, organised nationwide by local authorities, cycling clubs and community groups.

For more information on safe cycling and road sharing tips, visit the RSA website: www.rsa.ie



## MINISTER FOR CHILDREN AND KERRY TD, NORMA FOLEY, IS ENCOURAGING KERRY PARENTS TO PICK UP FREE BOOK BAGS IN THEIR LOCAL LIBRARY IF THEY HAVE CHILDREN DUE TO START PRIMARY SCHOOL.

Each year, every one of the almost 60,000 children leaving pre-school and starting primary school are invited to visit their local library to pick up a free My Little Library book bag and take the opportunity to join the library. All children completing the free universal pre-

# Minister Foley encourages Kerry parents to PICK UP FREE MY LITTLE LIBRARY BOOK BAGS FOR THEIR CHILDREN

school Early Childhood Care and Education Programme and starting primary school are invited to visit their local library and pick up a free book bag.

The bags will be available throughout the summer. All families are welcomed to join the library if they are not already members.

Minister Foley is encouraging Kerry parents to pick up free My Little Library book bags for their children in any of the nine libraries in the country

- Ballybunion, Caherciveen, Castleisland, Dingle/Daingean Uí Chúis, Kenmare, Killarney, Killorglin, Listowel and Tralee.

"Reading is a magical gift, and it is great to give children the opportunity to develop a love of reading from a young age. Many Kerry parents may not be aware that every child about to enter primary school is eligible for their free My Little Library book bag. That's why I am encouraging every family with a child starting primary school this September to pick up their Little Library book bag from their local library in Kerry.

The transition from pre-school to primary school is such an important moment for every child in Ireland. Books and stories support connection between parents and their children. They also promote early language and literacy development which is crucial for children's success in early childhood and beyond."

The My Little Library initiative 2025 is expected to lead to tens of thousands of families picking up their book bags and joined their local library. Since its launch, an average of 20,000 4-5 year olds have joined their local libraries annually.

### KCC 2nd Year Art Trip to Limerick

Second Year art students headed off to Limerick last to view an exhibition in the Art College LSAD part of TUS. The students were accompanied by their art teachers Ms Mahony, Mr Walsh and Doreen. The exhibition included artwork the students had completed with student art teacher Ms. Rachel Murnane. The students were very excited to see their artwork on display among all the other secondary schools around the country. Also on the day we got to meet a past student of Killarney CC, Jennifer Lyne, who had just completed her 1st year in LSAD and is branching into a degree in fashion design. Students got to tour parts of the art college visiting studios in sculpture and see the print making department.



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## NEW FILM ON HISTORY OF MILLTOWN FOR ONLINE RELEASE

HUNDREDS ENJOY SCREENINGS OF UNIQUE DOCUMENTARY ON LOCAL LANDSCAPE

A new film which showcases the spectacular and unique history and heritage of the Milltown area is to be made available online this week. It follows two recent sell-out screenings of 'Milltown: The Story of a Kerry Landscape' at the local community hall which were attended by 300 people.

An initiative of the Milltown History and Heritage Society, the spectacular film showcases how the archaeology, heritage and landscape of the locality have changed over thousands of years. It begins with the story of the 6,000-year-old portal tomb at Killaclohane and takes the story of the development of Milltown right up to the present day.

Due to demand, and to ensure that the film can be seen by a wide audience, the documentary, which was filmed and directed by Niall Foley, was published on the website of the Milltown History and Heritage Society on Thursday, 15 May at 8.00pm.

"There has been such an incredible response to the in-person screenings of the film as well as demand from Milltown natives across the world to see it, so we want to share it with a wide audience," said Owen O'Shea of the Milltown History and Heritage Society.

The Society has a donations link on its website, milltownhistoryheritage. ie and has ambitions plans to preserve local heritage sites, collect oral histories and promote the historic landscape of Milltown. "We have some exciting plans for the coming months, so we are appealing to patrons to support our work with a donation," said Owen.

"We have such a special and unique history and heritage in the area. Key locations and sites like the 13th century Augustinian abbey at Killagha, the Mass Rock where Fr Thaddeus Moriarty was arrested in 1653, and Kilcoleman Abbey which was the home of the Godfrey family for hundreds of years, feature prominently in the film as well as the many social, cultural, economic, and political developments which made Milltown what it is today," he said.



Members of the team behind the new film, I-r Owen O'Shea, Niall Foley and Stewart Stephens

The script for 'Milltown: The Story of a Kerry Landscape' was researched and written by Dr John Knightly and Dr Owen O'Shea and the project coordinator was Stewart Stephens of the Milltown Community and Chamber Alliance. The film was funded by the LEADER programme and Kerry County Council.

More information can be found on the Facebook and Instagram pages of the Milltown History and Heritage Society and from milltownhistoryheritage@gmail.com

### FOSSA ROAD RAISED IN THE DAIL

This week in Dail Eireann, Deputy Danny Healy Rae raised the issue of the Fossa Road with An Taoiseach Micheal Martin.

Here is what he had to say:

I am glad to get this opportunity. Whenever we get funding in Kerry for roads, we are very grateful and appreciative. We have got great value for money over the years, but there are works going on between the nugget and the gap cross going out of Killarney on the way around the Ring of Kerry, where many tourists and buses go daily and at night time. In fact, there is fierce traffic on this road.

The works going on there now are for what is called "active travel", which means the carriageway has been reduced to 20 ft and on either side the footpaths, cycleways and grass margin are wider than the actual carriageway. People are very upset and concerned. There are videos of buses trying to pass each other. They have to pull in their mirrors to get by. People are concerned about the value for money. I ask that until some review, investigation or

assessment is done and people are sure of what is happening, no more of this kind of work be carried out. It is proposed to do the same work on the N22 from the Cork side into Killarney, to eliminate and take away Daly's roundabout and to narrow the carriageway. I ask that a proper assessment and review of value for money be carried out before that happens.

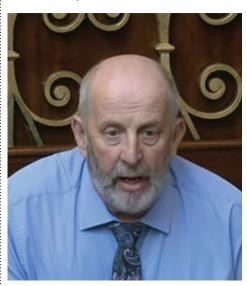
The Taoiseach:

The Deputy knows I am a frequent visitor to Killarney but I do not have the same detailed grasp of the roads he has named. That is a National Transport Authority project, I would imagine. I understand to some degree what the Deputy is saying. There should be a thorough evaluation of the value-for-money aspects of any of these projects and everybody should be clear on the objective. Sometimes it is to provide for cyclists, but sometimes the roads are so narrow to begin with that the outcome of works makes it difficult for everybody to use such a carriageway. I have seen it myself. Some roads are historically narrow.

Deputy Danny Healy Rae

This was the widest part of the road around

the Ring of Kerry. We are looking to widen the rest of it and what did they do? They narrowed the good bit of road that we had. Tractors, agricultural vehicles and hauliers cannot pass each other anymore.



 $Deputy\ Danny\ Healy\ Rae\ speaking\ in\ the\ Dail\ this\ week.$ 



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# Gold standard European accreditation awarded to **CUH/UCC CANCER CENTRE**

HSE South West is delighted to announce that the CUH/UCC Cancer Centre has achieved the highest possible European accreditation and is now a designated Organisation of European Cancer Institutes (OECI) Cancer Centre.

This accreditation recognises excellence in cancer care, research, education and training. It marks a significant milestone in the development of the Cancer Centre an innovative collaboration between Cork University Hospital and University College Cork - with strong regional support from HSE South West.

Dr Andy Phillips, Regional Executive Officer, **HSE South West said:** 

"I want to extend my congratulations and thanks to everyone involved in reaching this important milestone for cancer care in HSE South West and I look forward to working with the Cancer Centre to deliver its ambitious quality improvement plan over the next five years."

The OECI is an international network of 159 cancer centres dedicated to fostering collaboration and improving care. They provide the gold standard for cancer accreditation in Europe, with performance assessments in both hospital and university settings. The CUH/UCC unit is the fourth centre in Ireland to gain the accreditation.

Deirdre O'Keeffe, interim CEO of Cork University Hospital said:

"We are proud to have met the high standards required to be formally accredited as an



Pictured are, Professor Roisin Connolly, Academic Director CUH/UCC Cancer Cenrtre, Professor Helen Whelton, Head of College of Medicine and Health at UCC and Chief Academic Officer, HSE South West, Professor John R Higgins, Professor of Obstetrics & Gynaecology CUH/UCC & Acting Regional Executive Officer HSE South West, Dr Dearbhaile Collins, Clinical Director Cancer Services CUH/UCC Cancer Centre and Deirdre O'Keeffe, Interim CEO CUH, as the CUH/ UCC Cancer Centre has become the fourth centre in Ireland to receive prestigious accreditation by the Organisation of European Cancer Institutes (OECI) becoming a designated OECI Cancer Centre. Picture: Jim Coughlan.

OECI Cancer Centre. This is great recognition for the hard work and ambition shown by our dedicated staff who are committed to advancing cancer care for our patients."

During the extensive audit, OECI auditors praised several strengths of the CUH/UCC Cancer Centre including staff engagement in the process, the quality and dedication of healthcare teams and clinical research and trials.

A key feature of OECI is a requirement to link patient care, research and education under one common vision and strategy. Accreditation strengthens the centre's position nationally and internationally, promoting collaborations and maximising opportunities for international funding.

The CUH/UCC Cancer Centre team will receive their accreditation at a ceremony taking place in Athens, in June.

# Homecoming Launch for the Love of Kerry

The Kerry Writers Museum in Listowel was the appropriate setting for : Ballybunion by poet Anne poet Paul Byrne's homecoming launch of his new book of poetry and photographs For the Love of Kerry at the weekend.

In the shadow of tributes to his literary idols, Brian McMahon, John B Keane and Brendan Kennelly, former banker Paul said they inspired him to write and that he will always remember McMahon's message that at any moment, magic can happen.

"It's a huge privilege to be in the Kerry Writers Museum standing shoulder to shoulder with Kerry's literary greats, past and present, and also to meet well-known local poets is a real honour," Paul said.

He added that he has had an obsession with words from a young age and their tonality, musicality, meaning, rhyme, beauty, spelling and symmetry have all been facets that continue to intrigue him.

"Poetry is a release for this creativity and the act and art of creating something beautiful and new is so liberating," he added.

Launching the book, former Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Jimmy Deenihan, recalled Paul's youth in Listowel and some of the influences he encountered then and later in life.

"Many teachers were also important influencers in shaping his love of language and education throughout his school years in Scoil Réalta Na Maidine and St Michael's College," he said

"Paul's words have the ability to capture feelings and he also uses strong imagery throughout his poetry collection. More has yet to come from Paul," Mr Deenihan said.

The launch featured a recital of Paul's poem Beauty abounds at

Donegan with musical accompaniment by Royal Irish Academy of Music student Hannah and Ian O'Shea

For the Love of Kerry features 36 of Paul's original poems accompanied by stunning images of the Kerry landscape which highlight his other passion for photography.

The book takes the reader on a poetic journey through the Kingdom of Kerry and it focuses on many facets of the great outdoors, including lakes, rivers, waterfalls, castles, monastic sites and beehive huts.

For the Love of Kerry is available in Eason, Woulfe's Bookshop and the Kerry WritersMuseum as well as online at Amazon KDP and Apple Books



Poet Paul Byrne, centre, with Eileen O'Neill, Bridget O'Keeffe, Trish and Jimmy O'Keeffe at the North Kerry/Listowel launch of his poetry collection "For the love of KERRY" at Kerry Writers Museum, Listowel, on Saturday. Photo: Eamonn Keogh





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- Check yourself & family members for ticks after walks in woods or at risk areas
  - Look for ticks under armpits, behind knees, in the hair and hairline
  - Check pets fur before they enter house & remove any visible ticks

REMEMBER: A TICK IN TIME SAVES LYME!











Leah Cronin celebrating her First Holy Communion with her Parents Denise and Brendan and brothers Nathan and Caden. Photo: Conor Healy Photography



Jack McGuire celebrating his First Holy Communion with his parents Ger and Maura and sister Jean.



Roisin Cronin celebrating her First Holy Communion with her Parents Edel and Connie and her sister Isabel. Photo: Conor Healy Photography



Lily Moynihan celebrating her First Holy Communion with her parents Laura and Sean and her sister Kayla. Photo: Conor Healy Photography



Seoidin Dunne celebrating her First Holy Communion with her parents Niamh and Ferghal. Photo: Conor Healy Photography



Cian Cronin celebrating his First Holy Communion with his Parents Marie and Tim. Photo: Conor Healy Photography



Harper O'Leary celebrating her First Holy Communion Day with her parents Yvonne and Anthony and her sisters Jaylinn and Sophie. Photo: Conor Healy Photography



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#### RATHMORE | GNEEVEGUILLA PARISH

By Michael O' Mahony

#### DANCE

Please support Charity Dance by Mayor Maura Healy Rae at the Gleneagle Hotel on Friday 16th May, and all proceeds going to The Social Action Group Rathmore and the Kerry Cancer Support Group, please support these worthy causes. Starts at 7:30pm. Music by Neily O'Connor & Derry & Rosie Healy, Up in Smoke Bands Tickets €20. Phone 087 7816432, 064 6685315 or 087 9975419, 087 2316056, 087 2354793. Also available at Dennehy's Bar, Rathmore.

#### RATHMORE STATION

The station car park (27 spaces including two accessible bays) is currently closed. Limited parking - two accessible bays and three standard spaces remain available. A temporary car park is available behind the Star Bar on Main Street. This is due to accessibility upgrade works, including the construction of a new footbridge with lifts. Completion is expected by July 2025.

BEST OF LUCK to Declan O'Donoghue, Beheenagh who will be representing Ireland in the 2025 European Triathlon Middle Distance Championships in Pamplona, Spain on Saturday May 17th. We wish him and all the Irish team the very best of luck.

#### **SHARE THE BUCKET**

Gneeveguilla Community Facility Group reminds you that Share the Bucket takes place weekly. The draw is every Friday evening in Teach Fáilte @8.30 pm and can be viewed live on our Gneevequilla Community Facility Group Facebook Page. This week's jackpot was €205 and the winner was Helen Rahilly. Tickets cost €2 each or 3 for €5. They are available at Teach Fáilte and can be bought online at https://tinyurl.com/y2ade5om.or in local businesses where you see the Green Share the bucket.

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

#### **TUBRID WELL**

During the month of May the Rosary will be recited on Monday and Friday evenings at 8.00p.m.

Friday 30th May: Annual Mass in Tubrid Well at 7.30p.m.

ACCORD CLG is recruiting experienced practitioners to train in the specialism of Couple Counselling/Therapy. Successful applicants will follow an 18-day (9 weekends) in-person Certificate programme, (144 hours class contact), which will provide the clinical skills, essential to safe and ethical couples work and in-depth knowledge to manage issues.

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#### **NOTES**

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

**SPA PARISH** 

#### **CREDIT UNION SENIOR FOOTBALL COUNTY LEAGUE ROUND 6** Spa played Rathmore on Sunday last where they were beaten Rathmore

4-9 Spa 0-6. In round 7 Austin Stacks will travel to Spa on Sunday May 18th throw in

at 2pm Our Junior team narrowly lost to Ballymacelligott 1-11 to Spa 0-13.

#### CREDIT UNION DONAL CURTIN CUP DIVISION 3 ROUND 7

The Spa Senior Ladies hosted Fossa today in the final round of the group stages in the Credit Union Donal Curtin Cup.

Despite Spa getting a penalty in the opening minutes it was Fossa that opened the score line with Anne O'Shaughnessy making an excellent save for Fossa when Mairead Bennett stepped up to the spot. Spa's Saoirse Kelly was very unlucky not to add to the score board with a couple of goal chances hitting the post and the rebounds were gathered up by Fossa. Fossa took all their scoring opportunities and had a healthy lead at half time 5-03 to 0-3.

It was a better performance from Spa in the second half with subs making a great impact as well. Clare Murphy for Spa made her debut today and contributed brilliantly. Again Spa hit the posts twice and dropped one into the goalies hands while also hitting a couple of wides but they did manage to close a little scoring a goal and two points but Fossa were always in control and despite losing a player to a yellow card in the second half their work rate was immense and always seemed to have their support player. It was not the usual Spa ladies performance today, their decision making was poor at times but they will regroup and come back stronger. There was a few injuries today on both sides and we wish every player a speedy recovery. Fossa won with a score of 6-06 to 1-05.



#### **EAST REGION LEAGUE U16 FINAL MATCH REPORT**

Spa were outmatched by a strong Crokes team in town last night for the East Region League U16 Final.

Crokes started off very well, scoring a slew of unanswered points. In the second half, the Spa lads brought the score back closer, with some good free kick taking by Mark Moriarty. It wasn't enough in the end, however. The lads will learn from this loss and come back stronger in the County League later in the summer.

Final score: Crokes 0-17 Spa 0-8

#### NOTES

Any items for our notes please contact Leanne 085-7762411

**LISTRY PARISH** 

#### LOTTO

Jackpot €9,150. Drawn: 17, 19, 25, 28 . Not Won. €100 Christina Burke, Coolbane. €50 Seanus Scannell, Ballymalis. €50 John Ashe C/O M O Sullivan. €25 Pip Dwyer, Ballytrasna. €25 Colm O Leary, Faha. Jackpot next week 18/05/2025 € 9.300

#### **SENIORS**

Our seniors play Desmonds at home next Sunday May 18th at 2pm. All support welcome.

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



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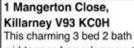
THIS WEEK'S FEATURED PROPERTIES

## PROPERTY PARTNERS GALLIVAN



#### 5 Madam's Hill, Aghadoe, Killarney V93 K13H

This stunning 5 bed 3 bath luxury home (approx. 2,472ft²) in exclusive Aghadoe combines contemporary design, high-end finishes, and exceptional energy efficiency, offering spacious, light-filled living on beautifully landscaped grounds just five minutes from Killarney town centre. Guide Price: €885,000



mid-terrace home (approx. 1,085ft²) in the heart of Killarney town offers spacious, light-filled living with mountain views, a private south-facing rear patio, and secure off-street parking—just steps from local amenities and the National Park.

Guide Price: €295,000 EER D1



#### 3c The Willow, Countess Road, Killarney V93 WR85

This stylish and light-filled 2 bed 2 bath apartment (approx. 830ft²) offers contemporary single-level living with a private south-facing balcony, rich oak flooring, and an open-plan layout, all just a short walk from Killarney town centre, Killarney House and the beautiful National Park.

Guide Price: €270,000



#### 7 Castle Falls Court, Ross Road, Killarney V93 AF59

This charming 2 bed 2 bath town house (approx. 1,000ft²) offers bright and comfortable living, featuring stunning views over the Race Course and mountains, all just a short walk from town and the National Park — an ideal blend of natural beauty, town convenience, and versatile lifestyle appeal.

Rated

Guide Price: €290,000

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#### **KILCUMMIN PARISH**

Written by: Helen Movnih

#### KILCUMMIN CCÉ

Fleadh Cheoil Chiarraí 2025 takes place on Sunday May 18th, Saturday May 24th and Sunday May 25th in Causeway. We would like to take the opportunity to wish all of our competitors the very best of luck. We know that a huge amount of time and dedication has gone into your preparations these past months and we thank you sincerely for representing our branch on stage at Fleadh this year. We also thank the various mentors who work with our members in having them so well prepared for this occasion. Thank you also to your parents who support you in so many ways to ensure your participation at this level.

#### **VACANCIES**

Vacancies presently exist on the Kilcummin Rural Dev. C.E. Scheme for various positions. Accredited training will be provided to support your career. To apply please forward your C.V to Kilcummin Rural Development Office by post or email info@kilcumminparish.com.

#### KILCUMMIN GAA By Donal Barry PRO

#### **SENIOR COUNTY LEAGUE DIV 1**

It was a 2-19 to 0-16 defeat for Kilcummin on Sunday last to table toppers Austin Stacks in Round 6 of the Credit Union County Football league. Kilcummin never recovered from the concession of two goals inside the opening 5 minutes to trail 2-9 to 0-9 at the break despite closing to gap to just two points at one point in the opening half. Next up is a crucial home tie against Glenbeigh/Glencar on Sunday 18th May with a 3pm throw in. Please come out and support the team.

#### SENIOR COUNTY LEAGUE DIV 7B

Meanwhile in Division 7B Kilcummin were awarded a walkover from Desmond's B to remain on top of the table ahead of next Sundays top of the table clash with Ballydonoghue who currently sit second in the division. The game will be played as part of a double header with the Division 1 game. Check Social Media channels for throw in times.

#### KILCUMMIN GAA & LGFA

Kilcummin GAA & LGFA Healthy Club Committee will be organising guided bog walks locally during the year in conjunction with Kilcummin Rural Development. This is a great chance to enjoy this beautiful amenity right on our doorstep in the company of other walkers. Our first walk takes place on Saturday the 17th of May at 10am. Please meet at Kilcummin GAA Club at 9.45am to car pool. This is open to any members of the community who like walking and there is no charge! This walk will be on the Red Route. The walk lasts about 1 hour 45mins. Anyone interested can contact Paddy on (086) 152 7285 or Breda on (086) 830 0248.

#### **GREEN CLUB**

Kilcummin GAA Club has become a member of the Green Clubs Programme which was launched by GAA headquarters in 2021. The Club would like to invite members who have an interest and/or expertise in any area of sustainability to get involved. A sub-committee to oversee and promote sustainable activities within the club will be formed and information sessions will be arranged. If you would like to be involved or contribute in any way to making Kilcummin GAA Club more environmentally friendly, please contact Chairperson Ciara Kelly by

phone 087-7614850 or email chairperson.kilcummin.kerry@gaa.ie UNDER 14

Well done to our Under 14 team that defeated Milltown/Castlemaine to reach the County league Division 1 final in which they play Austin Stacks. It was an excellent team performance by the boys and we wish them the best of luck in the final.

#### **UNDER 16**

Goals by Aidan Huggard, Daragh Keane and Conor O' Leary helped Kilcummin secure an East Kerry under 16 final berth following a 3-15 to 3-12 victory over Firies.

#### LADIES FOOTBALL

It was heartbreak for our Feile girls who were defeated in the Division 3 final losing out to John Mitchel's after extra time in a thriller of a final.

The Club extends its heartfelt sympathy on the recent passing on Patrick "Pat" Dunlea Toremore, Kilcummin. Pat was former player and a member of the Kilcummin that played in 1966 East Kerry final which ended in defeat to Spa. It was great to see such a turnout for his guard of honour by Kilcummin GAA. Condolences to his brother John and sister Bridie, sisterin-law Catríona, brother-in-law Dan, nieces Elaine and Síle, nephews Edward and Don, grandniece, grandnephews, relatives, neighbours and many friends.

#### NOTES

If anyone has anything they want to add to our club notes please contact Donal by emailing pro.kilcummin.kerry@gaa.ie or Text/WhatsApp 087-7023681 before 8pm on Sundays.

#### **MASTERGEEHA F.C**

#### LOTTO

There was no winner on Friday 9th May 2025 of the Jackpot €7,000. Numbers drawn were 01,03,12,25. Consolation prizes of €50 went to Eileen Sheehan, Lyreatough; Eileen Crowley, Kilcummin; Dale McCarthy, Anabla; Sheila c/o Post Office. The next draw will be on Friday 16th May for Jackpot of €7,200.

#### KILCUMMIN COMMUNITY GAMES

Kilcummin Community Games hosted their fifth Athletics Event at the Killarney Valley Arena last Thursday evening. We would like to take the opportunity to thank Killarney Valley AC for the opportunity to host our events at their superb facilities, and to Killarney Valleys "Con Lynch" and members for helping to run all the events on the night. We would like to thank all the children for taking part, the parents and many volunteers. We had some fantastic races. We hope all the children really enjoyed the experience of competing on the track. We wish all the successful participants the best of luck as they proceed to the county finals in Castleisland. 1st and 2nd placed athletes in track events and placed athletes in field events will go forward to the County Competition in An Riocht, Castleisland. Please take note of the County Final Date: Kerry Community Games will be held on 21st and 22nd June in Castleisland. Each Child can only enter one event at the County Finals. County Final Entry Fee €5.00. We will be holding a training session soon, so keep an eye on our Facebook page for details.

#### GLENFLESK PARISH Written by: Sean Daly

#### PREDICTION CHALLENGE

Glenflesk GAA are excited to announce our novel club fundraiser 'The Club Championship Prediction Challenge!' Participants get the chance to predict the qualifiers from all the group games in the Kerry Petroleum Club Championships (Senior, Intermediate, Junior Premier and Junior) which commence in July & all for an entry fee of €10. Manual forms on sale from local outlets and you can also play online, with links available on the Glenflesk GAA Facebook and Instagram pages. Pick your teams and be in with a chance to win €300 and Lucky Dip prizes. Best of luck!

#### SENIORS

In Division 1 of the Credit Union County League our Senior team had a good win away against Ballymacelligott last weekend, 4:11 to 0:13. In Division 6 the B team had a convincing win at home against Kerins O'Rahillys, final score 3:19 to 0:08. This weekend we have a double header at home, at 1pm the Senior team take on Rathmore in Division 1 and at 3pm the B team play Tuosist in Division 6. Please come along to support the teams.

#### PILATES

Physio led pilates classes for all abilities in Glenflesk GAA hall, Wednesday

evenings at 6:15pm. Please contact David 086 3410365.

#### DEBATING

Well done to the Knockanes NS Debating team for coming 2nd place in the County in the Primary Schools Debating Competition. Their motion was very narrowly defeated by their opposition, Listellick NS.

#### MOTHERS & OTHERS

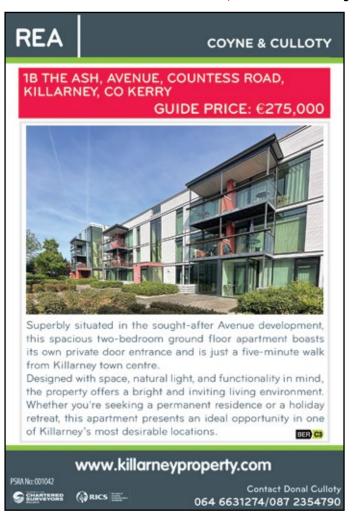
Glenflesk G4M&O ladies train Monday evenings at 7:15pm in Glenflesk small pitch. All ladies over 25 welcome to join in the fun, the football and more importantly the friendships and social side of it all. If you're not sure come and try it out. Look forward to welcoming lots of new ladies.

#### TRIATHALON

Best of luck to Declan O'Donoghue, Beheenagh, Headford who will be representing Ireland in the 2025 European Triathlon Middle Distance Championships in Pamplona, Spain this Saturday May 17th. We wish him and all the Irish team the very best of luck.

#### NOTES

If you would like anything added in the notes, please email to pro.glenflesk. kerry@gaa









BEAUFORT PARISH

By Bridget Hartnett

#### **FIXTURES**

Senior men will be home to BallymcElligott on Sunday, 18th May at 2pm in Senior County League, Div. 1, round 7.

#### **RESULTS**

Beaufort 0.08 Killarney Legion 2.11 in round 6, Senior Co League, Div.6. Killarney Legion 0.20 Beaufort 2.08 in round 6, Co League, Div. 1 **LOTTO** 

There was no winner of Beaufort G.A.A. Club lotto jackpot of €5,800 on Sunday, 11th May. Numbers: 12, 18, 20, 26. Consolation Prizes: €80 Peter Keane, Ballymalis, €50 James Doyle, Kilgobnet, Lotta Rossler, Beaufort, Fr Fergal Ryan, Beaufort. The next draw for a jackpot of €6,000 will be on Sunday, 25th May. Tickets €2 each, 3 for €5 or €50 yearly tickets available from usual sellers, shops, public houses and online at www.beaufortgaa.

 $com. \, Thank \, you \, to \, every body \, who \, support \, our \, lotto.$ 

#### **MATCH REPORT**

Beaufort U14 Girls had a fantastic victory in their County League opening game against Corca Dhuibhne in Lispole on Sunday, 11th May.

The Beaufort team was Emily Prendiville, Heidi Moriarty, Scarlet Ní Nualláin, Aoibheann Moriarty, Lara Culhane, captain, Amelie Breen, Phoebe Carter, Caolainn Riordan, Lile Burke, Leah O'Malley, Chloe Coffey, Lily Culhane, Jennifer O'Rourke, Chloe Ferris, Katelyn Murphy.

**GOOD LUCK** to Mike Breen, Sean O'Brien and the Kerry senior team and management in GAA Football All-Ireland Senior Championship, Group 2, Round 1 game in Fitzgerald Stadium, Killlarney at 2.30pm on Saturday, 17th May.

Teacher Mary Denise Lyons and students who contributed to the book Futures from the Past Divo Lucic Kovacevii, Michéal McElligott and Jaroslav Stetsenko presenting €600 to (left) Cathal Walshe Kerry Hospice proceeds of the Futures from thre Past book written by a mixture of active retired and St Brendan's College writers. This is the second instalment, €800 last year and €600 this year. Poet Noel King helped to coordinate the event. Photo by Michelle Cooper Galvin





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# MONEY MATTERS..

# By Dermot Cronin, Financial Advisor



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

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

If you require any further information on the above or any other matter you can contact Dermot Cronin at info@dermotcronin.ie or 0646622775 or 0872893649.



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# Positive stress is a great motivator for the State Exams

#### **ANXIOUS**

With the state exams now less than three weeks away, candidates may become anxious about their performance. A level of anxiety is normal and focusses the mind on the challenge ahead. Almost all exam candidates, irrespective of how laid back they appear, feel nervous. It's the body's way of dealing with a stressful experience. How you deal with this nervous energy is the critical issue. If you channel it in a positive direction, it will give you the vitality to cope with the demands of the exam.

#### **ATTITUDE**

A positive mental attitude is a considerable aid around exam time. Be confident in your ability to do well. Don't be discouraged by other students appearing to know more than you do. Aim to perform to your own capability, not to compete with others. Make positive statements about yourself. Banish all negative thoughts from your mind. Think well of yourself and of your readiness to achieve success. Be determined to do your best, no more, no less.

#### SUCCESS

Success is a product of positive thinking. By motivating yourself towards your goals, you will redouble your effort and improve your performance. Have items in your study environment to spur you on. Place a statement of your objectives, such as your target grades, in a conspicuous place. An occasional glance in their direction will encourage you.

#### **NEWSWORTHY**

Exam stress becomes newsworthy every year because of the assessment system used in the state exams. For the most part these exams are terminally assessed. In effect, two years of work is examined by means of written papers in June. Not enough credit is given to the candidate for consistent work over the two years. Continuous assessment is not sufficiently utilised although proposals to have assessment components

worth 40% and a terminal written exam worth 60% of the total marks will significantly reduce reliance on final exams. The major problem with the current exam system is the increased level of stress it causes in some students around exam time. Despite all that is written about exam stress, students continue to show that they are excellent exam performers and use stress as a stimulant rather than an affliction.

#### POSITIVE

The stress experienced by the majority of exam candidates is positive stress. It concentrates the mind wonderfully. You realise that the forthcoming exam is making increased demands of you. However, your application to study and revision provides you with the resources to meet these demands. Positive stress provides you with the motivation to prepare for the exam. It will sustain and stimulate this motivation until the exam is over. Properly controlled stress will activate hidden resources of energy and application in you. It's important to control the stress and channel it into positive energy.

#### **DISTRESS**

It's only when you haven't the resources to meet the demands of the exam that distress or negative stress becomes an issue. Exam distress is a rare occurrence in young people and can easily be confused with normal exam anxiety. The present cohort of young people is highly skilled and well able to cope with the demands of the exam. Distress, when it does occur, is disruptive and may interfere with your performance if it isn't counteracted.

#### **NETWORK**

An effective way of managing distress is through utilising your social support network of people who care about you. If you need emotional support approach someone in whom you have confidence. That person may be a teacher, a parent or your quidance counsellor. All you

need is the advice of someone who will put the exam in perspective for you and who will help to boost your self-confidence. It all goes back to having a positive mental attitude and to realising that anxiety and stress should be channelled in your favour.

#### **CHECKLIST**

- Exam nerves are the most natural thing in the world
- Almost all students feel anxious in the weeks before an exam
- A positive mental attitude is an aid to quality study and exam performance
- Make positive statements about yourself
- Banish all negative thoughts from your mind
- Believe that your best will be good enough
- Success is a product of positive thinking
- · Positive stress is a motivator
- Channel stress into positive energy
- If you need emotional support, go and get it
- Many people care about you and want you to do well
- CAO online change of mind facility (free) is now available
- The state exams begin on Wednesday, 4th June
- Leaving Cert exam results will be released on Friday, 22nd August
- Statement of Application Record is being issued by CAO check it for accuracy

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

#### KCC past pupil receives scholarship award from JP McManus

Killarney Community College student Matthew Daly has been awarded an All-Ireland Scholarship which will cover the duration of his undergraduate studies. The talented student will receive €6,750 per annum for the duration of his studies, courtesy of the scholarship. Matthew achieved an outstanding 625 points, 7 H1's in Leaving Certificate 2024.

Matthew was honoured at the All-Ireland Scholarships Awards Ceremony in University Concert Hall at University of Limerick on Friday, April 25. The sponsor of the Scholarship Awards, JP McManus, was in attendance at the ceremony. The ceremony celebrated the outstanding academic achievements of the 125 students who were honoured.

The All-Ireland Scholarships were established in 2008 and provide financial support to gifted students pursuing third-level education. The scholarship offers full academic financial support for the duration of the students' third level studies. Other Kerry students who were were honoured at the All Ireland Scholarships Awards Ceremony include Ruairi Bourke (Castleisland), Li Chen (Killarney), Darragh O'Keeffe (Listowel), and Orna O'Leary (Killarney) were honoured at the All Ireland Scholarships Awards Ceremony on the 25th of April in University Concert Hall, University of Limerick.



Matthew Daly photographed receiving his award at the All-Ireland Scholarships ceremony. Also photographed are JP McManus and Minister Patrick O'Donovan.



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#### **SPORTS NEWS**

# WORKMEN'S ROWING CLUB

#### A SIZZLING WEEKEND IN GHENT

This past weekend, Workman's Rowing Club travelled to Belgium to compete in the prestigious Ghent International Rowing Regatta — and what a weekend it turned out to be. Beneath glorious May sunshine and with relatively calm, race-friendly waters, our rowers rose to the occasion, delivering performances full of intensity, unity, and heart.

From the opening strokes to the final races of the day, Workman's crews demonstrated the very best of what we stand for — resilience, focus, and an unshakeable team spirit. Racing against top competition from across Europe, our athletes didn't just hold their own — they performed to their limits in the Belgian sunshine. Our junior squads embraced the challenge of international racing with maturity and confidence, while our senior crews impressed with their strength, precision, and race craft, producing a great competition.

A standout element of the weekend was the incredible camaraderie among Irish clubs. Alongside ourselves, Skibbereen, Cork Rowing Club, Lee Valley Rowing Club, and Castleconnell all flew the flag proudly, showing that Irish rowing is in a strong place. The green, white, and gold was well represented across the regatta, and the Irish crews were treated with great respect — not only for their results, but for the positive energy, supportiveness, and unity they brought with them.

Adding to the sense of inspiration, we also had the privilege of witnessing some of Europe's top national rowing crews deliver performances that were nothing short of world-class. Their strength, timing, and synchronicity were a powerful exhibition of what can be achieved when talent is matched with relentless discipline and belief. It was a timely reminder for all of us — rowers, coaches, and supporters alike — of what's possible when we fully commit and put our minds to our goals.

But Ghent wasn't just about medals or placings—it was a celebration of rowing at its finest. The atmosphere was electric, and our Workman's RC contingent added to that buzz with constant support, laughter, and encouragement for each other. Our club colours were visible and vibrant,

not just on the water, but in every conversation, cheer, and handshake.

Of course, none of it would have been possible without the tireless efforts of our coaches and supporters. Michael J and Mary Burns were a constant, calming presence — guiding and motivating crews through every stage of the day. We are also incredibly grateful to our dedicated volunteers and parents who trailered boats, managed logistics, and made sure every detail was taken care of. Their energy and generosity made the day not just successful, but special.

This regatta reminded us not only why we row—for the challenge, the thrill, and the pride—but also what it means to row as part of something bigger. As we stood alongside our fellow Irish clubs and watched elite crews from across the continent, we were reminded that we're not just representing Workman's—we're part of a wider community, and a growing force in Irish rowing.

With the buzz of Ghent still fresh in our minds, attention now turns to the Flesk Regatta this coming Sunday — a key date in the domestic calendar and an exciting opportunity for our athletes to put recent lessons into practice. Featuring a time trial format, this event will test both speed and precision, and we wish the very best of luck to all our rowers taking part, along with our coaches and ever-supportive parents.

Back home, training rolls on with purpose. For those targeting upcoming regattas and championships, this is the time to sharpen focus, refine technique, and push for those crucial small gains that make a big difference. And for those still building their foundations — trust the process. Progress comes stroke by stroke, session by session.

This past weekend reminded us all of the deeper reasons we row — the pursuit of excellence, the friendships forged on and off the water, and the pride of representing our club in white and red. Let's carry that energy, that spirit of unity and ambition, into the weeks ahead.

#### **FOSSA BRIDGE CLUB**

We recently held our AGM on the 1st May last. We would like to thank Pauline Lyne for her dedication, effort and contribution as President during the last year and now we are welcoming Margaret O' Sullivan to the role of President of

the Club for the year ahead. We wish Margaret and her new committee all the very best.

Results from 1st May

N/S

1st: Marie O'Sullivan Kenmare & Horst Rosler 2nd: Marie Moloney & Joan Lenihan E/W

1st: Mary Murray & Maureen Culloty 2nd: Joan Moore & Eileen Murphy Results from 8th May

1st: Marie O'Sullivan Kenmare & Horst Rosler 2nd: Finola Spillane & Ger Foley

3rd: Mary Gleeson & Maureen Culloty

SUMMER BRIDGE continues every Thursday
morning at 10am at The Castlerosse Hotel.

Everyone is welcome.

#### SPA COMMUNITY GAMES

Spa Muckross Community Games athletics evening/ local qualifier for County Community Games Athletics will take place at Killarney Valley track on Thursday May 22nd. Registration from 6.45pm. Full programme of events is on the Spa MUckross Community Games Facebook Page.

# KILLARNEY VALLEY ATHLETIC CLUB

The County Juvenile Relays and Senior/Masters T&F Championships were held in Castleisland on Sunday and Killarney Valley AC brought home three team titles. The U9-U16 received the best club for a third year in a row bring home the Kerry Athletics Juvenile Cup. The Senior Women's team won the Chris O'Shea Memorial Cup and the Senior Men's Team secured the Quill Cup for a 4th year in a row.

This success is built on the commitment of our athletes, coaches and incredible supporters who give their time and energy to the sport. A huge thank you to Kerry Athletics, all the volunteer officials and the An Riocht facility for hosting a superb championship weekend.

The Summer Camps can now be booked on our website and you have 3 weeks to choose from. 21st -25th July, 28th July – 1st Aug, and 11th Aug – 15th Aug. Book now to avoid any disappointment.

All relevant information on our club is on our website www.killarneyvalleyac.ie.



The incredible team of Workman's RC coaches and parents who travelled to Ghent - the heart and backbone of our success. Your support, energy, and commitment make days like these possible. Thank you for everything!



St. Paul's senior mens player of the year recipient Oisin Spring with Eileen, Aoife, Cathal and Lactain Spring, St. Paul's President Christy Sheehan and club founding member Tom Looney at the St. Paul's Basketball Club awards function in The Failte Hotel, Killarney, on Friday night. Photo: Eamonn Keogh

# GNEEVEGUILLA COMMUNITY FACILITY GROUP



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# PITCH & PUTT CLASSIC

### WHEN

Monday June 2nd, 2025

#### WHERE

Deerpark Pitch & Putt Club, Killarney

#### **FORMAT**

3 person Team Scramble

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### **SPORTS NEWS**

# KILLARNEY SWIMMING CLUB

Killarney Swimming Club competed at the John Dempsey Memorial Gala on Sunday at UL. 19 swimmers competed over the day. The club came home with 19 medals and all swimmers achieved personal best times.

#### Results

Aideen Casey 1st 100 IM, 2nd 50 Back. Aoibhinn O'Leary 3rd 50 Fly. Aoife Coffey 1st 50 Back, 3rd 100 Breast. Daniel Cremin 1st 100 IM, 3rd 100 Fly, 3rd 100 Back. Juan Avila 3rd 100 Fly. Kyrylo Lutchenko 1st 50 Fly. Liam O'Mahony 2nd 50 Fly, 2nd 50 Breast. Madeleine Lynch 2nd 200IM, 3rd 50 Free. Noah Keogh 2nd 100 Back. Reece O'Donoghue 1st 50 Breast, 3rd 100 Free. Robbie Fennelly 1st 100 Fly. Ronan O'Leary 1st 50 Back.

#### KILLARNEY AREA PRIMARY SCHOOL SPORTS 2025

The Killarney area primary school sports will be held, by host club Killarney Valley AC at the Killarney Valley AC arena at the Killarney school area on New Road, next Sunday 18th of May at 6pm sharp.

The 13 primary schools in the locality have been notified and the volunteers at Killarney Valley AC are looking forward to welcoming all, to what will be, an action-packed and exciting evening for all.

You are advised to come early!

# KILLARNEY BADMINTON

An amazing well done to killarney club member Adele o Brien who won a national title in grade e last weekend

#### FOSSA ROWING CLUB

#### **PAUL EGAN RIP**

The club received the devastating news last weekend that Paul Egan had passed away. Paul has been a key part of the club for the last 20 years. He was always looking at ways to improve equipment, helping with repairs and there to help when needed. He was gifted with his hands and mind and was an expert in working with all materials. He's done countless repairs and maintenance over the years, he built the new gates on the boathouse, he repaired the one design in 2023 and without that we wouldn't have won the All Ireland, after the boat got damaged he did a full rebuild last year giving



Kyrylo Lutchenko, Maro Lucic-Kovacevic, Liam O'Mahony, Ronan O'Leary and Reece O'Donoghue.



Adele o Brien in action last Saturday

months of his time to complete it. This work was key to allowing us to bring underage crews back to the shore. He loved seeing his daughter Mairead in the crew that relaunched the boat last year, and that crew went on to win the Kerry Championships. Paul didn't want any credit or attention for the work. He preferred to stay in the background, so not many people realise the amount of work he was doing for the club. Fossa Rowing Club has lost a great friend.

#### **DARKNESS INTO LIGHT**

Well done to everyone who took part in the



Plctured are: Coach Cathal Coffey, Maro Lucic-Kovacevic, Juan Avila, Noah Keogh, Daniel Cremin, Liam O'Mahony, Coach Elaine O'Donoghue, Aoibhinn O'Leary, Maria Avila, Lily Larkin, Ollie Keogh, Kyrylo Lutchenko, Derbhla Kiely, Nina O'Mahony and Reece O'Donoghue.



Adele O Brien and Badminton Ireland president Catherine Smyth

Darkness into Light last Saturday morning. We met at 4:15am at the Gap Road Cross and walked to the lakeshore culminating in a wonderful dawn lit row to see in another beautiful day and support a very worthy cause. Thanks to all who took part.

#### **TIME TRIAL - THIS SUNDAY**

Best wishes to our crews taking part in the Flesk Valley Time trial this Sunday. Our cres have been working really hard to get ready for the new season and can't wait to take part. Best of luck and most importantly enjoy!







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#### SUNDAY AFTERNOON 18TH MAY

PJMurrihy Band



#### SUNDAY AFTERNOON 25TH MAY

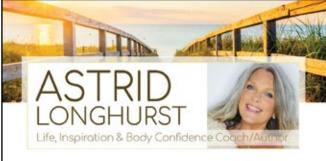


Finbarr Dennehy Family 3 Piece Band

3.00PM - 5.00PM | ADMISSION €10

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#### FINDING CLARITY IN YOUR LIFE

Write down one question that you would like clarity on, such as, "What does my life need right now?" or, "How can I feel better about my body?" It can be an open question or a more specific one such as, "Is the decision I made last week about my work, the right one?" A lovely exercise is to focus on your breathing. Close your eyes. Place one hand on your heart and the other on your lower belly. Repeat the question three times aloud or in your mind, imagining that you are moving towards a more meaningful answer each time. When you've finished repeating the question for the third time, pick up your pen and draw one symbol on your paper.

Interpret this symbol. What does it mean for you or remind you of? Does it need anything added to it or subtracted from it? Go with your first impressions and feelings. If nothing comes, leave it for a while to allow your answers to become apparent.

We have within us the answers we need and sometimes we just need to give ourselves a little more time and space to check in with our own wisdom.

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#### **AVOID FLIGHT FACE**

Cabin air is a vacuum for moisture, it is so dry and low in humidity it grasps onto any moisture including moisture from your skin. You can lose up to 30% of your skins moisture after only a four hour flight. No matter how prepared you are, lack of sleep, recycled air, uv rays and general dehydration on a long haul flight takes its toll on your complexion. To prevent dull, tight itchy skin after a flight drink water, avoid salt, alcohol and caffeine. Rehydrate immediately if you do. Prep your skin the week before by exfoliating, hydrating masks or having a facial. Apply a hyaluronic acid serum before the flight and lock it in with a thick layer of moisturiser. Apply SPF if flying by day as harmful



UV radiation is stronger at higher altitudes. Cleanse every 6 hours by massaging a cleansing balm into your face so you can remove with a wipe and reapply your skincare if on a long flight. Use a hydrating lip balm and apply a hydrating sheet mask ASAP after landing to immediately replace moisture.

Noreen Mangan Tel: 0646630712 www.whatwomenwant.ie



#### HIGH-PROTEIN FOODS THAT **AREN'T MEAT**

Protein is an essential nutrient for building and repairing tissues, making enzymes, and supporting immune function. While meat is a common protein source, there are plenty of non-meat options that pack a protein punch.

Lentils are a fantastic source of plant-based protein. One cup of cooked lentils provides about 18 grams of protein. They're also rich in fibre, iron, and other essential nutrients, making them a great addition to soups, stews, salads, or even veggie burgers.

Quinoa is a complete protein, meaning it contains all nine essential amino acids. A single cup of cooked guinoa provides around 8 grams of protein, along with fibre, vitamins, and minerals. It's a great alternative to rice or pasta and can be used in salads, bowls, and more.

Greek yogurt is not only a creamy, delicious snack but also a powerhouse of protein. One serving of plain Greek yogurt can provide up to 10-15 grams of protein, depending on the brand. It's perfect for smoothies or as a topping for fruit. Chickpeas offer around 15 grams of protein per cup when cooked. These versatile beans are perfect for hummus, curries, salads, or even roasted for a crunchy snack. You don't need to rely on meat to meet your protein needs. With these delicious and nutritious alternatives, you can easily add variety to your diet while supporting your body's protein requirements.



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DIARMUID O'SULLIVAN OPTOMETRIST

#### OCULAR MIGRAINE

Retinal migraine (ocular migraine) is an eye condition that causes brief attacks of blindness or visual problems like flashing lights in one eye.

These episodes can be frightening, but in most cases they're harmless and shortlived, and eyesight goes back to normal afterwards.

Some people get retinal migraine every few months, although the frequency can varv.

Retinal migraine is a separate condition and should not be confused with headachetype migraine or migraine with aura, which usually affects the vision of both eyes.

The symptoms of retinal migraine may include:

- partial or total loss of vision in one eye - this usually lasts 10 to 20 minutes before vision gradually returns
- headache this may happen before, during or after the vision attack

It's unusual for an episode of vision loss to last longer than an hour. The same eye is affected every time in almost all cases.

Vision may slowly become blurred or dimmed, or there may be flashes of light. Some people see a mosaiclike pattern of blank spots (scotomas), which enlarge to cause total loss of vision.

Retinal migraine is caused by the blood vessels to the eye suddenly narrowing (constricting), reducing the blood flow to the eye.

It may be triggered by:

- stress
- smoking
- high blood pressure
- oral contraceptive pill
- exercise
- bending over
- high altitude
- dehvdration
- low blood sugar
- excessive heat

Retinal migraine tends to be more common in:

- women
- people aged under 40
- people with a personal or family history of migraine or other headaches

Treatment for retinal migraine usually just involves taking pain relief for any headaches and reducing exposure to anything that might be triggering the retinal migraine.

If you experience any sudden changes in you vision it is important to have a sight test to rule out more serious causes

For more information and honest advice contact us for an appointment.







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## DEPUTY HEALY RAE RAISES CHILDCARE ISSUES IN DAIL EIREANN

Danny Healy Rae spoke on the childcare motion in the Dáil recently.

"This is a very important matter and many parents have difficulty sourcing places and child care is very costly. Childcare professionals do a great job but we need to support them more., Deputy Healy Rae told Killarney Outlook. This is what he had to say:

This is a very important motion. I thank Deputy Kerrane for tabling it. We all remember the election campaign. When we were calling to people's doors, childcare was a constant issue. In many cases, both parents have to go out to work. They need to be out of home to keep a home, and that is the honest truth. They are having difficulties sourcing places and likewise, professional childminders and childcare professionals have many problems. During the summer months when children are at home from school, these childcare professionals either have to find other work or sign on. That is not fair given that they do such a great job. They are vetted and are thoroughly professional in

every way. They have to be above board and the operators that provide these services, like Little Acorns in Kilgarvan, do a great job for parents. They are a very important part of our society today.

All over County Kerry childcare professionals are doing great work. It is very responsible work. Anything to do with minding other people's children is very responsible. I know because we have run a school bus for many years. When one is in charge of other people's children, it is a fairly onerous job. I know that well. One has to be very careful and do everything right. We really appreciate those people but the costs are so high, on top of everything else. Families have massive bills to pay. Previously, it was just the mortgage that was big but now many people, after taking the advice of the SEAI on air-towater pumps and so forth, are finding that they have massive ESB bills. One young father told me the other day that his ESB bill is more than his mortgage and likewise with childcare fees. Childcare is very costly because it has to

be because we are talking about minding other people's children.

Childcare workers find it difficult during holiday time. This is not good enough. These workers should be paid all year round and have their holidays, the same as everyone else. I do not take any holidays but that is not for everyone. They do a great job, they are professionals and they have to be. They are vetted and everything has to be right. We appreciate what they are doing but we need to support them more. Families are in serious financial trouble trying to keep going. Thankfully, we have a growing population. Parents and mothers are having young babies constantly and children are our future.

We must protect our future. To do that, we must protect our children and youngsters and help them put their best foot forward. We must ensure there is a service in place for people who must go to work. It is not a luxury anymore. People must go to work to keep the door open and the roof over their heads.

## Beaufort Sewerage Scheme

The allocation of €6m to provide a solution to the horrible problems created by the lack of a comprehensive Sewerage Scheme in Beaufort, Co Kerry was welcomed at the time by local Fianna Fáil Councillor, Michael Cahill, who had been lobbying strongly on behalf of the residents there. Since becoming a TD for the constituency of Kerry, Michael Cahill has not let up on pressing for progress in Beaufort, and recently, he put down a Parliamentary Question on the subject, to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, querying progress on the project.

"The people of Beaufort have suffered for far too long, due to a Sewerage system that has failed many of them badly. Having secured €6m towards a solution, I felt I needed to follow up on what progress has been made and to see if timelines could be identified for completion "stated Deputy Cahill.

"The Minister advises me that 'There has been significant follow-up engagement between the local authority and Uisce Éireann including a series of technical workshops on-site to collectively confirm the most efficient and speediest construction options.' The responsibility for delivery of the Beaufort Sewerage Scheme lies with Kerry County Council under its Rural Water Liaison Officer, in consultation with Uisce Éireann, who will own and operate the system" said the Kerry TD.

"My son Tommy, who replaced me on Kerry County Council, is liaising with their Rural Water Liaison Officer to pin down commencement and completion timelines and we will advise on them as soon as they are to hand" added Michael Cahill TD.

#### **Gorse Fires**



A Kerry Fianna Fáil TD is calling for a new coordinated approach to the danger of Gorse Fires between the Fire Service, the Local Authority, the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, to provide a comprehensive service to manage safely, the burning of gorse on farmland throughout the country.

"Year in, year out we have incidences of gorse burning that becomes extremely dangerous, threatening the lives and properties of nearby residents and if we don't do something about it, we will eventually have a major tragedy on our hands" stated Deputy Michael Cahill from Rossbeigh.

"To date we have survived a number of near misses on this front, but eventually our luck will run out I feel. If a comprehensive Fire Management Service was developed and made available, I am sure landowners would avail of it. I raised the matter in the Dáil with the relevant Minister and while the ongoing situation is being monitored, I believe we need a more proactive approach" said Deputy Cahill.

"Our Firefighters would be working in controlled conditions, the lives and properties of local residents would be protected and landowners would have gorse removed in an exact and controlled manner. In a modern world it makes a pile of sense" added Michael Cahill TD.

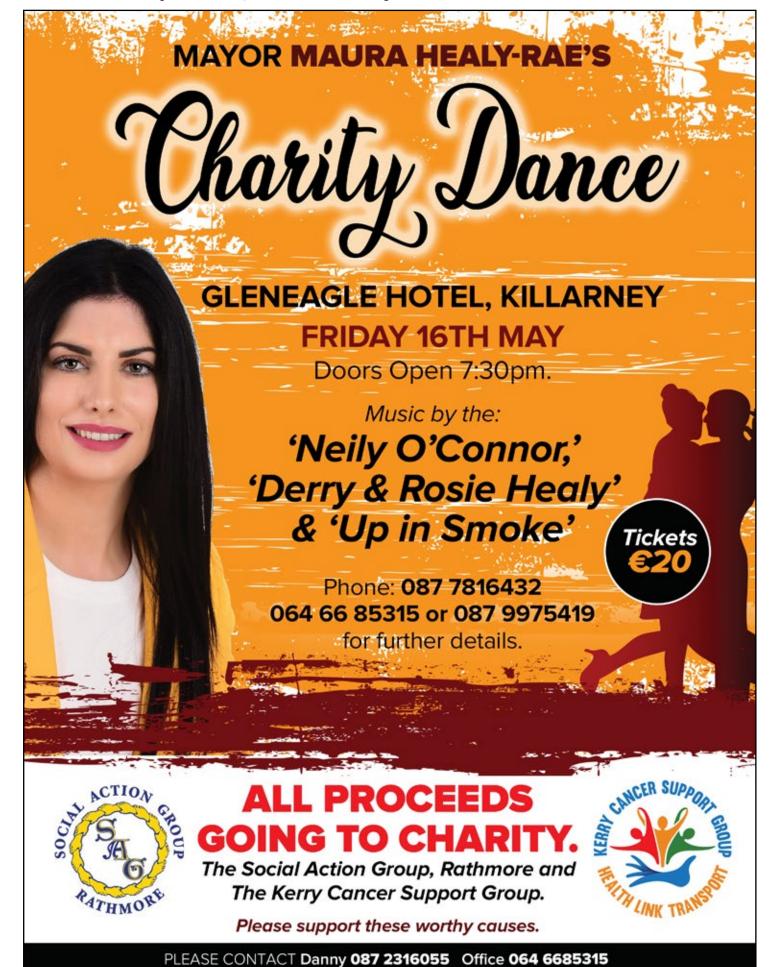
# Buy & Renew Scheme

The number of properties that were brought back into use by Kerry County Council since 2016 was released recently by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in reply to a Parliamentary Question posed by Fianna Fáil TD Michael Cahill and shows a shocking fall off since the Covid-19 restriction years of 2020 and 2021.

"Questions need to be answered here as to why 41 properties were returned to use by Kerry County Council under the Buy & Renew Scheme, since 2016, including 1 in 2021, but not one single unit was delivered in 2022, 2023 and 2024. Why the total collapse of numbers? Did the Department not allocate funding to the scheme?" asked the Kerry TD.

"This scheme is so suitable for vacant and derelict properties, of which we have hundreds throughout our towns, villages and indeed countryside and yet we have discontinued its implementation for the past 3 years" said an angry Michael Cahill.

"If we do not tackle the lack of housing units in Kerry by every means available to us, we will never solve the issue. Schemes like the Buy & Renew must be utilised to our best advantage and not be ignored, as seems to be the case in Kerry since 2021. This is extremely frustrating news for all those on our Waiting Lists" added Deputy Cahill.



Email: danny.healyrae@oireachtas.ie | johnnyhealyrae@gmail.com | maurahealyrae@gmail.com

Maura 087 7816432 Johnny 087 2354793 Eileen 087 9975419



## Call for Sliabh Luachra to be designated as a protected area of culture

Most people realise that the area known as Sliabh Luachra is deeply rich in Irish traditional music, dance, song, stories and folklore and it holds a special place in our hearts, through our culture and heritage. Covering Castleisland, Gneeveguilla, Scartaglen, Rathmore. Ballydesmond, Kilcummin, Knocknagree,

Glenflesk, Killarney and much more, and as it was once described by Eamon Kelly, The Seanachie, it is a state of mind.

TD. Michael Kerry Cahill has now called for the whole district to be designated as a protected area of culture and arts to support and protect all of its wonderful elements.

"We all feel very strongly

about our culture and heritage and we love all of our traditional performance art forms and how they express our Irishness. They live on within us, but they should be protected and promoted" stated the Fianna Fáil Spokesperson on Older People and Tourism.

"I am calling on the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media to initiate a Protective Designation Status, that can be awarded to geographical districts or activities, recognising and protecting their practices through Government approval" said Deputy Cahill.

> "We rightly recognise Irish language practicing communities designating bv them as Gaeltacht areas. Our traditional music, dance, song, storytelling and folklore are a vitally important part of our psyche and deserve proper official status recognition. I will be bringing my proposals to the Minister" added Michael Cahill TD.

"I hope to get approval for a scheme that will be much sought after countrywide by those promoting our Irish culture, heritage and sport" added Michael Cahill TD.

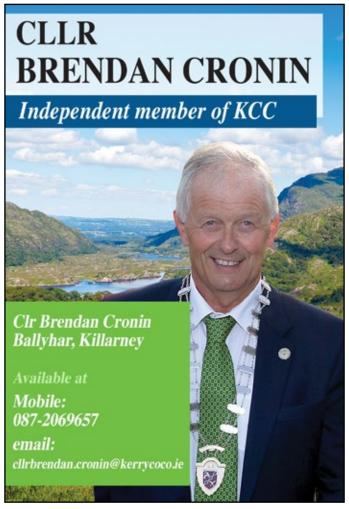
## **KCC** Notices of Motion

Cllr. John O'Donoghue raised the following at a recent Kerry County Council Meeting

· In order to improve safety for the school community, that the Pedestrian crossing outside Barraduff NS be upgraded to a raised, table top crossing.

There is currently a pedestrian crossing at this location outside Barraduff NS which is raised, but due to the busy nature of this crossing which is right beside a major junction, traffic speeding is past the school is a major concern. It is also a route widely used by HGVs which adds to the safety concerns. A raised table would greatly help the situation and I am asking that it be done in conjunction with the other traffic calming and other road works within the village. The school thankfully is booming from an enrolment perspective and I feel that given the recent developments within the village, it is important that the infrastructure also improves in tandem with this. Such a crossing would ensure much safer passage for the many children attending the school, and I ask that it be completed without delay.







Cllr John O Donoghue, Muckross, Killarney, Co. Kerry.

087 - 9403517 | cllr.jodonoghue@kerrycoco.ie



out there and apply for a refund afterwards? MOST COMMONLY ASKED OUESTIONS

you can travel to Belfast and have this carried

- Do I need a medical card to avail of this? NO
  - Do I need to have health insurance? NO
- Does it only apply to a certain age group? NO For further information please call

Martina in my office **064 6685782** 

Contact Numbers: 01 618 3363/064 66 85782 E: michael.healyrae@oireachtas.ie







# TOYOTA & KELLIHERS UNLEASH HUGE OFFERS on Electrified Models including 252 Range

Toyota, Ireland's best-selling car brand, is kicking off the Irish summer with new offers on its electrified models available from May 8th. From now until May 31st, you can avail of Toyota's largest-ever Power-Up Boosters, up to €3,000, or APR's as low as 2.9% with Toyota Easy PCP finance at Kellihers, the main Toyota dealer in the Kingdom.

Undecided on hybrid, plug-hybrid of full electric? Then come along to Kellihers and discover your perfect match

Power-Up Boosters up to €3,000 available on trade-ins now at Kellihers Toyota, Tralee

Exclusive APR offers as low as 2.9% with Toyota Easy PCP finance available on top selling models

Orders being taken now at Kellihers Toyota for

May delivery

To help you choose the best powertrain for your lifestyle, Kellihers will be hosting the ever-popular Power of Choice events in their Tralee dealership, why not stop by, take a test drive and find the perfect model to suit your needs, you will have a choice of hybrid, plug-in hybrid or fully electric models to choose from. And better yet, order soon, and you'll have your new car ready for the June bank holiday thanks to speedy May deliveries.

Toyota's 252 offers feature attractive power-up boosters or low APR financing on some of their most in-demand models. Highlights include - the fully electric bZ4X, available with either a €2,000 Power-Up Booster or a 3.9% APR; and the C-HR Plug-In Hybrid Electric, which offers

drivers the best of both worlds, is also on offer with a  $\in$ 3,000 Power-Up Booster or 2.9% APR on the Premium Edition, or a  $\in$ 2,000 Power-Up Booster or 3.9% APR on the Sport, Sport+, and Sol editions.

Speaking about the wide range of offers on electrified models, Zoë Bradley, Head of Marketing Communications and Corporate Affairs, Toyota Ireland, said:

"At Toyota, we're committed to reducing carbon emissions by helping customers choose the right electrified model for their lifestyle. This May, we're offering exceptional value across our electrified range, including power-up boosters of up to €3,000 or low APR rates from just 2.9%. Our Power of Choice event will be running in Kellihers until May 31st, and is the perfect chance to explore these limited-time offers and all things Hybrid, Plug-In Hybrid and fully electric. With strong demand and some models available for delivery this month, we encourage anyone considering the move to electrified driving to act now and take advantage before the opportunity passes."

So pay a visit to Kellihers, take a test drive and experience the Power of Choice for yourself. For more info: www.kellihers.ie or give the sales team a call on 066-7120000. Sales are open Mon-Fri 9am to 5.30pm and Saturday 10am to 4pm.



2025 Rally Of The Lakes...

# UNIQUE O SULLIVAN FAMILY DOUBLE

The 44th edition of Killarney and one of Irelands premier rally events the Access Ireland sponsored Rally Of The Lakes on the recent May bank holiday was a resounding success bringing crowds to Killarney and the weather only helped to the enjoyment and spectacle for competeing crews and spectators alike.

Leading them crews away on the start ramp in car No.1 was local codriver Noel O Sullivan Jnr navigating for Derry based driver Callum Devine in his Skoda Fabia RS Rally2. The previous 3 years victors hoping

to make it 4 outright wins in a row an achievement only completed once in the early 90,s by the late great Bertie Fisher in the event.

Also on the startlist yet again was Barrys Lane Garage Proprietor and Muckross resident Noel O Sullivan Snr in his Mk2 Ford Escort whom competed in the 1st Rally Of The Lakes in 1979 and this year his 41st start in the event only missing out on 3 runnings of the events in the late 80,s. Beside Noel Snr starting

this event for his 33rd attempt and the 30th year he,s called notes for Noel Snr was local Woodlawn resident Nicholas Burke.

As the temperatures were rising outside on the stages and inside in the rallycars over the 2 day 15 stage event Noel Jnr guided his driver Callum to a historic 4 in a row event victories and not to be outdone his Dad Noel Snr and Nicholas both ex previous outright winners of the Irish Tarmac Modified Championship brought their Escort home with 1st in Class overall to complete an unique O Sullivan Family Rally Double.



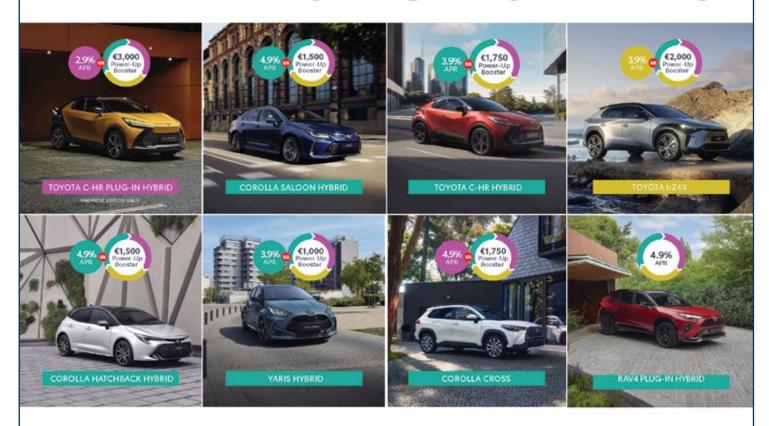






19TH MAY - 31ST MAY

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Finance Example: Toyota Yaris Hybrid Luna, Retail Price €27,815.00. On the Road Price €28,815.00. Deposit €10,373.40. Finance Advance €18,441.60. 36 monthly payments of €190.08. Total cost of credit €1,879.46 (including document fee & purchase fee of €63.49 each). Guaranteed Minimum Future Value €13,351.20. Fixed Annual Percentage Rate 3,90%.

Toyota Easy Personal Contract Plan is a form of hire-purchase agreement. Lending criteria, Terms and Conditions apply. A deposit of between 0% and 36% may be required and a maximum term of 37 months applies, Available on Toyota Yaris Hybrid models from May 8th to July 31st 2025. Guaranteed Minimum Future Value payable if vehicle renewed or retained when agreement ends. Further charges may apply. Illustrative model shown, Finance is provided by Toyota Financial Services (Ireland) DAC trading as Toyota Financial Services is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland.

Warning: You may have to pay charges if you pay off a hire-purchase agreement early.

Warning: If you do not meet the repayments on your hire-purchase agreement your account will go into arrears. This may affect your credit rating, which may limit your ability to access credit, a hire-purchase agreement, a consumer-hire agreement or a BNPL agreement in the future.

Aincluding VAT, excluding delivery and related charges.

# Weekend Golf

#### Photos by Michelle Cooper Galvin.



Frank Shaw, Chairman Killarney Golf and Fishing Management Committee presenting the winner of the Chairperson's Cup Junior Girls prize to Vida Broderick at Killarney Golf and Fishing Club Killarney on Sunday.



Frank Shaw, Chairman Killarney Golf and Fishing Management Committee presenting the Chairperson's Cup to winner Nancy Fleming with (from left) Julie Kelly 3rd, Bridie Brosnan 2nd, Máire Murphy Captain, Moira Quirke 4th (back from left) Jane Dwyer 5th, Lorna O'Leary 6th, Cora O'Sullivan 7th, Winnie Ryan back 9 and Pat Collins 10th at Killarney Golf and Fishing Club Killarney on Sunday.



Simon Gallivan, Director GMIB (left) presenting first prize in the GMIB to overall winner Kathleen Brosnan with Máire Murphy Captain (back) prizewinners Geraldine Collins, Anne Wrenn and Noreen Coffey at Killarney Golf and Fishing Club, Killarney on Sunday.



Frank Shaw, Chairman Killarney Golf and Fishing Management Committee (second from right) presenting the Chairperson's Cup to Men's overall winner Shane Cannole with (front left) Matt Leacey best gross, Darragh Lucey 2nd, past Captain John O'Mahony (second row) Pat Kelleher 3rd, Peter Hannon 5th, David Lynch 1st Cat 1, Gerard Hogan 2nd Cat 1 (back from left) Mossie Cremin on behalf of Kieran Cremin 1st Cat 2, Brendan Brosnan 2nd Cat 2, Pat Carroll 2nd Cat 3 and Bernard O'Shea 1st Cat 4 at Killarney Golf and Fishing Club Killarney on Sunday.



Simon Gallivan, Director GMIB (left) presenting first prize in the GMIB Fourball Matchplay to winners Alan and Donie McSweeney, past Captain John O'Mahony (back from left) Timothy Healy 2nd, Scott O'Meara and Seamus Morrison 3rd at Killarney Golf and Fishing Club.



Frank Shaw, Chairman Killarney Golf and Fishing Management Committee (second from right) presenting the Chairperson's Cup Youth competition first prize to winner Brian McCarthy with junior winners (front) Noah O'Sullivan, Ryan Lowe and Luke Hayes (back) youth prizewinners James O'Callaghan, Martin Vila, Cormac O'Sullivan and Jamie O'Meara with past Captain John O'Mahony at Killarney Golf and Fishing Club Killarney on Sunday.



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# KILLARNEY GOLF & FISHING CLUB (LADIES)

**COMPETITION RESULTS** 

18 HOLE SINGLE STABLEFORD KINDLY SPONSORED BY 'THE PROFESSIONAL PRIZE' MARK HEINEMANN, PLAYED ON KILLEEN COURSE ON 10TH & 11TH MAY 2025

Winner: Claire Horgan (35) 6up 2nd: Muireann O'Farrell (25) 5up Best Gross: Tracy Eakin 1 down 3rd: Julie Kelly (19) 4 up 4th: Margaret Campion (7) 3up 5th: Mary Tobin (23) 3up 6th: Peggy O'Donoghue (22) 3up 11 Holes Winner: Kate O'Leary (13) 2up

JOINT CAPTAIN'S CHARITY WEEKEND

sponsored by Truffle Honey on the 17th & 18th May 2025 on Mahony's Point team of four event, open to members and visitors contact reception at 064-6631034 to book tee time.

Captain Máire and Captain Mike chosen charities are Kerry Hospice Foundation and Saint Francis Special School. Lots of spot prizes on the day so please support the charities.

#### **DEERPARK PITCH & PUTT**

#### **MUNSTER MATCHPLAY**

Well done to Mark O'Shea on reaching the Munster Junior Mens Matchplay Final in Douglas, Co Cork last weekend as he came very close to achieving a County and Munster double in the grade. He faced a deficit of 10 at one stage in the final against Ger Dinan from the ESB club in Cork before bringing it back to two before losing out by 4&3.

#### **MUNSTER SCHOOLS EVENT**

Well done to Nathan Cronin, Brian McCarthy and Ronan Bennett on winning this event for St Brendans College again last Friday in Tipperary Hills. Congratulations also to the other two teams from the school who have qualified for next Friday's (May 23rd) National Finals in St Bridgets, Co Kildare. We wish all three teams the very best of luck.

#### **SUNDAY DRAWS**

Two Ball Scramble- Dan Kiely & James Foley 35½, Sean Ashe & Aidan O'Keeffe 46 and Second Nett: Bobby Kelly & James Foley 36½.

#### **COMPETITION POSTPONEMENTS**

Due to the continuing dry weather and effect on the course the Committee has hereby decided to postpone the Club Scratch event scheduled for the weekend of May 25th next along with the Annual Scratch Cups scheduled for Sunday June 22nd until later dates. Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

#### **SUMMER SERIES**

Please note these events are currently underway as of Wednesday May 14th. Further details on the noticeboard.

#### **NATIONAL MATCHPLAY QUALIFIERS**

Best Wishes to club members heading to Sunday's Qualifiers in Castleisland.

#### **U16 MEET AND GREET**

We ask U16 members and their parents to keep the morning of June 7th free for a gathering with club members the same morning where there will be some coaching, some play and some food to begin the U16 season at the club. Further details in the weeks ahead.

#### **COURSE CLOSED**

Please note that we will be closed this Saturday May 17th for the period of road closures around Lewis Road connected to the staging of the Kerry v Roscommon game in Fitzgerald Stadium the same day.

#### **BEAUFORT GOLF CLUB**

MEN'S RESULTS 10TH/11TH MAY, HOLMPATRICK CUP SPONSORED BY LIAM LYNCH SKODA, FARRANFORE.

1st: John Egan & Michael Devane 49 points 2nd: Mark O'Shea & Maurece Wallis 45 points (B9)

3rd: Noel O'Hanlon & Patrick Browne 45 points MIXED SCRAMBLE

Friday 16th will see the 1st evening mixed scramble of the year.

**COMPETITION 17TH/18TH,** 18 hole Stableford sponsored by Galvin's Bar, Beaufort.

LADIES' RESULTS 10TH/11TH MAY, V-PAR SPONSORED BY WAZP 3D PRINTING, TRALEE.

1st: Maeve Quirke (20) 4 Up 2nd: Marie Flood (27) 3 Up (B6) 3rd: Maura Kennedy (51) 3 Up

**COMPETITION 17TH/18TH,** 18 hole Stableford sponsored by Kieran Crehan, Golf Professional.

# CASTLEROSSE GOLF CLUB (LADIES)

RESULTS OF THIS WEEK'S COMPETITION: 9 HOLE STABLEFORD

1st: Nuala Ward 2nd: Gina O'Shea

**RESULTS OF THIS WEEK'S COMPETITION: 9** 



Deerpark Pitch & Putt Club's Mark O'Shea who finished as runner-up in the 2025 Munster Junior Mens Matchplay Championship in Douglas, Co Cork last Sunday.

#### **HOLE STABLEFORD**

1st: Kay Malone

**SOCIAL GOLF** 

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

#### **GET INTO GOLF**

The Get Into Golf is an 8 week beginners programme and started on Monday, 12th May, 2025. It is on from 7.00 to 8.30 pm. There was a fantastic turnout (see photo). This is fantastic opportunity to learn the game of golf with a Professional in a friendly and helpful atmosphere. Cost is €70. Contact Kieran 087-2748777.

#### MIXED SCRAMBLES

Mixed scrambles every Tuesday at 6pm. Visitors welcome.

#### **GOLF LESSONS**

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

#### **ROSS LADIES GOLF CLUB**

**RESULTS** 

LADIES SCRAMBLE 10TH MAY VERY KINDLY SPONSORED BY NOREEN O'MAHONY & EILISH O'SULLIVAN

Winners: Ailish Mulcahy & Maureen Beecher Crowley

#### **COMPETITIONS**

Saturday 17th March 2025, 9 & 18 hole single Stableford qualifying competition. Booking through the BRS.











## GOLF NEWS®

#### **LADIES OPEN DAY**

Mark your diaries we will be hosting a Ladies Open Day on Thursday 26th June. Booking is now available via the BRS App.

#### **LADIES GET INTO GOLF**

The Get into Golf is starting up again this season. Wednesday evenings June 4th to July 9th. Please Contact Breda on 087 4629501 for further information and booking.

#### **WEDNESDAY MORNINGS MEET & PLAY**

Meet and play every Wednesday morning. Meet in the Club House 10.00am tee off 10.30am. All members welcome.

#### **GOLF LESSONS**

Gordon Howard is available to give golf lessons. Please contact Gordon directly in the Club House.



Maire Murphy, Captain Killarney Golf Club (centre) presenting first prize in the Visage Ladies competition to winner Susan Graham with (left) Ann Moynihan Best Gross), Abigail Graham 2nd and Geraldine Rosney 3rd at Killarney Golf and Fishing Club. This was the first time that a Mother and Daughter won first and second prize in the same competition in the club. Photo by Michelle Cooper Galvin



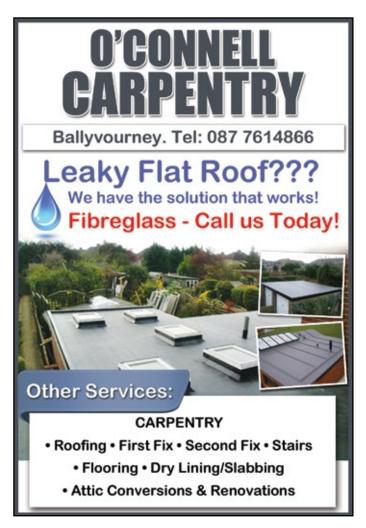
Ross Ladies scramble held on Saturday 10th very kindly sponsored July Noreen O'Mahony & Eilish O'Sullivan.



Killarney Tidy Towns volunteers gathered at the High Street Car Park on Monday night at 6 pm to begin their voluntary work for this years tidy towns campaign. The volunteers help the hard working diligent Kerry County Council staff who maintain Irelands premier tourism town on a daily basis. "Without the continuous commitment fromlocal Councillors and Council Staff our town would not maintain its top ranking in the Supervalu National tidy towns competition", Johnny McGuire told Killarney Outlook. "The combined efforts of the volunteers, householders, businesses and sporting clubs all help the Municipal Staff keep Killarney in the running to regain the coveted all Ireland title.

Everyone can play their part support this great effort in keeping our town and its environs well presented. New volunteers are always welcome at the High Street Car Park on Monday night at 6pm.









#### BALLYHAR DYNAMOS FC

No.s 1, 2,10, 30. No winner of the Jackpot. 5 x €25: Kathleen Breen, Killarney. Bridie Breen, Firies. Tom Walsh, Glenbeigh. Duncan Davidison, Milltown & Bernie O Sullivan, Kilcummin. Next draw for a Jackpot of €2300 will take place on Sunday next 18th May at Butlers Bar, Firies. Tickets available from Committee members, Sheehans Filling Station, Farranfore, Spar & Hendersons Shops, Firies & Butlers Bar, Firies. Thanks to all who support & help out with the club lotto.

#### **TEAMS**

The U15 B squad have qualified for the Trophy Cup Final thanks to a 1-2 away victory over LB Rovers on Bank Holiday Monday. Ballyhar trailed 1-0 at half time but a fine Peter O'Callaghan strike & a late winner from Pau Olivera snatched victory in a great squad effort with Alex Kelly outstanding in goal with Odhran Leslie, Nico Neumann, Eoin Cremin & Daniel Ryan putting in big performances.

The U15 A squad have qualified for the semi final of the main cup thanks to a 4-0 home win against Castleisland FC in a mid week game. Ryan Quilter with a hat trick & one goal from the clubs Kennedy Cup player Killian O Sullivan sealed the win.

The U12s fine season came to an end when being defeated away to Dingle Bay Rovers in the Cup quarter final on a 1-0 scoreline. A first half goal by the home side was the difference between the teams with Gavin Sheehan, Cole Buckley, Paddy Hurley, Dermot Nealon, Jack Cooper, Jack Sheehy, Noah Finn & Fabian Mrotek playing very well. Well done to the squad & management of Dan, James, Anthony & Owen on their fine season.

The U17s on Sunday evening defeated Ferry Rangers FC on a 2-1 scoreline to win the Kerry District League Division 1 Shield Final at Mounthawk Park, Tralee. The Teams were tied at 1-1 at the break after Lee Cirillio gave Ballyhar an early lead. Ballyhar were well on top in the second half and it was the pacy Cillian Slattery who raced onto a through ball to score the winner on 70 minutes. Eoin O Mahony, Conor Giles, Conor Regan, Tom Costelloe, Conrad Long, Sean Brosnan, Ross Lally & Eoghan O Sullivan were excellent throughout the game. Captain Ross Lally received the shield & thanked the opposition, the Referee, the Ballyhar Players & his Coaches Alan Finn & Pat Fleming on their commitment throughout the season. Well Done to the players & management.

#### **CONDOLENCES**

The club offers its sympathy to the Lazarus, O Connor, Casey & Dowd families, Firies on their family bereavement. May Margurita rest in

## **KILLARNEY ATHLETIC**

#### JIMMY FALVEY YOUTHS CUP FINAL

Killarney Athletic 6 - 0 MEK

Sean O'Mahony x 3, Jake Nash x 1, Luke Doolan x 1, JJ O'Donoghue x 1

A great performance tonight from the lads to seal their first silverware of the season. A strong first half display saw us 4 nil up at the break with goals from Sean x 2, Jake and Luke. The message at halftime was to keep doing the right things and don't get sloppy. In fairness to the lads they kept playing in the right manner and added another 2 with a penalty from Sean, to complete his hattrick, and one from JJ. A great squad performance from all 16 players. Thanks to MEK for a very sporting game. It would have been easy to drop the heads but instead they kept playing, in the right manner, up until the final whistle. Man of the match goes to the hattrick hero Sean. I'm delighted for him as he has had to be patient for his opportunities, never complaining, and followed up a critical goal in the semi final with 3 more tonight.

So Caolan Mitchell, who has enjoyed a stellar season for the club, was sent forward to accept the Cup. Thanks to the representatives of Jimmy Falveys family, his mom and brother Mike, for presenting the trophy. Obviously Jimmy was a proud Killarney Celtic man and we enjoyed many battles over the years. The club is honoured to hold the trophy in his memory for 2025.

#### **U13 GIRLS CUP SEMI FINAL RESULT**

Killarney Celtic 1 - 1 Killarney Athletic Penalty Shootout: Celtic 2 - 4 Athletic

Roisin O Sullivan x 1

Shootout Scorers: Roisin O Sullivan, Elizabeth

Brosnan, Regan O Shea & Lucy Myles

Our U13 girls made the short trip to Celtic Tuesday evening and played out a tense encounter. Celtic started the better however our girls grew into the game and should have gone ahead when Leah was put through 1 on 1 and her shot sailed over the bar. Soon after this Celtic hit the front when a mix up in the Athletic box saw the Celtic striker head home. HT 1-0. Our girls came out firing in the second half and while there wasn't too many chances for either side, we were awarded a penalty when Erica was pulled back in the box when she was about to tap in a goal. Roisin stood up and made no mistake from the spot. Athletic fashioned a few half chances to get the winner but extra time could not separate these two teams and the game went to a penalty shoot out. Our girls made no mistake from the spot with Roisin, Elizabeth, Regan and Lucy all scoring excellent spot kicks to see us into the final 2 - 4.

Thanks to Celtic for a sporting game and John for officiating on the day, it's never easy to lose a game on penalties but we're sure the young Celtic girls will come back stronger after. For our girls, it's a cup final on Saturday to look forward to where we expect another fierce battle.

#### **U14 TOM HAYES SHIELD QUARTER FINAL**

#### Dingle A 2 - 1 Killarney Athletic B

The lads exit the competition at the Quarter Final Stage.

They played with real heart and determination throughout the game and looked to be heading in to extra time until a late lofted ball into the box with 3mins to go, bounced causing confusion in our box and the ball fell kindly to a Dingle player who managed to bundle it in. A real gut punch of a goal as the lads had played so well but that's football.

The boys have a lot to be proud of this season, huge improvements across the team with all players contributing.

#### **BOYS U13 DIVISION 2 SOUTH RESULT**

#### Killarney Athletic U13 C 3 - 1 MEK U13 B

Jacob Slowakiewiz x 2 Ethan Colaco x 1

The under 13C boys welcomed MEK to Woodlawn on a glorious evening!

The start of the game the boys were pushed back by a strong MEK but held their ground and slowly the confidence grew and they started



Jimmy Falvey Youths Cup Final winners



Ballyhar Dynamos FC u15 B squad who have qualified for the u15 trophy final thanks to a 1-2 away win to LB Rovers.



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to play some good football, after a few missed chances! Jacob Slowakiewiz got the first goal and the boys really got control of the game going two up with an amazing team goal a fantastic kick out from Sonny Maguire fell to the on running Jacob and he pulled it back to the outside of the box for Ethan Colaco to score a fantastic goal with the ball finishing up in the top corner. The boys went in two up at half time. In the second half MEK came out strong and put the boys under pressure with Sonny Maguire making some great saves to keep their advantage. As the half went on Athletic showed their ability with Jacob adding a third goal. In the dying minutes MEK got a superbly taking goal to make it 3-1. We would like to thank MEK for a great game and the referee who was superb on the night. We would also like to thank the boys from the under 12B who make up the numbers all season to make this C team a reality and helping give all the boys of the age a chance to play in games like tonight.

#### **UNDER 12 SIELD**

#### Killarney Athletic 3 Dingle Bay Rovers B 1 Luke O Sullivan x2 Jakub Slowakiewiz x 1

In a thrilling match played under hot conditions, Killarney Athletic U12 secured a 3-1 victory over Dingle U12 in the Kerry Shield. Dingle started strongly, with solid defending from Athletic keeping them at bay. The turning point came when Jakub Slowakiewicz scored the crucial first goal, thanks to excellent work by Daniel Cremin. Luke O'Sullivan doubled the lead shortly after with a clinical finish, giving Athletic a 2-0 halftime lead. Dingle responded well in the second half, pulling a goal back. However, Athletic's determination and resilience paid off when Luke O'Sullivan struck a wonder goal into the top corner from 25 yards out, restoring a two-goal advantage. Despite Dingle's efforts, Athletic held firm, showcasing great heart and determination. The entire squad of 13 players should be proud of their performance. Thanks to Dingle and the referee. Both teams displayed excellent sportsmanship, and the referee ensured a smooth game.

#### **GIRLS U14S RESULT**

#### Camp 0 - 0 Killarney Athletic

Our U14s finished their league campaign in glorious sunshine in Camp. The final result was 0-0. We were missing 6 of our usual players and the B team really stepped up to help us. It was a fantastic team effort and everyone played their heart out.

#### **BOYS U14 CUP, ROUND 1 RESULT**

#### Killarney Athletic 4 - 0 Killorglin

Robert Murphy x 1, Calen Prendergast x 1, Nathan Mulcahy x 1, Shéa Driver x 1

In a game where the scoreline did not reflect how tight the game was for long periods of time. We broke the deadlock with 15 mins to play. Three more well taken goals secured our place in the next round. Thanks to Killorglin for a good, sporting game. Thanks to the ref for a good game Well done to all the squad on on verybsolid performance today. Wellndone lads

#### U13 GIRLS CUP FINAL

#### Castleisland 1 - 0 Killarney Athletic

Our girls were narrowly defeated in Castleisland against Castleisland on Saturday morning in the U13 Cup final. Our girls played their hearts out



MEK Galaxy U15 Mary Lyne Cup Winners

and had plenty of chances to score throughout the game only for some good Castleisland defending and a couple of close offside calls denying the girls. Castleisland got the all important goal a few minutes from time and even through we scored an equaliser ( which was deemed to be offside ) the victory went to Castleisland

Congratulations to Castleisland on the win, we're sure the girls had great craic celebrating.

To our girls, we couldn't have asked for more and we'll get over today and regroup and come back stronger next year.

Thanks for all the parents for travelling over and to Castleisland for a great game. Thanks also to John for officiating on the day.

#### **U16 CUP FINAL RESULT**

#### Killarney Athletic 3 - 3 Killarney Celtic

Killarney Celtic win 5-4 on penalties

Jack Fleming x 1, Leo Allen x 1, Jayden Hurley x 1 On a smashing day for football, our U16's travel to St. Brendan's Park super facilities to take on local rivals Killarney Celtic. This turned out to be a cracking encounter with end to end football and plenty of drama. Athletic started the better of the two sides and looked dangerous in behind putting together some great passages of play. Our passing game was causing Celtic some problems however, our local rivals grew into the game as the half wore on HT 0-0. Our neighbours came flying out of the blocks at the start of the second half and deservedly took the lead after some poor defensive play from our lads. We hit back shortly after when Jack Fleming scored a wonderful solo goal cutting in from the left and riffling to the top corner. Celtic took the lead again a while later when a ball into the box wasn't dealt with and the Celtic man made no mistake from close range. Our boys didn't drop the heads and Leo slotted home a brilliant Jamie pass to bring us level. With 10 minutes remaining we hit the front for the first time when Leo was upended in the box and Javden made no mistake from the spot. To their credit Celtic drew level once more with literally the last kick of the game to make it 3-3 when their player who looked to be in an offside position slotted home excellently . FT 3-3. Extra time couldn't separate these two so it was onto penalties with Celtic winning 5-4.

Congratulations go to Brian, Damien and the Celtic team on winning the cup and contributing to a fantastic cup final.

#### KILLARNEY CELTIC

#### **CELTIC LOTTO**

Numbers drawn 1,6,17,21. No jackpot winner. Match 3 winners received €50. Next jackpot €15,000 on Monday May 19th. Jackpot is capped at €15,000 with the additional €200 going on to the 1st jackpot after the next jackpot win. Tickets available from The Dungeon Bookshop, Amber Shop ( Top of Ross Road), club members and online through clubzap.

#### **U16 TUCKER KELLY CUP**

## Killarney Celtic 3-3 Killarney Athletic Celtic win on penalties

Luca Mosca 2, Samuel Scroope

Killarney Celtic U16A captured the Tucker Kelly Cup after a drama-filled final. After an even 1st half the teams retired to the break deadlocked at 0-0. Celtic opened the scoring after Samuel Scroope finished from close range. Athletic replied to level matters. Celtic were back in front through Luca Mosca who netted from close range following a cross from James Murphy. However Athletic responded again to level and then took the lead. With time almost up Mark Looney played in Luca Mosca who finished to the net to send the game into extra time. Neither team could find a winner so the final went to penalties. After 5 penalties each the score was tied at 4-4 and Ryan Lucey saved to give Celtic the advantage. Jack Culloty then scored to give Celtic the cup. Well done to the management and players.

#### **U16 TUCKER KELLY SHIELD**

#### LB Rovers A 3-0 Killarney Celtic B

Celtic B went down to a strong LB Rovers side last weekend. Celtic started well and had chances to go in front but it was LB who hit the front before half time. Celtic battled hard in the 2nd half but LB held firm and were able to extend their advantage to claim the win.

**U14 TOM HAYES SHIELD** 

#### **SOCCER NEWS**

#### Castleisland B 1-5 Killarney Celtic B

OG, Sean Doyle 2, James Brosnan, Fionn Culloty A fast start saw Celtic gain the advantage which they maintained to the finish. They now move on to a semi final with Dingle.

#### **U12 JOHN MURPHY CUP**

#### Killarney Celtic Green 0-0 Mastergeeha Celtic win on penalties

Despite dominating for long periods Celtic green could not gain the advantage as Mastergeeha defended very well and forced the game to penalties where Celtic were delighted to come out on the right side of the tie.

#### **U12 JOHN MURPHY TROPHY**

#### LB Rovers 1-0 Killarney Celtic White.

Celtic White went down narrowly to LB Rovers after a great tussle in this quarter final tie. Celtic White left everything on the pitch and were unlucky not to get something from the game.

#### **U12 JOHN MURPHY SHIELD**

# Listowel Celtic B 3-1 Killarney Celtic Hoops Dwayne Koeller

Celtic Hoops battled all the way to finish here after finding themselves 3 down at the break. Dwayne Koeller netted with 10 mins to go as Celtic Hoops pushed Listowel all the way to the final whistle.

#### **GIRLS**

# U16 SFAI SUBWAY NATIONAL TROPHY FINAL

#### Killarney Celtic 1-2 Granada FC

Sadbh O'Brien

Celtic U16 went down to a very impressive Granda FC side last weekend in the U16 National Trophy Final played in Evergreen Park in Kilkenny. The early stages were even with Celtic threatening on 11 mins when Michelle O'Connor almost put Holly Forrest in. Granada responded but Tara Cronin was equal to the task. On 16 mins Granda came again with some good play but again Tara Cronin was equal to the task. Celtic were then close to a breakthrough when Sadbh O'Halloran was just wide. Holly Forrest was then almost in on goal but the Granda keeper recovered well to claim the ball. Then on 26 mins Granada were awarded a corner which they worked short, resulting in a great strike from the edge of the box to give the Dublin side the lead. On 34 mins Granda doubled their lead after good build up play on the left was

rewarded with a goal. 0-2 Halftime.

The 2nd half was a stop-start affair with Celtic unable to build any momentum. With time running out Celtic were thrown a lifeline when a long range effort from Sadbh O'Brien went all the way to the net. Celtic were now re-energised but unfortunately time ran out. Well done to the players and coaches on a fantastic journey to make a national final. The players gave everything on the day but just came up short. Many thanks to the parents and supporters who made the trip to Kilkenny. Congrats to Granada on a fine victory.

**CONGRATS** to Ryan Lucey U16 who made the KSBGL Team of the Week and to Olga Kumor who made the Girl's Roll of Honour.

# KERRY SCHOOLBOY/GIRL SOCCER

#### **NATIONAL**

## CELTIC SUFFER NATIONAL TROPHY FINAL DEFEAT

Despite a determined display and a goal from Sadhbh O'Brien, Killarney Celtic came up just short in the SFAI U16 Girls Trophy Final, losing narrowly 2-1, to a sharp Granada FC side.

Celtic fought hard throughout and kept pushing until the final whistle, but Granada's clinical finishing proved decisive on the day. Having gone 2-0 ahead, they remained composed when O'Brien pulled a goal back to ensure they left Kilkenny with silverware.

#### **GIRLS**

# KENMARE AND DYNAMOS ADVANCE IN DOMINIC SCANLON KNOCKOUT STAGES

Following some exciting quarter-final clashes in the Dominic Scanlon U12 Girls Shield, Inter Kenmare and Tralee Dynamos booked their ticket to the semi-final stage. The pair will meet each other in the hopes of making the decider against Killarney Athletic.

Fallon O'Shea, Lily Noonan Murphy, and Ally Cremin were all on target as Inter Kenmare A advanced to the semi-finals, with a strong performance against Camp winning 3-1 in the

A thrilling encounter at the Low Field saw Sadhbh O'Brien net twice and Rosa Gordillo add another, as Tralee Dynamos edged past LB Rovers 3-2 to book their place in the last four, despite goals from Cora O' Sullivan and Laoise McCarthy, the visitors could not turn the tide.

# BRID DEVANE PERPETUAL CUP RETURNS HOME TO CASTLEISLAND

Castleisland clinched the U13 Girls Brid Devane Perpetual Cup after a dramatic run to the title, capped by a 1-0 win over Killarney Athletic in the final held on home turf. Roisin Cronin was the hero on the day, her first-half goal proving decisive in a tightly contested decider.

The road to the final was equally thrilling. In the semi-final stage played earlier in the week, Castleisland edged out Mastergeeha 3-2 in a five-goal thriller. Shauna O'Riordan struck twice for Mastergeeha, but Castleisland advanced thanks to goals from Bella Clifford, Roisin Cronin, and Ellie Doyle.

On the other side of the draw, Killarney Athletic booked their spot in the final after a tense penalty shootout win over Killarney Celtic. The game ended 1-1 after extra time, with goals from Roisin O'Sullivan (Athletic) and Olga Kumor (Celtic), before Athletic held their nerve to win 4-2 on penalties. Roisin O'Sullivan, Elizabeth Brosnan, Regan O'Shea and Lucy Myles all slotted their penalties.

The decider itself was a tight, competitive affair, with both sides defending resolutely, but Cronin's finish proved the difference. Castleisland's consistency, sharp finishing, and strong defensive performances saw them crowned deserving champions of the cup named after local Castleisland woman Brid Devane, who has worked tirelessly to promote Girls soccer in Kerry.

# ENRIGHT'S MAGIC SEALS SHIELD WIN FOR CAMP JUNIORS

Hannah Enright was the hero for Camp Juniors on Saturday morning, scoring the decisive goal in a tightly contested Brid Devane Perpetual Shield Final, to secure the Shield. MEK pushed hard for an equaliser, but Camp's defence stood strong to lift the silverware following a 1-0 win in Castleisland.

## LYONS ON TARGET AS MEK LIFT MARY LYNE

A moment of brilliance from Izzy Lyons proved decisive as MEK edged past St Brendan's Park 1-0 to claim the U15 Mary Lyne Perpetual Cup.



Mastergeeha U16 Tucker Kelly Shield Winners



Killarney Celtic U16 Tucker Kelly Cup Winners

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In a fiercely competitive final in Castleisland, both sides had chances, but MEK's defensive solidity and Lyons' clinical finish ensured the cup headed their way.

### DINGLE FIRE THEIR WAY TO MARY LYNE SHIELD BERTH

Dingle stormed to a 7-1 victory in the U15 Mary Lyne Perpetual Shield Final, with a dominant attacking display, powered by a hat-trick from Saoirse Brosnan and two-goal hauls from both Lucy Kennedy and Cara Fitzgerald. Their relentless pace and clinical finishing set them on their way, and while Listowel Celtic grabbed a goal in the tie, they could not match their opponents relentless nature.

#### **BOYS**

# HOST OF TEAMS ADVANCE IN JOHN MURPHY CUP

A host of sides booked their ticket into the next round of the U12 John Murphy Cup, as we saw plenty of goals and a penalty shootout from the last week of action.

Listowel Celtic advanced in style thanks to a 3-0 win over MEK. Sean Kissane was on fire with a brace, while Bradley Enright added a third to complete the win. Park meanwhile had a big win on the road, defeating Castleisland 6-0. Tadhg Gilligan pulled the strings with four goals, while Adam O'Leary and Oran Maguire also found the net.

A tight contest back West between Dingle and Ballyhar was decided by a single moment of brilliance from Krystian Dudus, whose decisive strike booked Dingle's place in the next round, with a 1-0 win.

#### KILLARNEY CELTIC LIFT TUCKER KELLY CUP AFTER NERVY DERBY SHOOTOUT

In a mouth watering local derby between Killarney Celtic and Killarney Athletic, Killarney Celtic were crowned U16 Tucker Kelly Cup Champions after a 5-4 win in the dreaded penalty shootout, as the game finished 3-3 at the final whistle.

While the opening half was a tight affair with a 0-0 score remaining until the break, the game sparked to life in the second stanza, where we saw six goals scored. Samuel Scroope gave Celtic the lead before Athletic equalised soon after. Luca Mosca soon regained their advantage, before Athletic hit the next two goals to put one hand on the cup.

With just seconds left on the clock, Celtic had their equaliser. A ball in behind found Mosca who drilled low to the net for a 3-3 stalemate at the final whistle. Extra-Time followed, and with neither side able to score, penalties was the outcome.

Ryan Lucey made a big initial save and Mosca followed suit to score the opening penalty.

Athletic moved 2-1 ahead however, as they dispatched their next two penalties, with one of the Celtic efforts dragging left and wide. Nando Dominguez found the top right corner to level the shootout, before Athletic converted once more.

Mark Looney dispatched his penalty to the bottom right corner to again level matters. The





next two penalties would also find the net, with Jack O'Grady converting a nervy spot kick, to force sudden death.

The first penalty of sudden death saw Athletic crack the post, and all the pressure was on Jack Culloty to score. Keeping his composure, he fired his penalty into the left left corner, sparking celebrations from the Celtic players

After the tie, captain Luca Mosca was presented with the Tucker Kelly Cup by Tucker's son Ruairi Kelly.

#### MOYNIHAN THE HERO AS MASTERGEEHA LIFT TUCKER KELLY SHIELD

Further penalty shootout drama saw Mastergeeha crowned Tucker Kelly Shield Champions, having fallen behind twice in the game, they first equalised in the second half of normal time to force extra-time, before doing so again in extra-time to force penalties.

Iveragh would lead 1-0 at the break, but Noah Clifford equalised for Mastergeeha to take the game to extra time. A long range free kick from Iveragh put them 2-1 up in the opening half of extra-time, before Eoin Collins forced penalties with an equaliser at the death. 2-2 it finished at the sound of the whistle.

Darragh Keane, Patrick O'Donoghue, Noah

Clifford, and Daniel O'Sullivan all scored for Mastergeeha, while keeper Liam Moynihan made a big save in the shootout to cancel out an earlier save from Aidan Huggard. After O'Sullivan blasted the net to put Geeha ahead, pressure was on Moynihan to save the next one, he kept his cool and guessed right to get down quick and save the effort. Mastergeeha champions with a 4-3 win.

## LB ROVERS CROWNED TUCKER KELLY TROPHY CHAMPIONS

The first of three Tucker Kelly Finals played in splendid sunshine in Christy Leahy Park, was the Trophy decider between LB Rovers and Killarney Celtic B. The North Kerry club secured the silverware with a 3-0 win, after a clinical performance all round.

Cal Fitzsimons and Ryan Kennelly both found the net to see LB lead 2-0 at the break. Celtic had their chances in the second half as they searched to come back into the tie, but a disciplined showing by LB, with a strong backline kept them at bay. The result was assured just before the final whistle sounded, when Evan Murphy raced through to slot home to the net for the third. Iveragh B 1-4 Tralee Dynamos

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# ST PAULS BASKETBALL AWARDS NIGHT

Photos: Eamonn Keogh

At the St. Paul's Basketball Club awards function in The Failte Hotel, Killarney, on Friday night were front from left, Enda Walshe (club person award), St. Paul's President Christy Sheehan, Niall 'Botty' O'Callaghan (outstanding service award) and Tom Looney (accepting the supporter of the year award on behalf of his brother Padraig Looney). Back from left are Timmy O'Sullivan (Ladies Committee Chairman), Vincent Barry (Special Achievement award), Leah McMahon (young player of the year), Mark Sheehan (U-20 Player of the year), Stephen Brosnan (Special Achievement award), Denise Dunlea (senior ladies player of the year) and Oisin Spring (senior mens player of the year).

St Pauls Basketball Club hosted its end of season gathering in the Failte Hotel on Friday night. On the night various awards were given out after what was a very successful and busy season. Scotts Lakers Head Coach Manuel Suarez had nominated Mark Sheehan as his U20 Player of the Year. Mark, of course, led his side to the National League Plate title where they overcame the likes of Neptune, Killester and St Vincents along the way. He played a pivotal part in the final in Tallaght last month against Templeogue when he gave an exhibition of three point shooting, firing seven from beyond the arc.

Oisin Spring picked up the National League Player of the Year, a nod to his commitment and dedication to the cause. MC Niall O Callaghan spoke glowingly of the time and effort Oisin puts into his game on and off the court and how obvious it was to everyone how he wears his heart on his sleeve

Utility Trust St Pauls coach James Fleming chose Denise Dunlea as his Senior Women's Player of the Year. She played a captains role with the team all season with some memorable standout performances. When the fat was in the fire and the team needed wins it was Denise who was driving the effort forward. Her efforts definitely peaked in the thrilling win over Brunell in the Pres Gym in January and in the mammoth win away in Killester the following weekend. But it is her assuming role as captain that saw Denise really thrive and she came up with some inspirational passages of play in the teams run to the League final. It must also be acknowledged that 2024 was a very tough time for Denise and her family with the loss of her Dad Jeremiah in May of that year. But she put all her energies into the team's season and is a worthy recipient of the Senior Player of the Year. Having hit the final eight points for her side in the Women's Super league final, Leah McMahon had capped off a busy weekend with an industrious display in the defeat to





St. Paul's senior ladies young player of the year recipient Leah McMahon with her parents Aine and Karl McMahon and St. Paul's President Christy Sheehan and club founding member Tom Looney.

Killester. Earlier that same weekend she sat her Oral Irish Leaving Cert Exam before setting off to Tallaght to play in the biggest game of her fledgling career. To perform so admirably on such a high pressure weekend says it all about this year's Young Player of the Year. Leah also played an integral role in the semi final win over Trinity Meteors and despite missing five weeks of the season through injury she still amassed 16 league appearances. Given her defensive

prowess she was very often handed the role of guarding the opponents lynchpin and despite her tender years she always acquitted herself to the highest standard. A definite star of the future Leah is this year's Young Player of the Year Behind any team is a group of people who help make everything tick. Within the Utility Trust St Pauls organisation there is one person who definitely makes the wheel turn. Christina Bartlett O Rourke may be the team manager in name but her role embraces much more than that. From organising transport and logistics on team trips to making sure every team member is looked after , Christina is the epitome of the word volunteer. It would be impossible to calculate the amount of time Christina puts into



St. Paul's founding member Tom Looney accepting the supporter of the year award on behalf of his brother Padraig Looney from Timmy O'Sullivan (Ladies Committee Chairman), and club officer Patricia McCarthy.

her role with no job too big or too small. It is for that reason and so much more that she received a Special Recognition Award , a timely nod to everything that she does.

The Clubperson of the Year award went this year to PRO Enda Walshe in recognition of performing above and beyond the call of duty.

Enda has been judged to have made the most significant contribution to the welfare and improvement of the club and its members. We've had a phenomenal season with highs and lows and wish to share our successes with Enda who played a huge role this season and is a worthy recipient of the Club person of the Year. Enda was always in the background organising logistics for home & away games. He did super work as PRO reporting on every game and did not shy away from taking up the microphone at the home games.

He was on call at the drop of a hat and no job went undone. He was selfless with his time and was always on the end of the phone when required. We are delighted to recognise Enda for this truly deserved award and also to honour Christy Sheahan, the iconic clubman whose name adorns the trophy.

# As well as these awards there will be four other presentations

Vincent Barry is an integral part of the Utility Trust St Pauls coaching team where he is on hand to cater for everyone's needs, no matter too big or too small. He is Coachs James Fleming right hand man, a trusted lieutenant who has been with James throughout his career.

The inimitable Stephen Brosnan is part and parcel of the St Pauls Club, always there to lend a hand on matchdays, be it looking after the floor or drawing out the winners in the highly successful split the bucket .He does so with a roguish smile and an affable manner which makes him so popular with everyone.

Padraig Looney has been an ever present at all Mens and Womens games this season and with his attendance record will receive the

Supporter of the Year Award. The amount of work Niall Botty O'Callaghan has put into the Club over the years was also acknowledged. As a player, supporter, coach, MC, club official and sponsor the hours he has put in are incalcuable and that is not even taking into account his work



St. Paul's senior ladies team attendant Stephen Brosnan (Special Achievement award), with Timmy O'Sullivan (Ladies Committee Chairman), and St. Paul's founding member Tom Looney.



St. Paul's Killarney U-20 Player of the year recipient Mark Sheehan with his grandfather and club President Christy Sheehan and parents Paul and Bridget Sheehan.

in helping to secure a new home for the Club in Direen. And we are delighted that Niall received the Caoimhin O'Donoghue Memorial Award for his outstanding services to the Club. As we all know Caoimhin was a legendary figure in St Pauls and it is apt that his great friend Niall is the first recipient of this award. Members of the O Donoghue family were in attendance on the night to present the award and in an emotional address both Cormac and Niall fondly remembered the legend that was Shaq.



St. Paul's senior ladies team manager Vincent Barry (Special Achievement award), with Timmy O'Sullivan (Ladies Committee Chairman), and St. Paul's founding member Tom Looney.



St. Paul's senior ladies player of the year recipient Denise Dunlea with coaches Shane Horgan and James Fleming, Eileen Dunlea, Darragh McCarthy, St. Paul's President Christy Sheehan and club founding member Tom Looney.

Our Womens Superleague coach James Fleming, who has initiated the inaugural Awards Night would like to thank everbody who made the night such a success with special mention to Christy Sheehan and Tom Looney who presented the Awards. A big thanks also to Niall O Callaghan who was MC on the night , multi-tasking with making sure everyone was fed and watered. It was a great night to cap off what was a great season.



Niall 'Botty' O'Callaghan receives the St. Paul's Basketball Club outstanding service award in memory of Caoimhin 'Shaq' O'Donoghue from club President Christy Sheehan and Cormac O'Donoghue. Also seated is Seodhna O'Donoghue and back from left are Tom Looney, Paul Sheehan (Chairman), Tim O'Donoghue, Timmy O'Donoghue and James Fleming (Senior ladies team head coach).



St. Paul's club person of the year receipient Enda Walshe receives his award from St. Paul's President Christy Sheehan and club founding member Tom Looney. Also included are club chairman Paul Sheehan, Amy and Cathal Walshe



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

# TOUGH DAY FOR KERRY UNDER 20'S All Ireland U20 Semi-Final

#### **TYRONE 2-14 KERRY 0-14**

A tough day at the office. A very tough day. I did feel that we would be up against it, but I felt that we would be a formidable obstacle for Tyrone too. And the stark, honest truth for me is that Tyrone won pulling up. You can argue that we left goal chances behind us, and that's fair enough. Could have picked off a few more points as well. But Tyrone never felt fully extended. It felt like they had more in the tank, whereas Kerry were giving everything they had into just staying in touch.

Eoin McElholm is unquestionably the best player of that age group. We have some astonishing talent rising ourselves, but this lad really is different gravy. More worrying for me is how an under-rated Noah Grimes did colossal damage just by showing for ball. Tyrone played simple football, but made virtually no mistakes and, without those openings, Kerry felt laboured.

McElholm sliced through us straightaway and Aodhna Ó Beaglaoich had to be alert to take it off the goal-line for a '45. Ruairí McCullagh calmly put that over, and added a free after advantage was played when he hit the post. Kerry had another bit of a let-off when Evan Boyle did well to block Fiachra Neilis.

Daniel Kirby boomed over a good point. The score was just 0-2 to 0-1 in Tyrone's favour, but I have to say that already it felt like a lot bigger margin. Evan Boyle had a chance to draw level, but Ben Hughes made a good block. As I say, Tyrone weren't really leaving any openings.

Eoin McElholm pointed from play and added a great mark. Eddie Healy and a very impressive Killian Dennehy were driving really hard for Kerry, but it felt like we were creaking a bit. Ruairí McCullagh pointed from play. 0-5 to 0-1. Paddy Lane had a look at goal but (correctly, in my opinion) opted to take the point. 0-5 to 0-2 after the first quarter, and Kerry struggling to match Tyrone around the middle.

McElholm was running the game and he powered through the centre, gathering to unleash a rocket past a hapless Michael Tansley. 1-5 to 0-2.

That almost seemed to act as a spur to Kerry. Eddie Healy fired over a great point. Tomás Kennedy was growing into the game and won a free converted by Paddy. He repeated the trick, a really brilliant high catch by the Srand Road man, and once again Paddy Lane provided the score. Killian Dennehy, Kerry's best player on the day, kicked a point. Good work by Evan Boyle, who played his heart out, saw Paddy Lane notch another free. 1-5 to 0-7 now, good

stuff

Personally, I love the new rules, but they do come with a hefty price tag and Kerry coughed up a needless free for interfering with a mark. The referee was absolutely in the right, by the way, every team should know by now that's a strict liability offence. McCullagh opted to go for a two-pointer and nailed it. That was a bad blow just as we were getting on top.

Killian Dennehy picked off his second point but McCullagh replied with a free, Kerry caught without three players forward. A goal in it, 1-8 to 0-8. Not too bad, on the balance of play, especially in modern football. Except that Tyrone lowered the boom again, and this time it was Noah Grimes – as I say, much more understated than McElholm's magnificence, but nigh on equally effective – who fired past Tansley. A hammer blow.

Kerry with a great chance. Ciarán Collins cut in and unleashed a rocket, it's parried. Paddy Lane followed up on the loose ball, but the shot is smothered at close range. Tomás Kennedy lunges to try and force it that last few inches over the line....a fraction too late as Tyrone cleared it. Paddy Lane ended up taking his point, but that's small return from three goal chances. To paraphrase an old saying, if Kerry had ducks, they would have drowned.

#### Half-time Tyrone 2-8 Kerry 0-9

Eoin McElholm further stamped his credentials with a stunning long range point to open the second half scoring. I was honestly amazed that it wasn't a two-pointer. Liam Evans drove forward to fire over in response. Had Kerry three up for all that move? I thought we did, to be honest, but most of the colleagues thought we had gotten away with it. I'll freely admit that most of these people are smarter than I am – provided that they are smart enough to keep their mouths shut at certain times too! Tomás Kennedy was unlucky with an effort.

A foul on Callum Daly saw Ruairí McCullagh extend the gap to six points, 2-10 to 0-10. Ben Murphy went on a trademark surging run. He had players either side of him but opted to go it alone and maybe took it a step too far, with a rushed shot blazing high and wide.

Paddy Lane clipped over a Kerry free. Had he the option to take a two-pointer?

Tyrone came again but Michael Tansley made a great catch and Kerry moved it down the field, Ronan Carroll slotting it over. Emmett Daly drew a foul and Paddy Lane obliged. All of a sudden there is just a goal in it, 2-10 to 0-13. For the first time all game, I got the impression that Tyrone were more worrying about conceding and less eager to go for scores themselves. Ben Murphy slalomed through again but Conan McGarvey saved well.

Shea McDermott calmed Tyrone's nerves by fisting over a good point but Daniel Kirby replied. Getting down to the wire now and Kerry, despite playing second fiddle all afternoon, were very much still in this.

It wasn't to be. Kerry had a couple of chances but sliced them. Tyrone got two and nailed both through McCullagh.

It does beg an unfortunate question. Is Munster too soft? Mounthawk swept to two Corn uí Mhuirí titles in a row but came to a full stop against Ulster schools. Our minors lost to Monaghan and Derry in the last two years. Crokes came a cropper against Errigal Ciarán, Austin Stacks to Ballinderry. That's two from two against Ulster sides at U20 level. No matter how good your preparation, nothing steels you for hard games like having competed in hard games. Any team getting out of Ulster survived scares along the way. Are we?

Tyrone: Conan McGarvey, Fiachra Neilis, Ben Hughes, Conor Devlin, Callum Daly, Joey Clarke, Caolan Donnelly, Cónán Devlin, Conor O'Neill, Conall Sheehy, Eoin McElholm (1-4,1f), Matthew Quinn, Noah Grimes (1-0), Ruairí McCullagh (0-9, 4f, 1tpf, 1'45), Liam Og Mossey. Subs: Seán Broderick (for Conor Devlin, 23 mins), Shea McDermott 0-1 (for Noah Grimes, 48 mins), Eoin Donaghy (for Conall Sheehy, 51 mins), Donagh Donaghy (for Liam Óg Mossey (58)

Kerry: Michael Tansley, Aodhna Ó Beaglaoich, Gearoid Evans, Maidhcí Lynch, Liam Evans, Darragh O'Connor, Ben Murphy, Eddie Healy (0-2), Daniel Kirby (0-1), Ciarán Collins, Evan Boyle, Killian Dennehy (0-3), Paddy Lane (0-6, 5f), Tomás Kennedy (0-1), D O'Sullivan. Subs: Ronan Carroll 0-1 (for Ciarán Collins, 42 mins), Emmett Daly (for Evan Boyle, 46 mins), Jack Murphy (for O'Sullivan, 55 mins), Jack O'Sullivan (for Daniel Kirby, 57 mins), Odhran Ferris (for Paddy Lane, 58 mins)

Referee: Barry Judge (Sligo)

# MUNSTER LGFA GROUP STAGE

#### **KERRY 1-6 TIPPERARY 1-6**

Not a great display, but it's worth remembering that Kerry had already booked their place in the Munster Final. I really wouldn't worry about it. Kerry, playing against a strong wind, drew first blood with Siofra O'Shea setting up Rachel Dwyer for the opening score. Aishling Moloney, the best player on view in my opinion, won and converted a free in reply. Kerry had a goal chance, but Julia Curtin's rocket was deflected for a '45.

Kerry were taking the ball into contact and paid a high price as Tipperary surged forward on a counter-attack and sent a ball in to Moloney, who rose high to gather and buried it past Katie Hannan. Aishling Moloney and Caitlin Kennedy had points for Tipperary but on both occasions Siofra O'Shea replied with frees. At half-time Tipperary led by 1-3 to 0-4 – that level

#### ALL THINGS SPORT



PwC GPA Player of the Month for April in ladies' football, Siofra O'Shea of Kerry, with her award outside the PwC offices in Cork. Photo by David Fitzgerald/Sportsfile

of scoring isn't going to win you any All Ireland, but this wasn't any All Ireland Final either.

The second half was only a few minutes old when Kerry got a real stroke of luck. Niamh Carmody has scored some brilliant goals for Kerry – this wasn't one of them. The truth is that she was floating in a high ball in an effort for a point and it deceived the goalkeeper and slipped into the net. Look, we'll happily take it! Aishling Moloney responded with a free and the sides were level, 1-4 apiece. Niamh Carmody got in on goal and this one would have been a cracker, but Emma Cronin denied her with a great block.

Rachel Dwyer nudged Kerry back in front but Aishling Moloney curled over a beauty from a very tight angle in reply. Moloney had a free dip dangerously, similarly to Niamh Carmody's goal, but Katie Hannan juded it to perfection and tipped it onto the crossbar.

Siofra O'Shea pointed from play to put Kerry in front but Aishling Moloney replied from a free and the truth is that Tipperary left two good chances at kicking a winner behind them.

Not a great display, but job done. The real news was on the other side of the draw, where Waterford's 3-12 to 1-9 victory over Cork means that Kerry will play the Deise in this year's Munster Final. Waterford have always been a really formidable power in ladies football – go back to the nineties and they were the superpower, as Kerry had been before them and Cork would become. Kerry beat Waterford earlier on, but only just by a single point and we were hanging on. Moreover, that was a Waterford side without the formidable Emma Murray. This one will be interesting...

Congratulations to Danielle O'Leary, who has been named as the TG4 Player of the Month.

Kerry: Katie Hannon, Kayla O'Connor, Eilís Lynch, Cáit Lynch (capt), Ciara McCarthy, Emma Costello, Aoife Dillane, Aishling O'Connell, Anna Galvin, Niamh Carmody (1-0), Jadyn Lucey, Leah Boyle (0-1), Siofra O'Shea (0-3, 2f), Rachel Dwyer (0-2), Julia Curtin. Subs: Caoimhe Evans (for Julia Curtin, half-time), Roisín Rahilly (for Kayla O'Connor, half-time), Eabha O'Connor (for Ciara McCarthy, 44 mins), Faye O'Donoghue (for Cáit Lynch, 55 mins), Melanie Higgins (for Rachel Dwyer, 57 mins).

Tipperary: Lauren Fitzpatrick (capt), Nora Martin, Laura Morrissey, Emma Cronin, Sarah English, Maria Curley, Kate Cashman, Neassa Towey, Caitlin Kennedy (0-1), Heather Spillane, Ava Ryan, Issy Carr, Aishling Moloney (1-5, 4f), Eva Cremins, Ava Fennessy. Subs: Angela McGuigan (for Eva Cremins, half-time), Ciara English (for Heather Spillane, 37 mins), Bríd Condon (for Kate Cashman, 44 mins), Anna Rose Kennedy (for Ava Ryan, 55 mins), Hazel Brennan (for Neassa Towey, 55 mins). Referee: Conor McCarthy (Cork).

#### **MCDONAGH CUP**

#### **LAOIS 5-28 KERRY 1-21**

Let's just.....let's not. No, I never expected us to beat Laois, we were once again down too many bodies (at some point we have to ask how we are losing so many players so often) and Laois are in flying form anyway. But this was just too easy.

Look, I'm a hurling fan, pretty much always have been. But this was a hard watch. And yes, apparently both Radio Kerry and RTE One called out Kerry's U20 football supporters for leaving after the football match instead of staying on to support the hurlers. Ah, lads. I can be obnoxiously self-righteous myself, but that's a level of hypocrisy I wouldn't reach.

Slightly worse news from a Kerry perspective (as I say, losing to Laois was widely expected) is the fact that Kildare beat Carlow. We beat Kildare by a single point, lucky enough in the finish, and a lot of us (me, at least) felt that would turn out to be a relegation decider. Except that Kildare are flying, and pulled off an almighty shock last weekend by beating Carlow, of all teams. That means that Kerry have to beat Down in their final game to avoid relegation to the Christy Ring, and Down have home venue (almost certainly Ballycran). A tough one, to say the least.

Laois: Cathal Dunne, Pádraic Dunne, Diarmuid Conway, Cody Comerford, Tom Cuddy, Pádraig Delaney (0-1f), Ryan Mullally (0-1), Fiachra C Fennell (0-3), David Dooley (0-4), Aidan Corby, Tomás Keyes (0-7, 6f, 1 '65), Patrick Purcell (0-1), James Duggan (5-2), Jer Quinlan, Ben Conroy Subs: Donnacha Hartnett (for Tom Cuddy, half-time), Aaron Dunphy 0-6, 3f, 1'65 (for Jer Quinlan, half-time), John Lennon (for David Dooley, 41 mins), Mark Dowling 0-2 (for Ben Conroy, 45 mins), Willie Dunphy 0-1 (for Tomás Keyes, 57 mins)

Kerry: Louis Dee, Kyle O'Connor, Flor McCarthy, Dara Kearney, Darragh Shanahan (0-1), Kevin Goulding (0-1), Ronan Walsh (0-1), Paudie O'Connor, Adam Segal, Tom Doyle (0-1), Daniel Casey (0-2), Luke Crowley (0-1), Rory Mahony (0-1), Oisín Maunsell (0-2), Shane Nolan (0-11, 6f) Subs: Killian Hayes 1-0 (for Luke Crowley, half-time), Seán McGrath (for Adam Segal, half-time), Eric Leen (for Flor McCarthy, half-time), Séamie Foran (for Rory Mahony, 53 mins), Luke Rochford (for Paudie O'Connor, 64 mins), Oisín Maunsell, (blood sub, 68 mins)

Referee: Brian Keon (Galway)

#### MUNSTER MINOR SEMI-FINAL

#### **KERRY 3-16 CLARE 1-6**

That scoreline is genuinely misleading. Yes, Kerry absolutely coasted to victory in the second half, but they actually got a ferocious battle off Clare in the first half and privately, I think Wayne Quillinan will be delighted with the way that Clare asked hard questions of his players. Granted, Clare had the benefit of a really strong wind in the first half, but they also had some very good footballers.

Kerry's David Sargent burst up for the opening score and Tadhg O'Connell soon added another. Clare were already beginning to find ways past Kerry's strong press and Donnacha O'Dwyer, who was super throughout, fired over a long range beauty to open their account. Gearóid White set up Kevin Griffin for a point but O'Dwyer fed Clare's highly rated dangerman Conor uke for a score. Big GreatMurphy on the edge of the square did likewise for Liam Casey and it was 0-3 apiece. A free was brought forward for interference with a mark and it ended up as a simple tap-over for Conor Burke. Then came disaster as a high punt into the Kerry square was grabbed out of the sky by Gareth Murphy and he swivelled to power it home. Great goal. 1-4 to 0-3 and the Clare supporters in Quilty were loving it.

Kerry responded well, Gearóid White clipping over a free and Mark O'Carroll kicking a fine point. Gearóid White, Kerry's captain and widely acknowledged as their best player, had a very uncharacteristic miss from a relatively easy free – Atlas shrugged, I guess. Just before the whistle for the break, a great run by Clare cornerback James Rafferty ended up with Cathal McNamara kicking over.

#### Half-time Clare 1-5 Kerry 0-5

Kerry had the wind in the second half and the truth is that the game was over after ten minutes. Gearóid White slotted a goal right from the start. Kevin Griffin notched a point and added a goal himself. Gearóid White and Ben Kelliher pointed frees. Nick Lacey came off the bench and kicked a superb two-pointer

#### ALL THINGS **SPORT**

with his very first touch. Just like that, it was 2-10 to 1-5.

Ben Kelliher wasn't far away from a goal himself after a great run. He did kick two more frees. Donnacha O'Dwyer set up Conor Burke for a point, but it was to be their only score of the second half. Danny Murphy, who had a great game at wing back, kicked a beauty in reply. Nick Lacey added another.

Gearóid White finished off a Kerry move with their third goal. Pádraig Ó Máinnín came off the bench and kicked two fine scores to wrap it up, but the game was well wrapped up by then. Clare had fine individual footballers, most notably O'Dwyer, who was unlucky to pick up a second yellow, but Kerry just had too much power.

The real drama was on the other side, with Cork only barely scraping past Tipperary with a turnover goal deep in extra-time.

Kerry: Ruairí Kennedy, Ronan Sheridan, Eoghan Joy, Tadhg Ó Slatara, Danny Murphy (0-1), David Sargent (0-1), Marcus Clifford, Maidhc Ó Sé, John Curtin, Mark O'Carroll (0-1), Gearóid White (2-2, 2f), Alex Tuohy, Ben Kelliher (0-3, 3f), Kevin Griffin (1-2), Tadhg O'Connell (0-1). Subs: Nick Lacey 0-3, 1tp) (for Tadhg O'Connell, 40 mins), Pádraig Ó Mainnín 0-2 (for Kevin Griffin, 48 mins), James Kissane (for Maidhc Ó Sé, 54 mins), Liam O'Brien (for Ben Kelliher, 54 mins), Tadhg O'Sullivan (for Alex Tuohy, 55 mins).

Clare: Oisin Tierney, Cian Corry, Aidan O'Connell, James Rafferty, Eoin Murphy, Shane Cahill, Ajay Daly, Donncha O'Dwyer (0-1), Ruben Fallon, Rian O'Neill, Conor Burke (0-3,1f), Danny Lyne, Gareth Murphy (1-0), Liam Casey (0-1), Cathal McNamara (0-1). Subs: Aaron Kelly (for Rian O'Neill, 42 mins), Liam Keane (for Cathal McNamara, 50 mins), Jack O'Loughlin (for Ajay Daly, 57 mins), Ollie Sherlock (for Liam Casey, 61 mins), Sean McMahon (for Ruben Fallon, 61 mins).

Referee: Ciarán Murphy (Cork)

#### **SKORTS**

Kerry and Cork were due to play in the Munster Intermediate Final this weekend. An important game in its own right, it was also very important to Kerry as preparation for the All Ireland Intermediate Group Stage in just two weeks time-they are a long time without a competitive game.

Some things are more important. The idea that Cork's Intermediate side would take the field wearing skorts when their senior side already refused to do so for the Senior Final (as did Waterford) is ridiculous. Not that Kerry had any intention of doing so either, they didn't. This has gone on long enough. A complete hames. Personally, I think the players should refuse to play any games until the EGM vote on skorts is taken and passed.

A related issue that needs to be dealt with is the fact that certain counties' delegates voted against motions that their own counties, including players, had clearly mandated them to support. Such people should, quite frankly, be removed as delegates by those counties.

A few small matters of confusion to clear up. The skorts issue is not a new thing. Very far from it. It's been on the agenda since I first started



following camogie. It's about comfort, that's all. It's not some kind of stand on principle. Skorts are basically a combined skirt and bicycle shorts. Have you worn bicycle shorts? They are uncomfortable. That's it. That's the mystery.

I've never, literally never, spoken to any player who likes the skort. I've spoken to one club coach from another county who coaches a young teenager who does like the skort. That's it. One hearsay example. And I do go to camogie games; I like hurling and camogie.

You know all the people who are outraged at the archaic and medieval thinking of the Executive? All the people, especially all the politicians, running in like crazy and leaping cheerfully on the bandwagon in defence of those poor and helpless players (who are a damn sight tougher than you or me, by the way)? Saturday, two weeks' time in Austin Stack Park. Kerry are playing Carlow. I look forward to seeing ye there. Wear skorts if ye want.

#### LION KINGS

I don't really know what to make of Lions' tours nowadays. It was the absolute highlight of the amatuer era. Making the Lions meant that you were a lifetime legend. Playing in a winning test? You were immortal. And playing in a winning test, a tough one (they really were all tough, simply because the elite stratification of professionalism obviously didn't feature) made you immortal. Even the most casual of Irish rugby fans knows two stories, Munster beating the All Blacks in Thomond in 1978, and Willie John McBride's famous '99' call in 1974.

If you are a real aficionado (I'm not pretending to be in any way), you know full well that all the best Lions' stories had absolutely nothing to do with the games.

Is it really like that now, though? Is it just me, or does it feel a little bit forced? A really slick marketing and promotion exercise more than anything else? We get too much information now. It's more like 'Enid Blyton Scripts a Stag Party' than anything else.

The pick of Ireland, England, Scotland, and Wales are travelling to take on an Australian team that lost to both Ireland and Scotland last year. Fair enough, they beat England, but that England team have improved hugely in my opinion. They beat Wales well, but, without being mean, so did everybody else. For that matter, guess who Wales had their last top tier victory against? They beat Australia by 40 – 6 at the 2023 World Cup in France. Fiji beat Australia as well. I know that World Cup was a nadir for Australia and they have turned that corner (they walloped Wales last year) but I think you can see why I'm a little sceptical about this.

Charging €65 to the press release of the Lions' panel (subject as always to injuries and late call-ups, 'twas ever thus) really doesn't help the credibility. And as for incoming captain Maro Itoje fully docked out in playing gear? Look, rugby can sometimes plague you with speeches about leadership models and motivational input and blue-sky thinking -they aren't the only ones guilty of it, but the bottom line really is have the basic skills and fitness, win the ball, use the ball well, and score more than the opposition. That's what it is all about. That latin aphorism and that great quote from General Whoever Whenever? Bah and humbug. Maro Itoje is a highly intelligent, articulate human being, well able to speak. This is not a dress-up doll. I feel – very strongly, in fact – that he should have been wearing an official suit yes, a 'blazer' with the logo. The famous (and often exaggerated) antipathy between 'players' and 'blazers' belongs to a very different era.

Anyway, I know full well how much value my opinion has on these things – I don;'t even get a say at my own breakfast table, let alone theirs. On to the actual selection, with the clearly understood proviso that, with so many club matches up ahead, this was actual just update number one, not definitive.

Hookers: (Dan Sheehan (Ireland), Luke Cowan Dickie (England), Ronán Kelliher (Ireland)

Props: Tadhg Furlong (Ireland), Andrew Porter (Ireland), Ellis Genge (England), Zander Fagerson (Scotland), Pierre Schoeman (Scotland), Will Stuart (England)

Locks: Tadhg Beirne (Ireland), Maro Itoje (England – captain), Ollie Chessum (Scotland), Scott Cummings (England), Joe McCarthy (Ireland), James Ryan (Ireland)

Back Rowers: Jack Conan (Ireland), Josh Van der Flier (Ireland), Tom Curry (England), Ben Earl (England), Henry Pollock (England), Jac Morgan (Wales)

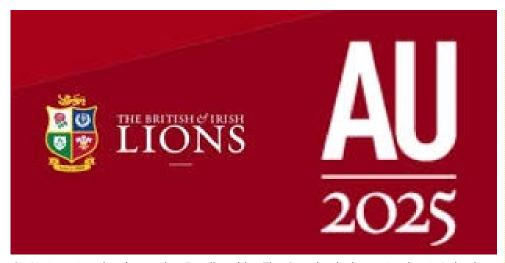
Scrum-Halves: Jamison Gibson-Park (Ireland), Alex Mitchell (England), Tomos Williams (Wales) Out Halves: Finn Russell (Scotland), Fin Smith (England), Marcus Smith (England)

Centres: Bundee Aki (Ireland), Garry Ringrose (Ireland), Huw Jones (Scotland), Sione Tuipulotu (Scotland),

Wingers: Mack Hansen Ireland), Duhan Van der Merwe (Scotland), Tommy Freeman (England), Full Backs: Hugo Keenan (Ireland), Blair Kinghorn (Scotland), Elliott Daly (England)

No huge talking points, to be honest (I presume all the usual social media suspects are desperately trying to kick up a fuss. Of course Caelan Doris is desperately unlucky to be injured; he would have been a shoe-in. Almost a lock, if you'll pardon the awful pun. Owen Farrell hasn't been having a great year, but I'd have picked him. Not perfect, he'd admit that much himself, but he's the kind of player you want on the hard days, and Marcus Smith, awesome last year, hasn't shown any of that form yet this year. The idea of Sam Prendergast or Jack Crowley being unlucky? Ah, lads, give over. Prendergast has my sympathies, he wasn't bigging himself up to anybody, but he hasn't played well enough. And I think Jack can feel genuinely hard done by in terms of Irish selection, I felt that he deserved way more

#### **ALL THINGS SPORT**



Six Nations time than he got, but Farrell could hardly pick him over the national starting player, could he? The omissions of both Robbie Henshaw and Scotland's Darcy Graham really surprised me, I had them both that as virtual certainties. I don't think Ben Curry or George Ford can have too many complaints; they must have been in the conversations and could be getting phone calls yet.

The Squad split by nationality is Ireland 15, England 13, Scotland 8, and Wales 2. There is a lot of jokes about selecting an all-antipodean team of backs, look, let's not bother with the cheap shots.

#### **Games Schedule**

Friday, 20 June - Lions v Argentina, Dublin (Aviva Stadium)

Saturday, 28 June - Lions v Western Force, Perth (Optus Stadium)

Wednesday, 2 July - Lions v Queensland Reds, Brisbane (Suncorp Stadium)

Saturday, 5 July - Lions v NSW Waratahs, Sydney (Allianz Stadium)

Wednesday, 9 July - Lions v ACT Brumbies, Canberra (GIO Stadium)

Saturday, 12 July - Lions v Invitational AU & NZ, Adelaide (Adelaide Oval)

Saturday, 19 July - Lions v Australia, first Test, Brisbane (Suncorp Stadium)

Tuesday, 22 July - Lions v Melbourne Rebels, Melbourne (Marvel Stadium)

Saturday, 26 July - Lions v Australia, second Test, Melbourne (Melbourne Cricket Ground/MCG) Saturday, 2 August - Lions v Australia, third Test, Sydney (Accor Stadium)

Look, in two years' time Australia will be hosting the Rugby World Cup. That competition has grown in standing as the likes of Autumn tests and Lions' tours have declined. The Lions tour feels like a bit of a relic of the amatuer era. The World Cup doesn't.

# TOUR DE MUNSTER Pedals Into 25th Year

#### 25 Years, €5 Million raised, and Countless Lives Changed

our de Munster, one of Ireland's most impactful charity cycling events, will mark its 25th anniversary this August. Since its inception in 2001, the event has raised more than €5 million for the Munster branches of Down Syndrome Ireland (DSI), funding vital services and support for children and adults with Down syndrome across the province.

The 25th edition of Tour de Munster is set to hit the road this summer, taking place from the 7th to the 10th of August. Marking a major milestone, the four-day charity cycle will once again see riders take on the challenging route across Munster.

Over the years, hundreds of cyclists have come together to take on the 600km route through the towns and villages of Munster. Along the way, they've turned each pedal stroke into real and lasting change for children and adults with Down syndrome across the region, raising millions in the process.

The Tour is powered by passion and while many participants have a personal connection to Down Syndrome, a significant number join simply out of a desire to make a difference. Along the route, cyclists are met by DSI families who provide encouragement, hospitality, and a personal connection to the cause they're supporting.

The 2025 Tour de Munster will kick off from Cork City on Thursday, 7th of August and continue over four days around the six counties of Munster before returning to Cork City on the 10th.

To support the Tour de Munster and donate, please visit www.tourdemunster.com.

For route information log onto www.tourdemunster. com and to follow updates on the Tour you can follow their Facebook page. For further information on Down Syndrome Ireland please see www.downsyndrome.ie.



Tour de Munster participants gathered at Fitzgerald's Park in Cork to celebrate the upcoming 25th edition of the Tour de Munster charity cycle. The 600km annual charity cycle, takes place this August and has been a cornerstone of community fundraising across Munster since 2001, raising over €5 million in support of the Munster branches of Down Syndrome Ireland (DSI).



#### **FOSSA**

**LOTTO** 

The numbers drawn on 11/05/2025 for a jackpot of €10,200 were 6, 18, 23, 24. There was no jackpot winner. The €40 consolation prize winners were; Killian Lynch, Caroline Meehan, Cath O'Connor Firies, Siobhan Looney Gortroe, Tim Foley Barleymount. Tickets are available from our sellers and can also be bought online with the following link https://fossagaa.clubforce.com/products/lotto/fossa-gaa-clublotto

#### **COUNTY LEAGUE DIV.5**

Fossa secured a valuable two points with a hard-fought win over Kilgarvan on Sunday afternoon. This was a good game of football played in very warm conditions and it ebbed and flowed right to the finish. Fossa started well with Micheal O'Dwyer, Ryan Sheehan, Peadar Kelliher and a Ted O'Gorman goal giving them a six point lead by the 16th minute. Darragh O'Brien was very prominent in this half, cutting out numerous Kilagrvan attacks, however the home side finished the half very strongly and the sides went in level at the break, Kilgarvan 0-10, Fossa 1-07.

Kilgarvan dominated the opening exchanges of the second half and kicked five points with Kevin McCarthy kicking a free to keep Fossa in touch. In the 14th minute the hard working Peadar Kelliher was pulled down for a penalty which was expertly dispatched by Killian Buckley to get Fossa back into the game. Scores from rampaging Ted O'Gorman, Michael O'Dwyer and a brace from Peadar Kelliher pushed Fossa in front by three with time running out. Kilgarvan to their credit never gave up and brought it back to a one point game but with Michael O'Dwyer using all his experience and guile and Ruari Doyle working hard, they set up Dan O'Keeffe for a fine point to ensure Fossa ran out winners on a score of 2-13 to 0-17.

#### **U14 CO LEAGUE ROUND 5**

#### Fossa 5-15, Brosna/Knocknagoshel 5-04

Our Under 14 boys were back on road again as they made the long journey out to North Kerry to face Knock/Brosna in a crucial County League

On a warm balmy evening in Brosna, the conditions were ideal for football and both sides gave it their all from start to finish. Fossa got off to a flyer when Johnny Myers goaled within the first 5 minutes and this was quickly followed by a point from midfielder Aaron O' Sullivan. However, Brosna quickly responded and scored 2 goals of their own to silence the visitors. As half time approached, up popped Johnny Myers to crash home his 2nd goal to give Fossa a five point interval lead of 2-07 to 2-02.

At half time the Fossa management rallied the troops as they knew they were now in a dog fight, away from home, with the local supporters getting louder by the minute. In the 2nd half Knock/Brosna struck early for their 3rd goal and this was immediately followed up with a 4th goal from the penalty spot. Fossa were now facing defeat in the face, but they responded brilliantly to a man. Ross Cronin scored an excellent goal from an acute angle and within minutes Gerry Moroney scored a bullet of a goal. Fossa were now in full swing and upped their performance

immeasurably. Johnny Myers completed his hatrick with a 3rd goal and the biggest cheer of the night came when Gerry Moroney kicked the first 2 pointer of the season for the team with a booming kick from all of 45 yards. When excellent Cordal Referee Tim O' Donoghue blew his final whistle, Fossa had prevailed by 11 points on the scoreboard. Special mention to our defenders who held their opponents to four points for the entire game.

Fossa Scorers: Johnny Myers 3-02, Gerry Moroney 1-03, Ross Cronin 1-03, Shea Driver 0-04, Ryan Lynch 0-02, Aaron O'Sullivan 0-01.

Fossa Team: David Kennelly, Cian Riordan, Charlie O'Meara, Noah Keogh, George Nomikas, Donnacha Coffey, Sean Doyle, Gerry Moroney, Aaron O' Sullivan, Tristan Cryan, Ross Cronin, Shea Driver, Mark O' Connor, Johnny Myers, Ryan Lynch, Eoin Murphy, Colm O' Sullivan, Cian Sheehan, Luke Nott, Oliver Bagi, Peter Clifford, Rory Salvador, Rian O'Reilly.

#### **U16 BOYS**

Fossa and Beaufort served up an East Kerry Division 2 semi-final for the ages, with the hosts eventually edging a high-scoring classic on a 6-15 to 4-15 scoreline to book their place in the final against Rathmore.

Fossa got off to a flying start under the evening sun, with Luke Clancy finding the back of the net inside just two minutes. That early goal set the tone for a dominant opening half-hour, as the home side controlled proceedings all over the pitch. Midfielders Mikey Moroney, Donnacha Vaughan, and Charlie Griffin impressed with their aerial prowess, while Eoin Bennett, Ben O'Sullivan, and Ross O'Gorman were relentless in mopping up the breaks.

At the back, Oisín Cryan and Paddy Myers kept the Fossa defence rock solid, and with sharp shooting from Luke Rennie, Luke Clancy, and James O'Meara, the home side surged into a commanding 1-9 to 0-2 lead.

But Beaufort showed tremendous heart. After twice rattling the crossbar, they finally broke through with two late first-half goals in quick succession to breathe life into the contest. Despite trailing 1-10 to 2-3 at the interval, the visitors had momentum on their side. Fossa however, came out sharper after the break. Mikey Moroney and Eoin Bennett both hit the net within the first eight minutes of the second half to stretch the lead to eight. Yet Beaufort simply refused to lie down. They landed a string of fine points before adding two more goals, reducing the deficit to just a single score entering the final 10 minutes.

As the pressure mounted, it was Fossa's turn to dig deep. Despite Beaufort winning much of the aerial battle, turnovers from the tireless Josh Salvador and Sam O'Leary proved crucial. Mikey Moroney bagged his second goal and Johnny Myers added another to restore a sevenpoint cushion. Beaufort would strike for a fourth goal to narrow the margin once again, but Dara Whelton stood tall between the posts with a series of vital saves. The final word went to Donnacha Vaughan, whose sixth and final Fossa goal put the seal on a dramatic win. Credit to Beaufort, who fought bravely to the final whistle and played a full part in a sensational encounter. Thanks also to referee Evan Horan for his steady

handling of the contest. Fossa now march on to the Division 2 final where they'll face Rathmore — a rematch of an earlier league draw that promises to be another close-fought battle.

#### **CREDIT UNION - DONAL CURTIN CUP RD 7**

On a beautiful morning Fossa Senior ladies travelled to a blistering Spa to play the final round of this competition. An early exceptional penalty stop for Fossa and a goal at the other end saw the momentum swing toward us and their it remained for most of the half. After some fantastic passages of attacking play and equally stout defending Fossa went in at the break up 4-02 v 0-03.

In a tough tackling 2nd half battle the Fossa ladies stood firm, and while we had some enforced changes, and a sin bin to contend with we absorbed the early pressure, kept the work rate high, and got the vital scores our effort deserved to allow us to run out good winners. All our squad played their part and contributed in a very physical game which ended 6-06 v 1-05. We wish a very speedy recovery to all our walking wounded. Next up for us a possibile back game to be played at home v Finuge St Senans – TBC.

#### **EAST KERRY NEWS**

**FINALS** 

Listry 5-21 Kenmare 2-13 Dr Crokes 0-17 Spa 0-8 Rathmore 5-12 Scartaglen 3-11 Glenflesk 5-09 Kilgarvan 2-13 Kilcummin 3-15 Firies 3-12 UNDER 16 HURLING TEAM

Our East Kerry Under 16 Hurling Team took on Causeway in the first round of the Lee Strand County Under 16 Hurling League in Rathmore on Sunday morning.

In an exciting and high scoring game that was level at half time, Causeway edged out East Kerry in the end on a scoreline of 5-20 to 5-11.

Well done to both teams and thanks to Rathmore GAA for hosting the game.

#### **EAST KERRY MINOR HURLING TEAM**

Our East Kerry Minor Hurling Team took to the field in the first round of the Keanes Supervalu County Minor Hurling League against St Brendans in Caherslee this evening.

On a beautiful evening for hurling, East Kerry battled bravely against a strong St Brendans side who ran out comfortably winners in the end.

#### **MONTHLY MEETING**

Our next monthly meeting takes place on Tuesday May 20th in Heights Hotel Killarney at 9pm.

#### KILLARNEY LEGION

**COUNTY LEAGUE** 

Nigel Shevlins side sit in second place in Division 1 of the County League following their latest win, this time over Beaufort on Sunday afternoon. And while the sun may not have shone, the free scoring Ryan O Grady certainly lit up the game, hitting ten points which accounted for exactly half of his sides total. It was Ryan who struck the opening two points, soon followed by a Cian Gammell effort to open up an early three point advantage. David and Eoghan O Sullivan were next on target as the visitors struggled

**QGAA NEWS** 

early on. Finbarr Murphy followed his cousin onto the scoresheet and with the half entering its final stages it was double scores, 0-8 to 0-4. Beaufort improved as the half went on and further points from David O Sullivan and Finbarr Murphy made it 0-10 to 0-06 at the interval. Beaufort grew into the game early in the second half, a point emphasised by an early scoring run which yielded 1-1 and tied up the game. David Sullivans last act of the game was to steady the ship before making way for Oisin Fleming with Bryan Walsh also coming on for Josh Bowler. That early Beaufort onslaught served to kick start a purple patch with Ryan O Grady particularly influential, and Peter McCarthy and Cian Gammell also getting in on the act. But Beaufort came again, hitting another 1-1 to close the gap to three points, 0-17 to 2-8. But there was no danger the Mid Kerry side would gatecrash the party as Ryan O'Grady and Oisin Fleming closed out the game to put the seal on a 0-20 to 2-8 win.

#### **U12 GIRLS**

The first Go Games of 2025 for the U12 girls took place on Tuesday evening in Direen against Listowel Emmets. Two teams from both sides played out two great games of football on an excellent evening for football. Legion down a few girls due to other sporting commitments played their best and excellent football against

an equally good and very impressive Listowel Emmets side. These games can not take place without the referees who take up the whistle and huge thanks to Amy Walshe who again came to help out on the evening and did an excellent job.

#### **FEILE**

Pride of place this week goes to the U15 team who have qualified for Feile, which takes place at the end of June. Pitted in the same group as Ballymacelligott and Laune Rangers they over came an hard earned draw with Laune Rangers to beat the same opposition in the final. It promises to be an exciting build up to what is always a showpiece event.

Results: Killarney Legion 2-10 Ballymac 0-2, Killarney Legion 1-7 Laune Rangers 0-10, Killarney Legion 2-3 Laune Rangers 1-5 (Final) U14 BOYS

On a fine evening perfect for football, our U14 boys battled bravely at home against a physically strong and well-organised Ballyduff side. Despite falling behind 1-6 to 2-11 at the break, the lads showed real character in the second half, launching a spirited comeback to get within striking distance. By the final whistle, Ballyduff edged it 3-21 to 5-10, but the neversay-die attitude and slick attacking were a credit to the team. While the result didn't go our way, the lads left everything on the pitch.

After that tough outing on Tuesday, the lads wree back in action on Friday evening with a point to prove and they did so in emphatic fashion. Producing a dominant display to see off a spirited Ardfert side, on an impressive scoreline of 5-16 to 1-13. Half timehad already seen a strong foundation being built, leading 5-6 to 1-4, that reflected their dominance. The midfield duo controlled the tempo brilliantly, while the forwards capitalised on nearly every opportunity that came their way. Our goalkeeper made some fantastic saves and the backs made life very difficult for the Ardfert forwards. In the second half, Ardfert came more into the game, adding 9 points to their tally, but the lads always held the upper hand.

WELL DONE to Noel O Sullivan who alongside driver Callum Devine picked up their fourth consecutive win in last weekend Killarney Rally of the Lakers. As co driver Noel would have an important job keeping Callum on his toes, something he picked up no doubt from his Legion goalkeeping days, keeping his back line in check.

#### **LOTTO**

Monday May 5th. Numbers were 6, 10, 11, 15. Bonus 24. No Jackpot Winner. Match 3s / Lucky Dips: Joan Doran, Killarney Oaks, Timmy McGillycuddy

# TY'S ENJOY NEW EXPERIENCES

Last Tuesday the TYs from the Killarney Community College completed a full day barista training course and are now qualified baristas making them extremely employable in our local cafes and restaurants this summer. Our resident coffee experts, the teachers were very impressed with their efforts and availed of their lattes, cappuccinos, and Americanos throughout the day.

They also made the short trip to Mallow where they learned about the rules of the road, practiced driver theory test, got behind the wheel of a car for the first time for many and learned about the dangers of speed and impaired driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs.





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Students from Raheen National School on their First Holy Commuinion Day. Photo Seamus Healy.



Edison Boyle O'Sullivan pictured on his First Holy Communion day with his family, mum Karen, brother Craig and sister Alice.



Students from Knockanes National Schoolon their First Holy Commuinion Day. Photo Seamus Healy.



Students from Glenflesk National School on their First Holy Communion Day. Photo Seamus Healy.



Ailbhe O Sullivan, Lissivigeen NS, who received her First Holy Communion on Saturday, 3rd May in The Church of the Resurrection, Killarney. Pictured on the day with her family.



 $Students\ from\ Barraduff\ National\ School\ on\ their\ First\ Holy\ Communion\ Day.\ Photo\ Seamus\ Healy.$ 







# ALL SQUARE IN AUSTIN STACK PARK

#### **Kerry 1-6** Tipperary 1-6

By Dan Kearney

It finished honours even in Austin Stack Park as Aishling Moloney inspired Tipperary to a share of the spoils in the TG4 Munster SFC.

Kerry played against a strong breeze in the opening half, but it was Tipperary who took more of their chances despite having less of the possession. After a cagey start to proceedings, Kerry struck first on six minutes when Niamh Carmody's free found Siofra O'Shea, who under pressure laid off to Rachel Dwyer for the opening point.

Tipperary responded in the eighth as ] Moloney was fouled and converted the free. A goal chance for Kerry on ten minutes ended in a point after Julia Curtin's effort was parried out for a 45. Tipp took the lead a minute later when Moloney finished low to the net past the onrushing Katie Hannan after a quick counter. Leah Boyle narrowed the gap to two with a point on 13 minutes. Tipp however edged further ahead with scores from Moloney and Kennedy, but Kerry stayed in touch through two O'Shea frees in the final minutes of the half. At halftime, Tipperary led narrowly 1-3 to 0-4. With the breeze to their backs Kerry had an ideal start to the second half. After yet another closely fought start, an audacious 40 yard attempt at a point from Niamh Carmody dropped into the back of the net past Lauren Fitzpatrick.

Moloney levelled the tie just six minutes later with a free, as Tipp started to get right back into the tie. Kerry almost waved their second green flag before the end of the third quarter. Carmody again involved and her goal-bound shot was denied by a superb block by Emma Cronin.

Rachel Dwyer restored Kerry's lead soon after, but again it was the imperious Moloney that responded again, this time with a brilliant effort from a tight angle to make it 1-5 to 1-5 by quarters end.

In the 47th minute Tipp had another chance at goal, Moloney's long-range free dipped dangerously but was expertly tipped onto the crossbar by Kerry keeper Katie Hannan. Kerry pushed ahead once more when O'Shea pointed her first from play in the 49th minute, giving them a narrow 1-6 to 1-5 lead. But again Moloney had the answer, another free splitting the posts in the closing stages, as the sides played out a hard earned draw.

Scorers - Kerry: N Carmody 1-0, S O'Shea 0-3 (2f), R Dwyer 0-2, L Boyle 0-1.

Tipperary: A Moloney 1-5 (4f), C Kennedy 0-1.

Kerry: K Hannan; K O'Connor, E Lynch, C Lynch (capt); C McCarthy, E Costello, A Dillane; A O'Connell, A Galvin; N Carmody, J Lucey, L Boyle; S O'Shea, R Dwyer, J Curtin. Subs: C Evans for J Curtin, R Rahilly for K O'Connor (both half-time), E O'Connor for C McCarthy (44), F

O'Donoghue for C Lynch (55), M Higgins for R Dwyer (57).

Tipperary: L Fitzpatrick (capt); N Martin, L Morrissey, E Cronin; S English, M Curley, K Cashman; N Towey, C Kennedy; H Spillane, A Ryan, I Carr; A Moloney, E Cremins, A Fennessy. Subs: A McGuigan for E Cremins (h/t), C English for H Spillane (37), B Condon for K Cashman (44), A R Kennedy for A Ryan, H Brennan for N Towey (both 55).

Referee: Conor McCarthy (Cork). Officer Kerry LGFA

#### **RESULTS**

All Ireland U14 Championship Quarter Final (Gold Series)

Kerry 3-12 -v- Wexford 2-04

Munster LGFA Senior B Championship Round 3

Clare 2-12 -v- Kerry 1-05

Munster LGFA Senior B Championship Final

Clare -v- Limerick

Sunday 25th May, Mallow GAA Complex - 12noon

All Ireland U14 Championship Semi Final (Gold Series)

Kerry -v- Monaghan Offaly -v- Dublin

Saturday 24th May, Venues & Times TBC

# TG4 MUNSTER LGFA SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

**Kerry -v- Waterford** 

Sunday 25th May, Mallow GAA Complex. Throw in: 2:30pm





Congratulations to Killarney Valley AC winners of the Senior Men overall cup the Quill cup for the fourth year in a row. Well done everyone

Killarney Valley AC Senior women's team winners of the Christina O' Shea Cup. Here they are being presented with the cup by Chris' husband John, daughter Kate & niece Dearbhla. Well done to Killarney Valley who won the cup for the second year in a row.



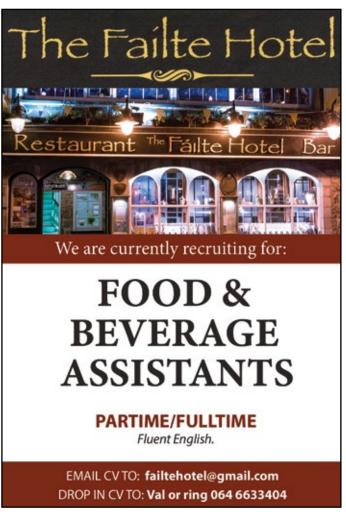
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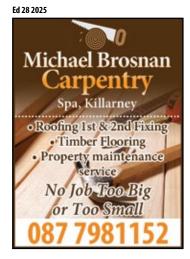


























FD 40, 2025













# KERRY COUNTY COUNCIL STOPPING HOUSE BUILDING IN KERRY

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

# ERRATIC PLANNING DECISIONS WITHOUT CONSEQUENCES FOR KERRY COUNTY COUNCIL

Builders have expressed the view that it is easier to build houses in Cork than it is in Kerry. In Cork, for example, builders carry out the work, a snag list of any outstanding issues is created, the builders rectify those issues and any bond funds are promptly returned to the builder. Bond funds are amounts of money held back from the builder by the bank until all work has been completed. If the council delays signing off on the completion of the snag list, the bond funds are not released back to builder and they are left out of pocket. In Cork, once the snag list has been signed off, the maintenance of any new housing development is promptly taken over by Cork County Council. Builders claim that it is much more problematic dealing with Kerry County Council. It can take years for an official snag list to be created. The saga does not end here. When that list is finally completed, more maintenance issues are added. Builders have claimed that this final stage can take years and can add unnecessary financial stress. In effect, builders are being used to maintain an estate, post-build. In many cases, the builder ends up just forfeiting the bond, as it becomes too costly to continue completing the constant snag lists generated by Kerry County Council. Works are rarely carried out with these bond funds and ultimately the money ends up in the road maintenance programme for the whole county.

While waiting for Kerry County Council to take over the maintenance of their estate, the residents are obliged to pay for that maintenance themselves, and all the while, Kerry County Council continue their delaying tactics. These residents already pay road tax which goes towards road maintenance. And they are also paying local property tax. Why are the most pressured group in society being treated so badly? Typically these are young people with young families struggling to pay bills and Kerry County Council has the power to make their lives a little bit easier but unfortunately, the opposite is the case.

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



The builder rerouted heavy traffic away from the estate and used an existing farm road at the rear of the site to access the building site. The photo shows the relief road and this road was in existence long before his company built these houses. After the houses were built the Council instructed the builder to go onto private property and dig up the relief road and turn the area into a green field otherwise Kerry County Council will take €20,000 via a bond from the builder. Kerry County Council contacted this publication stating that the heading of this article is "grossly misleading and incorrect". Nobody wants badly built estates but this example does

not entice builders to build houses.

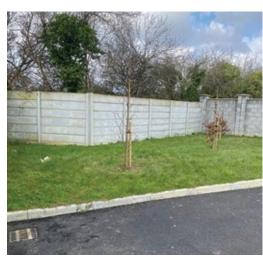


This is a photo of a manhole that was built in 2008.

This manhole is in perfect condition after sixteen years.

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

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



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









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Some can have a short flowering time and others can flower right through the summer. Remembering when choosing your flowering shrubs that you find out the flowering period as this can determine the position that you are going to plant your shrub.

A good example of a deciduous flowering shrub that will flower for a long period over the summer is a shrub called Potentilla. It comes in a good range of colours also, including white, yellow, orange and red. It is a medium to small sized shrub and if you have a small space, Potentilla Red Ace is quite a compact one and would be suitable.

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# Bishop Ray Browne welcomes the election of

# **Pope Leo XIV**

His words that point to Christ's Easter message: "Peace be with you": God loves us, all of us"

With joy and gratitude, I welcome the news of the election of Pope Leo XIV as the Bishop of Rome and successor to Saint Peter. On behalf of the Diocese of Kerry I pledge our prayer and heartfelt support for his ministry as Pope.

In introducing himself to the crowds in Rome, he praised the papacy of Pope Francis and went on to emphasize the challenges of world peace, world poverty, and synodality, - the people of God journeying together. His quoting St Augustine regarding "For you I am a bishop, with you I am a Christian" points to a key emphasis on every baptised person having a part to play in the mission of the Church: practising their faith and living it in the community and society, sharing their faith with others and handing it on to their children.

Pope Leo XIV brings great experience and wisdom to the papacy: his early years at home in Chicago, his life as an Augustinian priest including two terms of leadership



Branch State



of the Order at world level; his years both as a missionary and as a bishop in Peru; his recent years as Cardinal and leader of the office in Rome that coordinates the choice of bishops for dioceses worldwide. It is good that he has visited Ireland a number of times, visiting the Augustinian communities throughout the country. I invite all the clergy, religious and laity across the Diocese of Kerry to offer prayers of thanksgiving, and in the weeks and months ahead to continue to pray for him as he takes up office.

Bishop Ray Browne



"And my God will liberally supply (fill until full) your every need according to His riches in Glory in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be the Glory forever and ever, Amen" (Philippians 4:19-20 Amplified Bible)

Welcome back dear student, still on the study of how God supplies our needs. The Scripture here makes it clear that whatever our needs, God will overflow to us by the Power of His Glorious Presence in those who believe in and live under the Lordship of Jesus. In Psalm 23 the Word tells of how God prepares a table before us in the presence of our enemies, anoints our heads with oil, our cups run over (Psalm 23:5). God is the God of abundance and more than enough. When a person is thirsty it's a joyous thing for someone to give you a full glass of refreshment — there's nothing worse than a measly portion. "...Jesus cried out.. 'if anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink! He who believes in Me and relies on Me, as the Scriptures have said - 'out of your belly shall flow rivers of Living Water" (John 7:37-38). Living water flows from the Presence of God and it's not just a drink of joy now and then, but a never-ending source of provision and Life not just for you, but also through you. God knows your need's friend, and He has already taken care of them (Matthew 6:25-33). All we have to do is come humbly before Him and ask and receive believing by faith in His Word. "In returning and rest you shall be saved, in quietness and confidence shall be your strength..." (Isaiah 30:15). For the believer in Jesus there must be a change in leadership. This is what God calls humbling yourself — not in demeaning yourself in poverty or punishment but in confessing sin and acknowledging that you need a Saviour – you need God's help (Psalm 18:28-36). Repentance is turning from sin - and living instead in obedience to God's Word - honouring Him instead of honouring the devil. Where before we paddled our own canoe, to enter into God's Salvation, one must yield all to Him. It has been taught that if you give enough of your money or your time, God will be impressed and give you favour. That's not what truly yielding means. Really it's our hearts - the very essence of who we are and what we live for that God seeks. He has given us a free will to decide who, or what we will serve, but He longs for us to select and trust Him.

Exposing the heart makes one vulnerable - we cleverly hide from others and even from ourselves the reality, but God knows the whole truth and yet He still chooses to make His home in the yielded heart. The enemy tries to torment people in their minds with destructive thoughts that God could never accept or love them, but friend - never forget that Satan is a liar! Jesus said. . . . "you did not choose Me, but I chose you" (John 15:16). The Lord is looking for fruit that will last. Fruit only comes from a branch that is attached to its life source — here the Lord gives the example of Him as the Vine. Grapes are the fruit that comes from the vine. They are sweet and delicious and can be pressed into a valuable substance that lasts — wine. David reveals the power of resting in God in Psalm 23. In the presence of our Good Shepherd Jesus, we His sheep are safe and protected, and health and our well-being is all provided for (John 10:27-28; Isaiah 53:5). Get to know Jesus, and get right with God, and drink from that Living Water!

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# **NOVENATO** ST MARTIN

Dear Lord, we thank You for giving us St. Martin de Porres as an example of holiness. Help us to imitate the devotion to You he showed beginning from his childhood and adolescence in poverty.

St. Martin de Porres, you and your family were very poor during your childhood and adolescence. Though you and your family suffered from poverty, you were eager to grow in love for God.

Please bring my petitions before God Whom you loved! Your mother was barely able to support you and your sister. You had to begin work as a barber and surgeon from a young age, but you persevered in seeking God's will for your life. Pray for me, that I may never allow sufferings to deter me from serving God. Pray that I may eagerly seek His will for my life, as you did.

Please also pray for (mention your intentions here). St. Martin de Porres, pray for us! In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Brid & Dermot** 

# **PRAYER TO PADRE PIO**

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

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & 1ST ANNIVERSARY

In Loving Memory of

#### CHARLIE O'LEARY



HAWTHORN AVENUE. KILLARNEY WHO DIFD ON THE 23rd Of May 2024.

As we lovingly remember Charlie on the first Anniversary of his passing, we, his family, wish to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to our relatives, neighbours and friends for their support and kindness over the past year. We sincerely appreciate all who have shared their fond memories of Charlie.

Our heartfelt thanks go to those who attended the removal and funeral mass, especially those who travelled long distances to be with us. To everyone who sent Mass cards, messages, phone calls and online condolences, as well as those who brought refreshments and made generous donations in Charlie's memory to Our Lady's Children's Hospital, Crumlin - your thoughtfulness has meant so much to us.

We extend our sincere gratitude to the paramedics and staff of Kerry University Hospital for their kindness and the dignified care they provided to Charlie. Our sincere thanks also go to O' Shea's funeral directors for their professionalism and kindness in the handling of the funeral arrangements.

We are especially grateful to Pauline for her comforting words and for saying the rosary on both evenings.

We offer our sincere thanks to Fr. Sean Jones for his beautiful celebration of Charlie's funeral Mass, and to Fr. Tom Loonev and Fr. Paddy O' Donoghue, who concelebrated with him. A special thank you to Laura and Anita for the beautiful music and singing.

While we cannot thank each of you personally, please except this acknowledgement as an expression of our gratitude. The Holy sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for your intentions.

Charlie's first Anniversary Mass will take place on Thursday, May 22nd at 6:15pm in St. Mary's Cathedral, Killarney.

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