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Woodlawn Park Residents came together to purchase and install a new publicly accessible defibrillator in the heart of Woodlawn Park. The close knit community will undergo AED training. In an emergency a rapid and safe response is vital. The Killarney Cardiac Response Unit and local residents who are trained in the equipment will be on hand to offer support and training.

At the helm of this necessary life-saving project were from left, Jessica O'Connor, Shane Edwards and Catherine O'Sullivan-Hoffman. Photo: Valerie O'Sullivan



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A Note from the EDITOR



In the week when the residents of Woodlawn Park came together to ensure that a rapid and safe response to an emergency was in place, we have a busy magazine for you.

A massive €21,138 was donated to the Kerry Hospice Foundation following the fantastic fundraiser, Under Andy's Arches, the Gap of Dunloe Traditional Boat Tours are up for a prestigious award and a dedicated dad is spending 2026 running races for St. Francis Special School.

Network Ireland Kerry started the year with a vibrant opening event, bus routes from Beaufort were raised in Dail Eireann and Killarney Tidy Towns Committee is engaging with local students.

The Friary Folk Group has raised funds for Comfort for Chemo and the Kerry Darts Association raised funds for two deserving charities.

Mid Kerry Biddy's Day Festival has been announced, the countdown is on for this year's Killarney Musical Societies production of All Shook Up and a special men's health night is taking place next week to highlight Heart Health Awareness.

In sport, Dingle are celebrating a historic win, Katie Taylor is behind the fight for Ladies Gaelic Football and Killarney Triathlon Club are holding an Open Night. Something for everyone in this week's Killarney Outlook - Enjoy!

Aisling Crosbie



Feasting on berries...a robin captured perfectly at Muckross Gardens by Teresa Randles



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THIS WEEK

ALL THE NEWS FROM THE KILLARNEY AREA AND BEYOND

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Woodlawn Park Community Unites to Install Life-Saving Defibrillator

Residents of Woodlawn Park have once again demonstrated the strength of their close-knit community with the successful purchase and installation of a new publicly accessible Automated External Defibrillator (AED) in the heart of the estate.

The life-saving device, now available to the public in the event of a cardiac emergency, represents a major step forward in ensuring rapid and effective emergency response within the area. In situations where every second counts, access to an AED can prove vital, significantly increasing survival rates.

As part of the initiative, Woodlawn Park residents will undergo full AED training to ensure the equipment can be used quickly and safely if required. The Killarney Cardiac Response Unit has been instrumental in supporting the project and will continue to work closely with the community by providing training and ongoing guidance. Local residents

trained in the use of the AED will also be on hand to offer assistance and reassurance during emergencies.

Leading this important life-saving project were, from left, Jessica O'Connor, Shane Edwards and Catherine O'Sullivan-Hoffman, whose dedication and commitment helped bring the initiative to fruition. The installation of the AED stands as a powerful example of community spirit in action, highlighting how local cooperation and proactive planning can make a real and lasting difference when it matters most.



The Defibrillator is located in Woodlawn Park opposite the green.



At the helm of this necessary life-saving project were from left, Jessica O'Connor, Shane Edwards and Catherine O'Sullivan-Hoffman pictured with residents of Woodlawn Park. Photo: Valerie O'Sullivan

Under Andy's Arches

raises an amazing €21,138

Following a fantastic fundraiser for the Kerry Hospice Foundation in December, this week, representatives from the charity attended a cheque presentation at Killarney Carpet & Furniture Centre where they received an amazing €21,138.

In December, the store was transformed into a magical Winter Wonderland on Sunday, December 7th hundreds of local families attended the festive scene in support of Palliative Care services.

The initiative, affectionately titled "Picture for

Palliative Under Andy's Arches," saw the store's showroom converted into a Christmas grotto, complete with a seasonal backdrop perfect for family photographs. Visitors enjoyed warm hot chocolate, soaked up the festive atmosphere, and made donations to Palliative Care.

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

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

In a generous gesture, the store also committed to matching every donation made.

"We were blown away by the support, Niall told Killarney Outlook.

"We are very proud, as I am sure, Dad would have been to hand over the proceeds from the fundraiser and on behalf of my family, I want to thank everyone who donated", he added.

The money raised was for a cause that has touched many families across Kerry.



Niall O'Sullivan, Killarney Carpet Centre pictured donating €21,138 to the Kerry Hospice Foundation, raised from Under Andy's Arches for Palliative Care. Niall, and his brother Ronan, (second left) are pictured with members of the Kerry Hospice Foundation committee and staff members of Killarney Carpet & Furniture Centre.



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Gap of Dunloe Traditional Boat Tours Nominated for Best Irish Outdoor Experience at the Outsider Awards



Donal "Dux" O'Donoghue



Gap of Dunloe Traditional Boat Tours has been nominated in the Best Irish Outdoor Experience of the Year category at the prestigious Outsider Awards, recognising its long-standing contribution to outdoor tourism in Ireland.

The nomination celebrates the O'Donoghue family-run experience that has guided visitors through the Lakes of Killarney and the Gap of Dunloe for generations. Deeply rooted in local knowledge, storytelling, and a profound respect for the natural landscape, the tours offer a relaxed and immersive way to explore one of Ireland's most iconic settings.

Adding to the sense of pride, the category also includes fellow Killarney favourites and friends, the Wander Wild Festival, highlighting the strength of Killarney as a leading destination for outdoor and nature-based experiences.

Speaking about the nomination, Donal Dux Jnr said: "We are incredibly proud to be nominated for this award. Our tours are built on

generations of local knowledge and a genuine love for the lakes and mountains of Killarney. To have that recognised at a national level is a huge honour, and it would mean a great deal to bring this award back to the Lakes of Killarney." The team at O'Donoghue Traditional Boat Tours is encouraging locals, visitors, partners, and supporters to take a moment to vote and help showcase Killarney's outdoor heritage on a national stage.

And should the award go elsewhere, the team would be delighted to see their friends at the Wander Wild Festival take home the title. Either way, Killarney wins.

Voting for the Outsider Awards is now open, with every vote helping to celebrate Ireland's outstanding outdoor experiences, the people behind them, and the landscapes that make them truly special.



Eleanor Turner, Kerry County Council, Jonathan Clarke, Kerry County Council, Mary O'Connor, Tralee Bay Wetlands, Kieran Galwey, Tralee Bay Wetlands, Niamh Ní Dhuill, Transition Kerry, Margaret Kissane, Lakeside Café at Tralee Bay Wetlands, Alan Balfe, Tralee Bay Wetlands, Eoin O'Reilly Tralee Bay Wetlands.

World Wetlands Day 2026 at Tralee Bay Wetlands Ecology Park

Tralee Bay Wetlands Ecology Park will host a free programme on Monday, 2 February 2026 to celebrate World Wetlands Day, highlighting the theme "Wetlands and Traditional Knowledge: Celebrating Cultural Heritage."

The day will feature birdwatching, talks, guided walks and a creative workshop, celebrating the ecological and cultural importance of wetlands. All events are free and family-friendly.

Outdoor clothing is recommended. Everyone welcome.



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Tidy Towns Committee Engages with Local Students

Members of the Killarney Tidy Towns Committee, along with representatives from Killarney Tidy Towns, recently visited Killarney Community College to engage with students and staff in a collaborative effort to enhance and develop laneways throughout Killarney town.

The visit focused on sharing ideas and exploring practical ways to improve the appearance, accessibility, and overall character of the town's laneways. Discussions highlighted the importance of these spaces in contributing to Killarney's streetscape, community pride, and environmental sustainability.

Students were encouraged to put forward creative suggestions, including planting initiatives, artwork, biodiversity features, and cleanliness measures, all aimed at making the laneways more welcoming



Students from Killarney Community College pictured with representatives from Killarney Tidy Towns Committee.

and attractive for residents and visitors alike. The initiative also provided an opportunity to raise awareness among young people about the role Tidy Towns plays in maintaining and improving the local environment.

Committee members praised the enthusiasm and fresh perspectives brought forward by the students and noted that community involvement, particularly from younger generations, is vital to the continued success of

Killarney Tidy Towns.

The collaboration forms part of an ongoing commitment to community-led improvement projects and reflects a shared vision of enhancing Killarney's public spaces while fostering civic responsibility and local pride. Plans are now being explored to progress some of the ideas discussed during the visit.

Tom Runs for St Francis Special School

Local man Tom Fleming has launched a year-long running challenge to raise funds and awareness for St Francis Special School, a place that holds deep personal significance for his family.

From January to December 2026, Tom plans to take part in as many 5k, 10k and half-marathon races as possible across Munster, with the goal of completing his first full marathon at the Limerick Marathon in May. The challenge is being undertaken in support of St Francis Special School, which his 13-year-old son Corey has attended for the past four years.

"Corey, who is autistic and has a moderate intellectual disability, has thrived at the school thanks to what the family describe as exceptional care, dedication and guidance from staff. Tom says the initiative is his way of giving something back to the school, as well as to the children and parents who work tirelessly every day.

"The care Corey receives is out of this world," Tom said. "As parents, we wanted to give back in whatever way we can, and this felt like a positive way to support the school while raising awareness", Corey's mum Debbie told Killarney Outlook.

Donations can be made through Tom's iDonate page at: <https://www.idonate.ie/tomfleming1>



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Killarney Chamber of Tourism & Commerce together with the Christmas in Killarney Festival Committee would like to convey our deep appreciation to everyone in our community that helps to make the Christmas in Killarney Festival a success each year.

Thank you to our dedicated volunteers who manage the weekly magic parades and to our Chamber Partners & Sponsors, whose sponsorship funds critical components of this self-supported event every year. The Festival was also in receipt in 2025 of grant support funding from both The Community Recognition Fund and the Community Support Fund. This combined funding support from sponsors, partners and Council grants enabled us to introduce new and exciting features to the festival, such as two new floats for the magic parades and an enhanced Christmas Market offering at the new Market Lane location.

The Festival relies heavily on the strong collaboration we have with local Councillors, staff and management at the Killarney Municipal Council as well as An Garda Síochána. Our wonderful Santa's Grotto experience is made possible with the support of the NPWS each year by providing the location for the Grotto.

Thank you to the Killarney Valley Classic and Vintage Club for their key role in delivering high-quality magic parades each year, from providing manpower and creating new floats to managing logistics. We truly value their support.

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**Anne Lucey**

looks at the positive news happening in Killarney



Time for a "Together Anseo" bus link for our well-cushioned TDs?

Michael Cahill has uttered the mea culpa, mea culpa. For dangerous driving. At an incomprehensible speed level of close to 200 kms an hour near Mitchelstown on March 13 last.

Michael's Audi Q5 overtook "the entire flow of traffic" on the M8 at high speed, at 12.20 pm, the court in Fermoy was told last Friday.

He then "aggressively" came in extremely closely behind a van which was about to overtake an articulated lorry. In response, the van driver "pulled into lane one and allowed the Audi to pass at speed in lane two". It took about 4km or 5km before our Fianna Fail TD spotted that an unmarked garda car, its lights flashing, was pursuing him, asking him to pull in. (Michael's solicitor challenged his client was driving aggressively). He was on his way to an event in Kerry and feared he was late after being delayed by meetings and pulling in to do an interview on Radio Kerry (with Jerry O'Sullivan), Michael said afterwards. He

is embarrassed and his family are. Well, so too, surely, are his Kerry voters.

There was nothing to stop Michael, now a legislator, leaving Dublin earlier or even the night before, was there? But he has said he is sorry and has accepted his punishment - a fine of €500 and off the road for two years. He is to manage his time better. And give up attempts at bilocation and not try to be in two places at the one time, he told Jerry O'Sullivan on Monday. (Presumably he allowed plenty of time for that interview). He normally takes plane or train.

The story has given me food for thought. Would he consider the bus - along with all the teachtairi from Kerry?

That would take the stress out of the journey, and the public expense.

Our messengers who are non-ministers - Cahill, Danny Healy-Rae and Daly collect tidy sums under the standard parliamentary allowance.

These are unvouched sums paid on the basis of distance from Dublin.

Most months our TDS collect over €4,000 each just for showing up. Danny gets €4,478, Daly €4,365 and Cahill gets €4,422 for travel and overnight expenses. Look it up - on oireachtas.



A TFI Local Link rural bus could bring the TD's to Dublin.

ie. (Payments for March 2025 are not listed!)

This is on top of their €117,000 plus annual salary and they get extra money for committees etc. They don't need this kind of money. No one does.

A Local Link rural bus to cart them up and down to the Dail, along the lines of "Together Anseo", departing Kerry on Tuesday morning and returning Friday would take the stress out. And relieve the temptation to speed. Then the State might consider a government run hotel with laundry and meals provided - along the lines of direct provision and Ukrainian refugee centres.

Speaking of speeding: Drivers from Cork coast to Kerry

The N22 Macroom bypass is causing concern down the road in Clonkeen.

"For some reason" drivers from the Cork side were coming onto the Poulgorm junction "away faster" since the Macroom bypass was built. Near misses and accidents are now on a daily basis, last week's Killarney MD meeting heard.

A delegation from Clonkeen, the Clydagh Valley and Glenflesk attended the meeting in the Town Hall to highlight concerns about the situation at the N22 Poulgorm/ Mick the Bridges Junction with the R569 Kilgarvan and Kenmare road. 1,000 people have signed a petition, the meeting was told. The 22 km, Euro 280 million bypass of Ballyvourney and Macroom opened in late 2023 to cut the journey time between Cork and Killarney.

"Since the new Macroom bypass Road, people are hitting that junction away faster. They are coming in at high speed," the residents' representatives told the meeting.

The volume of traffic had

increased, but so had the speed. Councillor Maura Healy-Rae who invited the delegation said:

"There is no doubt that since the bypass, the volume and stream of traffic in either direction has increased."

It was pitch black and in winter mornings there was no lighting while the bypass "was littered with lights".

Work had been carried out but it was still bad.

Fixed speed cameras such as at Lissarda would help slow them down, Councillor Niall O'Callagahn said, while Councillor Niall Kelleher called for a slip lane to be prioritised.

My two cents demi is the problem is wider and rests on the stop start nature of our road infrastructure. There are issues too on the other side. Because we have a bit of a road done here, a bit of a road done there. And why the Macroom bypass doesn't extend all the way from Cork to Killarney - or from Limerick to Castleisland - is the real issue.

Meals on Wheels - a Killarney service.

The loss of the locally based Meals on Wheels service to Killarney has been highlighted in this column.

Meals on Wheels in Killarney are now being delivered from Tralee - while a state of the art kitchen block in a 13 million euro HSE facility lies idle, we have revealed previously.

The large kitchen at the 13 million euro Deer Lodge mental health residential facility for 40 residents had never been used.

When it opened in 2017, that kitchen block was expected to cater for the neighbouring nucleus of community hospitals.

But "not an egg has been fried there".

Meanwhile the 40-year-old Killarney meals service was disbanded pretty abruptly and unceremoniously in December by the HSE and handed over to a Tralee provider.

(We wrenched a thank you from the HSE for the service, but it took effort).

"Meals are coming from Tralee. This is absolutely absurd. There is a most beautiful kitchen in Deer Lodge. It has never fried an egg. It is a state of the art kitchen," Councillor Marie Moloney told the meeting of Killarney MD last week.

A volunteer herself for 30 years in Killarney, Marie said the team knew every person and every house they delivered to daily. The service was about much more than meals.

"That daily contact was vital. I am calling for the Meals and Wheels service to be re-installed in Killarney," she said.

The Torc Family Resource Centre had offered to cook the meals to facilitate the continuation of the local service, but the HSE had persisted with the delivery from Tralee.

"Do we really need someone to come from Tralee to deliver meals?" Marie asked.

Councillors unanimously backed her formal call requesting that the meals would be cooked in Killarney "and delivered by the team of volunteers who have been delivering heretofore".

Meanwhile, I would like to ask if any councillor will put forward the idea of a civic reception for the volunteers. I do know the Soroptimists and the Chamber honoured Trinette Larkin for her key role as chair of the Killarney Community Services for older people some years ago. Surely it is time for our council also to acknowledge them.




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'Ernest Hemingway once said "In our darkest moments, we don't need advice", I believe what we need is the power of human connection and a reminder that you are not alone. I offer a safe, confidential, non-judgmental space where you as the expert of yourself can explore your difficulties. I will, with compassion and respect, support you to gain awareness and understanding of your needs.'

CHEQUE PRESENTATION

Supports Kerry Motor Neurone and Recovery Haven

Kerry Friends of Motor Neurone Disease were delighted to receive a cheque for €1,586.25 on 10 January 2026, presented by Gary and Maureen McCormick on behalf of the Kerry Darts Association at the Village Inn, Kilcummin. On the same occasion, an equal amount was presented to Siobhain McSweeney and Cathal Walshe representing the Kerry branch of Recovery Haven, highlighting the association's continued support for local charities.

The night in the Village Inn was packed with many games of darts were in full swing. Certainly, darts has become very popular again with so many people young and old alike glued to their television screens over the Christmas period watching the World Championships. It was compulsive watching as the young Luke Littler held his nerve to win the World's Title.

On the 29th of December 2025 Kerry Darts Association held the Kerry County darts championship in the Killarney Avenue Hotel. This event was last held in 2010 so a motion was passed to revive the competition this year where all players who had participated in tournaments during the past twelve months would find themselves being auctioned off so that the monies raised would go to two deserving local charities namely Kerry Friends of Motor Neurone and Recovery Haven Kerry Branch.

All this generated great excitement and not to mention plenty of competition as both Ladies and Gentlemen found themselves being



Representatives from Kerry Friends of Motor Neurone Disease and Recovery Haven pictured receiving presentations from the Kerry Darts Association.

auctioned off with bidding said to be very brisk. All this contributed to the people's enjoyment and those who could not attend the event were able to watch all the proceedings on "Darts Connect" both at home and abroad, with Neil the man who devised the competition keeping a close eye on all the proceedings. Finally, it was time to reveal that the Kerry A

Champion 2025 was Dale McCarthy and that Kerry B Champion 2025 was Phil Standing while the Ladies Champion 2025 was Julie Holstead. Thanks again to Gary and Maureen and all the committee for the hospitality shown to us in the Village Inn. Thanks to Gary and Maureen for all you do for Kerry Friends of Motor Neurone, it is greatly appreciated.

MUIRIS BRIC ELECTED PRESIDENT OF KERRY ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Professor Muiris Bric who is the new President of the Kerry Archaeological and Historical Society

Emeritus Professor of History at University College Dublin and Cahersiveen native, Muiris Bric has been elected president of the Kerry Archaeological and Historical Society. The society hosted a well-attended Annual General Meeting at Tralee Library on Tuesday evening and outlined its programme of events for the coming year as well as electing officers for 2026.

Following a three-year term as president, Tony Bergin was succeeded by Professor Bric who has been a member of the Council of the Kerry Archaeological and Historical Society for many years.

Professor Bric is a widely acclaimed historian and author who was editor of *Kerry: History and Society*, published by Geography Publications in 2022. He was Associate Professor of History at UCD and is the director of the popular Daniel O'Connell Summer School which is hosted annually in Cahersiveen and Derrynane.

A member of the Royal Irish Academy since 2000, he is a former vice-president of the academy. He has been a member of a number

of national bodies which deal with higher education policy and research, notably the Higher Education Authority, the Irish Manuscripts Commission, and the National Archives Advisory Council.

"I am honoured to take on the role of president of the Kerry Archaeological and Historical Society and I look forward to working with Council members over the coming year to promote the story of Kerry's history, heritage and archaeology.

"I would like to thank the outgoing president, Tony Bergin, for his tremendous work as president over the last three years and I look forward to working with all members on the delivery of our programme of lectures, outings and publications during 2026," said Muiris Bric. The programme of lectures, outings and events for 2026 is available now on the website of the Society at www.kerryhistory.ie



COME & JOIN US AT OUR NEXT MEETING FOR A SPECIAL MEN'S HEALTH NIGHT

How many men have had a blood pressure, pulse & health check in the past few years?
Prevention is better than cure, and we know this works for prevention of Cardiovascular Disease.

Knowing the signs & symptoms of a heart attack could save your life!

On **TUESDAY 27TH January** starting @ **8pm** in the **Parish Centre**, Park Road (V93 WN32), we have a night focused on younger men aged 30-60 years old who may not visit their GP for an annual check-up.

We're delighted to welcome guest speaker, former Senior Kerry footballer **Darragh Roche** of **RocheFit** gym, who will tell his own story of having had a heart attack at 29 years of age.



Dr Rosemary Kelliher & Dr Danielle O' Leary of **GP Care Killarney** will also be present on the night, to answer any questions or concerns you may have to discuss your heart health.

GP CARE KILLARNEY



**This is a very special night for all men,
and for those who care about them.
ALL are WELCOME!**

Event Timetable & Programme:



7.30pm

Blood Pressure & Pulse checks start & continue through the event.

8.00pm

Guest Speaker Former Kerry footballer Darragh Roche tells us his amazing cardiac story!

8.20pm

Dr. Rosemary Kelliher & Dr. Danielle O'Leary talk about Heart Health Care in general followed by our usual valuable Question & Answer Session.



8.55pm

Teas/Coffees and Chats.



Our Nurses will continue the B.P & Pulse checks until 9.30pm.

Check out our display of free information leaflets and booklets, all available to take home on the night.

This event takes place on **TUESDAY 27TH January** starting @ **8pm** in the **Parish Centre**, Park Road (V93 WN32).



Beaufort Golf Club

Swings into a New Era Under New Management

One of Kerry's most scenic and well-loved golf courses is entering an exciting new chapter, as Beaufort Golf Club officially reopens under new management, bringing fresh energy, renewed ambition and a programme of investment aimed at both existing members and a new generation of golfers.

The reopening marks the beginning of what the Magill Family who own the course describe as "a modern but respectful evolution" of the club, one that builds on Beaufort's strong heritage while investing in facilities, technology and experiences that appeal to younger players, new members and visitors alike.

Pauline, the club's new Golf Operations Manager, alongside Ella, are now the welcoming faces of Beaufort Golf Club. Both have been overwhelmed by the positive response from members and the wider local community, with strong support evident since the reopening.

A major redevelopment of the clubhouse kitchen and restaurant is currently underway. Central to this project is the finalisation of a new, fully branded restaurant franchise, to be run on site by a five-star Michelin trained chef. The restaurant promises a step change in food quality and standards for members and guests, while being a much needed addition for a local food option, it also adds a facility for events such as christenings, communions, birthdays and private functions.

On the course itself, one of the most significant investments in recent years is taking shape. Beaufort Golf Club is set to become the first golf club in County Kerry to fully adopt robotic mowing technology for its fairways,



Pauline Edelmayer, Golf Operations Manager at Beaufort Golf Club; Padraig Bruton, Head Greenkeeper, William Macgill, Owner Beaufort Golf Club and Tony O'Shea, Assistant Head Greenkeeper, pictured on site as the club reopens under new management and a renewed programme of investment.



Beaufort Golf Club is set to become the first club in County Kerry to fully adopt robotic mowing technology across its fairways.

representing a major advancement in course maintenance, consistency, and sustainability. The robotic mowing programme is led by new Head Greenkeeper Padraig Bruton, alongside Tony who remains onsite with an expanded

greens team. Padraig said, "the technology will ensure consistent playing conditions, continuation of the high course standard, while freeing staff to focus on further course improvements". In a busy first few weeks, the club's entrance road has also been upgraded with a new surface and improved drainage.

Looking ahead, the club has ambitious but carefully phased plans. Shane Spellman, who is overseeing the investment, said "the club is exploring complementary leisure and sporting activities on site, including a padel court, golf simulation and other facilities, all to broaden its appeal and strengthen its role as a community hub".

A Spring Open Week will officially unveil the refurbished clubhouse, facilities and pro shop, with the public warmly invited to attend. To mark the reopening, Beaufort Golf Club is offering a reduced sign-up fee for new members until the end of January, while welcoming back former members at existing rates.



Beaufort Golf Club has reopened under new management, with fresh investment underway across the course, clubhouse and facilities as the club enters a new era.

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LAND PROVISION FOR OVER 4,000 HOUSING UNITS IN KILLARNEY MD

Councillors adopt variation to County Development Plan

Members of Kerry County Council today adopted a variation to the current Kerry County Development Plan which has zoned sufficient residential and employment lands to meet the future development needs of the Killarney Municipal District.

In terms of lands available for employment, there are now approximately 75 hectares of undeveloped lands across the Municipal District. With respect to lands for residential development, there are now about 95 hectares of new or proposed residential lands available within the Municipal District. These lands have the potential to accommodate 4,415 units.

The newly adopted plan aims to set out a comprehensive local planning framework with clear policies and objectives including land use zoning, in the interests of the common good. The successful implementation of the Plan will have a positive impact on the Killarney MD, ensuring it develops in a sustainable manner.

In conjunction with Project Ireland 2040, the National Planning Framework (NPF), the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Southern Region (RSES) and the Kerry County Development Plan 2022 – 2028 (KCDP), this Variation will complete the planning framework for the area and complement the implementation of the policies and objectives contained in these higher-level plans.

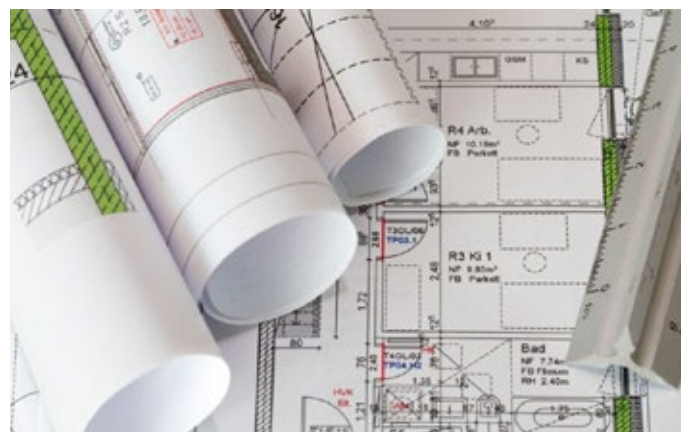
The principal town in the Municipal District is Killarney which is designated as a Key Town in the Regional Spatial Economic Strategy for the Southern Region (RSES) and the Kerry County Development Plan 2022-2028 (KCDP). Rathmore, Barraduff and Kilcummin occupy important roles as District Towns for the area as identified in the County Development Plan.

DEVELOPERS ENCOURAGED TO ENGAGE WITH NEW HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES

Developers are being encouraged to engage with new housing opportunities as Kerry County Council's open calls for Turnkey Acquisitions and Affordable Housing remain open until 4.00pm on 13 February 2026.

The separate expressions of interest, first notified to elected members in December 2025, invite submissions for Turnkey housing projects countywide, and for Affordable Housing developments specifically in the towns of Tralee and Killarney.

Enquiries relating to the Turnkey Open Call can be made to turnkey@kerrycoco.ie, while Affordable Housing enquiries should be directed to affordablehousing@kerrycoco.ie.



Carpark At Kerry Mental Health Association Available To Kerry v Roscommon Match-goers



Supporters travelling by car to the Kerry v Roscommon Allianz Football League Division One encounter in Killarney on Sunday, 25th January, are being advised that a limited number of parking spaces will be available at the Kerry Mental Health Association car park.

A total of 50 parking spaces can be pre-booked via Eventbrite under Parking – Kerry v Roscommon at a cost of €10 per vehicle, excluding booking charges. All proceeds from the parking initiative will go directly towards supporting the Kerry Mental Health Association's ongoing work with individuals across the county who are experiencing mental health challenges, as well as their families and carers.

The car park is conveniently located at Upper Lewis Road, Killarney (V93 Y0YC), just off the by-pass and within a short walking distance of Fitzgerald Stadium.

Access to the car park will be strictly by presentation of a valid parking ticket, with vehicle entry permitted between 12.30pm and 2.00pm only. Motorists are reminded that cars are parked at the owner's risk, and patrons are respectfully asked to take their litter home.

Success at Kerry Schools Cross Country for Presentation Secondary School

Students from Presentation Secondary School, Castleisland, enjoyed great success at the Kerry Schools Cross Country last week.

The school was proudly represented in the junior girls' category, where four students returned home with gold and silver medals following excellent performances.

Eibhlín Mc Carthy from Currow delivered an outstanding race over the 2,500m course, leading from the very start and maintaining a strong distance ahead of the field throughout. Her determination and pace earned her a well-deserved gold medal.

Her three teammates - Loren Caldwell, Kelly Ryan and Aedín Healy - also ran extremely well, each crossing the finish line with impressive performances. Their combined efforts resulted in a silver medal in the team event, a fantastic achievement for the Castleisland school.

Attention now turns to the North Munster Championships next week, where the students will once again take to the course and see what further success lies ahead.

Pictured are L to R: Loren Caldwell, Kelly Ryan, Eibhlín Mc Carthy and Aedín Healy





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<https://www.theatricalrights.co.uk>



Photo caption: Derek O Leary Friary Folk Group Coordinator & members of the Friary Folk Group presenting a cheque for €1,314 to Mary Horgan & Brid O Connor, representing Comfort for Chemo, following their Christmas carol-singing sessions in Killarney.

Friary Folk Group Raises €1,314 for Comfort for Chemo and Announces Charity CD Release

The Friary Folk Group continued its much-loved Christmas tradition this year with two festive carol-singing sessions in support of Comfort for Chemo, raising a total of €1,314 for the charity.

The group performed at the Killarney Outlet Centre in the days leading up to Christmas and again on Christmas Eve in Killarney town centre, an event that has become a cherished annual tradition for locals and visitors alike. The generous response from the public at both locations resulted in the impressive total, with all funds going directly to Comfort for Chemo.

To further support the charity, the Friary Folk Group has also announced that it will be launching, in the coming weeks its fourth CD/music production of contemporary and religious music in the coming weeks, with all proceeds from sales being donated to Comfort for Chemo.

Speaking at the cheque presentation, Derek O'Leary, coordinator of the Friary Folk Group, said: "Comfort for Chemo is a cause that means a great deal to our group. Some of our members have been on their own cancer journeys, so we have seen first-hand the comfort and practical support this charity provides. We are delighted to be able to support their work through our Christmas carol singing and through the release of our new CD."

The Friary Folk Group expressed sincere thanks to everyone who stopped to listen, donate, and support the carol-singing sessions, as well as to those who continue to support their music and fundraising efforts.

Kerry Hoteliers

attend Tourism Ireland's 2026 marketing plans launch

Tourism Ireland launched details of its marketing strategy and plans to promote Ireland overseas in 2026, at an event attended by Tourism Minister Peter Burke and over 600 tourism industry leaders from around the country – including O'Donoghue Ring Collection and The Ashe Hotel. Tourism Ireland envisages overseas tourism revenue to the island can grow to over €10 billion annually by 2031, with the right strategic supports. 2025 was not without challenges for the tourism sector – including macro-economic uncertainty and the Dublin Airport passenger cap at the beginning of the year – and visitor numbers and spend were soft compared to 2024, but stable compared to 2023. Momentum picked up as the year progressed, with consecutive months of visitor growth from August onwards.

In 2026, Tourism Ireland will undertake an extensive and targeted programme of promotional activity across 15 key overseas markets. Some highlights of the organisation's priorities for the year ahead include: Tourism Ireland will win visitors from diverse markets: deepening and defending tourism from the United States and Great Britain, rolling out a new strategy to win more tourism from Mainland Europe, investing in growth markets such as Canada, as well as teeing up long-term partnerships in India and China.

Co-operative marketing campaigns with air and sea carriers will drive visitor demand for strategic air and sea routes, delivering 15:1 return on investment.

New broadcast TV and streaming shows co-produced by Tourism Ireland will air to millions of viewers around the world, including travel series starring Ronan Keating, Martin and Roman Kemp, Dermot O'Leary and Fred Sirieix.

New focus areas will include culinary tourism, activity tourism, year-round reasons to travel, as well as inspiration to explore from gateway cities to regions.

Tourism Ireland will promote Ireland through advertising, publicity, digital, social and Gen AI, reaching potential visitors in the channels where they research holidays today.



Niamh O'Neill and Sean Howley, both O'Donoghue Ring Collection; Mary McQuinn, The Ashe Hotel; and Aileen Hickey, Tourism Ireland, at the launch of Tourism Ireland's 2026 marketing plans in Dublin.



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Network Ireland Kerry Opens 2026 with Powerful Wellbeing Focus and Charity Partnership

Network Ireland Kerry began 2026 with a vibrant opening event, "Mind Matters – Starting the Year with Wellbeing," hosted in The Rose Hotel, Tralee, and led by new branch president Aisling Foley. The Lee Suite was packed with members and guests, creating an atmosphere of warmth, openness and solidarity as Kerry Mental Health Association was confirmed as the chosen charity for the year.

The evening's programme, guided seamlessly by MC Brian Hurley, blended professional expertise with powerful personal stories to put mental health at the centre of the branch's agenda for 2026. Aisling Foley addressed the audience with heartfelt thanks for the support in the room, noting how the sense of respect and genuine connection set the tone for the year ahead. She also used the occasion to share her own commitment to the cause, announcing that she will run the New York Half Marathon in aid of Kerry Mental Health Association and inviting attendees and the wider community to contribute through her iDonate fundraising page.

Throughout the night, a diverse panel of speakers explored different dimensions of wellbeing and mental health. Michelle Walsh of New Body & Soul focused on hormonal health and its central role in women's overall health, explaining how awareness and informed choices can significantly improve quality of life at every stage. As a member of the Network Ireland Kerry committee for 2026, Michelle also encouraged women to advocate for themselves in healthcare settings and to prioritise regular check-ins with their bodies and minds.

Former Kerry captain, educator and long-time fundraiser Liam Hassett brought a deeply personal perspective as he spoke about his years of supporting Kerry Mental Health Association and the crucial assistance the organisation provided to his sister. His contribution highlighted how local services, powered by community fundraising, can transform lives and offer stability and hope to families navigating mental health challenges. Resilience speaker Sean O'Leary shared the story of the life-altering car crash he experienced five years ago, describing how it reshaped both his physical and mental health. He spoke openly about the long journey through surgeries, rehabilitation and therapy, charting his progress from being wheelchairdependent to returning to sport at a highly competitive level. Sean's honesty reinforced the message that everyone needs



Guest speakers Liam Hassett (Former Kerry Captain), John Drummey (Kerry Mental Health association), Michelle Walsh (New Body & Soul), Joan Murphy (MTU), and Sean O'Leary (Overcoming Adversity & Resilience Speaker), pictured with Aisling Foley (President of Network Ireland Kerry), and Brian Hurley (MC), at the Network Ireland Kerry January event 'Mind Matters - Starting the Year with Wellbeing' at The Rose Hotel, Tralee on Wednesday evening (January 14th). Photos: Michelle Breen Crean Photography



Emily Reen (MTU) and Brigeen O'Sullivan (Match Marketing) pictured at the Network Ireland Kerry January event 'Mind Matters - Starting the Year with Wellbeing' at The Rose Hotel, Tralee on Wednesday evening (January 14th).

support at different times and that reaching out for help is a strength rather than a weakness.

Joan Murphy from MTU, with extensive experience in training Mental Health and General Nurses, focused on the cumulative power of simple daily actions to support mental wellbeing. She emphasised accessible habits such as spending time outdoors, incorporating regular movement and carving out moments of reflection, explaining how these small steps can compound over time to create a strong foundation for overall wellbeing.

The importance of Kerry Mental Health Association's work was further underlined when John Drummey outlined the organisation's wide-ranging services,

from accommodation and befriending to programmes that enrich everyday life for people living with mental health difficulties and their families. He stressed how partnerships with groups like Network Ireland Kerry and sustained local fundraising directly enable the charity to maintain and expand these vital supports within the county.

To finish the evening on an energetic and memorable note, George Bastible of My Fitness Kerry took to the stage to lead a lively, good-humoured workout that had the entire room on their feet. The fun, accessible routine reminded everyone of the endorphin lift that comes from movement and echoed the event's central theme that small, consistent actions can significantly enhance mental health. Guests left The Rose Hotel energised, connected and motivated to carry those messages into their professional and personal lives in the year ahead.

Looking forward, Network Ireland Kerry will continue this momentum with its next event on 4 February in The Brehon Hotel, Killarney, which will explore AI and how to leverage it effectively in marketing strategies for 2026. Members and guests are invited to attend, deepen their understanding of emerging technologies and build on the strong, supportive community showcased at the Mind Matters launch. To book www.networkireland/events



Mary Mc Quinn (The Ashe Hotel and Manor West Hotel), Aisling Foley (President of Network Ireland Kerry) and Roisin Smullen (MTU) pictured at the Network Ireland Kerry January event 'Mind Matters - Starting the Year with Wellbeing' at The Rose Hotel, Tralee on Wednesday evening (January 14th).



Yasmina Renaudin (Redacare), Helen O'Callaghan (Helen O'Callaghan Photography) and Elva O'Conaire (Elva Health Coach) were pictured at the Network Ireland Kerry January event 'Mind Matters'.



Sean O'Leary (Overcoming Adversity & Resilience Speaker) told his emotional story at the Network Ireland Kerry January event 'Mind Matters - Starting the Year with Wellbeing' at The Rose Hotel, Tralee on Wednesday evening (January 14th). Also pictured is Joan Walsh (MTU).



Ciara O'Brien (MTU), Paula Foley (HSE) and Sinead Corkery were pictured at the Network Ireland Kerry January event 'Mind Matters - Starting the Year with Wellbeing' at The Rose Hotel, Tralee on Wednesday evening (January 14th).



Aileen Leahy (HSE) and Niamh Dreelan (Oakbrook Travel with Niamh & Oakbrook Reflexology with Niamh) pictured at the Network Ireland Kerry January event 'Mind Matters - Starting the Year with Wellbeing' at The Rose Hotel, Tralee on Wednesday evening (January 14th).



Denise Healy (OnCampus Ireland) and Emily Reen (MTU) enjoyed the Network Ireland Kerry January event 'Mind Matters - Starting the Year with Wellbeing' at The Rose Hotel, Tralee on Wednesday evening (January 14th).

Three Charities Presented With Proceeds at New Year's Eve Humanity Ball

It was announced today that a whopping €245,329 was raised for three charities as a result of The Humanity Ball, a prestigious black-tie New Year's Eve charity gala ball which took in Tralee's Ballygarry Estate Hotel & Spa on New Year's Eve, attending by over 300 people.

The primary charity that has benefitted is the Kerry Hospice Foundation which was presented with a cheque for €165,329 at an event today (19th January) at the Ballygarry Estate Hotel & Spa, hosted by hotel owner Padraig McGillicuddy. Also, Louise Quill, founder of The Tír na n-Óg Children's Foundation was on hand to receive a cheque for €40,000 and the One4Humanity charity also received a cheque for €40,000.

The Humanity Ball committee were delighted with the response from the Kerry corporate community after far exceeding the target they of €200,000.

Stephen Stack, chairman of The Humanity Ball said; "we are truly humbled by the generosity shown at the New Year's Eve Humanity Ball. Raising €245,000 in a single evening for our three worthy charities is a powerful testament that what can be achieved when a community comes together with purpose, compassion and celebration. A huge thank you to everyone

involved including our lead sponsors, table sponsors, purchasers of tables, private donors, providers of the unique auction prizes, to Padraig and the staff at the Ballygarry and, of course, to our outstanding committee. It was a powerful team effort by everyone."

Jack Shanahan, Kerry Hospice Foundation, who was delighted with the money which will go towards continued palliative care and also a new wing of their facility, commented; "Kerry Hospice Foundation is delighted and humbled by the enormous and generous support shown at the Humanity Ball. It was a unique event that showcased how the businesses of Kerry support the community in important and varied ways. We are truly grateful to be major beneficiaries and can guarantee that every euro raised will be invested in local Palliative care services. A huge thank you to all that made it such a success"

Louise Quill, whose Tír na n-Óg Children's Foundation is dedicated to transforming the lives of vulnerable children in Tanzania, said, "On behalf of everyone at Tír na n-Óg Children's Foundation, I want to extend our deepest thanks for being chosen as a beneficiary of the Humanity Ball. Our motto is to change one child's life at a time, and the generosity

shown by the organisers and contributors does exactly that. Your kindness doesn't just support our work - it brings hope, opportunity, and real change to the children we serve. We are profoundly grateful for your belief in our mission and for helping us turn compassion into action."

Shane Leahy from One4Humanity, which provides medicine and mobile surgical units for the people of Gaza and Ukraine commented; "Thank you, we are incredibly grateful to the Humanity Ball for a magical New Year's Eve and for the remarkable generosity shown throughout the night. Thanks to the dedication of the organizing committee, the compassion of the sponsors & everyone who attended, 3 charities will benefit in a meaningful way. It was a night that perfectly captured the spirit of humanity."

The Humanity Ball was spearheaded by Branch Manager of AIB Tralee, Stephen Stack, along with a committee comprising of people from the world of business in Kerry including Sean Ryan, Maeve Townsend, Ogie Moran, Dick Spring, Jimmy Deenihan, Brid McElligott, Keelin Kissane, Alex O'Donnell, Killian Burns, John Reen, Kevin O'Sullivan and Aisling McElligott.



Pictured Front; seated L-R: Kerry Hospice Chairperson Jenny Tarrant, Kerry Hospice Foundation which was presented with a cheque for €165,329, Stephen Stack, The Humanity Ball Ross Kelly, The One4Humanity charity also received a cheque for €40,000, Sean Ryan, The Humanity Ball, and Louise Quill, founder of The Tír na n-Óg Children's Foundation was on hand to receive a cheque for €40,000, with all the organising committee and helpers pictured at the back also.

Photo: Domnick Walsh © Eye Focus LTD

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<p>DAVID MCSAVAGE THE OCCASIONAL RIDE</p> <p>FRI 06 FEB 2026 FROM €30.00</p>		<p>CORNELIUS O'SULLIVAN PULL HARD</p> <p>FRI 13 FEB 2026 FROM €25.00</p>		<p>THE GATHERING FESTIVAL PRESENTS BUTTON & BOWS IN CONCERT</p> <p>FRI 06 MAR 2026 FROM €25.00</p>	
<p>REMEMBERING JOE THE JOE DOLAN SHOW</p> <p>FRI 06 FEB 2026 FROM €23.00</p>		<p>ONE NIGHT OF ADELE</p> <p>FRI 27 FEB 2026 FROM €33.65</p>		<p>THE GATHERING FESTIVAL PRESENTS MICHAEL MCGOLDRICK, JOHN DOYLE & JOHN MCCUSKER</p> <p>SAT 07 MAR 2026 FROM €30.00</p>	
<p>IMELDA MAY RAISED ON SONGS & STORIES</p> <p>SAT 07 FEB 2026 FROM €45.00</p>		<p>FOSTER & ALLEN</p> <p>FRI 27 FEB 2026 FROM €39.20</p>		<p>DEREK RYAN IN CONCERT</p> <p>SAT 07 MAR 2026 FROM €34.65</p>	
<p>ROBBED BY RAY O'SULLIVAN</p> <p>SAT 07 FEB 2026 FROM €17.45</p>		<p>THE BLINDBOY PODCAST</p> <p>SAT 28 FEB 2026 FROM €36.25</p>		<p>REELING IN THE SHOWBAND YEARS</p> <p>SUN 08 MAR 2026 FROM €35.65</p>	

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Corkman Wins as SVP Car Draw Raises €192,538.70

A Corkman has won a brand-new Ford Focus car in this year's St Vincent de Paul Annual Car Draw, which has generated an impressive €192,538.70 to support people in need across the region.

The draw took place on Thursday last January 15th at Cork City Ford Showrooms, Forge Hill, Cork, where Lord Mayor Cllr. Fergal Dennehy drew the First Prize and contacted the lucky winner, Michael McCarthy from Blarney who won a brand new Ford Focus.

The funds raised will be used to assist individuals and families experiencing hardship during the winter months and beyond.

Prize Winners

In addition to the First Prize, there were several other lucky winners on the day:

1st Prize: A fabulous Ford Focus

(Part sponsored by Cork City Ford)

Winner: Michael McCarthy, Blarney

2nd Prize: Holiday to the value of €2,500

(Part sponsored by Barter's Travelnet)

Winner: S. O'Sullivan, Caherciveen

3rd Prize: Overnight stay at Fota Island Resort including breakfast, a three-course dinner, and 60-minute treatments

(Sponsored by Fota Island Resort)

Winner: L. Looney, Ballincollig

4th Prize: Two tickets to the All-Ireland Hurling Final, including B&B and dinner

Winner: S. Moriarty, Castletownbere

5th Prize: €1,000 shopping voucher

(Part sponsored by SuperValu)

Winner: I. Halpin, Cork City

6th Prize: €250 cash prize

Winner: I. McGrath, Cork City

7th Prize: €1,500 cash prize



Pictured at the recent SVP South West Car Draw 2025 were (l-r) Mary Frances Behan, President - SVP South-West Region, Lord Mayor of Cork, Cllr. Fergal Dennehy and John Nolan of Cork City Ford. Over €190,000 was raised for people in need across Cork and Kerry and the charity has expressed their gratitude for another year of tremendous public support.

(Sponsored by the Bishop of Cork & Ross, the Bishop of Cloyne, and the Bishop of Kerry)

Winner: M. Komara, Rochestown

Speaking at the presentation of the car at Cork City Ford Showrooms, the South West Regional President of SVP expressed sincere gratitude to the people of Cork and Kerry for their continued generosity, noting that the Annual Car Draw—now in its 25th year—remains a vital source of funding for the Society's work in the region.

A special word of thanks was also extended to

Car Draw Ambassador Francis Brennan, along with all sponsors and suppliers who supported the draw throughout the year. Thanks to their generosity and the support of the public, €192,538.70 was raised in 2025 to help provide a lifeline to those most in need.

As SVP congratulates all the winners and wishes Michael McCarthy safe driving, preparations are already underway for the 2026 Annual Car Draw, where another fantastic car and exciting prizes will once again be up for grabs.

Two Separate Bus routes from Beaufort amongst others raised in the Dáil

The two proposed new bus routes in the Parish of Beaufort outside Killarney would allow commuters to travel from Beaufort Village via the St Mary of the Angels facility at Whitefield and on to Killorglin town, and from Kate Kearney's Cottage, at the world famous tourist attraction, the Gap of Dunloe to Beaufort village and onwards to Killarney town, if Fianna Fáil TD Michael Cahill is successful with it.

Speaking in the Dáil this week, the Kerry TD said, "The importance of Rural Transport and Connectivity can not be emphasised strongly enough. A number of years ago as a Councillor, I had called for a 'Hop-On, Hop-Off' bus service on the Ring of Kerry and to day, thankfully, there are several buses operating in both directions, giving greater freedom to all by Public Transport, for which I am delighted".

"I would like to thank Alan O'Connell and the Kerry Local Link team who have carried out great work in County Kerry. Other routes I wish



to mention are the Killarney to Mallow route where the tender process is complete and is awaiting funding and from Dooks in Glenbeigh to Cromane and onto Killorglin town" stated Deputy Cahill.

"These are all populated residential areas and busy tourist areas and locals have already prepared a petition to the affect that they

would avail of a Public Transport initiative if available to them from Beaufort village to Killorglin via Whitefield " said the Rossbeigh based TD. "I am convinced that there will be great demand for a service from Kates to Beaufort village and onwards to Killarney town and visa versa" stated Deputy Cahill.

The Fianna Fáil Spokesperson on Tourism and for Older People called on the Minister for Transport to provide additional funding to the National Transport Authority, (NTA) to allow Kerry Local Link provide these important routes.



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Why I Took the First Step - and Why Men Should Talk More Openly About Weight Loss

Despite maintaining an active lifestyle through outdoor activities and gym attendance, Padraig struggled for years to manage his weight.

Poor eating habits remained an issue, and he experienced persistent bloating and physical discomfort during everyday activities. Medical advice later confirmed the need for change, as his cholesterol and other health indicators were significantly elevated.

"Although I had long been aware of the importance of managing my weight and overall health, sustained progress proved difficult without structured support" says Padraig.

In response, he joined a Slimming World with Hayley Carter in Killarney and adopted a more consistent approach to nutrition and lifestyle management.

"Since joining, I have lost 3 stone 10 pounds. Alongside the reduction in weight, I have experienced improvements in daily functioning and wellbeing. Physical activity is easier, bloating has reduced, and energy levels have increased. Clothing choices are no longer driven by the need to conceal weight, and my mobility has improved"

A key factor in maintaining progress has been the ability to continue eating familiar foods while making simply changes to ingredients, and preparation methods.

Learning to weigh and measure food accurately, along with cooking meals from scratch, has supported his weight loss success and long-term adherence.

Padraig shares "There remains a perception that weight loss programmes may not appeal to men; however, my experience does not support



this view. Joining did not present any barriers related to stigma, and open discussion around men's weight management and health appears increasingly accepted and encouraged.

Mental health was also a contributing factor prior to weight loss. His Anxiety was high, low mood, and stress influenced eating behaviours, reinforcing a cycle that negatively affected both physical and psychological health.

"Following weight loss, I have noticed improvements in my confidence, my emotional well being, and self-esteem. I am more willing to engage in new opportunities and less affected by frustration."

Group-based support has contributed positively to his mental wellbeing. Sharing his experiences within a group environment allows others to recognise common challenges and solutions, creating accountability and a sense of shared purpose. Being surrounded by like minded people really does help!



Padraig shares that he has no issues in discussing mental health openly within his group because he knows that there's never any judgement or humiliation in group. "Progress has not always be straight forward. During periods where weight loss slowed, for motivation I focused on long-term outcomes and previous progress rather than short-term wins" says Padraig.

"I've noticed symptoms of heartburn have resolved, giving me a significant improvement in daily comfort"

"For anyone uncertain about beginning such a programme, just give it a go. You won't be disappointed"

If you want to find out more about Hayley Slimming World Groups in Killarney or Killorglin contact her on 087 7036975.

On visit www.slimmingworld.ie



KCC helps train the future baristas of Killarney

Killarney Community College Transition Year students took part in a highly productive and engaging training programme that has prepared them for employment in the local hospitality sector.

The students are now qualified baristas, having received expert training from industry professionals at the Coffee Laboratory in Dublin, where they developed practical skills in preparing a wide range of beverages, including espressos, flat whites, mochas and hot chocolates, as well as professional presentation techniques.

The programme also included a recent front-of-house service training day delivered in collaboration with Food School.ie, further enhancing students' customer service and hospitality skills. Together, these experiences have ensured that the Transition Year students are well prepared and employment-ready for opportunities within Killarney's thriving hospitality industry.

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Gleneagle Arena date for Pete Tong Ibiza Classics



Pete Tong brings his world-famous Ibiza Classics to the Gleneagle Arena, Killarney on Friday 3 July 2026. Created in 2015 alongside acclaimed conductor Jules Buckley, Ibiza Classics fuses iconic electronic anthems with the power of a full live orchestra, delivering a spectacular reimagining of dance music history.

First premiered at a sold-out BBC Prom at the Royal Albert Hall, the show quickly became a global phenomenon, touring major venues worldwide including The Hollywood Bowl, London's O2 Arena and Melbourne's Sidney Myer Music Bowl. The project has since expanded into chart-topping albums, celebrated collaborations, and performances attended by over 750,000 fans.

Featuring legendary tracks and special guest vocalists, Ibiza Classics is a powerful celebration of electronic music's past, present and future - timeless anthems brought to life on an epic scale.

Tickets: €67.70–€78.25 (incl. booking fee) from Ticketmaster.ie Bookings subject to a 12.5% service charge per ticket (max €10.50).

1,309 Newborn Baby Grants were issued to 1,289 families in County Kerry in 2025

As part of Budget 2025, the Department of Social Protection introduced the Newborn Baby Grant, a once off payment of €280 designed to help families meet the material needs of a newborn baby or a newly adopted child.

The grant is paid automatically alongside the first month of Child Benefit, meaning parents do not need to make a separate application.

In its first year, the Newborn Baby Grant was paid nationally in respect of 49,841 children, at a total cost of approximately €14 million.

Commenting on the figures, Deputy Michael Cahill said:

"The birth of a new child is a time of great joy, but it can also place financial pressure



on families. Supports like this are essential in easing that pressure and allowing parents to enjoy what truly matters, spending time with their newest family member.

"In the first year of this scheme, thousands of families have benefited nationally, with thousands of families in County Kerry receiving support.

"Measures like the Newborn Baby Grant make a tremendous difference to families. It is a priority for Fianna Fáil to continually support parents through schemes like this so they can spend time with their loved ones and focus on the moments that matter."

Killarney is Ireland's Most Instagrammable National Park

Just in time for spring hiking and camping season, outdoor specialist Trailblazers has named Killarney National Park as Ireland's most Instagrammable national park, with its scenery proving irresistible to walkers, photographers and outdoor enthusiasts.

According to Trailblazers, Killarney stands out thanks to the sheer variety of landscapes found within a compact area. Lakes, waterfalls, ancient woodland, mountains and historic landmarks sit side by side, offering endless photo opportunities throughout the year.

"Killarney National Park has everything people want to capture in a single shot," said Rebecca Ryan, Marketing Manager at Trailblazers. "From mist rolling across the lakes to autumn colour in the forests, it's visually dramatic in every season, which makes it incredibly shareable on Instagram."



Trailblazers analysed social media activity linked to Ireland's national parks and found Killarney far ahead of the rest, generating significantly more posts than any other location. Connemara National Park ranked second, followed by Glenveagh and the Wicklow Mountains, while the Burren also performed strongly despite its smaller size.

Killarney's popularity is driven by its instantly recognisable scenery, including the Lakes of Killarney, Torc Waterfall and the historic

Muckross House estate, all framed by mountain backdrops and native woodland. Connemara and the Burren were also noted for their dramatic natural features, with rugged peaks, limestone pavements and shifting light continuing to attract landscape photographers. With longer days and improving weather ahead, Trailblazers says Ireland's national parks are set to see a surge in visitors seeking both outdoor adventure and picture-perfect views.

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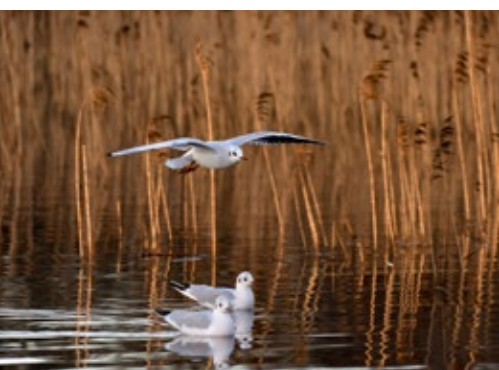


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Not ready to roost just yet....

Not ready to roost just yet.... a sunset marks the end of day as The Black-headed Gulls the annual residents on Lough Leane at Ross Castle, Killarney National Park are still active. Significant numbers arrive from Europe in winter, breeding along the coast and inland lakes. They gather in small colonies often quarrelling and making plenty of noise. The Irish for Black-headed Gull is 'Sléibhin' !. Photo: Valerie O'Sullivan



FIVE FIRST PLACE TITLES FOR LEGACY ELITE ATHLETES

Legacy Elite Cheerleading enjoyed a highly successful weekend at the Future Cheer Cheerleading Championships, held in Dublin on Saturday last, 17 January.

Competing against cheerleading teams from across Ireland and the UK, Legacy Elite delivered outstanding performances, securing an impressive five first-place titles, two bronze medals, and a seventh-place finish.

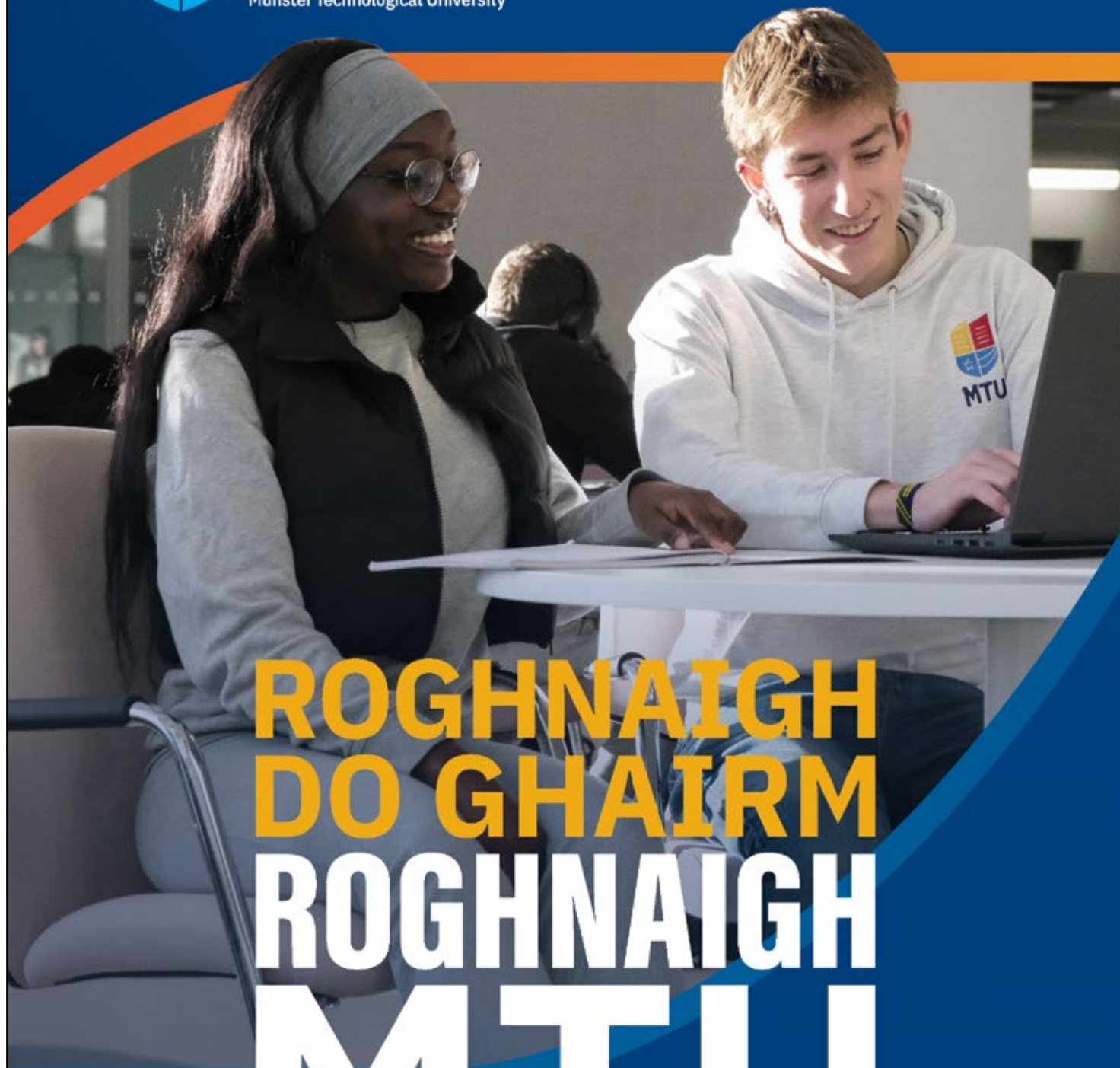
Club coach Hayley Murphy expressed her delight with the results, praising the dedication and hard work of the athletes. With the championships marking the first competition of the season, the event was a huge success for the club.

Following their strong start, the teams are now focused on preparations for their next competition, which will take place in Dublin this March.



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Complete your 2026 CAO application carefully & thoroughly by closing date of 1st February

COMPLETE

With the 2026 Leaving Cert exam timetable now available on the State Examinations Commission (SEC) website, www.examinations.ie, CAO applicants will be motivated to secure one of the 55,000, or so, coveted college place which will be available. As the 1st February closing date for applying to the CAO looms large, its due time to make sure that the application form is thoroughly and accurately completed.

FRIENDLY

Applications to CAO are made via “Apply,” the interactive online application facility, which remains open until 1st February on the CAO website, www.cao.ie. Apply is user friendly and easy to follow, particularly as CAO provides an ‘Interactive Demo Facility’ to enable you make a trial application.

ACCOUNT

Go online at www.cao.ie and click on Apply to open your CAO Account. Enter your personal details. Tick the qualifications and assessment section(s) that are relevant to you. Enter your payment option – Credit/Debit card or Fee Payment Form. If you are paying by credit/debit card you will be redirected to a payment facility. Create your own account password. Click on “Proceed with application” to obtain your eight-digit CAO application number, beginning with 26, and your application details will appear on screen.

INFORMATION

Log into “My Application” by entering your CAO application number, date of birth and password. Provide the additional personal information. If you are applying on the basis of Leaving Cert (1985-2026) results enter the name and address of your second level school(s) and the years attended. If you are a Leaving Cert 2026 candidate tick the box

provided. If you have previously sat the Leaving Cert, provide the year(s) in which you sat the exam and your exam number(s).

CHOICES

Add your Level 8 and Level 7/6 course choices by 1st Feb. by clicking on “Add Level 8 course choices” and/or click on “Add Level 7/6 course choices.” You may apply for a maximum of ten course choices on each list. List your courses based on genuine order of preference.

MATURE

If you are a mature applicant, click on ‘Mature Application Form’ to update your mature application form.

DARE/HEAR

If you wish to disclose a disability or Dyslexia/Significant Literacy Difficulties or Dyscalculia/Significant Numeracy Difficulties or apply to the Disability Access Route to Education (DARE) click on the “Modify Disability (& DARE Application) Status” button and follow the instructions provided. If you wish to apply for the Higher Education Access Route (HEAR), a third level alternative admissions scheme for school leavers from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds who are resident in the Republic of Ireland, click the “HEAR Application” button and follow the instructions provided.

SUSI

If you intend to apply for a maintenance fee grant, indicate this on your CAO online application form. Click on “Modify Maintenance/Fee Grant Application Form.” Tick the “I would like CAO to provide my details to the Maintenance/Fee Grant application authority (SUSI)” button. CAO will then provide your identification, contact and offer/acceptance details to the grant authority, Student Universal Support Ireland (SUSI).

SUBMIT

Once you are satisfied with the detail you have submitted, click ‘Log Out’ to exit. All of your details will then have been submitted to CAO.

DOUBLE CHECK

Check your course choices immediately via the “My Application” facility to ensure that they are correct. Use the online change courses facility on the CAO website if you need to amend or add courses. This facility is free of charge until 1st Feb. You may also use the online facility to amend course choices from the 5th February to 1st March (fee €10). Apply is user friendly and secure and allows you to submit your application from the privacy of your own home.

CHECKLIST

- “Apply” is the standard method of applying to CAO
- The online application is interactive, secure, user friendly and easy to follow
- Password protect your CAO application
- Note your 2026 CAO application number as soon as it appears on screen
- You may use the online change of course choices facility (free) to 1st Feb (5pm)
- Application for restricted courses must be made by 1st Feb (5pm)
- Restricted courses normally require additional assessment procedures, e.g., portfolio
- You may use the online facility to amend course choices from 5th Feb.(noon) to 1st March (5pm, fee €10) to add any restricted courses not already listed or if you’re a restricted category applicant (i.e., mature)

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

KCC Students
Attend Art Exhibition

5th Year art students enjoyed a visit to a new solo art exhibition in the Government offices on New Road. The exhibition titled “9 years in Glenbeigh” by artist Markus Ehrhard showcases a wonderful exploration of our local environment using a variety of media. Students admired the various ways the artists explored primary sources he found. This exhibition gave the art students great inspiration for their own artwork.



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Mid-Kerry Biddy's Day Festival 2026 Programme Announced

The Mid-Kerry Biddy's Day Festival returns this winter with an expanded and richly layered programme of events celebrating one of Ireland's most distinctive living traditions. Running from Thursday 22 January to Monday 2 February 2026, the festival will take place across Killorglin, Cromane and the wider Mid-Kerry region, bringing together craft, music, language, ritual and community in the lead-up to St Brigid's Day.

At the heart of the festival is the ancient Biddy tradition, rooted in Imbolc and the honouring of St Brigid a time associated with light, renewal, creativity and protection. Over twelve days, the festival offers a wide mix of family-friendly, traditional and contemporary events, culminating in its most anticipated moment of the year: The Biddy's Parade.

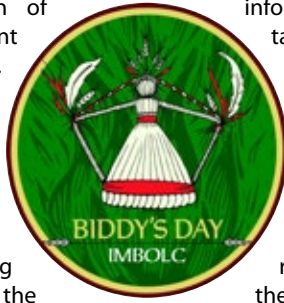
The Biddy's Parade, taking place on Saturday 31st January, is the centrepiece and defining event of the festival. On parade night, Killorglin town is transformed as Biddy groups from across Mid-Kerry gather in straw hats and traditional costume, carrying Brídeógs through the streets in a

powerful procession of fire, music, movement and celebration.

The parade is free, open to all to join in or support, and remains one of the most atmospheric and visually striking expressions of living Irish folklore in the country. Fire performers, live music and street celebrations follow, before the night continues into the town's venues.

A strong emphasis on children and families runs throughout the 2026 programme. The much-loved Kids Lantern Making workshop is back this year facilitated by Jane McMorrow, giving children the opportunity to create lanterns that become part of the parade itself. Young dancers are invited to take to the floor at the Kids Céilí – the Kids Biddy Ball.

Music, dance and social gatherings form another key strand of the festival. The Biddy's Ball in Francie's takes place on parade night, offering a late-night celebration filled with traditional music, dancing and community spirit. Singing sessions, céilís and



informal gatherings will take place across local pubs and venues throughout the festival, reinforcing the social heart of Biddy's Day.

Cultural heritage and language remain central to the festival's identity.

A series of Irish language events, including Caint & Comhrá, invite both fluent speakers and learners to take part in relaxed, welcoming settings. Traditional craft workshops, including straw hat making, felting, pottery, Brigid's cross making, storytelling and folklore sessions continue the festival's long-standing commitment to preserving and passing on skills that are intrinsic to the Biddy tradition. The intimate Lighting of the Brigid Flame offers a reflective ceremonial moment, marking renewal, hope and the return of light.

Cromane and Beaufort once again play an important role in the programme, hosting a range of community-led events that reflect the area's strong connection to landscape, tradition and seasonal

ritual. These events form part of the festival's wider Mid-Kerry reach, ensuring the celebration extends beyond Killorglin town and into Mid-Kerry.

Founded in 2017, the Mid-Kerry Biddy's Day Festival has been instrumental in reviving a tradition that had been in serious decline. From just two active Biddy groups less than a decade ago, the region now supports a growing network of groups, with children, families and new communities actively involved. The 2026 festival continues this work, blending heritage with creativity and ensuring the tradition remains relevant, inclusive and alive.

Many events across the programme are free and family-friendly, with a small number of workshops ticketed. Booking details for paid events are on our social media.

The Mid-Kerry Biddy's Day Festival warmly invites locals, visitors and the wider public to take part, whether by joining a workshop, dancing at a céilí, attending a talk, or lining the streets for the parade. Full programme updates and booking information: Instagram & Facebook: @biddys_day

Meet the Cast...

All Shook Up

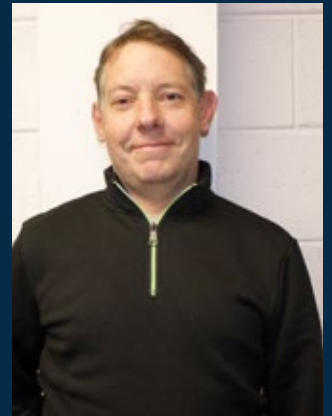


MEET JIM HALLER IN 'ALL SHOOK UP' PLAYED BY MICHAEL CUNNINGHAM

Jim Haller is the hardworking, kind-hearted widower who runs the town's motorcycle repair shop in All Shook Up. Devoted to his daughter Natalie, Jim is cautious and set in his ways, struggling to move on from the past. Over the course of the story, he learns to open his heart again, finding unexpected love and embracing the change sweeping through the town.

Michael Cunningham is thrilled to return for his second production with Killarney Musical Society. A lifelong musician and songwriter, he wrote, recorded, and released his original album *The Boy at the Window* in 2013, followed by his Christmas single *Empty Chairs* in 2020. He has also had the pleasure of singing and performing support with acclaimed Irish artist Jack Lukeman.

Michael is delighted to take on the role of Jim in the 40th anniversary production of *All Shook Up*. Performing alongside such tremendous local talent is a privilege - made all the more special by sharing the stage with his daughter, Hailey, on her first adventure with the KMS chorus.



Killarney Musical Society presents 'All Shook Up' for their 40th anniversary on the 10th, 11th and 12th of February in the Gleneagle Arena. Each week we will be introducing you to our lead cast members.

Tickets are available for 'All Shook Up' on Ticketmaster or the Gleneagle Box Office.

Photo by Lisa Campbell

Competition Win X2 tickets to All Shook Up just scan the QR code and enter!

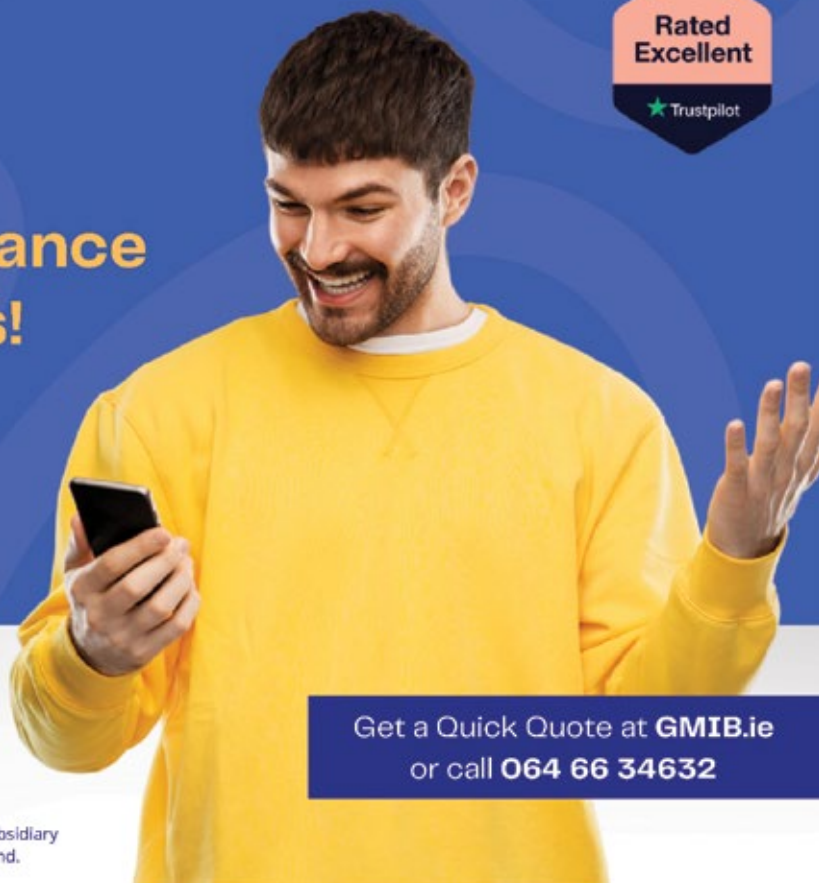


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KILCUMMIN PARISH

Written by: Helen Moynihan

31 CARD DRIVE

Memorial Tournament will be held in the Klub Bar in memory of Dermot "Brady" Moynihan on Sunday 1st of February @4pm. (31 card partners). Trophies for winners and lots of spot prizes. All proceeds donated to the Comfort for Chemo.

SAMARITANS IRELAND

Your very generous support of our Annual Christmas Church Gate collection is deeply appreciated. Mile Buíochas to all. Samaritans Freephone No is 116 123.

KILCUMMIN COMMUNITY CARE

Kilcummin Community Care meet every Tuesday from 11am to 2pm in the G.A.A. hall. Hot dinner provided, free transport available. Anybody interested please contact Mary Doyle on 086 1550803.

ENROLMENT

Enrolment forms now available for Anabla Play'n' Learn Preschool.

ECCE places available for children from 2 years 8 months.

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KILCUMMIN GAA

ANNUAL AWARDS NIGHT

Kilcummin GAA held their annual awards night recently in their club rooms to a large attendance. Outgoing Chairperson Ciara Kelly

and outgoing Secretary were honoured for their contributions to the club over the last eight years in particular, a time which saw Kilcummin embark on a great period of development and winning the All-Ireland Intermediate Club Championship. The minor team were presented with their county league winners medals while other award winners were "Senior player of the year" Philip O Leary. "Young player of the year" Dara O Callaghan and "Junior player of the year" "Jack Fogarty". Incoming Chairperson Marie Murphy and incoming secretary Grainne Lenihan acknowledged the contributions of volunteers in the success of the club and the importance of recognising their value to their community.

IRELAND LIGHTS UP

Ireland Lights Up & Irish Life GAA Healthy Clubs Steps Challenge is back for 2026. Members of the public are welcome to join us at the Kilcummin GAA Walking Track each Wednesday night between 7.30-8.30pm to walk safely with the flood lights on. You don't have to be a member of the club to take part. All welcome. Please note - On health and safety grounds, only therapy or assistance dogs are permitted on the walking track and GAA grounds. Ireland Lights Up lasts for 5 weeks and ends on the 11th February.

LOTTO

There was no winner of our lotto on Monday 12th January for the Jackpot of €6,000. Numbers drawn were 01,08,19,25. Consolation prizes of €50 went Cillian O'Gorman, Katie Crowley Knockanore, Sean Finnegan Cockhill, Fr. Donie Sheahan USA. Our next draw will be on Monday 26th January for Jackpot of €6,250.



Kilcummin awards night, From left Niamh Dwyer, Vice Chairperson; Grainne Lenihan, Secretary; Marie Murphy Chairperson; Ciara Kelly and Nessa McCarthy, joint club persons of the year and Siobhain Brosnan, Treasurer at GAA awards night in Kilcummin.



James Foley pictured with Philip O'Leary Senior Player of the Year



Brynn McCarthy placed 1st in English Singing, representing Kilcummin Comhaltas at County Final of Ceol an Geimhraidh last Saturday in MTU.



Representing Kilcummin Comhaltas U14 Quartette: Leah Brosnan, Colm Fleming, Grace Doyle, Aibhinn O'Connor, 2nd place in Co Final of Ceol an Geimhraidh in MUT last Saturday



Michael O'Connor placed 3rd in the Reed, in County Ceol an Geimhraidh in MUT last Saturday, representing Kilcummin Comhaltas.

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GLENFLESK PARISH

Written by: Sean Daly

SCÓR NA NÓG

The very best of luck to our Ballad Group in the Scor na nÓg All Ireland Final this Saturday in the INEC.

FLESK FEST 26

Flesk Fest is back and bigger than ever this year! Mark the calendars because we're switching things up this year. June 18th–21st (yes, June, not July!) Four days of music, sport, family fun, great laughs, even better company and pure community spirit — all in support of our local GAA.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page for plenty of info & updates in the coming weeks and months.

HEALTHY CLUB

A big well done to everyone who joined us for the GAA Irish Life Ireland Lights Up Walk & Couch to 5k training. The Glenflesk GAA walking track will be lit every Monday and Thursday from 7pm to 8pm for the next 7 weeks. Everyone is welcome to come along and make use of the great facility.

SPA PARISH

By Leanne Cronin

SCÓR NA NÓG ALL IRELAND FINAL

Best of luck to our Scór na nÓg Rince Seit team, who will proudly represent Spa GAA and Kerry in the All-Ireland Final on Saturday, 24th January at the Gleneagle INEC Arena, Killarney.

Crowned Munster champions, the team now takes to the national stage, continuing Spa's proud and long-standing Scór tradition. This is a fantastic achievement for the dancers and their mentors, reflecting tremendous commitment, talent and hard work.

Everyone in Spa GAA wishes them the very best of luck in the final, and we encourage all club members and supporters to come along, show their colours and get behind our team on the big day.

SCÓR NA BPÁISTÍ ENTRIES

Spa GAA is now taking entries for Scór na bPáistí (date TBC), a fantastic cultural competition for primary school children representing their club. With categories ranging from dancing, music and singing to drama, recitation and quiz, there's something for everyone. It's a fun and enjoyable way for children to get involved, build confidence and showcase their talents. Spa has a proud tradition of success and participation in Scór over the years. To enter or find out more, contact Anna O'Connor on 086 2107874.

SPA GAA AWARDS NIGHT

Tickets are now available for the Spa GAA Awards Night, taking place in Hilliards on Saturday 7th February. To purchase a ticket, contact one of the following committee members: Andrew Garnett, Ivor Flynn, Adrian O'Sullivan, Anne Holland, Triona Mangan or Mathilda McCarthy.

CLUB MEMBERSHIP

Club membership for the 2026 season is now open and available to purchase via our club website www.spagaa.com

WALK UNDER THE LIGHTS AT SPA GAA – EVERYONE WELCOME

Spa GAA is inviting club members and the wider community to get active together, with the club floodlights on every Tuesday night from 7.00pm until 10th February. Everyone is welcome to come along with family and friends and enjoy a walk around the club's walking track in a safe, relaxed



Spa Scór na nÓg Rince Seit team who were Munster Champions in November

and friendly environment. Whether it's a brisk walk, a chat with neighbours, or simply getting some fresh air, it's a great opportunity to meet others, feel good and stay active together over the coming weeks.

DOWNLOAD OUR APP

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

SPA LOTTO 19/1/26 RESULTS

Numbers drawn: 10, 18, 20, 27. No jackpot winner. Lucky dips €50 each: Anne Horgan, Online; Margaret Lenihan, Kilcummin; Cathy O'Leary, Shronederaugh; Billy Doyle c/o Sheahan's Centra; Next week's draw will be on Monday 26 January for a jackpot of €7,500

RATHMORE | GNEEVEGUILLA PARISH

By Michael O' Mahony

MARIAN PLAYERS RATHMORE PANTO

Present TREASURE ISLAND at Rathmore Community Centre. Night shows at 7-30pm, Saturday 24th & Wednesday 28th, Thursday 29th, Saturday 31st. Matinees Sunday Jan 25th & Sunday Feb 1st at 3pm. Booking office 085 2031730. All proceeds to Kerry Parents Friends Association

KNOCKNAGREE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GROUP

Knocknagree Community Development Group presents a night of traditional Irish set dancing on Thursday, January 29th, from 8.00pm to 10.00pm in Knocknagree Community Centre. Come along and enjoy a great night of set dancing. Entrance fee: €5.

GAA CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the Dingle team and management on winning the Senior Club All-Ireland Championship, to the Gaeltacht team and management on winning the Intermediate Championship, and to Ballymac on winning the Junior Championship. Well done to all three Kerry clubs on a remarkable achievement of securing three All-Ireland titles.

RATHMORE TEXT ALERT

Reminder that it is time to renew your Text Alert membership, or for new members to join. Renewals should be completed before 20th January 2026. Please drop €10 in an envelope with your name and mobile number to Dermie Moynihan's letterbox at Shinnagh, P51 X821.

If you notice anything suspicious in the area, please contact Macroom Garda Station on 026 20590.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Local confidential contact: 087 346 2332

TFI LOCAL LINK KERRY

You can check TFI Local Link Kerry's bus services into the town of Killarney by visiting the dedicated Killarney page at www.localinkkerry.ie/killarney/ or by phoning 066 714 7002 during office hours.

Notes

If you would like to add to the notes, please email Michael O'Mahony at momahony14@gmail.com, or ring/text 087 667 6817, before 6.00pm.

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



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Money Matters



By Dermot Cronin
Financial Advisor

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To Pay Off your mortgage, Debts and Other Expenses
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To Bring Peace of Mind & Leave an Inheritance
We can't know when we'll pass away. It could be today, tomorrow or 50 years from now, but it will happen eventually. No amount of money could ever replace a person. But more than anything, life insurance can help provide protection for the uncertainties in life. Even if you don't have any other assets to pass to your heirs, you can create an inheritance by buying a life insurance policy and naming them as beneficiaries. Without a doubt, having life insurance coverage will bring you and your family peace of mind. You should also consider income protection and serious illness cover when considering life cover.

If you have any queries on the above or any other matter you can contact Dermot Cronin QFA at 0646622775 or info@dermotcronin.ie

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Katie Taylor gets behind the fight for Ladies Gaelic Football as Lidl Ireland launches powerful new campaign affirming

'Greatness Deserves to be Seen'



In attendance, at Croke Park in Dublin, to mark the launch of the 2026 Lidl Ladies National Football Leagues are, Uachtarán Cumann Peil Gael na mBan Trina Murray, centre, left, Lidl Ireland & Northern Ireland Chief Executive Officer Robert Ryan, centre right, and Olympic gold medallist and two-time undisputed world champion boxer Katie Taylor, centre, with ladies footballers, from left, Kerry footballer Siofra O'Shea, Kerry footballer Danielle O'Leary, Dublin footballer Carla Rowe, Galway footballer Nicola Ward, Leitrim footballer Niamh Tighe, Armagh footballer Aimee Mackin, Cavan footballer Shauna Lynch, Antrim footballer Brona Devlin and Westmeath footballer Fiona Coyle. Lidl Ireland today reaffirmed its commitment to the LGFA and women's sport more broadly, announcing an extended partnership of LGFA to 2030 and a fresh €7.5m investment into the game, taking the retailer's total investment in LGFA to €22.5m since the partnership began. Photo by Sam Barnes/Sportsfile

Lidl Ireland and the Ladies Gaelic Football Association (LGFA) today launched the 2026 Lidl National Football League season at an event in Croke Park which saw Irish sporting legend and world renowned boxer Katie Taylor putting her weight behind a new campaign by the retailer to showcase the skill, quality and excitement of the game in a bold offensive, reminding the public that 'Greatness Deserves to be Seen'.

After a decade of support for LGFA, with a ground breaking major corporate sponsorship of a women's sport back in 2016, Lidl Ireland today reaffirmed its commitment to the LGFA and women's sport more broadly, announcing an extended partnership of LGFA to 2030 and a fresh €7.5m investment into the game, taking the retailer's total investment in LGFA to €22.5m since the partnership began.

The new campaign and partnership extension was announced this morning at the official launch of the 2026 Lidl National Leagues, which commenced last Sunday with action in Division 4. The Division 1 action gets underway next Saturday,

January 24th with a high-profile fixture as Kerry travel to Dublin for a live TG4 clash at 2.45pm. The meeting brings together the winners of the last three TG4 All-Ireland Senior Championship titles, with Dublin crowned champions in 2023 and 2025, and Kerry lifting the Brendan Martin Cup in 2024.

Kerry enter the new season as reigning Division 1 champions, while Dublin will be chasing a first top-flight title since 2021. A fiercely competitive Division 1 also features Armagh, Cork, Galway, Kildare, Meath and Waterford, with Cork and Galway returning to the top tier after immediate promotion from Division 2.

Round 2 will include two provincial derbies live on TG4 on Monday, February 2nd, as Meath host Dublin followed by Kerry against Waterford. The finals in Division 1 and 2 will take place at Parnell Park on Saturday, April 11th. On Sunday April 12th, the Divisions 3 and 4 finals will be contested. Throughout the 2026 Lidl National League season, TG4 will provide extensive coverage.



In attendance, at Croke Park in Dublin, to mark the launch of the 2026 Lidl Ladies National Football Leagues are Kerry footballer Danielle O'Leary and Dublin footballer Carla Rowe. Lidl Ireland reaffirmed its commitment to the LGFA and women's sport more broadly, announcing an extended partnership of LGFA to 2030 and a fresh €7.5m investment into the game, taking the retailer's total investment in LGFA to €22.5m since the partnership began. Photo by Sam Barnes/Sportsfile

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1 Week Only 29th January - 4th February



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KILLARNEY TRIATHLON CLUB

One Club, Three Disciplines, A Lifetime of Adventure

In a town defined by mountains, lakes and movement, it feels only natural that one of Killarney's most vibrant sporting communities continues to grow from strength to strength. Killarney Triathlon Club (KTC) is one of the town's most inclusive, energetic and socially connected sports clubs, and as the club approaches a major milestone of 10 years affiliated with Triathlon Ireland in 2026, there has never been a better time to get involved.

All Ages. All Abilities. One Club.

Killarney Triathlon Club welcomes people of all ages over 18, from complete beginners to experienced athletes. Many members are already active in the wider sporting community, and the club works positively alongside local running, cycling and swimming groups, with a strong crossover of members who enjoy training across multiple disciplines.

Triathlon offers something refreshingly flexible. Some members arrive with a background in one discipline and enjoy the challenge of trying something new. Others train socially for fitness, friendship and fun, without any pressure to race. You don't need to complete all three disciplines, many members focus on their preferred sport, take part in relay teams, or simply enjoy being part of an active, social club. If 2026 feels like the right time to reconnect with the outdoors, try something new and do so alongside a friendly, welcoming community that supports and encourages every step, then Killarney Triathlon Club is ready to welcome you.

The club offers a comprehensive, fully coached weekly training programme including running, swimming, cycling, strength and conditioning, optional yoga and regular social sessions. Training is structured to suit all abilities, with an emphasis on enjoyment, progression and



consistency.

In recent years, KTC has grown to over 100 members, driven not only by quality coaching but by a strong and welcoming social culture that places equal value on fitness, friendship and fun.

OPEN NIGHT CELEBRATION – EVERYONE WELCOME

Anyone curious about the club or the sport of triathlon is warmly invited to attend Killarney Triathlon Club's Open Night Celebration.

Thursday 05th February

7.00pm

Fredericks, The Great Southern Hotel

This relaxed and informal evening will feature guest speakers from across the club, including new members who joined in recent years sharing their experiences of getting started, alongside podium-winning age-category athletes speaking about progression, training



and club life.

It's an ideal opportunity to meet members, hear about training and social activities, view schedules and membership options, and ask any questions, whether you're new to sport, returning after time away, or simply interested in seeing what the club is about.

Whether you're looking for fitness, friendship or a new challenge, there is a place for you at KTC. Sometimes, all it takes is showing up!

Find out more:

Killarney Triathlon Club

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This is why it is so important to calm your mind, focus your thoughts and find a stillness within. Many people enjoy meditating which is simply just noticing "what is." It can be done anywhere and anytime as you bring your focus inwards, become more aware of each breath and simply observe what is unfolding in the moment.

However, you don't have to meditate to feel calm. Some of the most mundane tasks in life can have a calming effect, for instance cleaning windows, painting furniture, washing up etc. The reason this works is because we are solely focussed on the act.

Other lovely meditative ways are to engage in a hobby you love, for example, knitting, drawing, walking, etc.

Another lovely tip is to imagine a future you. This person is still you, just not the one of the present. Instead, this is the you of tomorrow, next week, next month or next year. Imagine this future you as having dealt with all issues or problems and guide you back to the present.

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AVOID THESE COMMON MISTAKES WHEN STARTING A NEW EXERCISE ROUTINE IN JANUARY

January is the perfect time to kick off a new fitness journey, but many beginners fall into common traps that can hinder progress or lead to injury. To set yourself up for success, be mindful of these pitfalls and follow simple tips to stay on track.

- 1. Set Realistic Goals:** Aim for achievable targets that fit your current fitness level. Instead of rushing into intense workouts, start small and build gradually.
- 2. Don't Go Too Hard Too Soon:** Jumping into high-intensity exercises right away can cause soreness or injury. Ease into your routine and give your body time to adapt.
- 3. Plan Your Workouts:** A structured plan keeps you motivated and consistent. Schedule workouts and track your progress to stay accountable.
- 4. Focus on Proper Technique:** Learning correct form helps prevent injuries and ensures you get the most from your workouts. Use trainers or instructional videos to guide you.
- 5. Prioritize Warm-Up and Cool-Down:** Never skip warming up or stretching afterward. These routines prepare your body and aid recovery.
- 6. Pay Attention to Nutrition and Hydration:** Fuel your body with balanced meals and stay hydrated to enhance performance and recovery.
- 7. Be Patient:** Results take time. Celebrate small wins and stay committed, knowing that consistency is key.
- 8. Incorporate Rest and Recovery:** Rest days are essential. They help your muscles recover and prevent burnout.

Starting a new exercise routine can be exciting, but avoiding these common mistakes will help you stay safe, motivated, and on the path to long-term fitness success.

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DRIVING AND VISION

It is important that you can see clearly to be able to drive safely. Conditions that may affect your visual field and driving include strokes and brain tumours, as well as eye conditions such as diabetic retinopathy and glaucoma (if you have them in both eyes).

Make sure you have regular sight tests and if your optometrist tells you that you must not drive, you must stop all driving immediately.

Driving when you are medically unfit to do so is a criminal offence, and you may be prosecuted if you are involved in an accident.

Driving glasses
If you have been advised to wear glasses for driving, make sure you wear them, even for short trips – and keep a spare pair in the car. Choose glasses with thinner sides for driving as they won't block your side vision as much as thicker ones. If you wear contact lenses, keep a pair of glasses in the car in case you need to take your lenses out. Even if you don't need to wear glasses all the time, you will probably find they are particularly helpful when the lighting is poor, and for driving at night.


Headlights of oncoming traffic can be dazzling when you

are driving at night or in poor weather conditions. Special driving lenses designed with a specially-developed glare filter and a contrast-enhancing filter can help reduce reflections and uncomfortable glare from oncoming traffic.

If glare is an ongoing problem for you, make sure your windscreen and headlights are thoroughly cleaned and free from grime and dirt. If you wear glasses, and don't forget to keep them clean too. If you find that problems with glare at night persist, make an appointment to have a sight test.

Sunshine can be dazzling too, particularly when the sun is low in the sky. If you wear glasses, you may find it helpful to have a pair of prescription sunglasses in the car, or to wear clip-on sunglasses over your prescription glasses. Polarised sunglasses are great for driving in bright conditions. Polarised lenses are lenses with a special built in filter to reduce glare and improve vision in bright conditions

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Former Kerry footballer Darragh Roche of RocheFit Gym, will speak on the night.

SPECIAL MEN'S HEALTH NIGHT to Highlight Heart Health Awareness in Killarney

A special Men's Health Night focusing on heart health and early prevention will take place on Tuesday, January 27th, at 8pm in the Parish Centre, Park Road, Killarney.

The event aims to encourage men, particularly those aged 30 to 60 to take a proactive approach to their cardiovascular health, with free blood pressure and pulse checks available throughout the evening. Organisers note that many men do not regularly attend GP check-ups, despite prevention being key in reducing the risk of cardiovascular disease.

A highlight of the night will be a talk by former Kerry footballer Darragh Roche of RocheFit Gym, who will share his personal experience of suffering a heart attack at just 29 years of age. His story is expected to underline the importance of recognising the signs and symptoms of heart attack and seeking early medical attention.

Medical professionals Dr Rosemary Kelliher and Dr Danielle O'Leary of GP Care Killarney will also be in attendance. They will provide expert insight into general heart health care and lead a question-and-answer session, offering attendees the opportunity to raise concerns or seek advice in an informal setting.

The evening's programme begins at 7.30pm with blood pressure and pulse checks, followed by the guest speaker at 8pm. Medical talks will take place at 8.20pm, with refreshments and informal discussions from 8.55pm. Health checks will continue until approximately 9.30pm.

The event is being supported by Heartbeat Killarney Kerry Cardiac Support Group, who will also have a display of free information leaflets and booklets available for attendees to take home.

Organisers stress that this is a welcoming event not only for men, but also for anyone who cares about men's health. Admission is free and all are welcome.

HSE SOUTH WEST URGENT VIRTUAL CARE SERVICE *helps more than 4,000 patients avoid Emergency Department attendance*

Patients and clinicians have hailed the success of HSE South West's Urgent Virtual Care Service, which has now seen more than 5,700 patients since opening in November 2024.

The service offers patients across Cork and Kerry alternatives to attending an Emergency Department, including remote consultations. Since opening in November 2024, the service has seen 5,743 patients. Almost three-quarters (73%, or 4,192) have avoided an Emergency Department attendance.

Urgent Virtual Care allows GPs and paramedics to consult directly (by phone or video call) with a senior medical decision maker in Emergency Medicine or Geriatric Medicine. A team of senior clinicians and support staff provide virtual consultations and assessments from a centralised hub, which is located at Cork University Hospital but accepts referrals from GPs and paramedics across Cork and Kerry.

Professor Conor Deasy, Clinical Director of Emergency and Acute Care, CUH, said:

"The Urgent Virtual Care service has been in a much-welcomed addition to our Emergency and Acute Care offering in the last year or so. It helps patients get the right care, from the right clinicians, at the right time, allowing GPs and paramedics to access pathways in hospitals and the community directly for their patients. Often, patients can bypass the Emergency Department entirely and access their care directly. We are constantly working to get

patients more directly to the care they need, and the Urgent Virtual Care service is a big part of that."

The service offers a range of options after a referral, including:

- a direct telephone or video consultation with the patient or GP
- access to services which deliver care in the patient's own home or nursing home
- when needed, a structured and scheduled visit to the Emergency Department

The majority of patients are assessed remotely, often from the comfort of their own home.

Emma Slye, a previous user of the service, said her experience was very positive. "They took care of me immediately, there was no waiting around, and I felt like I was being really cared for. I would recommend Urgent Virtual Care to other people."

Dr Andrew Crosbie of Elmwood Medical Practice said the service allows for better communication between GPs and hospitals, ultimately leading to better care.

Priscilla Lynch, HSE manager

for Cork South and West said that supporting GPs and paramedics to find alternatives ways to access care for their patients is paying dividends.

She added: "We are delighted that this service is helping so many patients to get the care they need, when they need it. We are committed to investing in this service and we encourage both patients and GP to consider whether it's a viable option for their needs."

Referrals to the UVC can be made by GPs and paramedics only via Healthlink, Email, or by phone.



Professor Conor Deasy, Clinical Director of Emergency and Acute Care, CUH

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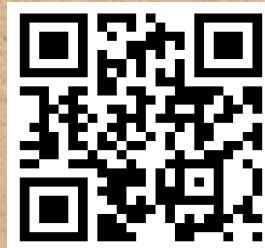


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Minister Michael Healy-Rae welcomes €3.26 million investment for MTU as part of €41 million national higher education funding

Minister of State at the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Michael Healy-Rae TD, has welcomed today's announcement by James Lawless, confirming over €41 million in devolved capital funding for higher education institutions for 2026–2027, with Munster Technological University (MTU) set to receive €3.26 million.

The funding, announced under the Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science, will support essential small-scale capital works across the higher education sector, including energy efficiency upgrades, decarbonisation works, health and safety improvements, accessibility works, refurbishment and equipment renewal.

Welcoming the allocation, Minister Healy-Rae said:

"I very much welcome this announcement and, in particular, the €3.26 million allocation to MTU, which serves both Cork and Kerry and plays a hugely important role in the future of education, skills and enterprise in our region."

Minister Healy-Rae highlighted the significance of the funding for MTU's Tralee campus, which continues to grow in strength and importance:



"The MTU Tralee campus is going from strength to strength. It is a vital educational, economic and social asset for Kerry, supporting students from right across the county and beyond, and maintaining strong links with local employers, industry and the wider community. This funding will help ensure the campus continues to develop in a modern, sustainable and student-focused way.

The Devolved Capital Grant provides institutions with flexibility to address priority needs on campus, including improving energy performance and reducing emissions in line with national climate targets.

Minister Healy-Rae added:

"Investment like this is about future-proofing our regional campuses. It supports safer, more accessible facilities, helps institutions meet climate obligations, and ensures that students and staff have the modern infrastructure they deserve."

He concluded by welcoming the continued commitment of Government to regional higher education:

"MTU is a cornerstone of higher education in Munster, and particularly in Kerry. I will continue to strongly support investment in the Tralee campus and to work with colleagues in Government to ensure that regional institutions are properly resourced and allowed to thrive."

Cllr Jackie Healy-Rae launches new podcast "The Chamber"

Cllr Jackie Healy-Rae has launched a new podcast, The Chamber, aimed at giving people a clear and direct insight into what is happening inside the council chamber from his perspective.

Speaking about the launch, Cllr Healy-Rae said the idea behind the podcast is simple to explain, in plain language, what is being discussed, debated and decided at council meetings, and what it actually means for people on the ground.

"There are more ways than ever for people to get their news and information. Social media, radio, print and online all play their part, but I felt there was space for something more direct and accessible. The Chamber is about bringing people inside the council chamber and explaining what's going on, without jargon or spin."

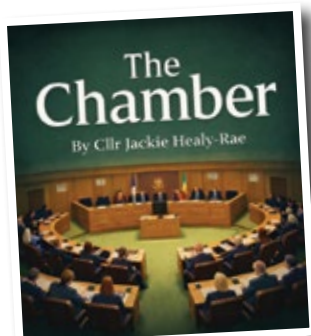
Each episode will provide updates from council meetings, outlining key motions, discussions and decisions, and offering a councillor's perspective on local issues that affect everyday life from infrastructure and services to planning and community matters.

"People are busy. This is something you can watch on my Facebook page or listen to in the car on Spotify. It's about making local government more accessible and keeping people informed in a way that suits modern life."

The first episode, focusing on the January full council meeting, is now available, with further episodes planned on a regular basis following council meetings

The Chamber is available on Spotify and via Cllr Jackie Healy-Rae's social media channels.

<https://open.spotify.com/show/5g1SB1vboqXHH8qPqX86JY?si=a3obMNN1QOuzbv1NNBbYrQ>



€900,000 in funding for a new cycleway at Park Road, Killarney

Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Kerry TD Norma Foley has welcomed the confirmation of over €13 million in funding for active travel projects in Kerry.

Almost €9.2 million of this sum is being provided towards the 32km South Kerry greenway from Glenbeigh to Cahersiveen, which is currently under construction.

Around €500,000 is being provided to link up the Tralee and Listowel Greenways. There is €900,000 in funding for a new cycleway at Park Road, Killarney, €650,000 for a cycleway along the Bracker O'Regan Road in Tralee and €420,000 for a cycleway, traffic crossing and traffic calming interventions in Tralee.

There is also funding of €500,000 for the upgrade of bus stops as well as funding for 13 safe routes to school and other active travel projects

Minister Foley said: "I welcome this significant funding of over €13 million for active travel from my Fianna Fáil cabinet colleague, Darragh O'Brien, the Minister for Transport. During my time in government, I am pleased that significant government funding has been provided to develop a necklace of greenways in Kerry. The most recent addition, the South Kerry Greenway, is underway and today receives significant funding of over €9.2 million to advance it further. There is also important funding for safe routes to school for Kerry students and improved cycling and walking facilities right around the county."

There are 13 Kerry schools who will receive funding for safe routes to school. These include the Intermediate school in Killorglin (€120,000), Mercy Secondary School Mounthawk in Tralee (€50,000) and CBS primary in Tralee (€15,000). Other schools will receive €5,000 under the safe routes to school scheme, including Moyderwell Mercy primary school in Tralee, Presentation Secondary School in Tralee, Sacred Heart primary school in Tralee, Castledrum primary school, Coolick NS, Cullina NS, Glounaguillagh NS, St Joseph's NS in Castlemaine, St Joseph's NS in Ballyheigue and Presentation primary school in Listowel.



DANNY HEALY-RAE TD



Cllr MAURA
HEALY-RAE

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9.30 PM

1st Thursday

8.30 PM
9.00 PM
9.30 PM
10.00 PM

1st Friday

9.30 PM
10.00 PM
10.30 PM

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8.30 PM
9.00 PM
9.30 PM
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3rd Friday

7.30 PM
8.00 PM
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9.30 PM

4th Thursday

7:00 PM
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4th Friday

8.30 PM
9.30 PM
10.00 PM
10.45 PM

Last Monday

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

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Record numbers of struggling households cannot afford to keep the lights on - Pa Daly TD

Sinn Féin spokesperson on Climate, the Environment and Energy, Pa Daly TD, has criticised the government for failing to address Ireland's energy rip-off.

Deputy Daly called on them to immediately reintroduce electricity credits as record numbers of households request support from charities this Winter.

Commenting on figures announced by the Society of St. Vincent De Paul today, Teachta Daly said:

"Record numbers of households are struggling to make ends meet as the cost of living crisis continues unabated.

"Workers and families are facing eye-watering costs everywhere they turn. Nowhere is this more acute than Ireland's extortionate cost of energy.

"Instead of doing their job and shielding their constituents from the rip-off, Fianna Fáil,



Fine Gael and the Regional Independents eliminated the last line of defence with their decision to withdraw electricity credits.

"In a move that was both alarmingly shortsighted and cruel, they did this precisely at the time households were experiencing a range of price hikes across the board.

"Unsurprisingly, a record number of workers and families were forced to turn to the Society of St. Vincent De Paul for help. This government had left them with nowhere else to turn.

"The full impact of higher energy costs has yet to be felt, as the first real winter bills are only now landing for many households.

"And for those households that are most vulnerable, such as those who have been involuntarily put on PAYG meters, not only are they charged higher rates but new rules from the regulator mean that energy suppliers can recoup their debt with further price gouges.

"This simply cannot go on. Households cannot take anymore.

"I am therefore calling on the government to urgently reintroduce energy credits and to finally take the steps to end the rip-off for good.

"Both they and the regulator must hold energy companies to account - they must tackle price gouging and anti-competitive behaviour and the affordability of energy as a public good must be prioritised."

Unanimous Support as Kerry County Council Backs Motion of No Confidence in the Road Safety Authority

A motion of no confidence in the Road Safety Authority (RSA), put forward by Cllr Jackie Healy-Rae, was passed unanimously at the January meeting of Kerry County Council.

The motion was supported by members from across the Council chamber and reflected growing concern at the direction, priorities and effectiveness of the RSA, particularly in the context of rising road fatalities.

According to RSA figures, approximately 185 people lost their lives on public roads in Ireland in 2025, one of the highest figures in over a decade. Eight of those deaths occurred in County Kerry.

Speaking following the meeting, Cllr Jackie Healy-Rae said the figures represented a clear failure of national road safety leadership.

"Despite unprecedented levels of legislation, enforcement and penalties on our roads, fatalities are going up. That tells us that something is fundamentally wrong with how road safety is being managed at national level." The motion highlighted what Cllr Jackie Healy-Rae described as the RSA's over-reliance on advertising and media campaigns, including the 30km/h speed limit campaign, which has cost almost €1 million when production, media buying and PR are taken into account and is intended to run for a minimum of four years.

"The RSA has increasingly become a communications operation," Cllr Healy-Rae said.

"At a time when lives are being lost, the focus appears to be on spin and messaging rather than on measures that actually save lives."

Cllr Jackie Healy-Rae also criticised the continued emphasis on the RSA's 'Vision Zero' approach, stating that while ambition is important, the concept has become



fundamentality detached from reality.

"We will always, unfortunately, have accidents. What matters is reducing risk through practical, evidence-based action, not slogans," Cllr Healy-Rae said.

A central issue raised during the debate was the lack of emphasis on road infrastructure safety.

Cllr Jackie Healy-Rae pointed to warnings from Transport Infrastructure Ireland, which previously identified the N22 corridor as a route where additional deaths and serious injuries were likely if upgrades were not delivered.

That warning has since been borne out, with a fatal collision already recorded on the N22 in 2026.

"Dangerous junctions, poor alignments and substandard roads cannot be fixed by advertising campaigns," Cllr Healy-Rae said.

"Engineering and infrastructure save lives and they are being neglected by the RSA as it is not a sexy enough issue for them."

The motion contrasted the RSA's approach with the work being carried out locally by Kerry

County Council, including the appointment of a Road Safety Officer, funding of a countywide School Warden service, and ongoing education and engagement initiatives.

However, Cllr Healy-Rae warned that local authorities must also avoid falling into the same trap.

"Education and promotion matter, but councils must also invest directly in safety works on our roads. If we can fix dangerous junctions or layouts using our own resources, then we should do so, lives are more important than waiting on central grants."

The unanimously passed motion calls for a fundamental re-evaluation of the RSA's role, priorities and value for money, with a renewed focus on infrastructure safety, evidence-based interventions and measurable reductions in road deaths.

"Road safety must be judged by outcomes, not advertising reach," Cllr Healy-Rae concluded.

Cllr
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KILLARNEY GOLF & FISHING CLUB - LADIES

RESULTS OF LADIES COMPETITION HELD 18-01-26

Annual Mary Geaney Team of 3 Scramble, 13 holes played on O'Mahonys Point.

1st: 46nett, Jane Dwyer, Mary Geaney & Pat Collins

Runners up: 47nett, Last 9 holes, Ursula Daly, Liz Kelleher & Annette Sheehan

3rd: 47 nett, Last 9 holes, Eimear O'Donnell, Geraldine Rosney & Moira Quinlan.

4th: 47nett, Last 9 holes, Kathleen Wall, Ann Stuart & Mary Shanahan

5th: 47nett, Amy Arthur, Dolores McSweeney & Abigail Graham

6th: 48nett, Last 9 holes, Marie O'Brien, Carmel Fitzgerald & Kathleen Rice

7th: 48nett, Mary Sheehy, Kate Anu Culloty & Anita O'Sullivan

8th: 49nett, Annette McNiece, Miriam Murphy Wood & Aoife Twomey.

NEXT FIXTURE will be held on Killeen Course on Sunday 25-01-26.

Ladies 11 hole Scotch Foursomes.

ROSS GOLF CLUB - GENTS

RESULTS

On January 17th and 18th we held a stableford competition.

The winners were :-

1st: Michael O'Keeffe, 41 (10)

2nd: Daniel Shine, 38 (6)

Division 1 (0-12)

1st: Aidan O'Connor, 37 (9)

Division 2 (12-20)

1st: Rolandas Bendikas, 37 (14)

Division 3 (20-54)

1st: John O'Reilly, 35 (25)

DEERPARK PITCH & PUTT CLUB

AGM

Thanks to everyone who attended our AGM on Wednesday January 14th last as we were proud to elect Derry McCarthy to the position



Captain Annette McNiece (8th place) (right) presenting first prize in the Mary Geaney 13 Hole Scramble on Mahony's Point to winners Pat Courtney, Jane Dwyer and Mary Geaney with (left and second row) Annette Sheehan, Ursula Daly and Elizabeth Kelleher 2nd, Geraldine Rosney, Moira Quinlan and Eimear O'Donnell 3rd (third row from left) Kathleen Wall, Ann Stuart and Mary Shanahan 4th, Amy Arthur, Abigail Graham and Delores McSweeney 5th (fourth row from left) Marie O'Brien, Carmel Fitzgerald and Kathleen Rice 6th, Mary Sheehy, Kate Anu Culloty and Anita O'Sullivan 7th (back from left) Miriam Murphy Wood, Aoife Twomey with Captain Annette McNiece 8th at Killarney Golf and Fishing Club on Sunday. Photo by Michelle Cooper Galvin

of Club President filling the vacancy left by the death of Kay O'Sullivan in October 2024. One of Derry's first acts as President was to make a special presentation to our Club Secretary on his achievements on the playing front in 2025 as we also made the presentation of the Utility Trust Doubles Matchplay prizes at the AGM. We welcome both Niall O'Loughlin and Michael Cronin to the Committee as our new U16 officers as we will fill a number of vacancies by co-option at first Committee Meeting.

2026 OFFICERS

Honorary President: Derry McCarthy, Vice President: Deferred to a later date, Chairman: Sean Kelly, Vice-Chairman; For Co-Option at next Meeting, Secretary: Damien Fleming, Treasurer: For Co-Option at next Meeting, Assistant

Treasurer: Colm O'Dowd, Registrar: Bobby Kelly, PRO: Jason O'Connor, Competition Secretaries: Connie O'Sullivan Jnr & John McGrath, U16 Officers: Niall O'Loughlin & Michael Cronin, Club Captain: Gearóid Cronin, Grounds Chairman: Derry McCarthy and Non-Portfolio Officers: Aidan O'Keeffe & James Foley.

SUNDAY DRAWS

Two Ball Betterball- First Nett: Gearoid Cronin & Margaret O'Brien 36½ Gross: John McGrath & Dan Kiely 46 and Second Nett: Sean O'Brien & Dan Kiely 38½ (B9).

2026 MEMBERSHIP

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



Newly elected Deerpark Pitch & Putt Club President Derry McCarthy (centre) making a presentation on behalf of club to Damien Fleming recognising his achievements in 2025 at the club's AGM on Wednesday January 14th last. Also included in photo is Club Chairman Sean Kelly.



Sean Kelly Deerpark Pitch & Putt Chairman (left) pictured with the prizewinners from the 2025 Utility Trust Doubles Matchplay event at the club's AGM on Wednesday January 14th last. Included are Conor O'Riordan & Brian McCarthy (Winners) along with Sean O'Brien & Bobby Kelly (Runners-Up).



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KILLARNEY VALLEY ATHLETIC CLUB

Congratulations to Sarah Leahy who broke the Irish National 50m record in the Meeting Indoor Locarnese event in Locarno, Switzerland with a time of 6.41.

Killarney Valley athletes travelled to the National Indoor Arena in Dublin last weekend to compete on the track. Sarah Leahy ran 7.49s for the 60m while Keelie O'Connor ran two personal bests of 7.90s and 7.68s in the 60m and also won the 200m with another PB of 25.92s. Naoise O'Connor ran a new PB twice of 8.45s and with Maddie O'Riordan ran very strongly in the 200m. Charlie Clarke ran 7.40s and a PB of 7.38s in the second 60m race for his debut at senior level and then won the 200m in 23.74 for another PB.

Maria Murnane placed 2nd in the 800 with a new PB of 2.20 and Conor Kissane won the 1500m with 4.10 which was also a new PB. In the field events Jordan Lee threw the leading throw of the day of 11.09m.

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

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

FOSSA BRIDGE CLUB

RESULTS FOR 15TH JANUARY

N/S

1st: Ciarán Broadbery & Marie Moloney

2nd: Anne Looney & Michael McHugh

E/W

1st: Hazel O'Connell & Kathleen Coen

2nd: Patricia Lynch & Ann Clerkin

Congratulations to all.

REMINDER

President Margaret's Charity Fundraiser is on next week the 29th January. Her chosen charity is "Comfort for Chemo". They are presently fundraising to build and equip a state of the art, purpose built chemotherapy unit for the people of Kerry. Hope to see you all there.

SYMPATHY

It is with great sadness that we hear of the passing of our esteemed member, Danielle Fromont. RIP Danielle.



Fossa Rowing Club pictured at last Saturday's Irish Indoor rowing Championships.

BRIDGE CONTINUES every Thursday morning at 10am at The Castlerosse Hotel.

KILLARNEY SWIMMING CLUB

The first Long Course (50m) Meet of the year took place over 3 days at UL at the weekend at the Gerry Ryan Memorial Gala. This is the first qualifying meet for Age Group and Youth and Senior Summer Nationals in July. Killarney excelled with personal bests, 23 qualifying times for Summer Nationals and 5 medals.

Congratulations to Evan O'Donoghue, who achieved a gold medal in the 400IM and 3 bronze medals in the 100 Breast, 200 Breast, and 200IM. Well done to Sarah Quirke with a silver medal in the 200 Fly.

Congratulations to Aoife Coffey and Aoibhin Heinemann, who both achieved qualifying times in a number of events for the McCullagh International Open Meet in February, which will take place at the NAC in Dublin.

FOSSA ROWING CLUB

IRISH INDOOR ROWING CHAMPIONSHIPS:

Very well done to our rowers who took part in the Irish Indoor rowing Championships in Limerick on Saturday last. UL was a hive of activity with clubs from all over Ireland taking part. Great to see a strong Kerry contingent taking part

and our rowers had some great craic with their friends from Cahersiveen club Sive throughout the day.

We were represented by a very strong underage crew who represented the club admirably amidst the best rowers in the country and all set their own PB's with some amazing performance to boot. Our rowers who represented the club were Noah Slattery, Adam Murphy, Tim Madde, Kallina Poul, Eoin Murphy, Cilian O'Donoghue and Conor Jack O'Neill.

A particular congratulations to Kallina who won her heat in the WJ14, finishing a brilliant 6th overall and followed that up with a 6th in the 500m. A phenomenal display!

A huge thanks also to our awesome coaches Conor, Declan and Laura who looked after their charges in what was a busy day in Limerick. Very well done one and all!

WORKMAN'S ROWING CLUB

Workman's Rowing Club began the New Year 2026 with energy, ambition, and a clear focus on the season ahead. While the majority of members are back on the water, building fitness and sharpening skills in preparation for the upcoming regatta season, a dedicated group of athletes took on a different challenge by competing at the Irish Indoor Rowing Championships 2026, held at the University of



Madeleine Lynch, Lara O'Brien Leahy, Evan O'Donoghue, Divo Lucic Kovacevic, Samuel O'Neill, May O'Mahony, Raegan Browne and Aoife Coffey.



Evan O'Donoghue, winning 1 gold and 3 bronze medals at the Gerry Ryan Memorial Gala at UL.

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Limerick.

The championships brought together rowers from across the country, creating a highly competitive and electric atmosphere. Representing Workman's Rowing Club with pride, all athletes delivered determined and disciplined performances, reflecting the hard work put in during winter training.

Standout performances on the day came from Luke Coffey, Aaron O'Connor, Odhran Sloan, Zac Donaldson, Finn O'Neill and Oisin Murphy, who rose to the occasion and produced excellent results against strong national competition and winning gold in the 2Km relay. Their efforts highlighted not only individual commitment but also the depth of talent and growing strength within the club.

The event proved to be a valuable benchmark early in the year, providing motivation and momentum as Workman's Rowing Club looks ahead to the outdoor season. With enthusiasm high both on the ergo and on the water, the club is well positioned for an exciting and successful year of racing ahead.

ONGOING TRAINING

Regular training sessions continue as scheduled throughout the week, with strong attendance and a positive training environment across all squads. Consistency remains a cornerstone of our progress, as each session builds the fitness, technique, and resilience needed for the challenges of the season ahead.

Teamwork and mutual support continue to define our training culture — athletes pushing one another to improve, staying committed

through demanding sessions, and turning up ready to work. By maintaining this collective focus and effort, the club is laying solid foundations for continued success both on and off the water.

KILLARNEY BADMINTON CLUB

Unfortunately, it wasn't to be on the first night of county finals, as our 3 Teams finished runners-up in the County Leagues Finals last week in Annascaul. All 3 teams playing fantastic and all were narrowly beaten.

What a great win for our Div. 4 Mens Team last week. What makes it an even better achievement is that it's now THREE IN A ROW.

Please check dates for upcoming home matches on WhatsApp group.

Well done to Sinead Galvin on competing in Scotland v Ireland in Glasgow at the weekend. Sinead won her match but overall Scotland proved too strong on this occasion and Ireland were beaten 25-15.

PICKLEBALL

Killarney Pickleball Club kicked off the new with not 1 but 2 clubs visiting them. On Sunday they were delighted to welcome their nearest Pickleball club in Co. Cork, Duhallow (near Kanturk). An enjoyable morning was had by all with plenty of games, rallies and fun! At the end of the day Killarney won in overall points with both sides showing great competition. Special



Workman's Rowing Club members l-r: Finn O'Neill, Aaron O'Connor, Luke Coffey and Zac Donaldson

thanks to Vince from Duhallow for organising his team, and Michael from SPA GAA for opening the complex so early in the morning.

Tuesday morning we welcomed Fossa, our nearest club in Kerry. They weren't complete as strangers as both clubs share a number of players. Fossa play on a Thursday afternoon in the old church. Killarney play in the Leisure Centre Tuesday mornings at 10 and Thursday evening at 8.



Duhallow and Killarney enjoying Pickleball



Fossa and Killarney enjoying Pickleball



Killarney Badminton division 3 ladies



Killarney Badminton division 3 men



Killarney Badminton Division 4 men's county champions

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FOSSA GAA

LOTTO

The numbers drawn on 18/01/2026 for a jackpot of €5,850 were 3, 4, 14, 15. There was no jackpot winner. The €40 consolation prize winners were; Moira Dineen, Online; Niall Myers, Online; Sarah Randles; James Houlihan; John Lyne.

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

NATIONAL CLUB DRAW - FOSSA GAA

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

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

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

EAST KERRY NEWS

AGM

On Friday night last, January 16th the annual East Kerry AGM was held at the Killarney Racecourse. As always, Mass was served for all deceased family members, by Fr Paddy O Donoghue before events proceeded.

Chairman Garry O Halloran Kilcummin GAA Club welcomed everyone to the Racecourse thanks to Ollie Favier. There was a few new faces to the Executive. Matt O'Neill Dr. Crokes GAA stepped down as Scor officer. He was a wonderful ambassador for the cultural side of the GAA. He put in Trojan work over the years and is a huge loss to the Board. Michael Aherne, Spa Gaa takes over from Matt and no doubt will bring his youthful energy to this role. Mike Guerin, Glenflesk Gaa steps into the vacant role of Assistant Treasurer.

ALL IRELAND SCÓR NA NÓG

Best of luck to Spa Set Dancers, and Glenflesk



East Kerry Board Members at AGM at Killarney Racecourse.



East Kerry Board Members and Club Delegates at AGM at Killarney Racecourse.

Ballad Group in Saturdays All Ireland Final.

ALL IRELAND CLUB FINAL

Congratulations to Dingle on their brilliant win in the All Ireland Club Final.

COACH EDUCATION

Kerry Coaching and Games Award 1 Youth Course was completed in MTU over the weekend. Thirty six people attended the course run over a three day period. East Kerry club coaches were well represented at the course with great feedback from all participants. Thanks to all clubs for supporting Vince Cooper East Kerry GDC in completing the event. Padraig O Sullivan (Referee Tutor) and Padraig Murphy (Athletic Development) delivered excellent presentations engaging all coaches. Coaches have a great chance to plan for the playing season ahead using the tools learned at the course.

DR. CROKES

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

[gaa/fundraisers](#)

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

LOTTO took place on January 19th Numbers drawn were 5, 14, 16, 18. Jackpot of €17,300 was NOT WON. 8 patrons matched 3 numbers and receive €50 each. Jackpot for draw on January 26th will be €17,600. Play online by following the link below and follow instructions attached <https://member.clubspot.app/club/dr-crokes-gaa/fundraisers>

BINGO

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

CONGRATULATIONS to Dingle on winning the All Ireland Club Final.

CONDOLENCES to Dave O'Connor and the O'Connor Family on the passing of Dave's aunt. May she rest in peace.

NOTES

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



Supporters enjoying the McGrath Cup final at Fitzgerald Stadium last weekend. Photo: Fitzgerald Stadium PR



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Utility Trust St Pauls vs Fr Matthews Preview

Dominos Womens Superleague
Saturday, January 24th at 5pm

Fr Matthews Arena

Fr Matthews vs Utility Trust St Pauls

Preview by Enda Walshe



Utility Trust St. Pauls in action. Photo: by Molly



James Fleming Coach Utility Trust St. Pauls. Photo: by Molly

It's very much game on in the Dominos Womens Super League with only one game separating the top five. Killester and Utility Trust St Pauls currently lead the way with eight wins each but Brunell, Glanmire and Trinity Meteors are all in hot pursuit. The remaining playoff spots are currently occupied by Flomax Liffey Celtics, Waterford Wildcats and the improving McEvoy's Cavan Eagles. You would venture to say that only events of a catastrophic nature would deny St Pauls of a berth but the requirement to finish as high in the standings as possible remains the carrot on a stick, with a home quarter-final the reward.

With seven games remaining the short trip up the newly revamped N22 to the Fr Matthews Arena is first on the agenda with the subsequent weekends seeing three home games, against the Cavan Eagles, Trinity Meteors and Flomax Liffey Celtics respectively. By the time they set off on their travels again to Killester, Glanmire and Brunell, everyone will be all the wiser as to what will be required.

Surprisingly this weekend's opponents, Fr Matthews, are yet to secure a win. Surprising for the fact that they are always a very competitive opponent and in the past have made their Arena a fortress. But they can lean on some impressive performances if they are looking to garner some confidence. They were very close to success in their two battles with Portlaoise Panthers while they gave the all conquering Killester a belly full of it in their own patch back in October. The evergreen Grainne Dwyer is still pulling her weight at this level while in Laila Blair they possess the leagues top scorer, some feat when you consider their position. The signing of Stacie Jones in December has brought some improvement while Saidbh Fitzgerald and Tralee native Holly O'Brien won't lack for effort.

After a substandard performance against Glanmire in mid December St Pauls have really got back to the standards they had previously. A hard fought win over Brunell was followed by an epic triumph over Waterford Wildcats while the Panthers win was ruthless and efficient. Those trio of wins have helped them to the summit but they must be wary of a team looking for its maiden win. The form of Tara Cousins, Maisie Burnham and Lovisa Hevinder has been central to their success with the trio combining for an average of nearly fifty points per game. But the Irish contingent have

certainly made their presence felt. Lorraine Scanlon is having the season of her life, Leah McMahon improving with every outing, and back in the frame following a concussion enforced absence. The commencement of the National Football league will mean Siofra O'Shea will again be juggling her commitments but her influence on the team has been clear. Deirdre Geaney is offering great options for coach James Fleming and the form of Denise Dunlea is hugely encouraging. Lynn Jones continues to show great example, something youngsters like Naoise O'Connor and Clodagh O'Sullivan are tapping into.

These are the type of games you must be wary of, considering you will be well fancied. With a trio of home games to follow thereafter, a win is a must to continue the push for honours. Tip off in the Fr Matthews Arena is at 5pm.

Remaining Fixtures

Fr Matthews (A) Saturday January 24th 5pm

McEvoy's Cavan Eagles (H) Saturday

January 31st 4pm

Trinity Meteors (H) Saturday February 7th 4pm

Flomax Liffey Celtics (H) Saturday February 14th 4pm

Killester (A) Saturday February 21st 5pm

UCC Glanmire (A) Sunday March 1st 1.30pm

Brunell (A) Sunday March 8th 2pm

Utility Trust St Pauls Lakers vs Dublin Lions Preview
Dominos Mens Basketball League

Saturday January 24th at 7.30pm

Killarney Sports & Leisure Centre

UTILITY TRUST ST PAULS VS DUBLIN LIONS

Preview by Enda Walshe

The biggest game of the season so far takes place this Saturday night, with the Killarney Sports and Leisure Centre playing host to the clash of the Northern Conference leaders Dublin Lions and the joint leaders of the Southern Conference Utility Trust St Pauls Lakers. That Luke O'Heas side are in that position is both a compliment to the team and coach. Having lost their opening two fixtures they have embarked on a 9-2 run which has catapulted them up the table. The player deserves huge credit for their level of performance as does the coach as he has engineered some great results, particularly on the road. But now the hard work really starts. That begins with the visit of the marauding Lions from the capital who themselves have been on a massive run. They have gone seven out of seven in recent months with notable wins over the Titans and Portlaoise Panthers. Their latest win over Malahide showed

everything you need to know about their prowess. Russell Marr, the 6 ft 3 guard has made a name for himself as a prolific scorer and durable defender. This is best highlighted by his 34 point and 5 steal showing in that Dublin Derby and he will need serious defending. Liam Osinuga has really settled into the team since joining in 2021 while Aran Lee has averaged 13 points in his 12 games to date. Tiago Pereira has previous experience of the league with the Drogheda Wolves and his season high of 21 points against no lesser team than Ulster University mark him out as one to watch. Ignacio Folgueiras has had limited minutes in recent weeks for the Lions but the former Limerick Eagle can be devastating on his day. Tiernan Howe, Harvey Killeen, Neil Kavanagh and Mo Sabic all help form what is a deep squad.

The Lakers last tasted defeat back in mid November against National Cup finalists Limerick Sport Eagles and their momentum has been generated by a trio of wins over the Galway clubs, namely Maree, Titans and Moycullen, a derby win over the Cougars and fine away wins over Moy Tolka Rovers and Carrick Cruisers. That run has helped Steve Kelly be crowned December Player of the Month, with the same player not far off consideration for the November gong. Eoin Carrolls scoring averages are creeping up but it's his rebounding that has been a real feature for the team. He is the only homegrown player in the top ten stats in that department and is closely followed in seventh place by team mate Sam Grant. The battle under the boards was pivotal to the Titans wins and will be equally so here. Mark Sheehan and Jack O Sullivan are now regularly shooting in the mid teens, a stat that must be maintained to challenge for honours while the squad is boosted by the return of Pablo Murcia to training. Marko Bencic will be available for the game but the squad will be without Rui Sariava. Oisin Spring always brings the hustle with him but has also weighed in with important scoring interventions also while Darragh O Callaghan



Team Talk Utility Trust St. Pauls Photo: by Molly

has shown his importance to the squad.

The Lakers won't travel outside the confines of the town again until the 21st February with their sole away game being the Killarney Derby on Thursday February 12th. If you gave them this position at the onset of the season they would have taken your hand off. Now is the time to push it on. Tip off is at 7.30pm.

Remaining Fixtures

Dublin Lions (H) Saturday January 24th 7.30pm

Portlaoise Panthers (H) Saturday

January 31st 7.30pm

Tipp Talons (H) Monday February 2nd 3pm

Team North West (H) Saturday February 7th 7.30pm

Killarney Cougars (A) Thursday February 12th 8pm

Limerick Sport Eagles (H) Saturday February 14th 7.30pm

Templeogue (A) Saturday February 21st 7.30pm

Drogheda Wolves (H) Saturday March 7th 7.30pm

Maree (A) Saturday March 14th 7pm



Utility Trust St. Pauyls in action.
Photo: by Molly

Streets of Killarney 5-Mile Road Race Returns for 2026 with Paralympic Ambassador Maddie Wilson-Walker

The Streets of Killarney 5-Mile Road Race will return on Good Friday, April 3, 2026 at 7pm, organised by Killarney Valley Athletic Club (KVAC). Now in its third year, the popular fast and flat course runs through Killarney town and the National Park, attracting growing participation since its launch in 2024.

Paralympian Maddie Wilson-Walker has been announced as the 2026 race ambassador. A Canadian Paralympian who lives and trains in Killarney with KVAC, Maddie is a double amputee and an inspirational figure in sport, promoting inclusion and resilience.

Registration is now open, with over half of tickets already sold. Organisers encourage early entry due to increasing demand. KVAC



also acknowledged the continued support of sponsors, which helps sustain local athletics facilities and community development.

Event:

Streets of Killarney 5-Mile Road Race 2026

Date: Friday, April 3, 2026

Time: 7:00pm

Registration:

<https://eventmaster.ie/event/EWvBi4EF74>

Sponsors

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KILLARNEY ATHLETIC AFC

We would like to thanks everyone that supported our flag day last weekend. Much appreciated

KILLARNEY ATHLETIC AFC 300 CLUB MEMBER DRAW FOR 2026

The "300 club" is open to new members for 2026 The draw takes place each month - with 6 winners every month - €1000 in prizes each month. This is our main fundraiser within the Club & with plenty of projects to be completed at our grounds. If anyone is interested in entering this draw they can check log in to Club force or contact Mike 0872226185/Martin 0831229008 or any member of Killarney Athletic

UNDERAGE AWARDS NIGHT AND BINGO will take place on Wednesday the 18th of February at The Killarney Oaks Hotel from 7.30pm so come along and support our young players and have a great night as well.

KDL PREMIER A RESULT

Killarney Athletic A.F.C 4 - 0 Mainebank FC

Evan Doona x 1, Oisín O' Sullivan x 1, Own goal, Terry Sparling x 1

A solid performance from our Senior A Team this afternoon in Ferndale. Thanks to Mainebank and the referee for a good sporting game.

U17 PREMIER RESULT

Tralee Dynamos 0 - 3 Killarney Athletic

Leo Allen x3

Our U17's travelled to Tralee Dynamos Saturday evening and on a cool crisp evening produced a dominant display. The new Astro by Dynamos is top class and made for a high quality performance. Down a few bodies, we had made a few positional changes and we started on the front foot, Ryan Kissane was marauding down the right on numerous occasions and one of these led to the opening goal, when he drove at the dynamos defence and slipped Leo in for the cool finish. Dynamos did have one great chance in the first half, when their striker got between our defenders and volleyed from close range only for Leni to pull off a point blank save. HT 0-1. Second half started much the same, Athletic dominating possession and creating some great chances with some super football, Leo grabbed his second when Jack Fleming squared the ball to him and he found the bottom corner from the edge of the box. The third came soon after and Leo completed his hat trick with another

great finish. FT 0-3. A really strong performance from the lads especially after having such a long break since our last game. Thanks to Dynamos for a good sporting game and the ref on the evening for officiating.

BOYS U15 PREMIER RESULT

Killarney Celtic 0 - 5 Killarney Athletic

Leo Nash x 1, Sean Quill x 2, Patrick O'Connor x 1, Robert Murphy x 1

A fantastic performance from our young Blues this morning in the Killarney derby Leo Nash opened the scoring early on with an scorer into the top corner from the outside the penalty area. Shortly after, Max Moynihan assisted Sean Quill with composed finish put us 2 up. Our third goal came from great work from Leo Nash who set Patrick O'Connor just outside the penalty who hit it first time into the top corner. Our 4th came from great play from Sean Quill down the right with wing, whipping in a beautiful cross for Robert Murphy who finished low into the corner of the goal. Second half, Celtic came out started the better team and had some chances to score but our defence held firm. Our last goal came for another great pass from Shéa Driver to put Sean Quill through in goal. Sean made no mistake to give us our 5th and final goal. A great performance from all the boys today. Thanks to Celtic and the referee for a sporting game.

U15 BOYS DIVISION 3

Killarney Athletic C 0 Killarney Athletic D 3

Goals: Eric Reed, Tommy Curran, Leon Hebda

POTM: Eric Reed

BOYS U13 DIV 1

Killarney Athletic B 1 - 2 Mastergeeha A

On a beautiful morning for soccer Athletic just came up short against the league leaders in an exciting game. In a fiercely competitive first half both sides had chances but remained scoreless at the break. Mastergeeha started the second half quicker and scored the opener in the first minute. Athletic responded well and scored a great equaliser with a great team move clinically finished by Daniel Cremin. With 10 mins to go, Mastergeeha regained the lead and despite the best efforts in the last 10 mins we couldn't find an equaliser. Thanks to Mastergeeha and the ref for a great game. Daniel Cremin x 1

GIRLS U12 FIRST DIVISION MATCH REPORT

Killarney Athletic were on the road this weekend, away to Listowel, and put in a fantastic performance to come away with a 5-2 win



HUGE CONGRATULATIONS to our Killarney Athletic U-15 girls Ella Crowley, Lillian Slattery, Esme O Sullivan On there Munster Final Win over Limerick County with Lillian scoring from a penalty. Well done girls

Listowel Celtic 2 - 5 Killarney Athletic Captain: Isabella Daly led the team brilliantly on the day Goalscorers: Carolena Kelly x 1 Cate Corcoran x 1 Danielle Walsh x 1 Lottie Moynihan x 2 Cate Corcoran and Rose O'Riordan caused havoc on the wings all game, keeping the pressure on from start to finish, while every player put in a huge effort. A real teamwork ethic was on display, with great determination, support, and togetherness throughout the match

BALLYHAR DYNAMOS FC

LOTTO

No.s 18, 22, 27, 28. No Winner of the Jackpot. 5 x €25: Davin Quilter, Furies. John O Shea, Faha. Michael O Sullivan, Ballyhar. Molly Kelly, Ballyhar & Rachel O Connor, Headford, Killarney. Next draw for a jackpot of €3400 will take place on Sunday next 25th January at Butlers Bar, Furies. Tickets available from Committee Members, Sheehans Filling Station, Farranfore, Hendersons & Spar Shops, Furies & Butlers Bar, Furies.

TEAMS

The Senior Team took the points with a 1-3 away win to Lenamore FC thanks to two goals from Pdraig O Connor & one from Shane O Sullivan. Ballyhar in a good squad performance were best served by Charlie O Doherty, Conor O Sullivan, Danny Cronin, Patrick O Connor, Niall Donohoe, Alan Moriarty, Jordan O Connor & John Power. The Youth squad were defeated 4-2 away to



Ballyhar Dynamos FC Seniors who defeated Lenamore Rovers away in Division 1 of the KDL



Ballyhar Dynamos FC u14 girls who drew 1-1 away to Inter Kenmare in Division 1 of the Kerry schoolgirl league.

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Ferry Rangers ,the Ballyhar goal scorers were Conor Edwards & Cillian Slattery. Best on the day were Eoin O Mahony, Conor Giles, Conrad Long, Tom Costello & Kealan Riordan.

The U16s took 4 points from 6 from their two recent games. They defeated Mastergeeha at home on a 3 -1 scoreline thanks to two goals from Cillian Casey & one by Ryan Quilter. In a mid week fixture, the squad drew 1-1 away to Killarney Celtic, the goal being well taken by Odhran Leslie. Over the two games Ballyhar were well served by Dan Duggan, Eoin Casey, Cillian Casey, Jack Kelly, Jamie O'Brien, Daire Cornally, Brendan Allman, Ryan Quilter, Paddy O Shea, Jamie Murphy & Shane Edwards.

The Female Social soccer squad had three games recently in a mini blitz at the KDL Tralee. The squad acquitted themselves very well on the night. Well done to all involved.

The U13 A squad had a good 0-6 win away to Killarney Celtic, thanks to goals from Fabian Mrotx, Bryan Evans and two each by Jack Sheehy, Jack Cooper.

The U13 B squad picked up a deserved point in a home 1-1 to Castleisland B. Tadhg Fitzgerald with the goal in a game with all the squad putting in a great effort with Patrick Brosnan, Darren Foley & Jamie O'Connor all going close to scoring the winning goal.

The U12 girls had a great win at Murt Scott Park to Camp Juniors thanks to goals from Anna Kate Daly & Aislinn O'Sullivan with Amelie, Sophie, Rene, Robin & Shona also playing well in a good squad effort.

The club U14 girls travelled to Inter Kenmare and came away with a point in a 1-1 draw, Anna Kate Daly with a deserved late equaliser after a fine cross from Mollie O'Connor. A fine squad performance with Anna Fitzgerald, Erica McCarthy, Emma O'Callaghan, Faye O'Brien, Aoibhinn Daly, Sophie O'Brien & Aoibheann Pavlovic also in fine form.

The U10 girls welcomed LB Rovers where both sides displayed all the skills of the game with plenty of goals being scored. Thanks to the Coaches & Parents for helping facilitate these club games.

SYMPATHY

The Club offers its condolences to the O'Sullivan Family Ballyhar & Boston on the untimely passing of Michael. May he rest in peace.

MASTERGEEHA

U13 BOY'S DIVISION 1

Killarney Athletic B 1 v Mastergeeha 2

Warren O'Boyle (2)

Man of the Match Warren O'Boyle

A brace from Warren O'Boyle in the 31st and 49th minute were enough to secure the 3 points in Woodlawn this morning. The first half was a cagey affair with chances limited on both sides. Leo Barry did have the ball in the net 5 minutes before half time but it was ruled out for off side. It was scoreless at the break. A good delivery from the back by David Fleming played Warren through for his first goal shortly after the restart. Athletic scored a good equaliser from the verge of the box on the 43rd minute and it was all to play for again. Donnacha O'Callaghan went close from a header with 15 to go as we pushed to get



Ballyhar Dynamos FC Female social soccer group who competed in a series of blitz games at the KDL grounds, Tralee.

the winner. As the game was about to enter the final 10 minutes an excellent delivery from Leo Barry opened it up for Warren to slot home his second of the day and what proved to be the match winning goal. Donnacha O'Callaghan and Josh O'Sullivan were solid at the back all through and Adam Cremin had another excellent game in the centre of midfield. Warren O'Boyle got the all-important goals today. Well done to all the lads today and thanks to Athletic for a great game and to the referee for good communication throughout.

U13 BOY'S DIVISION 2 SOUTH

Mastergeeha B 3 v Killorglin B 0

Mastergeeha were short a number of regular players due to sickness, but several U12 players stepped up and delivered fantastic performances throughout the game.

Killorglin had the first chance of the match, but Zach Lenihan was brave and alert, producing an excellent save to deny what looked a certain goal.

The impressive Conor Murphy then drove at the Killorglin defence, winning a penalty and confidently converting it himself to give Geeha the lead. Tadhg Gleeson won a free on the edge of the box shortly after, and Ronan O'Neill unleashed a piledriver into the roof of the net.

Killorglin threatened with a few long-range efforts, but Zach Lenihan dealt with them comfortably.

Half-time: Mastergeeha 2 - 0 Killorglin

Killorglin came out all guns blazing in the second half, but Mastergeeha stood firm defensively.

With 10 minutes remaining, a corner from Conor Murphy found its way to Cillian Cronin, who finished brilliantly to make it three.

Goals: Conor Murphy, Ronan O'Neill, Cillian Cronin

Man of the Match: Conor Murphy

A fantastic all-round display. Thanks to the referee and to Killorglin for a fair and sporting game.

U15 BOY'S DIVISION 3

MEK 3 v Mastergeeha B 6

We made the short trip to Fossa on Saturday Morning to play MEK. A tight first half saw Darragh O'Donoghue score from a tight angle, with Colm Kelly adding another as Mastergeeha B led 2-1 at half-time. A Shane O'Sullivan pass

set up Luke O'Sullivan early in the second half to make it 3-1, before MEK A fought back to level at 3-3. Late goals from Conor Darmody and Cullum McCarthy (2) sealed an exciting 6-3 win for Mastergeeha B

KERRY INTERCOUNTY SOCCER

UNDER 13 GIRLS

Huge congratulations to our Under 13 Mastergeeha representatives

Well done to Sophie Moynihan, Clodagh O'Sullivan, Mia Doherty and Áine Herlihy on a fantastic achievement with Kerry, winning the Munster U13 Trophy after a cracking final against Waterford. The game finished 3-3, with Kerry edging it 8-7 on penalties in a dramatic shoot-out. The girls all played their part, wearing the green and gold with pride and making everyone at Mastergeeha immensely proud. A superb achievement for the four girls

UNDER 12 GIRLS

Well done to Lucy Devane, Annie Mai O'Donoghue, Olivia O'Connor and Gracie Maher who played with the Kerry team in the U12 Girls Munster Final versus North Tipperary.

A riveting Cup Final was decided in the most heart-breaking fashion for Kerry as they were defeated 3-2 on penalties by North Tipperary after a scoreless draw played out in front of a captivated crowd on the Tim Counihan Astro.

From the opening whistle, it was clear this final would be a battle of organisation, courage and goalkeeping excellence. Chances were scarce, but the intensity never dipped, with both defences standing firm and every attack fiercely contested.

With neither side able to find a breakthrough, the final went to penalties. Kerry showed great bravery from the spot, with Annie Mai O'Donoghue and Gracie Maher both converting confidently. However, North Tipperary won the shootout 3-2 to claim the cup.

Well done to our four girls and to the wider team and management for doing so well in the competition.

FROM KILBREAN TO COMO!

Best wishes to Ramona Keogh one of our Mastergeeha U12 Coaches on her selection to the FAI Coach Education programme with Léargas on her upcoming trip to Como 1907 in Italy.

Ramona has been selected as 1 of 10 Grassroot Coaches in Ireland to participate in this first ever programme of it's kind in Ireland to spend over a week working with staff, coaches and teams in Como FC

MASTERGEEHA LOTTO

There was no winner of our lotto on Friday 16th January for the Jackpot of €4,000. Numbers drawn were 4,11,13,22. Consolations Prizes of €50 each to the following, Nathan Counihan Dunrine, John Lenihan Mick Daly Online Denis Crowley Kilcummin. Our next draw will be on Friday 23rd January at the Village Inn for Jackpot of €4,200.

KILLARNEY CELTIC

CELTIC LOTTO

Numbers drawn 16,22,26,27. No Jackpot winner. Match 3 winners received €150. Next jackpot €6,400 on Monday January 26th. Tickets available from The Dungeon Bookshop, Amber Shop (Top of Ross Road), club members and online through clubzap.

KDL PREMIER

Killarney Celtic 3-2 Listowel Celtic

Liam Spillane 2, Matt Keane

Killarney recovered from a 2-0 deficit at half time to claim the win. Listowel struck in the 24th and 40th minute to lead 2-0 at the break. Killarney pulled a goal back on 66 minutes and were level on 76 minutes. Killarney grabbed the vital winner with 9 minutes to go as they stayed in 2nd place in the league.

KDL CHAMPIONSHIP

AC Athletic 0-3 Killarney Celtic

Conor McCarthy, Evan Cronin, Erin Moloney

League Leader Celtic B kept their lead intact with a fine win away to AC Athletic. Conor McCarthy opened the scoring as Celtic B led 1-0 at the break. Further goals from Evan Cronin and Erin Moloney sealed the win.

FAI U17 CUP

Killarney Celtic 1-1 Leeds AFC 2-2 After Extra Time, Leeds AFC won 5-4 on penalties

Dara Horan, Luke Clancy

Celtic went out of the FAI 17 Cup in heartbreaking fashion last Saturday. Celtic led 1-0 through Dara Horan until injury time when Leeds scored from a free kick to force extra time. Celtic regained the lead when Luke Clancy netted but Leeds responded again to take the game to penalties where Leeds were victorious.

KDL U17 DIV 1

Killarney Celtic B 0-4 Listowel Celtic

Celtic B went down to Listowel last weekend. Listowel were 2 up before Killarney regrouped and despite good pressure Killarney could not reduce the deficit. Listowel finished out the game with 2 more goals to give the scoreline a more lopsided look than the play had shown.

U15 PREMIER

Killarney Celtic 0-5 Killarney Athletic

Athletic were too strong on the day as Celtic remained 6th in the table.

U15 DIV 1

Killarney Celtic B 0-3 Inter Kenmare

U15 DIV 3

Killarney Celtic C 3-6 St Brendan's Park

Eoin Murphy 2, Kyle Fleming

Celtic C battled all the way to the finish but were unable to haul back St Brendan's Park who got off to a fast start in this game.

U13 PREMIER

Killarney Celtic 4-0 Castleisland

Josh Buckley 2, Rowan Murphy, Rory Murphy

Celtic maintained their 100% record in this division after a good win over Castleisland last weekend. Celtic had their shooting boots on and took their chances.

U13 DIV 1

Killarney Celtic C 0-6 Ballyhar Dyn

WOMEN

KDL PREMIER

Listowel Celtic 3-1 Killarney Celtic

Cathy Harrison

Killarney suffered defeat in Listowel last weekend. Killarney opened the scoring through Cathy Harrison but Listowel turned the game on its head to lead 2-1 at the break. Despite good Killarney pressure, Listowel held firm and broke through for a 3rd game to seal their win.

CONGRATS to Rory Murphy U13 who made the KSBGL Team of the Week

KERRY SCHOOLBOY/GIRL SOCCER

MUNSTER JOY AND ANGUISH FOR KERRY TEAMS

It was a weekend of mixed fortunes for Kerry sides in their Munster Finals, one that delivered two hard earned victories alongside two narrow, heartbreaking defeats. Across all four games there was drama, determination and pride in abundance, with Kerry teams showing

resilience, skill and character on some of the biggest stages of the season.

The standout drama came in the Munster U13 Girls Trophy Final in Christy Leahy Park, where the Kerry girls displayed nerves of steel to overcome Waterford in an unforgettable contest.

Kerry could not have scripted a better start, racing into a 2-0 lead inside six minutes through Caoimhe Field and Bella Clifford, whose high press and composure set the tone early. While Kerry appeared in control, defensive lapses allowed Waterford back into the game, and what followed was a breathless encounter with momentum swinging constantly.

Field's second goal restored Kerry's lead after Waterford had equalised, but another Waterford strike ensured the final finished 3-3 after normal time. The penalty shoot-out that followed was remarkable, with both sides showing immense bravery.

Goals from Olga Kumor, Field, Lauren Fleming, Katelynn Joy, Fallon O'Shea and Gracie Kerins, combined with decisive saves and a converted penalty from goalkeeper Mia Lynch O'Doherty, paved the way for Bella Clifford to calmly slot the winning kick and secure a memorable Munster title for Kerry, after an 8-7 result in the shootout.

Further silverware was won by the Kerry U15 Girls a day earlier, who were crowned Munster Champions after a composed and disciplined 2-0 victory over Limerick County in Mayfield. Kerry took control when Lillian Slattery calmly dispatched a penalty, setting the platform for a strong team performance. Eilidh Cregan's excellent second goal sealed the win and sparked deserved celebrations, capping off a superb campaign for a talented and focused group.

Heartbreak, however, awaited the Kerry U12 Girls in their Munster Cup Final against North Tipperary. In a tense, scoreless draw played at a relentless pace on the Tim Counihan Astro, defences and goalkeepers dominated.

Kerry goalkeeper Erin Cronin delivered an outstanding performance, producing a series of superb saves to keep Kerry level throughout normal time. Kerry had chances of their own, notably from corners and long-range efforts, but could not find the breakthrough. Penalties ultimately decided the contest, with Kerry showing courage from the spot, but North



Killarney Celtic U13A squad vs Castleisland



Killarney Athletic U15 Boys Premier

Tipperary edged the shoot-out 3-2 to claim the cup.

The weekend concluded with disappointment for the Kerry U12 Boys, who were edged out 1-0 by a physical Limerick Desmond side. After a slow start, Kerry grew into the game and eventually took control, pushing hard for an equaliser that never came. Despite the result, the boys' attitude and fight until the final whistle summed up the spirit shown by Kerry teams throughout the weekend.

Girls:

PARK AND DINGLE THE LEADS IN 12'S TITLE FIGHT

The Maher's Meats U12 Girls competitions produced another lively round of fixtures across the Premier and Division 1 leagues, with Park claiming victory in the Premier section to keep their title hopes alive and wins also recorded by LB Rovers, Ballyhar, Killarney Athletic B and the leaders Dingle Division 1 as teams continued to impress with their attacking play and commitment.

In the Premier League, Park secured a well deserved 2-0 win over Fenit in a competitive contest. Goals from Natalia McDermott and Roisin Diggins made the difference, as Park kept up their title ambitions.

Division 1 action saw second placed LB Rovers deliver an outstanding away performance with a 6-1 victory over Inter Kenmare. Maggie Dillane led the scoring with an excellent four goal haul, supported by further strikes from Cianna Flahive and Ella McSweeney.

Ballyhar were also in impressive form, producing a dominant display to defeat Camp B 8-2. Their attacking movement caused constant problems, Shauna O'Connor netting both of their goals.

Dingle recorded a strong 3-0 away win over Tralee Dynamos, Eanna Kennedy netted twice with Meabh Corcoran also on target to keep the league leaders in control. Killarney Athletic B completed the Division 1 results with a 5-2 victory away to Listowel Celtic. Despite goals from Shonagh Walsh and Marie Enright for Listowel Celtic, Killarney Athletic B's attacking edge and consistency across the pitch allowed them to pull clear and take all three points.

LB AND MEK SERVE UP TEN GOAL THRILLER

It was a high scoring weekend in the U16 Girls Premier with just one game serving up a thrilling, high-scoring encounter as LB Rovers and MEK played out an entertaining 5-5 draw. LB Rovers were led superbly by Saoirse Brosnan, who produced an outstanding hat-trick and was a constant threat in the final third. Further goals arrived from Eilidh Cregan and Ava Maher. MEK matched them goal for goal, with Isabelle O'Connor finding the net twice, while Meghan Quigg, Fleur O'Neill and Abby Fleming also got on the scoresheet in an impressive attacking display.

Boys:

KILLARNEY CELTIC HOLD TOP SPOT IN 13'S PREMIER

Killarney Celtic have built a narrow lead atop the U13 Boys Premier, after the latest a full round of action, with a number of convincing victories and strong individual performances across the fixtures.



Listowel Celtic enjoyed a productive outing as they overcame Killorglin 4-2 in an entertaining contest. Goals from Christopher Bradley, Jamie Doyle, Jack Guiney and Josh Moran gave Listowel Celtic the edge, while Killorglin remained competitive throughout and were rewarded with strikes from Hugo Moriarty and Darragh O'Connor.

Park were in commanding form as they recorded a comprehensive 6-0 win over Killarney Athletic, delivering a dominant attacking display. Goals from Tadhg Gilligan, Oran Maguire, Daniel Jahimaa, James Tansley and Igor Jasinski underlined Park's control of the game from start to finish.

Leaders Killarney Celtic also impressed with a strong 4-0 victory over Castleisland. Josh Buckley led the scoring with two goals, while Rowan Murphy and Rory Murphy added further strikes to complete a convincing team performance.

Inter Kenmare A and Fenit both picked up walkover wins, being awarded 3-0 victories over Camp A and Iveragh respectively.

CELTIC REMAIN IN THE DRIVING SEAT IN 15'S PREMIER

Listowel Celtic continued to make ground in TC Construction U15 Boys Premier, which delivered yet another competitive round of fixtures, with strong performances and closely fought contests across the division.

Killarney Athletic produced an impressive display to claim a convincing 5-0 away victory over local rivals Killarney Celtic. Sean Quill led the scoring with two goals, while Leo Nash, Patrick O'Connor and Robert Murphy also found the net in a dominant team performance. Listowel Celtic edged a tight encounter against Killorglin, securing a 3-2 win after an entertaining and hard-fought game. Killorglin stayed right in the contest and were rewarded with goals from Adam Fleming and James Rooney, but Listowel Celtic managed to do enough at the crucial moments to come away with all three points. Luke Walsh, Joe Joy and Diarmuid Lyons on target.

Castleisland also enjoyed a narrow victory, overcoming Park 3-2 in an exciting clash. Goals from Dylan Downey, Liam Quirke and Yevhennii Momontov proved decisive for Castleisland, while Park pushed hard throughout and kept the pressure on with goals from Luca Fusco and Daniel Diggins.

PARK MOVE JOINT TOP IN DIVISION 3

Victory for St Brendan's Park moved them joint top of TC Construction U15 Boys Division 3 after an entertaining round of fixtures with plenty of goals and strong attacking displays.

Park B enjoyed a productive outing, recording a 6-3 victory over Killarney Celtic C. Park's attack was in fine form, with Corey Kinsella, Olaf Czerwein and Oscar Curran all scoring twice to give their side control of the contest. Killarney Celtic C battled well and showed resilience, but Park B's finishing made the difference.

Mastergeeha B came out on top in a high-scoring encounter away to MEK, winning 6-3 after an open and competitive game. MEK stayed in contention through two goals from Dara McCarthy and a further strike from Charlie O'Meara, but Mastergeeha's attacking depth proved decisive. Darragh O'Donoghue, Luke O'Sullivan, Callum McCarthy, Conor Dorothy and Colom Kelly all found the net in an impressive team performance.

In the final game, Killarney Athletic D secured a solid 3-0 win over Killarney Athletic C in their all club clash. Goals from Eric Reed, Tommy Curran and Leon Hebda capped a composed and disciplined performance.

BOYS TEAM OF THE WEEK

1. Sean Musgrave (Listowel Celtic U13)
2. Rory Murphy (Killarney Celtic U13)
4. Dara McCarthy (MEK Galaxy U15)
5. Cian Fitzgerald (LB Rovers U15)
3. Cian Vaughan (Milltown U12)
6. Darragh Murphy (Mastergeeha U13)
7. Alex Karpowicz (St Brendan's Park U13)
8. Billy Galvin (Castlemaine United U13)
9. Abdul Razzouk (Tralee Dynamos U13)
10. Darragh O'Connor (Killorglin U13)
11. Leo Nash (Killarney Athletic U15)

GIRLS ROLL OF HONOUR

1. Erin Cronin (MEK Galaxy)
2. Alannah O'Shea (Camp Juniors)
4. Leah Doyle (Killorglin)
5. Ella Ferriter (Camp Juniors)
3. Dylan Kate Treacy (Listowel Celtic)
6. Fleur O'Neill (MEK Galaxy)
8. Kourtney Moroney (Tralee Dynamos)
7. Maggie Dillane (LB Rovers)
10. Fallon O'Shea (Inter Kenmare)
9. Saoirse Brosnan (LB Rovers)
11. Natalia McDermott (St Brendan's Park)

KERRY FC BOOK THEIR PLACE IN THE QUARTER FINALS

Kerry FC 2-0 | Cobh Wanderers

REPORT: David Moriarty

GRANDONS TOYOTA MUNSTER SENIOR Kerry FC began their competitive action of 2026 in positive fashion as they booked their place in the quarter-finals of the Grandons Toyota Munster Senior Cup with a deserved 2-0 victory over Cobh Wanderers at Mounthawk Park. On a cold, dry evening in Tralee, Kerry delivered a disciplined and energetic performance, combining defensive solidity with moments of attacking quality to see off their visitors. While the opening half remained scoreless, the hosts stepped up their intensity after the break, with Sean McGrath and Sean O'Connell producing two outstanding strikes to seal the win.

Kerry FC started brightly in front of their home support, looking sharp despite it being their first competitive outing of the year. Daniel Okwute was an early threat down the right wing, and in the twelfth minute, his rasping ball across the face of the goal almost found Cian Murphy, only for Cobh goalkeeper Darragh Burke to react sharply and gather in mid-air.

Two minutes later, Kilian Cantwell tested Burke from distance with a well-struck effort, but the goalkeeper saved comfortably. Kerry continued to press, and Okwute again caused problems in the twentieth minute with a powerful run and shot that was once more denied by Burke.

The game became more physical as the half wore on, with Arran Healy receiving a yellow card in the thirty-third minute. Okwute nearly broke the deadlock five minutes before the interval, showing great footwork to create space for a curling effort towards the far corner, but his shot drifted just wide. Further bookings followed late in the half for Eoin Hastings, Cian Murphy, and Diarmuid Kearney as both sides battled for control. Despite Kerry's dominance in possession and chances, the teams went in level at 0-0 after two minutes of added time.

The second half began at a slower tempo, with both sides cautious and chances initially at a premium. Kerry gradually regained control, and on the hour mark, Sean O'Connell delivered a dangerous corner that caused panic in the Cobh box, with the ball nearly forced over the line before Burke managed to keep it out.

Just one minute later, the breakthrough arrived. A free kick delivered into the area by Sean O'Connell was cleared as far as Sean McGrath on the edge of the area, and he struck a superb volley past the helpless Burke to give Kerry a deserved 1-0 lead. The goal lifted the hosts, who continued to attack with confidence. Okwute once again turned provider in the 67th minute, delivering an excellent cross that Luke Doolan met, but his effort sailed just over the crossbar.



Photos: Konrad Pytlowski



Colin Healy freshened his side with a series of substitutions, and Kerry remained defensively solid. Cobh's best chance came in the seventy-seventh minute when Nathan O'Connell found himself one-on-one with Kerry goalkeeper Harry Halwax, but he failed to convert, a moment that proved costly.

Kerry sealed the tie five minutes from time in emphatic style. Sean O'Connell produced a stunning strike from distance, leaving Burke with no chance, all but confirming victory. Late substitutions helped Kerry see out the game comfortably, and the final whistle confirmed a 2-0 win and progression to the quarter-finals after an impressive and controlled performance. Kerry FC Team: Harry Halwax, Sean O'Connell (GOAL '85), Kilian Cantwell, Sean McGrath (C) (GOAL '61), Cian Murphy, Daniel Okwute, Jonas Häkkinen, Vince Borden, Luke Doolan, Ewan Lee, Arran Healy.

Subs: Darragh Foley, Finn Barrett, Cian Brosnan, Samuel Aladesanusi, Luke Palmer, Ryan Perez, Shayne Stack.



JIMMY O'SULLIVAN-DARCY

takes a look at all things sport...

HISTORY-MAKERS DINGLE TRIUMPH IN DRAMATIC FINALE

All Ireland Club Final

An Daingean 0-23

St. Bridgets Roscomon 1-19

I wouldn't say it lightly, but that may well have been the best club game I have ever seen, even if on the television rather than in the flesh.

Superb opening by Dingle, with Mark O'Connor looking very sharp and Tom O'Sullivan kicking the opening score. Brilliant work by an impressive Tadhg Browne, with Billy O'Connor laying off to Niall Geaney for a goal chance that came back off the butt of the post.

St. Bridgets with a tame enough effort easily gathered by Gavin Curran.

Tom O'Sullivan sets up Conor Flannery for a great two pointer and then adds a point himself. 0-4 to 0-0. If St. Bridgids don't get to grips with Tom O'Sullivan and Mark O'Connor (they played three finals in Croke Park together, one minor and two Hogans, and never lost) this game could be over fast.

Shane Cunnane with the Roscommon outfit's opening score. Dingle reply straightaway, though, Dylan Geaney gathering from Paul to score. Mark O'Connor with a great catch to start the move.

Slight goal chance, but Billy O'Connor opts for the point....and hawkeye decides (correctly) that it was just wide.

Ruaidhrí Fallon on the burst and he takes a great score. That lad will take watching. Brian Stack adds another. St. Bridgets are beginning to run at Dingle. Shane Cunnane with a nicely executed two pointer. Level pegging. St. Bridgets miss their first chance to go in front, but Conor Hand makes no mistake with the next one. 0-6 to 0-5.

Long range effort by Eddie Nolan and it drops short....Gavin Curran is bundled into his net but the free out is given. I remember the great Johnny Culloty telling me that when lads tried it on him, they always ran into big Niall Sheehy instead. Old school football.

Dylan Geaney fouled, Conor steps up with a two point chance, but it curls wide. That's okay; the man has plenty of credit in that particular bank!

Good run by Conor Hand, good finish by Ben O'Carroll. 0-7 to 0-5. Dingle are almost a quarter of an hour with no score.

At last. After a good patient build-up, Tadhg Browne is on hand for a Dingle point. They win the kick-out and Tom O'Sullivan adds another. His runs are still a big problem for Anthony Cunningham's side. All square.

Both sides with turnovers, and Bobby Nugent kicks a St. Bridgets' point before adding a free.

Half-time St. Bridgids 0-9 Dingle 0-7.

Good start by Dingle but once St. Bridgids found their groove they have been the better

side.

Paul Geaney opens the second half scoring. Conor Hand replies with a fine score. Ben O'Carroll wins a free but fails to convert. A let-off for Dingle.

Tom O'Sullivan and Matthew Flaherty combine to tee up Mark O'Connor....that's a brilliant two pointer. If he wasn't already in Australia, they'd be making enquiries.....

Dingle with a goal chance, but Billy O'Connor's effort comes back off the crossbar. Credit where due, the defender does well to react and clear.

As so often happens, a failure to capitalise at one end comes with a price tag at the other. A long range St. Bridgets' effort comes back off the crossbar, and it's Ruaidhrí Fallon who fists to the net. In fairness, he has been outstanding here all through. 1-10 to 0-10. Twenty minutes to go.

Dylan Geaney has time to size up a two pointer and duly raises an orange flag. That was a bit lax by St. Bridgids. A great kick, to be fair, but surely they knew the danger from this man in particular.

Paul Geaney fouled. Black card and an easy free for Paul. That could be a momentum-changer.... actually, the action is coming so thick and fast now that so could anything else. This game is being played at a gloriously bewildering pace. Paul wins the kick-out, exchanges a quick one-two, and splits the posts. He doesn't look right, though. He hasn't been moving freely all game; I can't see him lasting much longer.

Conor Hand with a good score for St. Bridgids, but Tadhg Browne responds with equal skill. Good footballers the both of them. 0-15 to 1-11, but there's loads of time left.

St. Bridgids with a goal chance, but Gavin Curran denies Ronan Stack with a good save. Good pressure by Dingle, but St. Bridgids are back to fifteen now and defend well.

Tadhg Browne. Important chance but he nails it. Dingle two points clear now. It's theirs to lose now – but this game has more twists than Hercules Poirot's worst days.

Dingle in possession. Niall Geaney with a chance, it curls wide. This isn't over.

Brian Stack with an effort, deflected out for a '45. A big kick for Shnae Cunnane, but there's a reason that this team are in Croke Park today. He nails it. One point game.

Bridgids with a chance, but Gavin Curran gathers safely. He doesn't know it yet, but his baby boy has just been born back in Australia.

Dingle with possession. Mark O'Connor -what a game he has had – is fouled. Injury time now; just hold on to it.

Niall to Paul Geaney. Dingle are two clear again, 64 minutes gone.

One chance for the Roscommon outfit in the dying seconds. Ruaidhrí Fallon.....this is a performance for the ages, and he ices it with a brilliant two pointer. Stunning stuff.

Extra-time.

Bridgids have the momentum. Conor Hand lays

off to a breaking Fallon, and they go in front. Fallon is absolutely burning up the ground, and he adds a two pointer. Three down – it's not looking good for Dingle. Bodies are struggling now. Hard to blame them – I'm just sitting on the sofa, and I'm feeling drained. Conor Geaney fouled, and he nails the kick himself. Dingle needed that. A foul on Paul gives Conor a chance from outside the arc, but the free pulls wide.

Dylan Geaney....what a score. I thought it was a waste of possession to even try it. That was the best score in a game that's seen a lot of great ones. One point game at the break.

Dylan Geaney opens the scoring for the second half of extra-time. Level pegging again. Players are starting to cramp now.

Conor Hand with a two point effort, Gavin Curran emerges to fist clear. Great goalkeeping. Bridgids recycle well though, and Shane Cunnane nudgeshem back in front. Charlie O'Carroll with another one. Two clear, three minutes to play. I'm muttering words that clerical friends might not approve.

Tom O'Sullivan has been an absolute dynamo, and he comes up with a crucial score. Great turnover by Mikey Geaney. Lays off to Tom. Absolutely no give in him, and he splits the posts. All square.

One last chance. Mikey. Paul may be the jewel in the crown but Mikey and Billy O'Connor have been the beating heartbeat of Dingle for the last decade. It might sound like blasphemy, but for this one kick, I'd sooner have Mikey kicking it even than his All Star cousin. And Mikey, being Mikey, makes no mistake. Dingle in front. They thought it was all over....arrah, Geoff Hurst, you were only average when all's said and done. Subs are leared off the pitch; the referee is letting play continue and Dingle have one last free. Paul isn't taking any chances, quite happy to kick it wide and end a brilliant contest. One of the best games I have ever seen. Ruaidhrí Fallon definitely the man of the match; Mark O'Connor and Tom O'Sullivan both strong contenders. Hard luck to St. Bridgids. They won a lot of admirers on the day, and I am one of them. But comhghairdeas to Dingle, including Killarney's own James Weldon in the background. In a triple crown of club titles for the Kingdom, this was easily the pinnacle.

Dingle: Gavin Curran, Brian O'Connor, Tom Leo O'Sullivan, Tom O'Sullivan (0-5), Aidan O'Connor, Conor Flannery (0-2, 1tp), Pádraig O'Connor, Mark O'Connor (0-2, 1tp), Billy O'Connor, Tadhg Browne (0-3), Paul Geaney (0-3, 1f), Dylan Geaney (0-6, 1tp), Conor Geaney (0-1, 1f), Matthew Flaherty, Niall Geaney. Subs: Ned Ryan (for Billy O'Connor, 50 mins), Mikey Geaney 0-1 (for Matthew Flaherty, 58 mins), Seán Óg Moran (for Tadhg Browne, 78 mins), Matthew Flaherty (for Aidan O'Connor, 78 mins).

St Brigid's: Conor Carroll, Pearse Frost, Seán Trundle, Robbie Dolan, Ruaidhrí Fallon (1-6,



Action from the McGrath Cup final at Fitzgerald Stadium last weekend. Photo: Fitzgerald Stadium PR

2tp), Brian Stack (0-1), Paul McGrath, Shane Cunnane (0-5, 1tp, 1'45), Eddie Nolan, Ciarán Sugrue, Conor Hand (0-3), Bobby Nugent (0-2, 1f), Ben O'Carroll, Mark Daly, Brian Derwin. Subs: Ronan Stack (for Bobby Nugent, 48 mins), Charlie O'Carroll 0-1 (for Ben O'Carroll, 55 mins), Senan Kilbride (for Mark Daly, 58 mins), Ben O'Carroll 0-1 (for Brian Derwin, 70 mins), Eoin Derwin (for Ciarán Sugrue, 72 mins), Eoin Sheehy (for Paul McGrath, 76 mins). Referee: M McNally (Monaghan).

MCGRATH CUP FINAL

Cork 0-16 Kerry 0-15

It's not exactly the most prestigious trophy going (the crowd has been described using words that would tire out a thesaurus. I don't know why people are dressing it up; I'd go for 'small gathering' long before I'd call it a 'crowd'), but it's silverware in the cabinet and that counts for something. Cork needed this victory more than Kerry, and I think maybe that gave them the extra inch they needed.

When I say that they needed it, I don't mean the McGrath Cup itself. They won that at their ease in the last two years and traditionally, the winner of the McGrath Cup doesn't lift the Sam Maguire. But this one was different from the off. First of all, this wasn't any makeshift Kerry team. Far from it. This was real power, plenty of established players. If you can't hold your own in this company.....well, there's plenty of lads behind you very willing to jump the queue. Very strong Cork team as well. What's happening? It feels like both managers are anxious to lay down a marker. I don't really know why. January. I don't know who is in the middle of heavy training, who is just starting to build, who is just trying to shake the rust off their legs. I know young lads on both sides will have points to prove for the summer, but any lad who is peaking in January.....mind you, Jack O'Connor and John Cleary are both a lot smarter than me. It's quite possible that there is a bigger picture obvious to both that I can't see. Lively start by both sides. Luke Fahy gathers a good Conor Cahalane pass and fires over. Cork are hunting in packs, Kerry seem to be a little more willing to kick the ball, but both are playing well. Seán O'Shea with a '45. Armin Heinrich with good support play and on hand to fire over a point himself. Impressive by the

Stacks man. Mark Cronin with a handy free levelled matters. Tony Brosnan, who looked lively after his tour de force over toothless Waterford, nudged Kerry in front.

Cork should really have taken the lead on twelve minutes. Decent effort by Seán McDonnell and fine save by Shane Ryan. But John Cleary will know that the difference between Division Two and Division One sides is that the top table teams put chances like that away.

Seán O'Shea with a close range free. Once again, though, Cork could have goaled. Mark Cronin should have done better after snaring an uncharacteristically loose kick-out by Shane Ryan. Could have tucked it away, could have squared it to an unmarked Chris Óg Jones..... could have – didn't.

Instead, Sean O'Shea stretched Kerry's lead from play and added a two pointer effort. 0-7 to 0-2. Note to Jack O'Connor; this Kenmare lad can kick them long. Who could have known?

Scores from play were scarce enough but the football was actually very good. Dylan Casey became the second Stacks' defender on the scoreboard, but Mark Cronin replied with a free. Tomás Kennedy showed great strength to win a high ball and draw a free, a handy tap-over for a relatively quiet (you know bears hibernate for winter, right?) David Clifford. Colm O'Callaghan, one of Cork's best players, fired over the last score of the first half to leave his side trailing by 0-9 to 0-5.

Chris Óg Jones (I've always rated the speedster and once again he reminded me why in this game) opened the second half scoring and Colm O'Callaghan added another but Tony Brosnan replied.

Brian Hurley was on the pitch now and I consider this guy to be the best Cork forward since Colin Corkery. Unlucky with injuries down the years, and I don't think that any one player, no matter how good, would have counterbalanced the disparity between the two teams over the past decade. But a superb talent nonetheless, and he showed it again with a great two pointer. 0-10 apiece.

Both sides had made a plethora of changes at half-time. I think it's fair to say that Cork got more from their substitutions than Kerry did (honourable exception to a tigerish Micheál Burns in particular).

Tony Brosnan banged over another superb two pointer. He has definitely proven that he is right

in the hunt for a championship starting jersey. Kerry two points up. Cork with the momentum, though. This isn't any early season who cares kind of runaround for either side.

Mattie Taylor opted to fist over. Maybe there was a bit more on the table, but I felt that he absolutely did the right thing. Ruairí Murphy replied, but back came Seán McDonnell with another point. Note to self for later on in the year; Cork have serious pace among their forwards.

Brian Hurley with another two pointer. Fat sizzling on the fire now!

Tony Brosnan with an equaliser. Two minutes on the clock, just about. Killian Spillane, cucumber cool as always, nervelessly fired over to put Kerry in front.

Controversy? Was Colm O'Callaghan fouled? Ah stop, lads, those are always given, and well ye know it. I'm not indulging any of the whinging. Again, from a Cork perspective (which possibly involves worshipping Satan, for all I know) I'd be querying why he hadn't tapped it over with his left leg instead of taking it into contact in the first place. Regardless, Brian Hurley was never going to miss that one.

Level pegging. Hold on – the linesman seems to be indicating that Cork delayed a free. Bring that up 50 metres, tap over the free, and we win the McGrath Cup.

Nope. The referee isn't buying it. How controversial is that? Well, I'll be plenty more controversial. The ref was spot on; well done to Eoin Morrissey.

Cork with possession. One last chance to clinch it, and Chris Óg Jones duly obliges. A fine score, and it's the winner. A selfish part of me doesn't mind. Lads, it's cold. Good football, but I'm more ready for the fire and a cup of tea than extra-time.

This could cost us, though. Don't mind the fact that it's Cork's first senior defeat of Kerry in the Fitzgerald Stadium in 31 years. That's one of these statistics that sounds hugely significant in the match reports afterwards. I never met a player yet who really cared about that stuff; they tend to be far too busy with actually playing the game. I honestly think you are better off shaking that monkey off your back in a relatively harmless match than letting it develop into a piseog.

But Cork have been edging close to us in the last three years. They have been finishing

strongly against us, often after poor enough starts. That seems to me to be a confidence thing. O'Driscoll, Maguire, O'Callaghan, Óg Jones, Hurley, Sherlock on his day...Cork are coming. What they need now is to follow this win up with a strong start to the National League. That's been a bit of an achilles heel for them. They don't necessarily need to actually get to Division One, but they do need to be really knocking on that door. Their finishing has to start matching their football. They needed Brian Hurley on that pitch, not a good long-term sign.

Kerry? I'm not sure what conclusions, if any, can be drawn. We gave a lot of aspiring players game-time; I'm unconvinced how many will be real options when Jack O'Connor starts dealing from a full deck. Jack O'Connor spoke afterwards about the demanding club schedule in Kerry after the inter-county season.....I'm banging that drum with a long time. It did improve a bit last year, to be fair. A lot done, more to do.....that was Barrack Obama's slogan one time. God be with the days.

Kerry: Shane Ryan, Evan Looney, Jason Foley, Dylan Casey (0-1), Armin Heinrich (0-1), Mike Breen, Tadhg Morley, Joe O'Connor, Cillian Trant, Donagh Shine O'Sullivan, Seán O'Shea (0-5, 1tpf, 1f, 1'45), Darragh Lyne, David Clifford (0-1, 1f), Tomás Kennedy, Tony Brosnan (0-5, 1tp). Subs: Micheál Burns (for Donagh Shine O'Sullivan, half-time), Seán O'Brien (for Cillian Trant, half-time), Ruairí Murphy 0-1 (for Darragh Lyne, half-time), Seán Broderick (for Shane Ryan, half-time), Liam Smith (for Joe O'Connor, 42 mins), Charlie Keating (for Mike Breen, 42 mins), Thomas O'Donnell (for Seán O'Shea, 43 mins), Killian Spillane 0-1 (for David Clifford, 47 mins), Paudie O'Leary (for Seán O'Brien, bs, 48-50 mins), Keith Evans (for Tomás Kennedy, 53 mins), Enda O'Connor (for Evan Looney, 53 mins), Paudie O'Leary (for Tadhg Morley, 55 mins).

Cork: Pádraig Doyle, Seán Brady, Daniel O'Mahony, Jacob O'Driscoll, Brian O'Driscoll, Rory Maguire, Luke Fahy (0-1), Colm O'Callaghan (0-2), Seán Walsh, Ruairí Deane, Seán McDonnell (0-2), Conor Cahalane, Mark Cronin (0-2, 2f), Chris Óg Jones (0-2), Seán Sherlock (0-1, 1f). Subs: Mattie Taylor 0-1 (for Luke Fahy, half-time), Maurice Shanley (for Seán Brady, half-time), Micheál Aodh Martin (for Pádraig Doyle, half-time), Brian Hurley 0-5, 2tpf, 1f (for Seán Sherlock, half-time), Paul Walsh (for Ruairí Deane, half-time), Tommy Walsh (for Jacob O'Driscoll, half-time), Seán Meehan (for Brian O'Driscoll, 41 mins), Conor Daly (for Mark Cronin, 42 mins), Dara Sheedy (for Conor Cahalane, 43 mins), Michael McSweeney (for Seán Walsh, 50 mins)

Referee: Eoin Morrissey (Waterford)

CORN UÍ MHUIRÍ QUARTER-FINALS

Tralee CBS 0-12 St. Brendans 0-9

This was the big one. The oldest college rivalry in Munster. Leave out St. Jarlaths in football and Kierans and Thurles in the hurling, and it's probably the oldest in the country, and that's allowing for the great days of yore for the

likes of Críost Rí. This one had extra spice after the Sem's win in last year's semi-final and the Green's one point win in this year's O'Sullivan Cup Final.

Was it a great game? I'll be honest, not really. There were some astonishing moments – that two pointer by Gearóid White, you'll not see better in his year's hunt for Sam Maguire. Genuinely. But overall, conditions militated against great football. But that's okay, because great players show their best on the hard days. If any of you have read about Terry Pratchett's Granny Weatherwax, you'll recall that she claimed that "Anybody can be a witch at midnight. The real test is if you can be a witch at noon."

A strange metaphor, I'll grant you, but I have an enormous fondness for Terry Pratchett's books. The Sem made the better start, Liam O'Brien with two and Ben Kelliher on target. 0-3 to 0-0. For me, the Sem were far more adventurous; the Green seemed to be a little more cautious. They didn't score in the first quarter, only getting off the mark through a Gearoid White free in the 17th minute. Plenty of fuel in the tanks, lads, go meet fire with fire. Open it up.

Mind you, Ronan Carroll was the one player driving at the Sem, and I'd argue that he was the best player on the pitch in that period but ploughing a mostly lone furrow. The Sem were playing great team football, dominating midfield and using the full width of the pitch. Samul Scroope, one of four 2025 Frewen winners to start for the Sem, kicked a fine score and the industrious Mark O'Carroll (I thought he had a superb game) made it 0-5 to 0-1. The Sem were very much dominant at that stage, with David McCarthy and Cian Mulcahy impressing at the back. However, they needed to take a lead into the second half, when they would be facing the wind.

Gearóid White kicked over two frees for the Green, but a late bit of dissent (let's just say that I had a certain amount of sympathy) led to a simple tapover for Ben Kelliher to give the Sem a 0-6 to 0-3 lead.

I have to say – and this is observation, not criticism – that I would have laughed beforehand at any prediction that a Tralee side that had Gearóid White, Ronan Carroll, and Nick Lacey up front would fail to register a score from play in a full half of football.

The second half was an entirely different matter. Trale were much more direct now, Ryan Hurley splitting the posts and Ronan O'Carroll slotting a free to leave the minimum between the sides. This was more like it. The Sem weren't wilting in any way, though. Brian O'Shea doubled their lead and Joey McCarthy added an absolute beauty.

Coming into the fourth quarter, the tempo began to change. A great turnover by White led to a Nick Lacey score. White was absolutely brilliant for the Kerry minors for two years running but has clearly been carrying a knock all through this year. This was the first time all year I've seen him play with real confidence. Quite simply, he started looking like himself, and that's a real handful for anybody.

Ronan O'Carroll boomed over a monster two pointer free and the sides were level for the first

time. Finan Blackwell nudged the Sem back in front, but it was beginning to have the feeling of a siege now. Could the Sem hold out?

With twelve minutes to go, White landed an absolutely phenomenal two pointer from play. Fair enough, he had the cushion of the advantage rule being played (i.e. Tralee would have kept possession anyway, meaning that he had nothing to lose) but it was a superb piece of skill. It also put the Green into the lead for the first time.

Tralee, with the likes of O'Flaherty, Moriarty, and McKivergan really kicking into gear, always looked like winners from here. Now, I don't want it mistaken for any kind of begrudgery of a great Tralee team or excuses or any of that nonsense, but I do think it's fair to say that it was in this crucial period that the Sem really missed their injured big men like Dylan O'Meara, Seán Kiely, and Mark Kennelly (they were also without goalkeeper Kacper Robak, but Caolan Mitchell had a fine game between the sticks).

In the end, though, Tralee just brought that little bit more to the table at the crucial juncture. Substitute Darragh Murphy doubled their lead and Eoin O'Flaherty, with a trademark burst up the field, closed out the scoring.

Decent game, given the circumstances, but not exceptional. Both sides could arguably do a little better. Neither side will care. At this stage, it is literally all about winning and it's the Green who advance, and they will be carrying the favourites tag. But Marc Ó Sé will know full well that there's a long road ahead, especially with the quality shown in the other quarter-finals.

Tralee CBS: Olivier Lata, Michael Enright, Eoin Moriarty, Stephen Turner, Fionnán Ryan, Eoin O'Flaherty (0-1), Mikey Corridon, Mairtín McKivergan, Cian McKenna, Tadhg O'Connor, Ronan Carroll (0-3 (1tpf, 1f), Tom Quilter, Ryan Hurley (0-1), Gearóid White (0-5 (1tp, 3f), Nick Lacey (0-1). Subs: Cillian Hurley (for Tadhg O'Connor, 45 mins), Darragh Murphy 0-1 (for Ryan Hurley, 54 mins).

St. Brendans: Caolan Mitchell, David McCarthy,, Zach Cronin, Conor Clifford, Jack Rudden, Cian Mulcahy, Cian Stack, Bryan Walsh, Mark O'Carroll (0-1), Finan Blackwell (0-1), Joey McCarthy (0-1), Samuel Scroope (0-1), Liam O'Brien (0-2, 1f), Ben Kelliher (0-2,1f), Brian O'Shea (0-1). Subs: Fionn Doyle (for Samuel Scroope, 49 mins), Jake Nash (for Jack Rudden, 54 mins), John Henderson (for Finan Blackwell, 54 mins), Conor Lynch (for Cian Mulcahy, 62 mins).

Pres. SS Milltown 0-13

St. Pats Castleisland 0-11

Neither Pres. Milltown nor St. Pats Castleisland would have played a lot of Corn uí Mhuirí quarter-finals in their time, but both sides showed in a really thrilling derby in Dr. Eamonn O'Sullivan Pitch in Fíries why they absolutely belong at this level.

Pres. Milltown made the brighter start, with Killian Fitzgerald booming over a brilliant two pointer free after a foul on the lively Diarmuid Quirke. In fact the pressure by Milltown and the tackling was relentless, forcing a number of turnovers that saw Danny Murphy and Michael Lynch clip over further scores to give the Mid Kerry side a four point advantage.

Castleisland's few forays forward were being mopped up by a strong defence marshalled by Marcus Clifford, Seán Clifford, and raiding wing backs Liam Harmon and Ryan Carey. Micheal Horan did slice through in the 11th minute for a great individual score to put Castleisland on the scoreboard. However, at the end of the first quarter a Brian Mangan score restored Milltown's four point lead, 0-5 to 0-1.

Killian Dennehy was trying very hard to bring his Castleisland side into the game. He was initially denied by a great block by Evan Doona, and his second attempt came off the crossbar and was cleared. He did send over a free after the impressive Michael Horan was fouled.

At the other end, Ryan Carey was on the end of a brilliant team move to force Michael Hickey into a brilliant save. Kevin Coffey was on the end of another quick string of passes to split the posts, only for Liam O'Connor to reply in kind and make it 0-6 to 0-3. Yet another Milltown turnover in their defence was spun into another rapid attack, with Ryan Carey eventually fouled in the box. Up stepped Killian Fitzgerald to the penalty spot, but his piledriver was just wide of the post and there was still just enough time left in the first half for St. Pats to work the ball down the field and Michael Horan notch his second point. 0-6 to 0-4 at the break in favour of Pres. Milltown, and they were full value for that lead.

They made an equally bright start to the second half, with Killian Fitzgerald once more adroitly snapping over another great two pointer free. He added a white flag two minutes later before Michael Horan opened Castleisland's second half account.

Once again Pres. Milltown came very close to a goal, but the goalkeeper Michael Hickey and defender Thomas Kelliher managed to somehow clear their lines. Liam Harmon did stretch Milltown's lead with a point but Liam O'Connor pointed a Castleisland free in response. Liam Harmon set up Diarmuid Quirke for a great score, but Killian Dennehy pointed a much-needed Castleisland two pointer to keep them in touch, Milltown leading by 0-11 to 0-8. Danny Murphy was working ferociously throughout the whole game, and the eventual man of the match pointed to make it 0-12 to 0-8. Liam Harmon added another and Milltown led by five heading into the closing minutes.

Michael Horan cleverly kicked a '45 back to Killian Dennehy for a two pointer. Just a goal in it now. Castleisland were attacking relentlessly and Gerard Costello did find a sliver of space, but couldn't keep his shot down and had to settle for a point. With just seconds left, Killian Dennehy stood over one last long distance kick. Incredibly, it dropped alarmingly into the square, only to crash back off the goalpost and the rebound be blocked to finally close out a cracking great contest and send Pres. Milltown into the last four for the first time ever.

Pres. SS Milltown: Daniel Duggan, James Spillane, Marcus Clifford, Seán Clifford, Liam Harmon (0-2), Evan Doona, Brian Mangan, Michael Lynch (0-1), Brian Mangan (0-1), Ryan Costello, Kevin Coffey (0-1), Diarmuid Quirke (0-1), Shane O'Loughlin, Killian Fitzgerald (0-5, 2tpf, 1f), Danny Murphy (0-2). Subs: Jan Ziobar



Supporters enjoying the McGrath Cup Final at the Fitzgerald Stadium at the weekend. Photo: Fitzgerald Stadium PR

(for Kevin Coffey, 51), Donnacha Quirke (for Shane O'Loughlin, 56)

St. Pats Castleisland: Michael Hickey, Thomas Kelliher, Shane Kelliher, Pádraig Reidy, Adam Griffin, Ruairí Brosnan, Rory O'Connor, Killian Dennehy (0-5, 1tp, 1tpf, 1f), Tomás Jones, Liam O'Connor (0-2, 1f), Cormac Walsh, Danny Hickey, Josh Ryan, Gerard Costello (0-1), Michael Horan (0-3). Subs Ciarán O'Connell (for Josh Ryan, 40), William McCarthy (for Adam Griffin, 51), Noah Fitzgerald (for Danny Hickey, 55), Referee: Evan Horan (Glenflesk)

St. Francis Rochestown 2-11 IS Killorglin 0-8

St. Francis Rochestown have been the school flying the Cork flag most strongly in recent years in the Corn uí Mhuirí, having lost the 2023 Final and just missed out on a Munster double back in 2015. It might be ironic that manager Liam Sheehan was a great Corn uí Mhuirí player himself with Killorglin. Back in 2001, he lost out to Coláiste na Sceilge in the final, despite having set up Donal Kelliher for an early goal. That Killorglin side included players like Fergal Griffin, Donnchadh Walsh, Seamie Foley, and Damien Breen, as well as Kelliher and Sheehan. But that Coláiste na Sceilge team, managed by Jack O'Connor.....superb players throughout, and a crown jewel in a lad named Declan O'Sullivan. His subsequent Hogan Cup semi-final shootout with young Michael Meehan of St. Jarlaths has since been widely acknowledged by most as the greatest colleges' football match of all time. Liam Sheehan went on to establish himself as one of the great Keel players, playing Kerry junior in 2005 and 2007, before taking up teaching and transferring to Éire Óg in Cork.

It may sound like I am revelling in nostalgia. That's because I am. There isn't too much I can say about the game. Micheál Ó Sé's team did really well to get his team to the knockout stages, but Rochestown are unbeaten so far and it almost looked like a bridge too far. And missing influential midfielder Éanna Murphy? Rochestown always looked that little bit sharper. They totally dominated the first half, opening up a 1-9 to 0-2 half-time lead. Killorglin put up an excellent second half and at one stage trimmed the gap to 1-10 to 0-8, mostly through the superb accuracy of Adam O'Neill, but Rochestown always had a gear in hand if

needed and ran out relatively comfortable winners.

For a small consolation, Killorglin did go on a few days later to beat Tarbert in the Munster U17 soccer semi-final with goals from Cade Jameson, Tommy Foley, Charlie Foley, and Sean Doherty.

IS Killorglin: Adam Radny, Daniel Kelly, Seán Griffin, Ciarán Birmingham, James Jones, David Butler, Dylan Flynn, Fionn Kennedy, Tadhg O'Sullivan, Mikey Culhane, Adam O'Neill (0-5, 2f), Colm Evans, Tomás Joy (0-3, 1tp, 1f), Charlie Griffin, Oran O'Sullivan. Subs: Charlie Foley (for Mikey Culhane, 36 mins).

Clonmel HS 1-6 Clonakilty CC 0-5

Well, I called this one wrong. Clonakilty, despite being young (and as an early warning, reaching the Frewen Cup Final for a second year in a row means that they will be a team to look out for next year) gave an exhibition of fast and direct team play against the Sem in their opening game and went on to win the group comfortably. Clonmel, on the other hand, very nearly went out in a winner-take-all game against Inhearr Scéine. I think the fact that both Rochestown and Clonmel are into the semi-finals says a lot about how tough a group the Kenmare side were in!

Clonmel seem to have gotten better and better with every passing game. Just a guess on my part, but might they have been distracted early on by hurling commitments, given that they won the Munster B hurling? Having minor and U20 players with both Tipperary and Waterford, while it won't hurt any team, might have distracted them from hitting the ground running. Regardless, they are definitely at full speed now and looking better with every passing game.

The Simcox champions coughed up a goal to Aaron McAndrew and were down by 1-2 to 0-0 when the talented Tom Whooley scored a great point for Clonakilty. Their only first half score. 1-4 to 0-1 at half-time.

St. Francis Rochestown, 'Roco' if you will, did win the second half. By 0-4 to 0-2. Sometimes I like to put an exclamation mark into a match report, just to liven things up. Sometimes, it feels like too much of a challenge.

Not that Clonmel will care. They are very much into the final four on merit.



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- Start and end dates maybe subject to change

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Minister for Children, Disability, Equality and Kerry T.D. Norma Foley has welcomed the allocation of €358,281 in funding for the Local Sports Partnership in Kerry.

Minister Foley said: "Kerry Local Sports Partnership is a cornerstone of community life here in Kerry. Today's allocation will further strengthen the work being carried out on the ground, supporting staff to deliver vital programmes, develop clubs, and promote participation in sport and physical activity at all levels.

"The Local Sports Partnership is focused on promoting lifelong physical activity, increasing participation, and strengthening community partnerships across Kerry. The Kerry Local Sports Partnership continues to deliver excellent outcomes in the areas of community health, wellbeing and social cohesion by ensuring sport and physical activity are accessible to everyone."



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"Do you not know that all of us who have been baptised into Christ Jesus were baptised into His death? We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the Glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life" (Romans 6:3-4).

Welcome back dear student baptism is an outward sign of leaving behind the life of sin, recognising the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus being the guarantee of resurrection promised by God to those who believe (Romans 8:11). John the Baptist was baptising in the River Jordan calling people to come out of darkness (John 1:6-34; Luke 3:1-22). He challenged them to repent of sin, turn back to God, and be baptised. He prophesied the coming Messiah would baptise people with the Holy Spirit and Fire. John baptised Jesus to fulfil the Word of God. When Jesus came up from the water John saw the Holy Spirit descend upon Him as a dove. The dove symbolises purity, God's anointing, and, relating back to the time of Noah, new creation. In water baptism the person is declaring – I believe in Jesus, I'm leaving behind my old life of sin, pain and darkness, and I'm emerging from these waters of Life, into a new way of living: for, and with God.

Under the Old Covenant, the Holy Spirit came at times upon only certain people - the prophets. But when Jesus, the Sinless Saviour, died on the Cross for mankind's sin, and then God raised Him from the dead, a New Covenant began. This New Covenant is an agreement between God and us, written and sealed in the Blood of the Lamb, Jesus. We couldn't pay for our own sins. But God's Son who lived a sinless life, in total submission and obedience to God's Law, took upon Himself our sins, paying for them with His Blood (1 Peter 3:18; Romans 5:6-8; Hebrews 9:28). This made the way for anyone who believes in Jesus to be forgiven of sin, washed and cleansed in His Blood, and reconciled to God (John 3:16). When Jesus died and went into hell, having never sinned, He had authority over the devil to take back the dominion that Adam and Eve had been tricked into handing over in the Garden. Jesus defeated Satan and his demons once and for all, going into hell so we wouldn't have to! He paid our debt and Redeemed us. Then God raised Jesus as He had promised - the firstborn from the dead (1 Corinthians 15). Jesus went through death and resurrection before us, so we need never fear death, if we believe, repent, and call upon His Name for Salvation we have the promise of eternal life (Romans 10:9-13; Hebrews 2:14-15).

In choosing to get baptised we are celebrating being 'in Christ, a New Creation' (2 Corinthians 5:17). This isn't a ritual: it's a decision to completely align one's life to God's ways (Matthew 6:33). It's a new beginning in Christ, leaving behind old negative attitudes; darkness, and sin. It's putting on Love - living a lifestyle that brings God Glory and Honour (Colossians 3:13-17). It's choosing to forgive and release the past; both receiving and giving Mercy; a powerful way to live – free from bondage! Truthfully, it's a choice an innocent baby cannot make, for they have not sinned. The enemy deceives people into living in bondage to sin, twisting God's Word, keeping them in ignorance to bring destruction (Hosea 4:6). Baptism is a powerful declaration of one's faith, and an invitation to God's Holy Spirit. If you wish to learn more, with a view to getting baptised friend, do come to our meetings listed below. Pastor Joe Mitchell this Sunday January 25th @11am.

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

 Word of Victory Christian Fellowship Killarney

 @WovKillarney

 Text for Prayer: 087 639 6744

wordofvictory.ie

Podcasts on Spotify: A WORD OF VICTORY

KILLARNEY ACTIVE RETIREMENT WILL RESUME WEEKLY MEETINGS on Friday, January 23rd from 2pm to 4pm in the KCYS - back of Franciscan Friary Bookshop - New members welcome

YOGA CLASSES

Suitable For Beginners on Thursdays at 10.00am. Contact Breda 087 920 1550 to Book Your Place. Venue at the Parish Centre Church Of The Resurrection Killarney

OSTEOPILATES CLASSES FOR BEGINNERS, Mondays at 11am in Aura Contact Jola - 0872832370

GENTLE EXERCISE CLASS

Slow gentle mindful movement & breathwork class Mondays at 10.00am in the Parish Centre, Church of the Resurrection, Park Rd. Suitable for people of all ages & abilities. Contact Noreen on 085 8600099

KNOCKNAGREE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GROUP PRESENTS A NIGHT OF TRADITIONAL IRISH SET DANCING on Thursday January 29th from 8- 10PM in Knocknagree Community Centre. Come along to enjoy a great night of set dancing. Entrance fee: €5.'

ST BRENDAN'S COLLEGE TRANSITION YEAR STUDENTS ARE STARTING ANOTHER TERM OF THEIR LOG ON LEARNING PROGRAMME. If you need any IT help, help with your phone: wish to learn how to text, use WhatsApp, Facebook, order your weekly shop online, use your laptop or take photos on your phone. Let the students know what you'd like to learn and learn at your own pace. Wednesdays in January from 11:30 to 1:00. Running from the 7th to the 28th of January. Complementary teas and coffees available. If interested, please call 0646631021 to sign up.

SPIRITUAL EXERCISES

5 DAY SILENT IGNATIAN RETREAT FOR MEN Led by Benedictine monks from St. Joseph Abbey, in France. Starts Thursday 30th April (3pm). Benburb Priory, Co. Tyrone (1.5 hrs from Dublin). €450 (all meals & single room included). Daily Mass - Ordinary Form (Latin & ad orientem). Discover the strength that only comes when you stop running and let God speak. Book at: <https://soutenir.clairval.com/retreat-benburb-prior>

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HEARTBEAT KILLARNEY KERRY - CARDIAC SUPPORT GROUP

For more information visit our website <http://www.kerryhearts.ie/> Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter: @kerryheartsIE Registered Charity No.: 20107536

SECOND COLLECTION

Red Envelope next weekend 24th /25th Jan. Many Thanks for your Support.

BINGO IN ST MARY'S PARISH HALL: every Thurs at 8.30pm.

2ND ANNIVERSARY

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
HENRY AHERN



LATE OF FARRANFORE,
CO KERRY
WHO PASSED AWAY
27TH JANUARY 2024.

*Those we love don't go away;
they walk beside us every day,
unseen, unheard, but always near,
still loved, still missed, and very dear.*

Sadly missed by your loving family
Maureen, Dan, John, Helen, Henry, Mary
and extended families.

Henry's second Anniversary Mass will be
celebrated in St Gertrudes Church Fries on
Saturday, January 31st at 7.30pm.

MEMORARE

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that
never was it known that anyone who fled to
thy protection, implored thy help, or sought
thy intercession, was left unaided.
Inspired by this confidence I fly unto thee, O
Virgin of virgins, my Mother.
To thee do I come, before thee I stand,
sinful and sorrowful.
O Mother of the Word Incarnate,
despise not my petitions,
but in thy mercy hear and answer me.
Amen.

18TH ANNIVERSARY

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
**TOM
BROSNAN**



LATE OF BALLYBRACK,
BALLYHAR, KILLARNEY
WHO DIED ON THE
20TH JANUARY 2008.

Letter to my dad in heaven.

*They say there is a reason,
They say that time will heal,
Neither time nor reason,
Will change the time we heal.
Gone are the days we used to share,
But in our hearts, you are always there.
The gates of memories will never close,
We miss you more than anybody knows.*

Love and miss you everyday
Always and forever
from your loving family

**Anniversary Mass for Tom will be held
in Ballyhar Church on Sunday,
January 25th at 10am**

35TH AND 9TH ANNIVERSARIES

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
**FLORENCE AND
NELLIE
O'SULLIVAN**



LATE OF CAHERNARD,
CASTLEISLAND AND
KILFALNEY CURRANS.

FLORENCE WHO PASSED AWAY
ON THE 27TH OCTOBER 1990
AND
NELLIE ON THE
21ST JANUARY 2017

*Memories are special,
They don't fade away
I think of you both always
Not just today.*

Loved and Remembered,
Sheila and family.

**Anniversary Mass for Florence, Nellie
and the extended Brosnan and
O'Sullivan families will take place
on Sunday 8th February at 10am in
Currans church**

5TH ANNIVERSARY

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
**STEPHEN
O'DONOGHUE**



LISSIVANE EAST, MILLTOWN,
CO KERRY
WHO DIED ON THE
28TH JANUARY 2021

One Wish

*I wish I had some time with you
To walk among the stars
To hold your hand and see your face
And ask you how you are.

I'd tell you how things are going here
And say how I miss you so
And then there'd be that moment when
I wouldn't want to let you go.

But I know that I would have to
As I'd give you a kiss and then
I'd wish that heaven allowed visitors
So I could come back and see you again.*

Missing you every day and always
in our heart
Cathal, Naoishe and Caitriona
xxx

NOVENA TO ST. MARTHA

O St. Martha, I resort thee and to thy petition
and faith, I offer up to thee this light which I
shall burn every Tuesday for nine Tuesdays.
Comfort me in all my difficulties thro' the
great favour thou didst enjoy when Our
Saviour lodged in they house. I beseech thee
to have definite pity in regard to the favour I
ask (Mention favour).
Intercede for my family that we may always
be provided for in all our necessities. I ask
thee St. Martha to overcome the dragon
which thou didst cast as thy feet.
One Our Father and three Hail Marys and a
lighted candle every Tuesday and the above
prayer made known with the intentions
of spreading devotion to St. Martha. This
miraculous Saint grants every thing before
the Tuesdays are ended. No matter how
difficult.

NOVENA TO THE SACRED HEART

Dear Heart of Jesus in the past I have
asked many favours.
This time I ask you this special one,
(mention favour).
Take it dear heart of Jesus and place
it within your heart where your Father
sees it.
Then in his merciful eyes it will
become your favour not mine.
Amen.
Say this prayer three times for three
days and your favour will be granted.
Thank you for favours received

MB

NOVENA TO ST. JUDE

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus
be adored, glorified, loved and
preserved throughout the world now
and forever.

Oh Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us.
St. Jude worker of miracles, pray for
us.
Helper of the hopeless, pray for us.

Say this prayer nine times a day, by
the eighth day the prayer will be
answered.
It has never been known to fail.

MB

IN MEMORIAM

**TO PLACE A MEMORIAL ON
THE KILLARNEY OUTLOOK**

Please email details to:
graphicdesign@outlookmags.com
and the verse and photo you
would like to include.

If it is a repeat anniversary we
will have your photo and verse
on file, just call Emma on:
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Please include a contact name,
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Prayers: €10 each**

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2ND ANNIVERSARY

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
MAUREEN FOLLIN



KILLARNEY, CO. KERRY &
TALLOW, CO. WATERFORD
WHOSE 2ND ANNIVERSARY
OCCURS ON 24/01/26.

Deeply regretted by her daughters,
Carmel & Susan, sister-in-law Maureen,
relatives, neighbours and friends.

5TH ANNIVERSARY

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
NORA CRONIN



GNEEVGUILLA UPPER,
RATHMORE, CO. KERRY
WHO PASSED AWAY ON
27TH JANUARY 2021

*They say there is a reason,
They say that time will heal,
But neither time or reason,
Will change the way we feel.
For no one knows the heartache
That lies beyond our smiles,
No one knows how many times
We have broken down and cried.
We want to tell you something,
So there won't be any doubt,
You're so wonderful to think of,
But so hard to be without.
We cannot bring the old days back
When we were all together
The family chain is broken now
But memories live forever.
May her gentle soul rest in peace*

Loved and missed always by your
loving family

**Mass for Nora will take place on
Saturday, 24th January 2026 at 7:30pm
in Christ the King Church, Knocknagree**

2ND ANNIVERSARY

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
A DEAR SISTER
**CATHERINE
FITZGERALD
(NEE COTTER)**



ARBUTUS GROVE, KILLARNEY.
WHO PASSED AWAY
ON JANUARY 27TH 2024.

*Of all the special gifts in life however
great or small, to have you as our sister
was the greatest gift of all.*

*May the winds of love blow softly and
whisper in your ear, "We love and miss you
Katie and wish that you were here".*

*Death leaves a heartache no one can heal,
but love leaves a memory no one can steal.
Deep in our hearts, your life is kept to love and
cherish not forget. No more tomorrows we can
share but yesterday's are always there.*

*A silent thought, a secret tear keeps
your memory ever near in
our hearts forever xxxxx*

Loved and missed everyday,
your sisters Mary, Eileen and Margaret,
brother David, brothers in law, sister-in-law,
neices and nephews.

4TH ANNIVERSARY

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
**TOM JOE
O'DONOGHUE**



KNOCKNAGEEHA,
GNEEVGUILLA

WHO DIED ON THE
28TH JANUARY 2022.

*No longer in our lives to share,
But in our hearts
you are always there.*

*Go dtuga Dia glóir na
bhflaitheas duit.*

**Sadly missed by your wife Peggy,
Sons & daughters; Niall, Josephine,
Sheila, Denis, Brigid, Tomás,
Padraig, Michael and their
families.**

Anniversary Mass on Sunday 25th January
2026 at 9:30am in the Church of the Holy
Rosary, Gneevguilla

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & 1ST ANNIVERSARY

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
MARY O'BRIEN



BREWSTERFIELD AND
THE SHOP GLENFLESK,
KILLARNEY.

Our beloved Mary completed her
life's journey on 27th January 2025.
Remembering Mary on her first anniversary
we, her family would like to express our
sincere gratitude and appreciation to all
who supported us and sympathised with us
following Mary's passing.

Thanks to all who attended the funeral,
those who travelled long distances, sent
Mass Cards, Condolence messages on RIP.ie
and privately.

A heartfelt thank you to all who cared for
Mary, the wonderful HSE home help team,
her GP and all at Park Medical Practice, the
staff of Tralee General Hospital, the amazing
kindness and professionalism shown by the
Palliative Care team. Many thanks also to St.
Joseph's Day Care Centre, Rathmore.

Thanks to Fr. Jim Linehan, Fr. Tadhg Doherty,
and Deacon Thady O'Connor for a lovely
mass. Thanks to Paud, Mary and Irene for
the beautiful music and singing at the
mass, and to Ben, who sang at the grave.
Thanks for the wonderful service provided
by O'Shea's funeral Directors.

As it is impossible to thank everyone
individually, please accept this
acknowledgement as a sincere expression of
our gratitude.

Deeply loved and sadly missed by her
devoted children Donie, Kate,
Noreen and Denis and their families.

First Anniversary Mass
was celebrated on Saturday, 17th January
in Glenflesk Church.



RELIGIOUS CEREMONIES IN KILLARNEY PARISH

CONFIRMATION

March 6th at 11.00am & 2.30pm

1ST HOLY COMMUNION DATES

2nd of May: Lissivigeen NS & Tiernaboul NS Church of the Resurrection
- 10.30am

9th of May: Holy Cross Mercy NS-10.00am , St Mary's Cathedral &
Presentation Monastery NS-12noon

16th of May: Loughquittane NS , Muckcross Church 10.30am

16th of May: St Olivers Ns , Church of the Resurrection 10.30am &
12.30pm

23rd of May: Gaelscoil Faithleann, Church of the Resurrection 10.30am

23rd of May: Scoil Bhride, Loreto , Muckcross Church 10.30am

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