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Glenflesk All-Ireland Scór na nÓg Ballad Group Champions were welcomed home on Sunday night following their incredible two in a row win in Mullingar.

Left to right: Alison O'Sullivan, Scór Officer, Muireann Healy, Abby Cronin, Patrick Mullane, Aoise O'Donoghue, Cliona Moynihan and Rosie Healy, Coach. Picture by Seamus Healy


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A Note from the EDITOR



There were celebrations galore at two GAA Clubs in Killarney this week as the winning groups brought home All Ireland Gold from Scor na nOg in Mullingar. Killarney Chamber of Tourism & Commerce has welcomed Kerry's stronger voice in Government, employees were celebrated at the Gleneagle Group and the clean-up continued this week after Storm Eowyn. Plans are being put in place to embrace commercial sustainability in Killarney, a local student went on a trip of a lifetime and rehearsals are well underway for Killarney Musical Societies production of Evita. The Stronger Together Choir returns next week, Beaufort Film Night is back with I'm Your Man and with Killarney set to welcome Eric Cantona, we have a blast from the past for you. An up and coming Killarney singer songwriter has released her debut single, St. Brendan's students are busy making St. Brigid's Crosses and Anne Lucey takes a look at all things local. Kerry ladies suffered defeat in their first game of 2025, a Killarney Valley AC Athlete is heading stateside and Jimmy takes a look at All Things Sport! Hope you all enjoy this week's Killarney Outlook!

Aisling Crosbie



A stunning photograph taken by Pauline Sweeney of Lough Lein at morning time



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THIS WEEK

CHECK OUT PAGE 4
FOR OUR UP TO DATE NEWS!

GET IN TOUCH

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

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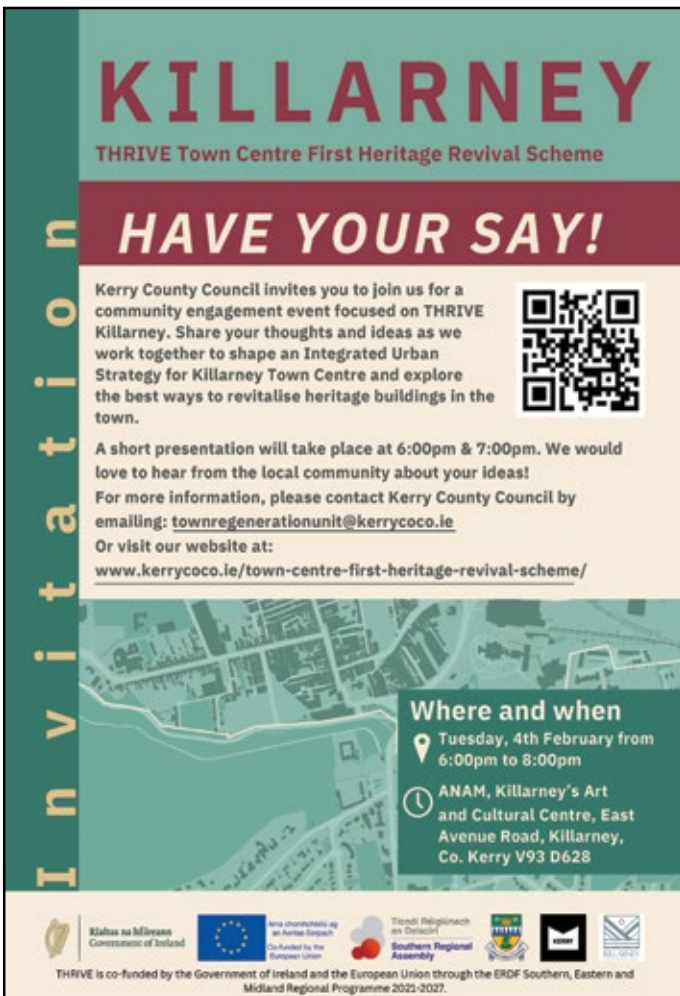
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KILLARNEY

THRIVE Town Centre First Heritage Revival Scheme

HAVE YOUR SAY!

Kerry County Council invites you to join us for a community engagement event focused on THRIVE Killarney. Share your thoughts and ideas as we work together to shape an Integrated Urban Strategy for Killarney Town Centre and explore the best ways to revitalise heritage buildings in the town.

A short presentation will take place at 6:00pm & 7:00pm. We would love to hear from the local community about your ideas!

For more information, please contact Kerry County Council by emailing: townregenerationunit@kerrycoco.ie

Or visit our website at: www.kerrycoco.ie/town-centre-first-heritage-revival-scheme/

Where and when

Tuesday, 4th February from 6:00pm to 8:00pm

ANAM, Killarney's Art and Cultural Centre, East Avenue Road, Killarney, Co. Kerry V93 D628

Invitation

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THRIVE is co-funded by the Government of Ireland and the European Union through the ERDF Southern, Eastern and Midland Regional Programme 2021-2027.



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GLENFLESK ROLL OUT THE RED CARPET FOR ALL IRELAND WINNERS

There was huge celebrations in Glenflesk on Sunday evening when the community came out to welcome home the All Ireland Winning Ballad Group following their two in a row in at the All Ireland Scór na nÓg.



The talented Ballad Group, Clíona Moynihan, Aoise O'Donoghue, Patrick Mullane, Muireann Healy, Abby Cronin, and their dedicated coach Rosie Healy won the All-Ireland Scór na nÓg title in Monaghan last Saturday! Achieving the incredible feat of '2 in a row' is a testament to their hard work and talent.

The group were welcomed to St. Agatha's Hall by the Cathaoirleach of Killarney Municipal District, Maura Healy Rae.

There were bouquets of flowers presented to the group's coach Rosie Healy and to Scór Officer, Alison O'Sullivan, who is stepping down from her role. Alison has gone out on a high and the club wish her all the best as she starts an exciting new chapter as a chef in the Adare Manor Hotel.



Glenflesk Ballad Group All Ireland Scór na Nog winners for a 2nd year in a row. Muireann Healy, Abby Cronin, Patrick Mullane, Aoise O'Donoghue and Cliona Moynihan at the homecoming.



Rosie Healy the Ballad group coach presented with flowers from Glenflesk Chairman Jerry Mullane and Club secretary Emma O'Donoghue.



Scór Officer Allison O'Sullivan gets presented with flowers from Glenflesk Chairman Jerry Mullane and Club Secretary Emma O'Donoghue



Cllr. Maura Healy Rae, Cathaoirleach of Killarney Municipal District watching the Ballad Group perform their winning song at the homecoming in Glenflesk on Sunday evening.



Darragh and Shay Kelly with Mollie the dog

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WELCOME for Kerry's stronger voice in Government

It is a huge advantage for Killarney and the county at large that two of the five Kerry TDs have been allocated key positions in the new coalition government, Killarney Chamber of Tourism and Commerce has said.

The business body said the appointment of Deputy Norma Foley as Minister for Children, Disability and Equality and Deputy Michael Healy-Rae as Minister of State at the Department of Agriculture is a very significant boost for the county and they are both well placed to make strong representations on what is needed in their home constituency.

Chamber said having four of the five Kerry TDs supporting the Government places the county in a very unique position and the business representation wished all five of the county's public representatives well in their efforts to deliver on their stated priorities.

"We would encourage them to endeavour to deliver on pre-election pledges on such projects as the new Farranfore-Killarney bypass road, the development of the former Pretty Polly site as a training college for the hospitality and tourism industry and the redevelopment of Fitzgerald Stadium," the Chamber stated.

"We know that Minister Foley, Minister of State Michael Healy-Rae and Deputies Danny Healy-Rae, Michael Cahill and Pa Daly will work long and hard and with renewed enthusiasm to deliver for Kerry.

"We have great faith in them and we assure them that Killarney Chamber of Tourism and Commerce will support them in any way possible," the Chamber Executive added.

CHAMBER'S WISHLIST

Addressing the cost of doing business, greater supports for smaller operators and the need for a more intense focus on the provision of housing must be a priority for the new administration.

There is a need for more urgency with the delivery of pledges to construct a new N22 Farranfore-Lissivigeen road and the



Minister for Children, Disability and Equality, Norma Foley, TD



Minister of State at the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine with special responsibility for Forestry, Horticulture and Farm Safety, Michael Healy-Rae, TD

development of a promised third level tourism and hospitality college at the former Pretty Polly site on Park Road.

The Fitzgerald Stadium redevelopment needs to be a priority to ensure that one of the country's premier and most popular sports grounds is brought up to the required standard and future proofed.

There is an urgent need for the necessary

infrastructure to tackle traffic congestion in Killarney, including the construction of a multi-storey car park and new inner relief and slip roads.

Given the critical importance of Killarney National Park to Kerry, there is a requirement to sanction additional funding for the National Parks and Wildlife Service to allow hugely important projects to be brought to fruition.

Killarney Garda's letter goes viral

A letter written by a Killarney Garda, who returned a lost Drivers Licence to a visitor who was visiting Killarney, has gone viral. American girls Caroline and Rachel from Ohio were enjoying a visit to Ireland when a night out in Killarney, Caroline lost her drivers licence.

A good citizen handed the licence into Killarney Garda Station where Sergeant Joe Sullivan took on the task of returning it. Sergeant Joe wrote a humorous letter to Caroline saying.....

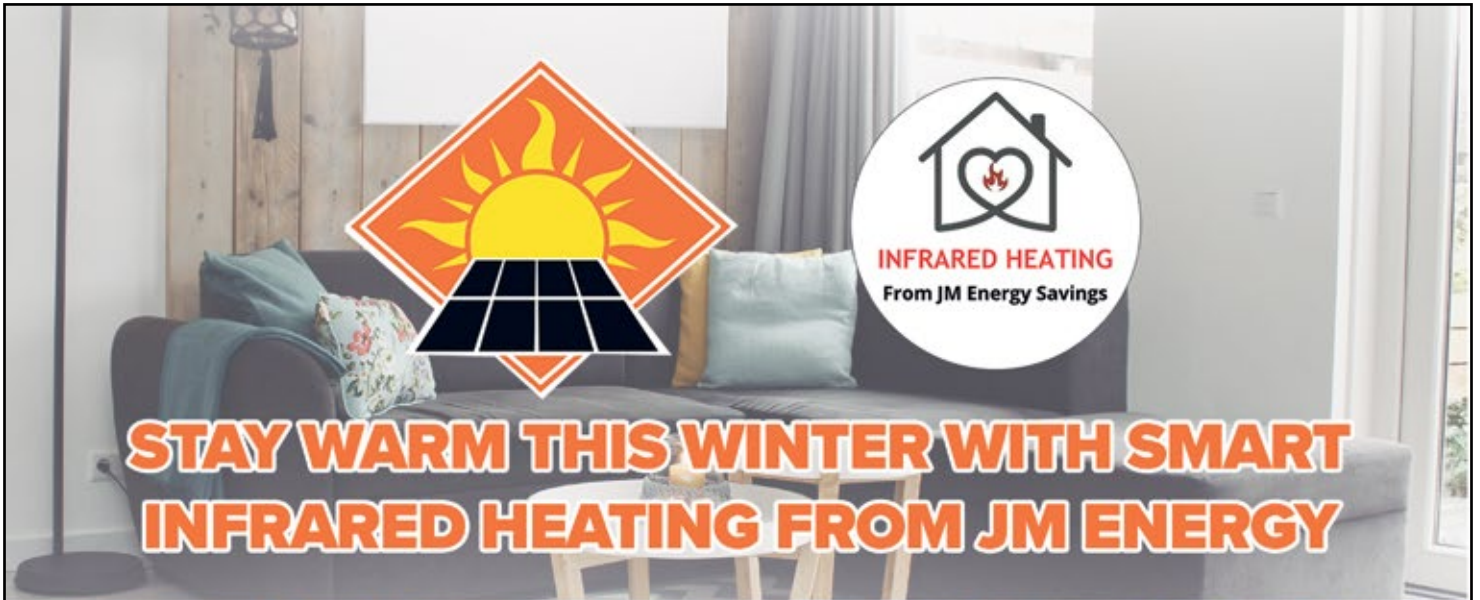
"Dear Caroline. Please find enclosed your driving licence. This was handed into the Garda station in Killarney, Co Kerry and I am now returning it to you.

I hope you had a wild and enjoyable time here in Ireland, please feel free to visit us again anytime, and next time, don't drink so much Guinness and lose your driving licence. It's a very important document.

If you have any queries or questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. Kind regards, Sgt Joe O'Sullivan."

The letter has since gone viral after it was posted on the Gardainsta social media platform and reposted by Caroline on TikTok gaining over 600,000 views, while Sergeant Joe Sullivan has received praise from all over the world for his lovely gesture. Caroline will definitely remember her fun stay in Killarney!





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KERRY COUNTY COUNCIL SECURES FUNDING under Town Centre First Heritage Revival Scheme

Kerry County Council has announced its participation in the new THRIVE - Town Centre First Heritage Revival Scheme, an initiative co-funded by the Government of Ireland and the European Union through the ERDF Southern, Eastern and Midland Regional Programme 2021-2027.

The THRIVE programme focuses on revitalising urban centres by repurposing heritage buildings, contributing to both community renewal and heritage conservation. Under Strand 1 of the Scheme, Kerry County Council has been awarded €197,094 for each of the towns of Tralee and Killarney. This funding will be used to develop Integrated Urban Strategies and create investment-ready proposals for the adaptive reuse of a publicly owned heritage building in each town.

A2 Architects Ltd. has been appointed by Kerry County Council to deliver this project, including the development of the strategies and exploring innovative opportunities to adaptively reuse key heritage buildings in each town.

Speaking about the initiative, Jean Foley, Town Regeneration Officer said "The THRIVE programme is a fantastic opportunity to breathe new life into the heart of our towns while preserving and celebrating our rich architectural heritage. We strongly encourage everyone in the community to get involved, share their ideas, and help shape a vision that reflects the unique character and potential of Tralee and Killarney."

As part of the project, public input is vital, and Kerry County Council is inviting the public to share their ideas and contribute to shaping these strategies. This is an exciting opportunity to influence the future of local heritage while tackling vacancy and dereliction in town centres.

Interactive drop-in workshops will be held in both Killarney and Tralee to present details of the project and gather feedback.

KILLARNEY: ANAM, Killarney's Art and Cultural Centre, East Avenue, on Tuesday, February 4th, 6–8pm.

TRALEE: The Rose Hotel, Dan Spring Road, on Wednesday, February 5th, 6–8pm.



Kerry County Council is proud to announce its participation in the new THRIVE - Town Centre First Heritage Revival Scheme, an initiative co-funded by the Government of Ireland and the European Union through the ERDF Southern, Eastern and Midland Regional Programme 2021-2027. Pictured at the Kerry County Council Offices for the Launch were, Niamh O'Sullivan KCC, Cllr Terry O'Brien Tralee, Jean Foley KCC and Martin Grady Killarney. Photo By : Domnick Walsh © Eye Focus LTD

Each workshop will include brief presentations at 6pm and 7pm to outline the project and discuss the heritage buildings in each town. Everyone is welcome to drop-in and share their ideas and speak to those involved with the projects.

For further details, please contact townregenerationunit@kerrycoco.ie. This initiative is co-funded by the Government of Ireland and the European Union through the ERDF Southern, Eastern, and Midland Regional Programme 2021–2027.

Visit the Southern Regional Assembly website at <http://www.southernassembly.ie/>

It's A Great Place to Work....

The O'Donoghue Ring Collection Marks Three In A Row

The Kerry-based hospitality group, the 'O'Donoghue Ring Collection', is delighted to announce its third consecutive certification as a 'Great Place to Work'. This achievement is driven by the positive feedback and enthusiastic support of the Collections dedicated team members, reflecting its unwavering commitment to fostering a thriving and inclusive workplace.

The 'O'Donoghue Ring Collection' embodies an ethos of excellence, striving to create an environment where every team member feels genuinely welcomed, supported, and inspired.

Renowned for cultivating positive relationships, the Collection prioritises a workplace culture where individuals are not only valued, respected, and cared for but also empowered to reach their fullest potential. This commitment drives its success, establishing the team environment as a key focus for growth and collaboration.

Team members across the portfolio, including Killarney Plaza Hotel & Spa, Killarney Avenue Hotel, Killarney Towers Hotel & Leisure Centre, River Island Hotel, Café du Parc, The Tan Yard, O'Donoghue Public House, and Pig's Lane, contributed to this success by participating in the extensive survey process.

Commenting on the survey response and certification, Gemma Ring, Managing Director of the O'Donoghue Ring Collection said: This marks the third consecutive year that the Collection has proudly earned the prestigious 'Great Place to Work' certification, a remarkable achievement

that reflects our ongoing commitment to excellence. Our team is at the core of our ethos, and we are dedicated to empowering them with the support and opportunities they need to excel in their roles, driving both their personal growth and an exceptional customer experience.



The team at the O'Donoghue Ring Collection

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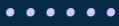
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EMPLOYEE AWARDS

Celebrated at The Gleneagle Group



The Gleneagle Group hosted its annual Employee Awards ceremony at the Killarney Oaks Hotel on Sunday (January 26), celebrating its team's outstanding achievements and dedication in 2024. The evening featured a gala banquet, live entertainment with Truly Diverse, and recognition of individuals whose contributions exemplify excellence across the organisation.

Speaking at the event, CEO Patrick O'Donoghue reflected on a successful year:

"Tonight we celebrate our incredible team's hard work, professionalism, and commitment. 2024 has been a year of exceptional achievements—outstanding guest feedback, strong employee engagement, and solid financial performance—all thanks to your efforts. Thank you for your dedication and for making this year a success. Thanks also to our HR department for organising this wonderful evening and for their ongoing dedication to supporting our people."

The top honours of Employee of the Year were awarded to Connor Landers from The Gleneagle Hotel, Yvonne O'Sullivan from The Maritime Hotel, and Ceara Scanlon from The Gleneagle Group.

At The Gleneagle Hotel, Vova Bilokhvost was named Manager of the Year, Dalal Habita received Best New Starter, Christina Nolan was honoured with the Leadership Award, Erik Erno Tellitu was celebrated as the World's Best Colleague, and Viera Feciskaninova recognised for Excellence in Customer Service. Special Recognition Awards were also presented to Chido Prudence Dube and Mike Woods.

At The Maritime Hotel, Philly Spillane received Manager of the Year, while Nataliia Lutska was awarded Best New Starter. Gerard O'Keefe received the Leadership Award, Elvis Apenitis was celebrated as the World's Best Colleague and Millie Thorpe received the Excellence in Customer Service award. Special Recognition Awards went to Zanda Apenite and Helen O'Shea.

In the shared services categories of The Gleneagle Group, Sheena Cahill was honoured with the Excellence in Action Award, and Dorothy Daly received the Excellence in Customer Service Award. Clare Grimes and Eileen Doherty were also recognised with Special Recognition Awards.

PHOTOS: DON MACMONAGLE



The award recipients and nominees of The Gleneagle Group Employee Awards pictured with Patrick O'Donoghue, CEO Gleneagle Group, John Dolan, General Manager The Gleneagle Hotel and Scott Hornibrook, General Manager The Maritime Hotel at The Gleneagle Group Employee Awards at the Gleneagle Group Employee of the Year Awards ceremony in the Killarney Oaks Hotel at the weekend. Included are, Gleneagle Group Employee of the Year Ceara Scanlon, Gleneagle Hotel Employee of the Year, Connor Landers and The Maritime Hotel Employee of the Year, Yvonne O'Sullivan.



Ceara Scanlon of Gleneagle Group receiving the Employee of the Year Award from Patrick O'Donoghue, CEO Gleneagle Group and Valerie Steinbeck, Commercial Director at the Gleneagle Group Employee of the Year Awards ceremony in the Killarney Oaks Hotel at the weekend.



Gleneagle Hotel Employee of the Year, Connor Landers pictured after receiving his award at the Gleneagle Group Employee of the Year Awards ceremony.



World's Best Colleague at The Gleneagle Hotel, Erik Erno Tellitu receiving his award from Patrick O'Donoghue, CEO Gleneagle Group and John Dolan, General Manager The Gleneagle Hotel at the Gleneagle Group Employee of the Year Awards ceremony



Dalal Habita of The Gleneagle Hotel receiving Best New Starter from Patrick O'Donoghue, CEO Gleneagle Group, John Dolan, General Manager The Gleneagle Hotel and Agnieszka Dukarska, SkinBeauty Manager.



Clare Grimes of Gleneagle Group receiving a Special Recognition Award from Patrick O'Donoghue, CEO Gleneagle Group, and Eilis Loughrey, Director of People and Culture at the Gleneagle Group Employee of the Year Awards ceremony in the Killarney Oaks Hotel at the weekend.



Vova Bilokhvost of The Gleneagle Hotel receiving the Manager of the Year from Patrick O'Donoghue, CEO Gleneagle Group and John Dolan, General Manager The Gleneagle Hotel



Gleneagle Group Employee Award Organisers Eilis Loughrey, Ann O'Leary, Jadwiga Surmiak and Carol O'Leary pictured at the Gleneagle Group Employee of the Year Awards ceremony in the Killarney Oaks Hotel at the weekend.



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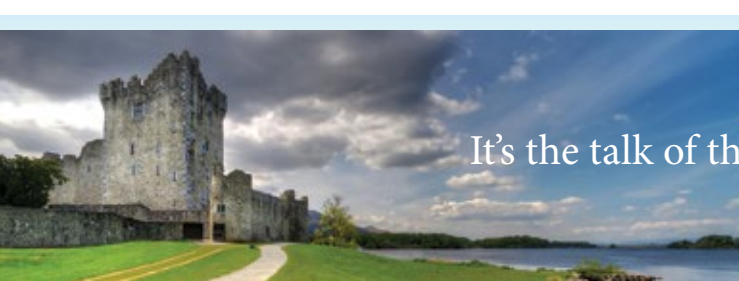
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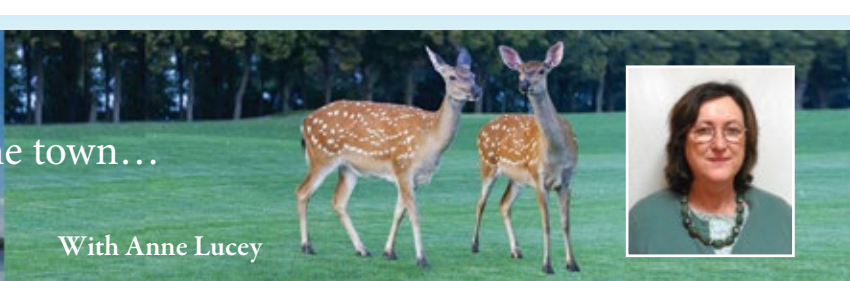


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With Anne Lucey

Anne Lucey looks at the positive news happening in the town of Killarney

TOWN COUNCILS FLYING ON ONE WING?

The return of town councils is written into the new programme for Government. But will these be town councils as we knew them, fully fledged. Or will they be flying on half a wing?



“On a regional, phased basis, establish town councils in large towns to provide a focal-point for raising concerns of towns and coordinating town-focused activities,” is signed off on by Messers Cahill, Healy-Rae and Ms Foley. The “corporate” style of management which has grown legs since 2014 is to be reined in too.

Much of the sentiment is in line with a thought-provoking submission by former Killarney councillor Sean O’Grady to the consultation on local democracy in 2023.

I came across Sean last week. The town councils must return to financial autonomy to strike their own rates and keep their own money - or this will not be town councils like we knew, he said.

He sent me a copy of his 2023 paper: “Most of these town councils were not just token democratic assemblies, they were economic democratic entities answerable every five years to the electors of their towns

with their own finances and budgets,” Seán wrote.

Those appointed to look into and guillotine town councils in 2014 were all men from the business sector.

They advanced “corporate culture”. Saving money, not democracy, was the priority for them. (Much like Trump’s America now). And we already had the poorest local democracy in Europe.

There is fairly strong stuff - and justifiably so for someone who dedicated 40 years of his life to the town council in Killarney.

My own reading of the programme for Government is the new town councils will be little more than arts and events organising committees. Nothing wrong there - Killarney Town’s Arts Co-op in the late 1980s was a great body and organised lots including Killarney’s first twinning with Castiglione in Sicily. It did tremendous work during its short life, as I and the editor of this paper know well! Alas, it too was replaced by a county council officer based in Tralee - but even the great Killarney arts co-op was only part of the town council, not the whole thing.

Common Sense blows in with storm.

STORM EOWYN

Between the snow and the storm, this January is teaching us lessons about taking too quickly to fads. Those who lived through the arrival of electrification in the mid 1960s - the Black Valley was only electrified in 1976 - retained a healthy suspicion of electricity.

They believed in having something “to fall back on” at all times. They would never have been caught out so badly this January. Gas, electricity, and open fires and the range were all in the mix. Electric cookers were firmly eschewed. “What would I do if the electricity goes?” was the common refrain among women around Lismongane where there was a near devotion to gas and solid fuel range cooking.

One neighbour would not be connected up at all, she so distrusted the wires. Yet she baked beautiful “cakes of bread” in the cast iron pots of the open fire or the gas oven, whichever took her fancy. She had her oil lamp and water from a cold spring well. I can still get the smell of carbolic soap, snuff, lux soap flakes and cardinal red floor polish from Poll’s house. Storms and power outages never bothered her. There has been a lot of arm-wrestling in recent years to go all electric. Many houses now have no chimney. Bizarrely on this wind swept island.

But is it high time we are more sceptical about all this leaning on electricity? The hike in energy prices was the first set off alarm bells.

An insulated house won’t boil the kettle. And what do you do when you can’t charge the electric car outside the door? And you have no water. And no fire. And no gas. And no internet.

Ken O’Neill of Milltown told me sold a lot of generators on Thursday before the storm. No wonder!

LOTS OF NEWS IN KILLARNEY NATIONAL PARK

Planning has been granted for the raised Dinis to Torc platform and cycleway with viewing points to run along the Muckcross lake.

The almost one km run is to form the final leg of a loopway around the lakes of Killarney and unless appealed within four weeks is expected to commence shortly and be completed during 2025 - if there is no appeal.

The application by the National Parks and Wildlife Service was lodged with Kerry County Council a year ago, in January 2024. But further ecological and baseline studies were undertaken by agents Malachy Walsh and Partners after requests by the council to the NPWS.

An ecologist to oversee any disturbance to the Kerry Slug is among 18 conditions imposed by Kerry County Council in the grant of planning. The plans are strongly supported by tourism interests, and the public on safety grounds, but opposed by a leading environmental consultant.

It is not the only news in Muckcross: Muckcross House and Farms has appointed a new general manager.

The circa 100,000 Euro a year job for a senior management position with experience in tourism was advertised last autumn and handled by a global agency with offices in Ireland, Principal Connections, which bills itself as "a top global executive search group for chief executives".

Local man Shane Treacy - he is the son of Marcus Treacy who was chair of the Trustees of Muckcross House last year - has been appointed, current chair of the Trustees Bernadette Randles confirmed to me.

Staff have been informed, she said.

A good number applied from within and outside of this country. A shortlist was drawn up by Principal Connections.

An independent person sat on the interview board along with four Trustees of Muckcross House, she said. The trustees whose children were shortlisted for the job and interviewed - two were in the final selection - were not on the interview panel.

The Trustees are a volunteer not for profit charity, who manage the State owned property that is Muckcross House and Farms. Many people - including myself - are inclined to think it is run by the Department of Housing’s NPWS who are in charge of the Killarney National Park. But this is not the case.

The general manager over 68 staff etc will be financed and report to the board of Trustees. “Everything was done in line with proper governance,” Bernadette said.

The Department of Housing /NPWS have no involvement as the role is governed by the Trustees, a spokesman said.



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Killorglin Company Earns Major National Recognition

Retrofit Design Named Business All-Star Retrofit Company of the Year 2025

Killorglin company Retrofit Design Ltd has been named Business All-Star Retrofit Company of the Year 2025 by the All-Ireland Business Foundation (AIBF). Founded in 2012 to create healthy, comfortable environments for families, Retrofit Design Ltd has grown exponentially over the years. What began as a focus on cavity wall insulation has transformed into one of Ireland's leading providers of comprehensive deep retrofit services.

With its headquarters in Killorglin, Co. Kerry, Retrofit Design delivers innovative solutions in both private and public sectors. The company's commitment to cutting-edge technology and customer satisfaction has been integral to its success, ensuring exceptional results for clients across Ireland. Business All-Star Accreditation recognises Retrofit Design's exceptional contribution to deep retrofit construction and energy upgrades across Ireland. Reacting to the news of her company's achievement, Senior Business Administrator, Mairead Sheahan said:

"We are incredibly honoured to receive this prestigious recognition from the All-Ireland Business Foundation. It reflects the hard work, expertise, and dedication of our entire team in delivering sustainable and innovative solutions. We are committed to continuing our mission to provide healthier, more energy-efficient homes and workplaces across Ireland."



Announcing the news of Retrofit Design Ltd's achievement, Deputy Chair of AIBF's Adjudication Board, Kieran Ring, said:

"The All-Ireland Business Foundation proudly accredits Retrofit Design Ltd the title of Business All-Star Retrofit Company Of The Year 2025, recognising its outstanding dedication to energy efficiency, quality, and sustainable construction solutions. This prestigious accolade celebrates Retrofit Design leadership in delivering high-performance Retrofitting Services that enhance comfort, energy savings, and environmental responsibility for Irish homes and businesses. Congratulations to Retrofit Design Ltd on this distinguished achievement, solidifying its position as a trusted innovator in Ireland's Retrofit Industry."

Managing Director of the All-Ireland Business Foundation, Kapil Khanna, said: "Retrofit Design has demonstrated remarkable innovation and dedication to delivering world-class retrofit solutions. Their efforts not only enhance living environments but also contribute significantly to www.aibf.ie | media@aibf.ie

Ireland's energy efficiency goals. We are proud to award them the title of Business All-Star Retrofit Company of the Year 2025." He said:

"We evaluate a company's background, trustworthiness and performance, and we speak to customers, employees and vendors. We also anonymously approach the company as a customer and report back on the experience. The business goes through at least two interviews and is scored on every part of the process against set metrics."

About The All-Ireland Business Foundation

The All-Ireland Business Foundation is an autonomous national accreditation body tasked with enterprise development and the promotion of Best-in-Class Irish businesses.

As the accreditation body for the Business All-Star mark, the AIBF recognises Best-In-Class Irish businesses. Companies that merit recognition based on an independent audit of their performance, reputation, and customer-centricity.

Business All-Star Accreditation Is The Nation's Symbol Of Trust. Currently, there are over 650 companies that are accredited by AIBF. Since 2014, over 5000 companies have participated in our programs.

The AIBF also hosts the annual All-Ireland Summit and monthly gatherings to promote peer learning and collaboration among its accredited companies.

For more information please visit www.aibf.ie



Mairead Sheahan (Senior Business Administrator & Project Financial Analyst) with Margaret Considine (Outgoing AIBF President) as Retrofit Design Ltd. are honoured as Business All-Star Retrofit Company of the Year 2025 by the All-Ireland Business Foundation (AIBF).

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GENUINE SHOCK AND SADNESS AT THE SUDDEN PASSING OF JACK McSHARRY

The people of Killarney were plunged into shock and sadness when news broke on Monday that popular local man Jack McSharry had passed away unexpectedly at his residence on Port Road.

Jack was known to everyone in the town, clocking up hundreds of miles every week on his bicycle and always ready to stop and chat and discuss local and national news.

His death has come with a real shock to his family, work colleagues and local rowing clubs where Jack was heavily involved in the sport.

Flesk Valley expressed their shock and sadness when they learnt of their former Flesk Valley Oarsman, Jack's passing.

Jack rowed with the Valley and other clubs in Killarney on and off over many years, most recently helping our club to win a veteran coastal race in 2022.

Jack was a larger than life character, who always brought so much life and positive energy to everything he did, and you always left his company with a smile on your face. Our sincerest sympathies to his family and friends.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dilis.

Muckross Rowing Club also paid tribute to Jack saying:

Jack was well known to those in the wider Killarney rowing community from his many years of involvement in the sport and his keen interest in sport and fitness generally.

Jack was also well known to many from his working days in Scotts Hotel - a passionate man of conviction and character, who shared a love of Killarney rowing and the unique Killarney Sixing tradition. Jack keenly followed developments in all strands of rowing, whether supporting Killarney rowers on the international stage, discussing the regatta results from O'Mahonys Point or relishing in the contest of a Kerry coastal rowing race.

Jack will be very sadly missed by all those who knew him. We send our condolences to his family members and friends at this most difficult time. Suaimhneas síorraí dó.

Jack's colleagues at Scotts Hotel have also expressed their sorrow at Jack's untimely passing.

"Jack was a dedicated member of the team here at Scotts Hotel, known well both locally and by our guests. He began working in Scotts in the 80's, always full of wit, and was a familiar friendly face to all entering the doors of Scotts Bar. From the O'Donoghue family, the management and team at Scotts Hotel, we give our deepest condolences. Our thoughts are with Jack's family as well as his extended family and many friends during this difficult time. He will be deeply missed by everyone at Scotts.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam

Jack will be greatly missed by his family, his son Mark, Mark's mum Sheila and Mark's brother Edward. Deeply regretted by

his sisters Maureen and Eileen Anne, nephew Brian and partner Edel, grand-nephew Mason, also Mary, Tony and the Cusack family (Dublin), relatives, neighbours, work colleagues and wide circle of friends. Jack is pre-deceased by his parents John and Theresa and his nephew Leon.

"May His Gentle Soul Rest In Peace" Following Requiem Mass this morning Friday 31st January at St. Mary's Cathedral, Jack will be laid to rest in Aghadoe Cemetery.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dilis.



Happier times...

Jack McSharry pictured with his friend Patrick Looney in the National Park



Commercial RC.2017 winning crew... Standing Jim Doyle, John Kelly (RIP), Rory O Donoghue, Jack MacSharry (RIP), Daniel ODonoghue, John Joe Healy. Front: Mike Sweeney Kevin Tangney, Clara Wharton, Eric Wharton, Cox Karen Joy.

Local Kerry company expand their support of Greyhound Racing in Tralee

Greyhound Racing Ireland are delighted to welcome Castleisland family-run business T. Nolan CVRT Centre as title sponsors of the Juvenile Classic, who today signed a two-year agreement for the event in Tralee's Kingdom Greyhound Stadium.

The T. Nolan CVRT Centre Juvenile Classic is the opening Classic of the year on the Irish Greyhound Racing calendar and will get underway on Friday 14th February in Tralee. Boasting a total prize fund of €26,000, the competition will run over 4 nights with the €11,000 overall winner decided in the Final on Friday 7th March. More information on the T. Nolan CVRT Juvenile Classic, and information on restaurant meals and bookings throughout the competition, are available on www.KingdomGreyhoundStadium.ie.



Tom Nolan of T. Nolan & Sons Ltd, pictured with his Greyhound Angel, as they were announced as sponsors of the Juvenile Classic at Kingdom Greyhound Stadium, Tralee with Kieran Casey, Racing Manager, Kingdom Greyhound Stadium. The T. Nolan CVRT Centre Juvenile Classic gets underway in Tralee on Friday 14th February with a €26,000 prize fund on offer. Photo: Pauline Dennigan

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Clean Up after Storm Éowyn at Killarney National Park

The management of NPWS and Killarney National Park wish to thank and acknowledge the hardworking staff at National Parks and Wildlife Service for felling and clearing trees after the devastating Storm Éowyn.
 Photos: Valerie O'Sullivan



TRIP OF A LIFETIME FOR KCC STUDENT

Killarney Community College fifth year student Mischa McCarthy recently sat in the Parliament in the UN, Strasbourg as part of the prestigious Rotary Youth Leadership Competition, which she won earlier this year! This incredible opportunity showcases Mischa's leadership, talent, and determination as she represents not only the school but also young people from Ireland on the global stage. Mischa was afforded the opportunity to visit places like Belfast City Hall, Stormont, The Dáil and the EU parliament in Strasbourg thanks to the Rotary Club. It was an amazing experience where she got to sit where all the MEP's sat and Mischa even took part in a debate in European Parliament.



Winner of the Rotary Youth Leadership Competition, Mischa McCarthy from Killarney Community College is pictured at the European Parliament in Strasbourg.



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Don't Cry for Me, Killarney!

The Stage Is Set for **Evita** This March!



Killarney Musical Society is thrilled to announce their much-anticipated production of the iconic musical *Evita*, taking place at the Gleneagle INEC Arena on Tuesday 11th of March, Wednesday 12th of March and Thursday 13th of March 2025. Created by the legendary duo, Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice, *Evita* is one of musical theatre's most celebrated works, blending an unforgettable score from Lloyd Webber paired with Rices compelling narrative that has captivated audiences worldwide since its debut in 1976..

Killarneys production starring the talented Lily Macmonagle Shannon, Director of The MACademy, in the lead role of Eva Perón, *Evita* promises to deliver a powerful portrayal of the legendary First Lady of Argentina. With showstopping songs like "Don't Cry for Me, Argentina," and "Buenos Aires" this musical is a timeless celebration of ambition, love, and legacy. Leading Lady Lily shares the stage with one of our stalwart members, Derek O Leary, portraying Juan Perón, Eva's husband. In his 36th production with Killarney Musical Society, Derek brings depth and gravitas to this pivotal role. The story of Eva and Perón's marriage, one born of mutual self-interest and political convenience, evolves into true love and a partnership that forever changed the destiny of Argentina. Alongside Lily and Derek, the stage at the Gleneagle INEC Arena will come alive with the energy and passion of over 50 talented locals, supported by a team of dedicated production assistants. This volunteer vibrant group, representing a true cross-section of the community, has dedicated countless hours to bringing this iconic story to life through music, dance, and drama. Their collective effort showcases the incredible talent and community spirit of Killarney, promising an unforgettable theatrical experience.



Rehearsals are well underway for Killarney Musical Societies production of *Evita*.

Tickets for *Evita* are now on sale through the Gleneagle INEC Arena Box Office or through Ticketmaster, with reserved seating available. These are the only outlets where tickets are available for our 2025 production. Stay Connected with Us!

Want behind-the-scenes insights, cast highlights, and sneak peeks into rehearsals? Follow Killarney Musical Society on Facebook and Instagram for updates, special features, and all things *Evita*! Don't miss a moment - connect with us today!



Representatives from the families of those who passed away in the Killarney Parish in 2024, gathered in St. Mary's Cathedral in Killarney on Monday night of this week for a Mass to celebrate their lives. The special concelebrated Mass took place at 7pm and remembered those who passed away from January 1st 2024 to December 31st, 2024.



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Winning coaches Triona and Mairead Mangan with their parents Ann and Gerard along with their children Reidín and Sibéal



Cllr. John O'Donoghue congratulating the All Ireland winners. He is pictured shaking hands with his cousin, Ciara Lawlor

The large crowd who turned out to welcome home the All Ireland Scor na nOg Champions





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Planning now for a Sustainable Killarney

Killarney is leading the push to embrace commercial sustainability with a sub-committee of the town's Chamber of Tourism and Commerce spearheading the initiative.

A public meeting to highlight the progress made and the advantages for companies willing to boost their green credentials will be held in the Killarney Plaza Hotel on Thursday, February 27 (6.00pm) and that is a date local businesses are urged to put in their diaries.

In the meantime, however, Aidan McDonnell, CEO of energy measurement systems firm and sustainability experts, Acutrace, who is working closely with Chamber on the Sustainable Killarney 2030 project, has highlighted a path to a sustainable future for businesses in and around the town and ways they can reduce energy costs and waste.

Mr McDonnell said in today's business landscape, sustainability is not just a buzz word as it is becoming an essential part of any business. "As Killarney continues to develop as a vibrant tourist destination, businesses can take important steps toward reducing their environmental impact. One of the most effective ways to do this is by consulting with an energy monitoring company to reduce energy consumption and waste," he said.

It can help local businesses to pinpoint areas where energy is being wasted and, in the process, uncover opportunities for cost-saving measures that can directly benefit the bottom line. From identifying inefficiencies in heating systems to optimising lighting and machinery



Aidan McDonnell, CEO, Acutrace

use, an audit provides a tailored, actionable plan that can lead to significant reductions in energy bills and reducing a company's carbon footprint.

"The benefits do not stop there, however. Businesses that take steps to reduce their energy consumption will not only save money but they are also positioning themselves as leaders in sustainability. That is a crucial factor for attracting environmentally conscious customers," the Acutrace CEO pointed out.

"In a time when more consumers prioritise eco-friendly businesses, being able to demonstrate a commitment to sustainability can provide a distinct competitive edge".

Acutrace said by reducing waste and implementing energy-saving measures, businesses can contribute to Killarney's broader goal of becoming a more sustainable community. This collective effort can help the area to build a reputation as a green town destination, appealing to visitors who are increasingly seeking environmentally



Mike Stack, Sustainability sub-committee

responsible places to spend their time and money. Businesses that act now can also benefit from government incentives and rebates designed to support sustainability initiatives. By partnering with an energy monitoring company, individual businesses are not just reducing their energy costs – they are investing in their future.

Getting started is simple. Reach out to an energy monitoring provider, like Acutrace, and begin the journey towards a more sustainable and cost-efficient business model.

Killarney Chamber's sustainability sub-committee chairman, Mike Stack, remarked: "Let us work together to make Killarney a shining example of how businesses can thrive while protecting the environment for future generations"

For more information on energy audits and how they can benefit a business, contact the Killarney Chamber of Tourism and Commerce at sustainablekillarney2030@gmail.com or visit www.acutrace.com.

A Spectacular Cirque Staging of Wicked Wizard of Oz Comes to the Gleneagle INEC Arena

Prepare to be amazed as The World's Biggest Productions present a dazzling new arena spectacle: Cirque Wicked Wizard of Oz. Combining the magic of cirque with the charm of a classic tale, this breathtaking production promises an unforgettable experience for audiences of all ages.

Join arena stars Jordan Conway (Elf – The Arena Spectacular) as the hilarious Scarecrow and Kelly Banlaki as Dorothy as they embark on a thrilling adventure over the rainbow. Along the way, they encounter a cowardly lion

too afraid to tackle the high wire and a towering ten-foot tin-man transformer. Together, they journey to meet the wickedly wacky wizard, portrayed by the incomparable Kev Orkian, who presides over the magical Emerald Circus.

The journey leads them through an enchanted forest filled with daring aerial stunts and special effects as they prepare to confront the green-faced, broomstick-flying Wicked Witch and her mischievous flying monkeys.

Cirque Meets Panto in a Must-See Show

Featuring a cast of 60, stunning aerial artistry, and world-class production, Cirque Wicked Wizard of Oz promises a jaw-dropping spectacle that blends the excitement of panto with the thrills of the circus.

Show Details:

Gleneagle INEC Arena January 2–4, 2026

Tickets from €27.70, on sale from January 31st at www.inec.ie (Family Tickets also available)

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Those Who Wish To Sing.... Will always find a song



Members of the Stronger Together Choir

A community choir based in Killarney which was formed two years ago are back singing.

The "Stronger Together Choir" which has 50 - 60 members get together to sing their hearts out on for 90 minutes at their Thursday night practice sessions and go home feeling energised and refreshed no matter what the day was like for them before practice!

The Choir returns on Thursday next (6th February) after their Christmas break. Venue is the Presentation Monastery, New Road, Killarney and registration for the 6 week term will be from 7.30pm with practice immediately after from 8.00pm to 9.30pm. Cost is €30 for the 6 weeks. Choir Committee Chairperson Tom O'Shea says that new members are always welcome, and the choir would love to see some more men joining! Choral Director for the Choir is Sorcha O'Connor, well known for her day to day work in the Killarney School of music as a vocal coach and piano teacher and also very involved in Killarney Musical Society productions as well as being involved with many other local groups and schools.

Speaking to Killarney Outlook this week, choir member, Tom O'Shea

STRONGER TOGETHER CHOIR RETURNS NEXT WEEK

said that "without doubt, people generally feel better after they have been singing. The improvements to mood, energy levels and a general sense of well-being after singing have been noted for hundreds of years with more and more clinical studies outlining the measurable health and social benefits of singing".

Many song genres are covered and to date the choir has done songs from Westlife, Tom Jones, The Eagles, John Denver and The Carpenters to name just a few. To date the choir have performed in MTU Tralee (as part of a Comfort for Chemo fund-raiser), Siamsa Tire (as part of the Lasta Festival) and Kilcummin Church (as part of the Kilcummin Looking Good Christmas Festival). There are exciting plans for 2025 so if you want to be part of a fun choir, with great people, great songs and great craic you can contact Tom on 087 2902147 or visit the Stronger Together Choir Facebook page where you will also see videos of the choir in action.



Choral Director,
Sorcha O'Connor

Beaufort Film Night Is Back With I'M YOUR MAN

Beaufort Film Night is delighted to announce that it will return on Friday 7th February at Kilgobnet National School, Beaufort.

Beaufort Film Night will be screening the German romantic comedy-drama I'M YOUR MAN (Ich bin dein Mensch) as its feature film on the night. Set in Berlin in the near future, this thought-provoking and amusing film captures the zeitgeist of artificial intelligence encroaching on our everyday lives.

Both I'm Your Man and Baps and Buns screen at Kilgobnet National School (Eircode V93 DW26) on Friday 7th February at 8.30pm. The full admission price is €7. There is no card payment facility. The admission fee will go towards covering the motion picture licence fee. I'm

Your Man has a 15A rating.

Beaufort Film Night is a non-profit community organisation founded by local film enthusiasts whose aim is to screen cultural English language and international language films, fostering an interest in and appreciation of these category of films, films that normally don't get a general release screening in Kerry. Films screened at Beaufort Film Night are carefully curated in order to appeal to a general audience.

Beaufort Film Night is working in conjunction with Access Cinema, the Arts Council funded organisation which assists film clubs and film nights in Ireland with their screenings.

Beaufort Film Night would like to thank Kilgobnet National School for providing the



venue for this cultural and entertainment opportunity. Further information can be viewed on Beaufort Film Night's Facebook page (BeaufortFilmNight) and Twitter page (@Beaufort_Film).

KERRY COMMUNITY GARDENING GROUPS WANTED FOR BORD BIA BLOOM



Bord Bia is calling for local gardening groups and enthusiasts to participate at Bord Bia Bloom by designing and delivering their very own green space at the celebrated summer event. The popular Postcard Gardens feature provides community groups, schools, charitable

organisations and garden clubs with the opportunity to tell local stories to a national audience through creative garden design. The Postcard Gardens are one of the many horticultural attractions at the much-loved flowers, food and family festival which returns to the Phoenix Park, Dublin for

five days over the June Bank Holiday Weekend (May 29th – June 2nd, 2025).

For more information on the Postcard Gardens and to download an application form, visit BordBiaBloom.com. The closing date for applications is Thursday, March 6th, 2025.

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ALL IRELAND FINAL SPOT for Pres Students



Liadan Coleman and Sinead O'Leary from St. Brigid's Presentation Secondary School.

Congratulations to two TY students Liadan Coleman and Sinead O'Leary from St. Brigid's Presentation Killarney, who have reached the final of the Certified Irish Angus Beef Schools Competition. The final comprises of a showcase of their brilliant ideas in Croke Park in March. A record number of over 188 schools entered the competition this year and the girls are now 1 of 46 groups getting the opportunity to compete for the final prize, five Irish Angus calves. This competition aims to encourage second-level students to gain an understanding about the care and attention that is required to produce and market the highest quality Irish Angus beef to consumers. Liadan and Sinead are focusing their efforts on rearing Irish Angus sustainably through their feeding regime and finishing age. Their project also focuses on raising awareness about agricultural sustainability amongst younger generations.

A Blast from the past....

"DINING WITH KING ERIC"



As Killarney is set to welcome football legend Eric 'The King' Cantona on February 5th, 2025, souvenir photograph contributor to the Killarney Outlook, Donie Whitty O'Sullivan, Moments In Time, unearthed this fantastic photograph which was taken at Johnsons Steak House in Manchester after the Man Utd v Aston Villa game in March 1993.

Pictured are L-R: John Lyne, Donie Whitty O'Sullivan, Eric Cantona and Eddie O'Brien.

Pres Castleisland Through to All-Ireland A Basketball Quarter finals

Presentation Castleisland has secured a spot in the U.16 All-Ireland A Quarterfinals, set to take place at the Tallaght Arena on Wednesday, 5th February. The team will face Coláiste Oiriall in what promises to be an exciting and hard-fought contest. Should the girls qualify on the day, they will advance directly to the All-Ireland Semi-Final, with a chance to continue their impressive run in the national competition.

Coaches Miriam Leane and Assistant Coach Denis Crowley are both eagerly looking forward to the challenge and are confident in the team's ability to perform at their best. The local community is rallying behind the team, and all are wishing them the best of luck as they aim for further success on the national stage.




Pictured are back l/r: Tessa Reidy, Katie Crowley, Sophia Fleming, Jesse O'Keefe, Ella Greaney, Juila Donegan Front l/r: Emma Mullane, Alanna Kelliher, Leah Griffin (C), Laura Noguera Cervantes, Chloe Collins, Faith Bradley

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St. Brendan's Students Make St. Brigid's Crosses

St. Brigid's Cross (Cros Bríde in Irish) is a cross woven from rushes, with 4 arms tied at the end and meeting in a woven patterned square in the centre. Traditionally they were displayed over the door of a house to ward off evil. The tradition marks the beginning of spring, St Brigid's Day being the 1st February.



St Brendan's College students Kieran Horgan, Tom Purcell and Fionn McCarthy selecting rushes for St Brigid's Cross made by the student for St Brigid's Day on Saturday. Photo by Michelle Cooper Galvin



St Brendan's College students Colm O'Brien, Daithí O'Sullivan, Jack Donnelly and Diarmuid Murphy with teacher Paul Barden making St Brigid's Cross made by the student for St Brigid's Day on Saturday. Photo by Michelle Cooper Galvin

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Active Travel Projects announcement

A Chara,

The National Transport Authority announced the allocation of 2.75 million euros for Active Travel projects in County Kerry.

The investments are part of the governments efforts to improve and support sustainable transport options . Such projects include bus stop enhancements and improved cycle lanes for commuters.

A sizeable amount of the funding is going to the Park Road in Killarney for cycle lanes. This will be amazing for the town, giving people safe options to cycle to work, school, town center , or the National park. However , this will only work if the new cycle lanes are connected with existing ones.

The cycle lanes on the bypass and the pike hill are all overgrown from the verges and the bike signage on the road is no longer visible. There are also large height drops for coming off and onto cycle lanes.

If the new Park Road cycle lanes could be preplanned, to connect with Pike Hill road , the Bypass, Muckcross road, Rock road , Hans Liebherr road and New road ,which, all have some existing cycle lanes, then this funding may well alleviate some of the traffic issues in Killarney as we await the construction of the new bypass. Any commuter using a bicycle is one less car in traffic.

There are proposals for the Pretty Polly site to become an Apprenticeship / Training College, so it is important that the cycle lanes are linked in advance to this area. The same for any new housing estates in the area.

Transport for Ireland have public bicycles in Dublin, Cork , Galway and Limerick. Why not Killarney.

The funding will not stretch far given the cost of construction but preemptive linking and repair of existing cycle lanes will give people a safe commute option.

The traffic gridlock in Killarney affects the whole County so any improvements to local commute is reciprocal.

The funding is also part of a Bus Stop enhancement program . We have fantastic Local Link buses traversing the County now, so sheltered bus stops and improved signage are welcome given our climatic conditions.

Farranfore Bus stops are just one example , rusted illegible signage , no shelter , despite the fact that this village is a connectivity hub for our County Airport , a train station , South Kerry , Tralee and Killarney.

Barraduff village is another example , where there are over a 100 houses in the village but no Bus Stop.

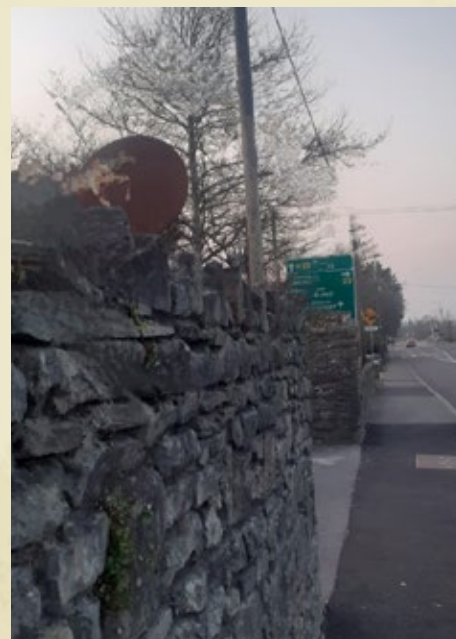
Bus Stops and cycle lanes must become part of new and existing infrastructure.

The New Killarney Bypass will take time to complete. In the interim why not introduce town buses to serve existing and new housing estates , Liebherr factory (large

employer), Tesco shopping center ,and the new hospital.

The summer is approaching and so is the traffic.!

Kind wishes
Vera Wall



Farranfore Bus stops are just one example, rusted illegible signage, no shelter, despite the fact that this village is a connectivity hub for our County Airport, a train station, South Kerry, Tralee and Killarney.



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An up and coming Killarney Singer/Songwriter has kicked off 2025 with a heartfelt release of her new single.

Lillie Foley, is an exciting new voice on the scene and is set to captivate listeners with her debut single, *Someday*, which launched on all major streaming platforms on Friday last, January 24th.

A powerful blend of pop, soul music and her life experiences, the track marks the beginning of Foley's promising journey as a singer-songwriter.

Recorded at the iconic Windmill Lane Recording

Emerging Irish Artist Lillie Foley Releases Debuts Single *Someday*

Studios in Dublin Ireland, *Someday* highlights Lillie's emotive lyrics, soulful vocals, and modern yet deeply personal sound. Collaborating with Music Producer and Audio Engineer Hermann Ogulla, Lillie has created a song that bridges her Irish roots with contemporary sensibilities, resonating with audiences in Ireland, the UK, and beyond.

Speaking about the single, Lillie told Killarney Outlook that "Someday is a deeply personal track for me. It's about longing, hope, unrequited feelings and the quiet determination to move forward even when life feels uncertain. Bringing this vision to life at Windmill Lane was incredible, and I can't wait for people to hear it."

Lillie Foley, is the daughter of Rachel and Shane Foley and is a rising star in Ireland's vibrant music scene. With her distinctive blend of folkpop, evocative lyrics, and a voice that commands attention, Lillie draws inspiration from her Irish heritage, life experiences and contemporary influences like Hozier, Julia Michaels, and Taylor Swift.

A graduate of the University of Limerick with a BA in Voice, Lillie teaches music while pursuing

her artistic dreams. She has earned recognition for her captivating performances and ability to connect with audiences through her storytelling.

With the release of *Someday*, Lillie Foley is poised to make 2025 her breakout year. The single is just the start of an exciting slate of projects, including live performances and collaborations set to roll out in the coming months.

Single Title: *Someday*

Release Date: Friday, 24th January 2025

Platforms: Spotify, Apple Music, YouTube, and all major streaming platforms

Link for song on Spotify: <https://open.spotify.com/artist/3SLSBJRuJRDJDWv6Qlrgg?si=WJG9XfRbRjiE XR3CQr4OeA>

Link for Apple Music:

<https://music.apple.com/ie/album/someday/1791670717?i=1791670718>

Email: foleylillie@gmail.com

Stay updated by following Lillie Foley on social media:

Instagram: @lilliefoleymusic

TikTok: @lilliefoley2



Corkman wins as SVP CAR DRAW GENERATES €251,181

Corkman wins as SVP Car Draw generates €251,181.

Pictured at the handover of the Ford Focus is Lord Mayor of Cork, Cllr. Dan Boyle along with Mary Frances Behan, South West Regional President of SVP; Francis Brennan, Car Draw Ambassador and the winner of the car, Séan Kennedy Jr. from Carrigaline, Co. Cork. Picture: Brian Lougheed

A young Carrigaline man won a new Ford Focus car in SVP's Annual Car Draw which has generated an amazing €251,181.

This money will be used to assist those in need throughout the winter months ahead. The draw took place on 15th January 2025 at the Cork City Ford showrooms, Forge Hill, Cork where Lord Mayor Cllr. Dan Boyle drew the First Prize and rang the lucky winner - Séan Kennedy Jr., Carrigaline, Co. Cork.

There were six other lucky winners of cash prizes, The Bishops' Prize of €1,500 (supported by the Bishop of Cork & Ross, Bishop of Kerry and Bishop of Cloyne Prize was won by Ger Conroy, Co. Laois. We want to say a special thank you to the three Bishops for their generous support every year.

Other winners included: Maria McGeever, Marian Creedon, Gemma Robins, Breid McCole and Alan McCormack.



St Brendan's College students Oisín Doyle, Patrick O'Donoghue and Fionn O'Connor with teacher Paul Barden making St Brigid's Cross made by the student for St Brigid's Day on Saturday.



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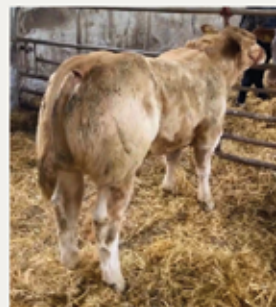
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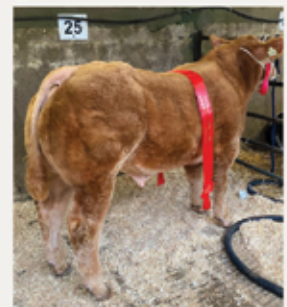


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KERRY COUNTY COUNCIL STOPPING HOUSE BUILDING IN KERRY

With the country in the midst of a unprecedented housing crisis and builders are putting the blame for this squarely on the shoulders of senior management staff of Kerry County Council, accusing them of making the problem worse.

Builders have expressed the view that it is easier to build houses in Cork than it is in Kerry. In Cork, for example, builders carry out the work, a snag list of any outstanding issues is created, the builders rectify those issues and any bond funds are promptly returned to the builder. Bond funds are amounts of money held back from the builder by the bank until all work has been completed. If the council delays signing off on the completion of the snag list, the bond funds are not released back to builder and they are left out of pocket. In Cork, once the snag list has been signed off, the maintenance of any new housing development is promptly taken over by Cork County Council.

Builders claim that it is much more problematic dealing with Kerry County Council. It can take years for an official snag list to be created. The saga does not end here. When that list is finally completed, more maintenance issues are added. Builders have claimed that this final stage can take years and can add unnecessary financial stress. In effect, builders are being used to maintain an estate, post-build. In many cases, the builder ends up just forfeiting the bond, as it becomes too costly to continue completing the constant snag lists generated by Kerry County Council. Works are rarely carried out with these bond funds and ultimately the money ends up in the road maintenance programme for the whole county.

While waiting for Kerry County Council to take over the maintenance of their estate, the residents are obliged to pay for that maintenance themselves, and all the while, Kerry County Council continue their delaying tactics. These residents already pay road tax which goes towards



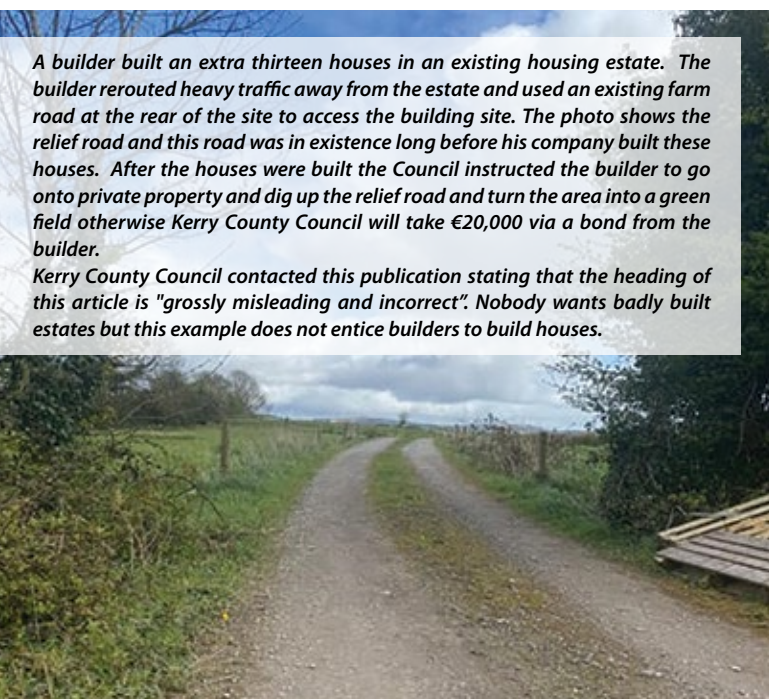
This is a photo of an item on a snag list from a builder. Kerry County Council wants the builder to remove the fence and replace it with a fence that's a few inches taller. Because there is a slope in the green area the fence measures 2 mtrs when measured from the back and 1.85mtrs when measured from the front because of the slope in the green area. Does it really matter if this fence is a few inches shorter. This is an example of the nonsense that builders have to put up with from Kerry County Council.

road maintenance. And they are also paying local property tax. Why are the most pressured group in society being treated so badly? Typically these are young people with young families struggling to pay bills and Kerry County Council has the power to make their lives a little bit easier but unfortunately, the opposite is the case.

A number of County Councillors have said that they do not have the power to change things. They were critical of council management who have just brushed their concerns aside.

A builder built an extra thirteen houses in an existing housing estate. The builder rerouted heavy traffic away from the estate and used an existing farm road at the rear of the site to access the building site. The photo shows the relief road and this road was in existence long before his company built these houses. After the houses were built the Council instructed the builder to go onto private property and dig up the relief road and turn the area into a green field otherwise Kerry County Council will take €20,000 via a bond from the builder.

Kerry County Council contacted this publication stating that the heading of this article is "grossly misleading and incorrect". Nobody wants badly built estates but this example does not entice builders to build houses.



This is a photo of a manhole that was built in 2008. This manhole is in perfect condition after sixteen years.

The specifications on building a manhole has changed recently and Kerry County Council wants all the manholes in the estate dug up and rebuild under the updated specifications and this work will cost the builder €45,000.

Kerry County Council does not accept that this decision is a gross abuse of power. There is no appeal system and no consequence for the decision makers.

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The “Mocks” are a useful trial run but the “Real” exam takes place in June



By Billy Ryle

MOCK EXAMS

With CAO applications closing tomorrow, students are beginning to focus on the mock exams. The “Mocks” or “Practice Exams” are usually held in schools during February. They have nothing to do with the State Examinations Commission (SEC) and the exam papers are provided and corrected by independent educational groups. It’s worth doing the mocks for the experience but don’t let them distract you from the State Exams in June. Don’t burn yourself out at this early stage by overestimating the mocks.

OPPORTUNITY

The mocks provide an opportunity to work on your presentation, timing, answering techniques and current knowledge. They are usually marked externally so they provide you with an impartial assessment of your state of readiness for the State Exams. It’s an opportunity to see if you can deliver the required information within the time allowed on a neatly presented script.

LOGISTICS

Avail of the mocks to become familiar with the logistics and technicalities of each exam paper. The quality of your answering is the core of any exam so learn from the mocks how to approach each paper. Keep the content of your answer relevant to the question asked. Read each question carefully before deciding which ones to answer. Be concise, accurate and relevant. Be familiar with the format of each paper well before each exam session. Know how the paper is presented. What topics are examined? How many questions must be answered? What styles of question can you expect on the exam paper? Be familiar with the choices available on the paper. Is one or more questions compulsory? Be particularly careful about a paper, which

is subdivided into subsections. Without prior knowledge of such a paper you could easily fail to address the relevant number of questions.

TIMING

Use the mocks to test your allocation of time. The mocks are a great time trial. Go into the mocks determined to attempt the required number of questions. Work out in advance the approximate time you have for each question. The allocation of time to each question should be proportionate to the marks available for that question. Let me emphasise that if you attempt the required number of questions, you will maximise your grade in that subject.

INSTRUCTIONS

When your mock exam paper is handed to you read the instructions carefully. Spend a few minutes reading the entire paper. Keep to your pre-prepared answering plan and once you have made your choice of questions, start with a question you can answer well. When you have finished each question, reread it to ensure that you haven’t omitted any part. Allow a few minutes at the end of the exam to read back over your answers and to check your numbering and presentation. Stay in the exam hall until the time is up even if you are finished early as some extra information may come to you. Every mark counts so don’t leave any after you!

PRACTICE

When your marked mock papers are returned, go over them to identify your strengths and weaknesses as outlined above. The old maxim of making your mistakes in the mocks and getting things right in the State Exams next June is as true as ever. As the saying goes, practice makes perfect and the mocks are the perfect practice!

CHECKLIST

- The mocks are a useful trial run for the State Exams
- The mocks are usually marked externally
- The mocks tell you how much you currently know for the State Exams
- The mocks tell you how much you still need to do for the State Exams
- Learn from the mocks how best to approach each paper
- Use the mocks to test your allocation of time
- Go over your marked mock papers to identify your strengths and weaknesses
- Make your mistakes in the mocks and get things right in the State Exams
- 1st Feb: online change of course choices (free) closes at 5pm
- 1st Feb: normal closing date, at 5pm, for applications
- 5th Feb: online facility to amend course choices opens at noon (€10 fee)
- 1st March: closing date, at 5pm, for amending course choices
- 1st March: completed online HEAR/DARE forms must be submitted by 5pm
- 1st March: closing date, at 5pm, for completion of mature student application form
- 5th March: late application facility opens at 12.00 noon (€60 fee)
- 15th March: HEAR/DARE supporting documentation must arrive in CAO by 5pm

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



Hannah McAuliffe, Ross Road, Killarney (seated front left) who graduated with a PHD in Clinical Psychology is pictured with her fellow Phd graduates, Kerri Moore, Belfast, Orla Connolly, Portmarnock Dublin, Serena Carberry, Shankhill Dublin, Aisling Curtis, Kilkenny Town and Mackenzie Lynch, Limerick City. . Picture Arthur Ellis



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BMK6520

KILCUMMIN

Written by: Helen Moynihan

2025/2026 ENROLMENT

Kilcummin National School is currently accepting enrolment application forms for September 2025. Please contact the school by email at kill43163@gmail.com or 0646643163. Enrolment application forms are now available on our school website www.kilcumminns.com. Kilcummin Open Day for new Junior Infants will take place on Thursday, 10th April from 2.15-4pm.

JUNIOR SET DANCING

Junior Set Dancing classes continues in the Recreational Hall. Beginners and Intermediate are from 7-8pm. Advanced are from 8-9pm. These classes provide a great opportunity for young children to enjoy a social night of fun while learning the art of waltzing and set dancing. Contact Mary on 0879620135 for more info.

31 CARD MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT

31 card memorial tournament in memory of Dermot "Brady" Moynihan will take place on Sunday 2nd February in Klub bar @4pm. All proceeds on the day will be donated to Comfort for Chemo.

KILCUMMIN GAA AND LGFA

Ireland Lights Up sees the club offering access to our walking tracks, lighting up the routes for walkers, joggers, and families alike. All welcome, just show up at the track at any time between 7-8pm each Tuesday and join in! Irish Life Every Step Counts Challenge - the challenge offers participants the chance to win a share of €30,000 in club funding that Irish Life has made available for the 'Every Step Counts Challenge' donation fund for clubs. The goal for our club team is to collectively track 4,000km. Please note that the only dogs permitted on the GAA grounds and walkway are assistance dogs in line with Health & Safety guidelines from the GAA. Let's get walking! Every step counts!

KILCUMMIN RURAL DEVELOPMENT GROUP

Kilcummin Rural Development Group would like to thank the Department of Rural and Community Development and Kerry County Council for financial assistance under the Local Enhancement Programme 2024 in respect of maintenance of access routes to the red and green bog walks routes.

KILCUMMIN GAA

EAST KERRY SUPER LEAGUE

The Senior team will resume action on Sunday February 2nd when they play their first game of the season at home (1pm) as they take on Rathmore in a tasty repeat of the O' Donoghue Cup Final. They will also face Glenflesk, Gneeveguilla and Dr Crokes in Division 1B.

AWARDS NIGHT

The Kilcummin GAA Senior Awards Night will take place at the Clubhouse (9pm) on Friday 31st January where the Senior and Young players of the year will be announced along with club person of the year. There will also be a presentation of medals to our winning O' Sullivan Cup team.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Hard luck to our Kilcummin players who played with St Brendan's College in the Taft Cup Final against Tralee CBS. Unfortunately, they lost out 1-18

to 0-18 after extra time. Darragh Keane, Daniel O' Sullivan, Oran Lynch, Derry O'Gorman, Cian Maher and Darragh Forde were all part of the St Brendan's Panel.

Meanwhile it was better news for Dara Stack, Zach Cronin, Aaron Buckley and Gavin Morrissey who were part of the victorious St Brendan's side that defeated Pobal Scoil Inbhearr Sceine in the Corn Ui Mhuiri Cup semi-final which was played in Mallow. Diarmuid O'Callaghan is also a member of the team's backroom team. It was great to see former Kilcummin juvenile player Jack Tagney play a prominent role for the Kenmare side. We wish the boys the best of luck in the final against Mercy Mounthawk in 2 weeks.

MEMBERSHIP

Club Membership is now due for Adults and Juveniles as well as Track Membership and Gym Membership. You can do this on the Foireann App, or you can contact club registrar John Purcell with any queries

RETIREMENT

After 12 years at the helm Club PRO Mike Riordan has stepped down from the role. A massive thanks for all those great years of service keeping the club flow of information going.

BRENDAN MARTIN CUP

It was great to see the Brendan Martin Cup at the Club on Sunday night. For the first time in 31 years, it is back in Kerry hands, and it was a historic night that is sure to inspire the many young Kilcummin players who dream of playing for Kerry. On the night they were presentations made to Ailbhe O' Callaghan and Rhea Kate Devane who made the Kerry under 14 training squad (2024). There was also Awards made to both Coolick and Kilcummin National Schools as part of the Club School Links Programme.

KILCUMMIN GAA SHOP

Keep up to date on all your Kilcummin GAA Club gear by following the link: www.oneills.com/shop-by-team/gaa/ireland/kilcummin-gaa-club.html

GAA LOTTO

There was no winner on Monday 27th January of the Jackpot for €15,750. Numbers drawn were 06,16,19,30. Consolation prizes of €50 went to John Michael O'Donoghue, Betty McSweeny, Abbie, Daniel & Aidan Maguire, Tadgh O'Donoghue, Coolbane. The next draw will be on Monday 10th February for Jackpot of €16,000.

NOTES

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

MASTERGEEHA FC

LOTTO

There was no winner on Friday 24th January 2025 of the Jackpot €4,000. Numbers drawn were 09,14,16, 25. Consolation prizes of €50 went to Kieran Nagle, c/o P.N.; Darren Lehane O/L; Dermot Will, Klub Bar; Alan, Sam, Alison, Tom and May Breen. The next draw will be on Friday 31st January for Jackpot of €4,200.



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GLENFLESK

Written by: Sean Daly

ALL IRELAND CHAMPIONS!

Huge congratulations to our talented Ballad Group of Cliona Moynihan, Aoise O'Donoghue, Patrick Mullane, Muireann Healy, Abby Cronin, and their dedicated coach Rosie Healy on winning the All-Ireland Scór na nÓg title in Monaghan last Saturday! Achieving the incredible feat of '2 in a row' is a testament to their hard work and talent. A big thank you to everyone who turned out to celebrate their homecoming on Sunday evening, it was fantastic to see such great support for the group. Glenflesk of You we are Proud!! A special mention goes to Scór Officer, Alison O'Sullivan, who is stepping down from her role. Alison has gone out on a high and we wish her all the best as she starts an exciting new chapter as a chef in the Adare Manor Hotel.

AWARDS NIGHT

Glenflesk GAA are holding an Awards Night this Friday 31st of January at 8pm in The Kerry Way to present the Senior, Junior & Young Player of the Year awards and to celebrate our clubs achievements in the year gone by. All welcome

COMMUNITY GAMES

Following a meeting of the Glenflesk Community Games committee, the following are the events we plan to enter in 2025 if we have sufficient interest. Therefore, if you have a child or children who would like to take part in any of the following events, please text Niamh at 087 6207179 or Seán at 087 9743828 with the child's name, date of birth and the event(s) they are interested in. Chess U11, U13, U16 (Mixed). Quiz U14 (Mixed). Soccer U12 (Girls). Soccer U15 (Girls). Soccer U12 (Boys). Gaelic Football U10 (Mixed). Art U8, U10, U12, U14, U16 (Boys & Girls). Handwriting U10, U12, U14 (Boys & Girls). The Art & Handwriting events will be held on Saturday 5th April at 10am in Glenflesk GAA Hall. The area Athletics will be held in May, we will confirm the date as soon as possible. We do not require names for Athletics at present. All competitors need to reside in

the parish of Glenflesk to take part with Glenflesk Community Games. Competitors need to be under the relevant age as at 31st July 2025 i.e. to enter an U8 event, competitor must turn 8 after 31st July 2025. If there is anyone who would be interested in coaching/helping with Chess please also text Niamh or Seán.

BINGO

Killaha Graveyard Development Committee are running a fun bingo afternoon in the Glenflesk GAA Hall on Sunday the 9th of February, to raise funds for development work in our Glenflesk Parish Graveyard. A fun afternoon for grandparents, parents and kids alike, so bring everyone along, a great family day out! Loads of games, plenty fun, prizes, refreshments and entertainment on the day! Donations of spot prizes (€10-€15 value) also greatly appreciated.

LOTTO

There was no winner of Glenflesk Lotto which took place on 20/01/25. Jackpot €4,600. Numbers drawn: 2, 9, 25, 26. Consolation prizes of €50: Patricia O'Donoghue, Knockanes, Denis O'Donoghue (Sellers Prize), Dan & Anne O'Sullivan, Clonkeen (Yearly Ticket), Seamus Healy, Old Bridge, Headford (Online). Next draw will take place on 4/02/25. Jackpot €4,800

CORN UI MHUIRI

Well done to the Glenflesk players Jamie Moynihan (captain), Diarmuid Furlong, Jack Rudden, John Merry O'Sullivan and Liam O'Brien who played with the Sem in their semi final victory over Iver Sceine Kenmare. They will face Mercy Mounthawk in the final scheduled for 8th of February.

MEMBERSHIP

Club membership is now due and can be purchased on the Clubforce App.

NOTES

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



A huge welcome home was held in Glenflesk GAA hall on Sunday night to welcome the talented Ballad Group of Cliona Moynihan, Aoise O'Donoghue, Patrick Mullane, Muireann Healy, Abby Cronin, and their dedicated coach Rosie Healy on winning the All-Ireland Scór na nÓg title in Monaghan last Saturday!

LISTRY

Written by: Colette Leslie

LOTTO

Jackpot €6,900. Winning Numbers 9,11, 21, 22. Not Won. €100 Dara & Oisín Tangney, Ballymalis. €50 Holly O'Meara (online). €50 Katie Sugrue, Lissivane. €25 Caoimhe Griffin, Milltown. €25 Michael O'Sullivan, Faha. Jackpot next week : €7,050

LISTRY SENIORS

Best of luck to our senior team who play Kenmare in the first round of the East Kerry Super League on Sunday 2/02/2025 at 1pm in Listry. Best wishes for the 2025 season to our new management team of John Evans, John Foley, Anthony Sweeney, Murt Broderick & John Wrenn.

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

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RATHMORE GNEEVGUILLA

By Michael O' Mahony

SYMPATHIES

Sympathies to Mairead, Lucy, Siobhán and Aileen, Raymond and Seamus O'Connell & families on the death of their mother Hannah Mai O'Connell, Knocknagree. Hannah Mai's funeral took place on Thursday 16th January in Knocknagree. To Mark and John O'Leary her brothers Anthony, Jerome, Mark's fiancée Sadie & families on the death of Norma O'Leary, Knocknagree. Also remembering their brother Sean who died in England on Thursday 16th January. Normas funeral took place in Knocknagree on Saturday 18th January. May Hannah Mai & Norma rest in peace

SHARE THE BUCKET

Gneeveguilla Community Facility Group reminds you that Share the Bucket takes place weekly. The draw is every Friday evening in Teach Fáilte @8.30 pm and can be viewed live on our Gneeveguilla Community Facility Group Facebook Page. This week's jackpot was €209 and the winner was Betty Carmody. Tickets cost €2 each or 3 for €5. They are available at Teach Fáilte and can be bought online at <https://tinyurl.com/y2ade5om> or in local businesses where you see the Green Share the bucket.

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

everybody who purchase tickets every week.

ENROLMENT

Meentogues NS (064) 7754500 meentogues@gmail.com
Enrolment of New Pupils Enrolment Application Forms for September 2025 are available from the School and on the School website www.meentoguesns.ie

KNOCKNAGREE KENYA

The Annual Kenya Churchgate collection in aid of Fr Sean Cremin's Missionary work. will take place this Sat night Feb 1st @the 7.30pm Mass. Our Lady of Novena in Knocknagree begins Monday February 3rd to Tuesday February 11th

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

LOCAL CONFIDENTIAL - CONTACT 087 3462332

RATHMORE COMMUNITY COUNCIL AGM on Thursday 11th February at 7-30 pm. everyone welcome to attend

NOTES

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

BEAUFORT

By Bridget Hartnett

LOTTO

The next draw for a jackpot of €4,400 will be on Sunday, 2nd February in Galvin's. Tickets are available from usual sellers, shops, and public houses and online at www.beaufortgaa.com. Please note that the online lotto closes at 7pm on the night of the draw and tickets sold after 7pm are entered into the following draw. Thank you to everybody who support our lotto. It is greatly appreciated.

BEAUFORT FILM NIGHT

will hold a screening night on Friday 7th February at 8.30pm at Kilgobnet National School, Beaufort. The feature film on the night is I'm Your Man, a German romantic comedy-drama (with English subtitles). Baps and Buns, an award-winning Irish short film, will be also be shown on the night.

Cert 15A for I'm Your Man. Admission €7 cash (No card payment available).

CONGRATULATIONS to our Scor na nOg team of Cormac and Fionán O'Sullivan, Darragh Doyle and Calum Galvin who were runners up to Donegal in the All Ireland Scor na nOg quiz final on Saturday, 25th January. It was a great achievement for the team, their mentors and Scor Officer, Anita.

IRELAND LIGHTS UP

Ireland Lights Up is continuing from 6.30pm to 8.30pm week nights in the G.A.A. pitch.

MEMBERSHIP

Club membership for 2025 is now open. Prices are: Family with 2 Adult family members using gym is €100. Individual gym and Club is €100. Senior player €100. Student €60. OAP couple from same family €60. Ladies LGFA membership prices will be available shortly. For more information, please contact Patie at 087 2515311



Beaufort Scor na nOg quiz team with GAA President, Jarleth Burns.

SPA

email.pro.spa.kerry@gaa.ie

SPA AWARDS NIGHT

Our Annual Awards Night takes place on Saturday 8th February in Hilliards from 7pm. Enjoy a night spent celebrating our honourable members, good food and entertainment. Ticket price €35, going on sale this week. Contact Committee - Andrew Gartnett, Ivor Flynn, Adrian O'Sullivan, Anne Holland, Triona Mangan, Mathilda McCarthy. Tickets must be purchased before the night and are limited so please do not delay in purchasing your ticket.

SCOR

Scòr na bpaisti (primary school age children) and Scòr sinsir (over 17) competitions will be commencing shortly. If anyone is interested please contact the scòr officer Michael Aherne at 087 1877091 before the 16th February

SPA GAA HEALTHY CLUBS

Spa Gaa Healthy Clubs are delighted to be part of the Ireland Lights Up & Every Step Counts Challenge 2025.

Every Wednesday Evening from the 16th January until 12th February 2025 our 1 km walking track will be lit up.

From the 8th January -12th February 2025 we are asking all our members & wider community to help us hit our 4,000km walking target so that we have the chance to win up to € 2,500 .

To become part of this challenge Please download the Irish Life MyLife App – complete your profile and then join the Every Step Counts Challenge on the App – click into the Munster Challenge – then look for Spa GAA in the list of Clubs. This is a fun way to ensure we stay active over the next few weeks.

2025 REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

Registration is available on the Spa website via Clubforce or on foireann.ie Deirdre and Ger will also be in Spa every Monday night for the next few weeks from 7.30-8.30pm to assist with registration for the coming year NOTE all gym fobs will be deactivated as of 31st January. These will be reactivated after membership for the coming year is confirmed.

EAST KERRY LEAGUE

Round 1 of the East Kerry League against Legiom is Tuesday 4th February at 7.30pm in Legion



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MONEY MATTERS.....

By Dermot Cronin,
Financial Advisor



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

To discuss the above or any other matter Dermot Cronin QFA can be contacted at 0646622775 or dermotcroninifa@gmail.com

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Real Rewards Price: €21.74/kg



€9
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€6

Ferrero Rocher Chocolates 16 Piece 200g
Non Real Rewards Price: €45/kg
Real Rewards Price: €30/kg



€17
REAL REWARDS PRICE
€14

Lindor Milk Chocolate Comet 600g
Non Real Rewards Price: €28.33/kg
Real Rewards Price: €23.33/kg



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ONE MINUTE MOTIVATORS

January can sometimes feel a bit challenging to navigate. So, if you find yourself feeling in a little need of motivation, enjoy these simple and effective one-minute motivators. They are designed to be quick and easy to do and give you a little lift throughout your day. For more tips, please follow me on Instagram @romancingyourbody

- Smile at yourself every morning and wish yourself a lovely day
- Bless your body
- Think of three things you are grateful for
- Ask yourself the question, "how great can today get?"
- Challenge any limiting thoughts by asking if they are really true. What does your heart say?
- Set your intention at the start of your day
- Make it your goal to include the following words at least once in your day, wonderful, lovely, fabulous, sensational and brilliant
- Whenever plagued with worry or doubt, drop in the words, "so what?"
- Change, "I have to do this" to "I GET to do this!"
- Whatever you're doing, be fully engaged with it
- After every negative or self-limiting thought you have add in the words, "And I'm Adorable"
- Walk as if the world is your catwalk

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WHY STRENGTH TRAINING IS ESSENTIAL FOR OVERALL HEALTH

(continued from last week)

For beginners, it's recommended to start with two to three strength training sessions per week, focusing on all major muscle groups. Compound exercises like squats, deadlifts, and bench presses are effective as they engage multiple muscles at once. As you progress, you can increase the frequency and complexity of your workouts.

Tips for Beginners

Start Light: Begin with lighter weights to learn proper form and technique, reducing the risk of injury.

Consistency is Key: Regularity is more important than intensity in the beginning. Focus on establishing a routine.

Seek Guidance: Consider working with a fitness trainer to ensure you're performing exercises correctly.

Listen to Your Body: Rest is essential for recovery. Pay attention to how your body feels and adjust accordingly.

Strength training is not just for those looking to build muscle or compete in sports; it's an essential part of maintaining overall health. By incorporating regular strength training into your fitness routine, you can enjoy a multitude of benefits, from improved muscle and bone health to enhanced mental well-being. Whether you're a beginner or looking to refine your routine, the journey to a stronger, healthier you is well worth the effort.

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VISUAL DISTURBANCE

What is visual disturbance?

Visual disturbance is when you experience a short spell of flashing or shimmering of light in your sight. The symptoms normally last around twenty minutes before your sight returns to normal. Usually, there is no headache during the visual disturbance. A visual disturbance should not be confused with a retinal or ocular migraine where there is a partial or total loss of vision in one eye, normally with a headache.

Who is affected by visual disturbance?

Visual disturbance is a common condition among people who are affected by migraines, although they can affect anyone.

Visual disturbances tend to be more common in:

- women
- people aged under 40
- people aged over 60
- people with a personal or family history of migraines

What are the symptoms of visual disturbance?

• Flashes of light
 These may start in the periphery of your sight, and become larger and more central (Some people experience the opposite, starting as a tiny dot centrally and become a bigger arc as they reach the periphery) They may be black and white or brightly coloured
 Typically described as a zigzagging pattern, or giving

the appearance of shards of glass

They may be apparent when your eyes are shut

- The disturbance affects your sight and both eyes are affected.
- There is no headache during the disturbance
- The visual disturbance last around 20-30 minutes

How do you treat visual disturbance?

Firstly, do not panic; visual disturbances can be frightening, but in most cases are short lived. If you are driving or operating machinery, stop what you are doing and wait for the symptoms to go away. Make a note of your symptoms, how long they lasted and what you were doing just before they began. In most cases, there is a common trigger and keeping a diary of symptoms can help work out what the trigger is. Simply avoiding the trigger, where possible, may be all you need to do.

Common triggers include:

- stress
- tiredness
- flashing or flickering lights (including driving through a row of trees in bright sunlight)
- glare
- exercise
- bending over
- dehydration
- certain foods such as chocolate, cheese or alcohol
- excessive heat



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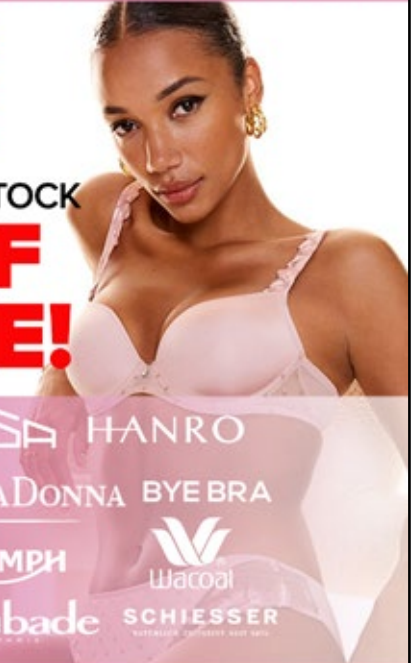
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NEW ROLE FOR KERRY'S ONLY FEMALE MINISTER



Deputy Norma Foley has been appointed to serve as Minister for Children, Disability and Equality in the new government.

Following the announcement, she said: "I am honoured to have been appointed to serve as Minister for Children, Disability and Equality in the new government and I would like to thank Taoiseach Micheál Martin for the exciting opportunity he has given me.

It was the honour of my life to be the first woman from Kerry to be appointed to cabinet in the last government, and to have the privilege of working in the Department of Education. I am really pleased now to have the opportunity to work with diligence and dedication in the

Department of Children, Disability and Equality, which has a crucial role in giving children the best start and opportunity in life. This includes the provision of affordable, accessible, and high-quality childcare and safeguarding children.

The need to improve the lives of people with disabilities is a priority and I am committed to providing a step change in the supports and services required by people with disabilities.

I would like to thank the people of Kerry for placing their trust in me and electing me. I am committed to serving both my constituency and my country with energy, enthusiasm and commitment.



PLANNING PERMISSION ISSUES



Kerry's newest County Councillor, Fianna Fáil's Tommy Cahill, has identified the provision of Planning Permission for homes on family owned land in the county, as one of the key factors in tackling the housing crisis.

"I believe that Planning Permission rules need

to be loosened up a little to facilitate the building of more homes for our young people setting out in life and that we must come up with new initiatives to encourage and support it. I'd like South Kerry/Iveragh to be a pilot area to develop cluster/community housing for all of our people. We need Kerry County Council to come on board and initiate a scheme of low cost sites to get people up onto the property ladder" stated the Rossbeigh Councillor.

"Kerry County Council have responded to my suggestions by advising that their Planning Department offers a pre-planning service and will actively engage with landowners and other stakeholders who wish to develop such an initiative. I welcome that, but I would go one step further and say that KCC should be leading this initiative on behalf of the people of Kerry" said Councillor Cahill.

"Let's put a proper framework around this, utilise the expertise we have within Kerry County Council, identify initiatives and funding, lobby our Government to legislate appropriately in order that affordable homes can be built in Kerry in an orderly manner. If we all put our heads together, have an open mind on the way forward, we will discover solutions to this housing shortage" said Tommy Cahill.

"Planning laws and Wastewater Treatment issues are two major obstacles that must be dealt with. If we crack these two nuts, we will be heading in the right direction on housing unit supply" added Councillor Cahill.

Ballydribbeen Playground Appeal backed by new TD

The appeal by Ballydribbeen Playground Project Committee for fundraising efforts to complete their dream has been backed strongly by newly elected Fianna Fáil TD, Michael Cahill.

"This vitally important proposed facility is in a highly populated part of Killarney town and is a must for the local young residents there. And being located adjacent to the new home of the Kerry Stars Special Olympic Club, Killarney Judo Club in the Dereen Sports Development, St. Paul's Basketball Club and alongside Killarney Celtic FC and Killarney Legion GAA, making Ballydribbeen a hub of health

and leisure pursuits for all the youth of the area" said Deputy Cahill.

"Funding must and will be sourced for Ballydribbeen Playground which, by the way, will include a play area for children and an outdoor gym for teenagers and adults, and designed to be inclusive for children of all abilities. It is a fabulous project" stated Michael Cahill TD.

"I will leave no stone unturned in bringing this amazing project to fruition and I have already made strong representations in respect of the matter" added the Kerry TD.

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1st Monday

8:15 PM
8:30 PM
9:00 PM
9:30 PM

Rathmore & Gneeveguilla

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

3rd Friday

7:30 PM
8:00 PM
8:15 PM
9:00 PM
9:30 PM

Castleisland Area

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

1st Wednesday

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

Killarney Area

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

4th Thursday

7:00 PM
7:30 PM
8:15 PM
8:45 PM
9:15 PM
9:45 PM

Killorglin Area

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

1st Thursday

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

Glenflesk & Barraduff

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

4th Friday

8:30 PM
9:30 PM
10:00 PM
10:45 PM

Kenmare & Sneem Area

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

1st Friday

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

Tuosist & Lauragh

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

Last Monday

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

Farranfore Area

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

3rd Monday

8:30 PM
9:00 PM
9:30 PM
9:45 PM

Knocknagoshel & Brosna

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MUCKCROSS ROWING CLUB

AGM 2025

The Annual General Meeting of Muckcross Rowing Club Ltd. will take place on Wednesday, February 12th at 8pm. The venue is to be confirmed and all details will be communicated to club members via Clubforce, email and social media. This is an important fixture for the club including election of club officers and committee members for the year ahead. The AGM is open to members and parents of junior members and is an opportunity to have your say in the organisation of the club.

EVENTS

Well done to all members who took part in the Irish Indoor Rowing Championships, held at the UL Arena on Saturday, January 18th. The Shandon Head Of the River, which was scheduled for last Saturday, January 25th, was cancelled due to the effects of Storm Eowyn. Our next event is the St. Michael's Spring Head Of the River on Saturday, February 8th at O'Briensbridge, Co. Clare. The Cork Head Of the River is scheduled for Saturday, February 22nd at the Cork Marina.

MEMBERSHIP

A reminder that club membership and Rowing Ireland affiliation fees for 2025 are due. Membership and affiliation details have been communicated to existing club members. We would greatly appreciate if all outstanding subscription renewals could be completed as soon as possible.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to club members Aine O'Sullivan and Colm O'Connor and to their Spa GAA set dancing group, who were winners of the Scór na nÓg All Ireland Set Dancing final in Monaghan last weekend.

FOSSA BRIDGE CLUB

RESULTS FOR 23RD JANUARY

N/S

1st: Eileen Crehan & Horst Rosler

2nd: Ger McSweeney & Conor Dwyer

E/W

1st: Kathleen Coen & Hazel O Connell

2nd: Don O Sullivan & Hanneke Nieman

Congratulations to all

BRIDGE continues every Thursday morning at 10am at The Killarney Golf & Fishing Club

FOSSA ROWING CLUB

Fossa rowing club would like to congratulate Sara Curtin. Sara competed in three races at the Irish National Indoor Rowing Championships on 18/01/2025.

Sara did Fossa very proud with three great race and two podium finishes. Well done Sara!

WORKMENS ROWING CLUB

Our annual Church gate collection will be held this weekend 1st & 2nd February 2025 in all Killarney town churches.

This is a very important fundraiser for the club as it's our main funding raising for the year. All contributions gratefully appreciated.

A big congratulations and well done to Zac Donaldson who won the silver medal MJ15 1000m in the Irish Indoor Rowing Championship in UL over the weekend.

Training continues as usual for all members.

KILLARNEY SWIMMING CLUB

Killarney Swimming Club had 17 swimmers aged 9-12 competing at the Munster Minor School Championships at UL on Sunday.

Each swimmer represented their primary school for this gala.

They had fantastic swims, bringing home whopping PBs, National Times and a bronze Munster Medal. Swimmers had the opportunity to meet with Paralympic Silver Medalist Roisin Ni Rian.

Congratulations to Reece O'Donoghue, who came 3rd in the 50M Fly, with a bronze medal. He will represent St Oliver's NS at the Sport Ireland National Aquatic Centre Dublin in March for the National Finals. Aideen Casey, Glounaguillagh NS Caragh Lake; Cora Sheehan Kilgobnet NS Beaufort, Juan Avila Loughguittane NS, Zarah Tomlinson, Lisivigen NS, Natalia Spodymek, Holy Cross Mercy, Robbie Fennelly, Presentation Monastery Killarney, Kyrlyo Lutchenko, Presentation Monastery Killarney will also represent their schools at the National Finals in March.

KILLARNEY COUGARS BASKETBALL

SENIOR NEWS



Zac Donaldson who won the silver medal MJ15 1000m in the Irish Indoor Rowing Championship in UL over the weekend.

Basketball Ireland National League Div 1

Killarney Cougars 73 Moycullen Galway 78

Top scorers

Killarney Cougars: Gerdas Malukas 20, Josh Strongman 16, Iyan Hristov 14, Nathan Cox 11.

Moycullen: Grant Olssen 26, Dylan Cunningham 21, Antonio Molina Calvente 14

FIXTURES

Saturday February 1st

Killarney Cougars v Portlaoise Panthers, Presentation Gym 7.30pm.

Monday February 3rd

Killarney Cougars v Tipp Talons, Presentation Gym 5.30pm

JUVENILE NEWS

U18 KERRY LEAGUE

St Anne's 49 Killarney Cougars 58

A strong team performance throughout secured the points in a competitive game in Farrenfore, Jack Spillane & Colm Janot Dylan Bowler dominated the boards with Bowler and Conor OMahony adding the all important scores to record a deserved win .

U15 BOYS KERRY LEAGUE.

Gneeveguilla 51 Killarney Cougars 40

The U15 boys travelled to Rathmore on Monday evening and produced a good performance in a entertaining game but came up short late in




Killarney Swimming Club members Aideen Casey, Juan Avila, Robbie Fennelly, Maro Luco Kovavecic, Ronan O'Leary, Natalia Spodymek, Kyrlyo Lutchenko, Tasha Spodymek, Caoimhe McCarthy, Derbhla Kiely and Nina O'Mahony.



Killarney Swimming Club members Reece O'Donoghue, bronze medalist and Ollie Keogh.

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- Do I need to have health insurance? **NO**
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the final quarter having led for long periods of the game.

Good performances on this occasion from Mark Bowler, Luke Rennie, Kevin Breen and Ross O’Gorman.

U18 GIRLS KERRY LEAGUE

Killarney Cougars 36 St Brendans Tralee 13

An outstanding team performance by the U18 girls. With the foundations set early on in defence, conceding only 3 points in the second half. There were 8 different scorers on the night with great movement, energy and workrate to record a good win.



Killarney Cougars U18 versus St Anne's in Farranfore



Killarney Cougars U18 girls versus St Brendans at the Presentation Gym



MOLLIE HEADING STATESIDE

Killarney Valley has announced that club member Mollie O’Riordan is racing in Boston!

The 400m and 800m specialist has caught the eye of a few universities in the USA. “Mollie who is a provincial plus national medallist, is a very committed and talented athlete and now has the taste of international competition which can now only further the prospects of her athletics career”, Jerh Griffin from the club said.

“Mollie is also a member of the Killarney Valley AC indoor national league team which is doing very well with the next round being held in Athlone mid-February. The indoor season is well under way with coach Con Lynch overseeing the distance crew, also with Tomas Griffin and Alan Delaney overseeing the sprint crew at Killarney Valley AC, where Mollie trains up to five sessions per week at the Killarney Valley AC arena.

FOCUS ON GOLF

DEERPARK PITCH & PUTT CLUB

WEEKEND DRAWS

Unfortunately, the weather last Sunday put pay to the planned draws for the morning. Weather permitting there will be draws at the usual times this Bank Holiday Weekend on both Sunday and Monday.

COUNTY BOARD AGM

At last week’s Meeting in Tralee Sean O’Brien and Jason O’Connor were returned as Treasurer and PRO respectively while Damien Fleming returns to the County Board as a non-

portfolio officer. We wish them and the incoming board the best for the year ahead and that the outgoing officers for their efforts.

MEMBERSHIP

A note to everyone that membership for 2025 will be due as of March 1st. Further details in the weeks ahead.

The Denis McCarthy Memorial Cup presentation.

L to r: Peter Wickham, Captain 2025 Johnny Brosnan, Captain 2024 Jack McGuire, Winner, Gordan Howard Ross GC Golf Professional



The Kerry Association London held a Fundraising Golf Day for the Kerry GAA, The Golf Classic was Held at Aldenham Golf & Country Club Aldenham Watford UK Pictured at the Kerry GAA Centre of Excellence. Front L-R : Gerry O’Shea from Derrynane presents a cheque of €133,387.38c to Kerry GAA, also pictured Jack O’Connor Kerry Manager, Tom Kissane Kerry GAA , Noel O’Sullivan London GAA and Spa Killarney, Patrick O’Sullivan chairman Kerry County GAA Board and players and management of the Kerry Senior Football team. Photo By : Domnick Walsh © Eye Focus LTD



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SCOTTS LAKERS VS TITANS MATCH REPORT

Mens Basketball League
Saturday January 25th
Ballyfoyle Community Centre

SCOTTS LAKERS 63
TITANS 73

Report by Enda Walsh

Scotts Lakers will always remember the Titans of the 2024/25 season and will probably be the first to admit that they are glad to see the back of them. Three times the sides have met and on all three occasions the spoils have gone the way of the Westerners. The latest, played in the Ballyfoyle Community Centre, will probably be the one they will rue the most as it was a game that they were capable of winning, provided they played to form. But their mojo deserted them, especially at the offensive end, where they struggled to get any momentum going.

The Lakers are the best defensive side in the league, with the stats to back it up. The concession of 73 points is below their average and actually bolsters their positions. But they left their shooting hands at home and no doubt Coach Manuel Suarez will spend the week coming, getting that back up and running after this experience. It was a curious game with neither side at their optimum and it was the Titans who made the game winning move early in the fourth quarter that sealed the points Suarez concluded "It was a really tough game, we couldn't be consistent on both sides and we mixed very good moments on defense with bad offenses and totally the opposite with good runs of scoring but conceding easy baskets. We need to keep working as a team and bounce back to get a win at home next weekend against Carrick Cruisers". He was happy with their effort though.

"The team fought till the end and that's also important. We need to be conscious of how difficult it is to get a win on the road and mostly against a good team like the Titans."

The Lakers would have targeted a fast start but it was the Titans American star Michael Hayes who struck first with Joseph Coughlan following it up with a three. Coughlan was in fine form early hitting another from outside the arc but Darnell Snyers, Mikah Blackwell and Eoin Carroll looked sharp early on to get the Lakers into the conversation. The Titans had in Fortune Igbokwe, Victor Tashev and Declan Gbinigie three Irish underage Internationals and they brought a huge



*Darnell Snyers and Mark Sheehan put Matthew Sweeney under pressure
Photos courtesy of Galway Titans Facebook Page*

physicality to the court making scores hard earned. Abdul Oladipupo and Jamie O Sulliivan did try hard off the bench and Mark Sheehan did slide past them to have the Lakers only four in arrears at the end of the first quarter, 18-14, and significantly Hayes was in foul trouble for the Titans.

The Lakers tried to get the game going through Blackwell, Snyers and Sheehan but the Titans squad was all contributing on the scoresheet with Brendan Hardiman and Michael Gormley helping them into a 33-20 lead. John Hughes joined the Lakers and a mini scoring run from Snyers and Carrollcup the gap to eight. Gormley and Hardiman did the needful for the hosts again but baskets from Jack O Sullivan and Rui Saravia (3) gave the Lakers a feel for the game at half time, 38-30 in arrears.

The third quarter saw the Lakers hold the Titans to just ten points, who no doubt were missing the influence of Hayes. That should have been the foundation for them to close the gap but Blackwell had his own foul trouble as well. The Lakers did create good scoring opportunities and just couldn't convert them, going 4 for 22 from the field. Saravia and Snyers did net early but it wasn't until Jack O Sullivan hit a three that they started to get going. Snyers followed that up with a neat basket and that left the gap at nine, 48-39 and the game was anyone's.

Given the nature of the game a scoring run from either side would decide it and it was the home side that took up the cudgels. Matthew Sweeney hit an early three and with Hayes now off the leash he went to work inside. Alongside Sweeney they helped to open up a sixteen point lead within two minutes of the restart and it looked like the horse had bolted. Fortune made sure the stable door wasn't closed and in the blink of an eye the gap was out to twenty, 63-43. To be fair to the Lakers it was now, although



*Rui Saravia battles with Declan Gbinigie
Photos courtesy of Galway Titans Facebook Page*

belatedly, that they started to play their best basketball. Blackwell and Carroll did nice work inside, Snyers hit a brace of threes and Jack O'Sullivan cut the gap in half at 69-59. There may have been a single moment of panic in the Titans ranks but Fortune and Hayes settled it all back down again, answering a brace of basketball from Snyers and Saravia. The Titans ran out 73-63 winners leaving the Lakers plotting a bounce back on the trip back down south.

This Saturday night sees league newcomers the Carrick Cruisers make their first appearance in the Killarney Sports and Leisure Centre. The game tips off at 7.30pm as the Lakers look to get back to winning ways again.

For the Lakers Darnell Snyers hit a seasons best 30 points, Mikah Blackwell had 11, Jack O Sullivan 7, Eoin Carroll 6, Rui Saravia 5, Mark Sheehan 4, Abdul Oladipupo, Oisin Spring, John Hughes, Darragh O Callaghan. For the Titans Michael Hayes had 18, Fortune Igbokwe 17, Joseph Coughlan 13 and Matthew Sweeney 9.



UTILITY TRUST ST PAULS VS BRUNELL MATCH REPORT

Womens Superleague Basketball

Saturday January 25th
Presentation Gym Killarney

**UTILITY TRUST
ST PAULS 71
BRUNELL 70**

Report by Enda Walsh

They say it takes the hammer of persistence to drive the nail of success. Utility Trust St Pauls certainly had the handle of the hammer in their possession on Saturday afternoon as they drove home the win over 2024 National Cup champions Brunell in a thriller in a packed Presentation Gym. And you could have forgiven them if they decided to down tools early in the fourth quarter as they sat ten points behind the Cork side. But instead they redoubled their effort and whipped up a rousing finale to eke out a 71-70 win.

Six times this season between league and cup games, James Fleming's side have come out on the wrong side of a tight scoreline so the nature of this victory will certainly please them. Their performances against some of the top teams in the country have deserved more but when the fat is in the fire you have to come up with the match winning moments. Denise Dunlea, Mathilde Diop and Gracen Kerr provided those at vital stages, none more so than Kerr in that late drive.

The point guard hit sixteen points when the need was greatest in the final period although she was keen afterwards to play it all down. "It was really important to get the win because we needed it and I had to contribute to that. The crowd was really engaging near the end and that helped out a lot. We really want to make the playoffs so we need to win the majority of the remaining games."

Brunell, under Kerryman Liam Culloty, are a wily side best exemplified by the promptings of Irish International Edel Thornton. She cajoled her troops early with Trinity Hudson and Lauryn Homan settling them into a 7-4 early lead. The introduction of Denise Dunlea and Rheanne O'Shea helped to up the ante for St Pauls. Lorraine Scanlon did her usual tidy work inside to make it 10-7 but it was in defense that Dunlea made her presence felt. Twice she stole the ball, firstly helping Kerr to a basket and then finishing one off for herself.



Rheanne O'Shea shoots a three against Brunell

Siofra O Shea, fresh from scoring 1-6 for the Kerry Ladies against Armagh, was now on duty as the home side shuffled their deck. Rheanne O'Shea struck from downtown to help Pauls into a 16-12 lead as Alexandra Wittinger was given the complement of huge scrutiny from the Brunell defence. She escaped their attention though late in the quarter to make it 20 a piece, with Megan O Leary and Ava Walshe netting from outside for Brunell.

The second quarter was equally tight initially with Kerr, Wittinger and Scanlon keeping their side in front. That lead was embellished by Dunlea from outside but Brunell was starting to turn the screw. Danielle O Leary and Hudson got them within one, 33-32 but Thornton then picked up the baton, her direction helping Brunell into a 40-34 half time lead with points courtesy of Lauryn Homan.

The third quarter was tense with neither side hitting top form but what it lacked in quality it more than made up for in intensity. Wittinger got the kind of security detail usually reserved for a Papal visit but worked hard for her team and crucially came up with sixteen rebounds throughout the game. Brunell were able to extend their lead early with a Thornton three with Kerr and Diop replying. The Leesiders were starting to show their knowhow with slick play from Kelly Sexton and Danielle O Leary and it took five points from Captain Dunlea to keep her side in the race. The lead now stood at eight, 53-45 in favour of Brunell, and the best was yet to come.

Brunell started the final quarter well with Homan and Hudson netting but Kerr was back on court having retired late in the previous quarter with a facial injury. And she returned like a woman on a mission. She hit eight swift points to close the gap to five but that was extended again by Thornton. But the momentum swing had started with Diop and Wittinger giving it more traction. With 4.20 left to play Lorraine Scanlon three point play really had the crowd involved and

Kerr stole in to level with 3.30 on the clock. Kelly Sexton hit one from the free throw line before Kerr hit a three that came closer to lifting the roof off the gym than any storm could. That gave her side a two point lead but there was still work to be done.

It took two monumental blocks from Diop to deny Thornton what looked like certain scores while Kerr helped to maintain the two point advantage. With the clock ticking down Wittinger took advantage of a clever set play to make it 71-67 and the game nearly in the red. But the drama didn't end there. Danielle O Leary hit a three to make it a one point game and from the resultant restart Brunell turned over the ball, only to be called for a travelling offence, much to the relief of the bumper crowd. The final buzzer sounded with St Paul's noses just in front. After so many near misses it was their time to hit the nail on the head.

Next weekend sees a rematch of the National Cup semi final when Utility Trust St Pauls visit the Irish Wheelchair Association Gym in Clontarf and another joust with Killester. The Dublin side came out on top in that cup clash by just one point, and returned home from the Killarney Sports and Leisure Centre in late October with a 73-68 win. Will it be a case of third time lucky for James Fleming's side. Tip off on Saturday, February 1st is at 4.45pm.

Gracen Kerr was MVP with 24 points, Alexandra Wittinger hit 16, Denise Dunlea 10, Mathilde Diop 10, Lorraine Scanlon 8, Rheanne O'Shea 3, Lynn Jones, Meabh Barry, Siofra O Shea, Queralt Almasque.

For Brunell Trinity Hudson had 18, Edel Thornton 16, Danielle O Leary 11, Lauryn Homan 10, Kelly Sexton 7, Megan O Leary 5.



Alexandra Wittinger had 16 points and 16 rebounds

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KILLARNEY ATHLETIC AFC NOTES

KERRY PREMIER YOUTHS LEAGUE

Killarney Celtic 1 - 5 Killarney Athletic

Brian O'Shea x 1, JJ O'Donoghue x 1, Luke Doolan x 3

We came away with the 3 points tonight after a keenly contested local derby up in Celtic. A young Celtic team put in a big shift and made life difficult for us, especially in the first half. You'll never get anything easy in a game between these 2 clubs. Celtic defended in numbers and broke at pace and could have taken the lead on a few occasions. It took us 30 minutes to finally break their resistance when a perfect cross from Luke Doolan was met with a powerful header from the inrushing Brian O'Shea. JJ O'Donoghue scored a second before half time when he won the race to a ball over the top and got a toe to the ball to lift it over the advancing Celtic goalie. 2-0 at half time and plenty of room for improvement. Luke extended our lead early in the second half when he finished a half volley from the edge of the box. Celtic got one back after a shot was deflected in off the post. Our 4th goal, Luke's second, was goal of the night when Luke spotted the goalie off his line and unleashed an unstoppable shot for close to the halfway line which went in off the post. He finished off his hat trick with a shot from close to the end line when the opportunity looked to have been lost. Overall a good result after 5 weeks without a game. Thanks to Celtic for a sporting game and to Stephen Hayes for facilitating the fixture tonight. We now turn our attention to the last 16 tie of the National Cup at home at 12:30 on Sunday v Bridge United. Get down and support the lads for this huge game.

U15 B

Killarney Athletic 6 - 0 Ballyhar B

Marshall x 3, Villa x 1, Constantin x 1, Murphy x 1

No signs of rust having not played for a while as our young Blues welcomed Ballyhar to Ferndale this morning for an early kickoff. A Marshall hatrick before halftime had secured the points but in fairness to our lads they never stopped playing and produced a super team performance. Notable mentions for Doyle and Constantin and man of the match Aodhagàn O Sullivan who's ability to carry the ball into midfield from centre back caused the opposition huge problems. Thanks to Ballyhar for a very sporting game.

U13 PREMIER RESULT

Fenit 2 - 8 Killarney Athletic

Sean Quill x 5, Myron Svyripa x 2, Mark Doonan x 1

The U13 A's had a tough game in terrible conditions away to Fenit today. The wind and muddy pitch made for a difficult day. The lads came out strong and Sean Quill settled the nerves with a well taken finish. He scored a hat trick in the first half to have the boys up 3-1 at half against a strong wind and a difficult pitch. The boys kept fighting for the second half. It became nervy when they were up 3-2 early in the second half. Ewan Marshall made an exceptional save on a breakaway to keep the lead for Athletic. The lads pushed on and showed their class and skill to finish the game 8-2 with an emphatic win. Sean Quill showed his leadership on the field with 5 goals on the day and narrowly missed a double hat trick at the end. All the lads played their part in the hard fought win. Well done lads in difficult conditions. Man of the match was Sean Quill with 5 goals and amazing leadership qualities.

U13 BOYS DIVISION 1

Killarney Athletic B 6 Listowel Celtic B 0

Goals: Sean O'Connor (2), Malik Jinad (2), Trey Hurley, Mark Clifford

The lads earned a well-deserved win on Saturday morning in tough conditions at Woodlawn. From the start, they pressed and worked hard. Sean O'Connor and Malik each grabbed a first half brace. Second half was more challenging into the wind and Listowel played well but the lads kept up the effort scoring a couple of great goals through Trey Hurley and Mark Clifford. Thanks to Listowel for the sporting game.

U16 GIRLS PREMIER

Killarney Athletic (4) St Brendan's Park (7)

We welcomed St Brendan's Park to our home grounds yesterday for the U16 premier girls. The game was a thrilling encounter that showcased not only team spirit but also exceptional personal performances. Our girls demonstrated high levels of skill and determination in a what was a very sporting game. Thanks to Park Players and Management.

Scorers for the blues: Kelsey Cummins (2), Roxanne Wawro (1), Anna Allan (1)

U14 GIRLS RESULT

Killarney Athletic 5 - 3 Listowel Celtic

A brilliant team effort saw Killarney Athletic secure a 5-3 win away to Listowel Celtic!

Leah Heineman was on fire, scoring 4 goals, including two early strikes in the 6th and 10th minutes. Amy Horgan sealed the win with a great finish late in the game after persistent play. Special shoutouts to our defenders for staying strong under pressure and midfielders for driving the play forward despite tough, cold and rainy conditions.

Amazing teamwork from everyone, well done, girls!

KERRY SOUTH U12 GIRLS LEAGUE

Killarney Athletic B (White) v Athletic A(Blue)

A great competitive game this afternoon between the two Killarney Athletic sides.

The White team started very strong with Alannah McGlynn striking the upright only after 6 minutes. There was constant pressure from the White team but the defence of the Blues held strong until the 28 minute when Julie Quinlan picked up a stray ball, got the shot off but just saved by Abbey Reidy. It broke to Clara O'Donoghue who made no mistake and buried it in the back of the net to put them up 1-0. In the second half Anna Lyne was unlucky not to put the White team two up with a long distance shot which rattled the crossbar. After 45 minutes the Blue team picked their moment and broke from the back with a lovely clearance from Peig Fleming. Holly O'Connor and Muireann O'Sullivan worked the ball up the wing to Peig Fleming who had ran the length of the pitch. Peig got the shot off and it went in at the back post with a wonderful strike. 1-1. The White team again put great pressure on but with some great defending from Maebh Coughan, Maya Lesniak, Rian O'Donnell and Isabelle Tagney, they made sure the spoils were halved. Captain A- Brid Ni Shuilleabhan Captain B-Laura Hickey.

BALLYHAR DYNAMOS FC

SQUADS

The two u13 squads were in action on Saturday last at Murt Scott Park with the B squad having a good win over Ballyheigue FC with Ewan Myers, Diarmuid Fitzgerald, Lachlan Leslie & Rian Comerford impressing. The A squad had a 4-3 win over Tralee Dynamos in a cracking contest. Josh Nelligan & Darragh McLaughlin with two goals each who along with Tomas Bolger, Liam Smyth & Jack Duggan were impressive on the day.

Both u15 squads were both away on Saturday last



Ballyhar Dynamos FC u15 B squad who were defeated away to Killarney Athletic B in Division 2 of the Kerry Schoolboy League last weekend.



Ballyhar Dynamos FC u11s following their recent games v Fenit Samphires.

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with the B squad travelling to Killarney Athletic B where the hosts had to fight hard for a 6-0 win. Alex Kelly was excellent in the Ballyhar goal with Eoin Cremin, Odhran Leslie, Nico Neumann, Charlie Curran, Luke Bartlett, Cian Lynch, Noah Goodman & Daniel Ryan defiant in defeat. The u15 A squad travelled to Mastergeeha in a premier game where the points were shared in a 1-1 draw. Diarmuid Casey put Ballyhar in front after good approach work from Ryan Quilter & Daire Cornally. The home team got a cracker of an equaliser from long range with both teams having to settle for a draw as both teams prepare for upcoming National cups games with Ballyhar travelling to Waterford. On the day Ballyhar were best served by Daniel Duggan, Adam Fleming, Eoin Casey, Daire Cornally, Brendan Allman, Jack Kelly, Dylan Fitzgerald, Alan Mrotek & Ryan Vickers.

SCHOOLBOY/GIRL SOCCER

INTER LEAGUE

U14 BOYS BOOK ALL IRELAND SEMI FINAL TICKET

A semi-final is now on the horizon for the Kerry U14 Boys team, as they delivered a clinical performance to outclass West Waterford & East Cork in Youghal on Saturday, winning 6-1 in the end.

From start to finish it was Kerry who played the better and controlled proceedings playing some exciting football. Taking a 2-0 lead to the break gave the visitors the advantage and into the second stanza, it was more of the same running out deserved winners in the end.

Max Moynihan and Joe Joy both netted braces for Kerry this afternoon, while Cormac O Sullivan and Gerry Moroney also rippled the back of the hosts net.

A POINT ENOUGH FOR U13 GIRLS TO ADVANCE TO QUARTER FINALS

In their final group clash, the Kerry U13 Girls shared the spoils in a 1-1 draw with Limerick District, with the point enough to put their name in the draw for the knockout stage of the competition.

Despite their record in the competition, District were a tough side and did grab the opening goal of the contest. A rocket of a strike from Leah Mannix from well over 30 yards out got Kerry back level, and while both teams pressed at either end for that important second goal, it failed to materialise.

NATIONAL CUP

KILLORGLIN SECURE SAFE PASSAGE IN U14 GIRLS NATIONAL CUP

A game that first was played in late November but had to be replayed due to the fading light, was finally played over 60 kilometres away in Charleville, as Killorglin booked their ticket to the next round with a 4-1 win.

The Kingdom side had been awarded home advantage following that extra-time stalemate and again the tie was postponed in early December and moved to January. A long awaited game for the Killorglin girls and playing in Charleville did not phase them as they led at the break and continued in the second half.

Having taken a 2-0 lead to the break, Killorglin continued to press and the pair of Ellen Barry

and Niamh Murphy both netted a brace each to fire them into the next round.

KERRY BOYS ADVANCE IN 15'S NATIONAL TROPHY

It was another strong week for the Kerry U15 Boys teams in National Trophy action, as Tralee Dynamos and St Brendan's Park, both delivered strong performances in their respective Round 4 ties.

In Mounthawk Park, Dynamos recorded a 3-0 win over Tulla United. It was a decisive performance by the Tralee side. Danny Lane was the star of the show, netting two goals, with Brooklyn Conway adding another to seal the win.

On the road in Limerick, Park prevailed in a high-scoring affair as they defeated Mungret Regional 5-1 in the end. Harvey Leen, Mark Riordan, Daithi Nolan, and Adrian O'Connor all found the back of the net, with an own goal contributing to Park's tally.

Both Dynamos and Park advanced in style, and now look ahead to the next stages of the tournament.

GIRLS

PARK AND CELTIC BOTH NET SIX TO GAIN GROUND IN 12'S NORTH

It was a weekend of big wins for St Brendan's Park and Listowel Celtic, as the pair remain hot on the trails of Castleisland, who picked up another three points due to a walkover from Camp Juniors.

Park grabbed their fifth win of the season with a 6-0 victory over LB Rovers. Powered by a hat-trick from Caoimhe Field, along with strikes from Macy Reidy, Siun Foley, and Natalia McDermott, the hosts were at their most clinical.

Listowel Celtic matched that intensity with their own 6-0 win against Tralee Dynamos also on home soil. Katelyn Joy was the star of the show, netting four goals, while Samantha Lyons added a brace to complete a commanding performance.

FOUR HORSE RACE CONTINUES IN 12'S SOUTH

We now have a four horse race for the title in the 12's Girls South, with Matergeeha picking up two wins, along with MEK Galaxy also recording a win, to now see four teams all on 15 points.

Mastergeeha had an exceptional week, starting with a 5-2 victory away to Inter Kenmare B. Aine Herlihy netted a brace, supported by goals from Sophie Moynihan, Gracie Maher, and Annie Mai O'Donoghue. And while Ava McCarthy and Gabija Knyzaite found the net for the hosts, it was not enough to turn the tide.

They followed this with a commanding 5-0 win against Killorglin, with Lucy Devane stealing the show with a hat-trick, while Moynihan and Maher added to their goals from earlier in the week.

In a closely contested game, MEK edged out Iveragh 1-0, thanks to a crucial goal from Katie Foley, securing all three points in a hard-fought encounter. While elsewhere the all club derby between Killarney Athletic A and B ended in a 1-1 draw, with Ciara O'Donoghue scoring for the B side and Peig Flemming for the A team.

ATHLETIC PICK UP SECOND WIN IN 14'S DIVISION 1

Just the second time this season that Killarney Athletic have picked up three points in the

Division, in an exciting and high-scoring encounter, Killarney Athletic B overcame Listowel Celtic with a 5-3 scoreline.

For Killarney Athletic, Leah Heineman was the standout performer in front of goal, delivering an impressive four-goal haul, while Amy Horgan added another to secure the win. Listowel Celtic fought valiantly, with Mary Walsh netting a brace and Ava Dore also finding the back of the net, but it wasn't enough to stop a dominant Killarney Athletic side.

Five star Athletic close the gap to league leaders Five goals from Killarney Athletic picked up another crucial three points for their title charge in the 15's Premier, as they now sit three points behind the leaders.

Athletic delivered a commanding performance to secure a 5-2 victory over Listowel Celtic on Saturday. Roksana Wawro and Lillian Slattery each scored twice for Athletic, with Ella Crowley adding another to complete the impressive tally. Listowel Celtic's effort was led by Leona Meaney and Ava Fealy, who each grabbed a goal, but it wasn't enough to stop a determined Killarney Athletic side.

CELTIC'S UNBEATEN RUN ENDS AS KENMARE DELIVER CONSECUTIVE WINS IN 16'S PREMIER

An impressive winning run by Killarney Celtic ended during the week to Inter Kenmare, and while they did taste defeat for the first time, they remain top of the table with a healthy cushion.

After a 6-0 win away to Mastergeeha last weekend, it was a short turnaround for Kenmare to play two more games. They showcased their strength and clinical nature to win both of their latest games in a matter of days.

They edged out Killarney Celtic with a 2-1 win, thanks to a brace from Brittney Bevan, while Michelle O'Connor netted Celtic's lone goal. Later, they picked up three points against Camp with a 4-0 victory, as Bevan and Niamh Healy each scored twice.

St Brendan's Park were clinical in front of goal, defeating Killarney Athletic in a thrilling 7-4 encounter in Woodlawn. Taylor Kate Leane starred with a hat-trick, supported by Eve O'Regan's brace and goals from Éabha Maguire and Malwina Jankowska. Killarney Athletic fought back with a brace from Kelsey Cummins and goals from Roxanne Wawro and Anna Allan, but couldn't match Park's firepower.

BOYS

CELTIC LOSE GROUND IN 13'S PREMIER

Defeat for Killarney Celtic to Park on Saturday allowed fellow title chasers Killarney Athletic to move ahead of them in the table, as that win for St Brendan's Park keeps them in the mix.

Inspired by the clinical finishing of Cameron Patterson, Park secured a decisive 2-0 victory over Killarney Celtic. Both goals came from the boot of Patterson, who ensured three points for his side.

Athletic meanwhile overpowered Fenit with an 8-2 win. Sean Quill was the standout performer, scoring an impressive five goals, while Myron Svyripa added a brace, and Mark Doonan completed the scoring.

HIGH SCORING WEEKEND IN 13'S DIVISION 1

It was a weekend of bad weather, but one of

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goals across the U13 Division 1, with 29 goals netted across the four games that took place.

Killarney Athletic B secured a convincing 6-0 victory over Listowel Celtic B, with standout performances from Sean O'Connor and Malik Jinad, who both netted twice. Trey Hurley and Mark Clifford added further gloss to the scoreline.

Inter Kenmare A delivered a commanding 6-2 win against Camp A, with goals coming from Shay O'Connor (2), Ben Leonard, Alan Harrington, Reece O'Sullivan, and Liam Randles. In a high-scoring encounter, Park B edged LB Rovers A with a 5-3 victory in Ballyduff.

Tadhg Gilligan stole the show with a hat-trick, while Ben O'Donovan and Tom Relihane added one each. LB Rovers found the net through Michael Pierce, Jake Bennett, and Jack Browne but came up short.

MIXED WEEK FOR MILLTOWN IN 14'S DIVISION 2 SOUTH

What started with defeat in the middle of the weekend ended in three points on Saturday for Milltown, as a Jack Clifford inspired performance got the better of Killorglin

Killarney Celtic B delivered an impressive 5-2 win over Milltown earlier in the week. Josh O'Donoghue netted twice, while Kyle Fleming, Sean Doyle, and Jack Kissane added to the tally. Milltown's Jack Clifford and Michael Foley provided some resistance but couldn't match Celtic's firepower.

Milltown regrouped and on Saturday, in a closely contested local derby against Killorglin, Milltown prevailed with a 3-2 victory, thanks to a standout hat-trick from Jack Clifford. Killorglin's Luke Clifford managed two goals but fell just short of salvaging a result for his side.

DINGLE CONTINUE STRONG FORM IN 15'S DIVISION 2

With another high scoring performance at the weekend, Dingle remain the team to beat in the U15 Division 2, while Killarney Celtic remain hot on their tails after another three points at the weekend.

Dingle were clinical in front of goal to record a 7-1 win over Camp, with Lúic MacGearailt scoring a hat-trick and Eoin Morrison and Cillian Ó Dalaigh each grabbing a brace. Camp's only response came from Cole Shanahan.

In a tighter clash, Killarney Celtic B triumphed 2-0 over Tralee Dynamos B, with Hammad Atiq scoring both goals to secure the win for Celtic. Elsewhere Killarney Athletic B enjoyed a 6-0



victory over Ballyhar B, with James Marshall scoring a hat-trick and Martin Villa, Rob Murphy, and Constantin Preda all contributing to the goal fest.

KILLARNEY CELTIC

CELTIC LOTTO

Numbers drawn 5,10,17,22. No jackpot winner. Match 3 winners received €40. Next jackpot €15,000 on Monday February 3rd. Jackpot is capped at €15,000 with the additional €200 going on to the 1st jackpot after the next jackpot win. Tickets available from The Dungeon Bookshop, Amber Shop (Top of Ross Road), club members and online through clubzap.

CHARLEVILLE CHEESE PREMIER A

Killarney Celtic A 2-0 Ballyheigue Ath

Kalvin O'Sullivan

In very tough conditions Celtic came out on top and went joint top of the league. Calvin O'Sullivan struck twice in the 1st half to secure the points.

FRIENDLY

Cobh Ramblers 5-0 Killarney Celtic

CHARLEVILLE CHEESE PREMIER B

Killarney Celtic B 0-4 Castlegregory Celtic

CHARLEVILLE CHEESE YOUTHS PREMIER

Killarney Celtic 1-5 Killarney Athletic

U15 PREMIER

Killorglin AFC 2-1 Killarney Celtic

Jason Harrington

U15 DIV 2

Tralee Dynamos B 0-2 Killarney Celtic

Hammad Atiq 2

A good win for the U15 squad in very difficult conditions.

U14 DIV 2

Killarney Celtic B 5-2 Milltown

Josh O'Donoghue 2, Kyle Fleming, Jack Kissane, Sean Doyle

Celtic B maintained their good form with a clearcut win in a game played in midweek. Milltown opened the scoring before Josh O'Donoghue levelled matters. Celtic hit the front in the 2nd half through Josh O'Donoghue before Kyle Fleming headed home no3. Sean Doyle had Celtic clear before Milltown pulled 1 back. However Celtic had the last say when Jack Kissane fired home.

U13 PREMIER

St Brendan's Park 2-0 Killarney Celtic Green

Celtic started well but Park held firm and it was Park who got the vital breakthrough goal. Celtic regrouped and put Park under pressure but the elusive goal did not come and it was Park who added another goal to take the points.

U13 DIV 2 NORTH

Killarney Celtic Stripes 3-3 Fenit

Andrew Bilokvost 2, Rory Salvador

In a very entertaining encounter Celtic came back from 2 down to lead before Fenit scored a late equaliser to claim a point.

U13 DIV 2 SOUTH

Killarney Celtic Hoops 4-0 Killarney Athletic

Conor Randles 3, Noah Murphy

Celtic laid the foundation for this excellent win with a quick fire hat trick from Conor Randles to leave Celtic clear by the break. Noah Murphy sealed the win with a goal in the 2nd half.

CONGRATS to Robbie Paul O'Sullivan U13 who made the KSBGL Team of the Week.

KILLARNEY CELTIC FOOTBALL FOR ALL

were recently presented with a cheque from the Tesco Community Fund Park Road. Many thanks to everyone who made this happen.



Killarney Community College junior boys basketball and rugby teams who were in action last week



SOUTH KERRY DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP CLG PRESENTS

South Kerry JOBS FAIR



13TH FEBRUARY 2025

GREAT SOUTHERN HOTEL, KILLARNEY

TIME: 10.30AM TO 13.30PM



WORKSHOPS ON THE DAY

IN THE AUDITORIUM

10:45AM CAREER CHANGE

by Rico Stein Kerry College / Kerry ETB

11:30AM CVS & COVER LETTERS

by Mary Murray Kerry Local Area Employment Service

12:15PM SUPPORTS FOR JOB

SEEKERS by Intreo (DSP)

COME ALONG AND BRING YOUR CV ON THE DAY. NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

Meet Employers from Hospitality, Healthcare, IT, Finance, Construction, Manufacturing, Retail and many more.



LAST CALL FOR EMPLOYERS WISHING TO EXHIBIT!

Contact jgriffin@skdp.net by COB on **FRIDAY 7TH FEBRUARY 2025.**



Rialtas na hÉireann
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Social Inclusion &
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Programme



The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) is co-funded by the Irish Government, through the Department of Rural and Community Development, and the European Union through the European Social Fund Plus under the Employment, Inclusion, Skills and Training (EIST) Programme 2021-2027.





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

LATE GOAL SURGE COSTS KERRY LADIES

LADIES DIVISION ONE: ARMAGH 3-11 KERRY 1-13



Kerry captain Anna Galvin leads her team-mates onto the pitch as Armagh give a guard of honour to the 2024 All-Ireland Champions before the Lidl Ladies National Football League Division 1 match between Kerry and Armagh at Austin Stack Park in Tralee, Kerry. Photo by Piaras Ó Midheach/Sportsfile

Last year Armagh beat a relatively subdued Kerry in the league itself and then handled us with relative ease in the League Final. I thought at the time that they controlled the channels superbly. Kerry absorbed their lesson and came back a lot stronger in the championship, while Armagh failed to kick on. In a way, this defeat to open Mark Bourke's managerial reign feels almost a bit worse, because this was a frustrating one. The truth is that last year we were beaten fair and square. This year we were actually the better side overall and played more of the football – but were badly caught as Armagh careened through for three goals, two of which were definitely preventable in my opinion, while Kerry had good chances of their own but couldn't capitalise – fair play to Anna Carr in the Armagh goal. Full disclosure, I was in Mallow at the Corn úí Mhuirí semi-finals and watched TG4 on my laptop. As good as the coverage is – and TG4 is a brilliant service – you simply don't have the same overview of proceedings.

Arrah, kit's not like this one required the analytical genius of a Sherlock Holmes – or a Professor Moriarty for that matter. We played

well and we lost. Kerry are obviously going to be in a bit of a transition phase this year, and the All Ireland champions are always on a pedestal to be shot at by every other team – it's not like we weren't watching Dublin like hawks last year. I'm genuinely not all that concerned by the result. At this time of year, I wouldn't even be panicking over performance, let alone result. The bones are there. Of course, Armagh will say the same thing; they'll be disappointed with last year's championship and quite rightly have ambitions of a title. Did they maybe go too hard too early last year? We didn't, we rested quite a few players during the National League and threw others in at the deep end, and I felt it paid off in the long run.

This happens every year, and every year I am preaching the same thing – it's January, and any analysis of any team is over-analysis. I know papers never refuse ink and media monoliths need to be fed – many a journalist is thanking the stars for the new rules in the mens' game, that will fill a lot of column inches in mostly uninteresting ways – but once again, January. Wake me up in the second week of April and I'll start paying attention.

Kerry had the wind – on reflection, we might have been better off against it in the first half, but that's easy to say in hindsight - but Armagh drew first blood with a fine score by Eimear McGeown. Siofra O'Shea was looking dynamic for Kerry and soon had us on level terms after good work by an impressive Anna Galvin and then nudged us in front. Armagh's Niamh Reel cancelled that out. Good football on both sides.

Eve Lavery and Niamh Reel put Armagh two to the good. Early days, but the visitors were definitely looking clinical in testing conditions for football (I don't know what it was like in Austin Stack Park, but in Mallow it was so cold that brass monkeys were running away in terror). A good run by Aoife Dillane saw Rachel Dwyer trim it back to one point.

The experienced Lavery kicked another good point but Kerry were growing into the game. A great move saw Siofra O'Shea do what she does best and raise a green flag. Jadyne Lucey followed up with a point before Mary Ellen Bolger denied Eimear McGowan with a stupendous save.

Kerry were well on top now and a Siofra O'Shea brace (1f) and Anna Galvin again saw us lead by 1-7 to 0-5 at half-time. I'd be guessing that there was at least a three point swing in that wind, but I thought Kerry were playing a lot of really nice, fast football.

Anna Galvin burst forward for an inspirational score to open the second half. Armagh, to their credit, came back fast and hard. Eve Lavery and Bláithín Mackin are regular scorers for them. McGeown is a new enough name to me, but she looks like a very serious talent and her point was taken as confidently as anyone's. Good player and a name worth remembering, I suspect. Just a goal in it at this stage.

Kerry had two chances to score a second goal through Siofra O'Shea and Jadyne Lucey, but Anna Carr was equal to both. Great goalkeeping. Carr was nominated for an All Star last year with good reason.

Siofra O'Shea made it 1-13 to 0-9. There's no nice way to say this, and nobody in the Kerry camp needs me to say it anyway (they can be plenty hard enough on themselves) but the unpalatable truth is that you shouldn't be losing a game from that position.

Carr was one of the key factors, making another great save to deny Niamh Ní Chonchúir. Should she have gone for the point? Was Mark Bourke wrong to start using his subs' bench?

Arrah, I hate that kind of pseudo-analysis. Res ipsa loquitur, 'the thing speaks for itself'. When you know the result, there is a tendency to treat it as a conclusion. Kerry lost 'because they went for goals' or 'they ran their bench too early'. Rubbish. There are a



Maeve Lennon of Armagh in action against Aoife Dillane of Kerry during the Lidl Ladies National Football League Division 1 match between Kerry and Armagh at Austin Stack Park in Tralee, Kerry. Photo by Piaras Ó Midheach/Sportsfile



Blaithin Mackin of Armagh in action against Fay O'Donoghue of Kerry during the Lidl Ladies National Football League Division 1 match between Kerry and Armagh. Photo by Piaras Ó Midheach/Sportsfile

myriad of factors why a team loses – or wins, for that matter. Knowing one thing doesn't make it the main factor. I've been involved in selecting various teams of the year and teams of the championship etc. – they are meat and drink to every journalist because they are entirely subjective. In every single case, the All Stars always being an obvious one, the winning team usually has over half of the final team selected. Logic be damned. It perpetuates the appalling myth that a great team must be composed of individually great players, whereas I genuinely believe that ordinary but intelligent and genuinely committed players link up to form the best teams. Abstract philosophy, I suppose, but 'greatest' is a different thing to 'most skillful' or 'strongest' or 'fastest', and 'greatest' is attainable by every player. To me, it's the whole point of sporting endeavour and speaks to a base value of the human condition.

Not that Mark or any of his players would thank me much for my dissertation on sporting philosophy. Not in the circumstances.

Niamh Reel with two points. I don't know if it's a real thing or just something in my own head, but the amount of games I've seen at all grades where Northern teams simply have more power than us approaching the finishing line of games is a worrisome trend, and this was another case in point.

It was all Armagh from here on in. Naimh Reel with a brace of points. Blaithín Mackin shimmied her way through a plethora of defenders and neatly fired home a goal. I'm sorry now, but that was much, much too easy. It was about to get worse for Kerry, much worse. A stunning run by Emily Druse, genuinely stunning, and a simple lay-off to Rebecca Cunningham. Great goal. In fairness, sheer class, I wouldn't blame the defence for that one. Just like that, Kerry were down a point – but there was plenty of time left for an equaliser at least.

Today just wasn't one of those days. With Kerry retreating, Armagh had time for that slow outside build-up that they love – something to note there for later on in the

year – followed by a fast break. Lovely lay-off by Caoimhe McNally to Roisín Mulligan, and a superb finish. Mary Ellen got a good hand to it, but the shot had both precision and power.

Six points up to four down, and that was how it finished. Tough one to take but as I say, I'm more happy about the performance than disappointed with the result.

Kerry: Mary Ellen Bolger, Roisín Smith, Deirdre Kearney, Fay O'Donoghue, Andrea O'Connell, Kayleigh Cronin (0-1), Aoife Dillane, Mary O'Connell, Anna Galvin (0-), Niamh Carmody, Niamh Ní Chonchúir (0-1), Caoimhe Evans (0-1), Jady Lucey (0-1), Siofra O'Shea (1-6, 4f), Rachel Dwyer (0-1). Subs: Jessica Gill (for Caoimhe Evans, 44 mins), Ciara McCarthy (for Roisín Smith, 47 mins), Katie Brosnan (for Rachel Dwyer, 47 mins), Kayla O'Connor (for Niamh Ní Chonchúir, 49 mins), Melanie Higgins (for Jady Lucey, 55 mins), Niamh Ní Chonchúir (for Mary O'Connell, 56 mins), Roisín Rahilly (for Fay O'Donoghue, 58 mins)

Armagh: Anna Carr, Maeve Ferguson, Louise Kenny, Cait Towe; Emily Druse, Lauren McConville, Roisín Mulligan (1-0), Niamh Coleman, Caroline O'Hanlon (0-1) Aoife McCoy, Moya Feehan, Eve Lavery (0-3, 1f), Niamh Reel (0-4), Maeve Lennon, Eimear McGeown (0-2). Subs: Blaithín Mackin 1-1 (for Louise Kenny, 33 mins), Caoimhe McNally (for Maeve Lennon, 40 mins), Megan McGann (for Eve Lavery, 40 mins), Roisín Cunningham 1-0 (for Eimear McGeown, 52 mins), Niamh Henderson (for Niamh Reel, 55 mins), C Garvey (for Moya Feehan, 56 mins). Referee: Jonathan Murphy (Carlow).

On a separate note, warmest congratulations to Paul Murphy on being named PRO of the Year and the LGFA Volunteer of the Year Awards last Friday in Croke Park. Paul's dedication is only matched by his enthusiasm and the publication is one of the very many that he has helped always, especially last year as Kerry claimed the Brendan Martin Cup for the first time in almost three decades.

KERRY V DONEGAL POSTPONED

Hmmm. Lot of questions about this one. Of course you can't quibble with safety – nobody got hurt, and that's always top priority. I'm not and never would question that. But there were rumours – granted, on social media, not exactly the true metric of this confused disinformation age – about the game being called off from late Thursday evening. Mind you, I was extremely dismissive of them at that stage – this is the time of year for rumour-mongers.

But an individual with a lot of credibility certainly posted that the game was off on Friday evening. That was promptly denied by Donegal GAA.

I don't know exactly when it was confirmed that the game was, in fact, postponed, but I heard it around 10.00am on Saturday. Exactly when was the decision made? Now, I'm not swinging straight into conspiracy theories, both Elvis and JFK have told me over the Christmas break how much they detest that guff. But exactly when was that decision taken? Put it this way, I'd be feeling a lot stronger about it if it had been Kerry travelling, and I feel that we would have managed the journey.

Donegal hurlers were able to travel to Meath, their ladies' team were able to travel to Clare, and club side Naomh Pádraig were able to travel – albeit apparently they all travelled earlier on the Saturday, before another fall of snow. Don't mind looking askance at me; I'm only reporting what was officially stated. A good few Donegal supporters were able to travel on Saturday. I can confirm meeting a good few of them on Saturday night, nice people, understandably a bit unhappy with the circumstances.

As I say, safety must of course prevail, but all of the circumstantial evidence isn't kind to this one. I can't help thinking that last year Donegal also had a bit of a contretemps over fielding a U18 player around this time of year. Just unnecessary stuff. Business should be

handled better in my opinion. Look, no great harm from a Kerry perspective. We'll have players able to line out in the Sigerson, a great competition that is much too squeezed for me (I'm open to correction but I don't think we have anybody left in the Fitzgibbon?) and lads from Crokes, Stacks, and injury rehab will be returning in the meantime. The game is likely to be rescheduled for the weekend of February 8th as I understand it. Unfortunately, that means playing a bit of catch-up, and Kerry playing for at least five weeks in a row. Which brings me to the main crux. Personally I don't mind games being off at this time of year. I'd actually like if there was nothing at all on at this time of year.

January, and already games are coming far too thick and too fast. I'm sorry now, but this is absolutely outright ridiculous. Teams are playing competitive games while trying to get their heavy work done for the inter-county season. U20s and minors are 'rumoured' to be playing challenge games. The third level competitions are on mid week. Along with National League in both codes and the latter stages of the post primary schools.

There was nothing scheduled for the Connaught Centre of Excellence last weekend. Or Tralee Sports Centre. I wonder why.....oh yeah. It's because Irish weather in January and February has been steadily getting worse. Even mensa aspirants like Sarah Palin, Pier Morgan, and Sammy Wilson are changing their tones on climate change. Meanwhile, the GAA (and both soccer and rugby) are expanding their playing schedules in recent years. The GAA have adjusted their playing rules for gaelic football – it's early for judgement but most certainly does look good. But January is crammed with games? While they stubbornly persist with the age change to U20 and U17 because of 'burnout'? As I have said, analysing any team at this time of year is a pointless exercise. Even the evaluation of the new playing rules is a bit dubious. This isn't anything like championship football. And any team that is actually geared up for championship at this time of year has zero hope – I repeat, absolutely zero – of featuring in the latter stages of an All Ireland senior championship.

Seriously, look at NFL. That really is one of the most gruelling and demanding professional sports on the planet. Does this match their playing schedule? It does not, they play 17 games in 18 weeks....because their bodies could not possibly maintain more (I'm not suggesting that gaelic games are as physically demanding, but it certainly isn't yoga either). NNBA and NHL do play more games....frankly, there's too many dross games in the NBA as well as far as I am concerned.

I'll watch the National League games, as much to adjust my own understanding of the new patterns of play as any genuine interest. I'd like Kerry to blood a few – and just a few, I'm sorry, but we are talking up some young talents far too much and I'm not sure if people can actually grasp the huge leap from club to

inter-county level – new players. I'd like us to stay up – although I've never believed that the League actually has that much impact on the Championship any more, too big a training gap. In fact, I think coming from a relatively easier Division Two appeared to suit teams better for championship in the last couple of years.

A game between Kerry and Donegal postponed? Nobody will be talking about it in a month's time. It doesn't feel right to me, but that isn't really worth any fight. I wouldn't even call it a scuffle, to be honest. There are bigger nettles and a lack of willingness to grab them.

And....I know. I already know I will basically be copying and pasting this exact same article next year because the grumbles will die down as the year moves along and we'll end up exactly where we are next January as well. And I guarantee you right now that the weather isn't going to improve.

CORN UÍ MHUIRÍ SEMI-FINALS *Sem See Off Kenmare Challenge St. Brendans 1-13 SP Inbhearr Scéine 1-10*

The Sem would always have been fancied for this one, especially after their display against a highly rated Tralee CBS in the quarter-final, but Inbhearr Scéine had come a very hard road and played some great team football themselves along the way. Believe me, it took real character to get past that Casytleisland team in the preliminary quarter-final and they pulled off a small bit of a surprise against Macroom in their own quarter-final – not all that much of a surprise to those of us who had seen them along the road. Seán O'Shea and Ronan Buckley had them playing a really nice brand of team football. I genuinely expected this to be a battle and (for once) I wasn't wrong.

Big Jamie Moynihan has been talismanic for the Sem and he was the best player on the pitch yet again – albeit he got plenty of testing from a lively Jack O'Sullivan for Kenmare around the middle third. He fed Oisín Fleming straight from the throw-in, but the effort fell just short. The Sem looked lively early but struggled against a packed and disciplined Inbhearr Scéine defence. Neal O'Shea opened the scoring for the underdogs with a free, with Joey McCarthy replying in kind straight away. On the ten minute mark Jamie Moynihan added another from distance. Wing back Cian Mulcahy was impressing early on and good work by him saw Joey McCarthy point from play before Oisín Fleming blazed a goal chance just over the crossbar. The same player picked up a black card as Kenmare notched a free, but the Sem continued to dominate proceedings. Joey McCarthy added another free and a great burst by Oran O'Neill saw captain

Moynihan made it 0-6 to 0-1. After the one-sided affair of the first game and in very cold and wet conditions, this was not exactly turning into the spectacle that we had all hoped for – but this was still early days.

Sure enough, a composed Inbhearr Scéine sparked into life. A foul on Jack Tangney saw him slot a free and he fed Neal O'Shea for a point from play. Another free by the lively Donncha O'Sullivan trimmed the gap to 0-7 to 0-5 just before the break.

Once again it was the Sem who made the livelier start, Jamie Moynihan bursting through and his rocket deflected over the bar by an alert Ben O'Callaghan. It was a brief respite, Mark Kennelly and Josh Bowler doing well to set up Cian Mulcahy for a fisted goal. 1-8 to 0-5 – a long way back now for the Kenmare outfit. The got to work straight away, Donncha O'Sullivan pointing after Jack O'Sullivan was fouled. The Sem defence, especially Adam Byrne and Cian Mulcahy, were confidently repelling all boarders, leaving Kenmare dependent on frees. Jack Tangney slotted another dead ball, but Josh Bowler replied instantly and Oisín Fleming gathered from Jamie Moynihan before firing over to make it 1-10 to 0-7. Tangney pointed another free but good work by Oran O'Neill saw Oisín Fleming split the posts in reply – it could have been a goal. Sem substitute Liam O'Brien had replaced Frewen star Ben Kelliher at this stage – I have to say that while he is undoubtedly a serious talent, some of the media hype around the sixteen year old in the build-up was well over the top, in my opinion. O'Brien has a bit more experience under his belt and it showed straight away as he fired over a lovely point. Seven points in it. Kenmare weren't giving up, though. Jack Tangney fired over another free before he and Neal O'Shea combined to send a dangerous ball into the Sem square and Donncha O'Sullivan pounced to fist home. 1-12 to 1-9, and an enthusiastic crowd of supporters were urging Kenmare on.

A long ball in by Jamie Moynihan found his Glenflesk team-mate, and Liam O'Brien had the presence of mind to fist it over the bar for the insurance. There was still time for Kenmare to notch one last point and make it a one score game, but they just couldn't force the goal that they needed and it's the Sem who have the dubious honour of facing the imperious Mercy Mounthawk in the Corn uí Mhuirí Final.

St. Brendans: Kacper Robak, Cian Fleming, Dara Stack, Bryan Walsh, Jack Rudden, Adam Byrne, Cian Mulcahy (1-0), Jamie Moynihan (0-4, 1f), Oran O'Neill, Ted O'Gorman, Joey McCarthy (0-2, 1f), Mark O'Carroll, Ben Kelliher, Josh Bowler (0-2), Oisín Fleming (0-3). Subs: Mark Kennelly (for Jamie Moynihan, blood sub, 21-23 mins), Liam O'Brien 0-2 (for Ben Kelliher, 51 mins), Zach Cronin (for Mark O'Carroll, 55 mins), Aaron Buckley (for Ted O'Gorman, 58 mins), Mark Kennelly (for Jamie Moynihan, blood sub, 21-23 mins).

SP Inbhearr Scéine: Barry Fitzsimons, Ben O'Callaghan, David O'Connor, Jack Sweeney, David O'Brien, Liam O'Sullivan,



Rossa MacGearailt, Jack O'Sullivan, Michael Tangney; Kieran O'Sullivan, Donncha O'Sullivan (1-2,2f), Seamus O'Donoghue, Neal O'Shea (0-1), Jack Tangney (0-6, 6f), Dawid Grebowiec (0-1). Subs: Liam Brown (for Seamus O'Donoghue, half-time), Micheál O'Mahony (for David Grebowiec, 40 mins), Aidan O'Sullivan (for Neal O'Shea, 45 mins), Michael Jones (for Rossa MacGearailt, 52 mins), Riain O'Byrne (for David O'Brien, 61 mins).

Referee: Eddie Walsh (Rathmore)

Merciless Mounthawk Return to Munster Final

Corn Uí Mhuirí Semi-Final: Mercy Mounthawk 2-19 Hamilton HS, Bandon 0-5

No team has really managed to land an early glove on an all-conquering Mounthawk side and that was the case here in Mallow as well. Once again the talismanic Paddy Lane was to the fore, with the Austin Stacks sharpshooter landing three early points himself. He was wide with an early free but quickly got into his stride, firing over a free won by Tomás Kennedy and then setting up Gavin Casey for another. The Kerry U20 pairing of Daniel Kirby and Ben Murphy lorded midfield, and two points off kick-out turnovers for Kirby saw Mounthawk lead by 0-4 to 0-0. Paddy Lane laid off to Tomás Kennedy, who appeared to have been pulled down in the square, but the referee awarded an free for a foul in the build-up. Mounthawk manager Aidan O'Shea was clearly unhappy with the decision and departed on a second yellow card for dissent, not helped by a nasty enough off the ball foul on Ben Murphy that went unpunished (on reviewing the replay, it was more innocuous than it looked – the Bandon player put out his hands to protect himself rather than, as it appeared, any deliberate blow to the stomach. It's worth noting that I had a television reply available

– the referee didn't). It made no difference to their momentum as Lane calmly slotted the free.

Bandon were struggling to make any impact against a strong Mounthawk defence, but could rue their luck as Seán Murphy plucked an Oisín McCarthy '45 out of the sky and unleashed a thunderbolt, only to be denied by a great Ruairí Kennedy save in the 11th minute.

Paddy Lane gathered from Ben Murphy to notch another score and punished a foul on Tomás Kennedy for another. 0-7 to 0-0.

In the 18th minute Oisín McCarthy finally opened Bandon's account from a free. Mounthawk only responded by increasing the tempo, the irrepressible Lane adding another brace. Cormac Bastible took them into double figures. Once again Daniel Kirby won the kick-out and boomed over a monster score. Given their dominance, a goal looked inevitable, and it duly arrived in the 26th minute as Tomas slalomed through and finished neatly. He added another point off the kick-out.

In truth, the game looked done and dusted. Bandon still showed an admirable spark of defiance, Oisín McCarthy finding Kevin Hannon inside with a brilliant pass, but Ruairí Kennedy once again made a stunning point blank save and Seán Murphy was just barely wide following up.

Fittingly, it was sharpshooter Paddy Lane who closed out the first half scoring to nudge his side into a virtually unassailable 1-13 to 0-1 lead.

The heavens had been threatening all morning and sure enough, they opened during the break and the second half was played in a torrential downpour. When I say cold, I mean that I genuinely found it extremely difficult to type. It made little difference to Mounthawk's fulcrum, with Ben Murphy opening the second half account and Daniel Kirby teeing up Paddy Lane for another. A Lane free made it 1-16 to 0-1.

Jack Cullinane finally got Bandon's first score

from play, a real beauty by Jack Cullinane, and Kevin Hannon added another from the kick-out. Look, nobody's pretending that there was any danger of the game suddenly exploding into a dramatic finale, but credit to Bandon for the character that they showed. Paddy Lane exchanged scores with Bandon midfielder Oisín Gillain.

A foul on Daniel Kirby in the square saw Paddy Lane saw him drill a penalty into the botto corner of the net and another point took his personal tally to a phenomenal 1-11 before Ben Murphy closed out Mercy Mounthawk's account. Oisín McCarthy had one last free for Bandon as they bowed out gracefully.

Once again Mercy Mounthawk will be going in as favourites against Kerry opposition as they bid to make history by retaining their Coen uí Mhuirí crown. On this showing against a good Bandon team, very few would bet against them.

Mercy Mounthawk: Ruairí Kennedy, Breandán Meehan, Ben Sharp, James Fisher, Padraig O'Halloran, David Sargent, Gavin Casey (0-1), Daniel Kirby (0-3), Ben Murphy (0-2), Billy Doyle, Tomás Kennedy (1-1), Seán Corkery, Cormac Bastible (0-1), Paddy Lane (1-11, 1-0 pen, 6f), Aaron Harty. Subs Alex Touhy (for Daniel Kirby, bs, 38-42), Jake Hoare (for Aaron Harty, 40), Odhran Kerins (for Billy Doyle, 44), Oisín McGibney (for Daniel Kirby, 51), Kevin O'Donoghue (for David Sargent, 53), Sam Fitzgerald (for Pádraig O'Halloran, bs, 58-62)

Hamilton HS Bandon: Billy Curtin, Ben Coffey, Niall Daly, James O'Driscoll, Richard Tarrant, Jack Cullinane (0-1), Luke Casey, Oisín Gillain (0-1), Seán Coffey, Charlie Twomey, Oisín McCarthy (0-2, 2f), Daniel Coughlan, Humphrey Canty, Kevin Hannon (0-1), Seán Murphy. Subs Hugh Flanagan (for Charlie Twomey, 27), Eoin Maguire (for Humphrey Canty, 33), Donagh Flynn (for Seán Murphy, 36), Adam Griffin (for Daniel Coughlan, 39), Sam Browne (for Oisín Gillain, 44), Dara Walsh (for Luke Casey, 49)

Referee: Tom McGlinchey (Tipperary)



FOSSA

LOTTO

The numbers drawn on 26/01/2025 for a jackpot of €7,950 were 1, 16, 17, 25. There was no jackpot winner. The €40 consolation prize winners were; Maurice Lyons; Online, Caroline Cronin; Online, James and Jade Houlihan, Eddie Doolan, Liam Walsh. 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>

AWARDS NIGHT

A great night was had in The Golden Nugget on Friday night where the Player of the Year awards were presented. David Butler was presented with the Donie Kissane Memorial Trophy for Young Player of the Year, Ciara Quirke won the Marie Murphy Memorial Trophy for Senior Ladies Player of the Year and Cian O'Shea won the John Kelly Memorial Trophy for Senior Men's Player of the Year. Well done to the recipients, it was a fitting reward for their displays and commitment to the club throughout the year.

CORN UI MHUIRI

Congratulations to the Sem team and the Fossa boys involved- Ted O'Gorman, Mark Kennelly, Cathal Breen, Dylan O'Meara and Fionn Doyle who defeated Kenmare and will now meet Mercy Mounthawk in the Munster final of Corn Ui Mhuiri. Plenty to looking forward as this promises to be an exciting fixture.

MOTHERS AND OTHERS

Our Mothers & Others team are recruiting for new members. The new group have had a great start with weekly fun interactive training sessions learning GAA skills and working on their fitness and great social nights out too! It's great to see women who have never played before learning new skills as well as many who are returning to GAA after an extended break! We encourage anyone who is interested in joining the team to contact Róisín on 087 9925312 or Niamh on 087 7125634.

BEAUFORT FILM NIGHT

Beaufort Film Night will hold a screening night on Friday 7th February at 8.30pm at Kilgobnet National School, Beaufort. The feature film on the night is I'm Your Man, a German romantic comedy-drama (with English subtitles). Baps and Buns, an award-winning Irish short film, will be also be shown on the night. Cert 15A for I'm Your Man. Admission €7 cash (No card payment available).

EAST KERRY

EAST KERRY SUPER LEAGUES 2025

First team named will be at home All games Sunday February 2nd at 1pm

Division 1A

Firies, Kenmare, Legion, Listry, Spa.

Round 1

Legion V Spa Tuesday 4th Feb at 7.30. Listry V Kenmare. Firies Bye

Division 1B

Glenflesk, Gneeveguilla, Dr Crokes, Kilcummin, Rathmore

Round 1

Kilcummin V Rathmore, Gneeveguilla V Dr

Crokes, Glenflesk Bye.

Division 2

Fossa, Kilgarvan, Currow, Cordal, Scartaglin

Round 1

Currow V Fossat o be arranged. Scartaglin V Kilgarvan Friday 31 Jan @ 7.30 in Kilgarvan. Cordal Bye.

EAST KERRY AGM

The AGM of East Kerry GAA will now take place on Thursday 6th February at 8pm.

IRELAND SCOR

Congratulations to Spa Set Dancers and Glenflesk Ballad Group for retaining their All Ireland Scor Titles. Well done to both on this wonderful achievement.

KILLARNEY LEGION

CLUB SOCIAL

This week will see us host the Club social which takes place in the Killarney Heights Hotel this Friday January 31st. On the night presentations will be made to our Senior Mens and Ladies teams on foot of their wins in the East Kerry Superleague, Donal Curtin Cup, Corrib Oil League and Junior B Club Championship. Individual awards will also be presented in the different categories with Mike Murphy topping the bill as the Hall of Fame. There will be of course a four course meal and entertainment by Truly Diverse and DJ with a bar exemption in operation.

Hall of Fame, recipient of Vincent Doyle Cup: Mike Murphy

Club Person of the Year, recipient of the Cooper Cup: John Foran

Senior Men's Player of the Year, recipient of the John O Grady Cup: Jonathan Lyne

Young Player of the Year, recipient of the Jim Trant Trophy: Conor Gammell

Senior Ladies Player of the Year, recipient of the Larry Horgan Cup: Keri Ann Hanrahan

Senior Ladies Young Player of the Year: Amy Walshe

Senior B Player of the Year, recipient of the Jackie Lyne Cup: Colm O Cuiv

Senior B Young Player of the Year: Daire Murphy

EAST KERRY SUPERLEAGUE

Our Senior Men start their 2025 campaign with an East Kerry Superleague date with Spa. The game will throw in on Tuesday February 4th at 7.30pm in Direen. We wish the team and management the best of luck for the season ahead.

SAINT BRENDANS COLLEGE

The very best of luck to St Brendans College as they look to add another Corn Ui Mhuiri crown to their cabinet. They will face Mercy Mounthawk in the decider on the weekend of February 8th /9th with the venue to be confirmed. Bryan Walsh, Josh Bowler and Oisín Fleming all started in the semi final win over IS Kenmare with the latter duo contributing five points between them.

SCOR

It is looking like the East Kerry Scór na bPaistí will take place on Sunday 9th March 2025 with the County Final taking place on the 30th March 2025.

Competition Categories: Figure/Céilí Dancing,

Solo Singing, Ballad Group- Music, Ballad Group- Singing, Recitation/Scéalaíocht, Nuachleas/Novelty Act, Instrumental Music, Set Dancing, Table Quiz, Solo Figure Dance, Solo Sean Nós Dance, Solo Music Instrumental Please contact Caroline @ 083 8915953 if you would like to participate.

DEEPEST SYMPATHIES

The Club extends its sympathies to Tim Healy and family on the passing of his mother Margaret (Peg) Healy. Also, to Oran Kane, our under 7s coach and his 3 boys Evan Hugo and Eric on the death of his mother Alice

LOTTO

Results Monday 20th January. Numbers were 2, 5, 11, 17. Bonus No 8. No Jackpot winner. Match 3s/ Lucky Dips 3 x €50: 1. Pat Cronin, Cronins Restaurant. 2. Carmel O Connor, Glencar. 3. Patrick Mannix online

DR CROKES

MEMBERSHIP

Membership for the 2025 season is now due! Follow the link below https://member.clubforce.com/memberships_cart_m.asp?LL_ID=734&intMF_ID=14394#topp

LOTTO took place January 27th. Numbers drawn were 1, 18, 20, 26 Jackpot of €8,300 was NOT WON. 13 patrons matched 3 numbers and received €35 each. Jackpot for draw on February 3rd will be €8,600.

SOCIAL will take place on February 14th in the Gleneagle Hotel. Tickets are €55 and will be on sale in the clubhouse on Wednesday 29nd of January from 6:30pm-7:30pm. They are also available in the Tatler Jack or from executive members.

GYM FOBS will be deactivated on Friday. To have your fob activated for the 2025 year a charge of €25 is payable. Payment will be taken in the Clubhouse this Friday from 6:30pm-7:30pm. Please bring your gym fob when making payment. You must be a fully paid club member.

FR. PADDY'S CARDS NIGHT will continue every Wednesday from 8pm in the clubhouse.

KATHLEEN'S GENTLE MOVEMENT CLASS will resume on Tuesday February 4th at 11am in the clubhouse. You do not need to be a member to join. All Welcome.

GENTLE YOGA FOR MEN and woman returns on Thursday January 16th until February 6th from 6:15pm-7pm. It is €40 for 4 weeks.

NATIONAL CLUB DRAW

All proceeds of the ticket sales will go to Dr Crokes. There are fantastic prizes to be won. https://member.clubforce.com/tickets_m.asp?LL_ID=734&intTE_ID=3400

BINGO

Dr Crokes Bingo continues every second Sunday in St. Mary's Parish Hall. Doors will open at 7pm with the first game commencing at 8pm. Next game is February 9th.

BEST WISHES to Club Stalwart Vince Casey who continues to recover from a recent operation.

NOTES

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

28 TEAMS FROM 15 COUNTIES TO DESCEND ON WEST KERRY FOR 36TH LIDL COMÓRTAS PEILE PÁIDÍ Ó SÉ FOOTBALL FESTIVAL

All-Ireland winning Kerry midfielders Diarmuid O'Connor and Mary O'Connell from Tralee's Na Gaeil club visited Minard Castle, Lispole, built by the Knight of Kerry and also a location in the famous movie Ryan's Daughter to officially launch the Lidl Comórtas Peile Páidí Ó Sé 2025.

The famed club ladies and men's club Gaelic football tournament has been running since 1989 and once again is taking place all across the Dingle Peninsula from the 21st – 23rd February.

15 counties from the four provinces of Ireland will take part in the 36th edition of the Lidl Comórtas Peile Páidí Ó Sé, with 28 adult men's and ladies club teams coming for a weekend of competitive football and social events including popular Irish band Deuces Wild at Páidí Ó Sé's pub in Ventry, West Kerry.

A recent research study by Lidl revealed ahead of the 2025 Lidl National Leagues said 42% of Irish public more likely to attend female games to watch a high-profile player. The Comórtas certainly helps that statistic every year as the cream of GAA club football as well as many inter-county females players on show once again will be out in West Kerry. The football festival, which was founded by eight-time All-Ireland winner Páidí Ó Sé, is supported by Lidl Ireland, EJ Menswear, Kerry County Council Tourism Unit, McKeever Sports, Fáilte Ireland and Údarás na Gaeltachta, and has attracted over 22,000 club players since it was founded in 1989.

Comórtas Chairman, Pádraig Óg Ó Sé said; "We welcome our players once again to West Kerry for the Comórtas. About 500 players and also mentors and supporters are in full planning mode to kick off their season with a weekend away and we are ready with social events and craic around Comórtas HQ Páidí Ó Sé's pub and of course football lovers can also expect some great competitive matches



Kerry and Na Gaeil midfielders Mary O'Connell and Diarmuid O'Connor with Comórtas chairman Pádraig Ó Sé (centre) at Minard Castle, Lispole in West Kerry announcing details of the Lidl Comórtas Peile Páidí Ó Sé 2025, the famed Gaelic football club tournament which takes place across the Dingle Peninsula from 21-23 February. Details on www.paidiose.com

over the weekend. We thank all our title sponsor Lidl who are a key driver of the growth of Ladies Gaelic games in Ireland through their LGFA sponsorship. They contribute every year to the vision my father had, which was to promote the club game and also to attract people to the beautiful Dingle Peninsula."

Pádraig continued, "A special mention also to Kerry County Council Tourism Unit and Údarás na Gaeltachta who are backing us also to continue with the Comórtas, as they understand the big benefit in terms of local tourism. We are also delighted that fashion retailers EJ Menswear of Sligo, who are related to the Ó Sé family, are again partnering up with us to ensure it will be a weekend to remember."

Jamie O'Rourke, Partnerships & Events Manager with Lidl Ireland added; "We are delighted to continue our sponsorship of the Comórtas Peile Páidí Ó Sé for the eight year. As a longstanding supporter of the Ladies Gaelic



Football Association, this is an event we look forward to all year as it's always a fantastic display of Gaelic football and of local communities coming together to celebrate Ireland's more historic and widely played sport. At Lidl, we're committed to elevating positive female role models through our partnership with LGFA and we're pleased to see a

strong presence and promotion of the women's game throughout this event. With 7 stores in Kerry and supporting more than 130 jobs in Kerry, we have a strong connection to the county, and we look forward to building this partnership for many years to come."



Armagh Claim The Spoils in Opening Game

Lidl National Football League Division 1

ARMAGH 3-11 KERRY 1-13

By Dan Kearney

An outstanding second half from champions Armagh, in which they outscored Kerry by 3-6 to 0-6, saw them claim the spoils against a Kerry side that ran out of legs in the finish at a windy Austin Stack Park in Tralee in the first round of the Lidl National Football League.

The introduction of substitutes Blaithín Mackin, who struck for 1-1, and Rebecca Cunningham, with a goal, made all the difference, whilst Anna Carr in the Armagh goal was also in superb form.

TG4 All-Ireland Senior champions Kerry had the advantage of the wind in the first half but it was Armagh, the Lidl NFL Division 1 holders, that made the brighter start when late replacement Eimear McGeown popped over in the first minute, although Kerry were soon on level terms when Síofra O'Shea slotted a free following a foul on captain Anna Galvin.

In a repeat of last year's top-flight decider, and in the first competitive game between the sides since the 2024 TG4 All-Ireland semi-final, O'Shea put the Kingdom 0-2 to 0-1 to the good in the fifth minute but Niamh Reel showed her abilities when she replied two minutes later for the visitors to level matters.

Reel then slotted a free that she earned herself and Armagh went two to the good with Reel once again doing the damage, although Rachel Dwyer did get one back for the hosts after a fine run and assist by the marauding Aoife Dillane. Eve Lavery stretched Armagh's advantage to two in the 18th minute but from here on Kerry dominated the half, with Síofra O'Shea striking for a brilliant goal in the 20th minute after excellent approach play from the impressive Niamh Ní Chonchúir and Jadyne Lucey.

Lucey followed up with a score of her own, but



Niamh Ní Chonchúir of Kerry during the Lidl Ladies National Football League Division 1 match between Kerry and Armagh at Austin Stack Park in Tralee, Kerry. Photo by Piaras Ó Midheach/Sportsfile

Armagh were still dangerous and Mary Ellen Bolger was forced into a brilliant one-handed save from Eimear McGeown as her shot was destined for the top corner

The rest of the half belonged to Kerry and Síofra O'Shea with two (one free) and Anna Galvin saw them take a 1-7 to 0-5 lead in at the half time break.

Galvin went on a fine run and score from the second half throw-in but Armagh struck for three points on the trot from Eve Lavery, Eimear McGeown and Blaithín Mackin, fresh off the bench, made it a 1-8 to 0-8 game.

Carr made a fine double save from Síofra O'Shea and Jadyne Lucey, but Lucey saw yellow straight afterwards for a high challenge.

When O'Shea pointed for Kerry in the 45th



Síofra O'Shea of Kerry shoots to score her side's first goal during the Lidl Ladies National Football League Division 1 match between Kerry and Armagh at Austin Stack Park in Tralee, Kerry. Photo by Piaras Ó Midheach/Sportsfile

minute to make it 1-13 to 0-9, it proved to be Kerry's last score of the game, as Carr made another fine save from Ní Chonchúir.

It was all Armagh from here on in. Reel with a brace of points was followed by a splendid goal from Mackin before Rebecca Cunningham struck for a scorcher in the 53rd minute.

The last goal of the contest came from Roisin Mulligan as Armagh had too much in the finish for a Kerry team that faded in the last quarter.

Scorers

Kerry: S O'Shea 1-6 (0-4f), A Galvin 0-2, J Lucey, R Dwyer, K Cronin, C Evans & N Ní Chonchúir 0-1 each.

Armagh: N Reel 0-5 (1f), B Mackin 1-1, R Cunningham & R Mulligan 1-0 each, E Lavery & E McGeown 0-2 each, C O'Hanlon 0-1.

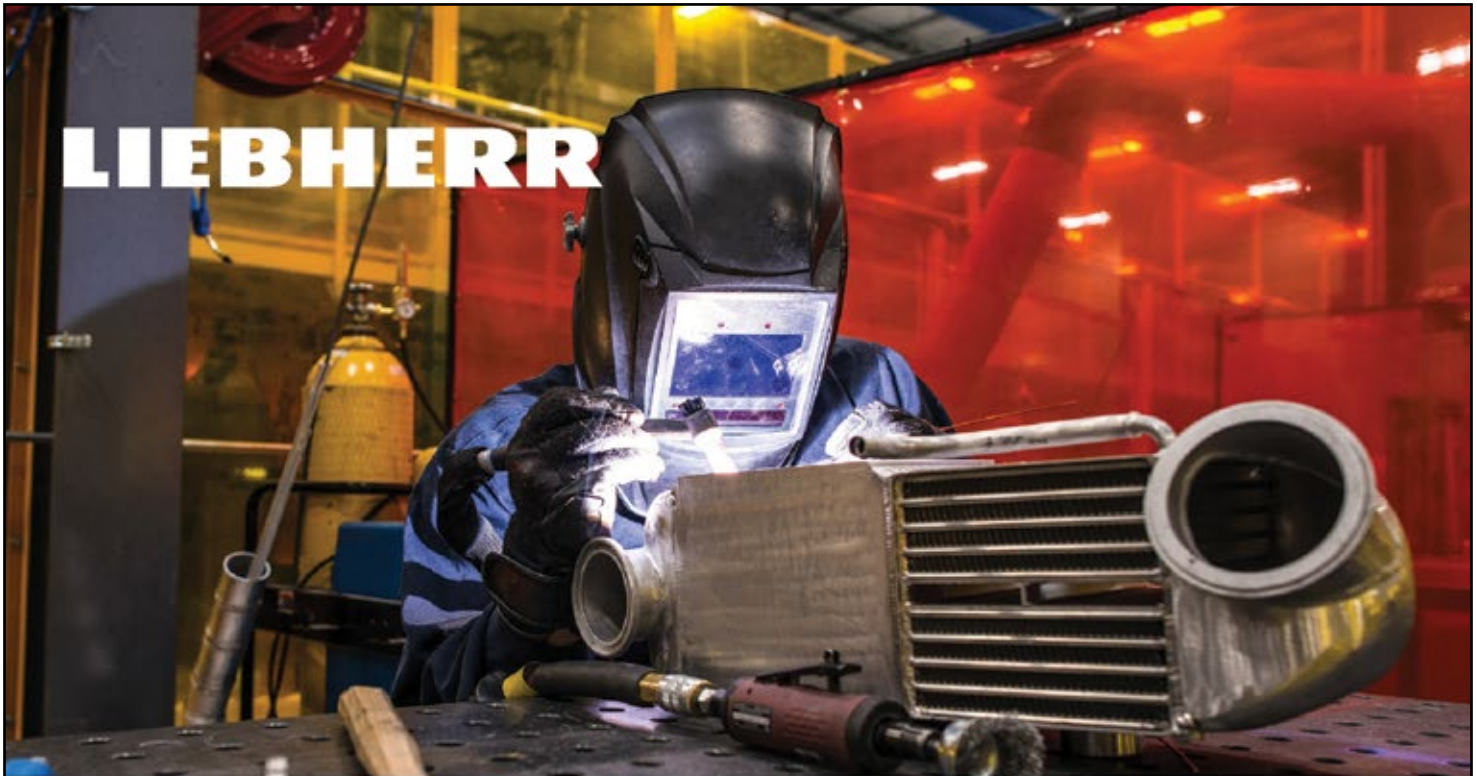
Kerry: M.E. Bolger; R Smith, D Kearney, F O'Donoghue; A O'Connell, K Cronin, A Dillane; M O'Connell, A Galvin (capt.); N Carmody, N Ní Chonchúir, C Evans; J Lucey, S O'Shea, R Dwyer. Subs: J Gill for C Evans 44, C McCarthy for R Smith, K Brosnan for R Dwyer (both 47), K O'Connor for N Ní Chonchúir 49, M Higgins for J Lucey 55, N Ní Chonchúir for M O'Connell 56, R Rahilly for F O'Donoghue 58

Armagh: A Carr; M Ferguson, L Kenny, C Towe; E Druse, L McConville (capt.), R Mulligan; N Coleman, C O'Hanlon; A McCoy, M Feehan, E Lavery; N Reel, M Lennon, E McGeown. Subs B Mackin for L Kenny 33, C McNally for M Lennon, M McGann for E Lavery (both 40), R Cunningham for E McGeown 52, N Henderson for N reel 55, C Garvey for M Feehan 56.

Referee: Jonathan Murphy (Carlow).



Jadyne Lucey of Kerry shoots under pressure from Roisin Mulligan of Armagh, 7, during the Lidl Ladies National Football League Division 1 match between Kerry and Armagh at Austin Stack Park in Tralee, Kerry. Photo by Piaras Ó Midheach/Sportsfile



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Key elements of the role

Responsibilities include but are not limited to the following:

- Ensure all trainees receive training in the various welding skills, basic and advanced - MMA, MAG, TIG to certified standards as required.
- Prepare lesson plans, course notes, presentational material, and handouts as appropriate.
- Supervise trainees and ensure that correct methods, quality standards and safety procedures are observed.
- Presentation of topics to a group of trainees or coaching on a one-to-one basis.
- Assessments and performance reviews for apprentices.
- Coordinating and testing of company weld tests for both new and existing employees.

- Giving constructive feedback to all trainees.
- Carry out welds for testing for new weld procedures.
- Other duties which may arise.

Qualifications & competencies

- Ability to read, interpret and explain complex drawings.
- Ability to weld to a high standard and explain different processes (MIG, MAG, TIG, MMA, Gas welding, submerged arc, orbital, soldering and brazing).
- A relevant welding qualification.
- Minimum of 5 years post qualification welding.
- Knowledge of AutoCAD and / or Pro-Engineer is an advantage.
- Recognised trainer / instructor qualification desirable.
- Computer literate with a good knowledge of MS Office applications.
- Excellent communication and presentation skills.
- CSWIP Inspector qualified desirable.

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Gardening

with Killarney Outlook

by John O'Sullivan

PLANTS FOR SHADE

Most gardens have a shady spot, a north facing wall, under a tree or in the shadow of the house. There is a huge range of plants to suit shaded areas including broad-leaved foliage plants, to spring flowers and ever green flowering shrubs. Ferns are probably the first plant you would think of when it comes to shade – you can choose from a wide range of ferns from dwarf, medium or large. Ferns look very natural when planted under a tree or beside a wall. Most ferns will die back for the winter so if you want all year round foliage you will need to plant something evergreen near the ferns i.e something low growing like the Viburnum Davidii which is a great plant when planted in groups of three. Another good evergreen plant for the shade is the Heuchera which comes in lovely shades including dark to light purple and green to light green. There is also a wide range of flowering plants for shade. A good example is an Astilbe, an Astilbe has a good range of flower colours and foliage to choose from. An Astilbe has a good range of flower colours and foliage to choose from. Sometimes when an area is shaded, the ground can be quite dry – even in the winter time. A good plant for this would be a plant called Vinca Minor which is an evergreen flowering ground cover plant. But remember to water until established.



JOHN O'SULLIVAN, FOUR SEASONS GARDENING SERVICES, KILLARNEY 087-2787160.



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Contact: Aisling Crosbie

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Cousins Colm O'Connor and Aine O'Sullivan with their grandparents Dan and Noreen Cooper at the Spa Welcome Celebrations following the dancers All Ireland win at Scor na nOg.

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A Word of Victory

"He came into the very world He created, but the world didn't recognise Him. He came to His own people, and even they rejected Him. But to all who believed Him and accepted Him, He gave the right to become children of God"
(John 1:10-12 NLT).

Welcome back dear student, have you ever felt unaccepted, or been rejected? It's a huge cause of physical and mental sickness and torment. The Lord Jesus knows what it feels like. "He was despised and rejected: a Man of sorrows acquainted with deep grief" (Isaiah 53:3). When a member of a royal family comes to visit there is great pomp, ceremony, and fuss. However, when the King of all kings came to this earth He entered in humility as a newborn baby. He grew up strong in God's Word (Luke 2:40). When He ventured out in ministry He was mocked, rejected, and despised - an outcast in the eyes of those who supposedly knew all about Him. They didn't recognise Yeshua because He wasn't what they expected, or what they were used to. The Lord God is full of surprises - mostly they are a test to expose hearts. Remember God told Samuel that He doesn't look at outward show or one's appearance - but into the heart (1 Samuel 16:7). Still today the world is obsessed with people's appearances, weight, height, strength, and financial status - but none of that matters to God. Folks are chasing wealth, fame, achievements, and cosmetic alterations as answers to their misery, because they don't know the Love of God. The enemy has lured people into believing that they will find happiness in bigger lips, busts, biceps, and bank accounts, and it's destroying generations in the quest, messing with identity, mental health, and destinies.

The lead Scripture above highlights something interesting: that even though some rejected Jesus and refused to follow Him, others accept Him. And to those who accept Him and believe in Him reward is given. The gift of sonship - adoption into God's family as His children - totally washed and cleansed from sin, redeemed from the power of death and destruction (Romans 8:15-16). You don't need the latest procedure or cream to find renewal friend. That's a ploy by Satan that will keep you searching and striving for all of your life. The Scripture continues "... they are reborn, not with a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan, but a birth that comes from God" (John 1:13; John 3:3-16). Later Paul confirmed this saying "anyone who belongs to Christ is a new creation" (2 Corinthians 5:16-18).

One thing about rejection is very often the person affected has rejected themselves most of all. Listening to and believing the lies of the devil causes one to NOT accept oneself. Everything in life boils down to what Jesus said are the greatest commandments. "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and mind... and love your neighbour as you love yourself" (Matthew 22:37-39). You cannot love either God or others if you do not love yourself. That doesn't mean kissing yourself in the mirror all day but accepting yourself - and others (Romans 15:7). The current worldwide identity crisis and confusion is a result of people not knowing the True God: His love, or His purpose for them, causing a self-obsession: 'me, myself and I'. God's gift of Salvation is received through accepting and believing in Jesus His Son, the spotless Lamb of God. He is the 'Way, the Truth and the Life', and He is the Gate through which we enter the Kingdom of God, totally accepted as His beloved (John 10:7; John 14:6). Give your whole heart to the Lord Jesus, accept Him, study His Word, and be filled with His Peace.

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

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Podcasts on Spotify: A WORD OF VICTORY

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

Church of the Resurrection 5pm - 9pm Tuesdays
St Mary's Cathedral 11am - 5:45pm Wednesdays
Church of the Holy Spirit Muckcross 4pm-6pm Thursdays
Franciscan Friary 2pm -7pm Fridays Holy Hour Sundays @ 6pm

COMMUNAL FIRST SATURDAY: For those who would like to fulfil the second of Our lady's requests in Fatima for obtaining a period of peace and salvation of souls. The Communal First Saturday devotions will be held on Sat. 1st February commencing at 8.45 am in the Church of the Resurrection, Killarney. Confession 8.30 am, the Rosary, 9am followed by Mass, and 15 minutes meditation after Mass. All will be done with the intention of making reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

THE FEAST OF ST BRIGID is celebrated on February 1st. Our Patroness Saint of Ireland is renowned for her hospitality, almsgiving, and care for the sick and dying. The tradition tells us of she weaving rushes into a cross as she helped a dying man to come to Christ.

BLESSING OF THE THROATS: Through the intercession of St. Blaise, the blessing of throats will take place at the Morning Masses only on Monday 3rd Feb.

KERRY DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA Led by Fr. Noel Spring 11-15th May 2025 . Return coach included from Kerry to Shannon Airport to Porto. For information please contact: Barbers Travel Cork 021-4851700.

FOSSA CLIMATE ACTION GROUP are holding a sustainability fair in the community hall on Sun Feb 2nd from 3pm to 5 pm . Everyone welcome

OUR PARISH NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF LOURDES will commence on Monday the 3rd of Feb and concludes on Tues 11th of Feb with a Mass of Healing at 2pm, in St Mary's Cathedral.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT


Professing the Flame of Faith, the people of Derry led by Bishop Donal McKeown will process through the streets of Derry on Saturday next at 1pm bringing Christ in the midst of the people.

At the same time people across Ireland in many towns and cities and throughout the world will be processing in union with them.

In Killarney you are invited to join in unison with them by praying in front of in the Church of the Resurrection from 1pm to 3pm this Saturday.



2ND ANNIVERSARY
 IN LOVING MEMORY OF
CHRISSIE CASEY




DIREEN, BLACK VALLEY,
 BEAUFORT

WHO DIED ON THE
 2ND FEBRUARY 2023

*Those we love don't go away
 They walk beside us everyday
 Unseen, unheard but always near
 Still loved, still missed and very dear*

Missed everyday by all the Casey family
 Anniversary mass on February 6th in Our lady
 of the Valley Church, Black Valley at 7.30pm

7TH ANNIVERSARY
 IN LOVING MEMORY OF
JAMES FERGUSON



GLANMIRE, CORK
 07-02-18
 REST IN PEACE

*As long as hearts remember
 As long as hearts still care
 We do not part with those we love
 They're with us everywhere*

Always remembered by your aunts Breda,
 Mary, Annette, Rosarie and all your cousins.

IN MEMORIAM
 TO PLACE A MEMORIAL ON
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Please email details to:
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 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,
 address and telephone number.

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2/3 Column: €25
1/3 Column: €20
Prayers: €10 each

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7TH & 5TH ANNIVERSARIES
 IN LOVING MEMORY
 OF

JOHN KELLY,
 COOLCUSLOUGH, KILLARNEY
 (PASSED AWAY ON THE
 5TH FEBRUARY 2018)

JOAN (KELLY),
 ADAM D, ADAM J. AND
 MIKEY HUBER,
 RENO, NEVADA
 (PASSED AWAY ON THE 4TH
 MARCH 2020)

*We remember with love John,
 Joan and her family
 You are forever in our thoughts,
 Rest in Peace Dear Loved Ones*


Lovingly remembered by Sheila, Patrick,
 Kathryn, Denis, Bernie, Patsy,
 Grace and Marie

Anniversary mass on Friday 7th February
 at 6.15pm in St. Mary's Cathedral,
 Killarney.

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

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 own broken heart where
 your Father sees it.
 Then in his merciful eyes it will become
 your favour not mine.
 Amen.
 Say this prayer for three days.
 Publication of prayer and favour will be
 granted.
MD

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & 1ST ANNIVERSARY
 IN LOVING MEMORY OF
JOHN O'MAHONY



LATE OF CLARINA,
 LIMERICK
 (& MOUNTHORGAN,
 RATHMORE)

WHO PASSED AWAY
 SUDDENLY ON SUNDAY,
 4TH FEBRUARY 2024

We also wish to thank the ambulance and
 Garda staff who attended to John on Sunday,
 4th February.

It would be impossible to thank everyone
 individually, but to all who attended John's
 funeral, sent messages, cards, and shared
 beautiful memories and stories of him,
 please accept our deepest gratitude. Your
 kindness, compassion, and support have
 been a source of strength as we navigate the
 pain of losing John.

John's First Anniversary Mass will take
 place on Friday, 31st January, at 7:00 PM in
 Ballybrown Church, Limerick.
 Forever loved and always remembered.

Gone Too Soon
*We weren't ready to say goodbye,
 You had so much life left to fly.
 So full of laughter, love, and light,
 Now a star in the quiet night.
 You left this world before your time,
 But your spirit still feels sublime.
 In every smile, in every tear,
 We sense your presence ever near.*

*Your laughter lingers in the air,
 Your kindness, more than we can bear.
 You touched our lives in countless ways,
 And left us with undying praise.
 Too young to go, it feels unfair,
 A soul so vibrant, beyond compare.
 But we'll hold you in our hearts so tight,
 In every shadow, in every light.*

*Though pain remains, so does your love,
 A gift eternal, sent from above.
 Forever young, forever bright,
 A cherished soul in endless light.*

On the occasion of John's first anniversary,
 his wife Trish, children Mark, Katie, Molly,
 and JT, his mother Kathleen, brothers Noel,
 Anthony, Kieran & Aidan, sisters Nora &
 Linda and DeLee family wish to express our
 heartfelt gratitude for the love and support
 shown to us during the devastating loss of
 John.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks
 to our families, friends, work colleagues,
 neighbours, and John's many friends who
 were there for us during his funeral and over
 the past 12 months.

A special word of thanks to Fr. Mike Cussen,
 Fr. Joe Cussen, Fr. Eamon, Sacristan Tom
 O'Brien, and Fr. Pat O'Donnell for the
 beautiful funeral service and their invaluable
 support during that difficult time. We are
 grateful to John's niece, Cait O'Mahony, and
 Paud O'Donoghue for the beautiful music
 and singing that brought so much comfort.
 Thank you to Thompson's Funeral Directors
 for your guidance and compassion and to
 John's friends who prepared his final resting
 place with such care.

We are deeply grateful to Syncreon/DPWorld,
 Breska Rovers, Ballybrown and Mungret GAA
 for the heartfelt Guard of Honour. A special
 thank you to The Woodlands Hotel, Russell's,
 Centra Clarina, and everyone who provided
 food and support during those challenging
 days.



St Brendan's College students Colm O'Brien, Daithí O'Sullivan, Jack Donnelly and Diarmuid Murphy with teacher Paul Barden making St Brigid's Cross made by the student for St Brigid's Day on Saturday. Photo by Michelle Cooper Galvin

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