

# Tirconnairl Tribune

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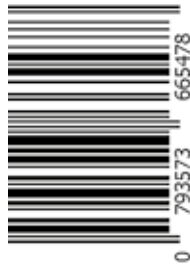


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## Carbon tax deferral sought

A Donegal fuel supplier has called on the government to postpone the planned introduction of Carbon Tax on solid fuel from May the 1st because of its impact on rural dwellers in the Covid-19 crisis.

By Eamonn McFadden

Stephen O'Donnell, (pictured right) who runs O'Donnell Fuels in Crolly, has written to Ministers, TD's, Senators and local council representatives urg-



ing them to consider postponing the solid fuel carbon tax because it will drive up costs for many rural households and impact negatively on businesses like his at a time when the impact of Covid-19 is already causing enough hardship for almost everyone. He says that while carbon tax is already on liquid fuels, their prices have dropped significantly recently, while coal had seen an increase in prices in the last year. He said: "I just put the letter out for

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## Covid - Beef farmers facing total wipeout

As coronavirus sees the farming industry taking a massive hit in beef prices the IFA says that winter beef finishers are facing wipeout as factory quotes hit a 10-year low. This will see producers losing €200 per animal.

By John McAteer

The Covid-19-driven slump in beef prices has raised further question marks over the future viability of the business with major concerns

from farm organisations that the response from the EU Agriculture Commissioner has been an absolute disaster. Cattle dealers told the Tribune that prices are set to fall further this week - with quotes as low as €3.40/kg for heifers. IFA President Tim Cullinane said talks of flexibilities changing dates and making payments a bit earlier are all very fine, but the EU markets are in turmoil.

"Beef finishers are a critical cog in the industry. They supply beef to factories in spring and purchase store cattle. IFA gave a detailed submission to the EU Commission in the autumn and part of that was an Aids to Private Storage Scheme and a direct support for beef farmers. The commissioner has to implement these measures immediately to help alleviate losses on beef farms," he said.

Before the coronavirus threat, the country's beef industry had already been left reeling from a loss of €104.4 million last year. Leading farm representatives have been calling for urgent government action to protect and increase CAP payments that are facing cuts in the region of 25% in the new seven year budget. This deal is already in stalemate in Brussels since February. Donegal is in the top ten of

suckler cow producers nationally has been heavily hit in the price collapse. During last year's terse negotiations on Brexit, Ireland was given to believe the EU would stand four-square alongside our farmers in any fallout from a British withdrawal. However all such guarantees were relegated to the dustbin at the leaders summit meeting in Brussels when the EU

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83 years old Francis 'McGregor' McFadden is cocooning at the moment and getting onions and potatoes ready for the garden. 'McGregor' has been planting the spuds for the past 70 years in Ray, Rathmullan helped by his wife May.



## Downings 'strippers' skip border checks

As Donegal remained in lockdown with border crossings manned by two police forces on Easter Monday, the local community on the Atlantic Drive in Downings got the shock of their lives when a Northern Ireland registered Audi car suddenly arrived at a nearby beach and two young women began removing their clothing. The bizarre behaviour of the two young females and the speeding car led to a Garda chase involving a number of patrol cars across



Ewe wouldn't believe it....

several areas of Donegal before the suspect vehicle was finally detained in Castlederg by the PSNI. It was later reported that two women were detained while two fully-clothed males escaped through the nearby fields. The car registration and behaviour of the occupants were noted by a farmer inspecting his pregnant ewes. Seemingly the man became concerned when he realised the

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McAteer's Shop, Shanagh in the Fanad Peninsula has been part of the commercial landscape of the parish dating back to the 1890's. They have now added a new spiritual dimension for their customers in these difficult times. Photo John McAteer.



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# Is this the end of Civil War politics?

By John McAteer

After a million years (almost) of political distancing, disagreement and statements of being polar opposites on policy and ideology, Leo Varadkar and Micheál Martin have reached agreement with a document to pave the way for Fine Gael and Fianna Fáil to enter into government.

A joint framework document is now agreed by the two party leaders despite Leo Varadkar's protestations that they would be moving to the back benches in the new Dail because they'd lost the general election on February 8th.

The two parties have 72 Dail seats (excluding the Cheann Comhairle and the figures will prove tricky because they are eight TDs short of a working majority.

A straw poll of FF members among the grassroots in Donegal suggests that any deal involving FG will go down like a lead balloon and will face opposition not only on historical grounds but also on fundamental differences in their political dynamics.

Whilst there is a national cohort of opposition across the board in alignment among the traditional base in both major parties it remains to be seen if a hard sell by the two leaders can pull off this agree-

ment to allow Michael Martin to serve as Taoiseach.

The document will now be sent to smaller parties and independents who are interested in entering into government. However it hardly needs restating that Sinn Féin and their 700,000 voters will remain in the back seat with exclusion set to continue through the new Dail.

The same ethos applies to Sol-PBP with Richard Boyd Barrett laying out his party's position saying: "Fine Gael and Fianna Fáil ran down our ICU, hospital bed capacity, and healthcare staffing levels to among the worst in Europe. More than ever after the Covid-19 crisis, we don't need the two parties who so badly undermined our health service back in power." However, should an agreement between the two Civil War parties be ratified by their grassroots membership the formation of a government is not guaranteed unless the Greens or a combination of the Social Democrats and Labour come on board. That does not seem feasible as yet. The problem here is that what unites Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael hearts and minds could actually see the three other parties they seek to engage with remain

on the back benches.

It appears the new draft policy document is very short on detail but full of aspiration in keeping with the spirit of the country at this point in history. "does not go into huge details, but certainly makes very clear and broad commitments".

Key among them the commitment on offer are expected to include an increased role for the State in protecting people and their well-being. It's believed the final document will contain a preamble, introduction and after 98 years of political opposition in one form or another.

While agreement on the document is still some way off, it will propose a new "social contract" aimed at helping the country recover from the Covid-19 crisis including: plans to bring the minimum wage in line with the living wage of €12.30 an hour; pause on college fee increases; tenants rights improvements; a massive state-sponsored social housing programme which will establish an affordable housing purchase scheme at the same time as ramping up the building of homes across the state. Particular attention will be given to the Dublin commuter belt and larger regional towns.

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The document will contain a proposal to make Ireland's environmental commitments among the most ambitious in Europe, with the country achieving net-zero emissions within 30 years.

There will also be a number of initiatives for companies, including a stimulus package for businesses affected by the downturn in the economy in recent weeks.

While both party leaders have agreed a draft docu-

ment the reality is that the 33rd Dail will have to include a government with at least three parties it's now absolutely clear, from both Fine Gael and Fianna Fáil, that a significant third party must join them in any coalition deal if it's going to work.

# Funeral of Patrick (Paddy) MacIntyre

Friends lined the streets of Letterkenny on Monday afternoon to pay their final respects to Patrick (Paddy) MacIntyre. Aged 61, Paddy was a hugely popular and highly respected member of the local community. He sadly passed away on Saturday evening at his Upper Ard O'Donnell home following a long illness that he bore with great fortitude.

He had been an employee of the Mount Errigal Hotel for over 20 years where his son Brian currently works.

Hotel owners Loretto and Terry McEniff paid their own tribute to a man who went about his duties in a quiet, efficient manner and was always available to assist where a helping hand was needed.

Loretto McEniff said: "We were deeply saddened to hear our IT and Purchasing Manager, Paddy MacIntyre has passed away. Paddy has worked in that post since July 1994. His young son Brian currently works with us in Conference and Banqueting. Please remember his family in your thoughts and prayers at this difficult time. Ar dheis Dé go raibh an anam." Staff from the Mount Errigal also formed part of the Guard of Honour on Monday.

GAA was a huge part of Paddy's life and the St Eunan's Club respectfully recognised that sporting contribution by organising the Guard of Honour on Monday afternoon following the Requiem Mass in St. Eunan's Cathedral. Eunan's Chairperson, John Haran paid a special tribute to not alone Paddy's legacy but also roles played in the club by his wife Catriona, son Brian, daughter Sinéad and the wider MacIntyre family.

"Paddy was a loyal St Eunan's man and on behalf of the club I extend my sympathy to his wife, Catriona, children Brian and Sinéad, and to the MacIntyre and Gallagher families," the club chairman said.

"The MacIntyre family have been synonymous with St Eunan's for many years. Paddy was involved with the under-14 coaching on Sunday mornings and was part of the backroom team with Barry Meehan and Eddie Brennan when they were joint managers of the senior footballers a few years ago," Mr Haran added.

"His wife Catriona was a hugely successful player with the club, while Brian and Sinéad are both extremely talented players and have enjoyed great

success up through the ranks in the black and amber. Brian captained the club's under-21 footballers to Donegal championship success back in December and I know how proud Paddy was of that. Paddy's passing is a huge blow to the club, and of course to his family, relatives and friends who all thought so much of him.

"St. Eunan's has lost another loyal member and the club is much the poorer for his passing. May Paddy rest in peace. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family in these difficult times."

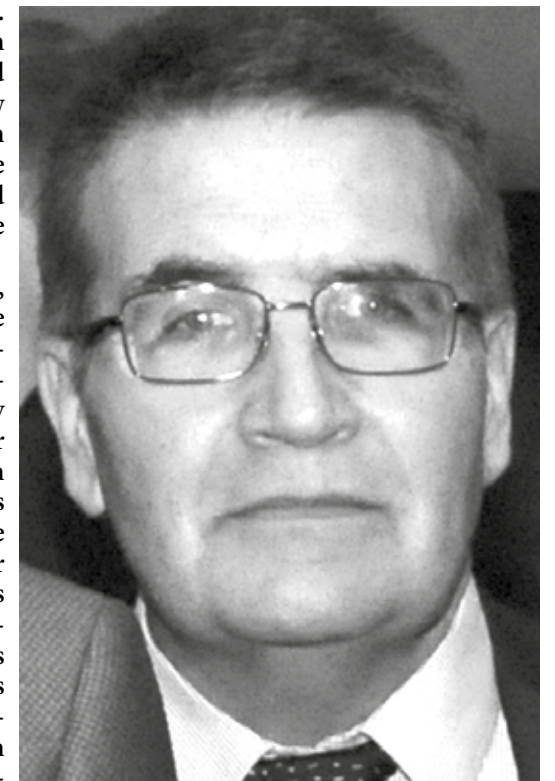
One of Paddy's lifelong friends Neil Clarke paid his own personal tribute. "Paddy's death is a big loss to us all and most of all to his family. Myself and my brother Jim were lifelong friends of Paddy's. Everything revolved around his family. He was determined, intelligent and his knowledge of computers was amazing. Working about the Mount Errigal Hotel myself I saw the detailed way he looked after the stock side of things for the hotel. He would never let you down. There was never a negative word from him all through his illness and he always said to me that he trusted the professionals to

do their best for him. Myself and Jim wish this never happened but all we can do now is look out for each other. Paddy got the send off he deserved on Monday" Clarke said.

A big family man, Paddy had a huge passion for St Eunan's. His wife, Catriona, won many Donegal and Ulster championships with the St Eunan's ladies and played in the All-Ireland senior club final in 1996. His son, Brian, was captain of the St Eunan's under-21 footballers who won the Donegal championship in 2019, while his daughter, Sinéad, is a member of the Donegal minor football team, having captained Donegal at under-14, under-15 and under-16 levels. Wherever Brian and Sinéad were playing, Paddy was always in attendance lending his support and encouragement.

Paddy was a member of the coaching team at the St Eunan's Sunday Morning Academy with his lifelong friend, Jim Clarke, Brendan O'Donnell and Ciaran Maguire. Paddy was diagnosed with cancer in 2016, and bore his illness with dignity and fortitude. He was a constant source of support to other cancer patients and offered assistance in how they could deal with their treatment. Paddy was a regular at the popular Mac's Deli on High Road where he regularly caught up with family and friends. He also enjoyed the banter in Blake's Bar on Upper Main Street where he talked about all things GAA.

On Monday afternoon the funeral cortege stopped briefly at Blake's where mourners clapped hands as they mourned the loss of a true sporting friend. Former playing



The late Patrick MacIntyre, colleagues of Catriona's and members of the St. Eunan's Ladies GAA Club former a Guard of Honour at the Oldtown Dunne's Store outlet as the cortege made its way over the bridge to New Leck Cemetery. Paddy was a frequent visitor to Bundoran and linked up with his brother, Peter and his wife Elizabeth, at the Allingham Arms Hotel.

Predeceased by his parents Sarah and John, former editor of the Donegal People's Press, Paddy is survived by his wife Catriona (née Gallagher formerly Glenties), son Brian, daughter Sinéad, brothers Martin, Sean, Eunan and Peter, sisters Geraldine, Mary O, Brid and Anne and a large circle of relatives and friends.

Family friend Fr. Ciaran Harkin, P.P. Newtowncunningham officiated at the Requiem Mass in St Eunan's Cathedral on Monday afternoon and at the burial in New Leck Cemetery. His brother Martin played the uilleann pipes at the graveside. Deepest sympathies are extended to Paddy's family, relatives, neighbours and friends.



Mourners paying their respects along Letterkenny's Main Street as the remains of the late Paddy MacIntyre were brought to his final resting place in New Leck Cemetery on Monday afternoon.

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# Coping with Covid in San Francisco

Leah Kavanagh, the daughter of Roisin and Cllr Jimmy Kavanagh from Ashbrook, Letterkenny, has been residing in the US city of San Francisco for the past six years. Here is Leah's account about how life has changed utterly in the past month with the rampant spread of the coronavirus and here.

by Declan Kerr

On any given day in San Francisco, as clocks approach lunch time the streets of the city's financial district are bustling with pedestrians and the iconic cable cars are packed with tourists. However, at Midnight on Tuesday, March 16th San Francisco became the first US city to have a "stay at home" order, restricting all but essential activities for over 7 million Bay Area residents leaving the same streets completely silent.

The weeks prior to this, my time was spent preparing for an eagerly anticipated visit from my parents Roisin and Jimmy who were due to arrive on 18th March. I have been living in San Francisco since 2014. My fiancé David King (son of Kenny and Sheila King, Letterkenny) is here too, he is an engineer in the city. We moved to San Francisco when I graduated from UCD and have been here since.

We got engaged in February this year in Yosemite National Park so my parents visiting was something we were really excited about. We had planned to spend a week visiting the landmark Golden Gate Bridge, The Painted Ladies, Alcatraz, the Cable Cars and the many fantastic attractions the city has to offer, we were hoping also to fit in a trip to Los Angeles and Hollywood and they were booked for a mini cruise too. I was planning on getting some photographs of my Dad with Captain America and The Hulk at the Los Angeles Dolby Theater to send to my nephew Jack who is three years old and totally obsessed with his super heroes.

As the saying goes "God laughs when man plans", little did I know there would be no visit from home, as the realisation of the severity of Covid-19 sunk in, mum and dad's trip had to be cancelled. I had planned a mini cruise for them along the coast of California, and the reality of this pandemic came forcefully home when the ship I had booked the Grand Princess docked in Oakland after being left in limbo for a number of days just off San Francisco. The ship was carrying at least 21 passengers and crew who tested

positive for coronavirus. It was carrying a total of 2,422 guests, 1,111 crew members representing 54 different nationalities, of those infected, a 71-year-old man died of the virus marking the first death in California from Covid-19.

I work as an investment Manager in a Wealth Management firm. I obtained my stock broker license in 2014 and have been focused on trading for clients within the San Francisco area since then. Working in finance in the midst of a pandemic is very different and difficult and as stock prices plunge, it is incredibly worrying for investors, especially those who are reaching retirement age.

By comparison in 2019 the markets were at an all-time high it was then a much easier job to have. I am fortunate enough to work in a profession where I can work from home. However, some of my friends working in restaurants and shops that I love to visit are not so fortunate. This is an incredibly stressful time for so many, and in the US over 16.8 million people have become unemployed in the last three weeks, many of these individuals will be left without their employer sponsored health benefits at the worst possible time, in addition, some US states may not be able to begin issuing unemployment payments until late May which will leave many people with no income and unable to pay their bills.

As this situation puts further stress on the city's resources it's even harder to help the homeless population. San Francisco has 8,000 homeless people, amazingly over 30% of those are from outside San Francisco, they come here because of the pleasant climate and because it is an affluent city and people are relatively generous and sympathetic to them, compared to other cities in the country. Many of them have mental health and addiction issues, and many are disabled veterans and some have become homeless simply because they lost their jobs and their homes as well.

The virus is spreading very rapidly among the homeless in San Francisco, with over 70 people testing positive in one homeless shelter in the city, with the first case only identified one week prior. To give homeless people who need isolation and a place to stay, the city has enlisted the help of a handful of local hotels. However, doctors are faced with very difficult choices discharging people from the hospital and trying to avoid sending them to the street causing stress and trauma for



Letterkenny natives Leah Kavanagh and her fiancé David King in San Francisco with the Golden Gate Bridge in the background.

both the hospital staff and patients, and alarm among the general public.

I have been proud watching how Ireland has handled the crisis and with our government, health experts and the Irish people's prompt handling of the crisis. They oversaw an early testing program, closed pubs and schools earlier than other countries and are communicating to the public about the pandemic in honest humane terms unlike what we have seen in America, where many States have not enforced stay at home orders as of yet despite the growing numbers of cases within the same States.

It is impressive too that the Government is acting totally on the advice of the health experts, that did not happen in the States, where the expert opinion was at loggerheads with what the administration wanted to hear, and taking the proper decisions were subsequently delayed and we are paying a heavy price for that now. There is nothing good about the virus, however, seeing as we are fated to go through this together, I am trying to learn something from it.

Sometimes I feel I am so far away from home but I have felt during this time that the world has become so much smaller and we are all so dependent on each other. I miss going out at the weekend with my friends for dinner and doing all the normal daily things like going to work, shopping, going to the gym, those things now seem such a

privilege, being confined to home for the last few weeks, I realize how much I love and appreciate my normal schedule and routine despite previously complaining about it on a daily basis.

Staying at home and practicing social distancing is about caring for your families and loved ones who are more vulnerable than we might be. Many small businesses, restaurants, travel agencies, insurance agencies willingly closed their doors in order to keep people safe and in order to do their part to keep their community healthy.

Everyone has chosen to be less selfish and careless and are doing their part to fight this. Slowing down and being able to spend time together, makes me realize how much we are on the go and preoccupied particularly in a fast-paced city like San Francisco. I have my Zoom calls to home when I can talk to mum and dad, my sister Michelle and her husband Conor Connolly in Ramelton, my nephew Jack, and my niece little Eve, who is only three months old and I have not met her in person yet, I have that to look forward to when I get home at Christmas and hopefully the postponed visit from my parents might still happen later in 2020, if all goes well.

I am very much looking forward to all this being over and finally getting our family photos in front of the Golden Gate Bridge and of course seeing Captain America in Hollywood and getting those snaps to Jack.



The normally bustling Market St. now completely empty of traffic and people

## Funeral of Rosemary Patterson

The funeral took place on Saturday of Rosemary Patterson, Ballyraine, Letterkenny. Aged 87, Rosemary was formerly a member of the Patton family from The Knather, Ballyshannon.

She passed away suddenly on Thursday at her home. She came to Letterkenny in 1955 and worked in the secretarial staff section with the Donegal Vocational Education Committee. She was predeceased by her husband Harry. Rosemary is survived by her sons Brian (Letterkenny)

and Paul (Sydney); daughters Heather Boersme (Toronto) and June Reynolds (London); sons-in-law Victor and Hugh, daughter-in-law Elvira, grandchildren, nieces, nephews and friends to whom deepest condolences are extended.

The late Mrs Patterson's Funeral Service took place on Saturday. The Reverends Heather and David Houlton officiated at both the Service and burial in the family plot in Gortlee Cemetery.

Basketball Ireland National League All Stars

## Two All-Stars for LYIT

There was good news at the weekend for the LYIT Donegal basketball team as two members of their squad Dom Uhl and Manny Payton were named in the National League All Stars. The All Stars were picked for by the coaches in each division of the National League. Uhl and Payton were included on the Men's Division One All-Star Team. Payton previously played with Framingham State University. Uhl was formerly with Team Ehingen in the German Pro League.

# Varadkar has no excuse for not heeding pandemic warning ... last August

There are some chinks of light in these bad times. The most significant and welcome is the noticeable change in values over the past few weeks. Official Ireland and Official Britain have both had to pay heed to this. Those now being admired are health service workers, in particular, but also other essential workers. Those others are needed so that the health service can continue to run, and we can continue to eat and have access to water, sewage, electricity and telecommunications.

The necessity of the health service is obvious. That necessity is at all levels. It is not just front-line staff such as nurses and doctors, but also all the various other workers. Particularly important are the cleaners. In the current situation, hospitals need to be kept rigorously clean. (So, too, do other public spaces). Let us remember that health workers are putting their lives at risk on the front line against the Coronavirus.

Unfortunately, in Ireland and Britain, they have been sent to the front line without adequate protective equipment. There have been cases in Britain of nurses using waste bags for protection. Things in Ireland are little better.

The prize for most crass comment in this time of plague must go to British Health Secretary Matt Hancock. In an interview on Channel 4 News, he complained of health workers using too much personal protection equipment.

Were that crass comment all, we could live with it. The authorities' neglect of their duty has had consequences. According to the magazine 'Nursing Notes' which covers the (British) health service, 26 health and social care workers have so far died there of Coronavirus.

In Ireland, as far as I know at time of writing, only one health worker has died. That is still one too many. That death is only the tip of the iceberg. Twenty-five percent of those so far diagnosed in Ireland have been health workers. That raises a lot of questions about the amount and quality of personal protective equipment provided for those who work in hospitals and nursing homes. Were the pandemic to get worse, that figure raises the possibility of the health service facing a major crisis if significantly more health workers become ill.

There is public support for front line workers, and health service workers in particular. The 'Clap for the NHS' has become a big event at 8.00pm on Thursdays, in Britain and the North. It is one of those gestures that have caught the public imagination. People come out to their front door and clap. The gesture shows a real appreciation for health service workers. Some clappers showed hypocrisy, I regret to say. They were political figures who had cut the health service to the bone, leaving the British health service poorly-equipped to tackle the epidemic.

There was, too, a good response for the call for people to put a light in their windows in Ireland on Saturday to pay tribute to front-line workers. Again, though, some who were backing this should have used their political clout to have



By Anton McCabe

stopped cut-backs to the health service. There is nothing wrong with gestures of appreciation: but action by those with the power would have been far better.

That is not about scoring points. Unfortunately, in Ireland there are signs that opportunities were missed. The 2019 National Risk Assessment was published in August last year. It warned of a flu pandemic which would have the potential to cause "death and illness on a significant scale and to disrupt normal social and economic activity."

Leo Varadkar has no excuse for not having read and understood this report. The Department of the Taoiseach published it. Just in case Varadkar makes the excuse that from August last to now is a relatively short period, he has had time. The warning have been in similar terms in every National Risk Assessment since 2014. The report recommended advance planning to minimise disruption of services and society. Thus, he needs to explain why he did not take the advice he commissioned. Did that put front line workers at excessive risk? Of course, health service workers aren't the only essential workers. We have a whole number of others who are vital to keep the country functioning. Retail workers are obvious, because food supplies are vital. There are others like the lorry drivers who deliver to the shops, firemen,

postmen, all sorts of maintenance workers, and many other categories. Since the crisis began, there has been a lot less about the wonders of 'entrepreneurs' or 'inward investors' and how they have to be indulged. I have heard a lot less excuses for our various tax exiles, who are far too often forgiven.

The British tabloid press is a sign of how things have shifted. It has an overwhelmingly right-wing agenda. It is the friend of the Tories. That relationship, though, is not simple. Those same tabloids have an excellent feel as to the attitudes of the British people. That, after all, is how they have succeeded in surviving for so long. They have taken up the call for better personal protective equipment for front-line health service workers. The Johnson government can ignore that, but only at its peril.

The current pandemic will end. As of yet we do not know for definite when. We can, though, say that it has taught us who the people are who important in keeping the country running. They are overwhelmingly lower-paid, previously under-valued, and perceived as either un- or (at best) semi-skilled. Very many are women, very many are immigrants. We have to take something positive from the hard times we have gone through. It is undeniable the pandemic will change the world we live in. Let's make sure one change will be that those who keep the country running are valued.

That is not pie-in-the-sky stuff. The words of Jesus in Matthew 20:16 are a fitting sum-up of what should be: "So the last shall be first, and the first last."

## The late George Healy

The death occurred on Saturday of George Healy, Hillhead, Kilmacrennan. Aged 69, George was a retired Garda and a native of Belmullet, Co. Mayo. He was a very active member of the local community and that was reflected in the turnout of neighbours and friends in Kilmacrennan for a Guard of Honour during the funeral on Monday. When there were deaths in the local community, George as a member of the Gardai, based in Kilmacrennan, was there leading the cortege into the chapel and gave the final salute. And that tradition was carried on by Garda Damien O'Connell on Monday. Members of the Gardai past and present were in attendance to pay

their respects as part of the Guard of Honour.

George is survived by his wife Sheila, sons Tim, Daniel and George, daughters Alice, Catherine and Jules, daughters-in-law, sons-in-law, 14 grandchildren, brother Charles, sister Mary Frances O'Donoghue (Coventry), brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, extended family and friends. Fr. Paddy Dunne P.P. was the celebrant at the Requiem Mass in St Columba's Church, Kilmacrennan, on Monday afternoon and also officiated at the burial afterwards in the adjoining cemetery. Deepest condolences are extended to George's family, relatives, neighbours and friends.



## Funeral of Maura Peoples

The funeral took place on Monday of Maura Peoples (nee Freeman), Gortnaskeagh, Kilmacrennan and formerly of Milltown, Monaghan. Maura, the eldest of a family of 15 passed away on Friday. She was predeceased by her husband Robert last October and by brothers Martin and Bernard. Maura is survived by her sons Keith, Aiden and Oliver; daughters-in-law Kellie and Erin; 11 grandchildren; brothers Paddy, Eugene, Benny, John and Paul; sisters Josephine, Evelyn, Helen, Betty, Maja, Cathy and Kelly, extended family and friends.



Funeral Mass took place in St Columba's Church, Kilmacrennan on Monday morning where Fr. Paddy Dunne P.P. officiated. Burial was afterwards in the adjoining cemetery where Fr. Dunne said the graveside prayers. Deepest condolences are extended to the family circle.

## COVID-19 Pandemic Unemployment Payment for farmers clarified - IFA

IFA Farm Family & Social Affairs Chair Caroline Farrell welcomed clarification from the Dept of Employment Affairs and Social Protection that a farmer who has incurred a substantial loss of income as a result of restrictions can qualify for the COVID-19 Pandemic Unemployment Payment. IFA has received the following clarification in relation to the Payment:

- Full-time farmers who had ceased trading (i.e. unable to sell or buy animals, crops or other produce) as a result of the pandemic are entitled to the payment of €350 per week.
- Part-time farmers who have lost off-farm employment as a result of the pandemic are entitled to the payment of €350 per week.
- A farmer in receipt of Farm Assist payments is not entitled to Covid-19 Pandemic Unemployment Payment. However, if their income has deteriorated as a result of restrictions or loss of income, they can look for a reassessment of the Farm Assist.

- A farmer in receipt of Rural Social Scheme is not entitled to Covid-19 Pandemic Unemployment Payment, but the existing payment is maintained.
- A farmer and/or spouse in receipt of Carers Allowance and Carers Benefit, including those who are working fewer than 18 hours per week, who have 'ceased trading' or lost their employment can claim the payment of €350 per week.
- A farmer in receipt of Disability Allowance that has 'ceased trading' or lost employment is entitled to the payment. The payment will be adjusted to take account of the Disability Allowance payment.

"We have been receiving calls from full and part-time farmers who were getting different messages regarding eligibility even from the Dept of Employment Affairs and Social Protection. It is important to have clarity."



Mourners paying their respects during the funeral of the late George Healy on Monday in Kilmacrennan. Photo by Joe Dunne

## Chiropodist still providing service

While the service is severely restricted a Letterkenny based chiropodist says he has stayed open to treat the feet of clients who have been experiencing pain. Paul Prince who operates the Foot Care Clinic on Port Road, says it is a very challenging time for him and all other private businesses due to Covid-19.

"I am just open now on designated

days for clients who are having pain in their feet and maybe have health related issues. It's a case of taking phone calls and checking the patients condition. I am taking all the precautions and we are a service that is allowed to stay open to deal with public health. I could have closed but decided not to do that in the interests of the patients that I have been

looking after" Mr Prince said.

People can leave their homes for health related appointments and Mr Prince says that the chiropody service comes into that category. He says care of the feet is highly important to the health of a lot of people. "Unfortunately, we all need our feet and pain dictates if you will need to be seen by a Chiropodist."

# New norm for Church services

For now but for hopefully not too long the use of webcams and facebook live is the new normal in churches throughout Donegal and across the country. For a couple of weeks recently RTE was broadcasting the daily morning masses from St. Eunan's Cathedral. Clergy are glad to now have the modern technology to connect with their parishioners due to Covid-19 pandemic. Nightly rosary led by Bishop Alan McGuckian has also been streaming via facebook from the Cathedral.

**by Declan Kerr**

The Parish Priest of Kilmacrennan Fr. Paddy Dunne is pleased with the way that facebook has been keeping the link with parishioners at home, around the country and abroad. "We have been getting a very big response to masses from the facebook streaming. It has been especially encouraging for funerals with big numbers linking in and it is showing a lot of traffic. But, it is still very challenging and painful times for families grieving the loss of a loved one" Fr. Dunne said.

Fr. Michael McKeever who officiated at the Easter Ceremonies in St. Columba's Church, Glenswilly said the response from the local community had been very encouraging. "The text messages and emails I have got were very positive from people in the parish and indeed across the county and country. They were just happy to take part in the ceremonies here in Glenswilly. This technology is good in a crisis and it's great to be able to make use of it in these times and it's safe for everyone" Fr. McKeever said.

The Churchill based C.C. is hoping like the whole country that life can return to normal in the not too dis-

tant future. "It's very difficult that we can't be present with each other in the church and indeed in the community. But, people are keeping in touch through modern communication. Local people are looking out for their neighbours and especially the elderly. Various groups are doing different things in places to help."

Like all clergy at this time, deaths are understandably proving to be very difficult because of the necessary Government and HSE guidelines as a result of the Coronavirus. "It goes totally against the grain for Irish people and especially here in Donegal as they would like to be there at the wakes and funerals for the deceased's family. It's hard not to do what was the normal. But, at the same time we have to care for the living. We are in this together and I use the webcam to get that message across. The generosity of Christians is loud and clear at this time and is coming to the fore" Fr. McKeever said.

Fr. Martin Collum the Parish Priest in Rathmullan said it was very strange and indeed surreal to be officiating most of the time alone in St. Joseph's Church Rathmullan. "It is strange to be in the chapel on our saying the Mass but then when you get the feedback from people living in Sweden, England and the USA that see a familiar face on the webcam that does help. Funerals are very awkward for everyone. You might be in the chapel with just a photo of the deceased in front of you. It's the same in the graveyard you can't embrace or shake hands and again that's difficult for me and for everyone. When this is all over many families will be reliving the death of loved one as people will be coming to commiserate with them" Fr. Collum said.



Fr. Paddy Dunne celebrating the Good Friday Service in an empty Kilmacrennan chapel.

One upside for him has been more time to clear a big backlog of parish paper work. "There is lots of jobs that I have time to do now and need to be done so that is a positive. I am doing the First Friday calls over the phone. That's all you can do is talk to the people that I would have been visiting. The community has been very good here in Rathmullan. There are soup runs twice a day. I'm getting the soup and it's great for everyone" Fr. Collum said.

Fr. Ciaran Harkin who is the P.P. in Newtowncunningham says the Webcam has been a positive addition as a service during the current Covid-19 crisis. "You

certainly justify having the Webcam now whereas before you couldn't because of the cost. But, there is a challenge in trying to get best out of it for the benefit of the congregation. Before the congregation was sitting in front of you. Now the Mass is to the Webcam. In many ways it is now like a TV programme and you have to try and hold the people's attention for the whole time. You really can't have a period of silence like you would have when the congregation is there in front of you in the chapel" Fr. Harkin said.

The Kerrykeel native says he has been struck by the response that webcam ser-

vice has got from abroad. "People have been complimenting it and for example I have had Peter McLaughlin's daughter Sarah watching in from India. That's a lovely link. It's been nice that way. But, there has been issues with the broadband coverage. I have said one parishioner says there was poor sound and another saying there was perfect sound from the same service. It's been a learning curve and unfortunately it looks like this will be us for some time yet. All the weddings that had been booked have now been reorganised, so hopefully now they are all pushed far enough back so that they can go ahead" Fr. Harkin said.



Fr. Charlie Byrne with readers in John the Baptist Church, Carrigart on Good Friday.



From top Fr. Sean O Gallachoir in Gortahork, Fr Stephen Gorman and Fr. Martin Collum in Rathmullan and Fr. Pat McHugh with his sister Catherine in Termon.



Fr. Michael McGeever in Glenswilly Chapel.



Fr. Pat McGarvey celebrating the Good Friday service with Catherine Coyle and Fiona Shiels.

# Rathmullan nurse a heroine of 1918 Pandemic

Kate McConlogue (nee Tinney) was born in Binn, a small townland about 3 miles north of Rathmullan in 1888. She was one of seven children and they lived in a traditional two-roomed thatched cottage on a small holding of poor quality land. Kate married Patrick McConlogue in 1905, when she was aged 17. Patrick was 20 years her senior and he lived with his mother on a small farm in Killygarvan about a mile from Kate's home.

Kate had two children May, born in 1911 and Rosena born in 1913. Kate's husband died in 1913 leaving Kate with two small babies.

Shortly after her husband's death Kate went to the Rotunda Hospital in Dublin to train as a Jubilee Nurse and Midwife, the precursor of the current day District Nurse. While in Dublin she left her two babies with her unmarried sister and brothers and she did not see her children for 6 months while she was in training.



Nurse Kate McConlogue.

On returning from Dublin, Kate was posted to Glencolmcille in late 1918. The 70 mile journey was made by horse and trap driven by one of her brothers and transported Kate, her children and one of her sisters to Glencolmcille. Her sister came to look after Kate's children so that Kate could work. They all lived in a small cottage in Glencolmcille known as the 'Nurses Cottage'.

Kate initially travelled to her patients on foot, then by bicycle and later she had a horse and trap for transport. However, due to the remoteness of many of the homes the journeys had, at least in part, to be made on foot.

In that era babies were born at home and Kate was present at most of the births that took place during her time in Glencolmcille.

In 1918 everything in Glencolmcille changed with the onset of the 'Spanish Flu' epidemic that spread throughout Europe. In Ireland more than 20,000 people died from the virus in 1918. During that time Kate did what she could to comfort and care for those infected by the virus. There is one harrowing story of a woman who was pregnant and who contracted the virus. Kate stayed with her, delivered twins both who whom died at birth, followed shortly afterwards by their mother. Kate prepared all three bodies for burial leaving them outside

the house to be collected. This was because people would, understandably, not go into a house known to be infected by the virus.

Kate contracted the virus in late 1918 and died in Glencolmcille on the 9th of December 1918.

She was aged 30 when she died.

Following her death, her two children, then aged 7 and 5, were taken to live with their aunt and uncles.

There are a number of remarkable things on record about that period.

Despite all her responsibilities as a nurse, Kate regularly wrote to her two cousins, a sister and brother, in America. In a letter to one of her cousins, Kate wrote that her

other cousin had not responded to her recent letter and enquired if he was alright. In her response letter he informed Kate that her brother had not written back because he had no money to put in the letter. This was at a time when many Irish families depended on such income, known as 'Emigrant Remittances' to survive.

100 years on in December 2018 there was a Remembrance Service for Kate in Glencolmcille, organised by the local community. It is remarkable that a little known person who died in a remote part of Ireland at the age of 30 was remembered in such a manner 100 years later not out of any sense of responsibility or duty but out of admiration and awe for what was a truly

remarkable person.

One speaker at the Remembrance Service stated, that 'heroism' is where someone persists in doing something in the full knowledge of the risk involved in doing so. In nursing the people of Glencolmcille Kate was a true hero.

An event was also held in 1968 to mark the 50th anniversary of Kate's death and the following was written at that time:-

"It is now 50 years since the devastating influenza of 1918 and the older people of Glencolmcille still remember the suffering, the sorrow and the heroism of that period.

Few have stood out in their memory more clearly than the late Nurse Kate McConlogue who was stationed in Glencolmcille at that time. She was on duty night and day waiting, ministering,

comforting and when medical science failed, she prepared her patients for death. Indeed, it is no exaggeration to state that through her unselfish and wholehearted attention to duty that she brought all her own untimely end. For in the midst of her labours she contracted the disease and died here on 9th December 1918.

It is fair to assume that because of her great work and above and beyond the call of duty, many people are now alive who would not be alive, and many have since been born who would not have come into existence at all."

It is apt to remember Nurse Kate McConlogue at this time.



Nurse Kate McConlogue's daughters May and Rosena pictured outside Clondallon School.



Mayo had a very low incidence of influenza in 1918 also. In 1919, the highest rates were in Longford (3.04), Mayo (the highest at 3.27) and Donegal (3.26). Seasonal migration and the location of a British naval base at Lough Swilly were probably the major factors behind Donegal's unusually high incidence of influenza in both years, spanning all three waves. Donegal had a tradition of providing seasonal agricultural labour; Patricia Marsh has suggested that Donegal migrant labourers or emigrants to Scotland who brought influenza victims' bodies for burial in their native county, by boat, may have spread the infection. The presence of a naval base in Rathmullan may also have

## My Saviour, the Lord Jesus

by Olive Borland

Can I introduce you to my Saviour? the One who died to take my place, His blood was shed on Calvary's Tree so that I might know Redeeming Grace.

What He did for me He wants to do for you, you should repent because He loves you too. If you allow Him to cleanse your soul of sin you too will then want to give praise to Him.

Because Jesus Christ, God's beloved Son, is the one and only Saviour from sin, God raised Him in glory from the dead and He now reigns in Heaven instead.

Jesus has gone to prepare a dwelling place for all who repent, trust and believe, All who are cleansed, forgiven and redeemed will from God redemption receive.

John 14v6  
Jesus said, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No-one come unto the Father except through me."

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Contact 074-9153600 for details

## Because Christ has risen

I'm sure that many of you are longing to read something, indeed anything that isn't about lockdowns, pathogens, or viral transmission. I'm conscious that I've written about Covid-19 for a number of weeks now and that it is time I wrote about something else.

Potential news fatigue is far from my sole reason for today's topic. Coverage of this current pandemic may be all consuming at present, but it is also necessary to apply a degree of historical perspective. As hard as it may be to believe, our current crisis will pass and in due course it will become a historical footnote, much like the Spanish Flu of 1918 or various outbreaks of bubonic plague in centuries past.

On the other hand, the event I want to write about this week is and will always remain the most significant in the entire history of the universe. This past weekend was Easter, a time when many peo-

ple across the world place a special focus on the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. When ventilator shortages and the race for a vaccine are long forgotten, the effects of that Sunday morning at an otherwise nondescript tomb will live on.

The resurrection could not be more important. Scripture makes it clear that it is the very foundation of our faith; if Christ's rising from the grave has been either exaggerated or fabricated then "our faith is useless" (1 Corinthians 15:14).

On Sunday past, we considered the chapter quoted above where God, speaking through the Apostle Paul, outlines the implications of the resurrection for those who follow Jesus Christ. I'd like to observe three of them with you today.

Firstly, because Jesus has been raised, his people's sins are forgiven. Paul could not be more plain; if the resurrection of Christ is a fiction, then "you

## Food for thought



Jonny McCollum

are still in your sins" (v17). How magnificent then that Jesus has indeed risen! The symbolism is striking; like an innocent man leaving prison after having his conviction overturned, Christ's purity was affirmed by his leaving the tomb behind. The one who voluntarily bore the sin of those who trust in him is categorically bearing sin no more. It has been dealt with!

Secondly, because Jesus has been raised, his followers' own resurrections are guaranteed. Christ is described as the "first fruits of those

who have fallen asleep" (v20). First fruits are significant because they indicate the quality of the harvest that will follow. In the same way, Christ's resurrection demonstrates the future that awaits each of his people when they receive their resurrection bodies.

Thirdly, because Jesus has been raised, we are to be envied more than anyone else. It is remarkable that we have such a tendency to fixate on bank balances, houses, and career ladders. When we view the world from an eternal perspective, the differences between those inside and outside Christ dwarf everything else. It is literally a matter of eternal life and eternal death. Which follower of Jesus would swap what they have for anything else in all of the world?

Jonny McCollum ministers in Milford Reformed Presbyterian Church. He can be contacted on at [jonny@milfordrpc.org](mailto:jonny@milfordrpc.org). You can read more or listen online at [www.milfordrpc.org](http://www.milfordrpc.org)

# 'Shine Your Light' in Ramelton



Residents in Ramelton joined people across the North West to take part in the "Shine Your Light" National initiative on Saturday night at 9 p.m. Communities were asked to shine a light to create a moment of solidarity in the battle against the Covid-19 pandemic. The 'Shine Your light' initiative was for all the people who are sick, for those who have lost their lives and their loved ones. The residents of Church Street in Ramelton

Lest we forget....

## Plight of victims cannot be forgotten

It has come to notice time and time again that plight of victims who were sexually abused as children have been greatly ignored as if these matters should be forgotten if not dealt with.. Saving blushes of people in power should not be a priority to prevent justice. Ignoring the problem won't solve the problem... or giving a thief's honesty of excuses won't solve it either.

**by Martin Ridge**

The Catholic Church in this diocese has not acknowledged yet that they were aware of the abuse of children by both child abusers Eugene Greene and Denis McGinley who were working under their patronage. While the abusers were dealt with the people who covered up were not. There is substantial and circumstantial evidence already highlighted that there was knowledge and aware-

ness there that abuse of children were known and reported to people whom one thought was in charge of child safety... which should be a priority.

Any attack on children is an attack on society and on families and on the church itself. How can any society have a healthy attitude and be respectful if grave crimes are or were covered up and on the most vulnerable.

While it is now a welcome gesture by the Bishop to request the Garda to investigate of what he called allegations that came to light in the latest one of three documentaries, 'Finne' that highlighted horrific abuse on young children reaching back many decades and nobody in authority whom one thought would safeguard children as much as blinked... extraordinary.

## Boyce's Centra - Thank You

To all of our Customers, Staff, Volunteers and dedicated Medical Personnel we take this opportunity to say a big Thank You to all of you for –

- Providing the care and help of the Health System to those in need at this time
- Keeping the shops stocked and serving our local community instore and via home delivery
- Continuing to shop local and support local in all the businesses of our community
- Staying at home and caring for family and loved ones

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**Centra**  
For the way we live today

### Coronavirus (Covid-19)

**Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh**

**FINE GAEL** ★

- Stay Safe
- Stay Healthy
- Stay Home

"If I can help with anything please contact me at 0866690423

Email: [JimmyKavanagh@donegalcoco.ie](mailto:JimmyKavanagh@donegalcoco.ie)

Whatsapp [JimmyKavanagh](#) Facebook [Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh](#)"



made a big effort lighting up their windows. And one resident Jim McCa-hill (pictured left with John Diver) went to even greater lengths to show his solidarity with spectacular lighting on a tree at the front of his house. Jim, a HSE frontline staff member at Letterkenny University Hospital, is renowned for the way he lights the family home every Christmas

The 'Shine Your Light' initiative was also an act of solidarity for frontline staff and healthcare workers. On Saturday night at 9.00 public buildings were lit up around the country as well across the world at Irish Embassies.

People of all ages and backgrounds took part and were encouraged to be as creative as they wished by using phone torches, flash house lights,

leaving a candle safely in the window or even putting up Christmas lights, to participate in the initiative. The public were also asked to show who they doing it for and to share with their family and friends and also to post a picture or their video of their light to #ShineYourLight.

### Mevagh SVP

Parish of Mevagh St. Vincent de Paul can be contacted on 087 7573830. Please contact us if you are in need of some extra help during these difficult times. Ring the above number in confidence or speak to any of our members.

One would hope now and due to the request of the Bishop to examine certain matters that a replicate request to be made to him to produce the files or copies thereof from the two treatment centres that Eugene Greene was treated in. I don't believe that this is simply a patient/client confidentially matter or clause as the devastation in the area cannot be measured due to his abuse and the knowledge of Bishops which that have not yet acknowledged.

(There was a general apology about the abuse but not about what the Catholic Hierarchy knew ... and which can be proven they were aware of the abuse of Greene and McGinley as it was reported to them ... which so far they have not revealed.) Why such disregard to common decency ethics and human dignity that should not be ignored. Collective statements by Bishops should also entail collective responsibility and state under

### Happy Pearl Wedding Anniversary Martin & Pauline



whose jurisdiction are they answerable to. There might be a new hope now once the Bishop requested an investigation, that it would complete the whole circle from the church's knowledge and what the Garda can ascertain through evidence. What is important is finding evidence pertinent to dealing with the issue. Nobody has the right to put a child in danger or leave a child in danger. The winning post for justice should not be through denial . To unlock the horror is to find the truth ... in order not to put justice on lock down.

### GLAS balancing payments must be issued immediately – McConalogue

Fianna Fáil Spokesperson on Agriculture, Food, and the Marine Charlie McConalogue has said the Minister for Agriculture needs to pay GLAS balancing payments immediately and that it is unacceptable that there has not yet been any support to help farmers deal with income pressures resulting from the COVID-19 restrictions.

He said, "There is an urgent need for Minister Creed to bring forward the GLAS balancing payments to approx. 48,000 farmers waiting on them. We are in an unprecedented situation. The restrictions in place have had a big impact on farmers and will continue to do so as they are extended to May 5th. "It is an important time of the year on farms, but this period is expensive. Many farmers are experiencing cash-flow difficulties. There is an anxiety

from lenders to provide short term credit to farmers over their ability to repay loans given the global uncertainty in the Agri-food sector. Bringing forward the GLAS balancing payments will ease some of the financial pressure farmers are under.

"We need intervention at home and from Europe. I have repeatedly made calls that the EU Commission should implement support measures for those in the Agri-sector. Commissioner Wojciechowski can implement steps to support farmers, including exceptional aid measures and steps to cover market disturbance funding.

"We also need to see aid to private storage measures introduced from Europe without delay in order to stabilise meat and dairy prices over the coming weeks" he concluded.



The dramatic Skyline looking over the white shore by Sean Lewis.

## Ramelton

### Malcolm on Facebook

Ramelton singer Malcolm Fisher isn't letting the current Covid-19 crisis getting him down and he has been hosting regular Facebook Live events for the past few weeks, called "Lock Down House Parties". He is planning another for this Thursday the 16th of April at 9pm. and again on Sunday at 7pm. If you have song that you would like to hear let Malcolm know via his Facebook page before Thursday and he will sing it. He is delighted with the reaction and enjoyment these simple events are generating and he hopes to continue them into the future. He says "pull up a chair, relax, have a drink or two or push the table back and have a dance."

### Fr Sweeney's Masses cancelled temporarily

As part of the diocese-wide recommendations, Father's Sweeney Masses are cancelled until 29th March when the situation will be reviewed. The cancellation includes his evening's Mass which is usually attended by people who travel quite long distances, and therefore if you can pass on the news of the cancellation, he would be very grateful.

### Ramelton SVP conference

Anyone requiring help especially in the current climate due to Covid 19, can contact St Vincent De Paul Ramelton on 087 143 6640, and your details will be dealt with in a confidential manner.

## Rathmullan

### Sympathy

The death occurred last week of George Healy, Kilmacrennan. The deepest sympathy of the community is extended to his wife Sheila (formerly of Upper Drumhalla) to their sons Tim, Daniel, George, daughters Alice, Catherine, Jules and to all George's relatives and friends.

### St. Vincent de Paul

If you require assistance at this difficult time, please contact in confidence, on 087 3343154 or our Regional office on 074 9173933 or gemmaduffy@svp.ie. We wish everyone good health.

### If We Can Help

The team at Rathmullan Celtic FC, White Strand United FC and CLG Baile na nGalloglach (Milford GAA) are happy to help, delivering groceries, essentials, prescriptions etc. to your door. They are also available to assist with any small essential job or emergency domestic

### Hairy Hounds Dog Grooming Service

Pick up and drop off service available

Tel. 087 2386575

Contact Francie Gallagher

## Wanted Small Holiday Home in Rathmullan

(Cash buyer)

Tel. 086 3913735

repair. Also offering a link for deliveries if you want to contact these local services: Carbery's XL Shop - (074) 91 58148 Rathmullan Pharmacy - (074) 915 8492.

Those important contact numbers are:

Seamus Gavaghan - 086 8508455 Enda McElhinney - 086 4019256

John T Sheridan - 087 283 3591 Liam Kelly - 085 1043440

Sean Barrett - 087 2938322 Garry McMahon - 0044 77 18703428

Mark Curran - 086 873 2749 Roisin McCormick - 087 9188795

### Clean Coasts Group

The Clean Coasts Group has suspended the weekly beach clean due to the current situation with Covid 19/ Coronavirus. We are not in a position to empty the dog waste bin at the beach and ask that people adopt the Donegal County Council 'any bag, any bin' policy. Please

## Whoriskey's of Ramelton

Eurospar Supermarket and Bridgend Service Station

### Revised Opening Hours

Monday	8am-9pm
Tuesday	8am-9pm
Wednesday	8am-9pm
Thursday	8am-9pm
Friday	8am-9pm
Saturday	8am-9pm
Sunday	9am-9pm

do not leave the used waste bags on the ground beside the dog bin if the bin is full.

We look forward to resuming our regular clean-ups as soon as possible. Stay Safe and 'Wash your hands.'

### The Family Tree

How is the work going for those new to the research? If you have called in all the relatives to help fill the gaps - parents, grandparents, relations and neighbours of same, next look up the Censuses of Ireland 1901 and 1911 and start browsing now!

## Recipes to try out during Lockdown!

### Brown Soda bread

#### Ingredients

300g whole meal flour

150g white flour

1 teaspoon bread soda

1 teaspoon salt

350-400ml buttermilk

#### Method:

1. Preheat the oven to 200C

2. Sieve the white flour, salt and bread soda into a bowl.

3. Add the whole meal flour

4. Add the buttermilk and combine using a wooden spoon.

5. Knead on a floured surface.

6. Shape into a circle, flatten gently using hands. Place on greased tin.

7. Cut a deep cross right through the bread.

8. Bake for 35 - 40 mins, tap the bottom to check for a hollow sound.

9. Wrap in a clean damp tea towel.

10. Serve

### All in one Victoria sandwich cake

#### Ingredients:

175g caster sugar

175g margarine

3 eggs

200g self raising flour or (plain flour and 1 teaspoon baking powder.)

Filling: 2 tablespoons raspberry jam.

#### Method:

1. Preheat the oven to 170C.

2. Line the base of two 8 inch cake tins with grease proof paper. (Draw circles and cut out)

3. Beat the sugar, margarine, eggs and flour in a bowl for 4 mins using a wooden spoon. ( or for 2 mins using an electric beater)

4. Divide the mixture between the two tins. Smooth the top down.

5. Bake for 20-25 mins until golden brown on top. Insert a knife and check to see if it comes out dry.

6. Turn on to a wire cooler and remove the the grease proof paper. Cool.

7. Spread the softened jam, sandwich together. Decorate the top.

## Whoriskey's of Ramelton

### Free Home Delivery

Please place your order before 1pm



Call us on 9151006 or email us at

whoriskeyseurospar@gmail.com for full details

We would like to remind everyone to follow the social distancing guidelines & to take care of anyone vulnerable in our community.

# Here and Now - Again with Brian Smeaton

## Coping with Skype jetlag in Drumcavney



Using the global network of communication which the Covid 19 Corona Virus has put centre stage in our current cocooned situation is a wonder. Here I am in Drumcavney with a scheduled call to the USA, which, in my innocence, I think is 5 hours away. Maybe the late lamented supersonic Concorde put this in my mind.

This, of course, is a mistake because Eastern US time is actually seven hours away. So I tool up the computer for a 10.00am meeting US Eastern Time with the proper signal numbers. And there's nothing. And it is only then I realise that at 5.00am in the morning in front of the machine I'm actually two hours late for the rendezvous. This is a salutary lesson in the mechanics of global communication. Time and tide waits for no one!

Well, this is what learning is about: and if at first you don't succeed try and try again. And so I will. As a child it was drummed into me not to be late. Living in a house that was also a school (and a church, and a general local (Protestant) meeting place) meant time was of the essence; being late was a major sin; sin meaning, literally, not being on time, and in the place allotted to me. Freedom to be appeared to be out of reach, unless I did what I was told. And even then, whenever I did what I was told, freedom was still out of reach. And in that sense this is one way of understanding the struggle, as the words Will Shakespeare puts into the mouth of his stricken hero Hamlet - To be, or not to be; that is the question.....

The Dictionary definition of sin is worth recalling. One of my dictionaries is a precious

*In a meditation on his death, Joe Breen writes - To those near and dear to him, the universe John Prine inhabited was known as Prineworld. It was a place of laughter and genial chaos, of warmth and affection, of sweet memories and hard truths. To the discerning his songs mined deeper truths about ourselves that crossed borders and cultures with ease, especially in Ireland*

possession with an inscription on the fly-leaf, in decorated Gaelic script - To Liam, June 30th, 1936. This was my mother's present to my father. Looking at the loving - because this is what it is - reminds me of the 84 years passed since my mother inscribed it in the dictionary fly-leaf, as is recalled in Psalm 90, verse 4 - For a thousand years in thy sight/are but as yesterday when it is passed,/or as a watch in the night.... I love that sense of timelessness-that we're more than what we realise.

Anyway, the definition of sin - the voluntary departure of a moral agent from a known rule prescribed by God; any voluntary transgression of the divine law, or violation of a divine command; moral depravity; wickedness; iniquity; an offence in general, a transgression- sinned, sinning - To commit a sin; to violate any known rule or duty; to offend in general; to transgress; to trespass; with against (to sin against good taste).. - To sin one's mercies, to be unmindful of the gifts of Providence. And so it goes on! And as I write I wonder about the ways we can become snared by definition; Paul, in his famous meditation on Love - Corinthians 13 - warns against directly against being snared by definition and forgetting about Love- If I speak in the tongues of men, and of angels, but have not love,

I am noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. After considering the matter he ends with - So faith, hope and love abide; but the greatest of these is love.

I wonder about religion - even if it is my job, what I get paid for - to believe. Existence is interesting - being is certainly a challenge. The questions continue to surface - Am I doing this right? Am I living up to the standard? What standard? Are there levels? Is this about what class - the class system - does to me, and all of us? Do I need to be protected from myself? Does my ignorance assail me? Is not knowing a fault-something missing in me? No! Knowing I don't know is realising the reality that I'm one grain of sand on the seashore of life - neither better nor worse than the rest of us - is it now 7 billion, or thereabouts?

There's a newspaper headline from the US - The Pandemic strengthens the case for universal basic income. Here's an interesting take on the present - and the Biblical idea as set down in Genesis 3, verse 19 - In the sweat of your face/you shall eat bread till you return to the ground / for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return.... Dust - 7 billion grains of dust and counting.... Another Irish newspaper headline informs us that John

Prine died from Covid 19 complications.

In a meditation on his death, Joe Breen writes - To those near and dear to him, the universe John Prine inhabited was known as Prineworld. It was a place of laughter and genial chaos, of warmth and affection, of sweet memories and hard truths. To the discerning his songs mined deeper truths about ourselves that crossed borders and cultures with ease, especially in Ireland. There's a photograph of him in our Jonathan's dining room, alongside other memorabilia. The aforementioned Joe Breen quotes from the final track of Prine's final album entitled - When get to Heaven - When get to heaven, I'm gonna shake God's hand/ Thank him for more blessings than one man can stand/ Then I'm gonna get my guitar and start a rock'n'roll band/ Check into a swell hotel; ain't the afterlife grand.....

And now a mate on Skype has told me that what I thought was 3.00am on Monday morning is actually 3.00pm on Monday afternoon - Wow-this afternoon! I'm still slightly disbelieving - like Thomas the Doubter - but I'll try the Zoom call again at 3.00pm. Check in next week to see whether it works or not!



## Downings 'strippers' skip border checks

From Page One

women were removing particular items of clothing despite a strong northerly wind blowing in from the Atlantic.

Instead of seeing the delivery of new lambs, the farmer told the Tribune he was somewhat suspicious as the bizarre scene unfolded and he called in the Gardaí. It is understood there was a patrol already close by.

The nearby presence of residents of the community was quickly noted by the occupants of the Audi who fled the scene and the incident led to a number of patrol cars chasing the Audi across one hundred kilometres of narrow winding country roads leading towards the Border.

The driver and his passengers sped through the village of Downings towards Letterkenny before joining the dual carriageway as it headed for the Border.

The car eventually managed to reach Castleterg. Gardaí liaised with their PSNI colleagues, and the car was

located with two females on board while two male occupants fled the scene and they are still being sought by police on both sides of the Border. Gardaí at Milford said they carried out a patrol and located the car on the beach in Downings. They parked and walked down towards the car. The male driver and female passenger jumped in upon seeing the Gardaí. It is believed there may also have been a couple of passengers in the back seat. The car performed a dangerous manoeuvre on the beach, almost colliding with one of the Gardaí and took off at speed. Gardaí all over the Division were immediately alerted in relation to the car in question.

Gardaí said: "The car was observed on the dual carriageway by Gardaí but failed to stop and continued at high speeds towards Castleterg. At Doneyloop the stinger was deployed but the car continued on and rammed one of the patrol cars in a bid to evade being stopped. The car in question crossed over the border.



Garda members Colin Talbot and Ken Dempsey manning a checkpoint in the Covid-19 security operation at the weekend.

The PSNI had been alerted by Gardaí and the car was located by them. Investigations into the matter will continue." If any one has information or dashcam

footage of the incident they can contact Milford Gardaí on 074-9153060 or Letterkenny on 074-9167100. A partial registration on the car read GHZ."

The farmer who initially noted the women removing their clothing declined an interview saying he preferred his anonymity to be protected....

## Funeral of Rose Gallagher

The funeral took place on Tuesday of Rose Gallagher, Currin, Termon.

Rose's death had occurred at Larissa Lodge Nursing Home, Mountain Top. Rose lived in Toronto, Canada for many years before returning to reside in her native parish and just opposite St. Columba's Church. She was a much loved member of the local community. Rose's funeral took place on Tuesday in St. Columba's Church where Fr. Pat McHugh P.P. officiated at the Requiem Mass. Fr. McHugh said it was a very difficult time for families, not being able to grieve in the traditional way through the wake and funeral. He invited family members from around the country and abroad to join friends and neighbours to view the Mass via the Webcam. Burial took place afterwards in the adjoining cemetery. Rose was predeceased by her brother Colm in March 2016. She is survived by her sister-in-law Kathleen Gallagher, nieces, nephews, relatives and friends to whom deepest condolences are extended.

## Economy comes second to Covid - Clarke

Former Town Cllr Neil Clarke says there can be no doubt that the Irish economy comes a clear second behind the Government's efforts to get to grips with the Covid-19 pandemic. Clarke, who has worked a lifetime in the construction sector, insists that when the health crisis is over the ordinary people of Ireland should not have to foot the bill.

"Under no circumstances should the people of this country be asked to pay off the big debts that will come as a result of coronavirus. We have done our bit for bondholders, the banks and Europe before. It's payback time for our people. Maggie Thatcher hammered the miners striking in England and then went and paid

for a war in the Falklands. We can't have that kind thing happening here" Clarke said.

On Covid-19 Clarke says the Government needed to be more up front specifically in relation to the situation in Nursing Homes. "Here in Donegal I haven't seen any clarity in relation to how things are going in Nursing Homes. We have heard about clusters in Nursing Homes but that's about it. The public and families deserve to know much more about it and also that these places get the full resources to tackle any outbreaks of the virus. It's not a crime to have the virus. And out in the public it would be helpful if we knew who had it, then we would be able to deal with it much better"

Clarke said.

The former Green and Independent Cllr said he was also concerned about the almost total unity in the political parties regarding the handling of the Coronavirus pandemic. "In one sense the Government is doing well but there is nothing really from any of the opposition parties challenging them on more transparency in relation to issues like the Nursing Homes. It's almost authoritarian at the moment. There seems to be a big problem with the testing and for me it's the 'get out of jail ticket'. And that's something the opposition should be pressing the Government on much more strongly" Clarke said.

## Carbon tax deferral sought

From Page One

myself and my company, but the issue affects all fuel businesses like mine as well as people who use solid fuel as their main source of heating. We are in business for the last 30 years and I just want to ask the Government to be lenient as I feel it is very important.

I am in favour of taxing carbon emissions as well, but I feel there are other ways to do it than what is being proposed, without us having to switch of the lights completely. I know locally that things were not good for many house holds anyway - the recession never left Donegal - but now we do not know what is going to happen. No one can predict it but if they are deferring many others things they should do the same with this and put it on the long finger for a while. For at least a year. It is the worst time you could put the tax on as no one needs fuel now. So it will only kick in when people really need it again. There were two increases in coal prices last year but we kept it at the same price we had sold it for. We took the hit ourselves in our margins."

Mr O'Donnell's letter reads: "Our country is facing an unprecedented challenge at the moment and the Government is moving to offer support to hard pressed households and businesses across

the country.

I am writing to ask for your help to avoid a risk of impressing unnecessary hardship on many disadvantaged people in the country. Approximately one home in eight of 600,000 people in Ireland depend on solid fuel as their primary form of home heat. The majority of these homes are in rural areas and many are classified as 'fuel poor'.

I am writing to respectfully ask that you defer the increase in carbon tax on solid fuel that was proposed in last October's budget. Carbon tax is already raised on both liquid and solid fuels at €20 per tonne of carbon emitted. The additional carbon tax levy of €6 per tonne was applied to liquid fuels in October last but its application to solid fuels was deferred to May this year.

Since October the price of oil has dropped by 56% and natural gas by 31%. Notwithstanding the increase in carbon tax the cost to households has dropped significantly. There has been not such movement in solid fuel costs and any increase will hit the most vulnerable in our communities.

St. Vincent de Paul estimates that almost half (48%) of homes went without home heating due to affordability issues in 2018. In addition, the Institute of Public Health (IPH) estimates excess

deaths in the winter months in Ireland to be 2800 people annually (an average of 70 per constituency). This is one of the highest levels internationally and is not justifiable.

We intend to continue to play our part to ensure households can heat their homes in as cost effective manner as possible and we respectfully ask you to support our position."

Cllr Michael McClafferty said he supported Mr O'Donnell's concerns because it is clear we are "sliding into recession" and these measures would make a difference to the budget of many struggling households and help protect local jobs in the home fuel sector.

He stated: "This could be one of those 'once in a lifetime' events and we hope that we see a vaccine soon. Of course we are only too aware of the many people have had Covid and the many deaths that have resulted. We also have to look at the wider picture as well and many businesses like Stephen's will suffer for it and many businesses will pay the ultimate price. Come the end of the year he predicts that they are facing into an extra €2 per bag of coal."

Cllr McClafferty says the sooner a stable Government is formed the better and he added that who ever that is need to "come down hard" on banks and insurance companies to do more for people.

## Covid - Beef farmers facing total wipeout

From Page One

leaders wrangled and failed to abandon the proposed cuts.

The new CSO figures reveal that the industry suffered a reduction of 4.6% last year. These latest stats from the Central Statistics Office on agricultural incomes highlight the ongoing pressures on farmers attempting to earn a living on the land in rural Ireland.

In Donegal many of the county's 9,200 farmers are earning less than €10,000 a year and are entirely dependent on CAP payments. Adding to these concerns is the lack of progress on a new programme for the coming seven years. This county is in the top ten bracket for sucklers with the national herd estimated at 934,275.

The CSO figures coincided with a major report commissioned by the IFA on the Irish suckler section by leading economist, Jim Power.

He said: The Irish beef producing sector is experiencing difficult market conditions at the moment. It's being hit with a combination of negative forces. These include CAP reform, Brexit, EU and global beef market conditions, the proposed Mercosur trade deal, environmental considerations, the weak position of beef producers in the domestic supply chain, and the growth of beef animals from the dairy herd."

He said: "If stronger support is not forthcoming, many existing operators will go out of business,

with very negative consequences for economic and social life in large swathes of rural Ireland, the natural landscape, and Irish agri-food exports. CAP funding is vital to the future of the sector and for regional development. In order to help sustain the sector, the CAP budget needs to be maintained in real terms with extra payments for additional environmental asks on farmers," he stated.

There are also serious concerns that the Rural Protection Programme could be worst hit in the new CAP budget cuts. This will have a devastating impact not only on farming but all of rural Ireland.

Rural Development in Ireland is managed nationally through one Rural Development Programme (RDP), funded under the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and national contributions. The RDP sets out priority approaches and actions to meet the needs of the specific geographical area it covers.

The main heading for rural development include regeneration and development: small-scale rural projects: Glas: Town and Village renewal: Leader programmes and local road improvements.

Vincent Roddy, Director of Organisation for the INHFA has warned that the EU is talking about major cuts to the CAP budget that could be as high as 25%.

The trillion-euro-plus budget, the multiannual financial framework, is meant to be operational

from next year and run to the end of 2027. Here in Donegal any cuts from the EU budget will be felt most severely because Revenue figures published last Autumn shows the county's 9,200 farm holdings to have the third lowest on-farm income at €12,443 a year. Only Leitrim and Mayo record lower on-farm incomes.

With many of the big EU players favouring the new cuts Ireland was always facing a rearguard defence of its position to stave off these drastic reductions that could cost the average Irish farmer up to €300 per month. IFA President Tim Cullinan said any cut in the CAP budget would be a devastating blow for Irish farmers and rural Ireland.

The CSO noted that the figures are preliminary estimates which are provisional and based on the latest available data. Their statement outlined that the figures are subject to change once the complete set of data for the full year becomes available.

Pat McCormack, the President of the Irish Creamery Milk Suppliers' Association (ICMSA), said that farmers continue to be "exposed to market forces completely outside of their control".

The data show that Irish farmers produced 3.3% more in volume terms compared to 2018 - but received 0.7% less in value terms. The figures underline 2019 as a hugely difficult year for the beef sector, with the value of output down by €104

million compared to 2018, despite a 2% increase in volume and down a massive €206 million on the 2017 level.

Meanwhile Jim Power's report said: "Price compression at the retail level is a key characteristic of the beef market. The price of beef is being driven down at the retail level and attempts are being made to feed the consumer a diet of cheap beef in particular and cheap food in general. The report proposes that a ban on below-cost selling should be introduced along with the appointment of a retail regulator. Unsustainable discounting should not be allowed as it is not in the interests of farmers, processors or consumers."

Among the report's recommendations are that farmers must be properly rewarded for the environmental contribution they are making in sequestering carbon.

It also recommends the development of a new brand for Irish suckler beef. The Government should apply to have this underpinned by Protected Geographical Indicator status for Irish suckler beef.

Mr. Power said: "The lack of transparency in the sector is feeding mistrust between farmers and processors. In order to begin the process of building trust, the CCPC should launch a full investigation into competition in the sector."

That was before a single case of covid-19 was diagnosed in Ireland.

# Milford

## Death of Maureen Conaghan



The death took place at Letterkenny General Hospital on Wednesday morning of Maureen Conaghan, Kilmacrennan Road, Milford. Deepest sympathy is extended to her husband Harry, son Daniel, daughters Catriona and Allison, daughter-in-law Elaine, sons-in-law Desmond Vaughan and Sean Gibson, grandchildren Reece, Cillian, Danielle, Dean, Kyle and Conor, sister Kathleen Doherty, Kilmacrennan, brother John Crossan, Coolboy, Letterkenny and large circle of family and friends. Due to HSE and Government guidelines funeral arrangements are strictly private to family only.

### Sympathy

Deepest sympathy is extended to Denis O'Donnell and family circle on the death of his father Denis 'Dinsey' O'Donnell, 194 Corkey, Manorcunningham recently.

Deepest sympathy is extended to former Milford National School Principal, Annoraoi Cheevers on the death of his brother, Aonghus Cheevers, St Attracta Road, Cabra, Dublin recently.

# MAD Race 2020 Cancelled

The Milford Park Development committee in conjunction with the organisers of the MAD Adventure Race have decided to



cancel the 2020 MAD Race due to continuing Government restrictions on Covid 19 pandemic and uncertainty of what lays ahead in the next few months.

The race in its 4th year was due to take place on 18th July and the announcement was made on their Facebook page last week, stating:

"Unfortunately due to the current situation that we find ourselves in, we have taken the decision to cancel MAD this year. We the organisers were holding back on opening the entry over the over the last number of weeks hoping that this might be over by the end of July and that is now looking less likely as the days go by.

Postponing the event until later in the year doesn't seem a feasible option as the calendar is already oversubscribed and don't think it would be fair on events that are already scheduled.

The main thing at the minute is that we all adhere to the government regulations to stay safe and stay active within our 2 kilo-

metre radius. Hopefully soon this awful time for everyone will pass and we can all get back to some form of normality. Looking forward to seeing you all next year. Stay safe and keep training. Yours in sport - The MAD adventure race team?"

Hopefully the Race will be take place in 2021 which has been a tremendous success over the past three years raising funds for the pitches at Moyle View Park, Milford. The event originally was the brain wave of local athlete Hugh Coll, and each year Hugh and the team of organisers have received great praise and support for the excellent organisation of the event and hopefully people will again support the race in 2021. Thanks also to the many kind sponsors who supported the event each year and the organisers look forward to their continued support next year.

# Tyres slashed in Golan

Gardaí in Milford are investigating a criminal damage incident that occurred at Golan, Milford between 12 midnight and 9am in early hours of Tuesday morning. They stated that tyres on a car and a tractor parked at a home in the area

were all slashed front and back. They added: "If anyone was in the Golan/Milford area on that date and seen anything that seemed untoward we would appreciate if they would contact Milford Gardaí on 074-9153060."



Francie 'McGreggor' McFadden, 83, despite cocooning spent the time getting his onions and potatoes ready for his garden which he has been doing for the past 70 years at Ray, Rathmullan.

### GAA Lotto

Milford GAA have frozen the lotto jackpot for €1,250 for the duration of the Covid-19 Pandemic. All tickets purchased will be held over until the lotto resumes. Congratulations to Fiona Shields who was the winner of the monthly draw for April of €100 for the online and database entries.

### Masses on Webcam

Mass in St Peter's Church, Milford is available on-

line on the Parish Webcam [mrrparishes.ie](http://mrrparishes.ie) or on [mcnmedia.tv](http://mcnmedia.tv). This weeks times are Thursday 16th and Friday 17th at 7pm, Saturday 18th at 7.30am and Sunday 19th at 11:00am

### ALONE Covid-19

ALONE has launched a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). The sup-

port line is open seven days a week, 8am - 8pm, by calling 0818 222 024.

### Care of the Aged Help

The Milford Care of the Aged would like to extend a helping hand to the more vulnerable or isolated in the community at this difficult time and if anyone needs help or assistance of any kind please contact Milford Care of the Aged representative Bridin McMahon on 086 8283153.

### Holy Rosary

Bishop Alan will be praying the Rosary and leading an Examen via the Cathedral webcam and Raphoe Diocese Facebook each evening at 9.15pm. Visit St Eunan's Cathedral website to find the link for their webcam.

### Thursday Night Dancing

Due to the ongoing Covid-19 situation it has been decided that the dancing in Milford Hall will not now re start until September. The group however are delighted to be in a position to donate €500 to the Kyla Friel Recovery Fund. In the meantime, stay safe and we will all look forward to meeting again in September.

# IWA continuing their support

Irish Wheelchair Association's frontline workers are delivering vital services to people with physical disabilities in homes in Donegal throughout the COVID-19 crisis. The organisation has also set up an emergency response team to continue to reach people with disabilities, who may become sick with the coronavirus and isolated. "The new emergency response team will act as a third layer of support following family and the HSE, if one of our service users has to go into self-isolation."

Mary McGrenra of Irish Wheelchair Association in Donegal said: "This is a very worrying time for people who use our services and are dependent on our assistance to allow them to remain living safely in their own homes. Many of them are aware that due to their disability they are extremely vulnerable to COVID-19.

"Members of our community outreach and assisted living teams are among the many frontline healthcare staff who are courageously committed to reaching the most vulnerable during this very difficult time.

"Our assisted living workers are visiting people's homes, helping them to live independently and to carry out vital everyday tasks such as personal care, cooking and household chores.

"Our outreach team is providing social support such as shopping, collect-

ing prescriptions, providing transport to banks and post offices, helping people to pay online bills and assisting people to apply for welfare payments as well as calling for a chat both in person and on the phone. We are in daily telephone contact, inclusive of the weekends with those who would usually attend our centres throughout Donegal and the buses are out daily delivering Information packs including fun items and this week the Easter Bunny was on the round in Fanad, Carrigart, Glen and Milford dropping off eggs in advance of the big day! We have received two large donations of Easter eggs from anonymous donors and the printing of our packs is being supported by local TDS to whom we have reached out.

"We are linked into the HSE and County council hub as well as working with our colleagues in various other voluntary and statutory agencies to ensure we can reach the most vulnerable in our communities, so in IWA we have widened our brief to include all vulnerable adults and not just those living with disabilities.

"Each year Irish Wheelchair Association needs to raise €2million over and above our HSE funding to keep our vital services running," said Mary. "We are aware that it is a difficult time for everyone and we're asking people to make a donation to support our frontline workers, if they can afford to."



Mary McGrenra out delivering info packs along with an easter egg to members Noelle McGinley (left) in Milford and right, Daniel Boyce.

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Tirconaill Tribune publishes with restrictions in place

During the Covid-19 crisis, the Tirconaill Tribune will continue to publish each week with a number of restrictions in place. Our journalists are working remotely and our front office is open only by appointment. Should you need to visit please ring 91-53600 or email [tribune15@gmail.com](mailto:tribune15@gmail.com). We appreciate your support during these difficult weeks and we wish you well. We encourage you to continue reading local newspapers who've been left with major financial problems due to the loss of advertising revenue. We wish you well as the nation battles Covid-19 and appreciate your loyalty and support over the years.



Eabha Lynch with her dog Marley enjoying Easter behind her house at Leathardan Hill, Rathmullan.

## Milford AC Easter challenge

While competitive action involving any number beyond two is almost a distance memory, Milford AC created their own bit of competitive action over the Easter weekend. In the days leading up to Easter weekend, Hugh Coll proposed that individual club members in their own areas (within the 2km radius) mark out a one mile distance on a fairly flattish road and race it as best they could. The run could be done on either Good Friday or Easter Saturday. Had to be individual, no traveling to compete with others. The distance had to measure 1 mile or 1.61km on the watch, on completion of each run the individual had to send the screen shot to Hugh.

Seventy two club members jumped at the idea. To make it more interesting, Hugh seeded the participants into teams of four according to ability and the lowest cumulative time of the four was the winner. A total of 18 teams took part. It created a good buzz, interaction and positivity between all participants. The results were :-

1st team - Marty Lynch 4:51, Stephen Moyles 5:59, Mel McKinney 6:12, Nicola McCauley 6:54 - 23:56. 2nd - Daragh Kelly 5:13, Danielle McNamee 6:15, Daniel Cullen 6:17, Mary McDaid

6:44 - 24:29.

3rd - Joe Gallagher 5:31, Micheal McHugh 5:52, Teresa Winston 6:05, Elaine Scott 7:13 - 24:41. 4th - Liam Doherty 5:14, Frank McTaggart 6:08, Ryan McCauley 6:39, Seamus Ferry 6:42 - 24:43.

5th John McClafferty 5:11, Brian Doherty 5:54, Dualtach McCauley 6:09, Geraldine Burke 7:45 - 24:59.

6th - Damian McBride 5:23, Stephen Devlin 5:49; Kieran Murray 6:46, Bernie Gallagher 7:07 - 25:05. 7th - Eamonn Kelly 5:05, Harry Boyce 5:44, Philip McGovern 6:23, Debbie Houston 7:56 - 25:08.

8th - Gerard Marley 5:27, James Whoriskey 5:44, Hannah McCloy 6:59, Eamon Ferry 7:17 - 25:27. 9th - Barry Coyle 5:01, Gillian Marley 5:51, John Pollock 7:17, James Gibbons 7:42 - 25:49.

10th - Patrick Duffy 5:23, Paul Murray 6:20, Aine Whoriskey 7:07, Gerard Dorrian 7:15 - 26:05. 11th - Peter O Donnell 4:42, Tara McFadden 6:20, Annette Sheehy 7:18, Paul Gallagher 7:48 - 26:08.

12th - Joe Gibbons 5:07, Terry McFadden 6:27, Noel Kilpatrick 7:00, Aine Gibbons 7:45 - 26:07. 13th - Declan McBride 5:27, Siobhan McHugh 6:09, Martin Kerr 6:31, Carol Ferry 8:00 - 26:07. 14th - Patrick McHugh 5:38, Peter McBride

6:03, George Kelly 7:18, Carmel Kavanagh 7:33 - 26:32. 15th - Eoin Sheehy 5:39, Francis Diver 6:40, Collette McElwaine 6:48, Conal McFadden 7:29 - 26:35. 16th - Anthony Doherty 5:15, Daniel Hewett 5:28, Eoin Fogarty 6:28, John Fitzgerald 10:35 - 27:46. 17th - Kevin Logue 6:37, Noel Friel 6:47, Trisha Nulty 7:21, Mark Carr 7:22 - 28:07. 18th - Darren Murray 5:30, John Whoriskey 5:35, Ryan Sheehy 6:50, Danny Logue 11:30 - 28:25.

Thanks to John Whoriskey, Whoriskey's Eurospar Ramelton for supply of Easter eggs to the winning team. Thanks to Hugh Coll for innovative idea and collating the results and he plans to run the same event again in two weeks time... so keep up the training!

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We would like to remind everyone to follow the social distancing guidelines & to take care of anyone vulnerable in our community.

## Death of Hannah McLaughlin

The death took place on Thursday 2nd April at her home of Hannah McLaughlin, Fields Court, Kilmacrennan (formerly of Drumlurgagh, Termon) aged 90 years.

Hannah lived in Kent for many years before settling in Kilmacrennan nearly 20 years ago where she was a very popular figure and will be sorely missed by all who knew her.

Fr Dunne conducted the funeral Mass from St Columba's Chapel via the Kilmacrennan Facebook page the following day followed by burial in the adjoining cemetery. Hannah was predeceased by her husband Packie in 1982 and is survived by her children Kath McSharry, Termon, Mary McGrenra, Kilmacrennan, Sean, Patrick (who both reside in Australia) and Sally Treaty,



Creeslough, sons and daughters in law, her grandchildren, two sister in laws, her many nieces, nephews and friends to whom deepest sympathy is extended.



Cranford Athletic Club members pictured at Cranford Park in 1971 during a Sunday morning training session: Front row left to right, Marjorie McCallum, John Lee, James McCallum, Sunie McCallum, Deirdre Lee, Philomena McGettigan, Johnny McGettigan, John Toye and Donal McCafferty. Middle - Tony Wilkinson, Michael Friel, Columba Friel, Charlie McGettigan, ??????, Lawrence Duggan, Paul Duggan, Noel Duggan, Jimmy Toye, John Byrne and Josie McGee. Back - Hugo Duggan, Jim Hynes, Michael Logue, Liam McBride, Mickey McBride, Joe Boyce, Noel McBride, ??????, John Giles, Brian McBride, Gerry Gallagher, Neil McBride.

# Tribune Weekly Quiz No. 4



*During the duration of the Coronavirus we will run a weekly quiz with one winner of €50 chosen this week. Entries close for Quiz No. 4 on Friday 17th April.*

*Just answer the 50 questions below drop your entry into the Quiz 4, Tribune Office, Main Street, Milford or post it to Quiz No. 4, Tirconail Tribune, Main Street, Milford, Co. Donegal F92 X6TR.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

1. Outside which building in Washington did Taoiseach Leo Varadkar make his state address on Covid-19 restrictions on the 12th March this year?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
2. Who was Minister of Health in Britain when NHS was formed in 1948?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
3. What year was Ian McGarvey first elected to Donegal County Council?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
4. What is the exact time & day that clocks were put forward by one hour in 2020?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
5. What is the square root of 9,801?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
6. How many Catholic Dioceses are there in County Donegal?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
7. Name the RTE personality who won a bye-election in 2009?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
8. Who is the current Rose of Tralee?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
9. In bingo, what number is referred to as 'half a house'?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
10. "And he stopped all the traffic with one wave of his hand..." Who stopped the traffic in the Percy French song?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
11. Which of these is the odd one out – Polyester, Nylon, Linen, Spandex?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
12. Bayern Motor Works is more commonly known as what?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
13. Candor Rib Hurt is an anagram of which Irish politician?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
14. A, B, AB & O are different groups of what?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
15. George Wimpey, John Laing & John Sisk are all involved in what type of business?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
16. What is the French word for six?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
17. The residence of the British PM is adjacent to which public park in London?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
18. Out of a total of 60 Senators in Seanad Eireann, how many are elected directly via university graduates?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
19. 'Eat Like Andy' was a 2019 advertising campaign by which fast food chain?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
20. John Lewis & Waitrose both announced in 2019 that they will refuse to stock any Christmas Crackers which contain what?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
21. What is the minimum of people needed for a three-legged race?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
22. Richard Braine resigned as leader of which political party in 2019?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
23. Two teams from the six-nations rugby tournament made it to the semi-finals of last year's world cup in Japan, England was one, name the other?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
24. What nationality is actor Joaquin Phoenix?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
25. Add the number of Councillors on Donegal County Council to the number of Assembly Members in Stormont?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
26. What TV celebrity owns the MacNean House & Restraunt in Blacklion?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
27. Who is the Chief Medical Officer in Northern Ireland?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
28. Do polar bears eat penguins?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_

29. How many leaders of Fine Gael have served as Taoiseach?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
30. What is the plural of Mongoose?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
31. Article 42 was rescinded by the GAA in 2005. What did it relate to?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
32. What is the name of the police officer in Top Cat?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
33. Who is actor Tom Hanks married to?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
34. Name the four sets of actor brothers who starred as real life sets of brothers in the western 'The Long Riders'?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
35. Name the FF politician that contested five elections within the past twelve months?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
36. In the NATO phonetic alphabet of Alfa, Bravo, Charlie, what word denotes the letter F?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
37. Maurice O Doherty, Charles Mitchell & Andy O Mahony were all what?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
38. Where would you find a 'Rocker Head Cover'?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
39. What is the name of the papal address and apostolic blessing given by the Pope on certain solemn occasions?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
40. 'Béaláiste' is an Irish word meaning what?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
41. King Edward 111 of England is a paternal ancestor of which RTE personality?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
42. Who won this year's edition of 'Dancing with the Stars' on RTE?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
43. Peat, Daub, Bog, Turf – which is odd one out?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
44. The civil parish of Aghanunshin is in what Barony in Donegal?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
45. When was Údarás na Gaeltachta established?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
46. Which of these sectors is the biggest employer in Ireland: Agriculture, Public Sector, Industry or Services?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
47. Conrad Logan won a FA cup medal with which British football club?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
48. When was the Baroque period of classical art music form?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
49. W.U.U.T. is abbreviation text for what message?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_
50. What is an Apothecary more commonly known as?  
Answer: - \_\_\_\_\_

## Quiz Answers No. 2

*1 Coffee: 2 1976: 3 -1983: 4 Dylan Thomas: 5 Richard Burton: 6 Betty Williams: 7 John Knox: 8 1990: 9 -1799: 10 Indian Ocean. 11 Hammerfest, Norway: 12 Rudolf Hesse: 13 Cleopatra: 14 Strawberries and cream: 15 -1983: 16 Never Never Land: 17 Dr Who: 18 Blue: 19 Leeward: 20 Trafalgar. 21 Victor Hugo: 22 Shirley Temple: 23 Roller coaster: 24 Elizabeth Taylor: 25 Antarctica: 26: Florence Nightingale: 27 Napoleon Bonaparte: 28 Sir Walter Raleigh: 29 A cloud: 30 Terry Gilliam: 31 Bobby: 32 Paternoster Square: 33 Fear of insects: 34 A light sherry: 35 Alderney: 36 Little Women: 37 John Milton: 38 Confucius: 39 Pinocchio: 40 Robert Burns: 41 Fire: 42 Jellystone Park: 43 Leo: 44 Leonardo: 45 July: 46 – 1564: 47 Shropshire: 48 North Sea: 49 Alex Salmond: 50 Bastille.*

**Congratulations to Mary C. O'Donnell, 3 Meadowbank Park, Letterkenny (pictured right) won won Quiz No. 2 and receives €50.**



# We've been brought back down to earth with a bang

The present coronavirus or COVID-19 Pandemic has probably for the first time ever left us to question what is important in life? We live in a world or society where the economic structure is various forms of capitalism. that in itself is not evil but the manifestation of it is!

Modern society has evolved since the Industrial Revolution, before that we had evolved from the time Adam found that female bone in the Garden of Eden. Jesus that was a bad mistake, although if you believe Darwin you might think differently. Through the Caveman stages, the world developed in three stages, classical antiquity the Middle Ages and Modernity. From the times of the medieval period there was always a system of feudalism with tenants paying rents and supplying labour and military service.

The Middle Ages saw the world experience famines, plague, conflict, all contributed to massive human loss. The 'Black Death' killed about one-third of the world population. It's significant considering the present virus, later during the Spanish Flu one quarter of the world's population was infected. During the two World Wars, 90 million were killed! Conflict was common throughout Europe over the centuries, much derived from the lack of wealth being distributed, German Peasant Armies created havoc and similar uprisings in England and Italy.

The Church was not immune to changes in thinking and Martin Luther's 99 Thesis led to the Protestant Reformation in the 1500s, dividing Europe's Christians for all time and encouraged many religious conflicts including our recent battles in the 6 counties and indeed Celtic and Rangers quadruple 'love in' every season, except this one of course!

Royalty also took their place, being descended from God and all that, in the conveyor belt of seizing as much wealth as possible leaving the Plebs to gather the crumbs amid various slaughtering matches on the local common! In society, in general, there has always been a division in the wealth of the country, a small elite maintained a lifestyle which was obscene. Unearned wealth was kept within certain families and the mass of workers struggled on the land, this was the prelude to the modern capitalist system which the world has accepted in its entirety despite some memorable exceptions like early Russia after the Revolution in 1917. And similarly Cuba in 1960!

Farming on the other hand developed from the original Hunter-Gatherers to new style Middle East farmers working the land, it moved forward then to the new nation-states dividing the land up to be worked with crops and animals providing a food line for a developing and growing population worldwide. The Industrial Revolution changed the world, more or less started in England in the mid 18th century and then followed by America, it heralded the move from agricultural societies to industrialised mechanisation. Before the change, people worked the land and lived community whereas afterwards people moved into the growing cities to work the factories, whole streets of houses belonging to the factory owners were built for the new workers, they became almost owned by the factory owners, virtual slave labour, 60+ hours per week including Saturday, low wages, working in conditions which were intolerable, life expectancy low. People flooded to the new industrial centres, Donegal migrants arrived in the West of Scotland and further afield in their thousands, Irish people travelled the world in search of economic stability. Urban populations increased dramatically, all the great cities of the world saw massive growth at this time. While the positives from the Industrial Revolution brought light, steam and the railways, even assembly lines, the disadvantages were an unhealthy lifestyle and the growth of a hunger to make vast amounts of money at the expense of the new working classes. Unfortunately, has the world ever been any different? Obscene profit became a byword for the new society, long hours, low pay, child labour in the extreme. While society was developing into the modern era we know so well, the desire to make massive profits at the workers expense created the modern capitalist system, it created a greed for the filthy lucre that knows no bounds and we witnessed that during the Celtic Tiger!

Of course we all know there's just a few ways to make it to the top, be extremely intelligent, have a good idea, work or have loads of money backing you or follow a well worn path and marry the boss's daughter! Whatever way there's a flaw in humanity that sees obscene wealth as a positive sign



By Paddy McMenamin

in life.

There's nothing wrong with working hard and making money to make a good life for your family but the obscene lengths that some people go to deliver a lifestyle of average and a disgusting monopoly of wealth, in its extremes the world's richest 1% own half the wealth of the planet, 70 mega-rich billionaires own as much as 3.5 billion ordinary workers.

FFS it's obscene to even think about it? We witnessed it throughout the 'Tiger' years, Seany Fitz, Johnny Rohan, Fingers Fingleton, Sean Dunne, and that's replicated right throughout society. There are cut down versions of these financial chancers in every part of the country, and there's a certain glow about them as if having this wealth gives them a different status in society. It's never mentioned where the wealth originated from, how the inherited wealth created modern wealth. For every philanthropist like Chuck Feeney who gave away his billions rather than make spoiled millionaires of his insufferable offspring there are millions who make them into the poncy rich kids of the future?

There is nowhere the disparity in earnings at the moment as in the EPL, it's awash with money and the players on astronomical wages and it's no wonder they are under pressure at the moment to have their wages reduced during the present crisis, it's galling to see nurses on €40,000 per annum risking their lives to save Covid-19 patients and then footballers on €200,000 a week lying about scratching their proverbial balls or taking social distancing to the extreme while partying with Ukrainian escorts!

It hasn't gone unnoticed that the majority are reluctant to put some of their obscene earnings to buy PPE or volunteer to help out in the crisis? The UK Health Secretary, Matt Hancock, directly hit out at the players recently, while he struggles to raise finance to help the NHS, the players still collect their hyper inflated wages and not even playing ball!

The players of course are only part of the mega-rich business, don't hear many club chairmen, Russian Oligarchs, Arab Sheiks or American Hedge Fund merchants offering to share their billions with the NHS.

Similarly the tycoons in Ireland sharing their wealth with the HSE is not on the agenda. And yet the EPL clubs are cutting the wages of the stewards, turnstile assistants, cleaners, in fact, all non-playing staff, so those earning minimum wages are taking a hit while some ponzi centre forward from South Korea or Peru channels his through some offshore account in the Maldives! Of course, we can't generalise as some players have donated millions, principally Messi and Ronaldo and Barca and Juve have made pay cuts for the players up to 70%, and the PFA are now considering contributing to some of their vast resources, also in EPL as well several players have made great gestures including our much-maligned James McClean who donated €25,000 for sanitisers and other-equipment for Altnagelvin in Derry.

Clearly it's not a footballers fault if a club chairman decides to hand him €100,000 per week, but in a society where the average wage is around €30,000 per annum it's an obscenity, and especially when front line workers in the fight against the Coronavirus are earning little more than a pittance. It's a bit much that a footballer who left school at 15 with no qualifications could earn that sort of remuneration. Of course, that's the way of the world, footballers, singers, actors, all sorts of celebrities can earn vast amounts of dosh, it's how society works. We can't all play in the Champions



A mass funeral for Covid-19 victims.



League or act in the West End, sing in the Grand Ole Opry or paint a Mona Lisa, but we all can and do work. In factories in the manufacturing, on a computer for hours on end, treat patients in our overcrowded A&E's, firemen, Gardai, army, care assistants, council workers, secretaries, barmen, binmen, SuperMacs and MacDonald's caterers, creche workers...

Homeworkers and a myriad of others make up the system, they all work hard, provide for their families, build houses, pay mortgages, school their children, that's the way of life but for most. The weekly wage packets will get them through until the next one arrives especially when the kids are young and the outgoings high. But for a cohort in every society it's not like that. An elite in society who have wealth that is unaccountable for, where they got it is debatable, they always appeared to have it and they have no intention of making society into a more level playing field where everyone can share in the wealth of the nation?

Why should a consultant be paid €250,000 per annum and a nurse €40,000? In Cuba with the best medical system in the world, doctors and nurses are on similar wages. They work for and within their communities and were the first to volunteer to travel to Italy to help with the crisis. There is a difference in the mindset between both societies.

I'm not advocating that we turn Ireland into a Cuba on the edge of Western Europe. We have to be realistic, different forms of societies have been attempted but most have failed mostly through the influence of the rich nations who don't see a form of socialism as benefiting a modern capitalist system.

But society has a very unequal distribution of wealth, there has to be a fairer system where we don't have homelessness, lack of housing, inequality in university places on elite courses like medicine. Everyone is entitled to a roof over their heads, employment, health benefits, third education. That's what the various forms of socialism aspired to but it doesn't suit those driven by greed, I mean who did it benefit when house prices rose from €30,000 in the '80s to €300,000 in the 2000's? Very unlikely to be young couples with small kids and a massive mortgage, the massive boom in the economy might have lifted all ships but it benefited more those in the Queen Mary 2 variety, more experienced life on a Titanic version.

I suppose in 2020 we have to be realistic - the world works in a certain way, many different types of systems have been tried throughout the centuries. Ancient Greece and Rome, Native Americans, Industrialised Europe, Social Democracy, Lenin and Russian Communism, Chairman Mao, Communism, Labour Socialism. Modern capital-

ist democracy, laissez faire economics, many countries have tried various political and economic systems. Unfortunately, none have really thrived to the extent that modern capitalism has. It's the 'American Dream' that everyone can achieve greatness in an economic sense but the reality of course is that it just doesn't happen for most of us. We might aspire to it but it's a certain cohort who achieve it, the majority are ordinary people that work hard throughout their lives, providing a good life for their families but they will never reach the status of the stinking filthy rich who have acquired their wealth through dubious means as we have seen during the 'Tiger'.

Of course in 2020 in countries like Ireland, we are probably all middle class in comparison to Third World world countries, but it's all comparative. We have a brilliant modern republic and economy here but then for the past few years all we heard on the RTE news was homelessness and a lack of housing! That's a paradox to put us to shame?

Equality in society we can only but dream, as we get older and more cynical we begin to understand how the system works. There is always an elite. Soviet Russia collapsed after the Communist dream, morphed into a state capitalism which was taken over by Oligarchs and gangsters of every description. For the ordinary people now it's 100 times worse than under communism. The Yugoslav countries as well as Eastern Europe. The worst thing of all is that the elite under communism is now the elite under capitalism!

These people are the same in every country, we are all aware of them, their greed for the filthy lucre knows no bounds, we know them well, see them in our villages and towns never mind the cities, they stink of corruptness, involved in every scam going, and that's not just the politicians I'm talking about. Where else in the world would you get thousands in a monthly pension at 40 while average Joe waits till they're 66 for their €250 a week and a free TV licence.

The coronavirus pandemic has brought us back down to earth with a bang, it takes no prisoners but spreads its tentacles around with immunity to whether you're a mogul or a mongrel! The most incredible thing to emerge out of it all is the community reaction.

While we are in virtual lockdown and jobs and social life gone with the wind, but ordinary people have been magnificent in their response to helping the elderly who are in the most danger, social media has gone into overdrive with men, women and children contributing to a feeling of well being with music, games and fun. It's like war-time - a time when we need community spirit more than ever, everyone has joined in except the ATM robbers in Dundalk and the gangster who met his Waterloo last week. He obviously didn't know Ardayne very well!

When this is all over the world might be a different place although that's wishful thinking. But we might understand that there are more things than greed and avarice in life, that good neighbours and community are vital, that family and friends are more important than owning 3 mansions, 2 Hummer jeeps or a villa in the Algarve, that you can only eat one steak, drink one bottle of wine or live one life. Igi curamach, stay safe, as we lose too many lives in this sad and dangerous time. Many of our elderly are passing with the virus, they didn't deserve to end their lives like this. It makes us realise after everything, that life is for living!

# Titanic Triumph for Kevin

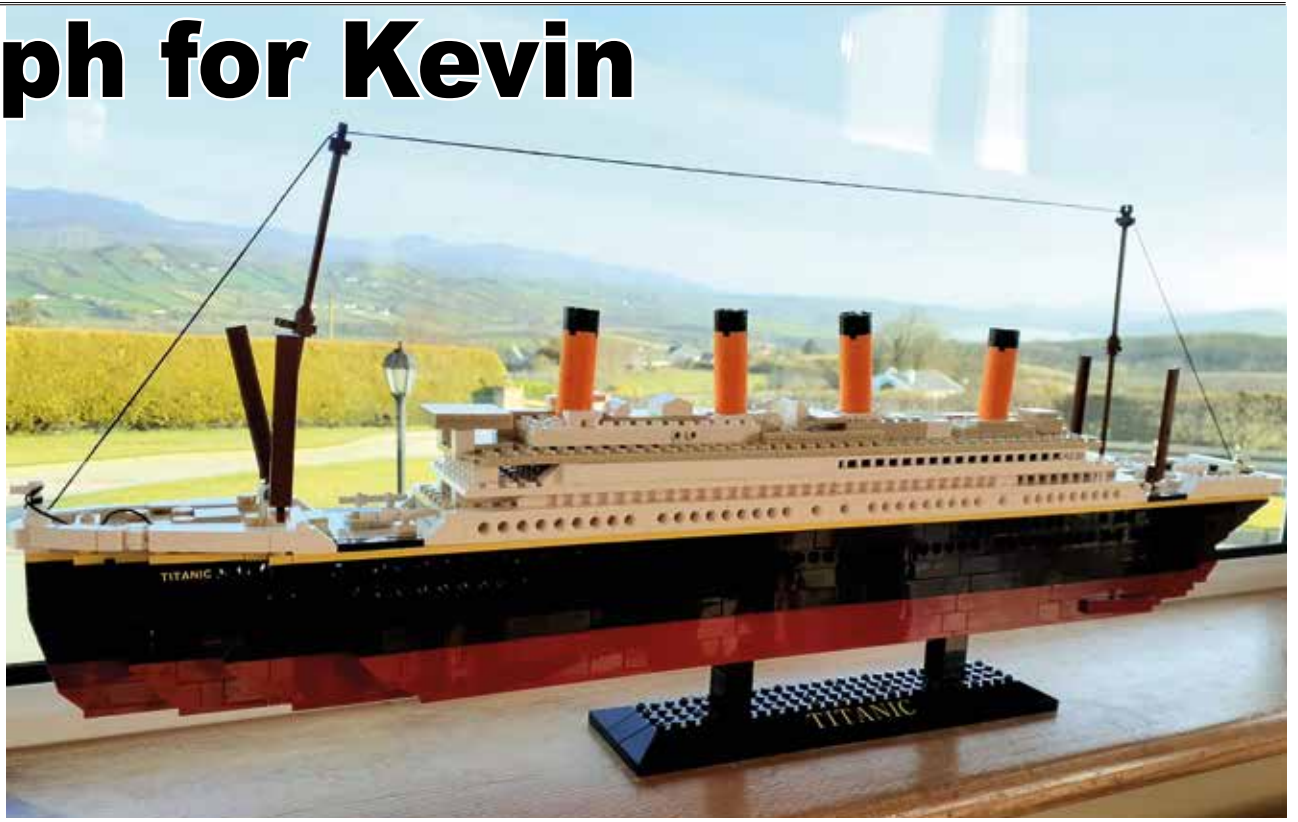


While other pupils may have been finding it difficult to stay afloat with all the home schooling over the past number of weeks, Kilmacrennan National School 5th Class pupil, Kevin McGettigan, steamed right ahead and built himself a Lego replica of the world's most famous ship, The Titanic.

It took him just under two and a half weeks to finish the 900 piece project.

Taking pride of place on the sitting room windowsill of his Leitir home, it is widely believed that the ship will last longer than the original Titanic as his parents, James and Noreen, and his brother, Enda, are banned from the room for the foreseeable future!

Well done Kevin on your fantastic feat of engineering.



## Rathmullan The Way Forward April Newsletter

1. This newsletter will be emailed to our mailing list and, thanks to our postmen, Stephen and Johnny, delivered to the over 70 year olds who are "cocooning" in the Rathmullan Area at this time.

2. We would like to say a huge thank you to Paul Deeney for all his incredible work but in particular in presenting Rathmullan "Down through the Ages" on Facebook. Paul is spending a large amount of time ensuring that we all take a trip down memory lane. We are always very grateful to Paul and really enjoy his posts.

3. Many people are now availing of the Rathmullan Football Club delivery service. A big thank you to all Club Members who are delivering shopping and medicines to the Rathmullan and surrounding districts. Please call Seamus 086 8508455 or Enda 086 4019256 if you know someone who needs such a service, or if you have a request to make.

4. Well done to Martin and Monica in An Bonnan Bui who, with HSE and D.C.C.'s approval, are making and delivering soup daily to Rathmullan Village residents.

### Tidy Towns Update:

The launch of 2020 National Tidy

Towns Competition is now deferred. However, murals are being made for the vacant houses beside Pier Hotel site.

Eleven signs for the "All Ireland Pollinator Plan" are ready to be placed in various locations. A new lawn mower has been purchased by the Tidy Towns group, with the plan being to work hand in hand with the C.E.S to tidy and help to brighten up Rathmullan.

### Battery & Abbey Update:

We are still very hopeful that final works will begin on the Abbey in June 2020 to be completed by October, to allow the Abbey to be opened to the public in 2020. We continue to process the required paperwork in order to begin upgrade works on the Battery, and hope work will begin there in June 2020.

### Community Call Rathmullan:

The Rathmullan Community is facing challenging times caused by the Covid 19 virus. We have been asked to socially distance ourselves, and for the over 70 age group to cocoon themselves indoors, and, for the time being, to have no social contact.

The Community First Responder Group would like to reach out to



Rathmullan Abbey lit up as part of the National Shine a Light Campaign on Saturday night. Photo by Paul Deeney.

people in our community, and offer a telephone call to anyone who'd like one. One of our team would telephone you for a social chat and ask how you are doing. S/he would also keep you up to date about local matters that might be of interest to you. If you would like to have a telephone chat, please call Clare on 083 869 1409 to give your phone number and

the best time of day to reach you.

### Church Services

The Catholic Church Services are available on webcam at mrparishes.ie. Masses on the webcam are on Tuesday's and Wednesday's 10.00am. Stations of The Cross Tuesday and Wednesday 3pm and Friday 12 mid-day.



## Where's Shanagh?!



If you can spot Shanagh hiding in one of our Adverts this week text us on 086 2147088. You could win a €50 voucher for Whoriskey's of Ramelton She can be hiding in either a black and white or colour advert on any page... just txt us your name and address and the advert she's in before Monday at 6pm to be in with a chance to win...

This week's winner was Maggie McDaid, Listillon, Letterkenny who found Shanagh in Tully Lawnmowers Advert on Page 31 and wins a €50 voucher for Whoriskey's of Ramelton.



# Covid-19 Government must treat carefully



**Comment**

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*Deputy Thomas Pringle: "For the month of October (2019) the INMO confirmed a total of 693 people were either on trolleys or waiting on wards in the hospital over four weeks making it one of the most overcrowded hospitals in the country. The recruitment embargo has prevented Letterkenny University Hospital from employing the doctors, nurses and support staff required to fully open the hospital's short stay ward. Most of the ambulances are actually sitting at LUH waiting to discharge patients into it. That is f\*\*\*ing ridiculous. This is continuously going on and we're here constantly talking about it," he added and so say all of us.*

It has been almost four weeks since the government published guidance warning people against all but essential travel, highlighting this "does not include visits to second homes" and that "people must remain in their primary residence". For us in this county, that meant we'd not see visitors from Northern Ireland at their holiday homes until the trauma of Covid-19 had long since past. Unfortunately that has been flouted to a degree that is unacceptable and has added to the huge cost of dealing with the crisis. Why else would vehicles be turned back at checkpoints over the Easter weekend? Of course the rest of the Republic had the same problem as Dublin families wanted to head to their holiday hideaways in the West and the South East. The fact that so many did not heed government advice to stay at home is a sign of irresponsibility and perhaps a degree of immaturity on many parts of the psyche.

In the past week, the sight of these checkpoints on both sides of the Border was welcomed because they were urgently needed for our protection. Our own government did not make that decision lightly and they are to be congratulated for mounting the largest policing operation in our history.

We never expected to see a time when we would be in almost total lockdown but there are no other options. The stark reality is that too many people decided to ignore the guidelines and cross the Border into 'secondary homes' and Donegal is one of the top destinations. It is rather a sad reflection on the goodwill built up for these past fifty years with local communities have been breached. The very fact that Gardaí and the PSNI were forced to put in place the most stringent operation in our history to stop people from coming here says it all. Yet there were those families who brazenly broke through the barriers and checkpoints to spend Easter here, hoping their presence would not be noticed. How very ignorant of those people who disobeyed the guidelines set down by governments in Dublin and Stormont to come here to add to the anxieties and fears about the spread of coronavirus in our midst. In many ways this is wrong, ethically,

morally and from the point of view of harmony and community relations. This behaviour is really an attitude problem dating back into legacies of the past. Be that as it may, nobody is entitled to disregard the welcome we extended to so many families down many years.

When, as expected, the deadline for restrictions due to expire last Sunday was extended until May 5th it meant another three weeks of sheer isolation for so many people. But, there are families, people living remotely and alone who are struggling very hard to cope with this regime and so is the business of everyday life. There are obvious health, depression and anxiety issues mixed in the psychological fear of the unknown. And no matter how much support is out there, be it a visit from An Post, a Garda or the local shop dropping off the grocery needs, there is another reality out there that must be addressed.

There is only so much that grandparents and families can tolerate before cracking up and there is uneasiness, guilt and fear which at the best of times is a ticking time bomb in the health system.

The Government has assured us that the extension of the emergency powers will not create a 'Police State'. This worry will be further compounded by the comment of Commissioner Drew Harris that people should contact Gardaí if they are aware of the regulations being flouted. Are we in danger of unwittingly creating a monster over which we have no control? Gardaí have a thin blue line to walk between encouraging best practice in relation to the regulations on the one hand and on the other avoiding coercion.

This could result in unrest. At best, it has corralled people into spaces that pose health threats apart from a reasonable freedom of movement.

The Government focus is on coronavirus but there has to be much more effort and funding put into means that will ensure that the mental health of entire communities is not damaged beyond repair. Too many are suffering in silence and that is matched with a demand to ensure that they are identified and looked after. Many have retreated, not only into cocooning but in

a shell of confusion and worry. Hospital wards across the country lie empty... it is not as if there has been a silver bullet to cure all ills. The big fear, apart from that of the virus, is the dread of having to call a doctor and the nation's A&E departments have seen a dramatic fall off in numbers.

The true impact of coronavirus is having on public patients needing surgery is shown in stark new figures published at the weekend. Waiting lists have gone through the roof by a record 11,000 in just one month, to 77,748. Hospitals were forced into a programme of huge cancellations in March and April in order to free up beds, intensive care units and staff to cope with the rise in coronavirus patients.

But there is another serious reality waiting in the wings. We have almost three more weeks of these emergency measures and very possibly four more months of focus in dealing with the virus with a clampdown on thousands of routine care appointments ahead, the fear is that more patients facing critical delays will die on waiting lists. Of course there are major concerns around PPE's for front line staff: about the lengthy wait for testing and a myriad of other health related issues will be there long after coronavirus is dealt with. In the meantime front line staff have deservedly been applauded globally every Thursday night at eight o'clock. While this is all well merited, the reality is that it is not that long ago that our own nurses were threatened with legal action should to stop them taking industrial action.

Nurses work, often under severe stress in A&Es all over Ireland in the 14 years since our health service was declared a national emergency. The problems of filling permanent posts will have not improved in the long term and nurses, rather than being applauded urgently need to be fully assured that the hospitals overcrowding crisis and lengthy waiting times for treatment will be prioritised.

We are all great in declaring our support for nurses and given that I worked in the profession for 21 years: was on strike twice and got nothing only goes to show the Government is merely paying lip service to the work of the profession.

That neglect and frustration was amplified in the Dail last November when one Donegal TD who used an opportunity in the Dail to brand the overcrowding crisis in Letterkenny University Hospital as 'f\*\*\*ing ridiculous'.

Thomas Pringle TD used the expletive language to vent his outrage at the unrelenting situation in LUH. The hospital has been one of the most overcrowded in the country - with latest figures from the Irish Nurses and Midwives Organisation revealing more than 200 people waiting on an inpatient bed in the previous week. Deputy Thomas Pringle launched a stinging attack on the government in the Dail for not being proactive enough in finding a resolution to the spiralling crisis in LUH. He said nothing will improve until those in power take real action.

He said: "For the month of October (2019) the INMO confirmed a total of 693 people were either on trolleys or waiting on wards in the hospital over four weeks making it one of the most overcrowded hospitals in the country. "The recruitment embargo has prevented Letterkenny University Hospi-

tal from employing the doctors, nurses and support staff required to fully open the hospital's short stay ward. What we have in Letterkenny is an ambulance service run for a very big county. Most of the ambulances are actually sitting at LUH waiting to discharge patients into it. That is f\*\*\*ing ridiculous. This is continuously going on and we're here constantly talking about it," he added and so say all of us." Please God Covid-19 will go away but the chaos in the Irish Health System will remain with a possibility of another 100,000 added to waiting lists for essential procedures. Our testing regime collapsed in recent weeks - for want of "reagents"... also known as chemicals. Ireland is the pharmaceutical manufacturing capital of the World. The "reagents" are the subject of various patents and intellectual property rights. The "owners" are asserting those rights. All of our universities have staff and facilities capable of producing these "reagents" I understand. All it takes is some goodwill from the pharmaceutical industry. No country should tolerate bottle-necks in Covid-19 testing for want of "reagents". Our nurses, doctors and nursing home staff, our shop-keepers, check-out staff and postmen all pay their taxes. It is time governments took this on and demanded some global citizenship from the "owners" of these chemicals. Coronavirus is a blight on the land, a global pandemic where there is no real certainty of closure until each and everyone of us gets a vaccine to protect us. That is perhaps a year away... but it will be well worth the wait. The pandemic has brought so much of the traditional generosity of spirit in the Irish people.. I mean when did you last hear anyone criticise Simon Harris... or Joe McHugh - not to mention Eoghan Murphy or Leo Varadkar? That really has to be a record for this government!

The Taoiseach said because the vast majority of people have complied with the restrictions the spread of coronavirus has been interrupted. However, while the spread had been slowed significantly it has not been stopped. Too many people have died and more will have died "before it's all over", the Taoiseach told a briefing on Good Friday. He said people could not afford to become complacent or lose focus and "we need to persevere" and to maintain our discipline and resolve.

The Government was planning for a return to normality, he said, but for now we have to "take one day at a time". Mr Varadkar said he hoped that after the three-week period the curtailment of social and commercial activity could be unwound but added that he could not guarantee this. Whether this happens will depend on how people respond to the restrictions and the behaviours required.

"They won't be eased in one go. It will have to be done bit by bit," said Mr Varadkar. The controls might also have to be reimposed if the virus "rises again". He acknowledged many people were feeling frustrated and captive under the regulations and that the fine weather makes things more difficult. Ireland would be watching how other countries such as Denmark, Austria and the Czech Republic got on in easing their restrictions in the coming weeks, he said. Europe suffered a historic defeat on Thursday night. After weeks of impasse, the Eurogroup

gathering of finance ministers, whose countries share the euro, reached a decision on their collective response to the coronavirus pandemic's economic impact. Besides constituting an epic dereliction of duty, the Eurogroup's decision dealt a decisive blow to the foundations of the European Union - much to the delight of Europe's critics and enemies.

Most of continental Europe using the euro is in lockdown. The economic shockwaves caused by a lockdown do not care what currency we use. Just as in the United Kingdom, the United States or Japan, the precipitous falls in private incomes must be counterbalanced by substantial increases in public expenditure. If governments fail in this, the sum of private and public expenditure (which equals aggregate income) will crash even faster, bankruptcies will burgeon and government tax revenues will collapse further in the medium term.

The challenge facing the 19 countries of the eurozone is unique. The massive boost in public debt that is now so necessary is hampered by the quaint arrangement of sharing a central bank that, on the one hand, has no common treasury to lean against and, on the other, is banned from backing directly the 19 treasuries that must borrow in euros to fight the crisis. The euro crisis that began in 2010 stretched this monetary architecture to its limits. The coronavirus recession is now pushing it beyond them.

With the countries worst hit by Covid-19, such as Italy, being the most indebted and thus the least able to shoulder the necessary new debt, an impossible conundrum emerges: the new debt needed to revive the private sector will push the state into default, so destroying the banks whose capital is mostly government debt and, in short order, the rest of the private sector. The only way out of this trap is for the new debt not to fall on the weak shoulders of the most indebted eurozone countries but to be shared across the eurozone. Except that this debt-sharing is banned by the treaties that created the eurozone, at the insistence of the northern european countries running a trade surplus with the rest

It is in the shadow of this riddle that the Eurogroup met on Thursday night last week. To counter the oncoming tsunami of bankruptcies, they had to emulate the British, American and Japanese stimuli programmes by channelling approximately 8% of total eurozone income (€1tn) into fresh public expenditure, while also setting aside another such sum for an investment fund to power up the post-Covid-19 recovery. And they had to find a way to avoid circumventing the ban on debt-sharing without which an additional €2tn public expenditure would crush members such as Italy, Spain and Greece thus reviving the spectre of disintegration. And finally the impasse gave way to an agreement. While you may be reading headlines of an impressive sum of €500bn to rescue Europe, the truth is far less heroic. In fact, the price of reaching the agreement was impotence. Instead of the 16% of total eurozone income (€2tn) stimulus needed, the eurozone will throw a derisory 0.22% (€27.7bn) at the crisis. To make the numbers sound better, and reach the magical €500bn figure, they will extend credit lines to countries such as Ireland, via Europe's bailout fund (the European stability mechanism, or ESM), to the tune of 2% of a recipient country's national income. And they will allow for more loans, of about €100bn, to the social security systems of countries whose unemployment benefit bill spikes more than others - on condition that the monies will be returned when unemployment subsides.

Before the Eurogroup met, hope was in the air that Europe would, at last, change its rules to save its greatest creation: the European Union.

Belatedly, they demanded a common debt instrument that allows total long-term debt to shrink by transferring a portion of it from member states, which have a lot of debt, to the Eurozone, which has none.

This debate is now dead in the water, killed off by the Eurogroup's decision to rely almost entirely on new debts falling squarely on the member states' weakened shoulders. The only concession to the nine governments suggesting debt-sharing was that the new ESM loans will have no strings attached to them. This is, alas, a red herring as the conditions will come later, once the eurozone's fiscal rules bite again.

So, the message to us is Ireland does not offer the silver bullet needed to stimulate our broken economy...but that is how things are done in Brussels.

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# No celebration in Easter Week for 'Fanad Patriots'

Ever since its founding, this space in the Tirconaill Tribune in Easter Week has been occupied with the commemoration ceremony at Kindrum in Fanad where a Celtic Cross stands guard in remembrance of an event that brought to an end the era of Landlordism in Ireland.

Perhaps, the absence of any celebration this week is a fitting tribute to those men as we now cope with a very different trauma in our midst.

In 1960 a memorial Celtic Cross was erected at Kindrum and the identification of the men involved in the killing of Lord Leitrim finally became part of official Ireland's turbulent history.

## By John McAteer

Recent years have seen a memorial service at Kindrum in the Fanad Peninsula where there was a ceremony to commemorate 'The Fanad Patriots' who on April 2nd 1898 assassinated Lord Leitrim. But this year, no tricolour fluttered and the Last Post remained silent. A darkness engulfed the landscape and the only sounds were from the wildlife and the water rippling onto the shore at Kindrum Lake. This is a historic setting at a country crossroads in the heart of Fanad where often Lord Leitrim passed by, striking fear into the community... It is a mere few miles distant across Mulroy Bay to Cratlagh Wood where Fanad men ended the reign of tyranny and landlordism in Ireland, once and for all.

The Leitrim era is part of local history here in the Fanad Peninsula with stories of evictions, families forced from their homes because the peasant farmers could not afford to pay their rents.

Back in the late 1800s, the Third Earl of Leitrim was one of the most hated landlords in Ireland, and no more so than in Donegal. People labelled him a ruthless tyrant for his countless evictions and his attacks on tenants rights and all the while anger was mounting.

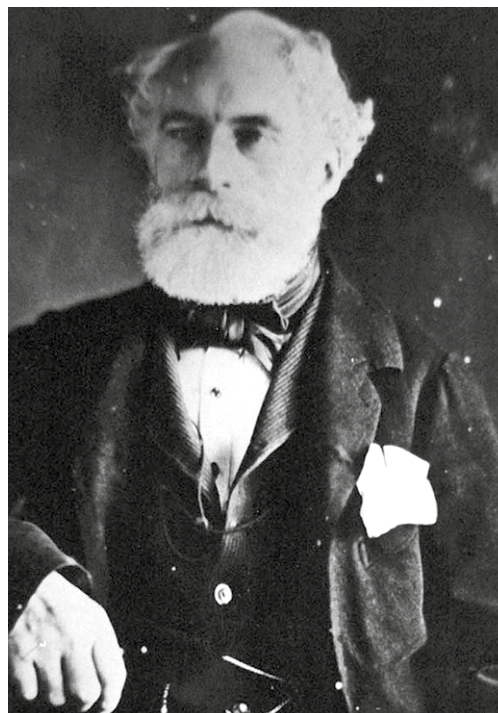
Affairs came to a head in April 1878 when the Earl was assassinated on the road between Carrigart and Milford. There was jubilation in Donegal and elsewhere. But the incident sent shock waves across the land and gave rise to one of Ireland's great mysteries - who killed Lord Leitrim and how did they pull it off?

## Reward of £10,000 not collected!

After his assassination, Lord Leitrim's heir offered £10,000 in return for the identification of the killers. The reward was never collected. Heraghty was the only one of the three arrested and he died of typhus fever in jail without ever being charged



The 4th Earl (above) and the 3rd Earl of Leitrim (below).



Flowers at the Fanad Patriots memorial on Easter Monday.

with murder. 3,000 people wearing green rosettes, led by 20 cars and followed by 200 horsemen, met his funeral cortège as it entered Fanad although there was a rumour he was not in the coffin at all. Meanwhile, the hearse carrying the body of William Clements, to St. Michan's Church in Dublin, was met by an angry mob who intended to throw his coffin into the River Liffey. Leitrim's death was widely viewed as the only remedy available to a downtrodden persecuted tenantry who could stand the strain no longer.

## McGrenaghan brothers set free

On a Saturday morning in February 1879 as the Strabane train pulled into Derry's Great Northern Railway station on the Foyle Road two passengers jumped out amid cries of jubilation. It was two brothers Bernard and Thomas McGrenaghan from Fanad in County Donegal who'd just been set free from Lifford Jail. They'd been detained there almost a year for the murder of the Third Earl of Leitrim but suddenly they'd been released without charge. Now they were in Derry to shop and to celebrate.

A Derry solicitor had represented the McGrenaghans and there'd been massive interest in the Leitrim affair here in the City. It probably was no surprise then that as they made their way to the centre of Derry passers-by stopped to shake their hands. Soon a marching band appeared and the two McGrenaghans Bernard and Thomas, were hoisted shoulder-high for a parade through the streets.

There was a party atmosphere in Derry that day. Later a massive gathering saw them off at the Lough Swilly station for the trip from Derry to Fanad. But why were the McGrenaghans set free and, perhaps more to the point, who did kill Lord Leitrim? Even today, all those generations on, many people are not aware of this famous assassination.

The story starts when William Sydney Clements became the Third Earl of Leitrim in 1854. Along with the title he inherited 90,000 acres of land spread across counties Leitrim, Donegal, Galway, and Kildare. Clements had been an army man and it's doubtful if he ever really wanted the title in the first place. But, once in Ireland, he set about upgrading the whole estate.

As a result he began incurring the wrath of just about everyone - his tenants, the Church, the judiciary, even the administration at Dublin Castle. Quite simply he was hated for his rigid, unflinching approach - it was his way or the highway.

Lord Leitrim reserved the right to make improvements as he saw fit and those who did not comply, or went about things in their own way, were evicted.

He even went so far as to smooth the legal process of eviction, all his tenants were

## NOTICE TO QUIT.

As agent to the Right Honourable WILLIAM SYDNEY EARL OF LEITRIM, I hereby give you notice to Quit and Deliver up to Me or his Bailiff, on the First day of November next, the Possession of ALL THAT AND THOSE, that Part of the Lands of *Moineagh* with the Houses thereon, and the Appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate in the Parish of *Clondaraddy* in the Barony of Kilmacrenan, and County of Donegal, and all other Lands, Tenements, Hereditaments, and Premises, which you hold from or occupy under the said WILLIAM SYDNEY EARL OF LEITRIM, together with all and singular the Appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate in the County of Donegal, provided your Tenancy commenced at that time of the year; and if otherwise, that you Quit and Deliver up the Possession of the said Premises, at the end of the year of your Tenancy, which shall expire next after the end of half-a-year from the time of your being served with this Notice; and in case you shall neglect or refuse to deliver up said Premises, the said WILLIAM SYDNEY EARL OF LEITRIM will proceed to recover the Possession, and double the yearly value thereof, and all Costs attending such recovery.

Dated this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April 1869.

To *John Keogh*  
*F. W. M. M.*

Lord Leitrim handed out Notices to Quit like snuff at a wake.

served notices-to-quit every April (in some instances printed on the back of rent receipts), enabling Leitrim to evict them if he so chose when the notices expired six months later.

Most hostility against him was centered in Donegal, especially in Fanad where he owned 12,000 acres. Evictions were being carried out and it was only a matter of time before a plot was hatched to assassinate the Third Earl of Leitrim.

## Fanad Plot

History relates that a meeting took place at McGranaghans in Gortnatraw North, between two secret organisations based in Fanad. At this gathering plans as to how and where to carry out the killing were drawn up. Then volunteers were chosen and it was only a question of picking the right day. That day turned out to be Tuesday April 2nd 1878. At 8:30am Lord Leitrim left his grand house at Manorvaughan on his way into Milford, a distance of about less than ten miles.

The party consisted of two carriages - Lord Leitrim, his clerk John Makim and the driver Charles Buchanan were in front, while behind were the Earl's valet William Kincaid and the driver Michael Logue. This car was slowed down with a heavy load of the Earl's luggage and by having a lame horse... and legend abounds about that issue.

Unknown to Lord Leitrim and his accompanying men, three men, now known to have been Michael Heraghty from Tullyconnell, Michael McElwee from Ballywhoriskey (who was known as Mickey Rua) and Nial Sheils of Doaghmore, armed with muzzle loading guns, had crossed Mulroy Bay by boat and were lying in wait for Lord Leitrim to pass by at Woodquarter around 7.00am.

During the journey, Leitrim's carriage sped ahead but when they were about three miles from Milford at Cratlagh he was ambushed as gunshots rang out. The first Kincaid, travelling in the second carriage knew of the incident was a report from a volley of several shots before him on the road.

The carriage man, Charles Buchanan had been shot in the head and died immediately. He fell to the road, his horse rug still around his knees. John Makim the clerk, was also shot in the head but managed to stumble back towards the second car.

## He died later

Lord Leitrim never got a chance to get to either of the two guns he carried. One of the first shots hit him in the right arm, fracturing his elbow joint and he took nine or ten bullets in the back of his left shoulder. He fell to the ground and the horses galloped away. Leitrim struggled with his attackers. Kincaid, saw the Earl grappling with a man who had a red beard. Allegedly this was Michael McElwee.

As Kincaid looked on, the second attacker, Neil Shiels came from behind and brought the butt of a gun down on Lord Leitrim's head, shattering his

skull. Having killed the three men, the Fanad group raced to the shores of Mulroy Bay to a waiting boat, Kincaid reportedly watched them pull hard from the shore and disappear across the bay. Leitrim was dead and the news hit Ireland like an earthquake.

## Aftermath

The Catholic Church and the newspapers immediately condemned the killings without reservation and a massive manhunt was set in motion throughout Donegal. One significant clue was a tuft of red hair found in Lord Leitrim's clenched hand - it had been torn from his assailant's beard in the struggle. There was little doubt among the tenantry about who the actual assassins were, but no one informed the police. Immediately after the murder, each of the conspirators went back about their daily business. McElwee was to be seen soon afterwards constructing lobster pots and Shiels went back to his tailor's shop. Heraghty went to the house of some friends where he had a meal of tea and eggs.

At the murder scene reports of evidence lay everywhere - a pistol, a red gunstock, a poitene bottle and, most incriminating of all, a scrap of paper that had been used as gun wadding. When this was examined it turned out to be a page from a child's exercise book and writing on the paper led the constabulary to a Mary McGrenaghan, a pupil in Cashel school. As a result of this the McGrenaghan brothers were immediately implicated.

Also the broken gunstock was the evidence provided proof against one of the actual conspirators, Michael Heraghty. As it happened, Heraghty had left the scene earlier to follow a pedestrian who had passed the three as they took up their positions on the road. Suspecting that the passer-by might have noticed something amiss and afraid that he might warn the authorities in Milford, Heraghty was chosen to shadow the man and ensure he proved no threat.

He left his gun behind and it was this that McElwee used to inflict the fatal blow. Why the small, wiry twenty-year-old Heraghty was chosen to leave is a mystery. Of the three, he was reputed to be the best shot, a skill he refined through his main occupation... poaching.

All three men were committed for trial in July 1878 and were detained in Lifford Jail.

The evidence was not strong enough to convict the McGrenaghans and they were eventually released the following February.

However Michael Heraghty died of typhus while in jail in October 1878. However this is also disputed in local legend with the story that he was sprung from gaol and went to America...

## Clocks turned back!

During the initial court proceedings it was revealed that Lord Leitrim's police escort had not arrived at Manorvaughan to take him to Milford on the morning of the fatal shooting. Later it was discovered that the clocks in the house had been put forward so that Lord Leitrim was on the road an hour earlier than he should have been. So there was inside help at Manorvaughan. It also appears that the second carriage carrying the butler had been deliberately slowed by maiming the horse - this isolated Leitrim up ahead and left him an easy target. So everything pointed to meticulous planning on the part of the assassins and it seems that every man, woman and child in Fanad might have information but a code of silence ensured that the names were kept secret.

Contd. Page 17



# LYIT proud to support efforts to address Covid-19 challenges

Staff and students at Letterkenny Institute of Technology (LYIT) have been making a significant contribution over the last couple of weeks to support frontline workers with some of the challenges presented by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Paul Hannigan, President of LYIT, said: "We are greatly honoured to make a contribution to the national efforts of addressing some of these challenges and supporting the frontline workers during this crucial time. In recent weeks, our staff and students have worked in resourceful and imaginative ways to contribute to the local communities during these unprecedented times".

LYIT'S nursing students are playing a vital part to the fight against the pandemic. Final year nursing students in general, psychiatric and intellectual disability nursing are HSE employees and working with our local hospitals and clinical partners. Dr Louise Mc Bride, Head of Department of Nursing and Health Studies has facilitated nursing students from other years to apply for the "HSE Be on Call" agreement, whilst many students are volunteering in their local communities. LYIT nursing staff have also volunteered to support local HSE Occupational Health Department on contact tracing following increased demand on their services.

"It's a display of their courage and resilience to step up to this call. These students

are wonderful ambassadors of LYIT and the nursing profession. We are very proud of students working and volunteering at this very challenging time in the fight against 'COVID-19' states Dr Louise McBride.

The Department of Nursing and Health Studies and the Department of Science donated all their available PPE stock to local Public Health Nursing Partners which was gratefully received.

The Department of Science in LYIT have been working with Letterkenny University Hospital (LUH) in the production of Hand Sanitizer, in line with WHO guidelines, for use by staff working in the frontline. The Department have also donated PPE to LUH and made equipment and facilities available to support the national efforts as required. Dr Joanne Gallagher Head of Department of Science said: "The Department is delighted to be able to make a contribution to support the work of frontline staff and provide support however we can".

Engineering staff in LYIT along with technology teachers throughout the county have joined a nationwide campaign to supply protective face shields for medical staff during the Covid-19 crisis using the latest 3D printing technology. This is part of an international effort supported by the use of shield designs being provided free for use to cut down the time for design and manufacture to a mini-

mum.

LYIT engineers were approached by Dr Erik Korba, LUH, to ask if they could produce the face shields. Dr Korba reached out to LYIT, schools and industry having seen a free design for a protective shield provided online by a Czech engineer.

Using equipment normally used by electronics and mechanical engineering students for projects, LYIT engineers went into immediate production. Anticipating the shutdown of college buildings, they set up a 3D printing facility in Donegal town and transferred production to there as well as maintaining production in the CoLab building on the Letterkenny campus.

This combined effort resulted in the delivery of 520 face shields in the first week of production.

Dr Jim Morrison, Head of Department of Electronic and Mechanical Engineering, LYIT said: We are delighted to be able to produce the face shields. The valuable skills and expertise of our engineering staff has now resulted in a series of tweaks to the design to allow a quicker production cycle. We are thankful to those working on the frontline".

Local glazing manufacturers and other companies have also joined the effort and alternative manufacturing methods are being investigated to ensure high quality shields are produced for frontline staff as quickly as possible.



Furthermore, LYIT has been facilitating the Gardai through extensive use of the CoLab building on the Letterkenny campus.

LYIT has always been a centre point to the local community in Letterkenny and surrounding areas. I am delighted to see staff and students, as well as other businesses and local

residents coming together in the fight against Covid-19. Work continues to evolve and other Departments within the institute have additional creative work ongoing, says Paul Hannigan, LYIT President. Further updates on these creative and innovative developments will follow as they evolve.

From Page 16

For those few who may not have maintained silence through camaraderie and principles there was an unspoken deterrent - the plot was known to have been conceived and carried out by local Fenians and Ribbonmen.

## Names revealed

In the 1960s -70 years later it emerged that information had, been eventually gained by the Lord Lieutenant's man (for seventeen shillings), that had identified Mickey (Rua) McElwee, Neil Shiels the tailor, and Michael Heraghty but also confirmed that the meetings to plan the assassination had taken place in Thomas Sarah McGrenaghan's house in Gortnattraw North, and that McElwee and Shiels had stopped at Anthony McGrenaghan's house to change their clothes on their return home. The McGrenaghans were related 'by marriage'.

What had been done on receiving this information? Seemingly it had been filed away in Dublin Castle and was never referred to. The truth was, Lord Leitrim was mourned by neither tenants nor peers and his killers were lauded as heroes who ended the tyranny of landlordism in Ireland.

## Reconciliation

Leitrim's death was widely viewed as the only remedy available to a downtrodden persecuted tenantry who could stand the strain no longer. In Donegal, the assassination was considered a pivotal point in the fight for Home Rule. It is also seen as the inspiration behind the founding of the Land League in 1879 the following year. The 'Fanad Patriots' as they became known were not officially identified for many years. 80 years later in 1960 a memorial Celtic Cross was erected at Kindrum and the identification of the men involved in the killing was finally official.

Back in the late 1800s, the Third Earl of Leitrim was, perhaps the most hated landlord in Ireland, and no more so than in County Donegal. People labelled him a ruthless tyrant for his countless evictions and his attacks on tenants rights and all the while anger was mounting.

Affairs came to a head in April 1878 when the Earl was assassinated on the road between Carrigart and Milford. There was jubilation in Donegal and there were celebrations in Derry too. But the incident sent shock waves across the land and gave rise to one of Ireland's great mysteries - who killed Lord Leitrim and how did they pull it off?

## Leitrim's assassination

### - A British View

The reaction is best summed up from the pages of 'The Manchester News' on April 4th 1878. Their report reads: "So far as Lord Leitrim is concerned there can be little doubt as to the motive of the crime; nor can there be much difficulty in suggesting a reason why it should have been considered prudent to include the men who accompanied him in the butchery. Lord Leitrim was assassinated because he was considered an exacting landlord; his clerk and the car driver were



Kerrykeel from the air by Jerry Carr showing an almost deserted village for Easter Weekend.



murdered with him in all probability because it was thought that, if allowed to escape, they might be able to put the police on the track of the assassins. It is unfortunately impossible to deny that Lord Leitrim was accustomed to think far more of his own rights than of what was due to his tenants. He was in a state of constant warfare with the people on his extensive property and he drew upon himself increased odium from the personal part he took in the work of eviction. We are told, for example, that he "usually appeared as his own counsel and witness in ejectment cases" - a practice which could hardly fail

to intensify the popular resentment against him. Whatever may be said of him, he was certainly unfortunate in his relations to tenantry; but it is only in Ireland that this circumstance would be pleaded as an extenuation of the dreadful crime which has been committed.

It is melancholy to read, as we do in a Press Association telegram from Dublin, that "little sympathy is expressed among the middle classes in reference to the murder of Lord Leitrim". What is meant to be conveyed here is, we presume, that little horror or pity has been excited by this tragic event among the

great mass of Irish people. This, however, is hardly credible. Lord Leitrim has his faults - serious faults, no doubt; - but, however it may be as regards the peasantry, the "middle classes" of Ireland have ceased, we hope, to look with an indulgent eye on "the wild justice of revenge".

They at least must know that the Irish tenant is now amply protected by the law. When he is evicted he can claim compensation under the Land Act, and it is stated of the latest victim to the agrarian spirit that in some instances he has paid in this way sums exceeding the fee simple in value."

# Fury over reopening of dump

A proposal by the Donegal County Manager to reopen the Kilmacrennan dump at Drumnaboden has angered the local community who have vowed to keep the rubbish tip closed amid claims that the Council is going to use the site to dispose of refuse from Letterkenny and other outside areas.

Residents of the Kilmacrennan area are to place a picket on a meeting of Donegal County Council on May 8th. when a decision on the reopening of the local rubbish tip is due to be taken. Last night the former Cllr. Anne O'Donnell accused officials

in Lifford and 'select councillors' of being engaged "in a hatchet job to reopen Kilmacrennan to keep the pressure off Corravaddy where £200,000 of public money had already been squandered" and she has claimed the residents of her local village will not tolerate refuse from Letterkenny being dumped on Kilmacrennan's doorstep.

Cllr. Niall Blaney has reacted angrily to the Manager's proposals and has stated he will not allow the site to reopen because of its health and pollu-

tion dangers.

The dump was shut down unofficially last year on April 19th. when the local community placed pickets on the site and stopped lorries from entering the compound. The protest campaign which went on for a week was led by former Cllr. Anne O'Donnell and this week she said the Kilmacrennan community was not going to accept this kind of dictatorial action from Donegal County Council.

A commitment was given to local residents on

Kilmacrennan to rehabilitate the landfill at Drumnaboden. This process will involve the installation of a leachate treatment system and other works during 2000 and 2001. The cost of this work is estimated at £70,000 in 2000 and £50,000 in 2001.

Residents of Kilmacrennan claimed last night that an environmental engineer from the Council came to the Dump in January of this year and told them it was not intended to carry out any rehabilitation works because the Council wished to keep its options open for the future.

## Ramelton drug arrests

Gardai arrested three men including a non-national during a planned drugs search in Ramelton in the early hours of Sunday morning and a quantity of cannabis was seized.

The search also unearthed "tools of the trade" for drug dealing and we understand the items confiscated included weighing scales.

A sum of £1,000, in cash was also recovered at the scene of the incidents at a caravan on Pound Street, according to the Garda statement and later in a follow-up search at a nearby residence. Two youths arrested at the scene were later released and a third person was detained for questioning by gardai until 9.00pm on Sunday.

A file is now being prepared for the Director of Public Prosecutions.

## Abandoned cars becoming a major problem - Harte

Abandoned cars are becoming the plaything of children in urban areas in the same way that horses had been until the introduction of the Control of Horses Act, Cllr. Jimmy Harte has said.

"Since the introduction of the National Car Test there has been a marked increase in the numbers of abandoned cars in housing estates throughout the country. I fear that Letterkenny will be affected and the situation will deteriorate if action is not taken. Many are not clapped out old bangers but cars with the potential to speed and to kill.

"This will lead to an unending free supply of cars and an irresistible invitation to joy riders. Unless action is taken now to change the law governing abandoned cars they will become the playthings of children.

The sad thing is that there is absolutely no need for this selfish behaviour.

## Council has no money to replace Milford pipes

The total cost of replacing a short span of cast iron pipes in Milford's water system on the main street along with a 200 metre length out the Kilmacrennan road is estimated to cost £55,000 and the work is not going to be done this year, whatever about 2001 or even 3001.

As usual your local friendly Council is strapped for spondulix once again and you will have to wait for ages for any action. But of course the new Council office block at the bottom of the town is opening soon and with a cast iron water main in town the new centre of the universe can have a stand pump.

You remember those old village pumps all painted in green. Well it would be great for Milford if the new offices had one of those as a centre piece in the yard and we could all drop in for a bucket of water. It would be like old times again ... come to think of it the olden times are still with us in Milford and when one con-

siders the town's water supply runs through iron pipes you don't have to search any further.

Cllr. Niall Blaney was told at the Council meeting in Lifford that funding could be considered in the context of an environmental scheme. However the county engineer, Jack McInerney could not give a starting date for the works and apparently this piece of piping which probably dates back to the Stone Age is to continue to struggle to carry the town's water system despite the rust and age profile.

So why was this work not done when the Market Square job was being done and floodlit at some terrible cost. Was the Square a bigger priority than the replacement of water mains or was it all overlooked in the rush of excitement to make the Square a real show-piece? God only knows what they were thinking but the Square does not impress many people these days.

## New Website for Letterkenny School



The 'Eco Warriors' of Scoil Cholmcille NS in Letterkenny have launched their own website to raise environmental awareness in the school and community. Pupils from the school display the site to their teacher Ms. Margaret Sweeney. Anyone wishing to browse this site can find it at :- <http://homepage.eircom.net/~greeneco/> The email address is [greeneco@donegal.net](mailto:greeneco@donegal.net)

## Urban renewal in Ramelton

It appears that the Urban Renewal Scheme for Ramelton will get underway in the near future. Plans were first drawn up for the scheme along with the Taj Mahal but a number of factors have led to the long delay.

There was widespread opposition to the initial proposals, which envisaged a number of parking bays on the Lower Mall and also the creation of a T-junction on Gamble's Square. A number of meetings took place with planners and it was agreed to split the development into two phases. The plans for Gamble Square were rejected outright as it would have meant the loss of an important public meeting area to make way for a small car park and flowerbeds. It was decided that the work on the Lower Mall would be carried out and then a plan for Gamble Square would be drawn up.

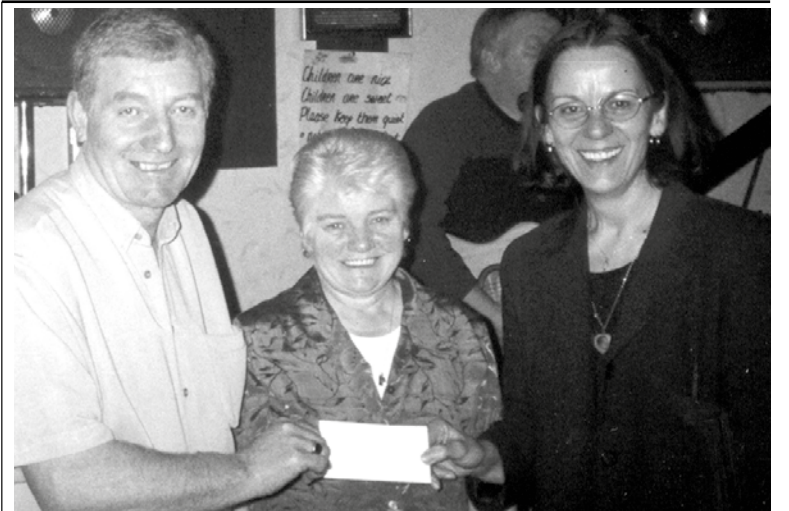
Further negotiations ensued to formulate an acceptable plan for the Lower Mall. A long delay then followed as the Council was in dispute with the architects but this has now been resolved with a new firm now handling the plans.

The Action Group has now received a plan from the Council which relates to July 1998..

Any suggestion that delays on the work would mean the loss of the funding were rejected at last Thursday nights Action Group meeting. Action Group Secretary Mary Haggan said that such rumours were totally unfounded and unhelpful. The money has been allocated and cannot be reallo-

cated to something else.

A vote was taken as to when people feel the work should begin. Paul McDaid suggested that from a tourist point of view the work should wait until after the summer but the majority favoured an immediate start. Feeling is strong that the plan be as the people want it before any work begins. Reference was made to the work carried out in other towns. The general feeling is that other schemes are disasters and if local people in those towns had to do it again, they would want changes.



Charlie Toland presenting Sheila Horkan with a cheque for 230 punts the proceeds of a raffle in the Village Inn Kerrykeel in aid of the Chernobyl Children's Fund with Peggy McAteer who sold the tickets on the night.



Winners of the Tennents Trentagh and District Darts League, The Anglers Haven A team from Kilmacrennan - Derek Hayes, Paul Giles, Pat Black, Eunan Doherty and John Black with Victor Wilkin, organiser. Missing is Joe Gallagher.



Victor Wilkin of Wilkins Bar in Chuchill presenting Chuck McTaggart of Carr's of the Diamond, Ballyre with the Tennents Trentagh and District Darts Cup after they defeated Harleys in the final on Friday. Also included are Peter Friel, Patrick Orr, Dom McFadden, Gerry Durning and Martin Friel.

# £10 million windfall for Rathmullan

The seaside resort of Rathmullan is to reap a reward of at least ten million pounds over the next six years with extensive expenditure on maritime, environmental and social projects which are set to make the village the most attractive tourism destination in the North-west.

The scale of the projects were outlined by Council officials at the public launch of the £2.4 million marina development at a crowded Pier Hotel in the town on Monday night amid much optimism that the projects outlined will transform the landscape of the whole hinterland adjoining Lough Swilly.

Charlie Byrne, Special Programmes Manager for the Council said that from an economic perspective the potential is enormous and the various projects running alongside the development of the two hundred berth marina will also provide solutions to the infrastructure deficits in sewerage, public water supplies, housing, village renewal and resource facilities all being upgraded simultaneously.

The marina is one of the most exciting flagship developments ever announced for Donegal and not since the invasion of the British fleet during the first world war has Rathmullan been offered so much potential. The extent of the development is quite breathtaking and in outlining the details Charlie Byrne recognised that it was their biggest priority and it was imperative that the Council worked in tandem with all local interests.

Cllr. Bernard McGlinchey who has been one of the main promoters of the marina called on the Council to address the sewerage problems in the Swilly starting with the treatment works at Magheraennan and he said the problems in Rathmullan will not be solved until all sewage from Letterkenny is properly processed.

Costing £2.6 million in its first phase the project may commence construction as early as October of this year and is scheduled for opening to boat traffic within two years. The final design work is now nearing completion and Monday's meeting was told the public would be facilitated with late proposals and judging from the reaction of the meeting the final pieces of the jigsaw sees the Council with much of the hard work already accomplished and it should now be fair sailing in the months ahead.

The boat harbour will see 104 berths constructed in the initial phase and a floating breakwater will rise and fall with the tide. This is one of the key aspects of the plan from an aesthetic viewpoint and the visual impact will not be evident at all said Mr. Barr. His slide presentation complimented that claim. Limited dredging work will be needed to provide deep water at all times and debris removed will be used in back-fill the reclaimed areas of the foreshore. The scale of the marina development will see it run close to the seafront from the existing pier out towards the



A drawing of the new marina project for Rathmullan which was presented to the public on Monday night.

Beachcomber premises overlooking the Lough. Extensive parking and retail facilities are incorporated within the concept plan with full access, lighting, landscaping, paved areas and paths to be laid out. An area of potential for developing business ventures is also included. It is a proactive layout and will enhance the commercial life of the resort and it anticipated the summer season will be considerably extended - by as much as a further two months.

A further fifty berth marina will be constructed at Buncrana and this will provide facilities for hoists to take boats out of the water for engineering overhauls and wintering. At Portsalon and Fahan pontoon landing stages will further enhance the Swilly area and the Council determined to fully utilise the potential of the waterway hopes to see both these assets add to the regeneration possibilities of the Inishowen and Fanad peninsulas. It is a very ambitious plan and the realisation of its completion

will see a huge new potential for the future life of the north Donegal community.

Coming along with the construction of the ferry terminals at Buncrana and Rathmullan the whole area is now being given a whole new dimension and projections for the future are at their most positive stage ever. Tourism and marine leisure is being fully exploited by Donegal County Council in an attempt to attract funding and to involve the business community.

The marina development provides a huge opportunity for investors and the Council will be more than hopeful that funding from these sources will be lining up to become part of the development plan.

Plans to upgrade the existing pier are also ongoing and the facility is seen as important for commercial traffic and sea fishing.

The water and sewage problems of the town are already well documented and the council engineers

told the meeting of the plans to rectify the situation. A major capital scheme to install a new treatment plant for the sewerage service is online and funding is in the order of two million pounds. Water resources are also being addressed in the short term said Nathy Gilligan and new pumping stations and other facilities should be completed by the end of July. However he said the twenty miles of water mains will have to be replaced in the long term and the funding application is already with the department for approval. A variety of community initiatives were also discussed and the general view is that the town is set to benefit substantially from Council interest.

Francie Coyle has already had meetings with community enterprise groups and substantial progress has been made.

*This is the most ambitious undertaken since the Great Wall of China... but you can't beat the Council here in Donegal....*

# Golden Sands equestrian centre in Rathmullan

The Golden Sands equestrian centre on the outskirts of Rathmullan is to open its facilities to the public from Good Friday and already there is a big interest in the stables where ponies are being prepared for a busy summer season on the sands at the Kinnegar.

Golden Sands is a riding stables and training school with many extras at the Aughavannan stables and with twelve horses and ponies on hand visitors are going to be spoilt for choice.

The stables are the brainchild of Tom McLaughlin and Rachel Carton, a local lady who has expert training and experience with stables around the country. It is a joint venture and a very impressive one within walking dis-

tance of the village at the old McLaughlin homestead where extensive stables and additional facilities are now being made ready ahead of the Easter period.

Rathmullan is one of our premier seaside resort and nowadays there are many new residential homes out along the Swilly. It is ideal horse and pony country and the Golden Sands will prove to be a huge attraction for all horse lovers in the months ahead.

Rachael is the stable manager and head instructor and she lives on the premises. Her extensive knowledge of horses and livery will prove a huge asset to the venture. She trained at a number of stables around the country and achieved her assistant instructor's licence at

Thomastown in Kilkenny.

After ten years in the business she came back home to Rathmullan and has joined forces with Tom McLaughlin in establishing this new impressive stables. Her assistant trainer and groom is Julie Ward who also brings a wealth of knowledge and a special way with horses to the stables. The other stable members are Andrew Allison and Paul McLaughlin an along with Tom they will offer a full time riding school to visitors and those wanting to learn more about horses.

Plans for the first year include riding lessons, pony trekking which is in great demand and there will be routes mapped out up as far as Oughterlin chapel with supervision and guid-



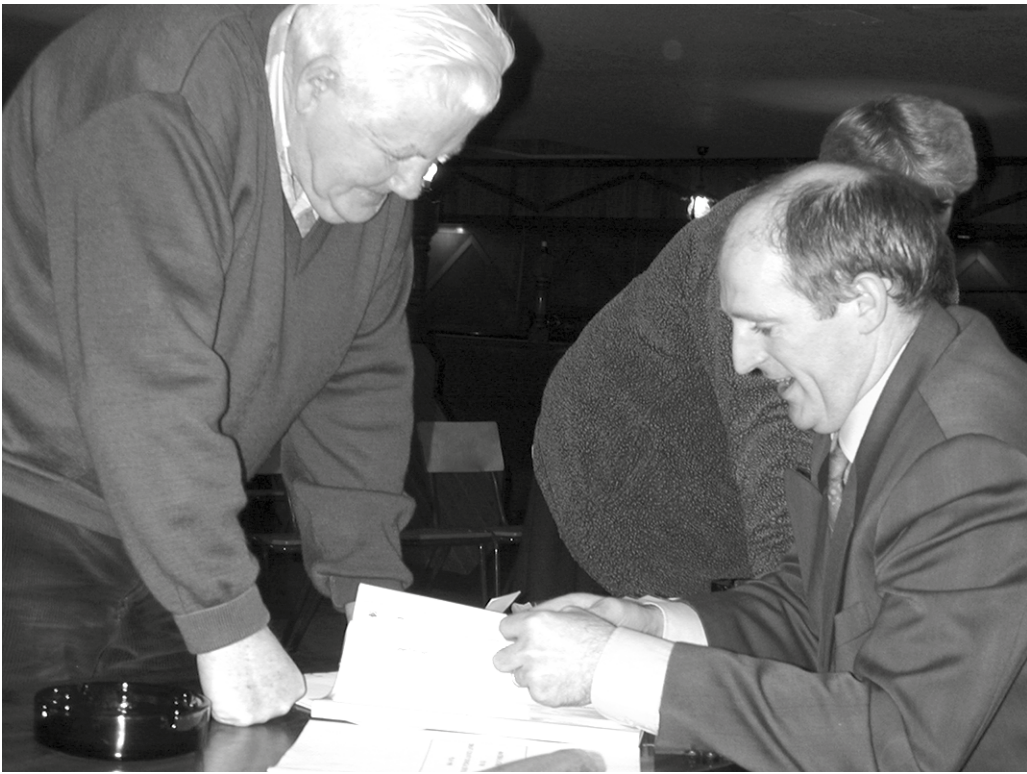
18 months old Emma Carton pictured with five year old Hercules at the Golden Sands Equestrian Centre. Also included is Tom McLaughlin and Andrew Allison.



Staff members at Golden Sands include Paul McLaughlin, Andrew Allison, Julie Ward, Rachael Carton and Tom McLaughlin. Also included is little Emma and some of their horses.

There are eight trekking ponies and all are fully trained and docile animals. And then there is Hercules. He is a five years old Clydesdale carriage horse and he occupies pride of place in the yard. He will draw a carriage to accommodate twelve passengers around the countryside over the summer and for now he is relaxing and eating his heart out in the exercise ring. The Golden Sands also offers a wide range of facilities including breaking in horses and training ponies. This takes about six weeks and Rachael says that it is time well spent and the owners can rest assured they will have an obedient animal for the rest of its life. Horse owners coming on holiday who wish to stable their ponies will also be catered for and the new premises can offer the best of accommodation. The brand new stables has a range of boxes on the ground floor while upstairs there will be a training centre for the owners. Video and educational facilities for handling horses are on offer and the coffee dock is due for opening shortly. Along with this there are a variety of other novel ideas; a large games room and television room will provide many hours of interest for those who do not want to get in the saddle.

# Downings developments "clean off the wall"



Downings residents Dan Logue and Susan Shuss McBride talking with Patrick McLaughlin from the Council's Planning Office and Cllr. Joe McHugh at the meeting.

People in Downings have heard that the developments taking place in the area are "a bit crazy and clean off the wall" because of the deficits in the sewerage and water systems which were described as being a hundred years out of date.

The comments came from Seamus McBride of the local Development Association who told the fifty strong attendance including the County Manager, Michael McLoone that the summer season last year had been a nightmare with sewage backing up onto the village street as the system collapsed. He said that a tanker brought in to remove the effluent had then spilled part of its load on the Main Street in Carrigart.

As Council officials promised new investment to address the state of the infrastructure and new laws to deal with

holiday home developments they were told that it was already too late in townlands such as Derryhassin where it was claimed that a re-categorisation of the designation status had already destroyed the ethos of the natural environment with sea views being blocked and as many as eight holiday houses being allowed in what is essentially a small townland.

Outlining his aspirations for the future the County Manger said it was imperative that the public viewpoint be put forward now and he promised that those opinions would be taken into consideration when the new plan was finally completed later in the summer.

Downings is one of Donegal's seaside resorts which has attracted huge holiday home development with the village

being extremely popular with northern families. This along with the growth of caravan parks has led to accusations that the Rosguill peninsula has been destroyed for future generations. However the planning official for the Milford area, Harry Walshe said the new county plan had no provision for banning caravan parks and he told one speaker they could not easily legislate for future generations.

Attending the meeting along with the County Manager were Cllrs. Noel McGinley and Joseph McHugh who chaired the proceedings. Patrick McLaughlin and Frankie Sweeney from the Council's planning office were also present. The new draft proposals in relation to rural housing are already well publicised and the meeting viewed them

with some reservations especially in relation to land owners being allowed to sell sites to outside interests in the category 3 areas.

The meeting also deliberated on extending the control points for the village and several views were offered as how best to proceed.

Mary Clarke of An Taisce made a very relevant point when she said the young couples on modest wages could not afford a house in Downings. And neither could they afford a site at over £50,000. Calling on the Manager to put in place a mechanism to provide affordable housing she said if this did not happen it would serve to have an effect of making young couples move away from the area and this was not acceptable.

The Manager said they had a policy on

social and affordable housing but they had no land bank in the area and he appealed for some tracts of real estate to be made available but at fifty thousand a site he is not likely to be in serious contention in the local auction rooms of the coastal areas in the North-west.

Patrick McLaughlin said that last year the Milford area had 750 new planning applications for new houses and information was not scientifically available on the extent of holiday homes since it was not always obvious that the applicant was resident outside of the area. The meeting was told that the water supply had been increased by 50% last summer as a result of leak detection and other methods of sourcing supplies and the long term plan was to bring a line in from Cranford.

## Rosnaskill to have £300,000 tourism centre

The village of Rosnaskill in the Fanad peninsula is to have a new tourism activity centre at a cost of £300,000 and the details were announced by Willie McCarter of the International Fund for Ireland at a function in the Drumhill Inn Portsalon on Friday. The IFI is to provide £175,000 of the finances for the centre with a further £25,000 coming from the Millennium fund. Approximately one third of the cost has been raised by the Swilly Mulroy Community Development Group who are promoting the project.

The official launch was also attended by Tourism Minister Dr. James McDaid and Deputy Harry Blaney who had chaired the inaugural meeting of the local community in May 1996 to address the developmental deficits in the area.

The 400 sq. metre centre will offer a range of facilities including an in-

formation office, craft centre, activity room and gym, coffee dock and ancillary rooms.

The next phase of the plan is to incorporate a leisure and sports facility at a cost a further £180,000.

The committee is hoping for a favourable response from the office of the Tourism Minister but he gave little away in his speech on Friday afternoon as he put a new focus on using tourism as a focus for rural regeneration.

The original meetings to have the deficits especially those for young people took place four years ago with the intention of building a community sports hall.

The area had complained they had to go to Ramelton to avail of indoor football training and with the team locally having a big number of young people it was felt the time had come to address the lack of facilities.



The Swilly Mulroy Development Group pictured with guests including Willie McCarter, Chairman IFI, Tourism Minister Dr. James McDaid, Deputy Harry Blaney and Cllr. Noel McGinley, Bord Failte Director at the Drumhill Inn, Portsalon.



The Tiny Tots Team B who play in the St. Michael's Parish League and right, The Kildarragh players with manager John McLaughlin.

# Ripples opens in Kerrykeel

Ripples Restaurant has reopened on the banks of Mulroy Bar near the village of Kerrykeel. Situated in a picturesque location Ripples boasts one of the most spectacular views of Mulroy Bay.

Ripples Restaurant is owned by Dessie McGettigan formerly from Glenvar, and his wife Louise who comes originally from County Laois. They have a family of four, three boys Diarmuid, Mark and JD and daughter Karen.

Dessie has many years experience having worked in Dublin and Switzerland before returning to Donegal where he worked in the Water's Edge, Rathmullan House, The Milford Inn

and has spent the last ten years as Head Chef in the Silver Tassie in Letterkenny. At the end of October 1999 he decided to leave the Silver Tassie and reopen Ripples. Dessie is known through Donegal for his quality food and very high standards. His menu is delicious and varied and offers a lot of seafood as well as succulent sirloin and fillet steaks, chicken and duck dishes.

The interior design of Ripples Restaurant with its colours of lemon, peach and subtle shades of Terracotta creates a wonderful calming atmosphere.

The 'personal touch' is very obvious in Ripples.



Dessie and Louise McGettigan looking over the menu in their dining room at Ripples Restaurant in Kerrykeel.

## Cllrs. revoke Esat retention at Loughagannon

A decision by members of Donegal County Council to revoke a planning retention application for a mobile phone communications mast for Esat at Loughagannon may not be acted on by the County Manager for legal reasons and his warning of the implications were handed down in Lifford on Monday.

Councillors voted to throw out the Esat planning application following a debate on a motion in the name of FG Cllr. Sean Maloney who told the Chamber the appeals period had elapsed before the company made their application for retention. He also said that company had now been sold to British Telecom and the change of ownership should also be considered as grounds for refusing the application. The saga over Loughagannon has gone on for two years and the Council has debated the matter at some considerable length over the past year with court threats and actions by the local residents anti-mast committee dominating health and various other concerns over the installation and location of these masts. The mast was constructed away from the site for which planning permission was granted alleged the residents and the Council planning executive, Jim Harley confirmed this

last year amid protests at the site as the local community demanded the removal of the apparatus. A special meeting of Donegal County Council called by the then Chairman, Danny Harkin ahead of last year's local elections voted to have the mast taken down. As the Council initiated legal proceedings against Esat in June of '99 the site was effectively decommissioned and the company lodged a retention application to retain the facility and as they awaited a decision a transportable link involving the equipment being powered by a mobile generator was put in place. This was exempt, legally from planning regulations for a twelve months period.

Last October the Council granted the retention of the mast and last month an Bord Pleanala upheld that decision. In the meantime the matter has been continuously on the Council's agenda and the Loughagannon Residents Association has been regular attendees at Council meetings in Lifford.

Responding to the concerns expressed by the members, Michael McLoone said the Esat application complied with the recommendations of an Bord Pleanala and for that reason the Maloney motion was invalid.



Eamonn Friel, chairman of the Ramelton and District Darts League presenting Robert Hays from the Lobster Pot, Milford with the League Cup. Also included are team members Brendan McTaggart, John Flood and Derek Hays.

## Downings RNLI

The annual general meeting of the Downings/Carrigart branch of the RNLI took place in the Harbour Bar, Dowings on Friday 7th April, and the following officers were elected for the incoming year; Chairperson, Hazel Russell; Hon. Secretary, Heather McBride; Treasurer Triona McNutt and Committee member Peter McNutt, Peter McBride, Trish Boyce, Brian Payne, Niall McManus, Martin Casey and Tommy Logue. Fund-raising for 1999/2000 was very successful and thanks to all for their

contributions in any form. The Branch have forwarded over £5,300 to the Main Fund and are very proud of that achievement. Various events are in the pipeline of the forthcoming year and the first event will be an Open Golf Competition to be held at Rosapenna GC on Monday 1st May. The committee are indebted to Mr. Frank Casey for again giving free use of the course and a time sheet will be in operation opening at Easter weekend.



Bishop Boyce visits Fanad ... A very welcome visitor the parish this week was Bishop Philip Boyce who visited the schools and celebrated Mass in St. Patrick's church in Ballynacrick on Tuesday evening. He also visited the Fanad Day Centre on Wednesday afternoon where he met with the senior citizens of the peninsula.



# Fanad's poignant farewell to Pauline



The scene at Ardglass on Sunday as Undertaker Colin McAteer's hearse brings Pauline Dunleavy's remains to their final resting place.

**Pauline Dunleavy from Ardglass in Portsalon in Fanad was laid to rest in the family plot in Massmount cemetery on Easter Sunday. In her eighties Pauline peacefully on Wednesday of last week.**

**By John McAteer**

Ardglass in the heart of Fanad is where four country roads meet and a well-trodden landmark dotted with great names... Dunleavy's bar: Portsalon Hotel and the Bartons, Kathleen Kerr's Shop that sold everything from a needle to a fishing rod and was open all hours right up to midnight in a busy summer weekend, Miah and Kathleen Shiels with the filling station and 24 hour service in the post office: Rita Smith and the Stores bar down on the pier and then there was the Ardglass Inn.

These were the times before the development of holiday homes. Instead local homes offered accommodation at affordable rates. And when the Fanad Festival opened in July 1971, there was a catalogue of over 600 beds available in the parish... and it was not half enough.

Pauline was a member of the Festival Committee busy in promoting tourism at a time when word of mouth was more valuable than a million Airbnb tweets or voice mail.

Great names, great memories from generations past. And with Pauline's passing it really is the end of a golden era in Fanad dating back before World War One.

"The Crossroads" at Portsalon was also the backdrop to the lives of the community - where young people assembled nightly to chat, play 'pitch and toss' to amuse themselves and wonder what was the most appropriate place to spend a few hours. It was an unofficial community hub long before any house had a television and a landline was something the farmer marked out in the field before the horses could plough a furrow.

The national school thrived in a three teacher centre of primary education and with eighty pupils, many of the older ones got summer work in Dunleavy's lifting glasses and stocking up for the new opening time the following day.

Pauline came from that legendary way of life and her whole world was dedicated to running the business. The Ardglass Inn was truly a landmark that brought rural Ireland into a new era. A modern lounge bar and dance floor: a dining room catering for functions and weddings with proper restrooms and the music never stopped.

But of course rural life was to change forever with fewer people: closure of too many services: lack of jobs to retain a younger generation and emigration really became the only option for many. The march of time has not achieved progress other than in a very self-centred commercial manner and thereby stands the real story of the demise of what was part

of our heritage and way of life that was all too precious... but in some inexplicable and contradictory way, it was not seen as a viable lifestyle by official Ireland where only numbers on computer screens rather than real people count for anything.

This is most evident in the welcome for more Gardaí manning checkpoints; connecting with families because suddenly, people are now more important than statistics and our way of country life, somehow feels more secure and elderly folk sleep more safely in the knowledge that a patrol car will pass by during the night.

Only in the past month with the arrival of the coronavirus pandemic have we seen some kind of community connect being rekindled. Back in

Pauline's earlier days in business, it was the start of Ireland's renowned 'ballad boom' and the sound of music echoed long into the evenings from Dunleavy's where in summer they had bands on stage seven nights a week. It was a modern well run place but Pauline carried that weight of responsibility single handedly and never complained. She had a mission to welcome visitors, to ensure a level of service that would bring them back here time and time again and it was an outstanding success.

Fanad was a real tourism destination back then, due to people with the energy and talent of Pauline Dunleavy in Portsalon and further out towards Mulroy Bay, Mary and Patrick Sweeney ran a hugely successful operation complete with brand new ensuite bedrooms at the Atlantic House in Rinboy. These places were magnets in attracting visitors because the personal service, attention to detail was what made them deliver a quality service at prices that visitors and the local community could afford.

Dan and Kate Dunleavy's pubs on Duntinney brae were hugely popular and Fanad, like so many other seaside destinations added to the appeal in luring visitors from many far flung places.

In more normal times Pauline's wake and funeral would have seen many hundreds make the journey to Portsalon to offer sympathy and say a silent prayer. Her Requiem Mass on Sunday would have been a wonderful and well-deserving tribute to her contri-



Neighbours gather round to say a final goodbye to Pauline.

but ion to her native parish full of the richness of the liturgy and a time to shake the hands of family members and to remember days gone by when Pauline presided over all she created and worked for in the hospitality sector in this part of Donegal.

As we stood waiting on the roadside at Ardglass for the departure of the hearse to Massmount Cemetery at 1.30 on Sunday afternoon, a sharp northerly breeze added to the sense of the occasion: because this can be a bleak peninsula virtually surrounded by water and the elements of nature.

Neighbours began arriving in small family groups to keep their respective distances. They were there to join in a silent tribute and to pray as Colin McAteer's hearse glided to a brief halt and reversed up the front door.

The front door stood open as if to welcome all of us as mourners... we were but we could not go inside. A small table stood on the porch with the adornments of a wake. An altar cloth: a purple robe; holy water, lighted candles, a crucifix, newly budded daffodils along with a framed photograph of Pauline.

The prayers of the faithful entwined with the breeze, the sound of nature as the coffin was blessed. The voice of the priest reaching out in prayer to the assembled faithful.

This was the moment that the finality of the richness of the life of Pauline Dunleavy was finally visited upon the community standing along the approach roads.... some in prayer and with heads bowed.

Perhaps their memories of a loved one intertwined with earlier times here at this very house. People are living through the most uncertain days of their lives and one could almost reach out and touch that empathy that gives us the strength to accept that it is necessary to have funerals in this manner.

We respect and revere our dead in a very special way here in Donegal but we are now bystanders, isolated in the process of grieving. Somehow there is a terrible sadness in this reality. Yet there is a solemnity in the loneliness and the thousands of years it has taken the natural elements to carve out what has become our own home place.

Donegal is a rugged landscape befitting a rugged



The porch at the Dunleavy home becomes a temporary altar as Fr. McGarvey imparts a final blessing.



A moment of silent reflection.

people and Portsalon is so much of where Pauline Dunleavy got her energy, inspiration and her spirituality in life. And in death it was wonderful to see her neighbours come out to say a final prayer, a last goodbye and while it was from a distance it was all the more poignant.

Because Pauline was of this part of Donegal, having inherited that spirit of taking on the challenge of developing the large and expansive complex that was the Ardglass Inn, she was determined to make it work... and she did.

On Sunday, Pauline departed her own home place with the fervent respect she so richly earned in life and now in death the farewell was a bitter parting for everyone.

Sunday's uplifting ceremony at Ardglass was a mirror of our own fragility, yet it was a peaceful moment of reflection as the occasion was also being recorded for loved ones unable to be present due to travel restrictions. Hard to imagine their feelings and sadness as they prayed from far distant locations!

As always, Fr. McGarvey who had just celebrated Easter Day Mass via Kelli McGrory's mobile phone had joined us and led the congregation in a very fitting moment of prayer as he blessed the coffin and wished God's blessing on Pauline's soul.

Fr. Pat McGarvey as always was there to add his own special empathy to the occasion. He was there to ensure the Christian ethos of religion was imparted with the solemnity befitting the departure of a dearly beloved member of the community. And as Ireland faces darker days in the weeks ahead, Pauline was buried in accordance with the current regulations with only a select number of mourners in the graveyard.

Massmount cemetery stands sentinel to past generations of Fanad people and here lies so many of our forebears and further along the road at Rosnackill Church of Ireland cemetery that dates back into the mists of time.

Ireland on Easter Sunday was a very sombre, surreal and empty landscape and Pauline Dunleavy's death and funeral brought home to those in the Fanad community who've known this family name and the legacy of the bar trade and in later years the great times in the famed 'Ardglass Inn'. It was the creation of Pauline Dunleavy who devoted her entire life to running the business, bringing revenue, employment and much honour to her beloved parish. Her funeral was indeed a fitting tribute to her loving memory and her contribution to her native parish.

Her passing is deeply mourned. She is survived by her sister Kathleen McDonald (Dublin) and her brothers John (Letterkenny) and Vincent (Dublin). Sadly missed by her nieces and nephews along with an extended family circle and neighbour in Ardglass to whom deepest sympathy is extended.

*May her soul rest in the peace that she has richly earned in life in her native Fanad.*

# Fanad

## Death of Susan McGowan, Rinbo

There's been much sadness in the Fanad community with the recent death of Susan McGowan in Portrush. Susan who was in her mid-seventies was in failing health in recent years. She was formerly from Rinbo and worked for many years in a hotel in Portrush where she met her husband William who predeceased her. She was also predeceased by her daughter, Yvonne last year. She is survived by her daughters, Angela and Zara, their husbands, Anthony and Terence and their families. Susan is also survived by her sister, Grace in Rinbo and Kathleen and her husband Patrick and family in Ardglass, Portsalon and an extended family to whom deepest sympathy is extended. A cremation service is taking place this week with funeral arrangements and a Mass of Thanksgiving to follow at a future date.

**Fanad SVP**  
Anyone seeking help or support can contact the local branch of the St. Vincent de Paul Society on 0871411200. All matters will be dealt with in complete confidentiality.  
**Credit Union Draw postponed**  
The Swilly Mulroy Credit Union holiday draw has been postponed until a later date to the Covid 19 pandemic. The draw was due to take place at the start of April in their office in Kerrykeel but it will now be held later. There's three top prizes with 1st being a €4000 Holiday Voucher plus

# Kerrykeel Vintage Day Cancelled

Due to the coronavirus the committee of the Kerrykeel Vintage Day have announced that their Vintage Day due to take place on Saturday 13th June has been cancelled.

€1000 spending money in association with Liberty Travel in Letterkenny. 2nd prize is €1,500 City Break plus €500 spending money also in association with Liberty Travel and 3rd is a €500 Hodson Bay Hotel Voucher plus €500 spending money in association with the Hodson Bay Hotel Group. Tickets will continue on sale in the Credit Union offices at €20 each.

The Credit Union offices in Kerrykeel, Milford and Rathmullan remain open for business at the usual hours and members are asked to be careful and observe the social distances procedures in place and only limited numbers are allowed in the office at the same time.

Members are also encouraged now, when they have time on their hands, to take a look at the various online features which can be used including an app which can be downloaded to your smartphone. Any queries you can call the Kerrykeel office on 9150188.

### Gaeil Fhanada

#### Community Outreach - COVID-19

Gaeil Fhanada would like to offer support to our community during this challenging time. If there is anyone in our community who needs assistance, please get in contact with any committee member, player. Contact numbers to call for assistance are: Tracey McBride (Portsalon): (085) 152 8670 Pat Murphy (Kerrykeel): (087) 220 3350 Margaretta McConigley: (086) 874 4405

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## Ripples

Restaurant

www.ripplesrestaurant.net

Kerrykeel, Tel: 074 9150110

Where food matters

### Daily Take Away Menu - Tel 074 91 50110

\*\*\* All A La Carte Items (Sirloin Steak, Duck, Salmon etc) are also available as Take Away \*\*\*

**STARTERS**

Homemade Vegetable Soup	€4.00
Bruschetta of Sundried Tomatoes, Olive Oil & Garlic - Salad	€6.50
Oven Baked Brie - Salad & Cranberry Sauce	€6.00
Deep Fried Garlic Mushroom - Salad & Garlic Mayonnaise	€5.00

**MAINS**

Take Away Dinners eg Turkey & Ham or Salmon, Vegetables & Potatoes	€14.50
Traditional Fish & Chips	€12.50
Supreme of Chicken Maryland or Kiev - Creamed Potato, Chips or Garlic Potatoes	€12.50
Battered Sausages - Chips or Garlic Potatoes	€ 8.50
Homemade 8 Oz Steak Burger - Chip or Garlic Potatoes	€12.50
(Toppings €1 Extra - Pineapple, Bacon, Cheese, Salad)	
Chicken Burger Topped with Bacon & Cheese - Chips or Garlic Potatoes	€12.50
Salad and Chilli Chicken - Rice or Chips	€12.50
Vegetarian Tagliatelle (Tomato Based Sauce) - Garlic Bread	€11.50
Homemade Chicken Curry (Onions & Peppers) - Rice or Chips	€12.50
Warm Chicken Salad with Garlic Potatoes and Bacon Bits	€12.50
Sweet Chilli Chicken - Rice or Chips	€12.50
Chicken and Bacon Carbonara - Garlic Bread	€12.50
Homemade Chicken Goujons - Creamed Potatoes, Chips or Garlic Potatoes	€12.50

**EXTRA SIDES**

Chips	€3.50	Sauté Mushroom	€3.50
Creamed Potato	€3.00	Rice	€2.50
Garlic Potato	€3.50	Salad	€3.50
		Sauté Onions	€3.00

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Kerrykeel FC who played in the Division One of the Donegal League pictured on the 20th March 1981. Back row, Oisín Harkin, Martin Kerr, John Doherty, Bernard McGettigan, Pat Deeney, James McCarron and Gary Howard. Front row, Frank McGettigan, Martin Sweeney, Brendan Harkin, James Kelly and his nephew James, Pat Kelly, Eamonn Kelly and John Joe McAteer.

## Driver licence scam warning

An Garda Síochána and the Road Safety Authority (RSA) would like make the public aware of a scam which has been reported to Gardaí. A fraudulent Facebook page claiming to be the National Driver Licence Service (NDLS) is inviting people to contact them via WhatsApp to apply for or renew their driving licence. They are then seeking payment of over €200.

They stated: "This is a scam to part people with their money. The NDLS does not have any official social media pages. The only way to contact the NDLS is through the official RSA social media pages or online through www.rsa.ie or www.ndls.ie."

## Planning Notice

### Donegal County Council Knockbrack, Letterkenny

I, Odhran McMenamin am applying to Donegal County Council for permission to erect a dwelling house with septic tank and domestic garage at Knockbrack, Letterkenny, County Donegal in the townland of Knockbrack. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of the planning authority, Donegal County Council, County House, Lifford, County Donegal during its public opening hours. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the planning authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20.00, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt of the application by the authority, and such submission or observation will be considered by the planning authority in making a decision on the application.

# Leaving Cert uncertainty impacting on health - student claims

A Dunfanaghy Leaving Certificate student has spoken out about the uncertainty of this year's exams amid the Covid-19 crisis that he says is having a major impact on pupils well-being.

Last week final year secondary students were told their summer exams would be moved to the last week of July or early August, subject to public health advice.

The ASTI said this week that it will work to support the Government's decision to postpone the June Leaving Certificate examinations until later in the summer.

Charles J Gallagher (right) is a Leaving Cert student at PCC Falcarragh, is the Irish Second-Level Students Union Regional Officer for Donegal and works with Jigsaw's Donegal Youth Advisory Panel and the National Youth Council.

He says students now await confirmation of a date and the postponement failed to consider the impact of the upheaval on young people's mental health.

Here Charles shares his personal experience of the delay.

"These as it's been said many times are: unprecedented times for us here in Ireland but also for us as world, with COVID-19 spreading like wild fire on a daily bases especially in countries like the UK, US and Spain things are tough for everyone. Thankfully the Irish government took precautions quickly and decisively to flatten the

curve.

The Government along with the Department of Education and the State Examinations Commission have in this leaving cert students view have failed us all. How have they failed you? They have failed us in one very important way especially for the young people of Donegal and that is our mental health.

I have seen online in the last 2 weeks since the restrictions were put in place that adults online and offline are frankly being very hurtful and immature towards us young people about the Leaving Cert exams. This has to stop. Not all of us are lazy not all of us like complaining and if that's what you think they I don't know what to tell you.

I go to a community school Pobalscoil Chloich Cheannfhaola or P.C.C. Falcarragh as it is more popularly known. P.C.C. is a great school with great staff and a great Principal and Deputy Principal. Who all try their hardest to give us the education that we needed when we are in school and when we aren't at school. I would like to thank them for that, as they have got me and my peers through difficult times, with exam stress in particular.



The Taoiseach and Minister McHugh along with the Department and the SEC need to take this into consideration when making these types of decisions that are vitally important to not just our wellbeing or our mothers and fathers wellbeing but to our futures as well!

I'm also the Irish Second-Level Students Union Regional Officer for Donegal and everyone on the National Student Executive like our President Ciara Fanning have been doing a fantastic job to uphold to the highest standards the student voice in which is the fairest way for students and the postponement to July/August is not the fairest way.

The public announcement happened at 4pm on the 10th and there was a meeting with shareholders to talk about the state exams at 3:30pm on the 10th, 30mins that's all they gave the shareholders in our education 30mins! It is obvious by this that there is blatant disregard for the views, voice and mental wellbeing of the students even though the team at ISSU are trying their best to let all this be heard in the best way they possibly can!

Myself as a Leaving Cert student since 5th year, I myself have struggled tremendously with my work over the last year and half, as I have ADHD and Dyslexia both which I embrace proudly as they have made me the confident young man everyone tells me I am today. There is an educational down side to them though with my ADHD I can't concentrate and I can't retain most information I learn in school I get easily stressed out and sometimes depressed over the Leaving Cert and at one point in January was considering dropping out all together! But I didn't because I knew by June I would go in with my head held high and pass all of my exams. Then my moods came which broke that into a million pieces but again I thought it's fine June is ages away we have 4 months until then but now 3 of those months are gone and I will never get them back ever again.

Postponing the Leaving Cert in my own view is causing more mental strain and depression in young people. I know it would be hard to implement but predicted grades is the way to go or a No Detriment policy.

So I ask the students of Donegal to voice their opinions to Minister McHugh as he is also our TD he is there to represent us as constituents in Donegal!

I thank for taking your time to read this, stay safe and stay home it will help to save lives."

**Criminal damage incidents investigated**

Gardaí in Letterkenny are appealing for witnesses to two criminal damage incidents in the town that occurred recently. The first took place on early hours of Sunday morning, April 12th, between 1.30am and 1.45am Gardaí said two cars that were parked in the driveway of a house on Sentry lane both had the passenger side window smashed. Nothing was taken from either car.

The second incident of criminal

damage happened in Meadowbank Park, Letterkenny between Tuesday April 7th at 9pm and Wednesday April 8th at 9am. A car was parked at the owner's home and had the headlights, wing mirror, passenger window, back-seat windows and rear window smashed. If anyone heard any commotion and observed anything in either incident that would assist Gardaí with their enquiries please call Letterkenny Station on 074-9167100.

**Graveyard planning granted**

Planning permission has been granted for the extension of the graveyard and the construction of a car park at Raymunderdoney, Ballyconnell in the Parish of Falcarragh. The application was made on behalf of the parish by Fr James Gillespie.

**Planning granted for Ballyrairie NS extension**

Planning permission has been granted for an extension to Ballyrairie National School in Letterkenny. It will allow the construction of a single storey extension of the existing school comprising of a new classroom, 2 set rooms and associated accommodation. It also includes alterations to existing windows and the demolition of a temporary portacabin and all site works. The application was made by David Oliver on behalf of the schools Board of Management.

**Letterkenny Rovers**

We hope everyone involved with the club had a good Easter Bank Holiday weekend although we still have an absence of all club activities. Suspension of all footballing activities has been extended by the FAI until Tuesday May 5th at the earliest. We will adhere to all advice given and urge all club members to follow all procedures advised by the HSE and relevant government bodies and hope they can stay safe during this crisis.

The Club's facebook page is taking some trips down memory lane and it's amazing how many things can change in such a short space of time and if anyone wants anything included feel free to contact any club member electronically and we can give it prominence.

One video of schoolboys coach Marcus Oliver and his son Cory currently has near to one million views on social media!

**Cloud continues over GAA games**

Donegal's defence of the Ulster Senior Football Championship won't start until July at the earliest. That was news following an Ulster Competitions Control Committee teleconference meeting on Monday night. However, there is strong speculation that there may not be any championship football played at all in 2020 due to Covid-19. The Ulster CCC said that the 2020 Ulster GAA Senior Football Championship will not start until there is further clarity on when the Government says restrictions can be relaxed. The fear is that there will be no championship football with the Social Distancing rules likely to be in place for most of this year. Crowds

won't be allowed to gather and there would also be a serious health risk to the players themselves in a match environment.

The Buncrana Cup Under-16 competition and the U-17 Jim McGuigan Cup have been cancelled. The 2020 Ulster GAA Minor Football Championship will now be a straight knockout format and the draw will take place alongside the Ulster Senior Football Championship games as curtain raisers where appropriate. That means, if the championship does get the green light, the Minors managed by Milford's Luke Barrett will play Tyrone in Ballybofey before the senior clash between the same two counties.

**Sheephaven Sub Aqua Club news**



Sheephaven divers have shared their memories through social media over the last few weeks and these have included photographs from the first years of the clubs establishment 40 years ago. Noel Brennan has kindly provided a photo from 1979, when some club members were awarded with Club Diver Certificates, while other received their Leading Diver qualifications - all presented by their original instructor Neil Bracken. The particular tests in question took

place in Killary Harbour, while the awards were presented in the long since gone Pier Lounge in Portnablagh.

Included in the photo from left to right in the front row are John Mc Nulty, John Brennan, George Steward and Adrian Gallagher, while in the back row was Neil Bracken, John Mc Cabe and Noel Brennan. John Mc Cabe subsequently went on to be elected as a Vice President of the Irish Underwater Council.

**Acknowledgement**

**Norry Bernadette**  
Bank Terrace,  
Ramelton



The family of the late Bernadette Norry wish to thank everyone who found a way to get in touch with us by phone, cards, text message since Mum passed away. It was lovely to receive such support since we had to have a private wake and funeral. We appreciate every gesture and would like everyone to remember Mum on Tuesday 21st April with a candle or a prayer, as the family cannot have a Months Mind Mass due to Government Guidelines for Covid-19.

**MEMORIALS**  
Mark Daly DALYSTONE  
Headstones, Inscription, Restoration  
Accessories & Chipping  
BALLYARE, RAMELTON  
074 - 9116712 / 087 2244882  
Web: dalystone.ie Email: dalystone@live.ie

**dml**  
Architectural, Planning  
& Building Consultants

- Building Design/Planning Applications
- Surveying/Mapping/Land Transfer
- Structural/Boundary & all types of Surveys
- BER - Building Energy Ratings

Mob: 086 2395825  
E-Mail: dessiemi@yahoo.com

**Planning Notices**

**Donegal County Council**  
Tullychullion, Newmills, Letterkenny  
We, Patrick & Mary McDevitt are applying to Donegal County Council for permission to erect a dwelling house with septic tank and domestic garage with all associated site development works at Tullychullion, Newmills, Letterkenny, County Donegal in the Townland of Tullychullion. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of the planning authority, Donegal County Council, County House, Lifford, County Donegal during its public opening hours. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the planning authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20.00, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt of the application by the authority, and such submission or observation will be considered by the planning authority in making a decision on the application.

**Donegal County Council**  
Keenaghan, Kilmacrennan  
We, Damien & Paula Campbell are applying to Donegal County Council for planning permission for construction of a new dwelling house with domestic garage & installation of a new on-site sewage treatment system at Keenaghan, Kilmacrennan, Co. Donegal. The Planning Application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the Offices of the Planning Authority during its public opening hours and that a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application. The Planning Authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to grant permission.

**Donegal County Council**  
Carran Upper & Lower, Portsalon  
We, Paul & Josephine Gibbons, are applying to Donegal County Council for planning permission for demolition of existing uninhabitable dwelling house & barn, construction of new dwelling house & installation of a new on-site sewage treatment system at Carran Upper & Lower, Portsalon, Co. Donegal. The Planning Application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the Offices of the Planning Authority during its public opening hours and that a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application. The Planning Authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to grant permission.

**Prayer for Publication**

Dear heart of Jesus in the past I have asked

for many favours. This time I ask for a special one (mention here). Take it dear heart of Jesus and place it within your own broken heart where your father sees it. Then in his merciful

**In Memoriam**



**McBride**  
Frances  
Clontallagh,  
Downings  
3rd Anniversary

In loving memory of a dear mother and grandmother who died 19th April 2016.

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

Sadly missed by your daughter Teresa, Paul and grandchildren, Dylan, Kate-Lyn, Ryan, Emma and Shaunna.

*Not one to trouble or make a fuss, you asked for nothing from any of us, God called you to him and we had to part, leaving us lonely and with a broken heart.*

Always remembered by your son Michael, Mary, Aoife and Joe.



**O'Donnell**  
Enda  
9th Anniversary  
17th April 2011

*When God held out his precious hands, to take you from your pain, You held out yours as he gently called your name, Come home with me Enda, your pain will leave you soon, Just close your eyes and take my hand, we'll quietly leave this world.*

Loved and missed forever Mum and David xx

**Memoriam Cards & Thank You Cards**



Contact  
Tirconail Tribune  
Office  
074 91 53600



**McLaughlin**  
Kathleen  
High Glen,  
Carrigart  
1st Anniversary

In loving memory of a dear wife, mother and grandmother Kathleen who died on the 20th April 2019.

*I wish so much that life could be the way it was before, That you'd be in your favourite chair when I walk in the door.*

*I miss your smile, your joking way I miss the things you used to say, And when old times I do recall, is when I miss you most of all,*

*Those special years will not return when we were all together, But with all the love that is in my heart you will stay with me forever.*

Sadly missed and forever in my heart love your husband Bernie, xx.

*I remember your laugh and the things you would say, I treasured the hours that we shared every day, Your resting place I visit and put flowers there with care, But no one knows the heartache as I turn and leave you there.*

Loved always and missed every day your daughter Marettta.

*The moment that you died our hearts were torn in two, One side filled with heartache the other died with you, Remembering you is easy we do it every day but missing you is the heartache that will never go away.*

Always remembered and loved for the wonderful mother and Granny you were by your son Seamus, Amanda, Shannon, Amy and Caoimhe.

*We talk of the memories one by one, words that you've said, things that you've done, They bring a smile, often a tear with a constant wish that you were here.*

Sadly missed by your loving daughter Yvonne, Peter, Terri, Nicole, Peter and Anthony xx

eyes it will become your favour not mine. Amen. Say this prayer for 3 days, promise publication and favour will be granted no matter how impossible never know to fail. BC



**Friel**  
May  
Ladden, Fanad  
6th Anniversary

Treasured memories of a wonderful wife, mother, grand mother, sister, and sister-in-law, May who sadly passed away on 21st April 2014.

*Special memories hold you near silent thoughts bring many a tear, Tears in my eyes I can wipe away, but the loss in my heart will always stay.*

Always remembered and sadly missed by your loving husband John

*Our lives go on without you, but nothing is the same, We have to hide our heartache when someone speaks your name.*

*Sad are the hearts that loved you, silent are the tears that fall, living life without you is the hardest part of all. You did so many things for us, your heart was so kind and true and when we needed someone we could always count on you.*

Sadly missed by your sons John Edward, Martin, Hugh and Fergal along with their families and grandchildren.

*No matter how life changes, no matter what we do, A special place within our hearts is always kept for you.*

Loved and missed by sister-in-law Maureen Sweeney and the Sweeney and Reilly families.



**McLaughlin**  
Thomas  
Olde Glen Bar,  
Carrigart  
10th Anniversary

In loving memory of Thomas who died on 15th April 2010.

*Time and years slip gently by, Love and memories never die, In our hearts you will always stay, Loved and remembered every day.*

Loved and remembered by your wife Marettta, children and all your family.



# Creelough

## Community Response

Due to the current circumstances regarding the outbreak of Covid-19/ Coronavirus and with people being asked to stay at home and "self isolate" in order to protect themselves, a few Community Groups have come together at this time of need and have put together a Home Delivery Service for anyone wishing to avail of it. Services available when the need arises: Picking up and delivery of shopping / urgent supplies, Collection and delivery of medication.

How to access this Service : 1. Make your list. 2. Call the shop/pharmacy and place your order. 3. A lot of businesses are carrying out their own deliveries at this time and will arrange delivery. 4. Any business not carrying out their own deliveries, your order will be collected in the shop/pharmacy who will contact our delivery team to deliver the order to your house. 5. Pay the delivery person and they will give you change and receipt. 6. Disinfect all products/packages delivered. 7. MOST IMPORTANTLY – after handling products, wash your hands thoroughly. In the event of needing further information please contact one of co-ordinators: Con Ferry 087 2830045, AnnMarie Kelly 0879454107 or Elaine Mc Daid 0864045442.

## Shine a Light

A great response from everyone

- by shining a light for Covid-19 Solidarity that could be seen from your home for all the people who are sick, those who have lost their lives and acknowledging the generous work being carried out by all in the HSE from the bottom to the top and people in so many other ways of life reminding us that love and hope are always with us.

## Stay in Touch

During this time it is really important to stay in touch with one another. A telephone call an email, text, facebook etc. For people who live alone, do maintain social contact through your house 'phone or mobile 'phone. A friendly call to a friend or neighbour could make a big difference especially if they live alone. Hello means a lot!

## Graveyard Mass

The Mass in Doe cemetery will be on Sunday August 2nd at 11.00 a.m. – the Bank Holiday weekend.

## GROW

GROW Groups offer an opportunity for people, over the age of 18 years, to talk openly about depression, bipolar disorder, other mood conditions and their impact. Peers share their experience and understanding and offer an exchange of thoughts and techniques around self-care and resilience in a supportive, confidential and pro-active environment. "You alone can do it, but you can't do it alone". If you would like to talk to somebody call our info-line on: 1890 474 474.

## Clothes Bank

A clothes bank is now situated on

High St, Creelough ie around the corner from McNulty's Bar in aid of St. Michael's Minor Board. If anyone is clearing out presses etc. all donations of clothes, shoes, bags, curtains etc would

be much appreciated.

## St. Michael's Mini Lotto

There was no Jackpot winner in the St. Michel's Mini Lotto on Sunday. The numbers drawn were: 3,4,9,13,14,18.

There was no Match 5 Winner. 16 People matched 4 and the winner of the €100 was Louise McGlynn who won bought her ticket online.. This week's Jackpot will be €5800.

# Healthy Living with Sinead

## 10 Steps to Superhealth



We are going through times of uncertainty and fear in relation to global and personal health.

One of the most empowering things you can do at times when so much feels out of your control is to manage your health by taking charge of your diet. Your immune system is the most powerful weapon you have against disease. Strong immunity means that the body is better able to fight off viruses and germs.

Here are my top tips to keep you fighting fit this month – and beyond. Eat real food: Your body needs real, unprocessed food to stay healthy and not the processed foods you kid yourself are OK for you to eat. Focus on eating natural, unrefined, unprocessed food as much as you can and cut out (or at least cut back on) sugar. That means focussing on eating meat, fish, eggs and vegetarian sources of protein like tofu, beans, lentils and chickpeas, and nuts and seeds, plus a broad range of fruit and vegetables. Follow the 80/20 rule (for the avoidance of doubt, this means eating healthily 80% of the time – think fresh apples rather than apple juice, or wholegrain bread instead of a white bread butty).

### Enjoy 'happy tummy' foods

Did you know that up to 80% of your immunity to germs and disease is in your digestive system? The mucosa-associated lymphoid tissue (MALT) in the gut is part of the first line of immune defence, so getting the right balance between beneficial or 'good' gut bacteria and the 'bad' or potentially pathogenic bacteria is key.

How to do this: The gut environment takes a beating year after year, owing to poor diets, too much sugar, stress, antibiotics and other factors. Even if you have no obvious tummy troubles, digestive health is vital, so it's worth the extra effort to take care of it. Add probiotic and prebiotic foods to your diet, as these re-populate the gut with good bacteria and feed them well enough to crowd out bad bacteria. Here are some gut-friendly choices to get you started: Organic, probiotic, natural yoghurt – sometimes called 'live' yoghurt. Always buy full-fat yoghurt, as the 0% or no-fat options have increased levels of milk sugars – and fat isn't the enemy, either in life or in weight loss. Miso soup or miso bouillon paste (add these to soups and stews). Oats (soak first, as you would to make overnight oats, in order to release the goodness). Onions, garlic and Jerusalem artichokes. Green Bananas. Beans. Cooked, then cooled, potatoes.

### Serve Chicken Soup

Did you hear that chicken soup is great when you're unwell? If you thought it was just an old wives' tale, you'd be wrong. Research suggests that a bowl of chicken and vegeta-

ble soup can slow the speed at which neutrophils move around your body. Neutrophils are a type of white blood cell and part of the immune system, protecting your body from infection. When the neutrophils move slowly, there's a greater chance of them becoming more concentrated in the areas of your body that need the most healing. Studies have shown chicken soup to be particularly helpful in reducing symptoms in upper respiratory system infections.

### Cook with herbs & spices

Adding flavour to food is a smart way to include delicious immune boosters on your plate. Garlic is a potent superfood. It is antimicrobial, thanks to the active ingredient allicin, which helps fight viruses, and has been used for thousands of years to boost the immune system and prevent sickness. To make the most of allicin, crush, chop or grate the garlic cloves and allow them to sit for a few minutes. This releases more allicin. Once formed, it is fairly resistant to heat. Most culinary herbs contain anti-inflammatory properties due to their phytonutrients, but oregano and thyme are particularly rich. Spice up your cooking with turmeric and ginger, too, as these are well-documented immune boosters

### Say no to sugar

Even if you don't consider yourself a sugar addict, it's worth taking a look at how much you do consume – and trying to swap sugary treats for something more wholesome. Sugar fans the flames of inflammation and affects the ability of white blood cells to fend off viruses and bacteria. In fact, the immune system stays depressed for hours after consuming sugar, according to recent studies. Enjoy raw cocoa or cacao hot chocolate on chilly evenings, adding your favourite milk or milk substitutes (with a little xylitol or stevia to sweeten, if you like). If you really miss that chocolate hit, try a few squares of pure, dark chocolate like Green & Blacks or any good chocolate with a higher cocoa content (at least 75%).

### Drink more water

Staying well-hydrated is important for health in general. When it comes to bolstering your defences, water is a miracle worker. It flushes germs from your system, helps your blood to carry plenty of oxygen to your body's cells and allows those cells to absorb important nutrients. Invest in a filter jug or bottle to avoid quaffing high levels of chlorine and fluorine along with your tap water.

### Consider herbal tea

Green tea (and chamomile tea, if you're interested) can help supercharge your immunity. That's because they contain antioxidants that help battle free radicals that wreak

havoc across the immune system. In truth, we don't know how large the effect really is on the immune system but, let's say the effect is there but minimal, every little helps.

### Hello sunshine!

As difficult as this is to achieve sometimes (particularly in winter and spring), spending sufficient time in sunlight is a vital immune booster. Vitamin D is made by your skin absorbing sunlight, so planning an hour or two outside during daylight hours is a good reason to leave work early or take your children to the park when you'd rather sleep late. Even sitting outside while you have your morning cuppa is a good thing right now. Expose as much of your bare skin to the sun as possible, and don't wear sunscreen during that time either as it inhibits the process. You can boost your vitamin D levels by eating more of the following foods: oily fish (salmon, mackerel and fresh tuna), beef liver, mushrooms, cheese, egg yolks and vitamin D-fortified foods, such as dairy products and orange juice. It's worth checking whether you are low in vitamin D, and these days it's easy to check this yourself (rather than asking your doctor) by taking a finger-prick blood spot test – ask me for recommendations.

### Get enough sleep

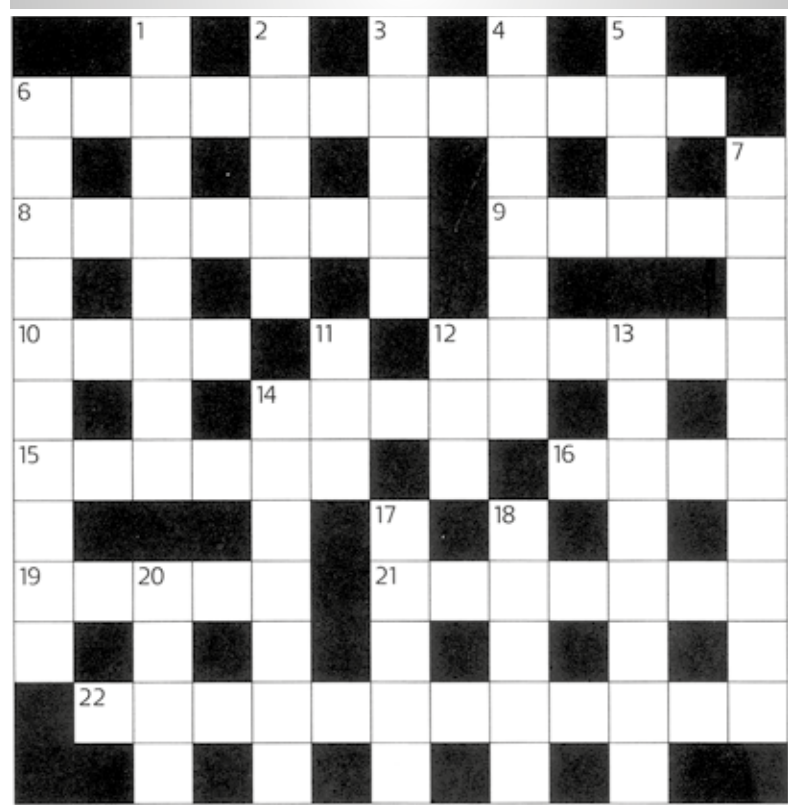
Being tired is not good for your health. Simply, your body needs rest to stay healthy. In one study done at a private research university in Pennsylvania in the US found that, even if people said they felt fine and dandy, if they'd had less than 7 hours of sleep a night, they were three times more likely to catch a cold than people who had had an average of 8 hours or more of the ole shut-eye.

### Move in a way that feels good

Your lymphatic system, a parallel universe to your bloodstream, contains a network of tissues and organs that help your body get rid of toxins and waste. Its main role is to transport a fluid called lymph around the body, which contains infection-fighting white blood cells. Unlike the blood, which moves around thanks to your heart pumping, there's no automatic way of moving lymph about. The only way to shift the stuff from A to B is by moving yourself. A recent study from a university in North Carolina in the US showed that people who move themselves for 5 or more days a week experience 43% fewer days with upper respiratory infections (that's throat, sinuses and or lungs – basically the common cold). The aim is 30-60 minutes of exercise 5 times a week.

To find out more about my Immune boosting programmes, call me on 0874191301 or find me on facebook SB Sport & Nutrition Therapist

## Tribune Crossword No. 864



### Across

- 6. Star of Baby Doll (7,5)
- 8. A.C. current generator (7)
- 9. Swallow greedily (5)
- 10. Constantly (4)
- 12. First oarsman (6)
- 14. Virile (5)
- 15. Pannier (6)
- 16. Information (4)
- 19. Pluck (5)
- 21. Capital of Kenya (7)
- 22. Offering (12)

- 1. Steady improvement (8)
- 2. Card game (5)
- 3. Despondency (5)
- 4. Mischievous (7)
- 5. Antlered animal (4)
- 6. Men's waistband (10)
- 7. Non-flesh eater (10)
- 11. Overweight (3)
- 12. Cunning (3)
- 13. Sacred musical drama (8)
- 14. Souvenir (7)
- 17. Slow mover! (5)
- 18. Negative sign (5)
- 20. Quarter of an acre (4)

### Down

The first correct entry opened on Tuesday 21st April will receive a Ball Point Pen. Send your entry to Crossword No. 864 Tirconail Tribune, Main Street, Milford.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

### Solutions to Crossword No. 863

Across 3. Adjourned, 8. Hour, 9. Pathetic, 10. Thrive, 13. Liege, 14. Verbose, 15. Jar, 16. Fall out, 17. Bride, 21. Lizard, 22. Reveille, 23. Grin, 24. Terrorise. Down 1. That's Life, 2. Quarterly, 4. Duped, 5. October, 6. Reel, 7. Erin, 11. Solitaire, 12. dependent, 14. Vat, 15. Juggler, 18. Bless, 19. Were, 20. Hear.

Congratulations to Eoghan McCourt, Coppers Crest, Milford who won Crossword No. 863.

**zest4life**  
Health & Weight Loss Coach

**SB**  
Sinead Boyce  
SPORTS THERAPIST | HEALTH & WEIGHT LOSS COACH

## Dunfanaghy Notes

### The late James Hayes

There was widespread regret on hearing of the death last week of James Hayes from Kill, Dunfanaghy (pictured right).

Deceased was a popular and highly respected member of the local community and was a familiar figure around the town. James was the caretaker and Bell Ringer at Dunfanaghy Presbyterian Church for 39 years and in that position, he became well known to many of the tourists to the town as he welcomed them to Sunday Service each week. He was also a fisherman, gardener and outdoorsman. He was a member of Dunfanaghy Bowling Club and in earlier years was an active member of St. Michael's GAA Club where he held the position of water carrier for and never missed a match at the Bridge always watching from his position behind the goals.

His funeral service was held in Dunfanaghy Presbyterian Church on Good Friday and was conducted by the Rev. Andrew Watson; burial took place afterwards in the family plot at Doe Castle Cemetery.

The sympathy of the community is extended



to his family Bill, Adrian, Elaine and in-laws and grandchildren, to his sisters Eileen Gamble, Ramelton and Maggie Moore, Creevey, to Rose and to the entire family circle.

#### Easter

In common with all towns and villages around Ireland last weekend's Easter Bank Holiday weekend in Dunfanaghy was like no other with the normally thronged Main Street being largely deserted as visitors mainly heeded the advice of the government and stayed at home to protect themselves and the local community from Covid-19.

On Easter Sunday the bells of all three churches in Dunfanaghy rang at midday, as a symbol of our Easter hope through the resurrection of Christ. The town was also featured in a report on UTV Live last week with reporter Gareth Wilkinson visiting the town and TG4's Ailbhe Ó Monacháin visited a deserted Marble Hill on Good Friday last. With the entire country on lockdown until the 5th May the message to everyone is to stay at home and save lives.

#### Dolphin Rescue

Killyhoey Beach in Dunfanaghy was the scene of an animal rescue on Monday morning when members Brendan O'Connor and Sean Sharkey

of An Garda Síochána and members of the Mulroy Coastguard came to a dolphin's aid after it had washed ashore becoming stranded on the beach. In footage shared online on Monday, Gardaí and members of the coast guards can be seen assisting a dolphin whale.

The six members of the emergency services lifted the dolphin whale into a hammock before carrying it gently towards the water where it swam out again. This is the just the latest in a number of animals which have become stranded on the beach in recent weeks and months.

#### St. Vincent De Paul

If you find yourself in need of help at this or any time of the year please contact us on 0862328791 or contact any of our members and assured of our confidentiality at all times.

#### GROW

If you are finding life difficult at the moment and are in need of friendly help why not go along to a GROW group meeting near you. GROW uses a twelve step program of mental health which has been tried and tested over the past fifty years.

Call Marion on 0867856912 or Maria on 0867702860 or go on line to [www.grow.ie](http://www.grow.ie) the groups are confidential open to all and are non-denominational.

## Brother Richard Hendrick OFM. Cap. poem "Lockdown" gets Global recognition

Congratulations to Brother Richard Hendrick OFM. Cap. on his recent success with his poem "Lockdown". His poem is about the confinement of people in their homes and has caused a sensation across the world. It has been shared more than half a million times on twitter, translated into at least 15 languages and read aloud on BBC and CNN news programmes. Brother Richard was Guardian in Ards Friary and is currently Guardian in Raheny Friary. He was inspired by the story of a woman in Wuhan saying the

factory closures allowed her to hear the birds sing for the first time and by hearing the story of people in Assisi in Italy singing to each other in lockdown. Brother Richard received an email from a man in Wuhan thanking him for the poem which was letting the people of Wuhan know that they were being thought of and heard around the world. Brother Richard again put pen to paper and has another poem called "The Nesting Season" which is about this time of year. Best wishes from your friends in Ards and Creeslough.

### Brother Richard Kendrick Poem "Lockdown"

*Yes there is fear.  
Yes there is isolation.  
Yes there is panic buying.  
Yes there is sickness.  
Yes there is even death.  
But,  
They say that in Wuhan after so many years of noise  
You can hear the birds again.  
They say that after just a few weeks of quiet  
The sky is no longer thick with fumes  
But blue and grey and clear.  
They say that in the streets of Assisi  
People are singing to each other  
across the empty squares,  
keeping their windows open  
so that those who are alone  
may hear the sounds of family around them.  
They say that a hotel in the West of Ireland  
Is offering free meals and delivery to the housebound.  
Today a young woman I know  
is busy spreading fliers with her number  
through the neighbourhood  
So that the elders may have someone to call on.  
Today Churches, Synagogues, Mosques and Temples  
are preparing to welcome  
and shelter the homeless, the sick, the weary  
All over the world people are slowing down and*

*reflecting  
All over the world people are looking at their neighbours in a new way  
All over the world people are waking up to a new reality  
To how big we really are.  
To how little control we really have.  
To what really matters.  
To Love.  
So we pray and we remember that  
Yes there is fear.  
But there does not have to be hate.  
Yes there is isolation.  
But there does not have to be loneliness.  
Yes there is panic buying.  
But there does not have to be meanness.  
Yes there is sickness.  
But there does not have to be disease of the soul  
Yes there is even death.  
But there can always be a rebirth of love.  
Wake to the choices you make as to how to live now.  
Today, breathe.  
Listen, behind the factory noises of your panic  
The birds are singing again  
The sky is clearing,  
Spring is coming,  
And we are always encompassed by Love.  
Open the windows of your soul  
And though you may not be able  
to touch across the empty square,  
Sing.*

## Cloughaneely Notes

### Coiste Pleanáil Teanga Chloich Cheann Fhaola

Seol físeáin duit fein nó de do chairde ag ceol amhráin, píosa siamsaíochta nó craic, meme, selfie nó rud ar bith eile siamsúil (fad is atá sé i nGaeilge). Duaiseanna iontacha. seol ag 087 2270722 nó ag na meáin shóisialta. (competition for young people from or living in Cloich Cheann Fhaola. Send a video or photo of you (and friends if you wish) doing some piece of entertainment, or a meme or a selfie. As long as it is in Irish. Bain triall as! Tá CPTCCF ag eagrú comórta beag ealaíne ar líne do pháistí ag aois bunscoile as Chloich Cheann Fhaola. Déant pictiúir agus glac grianghraf dó ar fhón póca. Seol chugainn é ag 087 227 0722 agus cuirfidh muid ar thaispeántas é

ar na meáin Shóisialta. Duaiseanna galánta! Cur d'ainm agus seoladh leis an teachtaireacht CPTCCF are organising an art competition for primary school kids from Cloich Cheann Fhaola. Send your entry by phone to 087 227 0722 and we will display it on social media. Winners announced each month. Put your name and address with the entry.

#### GAA Volunteers Available

Sa tréimhse thar a bheith crua seo, tá muidinne anseo i gCLG Chloich Cheann Fhaola ag cuir ár gcuid seirbhísí ar fáil d'aon duine sa phobal bhfuil cuidiú uathu le hoidis a bhailiú, siopadóireacht a dhéanamh nó rudaí riachtanach eile sna seachtainí amach romhainn. Ár ndóigh is iad na seandaoine agus na daoine atá ag fulaingt le tinnis cheana féin, na daoine is mó atá i mbaol sa tsochaí agus tá muid ag iarraidh cinntiú go mbeidh achan rud atá de dhíth orthu acu agus cloí le treoracha 'social distancing' agus glaineachta ag an

am céanna. Má tá eolas agat ar dhuine ar bith bhfuil cuidiú de dhíth orthu ag an am seo, tabhair ár gcuid sonraí daofa agus déanfaidh muid iarracht freastal orthu, agus muid ag cloí le treoracha sláinte agus sábháilteachta an HSE. Thig glaoch a chur orainn ar 086 156 7503 nó 087 227 9155.

During these trying and uncertain times we at CLG Chloich Cheann Fhaola are offering the services of our volunteers to anyone in the community who needs help with collecting prescriptions, groceries, fuel or any other essential needs over the course of the next couple of weeks. Obviously those most vulnerable in our society are the elderly and those with underlying medical conditions; we want to ensure they are looked after whilst also adhering to social distancing and hygiene guidelines. If you know of anyone who requires assistance with pick-ups/ drop offs over the next couple



Bollards erected at the Car Park leading to Tramore Beach in Hornhead in line with the current Covid 19 restrictions on travel.



Bollards erected at the Car Park leading to Tramore Beach in Hornhead in line with the current Covid 19 restrictions on travel.

of weeks please pass on our contact information and we will assist in anyway we can whilst following HSE Covid-19 health and safety guidelines. You can reach out to us on 086-1567503 or 087-2279155.

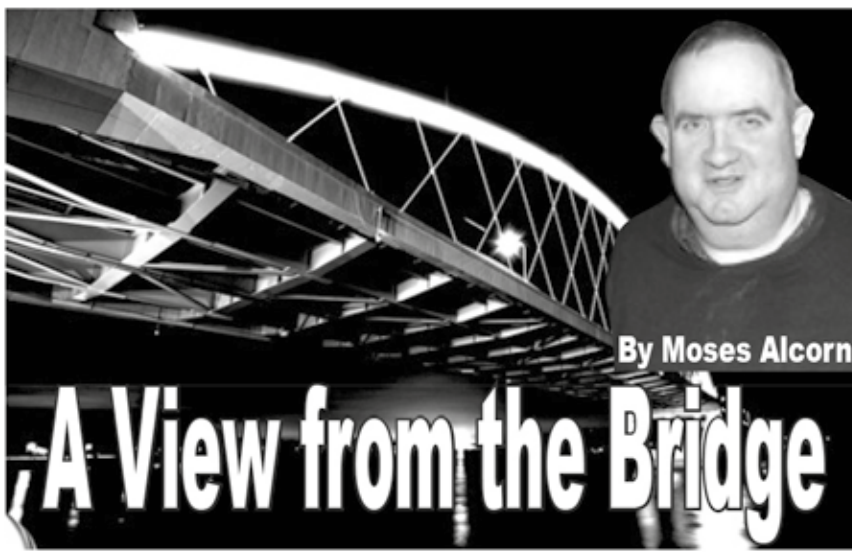
#### Mental Health Association (MHA)

Cloughaneely MHA is a long-established voluntary association, set up to support mental health services, staff and service users in the area. We are here to help direct people to the services which they may require. During this unprecedented and difficult time, we urge you all to look after your mental health as we now all adjust to current events. If you or someone you know needs our help, we are here to support you. All calls and emails are treated in the strictest of confidence. Cloughaneely

Mental Health Association is supported by Mental Health Ireland. Contact Sally: 0833489749 or email [cloughaneelymha@mentalhealthireland.ie](mailto:cloughaneelymha@mentalhealthireland.ie).

#### An tSeán Bheairic

An tSeán Bheairic – Ag Tacú leis an Phobal – Supporting our Community Cé go bhfuil An tSeán Bheairic druidte don phobal san am i láthair tá baill den fhoireann ar fáil le tacú leo siúd sa phobal atá aonraithe agus a bhfuil cuidiú de dhíth orthu le siopadóireacht agus seachadtaí mar shampla. Cuir scairt ar 074 91 80888 nó 074 91 80655. Even though An tSeán Bheairic is closed to the public, members of staff are available to support those in our community who are isolated and who need help with shopping or deliveries for example. Call 074 91 80888 nó 074 91 80655.



By Moses Alcorn

# A View from the Bridge

## Please Stay at Home

For generations the coastal villages and islands of north and west Donegal have been welcoming visitors every year to enjoy the breathtaking scenery of the area. Tourists also flocked to the Gael-tacht areas to learn the languages and the music and culture of the areas. Now in 2020 the outbreak of the Covid-19 Virus has changed the entire landscape and the business owners and residents of tourist hotspots such as Gweedore, Bundoran, Downings, Dunfanaghy and Buncrana are asking visitors to please stay away to protect their rural communities. This is advice which is being echoed from Malin Head to Mizen Head, yet the Easter weekend saw special powers having to be issued to the Gardai in order to stop visitors travelling to their holiday homes.

The sight of Garda checkpoints to stop visitors arriving in these scenic areas has now become familiar. Despite these measures there were numerous reports of breaches of the order. This problem was not just confined to Donegal as coastal communities from the Giant's Causeway to Kerry were also complaining about an influx of tourists. Here in Donegal the islands of Tory and Aranmore have been on lockdown for weeks as they sought to shield their vulnerable communities from Covid-19. The national lockdown is now extended until the 5th May. At a time when the frontline health workers in all countries are struggling to cope with the pandemic it's a shame that those idiots who insist on coming on their holidays don't wise up and realise that the resources being used to police them could be better spent providing PPE and other necessary lifesaving medical equipment to other parts of the frontline. The Gardai and the other frontline workers are doing a tremendous job in the most difficult of circumstances and everyone should be doing their best to support them by slowing down the spread of this terrible disease. This Covid-19 pandemic will eventually go away and we will get back to some kind of normality. Nobody is quite sure when this will be but when it does the islands, mountains, beaches and scenery of Donegal will still be there to be enjoyed by all and the Donegal community will be delighted to extend the C ad m ile f ailte to everyone but in the meantime the message is for everybody to stay home and stay safe and protect not just their own communities but ours as well.

### Donegal in 1916

It's now been 104 years since the 1916 Rebellion in Ireland, an event which was to eventually lead to the independence and the establishment of the 26 County Irish Free State a few years later. These events would be commemorated at Easter - but life everything else in these extraordinary times these are off for this year. So, it's worth taking a look at what Donegal was like over 100 years ago. In 1916 the county was also under a lockdown but for a very different reason as revolution was in the air! County Donegal in the second decade of the 20th century was a very different place to what it is today. The 1911 Cen-

sus put the population of Donegal at 168,537 people, with 50% living in houses of just two rooms, though, due to the work of local authorities and the Congested Districts Board, the standard of living was rising. Among the improvements was the beginning of social housing, the gradual development of clean water supplies and sewerage systems, the building of roads and railways, the development of cottage industries.

Efforts to spread the control of disease and improve access to education were also ongoing. The introduction of the Old Age Pension in 1908 and National Unemployment Insurance were also of benefit to many of the poorer people in society. Nonetheless, by today's standards, the county in 1916 remained poor and remote, with basic and underdeveloped services.

By 1916, World War I had raged for almost 18 months and many normal State services had slowed or had stopped because financial and human resources were being directed towards the war effort.

Politically, only Home Rule candidates had been elected as MPs in Ireland since 1885. In the 1911 local elections, 26 of the 32 seats had been won by home rule candidates. Unionists across Ireland, particularly in much of Ulster, had resisted the Third Home Rule Bill. This opposition led to the formation of the Ulster Volunteers which in turn resulted in the formation of the nationalist Irish Volunteers in 1913. Two fishermen, Patrick McGinley and Charles Duggan from Gola Island, were involved in smuggling arms and ammunition for the Irish Volunteers, into Howth, north Dublin, on the Asgard in July 1914.

The Home Rule Bill passed its third reading in May 1914 (with a special temporary clause for Ulster included) but the outbreak of war in August resulted in its postponement. With nationalist opinion divided over the war, the Volunteer movement split. The majority opted to follow John Redmond's National Volunteers and support the war in Europe, while the remainder retained the name Irish Volunteers and were committed to securing independence for Ireland. Membership of the Volunteers grew in many parts of the county of Donegal throughout 1914. However, following the split in the organisation and an intensified recruitment campaign by the British Army, numbers in the organisation declined rapidly in 1915. Membership of the Irish Volunteers would increase again only after the Easter Rising in 1916. The Irish Volunteers, who were far fewer in number than John Redmond's National Volunteers, did not take part in World War I. Many of these were the most militant of the Volunteers and included some members of the Irish Republican Brotherhood. The IRB were the descendants of the physical force tradition nationalists whose last major event was a failed rebellion in 1867. Members of the IRB had gradually and secretly infiltrated the Irish Volunteers. By 1916 several IRB members were on the Irish Volunteers' Central Council. Within the group, the idea that 'England's difficulty is Ireland's opportunity' was firmly established and plans were

made to stage a rebellion.

A Military Council was formed composed of Patrick Pearse, Joseph Plunkett, Eamonn Ceannt, Thomas Clarke, Se n MacDiarmada, Thomas MacDonagh and James Connolly.

These seven men were to become the leaders of the Easter Rising and the 'seven signatories' who signed the Proclamation of the Irish Republic. Connolly, who was a socialist, was commandant of the Irish Citizen Army. Orders were given by the IRB for the mobilisation of the Irish Volunteers on Easter Sunday 1916. A series of mishaps however had a disastrous effect on the plans for a national uprising. Firstly, the vast majority of the Irish Volunteers answered to their leader Eoin MacNeill and not the IRB. He could see no potential for a successful rebellion and refused to allow the organisation's membership to become embroiled in activities that would lead to unnecessary bloodshed. When he realised that a rising was planned for Easter Sunday, he quickly issued an order cancelling all Volunteer activities. News of Eoin MacNeill's order not to mobilise on Easter Sunday reached Donegal successfully. Nevertheless, a small group of about 30 Volunteers including Daniel Kelly had met at Creeslough on Easter Sunday to await instructions. When there was still no word on Easter Monday, Kelly and his brother Joe decided to travel to Portadown to take a train to Dublin. However, there were no trains running, and they returned home. However, a rising did take place and



An early photo of the Dunfanaghy Market Square and below, the emptiness of the Square on Easter Saturday.



amongst those fighting with Pearse in the GPO was Joseph Sweeney, from Burtonport, County Donegal (1897-1980). Sweeney was then a 19 year-old student in University College Dublin. He had been a pupil of Pearse's at St. Enda's School in Rathfarnham, and still lived there in 1916 acting as a courier and explosives maker. Joseph Sweeney would go on to become the youngest TD of the first D ail in 1919, fight in the War of Independence, support the Anglo-Irish Treaty and become Chief of Staff of the Irish Army in 1929.

Two other UCD students, with connections to Donegal were in the GPO during Easter Week. These were Conor and Eunan McGinley, sons of C  Uladh (Peter Toner McGinley) and cousins of Dr. J.P. McGinley, Letterkenny. In 1916, Conor McGinley (1897-1975) was 19 years old and a former pupil of St Enda's. He was studying architecture. When Pearse surrendered, Sweeney and the McGinleys were among those arrested and jailed.

Men from County Donegal who were active during the Rising outside Dublin included Donncha MacNiallghuis (1887-1954), originally from Malinbeg, Glennan Cholm Cille. In 1916, MacNiallghuis lived and worked in Cork and had been an active member of the Irish Volunteers there since 1913. One of the first people to die on Easter Monday was a young County Donegal man, Charles McGee from Inishbofin Island, who was a Constable in the Royal Irish Constabulary. He is buried in Gortahork graveyard.

One prominent member of the IRB was Daniel Kelly, from Killygordon, County Donegal. Kelly had been involved in the IRB since he was in his late teens. In 1916 he was in his thirties. For some years he had worked in the railways in Glasgow and, during his time there, he and others had tried to organise a branch of Sinn F in. When he returned to Donegal in 1912, he was first stationed in Dungloe Road Railway Station, then in Cashelnagore near Gortahork.

From late 1913 he organised Irish Volunteer Companies in both Cloughaneely and Creeslough and spent some time trying to purchase arms and ammunition. By early 1915 the majority of those he had recruited had decided to stay with Redmond's National Volunteers. With membership and morale of the Irish Volunteers so low in early 1916, Kelly invited Pearse to Donegal to inspire enthusiasm and action. However, the Rising itself happened before Pearse had an opportunity to return to the county. Ernest Blythe, a future Government Minister in the first Free State government, visited Creeslough and Letterkenny in January 1916, in an effort to organise the Volunteers there (Blythe was later arrested and was in prison during Easter Week). In the immediate aftermath of the Rising it was

roundly condemned but the actions of the British who declared Martial Law and the execution of the signatories of the Constitution swayed public opinion and these events were to lead to Independence a few short years later. Mass graves in New York evoke sad memories. Last week's TV pictures of bodies being buried on an island of New York in the midst of the pandemic caused shock around the world and here the evoked memories of the Irish Famine. Mass graves are unfortunately not a new way of burial and have been used in times of famine and war and natural disasters. Here in Ireland during the Famine many of those who died in the Union Workhouses were buried in Mass Graves often using the same coffin which had a latched opening which allowed the bottom of the coffin to open and deposit the body in the grave before being used for the next burial. So called "Parish Coffins" were also used for the same work.

These burial often took place in pauper's graveyards and in recent years these have been re-named Famine Graveyards such as the one at Kill Dunfanaghy where the remains of many of those who died in the Dunfanaghy Workhouse as well as sailors and airmen who were washed ashore during the first and second world wars are interred. A Celtic Cross has now been erected in their memory and such commemorations are now taking place all over Ireland. Unfortunately, Mass Graves such as the one at the former Mother and Baby Home at Tuam are still being discovered and are a grim reminder of our nation's past.

In New York Hart Island, has been used for more than 150 years as a place to bury the city's unidentified or unclaimed dead, or those whose families can't pay for a burial. In a series of tweets and later at a press conference, New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio acknowledged that the number of burials on the island has increased, but said the only people being buried there are those who have not been claimed by a family member or loved one and it's hoped that in years to come at least some of those buried there can be buried in their own family plots.

### Community Spirit alive and well

It's great to see the great community spirit that is ongoing at the moment both by supporting their elderly or vulnerable neighbours or by welcoming home from hospital those who have survived Covid-19 and one community in Cork is enjoying watching outdoor classic films thanks to an enterprising neighbour. Communities and families throughout the country took part in the Shine a light Project in support of frontline workers on Saturday night.

# Ladies league successes

While the men hogged a lot of the sporting highlights, the Fanad Ladies also enjoyed significant soccer successes over the years. Indeed, a bit like their male counterparts the ladies had a dominant spell over six years from the Donegal League was formed in 1994. Under James Stephen McBride, Fanad landed the league title three times in 1994, 96 and 98. There was another success under Michael McGrory in 2,000 and it was to be a double with the League Cup title also coming to Traigh a Loch. But, there was heartbreak at the end of that season as Fanad lost the national FAI Intermediate Cup Final in Mayo on sudden death penalties against Lifford from Clare.

Underage girls football had been going on in the Fanad parish from the late 1980s with the focus being on having teams to participate in Community Games competitions. That was how Doaghmore man James Stephen McBride first got involved. "I got introduced to ladies football when my own two girls were at National School. There was talk of entering a team in the Community Games and training was first organised for Traigh a Loch. There just happened to be nobody there

to take charge of the training. So I took it on at the time and they asked me to stay on. We got to the National Finals twice in Mosney" McBride said.

Then in 1994 the Donegal Women's League was formed and James Stephen was to be the first manager of the senior team. "Dessie Kelly and Joe Duffy were involved in setting up and I think there were about ten teams taking part. The majority of our team was girls that came through from the Community Games side and the average age of that group would have around 17. But we also had Una McGrory who was the captain, Claire Ferry, Sadie Morning, Anne-Marie McElwaine and Bernie Logue."

Because the inaugural league started later than expected in 1994, it was run off on a format of playing each team just once with the top qualifying for a final. The Orchard side from Letterkenny were classed as the strongest outfit at that time and they justified that status by finishing top and going through the league unbeaten. "The Orchard beat us in Traigh a Loch and were a stronger side physically than us. We finished second and so it was a play-off against Orchard in Ballyare.

Our girls were a bit down in the lead-up to the play-off after losing to them. So I decided to try something different in the lead-up by going with a 4-4-2 formation. Up to that all the teams were going 4-3-3 but I felt especially the Orchard's three in midfield were too strong for us so if we put four in that might work for us and give the girls a bit of hope and maybe get the result" McBride said.

But, there was drama in Ballyare even before the decider started. Both teams arrived with the same colour of jerseys and neither had a second set of gear with them. So it was a toss of a coin and Fanad Utd had to wear their jerseys inside out. Meanwhile, on the field McBride's plan of crowding the midfield appeared to be working and in a very tight game it was still 0-0 at the interval in front of a big crowd at Diamond Park. "The Orchard did go ahead early in the second half. It was then that I had to start to think about changing something. Anne-Marie McElwaine was the fastest player we ever had but she wasn't playing well but didn't want to take her off. Then, with about 15 minutes to go I decided I would do that and had a player warming up when she scored the equal-



The 2019 team - Back row, Michelle McDevitt, Amanda Callaghan, Orla McGonigle, Roisin McGinley, Eimear Gibbons, Niamh McDevitt, Lauren Carr. Front Keri Sweeney, Hannah Shiels, Lauren McBride and Eimer Sweeney.

iser and Bernie Logue got the winner with minutes left. After the game Ann-Marie told me that she had been sick all the night before."

The history making winning Fanad Utd 1994 squad included Marie Callaghan (goalkeeper), Una McGrory

(captain), Caroline McElwaine, Bernie McElwaine, Cait McElwaine, Clodagh McElwaine, Rhonda McAteer, Brenda McAteer, Karen Martin, Anne-Marie McElwaine, Bernie Logue, Sadie Morning, Claire Ferry, Marion McBride, Eilish McBride

Then were changes to the squad with Una McGrory hanging up the boots while Cait McElwaine, Karen Martin and Clodagh McElwaine were absent due to college commitments. New players came in and Fanad Utd came back to win the league in 1996 under McBride's guidance. He signed Madonna Friel and Marie Gallagher from Whitstrand; Christine and Aisling McBride from Glenree along with Una and Sinead Hagan while Teresa Peoples and Catherine McAteer also joined the panel. In 1997 there was a cup title and another league success in 1998. Other players had come through from underage like Maz Sweeney while in 1997 Heather Donaghey from Aileach was the goal-

keeper. McBride had many big matches but one that really sticks out for him was when Fanad reached the semi-finals of the FAI Women's Senior Cup in 1997. "The biggest match in my time would have been the FAI Senior Cup semi-final against Bohemians in Traigh a Loch. There was a big crowd and it was a great game against Bohemians in Traigh a Loch but we lost 3-2" McBride said.

Michael McGrory was the manager for two years having previously worked with James Stephen McBride. "I would have helped James Stephen in 1998 and 1999. Then I took over as manager in 2,000. It was a very good year for us. We won the league and it was dramatic at the end. Ourselves and Kilmacrennan were level on points. The last game of the season was down in Kilmacrennan. It was a very tight game and there was a big crowd there. Maz Sweeney put us 1-0 up before half-time. Then we went 2-0 in front. They upped their game and got a goal back and then missed a penalty in the last minute. The next week we played Letterkenny Rovers in Ballyare in the League Cup Final. That was very close as well. We were leading 2-1 in extra-time but they equalised and it went to penalties. I remember our goalkeeper Christine McBride saving three penalties and that meant we won the double that season" McGrory said.

It was a hectic spell for the Fanad Utd Ladies who had also qualified for the FAI Intermediate Cup Final. "We scored six goals in the quarter-final win in Galway. That was our best performance of the season. I remember that in the semi-final we played Odd Shorts from Sligo and won 2-1. But, it was very disappointing to lose the final against Lifford from Clare on sudden death penalties down in Mayo. I thought we had done enough to win it but it wasn't to be." It was a big time for Maz Sweeney and Marie Gallagher who scored 35 goals between them that year. Maz was the overall top scorer. Both of them went on to get underage international recognition.

The Fanad Utd team that played in that FAI Intermediate Cup Final 20 years ago was Christine McBride, Eilish Sweeney, Claire Ferry, Margaret Boyce, Noelle Hagan; Madonna Friel, Catriona O'Brien, Catriona Barker, Bernie Logue, Maz Sweeney, Marie Gallagher. Subs: Josephine McFadden, Lisa Friel, Sharon McVeigh, Louise McGrory, Joan Sheridan, Susan McBride, Annice Callaghan.

In later years the club also won another League Cup and had teams in the Donegal and Northwest Leagues. And the Club has continued to promote underage football through Mulroy Academy. That means teams are continuing to feature in the Donegal League under very dedicated coaches. And everyone is hoping now that when the green light comes after Covid-19, that even more girls will become part of the underage setup and form a basis for Fanad Utd to return stronger than ever on the senior soccer scene in Donegal.



The 1994 side that won the first Donegal Women's League. James Stephen McBride, Marian McBride, Eilish McBride, Mary Friel, Brenda McAteer, Cait McElwaine, Caroline McElwaine, Karen Martin and Claire Ferry. front row, Rhonda McAteer, Bernie Logue, Sadie Morning, Una Sweeney, Ann Marie McElwaine, Marie Callaghan, Clodagh McElwaine and Bernie McElwaine.



The Fanad Utd Ladies side and management team prior to the FAI Intermediate Cup Final in 2000. Back Row (L-R): Una McGrory, Josephine McFadden, Lisa Friel, Sharon McVey, Catriona O'Brien, Ailish Sweeney, Margaret Boyce, Christine McBride, Marie Gallagher, Joan Sheridan, Mazzarello Sweeney, Michael McGrory. Front Row (L-R): Susan McBride, Madonna Friel, Louise McGrory, Annice Callaghan, Noelle Hagan, Bernie Logue, Claire Ferry, Catriona Barker.

# Horgan praises Club loyalty

Ollie Horgan spent almost 25 years at Fanad Utd as a player and then manager. The Galway City native arrived in Letterkenny in 1989 to take up a teaching post at St. Eunan's College. But, before he left Galway his footballing future had been

sorted as Fr. Mick Sweeney had secured Horgan's signature to play with Fanad in the Ulster Senior League. Fanad native Art Friel was the intermediary in Galway who facilitated the move to Traigh a Loch.

Friel was based in Galway and knew Horgan well from playing with Salthill Devon and also University College Galway. A tough tackling left-back who played in the prestigious Collingwood Cup for UCD, he was training in Fanad within a week of arriving in the County. He was coming into a star studded squad that included the likes of Bosco Gallagher, Eamonn McConigley, John McElwaine, Danny Kelly, Charlie McGeever, Kenny Harkin, Sean Ferry and Michael O'Donnell.

"When I came to Fanad it was a virtual League of Ireland team that was there. I wasn't at that level. I missed two full seasons after doing my cruciate twice. Apart from that it was great. It was very much a family. We played together. We socialised together. Fr. Michael motivated us as a team and we respected him. You had the different groups, the Falcarragh contingent, the Letterkenny lads and those from Fanad. They were men and 30 years on we are still friends today" Horgan said.

Because of the quality that was in the squad, they feared no opposition. "We went to Dublin and Cork in the Intermediate Cup. The lads feared no team but at the same time there was no arrogance. We played for each other. There was great craic along the way." When Eamonn McConigley stepped down, Fr. Mick Sweeney approached Horgan about filling the vacancy in 2004. During his time in charge Fanad won three USL titles and a number of other cups. They reached the semi-finals of the Intermediate Cup a couple of times losing out to eventual winners Avondale Utd from Cork who were managed at the time by John Caufield.

Horgan had just two players Paddy McGrenaghan and Davy Derry who would have played under McConigley. Horgan's capacity to build squads started back then and has stood in good stead in his time at Finn Harps. Fanad continued to compete at the top table under the Galway native. They lost narrowly 1-0 to Letterkenny Rovers in a play-off in 2005 which was the end of Horgan's first season for the new manager.

Milford brothers Darren and Paul Nash were part of the squad along with Arthur Lynch, Shane Sweeney, Paddy 'Burger' Patton, John Doherty, Dara Patton and Mark 'Sparky' Friel while Deery and McGranaghan continued to play. Current Finn Harps player Gareth Harkin, Seimi 'Coshia' Friel, Christy Conaghan and Shaun McElwaine were also featuring. Back-to-back USL titles were won including a dramatic play-off



win over Kildrum Tigers in 2006 in Ballyare after Fanad had won seven back-log games to set up the decider. "It was great to take the league title after knowing that we would have to win those last seven games to make the play-off. We had big disappointments in those years too. We lost three times to Avondale Utd from Cork in the Intermediate Cup and they went onto win the final on each occasion" Horgan said. The St. Eunan's Schoolteacher also drove two other projects namely the entry of Fanad into both the National U19 League and A Championships. "Those were great days. I had good people helping me at that time because it was hectic. Colm McGonigle, Mickey Rodgers and Michael Heraghty assisted me in running the teams. It was a brilliant step forward to get into the A Championship and U19 League. Moira and Roseanne Sweeney also did a lot of work for me. So many people helped from Charlie Sweeney at the gate to Patrick Sweeney who really kept the Club going. Patrick backed me to the hilt in anything I took on and was always very loyal. I admired him for that."

In ten seasons at Fanad Utd, Ollie Horgan delivered three league and a number of cup titles. "As well as the Kildrum play-off, we also defeated Cockhill in a play-off. In the later years that I was there we ended up with a very young side. Mark Anthony McGinley and Sean Houston played for me and I had other young lads from St. Eunan's College. There was always a great togetherness in Fanad all the years I was there. It was hard work as manager with all the teams but it was rewarding. I have great memories and the loyalty that I gave was always returned" Horgan concluded.

## Three national winning teams



In their 50 year history Fanad Utd has won three national titles. The first was the FAI Youth Cup in May 1979 after defeating Shelbourne 3-0 in the final at Swilly Park, Ramelton. Fr. Michael Sweeney was manager. Colm McGonigle was the captain. The team was Cathal Gavaghan; Hugh Blaney, Danny Kelly, Charlie McGeever, Danny Friel; James Rodgers, John McElwaine, Colm McGonigle; Liam O'Donnell, Tom Coll, Johnny Martin. Subs: Eddie McGinley, Jackie Murphy, Denis McBride.



The second success was the 1-0 win over Cork's Tramore Athletic to secure the FAI Intermediate Cup in 1988. Fr. Michael Sweeney was manager. Eddie McGinley was the captain. The starting 11 that day in Dalymount Park was Bosco Gallagher, Eamonn McConigley, Eddie McGinley, Danny Kelly, Liam Sweeney; Barry McGowan, John McElwaine, Michael O'Donnell; Kenny Harkin, Johnny Kelly, Sean Ferry. Subs: Maurice Toland, Charlie McGeever, Paddy 'Fenny' McBride.



The third national title came in 1995 with a 1-0 win over College Corinthians at Terryland Park, Galway. Eamonn McConigley was the player-manager. Kenny Harkin was captain.

The team that day was Damian Bradley; Eamonn McConigley, John McElwaine, Davy Deery, Liam Sweeney; Brendan Gillespie, Paddy McGrenaghan, Kenny Harkin, Paul McGeoghegan; Colm McGonigle and George Grier. Others that featured in that 1995 winning squad were Oisín Harkin, Pete Duffy, Sean Dorrian, Ollie Horgan, Danny Kelly and Barry Devlin.

## Fanad greats remembered

A splendid video by Rathmullan man Paul Deeney at the official opening of the Clubhouse in Traigh a Loch in 2006 brings back special memories. It was special as the Clubhouse was dedicated in memory of two of Fanad's greatest players Aidan Kelly and James Doherty who had both passed away far too early in life. Since that the Club other past players have passed onto their eternal reward including James Doherty's brother John along with John Sweeney and Paddy 'Fenny' McBride.

Rathmullan Aidan Kelly a tenacious left sided attacking player while the classy John Sweeney from Carrigart was on the opposite wing and then there was James Doherty, the midfield maestro. They were the backbone of successful Fanad Utd teams in the early to mid 1970's. Paddy 'Fenny' McBride featured for Fanad in the early years of the Ulster Senior League and won an FAI Intermediate Cup medal in 1988. The official unveiling honours in 2006 were performed jointly that evening in Traigh a Loch by Aidan's brother Colm Kelly who also played with Fanad. And he was joined by James' brother John Doherty who sadly passed on the 4th of January 2016. John Sweeney's death occurred on the 29th March 2017 and Paddy 'Fenny' McBride passed away on the 18th of December 2018.

# Fond memories of Fanad men

- Jim Sheridan

Finn Harps legend Jim Sheridan has fond memories of his time playing with Fanad footballers in Summer Cups. A number of Fanad men played with Rathmullan Celtic sides who were managed by Jim's father John Sheridan. Jim's first match for Rathmullan was as 17-year-old when Fr. Mick Sweeney got injured in a Milford Cup match in 1962. Five years earlier he had seen Fr Mick play for the first time in the Convo Cup.

"I was 13 at the time and my father had a Rathmullan Celtic team in the Convo Cup. I was in awe of the big names that were playing for Rathmullan at that time. That was June 1957. Fr. Mick Sweeney, Willie McMenamin and another Fanad man Fr. Dan Doherty were stars in my eyes" Sheridan said. Jim recalls that there was always a big Fanad influence in Rathmullan teams. That night in Convo was Eddie Deeney, Danny Hagan (Milford), Dan Doherty (Fanad), Mick Sweeney (Fanad), Jim Kennedy, Barney O'Donnell (Milford), Thomas McLaughlin, Eddie McLaughlin, Jim Deeney, Brendan Ronan, Harry Blaney (Fanad).

Ironically, five years later, Jim Sheridan got his first start for Rathmullan because of an injury to Fr. Mick Sweeney. It was a team that had a big Fanad representation "I remember Mick got injured in a second round game in the Milford Cup. So I got to start in the semi-final and that was a huge thing for me because the Summer Cups were such a big thing in those days. We got through to the final and beat Letterkenny Rovers 2-0."

That 1962 Milford Cup winning side included five Fanad players - Patsy

McGowan (Ballybofey), John Doherty (Fanad), Fr. Dan Doherty (Fanad), Jim Sheridan, Fr.

Willie McMenamin, Teddy Blaney (Fanad) John Patton, James Doherty (Fanad), Jim Kennedy, Harry Blaney (Fanad) and Eddie McLaughlin. Another stat from that decider was that you had two sets of brothers in action - the three Dohertys and two Blaneys from Fanad. In the second round game there had actually been seven Fanad players on the field as both Fr. Mick Sweeney and Fr. Franckie McAteer had featured. My abiding memory of that team was how strong they were all over the field. I'll tell if you were able to get past the half-back line of Fr. Mick Sweeney, Fr. Willie McMenamin and Teddy Blaney, then you were very good. Mick was renowned for his sliding tackle. He was very determined."

Fanad was again well represented in a 1969 Ramelton Cup side who defeated Shelbourne from Derry, 4-2 in the final. "The Digger Quigley was the Shelbourne manager. They always had a star studded team made up of players from Irish League and the League of Ireland. That was the best performance I ever saw." The winning team was Ernie McGarvey,



Pictured above - A Rathmullan Celtic side from 1951 which included four Fanad men Eunan Kerr, John Kerr and the Blaney brothers Harry and Teddy. Back row from left - Hughie McDaid, Eunan Kerr, John Kerr, Hughie Green, Willie McMenamin, Jim Kennedy and Bert McElhinney. Front row from left - Jim Boyle, Dominick McNulty, John Sheridan, Teddy Blaney and Harry Blaney.

Joe Sheridan, John Doherty (Fanad), James Kerr (Fanad), Jim Sheridan, John Kelly, John Patton, Patsy Sheridan, Tommy Patton, James Doherty (Fanad) and Fr. Franckie McAteer (Fanad).

## It's not all about winning competitions: Lynch

Fanad Utd might not have enjoyed much success for the past decade but the show does go on. That's according to current manager Arthur Lynch who has been working diligently on developing a young squad for the past couple of seasons. There are currently some very talented footballers on board. "We have to be patient. The boys are putting in a big effort and we'll try and add to that with hopefully more experienced players. Myself and Paul Nash are happy to continue as the squad is committed. They are training well and come and thank us afterwards after each session which is very encouraging. It's not all about winning competitions" Lynch said.

Still there is no doubt the Whitstrand native would like to land some silverware. However, realistically he doesn't have anywhere near the resources to compete with Cockhill Celtic, Letterkenny Rovers and Bonagee Utd. Lynch was a key player at Fanad under both Eamonn McConigley and Ollie Horgan. Versatile, he could play at centre-half or midfield, Lynch won four league medals and as well as a number of cup titles. His playing career had kicked-off in Whitstrand and he was part of a very good U17 side that included his brother Paul, the Shovlins, William McGrory, John Doherty, Damian Gallagher along with the Rathmullan crew of Paddy 'Burger' Patton and the Sheridans Eamonn and Paddy.

"The Whitstrand senior got promotion from the Second to First Division and we just missed out on promotion to the Premier. After that I decided I wanted to give it a go at a higher level. Fanad were the kingpins so I approached Eamonn McConigley who was the manager and signed. In my first season we won the league and Knockalla Cup and got to the semi-final of the FAI Intermediate Cup in 2001. We lost 1-0 to Wayside Celtic in Bray. I remember Sean Barrett had a great chance near the end for an equaliser."

Among those featuring for Fanad in those years were Shane Sweeney, Paddy 'Burger', John Doherty, Marty McAteer, Paul Friel, Kieran Gorman, Dara Patton, Brian Gallagher from Gweedore and Arthur Lynch's younger brother Paul. After a year with Cranford in the 2003-04 season when he was away on an ESB apprenticeship course, Lynch returned to Traigh a Loch when Ollie Horgan took charge. One of the big disappointments for him was the FAI Intermediate Cup in 2006 when Fanad lost 1-0 to Avondale Utd in a semi-final. "That was one we definite-



The late John Sweeney who starred with Fanad in the 1970s with captain Arthur Lynch and assistant-manager Colm McGonigley after winning the USL in 2011.

ly left behind. We didn't ourselves justice against Avondale in Traigh a Loch and we still should have won the game. We really had a good team that time. We won the Knockalla and League Cups in Ollie's first year there. Then we won the league in 05-06 and 06-07. In one of them we had to win seven games to get a play-off against Kildrum and beat them 2-1 in the play-off. Marty McAteer got the two and my brother Paul scored for Kildrum" Lynch said.

Fanad lost again to Avondale in an Intermediate Cup semi-final who then went on to win the final as they had done previously when the two sides clashed in a last four game. Senior players like John Cotter and Mark O'Sullivan were on the Cork side while John Caufield was the manager. Lynch's last league success with Fanad was in the 2010-11 season. It was around that time that the USL moved to summer football and in Lynch's opinion it was a nail in the coffin for the game. "To me it was never the same afterwards. We began losing teams from the league. There were still quality sides there but not enough teams. This new North West Cup would have been good but it's not going on now like everything else because of the virus."

Lynch went onto to be player-manager at Cranford Utd and guided the Club to the Donegal Junior League Premier Division for a couple of seasons. Since taking over from Michael Deeney as Fanad boss, Lynch has been working with mostly teenagers and is happy with the way that has been developing. "Fanad is a great Club and now celebrating 50 years. They will come back again in terms of success. New people have come in there like Damian and Margaret Doherty, Aisling McElwaine and Paddy Friel. Danny Kelly has come back to help out. So myself and Paul Nash will keep it going and look at adding a bit of experience to the squad."



The Fanad Utd team who won the Buncrana Cup for the one and only time in 1984. Back from left - Willie Harkin, Paddy Sheridan, Michael O'Donnell, Eamonn McConigley, Danny Kelly (captain), Charlie McGeever, Colm McGonigley and Johnny Kelly. Front from left - Ollie Hegarty, Sean Bradley, Sean Ferry and Liam McAteer.

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## GAA Club Notes

### St. Michael's

#### Congratulations

Congratulations to St. Michael's Clubman Michael Langan, whose outstanding performances during the Letterkenny IT's Sigerson Cup campaign has been rewarded with a place on the Higher Education Rising Stars Football Team of the Year. The team was named recently and Michael was included at midfield. The team, managed by Michael Murphy, made history by reaching the Sigerson Cup semi-finals in their first year in the competition.

#### Sympathy

Deepest sympathy to the Hayes Family, Kill, Dunfanaghy on the death of their father James. James was a loyal Clubman and for years he served as the water man on match days and looked after the jerseys. His sons Bill and Adrian also played for the Club. In later years James attended all matches at the Bridge from his regular spot behind the goals. Sympathy is also extended to the entire family circle.

Deepest sympathy to the McIntyre family in Letterkenny and St. Eunan's GAA Club on the death of Paddy McIntyre last weekend.

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#### Mini Lotto

There was no Jackpot winner in the Mini Lotto on Sunday night. The numbers drawn were: 3,4,9,13,14,18. There was no Match 5 Winner. 16 People matched 4 and the winner of the €100 was Louise McGlynn who won bought her ticket online. This week's Jackpot will be €5800.

The weekly Bingo Session in Creeslough is postponed until further notice. Thanks everyone for your ongoing support and please keep safe.

### Letterkenny Gaels

#### Glór na nGael Survey

Club members are encouraged to take part in a short survey which is on the club Facebook page. The purpose of this survey is to gather members' thoughts on the Irish language within our Club. Letterkenny Gaels GAA in association with Glór na nGael will host Leaving Cert Irish Classes via the online platform Zoom. There will be 12 classes which will cover Grammar, Poetry & Prose.

Please see the Club Facebook page with registration details.

Club members are assisting Donegal County Council with the Donegal Covid-19 Community Response. If you or someone you know require any assistance during this time please contact the help-desk on 1800 928 982 or email covidsupport@donegalcoco.ie

Please bring this to the attention of any vulnerable members of our community who may not have access to Social Media.

We have introduced a great option for online Club Lotto - you can now play 3 lines per week with a €5 entry. Draw every Monday evening. You can play directly through the Club-

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force App. Thanks for your continued support. For regular club updates and photos see our club web page, Facebook page or follow us on Twitter @LetterkennyGael.

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## Reflections from Rome By Fr. Eamonn McLaughlin

# “Don't let the grass grow under your feet”

Part II

In last week's entry, we recalled the ancient proverb: 'Don't let the grass grow under your feet', and the aphorism, 'Carpe diem' (seize the day), both of which are evocative of our Lord's exhortation to His auditors: "I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full" (Jn 10:10). This Easter week, as the cobblestones of the Eternal City dawn an increasingly pronounced green colour for want of pedestrians, we continue in our determined, communitarian and patient efforts, to eradicate Covid f-19 from our midst, renewed and strengthened by the Easter proclamation: Our Lord has truly risen, life has vanquished death, hope has triumphed over despair, faith has conquered doubt and the love of God for each one of us reigns supreme, Alleluia. Holy Week 2020, was unique in many respects, and will remain forever etched in our memories. Most of us will have experienced Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday in ways, heretofore, foreign. Many of us will have caught a more profound glimpse in our own lives of the Lord's loving sacrifice for us: His suffering, His loneliness, His agony, His anxiety, His fear, His isolation and His death. The Lord died on the Cross on Good Friday and thereafter His lifeless body was placed in the newly hewn tomb that belonged to Joseph of Arimathea, where it silently lay throughout Holy Saturday; a most peculiar and lonely day. Believers patiently waited in faith, hope and love for the Temple, that was His body, to be rebuilt in three days (Jn 2:19), when He would rise from the dead to the eternal Alleluia. He is risen, as He said He would (cf. Mt 28:6).

Like you, I too had plans for Easter. I was to arrive home on Holy Thursday morning for a few days. I was looking forward to reuniting with family and friends. I was especially looking forward to meeting with my brother priests and joining Bishop Alan for the Mass of Christ on Holy Thursday. A highlight of my brief sojourn was to be the celebration of the Easter Ceremonies with the kind people of Kerrykeel, where many of my relations abide: a home from home.

We all had plans this Easter. Our ways, however,



are not God's ways. We have had to make many sacrifices as a result of this pandemic, but hopefully we will rise from this experience with a renewed zest and respect for life, a deeper faith and a greater appreciation for each other. In the midst of our present circumstances, we can be consoled that the Lord is with us. He has not abandoned us. He assured His Apostles thus: "I am with you always; yes, to the end of time," (Mt 28:20); these words are addressed to us today.

Let us not let the grass grow under our feet in these precious hours. Instead, let us seize this very day, the here and now, to live life to the full. Let us leave an imprint during this historic period, not on our sofas, our armchairs or our electronic devices, but on our lives and the lives of others, giving thanks for the many blessings that we enjoy. Let us spread, as Pope Francis said in His

Easter Sunday message to Rome and the World, the "contagion of hope".

It is now 6.05pm on this Tuesday evening. Declan Kerr is patiently awaiting this article back home, and I thank John and the Tirconaill Tribune team for the invitation to submit these meanderings, but most importantly at this hour, the numbers of those affected by or healed from COVID-19 in the last 24 hours have just been released: Italy breathes a sigh of relief; self-isolation, lockdown, social-distancing, cocooning, wearing of masks, washing of hands and all the other essential guidelines that are in place in these weeks are proving effective.

Fewer are contracting the virus, more are recovering from the same and the number of deaths is decreasing daily. Last week's light at the end of the tunnel is much brighter this evening. Faith, hope,



love and patience will prevail. As I bid farewell for another week, I ask for your prayers, as I pray for you, especially during the Family Rosary and Examen (An Tobar Domhain), led by Bishop McGuckian nightly in St. Eunan's Cathedral, Letterkenny, at 9.15pm, on [www.church-services.tv/letterkenny](http://www.church-services.tv/letterkenny).

I would like to wish you all a very happy, holy, peaceful and healthy Easter. As I look out my window here, I see the starving birds gathering for their daily bread. I have taken to feeding them these days. In doing so, I am reminded of the words of our Lord in St. Matthew's Gospel: "That is why I am telling you not to worry about your life and what you are to eat, nor about your body and what you are to wear. Surely life is more than food, and the body more than clothing! Look at the birds in the sky. They do not sow or reap or gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they are? ... Set your hearts on His Kingdom first...So do not worry about tomorrow: tomorrow will take care of itself" (Mt 6:25-33).

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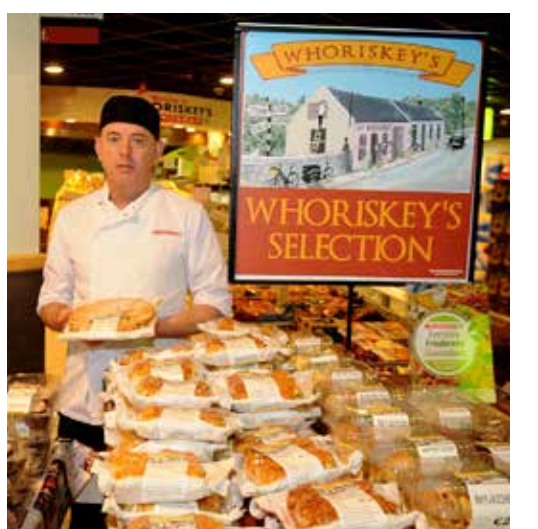
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