

Merry Christmas

FREE

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"Raising Voices for Victims of War" was a very unique event that took place in St. Colman's Church Macroom on Sunday 10th, organised by Lee Valley Enterprise Board under the stewardship of Ann Dunne, with special guest the Choir from Ukraine. The finale was spectacular with over 170 voices raising the roof all singing "Oh Holy Night" in unison, making it a night to remember for everyone. See page 8 Pic: Peter Scanlan

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- Christmas Eve:** Carvery/Light Bites: 12pm - 4pm, Beverages served until 8pm, Café: 9am-2pm, Leisure Club: Closed
- Christmas Day: Closed**
- St. Stephen's Day:** Main Hotel closed, Bar open for drinks only from 6pm
- Wed 27th Dec:** Bar Menu: 3.30pm-8.30pm, Café: Closed, Leisure Club: 9am-8pm
- Thurs 28th Dec:** Carvery/Light Bites: 12.30pm-3pm, Bar Menu: 3.30pm- 8.30pm, Café: Closed, Leisure Club: 9am-8pm
- Fri 29th Dec:** Carvery /Light Bites: 12.30pm-3pm, Bar Menu: 3.30pm-8.30pm, Café: Closed, Leisure Club: 9am-8pm
- Sat 30th Dec:** Carvery/Light Bites: 12.30pm- 3pm, Bar Menu: 3.30pm-8.30pm, Café: Closed, Leisure Club: 9am-8pm
- New Years Eve:** Carvery/Light Bites: 12.30pm- 4pm, Bar Menu: 4pm-8.30pm, Café: Closed, Leisure Club: 10am-6pm
- Mon 1st Jan 2024:** Carvery/Light Bites: 12.30pm-4pm, Bar Menu: 4 pm-8 pm, Café: Closed, Leisure Club: 10am-6pm

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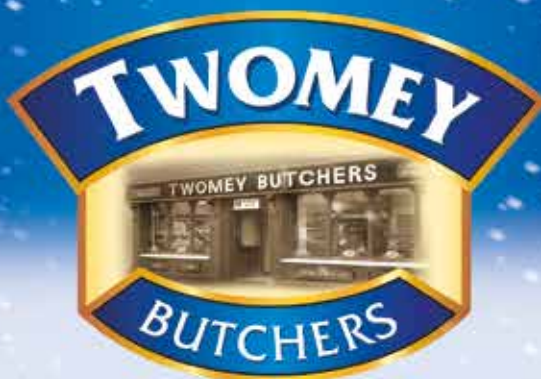
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Friday 29/12	9am-6pm
Saturday 30/12	9am-6pm
Sunday 31/12	Closed
Monday 1/1/24	Closed
Tuesday 2/1/24	Normal hours resume

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Wednesday 27/12	10am-2pm
Thursday 28/12	9.30am-6pm
Friday 29/12	9.30am-6pm
Saturday 30/12	9.30am-1.30pm
Sunday 31/12	Closed
Monday 1/1/24	Closed
Tuesday 2/1/24	Normal hours resume

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Sunday 24/12	Closed
Monday 25/12	Closed
Tuesday 26/12	Closed
Wednesday 27/12	10am-5pm
Thursday 28/12	9am-6pm
Friday 29/12	9am-6pm
Saturday 30/12	9.30am-5pm
Sunday 31/12	Closed
Monday 1/1/24	Closed
Tuesday 2/1/24	Normal hours resume

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Monday 25/12	Closed
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Wednesday 27/12	10am-8pm
Thursday 28/12	9am-9pm
Friday 29/12	9am-9pm
Saturday 30/12	9am-9pm
Sunday 31/12	9am-7pm
Monday 1/1/24	10am-7pm
Tuesday 2/1/24	Normal hours resume

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## Get in Touch...

Don't be a stranger If you have an article, photo or story you wish to share, email:

**leevalleyoutlook@macroom.ie**

If you cannot access physical copies, the LVO can be viewed online at: <https://www.outlookmags.com/archives/lee-valley-outlook/>

We are a bi-weekly magazine; therefore, submissions must be on the Sunday before publication at the latest, if you want a piece included in the following week's edition. Due to print processes, late submissions

will be published in the following edition. As always submissions as Gaeilge are always welcome too!

We love hearing local stories, opinions and events - current or historical, if you would like to submit an article as bearla nó as gaeilge, please feel free to email us here on leevalleyoutlook@macroom.ie, we would love to hear from you.

*Go raibh maith agaibh, Peter & Gráinne*

**For Advertising email Des. E: des@outlookmags.com**  
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## Sonnys Walk *Children Helping Children*

**Sonny is 8 years old. He lives in Macroom and goes to school in St Colemans BNS. Sonny is an enthusiastic runner and member of west Muskerry athletic club.**

Having a general awareness of the impacts of war on children, Sonny was intent on doing something to help children less fortunate than himself this Christmas. Playing to his strengths and having been inspired by their 'children helping children' motto that he came across, Sonny decided to do a twist on the traditional step challenge that Barnardo's promote in November and made a plan to run a marathon over the course of the month as

opposed to walking a certain amount of steps. We set up an idonate page and come November 1st, off he went! Sonny spent the rest of the month running 2/3/5km at a time with his Dad as his running buddy before finally reaching his target of 42.2km on November 29th. He was surprised at the finish line by family and school friends that came out to cheer him on. Sonny was blown away by the support and sponsorship he received from family, friends, neighbours and even strangers who he wishes to thank. He has raised a grand total of €1,000 for Barnardo's.



**This 8 year old boy from Macroom has just completed a charity fundraiser in aid of Barnardo's. He ran a marathon (42.2km) over the month of November and has raised €1,000.**

## Macroom Flower Club

**Macroom Flower & Garden Club held it's Annual Dinner at The Castle Hotel on December 1st.**

Chairperson Winifred Lynch thanked all in attendance and Members for supporting activities throughout the year. The Club were delighted to present a cheque to Director of Nursing Bernie

Buckley and Friends of Macroom Community Hospital on the night. Proceeds were from Annual Charity Demonstration. Following the presentation a superb meal was enjoyed and as always excellent service by staff of the hotel. We wish all our Members a Merry Christmas and a

Happy New Year and look forward to seeing you all when the Club returns February 8th 2024. Further details regarding joining, Annual Membership and Floral Classes contact 087-9821708.

## Christmas Mass Times

**Aghinagh Parish- Christmas Mass Times 2023**  
**Saturday 23rd** December Vigil Mass 8pm  
Rusheen

**Sunday 24th December** (Morning)  
9.30am Bealnamorrive and 11am Ballinagree

**Sunday 24th December**  
**(Christmas Eve- evening)** 7.00pm Bealnamorrive and 9.00pm Ballinagree

**Monday 25th December**  
**(Christmas Day)** 9.30 am Bealnamorrive and 11.00am Rusheen

**Macroom Parish- Christmas Mass Times 2023**  
**Saturday 23rd** December – Vigil Mass 7.30 pm

**Sunday 24th December (Morning)**  
8.30am and 11.30am Macroom and 10am Caum

**Sunday 24th December**  
**(Christmas Eve- evening)** 6.00pm and 8.00pm in Macroom and 8.00pm Mass in Polish in Caum

**Sunday 25th December**  
**(Christmas Day)** 8.30 am and 11.30 am Macroom and 10.00am Caum

**Confessions Times for Christmas**  
**Saturday 23rd December** 12noon-3.00pm in Macroom church

**Saturday 23rd December** 12 noon-12.30pm in Caum church



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# Tiny Feet Fairy Garden

**What a busy few weeks it has been for the volunteers in Tiny Feet Fairy Garden.** The ever-popular Santa's

Grotto in the Fairy Garden was back for a second year. With over 300 kids coming through the gates in Masseytown over the first three weekends in December. Planning for this event started during the summer and bookings opened on the 10th of October. As much as possible was purchased locally, so as to support local Families and Businesses. We couldn't have asked for much nicer weather during the event.

We want to say thanks to Dave in connections for all his help with the purchasing of the presents, to Ken in Super Valu for his Kind Sponsorship and Donation, to Mary Creedon in Mary's Toymaster for her Donations of Toby the Toymaster Mascot that were given out to Children that were too young

to receive a present from Santa. To Macroom Fire brigade for lending us the Fire brigade and Aiden Coughlan for driving Santa and Mrs Claus up town on the 17th of December as a thanks to the support the community has shown us, with the very important elves following behind in a vintage car.

The event wouldn't have been possible without the help of our amazing and dedicated volunteers, who worked tirelessly over the last couple of months either through been Santa, Mrs Claus, Elves, Santa's helpers, putting the grotto and tunnel together, wrapping presents, Advertising, taking bookings. To Mickey Burns, Brian O Sullivan, Michael Crowley, Shelia Murphy, Martin Coughlan, Paul Kingston, Tim Flangan, Colm Burke, Emer Kenneally, Aisling Twomey, Emily Brown, Danny Lynch, Daniel Bonnar, Marion Murphy and Joe Cronin thanks very much for all the hard work.

**Santa comes to Macroom Fairy Garden, Santa, Mrs Claus and some of the dedicated volunteers**



**As 2023 ends and we look forward to seeing what 2024 will bring us. During the last year Macroom Tidy Towns have been very busy. We had our First AGM since 2019 in April and regular monthly meetings since then.**

Lisa Manning was Elected Secretary after taking over from John Lyons who stepped down this year after 38 years as Secretary.

We celebrated our 40th Birthday, with some members from the beginning still very much present to this day. This year we have set up Instagram and Twitter accounts and can be followed on Instagram at macroomtidytowns and Twitter at @macroomtt. Tiny Feet Fairy Garden also joined Instagram at tinyfeet\_fairygarden. We have also developed a new website and have a QR Code. Macroom became a dementia Inclusive town and some of our volunteers attended the first ever workshop on Dementia: Community Champion. Macroom Music fest took place this year, a new venture for the town and the good news is that it's coming back again for 2024.

Some projects that we made significant progress on include St Colman's Park Amenity and Biodiversity Area. The Famine Memorial and Seating area along the riverbank downstream from the bridge, is progressing well and will be completed in 2024. The Funding for this project came from the proceeds of the book by Sean and Maire MacSuibhne 'Muskerry through the MacSuibhne Lens' which we relaunched again this year.

We procured some rainwater planters for our Hub in Masseytown. We didn't get enough points to get into the top three in the Anti-Litter Competition, but we were mentioned as a valuable participation in the competition. We retained our silver medal in the tidy towns competition and went up by 11 points from last year and only 13 points behind the overall winner.

We would like to say thanks to the many people who have helped out in any way during the year;

St Josephs Primary School for helping with a litter pick around town in conjunction with their Green Flag, Jim in Cooney's bookshop in the Mall for his kind donation of Kids' reading books for the fairy Garden, to Con in Embroidery Print for his donation of Caps to Tidy Towns Volunteers, to Matt Murphys Pharmacy and Lee Valley Clothing for there donation of Hi Viz to Tidy Towns Volunteers, to Class 22 in Bishop McEgan whom planted sunflowers which they grew from seed as well as Bishop Dahlias in the Flower beds near the town

Hall, to Finbar O Connell who donated the New Pink Playhouse in the Sensory Garden in the Fairy Garden, to the Murphy Sisters for the planting and minding of the flowers in Dan Corkery Place, to others that have maintained flower beds and carried out litter picks in their local areas, to Mike and Laszlo Horvath who donated flowers and Bird Boxes. To Transition year Students from Da Le Salle who spent 6 weeks volunteering with the tidy towns. To Catherine Ross Murphy for supplying the volunteers with some delicious home baking for the year. We would like to say a big thanks and a very happy retirement to our Esteemed volunteer Micky Burns. He also co-founded the Tiny Feet Fairy Garden in 2018

Finally a big thank you to the dedicated bunch of volunteers that backbone the weekly organisation and activities on Macroom Tidy Towns and organise the work behind the scenes such as funding applications, sponsorships, financial management etc.

On behalf of the Tidy Towns we would like to thank everyone for there support and help throughout the year in so many ways, and we wish all a very Happy Christmas and New Year and hope that this support will continue and grow and help Macroom to prosper and become an even more beautiful town.



**Tidy Towns Chairman Martin Coughlan Receiving 2022 Silver Medal at an Event in Clonakilty in September**



**Santa comes to Macroom Fairy Garden, Santa, Mrs Claus and some of the dedicated volunteers**





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# MACROOM CHOIRS ALONG WITH CHOIRS FROM SURROUNDING AREAS RAISE THEIR VOICES FOR VICTIMS OF WAR

**“Raising Voices for Victims of War” was a very unique event that took place in St. Colman’s Church Macroom on Sunday 10th, organised by Lee Valley Enterprise Board under the stewardship of Ann Dunne.**

Choirs from the Lee Valley catchment area included Ballyvourney, Canovee, Celebration of Life Singers, Coachford, Inchigeela, Kilmurry, Lee Valley Entertainers, Local Vocals, Macroom, Rusheen, Toames, and with special guest the Choir from Ukraine participated in the wonderful choral event. The finale was spectacular with over 170 voices raising the roof all singing “Oh Holy Night” in unison, making it a night to remember for everyone. The outcome went beyond expectations with €4,556 raised, with the hope that this will help relieve some of the hardship being experienced by those who cling onto life in an effort to survive in war torn countries. The funds raised will be divided between UNICEF & Red Cross International. Special thanks to Fr Roberts for facilitating the event and for live streaming the performances, and to everybody that contributed ensuring it all came together on the night’.



Pictures by Peter Scanlan



Macroom Parish Choir taking part



Kilmurry Choir taking part



Canovee Choir taking part



Inchigeela Choir taking part



Over 150 participants from ten Choirs taking part in the final part of the “Raising Voices for Victims of War” which took place in St Colman’s Church Macroom



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*Christmas Opening Hours*

<p>Thurs Dec 21st until Friday Dec 23rd  <b>Normal Opening Hours Apply</b>          Christmas Eve 24th Dec - Open 12pm - 8pm          Food Served at 12pm - 2pm  <b>CLOSED</b> on the following dates:          Dec 25th, Dec 26th &amp; Dec 27th</p>	<p><b>RE-OPENING</b>          Thurs 28th Dec Bar open at 4pm (no food)  <b>Normal Hours Resume</b>          Fri 29th, Sat 30th &amp; Sun 31st  <b>OPEN MONDAY 1ST JANUARY</b>          Closed 2nd &amp; 3rd January (this week only)          Celebrate Nollaig na nban Jan 6th</p>
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# MCEGAN COLLEGE



On December 21st Staff & Students will don some festive season jumpers and hats to raise funds to send TY Students Haley Coleman & Elisha Kelly to Lourdes with the Cloyne Diocesan Youth Group to work as assistants to older Pilgrims.



Flower Power: 1st Year Students Back Row Conor O'Shea, Zandile Sibanda, Tyler Martin. Front Row: Benicia Robinson, Jack O Riordan, Alex Fitzgerald, Ehaan Ahmed

**Parents Association Bingo Fundraiser:** The PA of McEgan College held a very successful bingo night on Thursday 7th December. A huge crowd assembled and enjoyed hearing the bingo calls from Gary O'Brien. A happy relaxed atmosphere was enjoyed by all and thanks to the PA ad Pat Relihan for the tea and home baking at half time. The community and businesses of Macroom once again were extremely generous to this fundraiser. Over the years the PA through their generosity have helped the college purchase numerous items such as ICT equipment, sports gear, a Bain Maire, SEN & AEN material and resources for the classrooms and plenty more. Their continued help is vital as the school budget can only stretch so far. Many thanks to all who supported the event.

**Christmas:** First Year RE students designed a Christmas board filled with symbols representing the advent and festive period. Well done to all those involved in creating such a decorative space for all our students to enjoy.

**Faith Club:** The school's Faith Club had its first meeting on the 7th of December. Ellie O'Sullivan and Leah Buckley founded the club which drew 20 members on its first outing. Students enjoyed discussing their faith and what drew them to being involved. This is a club which we hope will grow and grow.

**Leaving Cert Lunchtimes/Wellbeing afternoon:** Room 17 on Friday lunchtimes is a drop-in space for Leaving Certificate students. Students call in for a chat, for food and to discuss plans for their graduation and futures. Recently, on December the 8th, Leaving Cert students had a wellbeing afternoon where gifts were exchanged for Christmas and students enjoyed a relaxing afternoon following the completion of their exams. Visit to St. Coleman's Church: The staff and students of McEgan College were invited to St. Coleman's Church in Macroom on the 8th of December for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Students had the choice of attending, and those who did enjoyed the celebration with other schools in the town. Thanks to Fr. Joe for the invite.

**It's beginning to Look a lot like Christmas:** The staff and students of McEgan College have been busy getting ready for the festive season decorating trees, putting up cribs and preparing for the school's Christmas Jumper Day on the 21st of December.. Haley Coleman and Elisha Kelly have been given a wonderful opportunity to travel to Lourdes as part of the Cloyne Youth Group to join and support the older community. On December 21st The proceeds of Christmas jumper day and a sweet hamper raffle will go towards funding their trip. The girls would like to thank the school community in advanced.

Flower Power: First Year students have been getting to know each other better through the power of flowers. Each student has created their own individual flower – with each petal representing a part of their lives. Students in turn shared their creation with others in the class to help them get to know each other better.

**Speed Cubing:** Well done to first year student Mason Coleman, who recently showed off his speed cubing skills to the other first year students. Mason solved his Rubik cube in just under one minute - what a skill and talent.

**TY Work Experience & Christmas Markets:** On the week from the 4th to the 8th of December TY students went on their first work Experience week. Students enjoyed getting experience in a wide variety of work environments. On December 12th they were involved in selling their mini-Company products at the Christmas Market in Macroom and on December 13th they travelled to the Marina Market where they had a stall to sell their wares.

**On behalf of the school Community of McEgan we send Christmas Greetings to all the staff and readers of the Lee Valley Outlook. Wishing everyone a peaceful Christmas & prosperous Year 2024.**



Parents Association members Jennifer Riordan, Nora O'Leary & Gbnait O'Leary preparing the raffle prizes for the McEgan Bingo night fundraiser on December 7th.



McEgan Staff & Students wore purple bows for disability awareness day in December.



Kate Twomey & Ciara McSweeney TY Students who did their work experience recently in Twomey's butchers Macroom.



TY Student Julia Litwin on her Work Experience in the Pet Shop.



Wealth Oshiafi, TY student, on work experience at Macroom Library



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## *Christmas Opening Hours*



<b>Christmas Eve 24th</b>	<b>8.30am - 4pm</b>
<b>Christmas Day 25th</b>	<b>Closed. (Emergency Service) 087 9894709</b>
<b>St Stephens Day 26th</b>	<b>Closed. Services from Railway View Pharmacy.</b>
<b>Wednesday 27th</b>	<b>8.30am - 6.15pm</b>
<b>Thursday 28th</b>	<b>8.30am - 6.15pm</b>
<b>Friday 29th</b>	<b>8.30am - 6.15pm</b>
<b>Saturday 30th</b>	<b>8.30am - 6.15pm</b>
<b>New Years Eve 31st</b>	<b>10.00am - 4.00pm</b>
<b>Monday January 1st</b>	<b>Closed. Services from Railway View Pharmacy.</b>

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# ST MARY'S NEWS



Leaving Cert students enjoying Christmas Day in St Marys



The very talented Cronin sisters, Emily, Katie and Siobhán performing at St Mary's Christmas Concert

## CHRISTMAS MARKET

The spirit of enterprise and holiday cheer was very evident on Tuesday the 12th of December as our talented Transition Year students showcased their creativity and business acumen at the annual Christmas market. The event provided a platform for these budding entrepreneurs to present and sell products from their mini-companies, leaving a lasting impression on both customers and onlookers. In the heart of our community, the Christmas market came alive with an array of unique handcrafted goods and innovative services that reflected the hard work and dedication of our Transition Year students. The mini-companies, formed as part of the Transition Year curriculum, allowed students to experience the real-world challenges of running a business. The Christmas market provided the perfect opportunity for them to put their entrepreneurial skills into practice, interacting with customers and fine-tuning their marketing strategies. Well done to Ms O Donoghue and all of the students involved.

## CARE PACK CAMPAIGN

Ms Murnane's 1A1 English class poured their creativity and warm wishes into handwritten letters and festive cards for nursing home residents this Christmas. The Care-pack campaign encourages students to express their compassion and share stories, memories, and well wishes with the residents, fostering a sense of connection and community during this special time of year. The campaign not only provides an opportunity for students to engage in meaningful acts of kindness but also highlights the importance of intergenerational connections.

As you can see the students produced beautiful cards and messages which will bring joy and cheer to others this festive period. Well done to all!



Ms O Donoghue with the TY Mini Company students who attended the Christmas Market recently

## CAMOGIE SUCCESS

Huge congratulations to St Mary's Camogie Team who won the Intermediate Cup final by 1 point, scored by Ava McSweeney in the last few mins of the game. An outstanding team performance all round. Well done girls and thank you to Ms Linehan and Liam Slattery for their huge dedication to this very talented team.

## CROSS COUNTRY CHALLENGE RACES 2023

On Friday December 1st, 17 1st and 2nd Year girls attended the Cork Post Primary Schools Cross-Country Challenge Races 2023 in Riverstick. This was an opportunity for the girls to get some race time in before the South Munster competitions in the New Year and it was the first time the 1st Years represented the school in athletics. Both races were 1km in length around the challenging course. First up was the 1st Year race where we had 10 runners who all ran very well and kept going right to the end. The Top 20 in each race came away with medals and thankfully we had 5 medalists; Katie Murray (2nd), Isla Yore (3rd), Hannah Sweeney (11th), Alexandra Stepien (14th) & Lydia Kelleher (16th). Next up was the 2nd/3rd Year race where we had 7 runners and again experienced great success with 3 medalists; Orla O'Brien (3rd), Róisín Ní Liatháin (5th) & Emma Pucell (12th). Special mention to TY's Emily Cronin & Saoirse Twomey who came in on their day off and were a great help on the day walking the girls around the course, warming them up and encouraging them during the races.

## CHRISTMAS CONCERT

In the heart of our community, the spirit of Christmas came alive in a breath-taking musical spectacle, courtesy of the talented Ms. Aoife Donovan, Ms Clodagh Dineen and the extraordinary students of St. Mary's Choir and

Music Department. The Christmas Concert held at St Colman's Church was nothing short of magical, leaving the audience enchanted and filled with the joyous essence of the holiday season. At the helm of this musical extravaganza was Ms. Aoife Donovan, whose dedication to her students shone brightly throughout the evening. The stars of the evening were undoubtedly our students, whose enchanting voices filled the venue with magical song and music. The seamless blend of voices, coupled with the impeccable timing and harmonious coordination, bore witness to the countless hours of rehearsal and dedication put forth by Ms Donovan, Ms Dineen and their students. Thank you to everyone who attended, we raised over €2000 for Macroom Hospital. Thank you and well done to all involved.

## CHRISTMAS DAY IN ST. MARY

We started off the day with a beautiful Christmas mass followed by a wonderful Carol service where the choir sang traditional Christmas songs. We then made our way back to the school, where the student council shared the Christmas quiz with their classes while waiting for our delicious Christmas Dinner which had been cooked by Trish! Later, we all tucked into our feast which was followed by some jelly and ice cream for dessert. It's fair to say the holiday spirit was prevalent as the whole school sang and danced with the sound of popping Christmas crackers in the background. Before the festivities were over we had a talent show, showcasing a variety of different skills, while also providing great fun and entertainment for everybody. Without Trish this simply wouldn't be possible, so as we like to say in St Mary's, Merry Trishmas!

Written by Maeve Twohig and Saoirse Twomey (TY)



Rosie Adair leading St Marys Choir at our Christmas Concert



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## DE LA SALLE College Macroom



De La Salle students put on a fantastic Christmas Musical Performance for the residents at the local Care Choice Nursing Home



De La Salle students enjoying their Christmas Musical Performance for the residents at the local Care Choice Nursing Home

### Christmas at De La Salle

De La Salle students took part in a fantastic Christmas Musical Performance on Monday 11th December in the local Care Choice Nursing Home. They sang an array of Christmas carols and well-known ballads as well as playing some lovely traditional music on the accordions, guitar, banjo, bodhrán, tin whistle, spoons and piano. A thoroughly enjoyable afternoon for all and residents and staff sang along with the boys until it was time to go home. Well done to our fine singers and gifted musicians; Patrick Kelleher, David Bradley and Matthew Kelleher in 1st year and Liam Neville, Michael Kelleher, Cian Lee, Jack O Donoghue, Michael Dunne, Eoin Holland and Tadhg O Driscoll in 2nd year. We would like to wish all the staff and residents in the Care Choice Nursing Home a very happy and enjoyable Christmas and every best wishes for the New Year!

The count-down to Christmas is on and we are getting into the festive spirit with our 'Christmas Jumper Day'. Each year we allow the student's one, no-uniform, day in the lead up to Christmas. Any student who wishes to take part must bring in 2 euro and is encouraged to wear a festive outfit. The best Christmas outfit each year wins a prize. The money collected goes toward the expenses associated with sending 2 students from De La Salle to Lourdes to help the sick and elderly. Gearoid Creedon 1C, winner of the best Christmas jumper 2023 received his prize from the equally festive Mr Graham.

### Athletics

On Friday the first of December, 24 students from first, second and third year braved the freezing cold temperatures to take part in the Cork School's Cross-Country event held in Riverstick. Our first years competed fantastically well. Amazingly all 9 runners finished inside the top 16 places and all picking up medals with Dylan O' Shea winning the race. This was a fantastic achievement in a race where there were over 110 competitors. This success, bodes well for the south Munster Cross-Country Championship which will be held in Waterford after Christmas. The second and third years ran in the same race in which Brendan O Leary finished best of the De La Salle boys, in third place. Two more students picked up medals by finishing in the top 20. Overall, we had an enjoyable day out.

This experience will stand to the boys before the South Munster competition.

### Transition years

Our Transition Year students enjoyed a fantastic drama session with Bernard Casey. They took part in a variety of activities throughout the workshop, such as improvisation, acting, team building activities and games. Iarnóin den scoth, míle buíochas Bernard.

In keeping with a long standing tradition at De La Salle, our students took to the streets of Macroom and braved the elements to collect money for the Macroom Charities Appeal Collection. The students operated on a rota basis of 2 hour slots over two days collecting donations from the public. Well done to all involved.

### School Visit

Garda Orla Doyle visited De La Salle to meet our first year students. Garda Doyle discussed the topic of online safety. In the digital era that our students are growing up in, it is vital that they understand the dangers associated with the online world. Garda Doyle also explained the current legislation surrounding the use of social media and the responsibilities of the individual when engaging in online activities. This was a hugely informative presentation for the students.

### Class Activities

Creativity sparked as students in 2B embarked on a project to design poster ads for both existing and imaginary brands. The classroom buzzed with the hum of brainstorming sessions, where concepts flourished and ideas collided. Each student delved into the world of branding, some choosing established giants, while others dared to invent their own. The posters were transformed into a vibrant canvas of colours and slogans, mirroring the diverse imaginations at play. From sleek tech gadgets to whimsical products, the posters brought forth a kaleidoscope of innovation. The students presented them to the class as two objective judges watched on to choose the well-deserved winners, Ciaran McSweeney and William Healy.

### Hurling

In what promised to be an intense clash, our senior hurlers travelled to Carrigaline on a crisp winter

morning to take on a formidable Carrigaline CS side. The lads from De La Salle battled valiantly in the first half, showing great determination and resilience from the opening whistle. Right from the throw-in, De La Salle Macroom asserted their dominance, with a strong start that set the tone for the game. The defence, led by the formidable duo of full-back Cormac Bourke and center-back Sean O'Leary, worked tirelessly to thwart Carrigaline's attacking advances. Their tenacity and commitment ensured a hard-fought battle in the opening exchanges. De La Salle's scoreboard was kept ticking over by impressive scores from Tom Browne, Sean O'Leary, and Darragh Hodman. A moment of brilliance came in the form of an incredible goal from Jacob Barry, injecting a surge of momentum into the De La Salle side. However, Carrigaline proved to be a formidable opponent, and at halftime, the scores stood at 3-7 to 1-7 in favour of the home team. The halftime break saw strategic substitutions that injected fresh energy into the De La Salle line-up. The second half witnessed some outstanding attacking plays, with Cian McCarthy and Colin Kelleher making significant contributions. The ever-impressive center forward, Tom Browne, continued to add to his tally, showcasing his scoring prowess. In the midfield battle, Michael Downey and Fionn Kelleher worked tirelessly to gain control and create opportunities for their team. Despite their efforts, Carrigaline CS managed to pull away in the final fifteen minutes of the game, extending their lead. The De La Salle lads fought until the final whistle, displaying resilience and determination throughout. In the end, Carrigaline CS emerged victorious with a final score line of 4-12 to 1-13. While it wasn't our day, their hard work, skill, and never-say-die attitude were evident throughout the match. The players can take pride in their performance. Well done lads.

Our U14 hurlers showcased fierce determination in their practice game against a strong MICC Dunmanway side today. It's truly rewarding to witness such dedication from our players proudly donning the De La Salle jersey. In a special mention, Rory O Sullivan and Micheal Twohig delivered outstanding performances. Well done lads. Well done to Ms Healy also. She has coached the lads after school no matter the weather. This team can look forward with confidence to the first round of the championship in the New Year.





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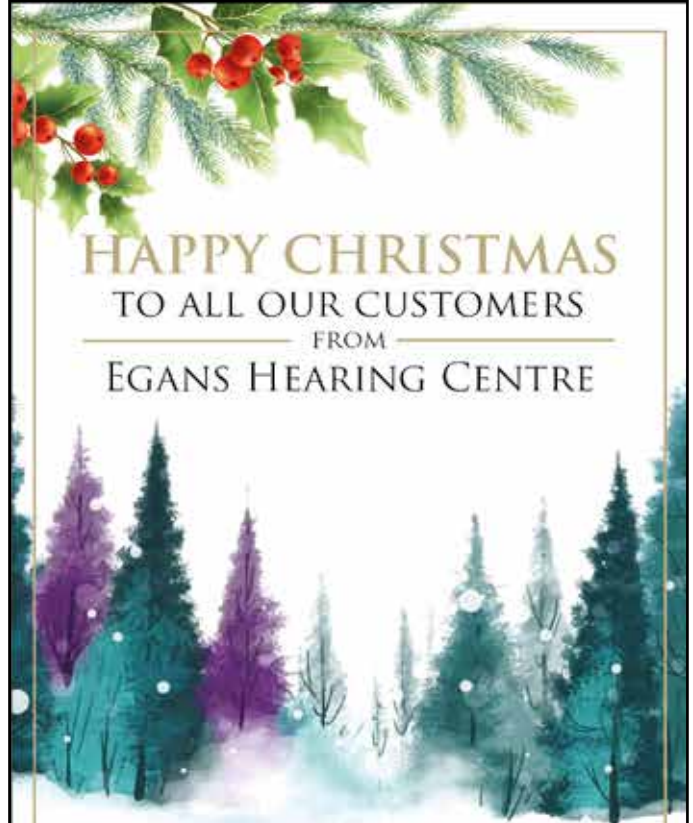
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CLINICS THROUGHOUT MUNSTER



# TEDDY JOSEPH MURPHYS FAMILY FUNDRAISER IN AID OF MACROOM COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

Teddy Joseph Murphy passed away in Macroom Community Hospital earlier this year (2023). He had spent the last six years there, where he received 'wonderful care and loving attention' on a daily basis; this treatment is extended to all residents. Teddy became part of the hospital family. When visiting Ted, the Murphy family members became friendly with other patients and their families, and formed 'special bonds' with them.

In appreciation of The Hospital's superb care of Teddy and all in their care, the Murphy family fundraised, collected €4,550 and presented it to Chief Nursing Officer Bernie Buckley on 9 December 2023. Without sponsors, the fundraiser would not have been a success.

Murphy Cullinane, Teddy's nephew, reiterated the kindness and compassion of all the hospital staff and marvelled at that they do it on a daily basis. The cheque represents more than money; it is an acknowledgement and appreciation of their

difficult work wonderfully done. Happy Christmas, three cheers, 'go raibh mile maith

agaibh go léir' from Teddy, his fellow patients, past and present, and their families.



Mairéad Murphy presents a cheque to Chief Nursing Officer Bernie Buckley. (C. Kelleher).

## NUAHT Ó CHOLÁISTE GHOBNATAN

### COMHGHARDEAS

Tréaslaimid le Luke Ó Leighinn agus roinnt iardhaltaí atá mar bhaill de fhoireann Cill na Martra a bhuaigh Craobh na Mumhan le deanaí. Go n-éirí go geal libh i nGCluiche Leathcheannais na hÉireann tar éis na Nollag.

### SCOLÁIREACHT

Tréaslaimid le Lauren Nic Aodh (daltaí ardteiste 2023) a fuair scoláireacht spóirt ó Ollscoil Teicneolaíocht an Oirdheisirt. Is éacht iontach é agus táimid chomh bródúil aisti. Gach rath uirthi amach anseo!

### LÁ NA DTURGNAMH

le Frankie Ó Ríordáin agus Daniel Ó Luanaigh Ar an 3ú Nollaig, chumar agus ár rang Fisice suas go dtí an Roinn Fisice in Ollscoile na Gaillimhe (NUIG) chun turgnaimh a dhéanamh. Ar an gcéad lá, shroicheadar Gaillimh ag 7i.n., bhí dinnéar againn leis na hollúna agus d'fhanamar in Óstán na Páirce. An mhaidin dár gcionn shiúlamar go dtí NUIG. Rinneamar ár gcuid turgnaimh ar fad ó 9 go 3 agus rinneamar nasc leis na daltaí eile. Ar an turas abhaile bhí am iontach againn ag cuimhneamh ar an ócáid.

### IMEACHTAÍ SA TREOIR

D'fhreastail grúpa daltaí ó bhliain a 6 ar Lá Oscailte MTU (i mí na Samhna) ina raibh deis acu dul timpeall na hollscoile ag féachaint ar na háiseanna ann, freastail ar chainteanna faoi na cúrsaí a chuirtear ar fáil ann, agus ceisteanna a chur ar ionadaithe agus léachtóirí ó MTU.

Tháinig aoichainteoirí ó Choláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh, agus ó Ollscoil Luimnigh (i dtosach Mí na Nollag) chun labhairt le daltaí ó bhliain a 5 agus 6, faoin raon cúrsaí atá ar fáil sna hOllscoileanna sin, na háiseanna acu ann, cúrsaí lóistín, na clubanna agus cumainn ann, agus bhíodar sásta ceisteanna ó na daltaí a fhreagairt.

Tá an chéad seachtain do Thaithí Oibre déanta ag an Idirbhliain anois. Bhaineadar an-tairbhe agus taithí ar fad ó na deiseanna a cuireadh ar fáil dóibh ó raon fostóirí sa cheantar agus níos faide. Táimid thar a bheith buíoch de na fostóirí as fáilte a chuir roimh ár ndaltaí, agus deiseanna oibre a chuir ar fáil dóibh. Cabhróidh an taithí leo sna cinntí saoil a dhéanfaidh na daltaí amach anseo.

Roghnú na n-Ábhar Bliain a 1: Ritheadh 3 cheardlann do bhliain a 1, agus iad ag déanamh machnamh ar na hábhair gur mhian leo roghnú don tSraith Shóisearach. Bhí caint againn sa scoil chomh maith chun eolas a roinnt leis na tuismitheoirí/ caomhnóirí i dtaobh na roghanna atá ar fáil. Sa tríú cheardlann, roinn daltaí ó bhliain a 4 agus 5 a gcuid taithí leis na hábhair le daltaí na chéad bhliana. Táimid ana-bhuíoch as na daltaí sinsearach as na cuir i láthair a rinne siad, agus an t-eolas a roinn siad.

Ba mhaith linn ár mbuíochas a ghabháil le Bean Uí Thuama as an obair go léir a dhéanann sí.

### COMHAIRLE NA NDALTAÍ

Ar an gcúigiú lá de mhí na Nollag bhí lá scannáin ar siúl i nGColáiste Ghobnatan chun airgead a bhailiú

ar son 'The Surgeon Noonan Society' i UCC. Ar an lá sin tháinig baill ó Comhairle na Dhaltaí le chéile chun seacláid the a dhéanamh do daltaí na scoile. Chomh maith leis sin bhí lá gan éide scoile againn ar an gceathrú lá fichead de mhí na Samhna. D'éirigh linn €206 a bhailiú ón dá imeacht sin. Bhíomar bródúil asainn féin mar bhíomar in ann cabhrú le hiardhalta Donncha Ó Cróinín chun an t-airgead sin a bhailiú don eagraíocht iontach a bhfuil sé mar aidhm acu cúnaimh leighis a sholáthar don Afraic.

### MOVEMBER

Ghlac Máistir Ó hAireachtáin, Máistir Ó Laoire agus Máistir Ó Pluincéid-Breathnach páirte i Movember arís i mbliana. Bhailíodar €2082 - Míle buíochas le gach éinne as a bhflaithiúlacht! Nollaig Shona agus Athbhliain faoi shéan agus faoi shíocháin daoibh!!!

### FOCLÓIR

- Cluiche leathcheannais – semi-final
- Ollscoil Teicneolaíocht an Oirdheisirt – South East Technological University
- turgnaimh – experiments
- seacláid the – hot chocolate

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Darragh Ó Luachra agus Cormac MacSuibhne ag an Lá na Turgnaimh i nGaillimh



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# MACROOM GIRL GUIDES

## Christmas Outings for Macroom Girl Guides

On Saturday 09 December 2023 Ardilaun Ladybirds and Ardilaun Brownies attended the Everyman Theatre Panto "Beauty and the Beast". This is a yearly event which is organised by the joint committee of the Girl Guides and Scouts in the Cork region. For the annual event, the Everyman Theatre is booked out by the joint committee and on Saturday 09 December the Everyman Theatre was overtaken by over six hundred Ladybirds, Brownies, Guides, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. Everyone enjoyed the Panto, the festive singalong and dance routine at the end.

On Tuesday 12 December 2023 Ardilaun Guides and McEgan Senior Branch travelled to the Omniplex Cinema in Mahon Point for the live screening of the "Nutcracker Ballet". The ballet was live streamed from the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden, London. This festive ballet classic combines the thrill of the fairy tale with spectacular dancing and the brilliance of Tchaikovsky's score. The girls had researched the fairytale before attending the screening, so they were familiar with Clara and her enchanted Nutcracker. Macroom Girl Guides would like to give a special word of thanks to Sergeant M.

Kelleher for providing transport in the Garda Community Bus.

### Ardilaun Ladybirds

After their trip to the Panto Ardilaun Ladybirds continued with the festive activities at their meeting on Monday 11 December 2023 when they made beautiful Christmas sweet jars as gifts for loved ones. They also made delicious gingerbread men biscuits. Not only did they make all these festive treats, but they also had a very important enrolment ceremony. Four girls were enrolled as Ladybirds where they received their first badge – their Promise Pin.

### Ardilaun Brownies and Ardilaun Guides

Ardilaun Brownies and Ardilaun Guides were also busy getting into the festive spirit at their weekly meetings. (Ardilaun Brownies meet every Thursday evening from 7-8.30pm in Macroom Scout Hall and Ardilaun Guides meet every Friday evening from 7-9pm in Caum). Ardilaun Brownies put the finishing touches on their Christmas Cards for the residents of Macroom Senior Citizens Sullane Haven and made Christmas Tree Decorations from curtain rings. They also learned and played a few festive games that they can play with their families over the festive period. Ardilaun guides also made festive decorations



Ardilaun Ladybirds having fun with Lego at their recent meeting

and planned their annual Christmas Party. Macroom Girl Guides would like to take this opportunity to thank our guest speakers, helpers, and supporters many of whom visited the units during the year to speak to the girls. We would also like to thank all of our volunteer leaders who give of their time so generously. And finally, we would like to wish all past and present Ladybirds, Brownies, Guides, Senior Branchers and their families a Happy Christmas.

For further information on Guiding in Macroom please contact [macroomguides@gmail.com](mailto:macroomguides@gmail.com)

*Kilmurphy Parish*  
*Christmas Mass Times*

**Christmas Eve:**  
Canovee 6.30pm with Carol recital @ 5.45pm  
Kilmurphy 8pm  
Cloughduv 9pm  
**Christmas Day**  
Kilmurphy 10am  
Cloughduv 11.30am

# Macroom Market Day



Local Colleges displaying their Mini Companies at Macroom Christmas Market Day. Pic; Peter Scanlan



Local Colleges displaying their Mini Companies at Macroom Christmas Market Day. Pic; Peter Scanlan



St Mary's students Rachel O Shea and Emily Cronin showcasing their Mini Company at the recent Christmas Market. Pic; Peter Scanlan



Early morning as the Stalls get ready for Market Day. Pic; Peter Scanlan





Christmas is a time to count your blessings,  
like the fact that you don't live in a  
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- **Inniscarra GAA and Camogie Clubs** will hold the annual Seamus Noonan Memorial Poc Fada on St. Stephen's Day, starting at Blair's Inn at 12.00 noon. We also invite families to partake starting at 11.00 a.m. Entry fee - Adults €10, juveniles €5
- **Cloughdubh GAA Annual Poc Fada** Lá Fhéile Stiofáin, begins with club mass for our deceased family and friends upstairs in the Clubhouse. Registration for the Poc Fada is at 12:00, kick off

at 12:30, with prize giving in Hickeys @ 15:30. Teams of 3, €30 per team, U13 down only €5 each. EVERYONE WELCOME.

- **Macroom Annual Ploughing Match** will be held on Sunday January 7 in Tullig Coachford P12F662 by kind permission of The Lane family. Great day out for all the family. All the usual classes. Commencing at 11am sharp. Results, finger food, and chat in Coolcower House around 9pm

## BALLINALLINAGREE VINTAGE UPDATE



Presentation of cheque to Aghinagh GAA from Ballinagree vintage



Presentation of cheque to Rusheen NS from Ballinagree vintage

**Just a short message from everyone at Ballinagree Vintage, after a very successful vintage day back on the 8th of October which was an outstanding success for the club we were in a position to distribute five thousand throughout our local community.**

The beneficiaries were our local schools of Ballinagree, Rusheen, Ballyvongane, and Muinefliuch the schools were delighted and the money will be spent on various projects in the schools including science equipment and sport equipment, members of the committee went to the

various schools to make the cheque presentation. Aghinagh gaa was also a beneficiary of our vintage day and the money they received will go towards the new gym the club are building which will be a great asset to the youth of the parish.

On Sunday the 3rd of December we held our annual car/tractor/bike run this year all monies raised will go to Scoil Eanna in Montenotte which supports children with mild intellectual disabilities our local super star Callum O'Brien attends Scoil Eanna and they are fundraising for a bus for Callum and his friends. A great day was had in our village

with huge crowds attending we also had a very successful draw on the day when all monies were tallied the final amount raised was €10,700 we were overwhelmed with the support we received on the day and thank everyone who came with cars/tractors/and bikes. A presentation will be made this coming sat the 23rd of December at 6pm in the laine bar ballinagree where everyone is welcome. Ballinagree vintage wishes each club member and the entire community a very happy Christmas and look forward to another year ahead

## DROMLEIGH NS

Students from Dromleigh N.S. have been busy leading up to their Christmas holidays with preparations for their Christmas concert well underway as well as festive arts, crafts and seasonal celebrations.

Thank you to Murphy's Fuels Macroom for once again supplying the school with a Christmas tree this season.

Well done also to our fifth class prize-winning author for having her short story featured in the

nationwide publication 'The Primary Planet'. Follow us on Facebook 'Dromleigh N.S Kilmichael' or online [www.dromleighns.ie](http://www.dromleighns.ie)



First and Second class pupils from Dromleigh N.S. admiring their Christmas tree from Murphy's Fuels Macroom



Fifth Class students from Dromleigh N.S. celebrating their classmate's publication in 'The Primary Planet' magazine.



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## MUINEFLIUCH NS

**December was a very busy month in Muinefliuch N.S. On Wednesday 13th December all pupils completed the 'Christmas Walk a mile and smile' with buddies from the other classroom.**

As part of the 'Languages Connect' programme pupils from 2nd to 6th class participated in Polish classes with Mrs O 'Callaghan, a school parent. Pupils thoroughly enjoyed these lessons. On Friday 15th December pupils from 5th - 6th

class participated in a soccer blitz in Killarney. The whole school community worked very hard on the Christmas decorations this year. A Christmas tree was very kindly donated by Bridie and Paddy Murphy. Sincere thanks to all! Pupils had a fantastic day out at the Everyman theatre for the Christmas pantomime 'Beauty and the Beast' on Wednesday 20th December. Lots of rehearsals were held for our Christmas Carol Service which will take place on Friday

22nd December. Pupils, staff and parents will sing Christmas carols outside and refreshments will be provided afterwards by the students. Pupils from the senior room made Christmas cakes for the event.

Our wellbeing initiative organised by the student council for this month involved the student council committee baking Christmas brownies, Christmas cookies and marshmallow Santa for the Christmas carol service.



Pupils from Muinefliuch N.S. getting into the Christmas spirit



Pupils from the senior room in Muinefliuch N.S. baking Christmas cakes for the 'Christmas Carol Service'

## CARRIGADROHID/CEANN AN MHAÍ NEWS

**2023 has been a very productive year for Carrigadrohid/Killinardrish tidy towns. Our new Committee was elected in February and work began in earnest in April when we held our annual Community cleanup.**

Volunteers including local families met in Canovee N.S. and headed out to pick up litter from their local roads. This was collected later by Cork County Council. We are very grateful to Canovee N.S. for kindly allowing us to use their facility as a base for the afternoon.

Later in the month, we had Donnacha Cunnane of Cnoc an Mhullaigh Gardening put his wonderful skills to use by planting our new flowerbed at the entrance to our new GAA pitch located beside Carrigadrohid Castle. What an array of beautiful plants and eye-catching colour.

We completed some projects during the year namely the completion of the stone wall at the east of the village in April and our new flowerbed all ably completed by Kieran Lehane Stonemason. Our village cleanups began in earnest mid April

when our trusted band of volunteers both new faces and our returning "experienced" faces all worked hard over the summer months, every Tuesday evening for 1 hour. Benches were painted, our Grotto was power-washed and painted and looked resplendent, pathways are swept, grass cut and banks trimmed, flowers watered.

In June we held our "Street Feast" where locals gathered and dined "al fresco" and enjoyed delicious food and each others company.

In August we planted our fabulous sunflowers which had all been carefully planted from seed by the 3rd and 4th class children in Canovee N.S. with the help of their teachers earlier in the summer and cared for diligently over the Summer months by Gerard Lyons one of our longstanding volunteers.

The culmination of all our hardwork and determination was visible when the Super Value Tidy Towns results were released in September. Our village was awarded 336 marks this year having received 324 marks in 2022. We were delighted and thrilled to receive such a favourable mark and

encouraging report from the adjudicating team.

Finally in December as the year comes to an end, we held our very successful Christmas Market and switching on of our Christmas lights. On December 3rd we welcomed 13 stallholders who showcased their wonderful produce. A lot of hardwork goes into preparing and organising this event every year and we thank everyone involved in ensuring this event can run successfully and safely. Our Christmas lights were switched on by Kevin O'Donoghue one of our committed volunteers. As the night closed in, all the boys and girls were thrilled when "Santa" arrive by lorry no less and was escorted safely to the village by An Garda Síochána to collect his sack of letters from the boys and girls.

Finally, Carrigadrohid/Killinardrish Tidy town members wish to thank you all for your kind support over the past year and wish everyone a Happy Christmas and look forward to meeting new members hopefully in 2024.



Kevin and Santa



Our Chairperson presenting certificates to our junior volunteers





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# BALLYVONGANE NS

**It has been a very busy month in Ballyvongane N.S. We were delighted to welcome Peter Scanlon to talk to the children about local history.**

The children examined photos of the school down through the years. They also learned about ringforts, standing stones and souterrains. We enjoyed a workshop with archeologist Aine Brosnan where the children examined animal bones and explored other local archeologist sites. This term the children enjoyed dancing classes with Deirdre O'Sullivan, swimming lessons at the leisure centre in the Castle Hotel and drama classes with Martina Ring. Many thanks to Ballinagree Vintage Club who

recently donated €500 to the school. On the evening of the 8th December, there was great excitement in school as we celebrated the turning on of the Christmas lights. We all made our way into the church for 8 o'clock where the children opened a wonderful fundraiser concert. We would like to thank Aghinagh Comhaltas, Scott Downey and Ballinagree Folk Group most sincerely for performing on the night and making the event so enjoyable. We were all in awe last Tuesday when we had a surprise visit from Santa! We had great fun with him. We sang some Christmas songs together and he had a selection box for each child in his bag but most importantly he told us that we are

all on his good list for Christmas night! We are all ready and looking forward to performing our school play 'Merry Christmas at the Carousel' for our families on Thursday night, 21st Dec. We have been very busy decorating our school with Christmas art to make it very festive looking. There will be a food collection on Saturday, 23rd December from 10am - 4pm in Bealnamorrive Church for the Cork Penny Dinners. We would really appreciate all donations of non-perishable goods on that day. Wishing you all a happy and peaceful Christmas, Nollaig Shona Daoibh, Staff & Children Ballyvongane N.S.



Ballyvongane School Festivities



Martin Coughlan, Paul Kingston and Volunteers at Macroom Christmas Lights Switch-on, 1 Dec, 2023 (C. Kelleher)



Aimee Twomey Prendeville from Macroom was the winner of Cork's Teen Idol final in Rochestown park hotel



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a Peaceful New Year



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# COACHFORD UPDATES

## Greenway open for Christmas

The Coachford Greenway is always popular and is always busy over the Christmas and New Year period. It's the ideal place for families to meet up and take a leisurely stroll along the banks of the Lee or for those who want to try and walk or run off those extra pounds they might have put on after over indulging on Christmas puddings and Quality Street chocolates. Children often use the Greenway to try out their new bikes or scooters that they got from Santa and the Greenway is an ideal flat route to do this. If you are one of the lucky ones to use the Coachford Greenway over the coming weeks, don't forget to put a donation in the collection box for the upkeep of the walkway. You'll find it just inside the gate on your right.

## Broomhill donate thousands

Broomhill Vintage Club have donated €17,500 between 5 charities from the proceeds of the Coachford Family Festival and their Car & Tractor Runs during the year. The Coachford based club was delighted to have been able to donate such a large amount of money and would like to thank all those who supported the various events and especially the many businesses who sponsored the Coachford Festival on its successful return after the pandemic. The five charities that benefited this year were; The Mercy Hospital Foundation, Mallow Search and Rescue, Marymount University Hospice, Canovee Playground Project and Pieta.

## A perfect Christmas present

Coachford AFC have the perfect gift for those people who are difficult to get presents for. A yearly Lotto Ticket for only €90 gives the recipient 52 chances of winning at least €1,000 each week. People can log onto Clubforce.com and purchase the ticket for someone special in their lives. Yearly tickets are also available from club committee members.

## Village prepares for St. Stephen's Day

One of the most magical days in Coachford is December 26th when the three pubs in the village come alive with celebrations and sport. Horse



Racing, Soccer and Darts will be on display in each of the bars while families and friends will use the day and the village to reunite and catch up. The pubs are busy from very early in the day and the Christmas celebrations go long into the night. The village is the only place to be this Christmas.

## Coachford Players party

Coachford Players celebrated another successful and fruitful year at their end of year party in Paddy Mac's Bar last weekend. The Drama group looked back on a year where they performed a very successful full length play, 'Steel Magnolias' and also took a play on the One -Act All Ireland Festival circuit. The group also took time to plan for 2024 and have decided to perform the hilarious comedy, 'Hospital Affairs' for four nights in April.

## Flooding in Coachford

As the year draws to a close, the problem of flooding in the village continues to be a huge issue and an

issue that Cork County Council continues to ignore. The flooding by the GAA pitch is always an issue even when there is even a small shower of rain. Despite promises by the council over the last few years that they are going to address the flooding in this area among other areas in the village the problems remain. Recent correspondence from the council informed the community the money for improving flooding issues in 2023 was never spent and no funding was applied for by the Council for 2024 so the people of Coachford will have to endure more flooding, inaccessible footpaths and damage to cars and property. This is totally unacceptable and one can only wonder why Coachford is being ignored and neglected while the vast majority of funding goes to other areas in the Macroom/ Millstreet Municipal area.



Ballyvongane School News



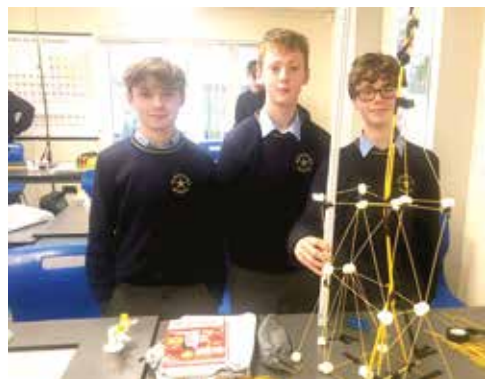
These two ladies, Hannie Corkery and Noreen Bradley, came to St Colman's House every week to assist the residents with art classes. This year they presented a number of pictures at an exhibition and made Christmas cards in aid of St Colman's house and Cork Mental Health foundation



William Healy and Ciarán McSweeney winners of the 2nd year 'Advertising Poster' Competition



Gearóid Creedon 1st year received his prize for the best Christmas Jumper from the equally festive Mr. Graham



De La Salle 2nd year students test their engineering skills in a challenge to build the tallest tower.



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 22nd December - at 9.30pm  
 With Mark Daly

**TUESDAY**  
 St. Stephen's Night  
 26th December - at 9.30pm  
 Kieran & Jim

**THURSDAY**  
 28th December - at 9.30pm  
 The **RUSSIAN ROULETTE** Band  
 Will have you spinning!

**SATURDAY**  
 30th December - at 9.30pm  
 The Brilliant **TREMOLO** Band  
 sure to bring the house down!

**SATURDAY**  
 6th January - at 9.30pm  
 Tim O'Riordan

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## ST. JOSEPH'S PS



5th Class from St. Joseph's Primary School enjoying butterfly buns they baked in school!



Lena Wyczynsk from 5th Class, St. Joseph's Primary School, who won two prizes in the 2023 Credit Union Art Competition 'Me and My Community'.

## Kilmurry Active Retirement

### A Christmas disaster?

This time of year, many are looking forward to Christmas with more than a little apprehension. So much to be done. So many may call round, so many that must be met, those events, those presents, will Santa get it right again this time, and then the biggest stress perhaps of all, the Christmas dinner. So many women, and increasingly men, are wondering what they will cook, maybe something different this time, but is it the day to try to cook something too different, who knows how it would turn out?

Years ago, I woke up early. My mother was shouting. My mother was a calm and serene woman. Everyone else got rattled but not my mother. This was strange, it must be important, so I hit the floor in unison with my brothers that shared the far room.

My mother had two sisters in America, one was 'comfortable'. Each year she would order from her school friend, who lived beside her native townland, three turkeys for her three siblings that remained in Ireland. My uncles were adept card players and would have considered it an embarrassment not to have won a turkey for Christmas. That, and the fact that we were the biggest household, there being ten of us, and also, more often than not, there was a neighbour or two who lived alone joining us for Christmas dinner, meant that there was no disputing that it was always us who would be getting the biggest turkey. Those of you who know anything about turkeys know that when they get over thirty pounds and pushing towards thirty-five, they can be challenging. So, the friend of my aunt and of my mother, would try to offload the turkey as early as possible before Christmas. My father though would be in no hurry to collect the beast, there being more important things on his priority list. My mother, always the peacemaker, and having a few hundred hens, didn't see it as much bother having another much bigger bird around the place. At a time before fridges, there was no beating the taste of a reasonably fresh turkey. So, two days or so before Christmas eve, my mother in sympathy with the poor bird, was up early to deliver its last meal. My brothers and I with great excitement squeezed through the door together, while my father was

still rousing himself. Arriving to the top of the stairs we could decipher the shouts, 'Get up, get up, the turkey is dead'. Nothing as funny as this had happened in ages, maybe ever. We dashed out to the old byre and indeed we could not challenge her assertion. In my excitement it took me a while to notice that my mother was in shock. What a disaster. My father arrived, had noticed immediately what I had missed. I assume he guessed what she may be thinking. Perhaps it was what will she say to her sister, what will she say to their friend, oh the embarrassment of losing the bird what with her poultry business and all, the neighbours coming, and WHAT will we all eat for Christmas. Having summed up the situation, my father examined the bird. His diagnosis was delivered quickly. That bird is barely dead, he is still warm, quick get me the sharp knife. The head severed and the bird swinging from the rafters, many hands got to work and soon it was snowing feathers, so thickly that we were spitting them back out.

On Christmas day there was trepidation, for we had talked. What would the bird look like inside. Would the breasts be white or maybe purple. There was an untypical silence as my father carved; they were white. He placed a piece on each plate. Following his example, we bit into our allocation. No one asked for or was offered a second helping. Conversations attempted, abandoned, and started again. Then eventually my father asked, I wonder what we are having for dessert. My mother, jumping up, ran off to that dresser that my father had bought at an auction. When the dresser had arrived my mother had asked what now is that, to which my father replied, that will come in handy. Now it housed a trifle as indeed it had a handy metal box built into it. My mother produced the trifle, it was great, and a favourite of mine till this day. The rest of that day was full of fun and laughter, and a unique and special sense of togetherness untypical of a house with so many young children on Christmas day.

I know that what I have related may vary from the facts of that Christmas. Memory of a young child is unreliable. It has been about sixty years and I have often recalled it, and I probably have both forgotten and augmented it down through so many years.

Nonetheless, it is how I choose to remember it. A large family is always an education especially at Christmas. My abiding memory of that disastrous Christmas is of a family demonstrating its fullness of love for a mother that was always the one outpouring it, her love often unnoticed let alone appreciated. Many the Christmas has come and gone, many happy, most forgotten. The disastrous Christmas is one of those I cherish most. My father is gone to his reward close on fifty years now. My mother is with him. But that love for my mother shown by her family that day has not diminished, and being able to relive that disastrous Christmas is a Christmas gift to me like no other can be.

So, coming to this Christmas, I do not know now whether to wish you a happy or a disastrous one of the 'turkey is dead' kind. We never can know what is best for us. In any case, I truly wish you a Christmas devoid of stress or apprehension and with ample time to appreciate those that love you, whether here still or gone ahead.

### A little break

We are all taking a break for family time over the Christmas, and we ourselves won't be organising activities in January, as some don't trust the weather, while others do and are escaping it to warmer climes. We will be starting back in February and will be having our AGM at the Kilmurry Museum, on the 13th of February at 8pm, and as always new members are welcome.

Our association is open to all, and our membership fee is just €20/calendar year or €30 for a couple. Our philosophy is that age makes no difference, but health does. We try to do what we can to keep healthy and challenged in body and in mind, and together that is easier. You will be kept as busy as you choose to be and positively engaged in your community, and we think you will enjoy it. There are several active retirement associations in the Lee valley. If you are interested in finding out more, we can put you in contact with the right secretary for your locality, or if you are interested in starting one up there is support for that too.

For more information contact Aidan at 0894057676 or aidanbarry@outlook.com





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# Why Solar Energy Works for Irish Homes



**Everything costs more – food, energy, heating and even Christmas – and it seems there are very few ways to reduce costs. However, one topic that is coming up in households across Ireland is renewables, and solar renewables in particular.**

The popularity of solar might seem strange in a cloudy Ireland but studies have proven that our long days and temperate climate makes us one of the best places to benefit from solar energy.

Modern technology has advanced considerably and using photovoltaic cells in solar panels, domestic houses can generate their own free electricity, typically up to 70% free – and save the world by reducing their carbon footprint. It can seem a bit daunting when first looking at solutions, but we spoke with experts to find out more.

Richard Godsil is based in Macroom and is the sales manager for Munster for SolarSmart, an Irish company dedicated to installing solar PV panels. He explains that it's important for customers to understand the system and what will suit them.

"We conduct on-site inspection visits for two reasons," he says. "Every house is different, especially in rural areas, so it's important to check out the roofing space available. Secondly, people have a lot of questions and need to understand their investment."

SolarSmart has dedicated installers which is also important. The installing

teams consists of qualified roofers and electricians and typically six people will attend each job to make sure it is done in a timely and professional manner.

"They bring their own vacuums and leave the home spotless when they finish," says Godsil. "That level of care is important as we are working at people's homes."

Founder of SolarSmart, Morgan Pierce has expanded the company to more than 30 employees. Her level of care for her staff is reflected in both the physical installers only working a four-day week and profit sharing for employees.

"We take pride in our product and our people," says Pierce. "Happy, well-trained professionals deliver happy solar solutions. After all, every installation we do reflects our reputation."

This service extends beyond the sale, with SolarSmart being the only company in Ireland to offer a dedicated post-installation support team to handle customer inquiries, updates and even panel washing if required.

"This gives our customers peace of mind to know we are only a phone call away. We treat every customer home as if it was our own," she says.

This is certainly reflected in the online Google reviews with happy home owners commenting on the quality of work done – and the free electricity. Grants to offset the cost of installation, such as the SEAI Solar Electricity Grant, can be secured and SolarSmart will help customers with this process.

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**CUH CHARITY** Date: 11/12/23

Pay: Cancer Services CUH € 5,353.51

Cork College of FET Macroom Centre

L:R Michaela O'Connor & Melissa Howard (both retail students), Orla O'Riordan (teacher), 2nd row L; R - Joanne Breegan (Nursing teacher), Claire Concannon (CUH Charity) & Bernie Angland (Cork College of FET Macroom Centre Co-Ordinator)

**CUH CHARITY** Date: 11/12/23

Pay: Cancer Services CUH € 5,353.51

Cork College of FET Macroom Centre

Presentation of cheque to CUH Charity during the week with a final count of €5,353 for our recent coffee morning.



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## UIBH LAOIRE NOTES

### Uibh Laoire Puc Fada

The Puc Fada competition will take place on St Stephens Day, 26th December. Registration for this fun event will be at the Uibh Laoire clubhouse from 11.30am and all funds generated are going to Marymount Hospice.

### Croi na Laoi

The Christmas Bulletin will be out shortly and will be available in the local stores and in Creedon's Hotel. There is a high demand for this magazine which contains a summary of the year's happenings and written contributions connected to the locality by locals. This annual is free and has been kindly sponsored by local businesses and trades. The local development group and Tidy Towns organization are very grateful for the support.

### Uibh Laoire Active Retirement

The parish group are very grateful to Macroom Credit union for its recent sponsorship of their activities. They have found banking with the Credit Union to be a very satisfactory experience

and the staff have been very helpful. Put it in your diary, there will be a Bingo night in Cuan Barra, Ballingearry held by the parish Active Retirement group on December 30th at 8pm. And look out for their Annual General Meeting in the New Year for registration of new members and renewal of membership.

### Tuistí á lorg

Tá Tuistí á lorg ag cumann peile Bheal Átha chun traenáil a dheanamh leis na fóirne faoi aois. Dein teangháil leis an gclub. Tá sé an tábhachtach go mbeadh tuismitheoirí ar bhórd chun tacaíocht a thabhairt don aosóg. The club in Béal Átha are looking for parents to help out with training the younger players. It is important that parents would show support in either training or helping out with this good work.

### Féilire

Tá féilire Bhéal Átha ar díol faoi láthair i siopa Ui Dhuinnin. The 2024 Calendar is on sale at present in Dinneen's shop. The calendar contains

lovely picture of the Béal Átha area by local photographers and could prove to be a nice gift for someone, especially our friends and family overseas. The winners of the photo competition for pics to be included in the calendar are: Cead áit Bernie Shorten, An tarna háit Barra O Suibhne agus an triú háit, Siobhán Sheriden. Congrats to you and well done to all who entered.

Tráth na gCeist na Nollag

**The BIG ANNUAL QUESTIONTIME** takes place on Wed 27th of December. Tables of three can be booked in Tig Seartain, Ard na Laoi of Siopa Ui Dhuinnin (for The Aras). All proceeds go to the Mercy Hospital Foundation.

### Charity Game

There should be some fun at the game on Lá le Stiofán in the pitch in Béal Átha when the singles take on the marrieds, at high noon. Takings go to Jack & Jill Foundation.

Nollaig Shona do gach éinne

## INDEPENDENCE MUSEUM KILMURRY



Louise Daly and Brian O'Donovan RTE correspondent who was the special guest on the night



Siobhan Murphy, Mary Mullins and Anna O'Halloran

### Season's Greetings to one and all from Kilmurry Historical & Archaeological Association after a successful and enjoyable year of activities.

Our lecture series included talks by Michael Keane, Gerard Shannon, and Gerry White. Throughout the year there were several school tours to the museum including 2nd class students from Kilmurry National School.

During May, we hosted our 1st graveyard talk at St Mary's graveyard, Kilmurry. Thank you to all speakers on the day, Noel Howard, Mary O'Mahony, Deirdre Bourke, Terence MacSwiney, Jim Murphy, Diarmuid Coholan, Michael Goulding and singer Peggy Lynch.

Our 6th vintage run took place in August when we set for Coolea and St Gobnait's, Baile Bhuire. Peadar O'Riada and Maidhcí O'Cheallagh were the

speakers on the day.

In September, KHAA hosted two cultural events, the first was a poetry night and the second event was an evening of storytelling and song with local musicians. In early November, K.H.A.A hosted a comedy night at the museum with comedian Bernard Casey.

### Journal Launch

Our final event for the year was the launch of our 2nd social journal, Kilmurry People & Places on the 17th of November by RTE journalist Brian O'Donovan.

The journal has 150 pages relating to the history of Kilmurry, Canovee, Castletownkenneigh, Aherla, Inchigeelagh and surrounding areas. The articles along with photographs are on a wide range of topics including Warrenscourt Country Fair,

Muskerry Footballers of 1970, Aherla & District Vintage Club, West Cork FCA, the social history of local businesses and people, along with articles on historical figures such as Art O'Leary, Terence MacSwiney, Ricard O'Sullivan-Burke and the fascinating life of Lady Agnes Warren.

The journal is now for sale at Independence Museum Kilmurry; Sheila's Shop, Kilmurry; McSwiney Quik Pick, Crookstown; Crookstown Post Office, Circle K Express, Lissarda; Fitzgerald's Book Shop, Macroom; O'Leary's Super Valu, Macroom; Cooney's, Macroom; Delaney's Centra Shop, Aherla; Gadaí Dubh, Ballymakerra. The journal would make an ideal Christmas gift.

We thank you for your support during 2023 and look forward to seeing you in 2024.

Children from Inchigeela NS who took part in the Christmas Shoe Box Appeal.







The management and staff of  
The Mills Inn and An Siopa at the Mills  
would like to wish all their customers a  
wonderful Christmas and a Very Happy New year

Beannachtaí na Nollag agus  
Athbhliain faoi Mhaise Daoibh

An Nollaig sa Mhuileann

\* Saturday 23rd 9pm - Fiona Dineen, Jazzy Jingles

\* Lá Fhéile Stiofáin 26th - 6-9pm Trad Session followed by  
Jack Healy till late

\* Thursday 28th 10pm - Na Rogairí - Local Pogues Tribute Band

\* Sunday 31st 9pm - Ring in the New Year with Sam

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## CLONDROHID NEWS

**CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES;** Christmas Eve Sunday 24, Carriganima at 6pm, Clondrohid at 9pm  
Christmas Day Monday 25 Clondrohid at 9.30am  
**CHRISTMAS RECONCILIATION SERVICE** in Clondrohid Church on Thursday December 21 at 7.30pm

**MOVEMENT OF CONTINUOUS PRAYER** (for Marriage and Family Life ). The next 24 hours of prayer will be on Wednesday Dec 27 from 12pm to 12pm on Thursday 28.

**REVIEW OF CLONDROHID GAA FOR 2023:**

In January a most enjoyable medals presentation night was held for the club's seven winning underage teams during the period 2020 -2022 with Cork player Sean Meehan in attendance.

Clondrohid junior football team with 3 league wins were in contention for a final place up until the last game. However the championship was a different story with Clondrohid being eliminated after defeats in all 3 games.

The club's under 17 & under 13 teams competed against strong opposition at Rebel Og division 2 level with limited success.

Clondrohid under 14's reached the semi final stages in both league & championship.

In the younger age groups club teams participated in various tournament games & Go Game blitzes as well as playing local challenge games.

Club referee Tim McCarthy was an umpire at the All Ireland Junior Football Final in Croke Park.

Grandson Owen McCarthy was a member of the Cork minor football squad.

Carriganima sisters Amy & Lydia McDonagh won Munster medals as members of the Cork senior ladies football squad which defeated Kerry.



**Sinead Kelleher, Clondrohid, Past Student McEgan College at her graduation with PhD in Applied Psychology in UCC recently. Pictured also are Dr. Christian Ryan, Dr. Chris McCuster & Dr. Kim Keating of the School of Applied Psychology UCC.**

Darren Dineen played senior football championship with Muskerry.

Darkness Into Light was again held in May with proceeds evenly split between Pieta House and the local community hall.

A planned new venture of a Car Boot Sale on the club grounds had to be postponed due to a poor weather forecast.

2023 is the 50th anniversary of Clondrohid winning the club's first Mid Cork under 14 football title in 1973.

**CLONDROHID PARISH ACTIVE RETIRED:** All in the active retired would like to wish everyone in the parish a very happy Christmas and best wishes for 2024.

Membership will be up for renewal in January. New members most welcome, contact any member or drop in to Maria at the Post Office. They have a full

programme of events, their main aim is bringing people together for a chat, a bit of fun, a game of cards, a song or two, a day tour, a show or concert and the most popular the coffee/tea morning, where everyone has an input.

**TAVERN SINGERS:** Looking forward to seeing you all in 2024, next session Monday Jan 8 from 9pm.

**CLONDROHID DEV GROUP:** The annual Parish Adult Party is back after a long absence due to Covid. It will be held in Community Hall on Sunday Jan 14 at 2pm. Good food, brill music with Tim Joe and Ann, dancing and singing, raffle. Catch up with friends and relatives. Hope to see you there.

This group would like to thank all those who helped out during 2023, your input is much appreciated. They would like to wish everyone a very happy Christmas, Enjoy, and all the best for 2024

**ENTERTAINMENT IN CARRIGANIMA:** Seanie getting into the swing of Christmas!!! Little Creatures, 2 old timers and great friends of Seanie will perform on Thurs Dec 28. Music by Pat Mulcrone from Mayo on Friday Dec 29. You will remember him as he played the night Declan Nerney entertained

No music on New Years Eve, just good fun, and chat, and who knows.

**Mark on your new calendar 2024,** A 21 year old will have you tapping the floor on Sat Jan 27 He is none other than Effie O'Neill. Lots to look forward to

**CARRIGANIMA WALKING / RUNNING:** On Monday and Thursday every week at 7pm. Meeting at Pike Cross for 5km.



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## Think Globally, Act locally

# LAST MINUTE CHRISTMAS

Hi! Chris Barrett back with you in this last week before Christmas. Happy Christmas to everyone!

Today I am with my good friends Aoife and Chloe, who are talking to me about filling the days around Christmas with as many personal and environmental touches as possible.

They have experimented with making their own personalised decorated bags and wrapping paper, sometimes for example, using nothing more than newspaper and wool or ribbon as a starting point. Instead of rushing out to buy last minute presents, Aoife suggests that people could consider making desserts such as truffles, which could be put into a pre-used decorated tin or Christmas paper-covered cardboard box. She says these are incredibly easy and enjoyable to make. I include her own truffle recipe!

### Truffle Recipe

#### Ingredients

8oz cooking chocolate (try for good quality)  
1 tablespoon butter  
3/4 of a cup of heavy cream

#### Method

Mix the chocolate with the butter. (Melt in a bowl over boiling water) and then add the cream.

Chill overnight or for a minimum of 5 hours before forming balls by hand.

Keep your hands very cold when scooping out mixture on a spoon and rolling into a ball. (Aoife suggests using frozen peas to really cool them).

Dip the balls into a mixture of your choice. e.g. chocolate powder, desiccated coconut, etc.

Store in fridge.

Enjoy these with your family, or pass them on as gifts as they would make ideal presents for neighbours, friends or colleagues, both young and old.

Another delicious luxury, which is also vegan and healthy, is a stuffed medjool date.

These tasty dates are found locally around Christmas. The medjool date can be stuffed with half a walnut or marzipan. Chloe says it is then delectable!

Cheaper dates can also be rolled in chopped nuts and make a non-sticky alternative to commercial sweets.

Instead of buying boxes of chocolate, and filling your bins with plastic or once-used cardboard; by wrapping your cooking beautifully, you are giving a personalised handmade present which will be greatly appreciated.

These are gifts which Aoife and Chloe feel can be easily made by pre-teens and teens.

When there are younger children expected, a tiny fake cracker could be made by wrapping a toilet roll



inner in christmas paper and filling it with Morla or wax crayons etc. Chloe's own children spend ages dreaming up jokes etc

They suggest that a lucky-dip of wrapped old toys could also be left out to welcome younger visitors.

Towards Christmas Day the tree decorations could have edible fruits added, such as clementines, which could be replaced as they are eaten.

Last Minute presents which they suggest would be a welcome alternative to a gift token, could include a voucher for an environmentally supportive venture such as a tree nursery or garden centre, some sustainable compost as mentioned last week, or vouchers which would be appreciated and which support local businesses such as fishmongers or butchers.

Vouchers of money given in the name of older recipients as gifts to war-torn areas could also be considered e.g to Unicef, Goal or Concern.

Family Time-Vouchers are an interesting and wonderful concept. These could be beautifully presented as artistic cards in decorated envelopes, and donated for a specified time for a specified or unspecified chore which could include for example babysitting, vacuuming, cleaning or helping with a phone or computer.

Such Time-Vouchers could, they remind me, also be given to neighbours.

These could be defined e.g. half a day of gardening / DIY or jobs you suspect they might need doing, or you could just make yourself available for a half a day.

In a future article for the Lee Valley Outlook, I would like to introduce you to the broader concept of a Community Time-Bank, they told me about, where people can offer and receive from each other.

Taking a group or family walk on Christmas Eve could provide a final opportunity for greenery collection for the table etc.

Aoife reminds me that mini excursions done by torchlight in a large garden or field can be very memorable, if shared with tiny children. You are never quite sure what might happen.

When the longed for time finally arrives, any presents could be unwrapped with care, so that wrapping paper can be saved to be reused in special ways.

On Christmas day, walks can be taken on Christmas morning, while the meal is in the oven, and even twenty minutes can provide a healthy connection to nature.

Children will enjoy this outdoor time with adults and for all of us, touching natural growth, feeling our feet on uneven ground, using our peripheral vision among plants and trees helps to balance our nervous systems and nullify any Christmas stress.

On Stephens' Day, collages could be made reflecting recent memories, even maybe including natural items (which are not too damp) stuck onto wrapping paper.

Left-over turkey etc can be put into a hot pot, or curried. My own favourite is "Bubble and Squeak", made of leftover meat, potatoes, onions and gravy all fried together.

Wraps have also been used successfully by the girls, and can be filled with cranberry sauce, cold turkey or other available leftovers.

They are particularly tasty, covered with grated cheese and grilled.

Leftover root vegetables such as carrot and parsnips can be blended into a soup or mashed with butter/olive oil and coriander.

Leftover sprouts can be halved and gently heated face down, while a ginger, soya sauce and tinned tomato mix can be blended and warmed to pour over them.

Aoifa and Chloe definitely helped me focus on what really matters at Christmas and I am very grateful for their ideas.

If you would like to contribute an environmental article to this publication next year, please contact me [chrisleevalley@gmail.com](mailto:chrisleevalley@gmail.com)





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# 'Angling in Macroom, 1922-2023'

by Denis Cronin, Droumree, Macroom.

Denis Cronin maintains that 'fish live in beautiful places' and is a major reason why he has fished since childhood. He has angled for, captained and managed Irish angling teams over the past thirty years. Not only that, he has a deep knowledge of angling in Macroom since an angling club was founded in 1922-3. He has also played a leading role in Macroom clubs which has produced thirteen full internationals since the late 1980s. Dick O'Farrell was the first and the latest club members to fish for Ireland were Éanna O'Leary, Darren Sweeney and Cormac O'Leary who successfully defended their quadrangular international victory in 2023. Features of the night were a magnificent display of current and past fishing equipment and displays of trophies and old photos. Despite helping in Santa's Grotto, Ballyvourney, he took time to present the show. The following is some of what Denis said.

Denis began by speaking of the poster photo; in it, his father, 'Knockie' and sister Josephine, appear. Now, Denis noted that his Dad never fished but that he did buy him his first rod about 1960s, and he was very encouraging. 'Knockie' drove Denis to fishing spots – while 'Knockie' slept, Denis fished, hoping that his father would not wake too quickly. Fishing under Macroom Bridge at The Mare' Hole was his regular pitch; bait and its cost was a limiting factor. Before the Free State was established (1921), fishing rights were largely privately owned and reserved for the upper echelons of society and, of course, begot poaching. Quickly off the mark, Macroom and District Anglers founded a club in 1922-3. Among founding members were J O'Leary, dentist James Lynch, M. Hewetson and P.J. Newburn. After independence, the country was riven on confessional lines but the club was ecumenical from its inception. Among early club problems were dealing with the Anti-Treatyite IRA, still in control of the Macroom area before August 1922, and cormorants that were depleting fish stocks. A bounty of one shilling was offered for each bird killed. Despite this, in the 1920s angling prospered and took place on local rivers and away, in places such as Killarney, Caragh and Clonee Lakes. Before its damming in the late 1950s, the

Lee was regarded as one of the finest trout and salmon fishing rivers in Europe. One audience member recalled that as a child he had seen huge trout bursting from the water near where the Laney joins the Sullane and he needed confirmation from Jim Kelleher, an experienced angler, that what he saw was not a mirage.

As early as the 1920s, regular trips to Clonee were undertaken – for fishing and for other reasons. Cars and money were scarce and caused somewhat of a divide as both were necessary to travel. It was also a rare opportunity for men to travel outside their own town or village. Fishing, like much else in Irish society at the time and until the 1960s, was almost exclusively a 'male space'. O'Shea's Hotel became a home-from-home, and many fine photos remain from that time and were on display.

Fishing continued through the poverty of the 1930s and the scarcities of the 1940s. Notable victories were recorded and Eddie Warren, North Square, won the Munster Championship in 1949. The Graham Cup, a Cork county competition was won for six consecutive years. After the Emergency, the country brightened but emigration and TB were the major scourges of the 1950s. Macroom has a reputation of not doing things by half – a breakaway club, St Colman's, was formed in 1956. Reasons cited were that not enough fishing was done locally. Travelling and fishing away needed transport and money. Happily the two groups coalesced and Macroom anglers have operated as one club since. The ESB 1950s dams radically affected fishing in the area and effectively ended salmon-fishing above Carrigadrohid.

Noel Hackett was an Inlands Fisheries Officer, was very enterprising and was responsible for many fishing initiative such as the development of coarse fishing in the area, with regional and provincial championships staged locally. Denis worked with Noel and was delighted to see many parts of the country, Donegal, the East and the West. His involvement deepened interest and appreciation of fishing. Though an ideal job in many ways, the pay was poor and Denis became a prison officer in Portlaoise; he served there in the 1980s, at the

height of the Northern Troubles (1968-1999). The prison held many inmates who had committed the most serious of crimes. Fishing became a solace for Denis. When he transferred to Cork prison, life became easier. In the 1980s, Macroom Anglers had become older and were not open to new recruits or ideas. Eventually Denis joined and in the following years he was followed by an influx of new members including Pat Sheehy, Padraigh Dervin, 'Roger' Healy, Tom Sweeney, Noel Lehane, Tom Linehan and others. Interest and the standard rose. Dick O'Farrell (1987), Denis and Tom Sweeney were selected for Irish teams, and were soon to be followed by ten more.

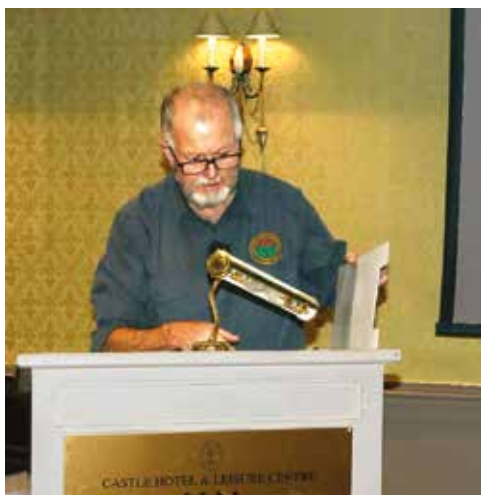
1980-2023 can be called the 'golden age' of angling in Macroom. Luckily there are some excellent young anglers, including one lady. Daisy has already been selected for next year's Irish Youth's Angler's team, the first female to have that honour.

Contributions and questions from the floor followed and items raised were the effects of the Lee dams, the (Catholic) penalty of the 'reserved sin' for entering a Protestant Church at a Protestant funeral and the lack of money. One slide, showing an appeal to the IRA in 1922, during the Civil War, elicited much interest and gave a significant insight into Civil War life (1922-3) – a pleasure activity in the midst of war.

Denis received warm applause and generous praise for his very interesting talk. He went to great trouble to source items for the display. The only regret is that the crowd was small. After the draw, a welcome 'cuppa' was appreciated.

Denis, Douglas Kidd, 'door', Pat Sheehy, 'floor', Mick Walsh, camera, and Con Kelleher, slides were thanked for their help. The hotel was immaculate and Paul remedied every glitch. A recording will be available on Macroom History Group website soon. The next talk will have Con Lynch, speaking on 'St. Gobnait' on Monday, February, 2024 at 8.00 p.m. in the Castle Hotel.

**'Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year' to all. Con Kelleher, Macroom History Group.**



Denis Cronin speaking at his lecture, 'Angling in Macroom 1922-2023' on 21 Dec., '23 in the Castle Hotel. (Eugene McCarthy).



Denis Cronin with fellow Macroom Anglers and his first slide at his lecture, 'Angling in Macroom 1922-2023' on 21 Dec., '23 in the Castle Hotel. (C.Kelleher).





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Chuamar go Baile Átha Cliath chun é a bhailiú ón aerfort ar an Aoine. Cé go rabhas i'm aeróstach le Aer Lingus ar feadh tréimhse 13 bliana, níor aithin mé an áit. Chur sé ionadh an domhain orm, leis an forbairt go léir atá déanta laistigh is timpeall ar an aerfort gan trácht ar an ceantar máguaird.

Bhiomar ag feitheamh go sceitimíneach ag an halla teachta agus ar deireadh thiar thall tháinig sé amach lena chailín Chloé inaitheanta. Bhí tocht i'm chroí agus más cuimhin liom i gceart bhí deora i'm shúile agus acu san chomh maith. Bhíomar ar aon ar cipíní le h'áthas a chéile a fheiscint. Bhíodar tuirseach taréis an turas fada ón Astráil ach go sona sásta bheith taréis ceann scríobha a shroichinn agus iad ag filleadh ar an tsean nead arís.

Ar an turas sa ghluasteán bhíos ag faire ar na tuairiscí go léir a bhí ar na meáin sóisialta cosúil le facebook srl. i dtaobh sochraid an t'amhránaí iomráiteach an t'Uasal Shane Mac Gabhann, beannacht Dé lena anam. Do chas mé leis cúpla uair im am ag obair ar na h'eitleáin, é féin is a bhean chéile Victoria Mary Clarke. Gan amhras tá sean aithne agam ar Victoria mar chaitheas 5 bliana ina dteannta sa mheán scoil i gColáiste Ghobnatan. Cailín ábalta is cumasach abea í go deimhin. Bhí féith na scríbhneoireachta aici go luath is í ar scoil agus gan dabht lean sí ar bóthar na h'iriseoireachta ag obair don páipéir Domhnach 'The Sunday Independant' ar feadh tréimhse.



Anuaraidh tháinig litir agus beart beag sa phost do Dhaid. Bhíomar go léir ar bis go n'osclóidh sé é. Creid é nó ná creid ach fuair sé litir lámhscríofa chroíúil ó Victoria, ag gabháil buíochais dó as a cuid tionchar uirthi agus an treoir a thug sé di is í ag freastal ar na scoile. Chomh maith le sin thug sí bronntanas álainn dó de carbhat gleoite síoda, le íomhá de aingil air, láimh deartha ag Victoria féin. Bhí áthas an domhain ar Dhaid! Nach tuisceanach agus dea-chríochach an gníomh ab ea é!

Táim anois ar tí an ciste Nollag a dheanamh. Tá na torthaí ag bogadh is báite i mbranda sa báisín le cúpla lá. Is breá liom an boladh de na spíosraí a cuirteá ann. Ó bhíos im chailín óg is mé i dteannta Mam sa chistin tá na cuimhní im aigne de curtha na Nollag. Bolla an crann Nollag, na coinnele, an bÁCáil, cainéal, clóbh agus na torthaí go léir idir cuiríní, risíní agus oráistí. Bhuel caithfeadh slán na fhágaint sibh mar ní bheidh an ciste déanta go deo má leanfadh ag scríobh.

Guím Nollaig faoi shéan is faoi mhaise oraibh go léir agus gach rath don áth bhliain.



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My Thoughts & prayers are with the people that are not doing so well this Christmas time

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# PROPOSED ANIMAL TRANSPORT RULE CHANGES WILL CAUSE PROBLEMS FOR IRISH FARMERS AND EXPORTERS WARNS MEP KELLEHER

- 9 HOUR MAX JOURNEY TIME FOR UNWEANED ANIMALS COULD LIMIT EXPORTS TO OUR EUROPEAN MARKETS -

Fianna Fáil MEP Billy Kelleher has said that the new requirements contained in the European Commission's proposal on Animal Transport will be both problematic and costly for Irish farmers and exporters.

Kelleher was commenting after the Commission published its long awaited revision of the 2005 Animal Transport Regulation.

"First off, there are positives in this proposal. There is an acceptance that time spent at sea should not be counted in any maximum journey time calculation. This is something that is massively important for Ireland as an island Member State and that I fought to get recognised in my work on the ANIT Committee.

"However, I am concerned at the maximum journey time for unweaned calves being set at nine hours.

The average journey time from the ferry port in Cherbourg to the major markets in the north of the Netherlands is approximately 12-13 hours.

"While there is an ability to extend the journey time for an additional 9 hours, it would require a massive overhaul of, and investment in, truck feeding technology to allow milk or milk replacer be fed to the animals.

"Additionally, the increase in the minimum age for transport from 14 days to 35 days will be problematic and expensive for farmers. Additional labour costs will be incurred to ensure animal welfare on farm, and extra housing will be needed to enable the animals to be kept on farm for the extra three weeks. New EU money will be required to support farmers - existing CAP money cannot be re-allocated.

"This is only the starting position.

The European Parliament and the European Council will, in the New Year, begin their own parallel deliberations, including amendments.

"As someone who fought to enhance animal welfare standards and to protect the ability of Irish farmers to transport their animals to the continent as part of the Animal Transport Committee, I will be tabling amendments to find a more balanced approach on some of these issues," concluded Kelleher.



## THE LIGHTS OF ROSSLARE HARBOUR

The lights of Rosslare Harbour a beautiful song composed and written by Jimmy Hogan. It always reminds me of the first time I went to London and waiting on the main street of Macroom for Slattery's bus to take me to Rosslare to board the ferry.

Always by my side throughout my life was my Mam, Dad, Dennis and Mary to see me off. When on board the bus I was thinking was I doing the right thing going to London? I remember Dad saying to me when I asked him what will I do Dad his words to me were and I quote "my lovely girl I do not want to part with you but you will have to make your own choices in life. You wont always have me ". It was a very lonely journey to Rosslare on my own. I was heading for the big city of London coming from the town of Macroom where I was leaving a lot of friends and family behind. I boarded the ferry in Rosslare and got a seat by the window on the ship and I remember well as the song says "the flashing lights of Tusker". I was thinking what was ahead of me and how I would settle in London. I when I opened my hand luggage to pass the time as the ship was sailing Mam and Dad made sure I was not going to go hungry by filling my bag with all the lovely treats from home, Murphys black pudding Dennehy's sausages and rashers, Barry's Teabags, and Cadburys chocolate and not to forget a few bags of cheese and onion Taytos, Fig rolls my favourite and most important of all fifty pound notes and telling me before I left Macroom and I quote "Mary your home will always be here with your mam and Dad the door will always be open if you want to come home ". As it happened I liked London. My six years at St. Marys Secondary school here in Macroom stood to me but I

was always thinking of Mam and Dad and I lived for the letters and telephone calls from home. I eventually left London and came home to look after my father who was sick so now it was my turn. My father needed me. When in London I met with the Irish community from all parts of Ireland some more lucky than others. As its coming up to Christmas time please spare a thought and a prayer for the Irish that never came home.

Thank you for taking the time to read my story.

Mary O'Callaghan  
Hallissey  
Raleigh,  
Macroom



The lights on Rosslare Harbour are fading from my view  
Alone on board the ferry as I sail away from you  
The dreams and plans we cherished as we shared these last few years  
They are slowly being extinguished  
They run down my face in tears.  
This heart of mine is breaking; it's pounding in my breast,  
Still everybody tells me, sure it for the best,  
But today I lose my best friends, as I leave you both behind.  
Both you my love and Ireland (Macroom) will be always on my mind.  
Chorus:

The lights on Rosslare Harbour are fading from my view  
Alone on board the ferry as I sail away from you  
The dreams and plans we cherished as we shared these last few years  
They are slowly being extinguished  
They run down my face in tears.  
I'm sitting by the window, as the ship sails out to sea,  
The flashing lights of Tusker they are re my only company.  
And for a few brief moments, as we shared our last farewell  
Who knows how long it will be til I see her lights again.  
Chorus

The lights on Rosslare Harbour are fading from my view  
Alone on board the ferry as I sail away from you  
The dreams and plans we cherished as we shared these last few years  
They are slowly being extinguished  
They run down my face in tears.  
The lights on Rosslare Harbour are fading from my view  
Alone on board the ferry as I sail away from you  
The dreams and plans we cherished as we shared these last few years  
The lights on Rosslare Harbour are fading from my view  
Alone on board the ferry as I sail away from you  
The dreams and plans we cherished as we shared these last few years  
They are slowly being extinguished  
They run down my face in tears.  
They are slowly being extinguished  
They run down my face in tears.



Macroom Senior Citizens launch their 2024 Calendar, available in most shops in the Lee Valley Area, Fr Joe O'Mahony, Terry Kelleher, Pat O'Connell, Nora Casey, Evelyn McSweeney and Peggy O'Connell. Pic; Peter Scanlan



Members of the Macroom Ploughing Association displaying a photo of the Co. Final Ploughing field 2023 which features in the Seniors Citizens Calendar. Next annual Ploughing match 7th of January, Tullig, Coachford, P12 F662. Pic; Peter Scanlan





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Wednesday 27th Dec: **9am - 6pm**

Thursday 28th Dec: **9am - 6pm**

Friday 29th Dec: **9am - 6pm**

Saturday 30th Dec: **9am - 6pm**

New Year's Eve: **11am - 4pm**

New Year's Day: **11am - 4pm**

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## CHANGES TO OUR CHRISTMAS COLLECTION TIMES

**Monday  
25th  
December**

will now be  
collected  
on

**Saturday  
23rd  
December**

**Tuesday  
26th  
December**

will now be  
collected  
on

**Thursday  
28th  
December**

**Thursday  
28th  
December**

will now be  
collected  
on

**Saturday  
30th  
December**

**Monday  
1st  
January**

will now be  
collected  
on

**Thursday  
4th  
January**

**Thursday  
4th  
January**

will now be  
collected  
on

**Saturday  
6th  
January**

**Collections resume as normal after this**

**ALL OTHER COLLECTION DAYS ARE AS NORMAL**

\*Please leave bins out night before as collections may be earlier than usual

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your valued custom during the year and we wish you a **Happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year...**



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*June, Denis and all their staff  
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 their customers for their  
 valued support  
 and wish them all a  
 happy and peaceful Christmas*

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 And A  
 PEACFUL NEW YEAR**

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 IONAD LAE, BAILE MHÚIRNE,  
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# Operations and Finance Manager

## Briery Gap, Macroom, Co. Cork

The Artistic Director and Board of the Briery Gap Cultural Centre CLG are seeking applications from ambitious and experienced candidates with a proven track record, and the requisite skills for the role of Operations and Finance Manager for its newly redeveloped state of the art theatre, cinema, and live music venue in Macroom, Co. Cork. Operations and Finance Manager will be a core member of the Briery Gap leadership team. Reporting directly to the Artistic Director, they will work closely with the Artistic Director and the Technical Manager to oversee the day-to-day operations, financial management, and administrative functions of Briery Gap, ensuring the centre's efficient functioning and financial stability. They will be responsible for financial reporting through the centre's ticketing system, and financial management system, and will oversee staff and volunteer rosters. As a core member of the Briery Gap leadership team, they will also be expected to work with the Artistic Director to develop community engagement programmes and ambitious strategic cultural projects for the centre. This will be a very 'hands-on' role. As Briery Gap is in a rebuilding phase, with a proposed opening date of May 2024, this role may evolve as further needs of the company are identified. The ideal candidate for this role will be highly self-motivated, with a love of creative collaboration, and an enthusiasm for joining a new team as they set about building a brand new arts centre in the heart of County Cork. For the right candidate this is an exciting and exceptional opportunity to be at the forefront of shaping the future of the artistic and cultural activity in the Lee Valley area, engaging with voluntary and professional arts organisations in County Cork and further afield, to build the centre's artistic and cultural programme, networks and resources.

### Job Functions

#### Operational Management:

- Oversee and manage the day-to-day operations of the centre, ensuring a smooth and welcoming experience for patrons, artists, and staff.
- Foster a collaborative and positive working environment within the administrative team.
- Develop and implement operational policies and procedures, including safety and security protocols and ensuring data protection compliance.
- Develop and administer Briery Gap's procurement policies and purchase order systems, maintaining good relationships with the venue's various suppliers, negotiating the best financial terms for Briery Gap, while also taking into account the environmental sustainability of the building.
- Maintain organised and clear records, ensuring transparent and documented compliance with relevant legislation on Briery Gap's requirements around employment, child protection, insurance, licensing, tax, and charity status.
- Supervise administrative staff, including box office and front-of-house personnel.
- In consultation with the Artistic Director and the company's external HR advisors, oversee the administration of the company's HR function, including maintaining appropriate records and payroll administration.
- Coordinate the maintenance and upkeep of the facility, including liaising with contractors and service providers.
- Develop and maintain Briery Gap's Standard Operating Procedures, identifying key training requirements, and ensuring staff are up to date on all relevant training.
- Assist in the preparation and execution of events and programming.
- Collaborate with the Artistic Director and Technical Manager to plan and schedule activities, staff shifts, and facility usage.
- Work with the Artistic Director and Technical Manager to develop a Green Arts Policy for Briery Gap, supporting the venue in its goal of being one of the most environmentally friendly buildings in the country.
- Undertake any other duty as may be required from time to time by the Artistic Director.
- To deputise for the Artistic Director as required.

#### Financial Management:

- Manage the centre's financial activities, including budgeting, funding and grant allocation, financial reporting, and financial analysis.
- Develop and maintain financial policies and internal controls to safeguard the organisation's assets.
- Responsible for preparation of accurate monthly management accounts and compliance reports.
- Responsible for processing and overseeing accounts payable, accounts receivable, and payroll processes.
- Prepare and present regular financial reports to the Artistic Director and the Board of Directors.
- Liaise with Briery Gap's accountants to ensure Briery Gap's books of account are maintained to a high standard to ensure smooth and efficient reporting of the company's yearly audit.
- Contribute to the development of Briery Gap business plans, fundraising strategies, creative projects, and funding applications.
- Ensure compliance with all financial regulations and reporting requirements.

#### Administrative Duties:

- Maintain accurate and organised records, both electronic and physical, related to operations and finances for Briery Gap.
- Assist in the hiring and onboarding of administrative and support staff.
- Coordinate and facilitate communication between different departments.
- Participate in the development and implementation of a membership programme.
- Attend and minute, where relevant, various staff meetings, Board of Directors' meetings, and strategic briefings.

#### Education and Essential Experience:

- A Level 7 degree in Business, Finance, Social Policy, Arts Management, Science, or a related field. Master's degree or relevant certifications are a plus.
  - A minimum of 2 years experience working in a professional theatre or live performance venue or company in a senior or supervisory role. (Significant freelance experience will also be considered)
  - Extensive experience with Microsoft's suite of software, especially Excel and Word.
  - A demonstrable track record for self-motivation and initiative when troubleshooting issues and implementing solutions.
  - Excellent organisational and project management abilities.
  - Proven experience in financial management, operations, and administration.
  - Strong financial and analytical skills, including proficiency with reporting software.
  - Leadership and team management experience.
  - Ability to work flexible hours, including evenings and weekends.
- Desirable Criteria and Personal Qualities
- Knowledge or experience of art-house/commercial cinema (or the demonstrable capacity to learn)
  - Experience with managing and processing payroll through payroll software.
  - Exceptional communication and interpersonal skills.
  - A passion for the arts and a desire to lead in developing ambitious, contemporary artistic and cultural projects.
  - An enthusiasm for creative problem solving.
  - Full clean driving licence.
  - Experience drafting operational policies around Child Protection, GDPR etc.

**Salary €35,000 - €40,000 depending on experience.**

**Contract 3 years, full-time.**

#### Application Process

- To apply, please forward the below information to [recruit@brierygap.ie](mailto:recruit@brierygap.ie)
- Up to date CV and cover letter.
  - The names and contact details of two persons, who may be contacted to provide references to whom you are known but not related, at least one of which must be a former/current employer.
- Short-listed applicants will be invited to interview, which will include preparing and presenting a presentation on a relevant topic to be supplied later.

**The closing date for applications is 17.00 on January 12, 2024.**

*The Briery Gap is an equal opportunities employer.*

For further details please log on to: [www.brierygap.ie](http://www.brierygap.ie) and click on the information (i) icon.



# Technical Manager

## Briery Gap, Macroom, Co. Cork

The Artistic Director and Board of the Briery Gap Cultural Centre CLG is seeking applications from ambitious and experienced candidates with a proven track record, and the requisite skills for the role of Technical Manager for its newly redeveloped state of the art theatre, cinema, and live music venue in Macroom, Co. Cork.

The Technical Manager will be a core member of the Briery Gap leadership team. Reporting directly to the Artistic Director, they will work closely with the Artistic Director and the Operations and Finance Manager to oversee the technical operations of the newly redeveloped venue, including both visiting artists and productions, and in-house projects. They will also be responsible for health and safety and statutory compliance with regard to Briery Gap's technical operations as a venue for both cinema and live performance. This individual will collaborate closely with artists, performers, and production teams to support the creation of exceptional and immersive experiences for our patrons.

As Briery Gap is in a rebuilding phase, with a proposed opening date of May 2024, this role may evolve as further needs of the company are identified. The ideal candidate for this role will be highly self-motivated, with a love of creative collaboration, and an enthusiasm for joining a new team as they set about building a brand new arts centre in the heart of County Cork. For the right candidate this is an exciting and exceptional opportunity to be at the forefront of shaping the future of the artistic and cultural activity in the Lee Valley area, engaging with voluntary and professional arts organisations in County Cork and further afield, to build the centre's artistic and cultural programme, networks and resources.

### Job Functions

#### Technical Production:

- Collaborate with the Artistic Director and programming team to understand the technical requirements of each event or performance, attending production meetings when required.
- Responsible for the planning, set-up, and execution of technical elements, including lighting, sound, stage design, and multimedia components.
- Facilitate technical rehearsals for visiting companies, ensuring all equipment and systems are functioning correctly.
- Troubleshoot technical issues during events, rehearsals and performances.
- Liaising with visiting companies, ensuring the highest level of professionalism and technical support is provided to artists, technicians and collaborators, and fostering a welcoming and engaging atmosphere.

#### Equipment and Facility Management:

- Maintain an inventory of technical equipment and supplies, ensuring everything is in working order, and keeping a record of any loss or damage of equipment.
- Coordinate equipment rentals and purchases within budgetary constraints.
- Responsible for the maintenance and operation of technical equipment, including regular inspections and repairs.
- Develop and maintain good relationships with the venue's technical suppliers, negotiating the best financial terms for Briery Gap, while also taking into account the environmental sustainability of the building.

#### Team Collaboration:

- Work closely with artists, directors, and production teams to understand their technical needs and preferences.
- Supervise and manage technical staff and volunteers during events, and ensure appropriate out-of-hours staffing, and health and safety compliance.
- Foster a collaborative and positive working environment within the technical team.
- Work with the Artistic Director to plan and facilitate the technical aspects develop community engagement programmes and ambitious strategic cultural projects for the centre..

#### Health and Safety:

- Implement and enforce health and safety protocols for technical and production activities, including briefing visiting companies on their health and safety, fire, and first-aid obligations.
- Ensure compliance with industry standards and regulations.
- Liaise with visiting and in-house productions to ensure all relevant risk assessments are carried out and disseminated appropriately.
- Organise and plan relevant health and safety training for the building's staff and volunteers.
- Remain up-to-date on industry best practice, developing safe and efficient systems of working, and promoting a culture of excellent health and safety practices.

#### Administrative Duties:

- Prepare and manage budgets related to technical and production requirements.
- Contributing to the development of Briery Gap business plans, creative strategies, and funding applications.
- Collaborate with the Operations and Finance Manager on scheduling of staff and allocation of venue resources.
- Responsible for the organisation and fulfilment of all health and safety documentation with regard to the building's technical management, working with the Operations and Finance manager to ensure full compliance within the

building.

- Assist in the hiring and training of technical staff and interns.
- Work with the Operations and Finance Manager, and the Artistic Director, to develop a Green Arts Policy for Briery Gap, supporting the venue in its goal of being one of the most environmentally friendly buildings in the country.

#### Education and Essential Experience

- A minimum of 3 years experience working in a professional theatre or live performance venue in a senior or supervisory role. (Significant freelance experience will also be considered)
- A level 7 or higher qualification related to theatre production, theatre design, health and safety, or significant freelance experience in any of these areas.
- Demonstrable leadership skills, and a willingness to nurture the skills and passions of staff under their supervision.
- Proven experience in technical production for live events, preferably in a theatre or cultural venue setting.
- Knowledge or experience of art-house/commercial cinema and the operation of cinema projection equipment (or the demonstrable capacity to learn).
- Proficiency with technical equipment, including lighting, sound, and projection systems.
- Knowledge of current health and safety legislation and obligations for venue staff and visiting companies.
- Experience with CAD software (AutoCAD, VectorWorks etc.) and QLab or similar cue-based multimedia playback software.
- Strong organisational and multitasking abilities, including experience with drafting budgets and coordinating staffing requirements.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- Ability to work flexible hours, including evenings and weekends.

#### Desirable Criteria and Personal Qualities

- Ability to consistently deal with tight deadlines, to multitask, and to work and lead calmly, even when under pressure.
- First-Aid training.
- Full clean driving licence.
- Experience of operating theatre counterweight flying systems.
- Qualifications or Certificates in Health and Safety, Environmental Sustainability Practices, or organisational improvement systems such as Lean or Six Sigma.
- An enthusiasm for creative problem solving.
- An understanding of socially engaged arts practices.
- Attention to detail.
- A passion for the arts, and a desire to champion artists from all artforms.

**Salary €35,000 - €40,000 depending on experience.**

**Contract 3 years, full-time**

#### Application Process

To apply, please forward the below information to [recruit@brierygap.ie](mailto:recruit@brierygap.ie)

- Up to date CV and cover letter.

- The names and contact details of two persons, who may be contacted to provide references to whom you are known but not related, at least one of which must be a former/current employer.

Short-listed applicants will be invited to interview, which will include preparing and presenting a presentation on a relevant topic to be supplied later.

**The closing date for applications is 17.00 on January 12, 2024.**

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**Buiochas: Thanks to all the wonderful officials in Mid Cork Board and in the GAA clubs in Muskerry whose help, patience and unfailing courtesy made it possible to bring reports on games played in 2023 to the wide readership of the Lee Valley Outlook.**

## GAA NEWS

### 2024 Cork County Championships

Round 1: A v B C v D, Rd 2: A v D, B v C Rd 3: A v C, B v D

#### Premier Senior Hurling

Group 1: Sarsfields, Douglas, Bishopstown, Newtownshandrum Group 2: St Finbarr's, Blackrock, Newcestown, Fr O'Neill's Group 3: Middleton, Charleville, Erin's Own, Kanturk Premier Senior Football Group 1: Nemo Rangers, BALLINCOLLIG, Newcestown, ÉIRE ÓG Group 2: Castlehaven, Clonakilty, Carbery Rangers, St Michael's Group 3: St Finbarr's, Douglas, Valley Rovers, Mallow Senior A Hurling Group 1: BLARNEY, Carrigtwohill, Na Piarasigh, Courcy Rovers Group 2: Bride Rovers, Cloyne, Fermoy, Castlelyons Group 3: Glen Rovers, Killeagh, Ballyhea, INNISCARRA Senior A Football Group 1: Carrigaline, BÉAL ÁTHA'n GHAORTHAIDH, CILL na MARTRA, Kiskeam Group 2: Dohenys, Kanturk, O'Donovan Rossa, Fermoy Group 3: Newmarket, Knocknagree, Clyda Rovers, Bishopstown Premier Intermediate Hurling Group 1: Castlemartyr, Valley Rovers, Carrigaline, Watergrasshill Group 2: Mallow, BALLINCOLLIG, ÉIRE ÓG, AGHABULLOGUE Group 3: Kilworth, Ballymartle, Ballinhassig, Dungourney

#### Premier Intermediate Football

1 A v B, C v D: 2 A v D, B v C: 3 A v C, B v D Group 1: Ilen Rovers, UIBH LAOIRE, Aghada, AGHABULLOGUE Rd 1: Ilen v Uibh Laoire, Aghada v Aghabullogue Then: Iveleary v Aghada, Ilen v A'bullogue Group 2: Bantry Blues, Nemo Rangers, NAOMH ABAN, Bandon Rd 1: Bantry Blues v Nemo, N Aban v Bandon Group 3: Castletownbere, Kilshannig, Rockchapel, MACROOM Rd 1: CTBere v Kilshannig, Rockchapel v Macroom Intermediate A Hurling Group 1: Middleton, Ballygiblin, Aghada, Sarsfields Group 2: Bandon, Blackrock, Erin's Own, Kildorrery Group 3: Mayfield, Lisgoold, CLOUGHUV, Youghal Intermediate A Football Group 1: Dromtariffe, Adrigole, Kildorrery, Gabriel Rangers Group 2: Mitchelstown, St Vincent's, Glanworth, BALLINORA Group 3: Na Piarasigh, Boherbue, St Finbarr's, Glanmire Premier Junior Hurling Group 1: Douglas, Meelin, Milford, Russell Rovers Group 2: Barryroe, Kilbrittain, Ballygarvan, Nemo Rangers Group 3: St Catherine's, Glen Rovers, Argideen Rangers, St Finbarr's Premier Junior Football Group 1: KILMURRY, Cobh, CANOVEE, St James Group 2: Glenville, Cullen, Kinsale, Ballydesmond Group 3: Urhan, Millstreet, Buttevant, St Nick's

#### Bons Secours Hospital Group

Cork County Football Championship 2023

Premier Senior Football

Final: Castlehaven 0-11 Nemo Rangers 0-9

Relegated: Carrigaline

#### Munster Club:

Quarter Final: Castlehaven 1-12 Cratloe, Clare 0-11 aet

Semi Finals: Rathgormac, Waterford 1-7 Castlehaven 1-16: Dingle 0-13 Clonmel Commercials 0-10

Final: Castlehaven 0 - 13 An Daingean, Dingle 0 - 13

Castlehaven win 4-3 on pens.

Castlehaven are Munster senior champions for the first time in 26 years after a remarkable game of

football in brutal conditions at the Gaelic Grounds in Limerick.

In a sudden death penalty shoot-out after Damien Cahalane had converted his second dead ball victory was sealed for a Castlehaven side who had never been ahead in either regulation or extra-time.

Only up a point at half-time of normal time (0-6 to 0-5), Dingle would have figured they should have been further ahead given the wind advantage.

The scoring was opened in the 10th minute by Conor Flannery coming from deep to split the posts. Cathal Maguire cancelled it out with a mark prior to Dylan Geaney and Brian Hurley swapping scores. The tit-for-tat scoring pattern continued with Conor Geaney and Brian Hurley frees. A fine strike by Matthew Flaherty in the 24th minute pushed Dingle one up for the fourth time and Paul Geaney backed it up with a free two minutes later.

Castlehaven fired back with a couple of points in succession, both Brian Hurley and Cathal Maguire again dealing with gale and rain. Conor Geaney finished out the half with his second converted free. Dingle led by three points in the 40th minute as they began the second half brighter but Mark Collins quickly cut the gap to two. Brian Hurley's free made it a one-point game in the 43rd minute and then Conor Geaney produced the score of the half to bend over a point into the wind.

Brian Hurley in the 53rd minute converted a 45 to bring Castlehaven to within one. However, they then lost Jamie O'Driscoll to a second yellow for a high foul on Tom O'Sullivan. Nevertheless, the Cork champions levelled in the penultimate minute of normal time but Conor Geaney then sent over Dingle's 10th point. There was time for Hurley to penalise a foot-block and send the game into extra-time.

Backed by the wind Dingle made the most of it and Paul Geaney booted over his third point from 53 metres within 13 seconds of the restart. Five minutes later and he angled over a free and Tom O'Sullivan joined in on the act to bravely fist over a hand-pass. Dingle led by 0-13 to 0-10 at half time but in the second minute of the new 10-minute period Mark Collins aimed 20m outside the posts to draw the ball over the bar. Brian Hurley succumbed to cramp but Cathal Maguire was still able to shoot and he picked off a couple to force the tie into penalties.

After Dylan Geaney's spot kick came off the bar and Conor O'Driscoll and Rory Maguire both failed to send their penalties to the net, Tom O'Sullivan had the kick to win it for Dingle but Cahalane, who filled the goalkeeper's role, dealt with it easily.

Scorers for Castlehaven: B. Hurley (0-7, 4 frees, 1 45); C. Maguire 0-4, (0-1 mark); M. Collins (0-2).

Castlehaven: D. Cahalane; J. O'Regan, R. Maguire, R. Walsh; T. O'Mahony, R. Maguire, C. Maguire; C. Cahalane, C. O'Sullivan; J. O'Neill, M. Collins (c), S. Browne; B. Hurley, M. Hurley, J. Cahalane. Subs: J. O'Driscoll for M. Hurley (inj 25); A. Whelton for C. Cahalane (30+2); C. Cahalane for S. Browne (37); C. O'Driscoll for C. O'Sullivan (52); M. Maguire for J. O'Neill (60+2); R. Minihane for C. O'Sullivan (e-t h-t); R. Whelton for J. O'Neill (78); M. Maguire for J. O'Regan (80+2).

### Senior A Football

Final: Dohenys 0-8 Newcestown 0-13

Relegated: Ilen Rovers

### Premier Intermediate Football

Final: Cill na Martra 3-11 (20) Bantry Blues 2-13 (19)

Relegated: Na Piarasigh

### Munster:

Quarter final: Cill na Martra 1-17 Kilmihil, Clare 0-7

Semi Final: Cill na Martra 0-13 Milltown/Castlemaine 0-10

Final: Cill na Martra v Mungret St Pauls of Limerick

### AIB Club Championships

#### Munster Intermediate Football final

Cill na Martra 3-12 Mungret St Paul's (Limerick) 0-10  
Cill na Martra will enjoy this Christmas 2023 as Cork County Premier Intermediate Football Champions and Munster Intermediate Champions, both titles won for the first time ever by the Boys from the Cross. At Mallow in very windy conditions, they were altogether too good for Limerick champions Mungret St Paul's and took the provincial title in fine style. Cill na Martra will now go forward into the All Ireland Intermediate Football semi final where they will face the challenge of St Kevin's from Castlereagh, Co Roscommon.

There was a huge wind blowing from goal to goal at Mallow, St Kevin's won the toss and elected to let Cill na Martra have the advantage in the first half. The game was effectively over at half time when the men from Gaeltacht Mhuscraí led by 2-9 to 0-1, having played really well and availed of every slip up by the Mungret side!

An early two points from Mike Ó Deasúna and another from Maidhchí Ó Duinnín had Cill na Martra off to a flyer and they had six points on the board without reply by the end of the first quarter, Mike Ó Deasúna, Seán Ó Foirrídís and Damian Ó hUrdail adding a point apiece. Daniel Ó Duinnín added a point on 19 and then the Cill na Martra man, for whom things did not go that well in the previous round, showed his class by sweeping in to intercept an attempted short pass by the Mungret defenders and buried the ball in the net with a clinical strike. Leading by 1-7 to nil the Cork champions looked to be on the road to victory already.

Mungret had their first point in the 24th minute but in the closing minutes of the half Daniel Ó Duinnín set up the opportunity for namesake Maidhchí whose shot crossed the goal line after hitting the inside of the upright and when Mike Ó Deasúna's free went over off the goalkeepers hands and Dan Ó Duinnín's dipping shot went just over to the relief of the Mungret keeper, Cill na Martra led by 2-9 to 0-1 and were playing well enough to suggest that wind or no wind they would not lose this final.

Cill na Martra were solid, and in total control in defence, Antóin Ó Cuana and Gearóid Ó Goillidhe were dominant in the middle and up front, Maidhchí Ó Duinnín, Dan Ó Duinnín and Michael Ó Deasúna were impressive in an attack which was skilful and hard working.

Within five minutes of the restart, Cill na Martra had victory absolutely assured as they had points from Damian Ó hUrdail and Mike Ó Deasúna followed by





a goal from Daniel Ó Duinnín to lead by 3-11 to 0-2. Mungret to their credit, did battle on and in scoring six points in a row did display some of the undoubted ability which had brought them through out of Limerick to the provincial final.

Cill na Martra began to introduce substitutes and the winner's defence had to work hard to keep the Limerick men at bay. Ciaran Ó Duinnín had the final Cill na Martra score, a point after availing of a short free from Dan Ó, and Mungret were rewarded for their persistence in the face of overwhelming odds with the last point of the game.

Jubilation for Cill na Martra after a wonderful display and the supporters were in loud praise of the team and management.

The journey to the All Ireland continues and everything is possible.

Scorers for Cill na Martra: D Ó Duinnín 2-2, M Ó Duinnín 1-2, M Ó Deasúna 0-4, (0-1 f, 0-1 '45), D Ó hUrdail 0-2, S Ó Fóirréidh and C Ó Duinnín 0-1 each.

Cill na Martra: Pádraig Ó Críodáin; Colm Mac Lochlainn; Tadhg Ó Corcora, Finén Ó Faoláin; Danny Ó Conaill, Seán Ó Fóirréidh, Cianie Ó Fóirréidh; Antón Ó Cuana, Gearóid Ó Goillidhe (Capt); Daniel Ó Duinnín, Ciarán Ó Duinnín, D Ó hUrdail; Maidhchí Ó Duinnín, Micheál Ó Deasúna, Fionnbarr Ó hÉalaithe. Subs: Shane Ó Duinnín for M Ó Deasúna (52), Graham Ó Mocháin for F Ó Faoláin (56), Criostóir Ó Meachair for Maidhchí Ó Duinnín (57), Daire Mac Lochlainn for D Ó hUrdail (62), Eoin Ó Conaill for A Ó Cuana (63) Management: Seán Ó hÉimhín (Trainer), Donal Ó Buachalla and Gearóid Ó hÉalaithe.

S&C: Criostóir Ó Loingsigh

#### **AIB Munster Club Intermediate Football Championship Intermediate A Football**

Final: Aghabullogue 2-13 Mitchelstown 1-15

Relegated: Glenville

#### **Premier Junior Football**

Final: Kilmurphy 1-11 St Finbarrs 3-6

Relegated: St Michaels

Munster:

Quarter Final: Kilmurphy 2-16 Sean Treacys, Tipperary 1-6

Semi Final: Kilmurphy 4-16 Feenagh/Kilmeedy 0-2

Final: Listowel Emmets 0-9 Kilmurphy 1-2

#### **AIB Munster Club Junior Football Final**

Listowel Emmets 0-9 Kilmurphy 1-2

This AIB Munster Club Junior Football Final at Mallow was not a very happy occasion for Kilmurphy who suffered defeat for the second year in a row to Kerry opposition in the provincial decider. There was no disputing the merit of the Listowel club's win as they had led from early on, had a 0-4 to 0-0 lead at half time and were easing to victory long before the finish, the Kilmurphy goal coming in the 64th minute. The two Kilmurphy points were scored by defenders and generally the Kerry defence had the measure of the Kilmurphy attack from the start. To be fair, Kilmurphy are not as strong as they were last season when they won Mid Cork and County titles with Fionn Warren, Pádraig Hinchion, Dave McCarthy, John O'Mullane, Joe Ryan and William Buckley all very prominent and the absence of so many established players in a Munster final told. Kilmurphy's big regret for this season will one feels be their county final defeat by St Finbarrs when they had victory within their grasp. That defeat also meant that they would not be promoted to Intermediate A grade after what had been a fine season.

Conditions at Mallow were good for the game but there was a wind blowing. In the early stages it became apparent that the quick tackling Listowel defenders were dealing well with every Kilmurphy attack and the game was being played in the Kilmurphy half of the field. A free advance for dissent yielded the first point in the 8th minute and another free to Listowel doubled their advantage in the 13th minute. Kilmurphy attacks continued to be without success

and confidence was not helped by a couple of bad wides. Listowel finished the half with two late points, one from a free, to lead by 0-4 to nil at the break and the Kerry men would have wind advantage in the second half.

Listowel had added two more points to their tally before Tomás Collins, set up by Aisling, had the first score of the game for Kilmurphy in the 38th minute, 0-6 to 0-1 now. There was no further scoring until the 50th minute when Listowel availed of another free, (for obstruction) and they were in control of possession and had a punched point in the 55th minute. When they added another two minutes later from another free to make it 0-9 to 0-1 it was crystal clear who the winners would be but Kilmurphy did finish with a flourish. In the 58th minute Brian Hinchion took a pass from Liam Wall to kick a superb point and deep in time added Greg Barrett had the ball in the Listowel net to improve the final scoreline but too late to fuel a successful comeback.

Kilmurphy scorers: G Barrett 1-0, B Hinchion and T Collins 0-1 each.

Kilmurphy: Jason McDonnell, Brian Hinchion, Kevin Barrett, Gearóid O'Mahony, Alexander Aisling, William Ronan, Tomás Collins: Kyle Kelleher, James O'Mullane: Daniel Cahalane, Lawrence Aisling, Rory Duggan: Pádraig Berhanu, Liam Wall, Seán Warren Subs: Joe O'Mullane 34, Ryan Leahy 46, Greg Barrett 53, Joe McGinn 57.

Management: Cormac Linehan (Manager), David Drummond, Con BarryMurphy and Denis O'Mullane, Management: Cormac Linehan with Denis O'Mullane, David Drummond and Con BarryMurphy

#### **County Junior A Football Championship Final:**

Canovee 4-14 Mayfield 1-11

Canovee footballers finished the year unbeaten in league or championship.

## HURLING: Co-Op Superstores Cork County Hurling Championships

#### **Premier Senior Hurling**

Final: Sarsfields 0-21 Middleton 0-19

Relegation: Glen Rovers relegated

Munster:

QF: Ballygunner, Waterford 2-20 Sarsfields 0-9

#### **Senior A Hurling**

Final: Newcestown 0-19 Blarney 1-16

Relegation: Mallow relegated

Premier Intermediate Hurling

Final: Castlelyons 0-19 Kilworth 0-17

Relegation: Bandon relegated

**Munster:**

Semi final: Castlelyons 2-22 Crotta O'Neills, Kerry 2-18 aet

Final: Castlelyons 3-16 Corofin 0-19

#### **Intermediate A Hurling**

Final: Aghabullogue 3-17 (26) Middleton 2-19 (25)

Relegation: Douglas relegated

County Premier Junior Hurling

Final: Erin's Own 1-14 St Catherine's 2-9

Relegation: Tracton relegated

**Munster:**

Quarter final: St Catherine's 2-16 Ardmore 1-11

Semi final: St Catherine's 2-17 Ballinahinch, Tipperary 0-11

Final: St Catherine's 2-14 Feenagh/Kilmeedy 1-15

#### **County Junior A Hurling Championship**

Semi Final: Nemo Rangers 2-12 Ballinora 1-14

**Oriel House Hotel**

#### **Mid Cork Junior B Hurling Championship**

Final Replay: Inniscarra 1-21 Aghabullogue 1-17 aet

Cork County JBHC: Fermoy 1-14 Inniscarra 0-15

#### **Macroem Motors**

#### **Mid Cork U21 Football Championship**

A Grade (2 teams): Final: Ballincollig 3-8 Éire Óg 0-14

B Grade (3 teams): Final: Naomh Abán 0-14 Inniscarra 1-7

C Grade (9 teams): Final: Donoughmore 2-8 Beal Átha'n Ghaorthaidh 1-6

#### **Farho Heating**

#### **Mid Cork U21 Hurling Championship**

Premier Final: Ballincollig 1-24 Inniscarra 2-16

A Grade Final: Aghabullogue 2-11 Grenagh 0-14

B Grade Final: Donoughmore 2-14 Western Gaels 1-7

#### **Munster Colleges - Corn Ui Mhuiri Senior A Football**

#### **Preliminary Quarter Final**

St Francis College Rochestown 2-14 Coachford College 0-3

St Francis College Rochestown got the better of Coachford College in the Corn Uí Mhuiri preliminary quarter-final tie at Bishopstown. It was very much a one-sided contest, with Rochestown much the slicker outfit against a Coachford team who just didn't reach the same levels as previous games in difficult conditions with heavy rain and driving wind

throughout the encounter. It was all Rochestown as they led by 0-6 to nil

Coachford, got their first score after 20 minutes through a fine Seán O'Hanlon effort, but Rochestown hit two of the next three points as they led 0-8 to 0-2 after 27 minutes and it was 0-10 to 0-2 at the break.

The one way traffic continued into the second-half, three more points for Roco before they billowed the net from close-range, 1-13 to 0-2. Aaron O'Sullivan converted a free for Coachford after 43 minutes, which would be their final score of the match.

Rochestown scored their second goal approaching injury time, Coachford did battle right to the end but nothing came to fruition.

Scorers for Coachford College: A O'Sullivan 0-2 f, S O'Hanlon 0-1.

Coachford College: D Kearney (Donoughmore); T O'Reilly (Inniscarra), T Lyons (Inniscarra), Oisín O'Connell (Aghabullogue); K O'Connell (Donoughmore), R Delaney (Canovee), M O'Leary (Kilmurphy); C Gillespie (Aghabullogue), S O'Hanlon (Donoughmore); G Coleman (Canovee), M Murphy (Inniscarra), Odhran O'Connell (Aghabullogue); D McDonnell (Donoughmore), A O'Sullivan (Aghabullogue), D Dineen (Inniscarra). Subs: O McDonald (Kilmurphy) 14, E McNamara (Donoughmore) h-t, C Thompson (Aghabullogue) 39, C O'Driscoll (Canovee) 48.



## MUSKERRY GAA CONVENTION 2023– RUNAI’S REPORT (CONCLUSION)

### Scór

Scór na bPáistí competition started off the year. Participants represented Cumann Liathroid Lamha, Cill na Martra, St. Vals, Scoil Abán, Baile Mhúirne, Scoil Lachtáin Naofa, Cill na Martra, Canovee N.S., Canovee G.A.A., Cumann Peil, Cill na Martra, Uibh Laoire C.L.G., Aghabullogue G.A.A., Aghinagh GAA, Ballinagree N.S., Ovens N.S., Éire Óg Hurling, Berrings NS, Aghinagh Football, Farran NS, Cloughduv GAA, Cloughduv Camogie, Eire Og Ladies Football, Eire Og Football, Kilbarry NS and Rusheen NS. The winners progressed to the Cork Scór Na bPáistí semifinal held on Saturday, 11th March, in Eire Og GAA Complex.

The winners in the Rince Fóirne came from St. Vals. Amy Ní Nuáin, Éilís Ní Suilleabháin, Sadhbh Ní Mhuinnacháin, Ada de Brún, Maddison Ní Dúláine, Sofi Kalesnik, Sadhbh Ní Laoire and Aoibhe Ní Ceitinn represented their teams.

The Amhránaíocht Aonair competition was won by Ailish Eklöf from Kilbarry NS.

Éire Óg Hurling members Clíodhna Larkin, Daithi de Roiste, Brianna Harrington, Senan McCarthy went through in the Ceol Uirlise competition.

In the Aithriseoireacht/Scéalaíocht competition, Éire Óg Football was represented by Chloe O'Halloran.

The Bailéad Ghrúpa was won by Cumann Peile Cill na Martra players -Fia Ní Laoire, Aoife Ní Uidhir, Abbie Ní Liatháin, Andrea Ní Thuama agus Marie Ní Bhuachalla.

The Tráth na gCeisteanna competition was won by Aghinagh GAA players - Pádraig Ó Ceileachair, Niamh Ní Liatháin, Seán Mac Súilleabháin agus Seán Ó Tuataigh.

Éire Óg Football members - Donncha O'Leary-Murphy, Daisy Arundel, Ruby O'Regan, Amy Ryan, Sarah O'Mahony and Kyle O'Regan went through in the Nuachleas competition.

St. Vals - Amy Ní Suilleabháin, Éilís Ní Suilleabháin, Ada de Brún, Maddison Ní Dúláine, Sadhbh Ní Laoire, Aisling Ní hAillíosa, Aoibhe Ní Ceitinn agus Sibéal Ní Cheallacháin won the Rince Seit.

Laura Harrington from Éire Óg Ladies Football went through in the Figiúr Rince Aonair competition.

The Ceol Uirlise Aonair was won by Scoil Abán Naofa, Baile Mhúirne, represented by Seán Ó Ciardha. There were great photos uploaded on the Cork Scór Facebook page.

**Muskerry Scór Na nOg**, winners progressed to Cork Scór Na nOg competition held in the Eire Og GAA Complex. The Rince Fóirne was represented by Kilmurruy GAA - Courtney Rose Ni Linechain, Sinead Allen, Eibhlin Ni Donachda and Clodagh de Brun.

Éire Óg GAA players, Clíodhna Larkin, Daithi de Roiste, Brianna Harrington, Senan McCarthy won the Ceol Uirlise competition.

The Amhránaíocht Aonair was won by Aghabullogue GAA player Lisa Carey Martin.

The Aithriseoireacht/Scéalaíocht competition was won by Chloe O'Halloran from Éire Óg GAA. Aghabullogue GAA members Lisa Carey Martin, Eimear Corkery, Olivia Carey Martin and Elizabeth Long represented Muskerry in the Tráth na gCeisteanna.

The Nuachleas competition was won by Éire Óg GAA players Donncha O'LearyMurphy, Daisy Arundel, Ruby O'Regan, Amy Ryan, Sarah O'Mahony and Kyle O'Regan.

### Scór Sinsir,

Scór Sinsir kicked off with a Table Quiz organised by the Scór Chorcaí, and open to all clubs in the County. Aghabullogue GAA got as far as the stage part of the competition in the County Final.

Cill na Martra represented Muskerry in the Instrumental competition. Aodhagan O Riordain, Ellen de Burca, Meabh Ni Chonaill and Roisin Murphy played beautifully.

The Ballad competition was represented by Inniscarra GAA - Catherine Casey, Jennifer Casey, Joan-Marie Healy, Eva Mullane and Tim Mullane.

Tim Mullane took part in the Scealaíocht. Eva Mullane competed in the Solo Singing.

A warm congratulations to Canovee on winning the Denis O'Donovan trophy for the best school/club in Scór na bPaistí.

The Niall Casey Cup for the best overall club in Muskerry for the three Scór competitions went to Aghabullogue.

The Officers sincerely thank the various hall committees, adjudicators, teachers, mentors, secretaries and Muskerry GAA officers for their hard work. As the current committee retires, we want to thank all those we have been in contact with over the many years we have been involved. We will stay to support new members and we are always interested in supporting new volunteers who would like to promote Scór so it continues to be a thriving part of the GAA community. Follow Facebook - Scór Muscraí - Muskerry Scór to keep up to date.

### *Dolores Ni Longaigh, Runai November 2023*

#### *Referees - Cumann Reiteoiri Mhuscraí*

Cumann Reiteoiri Mhuscraí have officiated at a significant number of games, not just in our own division but throughout the county. The Cumann held its Annual General Meeting in February. At this meeting

our officers of 2022 were re-elected to their posts: Colm O Mochain – Caitheoirleach Ristead Aynsley – Runai Eoghan O Buachalla – Leas-Caitheoirleach Diarmuid O Ciardhubhain – Leas-Runai We managed to hold our annual Christmas meal and Hall of Fame awards in 2022 after an absence of two years. We were pleased to welcome Officers from the Muskerry Board to this event and thanked them for their kind support of this event once again. As part of the evening, we were incredibly pleased to present Aubert Twomey with our annual Hall of Fame award. Aubert is known to all for his long service to the GAA community. He joins a long list of prestigious recipients of this award. Our annual in-service course was on-line this year. Although challenging and not as interactive as when we meet in person, it did bring clarity in respect of the new football rules. We did meet as a group for an informative session from Pat Moore which was appreciated by all who attended.

As usual the appointments for the Muskerry Finals were fairly distributed, and we compliment the Muskerry Board for their efforts in this regard. Our congratulations go to: David Murnane – Junior A Football Final Colm O'Mochain – Junior B Football Final Peter Cotter – Junior C Football Final Brendan Barry-Murphy – Junior A Hurling Final Luke Knight and Diarmuid Kirwan – Junior B Hurling Final and Replay We would like to place on record our thanks to the Muskerry Board for their support for referee's during the year. It is appreciated by all.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to remind the Muskerry Clubs that abuse of referees can never be tolerated. Referees continue to report all instances of abuse. Although we, fortunately, have not seen issues locally, we cannot be complacent on the matter. Mentors and players will not always agree with refereeing decisions, but referees play a vital role within the organisation. No referees = No games. We are pleased to see new names taking to the field to officiate matches this year, and we would like to thank Jim McEvoy from our division and his colleagues for their work in recruiting new bodies to the whistle. We would also thank our Muskerry clubs for their support of these new referees as they began their careers in the black. Finally at the start of the year we lost our dear friend and colleague Billy Twomey. Billy was a mainstay of Uibh Laoire GAA and Naomh Fionbarra LGFA and his loss leaves a hole in both clubs that will be difficult if not impossible to fill. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a hanam. Ristead Aynsley – Runai, Muskerry GAA Referee Group GAA

## MID-CORK REFEREE ADMINISTRATOR REPORT 2023 FROM MIAH MOYNIHAN

2023 has been a very successful year in the Mid-Cork calendar – highlighted by the unique County double by Aghabullogue in hurling and football at Intermediate level and also by Cill na Martra who have moved to the Senior A ranks with a marvellous County Intermediate victory. We await with interest the outcome of the Bon Secours Junior A County final in which Canovee are representing the Division. Cill na Martra and Kilmurruy continue to fly the flag for the Division and the county in Munster. A new referees committee was set up and approved by the Cork County Board on which there are four members from Muskerry. Jim McEvoy : Rúnaí Diarmuid Kirwin: Mentoring Paddy Corkery: Umpire Rep. Miah Moynihan: Advisors.

The outstanding lifetime contribution to refereeing by Michael Keane, Clough Dubh will be marked by a well deserved GAA Award in Páirc Uí Chaoimh on 24/11/23. His loyalty and commitment to the

association cannot be understated.

Noteworthy is the progress of Dave Murnane and John Ryan who are on the National Football Panel of Referees. Dave has refereed the All-Ireland Junior Football final and 3 Tailteann Cup matches while John has refereed the County Senior A Football Final and will be referee to the Munster Senior Club Championship Semi-final in Football . Diarmuid Kirwin refereed the Munster Junior Camogie final and Colm Vaughan refereed an All-Ireland U16 Camogie Final. Peter O Leary, refereed the Senior Ladies County Football final. It is with great sadness that we note the passing of a Mid-Cork GAA stalwart in Billy Twomey. Our good colleague refereed in the division for many years and was a founder member of Naomh Fionbarra ladies football team. Billy was a selector on the Cork Minor Team of 2022 when Cork won the All-Ireland title. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis.

The following is a summary of the various matches played during the course of this year with the associated referee. In total 311 matches were played in the Muskerry Division including football and hurling. Key matches are the following Championship games. Mid Cork Football Junior A Final : Referee: Dave Murnane Mid Cork Hurling Junior A Final: Referee: Brendan Barry Murphy Mid Cork Football Junior B Final : Referee: Colm Vaughan Mid Cork Hurling Junior B Final : Referee: Luke Knight (Replay – Diarmuid Kirwin) Mid Cork Football Junior C Final : Referee: Peter Cotter U21 Premier Hurling Final: Referee: Brendan Marry Murphy U21 A Football Final: Referee: Pat O Leary U21 A Hurling Final: Referee: TBC U21 B Football Final: Referee: TBC U21 B Hurling Final: Referee: John Horgan U21 C Football Final: Referee: TBC - Diarmuid Ó Muimhneacháin



## DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2023 FOR MUSKERRY GAA

The following is an outline of development work undertaken and in the pipeline for clubs in this division in 2023.

**CLG Aghabullogue:** 2023 proved to be yet another busy period for our club's development initiatives, marked by the successful completion of two major projects. Notably, we added a state-of-the-art gym equipped to meet the specific needs of both GAA and Camogie players within the club. This valuable addition enhances our capacity to support the physical training and conditioning requirements of our athletes. Additionally, we successfully finalised the construction of our skills wall, boasting an astro turf surface and floodlighting for optimal usability. In total, the club invested over €100,000 into these significant facility enhancements throughout the course of 2023. These endeavours underscore our club's ongoing commitment to providing topnotch resources and fostering a conducive environment for the growth and success of CLG

**Ballinora:** Ballinora GAA club continue to progress the development of its facilities. During 2023 we had very significant improvements in both our facilities in Ballinora and Ballymah. In Ballinora we fitted two sets of Ball Stop nets which will really benefit us into the future. The club wishes to extend a big thanks to Hourihan Developments for completing this despite poor weather conditions. In Ballymah we refurbished our dressing rooms. We also installed a new set of flags which are very impressive. We also installed an AED unit which will be visible for all to use if required. This is a great addition to our community. We have also qualified as healthy club members and are enlisting our Club as a smoke free zone. We plan to do further work in 2024 & 2025 subject to Sports Capital Grant approval. Development Report 2023 for Muskerry GAA continued...

CLG Cill na Martra: The development of the training



**West Muskerry AC winners of the Best All Ireland B club in February 2023 in Ireland, winning team, individual and county medals in every age from u 11 to u 17**

field and floodlights is well underway at present. Lots of preparation under way for Comortas Peile na Gaeltachta which we are holding next year. CLG Donoughmore The official launch of "Healthy Club" was held on Monday the 1st of May 2023. This coincided with the official opening of the Walkway which is also now fully lit up. All our pitches and viewing areas are now accessible for wheelchair users and people with mobility issues.

**CLG Kilmurry:** In Kilmurry GAA grounds in Coolduv, new fencing behind the goals were erected. In Kilmurry GAA grounds in Crookstown, a new walkway has been put in place and a new entrance wall to the grounds is in progress.

**CLG Uibh Laoire:** Uibh Laoire GAA moved toward the silver Category in Irelands Healthy Club project. This is our 4th year doing Health Clubs and we are happy with the progress. We continued this year with

Ireland lights up, became a smoke free club and also introduced a parents and toddlers weekly group as part of the initiative. I wish to express my thanks to the various clubs who provided the information for this report. All clubs are to be complimented on the ongoing improvements in facilities at their venues. - Daithí Ó Laoi - Oifigeach Forbartha

### Sponsorship

Our thanks, once again, are extended to our sponsors during the past year:

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**Jack Kelleher, (seated second from right) with his Canovee GAA officials and team mates following the presentation of his Muskerry GAA/EPH Controls sports award at the Auld Triangle, Macroom. Picture: Mike English**



**Marie Casey, EPH Controls, presenting Jack Kelleher, Canovee GAA, with his Muskerry GAA/EPH Controls Sport Award at function held at the Auld Triangle, Macroom. Included is Anne O'Riordan, PRO Muskerry Division. Picture: Mike English**



**Kilmurry Munster Junior Football Championship Final 2023.**





## LAOCHRA OG

**13th December 2023**

Congratulations to Saint Marys Camogie team and to all the Laochra Og girls involved with a great win against a very strong Buttevant team last night scoring 1-19 at Bishopstown 4g pitch last night. Fantastic achievement and score to put up.

**16th December 2023**

A Fantastic evening was held last night in the Abbey Hotel Ballyvourney where our U13 Hurling Mid Cork winners and our U15 Hurling Feile winners received their medals with a great reception from proud parents and siblings looking on. A special thanks to the two teams sponsors Mid Cork Pallets & Packaging and M & J Kelleher Ltd - MJK Oils whom have supported our club from the very beginning. Laochra Óg will celebrate their 10th Anniversary in 2024 and with our fantastic pitch development making great progress, the future is certainly bright for our up and coming players in both hurling and camogie.

**U12 Camogie** team with one of the signs that will welcome people to Ballymacorcoran when it finally opens to the public later next year.. Laochra Og will be 10 years in existence on January 28th next after been sanctioned by the Cork County Board to promote Hurling/Camogie in a region of Cork where there was none at the time in the areas mentioned. Laochra Og has since spread its wings to a wider catchment area



**U12 Camogie Team Sports Complex Macroom 16th December 2023 01**

and surrounds promoting our National game in our local communities.

**Laochra Óg A.G.M**

Our annual A.G.M. was held recently and the elected officers for 2024 are as follows:  
 Chairperson Ian Keoghan,  
 Vice Chair Paul Lyons,  
 Secretary Mary Kelleher,  
 Assistant Secretary Marguerite Murphy,  
 Treasurer Eddie Walsh,  
 Assistant Treasurer Michael Burke,  
 P.R.O. Siobhan O'Shea,  
 Assistant P.R.O. Eleanor Cronin,

Camogie Secretary Marie Burke,  
 Assistant Camogie Secretary Caitriona O'Donoghue  
 Thank you to all members who attended the A.G.M and well done to outgoing officers who have been busy behind the scenes keeping the club administration organised throughout the season. Welcome to the newly elected officers who go on to run the club in 2024 which will be a busy season with a ten year anniversary of our club coming up in January and the opening of our new club base in Ballymacorcoran as well. Best of luck in 2024.



**Liam and the Laochra Og Camogie players after winning the Intermediate Colleges Cup with Saint Marys, Macroom in Bishopstown**



**U13 Hurling Mid Cork winners and U15 Hurling Feile winners medals presentation**



**Kilmurry Management Team, Con Barry Murphy, David Drummond, Cormac Linehan, Denis O Mullane.**



**County Champions St Mary's victorious Camogie Team with coaches Liam Slattery and Ms Linehan**



**Lady Captain of Macroom golf club Rose Beamish presenting her prize to the winner Ann Morris.**



**President of Macroom golf club Dan Kiely with his wife Mary presenting his prize to the winner Graham O'Flynn**



**Lady President of Macroom golf club Annie Piotrowski presenting her prize to Sinead Enright.**





## BUSY TIME FOR MACROOM'S HANDBALL / RACQUETBALL CLUB

Recent months have seen increased activity on both the Handball and Racquetball fronts in Macroom. A six week course for juveniles, an Introduction to Handball, has just been completed and proved to very popular for both boys and girls with large numbers attending. (Picture attached) It was supported by Cork Sports Partnership and Cork GAA Handball. This took place at the clubs court in the Macroom Community Leisure facility on Tuesday nights, led by coaches Ray Griffin and John Lyons.

A Racquetball league commenced in October and proved to be most successful, with players from Macroom, Ballyvourney and Kllnamartyra taking part. The league was run in four divisions, based on the standards and produced many close and exciting games. This was supported by Racquetball Ireland and organized by local club officers.



Macroom's Handball / Racquetball Club in training

### Lotto Win

Huge congratulations to David Manning c/o Murray's who was the lucky jackpot winner last week. The winning numbers were 8, 13 and 15 and the jackpot was €3,400. Congratulations to David from all at the club and enjoy the winnings.

### Schoolboys Round Up

The U12s travelled to Cobh and had a big 7-2 win over locals Springfield Ramblers. A fine squad outing with a standout performance from Cormac O' Leary who scored 4 goals. Further strikes from Tiernan Desmond Knight, Eoghan O' Sullivan and Lachlann Kearney Burke. The U14A schoolboys were away to Castlevew in a league game and emerged victorious, 3-2 in windy conditions at O' Sullivan Park. The home side started well and were 2-0 up after just 15 minutes. Macroom responded well and Simon McCarthy scored to give the visitors encouragement. The game was levelled when Ramon Fuentes Quintero struck. This was now a cracking tie at 2-2 with Darragh Manning, Fionn Fitton, Cormac Healy and David Kelleher all doing well for the visitors. The winner for Macroom came from the excellent David O' Leary when he popped up with a good finish. Castlevew tried everything to fashion an equaliser but Macroom held out for a morale boosting away win. Well done to all players and coaches and thanks to parents for the support. The U15 lads had a big win away to Leaside at Little Island. This game was level at 1-1 at half time but Macroom completely dominated the second half, scoring 5 goals without reply. Needless to say, this was a great squad performance and wraps up 2023 nicely. Macroom move into second place in the league going into the New Year. Goals in this one

## MACROOM SOCCER CLUB



WCSSL U12 Girls Premier League Champions 2023

from Eoin Holland (2), Donagh Moss, Michael Dunne, Ben Ronan and Jayden Leahy. The U15A boys had a tremendous league win away to Passage, 1-0. An outstanding performance from these lads who were well led by captain Tamer Alloush. Meanwhile, the U13A boys were away to Riverstown and won with a Conall O' Mahony double. In U13 div 3, Macroom won 3-0 away to Innishvilla in the league. A brilliant performance from all the players with Darragh Creed (2) and Cormac O' Leary getting the goals. The U14 boys travelled away to higher ranked Mallow Utd in the National Trophy and lost out 3-1 after extra time. Macroom gave a brilliant display and led 1-0 after Dylan O' Shea scored a first half cracker. Mallow equalised with just 2 minutes remaining and added further goals during the extra time. It was tough on Macroom but loads of positives were taken from this game. Calum O' Driscoll, Ciaran Coleman, Aled Hopkins, Jamie McCarthy and Conor Doyle did well.

Cork Schoolboys League activities are now paused for Christmas and will resume on the weekend of 6th/7th Jan 2024.

### Thanks

As we come to the end of another calendar year, many thanks to everyone who volunteers their time to run our club. There is massive work going on and the future is bright. As is well known, we have big plans for 2024 with the centrepiece of this being the Astro and Community Walkway build. We are currently waiting on the result of our Sports Capital grant application and it is hoped that a successful result will allow us to get works completed in 2024. Great support has been received so far and many thanks to all who have supported the major venture. Further fundraising activities are in the pipeline for the coming year. For now though, Happy Christmas to all our friends, supporters, sponsors, players and volunteers and good luck to all in the New Year.



Macroom FC U14A schoolboys side who had a 3-2 away win over Castlevew



Macroom FC U12A schoolboys who beat Springfield Ramblers in Cobh





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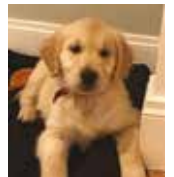
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- Roofing • First Fix • Second Fix • Stairs
- Flooring • Dry Lining/Slabbing
- Attic Conversions & Renovations





## A Word of Victory

Welcome back dear student, to begin, I wish you a very joyous Christmas and pray you and your family have a Peaceful New Year. You have done well this year in following our weekly Bible study articles. I pray they have helped you grow in your relationship with God. It would be beneficial for you to get your own Bible – a translation that you will enjoy reading preferably with a 'giant size' print (font size 12+) to make reading easier. Jack Hayford's Spirit filled study Bible is an excellent resource with additional notes. The Amplified Bible, NIV or NLT are great easy-reading translations, giving insight into the original language. A hardback cover, or 'leather-soft' material both ensure robust wear as you read your Bible every day. Treat yourself to the wonderful gift of God's Word, because when you read a physical Bible to study the Scriptures referenced here it will change your life forever. If you would like a FREE Starter Bible please ring, text, or email us (details below) and we will post it to you gladly. You are also most welcome to attend our special Christmas Eve Worship Service this Sunday morning at 11am, where you can collect your free Bible in person. The Eircode is V93V6X4 – Tiernabouli, Killarney.

Lots of people will go to church over the next few days. For some it's the only time of year they visit. People like to see the crib, or light a candle, thinking of loved ones who've passed on - a time for reflection and seeking Hope. When I read Luke's Gospel where the angels announced the birth of our Saviour to the shepherds it always makes me emotional (Luke 2:1-20). The shepherds were nobodies. But God – The Good Shepherd – symbolically chose them to be the first to enter the Presence of His Son Yeshua, the promised Messiah to worship Him (Ezekiel 34:12). The angels gave Glory to God as they told of Jesus' birth, announcing the Good News – that through this vulnerable little Baby, Peace with God was possible for all of mankind. Peace is something people crave. Life is hectic and we all look forward to a break and some peace. However, the world's peace never lasts – something is sure to take it (John 14:27).

"For unto us a Child is born... a Son is given... the government will be upon His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and Peace there will be no end." (Isaiah 9:6-7). What our Eternal God did by sending Jesus was to bring lasting Peace for us, because Jesus is the 'Prince of Peace' (John 16:33; Colossians 1:20-22). Folks maybe are attracted to God more at Christmas, because in that innocent little baby they see the picture of Peace. We sing 'Silent Night' and 'O Holy Night' because they remind us of the tranquil scene of that night. But even peaceful memories of the nativity don't last long in our world. Why? Because it's only part of the Truth. The Baby grew up - strong in the Spirit (Luke 2:40-52). Then He died upon the Cross taking all of mankind's sins, pain, and sickness, and was raised from the dead having conquered sin, death, and hell – fulfilling His part of God's Promise of Salvation. So you see, to receive the True Peace of God you need the entirety of Jesus' Birth, Life, Death, and Resurrection! (John 11:25; Revelation 22:12) And know this: Messiah Lord Jesus is coming back, soon - not as a helpless baby, but the All-Conquering-King! God bless you dear friend.

Bible Study & Prayer every Sunday @ 11am and Thursdays @ 7.30pm in person and on Zoom at Word of Victory Christian Fellowship Killarney - Eircode: V93V6X4.

You can listen to our podcasts on Spotify. Find the links on our Facebook page - Word of Victory Christian Fellowship Killarney, or on Twitter - @WovKillarney.



Check us out on Facebook.

E: wovkillarney@gmail.com | Phone/Text - 087 4471797

### 2ND ANNIVERSARY



In loving memory of

**TED KELLEHER**  
Gurrane Clondrohid Macroom who  
died on Jan 5th 2022

*Say not in grief 'he is no more' but in  
thankfulness that he was*



Sadly Missed and fondly remembered by  
Jackie, Connie Lisa and Mikey

### 2ND ANNIVERSARY



In loving memory of

**TED KELLEHER**  
Clondrohid, who sadly passed away  
on January 5th 2022.

*Lord have mercy on his soul.  
May Our Lady always be at his side.*

*Rest in Peace Ted.*



Lovingly remembered & treasured by  
Juliana, Matthew, Gobnait & Family.

## Citizens Information

### Adapting a Home for a Person with a Disability or an Older Person

#### Q. What is the Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability?

This is a grant for people with a physical, sensory, mental health or intellectual disability. It provides funding so you can improve how you enter and move around your home.

You can use this grant to make your home more accessible by:

- Adding ramps or other ways to access your home
- Extending your home to create more space, for example, adding a downstairs bedroom
- Adding accessible bathroom facilities, such as an accessible shower or a ground-floor bathroom or toilet
- Installing a stair lift
- Installing grab rails
- Installing a fixed track hoist. (This is a ceiling or wall-mounted track with a sling attached to it, which means you can be mechanically lifted and moved to different places along the track).

The grant does not cover VAT on the work. However, you can apply to Revenue for a VAT refund for any appliances that you need and the cost of installing them.

#### How much is the grant?

The maximum grant you can get is €30,000 or 95% of the cost of the work (whichever is less). The amount of money you get depends on your household income for the previous tax year. If your household income is less than €30,000, you may get 95% of the cost of the works up to the maximum grant amount of €30,000.

If your house is less than 12 months old, the grant will not be more than €14,500.

As household income increases, the percentage of the costs paid by the grant gradually reduce from 95% to 30%. So, if you have a household income of between €50,001 and €60,000, you will qualify for 30% of the costs. You may not get the maximum grant, even if you qualify for it. This is because the grant is paid by your local authority and depends on what funding they have available. They will decide whether they can pay you the full grant, or a percentage of the grant.

You will not get a grant if your gross annual household income is over €60,000.

#### What grant is available to assist older people to carry our essential repairs to their home?

A. The Housing Aid for Older People Grant is for essential repairs to improve the condition of an older person's home so they can continue to live there. It is aimed at people aged 66 and older, who are living in poor housing conditions. However, in cases of genuine hardship the local authority may help people under the age of 66.

Essential repairs can include:

- Repairing or replacing the roof
- Upgrading the electrical wiring
- Repairing or replacing the windows and doors
- Providing central heating

You should check with Cork County Council to see what types of repairs they will cover.

#### Continued in the next edition ....

Know Your Rights has been compiled by Citizens Information West Cork which provides a free and confidential service to the public. If you need further information about any of the issues raised here or you have other questions, you can drop-in to your local Citizens Information Service in Bantry or Macroom. Alternatively you can telephone 0818 07 8390. They will be happy to assist you  
WEST CORK HELPLINE 0818 07 8390

The Bantry office is staffed from 10am -5pm from Monday to Thursday and on Friday from 10am -4pm. Macroom office is open on Mondays & Tuesdays from 10am-1pm & 2pm -4.30pm  
Alternatively you can email on bantry@citinfo.ie or log on to www.citizensinformation.ie



**30TH ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of

**MAE  
HARTNETT**

**Clomacow Crookstown  
Who died December 21st 1993.**

*Till roses lose their petals  
and heather has lost its dew  
Till the end of time dear mother  
we always remember you.*



Forever in our hearts.  
Your loving daughter Mary, son-in-law  
Goalie grandsons Martin & Mark,  
granddaughter Julieann and their  
partners.

**4TH ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of

**NORMA  
MCSWEENEY**

**Silver Manor, Ballinlough  
who died December 18th, 2019.**

*We thought of you today  
but that is nothing new  
We thought about you yesterday  
and days before that too  
We think of you in silence  
and often speak your name  
Now all we have is memories  
and your picture in a frame  
Your memory is our keepsake  
with which we'll never part  
God has you on his keeping  
we have you in our heart.*



Your loving sister Mary, brother in law  
Goalie, nephews Martin & Mark niece  
Julieann and their partners.

**30TH ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of

**MAE  
HARTNETT**

**Clomacow Crookstown  
Who died December 21st 1993.**

*We cannot bring the old days back,  
When we were all together.  
The family chain is broken now  
But memories live forever.  
A silent grief thats in our hearts  
No human eye can trace  
Fo many a broken heart is hid  
Beneath a smiling face.*



From your heartbroken sister and daughter  
Anna Hartnett (O'Dowd), Noel and Joseph.

**4TH ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of

**NORMA  
MCSWEENEY**

**Silver Manor, Ballinlough  
who died December 18th, 2019.**

**16TH ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of

**AUSTIN  
COONEY**

**Carrigaphooka, Macroom  
Who died on the 29th Dec 2007**

*They say that time will heal the pain,  
But Austin that's just not true.  
No matter how much time goes by,  
our hearts still ache for you.  
At first we counted days and weeks,  
Today we're counting years.  
We cannot count the memories, Nor  
can we count the tears.  
If wishes could be granted, And all our dreams  
came true.  
What we would wish for more than anything,  
is to have more time with you.*



*We will never forget you, missed always by  
your mother, heartbroken brothers & sisters-  
Roger, Ann-Marie, Mary Frances, Mossy, Kay &  
Edwina, aunts & uncles.*

**THE MIRACLE  
PRAYER**



Dear Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked  
many favours. This time I ask you this special  
one, (mention favour).  
Take it dear heart of Jesus and place it within  
your heart where your father sees it.  
Then in his merciful eyes it will become  
your favour, not mine. Amen.

Say this prayer three times for three days  
and your favour will be granted.  
Never known to fail.  
Must promise publication of prayer.

x

**9TH & 15TH ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of

**MARGARET  
& CONNIE  
KELLEHER**

**Curraleigh Carriganima, Macroom  
whose 9th & 15th anniversaries occur  
around this time**

*Your Lives were a blessing  
Your memories we treasure  
You are loved beyond words  
And missed beyond measure.*

*Will those who think of Connie & Margaret today,  
a little prayer to Jesus say*



Remembered today and always by Conor  
Marie John Darragh and Shauna

**14TH ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of

**JOHN (JACK)  
BURKE**

**Late Rahoona, Ballymakeera  
whose Anniversary occurs at this  
time**

*We miss your smile, your joking ways,  
We miss the things you used to say,  
And when good times we do recall,  
Its then we miss you most of all,  
Your voice keeps whispering gently,  
Loved ones be brave and true,  
At the end of life there is sunshine  
I'll be waiting and watching you.*



From his loving family Liam, Siobhan,  
Jack and Joanne  
Anniversary Mass in Ballyvourney Church:  
11.30 am on Sunday the 7th January.

**MEMORIALS**  
LEE VALLEY OUTLOOK  
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**FIRST ANNIVERSARY AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**



In loving memory of  
**TIMOTHY (THADE) LANE**  
Adrivale, Co. Cork  
who died on the 1st January 2023.

On the first anniversary of Thade who sadly passed away on the 1st January 2023, his wife Mary & family wish to express our gratitude for the kindness & support shown to us.

We wish to acknowledge the many expressions of sympathy, mass cards, condolences on RIP and we thank everyone who attended his funeral and those who travelled long distances to be with us. Special thanks to all our neighbours for bringing food and those who lined the road of the funeral cortege for Thade's last journey.

We would like to thank Davy Tarrant, Declan, Cora, grave digger and all at Tarrant's Funeral directors for their support & professionalism.

Thanks to Fr John Fitzgerald, to Sharon at Parish office for arranging prayers & mass booklets and to Julie the sacristan.

Massive thanks to the staff at Millstreet Medical Centre and Cork University Hospital for all their help & kindness to Thade.

A huge thank you to Millstreet Vintage Club members for traffic management and for their guard of honour.

As it would be impossible to thank everyone individually, please accept this acknowledgment as our sincere appreciation.

The Holy Sacrifice of the mass will be offered for your intentions.



Thade's first anniversary mass will take place in St Patrick's Church Millstreet on Saturday 30th December 2023 at 6:15pm.

**FIRST ANNIVERSARY AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**



In loving memory of  
**PETER CRONIN**  
Kilnadur, Dunmanway.  
Who Died on the 16th of December 2022.

As we fondly remember Peter on his first anniversary, we his wife Maureen, son Tadgh, daughter Maura, Peter's Brothers and sisters, wish to express our sincere gratitude to all who sympathised with us on our sad loss.

Our heartfelt thanks to all our relations, friends and wonderful neighbours who helped us at that difficult time.

Thanks to all that called to our home to attend the wake, funeral home, funeral mass and burial. We gratefully acknowledge those who sent mass cards, perpetual enrolments, floral tributes, on-line condolences and words of comfort. The mark of respect shown by all who stood on the roadside to and from the funeral home was very special. To all who brought food and refreshments to our home and helped out at the house in any way, thank you.

We would like thank Fr. Pat O'Donovan for a lovely mass and also to Fr. Anthony O'Mahony for the graveside prayers. Sincere thanks also to Tracy and Sinead for the beautiful music and singing and to all who helped out at the mass including the sacristan and all who helped with stewarding.

A special thanks to the wonderful staff of the Mercy and Mater hospitals. To Dr. Jack and Dr. Brendan O'Connell. Also to Cyril and the team at Casey's Undertakers for their professionalism, kindness and support to us.

To the staff, pupils and parents of St. Enda's N.S. for the guard of honour at the school, it was truly meaningful. Also thanks to the gravediggers and finally the staff and management of the Parkway hotel for the lovely meal provided.

As it's impossible to thank everyone individually, please accept this acknowledgement as a token of our sincere thanks and gratitude. Mass has been offered for your intentions.



May he Rest in Peace.

**CHRISTMAS REMEMBRANCE and ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**



In loving memory of  
**MR. FRANCIS BUCKLEY**

23RD FEBRUARY 2021



In loving memory of  
**VIRGINIA BUCKLEY**

(née Murphy)

3RD OCTOBER 2022

**TOAMES EAST, MACROOM, CO. CORK**

The family of the late Francis and Virginia Buckley would like to thank all those who sympathised with them and supported them during their recent bereavements. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass has been offered for your intentions.



*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
And let perpetual light shine upon them.  
May they rest in peace. Amen.*

**14TH ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of  
**JERRY DENNEHY**  
Shandangan, Carrigadrohid, Co. Cork  
whose anniversary occurs on the  
2nd January

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



Lovingly remembered by his wife  
Teresa, son Sean, daughters Bernadette,  
Cathleen, Breedra, Carmel, Aileen, Colette,  
Noreen, Daughter in Law, Sons in Law and  
Grandchildren.

**BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE**



**PADDY MC CARTHY**

*If tears could wash away our pain,  
We would not feel such hurt again,  
The heartbreak felt since you've been gone,  
We wouldn't wish on anyone,  
But today is your birthday,  
So we'll have to be brave  
And accept God's taken what first He gave.*



Thinking of you and always missed by your loving wife Eileen, sons Noel and Brendan, daughter-in-laws Adrienne and Stephanie, grandchildren Jennifer, Shane, Matthew, Lauren, relatives and friends.

**PRAYER TO THE VIRGIN MARY**



Prayer to the Virgin Mary (never known to fail). O Most beautiful flower of Carmel, fruitful vine, splendour of heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, immaculate Virgin, assist me in this my necessity. O Star of the Sea, help me and show me here you are my Mother, O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3 times). Sweet Mother, I place this cause in your hands (3 times). Holy Mary I place this cause in your hands (3 times). O thank you for your mercy to me and mine. Amen. This prayer must be said for three days and after the request will be granted and the prayer must be published. PD

**THE MIRACLE PRAYER**



Dear Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked many favours. This time I ask you this special one, (mention favour). Take it dear heart of Jesus and place it within your heart where your father sees it. Then in his merciful eyes it will become your favour, not mine. Amen. Say this prayer three times for three days and your favour will be granted. Never known to fail. Must promise publication of prayer.



**2ND ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of

**CHRISSIE  
LUCEY**

**Gortnacarraiga, Inchigeela  
Who died on the 22nd December  
2021**

*Though your smile is gone forever  
And your hand we cannot touch  
We have so many memories of you  
That we loved so much  
Your memory is our keepsake  
With which we'll never part  
God has you in his keeping  
We have you in our hearts*



Remembered by your sons  
Tim & Michael and families  
Relatives and neighbours

**4TH ANNIVERSARY**



Treasured memories of

**CHRISTY  
BOYLE**

**Coolnasoon, Carrigadrohid Co Cork  
Who passed away on December 25th  
2019**

*Christy's beautiful life came to an end,  
He died as he lived everyone's friend  
Grief is the price we pay for love  
RIP*



Fondly remembered by his wife Mary  
& family.

**18TH ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of

**MARY CASEY**

**Hanover Hall, Macroom  
Died on December 28th 2005**

*Though your smile is gone forever  
And your hand we cannot touch  
We have so many memories  
That we all loved so much.*

*God has you in his safe keeping  
We have you forever in our hearts.*



Love and miss you always,  
Your husband, Pat, children and  
grandchildren.

**20TH ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of

**TERESA  
KELLEHER**

**5 Upper Masseytown, Macroom  
Who died on 1st Jan, 2004**

**Remembering with love my dear  
sister in law and friend.**

**We too remember today  
Denis (Denny)  
Who died on 5th Oct 2023**

*You are more than a memory  
Silently kept, you are part of our lives we  
will never forget.*



Always loved and missed by Masie, Sean,  
Emily and Bella and your loving god  
daughter Kelly. Michael, Faye and Robin.

**ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of

**MICHAEL  
TWOHIG**

**21st Anniversary  
Who passed away on 6th January  
2003**



In loving memory of

**JOAN  
TWOHIG**

**7th Anniversary  
Who passed away on 7th January  
2017**

**Pullerick, Crookstown**

**In loving memory of our dear Mom and Dad whose anniversaries  
occur around this time.**

**Our Lady of Knock pray for ye both**

*No length of time can take away  
Our thoughts of ye from day to day  
Time slips by and life goes on  
But from our hearts ye are never gone.*



**Sadly missed but fondly and lovingly remembered**

xx

**4TH ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of

**DON  
(DONNACHA)  
LYNCH**

**Fossa, Codrum, Macroom, Co.Cork.  
Who died on the 1st January 2020**

*You are more than a memory,  
Silently kept,  
You are part of our lives,  
We will never forget.*



Always loved and remembered by  
Kathleen, Martin, Lynn, Wayne, Donna,  
Susan and extended Family.

**FIRST ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of

**BINA CRONIN**

**Rathmines, Dublin &  
Keimaneigh, Ballingearry, Co. Cork.  
Who died on December 18th, 2022**

*Time passes but memories stay.  
Loved and remembered every day.*



Sadly missed by her extended family  
and friends.

**MEMORIALS**  
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**7TH ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of

**MICHAEL A. COAKLEY**

late of Mountmassey, Macroom, Co.Cork who died on 27th December 2016.

*A beautiful life that came to an end. You died as you lived, everyone's friend. In our hearts your memory will always be kept. of one we loved and will never forget.*

Remembering our Mam & Nana Bridget who died recently. May they be reunited together this Christmas.

*Will those who think of Michael & Bridget today a little prayer to Jesus say.*



Sadly missed by his daughters Brid, Una, Marie Clare and family.

**32ND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE**



In loving memory of our dear son & brother

**MARK DUGGAN**

Moulnahorna, Macroom. Whose 32nd birthday occurs on 18th of December

*Just a prayer from the family Who loved you, Just a memory fond and true. In our hearts you will live forever, Because we thought the world of you. No matter how life changes, No matter what we do, A special place within our hearts, Is always kept for you. May the wind blow gently, and whisper for you to hear, How much we love and miss you and wish you were still here.*



Lovingly and Fondly remembered by parents Eddie & Margaret, brothers Denis, Alan, Eddie, Luke & Owen, sisters Tracey & Niamh  
Happy 32nd Birthday Mark xxx

**6TH ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of

**CAROLINE SWEENEY O'DONOGHUE**

30/12/2017

*We're missing you a little more, each time we hear your name, we've cried so many tears, yet our hearts broken just the same. We miss our times together, things in common we could share, but nothing fills the emptiness now you're no longer there. We've so many precious memories to last our whole life through. Each one of them is a reminder of how much we're missing you.*



Missing your smiling face and thinking about you always and in our hearts all the time.

Sadly missed by Jamie, Zara, Anthony, Mam, Michelle, David, Liz, Jer, Garry, Danny, Katie, Uncles, Aunties, Nephews, Nieces, goddaughters Tara & Katelynn

**6TH ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of

**CAROLINE SWEENEY O'DONOGHUE**

30/12/2017

*I love you Mam, I wish you were here for Christmas. I miss you and wish you were here. It will be hard without you this year going into secondary school.*



Love Jamie and Zara

**20TH ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of

**JOAN HEALY**

Kilgobnet, Clondrohid, Macroom Who died on 2nd January 2004

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



Always remembered by Helen, Dan, Colette, Margaret and family.

**5TH ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of

**MARY HINCHION**

Mashanaglass, Macroom, Co. cork Who died on 18th Dec 2018

*Will those who think of Mary today A little prayer to Jesus say.*



Always remembered by her loving sons, daughters, and grandchildren.

**9TH ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of a dear husband, father and grandfather

**DENNY CRONIN**

Cahirkeeren, Kilnamartyra whose 9th anniversary occurred on 7th January.

*A daily thought a silent prayer, a constant wish that you were here, an empty place no one can fill, we miss you today and always will.*



Always remembered by his wife Kate, daughter Siobhan, sons Pat, Denis, Gearoid and families.

**4TH ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of

**SINÉAD PLUNKETT**

Poulanargid, Lissarda, Co.Cork Who died 28th December 2019.

*Today is full of memories, Of a special girl laid to rest, and every single one of them Is filled with Happiness. For you were someone special, Always such a joy to know, And there was so much pain When it was time to let you go. That's why this special message Is sent to heaven above For all the angels to take care of you And give you all our love.*



Loved and cherished by Mam, Dad, Aoife, Niamh and Ciara xx

Anniversary Mass on Wednesday the 27th December at 10am in Kilmurry Church.



**5TH ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of

**MARGARET  
(PEGGY) ROCHE**

who died on  
**28th December 2018**

*We hold you close  
within our hearts  
and there you shall remain  
To walk with us  
throughout our lives  
until we meet again.  
So rest in peace dear Mother  
and thank for all  
you've done.*

*We pray God has given you  
the crown that  
you have truly won.*



Sadly missed by your sons Patrick, Gerard and Diarmuid, grand daughters Melaine and Shauna, great grandson Tyler John.

*St. Gobnait, St. Aban, St. Colman, St. Jude,  
St. Anthony, St. Pio, St. Peregrine  
Pray for them.*

**47TH ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of

**SEAN  
ROCHE**

**Coolnacahera, Ballymakerra  
who died on 14th October 1976**

*A loving Father most sincere  
Cared for by all he knew,  
He loved us all so very dear,  
And we all loved him too.  
But God in his Mercy will give us hope,  
and help us bear the strain  
Of the one we loved and lost,  
'Till we meet in Heaven again.*

*You can only have one Father  
Patient, kind and true.  
No other friend in all the world  
Will be the same to you.  
When other friends forsake you,  
To father you will return  
For all his loving kindness  
He asks nothing in return.*

*As we look upon his picture,  
Precious memories we recall,  
Of a face so full of sunshine,  
And a smile for one and all.  
Sweet Jesus take this message,  
To our dear Father up above,  
Tell him how much we miss him,  
And give him all our love.*

**40TH ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of our father

**PADDY JOE  
O'RIORDAN**

**Barrett's Place, Macroom, Co Cork  
Who died on the 29th of December  
1983**

*No matter how life changes  
No matter what we do  
A special place in our hearts  
Is always there for you.*



Lovingly remembered by his daughters  
Sheila, Eleanor, Marian, Margaret  
& their families

Anniversary Mass Sunday 31st December  
11:30am In St Colmans Church Macroom

**2ND ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of our father

**BRENDAN  
O'CALLAGHAN**

**St Gobnait's Tce, Ballyvourney,  
Co Cork**

**Who died on the 17th  
of December 2021**

*God saw you getting tired  
And a cure was not to be  
So he put his arms around you  
And whispered come with me.*

*With tearful eyes we watched you  
And saw you pass away  
Although we loved you dearly  
We could not make you stay.*

*A heart full of gold stopped beating  
Hard working hands at rest  
God broke our hearts to prove to us  
He only takes the best.*



Sadly missed along lifes way  
Quietly remembered everyday  
by your loving family.  
Nora, Jonathan, Ciara, Laura, Michael,  
grandson Brendan, son in law Hugh and  
daughter in law Eleanor  
St Gobnait pray for him.

**25TH ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of

**MAURA  
TWOOMEY**

**Leicester  
(late of Coolnacahera, Ballymakeera)  
whose anniversary occurs on  
3rd December 1998**

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



Sadly missed by your nephews Patrick,  
Gerard and Diarmuid

**31ST ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of

**BESSIE  
FREER**

**Leicester and late of Coolnacahera  
who died on the 23rd December  
1992**

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



Sadly missed by your nephews  
Patrick, Gerard and Diarmuid

**29TH ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of her Husband

**ALLEN JOHN  
FREER**

**Leicester  
who died on the  
2nd June 1994**

**20TH ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of

**JOSEPHINE  
O'RIORDAN**  
**Cooldorrihy, Kilmichael  
who died on December 22nd 2003.**

*Will those who think of her today a little  
prayer to Jesus say.*

*Our Lady of Knock pray for her.*



Always remembered by Mary and Anna  
and families.



**CHRISTMAS REMEMBRANCE**



In loving memory of

**DANIEL O'REGAN    MARY O'REGAN    PATRICK O'REGAN    CHRISTINE O'REGAN**

whose 22nd Anniversary occurs on St Stephens Day

Codrum, Macroom, Co. Cork

*Just a prayer from the ones who loved you  
Just a memory fond and true  
In our hearts you will live forever  
Because we thought the world of you*



Lovingly Remembered by Brendan, Máirín, Liadan, Odhran and Fionn  
XXX

**11TH ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of  
**MEGAN MALONE**

Candroma, Kilnamartyra, Macroom,  
Co. Cork.  
18/12/12

*"Missing you Megan every minute of  
everyday always.  
Time keeps passing but the pain of losing  
you lingers on, our sweet, brave princess!"*



Love from  
Dad, Mom, Chloe, Dylan, Tristan, Robyn,  
Nanny Connell & Granda, Nanna Kay &  
Granda Mike.

Ar dheis De go raibh a hAnam!

**7TH ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of

**JIM FLEMING**

8 Belmont Place, Crookstown,  
Co.Cork. Who died on 20th of  
December 2016

*Gone are the days,  
We used to share  
But in our hearts,  
You are always there  
The gates of memory,  
Will never close  
We miss you more,  
Than anyone knows  
With tender love  
and deep regret,  
We who love you will never forget.*



From his loving wife Sheila.  
Sons, Paul, Brian, James  
and daughter Tina and grandchildren.

**CHRISTMAS REMEMBRANCE**



In loving memory of

**DANIEL O'REGAN    MARY O'REGAN    PATRICK O'REGAN    CHRISTINE O'REGAN**

whose 22nd Anniversary occurs on St Stephens Day

Codrum, Macroom, Co. Cork

*Missing You Always  
Especially at Christmastime.*

*With all the celebrations  
And Christmas drawing near  
What a lovely time we'd have  
If only ye were here.*

*We'd spend so many happy hours  
The way we did before  
Christmas is for loved ones  
And we couldn't miss you more.*

*When we wake on Christmas Day  
We will look to Heaven above  
And we will remember every smile  
and think of ye with love.*



Always remembered by Michael, Gobnait and Owen

XXX

**4TH ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of  
**PEGGIE BUCKLEY  
(NEE HEALY)**

Woodview, Farnanes, Co. Cork  
Who died on the 12th December,  
2019

*You are more than a memory  
Silently kept  
You are part of our lives  
We will never forget.*



Rest in peace Peggie.  
Sadly missed by her nephews Denis and  
Noel and extended family.

**40TH ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of

**MICHAEL O'SULLIVAN**

Shandangan, Carrigadrohid,  
Co. Cork.  
Who died on 24th December 1983.

*Sadly missed along life's way,  
Quietly remembered every day.  
No longer in our lives to share,  
But in our hearts, always there.*



Always remembered by Elinor, Ann, Gus,  
Marion, family and friends.

**MEMORIALS**  
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**30TH ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of

**MAE  
HARTNETT**

Clomacow Crookstown

Who died December 21st 1993.

**4TH ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of

**NORMA  
MCSWEENEY**

Silver Manor, Ballinlough

who died December 18th, 2019.



Loved and remembered by Tim, Katherine, Jed.

**20TH & 12TH ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of

**KATHLEEN  
HORGAN**



In loving memory of

**JOHNNY  
HORGAN**

6 St. Gobnait's Terrace, Ballymakeera, Macroom

*We miss your smile, your joking ways,  
We miss the things you used to say  
And when old times we do recall,  
It's then we miss you most of all.*



**Always remembered & sadly missed,  
by your loving family.**

**3RD ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of

**PÁDRAIG  
(CON PATSY)  
CRONIN**

**16TH ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of

**JOAN  
CRONIN**

**Dromanallig, Ballingearry  
who's 3rd and 16th anniversaries occur around this time.**

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



Sadly missed and fondly remembered by the  
Kelleher family, Goirtín na Coille.

**7TH ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of

**FINBARR  
CORKERY**

**Ballyvoigue, Kilnamartrya  
who died on 29th December 2016**

*Every day in some small way  
Memories of you come our way.  
Though absent, you are always near  
Still missed, loved and always dear.*



Always remembered by  
Ann Marie, John, Noelle and Conor

**20TH ANNIVERSARY**



In loving memory of

**JOHN  
KELLEHER**

**Clondrohid, Macroom,  
Who died on  
22nd December 2003.**

*May the wind blow gently, and  
whisper for you to hear,  
How much we love and miss you  
and wish you were still here.*



Always remembered with love by  
your late mother Kate, brother Gene,  
sisters Breda and Marie,  
brothers in law, sister in law,  
nieces, nephews, relatives,  
neighbours and friends.

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**THE MIRACLE PRAYER**



Dear Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked many favours. This time I ask you this special one, (mention favour). Take it dear heart of Jesus and place it within your heart where your father sees it. Then in his merciful eyes it will become your favour, not mine. Amen. Say this prayer three times for three days and your favour will be granted. Never known to fail. Must promise publication of prayer. **CM**



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