

SUMMER 2021

corrib news

& Oughterard Newsletter



HIGHLIGHTS:

NEW BOOK BY LOCAL WRITER
PETE MULLINEAUX

COVID TALES AND RECIPES FROM
RESIDENTS AND THE DIASPORA

OUCHTERARD SEWERAGE UPGRADE

JOYS OF WALKING IN NATURE

WHAT IS THIS TIME WE ARE IN?

BY FR. MICHAEL
CONNOLLY

SPECIAL
FEATURE

uachtarARTS March

ONLINE EXHIBITIONS

NEW LOCAL BUSINESS CIARA LENNON SOLICITORS

REPORTS
FROM SPORTS AND
SOCIAL CLUBS, SCHOOLS,
LOCAL BUSINESSES AND
COMMUNITY GROUPS

UPCOMING EVENTS:

NOTE THAT ALL UPCOMING EVENTS
ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGES DUE TO THE
CONTINUING COVID-19 VIRUS OUTBREAK

SUMMER 2021

corrib news

& Oughterard Newsletter



HIGHLIGHTS:

**NEW BOOK BY LOCAL WRITER
PETE MULLINEAUX**

**COVID TALES AND RECIPES FROM
RESIDENTS AND THE DIASPORA**

OUCHTERARD SEWERAGE UPGRADE

JOYS OF WALKING IN NATURE

WHAT IS THIS TIME WE ARE IN?

BY FR. MICHAEL
CONNOLLY

SPECIAL
FEATURE

uachtarARTS March

ONLINE EXHIBITIONS

NEW LOCAL BUSINESS
**CIARA LENNON
SOLICITORS**

REPORTS
FROM SPORTS AND
SOCIAL CLUBS, SCHOOLS,
LOCAL BUSINESSES AND
COMMUNITY GROUPS

UPCOMING EVENTS:

NOTE THAT ALL UPCOMING EVENTS
ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGES DUE TO THE
CONTINUING COVID-19 VIRUS OUTBREAK

EDITORIAL

Welcome back to Oughterard! Great to see the place buzzing again with residents and visitors alike. Much is still the same, but many things have changed for the better. You can read about some of these in this issue of the magazine. Businesses are looking forward to a busy summer as Covid regulations are lifted, encouraging Irish and foreign visitors to enjoy the many delights of this area.

We now have a greater appreciation for the outdoors and nature in general, and for what wild things are growing and moving around the place. "Al fresco" dining has caught on at home and when "eating out". Many catering businesses have expanded their outdoor offerings. For example, humans are now eating out of livestock feeders on Camp Street, which is but one example of the many attractive outdoor hospitality spaces that have been created during lockdown.

Although the main community-wide events of the St. Patrick's Day Parade, Mayfly Festival, the Regatta at Baurisheen, and the Oughterard Show, have had to be cancelled for a second year, the smaller-group activities are now largely back on track, including the sport clubs and community groups such as Corrib Ramblers. Arts exhibitions are coming back to the Courthouse from the beginning of July. We have benefitted from a very active Tidy Towns team this year, and hopefully all of us can play our part in keeping the village clean and attractive to live in or to visit.

Oughterard continues to grow in businesses and community enterprises. Most recently, the new skin

clinic "OceanSkin" has opened, Oughterard's first Electric Vehicle (EV) charger has been installed at the Community Centre, a Hygiene Bank has been established in Joyce's supermarket, and a theatre group will be starting up in the autumn.

There are currently three community planning activities which will impact the future development of Oughterard. The most important and comprehensive is the draft County Development Plan, which includes a draft Oughterard Small Growth Town Plan; hopefully, as many residents as possible will engage during July with the process of agreeing a final plan for Oughterard. Other planning activities include defining an improved network of public walking, boating and cycling trails in the area, and the establishment of a new Geopark with Oughterard as one of the key communities within it. In connection with the developing Geopark, an excellent new promotional video has been made for the Oughterard community, and is available for all to view at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lCec4iVqoYo>.

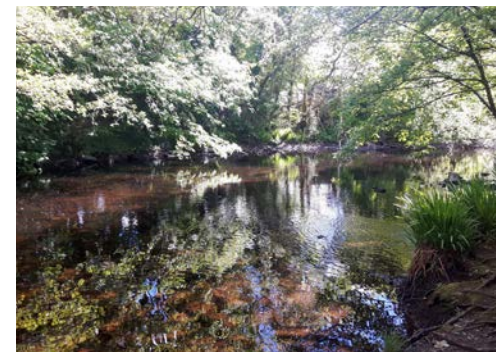
We extend our sympathy and support for the many who have been adversely affected by Covid and the lockdowns, and express our thanks to all the volunteers and community supports that have been so helpful during the past year. It is now time to get out and enjoy the summer, and don't forget to knock elbows with any available resident or visitor!

Tom Cusack

USEFUL NUMBERS

Garda Station	091-557320
The Courthouse	091-557589
Church of Immaculate Conception	091-552320/552290
Kilcummin, Church of Ireland	091-521914
Clann Resource Centre	091-557633/557634
St. Paul's Secondary School	091-552689
St. Cuimin & Caitriona NS	091-552074
St. Annin's NS	091-550316
Doireglinne NS	091-552810

Dr. Peter Harte	091-552449
Walsh's Funeral Home	087-2902377
Health Centre Oughterard	091-552200
Flaherty's Pharmacy	091-557602
Veterinary Clinic (Karel)	091-552366
Oughterard Taxi	085-8429568
D'Arcy Hackney	087-6530417
Post Office Oughterard	091-552201
Bank of Ireland	091-552123



COVER PHOTO

"The Voyage" taken by local artist Olga Magliocco. Please see Olga's article in this issue titled "The Voyage, Personal Reflections on the Tidy Towns Lake Boat in Oughterard".

ABOUT CORRIB NEWS

Corrib News is produced by Oughterard Courthouse Conservation and Heritage Co. CLG, as a volunteer service to the community. The magazine is published four times each year: the Spring issue in March, the Summer issue in June, the Autumn issue in September, and the Winter issue in December.

The current Editorial Committee consists of Deirdre Forde, Jack McCann, Leslie Lyons and Tom Cusack. Sinead Grimes manages the Corrib News Facebook page. The graphics for this issue were designed by Mimi of Myoptix Photography and this issue was printed by KPS Colour Print of Knock. Corrib News is an open access publication and will generally carry any material submitted to it as long as it is not potentially libellous or scandalous. The views and opinions expressed in the articles are not necessarily those of the Editorial Committee. In case of error of fact, we will publish corrections once we become aware of them.

Don't miss out!

Next Issue's SUBMISSION DEADLINE

The deadline for submissions for the Autumn 2021 issue is the

27th AUGUST 2021

Please send your submissions to corribnews@gmail.com, or to Corrib News, The Courthouse, Oughterard, County Galway H91 XWH9.

CONTACT US

Email: corribnews@gmail.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/corribnews

What's On ...?

Keep up to date with What's On in Oughterard by checking the Corrib News Facebook page at www.facebook.com/corribnews. This is particularly important due to the uncertainty related to the current Covid-19 virus outbreak.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

SPECIAL FEATURE

Tidy Towns and Sustainability **4-12**
New Electric Vehicle charging point in Oughterard
Sustainable gardening
A new Sensory Garden on Pier Road
New Hygiene Bank established in Oughterard
A revitalised Tidy Towns team

HIGHLIGHTS

Pete Mullineaux's new book **21**
Covid tales and recipes from residents & diaspora **20, 22, 51**
Oughterard sewerage upgrade **24**
Joys of walking in nature **34-35**
Ciara Lennon opens a new solicitors office **36**
What is this time we are in? **40**

MUST READ

Mesolithic tale for children **14-16**
Microchipping your pet **17**
The Voyage: Tidy Towns lake boat **26-27**
Diary of a Mayo Camino **28-30**
Glamping at Curraghduff Farm **37**

LOCAL NEWS & UPDATES

Oughterard Youth Centre **13**
Clann Resource Centre **16-19**
Learning about the story of water **25**
Tidy Towns **31**
Scoil Muire Doireglinne **32-33**
St Paul's Secondary School **33**
Oughterard Courthouse **35**
The Church of The Immaculate Conception **38 -39**
Kilcummin Parish Church **41**

CLUBS & COMMUNITY GROUPS

The Corrib Ramblers **44-48**
The Senior Group **49**
Oughterard Courthouse Arts Programme **50-51**

Kilcummin Parish Church

LATEST UPDATE

Church of Ireland in Communion with
The Anglican & Episcopal Churches



The Very Rev LYNDA PEILOW

Rector of Saint Nicholas' Collegiate Church, Galway,
Kilcummin Church, Oughterard & Provost of Tuam

e: rector@stnicholas.ie t: +353 (0)91 521 914 w: stnicholas.ie
The Rectory, Taylors Hill Road, Galway, H91 ENN3

Rev Carole Reynolds 087 6067848

Ordained Local Minister with responsibility for Kilcummin, Oughterard

Times of Service

Whenever church re-opens following current works, all Sunday services will be at 11a.m. In the meantime, Sunday services from St Nicholas' Collegiate Church Galway are available on Zoom at 11 a.m. for anybody who would like to join in by using the necessary link provided by the Rector.

Maintenance Matters

For the past two months Tom Healy has been continuing to deal with the faulty ridge capping which was found not to be adequately covering the top row of slates. When the capping was removed it was discovered that a good deal of the top of the ridge board was badly decayed and that the upper ends of a number of the rafters were also in poor condition. Over a two week period new timbers were inserted where necessary; two chimneys, which had been allowing water to enter the walls, were covered in lead; and a specially made ridge capping was fitted. Attention now moves to the lower section of the ridge

over the chancel and it has been discovered that the stone barges on all gables are also in need of capping to prevent water from getting into the walls below.

During an inspection of the building four years ago it was also discovered that fiberglass insulation fitted during re-roofing in 2009 was causing condensation on the rafters and discoloration of the plastered vaulted ceiling underneath. Upon investigation it was found that the only way to solve the problem was to remove the ceiling and this work is currently under way. Extra timbers are being attached to the rafters to provide for the insertion of new insulation leaving adequate ventilation space above, and some roof vents will also be fitted to the slates outside.

We are pleased to acknowledge an offer of grant aid from the Heritage Council towards this essential work as well as towards the replacement of the decaying headstock /beam on which the bell in the tower is mounted but, according to the



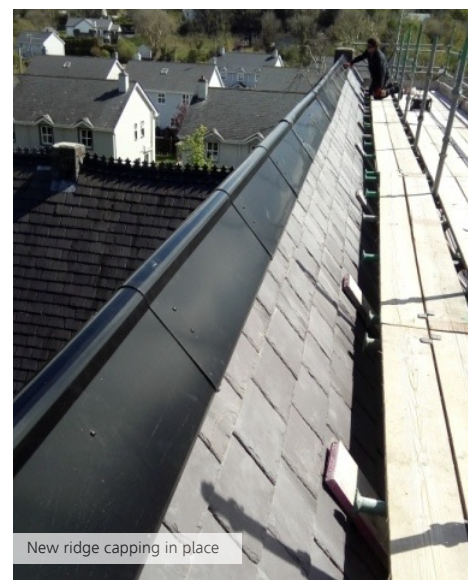
New insulation being fitted



Ceiling removed together with most of fiberglass



Repairs to ridge Board and rafters



New ridge capping in place

< Continued from previous page



Interior showing work to ceiling



Wooden headstock in need of replacement

conditions attached to the grant, 20% of the cost must come from our own resources - with a deadline for completion by the end of August and opportunities for fundraising non-existent. Should anyone like to make a donation to works, which have already cost in excess of €15,000 in materials alone, please let us know or donate online to: Kilcummin Parish Church Current Account IBAN: IE62 BOFI 9039 3913 2012 58 We hope that, with these essential repairs completed, Kilcummin Church will be preserved for future generations and become a space which can be more widely used by the community.

We are grateful for the expert advice of Conservation Architect Gerry Mc Manus in

relation to all of the ongoing work and, following a recent detailed examination of the bell mounting by structural engineer John Britton, we now await his suggestions for the most efficient way of dealing with the replacement of the headstock.

Significant Birthdays

Congratulations to Phyl Furness who celebrated her 106th birthday on Sunday 23rd May and to Maureen Fitzmaurice - a mere 16 years behind - who marked her 90th on Wednesday 2nd June. A report on Phyl's remarkable 106 years is to be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

A Note from Carole Reynolds:

There is a real sense of summer and freedom around us. With a lot of people being fully vaccinated and businesses opening up again, there is a lively buzz around the town of Oughterard. It is wonderful to see people out and about again enjoying life, albeit cautiously.

With St Paul's Secondary School now closed for the holidays, I would like to wish the best of luck to all the Leaving Certificate students as they embark on their future adventures. The primary schools



Maureen celebrates her 90th birthday

will be closing shortly too, I'm sure not only the children are looking forward to the holidays but all the teaching staff as well, after what was certainly a very stressful year for everybody. ■

Fan slán gach duine.
Beannacht libh go léir.
Carole

Continued on next page >



The Corrib Boatmen

Written by Bill Daly, Oughterard Culture and Heritage Group



From Left: T.C. Kingsmill Moore, Jamesie Donnellan and Bill Donnellan in the early 1930's

Because of the Bann Flakes (small stone tools) which were found in 1975 and again in 1984 at River Island, where the Owenriff River flows into Lough Corrib, Oughterard can claim a pedigree to be amongst a very small number of places in Ireland where the first settlers to this country came to live and build their homes, almost 7,000 years ago.

Around 14,000 years ago marked the end of the last Ice Age. The era between the retreat of the ice and the development of farming is called the Mesolithic, or the Middle Stone Age. This phase lasted from 8,000BC to 4,000BC, which is over 40% of our recorded time on this Island.

Ireland during Mesolithic times was completely different than it is now and everywhere was covered in a thick canopy of trees. The new settlers could move more easily on rivers and lakes, and sought out these places for their refuge. A good supply of water was very important, for drinking purposes and also to attract wild game. They were the last of the Hunter-Gatherer people, before humans were to become involved in farming (Neolithic) or metal-working (Bronze Age), but they were also

very creative and inventive. Because they did not grow any crops, or have the ability to store their produce, they had to become very skilled at hunting and fishing. The main animals at the time in Ireland were the wild pig and hare, along with fowl, and the rivers and seas yielded salmon, trout, eels, oysters and mussels. They always had to be on top of their hunting and fishing game, or they did not eat.

From flints and sharp stones, they made sharp blades called microliths, creating tools and knives for cutting, and they were the first humans to create a vital new weapon – the bow and arrow. Long before there was any hint of farming practices in Ireland, they would have been hunting wild boar, also collecting hazelnuts and berries that would have been available seasonally. They would have known their landscape very intimately, and were very aware of what was available in certain areas at different times of the year.

I will now move forward over 7,000 years to Oughterard of the 1930's and take a look at the Corrib Boatmen. They became celebrated in 1960 after the publication of T.C. Kingsmill Moore's book 'A Man May

Fish', which is still held in high renown across the world. Kingsmill Moore was a most distinguished judge of the Irish High Court and of the Supreme Court, and he had played a part in Irish political life as a member of the Senate. When he came to Oughterard to fish Lough Corrib in 1926, Jamesie Donnellan and Jimmy Mc Donagh from Billamore would be his Boatmen for the next 10 years. In the early years, Jimmy was in charge of the rowing and Jamesie dispensed the technical information. After Jamesie had passed away, Jimmy combined both of these positions.

Kingsmill Moore fished many of the lakes across Ireland, and it would be unusual for the Boatmen to get more than a couple of lines of reference. However, TC was so enamoured at the skill and knowledge of Jamesie and Jimmy that he devoted two full chapters to them – Lough Corrib and Jamesie (Chapter 11) and the Wisdom of Jamesie (Chapter 12). It is a wonderful testament to two local Boatmen from Billamore and we should be very proud of them.

I will now ask the question – was there a continuity of tradition between the

< Continued from previous page

Mesolithic fishermen and The Corrib Boatmen? Did that original skill make its way down through all the millennia to the present day?

Baurisheen is one of the most northerly of the Oughterard townlands and its eastern side is a window that overlooks Lough Corrib. Baurisheen became the epicenter of professional fishing in the area with the advent of the famed Corrib Bell Fishermen. The Corrib Bell fishermen used a smaller single boat called a punt or bricin, and was usually about 14 feet in length. This was essentially a single boat and a much smaller craft than the subsequent Lake Boat of 18 to 19 feet when the tourist economy came along. Hazel poles with thirty foot lines were trolled at the back of the boat, and a bell rang at the top of the hazel rod when a fish struck the line. The punt was very popular and every house in Baurisheen probably had a couple.

A look at the census records show that there were on average a couple of fisherman in every house. I also came across some data from 1905 that showed 50 people in the area working as fisherman, and they would have to catch an average of 10 lbs (4.5kg) per day to make it economical. I am told that the Baurisheen fishermen never feared the weather as they knew every inch of the lake and were also very knowledgeable to changing weather conditions. As a precaution they would always take some wrapped-up

cake out with them and some paraffin to light a fire if they had to stay on one of the islands overnight due to inclement weather. Nobody in Baurisheen worried if they didn't come back at night as they had the reputation of being skillful and fearless fishermen. The punt actually reminds me of the ancient 'coracle', both were light boats suitable for one person and there may be a connection here.

I am now going to switch to the Galway City fishing village of The Claddagh, and I will be coming back to Baurisheen again shortly. Up to the 1930's The Claddagh was a very old fishing village close to the centre of Galway City, where the River Corrib meets Galway Bay. The people of the Claddagh survived as a standalone fishing society with their own laws and customs until their houses fell into disrepair and the City was closing in on them. The Claddagh is recorded as one of the oldest former fishing villages in Ireland and the people who lived there had been gathering seafood and skilled at fishing over many thousands of years prehistory and history. Thomas Carlyle, writing in 1849, described them as a 'kind of wild Irish community'.

Try to imagine what Baurisheen, also a fishing village, would have looked like in the early part of the 20th century. There may have been similar cottages with thatched roofs, but they would have been spaced further apart with agricultural land. Is it possible to establish a link between The Claddagh and Baurisheen? There is no evidence to link

both fishing villages at the moment, but this is what I think may have happened.

There is a nice bit of activity on the River Corrib in Galway, and this is where the first Mesolithic sites may have been located as they arrived from the sea. Oranmore, Menlough and Townsparks have yielded Mesolithic evidence over the years and as we journey westwards there are further sites in Oughterard (River Island), Streamstown Bay, Roundstone (Dog's Bay) and Renvyle. After a while of settling on the River Corrib, and it could have taken a few hundred years, a group may have decided to explore up Lough Corrib and started heading west. The main party probably stayed in Galway to establish a fishing village which would later become known as The Claddagh. As the exploratory Mesolithic group headed up the narrow part of Lough Corrib, they probably thought they were still travelling up a river like the River Corrib in Galway where they were coming from. As they started to approach Oughterard they may have got a little startled as the lake began to widen, and they may have thought they were back at the Ocean again. Then to the left they saw a decent looking river (Owenriff) flowing into Lough Corrib, they sailed up the first part of the Owenriff, liked what they saw and decided to stay for a while.

They built their houses on the side of the Owenriff, and they now had the advantage of a river, a lake and forestry area where they could hunt for the wild pig. While they were out fishing in the logboats one day they decided to hug a shoreline up another bit and they arrived at Bauriseen Bay. This was an even better place to launch

Continued on next page >



Jimmy Mc Donagh with one of his Customers.

'Jimmy and I went out alone after Jamesie had retired., and Jimmy did the work of two men. A more tireless and willing boatman never rowed in Corrib. No matter how hopeless seemed the day, Jimmy would not give in. 'Try one more drift, Sir, between the islands,' and if that failed there was another drift to try, and yet another which must not be left unfished. Lough Corrib was his idol against whom he would hear no word. He and I were there to show forth its wonders' - T.C. Kingsmill-Moore

Continued on next page >

< Continued from previous page

our boats, they thought, and it was also serviced by the Derrylaura River. Baurisheen was now established as another Mesolithic site in Oughterard, and over subsequent years they would travel back and forth between The Claddagh and Baurisheen and over the course of prehistory into history, both of these Mesolithic sites became centres of excellent fishing sites.

I am deeply indebted to John Oliver Molloy. John Oliver, from Baurisheen, has been working as a Boatman on Lough Corrib over many decades out of Currarevagh House. He is one of nature's gentlemen, and his insightful knowledge, wisdom and experience has helped me enormously. I asked John Oliver recently why the Corrib Boatmen were always held in high esteem, and he told me that all the good Boatmen came from the ranks of the original Bell Fishermen, who knew the Lake like the back of their hand. He also remarked that the Corrib Boatmen have never had a fatality when they take people out fishing. Then we spoke about the tragedy of the Famine in Oughterard in that the river and lake were full of fish, but because people became dependant on the potato, nobody knew how to fish anymore. Interestingly, there are no records of anybody dying in Baurisheen of hunger during the Famine and they may have fished their way out of this tragic time, using fishing skills acquired

over many thousands of years.

I came across a very interesting article a few months ago called 'The Fishermen of the Claddagh', published by The Ulster Journal of Archaeology in 1854. I extracted some customs/folklore in this article to see if there were any similarities with the Baurisheen area. The Claddagh fishermen would not commence the fishing season unless a priest went out with them to bless the bay and the boats. We have a similar situation in Baurisheen with the blessing of the boats prior to the start of the fishing season in February, and holy water was always present in the boats and usually in the small baby power's bottle.

In both of the fishing villages there was an aversion to the colour red. Fishermen in Baurisheen considered it unlucky to meet a red headed woman before fishing, boats in both areas were never painted red, and Claddagh women wore blue cloaks rather than the traditional red of Galway. Claddagh fisherman always brought oaten cake, salt and ashes with them as they considered anything that passed through fire was blessed. Fisherman in Baurisheen brought oaten cake and salt

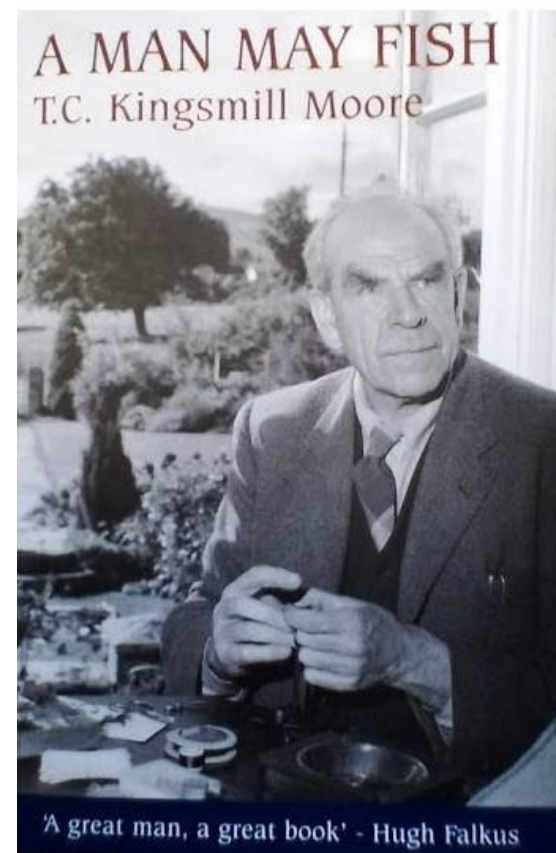


John Oliver Molloy and his Grandson Kai making memories on Lough Corrib.

with them also.

When the Claddagh boats came in they would never refuse fish to a beggar as they considered it unlucky to refuse charity for what God had already placed in the net. There was a similar situation around Baurisheen where if someone asked for a fish, the request would not be refused either and the fish would be delivered to them. Claddagh fisherman would not go fishing if a hare appeared on the shore. This is interesting as the hare was the only native animal that could be hunted in Ireland when the Mesolithic people arrived 7,000 years earlier. I can't find a corresponding account of this around Oughterard, and if anybody out there has any folklore/traditions associated with fishing on Lough Corrib you might give us a shout. ■

'All the corrib boatmen were good. They knew the lake as a landowner knows his own demesne. But Jamesie knew it as a blind man knows the house he lives in, with an absolute certainty. Though he could not see the bottom he could sense it, and in a shallow a mile long could smell his way to the few square yards which constituted a pet spot'



'A great man, a great book' - Hugh Falkus

MEMORIES OF

Patience and Spanish Omelette

ON OUR THIRD DAY IN SPAIN

Written by Teresa Hennelly Krijgsman

On the third day of our Malaga holiday, one of my hearing aids had had enough of me and decided to take a rest. I could not fix it and had to wait until the morning to find a hearing specialist. Once found, they sent it away. It will take a week !! Himself asked me if I wanted to go with it.

On return, I made coffee, I turned on the TV and tried to get an English station, I played around with it and then everything on the screen went black. Dear Lord what have I done? So himself tried to be calm and took over. Blank screen, so he called the landlady who came with this really young chap. Being nice, I said is this your son? No, he's my husband. Now it was the turn of himself to give me the evil eye - she can't hear very well, he says, so talk to me. Oh, she NO hear? asked the landlady, can she talk? Oh yes that's not her problem, I heard himself say from just one ear. The TV man will come tomorrow....

Off we go to get a gold card (for seniors) for trains and buses. The line was 10 miles long and when it came to our turn two of the ticket agents decided to take out family albums on their phones and discuss. One was oohing and awing.... wedding photos. I asked can I see also? And they said Si Si. So now I was part of the family! Then we looked at the baby pictures. Himself was shifting from one foot to another.

After this encounter we were told that we were at the wrong booth and had to line up again. Got to the right counter, no one was

there. Then after a wait, someone came and said that the agents were asleep. ASLEEP? Turns out it was siesta time. Something in the air here I'm not myself !

And we were told to come back when they got up and we did. SIT down says himself don't move or talk to anyone. Being the good wife I did, but two old Spanish ladies sat beside me. They spoke no English, I spoke no Spanish but we had great conversation and I got a recipe for Spanish omelette.

Spanish Omelette 6 servings

500g potatoes
1 onion
150 ml olive oil
4tbsp parsley chopped
6 eggs
Salt and pepper

- Wash potatoes and slice thinly
- Slice onion thinly
- Heat the olive oil in pan, and add potatoes and onion
- Put lid on pan and cook low heat about 20 minutes until potatoes/onions are cooked. Strain potatoes /onion and reserve any oil.
- In another bowl beat eggs, add salt and pepper and parsley,
- Add potatoes and onions to the egg mixture,
- With the reserved oil put everything into heated pan
- Cook over moderate heat. Keeping an eye on the bottom of omelette
- When almost set invert on a plate and slide back onto pan.

- Cook for a few minutes. Invert once or twice more to cook
- Put on plate and rest for 10 minutes before serving.

As we waited and waited for the local bus to get home, a poem by Wendy Cope came to mind:

BLOODY MEN ARE LIKE BLOODY BUSES

Bloody men are like bloody buses
You wait for about a year
And as soon as one approaches your stop
Two or three others appear
You look at them flashing their indicators
Offering you a ride
You're trying to read the destination
You haven't much time to decide.
If you make a mistake there's no turning back
Jump off, and stand there and gaze
While the cars and taxis and lorries go by.
And the minutes, the hours, the days.

Hen reports that she enjoys so much reading other letters and recipes in the Corrib News. "Last month I made Nicky Taylor's fish pie, it was delicious. I also made Jennifer Bells' chocolate chip cookies with my grandchildren over Face Time. Enjoying following the rambles on walks and holidays. Are there any quilts? Would love to see some quilts. And of course more recipes." ■

SULLIVAN'S
Country Grocer

Oughterard, Co. Galway



OPENING HOURS

Tuesday to Saturday: 9am-5pm
Sunday: 10am-4pm

Daily range of breads, baked in our very own Bread Shed! And irresistible treats coming from our shop kitchen! Country interiors and accessories: selling natural textiles, handmade leather bags and homewares which are sustainably sourced locally and from small producers around the world.

Phone: 091 866522
Website: www.sullivancountryliving.com

CORRIB RAMBLERS: Summer Trip

7-10 June 2021

Written by Heather Martin

The Corrib Ramblers had to lie dormant during much of the first half of 2021 on account of Covid restrictions and it wasn't until 16 May that we had our first outing of the year when we walked in Killannin Woods. Sensing that the mood of the group was somewhat like greyhounds straining at their leash, the committee decided we should head off for a few days as soon as regulations permitted. The decision was to go not too far away for the first break after lockdown but far enough that people felt they were "away"! So within days of the hotels reopening we found ourselves heading to Co Clare where our destination was The Falls Hotel in Ennistymon. This provided us with a very comfortable base from which to explore the wonderful Burren countryside.

Monday:

On Day One we met up in Crusheen in the morning and then headed to the nearby Dromore Wood Nature Reserve. This wood originally formed part of the private estate of the Crowe family. It was acquired by the State in the 1940s and worked as a commercial forest and then, during the 1980s, the National Parks and Wildlife Service took over the management of Dromore and focused on the regeneration of native species. In 1985 it became a Nature Reserve. The park covers an area of around 1,000 acres and includes rivers, lakes, turloughs and callows (meadows that flood during winter), limestone pavement, fen peat, reed and rush beds, and large areas of woodland. There is a vast variety of flora and fauna species.

There are also some interesting historical and archaeological features such as the O'Brien castle dating from the 17th century as well as the remains of two ring forts, a lime kiln, a children's burial ground and a chapel. It is reported that the Pine Marten, one of Ireland's rarest mammals, continues to inhabit Dromore Woods but, as they are mainly nocturnal animals, we did not spot any!

We did a very pleasant ramble around the Castle Loop and the Rabbit Island Loop, although some of our group were definitely like unleashed greyhounds and went off at an exaggerated pace which resulted in not everybody doing the whole of the Castle Loop and others looping back on themselves! We had brought a picnic lunch which we had sitting beside Dromore lake.

Then we continued our drive to The Falls Hotel where we were greeted with tea and coffee and freshly made scones, all of which were very welcome.

The hotel, which had only reopened the few days previously, was following all Covid guidelines so masks were required when walking around public spaces. In the dining room our group was seated in a separate area and four to a table. Can you imagine the excitement of being able to read a menu and choose something cooked professionally after so many months of each of us eating at home?



At O'Brien's Castle, Dromore

< Continued from previous page

Tuesday:

The plan was to do a walk along the Cliffs of Moher but Tom and Aidan, who went off to do an early morning recce while the rest of us enjoyed a leisurely breakfast, came back and said the Cliffs were in fog and that it would not be safe to do the proposed walk. So instead, we left at 10am to head to Cassidy's of Carran in the heart of the Burren, from where there is a choice of walks. We choose to do the Carran or Purple Loop having been assured that it was easy-going. But subsequently, on looking at the map, I see it is described as "strenuous" and that it was! It starts off harmlessly enough on a minor road, then turns off onto a track and then one starts climbing Termon Hill before crossing fields of limestone slabs before descending again along animal tracks and back by another grassy road. Despite having the choice of options along the way everyone opted to stay together and we all managed to get up to the top of the hill where we had a picnic lunch in the lee of some rocks. The

fun began on the way down as the descent necessitated crossing limestone pavement with deep grykes or fissures between the clints of limestone. Heather and other plants were growing in the grykes so it was quite hard to see what was rock and what was the gap between. A few people came a cropper as their foot disappeared down a fissure but fortunately no bones were broken although one person did manage to sprain an ankle (they did not fully realise it till later)! At one point a black kid goat appeared right in front of us and got quite a shock at being faced with a gang of Corrib Ramblers. It held its ground bleating loudly and reply bleats came from deep within the scrub - Mother Goat did not appear but eventually the young goat ran off into the scrub and presumably was reunited.

Once we descended we got back onto a quiet track which we followed back up into the village of Carran. Sadly the beautiful family run pub of Cassidy's in Carran was closed on account of the current Covid

restrictions but, having eaten there many times before, we hope that we will be able to return again in the future for the delicious food and friendly welcome. This pub and restaurant, currently operated by Robert and Michelle Cassidy, has been in the same family for the last 200 years. The nearby Burren Perfumery was also closed, and is currently only open part-time.

We returned to the Hotel with the intention of relaxing before dinner but Tom suggested that it was a good time for a short walk along the Cliffs of Moher as the evening was dry and bright at that point and the morning was forecast wet and cloudy again for the cliffs, and some people had never seen the Cliffs. So about ten people headed off for the short drive to the Hag's Head end of the cliffs and then a very pleasant one-hour stroll along the cliff tops from where one could look out at the Aran Islands. Una had brought her binoculars and enjoyed spotting the fulmars nesting on the ledges below us.

Wednesday:

On account of the damp weather near the coast Tom decided that we should again head east and so we headed to the Lough Avalla farm to do the looped walk there. This is a working farm run by Harry Jeuken and his family using traditional farming methods. They raise white-belted Galloway cows, goats, donkeys and sheep and make yogurt and cheese.

In 2011 the family, with the assistance of Clare County Council, developed a looped trail on their land. The trail is clearly marked and well maintained and has a variety of hand-made hazel fences and stiles as well as beautiful old stone walls. There were also numerous hazel walking sticks which Harry has left for people to use and then return. The trail is about 6 km and can take about 2.5 – 3-5 hours to complete at a leisurely pace. From the initial track

the path leads past a holy well festooned with offerings, through hazel woods and up onto a limestone pavement. This was somewhat slippery after the rain during the night so required some careful negotiating. From there one climbs up to a plateau where one is surrounded by wonderful views and where we chose to sit and have our picnic. The views of the amazing limestone rock curves of Mullaghmore were magnificent. After lunch we continued on beneath the cliffs and wandered through the Burren landscape until we got back down to Lough Avalla with its little jetty. Just as we were regaining the trail Harry appeared on his bicycle to say if we wished to have coffee in the farm he could serve it to us at the end of our walk. Sure enough we all headed there and had tea and coffee, and delicious homemade apple tart and chocolate brownies, before exploring Harry's amazing vegetable garden. We then

wandered back down the track to the cars from where we drove to Lahinch to have a look. Some people choose to do an hours walk along the beach on a rather windy evening whereas others went straight back to the hotel where we again had a lovely dinner. Some even fitted in an occasional swim in the hotel pool during our stay. The hotel had only opened the few days previously and were still trying to recruit staff. It seems as if very few mature people are now looking to work in hospitality and the average age of most of the new staff in the dining room seemed to be about 17! They were having a steep learning curve but were all doing very well under the helpful eye of the managers.

Continued on next page >

Thursday:

We packed up at a leisurely pace and left the hotel at 10:30, some having even managed to fit in a little bit of shopping in Ennistymon before leaving. We headed to Coole Park via the back roads of East Clare. Coole was the perfect place to walk after the somewhat challenging walks of

the previous days. The paths in Coole, that at times used to be muddy, have now been tarred so we had a very pleasant ramble through the beautiful woods, along the lake shore and back via the walled garden where we studied the autograph tree where various poets in the time of Lady Gregory had carved their initials. We ended

up at the Coole Park Tearooms where we had a wonderful lunch sitting outside, before we all headed off home. This trip was particularly special as it was our first after the long lockdown and it was such fun to enjoy the companionship of the group as we rambled around the beautiful and amazing scenery of the Burren.

Flowers and Birds:

This was a great time of year to appreciate nature in the Burren. Luckily, we were able to avoid the showers during the unsettled weather. The vegetation was looking very fresh and the trees were in full leaf. The trees and the plant life in general differed depending which part of Co Clare we were in. In Dromore Woods there is a variety of terrain from the wetlands, grassy meadows and shaded woodland to the typical 'living stone' Burren landscape, and so the plant life varies accordingly. On the higher slopes of the Burren at Carran Loop and Lough Avalla Farm Loop, we saw both water avens and - higher up - the mountain avens, with a profusion of the beautiful purple bloody cranesbill, the rock rose, and a variety of orchids still in bloom. The hawthorn was

in full bloom in many places in the Burren providing wonderful white colour against the grey limestone and, in Coole Park, we found lots of wild garlic. We came very close to swans and their cygnets on the shore of Dromore Lake, there were fulmar nesting on the ledges beneath us at the Cliffs of Moher and one of our enduring memories was seeing and hearing the sky larks as we wandered through the landscape.

Covid regulations permitting, Corrib Ramblers normally meet up in Oughterard Carpark on almost every Sunday morning at 10:30am. We used to carpool but, in these Covid times, people are mostly taking their own cars. We go for interesting, varied and social walks within

about one hour's driving distance. We occasionally walk further afield, including The Burren, other parts of Ireland, and in other parts of Europe. Usually, the walks are 2-3 hours long on established paths, and often there are options for people to do shorter versions if preferred. There are plenty of opportunities to loiter along the way and chat and have a picnic lunch. Also, many take refreshments at a local hostelry immediately after the walk – again Covid restrictions permitting. We welcome new members and visitors at any time: email corribramblers@gmail.com for further information, or phone Mary Kyne (086 077 9114) or Barbara McSharry (087 353 1535).



Cygnets at Dromore Lake



On the road to Mullaghmore



Fun at Coole Park Lake



Walking in Coole Park



Dining at the Falls Hotel, Ennistymon



Traversing limestone pavement at Lough Avala



At the Cliffs of Moher



Burren flower: Bloody Cranesbill



Time for retail therapy in Ennistymon?

A Personal Reflection

Written by Fr. Michael Connolly, Parish Priest, Oughterard

As summertime has arrived, with Oughterard and Connemara in particular a new holiday hotspot for “staycationers”, we are perhaps not in the mood for looking forward too much. Now and again, this can be a wise way of thinking, and necessary at times. We are all living with a lot of uncertainty, with plans half-formed, waiting for them to be modified or changed or even cancelled. Our Lord has called us to live in the present, not to worry about the future, for each day has enough trouble of its own. To get the silage and hay in, to paint the house, clean up the garden, for students to relax and have time to gather with friends (in the safe way), to take a breather, to save some turf, to fish, walk or cycle... We still have many things to be grateful for in Oughterard.

To keep some sense of management over affairs, which helps considerably in reducing feelings of stress and anxiety, it's a good time to “bring to completion” whatever jobs or responsibilities have been left hanging. It is like bringing one chapter of life to a close, while waiting for a new one to begin.

As I mentioned in the Spring edition of the Corrib news, we were not able to respond to the upheaval of the past 18 months in our parish in a deeply pastoral way. This is not anyone's fault. We have brought a chapter to a close in the parish: restoration works, grounds work, sacrament programmes for school children, among others. We now keep all these good things maintained as we embark on a new chapter, one that will be slower to bring about, but much more rewarding. Already the Spirit is moving, because our holy father, Pope Francis, has called the church to journey on a “road together” as we discern the signs of the times and seek out what God wants of us now, in our highly technical and quite advanced societies. Lay people of faith are being especially sought out to give their insights and reasoned reflections, as distinct from opinions. We are in a time of listening.

Listening around near and far, I hear of a hunger for happiness and wellbeing, especially having a life less busy and cluttered. I also see there is a great desire to connect with people, as seen in the rise

of social media and the reality of rising isolation and loneliness. I have witnessed a powerful and urgent desire to help heal the environment, to turn the tide on global warming. In many countries, there is a growing desire to see all peoples as equal in value and dignity. I hear more and more of mental health issues having an impact on peoples lives and relationships. What can we do in our parish to respond to these desires for healing and renewal?

A recent Sunday gospel spoke of the Kingdom of God being like a mustard seed, the smallest of all seeds that becomes one of the biggest shrubs. Small beginnings with God's help can become powerful realities over time. The secret is to persevere, and not judge by appearances. We will be organising a series of adult education classes, faith formation seminars, and health and well being supports for the local community from September. These will be organised with recognised experts in various fields. Secondly, we will be fostering devotional practices that have become side-lined over time. They introduce a rhythm of reflection and thankfulness that we forget to nurture in our lives. Practically, I hope to lead some weekly hill-walking groups for interested teenagers in July and August, to spend time just walking and talking and taking in our beautiful surroundings. A number of adult leaders will be required. Thirdly, I will be on the scout for individuals locally who would be qualified to form a local ecology group. This would be different from the likes of Greenpeace or the World Wildlife Fund or many others. The best response to our climate crisis is one that responds to the real needs of people, along with the environment. It is a new relationship based on stewardship and respect. This is a middle ground between the views that there is no real problem and humans are the only problem. The goal of this (hopeful) core group would be to facilitate young adults locally who would like to have a voice and an opportunity to give their time and talents to make real impact.

So much for plans. Please God they will become a reality, slowly, over time. ■

VACANCIES

Rural Social Scheme (RSS)

FORUM Connemara CLG. is recruiting applicants for the Rural Social Scheme (RSS), which is aimed at low-income farmers and fisherpersons.



All work implemented on RSS benefits the local rural community.

To qualify for the Rural Social Scheme (RSS) you must be over 25 years of age and be in receipt of one of the following:

- Job Seekers Allowance
- Disability Allowance
- Farm Assist payment

You must provide us with proof of:

- o Herd Number (Family members may qualify with consent) o

Basic Payment Scheme Application

- Fish Assist payment

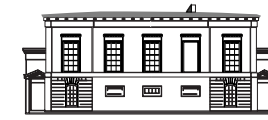
You must provide us with proof of:

- o Fish / Boat Licence

Positions Available:

- Maintenance/caretaking of community and sporting facilities
- Community administration or clerical work
- Village and Countryside enhancement projects
- Environmental – controlling overgrowth
- Projects related to not-for-profit cultural and heritage centres
- Any other community-based project

For more information, please contact Brian Conneely at 087 1342015 or Lucy Lydon at 086 4028753.



THE COURTHOUSE UPDATE

Written by Leslie Lyons

At last we have exited Level 5 restrictions and it's good to see life returning to the town and businesses opening up after more than four months.

Study Centre and Exhibitions

The Study centre has been operating with reduced numbers since 8th March with sessions finishing Wednesday 23rd June. We wish all Leaving Certificate students the very best of luck in the upcoming exams which began on Wednesday 9th. During the following week it is planned to paint the floor and carry out some other maintenance work in time for the installation of the art associated with the first of Oughterard Courthouse Arts Programme's first summer exhibition which is scheduled to open, without the usual ceremony, on Friday 2nd July. This will be followed by three other exhibitions opening on 16th July, 30th July and 13th August. Entry to these exhibitions will be restricted to small numbers with a one way system in operation.

ConTempo /Galway Music Residency

We have welcomed ConTempo String quartet on many occasions since kindly performing at the very first event which we held on 8th December 2014 to mark the completion of the restoration project. Over the past year, the courthouse has been their regular rehearsal space with a number of streamed performances and recordings also taking place. Use of the Courthouse in this way will continue and we are also delighted to report that we have agreed to partner with Galway Music Residency to present ConTempo Countywide concerts during 2022 and thereby provide an opportunity for such wonderful musicians to engage with the local community in Oughterard. A special series of open rehearsals and film projections will be held at the Courthouse from 27-29 August at 7-9pm, when Adrian Mantu (Cellist with ConTempo) and Mihai Cucu (well-known video artist) will interact with the public on their celloVision Multimedia project. Everyone is welcome to this exciting reimagining of Irish historical and contemporary works for cello, accordion and videography.

Theatre

We are also excited about providing facilities for a theatrical group involving a wide range of activities including script reading and workshops organised, overseen and promoted by Gerry Slevin.

CE workers

We have been fortunate to be in a position to provide office space for three CE workers over the years. Unfortunately restrictions apply to the time which can be spent on such courses and this year we will bid farewell to both Bobby Tierney and Bill Daly. Bobby has dealt with

matters relating to the newsletter while Bill Daly has done fantastic work on organising talks and making exciting discoveries regarding early settlers in this area. As it is becoming increasingly difficult to find people for CE please contact the scheme supervisor, Theresa Acton, if you know of any person who might qualify having been on unemployment benefit for at least 12 months.

Corrib Beo

We continue to collaborate with Corrib Beo on projects that involve cooperation between communities such as Oughterard around the Lough Corrib region. Most recently, we developed an initial Oughterard trails development plan, obtaining contributions from many in the community, and sharing the plan with consultants employed by Corrib Beo, to help define land and water trails that would be most beneficial and most likely to be funded in the Oughterard area. If anyone would like to make a submission for this report, please email tgcusack@aol.com; the draft report will be finalised in mid-August, so please contribute to this process by suggesting how old trails could be upgraded or new ones installed.

GeoPark

We are also collaborating with the Joyce Country GeoPark project with the aim of promoting the Oughterard area by way of video presentations highlighting what this area has to offer in terms of food production, archaeology, recreational activities, arts, sport etc. Lots of information is readily available on the internet by searching for 'Joyce Country & Western Lakes Geopark'. An excellent promotional video for the community of Oughterard was developed by Alex and Mimi at Myoptix Photography and presented at the International Geopark Conference held on 15th and 16th June.

This entertaining video can be accessed by all on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ICec4iVqoYo>

Meetings & AGM

Throughout the lockdown the Board of Directors continued to meet on a monthly basis by way of Zoom. We now intend to hold our Annual General Meeting at the Courthouse on Thursday 1st July at 8p.m.

Thanks

Many thanks to Geraldine Bresnihan who did such great work in tidying up and enhancing the flower bed near the library entrance, as well as planting flowers in the window boxes and in the bench seat at the door to the main hall. ■





Oughterard Courthouse Arts Programme (OCAP)

Written by Mo Mooney

Oughterard Courthouse Arts Programme (OCAP) are looking forward to showcasing our Summer Arts Programme again in The Courthouse over the coming months. We will work with the government restrictions that will be in place and look forward to having the opportunity to welcome the public back to the Courthouse to enjoy the work from our wonderful Artists.

This Summer, the Visual Arts Programme will open on 2nd July 2021 with uachtarARTS Group show, STIMULI, which will feature Artworks created over the last few months in response to the uachtarARTS monthly themes project and will also include a selection of the work created for the "Galway 2020" SET IN STONE Exhibition RIANTA. This Exhibition will run until Sunday 11th July.



The SET IN STONE project was based on the work of local Archaeologist and Historian, Bill Daly, working from The Courthouse.

Our second Exhibition will feature the work created for the SET IN STONE project by local artists Kathleen Furey and Leah Beggs. CUIMHNÍ (memories) will open on Friday 16th July and run until Sunday 25th July.

Our third Exhibition also features work created during the SET IN STONE project by Co. Galway Artists Collective AKIN which includes Jay Murphy, Dolores Lyne, Leonie King, Margaret Irwin, and Sioban Piercy. AIMSITHE (discovered) will open on Friday 30th July and continue to Sunday 8th August. We are delighted to have the opportunity to show these Artworks from the SET IN STONE project in The Courthouse.

Our fourth and final Exhibition will be a solo Exhibition, ENTROPY, by Olga Magliocco to open on Friday 13th August 2021 and will run till Sunday 22nd.

Continued on next page >

Top:

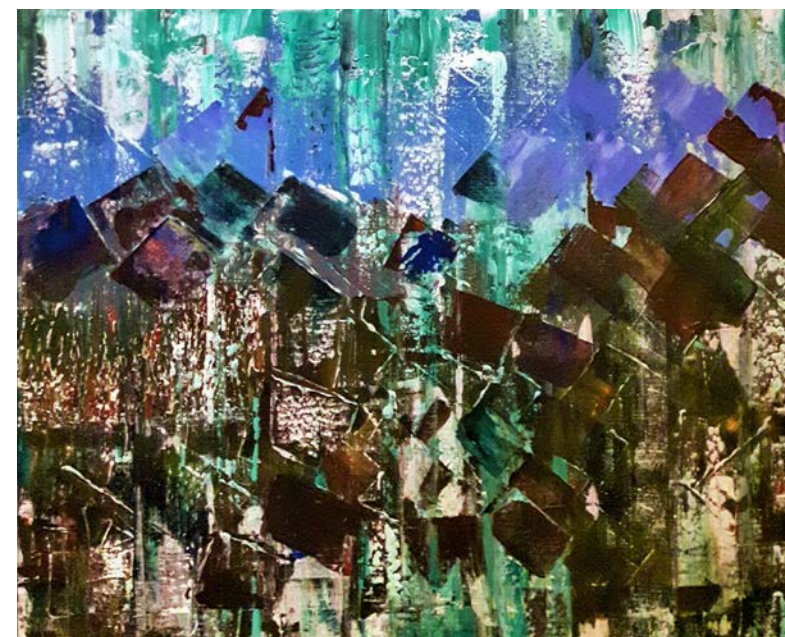
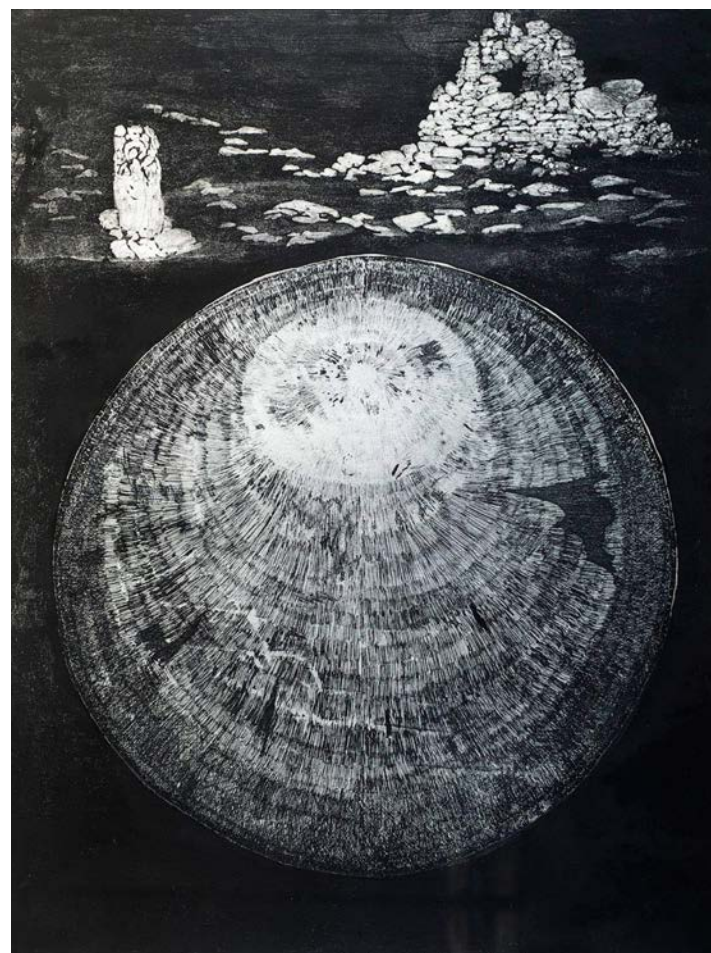
Journey

Artist: Natalie Wood Folan (@whiteravenartstudio)
Medium: Oil on canvas

Left:

Mystery Sphere, High Island

Artist: Margaret Irwin West
Medium: Etching with Chine Collé



Left:

Entropy 1

Artist: Olga Magliocco
Medium: oil on canvas

Lower left:

Forefather

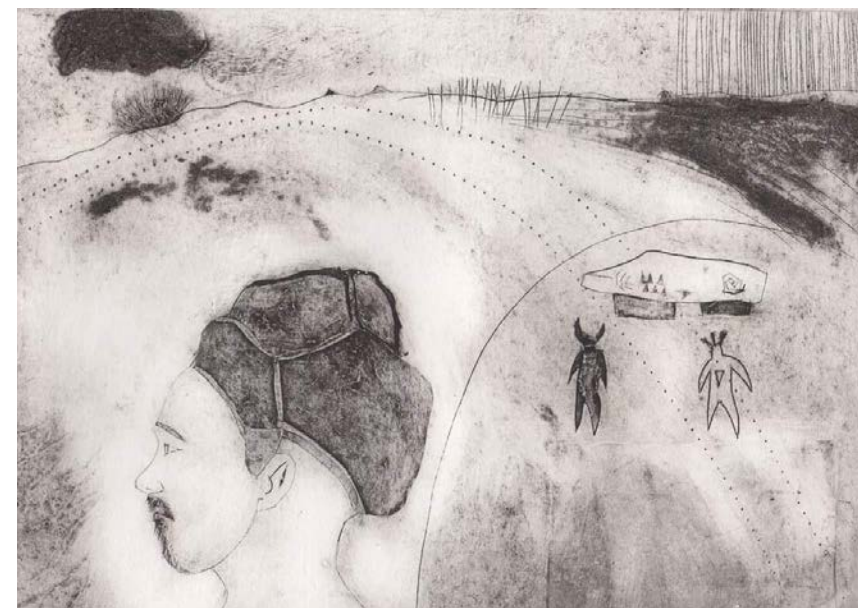
Artist: Kathleen Furey
Medium: mixed media print

< Continued from previous page

"The word entropy finds its roots in the Greek and Italian, entropia, which means 'a turning towards' or 'transformation'. A common example is that of ice melting in water with the resulting change from formed to free. Art is a process of transformation. This process changes constantly throughout the creation of the work. In science, entropy comes from the principle of thermodynamics dealing with energy. It usually refers to the idea that everything in the universe eventually moves from order to disorder and entropy is the measure of that change. This energy, and constant change, is reflected in the diverse range of works with crossovers and synergies that bring together a cohesive and dynamic body of work".

OCAP is a voluntary group that was formed to run visual art exhibitions during the summer months in Oughterard Courthouse with support from both Oughterard Courthouse Conservation & Heritage Company and Galway County Council. If you are interested in assisting with invigilating, please let us know. It can be a very enriching experience to engage with Art in the community.

For more information contact oughterardcap@gmail.com or follow us on www.facebook.com/OughterardCourthouseArtsProgramme www.instagram.com/oughterardcap.



SCOIL MUIRE DOIREGLINNE

We're all going on our summer holidays!

Things have kind of gotten back to normal in this last term but not the normal we used to know! In the Ardranganna, we are supposed to be social distancing but it doesn't always work and it isn't always easy. It's hard to do group work and pair work or share iPad screens from 1-2m apart but we do our best. And we sanitise.....a lot!! We are writing this at the end of May so are almost at the end of the school year and we wonder what school will look like next year. Our múinteoirs said they don't know so we guess we just have to wait and see! Speaking of Múinteoirs, we have had 2 in each classroom this term.

Múinteoirí Vivienne and Neasa did their Teaching Practice with us and have brought great fun to the classrooms. Don't tell Sinéad and Clíodhna but sometimes we get a little tired of seeing them everyday. It was great to have some young teachers..... don't tell them we said that either. We got to build boats, make pet shops and do lots of really nice things with them. They even stayed longer than their teaching practice. We are really grateful and really enjoyed them being with us.

We had a school trip to Wildlands. It was so much fun on the ziplines. They are so high!! We bet our screams could be heard all the



back in Doireglinne!! The Bunranganna got to go on the lower ziplines and high ropes while in the Ardranganna, we got to go on the really high ones. It was so scary and exciting at the same time. We also got to do Bushcraft where we learned how to light

fires and build shelters. That was cool! TG4 happened to show up while we were there so we ended up on Nuacht TG4 again for the 2nd year in a row.

This year the school have been working towards a Farm Safe Award. Rang 6 have taken up the responsibility of leading the project. They have been teaching the Bunranganna and the Ardranganna, and making sure we have been covering all the material and logging our learning. We have been learning about how we can stay safe on a farm. The main areas we have learned about have been in the farmyard and fields, safety around animals and keeping safe around machinery. We have learned about handling bulls, slurry pits and PTO shafts. Did you know that it is illegal for anyone under 7 to be in a tractor even with a seat and a seat belt. We were surprised at that! The other thing we were surprised to learn is that quads aren't supposed to carry passengers! The Bunranganna came up with a really good safety idea. They all took home spray paint and a hand stencil and sprayed them in safe places around yards. Children can go there to the handprint and feel safe when around machines or animals. It was a really good idea. We have learned so much and have shared the safety information with our families. Rang 6 are so on top of all this



< Continued from previous page



that they are thinking of going into the farm safe consultancy business!!

The Bunranganna have had an outdoor library running for April and May, while the public library was still closed. They got to choose books every fortnight and bring them home and read them with their families. They are planning a trip to the actual library in Oughterard in June. The Ardranganna have gone for a walk up the mountain behind the school and tested the boats they made in class with Múinteoir Neasa. We are getting ready to go the Bog next Thursday. Carole Reynolds will meet us there with another Park Ranger from Connemara National Park. We will study the flora and the fauna and take a walk to see an old famine village, all in our locality! We are lucky we live in such a pretty place with so much to do.

We have to say slán go fóill to Adam, Devon, Michael and Michaela who are getting ready to leave Doireglinne for St. Paul's. We will miss them loads but they are happy to be leaving

so we had better be happy for them too!! Aiden, Bronagh, Leah, Michael and Darragh are getting ready to go into the Ardranganna and we are all dying to see the new Naíonáin Bheaga. All that's left to do is say slán to you all for this year and to wish you all a happy and warm summer. Stay safe everyone especially on farms, on the roads and when near water. We will see you all in the new term when hopefully there will be less talk about Covid and waves, and a bit more talk about whole school activities and group work!

You can contact us at 091-552810 or email us at info@smoide.ie if you would like to book our farm safety supervisors for a visit!!! ■



corrib news

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION SERVICE

Receive the joys of Oughterard even if you are far away!

4 ISSUES PER ANNUM



€27 to Ireland €38 elsewhere

(prices include postage & packaging)

"How great it was to get the Corrib News to day, I sat with a coffee and read every bit.."

(Part of an email received in July from a Corrib News subscriber in Canada)

To subscribe, please email corribnews@gmail.com or call The Courthouse at 091-557589.

Continued on next page >

WELL HELLO SUMMER!

Written by Olga Magliocco

I love summer in Ireland, especially in the West. It is such a magical place to be. Now that we can move about more freely, while being careful, it brings a great sense of freedom. Somehow the sky seems bluer, the clouds fluffier, and people happier. The uachtarARTs Community group have been busy since February, working and creating art in many forms in response to four different themes. The Corrib News magazine showcased our first theme "Reconnection" as a Special Feature in their Spring Issue for which we are deeply grateful. We followed with "Journeys" "Surfacing" and "Flourishing", one theme per month.

Having to reimagine how to stay connected with our members and to work with technology in a way we had not needed to before was a challenge. However, it has been a wonderful learning curve for all of us and we managed as a group to be highly creative indeed. We are excited to show you a selection of the work that was produced by the uachtarARTs members during this time which I hope you will enjoy.

We are also in the process of preparing for our Annual Exhibition which will take place at the Courthouse, Main Street, Oughterard. Opening on July 2nd to 11th 2021, titled STIMULI. We are hoping to welcome you all throughout the exhibition, while observing the government restrictions at that time. The Oughterard Courthouse Arts Programme (OCAP) organise the Summer Arts Programme so ensure you look at their article in this issue for more information on the Summer Exhibitions that are coming to the Courthouse. Mark your calendars to ensure you do not miss out on a summer filled with Art to inspire, enjoy, ponder, and of course Stimulate the creative in you.

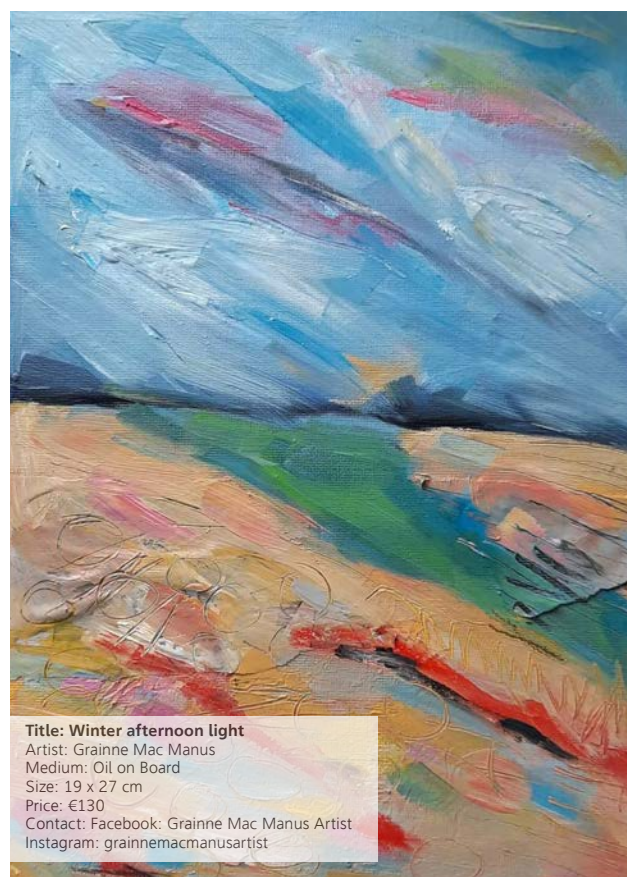
THEME - JOURNEYS



Title: 'Round & Round 5K we go'
Artist: Mary Byrne
Medium: Ceramic
Size: 26 cm
Price: €50
Contact: pressingtimes.mb@gmail.com

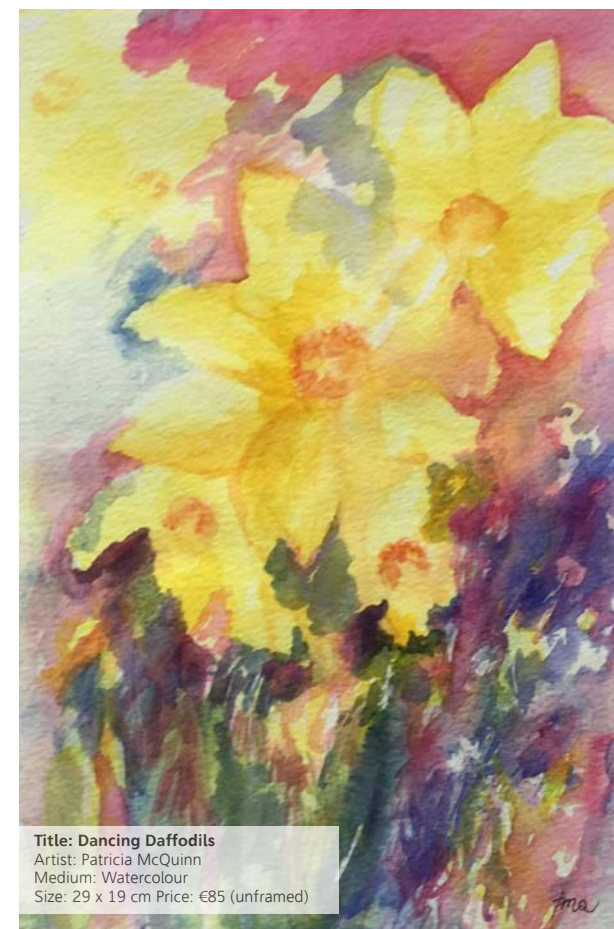


Title: Flourishing Peacock
Artist: Gil Cusack
Medium: Watercolour
Size: 18 x 18 cm
Price: NFS



Title: Winter afternoon light
Artist: Grainne Mac Manus
Medium: Oil on Board
Size: 19 x 27 cm
Price: €130
Contact: Facebook: Grainne Mac Manus Artist
Instagram: grainnemacmanusartist

< Continued from previous page



Title: Dancing Daffodils
Artist: Patricia McQuinn
Medium: Watercolour
Size: 29 x 19 cm Price: €85 (unframed)



Title - Ode to Whitethorn
Artist: Susanne Keane
Medium: Oil on Canvas
Size: 50 x 50 cm
Price: €250
Contact: Susane.Keane@yahoo.com



Title: Surfacing
Artist: Maureen Mooney
Medium: Mixed Media Textiles
Size: 21 cm
Contact: @momoooney



Title: Resurface
Artist: Mary Doyle
Medium: Oil on Canvas
Size: 52 x 76 cm Price: €200

Continued on next page >

Continued on next page >

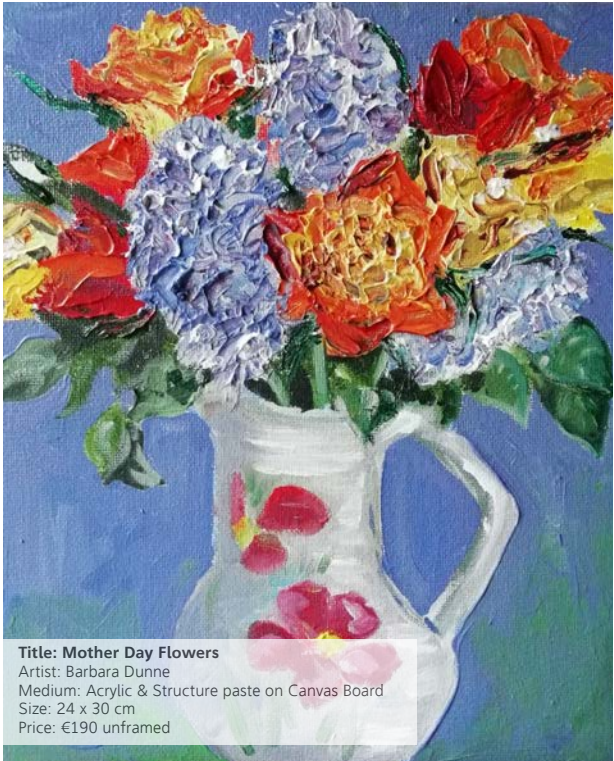
< Continued from previous page

If you are interested in being involved with uachtarARTS just let us know. New volunteers and members are always welcome. Just contact us by email at uachtarart@gmail.com and look out for our upcoming events on www.facebook.com/uachtarARTS (and please like and share our page).

uachtarARTS would like to thank Galway County Council, Clann Resource Centre, the Corrib News magazine, and the Oughterard Courthouse for their continued support. ■



Title: Surfacing
Artist: Geraldine Folan
Medium: Mixed Media on board
Size: 30 x 30 cm
Price: NFS



Title: Mother Day Flowers
Artist: Barbara Dunne
Medium: Acrylic & Structure paste on Canvas Board
Size: 24 x 30 cm
Price: €190 unframed



Title: Coiscéimeanna (Footsteps)
Artist: Deirdre Stephens
Medium: Silk Paint/Appliques/Stitch
Size: 38 x 25 cm
Price: NFS
Contact: deirdreannestephens@gmail.com



RACHEL POWEL OPENS A NEW SKIN CLINIC IN OUGHTERARD



At OceanSkin Clinic, our main aim is to help you to achieve your personal skin goals. We take a 360-degree approach to skincare understanding that every skin is unique, and one facial does not fit all.

Here in this picturesque lakeside town of Oughterard in the heart of Connemara and the Wild Atlantic way you will find Oceanskin Clinic, located on the main street. We are a boutique facial studio offering bespoke and innovative facials, skin treatments and routines in a tranquil environment, tailored to your specific skin needs.

Rachel is a CIBTAC level 4 qualified facialist. Starting out in her beauty career over two decades ago, working for one of the large French beauty houses in the UK as a beauty and skincare consultant during college, it became quickly apparent her passion was skin focused.

Over the years Rachel has worked in the beauty industry as a beauty and skincare consultant, beautician and skin therapist, training in some of the biggest leading skincare lines in the UK and Ireland today. Rachel continues to develop her education in skin, continuously upskilling and advancing her knowledge as she believes that education is key when it comes to achieving and maintaining optimum skin health.

Rachel and her husband to be, David recently moved into the beautiful small town of Oughterard with their children, where they purchased a property after falling in love with the beauty of Connemara, Lough Corrib and all it has to offer.

It was then she made the decision on opening her new business in the heart of the community as she felt there was a niche for skin in the surrounding areas and wanted to bring something new to the village. Rachel is passionate about all things skin and is excited about opening doors and welcoming new clients to OceanSkin Clinic.

"The world of skincare has evolved so much over the last decade, with so many new brands and skin ingredients on the scene it can become overwhelming if not a little confusing when trying to choose the correct products and treatments for your individual skin."

"I believe all skin is like a fingerprint - it is unique. As skin is unique there should be a unique way to treat each one. I believe in not only treating each skin, but also educating each and every client about their skin and its individual needs, in order for them to achieve not only their personal skin goals but optimum skin health."

- Rachel





Clann Resource Centre

**WE ARE DELIGHTED TO BE BACK!
AT THE MOMENT ACCESS TO THE CENTRE IS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**

Clann Resource Centre Co-Ordinator: Belinda Mullen
Email: clanninfo@gmail.com Phone: 091 557633

We, in the Clann Resource Centre, are delighted to finally be back in the office. We are here Monday – Thursday 10am-1pm/ 2pm-5pm and Friday 10am-1pm. Please make your appointment for PC use, these appointments are for maximum 30 minutes. 091 557633

Printing services remain as before, email in the documents with instructions and contact details, and we will print. clanninfo@gmail.com. Our Counselling services are available. Please call us to make arrangements. For Play Therapy contact us for information and for appointments to be organised. Our other courses will be available as government restrictions permit.

Nearly New Shop

We could not be happier that our Nearly New shop has been able to reopen its doors and we cannot thank you all enough for supporting it. The donations you send to us are so greatly appreciated. The monies raised in the shop assist all of our youth services and our therapeutic services, so the generosity you all show truly assists our work. THANK YOU!

The shop is run by the most amazing team of volunteers and we are indebted to their hard work, dedication, and support. It is their heart, energy, and kindness that makes the shop such a lovely place to pop in to and have a browse.

Parent and Toddler

The Parent and Toddler group have started to meet up every Tuesday morning in Corribdale for a 'Walk and Talk' group. Government Guidelines are strictly adhered to. Feel Free to join us. Come for a chat and a stroll, meet new people and get out and about.



The Parent and Toddler group have a Facebook page 'Clann Parent and Toddler' if you would like

to like the page, and we have a WhatsApp group.

If you aren't on our WhatsApp and wish to be added, email clanninfo@gmail.com for the attention of Helen.

Defibrillator

Our new defibrillator is now in place outside our office doors on Station Road, it is in an outside cabinet. Enter the code provided and pull the door down to gain access to the machine. It is for the use of the community. Please spread the word that it is here and can be used if needed.



Community Garden

Our garden is looking fantastic. The team and gardening group that looks after the Clann Community Garden is amazing. The gazebo at the front has new trellises and seating, to sit and relax and take a moment. The Flower beds and the Poly Tunnel are all alive with wonders for the Summertime ahead. Some of the Gardening Educational classes are back up and running. The community garden is starting back on Tuesday 1st of June 6pm-7pm, all welcome!!! They will meet weekly from that point on.



Oughterard Men's Shed

The Oughterard Men's Shed is expanding, over the coming weeks. The group will be working on the foundations of the new addition to the shed; the new, slightly smaller than our original, shed will be put in place. The Men's Shed are not in a position to reopen at this time, but hopefully it is not too far off. We are hoping to start on a few small outdoor community initiatives whilst we wait to be able to reopen.

< Continued from previous page

The group is always looking for new members. If you think this might be something for you, please contact us, and like the Oughterard Men's Shed Facebook page where you will be kept up to date with things that are happening.

Sexual Health West

Sexual Health West, formally AIDS west, are hosting a confidential HIV rapid testing clinic here in the centre 17th June. If you wish to be tested please contact Sexual Health West and they will arrange an appointment for you. 091 566 266



Printing and Photocopying	
A4 (Black & White) 0.10c per side of sheet	
(Colour)	0.50c per side of sheet
A3 (Black & White) 0.15c	
(Colour)	0.75c
Lamination:	
A4	0.75c

YOUTH CAFÉ 2021 SUMMER SCHEDULE

Outdoor & Arts activity camps

Local Hikes / Kayaking / Forest & Nature Arts / Outdoor Activities

June 8 - 11th & June 14 - 18th

1st and 2nd yr - Outdoor Activity Camp 10 - 1.30pm



July 5th - 9th & July 19th - 23rd

6th Class going into 1st yr 10-1.30pm

July 12th - 16th & July 26th - 30th

Junior Art camp 7-12yrs 10-1pm

Each camp will be delivered in an outdoor environment adhering to current social distancing guidelines. Numbers will be limited and all measures will be taken to ensure the camp is delivered in safe manner. There will be a small cost charged for each camp!

Continued on next page >

ALL CAMPS ARE NOW FULLY BOOKED. APOLOGIES FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE.

Your Summer Essentials at Joyce's Oughterard



3 FOR
€10

Mini Chicken Fillets 330g

MIX & MATCH
ANY 3 FOR
€10
CHOOSE FROM A RANGE OF 30
MEAT & POULTRY OFFERS



3 FOR
€10

Coole Farm Fried Chicken Thighs &
Drumsticks 900g



3 FOR
€10

Western Brand BBQ Chicken Drumsticks 500g



3 FOR
€10

Joyce's 4 Steak Burgers 410g



3 FOR
€10

Coole Farm BBQ Wings



ONLY
€7.99

Camerino
Pinot
Grigio

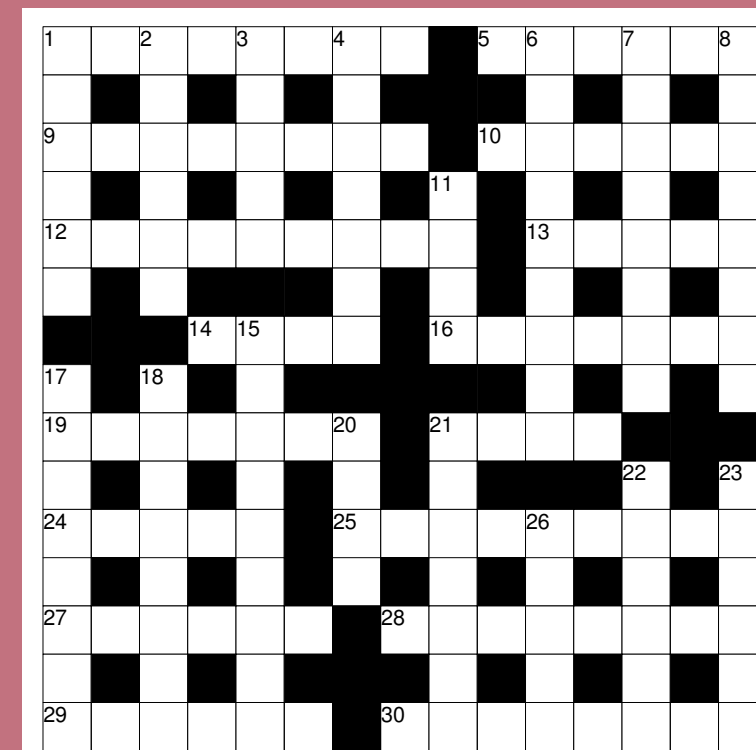


ONLY
€12.99

Marqués
De Cáceres
Rioja



SUMMER 2021 CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1 What people with a dark secret have in the closet, though not a secret of the flesh. (8)
- 5 There are changes galore for the warden. (6)
- 9 It's not always like a patchy relationship. (2,3,3)
- 10 Small chunks of course that ought to be replaced. (6)
- 12 Super tied into knot getting a bad name. (9)
- 13 Does a fellow-Celt go to the races there? (5)
- 14 Remain like a trespasser in a pig's house. (4)
- 16 In the end, most of the unrest is Russian money. (7)
- 19 They may be on the seas in Galway but on the streets in cities in US. (7)
- 21 Robber's disguise found in lake in Mayo. (4)
- 24 I'd made a start with the fool. (5)
- 25 Can Al have been tumbled over by all that snow? (9)
- 27 A.J. McCoy's footrest loses right to foment trouble. (4,2)
- 28 Mafiosi and other organised criminals, especially of the Al Capone era. (8)
- 29 Sounds like a word for a king but they are actually mechanical junk. (6)
- 30 Man's suit being shredded causes huge waves. (8)

DOWN

- 1 Find lots of weapons in north County Dublin. (6)
- 2 Please incorrectly and time will pass. (6)
- 3 Mr. Murphy was the Beverly Hills Cop. (5)
- 4 Not working, though fully employed. (3,4)
- 6 Do they 27Across 16 Across? (9)
- 7 Describes youngsters with pride. (4,4)
- 8 So street trouble can lead to decorations for the winners? (8)
- 11 The rhythm of a young policeman's area. (4)
- 15 Does Turk enter in a roundabout way to support the branches. (4-5)
- 17 Murder weapon used by Leatherface in cinema's Texas Massacre. (5-3)
- 18 I join the detective division in the home because of serious crime. (8)
- 20 Blunt instruments turned up to inflict a wound like from a sharp one. (4)
- 21 In places, they make hay while the sun shines. (7)
- 22 Horror-movie causes cry of terror. (6)
- 23 It sounds like one of the five we have that tells us about the population. (6)
- 26 Nora's involvement with serious crime. (5)

ANSWERS TO SPRING 2021 CROSSWORD



FOR ALL YOUR PROPERTY NEEDS

-  SALES
-  LETTINGS
-  VALUATIONS
-  PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

THINK
DNG

DOUGLAS NEWMAN GOOD

MARTIN O'CONNOR

091 866708

infomartinoconnor@dng.ie

Property Advisors

ASTA ALTERATION & UPHOLSTERY



Clothing alterations
Car seat/steering wheels
repairs
Furniture upholstery



5 Camp Street
Oughterard
Tues-Fri: 10am-6pm
Sat: 10am-3pm
085-2368110

WEST SHORE STUDIO

Access through
Abhainn Ruibhe Estate
Off Camp Street, Oughterard

- Paintings
- Prints
- Memorabilia
- Sports Shirts
- Fishing Flies
- Medals
- Photographs

Complete picture
framing service by Guild
Commended Framer.

Framing to Conservation
Standard

Original Paintings &
Prints by
Kathleen Furey

091-552562
086-8190908

westshore@eircom.net

Like us on Facebook
"West Shore Studio - Oughterard"

WALSH'S FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Serving Oughterard,
Killannin, and
Moycullen



Contact Dermot

091-552933
087-2902377

JOHN P. KEOGH & SONS

Established in 1945
MAIN STREET, OUGHTERARD, CO. GALWAY
T: (091) 552170 E: jp.keoghands@gmail.com

Large selection of

SUMMERWEAR
WORKWEAR
FOOTWEAR AND WELLINGTONS
BEAUTIFUL GIFTWARE
GENERAL DRAPERY AND
KNITWEAR
BOOKS AND NOVELS
READYREADERS AND
SUNGLASSES
OILCLOTH FOR TABLES, ETC



Find out more on
www.keoghsirishgifts.com
091 552 170

ADVERTISE WITH CORRIB NEWS

CONTACT US
Email: corribnews@gmail.com

LOCAL PHARMACY



Main Street, Oughterard, Co. Galway
Tel: 091-557602 Fax: 091-557603

Open: Mon-Fri 9.30am-6.30pm
Closed for lunch: 1.15pm-2pm
Saturday: 9.30am-6pm

For all your medical needs
Plus cosmetics, photographic & veterinary
requirements.
Passport & ID photos
Aftershave & Perfume
Fine selection of jewellery & watches

McNamara's
Day-Today

Bridge St, Oughterard
Open 7-10, 7 Days

- Grocery
- Wine
- Lotto



Wishing everyone a
happy summer from all
at McNamara's!

ROGER FINNERTY & SONS

TRADITIONAL FAMILY BUTCHERS

A Member of the Associated Craft Butchers of Ireland



NOW IN STOCK

Aberdeen Angus Striploin Steaks
Lamb from "Kinvarra"
Belly Pork from Elphin, Roscommon
Shin Beef with Marrow Bone

The Square, Oughterard,
Co. Galway
091 552 255

Unit 110, Eyre Square
Shopping Centre, Galway
091 565 657



Rachel Powell's SKIN CLINIC NOW OPEN IN OUGHTERARD

Main Street, Oughterard,
Co. Galway
Tel: 085 166 6370
Oceanskinclinic.ie
Oceanskinclinic@gmail.com



Open 7 days a week from 10.30am
Full lunch menu from 11.30am
Dinner menu from 4.30pm
Two or three course Sunday Lunch



Newly revamped en suite rooms
Bed and Breakfast starting from
€55 per person sharing
Call: 091 552 196



The Boat Inn is delighted to welcome everybody back this summer and you may have noticed some changes that have taken place over the lockdown.

But, behind the scenes, we've also revamped all of our guest rooms and are very excited to introduce O'Connor's Garden.

A beer garden like no other.

Our chefs have cooked up a new menu and we've also compiled a cocktail menu for you to enjoy.

We'd like to thank all of our customers for supporting us through each reopening. We couldn't do it without you, so thank you, from the bottom of our hearts.

We'd also like to applaud all local businesses for sticking together through this and wish you all the best of luck in reopening. We hope you all have a busy season.

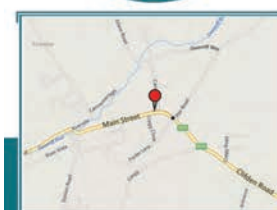


CONNEMARA Greenway Cafe & RESTAURANT

OPEN FOR LUNCH & DINNER

• RESTAURANT • CAFE • WINES • CHEESE

Open for Dinner every evening
Tuesday to Saturday
with a Full Wine and Beer Menu.
Lunch Tuesday to Sunday.



Main Street, Oughterard, Co. Galway
091 866645
facebook.com/connemaragreenway
www.connemaragreenwaycafe.ie



Currarevagh House, Glann Road, Oughterard

Situated 6kms out the Glann Road, Currarevagh House has been welcoming guests to Oughterard for over 125 years, offering an oasis of privacy and comfort on our 180 acre lake shore estate. Dinner each evening is a highlight, serving 4 courses using the best of regional and local produce on an ever changing set menu. Non residents are always most welcome by advanced booking. Private parties and small groups can also be catered for subject to availability.

Phone: **091 552312** Email: **rooms@currarevagh.com** Website: **www.currarevagh.com**

Tripadvisor Traveller's Choice Top 10 Small Hotels in Ireland 2018, 2017, 2016
Member Ireland's Blue Book Member Historic Hotels of Europe



Sweeney Oil
Since 1987

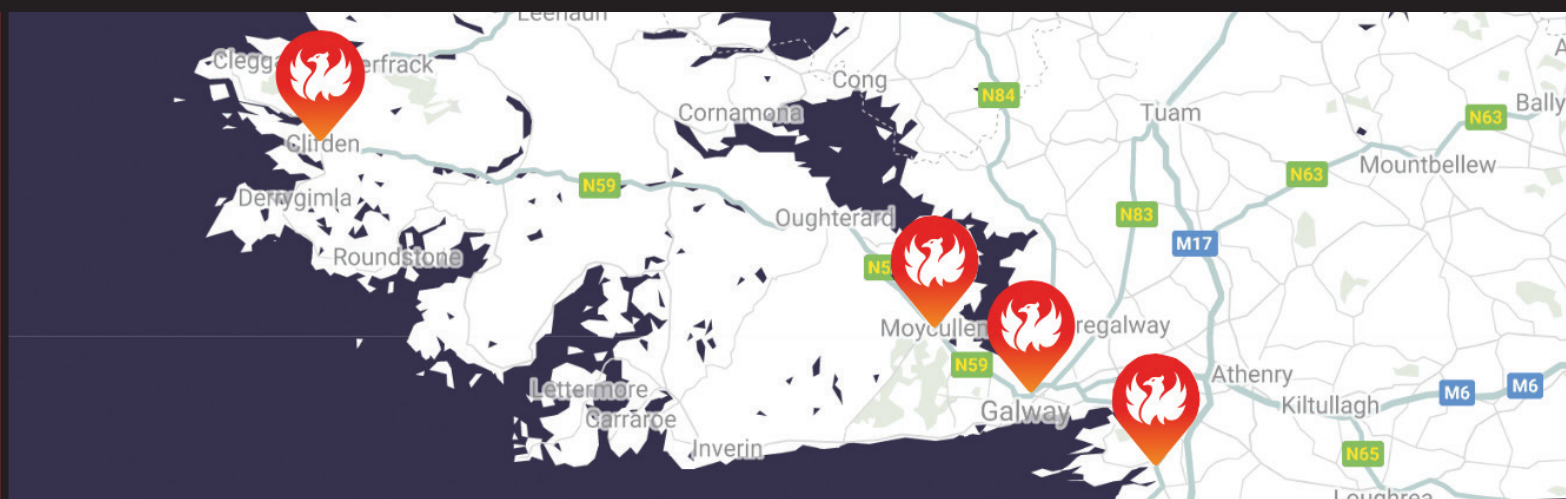
Visit your local Sweeney Oil service station
for **excellent value** and an **outstanding range of products and fresh food!**

Moycullen • Headford Point • Clifden • Oranmore

Deli

Off-Licence

Fuel



NEW LAUNCH NEW LAUNCH

**NEVER RUN OUT OF OIL AGAIN
WITH OUR OIL MONITOR!**

- **EXCLUSIVE** to Sweeney Oil
- **ALWAYS** know how much oil you have left
- **AUTOMATED** warnings & texts
- **PROTECTION** against theft or leaks
- **NO** more bleeding boilers
- **ORDER** directly from the Magnus App

FREE
Installation &
Monitor



To sign up call **1800 555 999** or online at
www.sweeneyoil.ie/services/oil-monitor/

T&Cs apply. A €3 monthly monitoring fee applies.

NO hidden fees.

PUBLIC *electric car charger* FACILITIES COME TO OUGHTERARD!

Electric vehicle popularity is dramatically increasing across the country as people become aware of the lower "lifetime cost of ownership". While the cars are relatively expensive to purchase, this is offset by the very low maintenance costs (as there are very few moving parts - no engine, gearbox, exhaust etc) and fuel costs are a fraction of fossil fuel costs. Driving range anxiety is reducing also with larger batteries and more charging stations.

Until May 2021 there was no public EV charger between Galway and Clifden, but now the SSE team at Galway Wind Park have installed a charger at the Oughterard Community Centre (see photos). The EV charger will provide a fast charge for the community and tourists alike, and the dual head design will charge two cars simultaneously.

The civil works team: (Left to Right) Clifford Allan, Sean Donnellan, David Carter, David McCarthy and Derek Hobbs. These CE workers dug a trench of approximately 60 metres to lay the cabling to service the EV charger.



ST PAUL'S UPDATE AT

The End of The Academic Year

MAY 2021

Written by Elaine Creaven

As we have come to the end of another academic year here in St Paul's Secondary School, Oughterard. One which was so vastly different from the type of school year we were once familiar with. The school community have persevered once again and we have completed a school year that brought new challenges. Yet again, our students continued to grow, develop and progress as they embraced these obstacles of the 'new normal' in both the school and remote learning environments.

Our Transition Year students have been determined in their bid to make a positive difference to our environment. They published the inaugural edition of the 'TY EcoNews', which can be seen on our website, they attended the Global Goals Challenge Workshop in Brigit's Garden and they have also worked alongside Oughterard Tidy Towns with their 'Neat Street' initiative.

The Green School's committee have put the Agenda 21 funding from the Galway County Council to use. A number of bins specifically aimed at paper recycling and plastic bottles

have been purchased and distributed throughout the school. We are now delighted to announce that St Paul's has just successfully achieved the first green Flag for Litter and Waste!

The Fifth Year LCVP class held a very successful car wash as part of their enterprise project. They raised a total of €2100 which they donated to Cancer Care West. Thank you to the whole community who turned out in force to support this worthwhile cause.

We bid farewell to our Leaving Certificate class of 2021. On their graduation day, they received a blessing from Fr. Robert and had a small outdoor ceremony to mark their transition to the next step of their lives. We look back with fondness at all they have achieved, the strength of character and resilience they have shown. We thank them for the wonderful memories they leave us with and wish them every success in their upcoming exams and future ventures.

In the closing weeks of term, we lost two treasured members of our school community, Karen Kenny and Sr. May Farragher. Karen was a valued Special Needs Assistant in the school

where she touched the lives of all the students she cared for. Sr. May was a member of staff in St. Paul's for many years and left in 2012. She was the first teacher of Special Educational Needs in the school and the last Sister of Mercy to teach here. The ASD Special Class had been named after her, Sr. May's class. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamacha dilse.

The new ASD classroom and facilities, which are being built to the front of the school, are well under way. We can see the walls of the new rooms rising higher every day as we wait in anticipation for the building to be ready for the students to use. It is anticipated that this will be in September. We would like to thank the local residents for their generosity in allowing staff to park nearby and for their patience as the building progresses.

Finally, we want to thank parents, guardians, students and teachers for their commitment throughout the year. It is time for everyone to take a well-deserved break. We hope you have a relaxing and restful holiday. We wish everyone a happy and safe Summer! ■

Cicadas and more cicadas

A letter from America by Fran Taylor



Cicadas on a bush

Can you remember what you were doing in the summer of 2004? For the billions in the brood of 17-year cicadas now emerging in the eastern USA, this was the year that these insects last saw daylight after they hatched from eggs laid in the tips of tree branches. After dropping to the ground and burrowing down into the soil, they spent the next 17 years feeding on tree roots, moulting several times along the way as they grew. Now all these years later, they are ready to complete the cycle – all at the same time.

The astonishing phenomenon of periodical cicadas is unique to the eastern USA. There are about 15 distinct broods, all on different schedules, but each brood is synchronized so that the nymphs all emerge together, when the ground temperature reaches 18 degrees Celsius – around mid-May here in Northern Virginia. They are thought to have developed this bizarre lifecycle as a species survival strategy – their sheer numbers overwhelm all possible predators, and timing their emergence to be a prime number of years means that potential predators tend not to develop corresponding life cycles to take advantage of them.

The cohort now appearing here is known as Brood X (Roman numeral ten), and is one of the largest. Its range includes Pennsylvania, Maryland, and parts of Virginia, down into Tennessee. Their numbers are immense – in

some places up to a million per acre. The emerging nymphs each leave a small round hole in the ground and climb the nearest vertical surface to find a good spot for one final moult – from which the winged adults materialize – while the nymph carcasses pile up against tree trunks and fences like leaves in autumn.

The adults’ bodies are black, about an inch long with bright red eyes, orange legs, and glossy translucent wings, but they seem closer to two inches when resting with their wings laid back. They are completely harmless, don’t bite or sting, and are very clumsy and completely unprepared to defend themselves. They are totally unafraid of humans – you can pick them up or brush them off when they blunder around and land on you – they do tickle a bit! They provide a treat for almost all insectivorous wildlife - and also domestic pets. Dogs in particular will gorge on them until they are sick. Cats, of course, are pickier, but have plenty of fun chasing them around.

They are not at all scary, although some people instinctively recoil from them and turn to pesticides to get rid of them. But that is a shame as they have several side-benefits in that they prune trees, aerate soil and provide a protein-rich diet for many animal species. They do not cause widespread damage by eating vegetation, unlike locusts (which the early colonists mistook them for). They simply suck sap



Cicada holes

from twigs and branches, which the trees tolerate.

Eventually the winged adults fly up into the trees where the males commence an almighty racket that grows in volume daily, from dawn until dusk. Collectively their noise supposedly peaks at the same volume

< Continued from previous page

as a lawn mower - you certainly can’t ignore them!

The purpose of their ‘singing’ (the noise is made by membranes in their abdomens) is to attract females – they do little else other than mate and eat for the duration of their short adult lives. After mating, the female deposits her eggs in a slit that she makes at the tip of a tree branch. This does not seriously damage the tree, although by the end of summer you can often see a few brown leaves at the ends of branches. In a few weeks, the eggs will hatch and the tiny larvae will fall to the ground to begin another 17-year cycle. The adults die soon

after mating and by the end of June, the noise will have subsided, and they will all be gone. The regular annual cicadas – a totally different species – which typically can be heard during July and August will then have the airwaves to themselves.

Local media and newspapers have been filled with all things cicada recently. In addition to educating us about these amazing creatures, we also learn that you can eat them – indeed I have

seen some recipes, such as for crispy fried cicada, or even candied cicada! However, unlike my sister’s recipe articles for this

magazine, I have no intention of including any of these! But what a very strange life – underground for 17 years and then just 2-4 weeks of life above ground. No one knows for sure how they keep count of the years, but there is speculation that they can detect the change of seasons from variations in the tree root sap that they live on. I wonder what it will be like when they next emerge in 2038 – coronavirus by then will probably be a bad but distant memory, and today’s kids will be all grown up. Besides, I think I prefer to live my life above ground!



Cicadas climbing a tree



Cicada nymph carcasses piling up beneath a tree

FAMOUS OUGHTERARD CONNECTIONS:

Lord Killanin

Written by Matt Molloy



Michael Morris, 3rd Baron Killanin, in 1976



Commemorative Stained Glass Window In St. Enda's Church, Spiddal

Lord Killanin, born Michael Morris to Lt. Col. George Morris from Spiddal and Dora Mayron Wesley Hall, from Australia, was an Irish journalist, author, sports official, and - for 10 years in the 1970s and 1980s - the sixth President of the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

The Morrises were one of the 14 Tribes of Galway. He married Sheila Dunlop, daughter of the local rector here in Oughterard, Canon Dunlop. They had three sons, one of whom, John Morris, was married to the former RTE presenter, Thelma Mansfield, and another, Michael “Mouse” Morris, is a racehorse trainer who won the Grand National in 2016 with a horse called Rule the World.

Lord Killanin was a film producer, assisting the American director, John Ford, with the production of The Quiet Man and working on numerous other films, helping to produce The Playboy of the Western World, The Rising of the Moon, Gideon’s Day, Young Cassidy, and Alfred the Great.

He lived in Spiddal for some time and died at his home in Dublin, aged 84, in 1999. Following a bilingual funeral Mass, at St Enda’s Church in Spiddal, he was buried in the family vault in Bohermore Cemetery.

Continued on next page >

OUT OF LOCKDOWN

Chocolate and Ginger Cake

Written by Nicky Taylor



the appalling misfortunes that Covid-19 has brought to so many people around the world. We are also so grateful to the work done by scientists, the medical professions, the carers and all the front line workers who have done so much to beat this virus and to make us safe.

We want to say a very big thank you to all our Oughterard/Derry moyle/Glann friends (you know who you are) who have been so good to us during all this time, looking after our house, our donkeys and giving us regular updates on local issues. We have treasured each edition of "Corrib News" which arrives via the post, and it's been great to keep up with the adventures of the Corrib Ramblers via the WhatsApp group. But nothing will touch the experience of being back beside Lough Corrib and seeing you all again. And I'm delighted to say that we'll shortly be heading for Oughterard.

I'm writing this in early June - still at our home near Tewkesbury, England. After a cold April with many overnight frosts, and a sodden May when it rained virtually every day, we're at last enjoying some beautiful weather. Our garden is looking lush and colourful and we (my husband Tim and I) are following our usual summer outdoor pursuits again - gardening, going for walks, tennis, entertaining friends and family in our garden, and being entertained by others in their gardens. We've even been to outdoor cafes and are enjoying seeing more friends and family in the flesh again, rather than simply on Zoom.

We have both been double-vaxed and are beginning to venture out into the world a little more than we have done since March 2020. We avoid crowded places and only go into shops if this is essential, and when we do we wear masks, keep our distance from others and are conscientious about hand washing.

It's hard to believe that the last time we visited Oughterard was in February 2020 when we came with our extended family for the mid-term break. When we left, we assumed we'd be returning the following Easter. And here we are, some 16 months down the road, when we've been unable to travel at all. We are so grateful that we are lucky enough to live in a beautiful countryside, that we and our family are all well and that we haven't suffered

Towards the end of April when the strict rules concerning meeting people were being eased a little here, we had a rendezvous with our dear London-based friends, Kathryn and Brian, and enjoyed a delightful outdoor lunch at an organic garden produce farm near Oxford. On the menu was "Chocolate and Ginger Cake" which I could not resist. And my goodness it was marvellous! It had intense flavours of dark chocolate and fresh ginger, and the texture was moist and not too sugary. I decided to try and mimic the cake a couple of weeks later when Tim's daughter Alison and her husband Brian came for lunch. I found a possible recipe on the internet. The result was a bit mixed: the flavour was good but the texture was a bit too crumbly - but absolutely fine if the slice of cake was joined by a dollop of vanilla ice cream!

So when our good friends Sue and Peter visited for tea in the garden a couple of weeks later I presented them with mark 2 of the chocolate cake, having made a few adjustments to the recipe to ensure that the texture was a bit moister. They are chocolate connoisseurs and gave the cake the thumbs up! Sue declared "This is a chocolate cake for adults!" - the flavours are intense and there's no icing (although for those with a sweet tooth, this could easily be added). So here in the photo is the

cake. And this is the recipe that I used.

Preparation and cooking time: about 1 hour 30 mins

Oven temperature: for fan ovens: 140 degrees C (275 degrees F; gas mark 1) - for non fan ovens: 150 degrees C (300 degrees F; gas mark 2).

Ingredients

125g (5 oz) butter
100g (4 oz) dark brown sugar
2 tablespoons of dark treacle
150 ml (1/4 pint) milk
1 egg about 2 "thumbs" of fresh ginger chopped finely
3 chunks of stem ginger in syrup chopped finely
150g (6 oz) wholemeal flour
2 tablespoons of cocoa powder
50g (2 oz) ground almonds
1 teaspoon bicarbonate of soda
1/4 teaspoon cinnamon powder pinch of nutmeg powder pinch of smoked sweet paprika pinch of salt
2 teaspoons of ground ginger
1 shake of cayenne or hot paprika or chilli powder
100g (4 oz) dark chocolate broken into small pieces

Method

1. Grease a 23 cm (8-9 inch) diameter, deep baking tin.
2. Get the oven going (see above for temperatures).
3. In a large pan gently melt the butter, sugar and treacle. Remove from the heat and stir in the milk and the chopped fresh ginger, and the chopped stem ginger in syrup. Gradually stir in the beaten egg.
4. Put all the dry ingredients in a large bowl except for the chocolate, and mix well.
5. Mix the dry ingredients into the liquid mixture.
6. Stir in the chocolate pieces.
7. Pour mixture into the baking tin
8. Bake in the middle of the oven for about 50 minutes. Check it's cooked by piercing cake with a skewer.
9. Leave to cool on a wire rack.

When cool you could add some icing to the top, or scatter caster sugar or icing sugar over the top. You could also pierce the top with a skewer in a number of places and drizzle over the cake some of the syrup from the jar of stem ginger in syrup.

And finally: put the kettle on..... and enjoy!

Local Hygiene Bank

By Margot Hathaway

My name is Margot Hathaway and I am the local volunteer who sets up the boxes in Oughterard and Moycullen, and collects the donated products to give to our local Galway community partners, such as COPE, SVP, and a variety of refuges/resource centres to name but a few. **There is a drop off box in Joyce's, Oughterard, Howard's chemist in Moycullen and one is being installed in Supervalu in Moycullen.**

The Hygiene Bank was initially set up in England, in 2018, and it has spread throughout the United Kingdom. Currently there are 5 projects in Ireland: Dublin, Galway, Cork, Donegal and, most recently, Kildare. Each project has their own Facebook and Instagram page available online. Dublin is the largest of the groups and was set up in Dec 2019. I set up the

Galway group in July 2020. Since the beginning of this year, a combined total of all donations from all of the groups is currently at 5.5 tonnes. All products that are received locally stay within that county and are donated locally.



In Galway we have 7 volunteers, and there are about 15-20 in the Dublin group. We currently have 10 Drop Off Points throughout Galway. Our Galway community partners who have received donations are: COPE, SVP, Galway Simon Community, Galway Traveller

Movement, Galway Community College, ARD Family Resource Centre, Gort Family Resource Centre, and Loughrea Family Resource Centre.

We are classified as a non-profit community volunteer group until we hear back from the Charity Regulator about our charity status application.

Find us on Facebook and Instagram @ thehygienebankgalway

Drop Off Point

Help us tackle hygiene poverty in Ireland



ACCEPTED:

Unopened: Toiletries, deodorant, unisex shampoo, unisex shower gel, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shaving foam/gel, washing powder, sanitary products, make-up, soap, dish-washing liquid, wipes.

Opened: Packs of disposable nappies.

NOT ACCEPTED:

Prescribed medication, health supplements and vitamins, body slimming and weight loss products, electrical items (such as hairdryers, shavers, etc.).

POETRY

Poem by Joseph B. Martin

Mr Martin and his wife Marion, both retired school teachers from Castlebar, Co Mayo, spent some time in Oughterard with their daughter Sinéad during the Covid Restrictions. They both enjoyed the lovely accessible walks, beautiful scenery and the friendly people and shops during their stay. While they were here the Corrib News was a welcome read and Joseph, or Benny as he is fondly known, especially enjoyed the poetry section. (A big fan of Jack McCann!)

He was asked by his daughter if he would like to share one of his own poems for this summer issue and this was the one he selected.

Bottle of Red

by Joseph B. Martin

*Bottle of full bodied red
Tipped to the flowing glass.
Oh, the heft of the red brimmed fill.
It was a good year, but a better moment!*

*It catches the evening light,
Red like the sanctuary lamp
Aloft in the lonely church.
Come set me on fire!*

*The blood red wine
Moves sensuously through
Vague visceral passages
To weave it's miracle.
A new personal Cana!*

SUGGESTIONS NEEDED FOR THE

Oughterard Development Plan

Written by Thomas Welby

Galway County Council has prepared the **Draft Galway County Development Plan 2022 – 2028** which is on public display and available for public consultation from 20th May 2021 to 30th July 2021 at the following locations:

- <https://consult.galway.ie/>
- All branch libraries in the County - including the **Oughterard Public Library** - during normal opening hours and subject to Covid-19 restrictions in place at the time
- Planning Office, Áras on Chontae, Prospect Hill, Galway (by appointment only during normal opening hours as per Covid-19 Guidelines).

This plan will replace the previous plan which expired in 2011. The plan is included in the County Development Plan (CDP) of 2022 to 2028, whereas previously it was a standalone plan. There are a number of changes, mainly driven by legislation, which makes this plan different from the previous one: in particular, related to land use zoning.

The population growth forecast is clearly laid out in the draft plan, and is linked to the overall growth predicted in the National Planning Framework (NPF). The NPF projects growth of between 990,000 and 1,100,000 people in the State up to 2040. The growth figures for the Northern & Western region up to 2040 (Co Galway is in this cohort) is between 160,000 and 180,000, and the allocation for County Galway in the CDP 2022 – 2028 draft plan is 18,655.

This 18,655 is then broken down into 7 Tiers of which Oughterard is in tier 5 – Small growth Town. There is a proposed allocation, of an increase, of 350 people in Oughterard over the lifetime of the plan. This allocation means a proposed increase of 140 units (350 divided by 2.5, as 2.5 is viewed as the average household size) at a proposed density of 16 units to the Ha. These figures translate into a requirement of 8.75 Ha (21.62 acres) of Residential Phase 1 lands. The previous plan had in the region of 70 to 90 acres so the amount of Residential zoned land is greatly reduced.

In this plan, there is also additional zoning including Residential Phase 2 (potential future development), Town Centre, Business & Enterprise, Community facilities and Tourism, to name a few. The draft Oughterard Land Use Zoning map is included here as an example of what the Oughterard Plan includes.

Oughterard has complex issues when it comes to environmental constraints including potential flooding (not only historical), and this is also a determining factor where lands are proposed to be zoned. This is having an impact on some lands that would heretofore have been viewed as ideal development land. A lot of these lands have now been identified as Open Space/Recreation and amenity, so this could mean opportunities for additional recreation developments.

The Draft Plan is a comprehensive guide to where the County is heading over the next 6 years, and is particularly important to Oughterard residents and businesses as it includes the detailed draft Oughterard Small Growth Town Plan. It is important that as many residents as possible engage with the process of agreeing a final plan.

Galway County Council has invited any interested persons or groups of persons to make submissions or observations regarding the Plan in writing, or electronically via the website, to the Planning Authority between the 20th May 2021 and Friday 30th July 2021. Also, residents can engage with their local representatives or telephone the Forward Planning section of Galway Co Co at 091-509000.

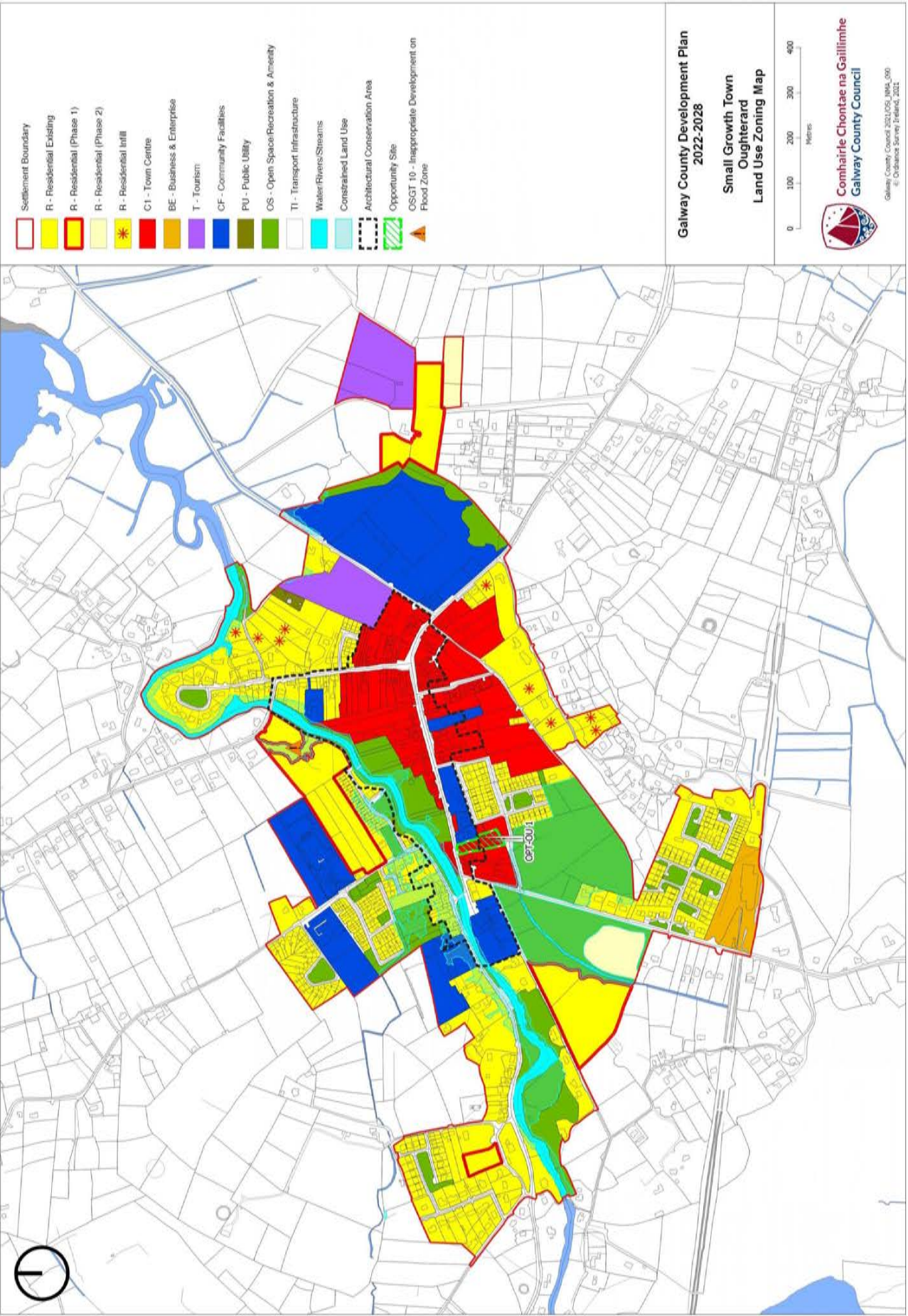
Written submissions or observations on the draft plan may be made either:

- online on the dedicated website at <https://consult.galway.ie/> by using the 'Make a Submission' link, or
- in writing to Planning Department, Galway County Council, Áras an Chontae, Prospect Hill, Galway. (Correspondence to be marked 'Draft Galway County Development Plan 2022-2028').

Now is the time to have your say on how Oughterard should be developing over the next 6 years: Galway County Council welcomes your submissions, which will all be used in developing the final plan!

Continued on next page >

< Continued from previous page



Oughterard Writers Group

Written by Barbara Dunne

As steady as a lighthouse beam through the fog of uncertainty of the last fifteen months, has been the Oughterard Writers, guided by our trusted lighthouse keeper, Pete Mullineaux.

Through the first few months of lockdown in 2020, we communicated via email every week, sharing our thoughts, poems and our prose, trying to make sense of this tumultuous and frightening time in all our lives.

Even during that time, or perhaps because of it, we were joined by some more

fledgling writers, and though some of us had never met in person, a camaraderie soon developed that has sustained us through some very dark months.

Then, in September, with the help and support of Clann Resource Centre, we all took the plunge and a Zoom meeting was arranged. The thrill of seeing both familiar and new faces after months is still fresh in my mind. We now meet every Thursday morning at 11. If you are interested in exploring writing in a safe and nurturing space, then we'd love to meet you.

We work from a theme or word,

suggested weekly that acts as a catalyst to inspire us to write, or not, as there is no pressure to 'produce'. Sometimes listening to the words of others is reward enough.

The Oughterard Writers couldn't continue without the generous and unflagging support of Clann, Galway County Council and the GRETB.

Thanks to the hard work of Jess Walsh and Jack McCann, the Writers have been awarded a grant from Galway County Council to compile and produce a book of our poems and writings written during the Lockdown, so stay tuned! ■

JOYCE COUNTRY AND GREAT LAKES GEOPARK:

Next steps



Written by Deirdre Forde

An exciting virtual conference took place on the 15th and 16th of June: the Joyce Country & Western Lakes Geopark Project's international conference entitled **Explore Our Whispering Landscape**. This was one of the events implemented as part of the bid to receive Geopark status for the Joyce Country and Great Lakes region.

A UNESCO Global Geopark is an area with sites and landscapes of international geological significance. Geoparks have a bottom up approach and encourage local communities and authorities to come together for the sustainable development, protection and education within the area. UNESCO Global Geopark status adds no further planning regulations to those already in place by EU, national or local governments. There are three UNESCO Global Geoparks in Ireland: The Marble Arch Caves in counties Fermanagh and Cavan, The Burren and Cliffs of Moher in Co Clare, and The Copper Coast in Co Waterford.

The conference showcased the outstanding geological features along with the wonderful opportunities for local economic and social development in this area of South County Mayo/ North County Galway. Oughterard is an integral part of this region; while traditionally we might be more inclined to just look to Connemara, being on the shores of Lough Corrib - and also being recognized as the first location of early settlers in the western region - should surely show our pedigree to become an important element of the Geopark.

The conference included contributions from far and wide. Attendees saw and heard about this region's links with Norway, Newfoundland and the Appalachian Mountains. A glimpse of what the anticipated UNESCO Global Geopark status – a top-drawer international brand – could mean for this area and for the whole of Connacht was given. Fantastic local products and attractions already emerging in this Whispering Landscape were showcased. Talks about archaeology in the uplands and how biodiversity can mitigate climate change were explored. The special teanga Gaeilge of Dúiche Sheoigheach and Tuar Mhic Éadaigh were presented.

Recognizing the importance of the Geopark status to the whole community of this region, The Oughterard Courthouse and the Oughterard Heritage group commissioned a video to celebrate the region, going from early settler to present day inhabitant. The video highlights the strong community links to the landscape and to the culture of being Irish and living in this part of Ireland. It showcases the lives of ordinary people who live and work here. This video was available to view to any attendee of the conference and will be used to market Oughterard as a place to visit. You can view this video on the Oughterard Courthouse website www.oughteradcourthouse.com or on www.oughteradheritage.org

We would encourage everyone - be you a business or a private citizen - to inform yourself and to think how you might help achieve Geopark status. The website www.joycecountrygeoparkproject.ie has all the information needed to get you started. ■



OUGHTERARD COURTHOUSE
ARTS PROGRAMME
PRESENTS
SUMMER EXHIBITIONS 2021

in
The Courthouse & visit online @
www.ocap.ie
Email: oughterardcap@gmail.com

2nd - 11th July

STIMULI

uachtarARTS Group Show:

Barbara Dunne, Celeste Auge, Colette NicAodha, Deirdre Stephens, Geraldine Folan, Gil Cusack, Grainne MacManus, Jess Walsh, Kathleen Furey, Kathleen Hinde, Lelia NiChathmhaoil, Mary Byrne, Mary Doyle, Maureen Mooney, Maria Hutton, Natalie Wood Folan, Olga Magliocco, Patrica McQuinn, Philippa Maguire, Rebecca Phibin, Renske Boef, Shona Butler Walsh and Susanne Keane.

16th - 25th July

CUIMHNI - Memories

An Exhibition of artwork created for Galway 2020 "SET IN STONE" project featuring Artists: Kathleen Furey and Leah Beggs.

30th July - 8th August

AIMSITHE - Discovered

An Exhibition of artwork created for Galway 2020 "SET IN STONE" project featuring Artists Collective AKIN:
Dolores Lyne, Jay Murphy, Leonie King, Margaret Irwin and Siobhan Piercy.

13th - 22nd August

ENTROPY

A solo Exhibition featuring Artist Olga Magliocco.



May Day! May Day! May Day!

Written by Barbara Dunne

“Our house is on fire. I want you to act as if the house is on fire. Because it is.”

This is Greta Thunberg’s stark message to the world. I made no special effort to hear her message, I didn’t seek her out, she found me. She found me as I listened to the radio, as she toured European parliaments by train over Easter, a couple of years ago. She found me as I picked up my daughter from school early to drop her to a ‘School Strike for Climate’, inspired by Greta’s strikes (in the months before Covid19). She found me reading the newspaper, as she defended herself cogently against claims that she has been ‘put up to this’ by various vested interests. She even found me at a circus show (pre-Covid), her words and actions played out by a group of young circus performers.

Listening to her is hard, I don’t want to hear her warnings about a climate emergency and we are all acting if everything is fine. What can I do in the face of such impending doom? I spoke to some of the young performers after the circus show, young adults facing the prospect of dying from climate change in the future. I explained how powerless I felt and they said they often felt the same way. ‘Why bother, when it all seems so pointless?’, was how one person put it.

Yet there is hope. Greta’s actions and the actions of those who have joined her in protest give me hope. Greta made another point on a radio interview, that gave me a ‘shift in perspective’ moment. She said, that up to now the responsibility has been on the individual for fixing the problem; through recycling, reducing, etc. She makes the case that the main polluters and beneficiaries from climate destruction are multinationals. According to Greta, they need to be held accountable for their actions. They destroy

habitat, use natural resources, exploiting the environment. I would add that they often exploit people, tax laws and avoid accountability.

That still left me wondering what I could do, as I too feel I have a part to play. Public protests have been off the menu for well over a year now. I decided to tackle this issue on a practical level by focusing some energy on food production for myself and to provide food for bees and birds.

So, with Greta’s words ringing in my ears, I have been gardening for the last eight weeks.

It seems simple enough, put seeds in soil, add water, wait. But I have been a haphazard gardener in the past, successfully growing strawberries, apples, blackcurrants, and some hardy herbs, having mixed success growing carrots and tomatoes, but failing brilliantly year after year in the salad department. I am however an optimist, and this year is going to be different. Definitely. Maybe.



Once everything was planted, labelled and placed in the correct seed tray, I gave them another quick splash of water and placed them on my kitchen window. Every morning I watered them and checked them anxiously for signs of life. After a week, I began to think the seeds were dead, but one morning the radish seeds emerged enthusiastically from the soil, followed by the dill, chervil, and coriander. They were joined a week later by little lettuce seeds. After three weeks, nearly all the seeds had emerged.

The next delicate and fraught stage of development was the re-potting. If I was too rough, or the plants had grown too big, they might die in the separation process. I took this delicate procedure in stages over the space of a week and I sighed with relief when I finished. I now have gherkin, and cucumber, lots of lettuce, beetroots, beans, and tomatoes all growing in various pots and containers. During the first Lockdown, when all the gardening and hardware shops were closed, I resorted to empty yogurt cartons, fruit containers and even an old wash basin.

Early in May, I cleared off the metal shelving outside my back door and gingerly moved my tender seedlings into the cool sunshine. I have kept a careful watch on them, like a clucking hen, making sure they are well watered and taking them in again at night. One morning as I was moving the plants into the sunlight, my daughter complained, ‘You care more about those plants than you do about me!’ I have given you more than 20 years of care, these plants have only had a few weeks.’ I retorted. ‘Plus, I don’t intend to eat you.’ I added. She made no reply.

My plants have braved night frosts, slugs, cool and showery days, and torrential rain. But I have a garden full of growing plants, now. I don’t know how much I will successfully harvest, but I am eating the odd spring onion, snipping chives and coriander for various salads, and eating fresh salad greens, radishes, and spinach.

Continued on next page >

< Continued from previous page

I have also planted plenty of bee-friendly flowers and herbs in a bid to increase biodiversity in my area. I have regular visits from blackbirds, finches, and starlings. Though I do need to protect my strawberries, last year I witnessed two blackbirds fighting over them. The female won. One cheeky robin has no fear in eating his breakfast beside me as I eat mine. I love listening to the lulling drone of the bees as they work around the garden checking all the plants for nectar.

Climate change needs to be tackled on both macro and micro levels. Protesting and holding multinationals and governments accountable are important, but plant seeds, walk around this beautiful earth, feed the birds and watch your grass grow. I have felt more connected to myself and to the Earth in recent weeks simply by looking after my own backyard. ■



PHYLL FURNESS CELEBRATES HER 106TH BIRTHDAY!



Phyl Furness, of Oughterard, wishes to thank her friends, well-wishers, and community for celebrating her 106th birthday with her on Sunday the 23rd of May, 2021.

Such a cordial time was had that she is greatly looking forward to her 107th in 2022! She is also looking forward to seeing her granddaughter from Australia again soon, when travel permits, and hopes to see you all again in the near future. ■

VACANCIES

Oughterard Community Employment Scheme

There are vacancies available on the Oughterard Community Employment Scheme, starting immediately. Applicants must be 1 year or longer in receipt of a Social Welfare Payment, namely Jobseekers, Lone Parents, etc.

There are a wide range of vacancies available:

- Environmental Work local to Oughterard Town
- Caretaking and housekeeping in Oughterard and Killannin Community Centres
- Office Admin. Assistant in Oughterard Community Centre
- Gardening and maintenance Work in Brigits Garden
- Other vacancies will be coming available over the next few months

Please contact Theresa on 087 9758177 if interested.

Oughterard welcomes visitors once again

Written by Deirdre Forde

While many of us have received the long-anticipated shot in the arm, thankfully Oughterard had its shot in the arm on June 2nd when more businesses were allowed to open up. Now there are some who will bemoan the loss of the easy parking spots in the main street, but I think you will agree that it is a small price to pay when you consider how much hardship has been experienced by so many in our community.

It does seem like a natural balance is beginning to return, we really have missed the perennial visitors, welcoming them to our area has always been a source of satisfaction and joy, long may it continue. You know the old saying, necessity is the mother of invention? This is particularly true for some of our businesses who have

really found their innovative streak.

Take Dessie from Camp St Café, outdoor dining may pose a problem for some, but Dessie has come up with the ultimate upcycled livestock feeder! Mention has been made of patent rights... watch this space!

Adrian in the Boat Inn took a fresh look at his premises and realized what a gem he has in the garden to the rear. It has been transformed into a superb outdoor dining space, he explains "we are so happy with our new addition, The O'Connors Garden Restaurant, a beer garden like no other. Since COVID hit, it has brought learning curves along the way. Every business has had to adapt to the unknown and we applaud everyone around our locality who

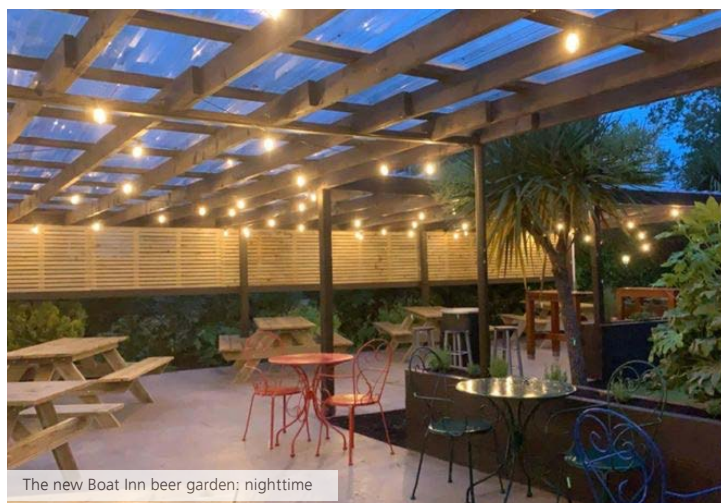
are able to trade. We all, at The Boat Inn have stuck together, coming back stronger and better each time" Well done for bringing this on stream.

Visitors or no visitors, Tidy Towns have been busy working on beautifying the town, the colourful planters really lift our spirits. Many areas have been painted or weeded. Mile buiochas to all the hardworking volunteers.

Overall, Oughterard has weathered the lockdowns well, taking solace in the beautiful nature and peace to be found here. We hope the summer season is a successful one for all, don't forget to keep safe, practice social distancing and wear that mask, so we can all look forward to the day when all restrictions are lifted. ■



The new Boat Inn beer garden: daytime



The new Boat Inn beer garden: nighttime



The livestock feeders outside Camp Street Cafe

MY EXPERIENCE OF THE Sustainable Gardening Course

OFFERED BY GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL, 13 APRIL 2021 – 11 MAY 2021

COURSE GIVEN BY HORTICULTURALIST AOIFE MUNN

Written by Julie Hackett

As a member of the TidyTowns Team in Oughterard, I was asked to represent our group by participating in this course given via Zoom and share the information learned with the team. I was keen to do so not only to impart what I would learn with our group and perhaps help to increase our chances in the annual TidyTowns competition, but also, more selfishly, to improve my own knowledge of gardening. Although I love to work in the garden, my expertise in landscaping, cultivation and planting is very limited. This 5-week Tuesday evening course more than met my expectations.

The sessions were all very impressive and stimulating not only because of the information imparted but also because of the instructor. Aoife's delightful and engaging manner was on display every week, and her vast knowledge was wholly evident. She kept up a very quick pace throughout each hour communicating her expertise on each topic, yet still allowing ample time for questions. Breaking up into 5-minute group sessions each week also allowed us to contribute and share our own humble observations.

One of the aims of this course was to teach us how to reduce the work in the garden and increase the benefits. Well, I was certainly ready to learn how to do that! Another aim was to build opportunities for all to engage more with nature. The importance of restoring habitats for birds, bees, butterflies, and other wildlife was touched upon in each weekly session. We will soon lose native wildlife species in Ireland if we destroy or fail to create natural habitats for them. Aoife referred to an experience she had judging the TidyTowns competition one year. She gave a particular town low marks because its river was polluted with rubbish and even a discarded shopping trolley. She was pleasantly surprised and ecstatic when, returning to judge the same town the following year,

a kingfisher flew past directly in front of her as she regarded the newly cleaned-up river.

The main topics and their general themes over the five weeks were:

- Waste Reduction (reduce, reuse, recycle)
- The Importance of Wildflowers (plant only wildflower seeds that are produced in Ireland because Irish wildflowers are genetically different to non-native species)
- Bulbs (you can't beat bulbs from Holland), Pruning Trees (done after flowering or fruiting), and Weed Control (organic is best)
- Allotments and Growing Fruit and Vegetables (Rotational Crops vs Permanent Crops)
- Compost Heaps (should be a 50/50 mix of green and brown materials), Bioscaping (look at what is great about your area and replicate it in your garden), The Importance of Hedgerows (they act as wildlife corridors and help with climate control), Improving Waterways (remove chemicals, assure accessibility for wildlife on two sides, get surveys done), Pollinator Friendly Planting (avoid flowers with double heads, plant some non-native flowers to extend the pollinating season), Other Wildlife (bats, badgers and moths)

If you are interested in learning more about protecting Ireland's wildlife, biodiversity and keeping the environment chemical free, I highly recommend this personable and knowledgeable speaker. As for contacting or following Aoife, she is on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/aoife.horticulture> where she lists her events and also shares other posts of interest. She can also be followed on Eventbrite--<https://www.eventbrite.ie/d/online/aoife-munn/> ■

POETRY

The History of the Conch Shell

Slipping deeper into the Pacific
I watch the highway become further away
After each and every crash.

Goodbye dear shores
Where warm hands caressed me
And held me gently to their listening ears.

I will carry you with me when I go
You are a part of my history
This journey is a rambling one

Travels a far and 7 seas wide,
I have stood witness to the building and crumbling of empires,
Always searching for a home.

My echo is eternal
Being an instrument for battle or music
In one mighty blow.

I have conquered and been conquered
Some have held me sacred,
Some say I am as Ancient as the Greeks.

And so a new odyssey begins,
As I have been cast aside by a careless heart, disregarded.
Perhaps I will wash up on more welcoming sand?

Diana Van de Kamp

A LETTER FROM THE Oughterard Tidy Towns

Written by TidyTowns Secretary, Diana Van de Kamp



Ardvarna Hill wildflowers



Jack & Julie Hackett are prolific in cleaning up Oughterard

Greetings Oughterard,
Summer is upon us, which means you might see some vested crusaders out and about spiffing up the town. Those hard workers in hi-vis are your TidyTowns Team gearing up for 2021's competition. We are a determined 12 member team who are always looking for more volunteers. We have been lucky to have the Transition Year students cleaning up alongside us. Special thanks to Deidre Ford for helping to arrange that collaboration. We are enthusiastic to be getting back to work after lockdowns and we are closely following COVID-19 guidelines.

Have you noticed the glorious wildflowers on Ardvarna Hill, welcoming you to Oughterard? If not, take a look. They are a gorgeous pop of colour, adding to aesthetics and biodiversity of our town.

Those wildflowers are thanks to the hard work of Mary Doyle, Lucy Ward, and members of the TidyTowns Team. How grateful we are to you for that wonderful sight!

Here are some updates on what your vested crusaders are currently working on. Jamie, Karl and Aislinn have been clearing bramble from the wall by Connor's. Jamie and Karl have also been planting planters with lobelia, dianthus, trailing red verbena and begonias. Julie has taken a sustainable gardening course, Jack has been painting benches by the shrubbery as well as cleaning the information signs. They also do regular clean ups around the town. Una, Paddy and Anne have been gardening in our poly tunnel, and Gerry & Paddy have been busy clearing overgrowth about the town, with Ardvarna Hill and the Bridge area getting a spruce up. Joe was kind enough to fix up the Planters & Boats, while Noreen has been following up with a fresh coat of paint. Diana is sending out donation letters, and updating our social media pages. Our chairperson John Cronin has been helping us organize meetings, and our application for the competition. We have weeded and replanted all the boat planters. Spoiler alert...the hanging baskets are coming soon.

The TidyTowns competition has been a tradition and has been going on since 1958. There are various categories on which towns are judged. Last years TidyTowns competition was canceled due to COVID, for the first time in it's history. This years competition will be held virtually. One of Oughterard's TidyTowns Team goals is to improve our scores, and we need your help. Some easy ways that we can all participate in this is by...

- Keeping the town litter free - it takes a small effort to drop it in a bin or take it home
- Share your creative recycling or up-cycling projects with us on our Facebook or Instagram pages
- Maintaining storefronts and homes
- Plant a sustainable vegetable garden
- Make a herb hanging basket
- Plant pollinator friendly flowers
- Remove your boxes and litter after using the bottle bank for recycling
- Dispose of your masks carefully when finished with their use
- Find and share ways to minimize your waste
- Reduce your carbon footprint
- Leave no trace

Continued on next page >

< Continued from previous page

This is a community effort and we reach out to everyone in town for their assistance. We thank you for all of your efforts. The Tidy Towns Team is so grateful to all of our past, present, and future helpers.

Here are the Perennial Projects our Tidy Towns Team works on year-round: litter clean ups, regular bottle bank clean ups, caring for our poly tunnel, repairing benches and planters, growing our social media presence, looking for sponsorships, and (drum roll please). creating a **BRAND NEW Sensory Garden on Pier Road**.

What is a sensory garden, you ask? It is a self-contained garden area, that allows visitors to enjoy a wide variety of sensory experiences. These gardens are designed to maximize sensory impact with a variety of plants, shapes, materials, scents, textures and heights. We envision this to be a year-round, bio-diverse space for all ages, to relax, stimulate your senses, meditate, promote sustainability, and to enjoy & learn about nature. Your Oughterard Team is so excited about this, and we will update you on our progress.

Thank you to Clann Resource Centre for their continued support & generosity and also to those donors who wish to remain anonymous. You are helping make our vision possible. We welcome any volunteers, suggestions and sponsors to help us accomplish our goals. More hands make light work. Litter free is the way to be. Have a great Summer!!!

Warmest Regards,
Your Tidy Towns Team

P.S. Feel free to e-mail our secretary, Diana, for any inquiries: d.vandekamp@icloud.com



Clean-up at the Bottle Bank



A post-clean-up photo of Oughterard



Our Chairperson, John Cronin, going over the Sensory Garden plans

Brigit's Garden

Brigit's Garden are delighted to open our doors this season, to re-emerge from the darker half of the year and open ourselves to the growth, warmth, joy and abundance of summer— a transition that feels particularly poignant in this pandemic year.

A wonderful evening took place in May, as we celebrated the arrival of Bealtaine on May 1st by Zoom! There was a lovely sense of community around the world and some beautiful intentions to hang on our Maybush. The poems and songs that people shared around the fire afterwards were wonderful too. It definitely kept us going until we could welcome visitors in-person again. Our warm thanks to all!

For anyone who would like to continue with meditation practice or try it for the first time, there is a drop-in session every Sunday with Moya Roddy. At the moment, this takes place via Zoom and details of this weekly event can be found on our website.

Brigit's Garden is a not-for-profit organisation, and since we re-opened, the community has been so supportive. Many have kindly chosen to purchase annual membership, providing unlimited entry to the Garden for 12 months. This support makes a huge difference.

We recently welcomed transition year students, Emma O'Halloran, Noah Forde, and Keegan Gilmore, from St. Paul's, Oughterard, on work experience. They worked so hard all week alongside our team, watering, weeding, helping around the office, and even shadowing our Education Team during a school tour visit.

There are many different ways in which the local community support the Garden, through volunteering, donating, dedicating a tree in the Garden, or simply by visiting us, and we are so grateful to all. "Ar scáth a chéile a mhaireann na daoine".

Brigit's Garden is open daily from 10.00am – 5.30pm and the Café opens daily from 10:30am – 5.00pm with hot lunch served from midday until 3pm. Visit www.brigitsgarden.ie for further information and up-to-date announcements in line with government guidelines. ■



Emma O'Halloran from St. Paul's, Oughterard



Volunteer Pat O'Brien in the Polytunnel



Noah Forde & Keegan Gilmore from St. Paul's, Oughterard

Oughterard GAA/LGFA News

We were delighted to get back to training in the last few weeks. Even more exciting is the prospect of matches going ahead from 7th June, in particular for the competitive groups. In the background, the committee has been working away to get training up and running. We are delighted and grateful to the volunteers who are taking part in club coaching and as Covid officers. We have a record number of teams entered into competition this year. 16 teams will compete in various competitions from u12 upwards.

This year, we also have a large number of players vying for a place on county panels (both GAA and LGFA) from u14 upwards. We would like to wish all our players the very best at the trials. Currently, Cian Monaghan and Matthew Tierney are training with the Galway senior panel and as recent as Sunday 30th May, we saw Matthew Tierney donning the maroon jersey representing Galway on the senior squad and scoring a goal against the all-Ireland winners Dublin in the process.

We are running a Cul Camp this year from 9th of August, for 2 weeks, in conjunction with Galway GAA. Camps are fully booked out and work is underway to ensure that those taking part get the most from the camp and enjoy the experience.

We would like to introduce you to our coaching teams this year.

GAA

U7 Boys - Kevin Finn, Eugene Boyce, John Canavan, Irial Conroy, Leo Clabby, and Damien O'Hare

U9 - Matthew Lydon, Fiona Luskin, Richie Donovan, and Geraldine Stewart U11 - Rory McGauley, Damien Lee, Frank Meehan, and Francis McDonnell U12 - Kevin Finn, Frank Meehan, Damien Lee, and Justin Keogh

U13 - Conor Gibney, Liam Tierney, Kevin Finn, Barney McAleer, Niall Lee, and James Webb U14 - Liam Tierney, Conor Gibney, Brian Tierney, James Webb, and Niall Lee

U15 - Ciaran Hanley, Eddie O'Sullivan, Seamus Lowry, John Gillespie, and Paul Delapp U16 - Justin Keogh and Paul Delapp

In these age groups u13 and 15 are competitive and in u12, 14 and 16, while competitive, the emphasis is on development.

U17 - (Minor) - Maria O'Halloran, Bosco O'Halloran, Stewart Upton, Robert Gill, and Donal Gibbons.

U19 - Liam Tierney, Terrence Monaghan, and Cormac Walsh. Junior C - Lawrence O'Toole, Malachy Ruane, and David Healy Junior A - Justin Keogh, Paul Delapp, and Terrence Monaghan

Senior - Alan Murphy, Terrence Monaghan, Eugene Boyce, Kevin Murphy and Will Moran.

LGFA

U6 - Ann Coyne and Conor Coyne

U8 - Marian McGauley, Ann Marie Guihen, and Kieran O'Halloran U10 - Siobhan Walsh, Niamh Fleming, and Caoimhe Fleming

U12 - Geraldine Curran, Mary Joyce, Laura Barkley, and Kevin Joyce U14 - Brian Ferguson, Clíodhna Ruane, and Fiona Luskin

U16 - Brian Tierney, Daniel O'Sullivan, Daragh McGauley, and Caroline Higgins

U18 (minor) - Brian Tierney, Daniel O'Sullivan, Daragh McGauley, and Caroline Higgins Junior D - Maria O'Halloran, Malachy Ruane, Ann Marie Thomas, and Paul Delapp

Junior B - Kevin Joyce, John Fleming, Sheila O'Neill, Tommy Peoples, Fionnuala Creighton, and Ciara O'Sullivan

Alongside all the coaches, we have a fantastic group of 16-18 year old club members volunteering to assist the coaches, give back to the club, and gain valuable experience.

We are hoping that we can have spectators at matches this summer and we eagerly await news from Croke Park on this. Please keep an eye out on our social media Facebook and Instagram for updates on matches and Covid guidelines for spectators.

As always, your continued support of Oughterard GAA/LGFA is greatly appreciated. Our current Lotto jackpot is €20,000 and at the time of writing, our reserve jackpot €9,500. The lotto can be played on line on <https://clubforce.com/clubs/gaa-outherard-gaa-club-events-galway/>

If anyone would like to help in any capacity with club activities, please email: secretary.outherard.galway@gaa.ie



Matt Tierney, taken in Tuam

Oughterard Rugby Football Club *update*



Mini News

Mini Rugby came back with a bang at the start of May and it has been a strange season to say the least. No one could have predicted that, when we had our last training before Christmas, we would not set foot on the pitch again until 01 May! However the sojourn has proved to be a blessing in disguise as the numbers returning in May have been fantastic. Rugby continues to grow in popularity and the proof is easily seen every Saturday morning at 10:30 am. Oughterard Rugby Football Club's minis have gone from strength to strength and now have teams training at all ages. The age groups range is:

- 4/5s - mixed
- 6/7s - mixed
- U8 - mixed
- U9 - Boys
- U10 - Girls
- U10 - Boys
- U11 - Boys
- U12 - Girls
- U12 - Boys

The Club has used the month of May to provide a "Have a Go" for our Leprechauns or Leps. Normally our 'Leps' are our 6 & 7s year-olds but, due to an unprecedented demand, we now offer a 45 minute session for 4 & 5s year olds on a Saturday morning. This session is solely comprised of fun games. The emphasis here is focused on the kids having fun in a rugby environment. Our 6 & 7s have also grown in numbers during the month and this bodes very positively for the restart in September. In total, there are in excess of 150 children enjoying the sport of rugby on a Saturday morning.

Indeed, all this good news would not be possible if it were not for two groups of people; Mums, Dads, Nans, and Grandads can all be witnessed on the side-lines and a sincere thanks is due to you for giving your children the opportunity to enjoy mini rugby. Our fantastic group of coaches and admin people have done an amazing job of keeping the show on the road and the club owes these fantastic bunch of people a huge thank you. It must be noted that, since our return in early May, there have

been a number of new volunteers and this is great to see. ORFC welcome these people into the club.

Unfortunately, May sees the traditional winding up of the mini rugby season and most probably, by the time of publishing, the season will be well wrapped up. However, planning is already underway for the new season in September. It is hoped that we will commence training on Saturday 04th September. In the meantime, the club will be busy with the plethora of items which require attention in order to provide quality training come September. Liaison is under way with Connacht Branch regarding coaching courses and coaching tutorials for all our volunteers. Kit requires checking, pitch requires maintenance, fundraising efforts continue with our monthly 50/50 Draw, as well as a host of other tasks which all happen behind the scene. A huge word of thanks must be said to all the people who readily give up their precious free time to make this possible.

From all in ORFC Minis we wish an enjoyable summer break to all our players and parents. We hope the kids enjoy all the fantastic sporting opportunities over the next few months and come back in September rearing to go!

Slán go fóill.
- Emmet Gardner



U12 training with one of their coaches, John Walsh

Youth News

The Youths teams were badly affected this past season by Covid restrictions, with most teams only registering one game for the whole 20/21 season. With the restrictions lifted, the different age groups will play some matches on the weekend of the 12th of June to finish off the 2021 season and head into the summer break.

To develop further as a club we strive to improve the rugby experience and to bring rugby to young adults who can learn from the discipline that rugby brings and, in doing that, become fitter, both mentally and physically. Rugby suits all shapes and sizes and all abilities.

We are always looking for more youths to join us and no experience is necessary, we have teams for next season from under 13 right up to 18.5s in both boy and girl squads and, the more players we get, the stronger the club can get. During the upcoming season we hope to have coaching clinics at the pitch at St Michael's with coach development officers from Connacht Rugby. These are professional rugby coaches that will add to the coaching experience of the club's own coaches.

Continued on next page >

< Continued from previous page

Keep an eye out for notices regarding the pre-season on our Facebook page and local social media and we hope to see you all back in August for the new Season.

- Alan Dalton

Junior News

Like everyone else, it has been a very disruptive season, but it is great to get back on the pitch and throwing a ball around. Whilst we will be starting the season next August, we plan to have a few 'friendlies' over June and July. After the pandemic, a few of our team members have decided to hang up their boots. In particular, I would like to thank Colin Ryan, Mike Clancy, and Ian Fogerty for their contribution, both on and off the pitch, that has helped to build the Adult team since its inception. Their leadership and friendship will be missed by the squad and we hope to see them on the side-lines next season. In addition, Derek McNamara, who joined us in the last couple of seasons, has also decided to hang up

his boots so, again, thanks to Derek for his contribution.

We have been extremely lucky to get some of the new members into the squad that have come up through our minis and youths

section over the years, so we're really excited to see them continue to develop over the next few seasons and lead the Club into the future.

- Jack Clarke



Séamus Lowry showing the U12 boys how to ruck



BBQ to celebrate the last day of training in May



U14 training in May

Continued on next page >

< Continued from previous page

ORFC 50/50 Monthly Draw

We were granted a licence for a monthly 50:50 Cash draw giveaway in September 2020. We held our first draw at the beginning of October, where our first winner took home €780. Our biggest winner so far was € 1,365 to a very lucky lady in the New Year.

We would like to share a good-news story with you –What are the odds of a couple winning 2 draws in 6 months? Well, we have that winning streak here in Oughterard!

Contact Details

For further details on all matters ORFC go to www.orfc.ie; or Facebook: Oughterard Rugby; or email: ouhterardrugbyfootballclub@gmail.com; or call Niall at 0858887457. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for training times. ■



Open letter

TO THE OUGHTERARD AND KILLANIN COMMUNITY

The last 15 months have been most difficult for everyone and, finally, we can see some brightness at the end of the tunnel, based on the recent government announcement on the easing of restrictions, which will allow us more freedom to meet with family and friends.

As in other communities, Oughterard has experienced the loss of loved ones during the pandemic and, whilst we’ve not been able to personally express our sympathies and celebrate in their lives in the traditional manner that we, the Irish, do so well, it was indeed touching to see people gather on the Main Street, Square, and at the gates of their homes, in what became the community’s way of standing with the grieving family in their loss as the hearse slowly passed, when bringing the deceased to their final resting place. I extend my deepest sympathy to all those who experienced loss... May their gentle souls rest in peace.

I’d like to share with you an update as to the position in relation to our annual Agricultural Show which, under normal circumstances, takes place on the last weekend in August. As you are all aware, 2020 was a most difficult year with the Government guidelines requesting us all to restrict our movements, with strict limited parameters as to people gathering. The advent of the vaccine rollout in 2021 is proving somewhat successful, based on the latest indicators which hopefully will continue with everyone’s adherence to the latest announcements in how the country emerges from the lockdown and slowly opens during this summer.

The Irish Shows Association convened its AGM in early February by Zoom with over 40 shows partaking. At that time, it was unanimously decided, due to a number of factors, that, sadly, no ISA membership shows would take place during the course of 2021, mainly for the following reasons: -

- The Safety and Wellbeing of all who would partake in events and

those who attended is paramount. At that time, the vaccine and its success was an unknown entity.

- It would be unfair to those who have generously supported the shows over the years for us to seek sponsorship for events, especially after the burden they had endured in the previous 15 months.
- Government guidelines, as to the number of people gathering, restrained organising committees from meeting and thereby made the task in the organisation and planning near impossible.
- There is a lot of preparation for participants in getting ready for a show. Animals have to be trained, exercised, and get familiar with being handled. In our case, with the Oughterard Show being one of the last shows of the year, the participants mainly comprise of those who have qualified by winning categories in preceding shows.

I trust the above gives you all sufficient information as to the reasons for the cancellation of the show again this year.

Finally, I’m sure you would all join me in expressing our deepest gratitude to all those who have worked strenuously in keeping us safe. From frontline workers, to all the volunteering groups who came to neighbours’ assistance, shopkeepers etc.... the list is endless but nevertheless, most appreciated by all. Thank you.

I wish you all safekeeping and good health.

Yours sincerely

PJ Burke

PJ Burke - Chairperson
Oughterard Show Society.



OAFc Oughterard

Soccer Club *update*

There has been a hugely positive reaction to the news last month that the Football season in Newvillage has been extended for Competitive Leagues this year. While May/June are renowned as the busiest months with exams and overlapping in sports, players, parents and coaches have embraced the extension which will see a fulfilling end to our season.

Players at Under-18 level and younger have been back training since Covid-19 sporting restrictions lifted on April 26. May 10 saw the return of all age levels in full contact outdoor training in pods of 15. League matches will continue over a 6-week period from June 7 to July 18. The Club welcomes the extension which will see all competitive age levels (U12 and up) play the remaining matches in the fixtures calendar.

The Club wishes to thank ALL players, coaches, parents and families for a highly successful return to football in what has been an unpredictable year. It's great to see players back with a ball at their feet!

We are actively seeking new coaches and volunteers to join us at the start of the 2021/22 season in September. If you wish to be part of the Club in any capacity or feel you can contribute to the Club in the upcoming season, please contact us at oughterard@galwayfa.ie. We would love to hear from you!

Our AGM will take place at the end of June, date to be confirmed on our Social Media pages.

FAI SOCCER CAMP



Save the date (in fact the week!) of July 19th- 23rd for this year's FAI Summer Soccer Camp. Once again Newvillage will host this popular camp which is always a huge hit with the kids and books out quickly. Further details can be found at <https://summersoccerschools.ie> and further updates will be posted on our Social Media pages.



Mary Cournane, April's winner.



Matt & Mo Talbot, May's winners.

POWERBALL 500

Mary Cournane, April's winner.
Matt & Mo Talbot, May's winners.

Congratulations to Marie & Matt Tierney, Mary Cournane, and Matt & Mo Talbot our March, April, and May Powerball 500 winners.

We are calling on all OAFc supporters to Play Powerball 500 for the chance to win €500 each month, while supporting the continued improvement of Newvillage Football Park. Investment in facilities, which includes progressing plans to increase coaching session capacity at Newvillage Football Park, can only be achieved if the club has sustainable funds to make this investment. Buying a ball (costing less than €5 a week) supports the club's development. Log onto <https://cryjq3pu.paperform.co> to play.

OAFc WOMEN

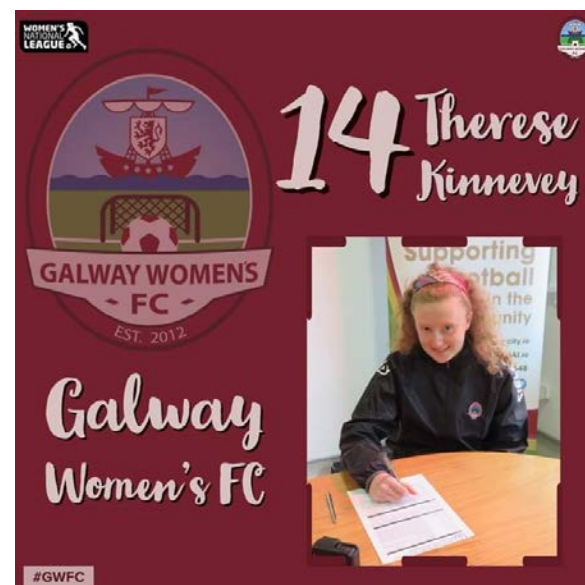
Our Women's Recreational football program has been a huge success and it is now a primary objective to enter a team in the Galway League. The Club has squads at all levels competing in the league, apart from the

Women's competition, so this would be a great addition next season.

Women's football is open to players who are 16 years old and over. Please email oughterard@galwayfa.ie if you are interested in joining us.

PLAYER SIGNING

Congratulations to 18-year-old Therese Kinnevey who has re-signed for Galway Women's FC for the 2021 season. A super talented defender, Therese originally played for Oughterard AFC before joining Galway Women's FC.



Continued on next page >

< Continued from previous page

PLAYER OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to Liverpool WFC 's Club Captain Niamh Fahey on winning the FA Women's Championship Player of the Month for March. Niamh hails from Killannin and is a long established international footballer. Niamh was Club captain for the season.

LATEST ADDITION

The Club has sponsored a Barn Owl Nest box at Newvillage to support the effort to stop the decline in the Barn Owl breeding population. The Nest box is located on the roadside at the far end of Newvillage Football Park. Check it out next time you are passing! ■



Corrib Basketball Club *update*

Corrib Basketball, like all other sports, faced many challenges over the past few months and, while the club has now gone into its summer recess, we're asking our members to begin the bounce back. Basketball Ireland recently announced their Bounce Back Challenge, a new, free initiative aimed at players of all levels aged 12-17, from novice to club players. For the months of June and July any player that downloads the MaxOne app will get specialised content to help develop their game. The highlight of the Bounce Back Challenge will be the weekly participation-based dribbling skills challenge. All participants who complete the challenges will be in with a chance to win weekly and monthly prizes, as well as a grand prize of a holiday for a family of four to the USA to go to watch an NBA game. Anyone can download the app and get involved, however only those aged 12-17 are eligible to win the prizes.

We're excited for the possibilities that the challenge

potentially opens up for the sport, and the initiative is supported by Sport Ireland. Hopefully, the app and challenge will be a great way for young Corrib players of all abilities to continue to engage with the sport over the summer months. We believe this new innovative digital approach at reaching players all over the country may open up more possibilities for Basketball moving forward.

Players can download the MaxOne app now on both apple and android devices. To join the challenge participants need to enter the team invite code 'basketballireland'. The first challenge is set to begin on Friday, June 4th, and will be weekly, running through the final week of July.

Enjoy the summer break, but keep bouncing is our advice. We're looking forward to seeing all our players and coaches back on the court in the autumn.

Yours in basketball,

Michael Walsh

BOUNCE BACK CHALLENGE

- Download the MaxOne App from the Apple or Google Play Store or click [here](#).
- Tap I have an invite code
- Input the code: basketballireland (all lower case)
- Fill in all of the information and tap Next. When signing up input weight as 0 and Graduation year as 2021
- Input the verification code sent to your mobile phone.

#BounceBackBasketball



CALL SPENCER AUCTIONEERS 091 552 999

YOUR LOCAL PROPERTY EXPERT

for residential, commercial & agricultural sales,
lettings and property valuations.

At Spencer Auctioneers we still largely require residential sales for finance approved clients, along with residential lettings and grazing land for waiting tenants.

www.spencerauctioneers.com



Spencer Auctioneers
Main Street, Oughterard, Co. Galway
091-552999
info@spencerauctioneers.com
www.spencerauctioneers.com