

BALLYBUNION

NEWS

KEEPING YOU IN TOUCH

PUBLISHED
EVERY
THURSDAY

Issue 40 Volume 10 : Thursday December 3rd 2020

COMMUNITY FORUM REACHES CRISIS POINT

INSIDE

LOCAL
NEWS

LOCAL
SPORT

COMMUNITY
NOTICES

PICTURE
PARADE

MEMORY
LANE

AND
MUCH
MUCH
MORE



Ballybunion's Community Forum has reached a crisis point and is now in real danger of folding completely, unless funding in the region of €30,000 can be raised in the coming months through a **"Go Fund Me"** page which has been set up on the online fundraising platform.

The forum which has run very successfully for the past number of years through generous contributions from the businesses of the town and various government and local government grants, are now out of money and unable to continue their work in improving and promoting the town.

Involved in in some way in most things that happen in the town throughout the year from the St Patrick's Day Parade right through to the Christmas lighting (*pictured*) as well as the running of the Tourist Office, the forum had been receiving regular funding from over twenty of the town's businesses, but this stream of funding dried up in 2020 because of the Covid-19 pandemic, which forced most of these businesses to close and unfortunately, as is the situation with most grants, you must first spend the money to claim it back, so that income also fell by the wayside this year.

Continued on page 3



mail@ballybunionnews.com
087-6061822



A Note from the Editor



Hello and welcome to another edition of Ballybunion News.

December is upon us and wait for it, today three weeks is Christmas Eve !!

Its great to see Level Five measures have been lifted meaning that retail and restaurants can re-open, but sadly, the publicans have been left out in the cold again, so there will no socialising down at the local for Christmas this year.

Kilcooly's, McMunns, the Marine and Wilde are all re-opening for business this weekend and I wish them all the very best for the next month or so.

My sincere condolences to Luca Perrozzi and family of Perrozzi's Pizzeria on the recent death of his mother Bernie in Dublin. May She Rest in Peace.

*Our main story this week is about the serious situation that the Community Forum finds itself in so please if you can spare a few euro, visit their Go Fund Me page and donate.
Stay Safe Everybody,*

Ger

mail@ballybunionnews.com



PUBLISHED
EVERY
THURSDAY



USEFUL NUMBERS

LOCAL DOCTOR 
068 27406

SOUTH DOC 
1850 335999

LOCAL PRIEST 
068 27102

GARDAI 
068 27104

CLIFF RESCUE 
999 or 112

LOCAL VET 
087 2501072

CHEMIST 
068 27437

BBNEWS 
087 6061822

RADIO KERRY 
066 7123666

LOCAL MASS TIMES

SATURDAY 7:00pm

SUNDAY 11:30am

WEEKDAYS 10:00am

Continued from front page.....

Chairman Donal Liston and Assistant Secretary Gráinne Toomey met with Ballybunions News this week to outline the situation and explain to people who may not be in the know, exactly what it is the Forum do, and how they use their funds, in the hope that those who enjoy all that Ballybunion has to offer might find a way to support them with a contribution.

Chairman Donal Liston said :

"We have had fantastic support from the business people of Ballybunion over the past four years but they have had it tough in 2020 and we cannot expect businesses that were closed for most of the year to put their hands in their pockets now and prop us up, so we are appealing to everyone out there, including local residents, people who have holiday homes here, people who come here to visit during the season, Ballybunion people living abroad and friends of Ballybunion, to please help us out. Basically, up to now, we have had big contributions from a few, but now we are looking for small contributions from many. If people could give us even the smallest contribution , it would all add up and we could continue to do what we've been doing for the past four years"

Grainne Gleeson added :

"Unfortunately, we cannot draw down any available grants because you have to spend first to get the funding, and we are not in a position to spend money, simply because we don't have it. Down the line, there are tens of thousands of euro available in grants from Bórd Fáilte through the new Destination Experience Development Programme (DEDP) which encompasses the West Clare and North Kerry area of the Wild Atlantic Way and there are some very exciting things happening for our area. We don't want to lose out on this, but the very real picture is that we could, if we are not able to raise funds in the coming months".

The Forum's achievements are there for all to see over the past number of years and among these are the restoration of the lighting on the beaches and the Castle Green, the establishment of a marketing plan for the town, the instalment of a Defibrillator Kiosk on the Main Street, and most importantly to a tourist town like Ballybunion, the provision of a Tourist Office.

You will find the forum involved in events such as the St Patricks Day Parade, MOYA, the Busking Festival, the Annual Tug of War, the Volleyball Tournament, the Halloween Festival and the Christmas Lights, either through organisation or the provision of funds.

Continued on page 5

VIRUS NUMBERS DOWN AGAIN ON PREVIOUS WEEK

The number of new cases of Covid-19 Corona Virus for the past seven days up to midnight last night (Wednesday) is considerably down on the previous week ,but the number of deaths from the virus is up on the previous week.

New cases of the virus nationwide for the past seven days total 1,928 which is down by 240 on the previous week, but the number of deaths in the past seven days was 43 compared to 29 the week before, with 18 deaths on one day alone while on Friday last, the daily number of 206 was the lowest daily number since early September.

The situation in Kerry is ever-improving with 33 new cases in the past week compared to 36 the previous week.

Kerry's incidence rate per 100,000 people is now 39 compared to the national rate of 84 per 100,000 and the county currently has the fourth lowest rate of the 26 counties.

Let's keep on doing what we've been doing.

Buckley's

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9.00am to 8.00pm Sat & Sun

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Experience the delicious magic of our fresh whipped ice cream cones







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East End
Ballybunion

Ballybunion Community Christmas Market



- Artisan Foods
- Baked Goods
- Gifts
- Handcrafts
- Jams & Honey
- Music
- Photography
- Skin Care

**Sunday December
6th
at
BALLYBUNION
COMMUNITY CENTRE
11.00AM TO 4.00PM**

Continued from page 3.....

The forum also pay all of the Insurance for these events, so their annual spend for everything is costing somewhere in the region of €25K to €30 each year and without them, none of it would happen.

People like Dónal, Gráinne and their Forum colleagues, spend endless hours also at meetings, filling in forms for grants, attending Tourism Seminars and various other activities behind the scenes, that nobody sees, all on a voluntary basis and for no remuneration.

In fact, most of the Forum members don't even own a business in the town or benefit from tourism, so all of their endeavours are purely for their sense of love for Ballybunion and to create Community Spirit, so it really would be a shame if this great organisation were to fold and all of these activities and services were to be lost.

They have many exciting plans prepared for the future, including the development of several walks, trails and cycling paths and of course the one we'd all love to see, putting the top back on the Castle.

Ballybunion has had it tough over the last few years fighting an uphill battle for a few crumbs from the tourism table and this year alone, we've lost our local Bank and our ATM services, so do we want to add the Forum to that list ? I think not !

If anybody reading this is in a position to donate even a small amount such as €10, €20 or even €50, the Forum can continue its work for 2021, draw down the available government funding and continue to promote and improve our town.

CREDIT UNION OPEN AGAIN

The Ballybunion Branch of Listowel Credit Union has re-opened under level three restrictions just as they promised, when level five was introduced six weeks ago.

The office will operate on Thursdays and Fridays only under level three, but normal office hours should be resumed whenever lockdown measures are lifted for good.

The following are the current opening times :

Thursdays : 9.30am to 12.30pm & 1.30pm to 3.3pm

Fridays : 9.30am to 12.30pm and 2.30pm to 6.00pm

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Declan Beasley
Wed Dec 2nd



Pat Hitchen
Fri Dec 4th



Teresa Senior
Fri Dec 4th



Mary Martin
Sun Dec 6th



Edward Falvey
Mon Dec 7th



Danno Hayes
Mon Dec 7th



Noel Nash
Tues Dec 8th



Maggie Hayes
Wed Dec 9th

THIS
CHRISTMAS
— It's got to be —
SuperValu

Opening Hours

Friday	18 th December	7:30am-9:30pm
Saturday	19 th December	7:30am-9:30pm
Sunday	20 th December	7:30am-9:30pm
Monday	21 st December	7:30am-10:00pm
Tuesday	22 nd December	7:30am-10:00pm
Wednesday	23 rd December	7:30am-10:00pm
Thursday	Christmas Eve	7:30am-6:30pm
Friday	Christmas Day	CLOSED
Saturday	St. Stephen's Day	9:00am - 6:00pm
Sunday	27 th December	8:00am-8:00pm
Monday	28 th December	8:00am-9:00pm
Tuesday	29 th December	8:00am-9:00pm
Wednesday	30 th December	8:00am-9:00pm
Thursday	New Year's Eve	8:00am-8:00pm
Friday	New Year's Day	9:30am-7:00pm
Saturday	2 nd January	7:30am-9:30pm
Sunday	3 rd January	7:30am-9:00pm

SAME DAY DELIVERY AVAILABLE MONDAY TO SATURDAY
PHONE: 068 27244 EMAIL: svdeliveriesbb@gmail.com
AVAIL OF OUR NEW OPENING HOURS 7.30AM - 9.30PM/10PM

LET US TAKE THE STRESS OUT OF CHRISTMAS
SHOP EARLY - SHOP LOCAL - SHOP SAFE
MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE!

Cahill's
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Home Delivery Service Available Tel : 068-27244

BEALE GAA DRAW

To kick off the Festive season Beale GAA are launching a massive Christmas Draw and a Wren Walk (details later) .

The draw will take place on Sunday December 20th and among the top prizes are a Huge Christmas Hamper (sponsored by Cahill's Supervalu), a trailer of turf (sponsored by Fergus Stack), a voucher for the Ballybunion Golf Club shop, a membership of the Ballybunion Health & Leisure centre and much, much more.

Club members will be selling tickets outside Supervalu every Friday, Saturday & Sunday between now and December 20th priced at €2 each, 3 for € or 7 for €10.

WELCOME TO TIDY TOWNS

Ballybunion Tidy Towns group would like to extend a very cordial welcome to three new members who have recently joined.

Anne McMahon and Brendan Smith of Church Road have kindly offered a hand at trimming, weeding and litter picking which is always needed around town while Conor O'Leary from the Brambles is another new member.

Conor has a monumental works and does sand blasting, headstone erection, etc.

He hasn't wasted any time since coming to Ballybunion, and recently donated his services to cleaning our monument and benches on Kit Ahern Road, the monument at Kilcooly's corner and the information stones and beach pebbles at the Cashen car park.

Tidy Towns looks forward to working along side these three new, very helpful members and their donation of time, energy and skills are very much appreciated. Remember, if any other community members have an interest in getting involved, please call Noel Nash at [089412-8600](tel:0894128600).

TOWN LOOKING VERY WELL

The erection of the Christmas lights and Christmas trees about the town has been completed and Ballybunion is looking really well for the festive season.

Several business premises have also made a huge effort with window displays (including those who are closed) and it is much appreciated.

The finest present

Wilde
BALLYBUNION
Christmas
VOUCHER

The Ideal Christmas Gift

To: Michelle
From: John
Value: €15 Signed: John

SANDHILL ROAD, BALLYBUNION, CO. KERRY
Tel: 068 27942 Email: reception@wildeballybunion.com

CHRISTMAS @ THE MARINE

December opening times

Our Book is Filling up very fast, Please book your festive dining soon as we will not be able to accomodate late booking



Fri 4th - Sun 6th Dec

Fri 11th - Sun 13th Dec - **Almost Booked Out**

Fri 18th - Sun 20th Dec - **Almost Booked Out**

Closed 21st - 25th Dec

St Stephens Day - 3 Sittings - **Almost Booked Out**

Set Menu €40.00 per person

4pm, 6pm & 8pm

Sun 27th - 3 Sittings **Almost Booked Out**

4pm, 6pm & 8pm

Mon 28th - Wed 30th

New Years Eve - 3 Sittings - **Almost Booked Out**

Set Menu €60.00 per person

New Years Day - 3 Sittings - **Almost Booked Out**

4pm, 6pm & 8pm

SARAH'S CHRISTMAS GIFTS



Anybody needing a nice centre-piece for your dining table on Christmas Day or indeed a personalised decoration for the grave of a loved one, should contact local woman Sarah O'Flaherty who is currently producing these items at her home on Doon Road with materials gathered locally from the beaches.

Working at Betty McGrath's Flower Shop in Listowel, Sarah is naturally gifted at flower arrangement and producing these items is second nature to her.

They are available by contacting her on 087-7772748.

SERVICE AWARD FOR MARINE HOTEL

Congratulations to Derek, Elaine and the crew at the Marine Hotel who have just received an award for the BEST SERVICE IN BALLYBUNION by the online restaurants review specialists Restaurant Guru.

Commenting on their award on their Facebook page, Derek & Elaine said :

"Staff are what makes a business successful and our staff in THE MARINE have been absolutely fantastic, not only to our customers but to us as owners we know how hard they all work for us and we are forever grateful".

The Marine re-opens on December 4th.



BRAND NEW CHRISTMAS CD

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BY

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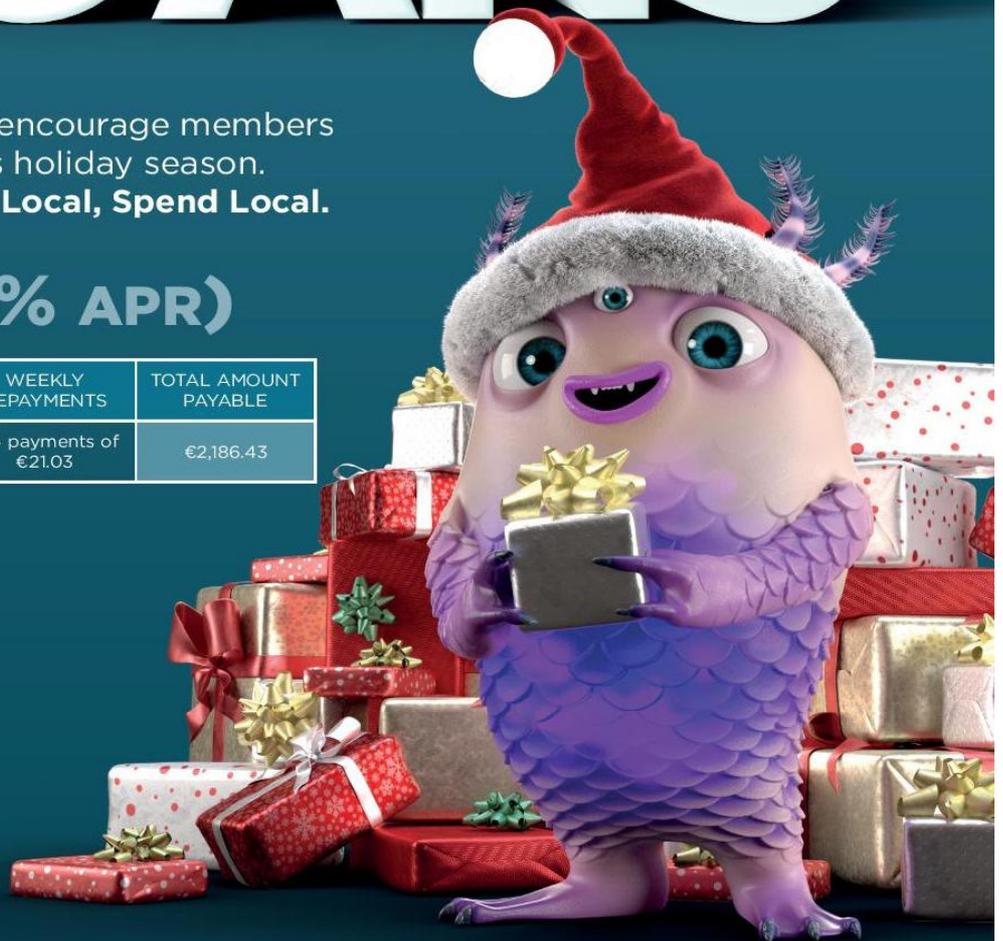
CHRISTMAS LOANS

Where possible we encourage members to support local this holiday season.
Stay Local, Borrow Local, Spend Local.

9% (9.41% APR)

AMOUNT	TERM	APR	WEEKLY REPAYMENTS	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE
€2,000	2 years	9.41%	104 payments of €21.03	€2,186.43

Information correct as of 20/10/2020



APPLY ONLINE, OVER THE PHONE OR IN BRANCH.

LISTOWEL OFFICE: 068 21938
BALLYBUNION OFFICE: 068 27685
WWW.LISTOWELCU.IE



Loans are subject to approval. Terms and conditions apply. If you do not meet the repayments on your loan, your account will go into arrears. This may affect your credit rating which may limit your ability to access credit in the future. Listowel Credit Union is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland.

IMAGINE MORE

BALLYBUNION GOLF CLUB MEN'S COMMITTEE 2021

Ballybunion Golf Club elected the following as the Men's Committee for 2021 at its "Virtual" AGM on Friday night last :

Captain : Kevin Barry

President : Gerard Walsh

Vice Captain : Michael McCarthy

Vice-President : Noel Morkan*

Hon Secretary : Tom Keane

Hon Treasurer : Paul Morkan

Committee Members :

John Bambury

Noel Barry

Frank Dore

Padraig Harrington

Tom Healy

Brendan Lynch

Greg Ryan

Garry Scanlon

* The holder of the office of Vice-President does not sit on committee.

CHRISTMAS DAY PLUNGE WILL BE VIRTUAL



One of the highlights of Christmas in Ballybunion is the Christmas Day plunge where up to four hundred people take to the icy waters of the Atlantic around noon to work up an appetite for the Christmas Dinner and raise some much needed funds for the Ballybunion Sea & Cliff Rescue.

Sadly, this year for the first time since the event began in 1985, there won't be an actual swim due to Covid restrictions on the gathering of large numbers of people, but there will be a virtual swim.

Virtual is the buzz word since the outbreak of the pandemic in March and we've already had a Virtual Run Ballybunion, a Virtual MOYA Festival, a Virtual AGM at the Golf Club and now the swim.

How its works is that you can take a plunge in the ocean anywhere in the world and at any time you wish, then simply take a photograph of yourself entering, exiting or in the water and share it on your social media with the hashtag : #ChristmasPlunge

But don't just do it alone, why should you suffer ? Make your friends join in also (whilst maintaining social distancing of course) and everyone who donates €20 and sends their pic and details of the swim to the Ballybunion Sea & Cliff Rescue, will receive a medal and a certificate.

Sadly, the loss of the money generated by the annual swim through sponsorship and the Christmas Day Bucket collection on the beach is going to hit hard on the Rescue crew this year, as they depend totally on fund-raising events and do not get any kind of government funding.

They provide a wonderful service to the town, the hinterland and beyond, so please if you can, take a jump in the water and donate this year or you can just donate without getting wet at all. See their Facebook page for further details.

Ger Walsh
The One Man Band with
the Big Band Sound

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F 068-27206
E hannanandculloty@eircom.net

St. Therese,
Church Road,
Ballybunion,
Co. Kerry.

REOPEN THIS FRIDAY DEC 4TH @ 6PM

**DECEMBER OPENING TIMES BELOW
PLEASE BOOK EARLY AS SPACES ARE LIMITED**

**WISHING ALL OUR CUSTOMERS AND FRIENDS
A SAFE AND HEALTHY CHRISTMAS
AND A BETTER AND BRIGHTER NEW YEAR**

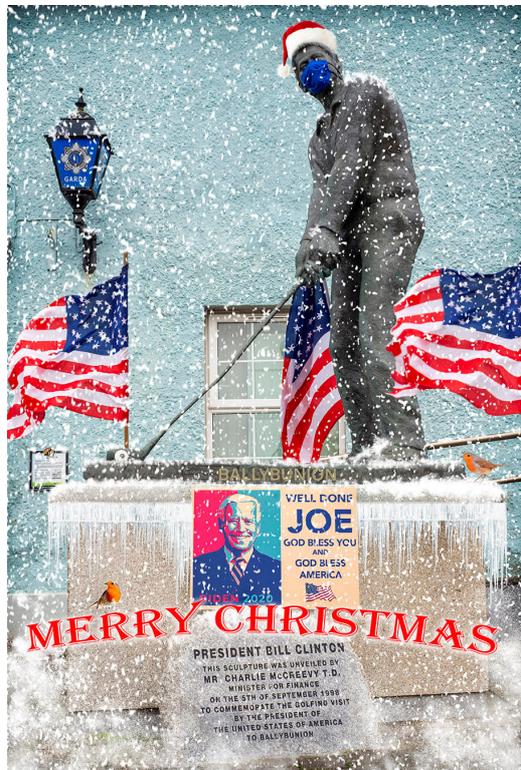


December 2020

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	1	2	3	4 OPEN 2 SITTINGS 6PM & 8PM	5 OPEN 2 SITTINGS 6PM & 8PM	6 CLOSED
7	8	9	10	11 OPEN 2 SITTINGS 6PM & 8PM	12 OPEN 2 SITTINGS 6PM & 8PM	13 CLOSED
14	15	16	17	18 OPEN 2 SITTINGS 6PM & 8PM	19 OPEN 2 SITTINGS 6PM & 8PM	20 CLOSED
21 OPEN 2 SITTINGS 6PM & 8PM	22 OPEN 2 SITTINGS 6PM & 8PM	23 OPEN 2 SITTINGS 6PM & 8PM	24 CLOSED	25 CLOSED	26 CLOSED	27 CLOSED
28 OPEN 2 SITTINGS 6PM & 8PM	29 OPEN 2 SITTINGS 6PM & 8PM	30 OPEN 2 SITTINGS 6PM & 8PM	31 OPEN NYE GALA DINNER BOOKINGS ONLY	1 OPEN 2 SITTINGS 6PM & 8PM	2 OPEN 2 SITTINGS 6PM & 8PM	3 CLOSED



A MEMENTO OF BALLYBUNION THIS CHRISTMAS



A bespoke local Christmas card is keeping Ballybunion to the forefront of people's minds as the festive season approaches and as many of our family and friends might not make it home this Christmas due to travel restrictions, people are being encouraged to send them a little piece of Ballybunion as a memento in the form of a card.

The recent photo of the Bill Clinton Statue, celebrating President-Elect Joe Biden's election success in the USA captured a lot of people's imaginations, and it is proving to be very popular especially on social media, and it has been shared all over the world.

The picture which also recently featured in popular Irish Times, journalist, Miriam Lord's column has now been modified and adapted into a Christmas Card which on sale locally at €3, so if you have family or friends who cant make it home this Christmas, why not send them a little piece of Ballybunion with this card ?

They are on sale in a number of outlets or you can call 068 27112 or 087 2828696 and they can arrange pick up/delivery and they are proving very popular with the first print already sold out !

"A 19th century Country House Hotel set within it's own walled garden in the heart of Ballybunion, Co. Kerry".

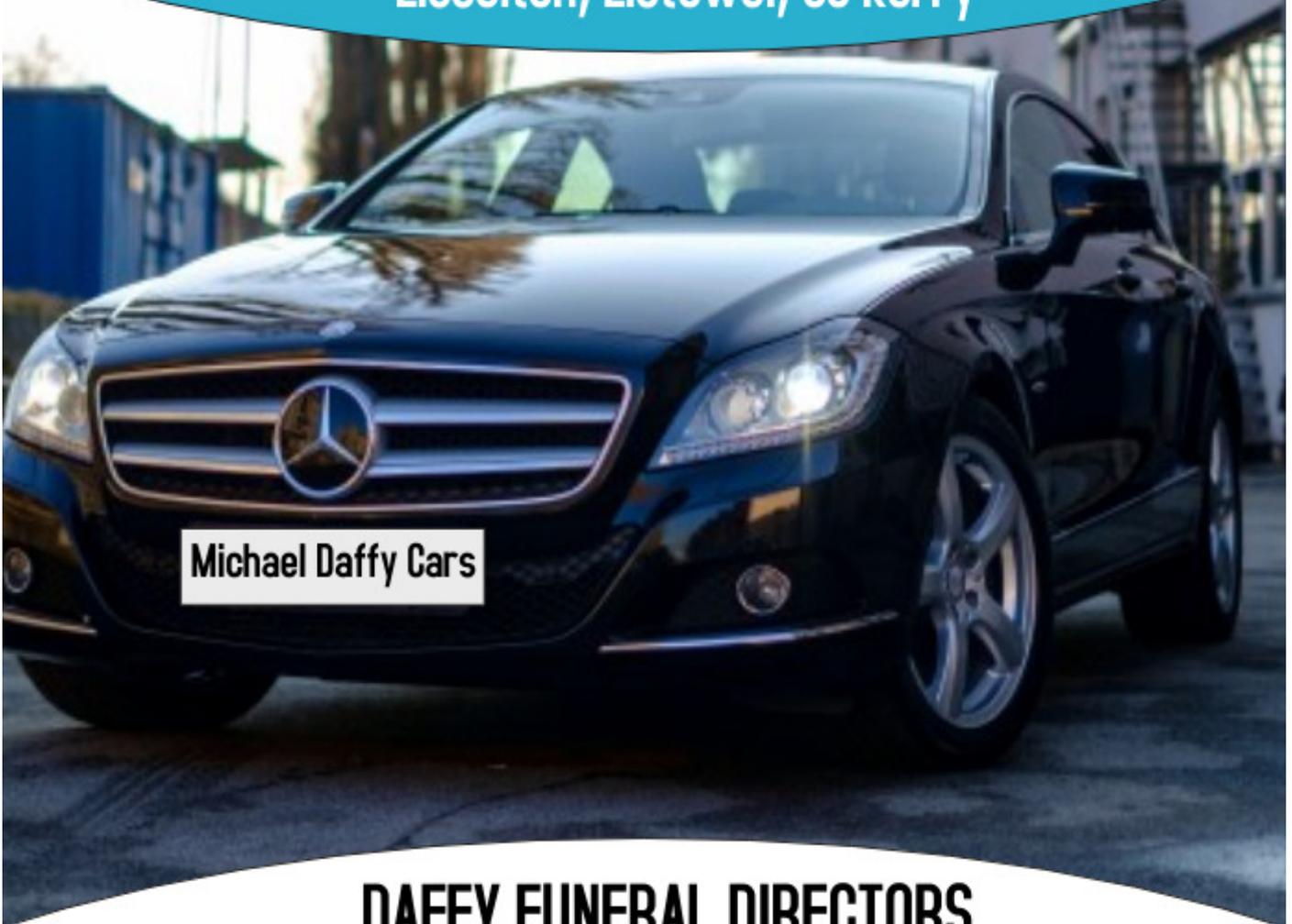
Kilcooly's
COUNTRY HOUSE HOTEL

WE ARE OPEN
Covid-19 restrictions apply. Booking is essential.

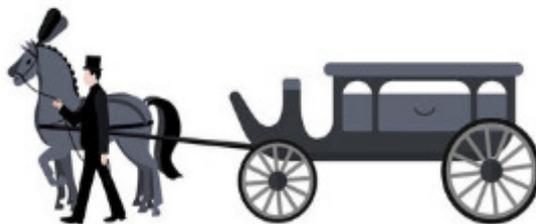
Main Street, Ballybunion, Co. Kerry
Tel: **068 27112**
Email: info@kilcoolyscountryhouse.com

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St John's Parish News with Fr Seán Hannafin

Anniversaries : Tim Buckley, Jack & Mary Walsh, Jim Enright, Michael Murphy, Colm Rohan, Mary Mulvihill, Francis & Maura Beirne and Nora Stack

Prayer Services : Prayer services will be held each Monday and Friday in the church at 10.00am while Rosary will be said in the church each Wednesday also at 10.00am and these services can be viewed live on Facebook.

Masses will be offered for the following :

Friday 10.00am : Tommy & Bridie Dowd

Saturday 7.00pm : Jim Enright, Michael Murphy, Colm Rohan, Francis & Maura Beirne and Deceased family members

Sunday 11.30am : Nora Stack and Tim Buckley

Monday 7.00pm : The People of the Parish

Tuesday 10.00am : Jimmy O'Donnell of Limerick

Wednesday 10.00am : The People of the Parish

Attending Mass : If you would like to attend one of the masses this week, please phone 087-7121497 which is a dedicated number exclusively for this purpose and the phone will be answered daily between 10.00am and 1.00pm by a Parish Volunteer. When you call, please indicate which mass you would like to attend as places are offered on a "first come-first served" basis. If for any health reasons it is unsafe for you to attend, please pray at home until it is safer. Remember there is no obligation on parishioners to attend mass during Covid-19 and it is reasonable to pray at home and follow mass on television.

Mass : Weekday masses for intentions will be said privately while Saturday night's vigil mass (7.00pm) and Sunday morning mass (11.30am) will be streamed live on the St John's Facebook page

Parish Office : The Parish office on Church Road remains open on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. Tel : 068 27102.

Thank you for your continuing co-operation, stay safe, stay healthy and God Bless.

Priest on Duty : Fr Declan O'Connor of Listowel Tel : 087-0908949

The Christmas Crib : The Shell of the empty Crib has been assembled, with the empty manger inside and both crib and manger are waiting for the arrival of Mary, Joseph and the 'baby' Jesus.

From December 8th it will be possible to visit the crib, and please follow the crib visitation signs so that we can all visit safely to help our Advent prayer. We too are 'waiting' for the birth of Jesus and the empty crib and manger will visually take us back to the original scene. This will hopefully, will connect us with the lives of Mary and Joseph as they said 'Yes' to God, so that Jesus would be born in our world. They travelled a long journey with Mary on a donkey so that they could do what the authorities of their time wanted of them.

The practise of creating cribs goes back to St Francis of Assisi who created the first Crib scene in 1223 and he got the inspiration after he visited the humble stable in a Bethlehem cave. This showed how Jesus was born into the world with humility and simplicity and Francis founded his new religious order to imitate these virtues.



DOWN MEMORY LANE



Pattern Day August 15th in Ballybunion in the late 1890's
People buying and selling goods on the main street outside what is now Courtney's Bar



ATLANTIC GOLF CONSTRUCTION



AGC offers the full package from planning & development to completion, meeting all of your requirements

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Main St, Ballybunion, Co Kerry

EMAIL : admin@atlanticgc.com
TEL : 068-28950

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**MCGUIRE LISTON**
FINANCIAL

LOCAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY

CALL 087-9861901

Accountants

Hannan & Culloty, Church Road
Tel : 068-27428

Bars

Courtney's, Main Street
Tel : 068-28038

The Exchange Inn, Main Street
Tel : 068-27123

Liston's Bar, Main Street
Tel : 087-2265932

Mikey Joe's, Main Street
Tel : 068-27288

The Railway, Main Street
Tel : 068-27303

B & B / Guesthouses

Beasley's 19th Lodge,
Golf Links Road
Tel : 068-27592

Cashen Course House,
Golf Links Road
Tel : 087-2898453

Courtney's Bar
Main Street
Tel : 068-28949

Liston's Bar
Main Street
Tel : 087-0962387

Building & Carpentry Services

N & C Courtney, Main Street
Tel : 087-2471670

James Fogarty, Doon Road
Tel : 087-9154265

Car Repairs & Dismantlers

Dirra Cross Motors
Asdee
Tel : 0863510478

Credit Union

Listowel Credit Union,
(Ballybunion)
Main Street
Tel : 068-27685

Dog Grooming

Magic Coat Grooming, Listowel
Tel : 068-22040

Electricians

Stephen O'Connor, Lisselton
Tel : 087-8382166

Financial Advice & Services

Eoin Liston, McGuire Liston
Financial
Tel : 087-1341500

Filling Station & Convenience Store

Buckley's, East End
Tel : 083-3921792

Hair & Beauty

Girlie's Beauty Lounge, East End
Tel : 083-3523278

Magic Scissors, East End
Tel : 068-27568

Rose's Hair Studio, Main Street
Tel : 068-28898



A Winter's Evening on the Ladies Beach as sunset approaches
Pic by Mareta Galvin

ISLAND VETERINARY CLINIC

St Brendan's Terrace Listowel (Beside the Cinema)

Joe O'Connor M.R.C.V.S M.V.B.

Magic Coat Professional Dog Grooming Studio

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Telephone 068-22084, 068-22040 or 085-8076649 for Appointment

LOCAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY

CALL 087-9861901

Hotels

Kilcooly's Country House, Main Street
Tel : 068-27112

The Marine, Sandhill Road
Tel : 068-27139

McMunn's, Sandhill Road
Tel : 068-28845

Wilde, Sandhill Road
Tel : 068-27942

Music & Disco

Ger Walsh
Tel : 087-6061822

Painting & Decorating

Tommy "Tucker" O'Connor
Tel : 087-2924214

Pharmacy

Ballybunion Pharmacy
Supervalu Complex, Main Street,
Tel : 068- 27437

Photographers

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