

CCN NEWSLETTER

Comhar Comaraigh Network.

December 2025

The Gealach Gorm Theatre at Kill Community Centre celebrates 20th Anniversary



From left – Denise Cheasty, Angela Mulcahy, Rosemarie Power and James Barry



Hall of Fame Michael Ryan



Kilmeaden Community Plan Unveiled



Portlaoigh Community Enhancement Development Group were awarded €1 ml to begin the implementation of their plan with an additional €5ml set aside to complete it under 'Our Rural Future' Town Centre First Programme. **Congratulations.**



Percy Kirwan Great Athlete of The Comeraghs

Inside this Issue

St. Mollerans GAA Club in Focus, Modeligo Pattern, Coast To Comeragh with Kieran Foley and much more from the Comeragh Area

STRONGER



TOGETHER

Comeragh Social Enterprise Network

EDITORIAL

We are continuing to maintain our network through quarterly newsletters and other initiatives. We are waiting for an opportunity to apply for funding to secure a full-time coordinator for a 3-year pilot period. We know from our asset-based research we can deliver significant results with the assistance of a One Stop Shop coordinator.

We have 86 network members, 23 Villages, 33 Social Enterprises (Kilmeaden Community Network CLG is our 33rd SE and 30 GAA, Camogie & Ladies Football clubs scattered across the region. Significant savings can be made through collaboration, shared learning, the elimination of waste of time, materials, the avoidance of mistakes and sharing of resources, solutions and new contacts.

If successful, Buíon (previously Waterford Area Partnership) will employ the co-ordinator supported by a voluntary Comhar Comaraigh Network Task Group. All our members are very busy drawing up new development plans. It is the implementation of them that presents the greatest challenge. Currently so many volunteers in the Comeragh Network are over worked and unable to commit to new work where and when new opportunities are presented that would increase inclusion and prosperity in the region. We will be much stronger together in sharing ideas, solutions, savings, best practices and partnerships.

We will operate within a "One Waterford Project" and link up with added value resources and projects in East and West Waterford where ever win-win benefits can be secured. The many volunteers in our region are willing to do more but most of them are already involved in two, four or more organisations. The next development steps require many of the same people to do more, which is not possible. The coordinator will make a distinct difference in reducing current workload, attracting new volunteers, getting much more done, facilitating the provision of new facilities and services and raising the quality of life all round for everyone in the network.

A very happy and peaceful Christmas to network members and everyone living in the Comeragh District.

Comhar Comaraigh Network Task Group

Senan Cooke, Eoin Morrissey, Angela Mulcahy, Deirdre Woodbyrne, Kieran Foley.

Recognition For Dunhill & Comeragh Network on Rural Regeneration.

Lifetime Achievement Award

On Wednesday 15th October in the Priory Market, Tallaght, Dublin (a social enterprise) the Department of Rural & Community Development held its first ever National Awards for Social Enterprise. There were 8 categories with three finalists in each one in attendance. Eight category winners were chosen. A Lifetime Achievement Award was also presented to Senan Cooke, Dunhill. The event was attended by Minister for Social Enterprise Jerry Buttimer TD and department staff.

Senan has been involved with Dunhill, DFBA, Copper Coast, Comeragh Network and a wide cross section of national and international programmes over the past 30 years. These included Commission for the Economic Development of Rural Areas, DRCD Social Enterprise Policy and is currently a member of Croke Park GAA Demographics Committee.



The Citation Accompanying the Award: 'It is fitting that the first Lifetime Achievement Award goes to someone who has been promoting and championing social enterprise long before most of us joined the train! There are few people who can truly claim to have seen social enterprise from all angles.'

He is a distinguished scholar; in fact, he wrote a seminal book on social enterprise launched in 2018 called 'The Enterprising Community'. He has participated extensively in developing Ireland's policy framework for social enterprise and he has been directly involved in founding seven social enterprises. Every one of us has benefited in one way or another from the work he has done in helping build Ireland's social enterprise sector.

I am of course talking about Dr Senan Cooke. Senan, you are an incredibly worthy recipient of this inaugural award. I would ask you all to be upstanding as I welcome Senan to the stage to be presented with this lifetime achievement award'.

Owl Lang Syne by Joanna O'Sullivan

I received an owl box. What a prospect, the chance to have a barn owl roosting in our garden, or a nesting pair, and chicks! BirdWatch Ireland advised on the specifications, and Nicky Sheehan and Pat Murray, of Dungarvan Men's Shed, created the boxes.

Our household was very excited about it being in place. It wasn't the easiest thing to do, however. We needed to remove some old, high, thick, branches just to make a space in the tree where the box could sit. My husband said that even if he could prepare a space in the tree, he couldn't lift the owl box to it. We spoke to friends about it, and, even with many willing hands, we couldn't see how to get the job done safely.

I contacted Glavey Tree Experts, and explained what we needed. Enter Eóin Glavey, with hoists, ropes, and safety gear. In no time at all, our owl box was in place, level, and secure. Eóin had done his research and even cut a path, through the branches, to the entrance hole.



2026 is nearly upon us. And the barn owl breeding season is long. It can start in January, and can run until the end of August. We're ready. The Comeragh Community Development Group's box, in Crough Wood, is ready too.

They're just owl boxes, but, in the new year they could be actively working to improve the red-listed status of the barn owl. New year, owl year, peace and joy.



MODELIGO PATTERN

Gillian McCarthy

The parish church in Modeligo is named after Our Lady of the Assumption and associated with the Feast of the Assumption on the 15th of August. Each year mass is held in the church on that day and a pilgrimage/procession is made to the local well (Lady Well).

This well is depicted on the first edition OS map, surveyed sometime between 1839-1841. The Modern church which is located beside the Old Medieval Church is situated in the townland of Scart and the well is in a nearby townland of Knockgarraun, less than 1 kilometre from the church.



Extract from OSI 1st Edition 6 Inch map Tailte Eireann

The earliest reference to the well is Smith in his book the *The Ancient and Present State of the County and City of Waterford* in 1746 notes:

'On the south side of the parish lies the church; and near it, is a reputed holy well'



"The dimensions of the well are about 4 feet long, by 3 feet broad, and 2 feet deep. I have called it bath-shaped, as it is an oval in appearance, and seems to be an unusually large bullaun, or a natural cavity in the rock."

Photo from JRSAL 1911

Forsayeth



Local tradition says that the well formerly existed in the townland of Scart, *"and that a trooper of Cromwell's led his blind horse, in mockery, around it, in order to find out and test the miraculous powers of the place. The horse was cured, but the soldier became blind, and the following day the well had taken up its present position"* Forsayeth, 1911

Down through the years the well has become associated with the local "Pattern Day". A Pattern Day is a traditional religious festival in Ireland, originating from the Irish word "Pátrún" (meaning patron), that celebrates a parish's patron saint on their feast day. Celebrations often included religious devotions at a holy well, where people would perform "the rounds" (walking and reciting prayers) and believe the water had healing properties.



MODELIGO PATTERN

Today the pattern day in Modeligo is when sports, games and other entertainment is put on for the local community to gather on an annual basis, this now takes place in the Community Sportsfield in or around the 15th of August (usually on Saturday). There may be a match in the evening, with entertainment in the local pub that night but the day usually starts off with the “fancy dress” competition with different categories to enter. The local parents and children put so much effort into this especially thinking up topical and national events that happened throughout the year. A dog show has been a part of the pattern and also a tug of war competition between the different areas within the parish.



The sports activities have always been an important part of the pattern and this may be the first place that you ever won a medal. Children’s sprint races as well as three legged races, egg and spoon races and the annual egg throwing competition have been part of the activities down through the years. The egg throw is a found favourite in Modeligo where a team of two people throw an egg to each other. One of the team stand behind a rope and this rope moves back after each throw so the distance of the throw becomes longer and longer before there is eventually one winner. Plenty of accidents happen every year where an egg face, hands or clothing is the norm.

Tug of War: Photo from Modeligo/Affane Travelling in Time, Ed. M Phelan 1995



*Tug of War at Modeligo Pattern held in Seán Walshe's in 1984
On the rope L to R: Jim Foley, Michael Foley, David Fitzgerald, Nicholas O'Donovan, Eddie O'Brien, Gerard Burke, Eamon Hickey, Gerard O'Donovan. Trainer of the Graigue team: John Foley*



Pattern days used to be much more common occurrences throughout the country and even in Co. Waterford but unfortunately not many of these remain. We are very fortunate that each year a dedicated committee of enthusiastic people come together to organise this event. The pattern would not happen by itself and it takes dedication to organise and run.

A separate pattern committee is convened each year to run the event. Numerous volunteers are needed, from collecting on the gate, running the shop and BBQ, taking entries and judging the fancy dress, running off the races and egg throw to the set up and clean up and parking. The event is part of the insurance of the Community Centre and this guarantee is an important safeguard to have especially with the costs associated with insurance these days.

The icing on the cake is to see a large crowd in the field with a full carpark and everyone enjoying the entertainment, friendly chats, young children and the next generations enjoying what we have enjoyed ourselves over the years. The pattern was always a day/weekend that you travelled home for, if you were away working or living away from home it was always a great way to meet up with everyone. It was always guaranteed that your old classmates would turn up and celebrations and conversations would go on long into the night.

KILMEADEN COMMUNITY PLAN

In September 2023 Cllr. John O Leary called a public meeting in Ballyduff Community Centre to discuss the huge growth and development in Kilmeaden and the importance of ensuring that the community's voice and needs were heard and met. From that meeting, a small group of volunteers with a shared passion in the future of the area came together to form Kilmeaden Community Network CLG (KCN) CLG. The group held widespread consultation throughout the community including public meetings and carrying out surveys and from that consultation and feedback they produced a plan which advocates for essential services, facilities for all and an inclusive community that residents can be proud to be part of. The group began working with Waterford County and City Council and Waterford Leader Partnership who provided support and funding and the group participated in the Four Villages Programme with the objective of producing a Community Plan.

On Saturday October 18th the group were thrilled to present their Community Plan and outline their main objectives. MC for the afternoon was WLR's John O Shea who welcomed everyone and thanked them for giving their time to be there. He welcomed Deputy Mary Butler, Cllr. John O Leary, Cllr. Declan Clune, Cllr. Liam Brazil and Cllr. Catherine Burke and welcomed and encouraged their support for this plan. Cllr. John O Leary thanked the members of KCN for their drive and determination, Waterford Leader Partnership for their guidance and Waterford City and County Council for their ongoing support. He said that this is what community partnership is all about, local knowledge, local passion and local action coming together for the common good. He said the plan being launched was both practical and ambitious. Kilmeaden has continued to grow over the past few years, and it is important that the needs of the community are protected. While campaigning for more amenities and opportunities it is of utmost importance that Kilmeaden retains its sense of place and its rural character.

Deputy Mary Butler spoke of her delight to see the work which had been put in to get the thoughts and ideas of the community. She ensured the group of her help and support in any way that she can. All the individual speakers spoke with great positivity, and all expressed their desire to retain the great pride of place that exists in Kilmeaden.

The group outlined their future goals in a beautifully designed booklet:

Goal 1: The Kilmeaden community will retain its essentially rural character with a recognisable, self-sufficient integrated settlement, distinct from Waterford City.

Goal 2: The Kilmeaden community would offer a safe and secure environment to its residents, workers and visitors.

Goal 3: The Kilmeaden community would be a centre of enterprise and employment which would support local business and create economic opportunities for all residents.

Goal 4: The Kilmeaden community would be a sustainable community which enhances environmental health and quality of life for residents. It plays its part in climate action, energy efficiency, water quality and maintaining biodiversity.

Goal 5: That Kilmeaden community will be an inclusive and digitally connected community.

Goal 6: That the overall health and wellbeing of community members within Kilmeaden would consistently improve.



KILMEADEN COMMUNITY PLAN

These goals are just initial actions identified from a much larger number of goals in this community plan. The group understand the importance of each goal and have divided them into short term, medium- and long-term goals. The first three short term goals include getting driver feedback and speed signs on entry to village, to include signage from the village centre to the Hazel Step walkway (entrance to Greenway at top of Matthews Cross) and the Community Garden and to establish a local community market for local produce and artisan goods. There are many other goals planned such as upgrading the playground, enhancing walking and cycling trails, community workspaces, multifunctional outdoor community park, sports facilities and many others.

There was a great air of positivity and hope at the launch of this plan as many groups and organisations from the area expressed their desire to work with the group and support them to help make our community a safe, sustainable and inviting place for all residents and visitors while ensuring a high quality of life and opportunities for our future generations.

If any of the topics raised in the plan are of particular interest to you and you would like to become involved please contact the group by email on kilmeadencommunitynetwork@outlook.ie. To read the plan in full please scan the QR code attached.

Kilmeaden Community Network are ready to work for and with the community to give structure to the ambitions and development of the community and its people. They will hold their AGM on Wednesday 3rd December in Ballyduff community hall at 8pm.

Kilmeaden Community Network committee is made up of:

Mark Grieve, Rory Smith, Paddy Kirwan, Paul Kennedy, Declan Finn, Damian Kelleher, Damian Finnerty, Tricia Shannon, Chris Prangnell, Rose Smith.



Percy Kirwan – Great Athlete of The Comeraghs

By Kevin McCarthy

Percy Kirwan, the Great Athlete of the Comeraghs

There is little argument that Percy Kirwan from Kilmacthomas was the Waterford Comeraghs' finest athlete. He won a total of eleven national titles across four different events, with only John Treacy's fourteen national titles being ahead of him as a Waterford athlete. Kirwan won:

- 100 yards (1909);
- 120 yards hurdles (1910);
- long jump (1908, 09,10,11, 12)
- triple jump (1908, 10, 12 and a 'standing' triple jump in 1909).

The championship roll of honour is made a little complex by virtue of there having been two athletics organisations in Ireland in Kirwan's day, the GAA and the Irish Amateur Athletic Association. Kirwan competed mainly as a GAA athlete up to 1910, winning eight titles, and for two years after that at IAAA championships where he won his last three titles. Apart from actual titles, the quality of Kirwan as an athlete is also demonstrated by an additional three second places and three third places in Irish championships.



Percy Kirwan's statistics prove that he was one of the best long and triple jumpers in the world in his day. For example, Kirwan's 22 feet 9 inches when winning the Irish long jump title in 1908 would have been fifth at the London Olympics that year. His 46 feet 10 inches would have been fourth in the Olympic triple jump. Kirwan's best official long-jump performance was 23 feet 7 inches (7.21 meters) at the Vatican Games in Rome in September 1908. That distance would have earned him the silver medal in the London Olympics two months before. The triple jump distance Kirwan achieved at Cappoquin sports in 1910, 49ft 9in (15.16m), would have won a silver medal if replicated at the Stockholm Olympics in 1912.

It was a challenging time for Irish athletes, not least because the GAA nationally was tending more and more towards football and hurling and the association's interest in athletics was declining. For serious competitors, the GAA's ban on its members competing at non-GAA championships also meant that opportunities to compete in other, international contests were denied to him. Kirwan was a strong GAA supporter and had even played inter-county Gaelic Games for Waterford.

He waited until 1910 before trying his luck in the IAAA championships for a couple of years, and this opened doors for him internationally too. Percy represented Ireland in its annual match against the Scots in 1911 and 1912, scoring a first and three second places. He also won the long jump title at three successive English AAA championships, 1910-12. It was widely predicted that he would be selected for the 1912 Stockholm Olympic Games but the evidence strongly suggests that this did not happen. Representing Ireland against Scotland was an honour he embraced; had he accepted an invitation to Stockholm, he would have been on a 'Great Britain' team which did not acknowledge his Irishness. This was probably a hurdle too far for him.

Percy Kirwan – Great Athlete of The Comeraghs

In later years, the newspaper columnist Carbery wrote of Percy Kirwan:

“He was one of the leading hurdle runners in Ireland in his time, and as a high jumper was ‘good’ for anything up to five feet eight or nine. But it was as a long jumper and hop, step and jumper that Kirwan was best known. For several years he held the Irish Championships in these events. He also won the English Championships and had the post of honour in all the flat jumps for many seasons on Irish sports programmes. Being a teetotaler and non-smoker, he always appeared in tip-top trim and was a most consistent performer.”

After retiring from athletics, Percy Kirwan continued his involvement in a range of sports around Kilmacthomas, including boxing, soccer, tennis and athletics. He was said to have attended every Olympic Games from 1924 to 1960 and was a field-events judge in Los Angeles in 1932 where he witnessed first-hand the Irish victories of Pat O’Callaghan in the hammer and Bob Tisdall in the 400 metres hurdles. He died at 88 years of age in 1969. Next time you are passing over the Mahon River on the Dungarvan-Waterford road south of Kilmacthomas, you might remember briefly that you are on the “Percy Kirwan” Bridge.



This photo, taken at Clonmel in 1929, shows the 1928 and 1932 Olympic hammer champion, Dr Pat O’Callaghan on the left, Tom Kiely in the centre and Percy Kirwan on the right.

ACHIEVEMENTS

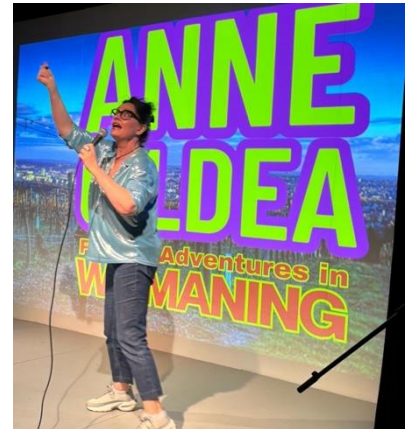


Gealach Gorm Theatre 20th Anniversary Celebrations

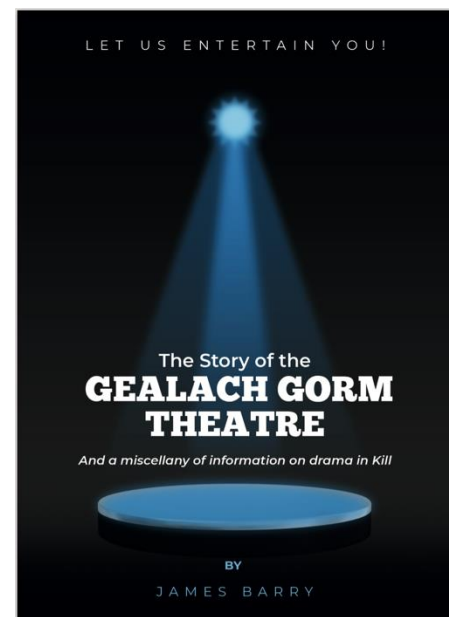
The Gealach Gorm Theatre at Kill Community Centre celebrated its 20th Anniversary in style at the end of November. The headline act was master storyteller Seamus O Rourke with his performance of an adaptation of John B Keane's 'The Love Hungry Farmer'. The theatre was packed to capacity and the audience were held spellbound for the entire performance.

A night of local talent gave the audience much to cheer and laugh about as music and song mixed with comedy sketches were the order of the night. It was a night of celebration of all those who had performed in the theatre over the last 20 years. It was touched with nostalgia as those who had performed in the past and were no longer were fondly remembered. Special Guest on the final night was Dublin Comedian Anne Gildea who had the audience in raptures with an excerpt of her show 'Further Adventures in Womaning'. Audiences on all nights were treated to tasty refreshments including wine and a slice of the 20th Anniversary cake. Kieran Foley of WLRFM was the MC on all nights and did a fantastic job of keeping the shows running smoothly. The theatre stands as a testament to the two people who dreamt up the whole idea over 20 years ago and who left no stone unturned in making that dream a reality. Well done Angela Mulcahy and James Barry.

Seamus O Rourke
in an adaptation
of John B. Keane's
'Letters of a Love
Hungry Farmer'
(Picture By
Anthony Mulcahy)



As part of theatre's 20th anniversary celebrations James Barry Gealach Gorm Theatre Director has researched and compiled a book to record the story of our unique venue. Over the years since the theatre was first opened the members of the group have often discussed how the story of the venture should be recorded. With the rapid approach of twenty years since the doors first opened the time had come to put pen to paper. Delving into the past, the first section of the volume looks at the early days of drama in Kill, following in the footsteps of those who took to the stage in the village from the early 1900s all the way up to 1998. Covering diverse topics such as Baldwin's Hall, Fit-Ups, The Kill Show, the 1981 All-Ireland Scór Champions and all the way up to the origins of the Gealach Gorm Theatre Group it lays the foundation for the second part of the book. The second section chronicles the story of the theatre from the formation of the drama group that would later be named the Gealach Gorm Theatre Group, the idea for and building of the theatre and details of the performances staged there. For anyone interested in drama in a rural community there will be plenty of interest to be found between the covers. Copies are available to purchase in the local shop 'Happy Days' or from 086-8569358





Build your financial confidence with our free learning hub

If you want to strengthen the financial side of your social enterprise, the Financial Literacy Hub is a great place to start. Supported by Social Finance Foundation, it brings together practical templates, short video tutorials, guidance on social finance and access to helpful discounts. Everything is designed to help you feel more at ease with funding applications, reporting and long-term planning.

Thanks to Alison.com's partnership with SERI and Social Finance Foundation, the hub also includes free online learning tailored for social enterprises across Ireland.

Access the hub for free: <https://library.socialenterprise.ie/financial-literacy-hub>

Explore SERI's full range of supports

Whether you're early stage or scaling, we can walk you through the supports available to social enterprises. Book a free demo session through our short webinar option:

<https://calendly.com/john-seri/seri-membership-webinar>

Highlights from the National Social Enterprise Conference 2025

This year's national conference took place on 20th November in Ballinasloe and brought together 300+ social enterprises, policymakers and support organisations from across the country. Attendees heard from Minister Buttimer and DRCDG's Bairbre Nic Aongusa and took part in a full day of learning and peer connection. Sessions covered:

Networking and peer exchange

Ask & advise conversations with Social Entrepreneurs Ireland

Guidance on accessing enterprise supports

Updates on the New Solutions Social Innovation Fund

Practical steps for unlocking social procurement

Shared service models with insights from those already using them

Ways to apply AI for greater impact

A circular economy masterclass

Lessons from practice in Northern Ireland

If you'd like a recording of the conference sessions, email info@socialenterprise.ie

WITH



Kilmac Lotto Win

There was lots of speculation in Kilmacthomas recently about the identity of a lucky EuroMillion's winner.

€405,711 was won in the village on a ticket purchased at Phelan's Centra. The owner of the ticket matched 5 numbers with a lucky star on the 31st of October.

Dawn Meats – World Steak Challenge

A 32-day aged Irish Angus striploin, produced by Dawn Meats has been named as the World's Best Steak at the World Steak Challenge 2025. The steak was also named Europe's Best Steak and the World's Best Grass-Fed Sirloin.



In addition to winning the overall global title, Dawn Meats also won the award for the World's Best Grass-Fed Ribeye for its Premier Butcher Ribeye Wagyu Cross steak.

The County Waterford company which was founded in 1980 has grown to a business with over €3 billion in annual revenue, employing over 8,000 staff in ten countries.

The Byrne Farm, from Coolnasmear won the Lowest SCC Award at the 2025 NDC & Kerrygold Quality Milk Awards.

The prestigious annual awards programme, now in its 16th year, saw 12 farming families from seven counties and 12 dairy co-operatives, celebrated for excellence in milk production and sustainable dairying at a special ceremony hosted at Lyrath Estate Hotel, Co. Kilkenny.

Following their nomination by Tirlán Co-op, the Byrne Family took part in a comprehensive judging process that evaluated a range of the most important aspects of modern dairy farming.

Milk Award for Byrne family



Crane unveiled at Suir Valley Railway

Waterford Suir Valley Railway has fully restored a rare 160-year-old industrial goods crane once located at Ferns Railway Station in Co Wexford.

Bray Waddington and Co, a Leeds-based company famous for building the first railway bridge over the River Thames in 1859, manufactured the 2-ton crane. It is one of only four surviving examples made

By the Company. Waterford Suir Valley Railway continues to expand, operating 10km of narrow-gauge track along the River Suir.

Another project involves the restoration of a narrow-gauge steam engine. The restored crane adds to the railway's growing collection and enhances the experience for visitors to the Waterford Greenway

Tidy Towns results

Well done to all the local villages that obtained impressive results in this year's SuperValu Tidy Towns competition. Once again, Stradbally, a stalwart of the competition, performed very strongly amassing 392 points, earning a gold medal, and coming second in county.

Other results from the area:

Category A - Ballymacarbry - 390 marks including a Gold Medal, Fenor - 353, Bunmahon 287, and Clonea/Power 277.

Category B: Kilmacthomas 341, Kill 262, Dunhill 261 including an Endeavour Award.

Category C: Portlawn 311 marks.



Fred Sirieix tours Waterford



UK TV presenter Fred Sirieix was in Waterford recently for a second series of *Tour de Fred*.

This time round, Fred is exploring Waterford, Cork and Wexford for the new series, which will be called *Tour de Fred – Part Deux*. He was pictured near the Mahon Falls in a promotional image for the show.

The series is supported by Tourism Ireland's International Programming Ireland Fund and Irish Ferries. The five-part series was devised by Waddell Media and is due to air on ITV1 and ITXV in 2026.

Portlaw Plan

Portlaw have completed their town plan and have been rewarded with a €1m grant with another €5m committed by the state under Rural Research Development Fund **Town Centre First Programme**. A huge congratulations to Portlaw Development Committee for completing the work with support of consultant team and winning such support from Government. It is a great boost for our Comeragh Network members and we expect to see others following them in getting the support and funds needed to regenerate their villages. As our Asset Based Community Research shows there are many other community/villages with clubs and projects in need of renewal and with serious potential. They may have to work with Leader Partnership, under Town and Village Renewal Programme and other funding arrangements of which there are many available.



PORTLAW TOWN TEAM

the paul hogarth company

MALL BLACK DOUGLAS



A GREAT YEAR FOR COMERAGH HURLING, FOOTBALL

Comeragh Rangers, Waterford and Munster Ladies Football Champions 2025



Back row: Aisling Gough, Mairead Power, Emma Power, Áine Power, Cora Murray, Eibhlín Power, Jody Whelan, Orla Swift, Abbey Norris, Elizabeth Kirwan, Amy Lynch, Clodagh Power, Kaci Brazil, Aoife Dunne, Keeley Corbett Barry, Caoimhe Hassett.

Front row: Aoife Murray, Ava Crotty, Kate Hahessy, Katie Murray, Áine Power, Geraldine Power, Ellen Bolger, Annie Byrnes, Shauna Dunphy, Nora Dunphy, Kaylynn Broxson, Orlaith Kennedy, Ava Connolly, Sarah Connolly, and Emma Murray.

St Anne's County Intermediate Champions 2025.



Back Row: Makayla Laffan, Aisling Bonnar, Eimear Mackey, Doireann Hennessy, Ailbhe Walsh, Hannah McGrath, Melanie Buck, Melissa Austin Foley, Niamh Halley, Grace O'Neill, Niamh McGrath, Sadbh Murphy, Becky Kavanagh, Chloe McGrath

Front Row: Sophie Doonan, Lucy Beresford, Rachael Burke, Alice Rainey, Beth Doonan, Liadain McGrath, Freya Higgins, Aisling Allen, Aleisha McDonald, Molly Kearney, Leah McGrath, Abby Murphy

CAMOGIE AND LADIES FOOTBALL CLUBS

St Anne's Camogie Minor A Champions



Back row : Niamh McGrath, Alice Rainey, Maria Ward, Beth Doonan, Sarah Dalton, Deborah Dunphy, Flannan Cleary, Colm Bonnar, Doireann Hennessy, Lucy Beresford, Hannah Ryan, Annie Hubbard, Sophie Doonan, Aisling Bonnar, Emer Mackey, Leanne Buck, Tommy Colfer

Front Row : Liadain McGrath, Tara Colfer, Katie Dunphy, Beibhinn Delaney, Emma Prendergast, Áine Morrissey, Freya Higgins, Áine Mackey, Kate Kelly, Elena Fitzgerald

St. Anne's Under 15B Shield



Back Row : Dave Murray, Liadain McGrath, Aoife Weir, Gracie Hayes, Lauren Scannell, Kate Kelly, Sophie Mulcahy, Evie Power Murray, Leanne buck, Amele Doonan, Mae Ryan, Niamh Murray, Mia Kirwan, Isobel Breen, Molly Power, Fidelma Power, Gail Ryan

Front Row: Ella Coffey, Maria Ward, Julie Behan, Emma Prendergast, Leah Dalton, Maisy Power, Elena Fitzgerald, Caitlin Casey, Heather Power, Addison Higgins, Rebecca Day



St. Anne's U12A Camogie Champions

Back Row: Kate Dwan, Hannah Jones, Brianna O'Reilly, Amy Mulcahy, Éadaoin McGrath, Amelia Kiely, Daisy Bible, Lily Byrne

Front Row: Sadie Ryan, Orla Eldridge, Isla Jones, Holly Farrell, Juliet Moore, Ella Dalton

Copper Coast Geopark News Update

During Science Week, the Copper Coast Geopark team hosted a series of engaging educational events, including a fossil workshop with Knockmahon School, a fossil workshop in Waterford City, a geological workshop with St. Joseph's School, and a coastal monitoring walk and talk in Kilfarrasy.

We were also proud to see the Copper Coast Geopark featured on *Nationwide*, where Robbie Galvin (Copper Coast Geopark Geologist) gave an insightful interview with Bláthnaid Ní Chofaigh showcasing the region's unique geological heritage.

We were delighted to receive the Geoheritage Grant 2024–2025, which supported the creation of a new stylised visitor map for the Geopark and an accompanying digital story map currently in development. The printed map serves as an attractive, place-based promotional tool showcasing the area's geology alongside its natural and cultural heritage, while the digital story map will provide an accessible educational resource for visitors and local school children.



Comeraghs Wild Festival 9th to 12th July 2026

The Comeraghs Wild Festival makes a vibrant return in 2026, running from July 9th to 12th, with a dynamic celebration of culture, nature, music and adventure across the spectacular Comeragh Mountains in County Waterford. The 2026 festival promises to be **bigger and better** than ever and is set to transport visitors through a rich tapestry of tradition, storytelling, and natural beauty, while reigniting the cultural flame that runs through the county's mountains, valleys, and communities. Organisers have promised four unforgettable days of live performances, guided hikes, culinary delights, creative workshops, and heart-warming encounters with heritage and local folklore.

The Comeraghs Wild Festival is more than an event—it's a heartfelt celebration of who we are, where we've come from, and the stories that shape us. 2026 invites us all to reconnect with our heritage, our landscape, and one another.

The Comeraghs Wild Festival 2026 will again invite all to immerse themselves in its rich programme and reconnect with the wild, whimsical, and wonderful essence of the Comeraghs. Full Programme of events, Tickets and Booking details will be available in early 2026 via www.comeraghswild.com.



BAREFOOT FARM

Barefoot Farm: Honest to Goodness Growing in Dunhill

We're Paul Ryan and Fiona Slade, and we run Barefoot Farm in the Eco Park, Dunhill, Co. Waterford. Our farm is small, hand-powered, and rooted in a simple philosophy: grow good food, care for the soil, and connect with our community.

We started Barefoot Farm in 2018. Back then, Paul was working at Waterford Airport and studying organic horticulture online, and he was just growing the odd plant in our back garden. From there, he moved to square-foot gardening, then an allotment plot, then a second plot, and finally a field in Dunhill. A visit to Kildinan Farm in Cork gave Paul the courage to ask for a work placement, and that experience shaped the way we farm today. The name Barefoot Farm came from another sunny day, walking barefoot through Altamont Gardens, Paul felt so connected to the earth that the name just stuck.

honest, wholesome food.

Everything we do is hand-sown, hand-harvested, hand-packed, and hand-delivered. We have no machinery, just us and our hand tools. It is hard work and often exhausting, but also incredibly rewarding. We compost heavily, rotate crops, and focus on soil health, because quality and integrity are at the heart of what we do.

We're currently in organic conversion, and we're set to be fully certified by July 2026. Looking ahead, we'd love Barefoot Farm to become a hub for health education, workshops, and community connection. With a new cabin and plans for more tunnels and collaborative projects, we're excited for the future. Barefoot Farm is in our hands, our hearts, and our love for growing. We're just two ordinary people doing what we love, feeding our community with honest, wholesome food.



Barefoot Business Services - Local Support for Local Enterprise

While Paul tends the crops at Barefoot Farm, his partner Fiona works quietly behind the scenes, keeping things running smoothly. Through her business, Barefoot Business Services, Fiona supports small and growing local enterprises with day-to-day administration, invoicing, and organisation. Her work helps busy business owners find more time for what really matters, whether that's growing food, building community, or developing new ideas. Sharing the same roots in sustainability and local collaboration as Barefoot Farm, Fiona's calm, practical support helps other small businesses thrive, keeping local enterprise growing strong. Sharing the same roots in sustainability and local collaboration as Barefoot Farm, Fiona's calm, practical support helps other small businesses thrive, keeping local enterprise growing strong.



ST. MOLLERAN'S GAA & CAMOGIE CLUB

A Legacy of Commitment, Community and Continuous Development

Situated at the heart of Carrickbeg, St. Molleran's GAA & Camogie Club has long been recognised as one of the most enduring and respected sporting institutions in the region. Rooted in the proud traditions of Gaelic games, the club has served as a cornerstone of community life for generations, fostering participation, nurturing talent, and promoting strong values of respect, teamwork, and parish identity.

Since its foundation in 1942, St. Molleran's has remained committed to providing opportunities for players of all ages and abilities. The club's enduring strength lies not only in its achievements but in the deep sense of community belonging it has cultivated for decades.

A Strong Heritage of Gaelic Games

The history of St. Molleran's is defined by unwavering dedication to the promotion of hurling, Gaelic football and camogie. Throughout countless seasons, the maroon and white have been worn with pride by successive generations of players who have represented the club with distinction at juvenile, adult, and inter-county level.

The club's tradition has been shaped by volunteers, mentors, and supporters who have consistently invested their time, energy, and commitment to ensure that Gaelic games continue to flourish within the parish. Their efforts have established a culture of resilience, loyalty, and deep community spirit that remains central to the club's identity today.

As the sporting landscape continues to evolve, St. Molleran's remains unwavering in its dedication to fostering participation, developing talent and creating pathways for players at every age and stage of their sporting journey.

As we reflect on the values that define St. Molleran's GAA & Camogie Club, it is fitting to honour the memory of our beloved member, John Maher, whose passing was deeply felt across the entire community. John was a cherished and respected presence within the club—steadfast in his support, generous with his time and unwavering in his loyalty to the maroon and white.

His involvement extended far beyond match days. John embodied the true spirit of St. Molleran's through his quiet encouragement, his dedication to the next generation and his genuine pride in every achievement, whether great or small. His warmth, kindness, and good humour enriched every corner of the club, and his absence is keenly felt throughout the parish.

The club extends its continued and heartfelt condolences to the Maher family. John's legacy will remain firmly woven into the fabric of St. Molleran's and his memory will continue to inspire all who follow in his footsteps.

A particularly proud moment in the club's recent history came in 2025 with the remarkable achievement of Gearóid O'Shea, who captured an All-Ireland Minor Championship title. This outstanding accomplishment positions him among the most distinguished young players to emerge from St. Molleran's and represents one of the club's most significant individual honours in many years.

Gearóid's journey reflects a combination of natural talent, dedication, and determination, supported by strong coaching structures and the club's longstanding commitment to underage development. His success has brought immense pride to the entire St. Molleran's community and serves as a source of inspiration for the next generation of young players.



Jerome O Shea and Adam Hunt at the awards receiving Club of the Year in 2024

GAA CLUB IN FOCUS

Growth and Progress in Camogie

In recent years, St. Molleran's Camogie Club has experienced notable expansion, reflecting the increasing enthusiasm for women's and girls' Gaelic games within the community. With strong representation at underage and adult levels, camogie continues to be one of the most dynamic and progressive areas of the club.

This development has been driven by committed volunteers, coaches and parents who work tirelessly to provide a supportive and high-quality environment for players to learn, grow, and succeed. The achievements of our underage teams, combined with rising membership, highlight the strength and vibrancy of the camogie structure within the club.

Beyond sporting performance, the camogie club plays an essential role in fostering confidence, leadership, teamwork and friendship among young women and girls, enriching both the club and the wider community.

Raise the Roof Development: A Vision for the Future

One of the most significant current undertakings within St. Molleran's is the Raise the Roof Development, an ambitious, multi-phase project designed to enhance and modernise the club's facilities. This initiative represents a major investment in the future of the club and reflects a strategic commitment to meeting the evolving needs of our players, members, and the wider community. Phase One has recently commenced, marking an important milestone in the realisation of this long-term vision. The initial phase includes essential groundwork, structural preparation and key infrastructure installation that will support the delivery of subsequent stages of development.



St. Mollerans GAA Ground under development

The Raise the Roof initiative is more than a construction project—it represents the collective ambition of the St. Molleran's community. It demonstrates the club's determination to provide modern, inclusive, and high-quality facilities capable of supporting increased participation, improved training capacity, and enhanced opportunities for all who use the grounds.

As further phases are advanced, the Raise the Roof project will continue to strengthen St. Molleran's as a central hub for sport, recreation and community engagement.

Facilities Serving a Growing Membership

In addition to the Raise the Roof Development, St. Molleran's continues to maintain and enhance its existing facilities to support both current activity and future growth. The club grounds remain a central meeting point in Carrickbeg—used for training sessions, matches, community gatherings, and recreational enjoyment.

Key existing elements include:

A well-maintained main pitch suitable for club and county fixtures

A dedicated team of officers that underpins the club's strong underage programmes

Spaces designated for club meetings, fundraising activities, and community events

These facilities strengthen St. Molleran's position as a vibrant and inclusive centre for sport, physical activity, and social interaction.



A gathering of club members in front of club house

A Community Club with a Forward-Looking Vision

St. Molleran's GAA & Camogie Club remains deeply committed to honouring the traditions, values, and history that have shaped it while embracing the opportunities and responsibilities of the future. With increasing participation, continued development of underage structures, ambitious facility upgrades, and the inspiration provided by players such as Gearóid O'Shea, the outlook for the club is exceptionally strong. Supported by members, families, sponsors, and the wider Carrickbeg community, St. Molleran's will continue to promote sporting excellence, personal development, and community cohesion for generations to come.

DAN FRAHER 1852 – 1929 ‘The Father of the GAA

Willie Fraher

Daniel Fraher was born on 18 November 1852 at Skaheens, Bleantasour, in the parish of Seskinane, Co. Waterford. His parents were Maurice Fraher and Catherine Hickey of Sliabh gCua.

According to an account in [Honesty](#) magazine dated 14 December 1929 he spent only a year and a half in the national school and that he received his education mainly in a hedge school. The same account says: 'He spoke Irish with unsurpassed fluency and power'. [Séamus Ó Casaide](#) noted in the [Irish Book Lover](#), December 1930: 'He took a great interest in Irish books and had a small collection of old manuscripts'.

From 1868 onwards Dan was employed in Thomas McCarthy's drapery shop in O'Connell Street, Dungarvan. He later opened his own drapery shop on Grattan Square, called 'The Gaelic Outfitting Store'. It was around this time that he learned to read and write Irish. The majority of the items sold in his shop were of Irish manufacture and transactions were often conducted through Irish.

He was an all-round athlete and achieved success in bowling, jumping and throwing weights. The *Munster Express* of 11 February 1893, published an article title: 'Mr Dan Fraher of Dungarvan – A Record of His Fine Performances' (The contents of the article were used in the extensive obituary notice published in the *Dungarvan Observer* in 1929).

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Dan Fraher's Shop Grattan Square
Dungarvan (Credit: Waterford County
Museum)

In height he touched the bar at 5ft 10ins, and during his little training in 1888 he returned the scale at 11st. while yet a mere schoolboy he was far beyond those of this own age in jumping, running and weight throwing. Mr Fraher commenced his athletic career in 1868, when, at the Sports of Knockboy, County Waterford, he won the high jump at 5ft 2in. He was now 15½ years and of promising appearance, remarkable for strength and activity... In the following year at Druidmount, he excelled all his competitors in the standing, hop, step and jump at a distance of 30ft 6in.

He won the all-round competition in [Youghal](#) in 1883. He won the All-Ireland championship in the jump, step and jump under IAAA rules in 1885 according to the [Waterford News](#) of 6 December 1929. He cleared thirty feet and eight inches, a record which was not broken until 1888. It is referred to in the lament composed by his friend [Pádraig Ó Mileadhá](#) (*Duanta andeas*), edited by [Gearóid Denvir](#).

He was an early member of the Gaelic Athletic Association and is often referred to as the 'Father of the Association in [County Waterford](#)'. For many years he was treasurer of the Munster Council. He was a member of the committee which standardised the rules.

DAN FRAHER 1852 – 1929 ‘The Father of the GAA

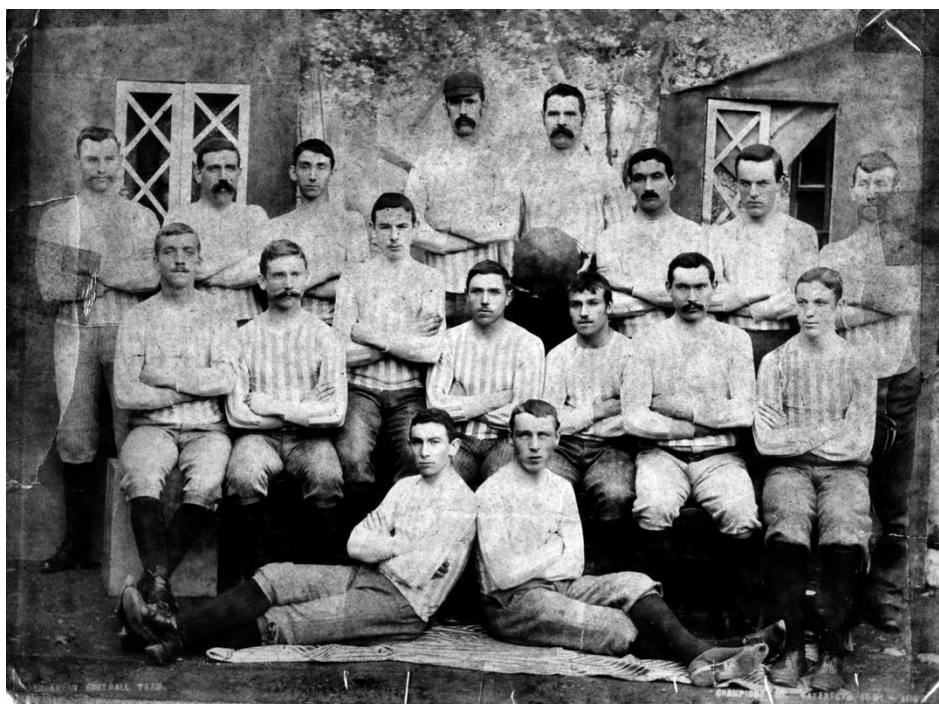
On 4 August 1892 Dan married Mary Walsh, of Portnascully, Co Kilkenny at the catholic church in Mooncoin. Dan and Mary had two children – Maurice, born 7 August 1893, and Kathleen (or Cáit as she was known), was born on 30 August 1896. Maurice was also a noted athlete and the first pupil to attend the school opened by Pádraig Pearse.

Dan felt that a proper sports field was needed in Dungarvan and leased land at Shandon from Captain Richard Curran around 1885. The field had no bank, rails etc. at this time. In 1904 turnstiles were introduced. He purchased the field in 1912 and changed the direction of the pitch to east/west, erected banks, a concrete terrace and a covered stand. In 1938 the southern bank was raised, the work was carried out by the Dungarvan team to build up their strength for the forthcoming All-Ireland. Dan transferred the Gaelic field to his son Maurice on 10 July 1925. Many major matches were played there. With the exception of Croke Park, Fraher Field has been the venue for more [all-Ireland senior hurling finals](#) than any other venue, having hosted the 1903, 1905, [1907](#) and 1911 deciders. Dan refereed the 1892 hurling final between [Cork](#) and [Dublin](#) in Clontarf Park, [Dublin](#) in March 1893.

He died on 2 December 1929 age 77 and was buried in Knockboy cemetery. He did not have a gravestone until one was erected by the GAA on Saturday 27 October 1984 and unveiled by the then President of the G.A.A., Paddy Buggy.

In the mid-1950s, Dungarvan native, Michael Morrissey, then living in London, was writing letters to the local press calling for a memorial to be erected to Dan, but nothing came of the plan. In 1959 a writer in the *Dungarvan Observer* asked- ‘Will the corner stand at Crooke Park, as yet unnamed, be called after Dan Fraher. It is understood the Central Council of the G.A.A. will be soon naming the stand, likely after Dan’. This did not happen.

In 1995 the field at Shandon Dungarvan was renamed ‘Fraher Field’ in his honour. A commemorative blue plaque to Dan was erected on his former house at 17 Grattan Square by Dungarvan U.D.C. in 2000.



Dungarvan Gaelic Football Team (Credit: Waterford County Museum)

A new kind of local: how coworking hubs are strengthening communities from the inside out.

By Stephen Carolan, Connected Hubs

In towns and villages across Ireland, a quiet transformation is taking place. Disused buildings of all type are becoming vibrant coworking hubs that bring together local entrepreneurs, remote workers, social enterprises and community groups.

Through the Connected Hubs network, these spaces are forming a national infrastructure for local regeneration, offering not just a place to work, but a platform to build rooted, inclusive economic opportunities.

Coworking hubs are often viewed as tools for flexible or remote working, but in the Irish context they have become much more than that. Many are managed by local development organisations, social enterprises or volunteer committees, and serve as multi-use spaces with public purpose at their core. This embedded governance allows hubs to reflect and respond to local needs, from business incubation and training programmes to childcare, community events and digital upskilling.

For small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), hubs offer a critical lifeline, particularly in rural areas where access to broadband, meeting rooms or professional networks may be limited. The Connected Hubs platform gives these businesses the ability to book space, connect with peers and tap into a growing support ecosystem. The recent campaign targeted at SMEs, using the line “Great companies need good company”, reflects this. Coworking is reframed not as a stopgap, but as a smart, socially connected business strategy.

This local-first model is also powering the growth of social enterprises, many of which operate from within the hubs themselves. These organisations — often focused on youth work, sustainability or inclusion — benefit from shared infrastructure, reduced overheads and collaboration opportunities. Hubs can also host artist studios and community kitchens, ensuring the space remains porous and accessible, not exclusive or corporate. Importantly, hubs support social inclusion by creating accessible, welcoming spaces



close to where people live. This is particularly valuable for people with disabilities, carers or those who find long commutes challenging. A 2023 WDC report highlighted how local coworking hubs can reduce barriers to employment for people with disabilities by removing transport obstacles and offering high-speed connectivity and professional facilities within their own community. The Connected Hubs model, which is a government of Ireland initiative, operated by the Western Development Commission on behalf of the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht, is increasingly being seen as a lever for place-based development. Rather than parachuting in external solutions, the hubs approach builds on what’s already there — trusted local organisations, strong social networks and underused buildings — and provides the digital and physical infrastructure to enable new forms of work and collaboration.

In this way, Connected Hubs are strengthening communities from the inside out. They are creating a new kind of local — one that values flexibility but stays rooted; one that enables enterprise but is driven by community. As Ireland continues to invest in its regions, hubs offer a blueprint for how to do so sustainably, inclusively and with long-term impact

Michael Ryan - Ballymacarbry



What sets Michael Ryan apart in Gaelic Games over nearly 50 years, has been his longevity, versatility and success, with involvement in men's and women's games, at both club and county. Michael is known for preparing his teams to the highest standards and with remarkable consistency: His teams have always been known for doing the basics well, for discipline, for player improvement, and for mental toughness. Much of his coaching work has been interwoven with his local area and he often underlines that the club, the people and the players are the foundation of success. He has contributed to development of players young & old and his passion and energy have been consistently remarked upon by those who he has coached.

Early Life and Playing Days

Michael Ryan was born in Ballymacarbry, County Waterford to parents Tom and Maureen Ryan. Gaelic games were central to local life and he played both hurling and Gaelic football: hurling with Fourmilewater, and football with The Nire. As a player, he won a Waterford Minor Hurling Championship with Fourmilewater in 1973 and an Intermediate Hurling Championship in 1979 when he also trained the team. In 1983, he played and coached The Nire to a Waterford Intermediate Football Championship. He continued playing at adult level up to age 35.

Transition to Coaching and Early Management

Michael Ryan's coaching career began while he was still a young man. His first forays into managing came in the mid-1970s. In 1975, still in his teens, he managed the Ballymacarbry ladies football team for a season. In 1977, he took the under-21 footballers with The Nire and they won the Waterford county title. These early experiences laid the groundwork for the management career that was to follow while already highlighting his commitment to gaelic games in multiple codes and at various levels.

Major Success with Ladies Football

One of Michael's defining legacies is in ladies' Gaelic football, both at club and county level. From 1982 onwards, Ballymacarbry ladies began a remarkable run of dominance on the local and national club stage. He managed them through spells that produced county, Munster club, and All-Ireland club titles. The club won its first senior All-Ireland ladies club title under his management in 1987, beginning a run of ten All-Irelands in twelve years. During this same period, Michael became manager of the Waterford ladies football team. Under him, Waterford won multiple All-Ireland senior ladies' titles (1991, 1992, 1994, 1995, 1998) and many of the players coached by him featured on All-Star teams throughout the nineties.

Michael also coached other counties and in 2001, he was among the management team that led the Laois ladies' team to senior All-Ireland success. In 2010, as a selector, he was part of the Dublin ladies' management when Dublin won their first All-Ireland.

HALL OF FAME

Hurling and Football Coaching

Michael's coaching work and managerial roles extend well beyond ladies' football. In 2007, he was selector for the Waterford senior hurling team under Justin McCarthy. That year, Waterford won the National Hurling League and the Munster Senior Hurling Championship. Also in 2007, he managed the Munster inter-provincial hurling side, leading them to a Railway Cup win. Later, in 2010, he managed De La Salle (Waterford) club hurlers to a County Championship and a Munster club title. He served as manager of the Waterford senior hurling team in 2012 and 2013. He served as Westmeath Senior Hurling Manager for a four year period from 2014 – 2018. He has also been involved in under-age hurling and served as a selector for U20 teams. In men's football, Michael managed his local club The Nire in senior football, including leading them to county titles.

Michael Ryan's life has always been deeply embedded in his community and in 2021 he became manager of both Fourmilewater senior hurling team and Nire senior football team for a 3 year term. In the 2021 and 2022 seasons, he guided the Nire to back to back county titles in senior football, the first time this was achieved since the 1993/1994 seasons. During 2021, he was also involved in the management team of the Ballymacarbry ladies football team meaning he won county titles alongside his 3 Daughters (Michelle, Louise & Sinead) and also his son (Shane) in the same year.

Michael Ryan's story is one of dedication, community, success, and consistency. From modest beginnings, through playing, early coaching, to building dynasties in ladies' football and contributing across both codes at many levels, his impact on Waterford GAA, Waterford LGFA and further afield is profound.



Michael and wife Catherine with daughters Michelle, Louise and Sinéad after Ballymacarbry won Munster Club Title in 2022

The winning Waterford Ladies Senior Football team in Croke Park on All Ireland Final Day 1994



Michael with sister Bernie receiving their jubilee medals in Croke Park.

WAP – NEW IDENTITY

Buíon Phort Láirge is the new trading name and brand identity of Waterford Area Partnership.

The new branding is a result of a yearlong process to review, refresh and update the company's identity as well as responding to requirements under the Irish Language Act. Buíon (pronounced 'bween') is an Irish word for a group or crew of people working together in partnership. The use of Phort Láirge tethers the Company to its geographical location, and its multi-coloured logo mark reflects the diversity of individuals and groups that the company works with. The tagline "Supporting People & Communities" reflects simply the objective of its work to create opportunities that help tackle the impact of social exclusion and discrimination.

The re-branding project was managed by a Working Group made up of the CEO, Chairperson and a number of staff representatives who worked with the Waterford design agency True Output to develop the new brand identity. The next phase of the process will be developing a new website for the company which will update and modernise its online presence.

Buíon Phort Láirge is a Local Development Company which was established in Waterford in 1996 and has grown from a staff of 3 to a staff of over 50 now. The Company will continue to deliver employment, education, business and community development programmes to diverse individuals and groups in Waterford with a focus on promoting positive change and building thriving and inclusive communities.

More information on the company, staff contact, upcoming events and programmes can be found at:

<https://buion.ie/>

<https://www.facebook.com/buionphortlairge>

<https://www.instagram.com/buionphortlairge>

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/buion-phort-lairge>

<https://www.youtube.com/@BuionPL>



ACHIEVEMENTS

Rathgormack County Senior Football Champions



Back row (L/R) Reece O'Mahony, Máirtín Power, Liam Mulligan, Francis Roche, Peter Walsh, Ciarán Power, Cathal Crowch, Michael Curry, Jason Curry, James Power, Declan Hennebry, Glen Power, Stephen Curry, Tom Walsh, Ger Hahessy, Conor Walsh

Front row (L/R) Thomas Skehan, Conor Drohan, Gearóid Power, Daniel Crotty, Billy Power, Adam Murray, Sean Hahesy, Paudie Hunt, Willie Hahessy, Stephen Kirwan, Conor Murray, Niall Greene, Ronan Elliffe

Kilrossanty Junior A Hurling Champions



Back row (L/R) Philip Dunwoody, Paul Whyte, Kaylum Hogan, Alan Dunwoody, Jack Whyte, Dan Behan, Joey Veale, Josh Kay, Tommy Prendergast, Rian Hayes

Front row (L/R) Pdraigh Fitzgerald, Jack Crotty, Darragh Walsh, Paul Keating, Eoin Power, Cathal Walsh, Shane Power, Donal Fitzgerald, Patrick Cunningham, Seamus Fitzgerald, Jack Power.

DUNHILL ECOPARK

Dunhill Ecopark

Waterford Local Enterprise Office were guests of the Ecopark in November.

They ran free 1 to 1 clinic for anyone with a business idea, or established business looking for supports. This is a very worthwhile service where you get advice that is tailored just for you.

In addition, there was a “Lunchtime Bites” talk on Artificial Intelligence for small businesses. This was delivered by Ronan Cleary of Eagle Media. It was informative and highlighted some of the positives and negatives of this new digital tool.

Dunhill Ecopark is serving as a convenient rural hub for the Waterford Local Enterprise Office by offering these services in the community.

2026 will offer a regular schedule of Talks and Events. Be sure not to miss out! Email admin@dunhillcopark.com putting Mailing List in the subject Bar.



Heather Humphreys Visits Dunhill

L to R Sinead Day, Tom White, Rosie Donnelly, John Queally, Heather Humphreys, John Raher Minister John Cummins TD Senan Cooke



L to R Mary Sharpe, Heather Humphries, Billy Sharpe and daughter Bronagh

Many Thanks

Angela Mulcahy for design and production of newsletter and video
Waterford City & County Council
South East Technological University
Teagasc
Waterford-Wexford Education & Training Board
Healthy Waterford - Eoin Morrissey
Department of Rural, Community Development & Gaeltacht
Buíon (Waterford Area Partnership)
Local Enterprise Office
Leader Partnership Board
PPN
Social Enterprise Republic of Ireland
Social Enterprise World Forum
WLRFM - Kieran Foley

Special Congratulations to Comeragh Network GAA, Camogie & Ladies Football Clubs For An Outstanding Year

Rathgormack County Senior Football Champions
Kilrossanty County Junior Hurling A Champions
Comeragh Rangers County & Provincial Senior Ladies Football Champions.
St Annes County Intermediate Ladies Football Champions
St Annes County Minor A Camogie Champions
St Annes County U15 Camogie Shield Winners
St Annes U12 A County Camogie Champions
St Annes U12 A County Ladies Football Champions

Please watch our video which highlights some of the many assets and amenities in the 23 villages that are part of the Comhar Comeragh Network in Co. Waterford.

