



# Glanmire Area News

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## 75th Annual Procession to OUR LADY OF LOURDES Grotto, Glanmire

The 75th Annual Grotto Procession will take place on Sunday 5th May, leaving from St. Joseph's Church at 3:00 pm.

The Grotto Committee extend an invitation to all parishioners and those from neighbouring parishes to attend and help maintain a great tradition. The first procession took place on May Sunday 1949.



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Peace Commissioner  
Working for you in our community

086 194 2285 /johnmahercork  
John\_maher@corkcity.ie @johndaniel3

**COLM BURKE TD**  
Cork North Central

If I can be of assistance to you or your family please do not hesitate to contact me

*Colm Burke*

46 Thomas Davis Street (Old Post Office), Blackpool, Cork  
021 456 4552 / 087 259 2839 / 01 618 3115  
Email: colm.burke@oir.ie

**FINE GAEL**

# GREEN LOANS

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# April AGM Meeting



GLANMIRE  
CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE

## MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- **Karen Doyle** was appointed **Chairperson** for another year
- **Andrew Walker** was appointed **Secretary** and **Frances Hegarty** as **Treasurer**
- **Sinead O'Flynn** from **Health 4 U** was invited as a new member to the committee
- We had **an update from Elaine Cronin**, Community Liaison Officer with **Sorensen's** about the **flood relief scheme**.



## UPCOMING EVENTS *Save the date*

### Members Meeting

**Venue:** Glanmire Parish Hall

**Date:** Wednesday 29th May at 6pm

**'How Business Coaching  
can help your business'**



## Member spotlight

### Check Up & Clean

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## Local Elections, 7th June 2024

Cllr. Sheila  
**O'Callaghan**  
 Cork County Council



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Cllr. Sheila O'Callaghan



[sheila.ocallaghan@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:sheila.ocallaghan@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

**FIANNA Fáil**  
THE REPUBLICAN PARTY

# Credit Unions focus on sustainable futures



A group of six Credit Unions in Cork today (9th April) launched a green loan product to help members with home energy efficiency improvements.

The credit union green loan product was officially launched by Kieran McCarthy, Civil Engineer, Co Presenter of RTE Cheap Irish Homes and owner of KMC Homes based in Cork, at an event in Rochestown Park Hotel on Tuesday 9th April. Also in attendance, Mary O Sullivan from the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) who spoke about the range of grants available.

The credit unions involved in the scheme are Cathedral, Our Lady Crowned (Mayfield), Gurrabraher, Macroom, Blackpool and Farranree. They represent a membership of 57,140 in the Cork and county area. They are offering a dedicated green loan rate of 6.5%\* for loans.

Speaking about the product Eoin Newman, spokesperson for the Credit Union Group stated;

“We are delighted to be in a position to offer a green loan product to our members. With the increased focus on environmental issues and the need to reduce energy consumption, we feel that this is an ideal time to launch this product” he concluded.

The credit union green loan product will work with members availing of a SEAI grant and help with the costs while the home energy work is being undertaken. Home Improvement works can include all types of attic insulation, solar panels, external and internal insulation, or installation of heat pump systems, etc. The minimum loan value is €5,000 and repayments can be arranged to suit the needs of the member.

Kieran McCarthy added, “It’s great to see a finance option like this available in Cork. Whether you are opting for Solar PV or a whole deep retrofit of your home, it is likely that even with all the SEAI Grants available today, you may still need additional finance and that is where

a Credit Union Green Loan can come in. They can step in to meet the bridging costs while the work is undertaken and can also support any remedial work that may be needed. This long-term investment in your home can help lower energy bills and create a healthier living environment for all”.

The green loan product is offered over a 10-year term and can be repaid earlier if the member wishes. All eligible loans are covered by Loan Protection Insurance cover at no additional cost. All works must be completed by a SEAI registered contractor if

availing of grant aid. Josephine Maguire, Sustainable Energy Finance Programme Manager at SEAI stated; “SEAI are always pleased to see more advantageous financial products being offered to consumers to help them upgrade the energy efficiency of their homes and meet Government climate targets.”

Mr Newman added “We are happy to partner with SEAI in supporting the delivery of home energy upgrades for our members. We would encourage any members considering some home improvement works to talk to SEAI initially and find out what steps they need to take.

Green Loans are now available from Cathedral, Our Lady Crowned (Mayfield), Gurrabraher, Macroom, Blackpool and Farranree Credit Unions. Please contact the credit union directly for more information.

\*Variable rate of 6.5% p.a. (6.7% APR). For a green home improvement loan of €10,000 with a variable rate of 6.5% and an APR of 6.7% with 72 monthly repayments of €168.10 over 6 years. The total amount repaid is €12,100 with a total cost of credit of €2,100. Figures correct as at 17th February 2024. Credit Unions in Ireland are regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland.



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# Cllr. Joe KAVANAGH

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*Sonatinas Grenade*

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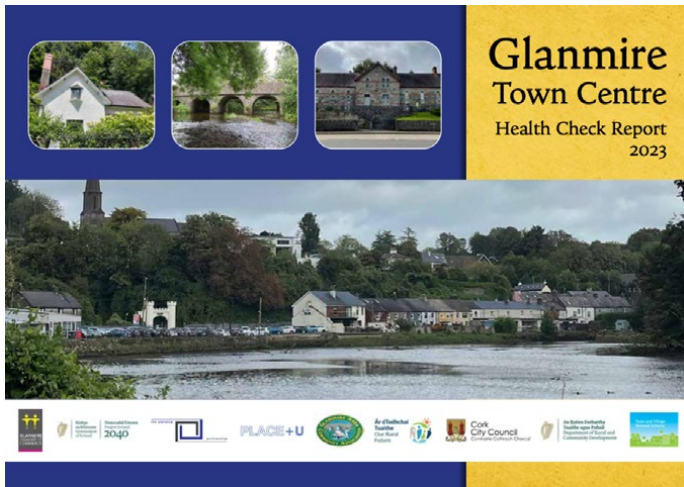


Galaxy A54 5G

Delighted to support Sars GAA Club with the Teddy McCarthy Statue Memorial Fund. A legend that will never be forgotten. Well done all at Cars GAA Club on this fantastic initiative.



## Spring News Update



### First-Ever Collaborative Town Centre Health Check Launched 29 February 2024 by the Deputy Lord Mayor, Cllr Kenneth O' Flynn for Glanmire.



Deputy Lord Mayor Cllr. Kenneth O' Flynn opening proceedings at the launch of the Glanmire Health Check on 29 February 2024, at the Parish Hall, Glanmire

Held recently at the Parish Hall, in Glanmire, The Glanmire Health Check (a yearlong- research study of Glanmire) was launched by the Deputy Lord Mayor Cllr O' Flynn. The public launch was very well attended by residents of the community and business community as well as elected public representatives. It was co-hosted by the Glanmire Area Community Association and the Glanmire Chamber of Commerce. Opening proceedings, Cllr O' Flynn, commented on the vibrancy of Glanmire, it's community spirit, and diverse range of community groups. Cllr. O' Flynn also referenced the excellent level of commitment from public representatives to Glanmire.

Cork City Council's Head of Economic Development, Mr Seamus Coughlan, spoke about the extensive work involved in producing the Health Check Publication. He noted that the research captures Glanmire as it is at this point in time; essentially it is a snapshot of what Glanmire has to offer, and identifies the needs and potential for the area. As part of the research, the extensive survey of residents yielded an extraordinarily large response and this enriched the quality of the



Mr Seamus Coughlan, Head of Economic Development at Cork City Council presenting at the launch of the Glanmire Health Check with Mr Wessell Vosloo of the Planning Partnership in the background.

research findings. The Health Check research identified key areas for development, i.e., lack of buildings/spaces or amenities to cater for groups, in particular for elderly groups, roads and accessibility, and educational and health amenities to keep pace with a growing residential population. Seamus noted that, as a starting point, the health check publication paves the way to deciding on and progressing projects in critical areas identified.

#### Background to the Health Check and Next Steps

Initiated by Lorraine O' Neill and Kevin Tobin at Glanmire Community Association, - the Health Check Research project was funded by a grant provided under the Department of Rural and Community Development and Cork City Council (under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme (TVRS 2021)). The project implemented by Cork City Council, in collaboration with Glanmire Area Community Association, Glanmire Chamber of Commerce, Elected Members from the North East Ward, Cork City Council electoral area, staff from cork City Council and their colleagues at the Planning Partnership.

#### What is the Purpose of the Health Check?

**The aim and purpose of this Health Check was to identify the social, cultural, infrastructural, community and economic needs of Glanmire and ultimately to create a community that caters to the needs of its residents.**

The research carried out by the Planning Partnership headed up by Wessel Vosloo and his team, took many factors into account, including, the history, heritage and geographical features of Glanmire, it's vibrant business community, it's many community groups, its distinct and diverse sporting, educational and cultural offerings, as well as its distinctive riverside location. In developing amenities to meet the needs of Glanmire residents and visitors, an important conclusion of the research was about maximising the natural landscape and heritage.





### Research Steps Involving the Community

Over the course of the past year a wide-scale community online survey was conducted, consultations with business groups and community representatives.

In particular, the Public Consultation Meeting in the summer of 2023, held in the Parish Hall, provided an excellent community-wide involvement space and was attended by representatives from all sections of the community, community groups, business community representatives, educational representatives as well as public representatives. This greatly enhanced the research findings.

Attendees were split into focus groups to present their opinions and views on the needs for the community. Key issues presented at the public consultation meeting included the lack of basic amenities (particularly for the elderly). Quality of public realm e.g., street lighting and need for wide footpaths, transport, including cycle and pedestrian path connectivity were also key areas under discussion. The main recommendations from the public meeting were a new community centre hall, safe routes to schools, public realm improvements, a sports centre/ sports hall, a new park, a further education facility and a public transport shuttle system. Key themes that arose were about creating community spaces that were accessible and inclusive.

### Next Steps...

Since the launch and publication of the Health Check, Glanmire Area Community Association and Glanmire Chamber of Commerce are in discussions with Cork City Council to understand how to maximise the value of the research and address the needs of the community. Importantly the findings of this health check reveal that a town centre for the community is a key priority and the possibility of further assessments of the area is necessary so as to find a social and recreational infrastructure that is suitably located and meets the needs of an ever-growing population.

The Health Check is part of a wider project to deliver large scale improvements to the community, its parks, village walkways, greenways and social amenities to cater for the needs of all the community. In addition, a number of major regeneration projects and initiatives are currently being progressed in Glanmire, such as: the Glanmire Flood Relief Project and the delivery of 15 projects under the Local Roads Improvement Scheme. Cork City Council have also appointed a group to review the viability of a community and enterprise hub and that project is ongoing in collaboration with Glanmire Area Community Association and Glanmire Chamber of Commerce.

**You can download/ read a digital copy of the Glanmire Health Check on the Glanmire Area Community Association Website**  
<http://www.glanmireareacork.com/>

## Glanmire Area Community Association seeking volunteers/new Directors

Do you have some time to volunteer to help out in your community. If so, we need you!

Glanmire Area Community Association are actively seeking new members!

We have a number of exciting projects coming up and would love to recruit new members to be part of our team. If you have some time to work in a voluntary setting working on a range of projects and gain experience working with a diverse range of organisations and stakeholders, we would love to hear from you!

### Key skills (desirable but not essential) are:

- Administration
- Teamwork
- Voluntary / community sector experience
- Events/ public relations
- Creative design/ digital designers
- Photography / Art
- Health and Safety
- Operational and management skills
- PR, Media, Events
- Project Management
- Accounting/ Finance
- Writing

***If you are interested or wish to have an informal chat about getting involved, please contact  
Melissa on 0860278443***



FASHION  
EVENTS

# L Loves

April brought a wonderful 'Feast of Fashion' to The Castle Glanmire

Over 250 tickets were sold for this event which was extremely well organised by the SCOIL AN ATHAR TADHG committee from Carrignavar together with Ronan Murphy, Beatrice Hammond & team in the Castle. Shops included our local 'Orla's Fashion Closet', 'Veronica's Fashion Closet', 'Silk Peaches', 'Ally Grace', & of course my little happy haven 'Totally L Clothing TLC' together with accessories from 'Panama & Pearl'.

Great teamwork created a great night for all

*Lorraine x*



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BACKSTAGE



MAKE UP BY  
HILARY



# Spring Summer Style

## Lynda Di Blasi Image Consultant

### SPRING STYLE INSPIRATIONS

Welcome back readers to Springtime inspirations;

A very popular question I get asked this time of year is what to wear to Spring/Summer social events. Whether it is a Communion/Confirmation event, Spring nuptials or just a swanky Summer get-together, it seems such invites can lead to panic and for good reason sometimes: there's lots of questions we ask ourselves, to contend with, when getting dressed up for an occasion: for example the weather on the day itself, the dress code, self-comfort, thinking you're too dressed up, or not dressed up enough!! So many things to consider.

Through personal shopping sessions I have enhanced both male and female wardrobes. My one-to-one sessions are tailored to each person's individual budget, their needs and their lifestyles. Let me do the groundwork for you - saving you precious time!



### TROUSER SUITS

Trouser suits work for everything. From the office, to a wedding, a christening and to a lunch date. "I declare we are officially in stylish trouser suit season". A trouser suit will take you with confidence to any number of events, mid-day lunches, important coffee dates or family gatherings. Such a stylish ensemble that is sure to always draw compliments.

I must admit I always get that polished put together feeling when I am wearing a trouser suit. So versatile in many ways. Also, as it can be worn separately and you have many looks for the price of one.



### COORDS

I love a coloured co-ordinate, which you will see a lot of this time of year.

I think they make a valuable, useful and versatile purchase and they are easy to wear to any occasion, as it is a finished look with minimal thought and can be worn in various ways, meaning you will get value out of your clothes.

If you purchase a well-tailored piece for E100.00 you should get ten wears from the item at only E10.00 per wear. This will stop you from buying continuously cheaper items which are of poor quality, from shopping on-line pieces you may not be happy with when they arrive and also from impulse buying quickly cheap trend items.

A smart co-ordinated top and shorts, as in the photo number one above, are a perfect smart ensemble for work, with a classic tailored blazer or for that social lunch date.

Finish off with a various range of footwear from heels to a wedge which ever you are most comfortable wearing and also more importantly are used to wearing regularly. Be sure to pack in your case for your summer get away to guarantee coolness and freshness in the summertime temperatures.



### DRESSES

The pleated halter neck style, a style worn recently by myself at an event reflects a very soft and feminine style. If you are nervous of pleats I do recommend the following tips; (1) Look at the width of the pleats - a narrow accordion style is more slimming. (2) Adding eye catching jewellery adds - a glammers touch to elevate the total look. (3) Look for details which catch the eye - such as the open cape sleeve on my dress above.

Details of all of these outfits featured above are available on my Instagram page.

Please contact me through details below and I would love to work with you bringing style and comfort into your dressing dilemmas. I want you to embrace your own style and show your individual personality; what style reflects the true you as an individual!

Contact me on: **086-2599539** if you would like to discuss any of the following style, make up, color analysis and personal one to one shopping.

E-mail: [lyndadiblasi@yahoo.com](mailto:lyndadiblasi@yahoo.com).  
Check out my website [www.lyndadiblasi.com](http://www.lyndadiblasi.com) for various packages. FB or Instagram page.  
**Lynda.diblasi.image\_consultant**



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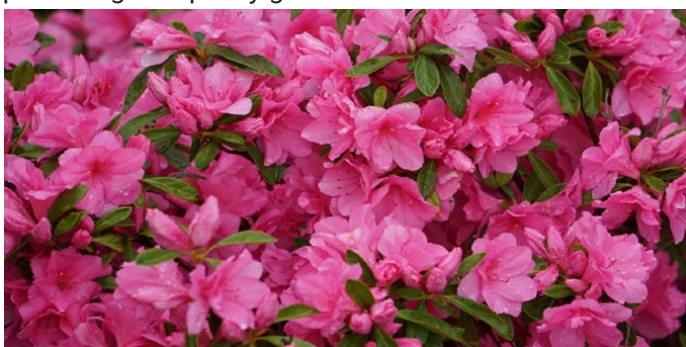
# Gardening - May

May is a very busy month in the garden. At long last the rain has stopped and the soil is no longer water logged. The temperature is rising and the days are getting longer. This is the time of year that we can start planting out the summer bedding. The range of bedding plants can be overwhelming, but help is always at hand, either through the internet or just have a chat with your local garden centre.

The secret to having a nice flower bed is preparation of the soil and removal of as many weeds as possible. Feed the soil with organic matter pre planting. This will help to feed and maintain moisture within the bed. I know this can seem daunting and a bit of hard work but it is worth it in the long run.

You can also create a raised bed and plant directly into it. This can be a lot easier if people find it difficult to dig a bed or have trouble bending.

Whatever plants you choose either shrubs, flowers or bedding buy the best you can afford. Good quality plants produce good quality gardens.



In the vegetable garden it is even busier. All the salad crops can now be planted directly into the soil. As well as beans, peas, salad onions, beetroot, turnips, and any other vegetable you like.



Now is also a great time for sowing and transplanting our winter crops. The ones I like are Green Kale, Leeks, Winter cabbage, Red cabbage and of course Brussel sprouts. The other vegetable I love to grow is Purple sprouting broccoli. This can take 10 months to grow properly to give a good crop but it is delicious in early spring and extremely healthy. You can buy small plug plants of various vegetables, salads and herbs in your local garden centre.

You may have noticed that I have not mentioned any root crops like Carrots and Parsnips. That is because my soil is too stoney and I end up with forked roots. However, if you have good deep soil with not too many stones then go for it, especially carrots.

I think every garden should have a designated space for some herbs. Even if it is only a large pot. The best herbs for containers are Basil, Oregano,

Coriander and Thyme. These herbs like heat and dislike too much water in the soil. The flavour of the herbs is greatly enhanced by growing in containers.

The best herbs for growing directly in the soil are Parsley, Rosemary, Sage, Tarragon, Lavender and Chives.



Another useful job for this time of year is to prune any spring flowering shrubs that have finished flowering such as Camellias, Rhododendrons and Forsythia. This will not affect next years flowering as they do not set flower buds until summer.

## Jobs for May.

1. Keep on top of the weeds.
2. Lift and split any Daffodil bulbs that you may want to move.
3. Keep lawns well-trimmed and feed/weed as necessary.
4. Plant up flower pots and hanging baskets.
5. Trim edges on flower beds and lawns.
6. Keep all pots and baskets well watered and fed.
7. Remove any dead flowers from camellias and rhododendrons.
8. Give Spring flowering shrubs a feed of Organic matter or some low Nitrogen high Phosphate feed.

Chris Troy



Join us in Glanmire on 11 May 2024 for the most important sunrise of the year and help raise much needed funds for Pieta. Ending Suicide. Beginning Hope. Proudly supported by @Electric Ireland. <https://www.darknessintolight.ie/>

## Hazelwood Shopping Centre

- Works are almost complete for the installation of the new drainage within the Hazelwood Shopping Centre.
- Currently, we are at the entrance beside Bean & Leaf, and are hoping to be finished here by Wednesday 24th of April.
- There is full pedestrian access to the Shopping Centre, and vehicles can continue to use the top entrance to access the lower section of the centre.
- We would like to say a very big thank you to all the businesses with-in Hazelwood for their continued patience and cooperation as these works are being carried out.

## Riverstown Road- R639 & Ballincrossig- R615

- Sorensen would like to acknowledge that the traffic lights in this section have been difficult over the last number of evenings. This has been caused by a number of factors, including the timing of the lights
- Currently our team are working hard to get this section open for the weekend, which will minimise the disruption in this area
- From Monday 22nd of April, the 3-way traffic management will be in place in the below locations (shown in YELLOW), with the timing of the lights adjusted when they are in place from 7pm – 7am.
- We would kindly ask that drivers observe these lights, especially in the later hours of the evening, as to keep the traffic flowing during the busier times (from 7pm – 11pm) the sequences are going to increase, to allow more vehicles through each phase. It is imperative that drivers do not break these lights, as this may result in an accident.
- There will be stop/go with operatives from 7am – 7pm, and traffic lights from 7pm – 7am going forward.
- We would like to thank all road users for their patience during these works.

## Copper Valley Vue

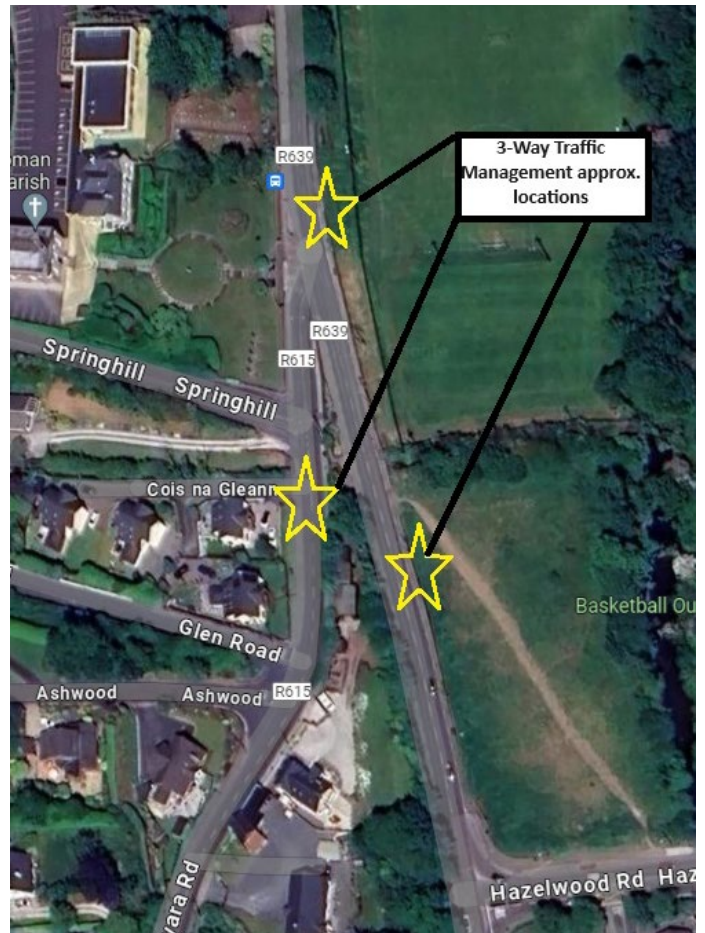
- Work is progressing well in this area, with the installation of the final section of the Bailey Bridge (temporary bridge) being carried out next Monday 22nd.
- There will be traffic management within Copper Valley Vue next week.

## New Line

- The team working on this section will be working 24hrs 7days a week from next Monday 22nd April for this coming week
- There will be traffic management in place with operatives from 7am – 7pm and traffic lights from 7pm – 7am.
- Again, we would kindly ask drivers to observe the traffic management, for the safety of other motorists, the large number of pedestrians, and Sorensen staff working in this area.

If you would like to receive text alerts, you can subscribe to the free service, there is no cost to send or receive texts, by texting: **GFRS to 50015**

If you have any questions on the work being carried out by Sorensen, contact me directly on **086 032 6171**.



Margaret  
**McDonnell**  
CANDIDATE ON CORK CITY NORTH-EAST LEA



Please contact me if **I can help you in anyway**

☎ 085 862 2162  
✉ m.mcdonnell2024@gmail.com

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# Iris Cummins

Iris Cummins' individuality began on the day she was born in 1894; according to family folklore, her mother was thrown from a sidecar when a horse bolted and, as a result, went into premature labour and subsequently, her father ordered that the newly-born Iris be bathed in champagne!

The eighth of eleven children, Iris Ashley Cummins was born at 17 Saint Patrick's Place, Cork, on 4 June 1894 to Dr William Edward Ashley Cummins and Jane Constable (née Hall). William Ashley Cummins, the eldest son of Dr William Jackson Cummins, was appointed Professor of the Practice of Medicine at University College Cork (UCC) in 1897. The family legacy endured, as four of his children – Robert, Mary, Nicholas and Jane – followed in his footsteps and pursued successful medical careers.

Although born in Cork City, Iris spent her formative years at Woodville, near Glanmire, the countryside retreat of the Cummins family. It is here that she resided on the night of 31 March 1901 and is recorded on the Irish census, with her mother, Jane, five siblings (later the family grew with five more children born to the couple), along with a governess, nurses and servants, while her father was resident at Patrick's Place.



Figure 1: Woodville, Glanmire

The governess, Winifred Holloway, instructed Iris and her sisters as their mother, Jane, apparently did not approve of further education for women. However, Iris was not to be deterred, and along with her sisters Mary and Jane attended Queen's College, Cork (UCC). During her time at UCC she also edited the Journal of the Engineering Society. In 1915 July, Iris graduated as Bachelor of Engineering, with honours, becoming the second female to graduate in engineering in Ireland and the first from Cork.

Iris was not only intellectually gifted but also displayed considerable prowess as a sportswoman; in 1909, aged just fifteen, she won a place on the Irish ladies' hockey team. Her international career continued for much of her life, giving her opportunities for travel that few Irish women enjoyed, culminating



LADIES' HOCKEY TEAM.  
 Standing—V. Stockley. N. Cogan. T. Riordan. M. Donovan.  
 Sitting—V. Donovan. N. Giustini. I. Cummins (Capt.)—(Munster Cup). U. Magner.  
 Front Row—N. Cotter. K. Crowe. A. Thompson.

Figure 2: Photo: UCC Official Gazette, Vol. 4 No 12 (June 1914). Iris Cummins, who was the Captain of this team, is holding the Munster Cup.

in her captaincy of the Irish ladies' team tour of the USA in 1925, where she and her teammates were presented to President Calvin Coolidge at the White House. At this time, she was President of the Irish Hockey Union (Hockey Ireland) from 1923 to 1925.

Iris' graduation coincided with technological advances in warfare, allowing her to use her engineering degree immediately when she joined the World War 1 effort. She worked at the Royal Arsenal's munitions factory at Woolwich in London, the Vickers factory in Erith, the Royal Naval Dockyard Rosyth on the Firth of Forth, Scotland and the Admiralty Department in Haulbowline Dockyard in Cork, gaining significant experience previously unheard of for women.

Following the end of the Great War, Iris returned to Ireland and began her own private practice in Ireland, however, this appears to have been less than successful, perhaps a sign of the time, given her sex and religion. It would appear, as a member of a prominent Church of Ireland family, her opportunities were limited. Nevertheless, resolute in her determination, Iris was appointed as a surveyor on the outdoor staff of the Irish Land Commission, the first time a woman had received such a post. In this same year, she became the first female associate member of the Institute of Civil Engineers in Ireland, she continued working and writing, eventually retiring in 1954. In 1928 The Weekly Irish Times pronounced the 'First Woman Civil Engineer in Ireland' when at a general meeting of the Institution of Civil Engineers in Ireland had unanimously elected her as an associate member, thereby she has the honour of being the first woman elected to membership.

**THE WEEKLY IRISH TIMES, SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 1928.**

## FIRST WOMAN CIVIL ENGINEER IN IRELAND.

At a general meeting of the Institution of Civil Engineers of Ireland, held in 35 Dawson street, Dublin, on Monday, Miss Iris' A. Cummins, B.E., 19 St. Stephen's Green, was unanimously elected an associate member. Miss Cummins, a native of the County Cork, is a daughter of the late Professor Ashley Cummins, of University College, Cork, and has the honour of being the first woman to be elected a member of the Institution of Civil Engineers. Mr. Robert Kelly, B.E., Galway, was also elected an associate member.

Figure 3: 'First woman civil engineer in Ireland'.

The death, in Dublin on 30 April 1968, of Iris Cummins, B.E., Woodville, Glanmire was announced in the Cork Examiner, she is buried in Saint Lappan's Graveyard, Little Island, Cork. In 2022, UCC named its civil engineering building after Iris, the first time a campus building was named for a female. College President John O'Halloran, rather aptly summed up Iris Cummins: 'she was an independent and creative thinker whose pioneering actions challenged the gender norms of her day. We are proud of her achievements, and hope that everyone who passes through the doors of the Iris Ashley Cummins building will find inspiration in her legacy.'



Figure 4: Gravestone of Iris Ashley Cummins and her sister Geraldine, Saint Lappans, Little Island, Cork.

# Cllr. Ken O'Flynn PC.

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# Foroige Glanmire Youth Project



Seama's Cafe Glanmire Youth Cafe

Foroige Glanmire Youth Project has been working in the community since 2001. Based in Glanmire GAA Football Club, (The Pike) until 2018 until we moved into our current premises opposite Lidl in Riverstown. In the past few years with the support of Glanmire Area Community Association we made improvements to our premises and the equipment available to local young people. Every week over 100 young people from 12 years to 24 years attend. They engage in a range of activities from pool, music, art, group work sport, chill out times and many more decided by Glanmire Youth Council on behalf of their peers.



Brian & Liam Assembling the new Arcade Game

Since 2022 GACA has supported us in developing a chill out room, Coffee-bar and a Project-work room. In recent months we purchased new equipment for the coffee bar 'Seamus's Café' named in honour of our chairperson and National Chairperson of Foroige who passed away in 2019. The young people

helped create a Project room with new tables and chairs, projector and whiteboard and a computer that they assembled themselves. The new Arcade game is also proving to be very popular.



Generation Glas Team in Clough Jordan Eco Village in February 2024

Members of Glanmire Youth Project have been involved in a wide range of events in recent months. This included 'Generation Glas', an environmental peer education group. They undertook training in UCD, West Cork Carbon Neutral Farm and Colough Jordan Eco Village and subsequently went on to provide workshop and eco project in Glanmire Community College, Brooklodge and Upper Glanmire Primary School. Huge credit to Megan O'Brien, Ella Muarry, Oisín Power and James O'Sullivan for their outstanding work in this area.

We also had an opportunity to send some young people to Hong Kong on an international exchange funded by EIL. Hilda Baker, one of our volunteer leaders took a team of Young People from Glanmire, Mayfield and Mahon last summer with the return visit from Hong Kong young people due this summer. The Tuesday night music group continues to go from strength to strength with local



Hilde Baker, Zoe Thornhill & Niall Brenock in Hong Kong

young musicians continuing to learn their instrument and get opportunities to write, record and perform music. Young people from the project also competed in the Ocean to City race last summer with Meitheal Mara and performed excellently. The 2024 teams are starting their training in April.

We continue our outreach work to our members in Ashbourne House in Glountain and do many activities with their peers and friends in the project including Kayaking, Wall climbing, Hair and Beauty workshops to name but a few.



Jack & Evan at Ocean to City Rowing Race

In conjunction with National University Ireland Galway and Foroige, four Glanmire Young People graduated in a Leadership For Life Course in 2023 with four more due to complete the course in 2024. As well as completing the necessary training and modules they have all completed community project in area such as mental health, environment music and supporting children moving from primary to secondary school.



Wall Climbing at Brooklodge Primary

Glanmire Youth Project and its team of staff and volunteers are fortunate to work with an amazing group of young people who continue to impress in the many challenges and opportunities that undertake. They have created a warm and welcoming space where young people look out for one another. Thanks for all that you do and we are looking forward to summer 2024.



Maddox, Brin and Fionn helping build a computer



Katie, Colin, Shane & Fintan graduating at NUIG



# Glanmire Community College



## GCC Black History Week

GCC Black History Week was held by the Misneach committee between Tuesday the 9th and Friday the 12th of April. The aim of this week was to celebrate and educate the students on the culture and history of the black community. For each day we focused on a different aspect of Black culture and history and held a number of events corresponding to the theme of each day.

The theme for Tuesday was the influence of the Black community on music. To celebrate this, we played music by black artists at junior and senior lunch. The music played included variety of genres ranging from afrobeats to jazz. We also presented a powerpoint to first year classes which highlighted different genres pioneered by influential Black artists.

On Wednesday, our theme was sport. We held a presentation for first years discussing famous black sports figures. Along with this, the first years took part in a quiz to test their knowledge. They were very enthusiastic to take part.

Our theme for Thursday was traditional African dishes. A presentation was shown to Ms. McCarthy's first year home economics class. They also sampled jello rice which was enjoyed thoroughly.

On Friday the theme was fashion and cultural clothing. To celebrate this, we held a fashion show for first years. We had students bring in and model different clothing from various parts of Africa. We had presenters informing the students on what was worn.

We would like to acknowledge the members of the misneach committee and all other students and teachers who put effort into making this a successful week. We would also like to give a special thanks to Ms. Ryan and Ms. Hyland who co-ordinated the events that took place throughout the week.

-Anna Lee, Sarah Nally, Nikola Mis (2nd Year)

## GCC Book Drive & Book Reviews - Well Read Initiative

GCC is thrilled to announce our book drive aimed at enriching our school's reading spaces and igniting a passion for literature among our students. We kindly request your donations of books! Donation boxes are conveniently located outside the school office and at Supervalu. A heartfelt thank you to all who have generously



supported this endeavour!

Additionally, we are in search of parents to contribute book reviews for our parent's update. Your unique insights and perspectives will play a vital role in enhancing our community's engagement with literature. If interested, please reach out to Aishling Ryan at glanmirecc@corketb.ie.

## GCC Prodigies head to Dublin!!!

Two promising 5th Year Students, Nathan Manley and Toby Tangney are highly experienced in programming, engineering and problem solving. After competing in numerous STEM programs and personal projects, their efforts have been recognized with their acceptance to the competitive Patch 2024 cohort in Dublin this July.

Patch is a 7 week summer accelerator for ambitious future leaders funded by known companies such as Stripe and OpenAI.

Backed by experienced mentors from a variety of expertise, the selected attendees work to develop an idea from concept stages all the way to a completed start-up. Toby and Nathan will gain valuable skills such as leadership, entrepreneurial mindset and will learn from other members and alumni.



## ETB week

We celebrated ETB week in GCC from 11th -15th March. All first year classes completed a workshop with a member of the Ethos Team. They visited the Core Values Signage around our corridors, made bunting depicting the five core values of ETB schools and watched a short video about the core values in action in our

school. Staff were pleasantly surprised with a cake depicting the core value wheel at our staff day on Friday March 15th.

## U16 Boys Soccer narrowly lose out on a place in the final

Hard luck to our U16 soccer team who were unlucky to loose to Christians today after extra time, in the semi final of the Cork Cup. In a thrilling game, Christians scored two goals in the last minute of normal time to bring thr game into extra time. Christians eventually ran out 4-3 winners. Well done to CBC for winning a very entertaining game and the best of luck in the final. We look forward to welcoming Coláiste an Phiarasaigh in the U17 Cork Cup on Monday 22nd April.



## Senior Ladies Football team suffer narrow defeat

On Friday at 9 o'clock our senior football team traveled to Mitchelstown to play a Cork college semi final against Pres. The game started at 10:15 with Pres getting the first score of the game. With great determination and work effort the girls managed to score a goal to put them 1:1 to three points up. After an intense first half Pres managed to secure a lead at the end of the half. The half time score was 2:9 to 2:4 to Pres. The girls came back strong in the second half with Nevaeh O'Connell and Ava McCarthy raising the green flag for GCC. Both teams fought hard and great team work was displayed throughout the game. Unfortunately Pres managed to keep ahead and secure themselves a place in the final with a full time score of 3:17 to 4:9. This was the final game of the year for our Senior Ladies team. We would like to wish the 6th years on the team the best of luck in their exams and we would also like to thank Ms. Nagle, Ms. Twomey and Ms. S O' Sullivan for all their hard work throughout the year.

-Ellie Mul Kerrins (TY)

# Glanmire Library

## Toddler Music Time

With Cork City Libraries



**Glanmire Library @11am Saturdays**

May 11th, 18th & 25th, June 8th, 15th & 22nd.

*Children aged 3-5 years can learn singing, dance and rhythm through play. These fun music making sessions are free of charge, booking not essential.*



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Once you have installed the app on your device search for Cork City Library in the 'Library' field provided and then login in the usual way with your library barcode and pin.

If you can't remember your pin, you can reset your it at <https://lgma.iii.com/pinreset> and try again.

## York Philharmonic Male Voice Choir

- Friday 3rd May @ 3.00pm -

As part of the Choral Festivals "Choral Trail" the fabulous York Philharmonic Orchestra will be performing a pop up concert in Glanmire Library. The choir was founded in 1925, bringing together those people with a shared love of music and singing. 'The Phil', as the choir is affectionately known, will be celebrating its Centenary in 2025. Full program available at [www.corkchoral.ie](http://www.corkchoral.ie)



[glanmire\\_library@corkcity.ie](mailto:glanmire_library@corkcity.ie)



**LIBRARIES  
LEABHARLANNA**

CORK CITY COUNCIL | COMHAIRLE CATHRACH CHORCAÍ

The Glen Theatre Drama Group will bring their production of **"The Rain at the End of the Summer"** by John B. Keane, to the Upper Glanmire Community Centre on Friday 3rd May at 8pm, doors open at 7:30pm.

This is a recently rediscovered play first staged in the Gaiety Theatre in June 1967.

Admission is 15 euros. Booking is essential. Tickets available from Jerry Burke at 0879816481 or the Boothouse Bar at 0879645496.

The Upper Glanmire Community Association Annual General Meeting will take place on Monday 20th May at 8:30pm in the Community Centre.



**UPPER GLANMIRE**  
**BINGO**  
**EVERY THURSDAY**  
 8PM - 10PM  
**UPPER GLANMIRE**  
**COMMUNITY HALL**  
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 LIGHT REFRESHMENTS SERVED



**UPPER**  **79**  
**COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**  
**GLANMIRE**

For one night only

The Glen Theatre Drama Group Banteer  
 John B. Keane's recently rediscovered play

**The RAIN at the end of SUMMER**

**IN UPPER GLANMIRE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**Friday 3rd May 2024 at 8pm.**

**DOORS OPEN 7.30pm**

**ADMISSION €15**  
 Early Booking essential

with The Boothouse Bar 087 9645496  
 or Jerry Burke 087 9816481



**BOOKING OF SPORTS HALL/CONCERT HALL**

**GYM membership: yearly €215**

**6 months:€155**

**3 months:€80**

**Monthly:€28**

**Contact Dermot Cambridge 087 0981940**





# GLANMIRE GAA FOOTBALL CLUBS GOLF CLASSIC 2024



## CASTLEMARTYR GOLF RESORT FRIDAY MAY 17TH 2024

**Format: 3 Ball Scramble**

**Cost: € 250 Team €50.00 for Tee/Green**

**Corporate rate of € 325 - team,  
including Tee and Green sponsorship**

### Sponsorship Contact Names

**Robbie Burns 087 6212454**

**Brian Lotty 087 9836103**

**Ger Scannell 087 9344147**

**John Forbes 086 1721024**

**Conor Burke 085 1547115**

**Meal Included**

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### College Championship

Well done to Caoimhe Galvin (Mary I), Clodagh O' Donovan, Gaby Cashman and Evie Twomey (UCC) who were involved in the Third Level All Ireland Finals weekend. Well done to Gaby and Clodagh who were part of the UCC team that beat MTU Cork in the Lynch Cup Final.

### U21

Well done to our U21 squad who continued their winning ways beating Mourneabbey in a tightly contested U21A County Semi Final. They now go on to play Kinsale in the County Final.

### Seniors

Our Senior squad started the league with a tough game against Castlehaven and unfortunately lost out on the day. They have since went on to beat Fermoy and Kinsale their next game will be away to Inch Rovers.

### Feile

Our U15 squad have been working hard to prepare for East Cork Feile and this preparation paid off with two wins from two. They will now move on to the next stage of the competition.

### U14

Our U14's have started off the league in winning form with a win against Inch Rovers.

### Inter County

Well done to Eve and Orna on their win in the U16 Sharon O' Keefe A Munster Final.

We also added two more Munster Champions with Lily Mae and Faye winning the U14 Gold Munster Final against Tipperary.

Hard luck to Keeley, Aoife and Orlaith who lost out to Kerry after extra time in a titanic battle for the U16A Munster Final.

Well done to Clodagh O' Donovan and Orlaith Roche who had a good win against Kerry in the opening round of the Senior B Munster Championship and to Ellen Twomey, Abbie O' Mahony and Caoimhe Richmond who had a good win against Waterford in the opening round of Senior A Munster Championship.

Best of luck to Maeve in the upcoming U14 Johnny Hayes Munster Championship Final.

### U10

Our U10 group returned to the field on Friday nights in Old Christians and are putting in the hard work before their games start coming up!



Clodagh and Orlaith Cork Senior B



Eve and Orna Cork U16B



Aoife, Orlaith and Keeley Cork U16A



Maeve Cork U14B



U15 Feile Squad

**ACADEMY**  
RETURN TO TRAINING

FROM THE 5TH APRIL  
NEW MEMBERS WELCOME!

U6 - U8  
6 - 7pm  
Old Christians

U9 - U10  
7 - 8pm  
Old Christians

RYAN'S SuperValu



# Glanmire Ladies Football Club

# Glanmire Community Games



**Community Games County Arts Competition** in Riverstick, our Glanmire competitors were a credit to their community and themselves across all age categories. A massive well done to all that took part the level of talent on show was incredible.

- U10 boys 4th place Zack Cotter
- U12 girls 4th place Einin Comerford
- U12 girls 2nd place Faye Molhally
- U14 girls 1st place Chloe Lynch
- U14 girls 4th place Behati Bright
- U16 girls 1st place Yliza Magabilin
- U16 girls 2nd place Aisling Lynch



Glanmire was massively represented in UL at the Munster finals for indoor soccer and futsal. Some epic battles across the games, penalty shoot outs, finals just been lost, great skill and determination been shown, laughter and sunshine. An amazing day had by all.





# Sarsfields Camogie Club



Lucy, Lillian & Olivia

## SARSFIELDS CAMOGIE NOTES

The leagues are now in full swing after a very disjointed start caused by the heavy rainfall & subsequent pitch closures. Great to have all our teams back in competitive action and our younger teams are also getting plenty Go Games blitz activity.

Olivia McAllen & Lucy Allen picked up Intermediate National League medals in Abbotstown recently with Lillian Zinkant a member of the backroom team.

Two of our U13s, Ruby Allen (Riverstown) & Rebecca Dwane (Upper Glanmire) get to represent their schools & county in the Primary Schools Camogie team playing at half time in the Pairc Ui Chaoimh during the Cork vs Clare SHC tie.

We are represented on this year's Cork U16A panel by Eve Kelleher, Aoife Collins & Aoife Treacy – congratulations girls and best of luck in the All Ireland campaign.



Feile Team 24



Minor A's



U14 (3)s



U8s



U9s



U8s



Eve Kelleher, Aoife Collins & Aoife Treacy



Ruby Allen & Rebecca Dwane



U6s & U7s



# Erin's Own Ladies Club



## Camogie

Hard luck to our Minor Camogie team who came up short against Sars in the first round of the Minor league. Well done to our Junior Camogie team who beat St Vincents in the first round of the Junior league.

Our U11 camogie team had an excellent challenge game v Na Parsaigh recently. The U12 camogie team played Kildorrery and Carrigaline in county league matches and the U9 & U10 teams played a camogie blitz in Virgin Media Park v Grenagh and Middleton. Well done to our Feile Camogie team who played on the 20th of April in Youghal. Unfortunately the team did not qualify for the quarter finals but a great day was had by all and great skill and effort was shown by the team.

## Football

Congratulations to our U21 Footballers who overcame Carrigaline on a scoreline of 5-03 to 0-08 in their U21 County Final. Captain Aoibhinn Drummey was presented with the cup after the final whistle. Well done to everyone involved.

## Emma Jane O Sullivan

Congratulations to Emma Jane O Sullivan who was part of the Carrigtwohill Community College Senior Camogie team who beat Terence MacSwiney Community

College in the Senior Camogie County Final.

## Jonathan O Callaghan

Massive congratulations to Jonathan and the U16B Ladies footballers on their Sharon O Keefe A Munster Championship victory. Jonathan is a very dedicated coach in Erins Own as well as being our main sponsor for the Ladies Club.

## Ali, Cara & Laura

Well done to Ali, Cara and Laura who competed in the Munster U14B Blitz in UL and are now through to the Johnny Hayes Memorial final. The very best of luck to the girls and their teammates.

## Hollie & Caoimhe

Well done to Hollie and Caoimhe who were selected for the Cork Primary Games Football and Camogie teams. Hollie played against Kerry on Saturday 20th of April and Caoimhe plays against Clare in Pairc Ui Chaoimh in May.



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## Playing Matters

The last month (end of March /beginning of April) has seen a heavier than normal amount of rainfall. The farmers have been vociferous about their inability to access their fields. The same is true about the hurlers and footballers of White's Cross and other clubs throughout the county. Normally March/April are busy months and we see progression in the league programme. Indeed there were many fixtures down to be played but most were postponed.

A football league against Nemo Rangers was postponed for a second time. A home game v Douglas in the same competition also fell foul of the weather while the onset of Storm Kathleen ensured that our Junior hurling league match versus Glen Rovers was also not played.

We were due to play Whitechurch twice on the one day (Junior 1 and 4 football leagues) but both of these were also victims of the inclement weather. One game that did go ahead was the Junior 4 football League game away to Nemo Rangers. When these sides met a year previous in Trabeg the home side lead at one stage by fifteen points (4-04 to 0-01) before White's Cross fought their way back into the game only to come up short by one point (4-06 to 2-011).

This Nemo side is extremely experienced and contains a number of former inter-county players as well as a few others with county senior medals from year's past. Again, this

year we had to visit the Nemo venue to take to take them on. Again, we were not helped by the start that we made and after 25 minutes we trailed by nine points (1-07 to 0-01). Again we were giving ourselves the proverbial mountain to climb. Whilst last year we nearly reached the summit, this year we would go one better.

Goals from Tom Casey and from center-back Ronan Quain either side of the half-time break propelled White's Cross back into the game. The game would ebb and flow throughout the half. Strong performances from Chris Dunne, Dan O'Sullivan, Richie Sherlock and Senan Ryan ensured the Nemo were restricted to just two scores in the second half. White's Cross enjoyed most of the possession and but for wasteful finishing, could have taken the lead earlier.

However, eventually late in the game we would take the lead. Luke Kelleher kicked two vital frees and a point from play in the second half which would ensure that we would go ahead at the end. We certainly deserved the victory though perhaps going forward we might not give our opponents such a head start! There was some underage action later in the month with some teams managing to get back on the pitch. The under 16s scored five goals in their tie against Douglas and despite only scoring eight times to their opponents nine, the goals were decisive as they won 5-03 to 0-09.

The under 12 hurlers finally got their first competitive game together with St Colmcilles when they played and beat Cobh on Saturday 20th of May. There were also impressive wins for the under 18 hurlers (v Bride Rovers) and the under 14 football team versus Kilworth.

### Cárthach Kelleher

Congratulations to Le Scoil an Athar Tadhg N.S. student Cárthach Kelleher, who was selected to play in goal for Cork against Waterford in the Primary Game in Walsh Park on Sunday 21st April.

The opportunity to play in front of a full house in the Waterford venue was a great experience for Cárthach and his Cork team-mates.

Last year we had a St. Colmcille's player feature in goal also as Cathal Geaney played in goal for Cork footballers in the Primary Game in Ennis against Clare. A year later, it's another number one shirt for a St. Colmcille's player - only this time it's in the small ball game! Though the senior game ended in disappointment for the Cork contingent, it still a memorable occasion for all involved.



Crosaire An Phaoligh  
C.L.C.G.

# White's Cross GAA News

## Putting GLANMIRE 1st

BORN, RAISED, EDUCATED  
& LIVING in GLANMIRE

TEACHING in GLANMIRE

MOTIVATED  
EXPERIENCED  
DEDICATED



FINE GAEL

VOTE 1

IMELDA DALY



# Riverstown Football Club



Paul O Leary of Flogas with Ryan O Sullivan and John O Connor

### Riverstown Fc

Massive thanks to @flogasireland for their incredible support in sponsoring a much-needed defibrillator for our football club in the Gaca Clubhouse. . Your generosity could help save lives on and off the pitch.

Pictured is Paul O Leary of Flogas with Ryan O Sullivan and John O Connor, 2nd Pic is Paul's 2 sons who play for the club, Aaron and Dillon O Leary.

We are delighted to advise that we have reached as in principle agreement with the Football Association of Ireland and Cork County Council to sublease the lands at Brooklodge (26 acres) previously earmarked for the Football Centre of Excellence site.

The FAI Board have confirmed to Cork County Council that they wish to sublet the site to Riverstown Football Club.



Paul's 2 sons who play for the club Aaron and Dillon O Leary

Having carried out due diligence on Riverstown FC, Cork County Council is satisfied that we have the financial capacity, good governance, approved borrowing facility, a sports capital grant application, the backing of the FAI and a growing membership which combine to enable us to develop a portion of the lands which will serve a significant cohort of the community that currently availing of facilities outside of the Glanmire area. In addition, the financial savings that we will make when we are in a position to no-longer use external facilities will enable us to service the cost of the development. Cork County Council intend to accede to the request of the FAI in this regard on condition that the area of the site not utilised by Riverstown FC will be quantified and masterplanned for the wider community

The details are being finalized over the coming weeks which will deliver a huge boost to both Riverstown football club and wider Community.



## Old Christians R.F.C.

As the curtain comes down on the rugby season for another year, it turned out to be a mixed one on the playing field for our teams. The adult first team started the season brightly getting to the O Neill Cup final, narrowly losing out to Crosshaven in a low scoring game. They competed in the Munster Junior division two league, acquitting themselves well, finishing mid table. The same could be said for the second adult team, who competed in the J3 league.

The adult section of the club is always on the look out to recruit new players. So if you are new to the area, looking for a new club or want to play social rugby, get in touch, all are welcome.

The Youth section goes from strength to strength, with large numbers playing at each age group. We have teams competing from U13 to U18.5 age grade.

As we get to the business end of the season, it has been particularly successful for both our U18.5 and U16 teams. Both of which qualifying for the latter stages of the premier Munster Cup competitions. The U18.5 losing at the quarter final stage and the U16s losing out by a point to Ennis in the final. At the time of writing, all of the underage teams are still involved in their various cup competitions. Hopefully they will have some silverware on show at the end, for what has been a very enjoyable season.



Our Rhinos Rugby now have over 250 Boys & Girls participating in mixed teams from U6 to U12, they have enjoyed an adventures season as they hosted and travelled the length and breath of Munster this season partaking in matches and blitzes days competing against teams from Cork, Clare, Limerick, Waterford, Kerry & Tipperary. All our Rhinos have come on collectively this season thanks to our amazing coaches who invest so much of there time in these aspiring players. New members are always welcome, and we would like to especially welcome any

**Old Christians RFC**

Fancy a change of Club?  
Want a fresh Challenge?  
New to the area?  
Returning to rugby?

**WE ARE RECRUITING NOW!**

We are looking for new players of all abilities  
to come join our adult teams

**CONTACT: JOSH ON 087 170 1635 OR STUART ON 087 780 3963**

#ONECLUBONECOMMUNITY #OCRFC



girls who would like to try rugby out as we commence our 8 weeks give it a try girls only rugby from Thursday the 25/04 @7pm.

On Saturday the 11/05 the club has been selected to host the interprovincial rugby match between Munster Juniors and Connacht Juniors this is a great honour for our club to have been selected by the Munster Branch to host this interprovincial match and we look forward to showcasing our club and facilities that weekend.

MUNSTER RUGBY vs CONNACHT RUGBY

Junior Interprovincial Rugby

Saturday the 11/05/2024  
Old Christians RFC  
Rathcooney, Glanmire, Cork

Supported by: **TEKenable**



# Old Christians Rugby Club

## Tap into your Creative Spirit

Some people say they write because they have to; they couldn't function properly if they didn't give themselves a chance to get what's on their mind down on the page. Others write as a hobby – something they enjoy as they would gardening, painting or bridge. More say they write because they have a particular story to tell and the urge to tell that story just won't go away.

I met someone recently in a workshop who told me she wrote to heal the wounds she'd accumulated throughout her life. She said writing gave her release and restored her equilibrium. And writing can do that. Getting your thoughts and feelings onto the page (or the screen) can be cathartic. Like tears, writing can help soothe anxieties and reduce the turmoil within. I've often noticed that myself during a writing exercise – some shard of emotion can catch you unawares and you find yourself shedding tears onto your page. That's because writing taps into a deeper place within you, a place there's usually no time for in our busy lives. A couple of years back, at a writing class we were instructed to write the dialogue of a conversation between us and another person we'd like to connect with. I chose an imagined conversation with my long dead father and the sweep of emotion that overtook me was a shocker – writing takes you places within that you didn't know existed.

When you write you tap into the creative spirit within and sometimes, a little magic happens. The wonderful thing is, you never know what's going to end up on the page or who is going to step into your story. A half-remembered childhood event pops into your head, a character appears out of the blue – and then you're off,



galloping into the land of fantasy and imagination.

Over the years, I've loved going to writing sessions or workshops. And for the last number of years, I'd been thinking about a particular story I wanted to tell. And that itch to write that story wouldn't go away . . . and I'm glad it didn't because I did write that story and it became a first draft, then a completed novel, published just 17 months ago – 'The Girl with Special Knees.'

Many years back, my second child was born with a rare condition – Cornelia de Lange Syndrome, CDLS for short. It was a devastating diagnosis and one we were not prepared for. Our lives changed overnight. And now, years later I wanted to tell that story but not as a memoir. I didn't want to tell a sad story. I wanted to write about the fallout of grief and loss, yes, I did – the emotionally territory of despair. But, more importantly, I wanted to give the child in the story an opportunity to slip through a sliding door and into another world where she would live a wonderful, adventurous life free from the constraints of her condition. I fell in love with this idea. The, 'what if?' And it wouldn't go away, this ridiculous notion

of giving this 11-year-old child in my story, the opportunity to leap into another life, another world. Any anyway, how could I do it? And make it sound plausible or even believable? I had chosen a narrative for my book but, God, I wasn't making it easy for myself!

Still, when something grabs you like that and won't let go, you really must get started, figure it out, follow the thread, weave your story, and see where it goes. You must trust your intuition and the creative ability deep inside to find a way forward. As I say, I'm glad I stuck with it. And publishing the book – and the sequel, 'The Girl with Stars in Her Eyes,' – gave me a great sense of satisfaction, joy and achievement.

Over the next few months, I'll be asking other new authors what got them started on writing their books – what motivated them and where they got their ideas. Who know, they might spark an idea in you and that might begin the process – often tricky but always enjoyable – of tapping into your own unique creative spirit, deep within. And who knows what gems you will find there.

If you want to hear more, I'll be in Fermoy Library on Saturday 11th May at 2.30pm. In the meantime, happy writing.

Eleanor

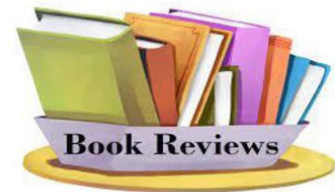
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Eleanor O'Kelly-Lynch is an author, living in Glanmire. Her novels, 'The Girl with Special Knees' and 'The Girl with Stars in Her Eyes' are available in Silver Bow, Glanmire, Middleton Books, Fermoy Books, Easons, Mahon Point, Vibes and Scribes, on [www.eleanorokellylynch.ie](http://www.eleanorokellylynch.ie), and [buythebook.ie](http://buythebook.ie)

# Book Review



GCC Well Read Initiative  
Student Book Reviews



## "The Girl of Ink and Stars" by Kiran Millwood Hargrave

"The Girl of Ink and Stars" by Kiran Millwood Hargrave is like stepping into a world where the lines between reality and fantasy blur into something truly mesmerising. This book whisks readers away on an adventure that feels both ancient and timeless, where mythical creatures and hidden treasures await around every corner.

Set on the island of Joya, the story follows Isabella Riosse, a cartographer's daughter with a thirst for exploration. But when her best friend goes missing in the dangerous Forbidden Territories, Isabella embarks on a daring journey to find her, guided by ancient maps and legends. Along the way, she encounters mysterious creatures, treacherous landscapes, and unravels the secrets of her island's past.

One of the things I loved most about this book is its rich and vivid descriptions. Hargrave's writing paints such a clear picture of the island of Joya that I felt like I was right there alongside Isabella, navigating through its lush forests and winding rivers. The imagery is so immersive that it's easy to get lost in the pages of this book.

But "The Girl of Ink and Stars" isn't just a tale of adventure—it's also a story about friendship, courage, and the power of storytelling. Isabella's journey isn't just about finding her friend, it's about discovering her own strength and resilience in the face of adversity. Her determination and bravery are truly inspiring, and I found myself rooting for her every step of the way.

Another aspect of the book that I really enjoyed is its exploration of mythology and folklore. Hargrave weaves together elements of real-world mythology with her own imaginative twists, creating a world that feels both familiar and completely unique. From ancient gods to magical creatures, there's no shortage of wonder to be found in the pages of this book.

Overall, "The Girl of Ink and Stars" is a captivating and enchanting read that will appeal to readers of all ages. Its blend of adventure, mystery, and magic makes for a truly unforgettable experience, and I can't recommend it highly enough. Whether you're a fan of fantasy or simply love a good adventure, this book is sure to leave you spellbound.

## Glanmire MACRA

Glanmire has had a busy month, full of fun events! The end of March saw some of our members supporting our neighbouring club Donoughmore at their 70th Anniversary Ball. A fantastic night was had by all who attended!

Then some of our members travelled to Clonmel for Mr Personality. Well done to Wally from Whitechurch for representing Seandun Regional at Mr P!! It was a great weekend, full of craic as usual!!

We then had a great time at Killeagh Macra's quiz!! Before attending Whitechurch macra's bingo fundraiser!! Well done to both clubs for organising such fun and well run events!!

On Friday 3rd of May, we are organising a social night out, starting with bowling in the Mardyke!! If you're interested in coming along please message us on our social media pages or txt April on 0872933531.

As always our sports night are every Wednesday from 7.30pm in the little island sports complex. Everyone is welcome! We play a range of sports from basketball and volleyball to soccer. Entry is €5 but the first night is free!!

Make sure to follow us on our social media to hear more about all of our upcoming events!



Donoughmore Macra's 70th anniversary ball



Glanmire at Mr Personality



Killeagh Macras quiz



Whitechurch Macra's bingo night



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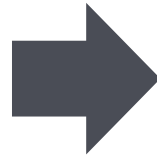
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(from left, David McCarthy, Angela O'Callaghan, Paul Kingston (Chairman Glanmire GAA), Keith O'Hourihane (Director Pharmacy First Plus), John McAllen (Chairperson Glanmire Ladies Gaelic Football Club), Niamh McAllen.

Glanmire Ladies Football Club and Glanmire GAA club at the launch of their Annual Golf Classic, kindly sponsored by Pharmacy First Plus. The classic will take place at Castlemartyr Golf Resort on Friday 17th May.

# \*MEMBER NOTICE\*



**Your LOCAL Credit Union in Glanmire recently merged with Douglas Credit Union.**

**As a result of this we will be rebranding with a brand new name. We are delighted to announce this will be Elevate Credit Union and will go live in May.**

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