

Best friends Kathleen and Brid enjoy Clannad gig

Donegal News Clannad Competition winner Kathleen Gallagher (right) from Loughanure with her friend Brid Sweeney pictured in Dublin on Friday night. Kathleen won our competition for two tickets to Clannad's second 40th anniversary concert in Christ Church Cathedral as part of the Temple Bar TradFest and an overnight's stay in the Arlington Hotel on Dame Street.



New garda recruits from Donegal



Gary Sheehan Medal Winner, Garda Neasa Ni Chearnaigh, Gaith Dobhair, being presented with her medal by Commissioner Callinan.

A TOTAL of seven Donegal people have graduated from Templemore Garda Training College at a passing-out ceremony last week.

Garda Commissioner Martin Callinan presided over the ceremony in County Tipperary at which 88 men and 38 women graduated.

The Donegal recruits are Garda Catherine Callaghan from Ballybofey who is stationed in Sligo; Garda Christopher Jones from Buncrana, stationed at Pearse Street in Dublin; Garda Frank McDaid from Moville, stationed in Monaghan; Garda Neasa NiChearnaigh, stationed in Sligo; Garda Joe Aiken, stationed in Ballymun and Garda Robert Carey from Creeslough stationed in Monaghan.

A number of medals were presented to members of the class and new Garda recruit Garda Neasa Ni Chearnaigh from Gweedore was awarded the Gary Sheehan Medal, presented to the best all-round student. Garda Neasa Ni Chearnaigh is based at Sligo Garda station.

The Gary Sheehan Memorial Medal commemorates Recruit Garda Gary Sheehan who died on duty at Ballinamore, County Leitrim on 16 December, 1983, and is awarded to the best all-round probationer.

The recipient is picked for having contributed significantly to life at the Garda College, distinguished themselves in the academic field and will have made a significant contribution to the stations and communities in which they served.

"Additionally, the winner will have, by the initiative shown, and leadership qualities so obviously displayed during the training period, won the respect of his/her peers and authorities," according to the citation.

Meanwhile, six of the new garda recruits from outside Donegal have been stationed in the county. Gardaí Patrick Ryan and Dermot McDermott from Roscommon have been assigned to Milford and Buncrana garda stations respectively. Garda Michael Gorman from Ballina has been stationed in Glenties and Garda Lorraine Crawford from Antrim has been stationed in Buncrana. Gardaí Enda Glennon from Loughrea and Fintan Smith from Gowna, Cavan have both been stationed in Letterkenny.

Rubbish dumped at Drumboe Martyrs memorial

BY C.J.MCGINLEY

A MEMORIAL to commemorate four Republican soldiers put to death in Stranorlar has become a dumping ground for rubbish. Locals in the area have described the 'desecration' of the Drumboe Martyrs Memorial as absolutely 'disgraceful'.

Bags of rubbish were illegally dumped at the gates to the memorial earlier this week. Almost 88 years ago four Republican soldiers were put to death at Drumboe Castle.

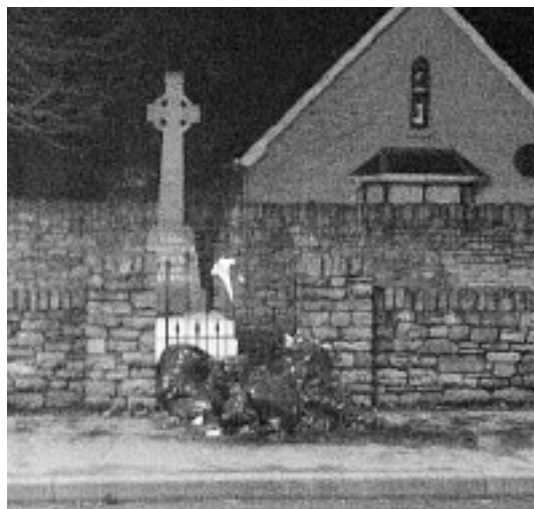
The four were: Comd. Gen. Charlie Daly who hailed from Firries, Timothy O'Sullivan and Daniel Enright of Listowel and General Sean Larkin from Derry.

Every year since the four are remembered at the Drumboe Commemoration by Republicans from all over the country.

Speaking to the Donegal News, the Sinn Féin party leader on Donegal County Council, Councillor Padraic MacLochlainn said any illegal dumping was 'reprehensible'.

"To dump outside a commemoration site where people congregate every year to remember their loved ones is beyond the pale. The people who engage in this are low life. They have no civic responsibility or respect whatsoever. They don't give a damn about the families of the martyrs or the county," Cllr MacLochlainn said.

"This brings into sharp focus the whole illegal dumping situation in Donegal. There has to be greater penalties for offenders. The council has been more proactive in recent times with covert cameras and prosecutions but the penalties need to be tougher. The fines are derisory and need to be much higher," he added.



Rubbish dumped at the Drumboe Memorial site.

Local Sinn Féin Councillor Cora Harvey said the dumping was 'disgraceful'.

"I don't know if this was a deliberate attack on the monument or a random case of illegal dumping. Either

way it is totally unacceptable," she said.

"I'd call on anybody who has any information about this to contact the relevant authorities," Cllr Harvey added.

LYIT students union aims for 1,000 voters on campus

The students union at Letterkenny Institute of Technology is urging all local students to register to vote on campus this week ahead of the impending general election.

Letterkenny IT students' union will set up special stands on campus from today. It is aiming to register 1000 students to vote throughout the campaign.

The initiative is taking place as part of the Union of Students in Ireland's "Your Future, Your Vote" campaign.

USI officers will embark on a national bus tour of colleges around the country and is visiting the Letterkenny campus as part of the campaign.

On a national level, USI is aiming to register 50,000 students to vote over two weeks in order to increase student turnout at the upcoming general election.

"Your Future, Your Vote" aims to

allow the younger generation to decide their own future and to make the politicians aware that students are registering to vote en masse.

Marian Gibbons, President of Letterkenny IT students' union, said:

"Our students' union is urging all local students to register to vote prior to the looming general election. For too long the younger generations of Irish society have been ignored and it is time politicians sat up and listened. Young people in Ireland will shoulder years of crippling debt thanks to the mistakes of the current generation and we will not tolerate a single second more of lacklustre governance from Irish politicians.

"Politicians will realise that students are no longer a dormant force as thousands of young people descend on polling stations to decide the future direction of this country."



*Buy your Blinds at
Factory Prices*

BLINDS

*Visit our
Showroom today*

GLENCAR SHOP CENTRE,
LETTERKENNY
www.classicblinds.ie
Telephone 074 9129150

CLASSIC
BLINDS
Manufacturers
of Quality
Blinds