

Adrigole celebrates Kerry night

...and raises €3,500 for Beaufort

WHAT STARTED out as a bit of banter, turned into a novelty fundraiser and raised almost €3,500 for the St Mary of the Angels residential care home in Beaufort.

BY AUDREY REIDY

When Ann O'Sullivan moved to the parish of Adrigole on the northwestern shore of Bantry Bay, her new neighbours threw her a party to celebrate all things Kerry.

The Kerry night was held in the Wild Atlantic Pub, Adrigole, and was dreamt up by local Garda Aidan Cremin and a number of others from the parish, to welcome Anne O'Sullivan whose father was from Kerry.

Along with the money

raised by the Ring of Kerry money (€80,000) and previously raised funds, the centre intends providing individual bedrooms for a number of residents in the campus area.

The fundraiser was a 'great celebration of the Kingdom's culture' and many recognisable Kerry faces made an appearance via video.

"We had videos from Pat Spillane, Colm Cooper, Micheál Ó Murchú, Dáithí Ó Sé, Mike Frank Russell and Brian Sheehan.

"We showed clips from

some famous GAA games. Everyone wore a jersey or something green and the place was decorated in the Kerry colours, bunting, posters with Kerry sayings - it was a late but great night and fantastic how well it went," said local Garda Aidan.

Locals were asked to show their Kerry sides and the response was 'phenomenal'. The raffle received bucket loads of support from the local community.

"On the night, we filled a bucket for the raffle tickets. We had signed jerseys, we had art pieces, autographed books, hampers and other prizes and a number of items, including a signed jersey by Colm Cooper, which were auctioned off.

"It was fantastic to see everyone coming along and getting involved. They really embraced the theme. Many of us here have connections to Kerry and we all have personal reasons for choosing the charity," added Aidan.

"Once we put out the idea, everyone really got behind it. It really surprised us how much support was out there for the night and we want to thank all our sponsors, especially Denis Harrington, Harrington's Estates, Mary Murphy, Berehaven Pharmacy, Elaine O'Sullivan, the Stuffed Olive, and the many others who got behind the night."

The St Mary of Angels has other plans for the money.



Organisers of the Kerry night held in aid of St Mary of the Angels, Beaufort, present the charity with a cheque for €3,408.50, l-r: Aidan Cremin, Elaine O'Sullivan Green, Mary Murphy and Ann O'Sullivan, with Breda Keane, Ciara Keane and Noreen Bambury.

"We have set previously raised funds aside to build on sun rooms to two Chalets - plans have been drawn up and plan-

ning permission has been granted.

"We are very grateful for any donations received and

the fundraising efforts are ongoing by our members," said Treasurer of St Mary of Angels Marcus Günther.