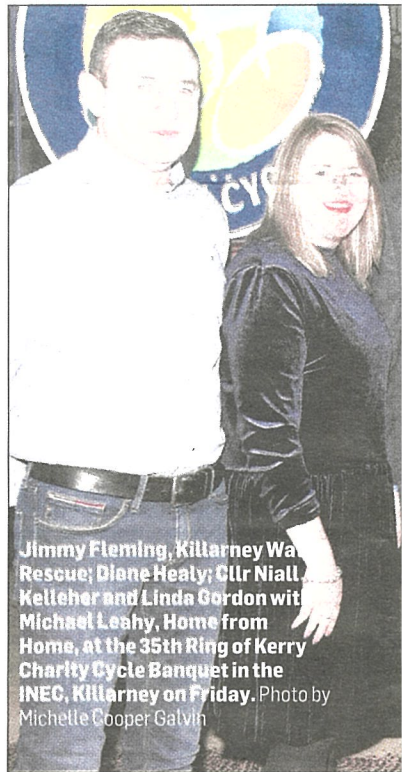


35TH RING OF KERRY CHARITY CYCLE GALA PRESENTATION NIGHT

Pictured with committee members are representatives from the various charities who shared in the €1,265,375 raised from the 35th Ring of Kerry Charity Cycle, presented at the Ring of Kerry Cycle Banquet in the INEC, Killarney on Friday.

Photo by Michelle Cooper Galvin



Jimmy Fleming, Killarney WA Rescue; Diane Healy; Cllr Niall Kelleher and Linda Gordon with Michael Leahy, Home from Home, at the 35th Ring of Kerry Charity Cycle Banquet in the INEC, Killarney on Friday. Photo by Michelle Cooper Galvin

Charities gather to celebrate as cycle raises seven-figure sum again

THE official charities chosen for the 35th Ring of Kerry Charity Cycle were at the INEC in Killarney at the weekend as organisers celebrated another hugely successful year, raising well over €1.2million for good causes.

More than 7,000 cyclists from all over Kerry, Ireland, and further afield took on the 175-kilometre challenge on the first Saturday in July, each raising funds for the 15 main beneficiaries chosen. Another 21 local community groups also benefited to the tune of €2,000 from the 2018 cycle, billed as Ireland's largest one-day fund-raiser. It has raised more than €16million since 1984.

"We are very proud to once again have broken the €1 million mark for very worthy beneficiaries that will utilise the funds raised in various ways to improve and expand services for people across all walks of life," Ring of Kerry Charity Cycle PRO Cathal Walshe said. "The Ring of Kerry Charity

Cycle become an iconic event over the past 35 years and has gone from strength to strength.

"This event would not be feasible if it wasn't for the huge support from our organisers, charities and volunteers and, of course, the cyclists themselves who support us year after year. We look forward to seeing you all in 2019."

This year's main beneficiaries were Breakthrough Cancer Research, the Irish Kidney Association, Brú Columbanus, Kerry Hospice Foundation, Baile Mhuire Day Care Centre, KDYS, St Joseph's Home Killorglin, Pieta House, Cahersiveen Social Services, Irish Community Rapid Response, the Ian O'Connell Trust, Kerry Parents and Friends' Buy a Bus Campaign, Down Syndrome Kerry, Enable Ireland, and St Mary of the Angels.

Now, minds have already turned to the 2019 cycle, with information on registration available from www.ringofkerrycycle.ie.



The all-important figure announced on Friday, the total raised from this year's Ring of Kerry Charity Cycle.



Nora and Ian O'Connell, Kitty Scannell, Anne Horgan (back from left) John and Siobhan Lyne, Michael O'Connell, Michael O'Connell, Tom Cronin, Catherine Gleeson, Paudie Horgan, Jerry Cronin and Jim Gleeson of Ian O'Connell Trust at the Ring of Kerry Charity Cycle Banquet in the INEC on Friday. Photo by Michelle Cooper Galvin



Irish Kidney Association Kerry Branch members (front from left): Debbie Templeton; Patient Support Officer Kerry Branch IKA Therese Looney; Clodagh O'Shea; Chairman Kerry Branch IKA Con Brosnan; Josephine Lawlor. Back from left: Colm Clifford, Nicola Clifford, Georgina O'Shea, Tim O'Shea, Pankaj Sharma, Stephen Byrne, Eileen Pankaj, Lawrence Templeton, Noreen Kelliher and Pat Looney at the INEC on Friday. Photo by Michelle Cooper Galvin



Joe Crowley, Sr Helena, Sr Elizabeth, Sr Consilii. Back from left: Peter Crowley, Marian McCann, George Kelly, Audrey Boyle, Michael Moriarty and Kathleen McCann at the 35th Ring of Kerry Charity Cycle banquet in the INEC. Photo by Michelle Cooper Galvin

HELD AT THE INEC, KILLARNEY

This year's beneficiaries

15 Main Charity Beneficiaries

- Disability Support Services:*
Buy a Bus Campaign – Kerry Parent and Friends
Down Syndrome Ireland
Enable Ireland
Irish Kidney Association
St Mary of the Angels (intellectual disability residential care)
- Cancer & Family Support Services:*
Breakthrough Cancer Research
Brú Columbanus (Family accommodation for seriously ill)
Kerry Hospice Foundation
- Community Care:*
Baile Mhuire
Cahersiveen Social Services
Irish Community Rapid Response
KDYS – Kerry Diocesan Youth Service
Pieta House
St Joseph's Home, Killorglin
The Ian O'Connell Trust

Additional local communities beneficiaries:

- Abbeyfeale Search and Rescue**
Ballinskelligs Inshore Rescue
Banna Inshore Rescue
Childhood Cancer Foundation
Fr Sean Myers Brazilian Fund
Friends of the Children of Chernobyl
Heartbeat Killarney
Holy Cross Day Care Centre
Holy Cross School – Autism Unit
Home from Home
Kenya Education Project
Kerry Cheshire Killarney
Kerry Mental Health, Kenmare
Kerry Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre
Kerry Respite Care
Killarney Water Rescue
Muckross Community Centre
Multiple Sclerosis South Kerry
Novas Support for the Homeless
Sean Cairde
Waterville Community First Responders



Phil Coffey, Kenmare Mental Health Association; Noreen O'Shea, Liam Kelly, Muckross Community; Brian Coen, Killarney Water Rescue; and Rosaleen O'Sullivan, Kenmare Mental Health Association.



Cathal Walshe, Tim O'Brien, Patrick O'Donoghue and Denis Geaney.



Nora Kelleher; Therese Looney, Irish Kidney Association Kerry Branch; with Mary Shanahan and Maura O'Sullivan, Kerry Hospice.



RIGHT: Liam Healy with Patricia and Cathal Griffin, Down Syndrome Kerry.



Tim and Maureen Fleming, Peggy Clifford, Jack and Betty Breen, Sneem, at the 35th Ring of Kerry Charity Cycle Banquet in the INEC, Killarney on Friday. Photo by Michelle Cooper Galvin



Ellis and Katie O'Connor with Jack and Tracy Fitzpatrick at the 35th Ring of Kerry Charity Cycle banquet in the INEC, Killarney, on Friday. Photo by Michelle Cooper Galvin

Do you own a vacant property?

Do you want to unlock your vacant property's potential, but are unsure about the options open to you?

There are a number of options available to you, aimed at reintroducing vacant dwellings into the usable housing stock, including:

- Repair and Lease Scheme
- Buy and Renew Scheme
- Long Term Leasing

Benefits of Bringing Vacant Properties Back into Use

- Increased rental income
- Increase the capital value of the property
- Long term investment potential of a properly maintained dwelling
- Increase sales potential
- Property secured from vandalism / anti-social behaviour
- Make a difference by providing much needed housing in your community

Further information on the above and other options available to you can be obtained from your local authority Vacant Homes Officer or from the Vacant Homes Unit in the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government.

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www.housing.gov.ie



Riailtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

An initiative of the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government