

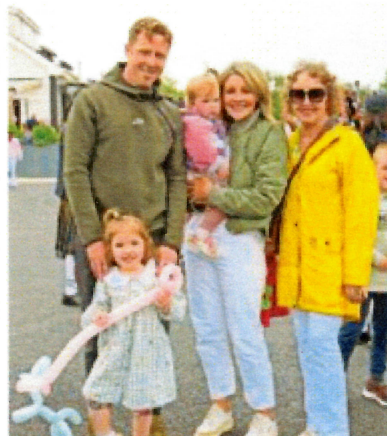
SMITH OF KIERNAN'S CROSS PICS: SHELLEY CORCORAN



land Gavin Smyth



Gerry Bratton



Sarah, Mai, Eabha, Helen and Josie McCormack



Tom Brady, John Kiernan and



Samuel Ryan



Brady, Ollie Gerry Hagan, John and Michael Power

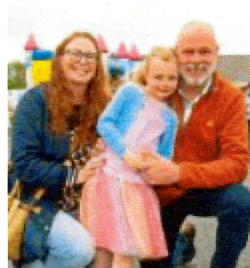
Longford keeps an old tradition alive

The Blacksmith of Kiernan's Cross statue which celebrates three generations of blacksmiths, including the legendary Victor Kiernan was unveiled on Sunday. Being a privately-funded commemoration by the Kiernan family, with all eight children of Victor Kiernan contributing to the finances of it, the event acknowledged the importance of blacksmithing over the years.

Roughly 300 people were in attendance, including many of the late Victor's Fine Gael colleagues. The artist of the bronze statue was Rory Breslin from Westport in Mayo, who had also created a similar statue in Ballinacree.

One of Victor's daughters, Vanessa, said: "We are conscious that we don't want to call it the Victor Kiernan statue. It is really called the Blacksmith of Kiernan's Cross, in commemoration of third generation trade of blacksmiths." With it being in the name of Mike, Sonny and Victor Kiernan, the statue acknowledges the importance of the trade.

Vanessa continued: "We would say over 100 years of traditional blacksmith work. Victor was still making and welding up until a few months before he died in November 2009. It really is to honour the craft and the skill."



Mairéad, Ollie and Clara Keogh

endurance and hard work that blacksmiths have done over the years. To remember how integral a forge was in a local community. A blacksmith provided essential services in terms of wheels, shoes for horses—the forge contributed to every element of life from farming, industry and transport. A forge was a part of the community. One point we would make, we just think for future generations that it was a big part of life, a working forge."

Also in attendance was Victor's brother, John Kiernan, who travelled from America, as well as his sister, John and Tom Brady, from Longford, were

the ones to unveil the statue on the day.

The event did not just have the statue being unveiled. The Kiernan's supplied plenty of entertainment afterwards with a family fun day. For the children, it included face painting, balloon modelling, a bouncy castle and kids' disco. Roman Norton, a local blacksmith, gave a horse-shoeing demonstration and a lot of people gathered to watch. Comhairleoir Dóiteáin did fire blowing, with the connection to how iron is formed with heat. All these activities were free on the day.

Keeping tradition alive through these memorials, the unveiling of the statue proved to be a successful time to remember, celebrate and be enjoyed. Without needing any funding from the public, Victor Kiernan, who was a blacksmith, publican and county councillor, provided plenty to the community during his lifetime.



Rachael McCreaner, Josh, Ella and Caleb Haste

Aislinn and Siobhán Keary

NOTICE OF A COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER UNDER

The Water Services Acts, 2007 to 2013 (and, in particular, Section 7 of the Water Services (No. 2) Act, 2013 and Parts 2 and Sections 31 & 32 and Part 7 and Section 93 of the Water Services Act, 2007, as amended). The Planning and Development Acts, 2000 to 2014 (and, in particular Part XIV and Sections 213 and 217 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000). Section 184(2) of the Local Government Act, 2001, Section 10 of the Local Government (No. 2) Act, 1960 (as substituted by Section 86 of the Housing Act, 1966 and as amended by Section 6 and the Second Schedule of the Roads Act, 1993 and by Section 222 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000). The Housing Act, 1966 (and in particular Part V, Sections 76 and 78 and the Third Schedule). The Lands Clauses Acts. The Acquisition of Land (Assessment of Compensation) Act, 1919.

AS RESPECTS ALL OR PART OF THE LAND TO WHICH THIS COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER RELATES TO BE PUBLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 4(a) OF THE THIRD SCHEDULE TO THE HOUSING ACT, 1966, AS AMENDED BY THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACTS, 2000 - 2014.

COMPULSORY ACQUISITION OF LAND

UISCE ÉIREANN COMPULSORY PURCHASE (BALLYMAHON WASTEWATER TREATMENT ORDER, 2025)

1. WHEREAS UISCE ÉIREANN (hereinafter referred to as "the Company") a Water Services Authority for the purposes of the Water Services Act, 2007, proposes for the purposes of the Water Services Acts, 2007 to 2013 and in exercise of its powers under Sections 32 and 93 of the Water Services Act, 2007 to acquire compulsorily the lands and rights over the lands described and has made an order entitled as above which is, about to be submitted to An Bord Pleanála (hereinafter referred to as "the Board") for confirmation. It can authorise the Company to acquire compulsorily:

(a) Permanently, the lands described in Part 1 of the Schedule hereto which lands are shown shaded grey on the drawings marked "Uisce Éireann Compulsory Purchase (Ballymahon Wastewater Treatment Plant) Order, 2025", and numbered UE/100/8719/CPD/0001.

(b) All of the said lands described in the Schedule hereto are situated in the County of LONGFORD.

2. Owners, lessees and occupiers of the lands described in the Schedule hereto will receive individual written notice.

3. The Board cannot confirm a Compulsory Purchase Order in respect of the lands if an objection is made in respect of the acquisition by an owner, lessee or occupier of the lands, until it has caused to be held an Oral Hearing into the matter and until it has considered the objection and the report of the person who held the Oral Hearing should be had to the provisions of Section 218 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended which provides that where as a result of the transfer of functions under the provisions of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, the Board would otherwise be required to hold a local enquiry, public local enquiry requirement shall not apply to the Board but the Board may, at its absolute discretion, hold an Oral Hearing in relation to the matter, the subject of the function transfer.

4. A copy of the Order and the deposited drawings referred to in it may be seen at the following locations:

(a) Uisce Éireann, Cahill House, 24-26, Talbot Street, Dublin 1 between 9:00-5:00hrs.

(b) Ballymahon Library, Main Street, Ballymahon, Co. Longford N39 ES67 between Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 10am-1:00pm and 1:30pm-5:30pm, Wednesday 10am-1:00pm and 1:30pm-5:00pm, Friday 10am-1:00pm and 1:30pm-5:00pm, Saturday 10am-2:00pm.

All of which drawings are sealed with the seal of the Company.

5. A Natura Impact Statement was prepared in relation to this matter.

SCHEDULE PART 1 - LAND ACQUISITION

Land other than land consisting of a house or houses unfit for human habitation and not capable of being rendered fit for human habitation at reasonable cost

Plot Number shaded grey on the drawings deposited at Uisce Éireann, Cahill House, 24-26 Talbot Street, Dublin 1 and Ballymahon Library, Main Street, Ballymahon, County Longford N39 ES67	DRAWING No.	Quantity, Situation and Description of the Land			Owners or Reputed Owners	Lessees or Reputed Lessees
		Area in Hectares	Location	Description of Property		
Plot 001	UE/100/8719/CPD/0001	1.6110	Ballymahon, Longford	Agricultural land	Michael Flynn, Cressaghbeg, Ballymahon, Co. Longford	N/A

PART 2 - PERMANENT WAYLEAVE

Not applicable

PART 3 - PERMANENT RIGHT OF WAY

Not applicable

PART 4 - TEMPORARY WORKING AREA

Not applicable

Dated this 28 day of May 2025 Richard O'Sullivan, Secretary, Uisce Éireann, Cahill House, 24-26 Talbot Street, Dublin 1