

# Belderrig native to launch new book on currachs

Belderrig academic and author Breandán Mac Conamhna will launch his latest book this week. The 89-year-old's translation of *The Currachs and Naomhoga of Ireland* will be launched in the Erris Coast Hotel in Geesala on August 15. "It starts with the description of what the archaeologists think the ancient currach of pre-historic times were like and follows this with a description of written references to the currach from Roman times up to

about 1850," Breandán explained. He said the industrial revolution had a profound impact on currach design. Ten different designs emerged on the west coast in the second half of the 19th century with more later developing. Every currach design has its own dedicated chapter and the book details this unique element of Irish maritime culture. *The Currachs and Naomhoga of Ireland* will be launched by James Ca-

hill who boasts the largest collection of currachs in Ireland. Breandán was born and reared in Belderrig in the Erris Gaeltacht. For the last 40 years he has lived in Riverstown, Co Sligo. He taught and lectured for 20 years in the UK before being appointed principal of the Regional Technical College, Sligo in 1980. Breandán later served as Director of the Institute of Technology, Sligo. He retired in 2001 and this is his fourth book.

# Family of Joe Deacy call for end to 'wall of silence' in relation to his killing

The family of Joe Deacy has said eight years is far too long to wait for answers into his death, writes *Keith Bourke*. Mr Deacy, aged 21, from St Alban's in the UK, was found unconscious outside a house at Gortnasillagh, Swinford, at 6.45am on August 12, 2017. He later died from head injuries at Beaumont Hospital in Dublin. A post-mortem found that the cause of death was blunt force trauma and a murder investigation was launched. That investigation remains ongoing.

Last Sunday, the annual memorial walk in Joe's memory took place in Swinford. The walk paused outside the property where Joe was found. Joe's uncle Paul Deacy thanked supporters who had joined them in their quest for justice for his "beloved" nephew. "Eight years is way too long for any case to go unchanged. We hope and we pray that things will eventually change and the people who know anything will find the courage and strength to finally realise that their silence cannot continue. Enough

suffering has been endured by Joe's family and friends," he stated before calling for an end to a "wall of silence". Westport-based councillor Brendan Mulroy has called for the new Garda Commissioner Justin Kelly and Minister for Justice Jim O'Callaghan to meet with the Deacy family. He said a new independent inquiry should take place. Cllr Mulroy said he has been the subject of intimidation in relation to the case and has reported this to Gardai.

# Tributes paid to East Mayo man who died in farming accident

A Mayo man who lost his life in a farming accident was laid to rest yesterday (Monday). Jimmy Forkin, of Carrabeg, Kilkelly, aged in his 60s, died following the accident in Kilkelly last week. Emergency services attended the scene, and his body was brought to Mayo University Hospital in Castlebar

for a post-mortem examination. Funeral Mass took place in Glann Church near Kilkelly yesterday followed by burial in Culmore Cemetery. Many tributes have been paid to Mr Forkin who was described as a thorough gentleman and someone who was always went out of his way to assist neighbours and friends in what-

ever way he could. Mr Forkin will be sadly missed by his heartbroken wife Chris, his nephew Gavin, sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, nieces-in-law, nephews-in-law, grandnieces-in-law and grand-nephews-in-law, cousins, neighbours and many friends. May his gentle soul rest in peace.

# Ballina mourns talented businessman

There is tremendous sadness across Mayo following the news of the sad passing of prominent Ballina businessman Trevor Morrow. Mr Morrow established the leading furniture, home décor, and interiors business Trevor Morrow Ltd and was a hugely popular figure in his community and the retail sector. "It is with heavy hearts that we share the passing of our beloved father Trevor," said his family in a post on social media.

"Dad built 'Trevor Morrow Ltd' with passion, dedication, hard work, and a vision that has touched the lives of many. His legacy, will continue to inspire us every single day." Mr Morrow, of The Quay, Ballina, was predeceased by his wife Mary. He is deeply mourned by his children Gillian, Paul, Brian, Jennifer and extended family. Cllr Annie May Reape said he will be hugely missed in the area. She said Mr Morrow had the

vision to establish a business that was forward-thinking and unique to the area. "Trevor was a marvellous businessman. He started a business that was quite unique for its time and it has grown into what is today. It was just everyone's dream to shop there." She said Mr Morrow was an understated gentleman who always prioritised his customer. "You always got 100% personal attention from Trevor."



## Comhairle Contae Mhaigh Eo Mayo County Council

**NOTICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 177AE OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000 (AS AMENDED) AND THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 (AS AMENDED)**

**N5 Knockavrony Bridge Rehabilitation Works in Knockavrony, County Mayo**

**Notice of Application to An Coimisiún Pleanála for Approval**

Notice is hereby given that Mayo County Council proposes to seek the approval of An Coimisiún Pleanála under Section 177AE of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) for N5 Knockavrony Bridge Rehabilitation Works in the townlands of Knockavrony and Redhill, County Mayo.

The proposed development consists of the rehabilitation of the existing Knockavrony Bridge on the N5 National Primary Road. The proposed works comprise the installation of a 150mm thick concrete invert throughout the length of the corrugated pipe section of the structure to prevent further corrosion of the existing corrugated steel. Installation of the concrete invert requires full dewatering of the river channel with an over pumping mechanism. In addition, the north embankment over the reinforced concrete slab section of the structure requires to be excavated to apply waterproofing to the concrete slab. Works also include the repair to minor areas of spalling within the reinforced concrete slab section of the structure and installation of fencing across the north elevation to increase the parapet containment height.

A Natura Impact Statement (NIS) has been prepared in respect of the proposed development.

An Coimisiún Pleanála may give approval to the application for development with or without conditions or may refuse the application for development.

Plans and particulars of the proposed development, including the Natura Impact Statement, will be available for inspection free of charge, or for purchase at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, for a period of 6 weeks from Monday 18th August 2025 to Monday 29th September 2025 (inclusive of both dates) at the following locations:

- Planning Department (Public Counter), Áras an Chontae, The Mall, Castlebar, Co. Mayo F23 WF90 between the hours of 9.30am to 1pm and 2pm to 4.30pm Monday to Friday (excluding Public Holidays)
- An Coimisiún Pleanála, 64 Marlborough St, Rotunda, Dublin 1, D01 V902 between the hours of 9:15am to 5:30pm Monday to Friday (excluding Public Holidays) Plans and particulars of the proposed development, including the Natura Impact Statement, are also available for viewing on Mayo County Council's online consultation portal at <https://consult.mayo.ie/> from Monday 18th August 2025 to Monday 29th September 2025.

Submissions or observations regarding the proposed development may be made in writing, during the 6 week period, to An Coimisiún Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1, D01 V902 in relation to:

- the likely effects on the environment of the proposed development,
- the likely consequences for proper planning and sustainable development in the area in which it is proposed to situate the proposed development, and
- the likely significant effects of the proposed development on a European Site.

The deadline for submissions or observations to An Coimisiún Pleanála is **5.30pm on Monday 29th September 2025.**

A person may question the validity of any such decision by An Coimisiún Pleanála by way of an application for judicial review under Order 84 of the Rules of the Superior Courts (S.I. No. 15 of 1986) as provided for in Section 50 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

Practical information on the review mechanism can be accessed on the An Coimisiún Pleanála website ([www.pleanala.ie](http://www.pleanala.ie)) or on the Citizens Information website ([www.citizensinformation.ie](http://www.citizensinformation.ie)).

An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Screening Report for the proposed development has been undertaken and Mayo County Council has determined that an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) is not required.

Dated this 12th day of August 2025.

Signed: Conrad Harley  
A/Head of Roads, Mayo County Council

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