



MAYO ROSCOMMON  
**HOSPICE**  
FOUNDATION



**sunflower**  
Children's Hospice



# NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 009 DECEMBER 2025

## Inside...



**Message from  
our CEO**

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**Downton  
Movie Night  
raises €4,300!**

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...And so  
much more

## Monthly Draw Results

### Aug 2025:

- €1,000 – Ciara O'Malley
- €500 – Mairead Jennings
- €250 – Nuala Rogers

### Sept 2025:

- €1,000 – Frank Kilroe
- €500 – Laura & Sean Flemming
- €250 – Tony Regan

### Oct 2025:

- €1,000 – Aisling Bradley
- €500 – Claire Coleman
- €250 – Matt Stratford

### Nov 2025:

- €1,000 – Paul McGuinness
- €500 – Jerome Wynne
- €250 – Kathryn McNamara

Don't forget...the monthly draw is the first Friday of every month...and you've got to be in it to win it!

**Next Draw: Friday, December 5th.**

Sign up today. Call **094 93 88666**, email [draw@hospice.ie](mailto:draw@hospice.ie), enter online at [www.hospice.ie/draw](http://www.hospice.ie/draw) or call into any of our 12 Hospice Shops.



Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation Patrons, Cathal Hughes and Mary McAleese, were among the special guests and speakers at this month's Afternoon Tea in Knockranny House Hotel. They are pictured here at the event with CEO Martina Jennings. Photo by: Conor McKeown

## Patrons outline vision for the future at Afternoon Tea event in Westport

More than 200 guests gathered at Westport's Knockranny House Hotel on Friday, November 14th, for a warm and engaging Afternoon Tea event in aid of Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation.

Among the special guests were Foundation Patrons Mary McAleese and Cathal Hughes. They spoke of the importance of building on the Foundation's impressive 32-year history, and outlined some of the charity's ambitious plans for the future.

Three days in advance of the official unveiling of plans for the new Sunflower Children's Hospice in Mayo, attendees were treated to an exclusive preview in Westport. Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation's CEO, Martina Jennings, spoke of the inspiration behind the planned facility and the simple message that she has carried with her for several years... "don't forget the children".

As two of Ireland's most beloved voices, and co-hosts of the acclaimed podcast *Changing Times - The Allenwood Conversations*, Mary McAleese and Mary Kennedy brought their trademark insight and humour to the event. As a Patron of Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation, former President Mary McAleese spoke with great pride of the organisation's many accomplishments, and said she looks forward to seeing the team realising their next big dream.

Patron and founding Chairperson of the Board, Cathal Hughes, shared his memories of the last three decades – the determination

of the team, the huge strides that have been made, and the importance of never standing still.

Edel Hyland, who has been bravely battling breast cancer for almost four years, was another popular speaker at the Afternoon Tea. With first-hand experience of palliative home care and in-patient treatment at Mayo Hospice, she was her normal charismatic self and spoke of her unwavering gratitude for the team, and indeed her gratitude for life.

Dr Mary Ryan, Professor and Consultant Endocrinologist, was also among the special guests, and spoke of the importance of self-care and prioritising your wellbeing.

CEO Martina Jennings thanked all those who had turned out for the special event. She acknowledged each of the speakers for sharing powerful words and emotional stories and expressed her sincere appreciation to the people of Mayo and Roscommon for their ongoing support. "By being here, and supporting events like this, each and every one of you are helping us to continue our work providing palliative care to patients and families in our communities. We are forever grateful for your support," she added.

**Photos from the event on Pages 23-26.**

**Coming Soon: Watch out for our special edition newsletter on our Sunflower Children's Hospice**



**Together We Can Do So Much**

To support our services, visit [www.hospice.ie/donate](http://www.hospice.ie/donate)



Pictured at the launch of plans for Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation's Sunflower Children's Hospice, were, back row (left-right): Prof Michael O'Neill (UCD), Cathal Hughes, Seamus Moran, Breege McCaffrey, Oliver McGuinness, Nial Tully, Tom Connolly, Mike Smith and Frank Mulvihill. Front row (left-right): Joanne Hynes, Dara Calleary TD, Martina Jennings (CEO, Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation), Minister for Health Jennifer Carroll MacNeill TD, Paul Foxe (Chairperson), Tony Canavan (Regional Executive Officer, HSE West North West), Joanne Grehan and Carmel Heaney.

## A Message from our CEO, Martina Jennings

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we come to the end of another year, I would like to thank you all for your incredible support again in 2025. It has been a busy year for both the Mayo and Roscommon Hospices, and our community teams. I thank the staff and volunteers in both hospices, and our community palliative care teams, for the care and compassion they give to every patient and family they looked after.

After a lot of work behind the scenes, we were delighted to finally announce, in November, the development of The Sunflower Children's Hospice. This hospice will look after children and young adults with life-limiting illnesses, and their families, from eight counties across the western seaboard.

We have a site secured in Castlebar, and intend to submit planning permission in April 2026. This would not be possible without the collaborative partnership between the HSE and ourselves, along with so many of you. You can read more about this exciting and valuable development in our special Sunflower Children's Hospice Newsletter, which we will circulate over the next few weeks.

To our support groups, volunteers, fundraisers, donors, and communities, I wish you and your families a very peaceful and healthy Christmas, and look forward to seeing you all again in 2026.

Thanks so much to all our staff in Knock, our shops, our volunteers, our voluntary board of directors, and our partners, for their amazing support and hard work all year. It would be impossible to fund, support and develop this service without everyone working together as a team.

Finally, as we near the end of the year, we give a special thought to all the patients and families who have been looked after by our service. We think of those no longer with us, and especially their families.

"Though they are no longer with us, the memories of our loved ones live on in our hearts forever."

Wishing you all a safe and peaceful Christmas,

*Martina Jennings*

**Martina Jennings**

Chief Executive Officer

**Together** We Can Do So **Much**

# Downton Abbey movie night raises impressive €4,300

Mayo Movie World in Castlebar presented a special fundraising screening of the latest and final Downton Abbey movie, 'The Grand Finale', with all proceeds going to the Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation.

Held on September 12th, tickets for the 8pm screening were €25 and were sold in advance via the website, Hospice Shops and in Mayo Movie World. Upon arrival, guests were welcomed with a drinks reception and buffet, with a raffle also held on the night.

Cora Mulroy, Manager of Mayo Leisure Point, was instrumental in making the evening such a wonderful success. On behalf of Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation, CEO Martina Jennings and Corporate Partnerships Officer, Audrey Duffy, were in attendance.

Martina gave a short speech, and attendees were also shown a video of the planned Children's Hospice. The event raised an incredible €4,300. Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation is so grateful to Cora and her staff for all their efforts and for ensuring the night was a great success.



Cora Mulroy, Manager of Mayo Leisure Point (centre), presented the €4,300 cheque to Audrey Duffy and Martina Jennings from Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation.

## “Overwhelming sense of calmness and warmth at Castlebar Hospice made Martin, and all of us, feel so safe” – Colette Hughes

In August 2023, Shrule's Martin Hughes was diagnosed with a rare and aggressive form of brain cancer. He was just turning 56 and the news came as a devastating blow to Martin, to his beloved wife, Colette, and to the couple's families.

Martin spent some time, initially, in Galway Regional Hospital, but sadly, after just one round of chemotherapy, his health significantly deteriorated. Martin and Colette (nee Grimes) had celebrated their eighth wedding anniversary just a few short months earlier, in June, and it was absolutely heartbreaking for his loved ones to see his condition worsen.

When Mayo Hospice in Castlebar was suggested, Colette went to visit the facility to ascertain if a move there was the best option. She knew it would be a huge decision to transfer him there, but as soon as she walked through the doors, any doubt that had existed quickly evaporated.

“It's so difficult to put into words but from the moment I arrived, I knew it was where Martin needed to be. On the day he was taken by ambulance to the Hospice in Castlebar, I travelled ahead of him, and from the moment we arrived, there was an overwhelming sense of calmness and warmth.

*“We were coming from a very intense medical environment and everything in the Hospice was so different. The warmth and pace were particularly striking. Martin ended up spending seven weeks in Castlebar before he passed away, and everything about it made Martin, and all of us, feel so safe,”* Colette explained.

“It was always about Martin the person, rather than Martin with cancer. The care and attention were incredible, and I felt very much looked after too,” she continued.

Very soon after settling into Mayo Hospice, Martin came back to himself for the first time in months. As the weeks progressed, Martin's loved ones saw an incredible difference in him.

“His brother came home from Canada and got to spend some really lovely time there with him. Martin felt very safe there; he was happy. Despite his brain cancer, he knew everyone right up until the end. For his family and friends, it was so comfortable and private to come to visit him and spend time with him. Everyone got to see the real Martin; he was really back to himself,” Colette recalled.

Not surprisingly, Martin had an underlying wish to be able to return to his home in Shrule. It was never going to be straightforward, but three weeks before he passed away, his wish was granted. Of course, it took a huge amount of planning and organisation, but Colette was able to bring Martin home in a wheelchair, accompanied by two Hospice nurses.

Martin knew there was just a window of a few hours, but a final visit to his home was important and the team at the Hospice in Castlebar were eager to make it happen. “He didn't stay long at home, but it was lovely for him; for all of us. After a little while, he was ready to go back to Castlebar and thankfully, he settled back in really easily. He felt safe there, and he knew it was where he needed to be,” she added.

The care and attention Martin received from each and every person he encountered in Mayo Hospice was second to none,



Martin and Colette Hughes (nee Grimes) were married in June 2015. Martin sadly passed away in Mayo Hospice in November 2023.

according to Colette. And, the nurses spoiled him rotten too. “He was always looking for treats, and I think he ate them out of chocolate brownies more than once. The nurses were so good to him, and before long, his t-shirts were getting bigger,” Colette said, with a smile.

Before Martin passed away, Colette received a stunning heart-shaped necklace with Martin's fingerprint on one side and his name engraved on the other. “The team had come across a company called Treasured Memories and had mentioned it to Martin. He loved the idea and they asked me if it was ok to take his fingerprint. It was his idea to add his name to it too. It was such a lovely idea and so comforting. It's like holding his hand again,” Colette explained.

Colette was so moved by the gesture that she wanted to share the feeling of comfort with his family too. “I later met the lady in Galway who made my chain and I got necklaces made for Martin's mother and sister, and keyrings for his brothers. I knew how much comfort the piece had brought me and I wanted his family to experience it too,” she said.



This year's Martin Hughes Golf Memorial raised an impressive €9,000 for the Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation. Pictured at the cheque presentation, left to right, were: Philip Rossiter, Collette Hughes, Martina Jennings (CEO of Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation), and Joe Walsh.

For Colette and Martin's family, their whole experience at Mayo Hospice left a lasting impression. "Everything about the facility was truly amazing. The privacy for patients and their families, and the way the team care for those who are sick, as well as for their loved ones, is really special.

"It was always about Martin as a person, rather than Martin with cancer. Unfortunately, it just wasn't feasible to bring him home and look after him there but in Castlebar, they were able to care for him so well," she explained.

There was counselling for the family too, and Colette found that the on-site chapel offered comfort and respite. "It was lovely to be able to go in there and sit for a while, and light candles. The family rooms also offered additional privacy," she recalled.

On Martin's final night, the family had use of the on-site apartment. "Martin's brothers had travelled home from Chicago and Canada to spend time with him and we didn't know how long he had left. We were sitting up with him at night at that stage, and on his final night, his brothers were able to stay in the apartment.

"It really is such an amazing facility to have in the county and we will be forever grateful

to the whole team there. It's very hard to put it into words what they did for us, and what it meant to us all. The fact that Martin felt so safe there was really important and we knew that whatever lay ahead, and whatever would happen, they would manage it. It was such a relief at what was an incredibly difficult time for all of us," she added.

Colette was so inspired by the calmness and care that she has decided she will return to Castlebar Hospice to do some volunteer work. "I'm also looking into perhaps training as a bereavement counsellor. It would be something I could give back, in Martin's memory. After our own experience and seeing how everything operates at the facility, I feel I have a good understanding of what families need. If I could help another family through the challenges and emotions, it would mean a lot to me," she confided.

In addition to her volunteering plans, Colette has already helped raise significant funds for Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation. "Martin was a golfer in Ballinrobe Golf Club, and after he passed away, two of his friends came to us to say they wanted to organise a golf event in his name. We were delighted to get involved and the first event took place on August 10th, 2024.

"There was lots of planning and organisation involved and the day itself was very emotional. It was a huge success, with 160 golfers taking part. We also had an iDonate page and held a raffle on the day," she explained.

The 2024 event raised a hugely impressive €30,000 for the charity. Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation Director, Joanne Grehan, spoke at the presentation evening and, that night, Colette vowed to make it an annual event.

The second annual Martin Hughes Golf Memorial took place in August this year, raising a brilliant €9,000 for the cause. "Martin's birthday was August 17th, so I want to continue to hold it in August each year. It's important to all of us that we continue to give something back to Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation, as they were amazing to Martin and I when he was ill.

"The care Martin was given, and the support I received, was absolutely exceptional, and I hope that the money we raised - and will continue to raise - will help other families who find themselves in a similar situation," Colette concluded.

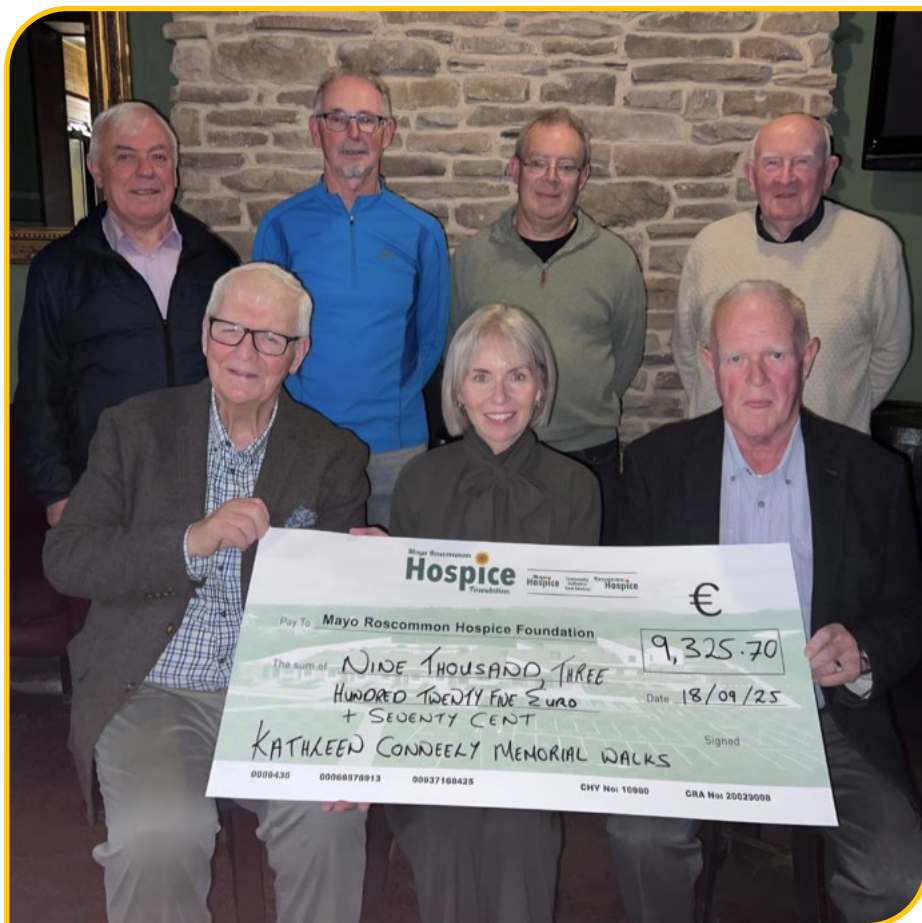
# Island walks raise vital funds

The Kathleen Conneely Annual Clare Island and Inishturk Island Walks made a welcome return again this summer, raising vital funds for Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation.

The Clare Island Walk took place on June 6th, with its Inishturk counterpart taking place on July 5th. As always, the events were expertly organised by Pat Conneely and Joe Brett, and a free shuttle bus service was provided from Castlebar to Westport, as well as a free ferry service to both islands.

This year, the events raised an incredible €9,325.70, bringing the total raised for Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation over the last three years to an amazing €29,040.40.

A special word of thanks must go to the communities on both Clare Island and Inishturk for hosting the walkers and supporting with donations. A big thank you, also, to the ferry and bus companies for providing the free transportation.



The fundraising cheque was presented to Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation Board Director, Joanne Grehan. Pictured were, back row: Bernie Kenny, Michael Gavin, Gerard Gill and Tom Cusack. Front row: Joe Brett, Joanne Grehan and Pat Conneely.





A special word of thanks to the members of the Knockcroghery Hospice Support Group, who recently presented a €8,044.30 cheque to Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation. The money was raised from their recent Coffee Morning held in Culleen Hall. The cheque was presented to CEO Martina Jennings. Pictured at the presentation, left to right: John Naughton, Jackie Doyle, Mary McCormack, Claire Finan, Jean Horan, Martina Jennings, Phil Naughton and Sylvia Kilcline.



We were very thankful to receive a cheque for an incredible €4,780 raised from a recent Coffee Morning, hosted by Frank Brandon in memory of his late wife, Carol. Frank presented the cheque to Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation CEO, Martina Jennings.



Well done to Bernie Cahill who undertook the half marathon in Cork recently, in memory of her good friend Evelyn O'Donnell, who was cared for in the Roscommon Hospice. Bernie raised an incredible €4,000 from the event, for which we are so grateful. Pictured at the cheque presentation are Evelyn's husband Joe O'Donnell, Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation CEO Martina Jennings, Bernie Cahill, and Director of Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation Mike Smith.

# Monthly Draw

WIN  
**€1,000**  
JACKPOT

2nd Prize  
**€500**

3rd Prize  
**€250**

Sign Up Now At [Hospice.ie/draw](http://Hospice.ie/draw) Or Call Instore  
Tel. 094 9388666 Email [draw@hospice.ie](mailto:draw@hospice.ie) Website [www.hospice.ie](http://www.hospice.ie)

Mayo Roscommon  
**Hospice**  
Foundation

Help Support Our  
Hospice for just  
**€10**  
a month



# Christmas gifts and fashion aplenty at local Hospice shops

As Christmas draws ever closer and shopping lists build, you'll be pleasantly surprised to see the wide range of festive fashion, decor and gifts at Hospice shops across Mayo and Roscommon.

Whether you're searching for that perfect Christmas party outfit, looking to pick up some decorations, chasing your festive reading collection, or trying to tick some toys and gifts off your list, then look no further than your local Hospice shop.

With nine stores in Mayo and three in Roscommon, it's easy to shop sustainably this Christmas, and at the same time, lend your support to Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation. Of course, if you're decluttering ahead of Santa's visit, donations are always welcome too.

Take the stress out of Christmas shopping and visit your local Hospice shop today. And remember, with donations arriving every day, it's always worth popping in to check out what is hitting the shelves and rails from week to week.

In Mayo, Hospice shops are located in Ballina, Ballinrobe, Ballyhaunis, Belmullet, Castlebar (two shops, one of which is household), Claremorris, Swinford and Westport. In Roscommon, there are Hospice shops in Boyle, Castlerea and Roscommon.



For more information and contact details for your local Hospice shop, visit [www.hospice.ie/about/hospice-shops/](http://www.hospice.ie/about/hospice-shops/)



Fintan Biggins and members of the Belcarrá Clay Pigeon Shooting Club presented a cheque for €2,000 to Martina Jennings, CEO of Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation – the proceeds from a Shoot in July. Many thanks to Fintan and all members of the Club for thinking of Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation, and to all who donated so generously.



Thank you to the team behind Cunga Parish Magazine who made a recent donation of €600 to Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation. Pictured at the cheque presentation were Gerard O'Malley and Brigid Clesham, presenting the cheque to Martina Jennings, CEO Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation (centre).



Catherine and Ger Farrell recently presented a cheque for €11,000 to Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation. The money was raised from a charity walk held in memory of their beloved sister, Anne, who was cared for in Roscommon Hospice. A big thank you to the Farrell family and all who supported this special walk.



The Stephen Hession Open, Brothers and Sisters Golf Tournament, took place on August 30th at Roscommon Golf Club. This is the second time the event has taken place in memory of Stephen, following his passing at Roscommon Hospice in October 2023. The event raised an incredible €10,000 this year and Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation is so grateful to the family for once again organising this event. A special thank you to Rusty Hession, Stephen's brother, for his part in the organisation of the event and for liaising with the team. The cheque was presented to Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation CEO, Martina Jennings at the Roscommon Hospice Unit. Pictured are Martina Jennings, Stephen's wife, Brona and his brother Andy.

## December date set for annual Memorial Walk and Tree Lighting ceremony

Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation's annual Memorial Walk and Tree of Light ceremony return this year on Sunday, December 7th. Always an afternoon filled with love and warmth, the event gives families and friends an opportunity to come together to remember their loved ones in a very special way.

Taking place in Knock, this year's walk begins at 4pm, and will be followed by the Shine A Light ceremony at 5pm. The Tree Lighting ceremony takes place at the Plaza, across from the Parish Church on Main Street, and the tree will be adorned with thousands of lights illuminating thoughts and memories of loved ones.

All persons, irrespective of age, can participate in the Memorial Walk, and persons aged 18 years and over must register for the event at [hospice.ie](http://hospice.ie). Those under the age of 18 are not required to register for the event, but must be accompanied by a registered adult. Participants can request a sponsorship card or set up a fundraising page on iDonate to support the event.

The Tree Lighting ceremony will take place after the walk, acting as a wonderful celebration where we remember the lives of those we have lost. You can sponsor a light on the tree for €5, and each light



represents a tribute – some in memory of those who have passed, others as messages of hope, love, or gratitude.

This year's Tree Lighting ceremony will feature some wonderful live music and carol singing. There will also be refreshments, with the afternoon bringing together families, friends, and supporters from across the region. It will also include a brief ceremony with clergy and speakers, along with a moment of reflection as the Tree is being lit. The Christmas Tree of Light will remain on display throughout the holiday season, giving people a chance to contribute and visit.

In addition to the Tree, you can Shine a Light in memory of a friend, family member or someone you know, living or deceased, on Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation's online Book of Treasured Memories. You can do this by purchasing one of the charity's special cards, which are now available in all 12 Hospice shops, in pharmacies across Mayo and Roscommon, at Knock Shrine, or online at [hospice.ie](http://hospice.ie). You can also call the Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation office in Knock on 094 93 88 666 or email [info@hospice.ie](mailto:info@hospice.ie) for more information.



**Names of all those being remembered will be held in a special Memory Box.** This will be presented at the annual Ecumenical Service on the third Sunday of January at St John's Rest and Care Centre in Knock, beginning at 3.45pm.

# Music and laughter at Dancing at the Crossroads anniversary event

For the last three years, there has been music, laughter and lots of toe tapping at the regular Friday night 'Dancing at the Crossroads' event in Cong Community Centre.

On Sunday, October 12th this year, to coincide with the celebration of the event's third anniversary, Paddy McTigue and his wife Marilyn hosted a special fundraising dance in aid of Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation.

The fundraising event ran from 2pm until 5pm and there were teas, coffee, and plenty of treats. Dancing got under way at 3pm, with Stuart Moyles providing the entertainment. Not surprisingly, the dance floor was never empty.

Joanne Hynes, Board Member of Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation, dropped by to say hello and thank everyone involved – those who organised the wonderful afternoon, and all who supported the event.

The Dancing at the Crossroads event on October 12th raised an amazing €1,515 and Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation is so grateful to Paddy, Marilyn, their daughter Gillian, and Helen, who made sure that everyone had a great time. Thanks also to Stuart Moyles who very generously provided the entertainment free of charge.



Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation CEO, Martina Jennings, is pictured receiving a cheque for €1,515, the proceeds of the Dancing at the Crossroads event in Cong on October 12th.



## Traditional techniques on show for turf cutting fundraiser

South Roscommon Vintage Club turned back time recently for a special turf cutting demonstration fundraiser for Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation.

€650 was raised through the event, and there were plenty of traditional techniques on display on the day. The organisers used the slane, turf barrow and bogie in the demonstration, and there was even a cupán tae or two to be had.

Thanks to everyone who got involved and played a part in the fundraiser.



Presenting the cheque to Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation were, back row, left to right: Loretta Doran, Sean Tracey, Aidan Kelly, Christy Ward, Johnny Doran, Liam Keogh and David Bookless. Front row, left to right: Kathleen Egan, Jimmy Kenny, Pakie Goode, Shane Hardiman, PJ O'Brien (Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation Support Group, Athlone) and Peter Naughton.





Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation was delighted to receive a cheque for €1,370 from St Brigid's GAA Club in Roscommon recently. The money was raised through the sale of retro club jerseys, spanning from the 1980s, through to the 2000s.

These old jerseys had been rediscovered during a tidy-up of a club storage room, and rather than discard them, it was decided that they should be sold to players, members of the club and the wider community in order to raise money for Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation. Recycling at its very best! The cheque was presented to Martina Jennings, CEO of Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation by Cathal Sweeney (Club PRO) and Alan MacNeice (Club Chairperson).



The 'Hospice Hop' was a music and dance event held in August at Julian's of Midfield, with a raffle on the night.

An incredible €14,654 was raised. The cheque was presented to Kathy Andewartha from the Hospice Office in Knock. Pictured are Kathy Andewartha, Margaret McNulty and Ann Shiel, with Margaret's granddaughters, Lily and Annie McNulty.



Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation was very grateful to receive a cheque for €1,750, raised by Joseph Schuster in memory of his late grandmother Eileen Moran, RIP. The cheque was presented to Josephine Ganley from the Hospice Office Knock at the Mayo Hospice in Castlebar. Back row, left to right: Rita Mullins, Maura Moran, Marie Dunleavy, John Dunleavy, Alex Moran and Lucas Moran. Front row, left to right: Nancy Mitchell, Joseph Shuster, Josephine Ganley and Ailish McDonnell.



Pictured at the cheque presentation were, left to right: James O' Reilly, David Connor, John McAndrew, Michael Murphy, Kathy from Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation Office in Knock, Brendan McAndrew, Damian McGarrigle, Brian O'Malley and Richard Shelley.

## Crossmolina Fire Fighters raise funds for three charities

The Fire Fighters at Crossmolina Fire Station held a Charity Car Wash recently and, in so doing, raised funds for three local charities.

An incredible €4,200 was raised in total, shared between Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation, Cancer Care West, and Aoibheann's Pink Tie. Each charity received €1,400. The Brigade have held this event for over 20 years, and Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation has been a benefactor every year. A huge thank you to everyone involved.

## Lecarrow Family Fun Day raises €750

St John's Lecarrow Vintage Club held a Parish Family Fun Day recently and raised €750 for Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation.

Events included a novelty High Nellie cycle, duck races on the local river, a soccer skills challenge, guess the crushed car competition, as well as face painting and many other activities.

The cheque was presented to PJ O'Brien from the Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation Support Group in Athlone. Pictured at the cheque presentation were, left-right: Paddy Shaughnessy, Brendan Donnelly (Chairperson), PJ O'Brien, John Carney and Tommy Cunningham (Secretary of St John's Lecarrow Vintage Club).

A big thank you to everyone involved in the organisation and support of the event.





## Coffee Morning raises €163,491.82 for Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation

Homes, workplaces and communities across Mayo and Roscommon rallied together once again for the annual National Coffee Morning for Hospice. On Thursday, September 25th, events took place in towns and villages all over the region, with families, friends, neighbours and work colleagues gathering for a cuppa, chats and treats.

As always, the National Coffee Morning provided a wonderful opportunity for supporters of Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation, with Bewley's sending posters, coffee packs and fundraising materials to hosts of large and small events. The annual fundraiser - one of two national events taking place each year - has raised €163,491.82 to date across the two counties. The fundraiser saw so many wonderful occasions in Mayo and Roscommon, and provided an ideal opportunity for people to meet and catch up, while supporting local palliative care services.

True to form, the people of Mayo and Roscommon came out in force, hosting coffee mornings in their homes, schools, workplaces, and community centres. Homemade cakes, pastries, tea and coffee adorned tables and countertops, and there was plenty of fun and chat to keep the cups flowing.

In addition to the regular coffee morning activities, some hosts went a step further this year, organising live music, raffles and other activities to ensure the festivities continued throughout the day. There were also Drive Thru coffee mornings and evenings in both counties, allowing those under time pressure to play their part in the fundraiser.

Of course, as well as the September 25th event, there were many more coffee mornings that took place on other dates in September, and Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation was delighted to lend a helping hand wherever it was needed.

Events like the annual coffee morning prove just how effective community spirit can be when people come together for a good cause. Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation is so grateful to each and every person who organises, attends and fundraises around the annual event.

All funds raised throughout the two counties will directly help to make a real difference in the lives of those who need it most. For those who couldn't attend a coffee event but would still like to contribute, donations are still open. Simply visit [www.hospice.ie](http://www.hospice.ie) to lend your support.



# MAYO ROSCOMMON HOSPICE FOUNDATION National Coffee Morning 2025







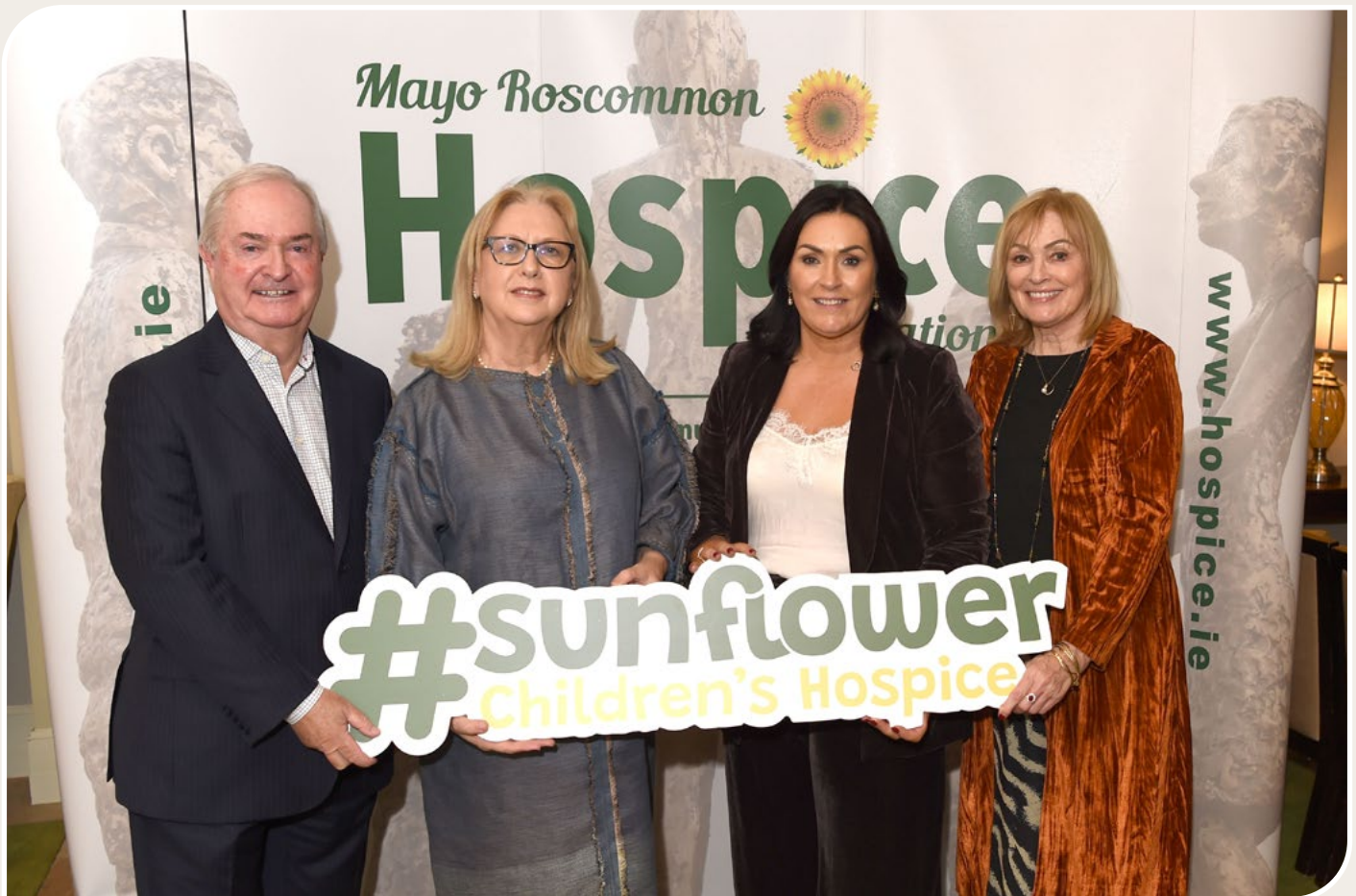








# MAYO ROSCOMMON HOSPICE FOUNDATION Afternoon Tea event in Knockranny House Hotel











Mayo Hospice



Roscommon Hospice

Together We Can Do So Much

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**Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation**

Main Street, Knock, Co. Mayo, Ireland, F12 FX66

Charitable Status No: 10980

CRA: 20029098

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**[www.hospice.ie](http://www.hospice.ie)**