

Islands mead-making event is sweet success

Tribune Reporter

HISTORY was made on Inishturk last Saturday as Ireland's first dedicated mead-making experience took place on the island.

Limited to just ten participants, the unique event attracted guests from Galway, Mayo and Limerick – as well as one visitor from Switzerland – all eager to learn the ancient craft of making mead.

The all-inclusive experience included a honey-themed lunch and a hands-on mead-making workshop led by Dr. Seán O'Connor, founder of the Inishturk Native Bee Sanctuary and Wild Atlantic Mead, one of Ireland's newest mead producers.

During the workshop, participants were introduced to the history and science of mead fermentation before each making their own one-gallon (4.5-litre) batch of mead to take home on the ferry to continue the fermentation process.

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Blessed with glorious sunshine, the event combined education, local food, nature and island hospitality. Following the workshop, many participants took the opportunity to enjoy a sea swim or visit the Inishturk Native Bee Sanctuary.

Seán O'Connor described it as 'a wonderful day with a fantastic team dynamic'.

"Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves, and it was great to see people not only learning an ancient craft but also experiencing everything that makes Inishturk so special," he said.

"After the mead-making, many took advantage of the beautiful weather to go for a swim or visit the bee sanctuary. The response has been overwhelming, and we will definitely make this an annual event."

The event marks another milestone for Inishturk's growing reputation as a destination for sustainable tourism, heritage, and unique visitor experiences.

Tuam man turns his €2 bet into €100k windfall

● Delighted dad says money will help towards college educations

Tribune Reporter

A 53-year-old Galway punter is celebrating a life-changing win after turning a modest €2 bet into a staggering €100,002 payout.

Liam Hawd struck gold after placing a "Pick 5" bet on the Plus 1 draw in the Boyle Sports shop in Tuam last Saturday week, July 4.

While matching just three numbers would have secured a return, Liam's luck was truly in as all five of his chosen numbers - 4, 11, 19, 29 and 30, were drawn.

The incredible result saw his €2 betting slip skyrocket in value, landing him a six-figure payday.

Liam, who works in packaging in Tuam, was understandably delighted with his good fortune.

"I checked the numbers and



Lisa Casey, Regional Manager for Boyle Sports, presents the cheque to Liam Hawd.

said I think I have the five of them!" he said.

"I couldn't believe it. I have three kids and they're going through college, so it'll be money well spent."

"It couldn't have come at a better time," he added.

Speaking about the big win, a spokesperson for Boyle Sports said they took were delighted with the massive windfall.

"Turning €2 into over €100,000 is the stuff of dreams and it truly shows how a small stake can deliver a massive return."

It's a real life-changer for Liam, so we send him our congratulations and hope he enjoys every moment of it."

Celebrations in the region will continue for Boyle Sports, who are set to mark a major milestone by cutting the ribbon on their 400th shop at the Galway Festival of Racing later this month.



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council

GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL

Planning and Development Acts 2000 (as amended)

Planning and Development Regulations 2001(as amended) – Part 8

Pursuant to the requirements of the Planning and Development Acts, 2000 (as amended) and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001(as amended), notice is hereby given that Galway County Council proposes to carry out a development, particulars of which are set out hereunder.

Location	Development
MEELICK, WILLIAMSTOWN, CO. GALWAY	Galway County Council proposes to demolish existing dwelling and to construct 1 no. 2 bedroom dwelling house with tertiary treatment system and infiltration/ treatment area, including all other ancillary site works and services

Galway County Council, as the competent authority, has carried out an Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Report and has determined that a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment is not required in respect of this proposed development.

Plans and particulars of the proposed development, will be available for inspection or purchase at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, during normal office hours (Monday to Friday, 9.00am – 4.00pm), excluding Bank Holidays and Public Holidays for a period of 4 weeks from Monday 20th July 2026 until Tuesday 18th August 2026, at the following offices of Galway County Council:

- Galway County Council, Planning Department, Áras an Chontae, Prospect Hill, Galway, H91 H6KX; and
- Galway County Council, Ballinasloe Area Office, Civic Offices, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway, H53 A7K7

Plans and particulars of the above proposed development are also available for viewing on our online consultation portal at <https://consult.galway.ie>.

Submissions or observations with respect to the proposed development, dealing with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area in which the development would be situated, may be made: Online at <https://planning.localgov.ie/> (LGMA online portal), planning@galwaycoco.ie or in writing to the Senior Planner, Planning Section, Planning Department, Áras an Chontae, Prospect Hill, Galway, H91 H6KX not later than the 1st of September 2026.

Date: 17/07/2026

HOUSING



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Location	Development
COLLEGE RD, BOVINION, MOUNTBELLEW, CO. GALWAY	Galway County Council proposes to make alterations to existing two storey dwelling including 1. the demolition of a front porch/ Lobby, a shed and extension to side and rear extension 2. the construction a new large 2 storey extension to the rear of the dwelling and a new front porch, including all other ancillary site works and services

Galway County Council, as the competent authority, has carried out an Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Report and has determined that a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment is not required in respect of this proposed development.

Plans and particulars of the proposed development, will be available for inspection or purchase at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, during normal office hours (Monday to Friday, 9.00am – 4.00pm), excluding Bank Holidays and Public Holidays for a period of 4 weeks from Monday 20th July 2026 until Tuesday 18th August 2026, at the following offices of Galway County Council:

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