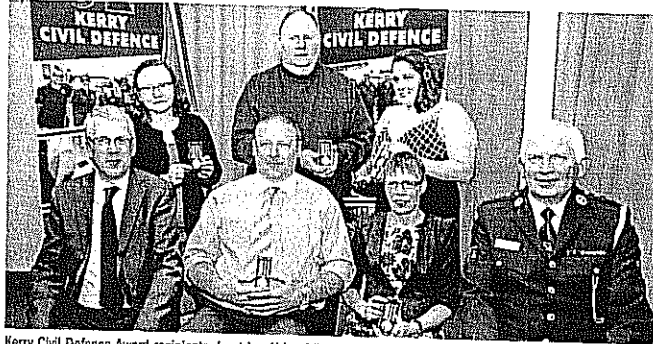


Civil Defence honours 'extraordinary' locals



Kerry Civil Defence Award recipients, front l-r: Aidan Dillon (Civil Defence Headquarters), volunteer Mike Mulvihill (20 years service), Catherine O'Sullivan (20 years service, Kenmare unit) and Tom Brosnan (Civil Defence Officer). Back l-r: Maureen Dineen (20 years service), Finbarr O'Shea (20 years service) and Cornelia Lyne (10 years service).

KERRY CIVIL DEFENCE worked around the clock during the floods in December, and the last few months have been some of the busiest the volunteer service has ever seen, according to Civil Defence officer, Tom Brosnan.

BY SINEAD KELLEHER

This hard work was remembered on Saturday when certificates of appreciation were handed out to 67 members who attended to the flooding emergencies throughout the months of December and January.

"They put in extraordinary effort, sometimes working up to 30 hours without stopping. We were all across the county in Glenflesk, Ballybunion, Killorglin and Tralee.

"It was one of the busiest times I have ever seen. We answered 11 storms," said Mr Brosnan.

"We gave out the certs of appreciation to say thanks to them for all they did."

Saturday also marked the Kerry Civil Defence awards night and social gathering and awards were also given to volunteers for long-time service. Four volunteers received certificates for 20 years of service with the voluntary body.

These included Catherine O'Sullivan and Finbarr O'Shea of Kenmare Civil Defence and Mike Mulvihill (Tralee Civil Defence) and

Maureen Dineen O'Connor (Listowel Civil Defence).

Cornelia Lyne and Ursula O'Sullivan both from Cahersiveen also received certs for 10 years of service with Kerry Civil Defence.

Certificates were also presented to volunteers who undertook a FETAC Level 6 in 4x4 driving skills as well as certificates for first aid.

Since the extraordinary storms that battered the county the Kerry Civil Defence have now further upgraded their resources and strategies for dealing with such weather conditions including the addition of snorkels to the vehicles and also waterproofing the interior.

Kerry Civil Defence have also begun recruiting for new members this year. Currently there are six centres across Kerry in Kenmare, Killarney, Tralee, Listowel, Ventry and Cahersiveen and more than 120 volunteers, including some new recruits.

Recruitment is now taking place for the Killarney Centre with a recruitment night this Thursday, March 24th at 8pm at Killarney Fire Station and will take place for Kenmare later this year.



Pictured at the Kerry Civil Defence Awards night in the Manor West Hotel on Saturday were seated l-r: Nadia Zupkova, Kerry Doyle, Caroline McConnell, Catherine O'Sullivan and Martina Brosnan. Back l-r: Terry O'Sullivan, Violet O'Sullivan, Con Clarke, Maurice Brosnan, Sean Wren, Darragh O'Callaghan, Joyce Acosta, Darragh Lenihan and Finbarr O'Shea.

KILLARNEY OUTLET CENTRE

FREE FAMILY FUN DAY

EASTER SUNDAY

FROM 2PM-5PM

FREE FACE PAINTING

FREE ARTS & CRAFTS WORKSHOP

FREE BALLOON MODELLING

CANDLE MAKING