

16th Annual Co. Roscommon Ploughing Championships & Field Day

Moore to host Ploughing Championships on Sunday

Greene's farm at Earlsparc, Moore, on the old N6 route from Ballinasloe to Athlone, will be the venue for the County Roscommon Ploughing Championships on Sunday next, Easter Sunday, April 4th.

It is the first time in many years that a ploughing event has been organised in Moore and many local people have taken the time to become involved in the event, helping with traffic, parking, site preparations and many other elements of the organisation.

Main attractions on the day will include the ploughing classes, including senior open, three-furrow, under 21 and 28, farmerette, horse, junior, vintage and loy classes.

Chairman of Roscommon Ploughing Association, John Hanley welcomed guests to the launch in The Birchgrove on Wednesday night last and said that the Association was delighted to be in south Roscommon for the event. He said that a good site has been secured on what was the old main road from Ballinasloe to Athlone and thanked the Greene family and also main sponsors of the event, Supermac's, represented at the launch by Una McDonagh. He noted that Supermac's

Vintage event

The site for Sunday's County Roscommon Ploughing event in Moore is right in the middle of the heartland of South Roscommon Vintage Club and the club will be showcased on the day.

Among the attractions in Moore on Sunday will be a working thresher threshing the corn and a tractor drive involving eight vintage clubs.



Jarleth Connolly, Operations Manager of Supermac's, main sponsor of Sunday's County Roscommon Ploughing Championships in Moore, presents a cheque to Roscommon Ploughing Association. Left to right: Willie John Fitzmaurice, PRO Roscommon Ploughing Association, Una McDonagh, Supermac's, Jarleth Connolly, Operations Manager of Supermac's, John Hanley, Chairman, Roscommon Ploughing Association, Tim Foxe, Treasurer, Roscommon Ploughing Association and Mary Conry Candler, Secretary, Roscommon Ploughing Association at the launch of this year's Ploughing Championship which will take place at the farm of Pdraig and Frances Greene, Earlsparc, Ballydangan, Ballinasloe on Easter Sunday, April 4th. Pic: Mick McCormack.

started off in Ballinasloe and so it is fitting that the sponsors have such local connections.

Brendan Shine from nearby Clonown will perform the official opening and Mr. Hanley expressed the hope that weather on the day will be favourable.

Head steward Johnny Gallagher has the job of overseeing the site for the day. He thanked local people for getting involved in the stewarding of the event and also thanked the local residents who gave full co-operation in relation to the event. "With your co-operation we are going to have a day in Earlsparc that is going to be remembered for many years," concluded Mr. Gallagher.

The County Roscommon Ploughing Championships is the biggest local ploughing championships in the country, outside the national event, according to Noel Moran of

the Roscommon Ploughing Association. He said that the county has produced many fine ploughmen over the years, not least Paddy Beirne from Ballinaheglish who took national honours in 1999 and Roscommon competitors have consistently finished in the top ten in national competitions, said Mr. Moran.

He encouraged everyone with an interest in ploughing to take part, and said that competition is not just for farmers or rural dwellers and concluded by looking forward to a great day on Sunday next.

The man responsible for the kitchen garden display at the ploughing event each year is Gerry Browne and he told guests about what's in store at this year's event. A kitchen garden with simple vegetables such as potatoes, cabbage and onions, will be sown and Mr.

Browne noted that given the times we are in, growing your own vegetables is making a comeback. There will also be a loy competition on the day, and Mr. Browne explained that the loy is a one-man tool with no moving parts, ideal for digging up large lawns or golf courses and making them into vegetable gardens!

A craft village will also be on display in Moore on Sunday, with ten different trades, including a potter, weaver, spinner, hazel hurdle maker, copper smith, and Mr. Browne expressed the hope that 92-year-old Dan Moran will be able to be present on the day to demonstrate the beautiful shepherd's crooks he makes. A tree will also be planted on the day in Moore to mark the special occasion and Mr. Browne expressed the hope that it will be there for hundreds of years.

Congratulations and best wishes to County Roscommon Ploughing Association from

Cllr. Paddy Kilduff

Glanduff
Athlone
(086) 2568570



Congratulations and best wishes to County Roscommon Ploughing Association from

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NO SALE
TO-MORROW GOOD FRIDAY

WEANLINGS & SUCKLER COWS
Tuesday March 23rd - 6.00 p.m.
Bookings now being accepted.

SPECIAL SALES
CONT.X. CATTLE
FRIDAY APRIL 16TH - BULLOCKS
FRIDAY APRIL 23RD - HEIFERS

Bookings accepted for Bullocks from 2.00 p.m. on Thursday April 8th and from 2.00 p.m. on Thursday April 15th for Heifers

SHEEP SALES
Each Wednesday - 11.00a .m.

SHEEP SCANNING SERVICE
Each Wed- 9.00 a.m. to 10 a.m.

ROSCOMMON LAMB FESTIVAL
WEDNESDAY APRIL 28TH
****SHOW & SALE OF LAMBS**
****SHEEP BREED SOCIETIES EXHIBITION**
****TRADE STANDS**
*****OLD FAIR DAY ATMOSPHERE**
****OFFICIAL LAUNCH - 12.30 p.m.**
Full details later

ENQUIRIES 090 6626352

Congratulations and best wishes to County Roscommon Ploughing Association from

INDEPENDENT COUNCILLOR
Jimmy Kenny
and family

Cloonbeggane, Ballydangan,
Athlone,
Co. Roscommon
Contact: 086 1935057
cllrjkenny@roscommoncoco.ie



Congratulations and best wishes to County Roscommon Ploughing Association from

Castlerea Co-operative
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TEL: (094) 9620300

MONDAY, WEEKLY: BULLOCKS

**THURSDAY, WEEKLY: HEIFERS,
COWS, CALVES & WEANLINGS**



16th Annual Co. Roscommon Ploughing CHAMPIONSHIPS & FIELD DAY

Sunday 4th April at 12 noon in Earlsparc, Ballydangan,
by kind permission of Pdraig and Frances Green

Official opening & Site Blessing at 2 pm

Tractor, Horse and Vintage Ploughing, Loy Competitions

Special attractions: Model Farm Display, Tug-o-War, Craft Village, Sheep/Dog Trials, Hurley Making, Kitchen/Garden Arts & Crafts, Mobile Pet Farm, Vintage Cars & Tractors, Machines with Threshing, Rose of the Plough, Bouncy Castles & Amusements

TRADITIONAL LOCAL ENTERTAINMENT PROVIDED

Numerous other side shows

----- **ADMISSION €10** -----

