

THE 1906

Randles Hotel

Killarney

Co. Kerry

| WELCOME

Welcome to the latest edition of “The 1906” where we keep our guests & friends updated on the latest happenings here in Randles Hotel, Killarney and the beautiful county of Kerry.

I am often asked why our newsletter is called “The 1906”. Randles Hotel is built around a Victorian House that was built in 1906. It is a building with a rich tapestry and history that we are very proud of. We love the tradition of the house but we also love offering cutting edge service, imaginative décor and modern facilities while remaining true to traditional values of guest care and old fashioned warmth among us all.

There has been a lot happening. Randles Hotel continues to focus on sustainability and are delighted to be a part of Killarney's award winning coffee cup scheme. I am delighted to welcome Shelley Steadman

to our team as General manager to help us continually evolve and improve. Welcome to our new Coffee “blue butterfly” – It is delicious.....

There is lots happening in Killarney. Lots of new Cocktail bars, clothes shops and dining choices. Killarney House continues to bloom and the old favourites like Muckcross House & Ross Castle always delight.

I would like to thank the great team we have in The Hotel, many you will know and some you have to meet. Finally to our guests. Thank you for your support and as I always say “we are only as good as our last guest feels as they say goodbye”

Regards & Thanks for your custom

Tom Randles

| ORIGINAL IRISH HOTELS

Randles Hotel are proud members of Original Irish Hotels, a collection of fifty independently owned properties across the island of Ireland.

From historic castles to chic urban boutiques, each hotel is unique, offering true local character and a warm welcome that assures you that you are not just another room number.



| THE RECTORY

The site of Randles Hotel has been tastefully converted from a Rectory House dating back to 1906. This fine house is a delightful example of a gabled Edwardian mansion which was very much in vogue throughout Britain & Ireland at that time.

Since its construction, The Rectory has been the family home of the rector for The Killarney valley. Until recent times The Rectory was the residence of the very popular Canon Brian Lougheed and his family. Canon Lougheed is a regular visitor to Randles Hotel and is a friend of The Randles family for many years. Canon Lougheed very much approves of the changes that have been made to the house and is glad to see that many of the original features have been retained.

Other Rectors have included Canon Earl, Reverend Fox and Reverend Herbert who is a descendant of The Herbert Family (Cahernane) and lived in The Rectory for over 45 years.

A New Beginning



In 1992 The Randles family purchased The Rectory to convert it to a hotel. From the beginning, the importance of retaining the original features and being sympathetic to the style of the house were paramount to Kay Randles. Items to note are the original stained glass features, The entrance porch, the oriel window to the front and the various external plaster detailing. If you look closely maybe you can see where the original building meets with the new.

Today the hotel offers 75 deluxe bedrooms & Suites, The Court & Checkers Restaurants, Wiggs Cocktail Bar, Club Santé Health Club & Zen Day Spa. The Randles family have been welcoming guests to Kerry for 4 generations since 1921 and look forward to doing so for many years to come.

| MEET THE TEAM



Shelley Steadman

Shelley Steadman brings a wealth of hospitality expertise to her role as General Manager of Randles hotel. Shelley is dedicated to ensuring every visitor's stay is nothing short of extraordinary. Having joined the team in January, her commitment to continuous improvement and attention to detail makes her a natural leader within the team.

Shelley's leadership style is characterized by a strong emphasis on teamwork, and a relentless pursuit of excellence. She believes in fostering a positive work culture where every team member feels valued and inspired to deliver their best each day.



Sean Reen

For anyone who has visited Randles Hotel before, Sean Reen, our Deputy General Manager, will be a familiar face. Sean has previously worked in various roles within the Hotel and we have had the pleasure of having him as part of the team for the last 31 years.

Many of you will know Sean as the life of the party with his charming personality and great sense of humour. A true Kerry man, Sean is always ready to entertain, whether it is with a witty comment, a great story or an all-out standup comedy routine. Sean's magnetic energy and knack for storytelling lights up any room he enters and makes him the ultimate host.



Aziz Wahab

Our Restaurant Manager Aziz has been working at Randles for the last 12 years. Aziz's attention to detail is impeccable, when dining with us you can be sure that your linen napkin will be crisp and white, your silver teapot shiny enough to reflect your own image, and you will always be welcomed with a warm smile. We are lucky to have such a dedicated individual who leads by example and inspires all of his colleagues to deliver the highest standards of service.

When off duty Aziz enjoys fishing and gardening at home. He also enjoys his wife Norma's amazing cooking. Aziz and his family love nothing more than to gather around the table and enjoy a meal.

VISITING COUNTY KERRY

| MARIE'S TOP PICKS



Here are her top picks for things to do in Killarney and along the Kerry Coast;

Have you met Marie Keary, our Guest Relations Manager yet? A native of County Kerry, Marie is always on hand to help our guests with planning their trip to Randles hotel.

KILLARNEY NATIONAL PARK

Take advantage of our bike hire and discover the National Park located just 3 minutes from Randles Hotel.

Cycle to Ross Castle and explore the old mining trail and admire the view from Governors Rock. Enjoy a coffee or an ice cream in Knockreer Cottage when you are finished exploring.

MUCKROSS HOUSE

This nineteenth century Victorian mansion is set against the stunning beauty of Killarney National Park. The house stands close to the shores of Muckross Lake, one of Killarney's three lakes, famed world wide for their splendour and beauty.

While there, step back into the past on Muckross Traditional Farms and visit a very different Ireland – the Ireland of the 1930s and 1940s. Then, a trip to the well was still a daily chore for the housewife and electricity had yet to be introduced to the countryside.

GAP OF DUNLOE TOUR

Hop on board a traditional Pony and Trap Cart for a seven-mile journey to experience the magic of the Gap of Dunloe with its dramatic glaciated valleys and awe-inspiring views.

You are guided through the Lakes of Killarney, passing Innisfallen Island, Bricin Bridge, Colleen Bawn Rock, Torc Mountain, Old Weir Bridge and the Meetings of The Waters.

CARDIAC HILL/TORC MOUNTAIN

There's never a dull moment on any trip up the steps of Cardiac Hill in Killarney. For those not familiar with this trail, it is a not-so-gentle ascent up the slopes of Torc Mountain, just a few kilometres outside of Killarney town. The steep rise up through hundreds of steps brings great rewards to the walker or trail runner with panoramic vistas throughout the trail.

If you need a break en route, you can take your pick of the great views of the Lakes of Killarney, McGillicuddy Reeks and the rest of Killarney National Park.

KILLARNEY RIDING STABLES

Explore the highlands of Kerry with the majestic McGillicuddy Reeks, Ireland's greatest mountain range; ride on country lanes, mountain tracks (on one of the few post-to-post trail rides available in Ireland) through forests, over bogs and on some of the beaches at Waterville and on the magnificent 6.4km (4mils) stretch of golden sand at Rossbeigh.

The Iveragh Peninsula with many places of archaeological and historical interest stretches south west

from Killarney for nearly forty miles and is highlighted by the world renowned Ring of Kerry.

SKELLIG 618 DISTILLERY

Discover how Skellig Six18 is crafted as a premium artisan Irish gin, using wild botanical ingredients local to the region and Skellig Coastline.

Witness the evolution of this Distillery into the new home of our Skellig Six18 Irish whiskey. Learn how our name has been inspired by Skellig Michael, where 6th-century monks cut 618 steps onto the rockface to establish a monastery at the very top.

SKELLIG ISLANDS

It lies out there like a dream in the middle of the Atlantic, this incredible island, and star of Ireland's Wild Atlantic Way. Settled by monks well over a millennium ago, Skellig Michael is a destination that sets your imagination on fire, with an against-the-odds tale of endurance, survival and architectural artistry. If Skellig Michael seems unlikely, that's because it is. No wonder it was chosen as a location for Star Wars: The Force Awakens. Boat trips depart from Portmagee daily.

VALENTIA ISLAND

Disconnect and reconnect with mother nature. Visit our beautiful island, learn about significant places and extraordinary people, step back in time and discover the local history. Get to know the vibrant community on Valentia Island, relax or be active. Enjoy a unique experience!

VALENTIA LIGHTHOUSE AND TRANSATLANTIC CABLE STATION

Explore the 100 years old lightkeeper dwelling house and meet Kittiwake, the lightkeeper avatar, who shares fascinating stories about the previous lightkeepers and their families. Both attractions are interactive complete with avatars and audio.

KERRY CLIFFS

Located just 3km from Portmagee village, the Kerry Cliffs stand at over 1,000 feet high and provide visitors with the nearest viewing point to the famous Skellig Islands and Puffin Island.

Venture out to the wave-lashed cliffs of Kerry Head and explore the remains of two stone forts that once served defensive purposes for this corner of the country. Or admire acres of raw windblown bogland which lies in front of the ruins.

RAINY DAYS

Why not test yourself in Killarney's Escape room or enjoy some indoor fun at The Caddy Shack. Enjoy crazy golf, arcade gaming and pool.



| COCKTAIL TIME

COCKTAILS IN KILLARNEY



We all love our cocktails and Ireland has really upped it's game with some incredible mixologists setting the pace. Killarney is no different with some great options. Our own Wigg's Bar in Randles is a great place to start your night. While always serving the classics as loved by our guests we have some new concoctions such as Lady Kilmore's Spell or Reverend Herbert's Tipple.

SHANE'S RECOMMENDATION

Shane Kelly our Assistant Manager recommends his favourite from our list, the Reverend Fox's Whiskey Sour. Made with Jameson Black Barrel, egg whites, sugar syrup and lemon juice, it is the ideal accompaniment to your dinner in the Conservatory.

There are several other options in Killarney for the perfect cocktail, with two in particular that we love to recommend.

PIG'S LANE

Unusually named, as there was a market selling pigs over 100 years ago, and located on College street, this venue really excels when it comes to cocktails. This subterranean space oozes style and ambience with a drinks menu that is equally impressive masterminded by world champion mixologist Ariel Sanecki.

HILLIARD'S

Another of our favourite spots is Hilliard's on Main Street. This Tapas style restaurant, along with excellent food also offers an extensive and unique Cocktail list full of creativity.

After a great night you can then return to Randles, your Killarney home, and enjoy a whiskey or digestif by the fire.

SUSTAINABLE FOOD & BEVERAGE

| SUSTAINABLE WINES NOW ON THE MENU

This year we are delighted to have added **Organic wines from Italian winemaker Masi to our list.**

Originally hailing from northeastern Italy, the Boscaini family have been producing wine since 1772. Their story begins with their first harvest in the vineyards of “Vajo dei Masi”, a valley in the heart of the Valpolicella Classica region. Two hundred and fifty years later the company is still in family hands, run by the sixth, seventh and eighth generations.

In every phase of the production process, Masi considers it’s social, ethic and environmental values, looking to positively impact the future of both the brand and the earth. With the introduction of practices such as harvesting rainwater for irrigation, using only natural fertilisers and pesticides and cultivation practices that favour biodiversity several Masi wines are now certified as organic.

We have chosen the Fresco di Masi Bianco and Rosso wines as part of our own commitment to sustainability and we hope that you get the chance to enjoy them.



| BLUE BUTTERFLY COFFEE

Randles Hotels are delighted to launch their new partnership with **Blue Butterfly Coffee.** As part of our commitment to using products with a focus on sustainability we have joined forces with the Waterford-based producer to be the first properties in Killarney to offer their sustainable and ethically sourced coffee to our guests.



Set up by Fintan Stanley and Kieran White, Blue Butterfly’s mission is to always treat it’s growers with fairness, and to create the ultimate customer experience from bean to cup. With the blue butterfly being pollinators of coffee plants and being a universal sign of luck and good fortune, Fintan and Kieran decided this would be the ideal name for their new venture.

Blue Butterfly Coffee raw beans are ethically sourced and certified as Rainforest Alliance, with some certified as Organic. Fintan has personally visited many of the countries and farms from which the coffee is sourced to ensure the quality and transparency of the produce Blue Butterfly is buying. A key aim for the company is to build strong relationships with the local producers and farmers and ensure that they are paid a fair price for their product.

Shelley Steadman, General Manager of Randles Hotel said “we are delighted to partner with Blue Butterfly Coffee and work with another Irish based family business who share our ethos on sustainability.”

The coffee chosen for Wigg’s Bar at Randles Hotel is the Lulo blend sourced from Colombia, Brazil and Sumatra. The beans are delivered in a 6kg reusable drums which are collected and refilled, saving on the single use packaging in which coffee beans are usually delivered. With the Hotel also being a member of the Killarney Coffee Cup Project, any take-out coffees are served in re-useable cups making them as eco-friendly as possible.

“Our mission at Blue Butterfly Coffee is to create a product that not only excites coffee lovers with its exquisite taste but also makes a positive impact on the planet,” said Fintan. “We believe that by promoting sustainability in every aspect of our business, we can contribute to a better future for both people and the planet.”

| KILLARNEY COFFEE CUP PROJECT

Randles Hotel is a proud member of the Killarney Coffee Cup Project since it’s launch last year.



The project was born out of a growing concern for the environmental and social impact of single-use coffee cups. With millions of disposable cups ending up as litter or in landfill every year, the need for a sustainable alternative has never been more urgent and the people of Killarney want to protect the local environment and the National Park. It is hoped that the project will save one million single-use cups being disposed of each year and is in operation throughout the town.

For those who wish to explore the area with their favourite cup of “Joe” in-hand you can order a coffee to go in any of the participating outlets. A deposit will be charged at the point of purchase for a 2GoCup and you can return this at any other outlet and get the deposit back. Alternatively, you can keep the cup and use it again and again and again...

KAYNE'S

— BAR & BRASSERIE —
— & OUTDOOR TERRACE —



Delicious Brunch Menu

Served
Saturday & Sundays 11.30am - 3pm

Bottomless Brunch also available for €35 per person -
1 item from the Brunch Menu, Tea / Coffee & unlimited mimosa for 90 minutes

Lunch ~ Dinner ~ Cocktails ~ Catch Ups



Great Food Served Daily

Kayne's Bar & Brasserie / Dromhall Hotel
Muckross Road | Killarney. V93 PY80 | 0646639300

ARTS & CULTURE

| CASITAS BY JOE NEESON

Proudly displayed behind the Reception desk here at Randles Hotel is the sculpture “Casitas” by Joe Neeson. Cast in polyurethane resin and measuring 1.5 metres in length the piece divides opinion in terms of what it depicts. With some of our favourites being an unusual knife to a boat which survived a shark attack, we welcome guests to take a look and let us know what they see.

A native of Killarney, Joe studied at Limerick School

of Art and Design and Crawford School of Art and design between 1992 and 1996, after which he moved to New York where he worked in an Art Foundry in Brooklyn.

Since moving back to Ireland he has been working in the area of Public Arts with the commission of sculpture for Kerry, Cork, May and Kildare County Councils. Joe’s bronze sculpture of a white-tailed sea eagle has been a fixture on Main Street here in Killarney since 2009. For those visiting Dingle, his stainless steel and resin piece “Seaform” can be found on the waterfront.

Joe now resides in Cork City and his studio can be found in the National Sculpture Factory.



CASITAS
BY JOE NEESON



ATLANTIC LIGHT
BY PETER COX

| ATLANTIC LIGHT BY PETER COX

If you have taken the time to relax in our Drawing Room you will no doubt have leafed through Atlantic Light by Peter Cox. The book is a collection of aerial photographs of the Wild Atlantic Way from the Old Head of Kinsale, through our own County Kerry and all the way up to Inishtrahull in County Donegal.

As a qualified pilot, Peter loves the air and combined this with his passion for photography by taking the images

from aeroplanes, helicopters and drones. Each image is taken at a different time of day, showcasing the incredible scenery in many types of light.

Peter currently lives in nearby West Cork and leads photography workshops all over the world, including the Iceland, Greenland, the Faroe Islands and the Antarctic. Some may say he is a cold weather photographer! He loves to teach and pass on his knowledge to other photographers.

Peter’s Gallery is located on Plunkett Street here in Killarney and is well worth a visit.

| KERRY INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Here at Randles Hotel we are delighted to be involved with Kerry International Film Festival when it comes to Killarney every October. We took some time to speak with Marie Linehan, Festival Manager to find out how she became involved and to learn about KIFF’s past, present and future.

Can you give us some information on the background of KIFF and how it came to be?

Kerry International Film Festival was established in 2000. It remained a small regional festival throughout its first few years. In 2007 under new management, it became the fastest growing film festival in Ireland. We celebrate our 25th Anniversary edition this year. It’s a testament to the support we’ve received along the way. This includes the Arts Council of Ireland, Kerry County Council, Screen Ireland, our headline sponsor Kerry airport, our local hospitality partners and a host of businesses and Kerry and beyond. As well as of course our audiences, to whom we honoured to showcase our programmes to.

How did you become involved in the festival?

I have always loved film and am a big KIFF fan! I started working with KIFF in 2021 as a box office and volunteers coordinator. I enjoyed my work so much and I think it must have shown as shortly after, I was promoted to Operations Coordinator and now Festival Manger.



AILEEN & TOM RANGLES WITH AMY HUBERMAN AT A RECENT KIFF EVENT

What do you feel the festival brings to the region?

KIFF is a key event on the Irish events calendar. We seek to continually innovate and to bring the filmmaking community together for workshops and industry days, as well as increasing the connection between Kerry, its people, locations and businesses. We programme films and documentaries that wouldn’t normally be given the opportunity to screen in Kerry. We are passionate about developing the community’s engagement with cultural film.

What is your favourite memory from the festival so far?

I think for me personally, my favourite moments have been working with the KIFF team behind the scenes. It takes a lot of work to bring the festival to fruition and we are so lucky to have the small, but passionate team that we do. I also enjoy seeing young up and coming talented

filmmakers get the recognition that they deserve. Last year we screened “Two for the Road”. The young actor in this film, Ewan Morris, originates from Tralee. The film went on to be nominated for an Oscar this year. It’s such a privilege to have supported the film and to have given people in Kerry the opportunity to view it.

What can we expect from KIFF 2024?

This year you can expect to see a huge amount of talent on the big screen in Killarney. We have something for all ages. In addition we have our fan favourite the Maureen O’Hara awards ceremony which we are very grateful to Randles Hotel for supporting. We are currently in discussions with the recipient of this highly sought after award. Stay tuned to find out who she is!

KIFF celebrates it’s 25th anniversary this year and runs from 17th to 25th October.