

## Young brothers open pen making workshop



Alan Grant of Expert Hardware cuts the tape at the open day at Donegal Pens in Loughanure in the company of Eoin, Ronan, Conor, Marie and Aine Mc Garvey.

# Boys with the ‘write stuff’

DONEGAL Pens brothers Ronan and Conor Mc Garvey celebrated the completion of their new workshop and installation of new equipment with an open day on Saturday.

The brothers received backing of €4,500 euro from the Expert Hardware company who came on board to provide them with new facilities when they were turned down for any grant aid because they are both under eighteen.

Alan Grant, a director of Expert Hardware, that has just under 50 outlets nationwide, heard about their plight before Christmas and offered to fund the new 7 X 4m workshop and a new Record Power Nova Lathe.

Mr Grant was on site yesterday in Loughanure to see the boys working in their new premises and with the new equipment. The workshop is now fully complete and its all systems go for the enterprising brothers.

#### UPDATED WEBSITE

The schoolboys set up Donegal Pens over two years ago and have been going from strength to strength with orders shipping worldwide and many companies now also using the pens as corporate gifts. They have also updated their website [www.donegalpens.com](http://www.donegalpens.com) and the revised version went live on Saturday as well.

Ronan, 15 said he and Conor, 12, are delighted the project is now complete. The new workshop is “just brilliant”. “Everything is in place now and



Mary Logue, Conor Mc Garvey, Sheila Bonner, Maisie Sweeney, Mary Mc Garvey, Dinny Sweeney and Robert Sweeney meet the Expert Hardware man in Loughanure at the Donegal Pens open day on Saturday.

thanks to Alan Grant and all at Expert Hardware we have a brilliant new workshop and equipment. We are also delighted to hear that Expert Hardware has signed up its first outlet in Donegal, Mc Clafferty's Mace & Hardware store in Gortahork. The open day gave people the chance to see us

at work and get a first hand view on how we make the pens,” he said.

Alan Grant of Expert Hardware said: “Ronan and Conor are an inspiration to any young person with a business idea who has the passion and commitment to follow through on their vision. It is great to see such tal-

ent coming through and we as a nation must support, nurture and invest in such talent and not discriminate due to age. Ireland's future is dependent on the youth of today and we at Expert Hardware believe in the Mc Garvey brothers and will give any support we can,” he said.