



# Plenty of secrets behind the doors of a revamped Co Kildare hotel



The handsome façade of Lawlor's Hotel in Naas hides a multimillion-euro refurbishment that mixes high-tech facilities with imaginative reuse of fascinating and extravagant period pieces



**Tina-Marie O'Neill**  
 Property Editor

Just shy of its 110th birthday, Lawlor's Hotel on Poplar Square in the bustling market town of Naas, Co Kildare is a hospitable institution to many.

Its creeper-clad façade, blushed-toned shuttered sash windows,

green copper roof and imposing marble columned entrance cut an undeniable swathe as a handsome landmark in the town.

Yet, behind the scenes of this building, change is afoot. Lawlor's has undergone a multimillion euro refurbishment which



Jack Tierney, owner of Lawlor's Hotel in Naas, Co Kildare

is scheduled to be revealed to the public next month.

A native of Naas, hotelier Jack Tierney has built onto the existing 64-bedroom hotel an enormous extension – invisible from the front – with a further 74 bedrooms.

Inside is a series of antique-filled reception rooms, meeting rooms, a new ballroom, state-of-the-art conference facilities and kitchens to cater for them, bespoke bars, cosy nooks and crannies, outdoor garden spaces and an underground car park with parking for 120 cars.

The protected front façade will remain open, it will now be the rear, secondary entrance to the hotel. Tierney has turned Lawlor's back to front, creating a bright, triple height reception area and lounge at the rear of the hotel, which will now be the main entrance.

Built in 1913 on the town's Main Street,

**Lawlor's Hotel in Naas: inside is a series of antique-filled reception rooms, meeting rooms, a new ballroom, state-of-the-art conference facilities and kitchens to cater for them, bespoke bars, and cosy nooks and crannies**

All pictures: Paul Sherwood

the hotel was owned and run originally as tea rooms by the formidable businesswoman Mrs Brigid Lawlor, who built a catering business servicing the RDS and events such as the Spring Show and Dublin Horse Show as well as the Punchestown Racing Festival, the Curragh Racecourse, (home of the Derby) and the Galway Race Festival.

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