No Landlord Exodus but Still the Same old Eviction Problems

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The livestock may be gone but there's still plenty of green around this home in Blackrock, Co Dublin, writes Edhne Dunne

When Mary and Tom Conway bought their two-bedroom apartment on Avoca Avenue, the thought of sheep grazing in the garden was not even in their heads. It was the first house they had ever owned, and they had already moved out of their front terrace flat in Avoca, so it was not even a case of the grass being greener.

The former owner had put it on the market as a starter home for a young couple, and the Conways felt they had got a bargain. But while the location was perfect, the house itself needed work.

They bought the property for about €175,000 in 2001, and since then they have made many changes, including the addition of a new extension to the back of the house.

Now, with a large garden and a front facing a triangular green, known as the "smallest triangle" after a huge traffic accident there, the Conways have been able to create a little slice of heaven.

They have added a new bedroom and a bathroom, and have renovated the kitchen, which was once used as a stable. They have also created a new living room, which was once a stable, and have added a new bedroom on the first floor.

The Conways have also added a new roof, which was originally made of corrugated iron, and have replaced the windows and doors.

They have also added a new chimney, which had to be installed so that they could use the fireplace in the kitchen.

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