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Tuesday 12th February 2019

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# TOO MANY DATA CENTRES?

## WILL ARKLOW LOSE THEIR 90 JOBS?

The 90 jobs announced for Arklow last week with the proposed building of a data centre are already under threat.

The Arklow planning permission is imminent but the promoter of another data centre in Newtownmountkennedy which has full planning, maintains that there is only sufficient power available in County Wicklow for one data centre. His solicitors, Madigans, have written to Wicklow County council saying that granting permission for the Arklow site would be 'premature' and adding that if permission is granted "Our clients will take whatever steps necessary to protect their position."

Cllr Tom Fortune

speaking to *Wicklow Times* says he is baffled with what is going on with regards to proposed Data Centres in County Wicklow.

"There is planning permission for a Data Centre in Kilpeddar which is a very important project for North Wicklow, this is important to Kilcoole, Newtown, Greystones, Newcastle, Delgany and Bray. This is a shovel ready site, vital for jobs and the spin off for industry and provision of economic power provided by its operation. This permission is in place until 2024.

"There is an application for a second Data Centre in south Wicklow; my understanding is there can be only one as the power cable servicing Wicklow can only service one. So this requires explanation."

Cllr Fortune says that there are a lot of questions that need answering: "People may recall that at the setting of our county development plan a couple of years ago that the county manager's proposal was for this planning (Kilpeddar project) to be de-zoned. At that time I put in a submission that this would not happen. I



Pictured are the Wicklow Montessori Primary School who were recently crowned the 2019 Learnit & DCU FIRST LEGO League Champions: Back row (l-r) School Principal Dara Mulhall, Eve Stokes, William O' Riordain, James Dunne, Benjy Billington, Laura Hammond, school teacher Erica Gallagher; Front row (l-r) Ciarán Walton, Matthew Leonard, JJ Bourke, and Maya Hammond.

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was amazed at the time how difficult it was to have my submission approved.

"Why was the project proposed for de-zoning? I suggest that the IDA have questions to answer.

"It beggars belief that this project would not have been driven by all of the state agencies. Something does not stack up the more you reflect on it."

Cllr Fortune says that a root and branch review must take place, from 2008 to date "It needs to review all meetings regarding the Kilpeddar project, who met who and why and what was the outcome. It needs to review letters and emails. I get a real sense of unfairness about all this but my fear is it may be way beyond unfairness."

Local businessman Paul Kavanagh who describes himself as a committed member of the local business community said "I am more than frustrated to see the Kilpeddar Centre with full planning permission in Newtownmountkennedy having been put through the ring in trying to develop its business here in this town. I personally question the location of a second Data centre in Arklow on the same critical infrastructure of Gas supply and Power supply as that of the Newtownmountkennedy Data Centre. It's my understanding, if the Newtownmountkennedy Data Centre starts first; there is insufficient capacity for both Data Centres to work so there is a big problem."

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Pictured: Tara Murphy, Megan McTiernan, and Mary O'Keefe of the Tinahely Variety Group who featured in their 26th play 'Eclipse', which was held in the Community Hall in Tinahely

### What's Happening...

## Alternative things to do in Wicklow

Victor's Way Indian Sculpture Park, Doody's Bottoms, Tara's Palace Museum of Childhood, K2Alpacas...Can you think of any more unconventional things for tourists and locals to see and do in Co. Wicklow? A new 'alternative' experiences business, Oddball Tours, is looking for your suggestions about local curiosities and unique places of interest. If you have any suggestions, email Jen at [info@oddballtours.com](mailto:info@oddballtours.com) or @oddballtours on twitter.

## Arklow coffee morning

There will be a Coffee Morning in aid of Autism Initiatives on Thursday 21st February from 10am until 12noon in St Saviours Church Hall Coolgreany Rd Arklow. This is a very worthy cause and all support will be very much appreciated. Inquiries to 0860712043.

## Enniskerry Historical Society

The next meeting for the Enniskerry Historical Society will be held on Thursday, February 14th at the Powerscourt Arms Hotel at 8:30pm. The speaker for the lecture will be Ken Finlay, the topic will be Charles Cameron: Saving the City of Dublin. For further information call John Callan at 2867853. Everyone is welcome to come along to this meeting and enjoy the interesting lecture.

## Wicklow town Valentine's dance

There will be a Valentine's Day dance for Wicklow Active Retirement on Sunday, 17th February in De La Salle Pastoral Centre. Entrance fee is €5. It will take place from 3pm-6pm.

## ICA Delgany Guild

The next meeting of the Irish Countrywomen's Association Delgany Guild takes place on Monday 11th February at 8pm in St. Patrick's W&R Centre, Church Road, Greystones.

"Not sure what it means to be an ICA member? ICA women gather together to socialise, gather new skills in crafts including cookery, gardening, sewing, knitting and jewellery making. We also have creative writing, drama, sport, upcycling, and so much more. Regular Theatre outings and other trips are organised to various events locally or around the country, and even around the world! As an ICA member, you not only have access to guild meetings and activities, but you also get great discounts at national businesses. Come along and see us - we're not all about tea and buns but it makes a nice end to a meeting! Contact Mary on 086 365 8878."

## Irish Red Cross recruiting

Irish Red Cross Wicklow Area are currently looking to recruit volunteers for our Units in both Baltinglass and Greystones.

"Our Unit Structure provides Ambulance and First Aid cover throughout the county at various Community, Sporting and other events on a regular basis."

No experience required full training provided. For further details contact Mark O'Keefe - 0879276491 or [ADU.Wicklow@irishredcross.com](mailto:ADU.Wicklow@irishredcross.com).

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# Fundraising trail run to take place in Laragh

Last Monday, children from St. Kevin's National School in Laragh launched their school's annual Trail Run.

This year the Laragh Trail Run takes place on Saturday March 2nd year at 10am. The event is a celebration of the beautiful environment of the Wicklow uplands and promotes Laragh as a mountain village ideal for healthy and active

lifestyles.

The Laragh Trail Run brings together the community and the walkers, runners and visitors who spend time in this scenic part of County Wicklow. The event is open to all and is suitable for all levels of fitness.

Participants can walk or run the hilly 6km or 12km trails which take them on a scenic trail from Brockagh towards Glendalough.

The annual trail run is organised by the Parents' Association of St. Kevin's National School,

Laragh. The objective of the run is to raise funds annually for the school which from 2013 has housed the area Autism unit and provides quality education to a diverse student body. For more information and to register visit Laragh Trail Run on Facebook.



Pictured launching the 2019 Laragh Trail run in aid of St Kevin's School were (left to right) Maya Parsons, Ben Brennan-Farrell, Olivia Muldowney, Anna Muldowney, Oran Finnerty, Áran Segrave-Daly, Daniel Howes and Orla Segrave-Daly.



The annual Purple Heart Appeal for Purple House Cancer Support is taking place at various locations this week. Members of the public can pick up a Purple Heart or Caring Bear locally on Bray Main Street on Wednesday 13th February and also from various shops on Thursday 14th including Tesco Bray, Tesco Express Bray & SuperValu Bray. Funds raised from this year's Appeal will fund the Purple House Play Therapy and Counselling Service for Children living with Cancer. Purple House would like to thank the many schools, businesses and shops who are holding Purple Heart Appeal events during February, as well as many individuals who are holding coffee mornings. Pictured are Grainne and Meidhbhin holding their Purple Heart Day Tea Party.

**WICKLOW**  
**Times**  
is published by  
Wicklow Times, 5 Eglinton Road, Bray.  
Tel: 01-2869111

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# PLANNED STRIKE AT SHS CALLED OFF

**Hundreds of workers in Wicklow-based Sunbeam House Services are to get improved pay following significant movement in talks between the HSE, Fórsa and the Wicklow-based intellectual disability service provider.**

The union's Wicklow Health & Welfare branch confirmed last Thursday that a one-day strike scheduled for the following day was postponed on foot of the breakthrough.

The long-running dispute centred on the HSE's refusal to provide Sunbeam with funds to restore pay lost when increments were suspended between January 2009 and January 2016. But the union has now received a formal proposal, which will see staff moved to the correct point of their pay scale from 1st May this year.

Last year, an overwhelming majority (87%) of Fórsa members in the organisation backed industrial action, after face-to-face discussions and a number of conciliation sessions in the Workplace Relations Commission (WRC) and its predecessor, the Labour Relations Commission (LRC), failed to result in agreement to restore income lost during the recession.

A strike planned for last March was suspended after the HSE - Sunbeam's main funder - said it would validate the costs involved and allocate appropriate funding. That validation process was completed last June.

"But the HSE did not follow through," Forsa stated, "even though Sunbeam House management accepted that restoration was due, and had carried the liability in its accounts since incomes were cut in 2009."

Fórsa official Ryan McKinney said the staff's determination, and the prospect of further industrial action in future, had resulted in a clear agreement to restore lost pay. "This is a huge relief for staff, particularly because their very strong commitment to service users meant it was never going to be easy for them to take industrial action," he said.

Union members were invited to meetings in Arklow and Bray last Thursday to discuss the proposal in details.

Sunbeam House provides a range of supports, including residential places, to adults with intellectual disabilities at various locations in county Wicklow and south county Dublin.



*Pictured: Claire Duffy from Wicklow is celebrating after her daughters' friendship, portrayed through a photograph of the two, won the title of 'Ireland's Greatest Friendship' in a competition run by Fisherman's Friend Ireland. Claire's photo of daughters Neala, aged 4 and Anna, 3, was named as the winner and was presented with her prize of a DSLR-style Sony A6000 camera at an awards ceremony and exhibition of finalists' photos which took place onboard a former tender ship, the MV Cill Airne, Dublin. Following a nationwide search by Fisherman's Friend for Ireland's Greatest Friendship, individuals from across Ireland were encouraged to share photos that captured their friendships and provide a short description of what their relationship means to them. Out of hundreds of entries, Claire's photo was selected as the winner after her entry showing the friendship of two sisters captured the hearts of the judges.*

## Concerns over staffing levels in Bray Fire Service

**Cllr Joe Behan has raised concerns regarding understaffing in Bray Fire Service. Speaking at last week's meeting of Wicklow County Council, Cllr Behan said he had been made aware that crews from Greystones had assisted Bray Fire Service in responding to recent calls as not enough personnel had been available in Bray.**

"I have received very disturbing information that the service in Bray could not muster up full crews," said Cllr Behan. "We know the history of Bray in terms of fire

tragedies and this is very serious," he added.

Cllr Behan also asked for confirmation of and an explanation for the transfer of the hydraulic lift from Bray to Wicklow

Fire Station.

Responding, Chief Executive of Wicklow County Council, Frank Curran, said that the reduced staff levels in Bray were a result of sick

leave and retirements. Mr Curran said that Bray remained "completely covered" by units from elsewhere.

"People are out sick, people retire, this can hap-

pen in any workplace," he said. "Recruiting is happening now and two or three additional crew members are to be trained up soon."

Director of Services Michael Guiney said that the hydraulic lift was moved from Bray to Wicklow to "maximise its benefit".

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# 'STUPID CRAZY PEOPLE'

There were chaotic scenes over the weekend of 2nd-3rd February as hordes of 'snow tourists', wanting to take in the scenery or go tobogganing, descended on the Wicklow Mountains and upland areas and became stranded, putting a strain on the resources of mountain rescue teams.



The Dublin-Wicklow Mountain Rescue Team comes to the aid of a motorist in the Wicklow Mountains.



'Snow tourists descent on the Wicklow Uplands'

Over that weekend, Dublin & Wicklow Mountain Rescue Team and Glen of Imaal Mountain Rescue Team were tasked twice to rescue people from upland roads. On the afternoon of Wednesday, January 20th, and very early on Saturday morning, February 2nd

"Thankfully, nobody was injured in either incident," the Dublin Wicklow Mountain Rescue Team (DWMRT) told *Wicklow Times*, "but the people involved were very cold, and at risk of hypothermia. On both weekend days our team members also observed driving on the Sally Gap which can only be described as unnecessarily risky."

One local resident said 'The stupid crazy people are back' describing the snow tourists.

Aside from the normal dangers associated with road traffic collisions, getting stuck on a mountain road in winter brings added complications. Wind chill can easily drive temperatures well below zero, making it difficult to stay warm, and bringing the risk of hypothermia. Icy surfaces bring a risk of sprains and fractures, complicated by difficult access for emergency services. Mountain rescue teams will rescue people where there is a risk to their safety, but are not equipped to recover vehicles.

Advising people on how and where to drive in such conditions, DWMRT said "Upland roads in Wicklow can

present some challenges when winter arrives. The R115 and R759 that cross the Sally Gap typically present the most difficulty. Much of these roads are above 400m altitude and they are not part of the current Wicklow County Council road gritting plan. When temperatures drop, these roads, in particular, tend to become unsafe for driving. Both roads are popular throughout the year, with beautiful views drawing many people to them.

"If you must drive in winter conditions, there are some things that will help avoid problems. Planning your journey is essential. Firstly, do you really have to drive a particular route? Have you looked for information about the route you intend to use? How will you get there, and back, safely? Is there another route where road conditions are better? Consider who you are travelling with. Are you bringing children or people

with reduced mobility? Do you have a plan to keep them safe if you run into trouble? If conditions are too difficult, turn around and find another route. Winter tyres, snow chains, and a snow shovel should be considered necessities. In addition, carrying some extra clothing layers and suitable footwear, a sleeping bag, extra food and water, and a fully charged mobile phone will be very useful if you do get stuck somewhere.

"In Ireland, mountain rescue is a 24-hour voluntary service. All of our volunteers have a love of the outdoors, and understand the desire to spend time there. All we ask is that people respect our volunteers' safety by not taking unnecessary risks with theirs. If you find yourself in need of help in the mountains, call 999 or 112, ask for the Garda', and tell them that you need mountain rescue."

## Green Party's Bill 'of particular interest to Wicklow'

Green Party Councillor Steven Matthews says the Party's new bill aims to cut the impact of cancer-causing radon gas and improve rental housing standards.

Last week the Green Party launched their Healthy Homes Bill which will require landlords to test their property for radon gas and to take action if the deadly gas is

found.

At present more people die every year from lung cancer associated with radon gas than do from road traffic collisions.

Testing for the gas costs

less than €50 and dealing with it costs less than an average month's rent (<€1,000).

"This Bill is a simple, cheap and effective way of reducing people's expo-

sure to this odourless, invisible, dangerous gas.

"Exposure to radon causes lung cancer and is blamed for around 250 deaths in Ireland every year. The Bill also

requires the Government to introduce regulations to require a minimum energy standard in rented homes, which is to be phased in over time."

Councillor Matthews added, "This Bill is of particular interest for Wicklow as parts of our county have been assessed by the EPA as being high risk. Radon is a known carcinogen in the same category as tobacco and asbestos, it is colourless and odourless and the only way to detect it is by monitoring a building for a 3 month period. We take simple steps in our homes to detect smoke and Carbon Monoxide and we should do the same with Radon."

Eamon Ryan TD, Green Party Leader, added, "Everyone agrees we need to upgrade our housing stock to protect people's health, save on fuel bills and reduce greenhouse gas emissions."

"Putting a minimum standard on rental properties is important because, unlike owner-occupied houses, the landlord doesn't directly benefit from improving the energy efficiency of the house. Such standards have recently been introduced in the UK. We must ensure that the transition to a low carbon housing stock includes everyone, including tenants. While this will reduce our emissions and save people money, its biggest impact will be to improve public health and reduce the burden of disease caused by poorly insulated houses and apartments."

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Wicklow County Council Environmental Awareness Officer Jim Callery with Sandra Hall from Arklow Tidy Towns at the Wicklow County Council annual Tidy Town, Estates and Environmental Awards held in County Buildings, Wicklow Town. Arklow won the landscaping award for works to renovate the Ormonde Castle, the bandstand and Main Street car park and their work to develop the River Walk



# THMs IN THE WATER

Elevated levels of THMs (trihalomethanes) in Wicklow's water has seen a number of water supplies added to the Environmental Protection Agency's Remedial Action List (RAL). THMs are a chemical compound that forms when added chlorine in the water reacts with natural organic matter. Irish Water is actively working to solve the issue.

The Kiltegan Public Water Supply, which is currently subject to a Do Not Consume Notice due to elevated nitrate levels, has been added to the RAL.

A plan has been put in place to drill a new borehole to provide a new water source that will resolve this issue permanently, Irish Water said. This is scheduled to be completed early this year.

The RAL is a list of all the public water supplies that are in need of investment and have an approved action plan. With the exception of customers on the Kiltegan Water Supply Scheme, it is safe to consume water from all other supplies in Wicklow which are on the RAL, Irish Water said.

Irish Water is working in partnership with Wicklow County Council to address the issues affecting water supplies, which will help to facilitate the removal of these water supplies from the RAL, subject to approval of the EPA.

There are a further eight Drinking Water Supplies on the RAL in County Wicklow.

The Aughrim/Annacurra public water supply is on the EPA's Remedial Action List due to a risk of THMs in the drinking water supply. To address this, Irish Water is investigating the potential to introduce a new groundwater source as well as installing new treatment at the Aughrim water plant. These works are expected to be completed by the end of 2021.

The Avoca and Ballinlash public water supply scheme is also on the EPA's Remedial Action List due to a risk of THMs. To address this, Irish Water are upgrading the Avoca

water treatment plant. These works are scheduled to be completed by mid-2019.

The following six supplies which are all fed off the Vartry Water Treatment Plant are on the EPA's Remedial Action List due to a risk of THMs; Enniskerry public supply; Wicklow Regional public supply; Bray; Greystones (which includes Windgates & Templecarrig); Kilmacanogue and Newtown Newcastle (which includes Kilcoole).

In order to address the THM risk, Irish Water is making an investment in the Vartry Water Supply Scheme. A new 4km pipeline, replacing the Callowhill Tunnel, has been completed. Works to upgrade the water treatment plant on the site are currently underway. This is expected to be completed by early 2021.

Speaking about the RAL and the ongoing work in Wicklow, Andrew Boylan, Regional Compliance Specialist for the Eastern and Midlands Region with Irish Water said, "Whilst improvements have been made, the scale of the challenge faced by Irish Water in ensuring the delivery of clean and wholesome water to the people of County Wicklow and indeed throughout the country remains. As a single national utility Irish Water has been able to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the performance of Ireland's drinking water treatment plants and focus investment where the risk to our customers is highest. Nationally, Irish Water has adopted a prioritised programme of works which will require an investment of €2 billion by 2021.



CEO of Wicklow County Council Frank Curran and Environmental Awareness Officer Jim Callery and Cllr Gerry O'Neil are pictured with Barry Kilroy, Eamon Kelly, Jason Mulhall and Frank Corcoran from Blessington, at the Wicklow County Council annual Tidy Town, Estates and Environmental Awards held in County Buildings, Wicklow Town.

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Pictured: Julie O'Keefe, Carol Dixon, Veronica McDermott, Padraig O'Shea, Eddie McGlynn, Rosemarie Kelly, Sandra Maher, Molly McDermott and Jennifer McTiernan - the crew of the of the Tinahely Variety Group at their 26th play 'Eclipse', which was held in the Community Hall in Tinahely

## Victorian shelters on Bray Seafront to be restored

Speaking after last week's Bray Municipal District meeting Cllr Steven Matthews (Green Party) said that he is delighted that the Council have agreed to carry out one of his objectives and provide funding to refurbish the two derelict Victorian Seafront shelters. The shelters have been closed to public use for many years due to being structurally unsafe. There has been little or no maintenance carried out for years and the iron and timber work is in extremely poor condition.

Councillor Matthews said, "It is a very poor reflection on how we value our architectural heritage that the council has let these ornate structures fall in to a ruinous state. We have recently refurbished and painted the Seafront railings and installed the new seat backs to a very high standard and are in the process of carrying out extensive repairs to the bandstand so it would make sense to apply the same treatment to the

shelters. I closely inspected them last year and it is terrible to see the decorative wrought iron badly



rustled through in many places. The roof claddings are out of character and not original and

much of the timber work is rotten. "I would love to see these shelters restored to their former glory and I know many people in Bray share that desire. They are part of our history and our heritage and should be maintained to provide an attractive public amenity for both locals and visitors to enjoy.

"It has always been one of my objectives and I've been working continuously for many years to

improve our Seafront for public recreation and enjoyment and securing this funding is another step forward with that objective. Another welcome addition to our Seafront is that the completion of the cycle lane and the creation of a civic plaza in the area of the Sealife building was also agreed at our meeting. The majority of the funding will come from the NTA and this will finally complete the missing link in that

improve our Seafront for public recreation and enjoyment and securing this funding is another step forward with that objective. Another welcome addition to our Seafront is that the completion of the cycle lane and the creation of a civic plaza in the area of the Sealife building was also agreed at our meeting. The majority of the funding will come from the NTA and this will finally complete the missing link in that



Cllr. Steven Matthews

cycleway, improve road safety, re organise and manage the chaotic parking situation that currently exists there and offer a beautifully designed public recreation plaza for that part of the Seafront. The vote to proceed with the plan was close, passing by 4 votes to 3, however the public submissions received were broadly welcoming and positive on the proposal.

"There will be no restrictions to car movements through the area once it is completed," concluded Cllr Matthews.

## COUNCIL TO 'MOVE INTO THE 21ST CENTURY'

Councillors last week voted through plans for refurbishment and upgrade works on the Council chamber and foyer, though the decision was far from unanimous with a third of councillors present voting against it.

The County Council's meeting room is to be extended and the seating layout changed to a tiered 'amphitheatre' style with three rows of seating, facing the council officials and chief executive, while the foyer is to be modified with an interactive touchscreen for the public to improve customer service. Upgrade works to the council chamber will also include more seating in the public gallery, more seating for council officials, roof repairs, and enhanced audio-visual technology.

The total cost of the two combined projects will be €875,000, which is €125,000 less than it was originally expected to cost when Councillors were made aware of the plans late last year. Chief Executive Frank Curran says the works will be paid off over 9 to 10 years from the Council's annual allocation for building upgrades, and will have no impact on the Council's current

account.

Though councillors were in agreement that upgrade works to the foyer and customer services were much needed, some were unhappy to proceed with the plans for the chamber refurbishment. Cllr Joe Behan put forward a motion, which was defeated, asking that the two projects be separated; that the foyer upgrade proceed while the chamber works are put off until a better redesign option could be figured out.

Unhappy with the tiered seating arrangement, Cllr Behan called for "a new plan, with everyone equal around a circular table. I'm surprised there won't be hassocks, (a thick cushion used for kneeling on in a Christian church) so we can kneel down when we address the Chief Executive."

Cllr Jennifer Whitmore agreed that "the foyer needs to be upgraded, but I cannot see the added value with

the changes proposed for the chamber. Councillors in the front row won't be able to see two-thirds of the other councillors."

Chief Executive Frank Curran said that options had been explored and for space reasons it would not be possible to have a round table which could accommodate all 32 councillors.

Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council, Pat Vance, said "a modern organisation should have a modern chamber. This chamber is not fit for purpose. If the job is put off, it will cost more; it's good business to get it all done in one contract."

Supporting the chamber and foyer refurbishments, Cllr John Ryan said "It's essential that we get our act together and do this. Design goes hand in hand with productivity and this is not an inspiring workplace. This will move us forward into the 21st century."

## Almost €10m in funding to repair regional and local roads

Co Wicklow is to receive just under €10 million in funding to assist the repair of regional and local roads in Wicklow.

This allocation will fund the following targeted road improvement schemes in Co Wicklow: Bridge Rehabilitation; Safety Improvement Works; Specific Imp. Grants; Training Grants; Drainage Works; Restoration Improvement; Restoration Maintenance; Supplementary Restoration Maintenance; Discretionary Grant.

There is €70,000 allocated for the R755 Calary Road Realignment and €249,500 for Bridge Rehabilitation Works on Regional and Local Roads including Knocksink Bridge, Enniskerry, Beechdale Bridge, Kilcoole and 10 others. €315,000 has been allocated for Safety Improvement Works on Regional and Local Roads including Killincarrig Safety Improvements, the Dunbur Road Wicklow, the Florence Road & Adelaide Road Junction, Bray and 10 others.

Minister Simon Harris said: "I welcome the additional funding support of €9,910,890 to assist Wicklow County Council in progressing repairs to regional and local roads. 2019 will see a further significant increase in grant funding for regional and local roads, which I'm delighted to see. I know this funding will greatly assist in the repairs and ensure our road network in Wicklow is of the highest standard. These grants are to supplement Wicklow County Council's own resources and expenditure on regional and local road and are just part of the total investment in regional and local roads for this year."

Minister Andrew Doyle said "I warmly welcome the additional funding support of €9,276,390 to assist Wicklow County Council in progressing repairs to regional and local roads. 2019 will see a further significant increase in grant funding for regional and local roads, which I'm delighted to see.

"Recent extreme weather events have had a major impact on the regional and local road network and this funding will see essential maintenance and improvements carried out. These events, combined with the extended period of reduced funding for road maintenance following the economic downturn, have left the road network much more vulnerable to damage."



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# WICKLOW CHILDREN LEFT WAITING FOR DENTAL TREATMENT

Fianna Fáil's health spokesperson Stephen Donnelly said he is "shocked" by figures released to him showing the waiting lists for dental treatments.

The figures were released to Deputy Donnelly following a parliamentary question he submitted asking for the number of persons in each Community Healthcare Organisation waiting for an oral health appointment in primary care.

"In Community Health area 7 (CHO 7), which includes West Wicklow, there are 6,167 fourth class children waiting for assessment. By the time the figures were published many had been waiting for up to a year and it was expected that they would not be seen," said Deputy Donnelly.

Community Healthcare East (CHO 6), meanwhile, manages the Orthodontic Units in both CHO 6 based at St Columcille's Hospital in Loughlinstown and at St James Hospital in CHO 7.

The orthodontic waiting list patient numbers are provided under the client categories Grade 5 and Grade 4 respec-

tively. This data is collected quarterly and not available in a weekly format.

According to the figures, the Community Healthcare East waiting



Stephen Donnelly, TD

list in St Columcille's Hospital is as follows; 170 Grade 5 patients (the most serious category) have been waiting 52 weeks or less; 181 Grade 5 patients waiting more than 52 weeks for orthodontic treatment; 120 Grade 4 patients (the second most serious category)

have been waiting 52 weeks or less, and 346 Grade 4 patients waiting more than 52 weeks for orthodontic treatment.

"It's emerged that the longest delays are mainly in the South East of the country," continued Deputy Donnelly. "It's important to understand the knock-on effect that delays like these are causing. I met with the Head of the Irish Dental Association, Fintan Hourihan, just before Christmas. He explained that children who sometimes visit the dentist with very minor problems are left waiting so long that their treatment becomes critical. They're suffering through pain and infections that could easily be avoided with earlier intervention. In some cases children are missing days from school, being put on repeated courses of antibiotics and requiring surgery because the problem has been allowed get so bad. Official statistics

show that around 7,000 children are sent to hospital each year to have a tooth removed under general anaesthetic. We've also discovered that in some areas, when children miss their assessments, they are simply taken off the waiting list.

"So what's going wrong? The main issue is a staffing shortage. The Irish Dental Association recommends that children should be assessed three times during their primary education. The HSE claims it targets pupils in first, second and sixth class. But we now know there just aren't enough dentists and oral hygienists to visit our schools. Some children are seen once, others never get an appointment. Many parents are opting for private treatment to escape the public system, however for lots of families this isn't an option and they shouldn't be forced to feel it is."

## Council issues second warning letter regarding public access to Arklow's North beach

Wicklow County Council has issued a second warning letter in relation to the blocking of public access by a landowner to the North beach in Arklow.

Speaking after the second warning letter was issued, John Brady TD said "I have been working with local residents for a considerable time now. This is a fantastic local amenity that has been used by generations of Arklow people.

"I welcome the decision by the council to issue the second warning letter this week; a previous letter had been issued last June. The warning letter states that the named individuals have four weeks to respond to the alleged unauthorised development which has seen a fence being erected and locking of a gate to restrict public access to the local North beach.

"In the letter the planning authority states that they are satisfied that the fence that has been erected along the southern boundary is not exempted development, as it is enclosing land that has been used by the public for recreational purposes or a means to access the seashore during the 10 years preceding."

Deputy Brady continued "The protection of our public right of ways are very important and any attempts to restrict or curtail those rights has to be opposed. The right of ways to the North Beach and Porters Rock/Seabank areas in Arklow date as far back as 1896.

"This is the second warning letter that has been issued; if no response or an unsatisfactory response is forthcoming the council must issue an enforcement notice and legal action if necessary."

Local Sinn Féin councillor Mary McDonald said "I have worked closely with local residents on this issue now for over a year now and have raised it consistently at meetings of the Municipal District where unfortunately it had seemed to fall on deaf ears.

"I welcome this second warning letter that has now been issued by the council and I will continue to work on this issue until the public have unrestricted access along the well established right of ways to our beautiful beaches."



Pictured: Eoin Coogan and Michael O'Toole of the Rathdangan Drama Group during rehearsals for their forthcoming play 'Try Anything Twice', which will start on Friday 22nd February in the Community Hall in Rathdangan.

## Winter Plan slammed as 'hype and spin' as no new beds open in St. Columcille's

None of the eight additional beds due to open in St. Columcille's Hospital under the Government's Winter Plan have opened, leading John Brady TD to label the plan "hype and spin".

Deputy Brady said "The more facts we find out about the Winter Plan the more it is exposed as an exercise in hype and spin. Many health service workers and medical professionals were in contact to inform me that the reason the numbers were down in the early days of the winter period was because the flu season hadn't hit yet, elective surgeries had been cancelled and that the public health system had purchased the use of additional beds from private hospitals.

"The central pillar of the Minister's plan was to be the opening of beds. Now we have the revelation that only half of the new hospital beds promised for winter are still not open. Not one of the eight planned additional beds in St. Columcille's has opened.

"Out of a total of 75 planned bed openings under the Winter Plan, just 40 have been opened, despite trolley numbers being well above 500 on a daily basis. Hospitals in Waterford, Letterkenny, Tullamore, Dublin, Cork and Galway have yet to open any of the new beds that were promised as part of the Winter Plan.

"While additional beds are to be welcomed, 40 beds would only equate to removing around 7% of the patients which were on trolleys on Monday of this week in our hospitals. In the last decade there has been a decrease of over 1,100 beds in our hospitals,

mainly due to a lack of nurses and doctors to staff them. These beds need to be identified and additional staff need to be recruited in order for the beds to be re-opened.

"However, unless this government addresses the recruitment and retention crisis affecting our nurses and doctors, these beds won't be opened. Fine Gael have the power to

tackle these issues, however, after eight years in charge of health, it is apparent they haven't the appetite, the intelligence, or the capabilities to do so."



**WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL**  
COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CHILL MHANTÁIN

**WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL**  
COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CILL MHANTÁIN  
SECTION 75 - ROADS ACT, 1993

### PROVISION FOR TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF PUBLIC ROAD

Wicklow County Council hereby gives notice that it proposes the temporary closure of the following public roads from 2.00 pm until 4.00 pm on 17th March, 2019, to facilitate the Bray St. Patrick's Day Parade.

### ROADS TO BE CLOSED

Strand Road, Bray from the DART Station to the Boathouse Coffee Dock on Bray Seafront.

To include the junctions of:

Seapoint Road and Strand Road  
Seapoint Road and Seymour Road  
Quinsboro Road and Strand Road  
Albert Avenue and Strand Road  
Sidmonton Avenue and Strand Road  
Victoria Avenue and Strand Road  
Convent Avenue and Strand Road  
Putland Road and Strand Road  
Vevay Road and Church Road and  
Killarney Road and King Edward Road

The parade route is from the Town Hall, Vevay Road, Bray (opposite St Patrick's School) proceeding down Main Street, turning right onto Quinsboro Road, turning left onto Seymour Road, right onto Seapoint Road and concludes on the Strand Road. Traffic management will be in place during the passing of the parade.

Any person wishing to object to the proposed road closure must lodge their objection in writing with the undersigned not later than 12 noon on 25th February, 2019.

David Forde, District Administrator, Bray Municipal District,  
Civic Offices, Main Street, Bray, Co. Wicklow.  
Email: braymd@wicklowcoco.ie





Pictured: Sinn Féin leader Mary Lou McDonald with Abbie O'Loughlin at the Parochial Hall in Wicklow Town.

## Mary Lou McDonald meets with Wicklow organisations

Sinn Féin leader Mary Lou McDonald met with a number of groups and organisations across the Co. Wicklow last Monday and the day finished with a public meeting in the Assembly Hall in Wicklow Town.

Speaking after the visit, Sinn Féin TD John Brady said "We were delighted to welcome Mary Lou to the Garden County on Monday. It was a very successful visit and she met with many groups across the County.

"We started off by dropping into the National Learning Network in Bray, and

then we went to visit the fantastic Lakers Social & Recreational Club in their new temporary accommodation in the old St Andrews school. We then went to Greystones to meet with the staff in the Greystones Family Resource Centre.

"We then popped in to say hello to everyone in Wicklow Travellers

Group and Shuttle knit in Wicklow Town to see the ongoing excellent work that they are engaged in. From there it was to meet with Arklow Tidy Towns and members of the Arklow group campaigning to keep the North Beach open. We had a very engaging meeting with the General Secretary of Mandate

trade union, John Douglas and shop stewards from across Wicklow.

"We finished off a hugely successful day with a packed public meeting in Wicklow Town. I would like to thank all the groups that we met and making it a very successful day."

# FEW CANDIDATES FOR WICKLOW DISTRICT LOCAL ELECTION

It seems that voters in the Wicklow Municipal District will have a comparatively small field of candidates to choose from for the upcoming local elections, with only nine candidates running for six seats as of this week. It is expected that some further announcements will be made in the coming weeks, but with just over three months until polling day, any new names will have some ground to make up.

One face that we won't see on posters this time round is that of Councillor Daire Nolan, who announced last year that he would not be contesting this election. However there are two new Independent candidates; interestingly both have left parties to run as Independents. One is sitting councillor John Snell, formerly of Sinn Féin who chose not to

newly formed Aontu. Anna Doyle, former People Before Profit rep has left the party due to 'health reasons and a new perspective on life' and will run as an Independent. Sitting Independent Mary Kavanagh, who was co-opted into the seat after the untimely death of her sister Pat Kavanagh, has not yet declared her intentions. Fine Gael's two sitting councillors Irene Winters and Shay

Cullen will look to run again, with the possibility of a third candidate as well. Their selection convention takes place later this month on February 24th.

Fianna Fail has already declared their selection, first time candidate Anne Gregory and sitting councillor Gail Dunne.

Sinn Féin is running first time candidate Muireann Dalton, hoping they can regain the seat lost to them when

John Snell left the party.

Labour too must be hoping to once again take a seat around the table. Paul O'Brien takes on the challenge for them, unscathed by his defeat in the local elections of 2014.

Historically a number of Independents have thrown their hats in the ring in the weeks before the local elections so Wicklow's polling card could as much as double before voting day.

## Government defeat on JobPath motion a 'significant milestone for job activation in this State'

Sinn Féin spokesperson for Employment Affairs & Social Protection John Brady TD has welcomed the passing of his motion which seeks to immediately end all referrals to the discredited JobPath scheme in the Dáil last Thursday afternoon.

Deputy Brady said that the Government must act immediately on the will of the Dáil and their defeat today on the Sinn Féin motion. Speaking last Thursday, Deputy Brady said "The JobPath scheme that was rolled out by two private companies Turas Nua and Seetec in 2015 on behalf of the then Fine Gael, Labour Government has failed.

"It has cost the taxpayer millions and it has caused untold damage to existing community based schemes, including the Adult Guidance Service, the Local Employment Service, Community Employment and Job Clubs.

"Today the majority of the Dáil voted in support of the Sinn Féin motion to immediately stop referrals to Jobpath and to invest in schemes that work." Schemes such as Community Employment, JobClubs and Local Employment Services.

"The fact is that JobPath has failed. It has cost the taxpayer millions and it has caused untold damage to existing community based schemes, including the Adult Guidance Service, the Local Employment Service, Community Employment and Job Clubs.

"The Local Employment Service and Community Employment who have seen huge drops in referrals since the commencement of JobPath.

"The sole objective of the private companies Turas Nua and Seetec under the Jobpath scheme is to make money on the back of jobseekers. However, the majority of the Dáil has voted for the motion and this is a significant milestone for job activation in this State.

"I am calling on Minister Doherty and her Government to act upon this motion immediately and scrap the Jobpath scheme and invest in job activation schemes that have proven to work."

## Election poster ban plea in Wicklow and Arklow districts

Wicklow and Arklow Municipal Districts have voted to be poster free areas when it comes to Local and European elections due this year.

At their respective monthly meetings, the Elected Members of Wicklow Municipal District and Arklow Municipal District passed the following motions:

The passed notices of Motions were as follows: "That Wicklow Municipal District seeks to have the Main Streets of Wicklow Town and the Main Streets of the villages within the Wicklow Municipal District to be designated as election poster free areas."; and "That Arklow Municipal District ban all posters on poles on the old N11 running from Hills garage to Knockmore Roundabout."

Councillors felt that this would support and show solidarity with the Community Groups and the Tidy Towns committees who work so hard to promote their areas in the two Districts. They are appealing to the goodwill of the candidates and their agents to respect the wishes of their constituents and to adhere to this request. Wicklow Municipal District and Arklow Municipal District are calling on all candidates to consider this sensible proposal well ahead of the forthcoming election campaigns and are hopeful that we can progress on this basis.

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# PARTY LEADERS COME TO TOWN

Two Party Leaders come to Wicklow last week to rally the troops ahead of the forthcoming local elections. Sinn Féin's Mary Lou McDonald, TD, did a tour of the county visiting Bray, Greystones, Arklow and finishing up in Wicklow Town for a public meeting.

Peadar Toibin, TD, who left Sinn Féin over the Abortion Referendum and his subsequent marginalisation by the party, has been touring the country speaking at public meetings. His new party Aontú has already attracted several sitting councillors and two from Wicklow, former Independent councillor Brendan Thornhill and former Sinn Féin councillor Oliver O'Brien.

Both leaders called in to

*Wicklow Times* to set out their aims and policies.

We asked what would Mary Lou be speaking about at the meeting in Wicklow later that evening. "We'll be speaking about homelessness, and the many issues affecting everybody; health, decent wages, access to work and secure employment. The JobPath results have been underwhelming - it's been a failure. We need employ-

ment schemes that work. Only 9% from JobPath are in sustainable employment.

When Mary Lou McDonald was asked how she would assess Wicklow's homelessness crisis and what can be done about it? She said "The problem of homelessness and housing go together; the Government has failed on this. The problem extends well beyond Dublin, and especially to Wicklow. The Government's figures also don't take into account the countless people who are couch surfing, living with parents or friends, etc. People in rented accommodation are feeling insecure. Solutions have been put forward by bodies such as Focus Ireland, - their amendment which sought to prevent landlords from issuing vacant possession notices to quit was defeated.

O'Cualann Co-Housing Alliance, the voluntary housing co-operative, are doing fantastic work. It sounds simple, but the Government are not building enough houses. The bureaucracy of the state is getting in the way."



Mary Lou McDonald and John Brady TD with Sinn Féin councillors and election candidates; Muireann Dalton, Cllr Nicola Lawless, Cllr Mary McDonald, Cllr Daisy O'Brien, Grace McManus and Aidan Kinsella



Peadar Toibin with his Party's new recruits, councillors Brendan Thornhill and Oliver O'Brien

Mary Lou would not be drawn on the large number of councillors who had left the party or on the three Wicklow councillors who were expelled from the

party. "We are a party that is growing and we expect to well in the coming local elections, I don't want to talk about people who are not members of Sinn Féin."

Referring to any possible coalition after the next general election she said

"We are a party that is anxious to roll up our sleeves and get the job done, I will talk to everyone but our ultimate aim is

to lead Government."

Peadar Tobin was quite frank as to why he had left Sinn Féin and formed Aontú: "Sinn Féin had become too narrowly focused, especially in the past few years, and of course the abortion issue was a tipping point. Our new party is not Sinn Féin light. There is one third of the population who don't have any party (until now) to represent them. We are

growing rapidly with over 4,000 people already turned up to our public meetings. We are currently talking to 30 other politicians and hope to announce new members shortly. After the general election we would at a minimum hope to have 7 Dáil seats. Our three basic core values, National Unity; Economic Justice and Right to Life are resonating with voters."

Over 200 people turned out at the Royal Hotel to hear Peadar Tobin outline his new party's policies.



Over 200 people turned out at the Royal Hotel to hear Peadar Tobin outline his new party's policies.

## Blessington student awarded prestigious overseas travel bursary

Leyla Byrne from Blessington was one of the recipients of the much sought-after PWE (Professional Work Experience) travel bursaries designed to encourage students to broaden their knowledge and travel internationally to gain experience in the global agri-food sector.

The details were announced by The Agricultural Science Association (ASA) and the Irish Farmers Journal. Six third level Agricultural Science students, will benefit from the awards which will support them while on work placements in the USA, New Zealand and Chile this year.

Leyla is a third year Agricultural Science student at UCD. She will travel to South Island, New Zealand in January where she will spend one month on a dairy farm in Westport, two months on a 10,000 acre mixed farm in Wakaya; before moving onto Gore to work in an abattoir in for one month. Speaking about the opportunity she said, "I feel as though these place will have great relevance to my degree as experience of farming in other countries will be of great benefit to me when I complete my studies. I will also see farming on a large scale and form a different perspective on animal husbandry in New Zealand. Many thanks to UCD and the Irish Farmers Journal for awarding me with this travel bursary".

2019 sees the fourth year of this joint initiative, in which the ASA and Irish Farmers Journal reward third-level students who demonstrate an interest in fulfilling the work placement segment of their degree overseas. The WIT bursaries are also supported by Glanbia and Seedtech respectively.

Amii McKeever, ASA President said, "The Agricultural Science Association strives to support



and enhance the critical skills of our Agricultural Science students in order to strengthen the future of our agri-food industry and consolidate Ireland's position as a leading global player. The standard of applications this year was very impressive, and we are excited to hear updates on how the six selected students develop in a personal and professional capacity over the coming months."

## Three quarters of people with disabilities in Wicklow are unemployed

Twenty-four percent of people with a disability in Co. Wicklow are in employment. This is compared to 54% of the general population. Nineteen percent of people with a disability living in Co. Wicklow, meanwhile, have no access to a car or van. This is compared to just eight percent of the general population.

Independent Senator John Dolan from Tipperary, CEO of the Disability Federation of Ireland, was in Wicklow last week presenting these and other disability statistics to Councillors and discussing the range of barriers that continue to exclude and inhibit people with disabilities.

Senator Dolan said "These include poverty, housing, public transport and access to

employment and education. We all have a responsibility to find ways of tackling these issues and the role of local councils in this is critical."

There are 19,244 people in Co. Wicklow (14%) living with a disability and there are 5,559 carers. There are 3,821 people in Wicklow with a disability related to mental health, 1,949 with an intellectual disability,

1,485 with blindness or severe vision impairment, 2,991 with deafness or severe hearing impairment, and 4,813 with a learning difficulty.

Senator Dolan has been meeting with local councils all around the country to highlight the issues impacting on the disability community in local areas - and the vitally important role of county and city councils in supporting all those

with various disabilities. There are over 7,000 people in Wicklow who have difficulty with basic physical activities.

Senator Dolan said last week, "I very much appreciate the opportunity to meet with members of Wicklow County Council. My sole focus as a member of the Seanad is disability, and especially how disability can impact on the lives of individuals and families."



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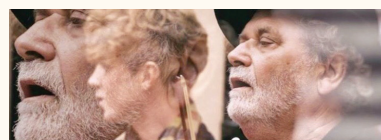
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### GREYSTONES PUBLIC PARK STARTED BUT PATHS MUDDY

Cllr Derek Mitchell (pictured) has welcomed the commencement of work on Greystones public park, north of the marina, but says that the Cliff Walk path is very muddy as a result. "Both through the site where the trucks cross and along the path," said Cllr Mitchell. "I have asked the developer and Council to urgently make a better temporary surface in view of the many people using it. The developer has quickly said he will clean the crossing and will keep it clean after heavy machines have crossed. These will mostly remain in the north area so will not cross frequently. They also mentioned that the piles on site will be crushed when piling is complete in the coming months." Glenveigh, the developer, has now agreed to put a coating of stone on the worst parts of the path by their works.

## 'We need electric car charging points'

Cathaoirleach of Greystones Municipal District Cllr Nicola Lawless has welcomed the announcement by the Government that the ESB's proposal for a national high-power electric vehicle charging network in Ireland has passed the initial qualification stage for Climate Action Funding.

Cllr Lawless said "I have been pushing the Government and the ESB to install more charging points for electric cars. A response I have received from the ESB states that they are now looking forward to working with the Department on the next phase of the funding assessment, and they will continue to invest and upgrading of the existing fast and standard (AC) charging infrastructure in 2019.

"Greystones Municipal District has no charging points; our nearest points are Bray or the Apple Green in Coyne's Cross. We must be doing everything possible to help encourage people to switch to electric cars."

Cllr Lawless went on to say "I have been consistently requesting more charging

points, but we have been told that ESB where no longer installing them. This news I have received is very promising and I will continue to push for the Greystones District to get a number of charging points to accommodate the every growing usage of eCars. We all must do what we can to bring down our carbon footprint and every small change will make a difference."

# 'Secondary school extensions and new school build must start now'

Greystones candidate for Fianna Fáil Elaine Willis, and Stephen Donnelly TD are calling on the Minister for Education, Joe McHugh to end the ongoing delays to build the extensions for St David's Secondary School and Colaiste Chraobh Abhann in Kilcoole as well as the new secondary school in Greystones.

Elaine said, "We have been inundated with parents calling into their constituency office about getting local school places for their children. Six years ago worried parents called into our office on a daily basis stressed out that they had no local primary school to send their children to. We submitted a petition with over 3,000 names to the Minister for Education. At that time there was 297 children on the lists to get into school that year. These children were aged 4 1/2 years and upwards. This put considerable strain on the teachers and principals that year, but they did it willingly to accommodate as many children as possible. The outcome was us working hard with the Principals and Dept of Education in getting Greystones Community National School sanctioned and it put its first protacabin in the Rugby Club grounds in September 2015. Just as we predicted the school fast became a two-streamed school such was

the demand in the area.

"St David's has been looking for a school extension for seven years, and it has been postponed time and time again. Indeed the current Minister for Education, Joe McHugh has recently cancelled two meetings with the Principal at very short notice, including a scheduled meeting that should have happened on Thursday 7th February, in St. David's. Minister Bruton had previously cancelled one meeting. Colaiste Chraobh Abhann has also requested a school extension and they too have been stalled. Both of these schools have substantial waiting lists for the coming years, in simple terms the demand far outweighs the supply. These schools need their extensions now in addition to the new secondary school to start immediately.

"Principals are worried about the demand and it is going to get worse. Admissions opened on 4th February for Temple Carrig, these places will



Pictured: Elaine Willis

be offered around 7th/8th March. 12 of these places are for applicants from Powerscourt NS, St Andrews NS in Bray and St Francis NS in Newcastle, purely to accommodate existing siblings. Currently there is extraordinary local demand for admissions for St David's is and it is grossly oversubscribed due to the highly successful achievement of the town.

"Projected figures for Colaiste Chraobh Abhann have bigger numbers for entry to first year 2019 (than was expected so this could be the position for the next few years. Their projections are very high for the next three years. Currently there are 582 children in local school in 4th Class and 555 students

in 5th Class."

Elaine continued "there is certainly a feeling of Déjà Vu, but this time the situation seems worse. The numbers simply don't stack up and my guess is before long we will be looking for an additional secondary school. The new secondary school for Charlesland area should cater for 125 children, but it will certainly take time to go through all the red tape before building commences.

While Newtownmountkennedy has been approved for a secondary school there will be plenty of demand, with Wicklow Hills, Rossmore and Church Road that school will also be full in no time. Please sign our petition if you haven't done so already. My question is a very simple one; Why can't the Dept of Education liaise with the Central Statistics Office year on year to see the number of births registered in each area, then they would know in advance how many children would need school places in any given year."

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## PET CARE

### Pet Care tips during cold weather

The ISPCA has issued the following advice for taking care of your pet during a cold snap.



If the temperature outside is too cold for you to stay outdoors, the same may be true for your pets. Certain dog breeds are well-adapted for cold weather, but others such as small dogs, sighthounds, short-haired dogs, older dogs or those with health problems may have less tolerance for freezing temperatures. If

you are unsure how well your pet will adapt in colder weather, speak to your veterinary practitioner for advice.

The ISPCA recommends you opt for shorter, more frequent walks especially on cold days. If your dog is comfortable wearing a jacket or jumper, have a dry one on-hand. A wet jumper will make your pet cold-

er, so check it regularly or make sure it's waterproof.

If you are walking your pet at night, always wear high-vis or bright colours so you can both be seen. Bring along a torch, because even in the dark you have to clean up after your dog.

When out for a walk, keep pets away from frozen lakes or ponds to prevent them from falling through the ice.

It is best to always keep your dog(s) on the lead, especially when there is extreme snow or icy weather. This type of weather inhibits the sense of smell they use to navigate, and they can get disoriented. Ensure your dog is tagged and microchipped, with your contact details up-to-date in the correct database.

Be careful of the surface where your dog walks, and try to keep him or her away from roads that are covered in salt. When your dog comes inside, fully wipe down their paws, legs and belly to remove salt and de-icing chemicals that may have been on the road. These can cause irritation or stomach upset if licked off your pet's feet or fur. The same goes for cats when you bring them inside during the winter.

When you come in from a walk, check your dog's paw pads and between the toes for cracked skin, bleeding, or salt. Chloride salts heat up substantially when mixed with water, a chemical reaction that can be extremely painful if the salt is lodged between your pet's toes.

Try not to shave your

dog's fur during the winter. If your dog coat needs regular grooming, simply trim to minimise the amount of snow, ice or salt crystals that get caught in his or her fur.

Many ice melting products are toxic to pets.

When looking for de-icing products to use at home, look for pet-friendly ones. Check the ingredients-those with propylene glycol are safer than most.

Ensure pets have access to unfrozen water, extra food, and good shelter. Don't leave them outside for long periods on freezing cold or wet days, ensure they have warm shelter away from the harsh wind or rain.

The ISPCA recommends bringing outdoor pets inside on very cold days, especially overnight, or alternatively having a dry, outdoor shelter for them. This should be raised from the ground with the entrance blocked from rain, snow or wind. The shelter should be dry, with thick bedding that is changed regularly.

Additionally, feral or outdoor cats looking for somewhere warm to sleep may curl up beneath the bonnet of a car. Always bang on your car bonnet or honk the horn before driving off to give sleeping kitties the chance to run away.

It's always best to move your pet's shelter indoors into a shed or garage, but not in an area where cars are stored overnight as the fumes can be seriously damaging.

## Small snacks are a big reward for outdoor playtime

There's nothing better than getting outside with our four-legged friends to run around, learning new tricks and enjoying some training.

You'll want to have the right rewards to hand. Snacks come in different sizes, flavours and varieties, and are tailored to meet your dog's natural nutritional needs. There's something to suit every dog's palate and your dog will love learning new tricks with a tasty treat. However, be mindful that snacks are only meant as a supplement to food.

Dogs always need to be motivated to behave. This motivation can take the form of food, praise, a loving touch, or even a short game. But for all that, hardly any of it will work if the basis of the bond between pet and owner isn't right. Many canines just forget their human masters when they're outside as soon as they're let off the lead.

They run ahead sniffing and simply turn a deaf ear to your call. You can lay the foundation that prevents this happening later, as early as whelping age, keep calling your little nipper to you in a high, friendly tone and praise him when he comes trotting up.

Then something really great should follow, like an exciting game or a tasty treat. Fido should learn early on: "It's worth my while if I come!"

Keep reinforcing this training. Fido should be allowed to sniff around and switch off during the walk. All the same, make him aware of you every now and then, run with him and get a bit of obedience practice in. This promotes bonding, as your dog learns that it's worth keeping an eye on his owner and he wouldn't want to miss out

on a reward or game.

Keep regular eye contact, if your dog looks you in the eye, give praise and a little treat. You encourage this eye contact, by teaching your dog to first look at you when you let him off the lead and only then is he allowed to run around. Make sure that the training time you spend with your pet in enjoyable for both of you!

Maxi Zoo stocks a wide variety of training tools and toys that can aid in this process, call into your local store today to discuss your dog's personal needs with our Maxi Zoo Pet Experts.



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Pictured at the official opening of the Vartry to Callowhill pipeline were Tony Keohane, Chairman of Eriva; Cllr Pat Vance, Cathaoirleach of Wicklow CoCo; Minister for Housing, Planning & Local Government Eoghan Murphy; Eamon Gallen, MD of Irish Water; and Minister of State Andrew Doyle. Pic: Naoise Culhane

## New pipeline from Vartry to Callowhill completed

Irish Water last week marked the completion of a new pipeline from Vartry to Callowhill. The new pipeline secures and safeguards the water supply for more than 200,000 people in north Wicklow and south Dublin, one of the most densely populated areas in the country.

The completion was marked by Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council, Cllr Pat Vance, Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government, Eoghan Murphy TD, Tony Keohane, Chairman of Eriva, and Eamon Gallen, MD of Irish Water, at an event at the Vartry Water Treatment Plant.

The Vartry Water Supply Scheme was originally constructed in the 1860s and was a feat of engineering for its time. The scheme included a four kilometre long tunnel under Callowhill to

deliver water to north Wicklow and south Dublin. The tunnel is now in a poor state of repair and at risk of collapse.

The works include a new pumping station at the existing Vartry Water Treatment Plant and four kilometres of buried pipeline from Vartry to Callowhill.

Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council, Cllr Pat Vance, welcomed the completion of the project: "I'm delighted to see the completion of these works, which will secure the water supply for a significant number of resi-

dents in north Wicklow. The size and scale of the challenge in replacing 150 year old infrastructure is not to be underestimated. I want to pay tribute to the contractor, Roadbridge and Local Authority staff who delivered this vital project, which will benefit 200,000 people in north Wicklow and across south Dublin, on schedule, and to Irish Water for prioritising investment in this scheme."

Commenting on the completion of works, Minister Eoghan Murphy TD said: "The infrastruc-

ture that makes up the Vartry Water Supply Scheme is amongst the most vital water infrastructure in all of Ireland. The scheme supports a population of 200,000 in north Wicklow and south Dublin, from residents to major businesses, who all depend on this infrastructure for the delivery of a safe, sustainable supply of water. The completion of the Vartry to Callowhill link, as well as other upgrades now underway to the Vartry Water Supply Scheme, will safeguard the water for the future development of this region, sustain existing residents and businesses and also support ongoing economic growth and development."

Eamon Gallen, MD of

Irish Water, said: "The replacement of this vital piece of water infrastructure was a priority project given its importance to so many people in north Wicklow, Dún Laoghaire - Rathdown and other areas of south Dublin. This significant project builds on the legacy of the scheme constructed in the 1860s and will benefit the lives of those who work, live in north Wicklow and south Dublin."

The construction of the new pipeline is part of a €200m investment in the Vartry scheme. Upgrades to the Vartry Treatment Plant and Stillorgan Reservoir also fall under the Vartry Water Supply Upgrade Project, and are now under construction.

## €4,800 for local digital innovation project

Wicklow is set to benefit from 4,800 for a local digital innovation project. Minister Andrew Doyle said the Programme is designed to support and encourage imaginative uses of technology by Wicklow County Council for the common good.

Minister Doyle said: "I very much welcome the funding for this excellent project in Wicklow. Wicklow County Council will produce a series of informative videos to help members of the public with accessibility arrangements for County Buildings and other Municipal District Offices. This 'Wicklow Welcomes All - help to plan your visit' initiative will take users through different aspects involved in visiting County Buildings and the process of accessing different services and information face-to-face.

"The response to the latest call for applications under the Digital Innovation Programme was particularly strong.

"The projects that were submitted bear testament to the level of creativity and innovation in Ireland's communities and within our local authorities.

"These projects follow on from thirteen projects approved under the Digital Innovation Programme in 2018 and brings the value of funds granted under the scheme so far by my Fine Gael colleague Minister Michael Ring to more than €700,000.

"The potential future savings that will come from piloting these initiatives ahead of large scale rollout are significant, as are the immediate benefits for many people across Ireland.

"I would like to thank all of the local applicants for their hard work, diligence and creativity and we can expect another call for applications under the Digital Innovation Programme later this year," Minister Doyle said.

## Estate development funding scheme 2019

The annual funding scheme to assist Residents Associations has been announced by Wicklow County Council.

"This annual Estate Development funding scheme is to acknowledge the work of these voluntary committees who selflessly give their time to the benefit of their community," the Council said. Applications are invited from Residents Associations of Wicklow County Council Social Housing Estates for funding in relation to the upkeep of green areas within their estates. Private Housing Estates in which there are a number of Local Authority properties may also apply.

Application forms can be requested from your relevant Municipal District as per details below: Arklow Municipal District, Castle Park, Arklow, Co. Wicklow Y14 FX63 - 0402 42700 arklowmd@wicklowco-co.ie. Baltinglass Municipal District, Civic Offices, Blessington Business Park, Blessington, Co. Wicklow W91 RTV0 - 045 891222 baltinglassmd@wicklowcoco.ie. Greystones Municipal District, Mill Road, Greystones, Co. Wicklow 01-2876694

greystonesmd@wicklowcoco.ie. Wicklow Municipal District, Town Hall, Market Square, Wicklow A67 YO18 - 0404 20173 wicklowmd@wicklowco-co.ie.

Full details of the funding scheme together with application forms can be obtained by contacting the relevant Municipal District or from Wicklow County Councils website [www.wicklow.ie](http://www.wicklow.ie). Closing date for receipt of applications forms is 4.00 pm on Friday 22nd February.

### Greystones Briefs...

#### Greystones Active Retirement Association

The following weekly activities take place from the Greystones Active Retirement Association:

Aqua aerobics: Shoreline. Monday. 12noon - 1pm; Bowls: Kilian House Family Centre. Tuesday. 10.30am and Thursday 2.30pm; Bingo: Kilian House Family Centre. Tuesday 2.30pm; Keep Fit: Kilian House Family Centre. Monday. 1pm - 1.45pm; Art: Kilian House Family Centre. Monday. 2.30pm.

Plans are in the pipeline for day trips and holidays. Information and membership renewal at Kilian House Family Centre every Tuesday 10.30 to 11.30am.

The next Coffee Morning takes place at KHF Centre on Friday 22nd February at 10.30am.

Gillian Fox, podiatrist, will give a talk about foot care and will advise on managing common foot ailments. Come and meet your friends for tea/coffee, cake and a chat.

### St. Patrick's Day 2019

Plans are now underway to make this year's parade even bigger and better than ever. Application forms and details have been sent to local groups and organisations.

If your group did not receive one, please contact 2876694 or GreystonesMD@wicklowcoco.ie. A wide range of awards will be made in various categories. The usual Best Window Display award will also be made. All shops and commercial enterprises are encouraged to make Greystones "en fete". Please return parade applications to GMD by 22nd February. Cost is Clubs/Organisations, €20; Commercial, €40.

### Kilcoole Garda Clinic

The Greystones Community Policing Unit Kilcoole Clinic Continues.

The Kilcoole Policing Clinic takes place each Wednesday evening in Kilcoole Community Centre, 6pm to 8pm. Garda Corbet and/or Garda Thompson will be in

attendance. Drop in for crime prevention advice, get a form stamped. And most other Garda station services. Details from: Garda Maria Curtis; maria.m.curtis@garda.ie; Garda Alan Thompson; alan.m.thompson@garda.ie.

### Art Group

Gill Mac, local Artist and experienced Community Art Tutor, will be facilitating a Drawing and Acrylic Painting Art Group for Beginners and Improvers.

All materials are provided except canvases & boards. Encouraging guidance given to help you to explore your creativity!

It will be held in Killian House Family Centre, Le Touche Road, Greystones, beside the Holy Rosary Church, on Wednesday mornings at 10.15am - 12.45pm. Dates: 13th February until the 15th May. No classes on the last Wednesday of every month and on the 1st May. 10 weeks €180.

All adults welcome. Wheelchair Access. Free parking when available, accessed via Kimberley Road. Refreshments available. €1.00 Donation. Booking is essential as places are limited. Contact Gill on 087 252 5216 or email: gillmac27@gmail.com



Druids Glen Hotel & Golf Resort and Woodenbridge Hotel in Wicklow joined Fáilte Ireland in Belfast last week to showcase the best of Irish courses to golfers from Northern Ireland in a bid to grow visitor numbers from the North. Pictured at the event in the Europa Hotel were Gretta Doyle from Druids Glen and Jenny O'Reilly, Fáilte Ireland.





# PERSONAL FINANCE

**Whether you're saving for a holiday or for Christmas, trying to manage back to school costs or struggling with balancing your regular monthly budget, seeking out the help and advice of a financial expert is a quick way to relieve the stress and burden - helping you to improve your financial wellbeing and achieve your financial objectives, whatever they may be.**

Financial problems require practical, financial solutions - they won't simply go away if they are left alone. And if you're not an expert, trying to deal with them yourself is not only very difficult, but also extremely stressful.

Maybe it's a pressing problem such as an urgent need to save money to pay a debt, pay off a loan or do your tax returns. On the other hand, maybe it's a more long-term financial issue where a helping hand is needed, such as planning for your retirement or planning your budget for the coming year. Whatever the requirement, whether it's a short-term solution or a long-term goal you want to work towards, talking to a personal finance expert and getting their assistance will give you something it's hard to put a price on, which is peace of mind.

## 'ESTABLISH THE FACTS, AND GET RELIABLE ADVICE'

By Brian Murray BSc, QFA, FLIA, APA  
(Personal General Insurance)

**Where you have concerns or questions on your financial arrangements, compounded by a constant and sometimes conflicting barrage of information, maybe you should establish some facts.**

Once you establish the facts, and get some reliable advice, you can assess how your arrangements are serving your needs.

Ideally you will get this advice, and assistance in assembling your facts from a competent adviser, such as a Financial Broker, who won't need to move your plans around, or sell you a plan to recoup costs.

Many financial products have options already built-in from the outset, to allow them to be adjusted to meet evolving circumstances.

Where your circumstances have moved on since you bought or started your Pension, Mortgage, Insurance plan, Savings or Investment, it may very well be that they can be "re-tuned" rather than replaced.

A good adviser will always explore this with you, and only advise you to replace a plan, account or policy when it is clearly needed, and demonstrably in your best interests.

They will incur costs in doing so, and charge you accordingly, but in turn you'll get written advice, in line with best practice and consumer protection codes, and backed up by professional indemnity.

Wicklow is well served with professional firms, from whom you can choose by looking at The Brokers Ireland Website, [www.brokersireland.ie](http://www.brokersireland.ie) and all adviser firms and companies can be checked on the Central Bank's Registers of authorised firms [www.registers.centralbank.ie/FirmSearchPage](http://www.registers.centralbank.ie/FirmSearchPage).



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## Prendergast Maguire Financial Services

**Local company Prendergast Maguire Financial Services are made up of the experienced partnership of Paul Prendergast and Brendan Maguire and have recently recruited Bray local and Qualified Financial Advisor Simon Scanlon as part of the team.**

Established in 2006 and settled in their premises in Newtown in 2008.

Since then, word of mouth referral and repeat business from

loyal clients has seen them

become one of the most popular and trusted financial

services companies in the county.

Their success over the last number

years is testament to their hard

work and excellent service, gaining them a

steady client base even throughout some

economically challenging years for Wicklow

and indeed Ireland. Dealing with insur-

ance, mortgages and investments, they help

people realise their hopes of home owner-

ship, peace of mind and prosperity. They offer impartial

advice and personal support to their clients

and have an unrivalled knowledge of all the best investment plans, pensions, insurance

policies and mortgages on the market. With

excellent local knowledge, they are happy to

meet either in their office on Main Street

Newtown or call to your home. Prendergast Maguire's

biggest strength is their ability to get to know

you and your needs and match you to the prod-

uct that works for you. A first time buyer or

mover? Have the finances in place for

when you find your dream home. "Buying a

home is the biggest decision most of us will

ever face," says Paul. "Dealing with a faceless

loan department can make it a whole lot

more daunting. Contact us as the first step to

arranging your new mortgage, and long

after you have turned your new house into a

home, we will still be looking out for you. Prendergast Maguire

can also help you with mortgage top ups to

modernise your existing

home and also review your current mortgage offering and this could result in securing a better interest rate.

Local knowledge is key in the financial services market. After all,

Prendergast and Maguire are dealing with friends, neigh-

bours, members of their community. "These are big hopes to

entrust to a faceless corporation," Paul Prendergast

told Wicklow Times. "And so it is important to have impartial advice

and personal support of a local intermediary like us, who can ensure they

are being properly looked after." Prendergast Maguire

Financial Services is situated in Newtownmountkennedy

Town Centre and can be contacted on 01 2819238, at

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Jonny Kelly and Janet Gorman of the Rathdangan Drama Group during rehearsals for their forthcoming play 'Try Anything Twice', which will start on Friday 22nd February in the Community Hall in Rathdangan.

## Fusion - group exhibition by RehabCare Resource Centre Dun Laoghaire

RehabCare Resource Centre Dun Laoghaire in association with The Stillorgan College of Further Education will be exhibiting work in an exhibition entitled **Fusion**, in the Singal Arts Centre in Bray from Monday 19th March to Sunday 31st March.



Speaking about the upcoming exhibition, the group of artists stated "We are a group of enthusiastic artists. We are based in Rehab Care resource centre Dun Laoghaire working in association with Stillorgan college of further education. The

work is a collection of our recent paintings and ceramics and for some of us this is the first time to exhibit our work and a great opportunity for us to show the public our inventiveness, imagination and skills. "Fusion" is a combi-

nation of many things, art and craft, paint and clay, contemporary and abstract. The paintings are loosely based on nature and our natural surroundings while the ceramics range from texture natural forms to functional bowls and platter designs. Painting on canvas is a new experience for some of us. Our art combines a variety of media. We take pride in our accomplishments and experimental style. We are delighted to have been invited to exhibit our work in Signal Arts Bray." The opening reception will take place on Thursday 21st March, 7pm to 9pm.



### The Glenview's Wedding Spectacular & Wedstival

The Glenview Hotel's Wedding Spectacular & Wedstival Event was launched on Sunday 3rd February, and saw the launch of their brand-new outdoor tented area perfect for any drinks reception, wedding, party or event.

An array of Ireland's top suppliers were there on the day with performances from The Hit Machine Drummers, the lovely Alpacas and East Coast Falconry.

The Glenview has an array of new options you can now add to your special event; a Cocktail Bar, Gin Bar, Whiskey & Cigar Bar, His & Hers Signature Bar, Self Service Beer Keg, as well as a Prosecco Wall, Donut Wall, Chocolate Fountain, Vintage Candy, Floss & Popcorn, Ice Cream Bike, and Slush Puppy Machine.

Brand new wedding packages for 2019/20 are now available. For more information contact Rachel our Wedding Coordinator: Sayido@glenviewhotel.com

## Mapping the Semi-Gods

'Mapping the Semi-Gods', an exhibition of work by Ann Marie Webb, will be held in the Signal Arts Centre from Monday 18th February to Sunday 3rd March.

Through paint Ann Marie describes opposing actions that play against each other to describe space that both dislocates and locate. The landscape is used as a tool to explore a sense of belonging, she sees it not just as a geographical study but as a layered field of activity. Stratified by human presence, Ann Marie searches to find interactions that become a vital part of self-identity. What borders us, plus the boundaries we create can locate and also dislocate us. Our feelings of control become the focus of this exhibition.

Using painting Ann Marie explores the act of creating spaces. Through the contrast of materials and the ways of mark making, she uses contradiction to form competing and compelling conversations. This is the first of a two part exhibition which will continue in the Mermaid Arts Centre



on the 28th of March.

Ann Marie Webb lives in County Wicklow, Ireland with her family. She received an MFA in Painting from NCAD, 2014, and her BA in Visual Arts Practice from IADT Dublin, 2011. She has participated in various solo and group shows in the Republic and North of Ireland.

Her artwork is represented in the permanent collection of the OPW, in private collections throughout Europe and the United States of America.

Most recently her work has been featured by Saatchi art, [www.saatchiart.com/annmariewebb](http://www.saatchiart.com/annmariewebb), and is represented by Artipistol,

Glasgow, Scotland, [www.artipistol.co.uk/artists/ann-marie-webb](http://www.artipistol.co.uk/artists/ann-marie-webb). Ann Marie was a founder member of Outpost Studios, Bray, County Wicklow, and is a member of the artists collective RAFT. Ann Marie Webb's artwork, awards and resume can be found on [www.annmariewebb.com](http://www.annmariewebb.com).

## Free conversational English classes

Bray Area Partnership's Fáilte Isteach conversational English classes for people from new communities have started up again in Bray and Kilcoole.

Classes are free (a €3 donation towards costs is requested) and take place through friendly small group conversations, facilitated by volunteer tutors - on Wednesday mornings in Kilcoole Community Centre, Wednesday evenings in St. Peter's Parish Centre in Bray, and Thursday mornings in St. Kilian's Community School in Bray. You must be living in Bray, Greystones, Kilcoole, Kilmacanogue and Delgany to take part.

Fáilte Isteach Bray & Kilcoole is part of a national Third Age Ireland initiative - the idea is that people volunteer their time to teach practical conversational English to people from other countries who live and work in their community. Improving their English helps students to participate more fully in

society, take part in further education and gain employment. The word Fáilte describes the spirit of the project - welcome to our community. There are also regular talks from different services that provide supports in the local community.

This work is resourced by the government's Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) 2018-22, funded by the Irish Government through the Department of Rural and Community Development and co-funded by the European Social Fund under the Programme for Employability, Inclusion and Learning (PEIL) 2014-2020.

To register contact Lorna Lafferty or Jennifer Jones on 01 286 8266. Find out more at [www.brayareapartnership.ie](http://www.brayareapartnership.ie).



Pictured is Aoife Anderson, with son Oliver Anderson and the birthday boy Richard Anderson celebrating in his favorite restaurant, Chakra in Greystones



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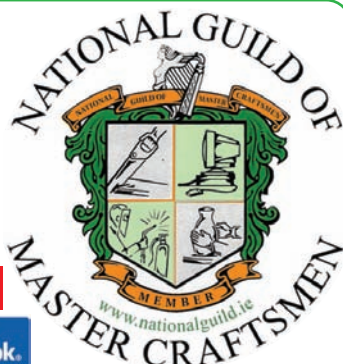
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Southside office: Robinhood Ind. Est. D12. References Available

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## CLASSIFIEDS • PLANNING NOTICES • PRAYERS

### WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

I Neil Kenna intend to apply for permission for a new dwelling, garage, new entrance, wastewater treatment unit, soil polishing filter, new well and associate works at Tomriland, Roundwood, Co. Wicklow. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of Wicklow County Council, County Council Buildings, Wicklow Town, during its public opening hours and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the planning authority on payment of the prescribed fee within 5 weeks from submission of application to Planning Authority.

### WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

I Robert Fisher intend to apply for permission for a new dwelling, garage, new entrance, wastewater treatment unit, soil polishing filter, new well and associate works at Carriggower, Kilpedder, Co. Wicklow. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of Wicklow County Council, County Council Buildings, Wicklow Town, during its public opening hours and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the planning authority on payment of the prescribed fee within 5 weeks from submission of application to Planning Authority.

### WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

I Thomas Nolan seeks full planning permission for the construction of a 1.5 story domer style 4 bedroom house with connection to all relevant services, new entrance and all ancillary works at Blackthorn Close, Newtownmountkennedy, Co. Wicklow. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of Wicklow County Council, County Council Buildings, Wicklow during its public opening hours and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

### WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Ballesee Lower, Rathdrum, Co. Wicklow. I, Emma Cullen intend to apply To Wicklow County Council For Planning Permission to:  
(A) Construction of a new four-bedroom dwelling,  
(B) Installation of a new treatment unit and percolation area,  
(C) New vehicle entrance onto public road (L1152),  
(D) All associated site works, all at above address.  
This Planning Application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of Wicklow County Council, County Council Buildings, Co. Wicklow during its public opening hours. A submission or observation in relation to this application may be made in writing to the Planning Authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20, within the period of five weeks, beginning on the date of receipt of the application by the Authority and such submissions or observations will be considered by the Planning Authority in making a decision on the Application. The Planning Authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to grant permission.

### WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

S K Design (0402 94680) seeks full planning permission on behalf of Patrick & Michael Smith for demolition of existing dwelling and construction of 2 No. semi-detached dwellings plus connection to mains sewer and main water supply at Main Street, Kiltegan, Co. Wicklow. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of Wicklow County Council, County Council Buildings, Wicklow during its public opening hours and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

### WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Planning permission sought for two dormer bungalows with ancillary site development works and connection to public services at Ballinacarrig Lower, Ballinacarrig, Co. Wicklow for Patrick G. O'Neill. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of Wicklow County Council, County Council Buildings, Wicklow during its public opening hours and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

### WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

We Rachel and John Redmond, intend to apply for permission for development at this site Mountain View, Lisheen Road, Brittas Co. Wicklow. Permission is sought for the construction of a 41.2 square metre single storey bedroom extension to the side of the existing dwelling, a 2.6 square metre porch extension and a 48.8 square metre garage / store, and associated site works. Retention permission is sought for the existing rear extension, floor area 32.3 square metres. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of the planning authority during its public opening hours. The planning application may be viewed online at [www.wicklow.ie](http://www.wicklow.ie), under planning online enquiries. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the planning authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application, and such submissions or observations will be considered by the planning authority in making a decision on the application. The planning authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to grant permission.

### THE MIRACULOUS PRAYER

Dear Heart of Jesus in the past I have asked for many favours. This time I ask you this very special one. (Mention request) Take it, dear Heart of Jesus and place it within your broken Heart where your Father sees it. Then, in his merciful eyes it will become your favour not mine. Amen.

Say this prayer for three days. Promise publication and favour will be granted. Never known to fail.

B.C.; J.M.J.

# CLASSIFIED ADS & PLANNING / APPOINTMENTS

CALL 01 2869111 EMAIL: [jennie@localtimes.ie](mailto:jennie@localtimes.ie)

PLEASE NOTE DEADLINE FOR CLASSIFIED ADS  
AND APPOINTMENTS IS 12 NOON FRIDAY





# RECRUITMENT

*Call Jennie: 01-2869111  
to place an ad!*



**WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL**  
COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CHILL MHANTÁIN

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons to form a panel from which the following vacancy may be filled:

• **PERMANENT EXECUTIVE SOLICITOR**

REF: 01/2019 Salary: €48,691 – €67,684 gross per annum (includes 2nd LSI)

Application Forms and further details can be obtained from Enterprise & Corporate Services at 0404 20159 or by emailing [recruitment@wicklowcoco.ie](mailto:recruitment@wicklowcoco.ie) and on the Wicklow County Council website [www.wicklow.ie](http://www.wicklow.ie)

**CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS IS  
12 NOON ON THURSDAY 28TH FEBRUARY 2019 SHARP**

Wicklow County Council reserves the right to shortlist candidates in the manner it deems most appropriate.

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Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board  
Bord Oideachais agus Oiliúna Chill Dara agus Chill Mhantáin

Kildare and Wicklow ETB invites applications from suitably qualified persons for the following permanent posts:

**CLERICAL OFFICER – GRADE III**

**STAFF OFFICER – GRADE IV**

Panels will be established to fill future vacancies.

Closing date: **12 noon on Monday 25th February 2019.**

All details and application form are available on [www.kwethb.ie](http://www.kwethb.ie) and click on 'vacancies'.

**Dr. Deirdre Keyes, Chief Executive**



**etb**

Bord Oideachais agus Oiliúna  
Chill Dara agus Chill Mhantáin  
Kildare and Wicklow  
Education and Training Board



**WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL**  
COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CHILL MHANTÁIN

## PANEL FOR APPROVED ASSESSOR UNDER EUROPEAN UNION (STAGE II PETROL VAPOUR RECOVERY DURING REFUELLING OF MOTOR VEHICLES AT SERVICE STATIONS) REGULATIONS 2011

Wicklow County Council, being the competent authority for County Wicklow under the European Union (Stage II Petrol Vapour Recovery During Refuelling of Motor Vehicles at Service Stations) Regulations 2011 wishes to invite applications from suitably qualified persons for consideration for inclusion on a panel of approved assessors to be created in accordance with Regulation 9(1) of the above Regulations.

An Approved Assessor will be retained by a service station owner directly to prepare a report on the testing of Stage II Petrol Vapour Recovery (PVRII) systems to recover VOCs displaced during the refuelling of vehicles, as part of their application to Wicklow County Council for a Certificate of Testing.

To be considered, an applicant must demonstrate that they possess the appropriate knowledge, training and experience to perform the duties of an Approved Assessor.

Details on the documentation to be submitted are available on [www.wicklow.ie](http://www.wicklow.ie)

Last date for receipt of applications is 12pm on Friday 1st March 2019.

Applications should be in a sealed envelope marked "Panel for Approved Assessor" and addressed to Theresa O'Brien, Senior Executive Officer, Planning, Development and Environment, Wicklow County Council, Whitegates, Wicklow Town, Co Wicklow A67 FW96.



An Ghníomhaireacht um  
Leanaí agus an Teaghlach  
Child and Family Agency

## FOSTER CARERS NEEDED

*Are you interested in becoming a Foster Carer with  
TUSLA Child and Family Agency?*

*Drop in to see us at one of the following venues from 10am to 12 noon*

**Arklow Heath Centre:** February 26th 2019  
Castle Park, Arklow

**Carnew Primary Care Centre:** February 27th 2019  
Gorey Road, Carnew

**Newtownmountkennedy Primary Care Centre:** February 28th 2019  
Mountkennedy Town Centre, Newtownmountkennedy

**Bray Health Centre:** March 4th 2019  
Civic Centre, Main Street

**Wicklow Health Centre:** March 6th 2019  
Knockrobbin, Wicklow Town

TUSLA staff will be on hand to answer any questions you may have and offer advice about becoming a Foster Carer

We look forward to meeting you!

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## FARM OPERATIVE/FARMER'S MARKET SALES ASSISTANT

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