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Tuesday 19th March 2019

5 Eglinton Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow

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www.wicklowtimes.net

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# INVESTIGATE NOW?

## SWORN AFFIDAVITS ALLEGE MALPRACTICE AND CORRUPTION IN COUNCIL'S PLANNING DEPARTMENT

At last week's Joint Policing Committee meeting Independent Councillor Brendan Thornhill asked Chief Superintendent Quirke whether he had received sworn affidavits alleging malpractice and corruption within Wicklow County Council's planning department. Superintendent Quirke confirmed that he had not but would investigate if he receives such documentation.

Councillor Thornhill told *Wicklow Times* "As a public representative I have been approached by constituents outlining to me very disturbing information with regard to public administration in Wicklow County Council (WCC). These matters were brought to my attention by means of sworn affidavits. These documents are detailed and outline a disturbing sequential pattern of

alleged mal-administration which I find most disturbing. In answer to my query Chief Superintendent Quirke informed the meeting that he had received no notification of such sworn affidavits, he advised me further if the sworn affidavits are brought to his attention he will see to it that this matter will be investigated.

"It is my information that these affidavits have

been in the possession of a senior elected official of WCC for the past month. In the public interest I would request that this official would now refer this matter to the appropriate independent authorities for immediate investigation and that all officials elected or otherwise will conform with ethical disclosure requirements. As a former member of the Garda Síochána I appre-



Helen Lawless, Mairead Kennedy and John Cullen are pictured at the Rathdangan Drama Group play 'Try Anything Twice' in Rathdangan Community Hall



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ciate the seriousness of this case and I have full confidence in the Garda Síochána to investigate this very important issue. It is most important that public trust in the administration of local authorities must be above reproach and that no cover up of such complaints would be tolerated, it is most unusual and therefore significant that a number of very respectful citizens would feel it necessary to swear affidavits outlining their complaints. I am calling on Minister Simon Harris to make a statement on this matter as he has previously been on record on a number of occasions calling for an investigation into Wicklow County Council."

The senior public representative who received the affidavits is Councillor Irene Winters

the Deputy Chair of the council. Councillor Winters passed them on to The Minister for the Environment and to Frank Curran, the Chief Executive of the Council. She also wrote to the Law Agent stating "I have recently received four separate sets of allegations relating to the conduct of planning matters in Wicklow County Council. I am aware that there may be an obligation on me as an elected representative to forward this information to An Garda Síochána. It is not clear to me whether the allegations, set out as I have received them, amount to allegations that would fall within the schedule of offences referenced in Section 19 of the Criminal Justice Act 2011.

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Members of Bray Soroptimists wearing 'Denim for Dementia' on International Women's Day; Emma Whelan, Phyl Farrelly, Mary Savage, Pat McHugh, Mary Doyle, AnneMarie Loughry, Yvonne McBrun, Denise Holland, and Katrina Farrelly Cooke.  
Pic: Joe McQuillan

### What's Happening...

## Bray guided meditation session

The March Guided Meditation Session will take place in Ballywaltrim Community Centre, Boghall Road, Bray, between 7 pm and 8 pm on the last Tuesday of the month, Tuesday 26th. There is no fee to attend (donation box available to cover for renting the premises). Just come along, have one hour for your wellbeing and relax into meditation. For more details ring or text Shideh on 0876710903 or Audra on 0879418941.

## Avondale Gardening Club

Avondale Gardening Club will resume club meetings on March 21st, 8pm-9:30pm, Jacobs Well, Rathdrum.

The club meets on the third Thursday of every month, weather permitting. Talks on Biodiversity by Sarah Rubalcava take place at Ballinatone Church Hall Tuesdays at 8pm. The last talk will be on the 2nd April during National Tree Week. Everyone is made to feel welcome at the gardening club. There is tea/coffee after the meeting with time to mingle. Call Caroline on 0868959390 to find out more.

## Bray Cualann Historical Society

The Thursday March 21st 8pm meeting of the Bray Cualann Historical Society, in the Royal Hotel, Main Street, Bray, will be a 'Genealogy Workshop' presented by Mark and Dave Murphy on 'Worldwide Search Using DNA'; John Brazil on 'Searching Brazil's', and Brian White with 'Tips for Local Research'. All welcome. Admission €5.

## Launch of Coolattin Lives website

The launch of the Coolattin Lives website will be held in The Courthouse Arts Centre Tinahely on Thursday March 21st 7-9pm. Coolattin Lives contains the tenant records for the Earl of Fitzwilliam's estates in Co Wicklow between 1841 and 1868. This period includes the Great Famine and the years of assisted migration that the Fitzwilliam estate put in place to encourage tenants to move to Canada, so it captures a moment of great change in the population - locally and nationally.

## Look at the World

"Look At The World" is an international touring exhibition by the Italian-based photographic collective Welcome in Passione Foto (WPF). The tour will begin in Taranto, Italy before going on to Sardinia, Brussels and Bray.

The collective has members in a number of European countries and will be showcasing the best of its members' work. Now in its 9th year WPF has toured throughout Italy often as well as France, Thailand and in 2017 in Ireland.

All WPF exhibitions have a socially conscious dimension and proceeds from this show will go to Falantra, an organisation that promotes social inclusion for people with Alzheimers.

The exhibition will be on show from April 30th through to May 12th daily at Signal Arts Centre, Albert Avenue, Bray. The official reception will be on Friday, May 3rd from 7-9. Several of the photographers from Italy will be in attendance.

## Don't forget fanny

Bray Labour Party Local election candidate Ian McGahon has set up an online petition to ensure that upgrades to Avondale Park in Rathdrum do not erase the important history of Anna and Fanny Parnell.

Commenting on the online petition McGahon said "Recently Coillte, Dailte Ireland and Wicklow County Council announced an €8 million investment in the tourist facilities of Avondale Park. The announcement was clear that the new tourist facilities will focus on the importance on the life of Charles Stewart Parnell.

"My worry and that of

women's rights campaigners is that the massively important contributions of Charles Stewart Parnell's Sisters Anna and Fanny Parnell will be erased and forgotten about within this 8 million euro investment.

"Anna and Fanny Parnell were hugely instrumental in promoting the causes of Irish Nationalism, Womens Rights and Fighting Poverty in Ireland in the

1880s. They cofounded the Ladies Land League in the 1880s.

"They are often overlooked and it is really important that an investment in Avondale House also tells their hugely important story and legacy. I am calling on the public to sign the petition at [my.uplift.ie/p/AnnaParnell](http://my.uplift.ie/p/AnnaParnell)," concluded McGahon.

## O'Neill is Grand Marshal in Nebraska Parade

Blessington Councillor Gerry O'Neill was honoured as the Grand Marshal in the annual St Patrick's Day parade in Omaha, Nebraska.

The parade was originated by the ancient order of Hibernians, Father Edward division in 1878. Omaha mayor Jean Stohart designated March 9th to be declared 'Gerry O'Neill day', as it is Gerry's uncle John O'Neill's birthday.

The city of O'Neill in Nebraska was called after a John O'Neill, one of the founders of the city.



Cllr Gerry O'Neill

On St Patrick's day Cllr O'Neill participated in a wreath laying ceremony by the Ancient Order of Hibernians at the graveside of John O'Neill. Before the event the order told Cllr O'Neill that they were "excited in anticipation of your arrival. Your presence and participation will be greatly appreciated."

## Greystones delegation visits Holyhead for St. David's Day

Greystones was represented in Holyhead recently for St. David's Day Celebrations. St. David is the patron saint of Wales and is of course the name of a secondary school in Greystones.

The nine primary schools and the secondary school in Holyhead celebrated St. David. They gathered in St. Mary's Church and paraded through the town to mark the day. The children then returned to the church for a choral session of Welsh songs including the Welsh National Anthem.

Kay Coughlan from Greystones Municipal District and Kathleen Kelleher travelled to Holyhead.

They participated in the parade and the singing and were invited to say a few words.

S4C, the Welsh language television programme carried the event on their Heno magazine programme. Mayor Keith Thomas and Kathleen Kelleher were interviewed for the programme.

A large contingent of Holyhead twin-

ning partners came to Greystones for St. Patrick's Day and were active participants in the town's parade, dressed in Welsh national costumes. The group also brought an impressive float.

The Holyhead visitors visited the Whale Theatre and enjoyed the local food. Greystones Archeological and Historical Society brought them up to date on our history and a short talk was given by Rosemary Raughter.

On returning from Holyhead Kathleen Kelleher said "Our Greystones visit was a huge success and we were very impressed by all the children and their wonderful rendition of Welsh songs. Their enthusiasm and energy was outstanding. We congratulate Holyhead on its St. David's Day celebrations."



Pictured in Holyhead for St. David's Day were Kay Coughlan, Lady Mayoress Gwenda Thomas, Holyhead Mayor Keith Thomas and Kathleen Kelleher



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# WHAT LIES BENEATH

A gigantic sewage blockage, 8ft in size was cleared from the Bollarney Wastewater Pumping Station near Wicklow Town last weekend.

The massive blockage was caused by inappropriate items such as nappies, wet wipes, cotton bud sticks, food and plasters being flushed down toilets.

The blockage was cleared by Wicklow County Council staff, working on behalf of Irish Water. This was the third blockage in one day at the station. Irish

wastewater treatment plants. However, every day people flush thousands of items such as wet wipes, nappies and cotton wool pads down the toilet instead of putting them in a bin.

These items are part of a 'dirty dozen' of items which should never be flushed down the toilet. Also making this list is cleansing pads, toilet roll tubes, medicines, cigarettes, tampons, tampon applicators, sanitary pads, and cotton buds. Cotton buds alone can take up to 150 years to break down in the sea. Hair too, when flushed down the toilet, can form giant balls which trap odours and can cause blockages.

Speaking about the blockages, Annabel Fitzgerald, Irish Water

new wastewater treatment plants, upgrading old plants and laying new sewers. However, it is still really important that people recognise the impact of what they flush so the network can function efficiently and effectively. Placing a bin in the bathroom and disposing of sanitary items safely and appropriately has a hugely positive impact on the network and the environment."

Irish Water are working in partnership with Clean Coasts to deliver the Think Before You Flush campaign, a public awareness campaign about the problems sanitary products and other items can cause in the plumbing in our homes, our wastewater network and our marine environ-

ment when they are flushed down the toilet. Think Before You Flush is about changing people's flushing behaviour.

There are currently 15 communities in Ireland which are 'Think Before You Flush' communities, where Irish Water and Clean Coasts deliver workshops in schools and businesses and raise awareness, however currently there are no Wicklow towns included as part of the initiative.

"Having a bin in the bathroom can help. Think Before You Pour focuses on raising awareness of the issues caused by pouring fats, oils and greases down the drain and provides advice on how to dispose of these correctly," Irish Water said.



Water is strongly urging residents in Wicklow to think before they flush.

'Ragging' is the name given to the clogging or damage caused to pumps when unsuitable items are flushed down the toilet. Last year, Irish Water cleared more than 6,000 sewer blockages around the country which were caused by this 'ragging'.

When the 'three Ps' (pee, poo and paper) are flushed down the toilet they travel along the sewer network to

said, "We're urging all residents in Wicklow to 'Think Before You Flush', and to be mindful of the significant negative impact flushing inappropriate items can have on homes, businesses, the wastewater network, and the marine environment. The size and scale of the impact of flushing the wrong items down the toilet is incredible.

"Irish Water is investing in wastewater infrastructure right across the country. We are building

## INVESTIGATE NOW?

Continued from Page 1

Accordingly I would be obliged if you could retain counsel for an opinion on what possible offences may arise from the allegations contained or alluded to in the correspondence I have received and furthermore what my obligations, if any, are under the Criminal Justice Act. My preference is that a lawyer with criminal experience is briefed and I am aware that Diarmuid Collins BL has some experience in advising public bodies on criminal matters."

Speaking to *Wicklow Times* Councillor Winters said "I have seen Councillor Thornhill's statement and also have been made aware of his questions at the Joint Policing Committee meeting. What is evident to me is that he has seen these sworn affidavits, why then as a public representative with 30 years' experience as a member of the Gardaí did he not bring the issues up directly with Superintendent Quirke?"

Deputy John Brady said that he also received a copy of the sworn affidavits: "The issues raised are not new ones but they are serious issues that have never been properly looked into. Sinn Féin have called on various ministers of the Environment to conduct an investigation into Wicklow County Council and despite assurances given in the Dáil that they would do so they have failed to honour their promises."



Kim Murphy and Eilish Fitzgerald at the tree planting event in Newcastle. See story on page 6

## Free Health Screening Event Bray

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Pictured: Holly Eager from Colaiste Chraobh Abhann in Kilcoole was the Junior Winner in Wicklow Local Enterprise Office's Student Enterprise Programme. She is pictured with Wicklow Head of Enterprise, Vibeke Delahunt. Pic: Barbara Flynn. See story on page 8

# Sinn Féin lose another local councillor

The recent resignation of Arklow councillor Mary McDonald from Sinn Féin brings to four the number of councillors lost to the party in the past 18 months. There are currently just two Sinn Féin councillors on Wicklow County Council - Greystones Councillor Nicola Lawless and Bray's Dermot O'Brien.

Councillors John Snell, Gerry O'Neill and Oliver O'Brien were expelled from the party in late 2017 after a protracted row that hit the national headlines more than once. All four councillors have cited TD John Brady's 'interference' in council business as being the main reason for their departure.

However, members of the Wicklow Sinn Féin team told *Wicklow Times* that McDonald's resignation came as a shock and there were 'no indications that she would not run for Sinn Féin', citing her active participation in election preparation with

the party as evidence of this. Sources say the cause of Cllr McDonald's unhappiness might be rooted in the decision by the party to run a second candidate in Arklow, with some suggesting that McDonald's seat might not be safe in this scenario.

In a statement released by Councillor McDonald she said she was 'restricted in what she could do or say at council level because of the agendas and self-serving interests of others.'

She added "This decision is not based on any factor relating to Sinn Féin's national policies,

but rather local administration indifference, which I feel is driving the party's experienced and talented members away.

"As a political activist I need to maintain my ability to agree, criticize or oppose, if I am to advocate effectively for the people of South Wicklow. I want to continue to work with those in all political parties and none to find common ground, to put partisanship aside and to achieve real solutions to the challenges ahead. Good ideas should take precedence over any political ideology. I want to amplify the people of South Wicklow's voices and not be gagged by political middlemen.

"As such I shall be responsible directly and in the first and last instances to the people of South Wicklow.

"I believe my actions will bring my affiliation into alignment with how I served and will continue to serve, the people of the county."

Wicklow Sinn Féin told

*Wicklow Times* "Ultimately Mary has decided that her future is not in team Sinn Féin. It is regrettable that party structures were not used to resolve this situation and that colleagues and comrades across the county were left wondering what the rationale for the decision was and why now?

"We are grateful for Mary's contribution to the party and to Arklow over the last four and a half years.

"Wicklow Sinn Féin now has a stringent process in place to ensure that we have the best team of candidates in place for the upcoming local elections; we have learned lessons from the selection process that was in place in the past. Sinn Féin will continue to work with and serve the people of Arklow and South County Wicklow and are committed to ensuring that they are represented in Wicklow County Council come May 25th."

## Fine Gael Bray select new candidates

Fine Gael in Bray selected four new candidates to contest this year's local elections in May. The convention was held in The Martello on Bray seafront.

Two candidates were selected for the new look electoral areas; Aoife Flynn-Kennedy and Edward Whelan for the Bray East Electoral Area with Melanie Corrigan for the Bray West Electoral Area. David Miller was added to the Bray West Electoral ticket after the convention. The busy convention event was chaired by Councillor Derek Mitchell.

Speaking after the convention, Minister Simon Harris said: "I am delighted to show my support for our four candidates for the Bray electoral area. Ned has dedicated his life's work to serving and protecting the community through his role in the prison service. He worked throughout the prison system and was appointed Governor of Mountjoy Prison in 2012. He is hugely dedicated to his local Bray community and he is active through his support of and coaching in GAA. Aoife Flynn-Kennedy who is running in Bray West works in the disability sector and has a close connection with the Bray community through her work. She brings experience from her work as Chair of the Drugs Taskforce and her qualifications in housing and social policy to the table.

"I am really excited that Bray is now split into two districts as it will ensure issues in both areas get the full attention of Councillors. I am really pleased to support Malanie Corrigan and David Miller in Bray West

in May's election.

"Melanie is a committed community activist and volunteer and gives her time to her Enniskerry and the area as well worthwhile causes like Lakers

and Purple House Cancer Support. David Miller is a very strong candidate as he brings his experience as an entrepreneur and solicitor to the ticket," added Minister Harris.

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## Aontú selects local election candidates for Bray

Wicklow held its first local meeting of Aontú in Bray last Monday night. Aontú is now the fastest growing political movement in Ireland with most of those joining new to party politics.

The meeting last Monday was called to select two candidates who are running on behalf of Aontú in the local elections in May, councillors Brendan Thornhill and Oliver O'Brien.

Aontú will be campaigning for 'economic justice' and is pro-life. It will be campaigning for access to housing, healthcare, education and "a safety net for those who need it". It opposes European federalism and militarism. It supports the Irish language, Arts and Culture. It is an All-Ireland party and seeks a 32 county Irish Republic, where the objectives of the 1916 Proclamation, to 'Cherish all the Children of the Nation Equally' are achieved.

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### FRANCHISE OPERATIONS

Tenders are invited for the following for the period 1st May 2019 to 30th September 2019:-

- (A) NORTH BEACH CAR PARK, BRITTAS BAY – Beach or Water Sport Type Activities
- (B) SOUTH BEACH CAR PARK, BRITTAS BAY – Beach or Water Sport Type Activities
- (C) NORTH BEACH CAR PARK, BRITTAS BAY – Food/Ice Cream
- (D) SOUTH BEACH CAR PARK, BRITTAS BAY – Food/Ice Cream

A & B – Single operator will be permitted to set up a mobile unit and trade from car park in supply of Beach Activity type lessons e.g surfing, board sailing, kayaking etc. Operator will have exclusive rights in provision of lessons at designated Beach activity area on Brittas Bay North & South beach. Separate Operator Licences will apply for each beach car-park.

C – Operator will be permitted to set up a mobile unit and trade from North Beach car park in supply of foodstuffs / ice-cream. Tenders must indicate particulars of foodstuffs to be sold.

D – Operator will be permitted to set up a mobile unit and trade from South Beach car park in supply of foodstuffs / ice-cream. Tenders must indicate particulars of foodstuffs to be sold.

In each case operators should quote the Registration Number and Type of Van to be used.

The facilities above are subject to Licensing under the Casual Trading Act, 1995 and an additional fee to the tender price will be required. Successful applicants will be required to meet the requirements set out in the Waste Management Acts, 1996 to 2005, i.e. Waste Collection Permit, Packaging Regulations etc.

Tenders in sealed envelopes marked:

- a) Tender for Parking of Mobile Unit and Beach Activity type Lessons at North Beach Car Park, Brittas Bay
- b) Tender for Parking of Mobile Unit and Beach Activity type Lessons at South Beach Car Park, Brittas Bay
- c) Tender for Parking of Food Van/Ice Cream Van at North Beach Car Park, Brittas Bay
- d) Tender for Parking of Food Van/Ice Cream Van at South Beach Car Park, Brittas Bay

should be lodged with the undersigned not later than 12 noon on Thursday 4th April 2019.

Further particulars and requirements of these franchises are available from the undersigned.

Wicklow County Council also has a number of Casual Trading sites available at present at the following locations:

- Weavers Square, Baltinglass
- Market Square, Rathdrum
- The Mart, Blessington

Application forms for a Casual Trading Licence in order to operate at one of these locations can be obtained from the undersigned.

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# BIFE ARTS FESTIVAL

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Thirty-six students from the Loreto Bray Peace and Justice group, in conjunction with human rights and human development education non-governmental organisation 80:20 Educating and Acting for a Better World, launched a poster art series on International Women's Day on the themes of women's rights and 'on this day' historical events. A central idea to the posters was shared at the launch event in Bray Library by the students and project team, which speaks in celebration to past achievements in the women's rights movement and in protest when comparing them to similar and ongoing daily struggles experienced in the lives of women and girls in today's world. In developing the Use Your Art to End Gender Inequality posters the Peace and Justice group marked the centenary year of suffrage activities and commemorations as reference points for young people, particularly girls, to learn about and be inspired to act on women's rights (and wrongs); as a reminder of and a tribute to the power of posters historically in generating conversations and interest in women's issues and as a mirror to highlight examples of gender discrimination and violence women face every day in public life, in the labour market and at home.

## 500 trees planted in Newcastle

A community-based initiative in Newcastle saw 500 trees being planted in the village on Saturday, 9th March by local residents. There was a native Irish tree available for every child in the village.

Newcastle Resident Association member, Kim Murphy, said: "I am so proud to be part of our tree planting day. Our aim was to plant a tree for generations to come and for the children in Newcastle to have ownership of the initiative. I grew up in Newcastle and live here now with my family. I think it's lovely that we, as a community, could all get together and plant on one day. I think this is something the kids will remember for life, as they watch the trees grow as they do. The positive response we got from the residents has been fantastic. We planted over 500

trees today, both around the village in communal areas and in childrens' gardens. It has never been more relevant for children to have an awareness of the importance of planting and the positive knock-on effect it has. It was a great day, the rain stayed away and instead we had blue skies and rainbows!

"Huge thanks to Alex Calder, Hannah Cuff, Eilis Fitzgerald and especially to Michael Carey who made it all happen. Also the Resident Association members and all the Newcastle residents who made today the great success it was. The native woodland trees, Mountain

Ash, Alder, Silver Birch and Oak were all donated by Coilte which we are very grateful for," added Kim.

Minister for Food, Forestry and Horticulture and European Election Candidate, Andrew Doyle TD, said: "This planting day in Newcastle is the type of initiative we need in Communities across the Country, it has raised awareness of the importance of planting trees, especially native. Ireland needs to be planting more trees. We are behind the EU average and we plan to go from 11% to 18% of forestry cover by 2046. We have the

NeighbourWood Scheme available through the Department which will help fund planting initiatives in communities like this. The Government has made available over 100euro million a year for planting trees through The Forestry Programme 2014-2020.

"Today was great fun and it was very encouraging to see so many people, young and old out in force and working together to make their community and environment a better place to live in. Wicklow is a beautiful county and programmes like this help keep it the 'Garden of Ireland'. Well done to all

involved," Doyle concluded.

The Newcastle Residents Association plan on having a bulb planting event in the Autumn.

## Wicklow and Arklow ports assessed as service bases for Wind Park

SSE, the developer of the proposed Arklow Bank Wind Park, is commencing an assessment of Wicklow Port and Arklow Harbour as possible locations for a future onshore service base for the offshore wind energy project.

Specialist Irish geotechnical engineering and marine consultancy Gavin and Doherty Geosolutions (GDG) Ltd. have been appointed by SSE to assess the suitability of Wicklow Port and Arklow Harbour as possible locations for an onshore base. GDG was originally established in Co. Wicklow eight years ago and has substantial expertise in offshore wind engineering, having worked on projects across Europe.

SSE is currently progressing plans to develop the Arklow Bank Wind Park off the coastline of Co. Wicklow. When fully completed the new offshore wind farm, which is consented to a minimum installed capacity of 520MW, will be capable of generating enough renewable electricity to power around half a million homes each year.

The project will require a land-based hub for servicing and maintaining the offshore wind farm, and as a base for around 60 full-time employees who will be recruited to work on its operation and maintenance. In addition, the development will support various companies across the supply chain, including those involved in vessel services, fuel, technical inputs, and loading and unloading of project cargoes. The development of a new service base and associated long-term employment represents an opportunity for significant new investment and ongoing economic activity at existing maritime facilities in Co. Wicklow.

The site selection process involves an engineering appraisal of individual port-side facilities in both Arklow and Wicklow against a set of constraints and development requirements identified by SSE and wind turbine suppliers. The study is currently underway and is considering the marine infrastructure required for the project, such as the type and number of crew transfer vessels necessary to support the wind farm, and the layout and requirements of any permanent quayside operations buildings.

It is anticipated the study will complete in the coming months, with a preferred location in either Wicklow or Arklow selected by Summer. Development plans for the new Operations and Maintenance facility will be subject to the normal planning application and consultation process.

James O'Hara, SSE's Arklow Bank Wind Park Project Manager, comments "In selecting Arklow Bank's optimum base location at either Arklow Harbour or Wicklow Port, SSE will have full regard for the technical requirements of the proposed base, as well as local stakeholder interests. To that end, we are actively engaging with community representatives in both towns to fully understand stakeholder interactions and current user activities in each port location.

"Ultimately, this study will identify the optimum location for the Operations and Maintenance facility. Our ambition, however, is that regardless of the final location of the service base, the overall delivery of our Arklow Bank Wind Park project will bring long-term economic and employment benefits to coastal communities in both towns for many years to come."



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Archie and Zach Johnston with Minister Andrew Doyle at the tree planting in Newcastle. 500 trees were planted, one for every child in the village.





Pictured: Diarmuid O'Brien, Ben McAuley, and Jonathan Kelly from Enniskerry at the Schools Strike 4 Climate protest in Dublin last Friday

# TRANSPORT AUTHORITY OUTLINES ITS PLANS FOR COUNTY WICKLOW

The National Transport Authority (NTA) should run a public awareness campaign on how to sneeze properly when using public transport, Cllr John Ryan believes.

NTA Chief Executive Anne Graham and Deputy Chief Executive Hugh Creegan were at this month's meeting of Wicklow County Council to outline plans for the county's transport system.

Cllr Ryan said one of his main grievances with public transport was people sneezing on him: "I know it sounds a strange thing to say but people in Ireland don't know how to sneeze properly. With the amount of people on both the DARTs and buses these days in tightly confined spaces for 60 minutes, it is a huge opportunity for disease to pass. And I think a campaign in that regard would be worthwhile."

On more serious matters, Ms Graham explained that one of the big issues in terms of delivery of services across Co. Wicklow is the county's geography: "There are challenges to delivering cross-county services through what is the mountainous regions and centre of the county, but we have to respond to that," she said.

"In terms of the N11/M11, we are engaging with TII on widening for bus priority, particularly at key points. And then within towns themselves we want to try and put in bus priority where possible in partnership with Wicklow County Council."

Councillors were informed that the suggestion of an extension of the Luas from Saggart to Blessington is not currently part of the NTA's strategy. Responding to concerns voiced by councillors that the Luas extension to Bray was in doubt, Mr Creegan said "the National Development Plan has in it a commitment that during the period of that plan, which runs to 2027, the design and planning work will be done for a future extension of the line out towards Bray and implementation is to be considered in the next development plan, that's what we have to work to."

Mr Creegan however explained that the Luas Bray line in the Transport Strategy was

'indicative', and the precise route, whether to Fassaroe or elsewhere in Bray, was still to be decided: "In the transport strategy we give one line, but also say it is indicative and subject to further development when the details emerge, if it is a stronger case to move it in a different direction, we can work our way through in the future."

With regards to the stalled N81 upgrade, councillors were told that although the NTA's transport strategy for the region identifies the need to upgrade the N81, it is dependent on whether it is a priority for Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) and on whether they have the funding to do it.

With regards to the DART/train service, councillors were told that the NTA is undertaking a feasibility study on track changes between Greystones and Bray to assess the potential for a 20-minute DART service. The feasibility study will be completed later this month.

changes to get a 20-minute DART service in Greystones, that's our priority."

Co. Wicklow will however be getting a new bus service (the 183), which is expected to be launched this month and which will be integrated with train services. The route will be from Glendalough to Wicklow Town, with stops in Laragh, Roundwood, Ashford, and Rathnew.

Regarding the 84 Dublin Bus route, Ms Graham said "we'll look at that and see if we're in a position to provide additional services because we require funding for that."

Speaking after the meeting, Cllr Derek Mitchell said "On the railway the single line track around Bray Head is a major problem. I wrote a report in February 2018 suggesting partial double tracking as a way of providing 50% more DARTs to Greystones. This was ignored by Irish Rail but the NTA has got international rail experts involved, who will report by the end of March on whether this is feasible. More trains to Kilcoole and south of Greystones depend on when more carriages are available. Some will come in 2021. My paper suggested doubling the length of these at rush hour but no commitment was given on this."

**Wicklow Historical Society**

Ken Hannigan, retired National Archives archivist and Wicklow Historical Society committee member, will be the guest speaker for the Society's Monday March 25th meeting at 8pm in the De La Salle Parish Centre, beside St. Patrick's Church, Wicklow, at which he will talk about "James Joyce and his Wicklow associates." This is the final talk in Wicklow Historical Society's current winter lecture series. All are welcome to attend.

## BUS CONNECTS

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## Public Consultation Information Events

A series of information events are being held about the BusConnects core bus corridors project public consultation. The core bus corridors project aims to deliver 230kms of dedicated bus lanes and 200kms of cycle tracks along 16 of the busiest corridors in Dublin. The public consultation for the sixteen core bus corridors is taking place on a phased basis and will run until May 2019.

The public consultation for Phase 1 and 2 is currently underway. Phase 3, the 6 corridors listed below, has now commenced.

Public information events for  
**Bray to City Centre, UCD Ballsbridge to City Centre, Blackrock to Merrion, Ringsend to City Centre, Ballymun to City Centre, Finglas to Phibsborough,**  
are being held in the following venues:

CORRIDOR	VENUE	DATE & TIME
Bray to City Centre	Talbot Hotel Stillorgan (Park Hotel) Stillorgan Road, Blackrock, Dublin, A94 V6K5.	Tues 26th March 15:00 - 20:00
UCD Ballsbridge to City Centre / Blackrock to Merrion	Clayton Burlington Hotel, Leeson Street Upper, Dublin, D04 A318.	Wed 27th March 15:00 - 20:00
Ringsend to City Centre	The Convention Centre, Spencer Dock, N Wall Quay, North Wall, Dublin 1, D01 T1W6.	Mon 1st April 15:00 - 20:00
Ballymun to City Centre / Finglas to Phibsborough	Ballymun Axis Arts Centre, Main Street, Dublin 9, D09 Y9W0.	Wed 3rd April 15:00 - 20:00

All are welcome to attend.  
The NTA team will be there to answer your queries.

For more information on the core bus corridor public consultation go to  
[www.busconnects.ie](http://www.busconnects.ie)





# COUNTDOWN TO CROKE PARK BEGINS FOR WICKLOW'S MOST ENTERPRISING STUDENTS



The Overall Winners of the Wicklow LEO Student Enterprise Programme were Robert Davey and Shane Browne of the company 'The Chop' for Colaiste Bhríde Carnew. They are pictured with Wicklow Head of Enterprise, Vibeke Delahunt

Four teenage entrepreneurs from three local schools have won a place representing County Wicklow at the Student Enterprise Programme National Finals in Croke Park on Friday, May 3rd.

Every September through Local Enterprise Office Wicklow, entrepreneurial secondary school students begin their business journey as they are encouraged to research, set-up and run their own real-world businesses.

The enterprise education initiative, funded by the Government of Ireland through Enterprise Ireland and delivered by the 31 Local Enterprise Offices in local authorities, is the most successful student enterprise programme of kind in the country. An estimated 26,000 students from 490 schools around the country begin their entrepreneurial journey every year with the help of their teachers, student enterprise co-ordinators and Local Enterprise Office.

The students were all

competing at the Wicklow Final on the 12th March, which was held at the Wicklow County Campus, Clermont House, Rathnew. An estimated 120 students from 17 schools took part in the annual programme locally.

In the Junior Category, the students representing Wicklow at the National Finals in Croke Park are: Holly Eager from Handmade by Holly at Coláiste Chraobh Abhann, Kilcoole. In the Intermediate Category, Ross Byrne, from The Wood Whisperer at C.B.S. Arklow will be representing the county in Croke Park. In the Senior Category of the competition, Wicklow will be represented on May 3rd by Shane Brown and Robert Davey from The Chop at Coláiste Bhríde,

Carnew.

Special guests at the Wicklow Final included Wicklow County Council's Leas Cathaoirleach Irene Winters, Chief Executive Mr Frank Curran, and special guest speaker Kate Dempsey.

The County has a successful track record in the student enterprise competition. Recent awards won by local secondary schools have included the 2016 Senior Winner, Luke Byrne from Headphone Helpers at Coláiste Chraobh Abhann, Kilcoole and the 2017 Intermediate Winner, Cillian Scott from Scott Engine Tables at Coláiste Chill Mhantáin, Rathnew.

Speaking at the county final, Vibeke Delahunt Head of Enterprise at Local Enterprise Office

Wicklow congratulated the students, saying "We have a very successful student enterprise programme here in Wicklow, with over 120 students from 17 local schools taking part this year. Our national finalists are excellent ambassadors for the programme and we wish them the very best of luck in Croke Park on May 3rd."

She continued: "What our students are learning from the programme is that with the right supports and encouragement, they can take an idea from the classroom and develop it into a real-life business. The skills they learn along the way, such as business planning, market research, selling and team-work, will help them become more entrepreneurial throughout their future careers".

## Greystones musician hopes to follow footsteps of Hozier

Sean McParland (22), a pianist and singer/songwriter from Greystones, recently showcased his musical talents performing live on the radio, and he plans to start gigging around the local area in the coming months.

This is all in the hope of following in the footsteps of fellow local musician Hozier.

Although a singer/songwriter by nature, Sean says that his favourite genre of music has always been pop and these tones can come through in his work. "I grew up listening to pop. Being born in 1996, it was kind of the big genre of music when I was young".

He says that his parents always told him that he could sing before he could speak, and he admits it has "always been a massive passion of mine". His interests lie now in artists like Muse, Shawn Mendes and Mika, some of which he has covered on his YouTube channel.

It was at the end of secondary school and around the time when Sean started college that he began to develop an interest in writing his own songs. The first song he wrote was called "Ghost", and he released this as a single in 2017. Sean performs from the heart and he said that with any single he has written, the inspiration has always come from a personal experience, varying in depth. He described the

song-writing process as piecing bits together, and that ideas can come at random, even when walking down the street in Greystones.



Sean McParland

Who inspires Sean? Thinking back over times past, Sean explains that "Hozier actually went to my school and I remember watching him play music". Sean was in first year in secondary school when Hozier was in sixth year at the same time. "Watching his journey has had a huge influence on me," he admits. Sean also likes the Irish/Canadian band ROMES, and is familiar with the bass guitar player Andrew Keyes, who also attended St. Gerald's Secondary School in Bray, as Hozier and Sean did.

Sean says that he really enjoyed playing for the

first time on live radio. He described the feeling as crazy and surreal in hearing a song you've created from scratch being played and heard on the radio.

Talking about the journey so far, Sean remembers a time when he was driving his friends home

He explains that his songs showcase his personality and who he really is, and that people understanding that holds huge importance to him. "The first song I wrote, Ghost, came during a phase in which I wasn't too content with the direction I was going in life". With this song Sean wanted to show that vulnerable side to him. "If I heard that one person was touched by what they heard or that they had gone through something similar, I felt like that was what I had wanted to get out of it".

Sean's plans for 2019 include writing songs, doing more live gigs and getting his music out on radio. He said that he plans to grow his music organically before he builds up enough material for an album, which he hopes will happen at some stage down the line. In April he will be playing a gig at the Beach House in Greystones, and you can follow his Instagram page for news and updates by searching sean.mcparland. Sean is in the process of recording his forth single at the moment, in collaboration with another musician, and this should be released soon. To listen back to his singles, search "Sean McParland" on Spotify.

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# Bray candidates asked not to poster Main Street

Councillor Steven Matthews is appealing to Bray election candidates to join Wicklow Town and Arklow in agreeing to a request from Tidy Towns to only poster certain areas and avoid placing posters on the Main Street. Councillor Matthews has made a commitment to use just 50 posters and abide by the Tidy Towns request, regardless of the outcome.

While over 100 towns throughout Ireland including Wicklow and Arklow have a poster ban in place it seems that Bray will not fall into line.

Councillor Matthews said, "I presented a request from Bray Tidy Towns to Bray Councillors last week to restrict the number of posters to 50 per candidate and to keep our Main Street and parts of Quinsborough and Florence Road poster free. There was little support

for this and it was not agreed.

"In 2014 I got a voluntary agreement from all candidates to keep our Main Street poster free. For this election Bray Tidy Towns were seeking a similar poster free area for fewer posters to be hung.

"There are many good reasons for reducing the number and placement of posters but many councillors and candidates believe that posters are necessary.

"Bray Tidy Towns will now lobby all candidates to ask them to agree to the proposal. It is a completely voluntary agreement but in the interest of road safety, visual amenity, plastic waste and discarded cable ties I hope everyone will agree.

"To start the process I agree to the proposal not to poster the area requested and to put up only 50 posters. This may affect my chances in this election but it's important to lead by example too."

The Notice of Motion submitted in Councillor Matthews' name requested that all candidates voluntarily agree to keep Bray Main Street poster free between southern end of Bray Bridge and to just beyond the junction of Bray Main Street with Killarney Road and Vevay Road.

It also requested that all candidates remove cable ties from lampposts while removing their posters.



Pictured at the School Strike for Climate protest and march that took place in Greystones are Lourda Scott and Steven Matthews with Dylan Brown, Rosalie Brown and Ezra Doyle-Matthews.

## Donard Garda Station re-opens

Donard Garda Station was re-opened on Thursday March 14th. The station will open three days a week and "will bring a much needed presence of Garda back to rural West Wicklow," said Cllr Edward Timmins.

Before the official opening the Garda Band entertained the students of the local Primary School. Cllr Timmins added "This was a great event and the students and teachers played their part in the entertainment. The band even gave a very impressive rendition of songs by Ed Sheeran and Amy Winehouse."

Assistant Garda commissioner Fintan Fanning attended the event. Also welcoming the news, John Brady TD said "The re-opening comes as part of the establishment of a pilot scheme to reopen six of the 139 Garda stations that were closed across the State in 2012 and 2013.

"Fine Gael and Labour closed both Donard and Hollywood Garda Stations in West Wicklow leaving both communities extremely vulnerable to crime and we saw the direct consequences of this through increased burglaries in West Wicklow. "I have been raising the need to reopen Donard since it was first closed and I

have raised it directly with the Minister for Justice numerous times. I am glad that common sense has prevailed.

"The re-opening of Donard Garda Station will come as a great relief to the people of Donard and its environs. This is positive news and I am confident that it will play a critical role in dealing with rural crime in the area."

## 'New bus badly needed by Wicklow commuters'

A new bus route running from Bray to Ballymun will start operating on Sunday 24th March. Route 155 will operate seven days a week between IKEA in Ballymun and Bray train station, via Dublin City Centre.

Stephen Donnelly TD explained "We're told the timetable, which starts at 6am on weekdays, will see buses departing every 20 minutes, while the route will pass by two universities, both UCD and DCU.

"It's great to see any improvement in public transport; it means that we're thinking about the environment as well as our daily commute. The 155 will offer a useful alternative to the 145 for people travelling into Dublin City Centre. It's also convenient for those going to other destinations on the Northside, not to mention IKEA staff who've told me that they needed an earlier service to be in time for their morning shifts.

"We could also see a welcome boost to tourism in Bray thanks to the new bus. In the summertime it will be an added incentive to Dublin families who want to spend a day by the sea in Bray", concluded Donnelly.



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# TIDY TOWNS 2019



Registration for this year's Tidy Towns competition will open after the launch date on 28th March, however the many dedicated tidy towns groups around Co. Wicklow have been hard at work since the end of last year's competition.

The national Tidy Towns competition is an annual contest organised by the Department of Rural and Community Development.

The competition is supported by many agencies. The national Tidy Towns initiative was launched in 1958 by Bord Fáilte (now Fáilte Ireland). It was originally part of 'Tostal', a nationwide festival celebrating all things Irish. A step-up from the original National Spring Clean Campaign, which ran between 1953 and 1957, Tidy Towns rapidly developed its own identity

and has gone on to become Ireland's most well known and popular local environmental initiative.

The competition involves participating areas being rated on all aspects of their local environment and prizes awarded to the best under many different categories. The overall winner is "Ireland's Tidiest Town", which is announced at a national ceremony in September each year.

With progress monitored and detailed feedback provided year on year, most participants

initially enter the competition to generate interest about the environment in their community and create a solid platform on which to raise issues with the relevant authorities. Over time, the areas attain a standard where competing for major prizes is within reach. As such it is very much a development programme for towns and villages across Ireland.

The Tidy Towns competition is open to all areas, big or small, urban or rural, and each are entered under their respective population categories. These range from

the smallest, Category A - Under 200, to the largest, Category H - 25,001 and over. Entry is free regardless of the size of an area.

Entrants are the 'ambassadors' for their area and therefore are the primary contact in relation to correspondence. Ideally, entry should be made by a broad-based group that represents all sectors of the community.

However, it is not expected that these structures have to be in place before entering. Entry from a credible body, such as a Local Authority, Development Agency, Residents' Group or Local Business, will also be accepted. Nonetheless, in all cases, it is expected that participation will be used to generate wider interest in the effort within the community. Progress on encouraging broader community involvement is a major part of the Tidy Towns' assessment criteria.

The documentation needed to participate is a completed entry form forwarded to the Tidy Towns Unit of the Department of Rural and Community

Development, either by email, on-line or via post. Additional information may also be provided with the form to assist the Tidy Towns adjudicators in their assessment. All participants are encouraged to prepare a multi-annual strategic plan to guide their activities. This may be forwarded with the entry form when available. However, it is not a requirement for entry.

You can volunteer via [www.volunteer.ie](http://www.volunteer.ie), since the Volunteer Ireland website has many Tidy Towns committees registered.

Furthermore, you can contact the Tidy Towns Unit by email at [TidyTowns@ahg.gov.ie](mailto:TidyTowns@ahg.gov.ie). Finally, if there is a local Tidy Towns committee already in place, the national Tidy Towns organisation can contact them on your behalf.



Pictured: Pete O'Neill from Bray Emmets and Shay Colgan at the recent Bray Tidy Towns tree planting day on Bray Head

**Cllr. Joe BEHAN**  
INDEPENDENT

TEL: 086 8375602  
EMAIL: [joebehan@outlook.ie](mailto:joebehan@outlook.ie)



**Congratulations and Thank You to the many Tidy Towns Volunteers in Co. Wicklow**

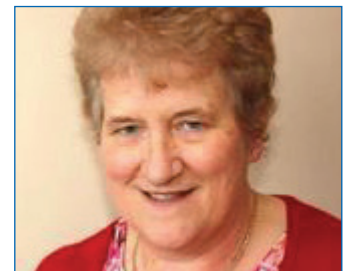
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**Continued success and best wishes to all involved in Wicklow Tidy Towns**

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# Pat Casey<sup>TD</sup>

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 The Bluebell, Main Street, Arklow

**Pat would like to wish all the Tidy Town Committees the very best in their good work**

**FIANNA FAÍL**  
THE REPUBLICAN PARTY



## Arklow river walk re-vamp

In late 2019, Arklow tidy towns (Arklow TT) contacted Altura Credit Union Ltd (Altura CU) to see if they would support the re-vamp of the river walk along the Avoca river in Arklow.

# TIDY TOWNS 2019



After an enthusiastic presentation by Arklow TT with Tom Brennan (Business Development & Marketing Manager), the Board of Directors of Altura CU agreed this was a great initiative. The river walk had become overgrown and forgotten by many. Substantial work has

been done to improve and make safe the beautiful nature walk. As Altura CU recently opened an office in Ferrybank - beside the river it was a natural fit to get involved.

Arklow TT have great plans to continue to develop this, particularly as the Irish Water works

begin, which will make a tremendous difference to the water quality & wildlife in the area. As the catchment area of Altura CU covers the East Coast from Bray to Curracloe, it was a great opportunity to get involved with Arklow - a town serviced by Altura CU. As the works con-

tinue along the walk, Altura CU & Arklow TT will continue to work together with improvements and events to showcase the beauty along the Altura River Walk. This local amenity is already regaining many walkers, as it is now more accessible, bright and open.



Above: Wicklow Town

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### Cllr. Irene WINTERS



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Best wishes to all involved with their local Tidy Towns Committee

*fine gael* ★

### Cllr. PAT FITZGERALD



Best wishes to all involved on Arklow Tidy Towns Committee

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Good Luck to all involved with the Tidy Towns

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# TIDY TOWNS 2019



Cllr Tom Fortune is pictured with Zoe, Emily, and Lana Woodward representing Delgany Tidy Towns at the Council's annual Tidy Towns and Estate Awards last month.

## VOLUNTEERS PRAISED AT TIDY TOWNS AND ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS

Local volunteers were highly praised last month at the annual Wicklow County Council Tidy Towns, Estates and Environmental Awards which took place in County Buildings. The awards give recognition to a variety of groups for projects and actions undertaken in their local communities over the last year.

Speaking at the awards Mr Frank Curran, Chief Executive, Wicklow County Council, said that the volunteers involved in Tidy Towns played a key role in our towns development and added that the Council would work to ensure that all the groups can access funding and grants from all available sources to help them with their work.

All groups were constantly searching for

more volunteers with a range of skills from picking litter, planting and DIY to IT and social media skills, as well as those who want to build more sustainable communities, protect local biodiversity or tackle Climate Change.

Aughrim received recognition for achieving the highest score in the 2018 national Tidy Town Competition of all County Wicklow entries while Hollywood

achieved the biggest increase in marks in the national competition and received an endeavour award.

Main streets and estates were judged during the summer months looking at efforts to keep them litter free, landscaping and maintenance of shop fronts and built heritage.

Aughrim, Hollywood and Blessington were the winners in the Main Street competition while

Burnaby Lawns, Greystones and Ashton, Blessington both picked up awards for best maintained estates.

Hollywood Tidy Towns won an award for their communal gardening which included an allotment developed as a demonstration plot for the community and also as a feature within the annual Hollywood Fair.

Newtownmountkennedy won the waste minimisation award for their networking seminar on sustainable resource use to mark European Week for Waste Reduction. They partnered with Coillte and Wicklow County Council and invited all Tidy Town groups from Wicklow and Dun Laoghaire drawing on local expertise within Coillte, the local community and national campaigns.

Knockananna Tidy Towns were recognised

for their efforts to save and renovate the historic forge building located in the heart of the village.

Blessington Tidy Towns were recognised for their new digitalized heritage walk with QR codes and work to have equipment installed on the Blessington Lakes Greenway.

The Baltynamina PURE mile won the wildlife and natural amenities for their website and signage which showcases the wealth of local biodiversity. They held themed walks for both adults and children on biodiversity.

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. They were also successful with a bid to rehome a dementia-friendly garden developed for Bloom last year.

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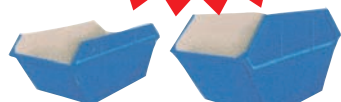
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# Weddings... Your Special Day

**I**f you're considering a wedding, start off by thinking about your favourite season and your favourite parts of the season. Is it budding flowers poking up through the frost that still lies thinly on the ground? Perhaps you'll want to have a wedding early in the Spring season. If it's the emerging sunshine, choose bright colors and May weather.

Most wedding dresses seem made for a Spring wedding. Wedding magazines are full of large skirts that may be too warm for the summer, and sleeveless tops that may be too cold for winter. Look for a versatile dress that can be paired with a

wrap if you're chilly, yet is still light and airy.

Many more brides these days are opting for a hint of colour in their wedding

dresses - be it a baby blue sash, an allover hint of pink, or light colourful embroidery. These touches will look perfect at a spring wedding.

When dressing for any wedding in Ireland, keep in mind that the weather can be hit or miss. You may have warmth and sunshine, or you may end up with a damp, chilly day.

## Decide the budget

This is vital and should be one of the first things you decide. If you let things go you may end up with a nasty shock when the bills start coming in. You should overestimate rather than underestimate costs and allow some money for contingency, that way you will be prepared for unexpected last minute costs. In the current climate, it is vital to be realistic about cost and ensure that you tailor your day to your pocket.

## Professional planning

If you feel you would like additional help or simply won't have the time to plan your wedding yourself, you have the option of hiring a professional wedding planner. You will need to do this as early as you can as many planners are booked up for over a year ahead. A professional planner will take on the job of planning your day for a set budget while consulting with you at every step. This can take a lot of the work out of the run up to your big day but it is a costly service so make sure you agree costs in advance.

## Choosing a Venue

Traditionally, to get the venue you want during the time of year you want, you would usually have to book your wedding at least a year in advance. If you would like to marry on a Saturday during the summer months you could find yourself having to book up to two years in advance. However, this has started to change during recent times and it is well worth phoning around to see what is available. Make sure the function room you choose is suitable for the size of the wedding party, your group of 100 will feel lost and uncomfortable in a huge room. Also, ask exactly what

the venue will and will not supply on the day. A hotel is the traditional wedding venue but there are alternatives out there. You might think about having a marquee if you or your relatives have a big enough garden. Some restaurants or pubs have private function rooms that can be hired out for smaller weddings. These are proving increasingly popular in recent times.

## The Guest List

Deciding on the guest list for a wedding has been known to cause a row or two between couples! Just remember, this is your day, not your workplaces, not your great aunty's and not your friends! Do not let other people get carried away with your day and take it upon themselves to invite people. Another decision you will need to make is whether or not children will be welcome to attend. This can be a difficult decision. You could find that, if inviting children, you end up with a massive number of children on the day which can make things difficult (and noisy) If you decide not to ask children, maybe discuss it with relatives and friends in advance of the invitation. Hopefully they will be understanding and let your day go ahead in peace and quiet.

## Choosing Bridesmaids/Groomsmen

A lot of people are delighted by the request to act as bridesmaid or groomsman, however there are some people that will not be too keen for a variety of reasons. A very shy friend will prob-



ably not relish the role of best man. Children usually love dressing up as flower girls and pageboys and parents will be thrilled that their children have been asked. Traditionally the matron of honour was a married friend, although this does not always apply now.

## Flowers and Decorations

A seemingly small detail, these can be a very costly part of your wedding day. Decorating the church and reception can be pricey but you can keep it as simple as you want. Discuss any ideas with your florist and don't forget buttonholes and bouquets for your bridesmaids and groomsmen.

## Photographs and Videos

An increasing number of couples are opting to have their special day videoed as well as having traditional photographs taken. Most photographers now

have their own websites with examples of their work available so you can have an idea of styles. Be sure to decide what type of mood you would like to capture in the pictures.

## The Dress

This is undoubtedly one of the biggest purchases for the bride. Many women have been dreaming of wedding dresses since they were a little girl and will want a princess type creation, others will go for a more simple style, especially if the ceremony will be smaller or in a registry office. You can buy an off the peg dress in one of the many wedding dress shops. A more affordable option is to look in some of the bigger department stores. You can of course get your dress made and it is important to remember that you will have to attend dress fittings and be advised to gain or lose weight in the run up to the

wedding or you run the risk of having an ill fitting dress.

## The Suit

Easier than choosing the dress by far, most men opt to visit a suit hire shop for the morning suit. Of course some men will buy their own suit or even get them made. Again, department stores are a good option here.

## The Rings

This is another area where the cost can vary enormously. For some people it is important to have a very expensive ring and for others it is merely a symbol. An increasingly popular choice these days is to opt for platinum or white gold rings, although the traditional yellow gold wedding band is still the choice of most people. Your jeweller will talk you through the different options.



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Dunny Colhoun presents the Achievement Award to Marguerite Hughes from the Dielectrics department at the Intel Women's Achievement Awards which took place on International Women's Day. Marguerite, who lives near Shillelagh, was honoured at the awards which recognise and acknowledge women working at Intel for a variety of outstanding achievements that have delivered a significant impact to Intel's business.

## Listen out for Hearing Awareness Week in Bray!

There will be FREE screenings to test for hearing loss, blood pressure and diabetes during Hearing Awareness Week later this month, in a roadshow staged by Hidden Hearing with the Irish Heart Foundation and Diabetes Ireland.

Those interested in being tested are encouraged to register now for the free health screening events taking place in Sligo, Navan, Bray, Wexford and Cork from Monday 25th to Friday 29th March. The local event for Bray takes place this year in the Royal Hotel & Leisure Centre in Bray Town on the 27th of March from 10.00am and 4.00pm. More information is available at [www.hiddenhearing.ie/](http://www.hiddenhearing.ie/) or at local Hidden Hearing branches.

Medical research around the world shows that untreated hearing loss is linked to general health and wellness and can indicate a higher risk of problems with blood pressure, stroke, diabetes and dementia.

However, a survey by Hidden Hearing Ireland in January this year showed awareness of the connection between hearing loss and serious health issues such as cardiovascular disease and dementia, is low here, even among those with hearing loss.

While social isolation was identified by 43% as problematic, and a further 35% identified depression as being connected with poor hearing, only 11% of hearing impaired people in Ireland recognised a link between dementia and hearing loss.

There were similarly low levels of awareness of connections to blood pressure (9%), stroke (9%) and diabetes problems (7%).

### Ireland Poor on Hearing Health

The survey was part of worldwide research, and indicated a poor track

record for the Irish when it comes to looking after their hearing health, according to Hidden Hearing Ireland CEO, Stephen Leddy.

"There was low awareness of the knock-on health impacts, when we don't treat hearing loss. Also significant was the delay in the time people take to have their hearing tested, and to seek treatment, when they notice a problem; and a reluctance to use a hearing aid when needed", he reported.

22% in the Irish survey admitted waiting five years or more before seeking medical help for hearing loss. This was the highest figure in the global sample for treatment delay.

A report by the National Council on the Ageing has shown that people with hearing loss who do not use hearing aids can be prone to depression, worry, and diminished social activity. Those whose hearing loss is treated report better relationships, improved mood, and more independence.

Wearing a hearing aid can also slow the progress of dementia by up to 75 per cent, according to a study published by the University of Manchester at the end of last year.

Scientists believe that keeping people engaged and active with devices like hearing aids can significantly reduce age-related cognitive decline.

The research team said the strength of the association between hearing aids and mental deterioration meant policy makers should consider hearing loss screening for all older adults.



Majella O'Donnell at the launch of Hearing Awareness Week

### Free Local Screening

At the free screening events health specialists will be available to answer questions and provide vital health checks and procedures like blood pressure and blood sugar measurement, foot examinations, ear wax removal and hearing tests.

Marese Damery, Health Check Manager for the Irish Heart Foundation, says a regular blood pressure check can literally be a life-saver, as high blood pressure is a silent killer and a leading cause of heart disease and stroke in Ireland.

Type 2 diabetes is also a growing problem in Ireland, with over 200,000 people already diagnosed and an estimated prevalence of 6.5% of the population.

Patients with diabetes are more than twice as likely to have hearing loss, according to studies at the U.S. National Institutes of Health, the largest biomedical research agency in the world.

And, ongoing research in the Medical College of Wisconsin has shown that, because the inner ear is so sensitive to blood flow, cardiovascular abnormalities are noted in connection with hearing loss too.

Hearing affects our quality of life in a big way, and has important health and safety implications, according to Hidden Hearing Audiologist, Peter Noel Cullen.

"We are isolated when we don't hear properly and it puts a strain on our relationships, and on other aspects of our general health. Wearing glasses for poor eyesight is common, and yet we need to have a similar approach to hearing devices in order to get the most from life", the hearing expert says.

As well as the country-wide roadshows for Hearing Awareness Week, free hearing tests are available for over 50s at all 80 Hidden Hearing clinics nationwide.

To find out about Hearing Awareness Week, see [hiddenhearing.ie](http://hiddenhearing.ie) or freephone 1850 80 40 50.

## Bray pupil's Ted Talk finally goes ahead after fire fears

Stephen Donnelly TD has praised Bray schoolgirl Jenny Salmon who finally got to give her Ted Talk in Dublin Castle last week after the original event was cancelled in January.

The Fifth year student at Loreto Bray was due to deliver a speech in the Mansion House in January that was being filmed as part of an online series of educational Ted Talks. However the event was cancelled after smoke was detected in the Round Room of the Mansion House and members of the public were immediately evacuated from the area. They were initially relocated in the adjoining 'Fire Restaurant' while two tenders from the Dublin Fire Brigade arrived on the scene, but they were later asked to leave the premises.

Stephen Donnelly TD said "Speculation was rife that the smoke was coming from the electrical wiring in the Mansion House. It had been heavily used the day before when the venue had host-

ed the official State commemorations marking 100 years since the first public sitting of Dáil Éireann. However that was never confirmed. What is certain is that the fire fighters made the right decision to err on the side of caution. It was very disappointing for Jenny and all the other students who'd worked hard on their speeches but it's always better to be safe than sorry.

"I'm pleased to say that Jenny finally got to have her say this week. The Ted Ex talks went ahead on Friday 8th March in Dublin Castle. I've spoken to the organiser of the event, Conor Reale, who's the Parliamentary Education Officer in the Oireachtas. It was Conor who started the Ted Ed Club which helps Irish students create short



Jenny Salmon with Stephen Donnelly TD

video lessons and he's praised the outstanding quality of the speeches. Out of 300 entries, just 15 were chosen to be recorded live in the castle. Jenny's talk focused on the human cost of mobile phones, especially on

those who mine some of the metal components. It's fantastic to see that the next generation has a social conscience and the communications skills to enlighten those around them," concluded Donnelly.

## Over 200 litter fines unpaid

Out of 652 litter fines issued by Wicklow County Council between 2015 and 2017, just 440 were paid.

There were also 16 prosecutions for litter offences during this time. In 2017, Wicklow County Council received €25,947.27 through the issuing of litter fines, however there were 82 unpaid fines that year.

"To enforce the legislation to its fullest extent in order to prevent and control litter

and illegal dumping" is one of the objectives of the Council's Litter Management Plan 2019-2024 which is now out on public display.

Cigarettes account for 40% of litter in Wicklow's towns and villages, with packaging and food-related litter together accounting for almost 30% of litter,

councillors were informed at this month's meeting of Wicklow County Council.

The Council's draft Litter Management Plan (2019-2024) sets out the policies and objectives regarding enforcement and regulation measures, litter prevention and control measures, education and awareness measures, and community participation.

Pedestrians and motorists are responsi-

ble for over 60% of litter, while retail outlets are responsible for 10%. The plan also notes that "Fly tipping by visitors and recreational drivers is an issue in many scenic locations with popular locations such as beaches particular prone to this issue", and "dog fouling is an issue that has been a top priority in many parts of the county particularly in popular urban walking routes".



Pictured: Ciaran Fox, Molly Smith, Hannah McConnell and Velma Morris performing at the Colaiste Craobh Abhann production of Hairspray at the Mermaid Theatre.



# BIFE student is the Masseuse of the Year

Rhona Kelly, a past pupil of BIFE, recently won the Masseuse of the Year award at the Irish hair & Beauty awards. "This is a huge deal for me and I feel a lot had to do with the exceptional training I received in BIFE" says Rhona.

Rhona put her dream of working in the Beauty & Holistic Therapy industry on hold to rear her young family after leaving school. Fast forward 13 years and with her children starting secondary school she decided to go back and study.

"It wasn't easy" she says, "I had no confidence, but with the help

from the teachers on my course at BIFE, I managed to not only qualify as a beauty therapist but also to stay on and do an extra year of holistic therapy.

"Plenty of times I wanted to give up as I found it hard as there was a lot of work involved as well as taking care of my children, but the support and help I got from the teach-

ers at BIFE kept me going."

Since completing college Rhona has worked in the beauty industry. She has trained in Reiki, meditation and yoga and has travelled to India to train in yoga and in shiatsu massage.

Last year she decided to set up her own business Rhona Rose Therapies.

"It's going amazingly well," she says. "I teach yoga and meditation. I also do a lot of energy healing massage. This is a combination of different treatments I have brought together to suit each client's needs. I also do a lot of advance waxing and skincare. I organise wellness days which combines yoga and

meditation.

"I mainly do advanced skin care treatments, waxing, healing massage and energy work."

Rhona teaches Reiki level 1 and 2 and hopes to do more teaching in the future.

You can contact Rhona on 0868452281 or check out her website .rhonarosetherapies.com.



Winner of the 'Masseuse of the Year' award, former BIFE pupil Rhona Kelly

## Petition launched for 84x bus service

Bray Labour candidate Ian McGahon has launched an online petition to the National Transport Authority for more 84x buses and an improved service for commuters in Bray, Greystones, Kilcoole and Newcastle.

Commenting on the issue McGahon said "On Monday 4th March the National Transport Authority presented before Wicklow County Councils monthly meeting. Overall their presentation was positive and demonstrates that public transport in County Wicklow will radically change in the coming years. At the end of their presentation Cllr Derek Mitchell of Fine Gael requested an increased 84x service. He highlighted that there is an increased need and demand for the service because there are approximately 1000 new houses in the Greystones area since the last census in 2016. The National Transport Authority responded to say they are making no promises and to watch this space in the coming months.

"I believe this response is not good enough. I know from canvassing on the Southern Cross Road in Bray that the increased demand means Bray commuters suffer. They often cannot get on buses because they are full. In addition the evening service gets caught up in the overall Dublin commuter rush and North Wicklow residents get left behind. We recently wrote to the National Transport Authority requesting 2 changes. 1 Provide extra buses on the 84x Route 2 Limit the departure stops on the 84x Route. They have not responded as yet but their response to Wicklow County Council is frankly not good enough.

"In order to pressure the NTA on this I am calling on members of the public to sign the petition at my.uplift.ie/p/84x - Hopefully the NTA might listen to citizen pressure."



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Sarah Dawson and Sinead O'Brien at the first Sing For The Trees event in Bray

# Singing for the Trees

On International Women's Day on Friday 8th March, 30 women came to the People's Park in Bray to join women gathering across the world in singing for the trees. 71 registered Sing for the Trees events, co-ordinated by the global women-led reforestation movement, TreeSisters, took place in 19 countries to raise awareness of the crucial role that trees play in the face of climate change.

TreeSisters support eight planting projects across the world to reforest key areas of the tropics. They have already planted over 4 million trees and their projected number of trees to be planted each year is currently 2,637,988 and rising.

They plant trees in the tropics because these vast tree areas control our weather systems and thereby cool down the earth's atmosphere.

These trees also sequester more carbon from the atmosphere compared to trees in temperate climates. Their planting projects are based in Nepal, Kenya, Cameroon, Brazil, India and Madagascar.

TreeSisters fund work globally but also encourage their members to meet locally in grass-roots women's circles called Groves, in which women take on the responsibility of taking care of themselves and the Earth in community.

Emma Cullen and Maura Ryan, members of a Grove circle who meet regularly in Bray, were delighted to organise the first ever Sing for the Trees Bray event. Women came not only to honour each other as women on International Women's Day but also to honour the magnificent trees we are so privileged to enjoy in the People's Park in Bray.

They sang chants and



Emma Cullen and Orla Farrell from Easy Treesie, and in the background Nuala Creane at the Sing For The Trees event in Bray

songs to show their gratitude to the old trees that line the main path through the park and to wish for protection and respect for the newly planted trees by the river, some of which have been vandalised in recent years. Songs they sang included Lollipop Tree by Burl Ives. The singing group Chaos in Harmony

that meet every Monday in Bray's Common Ground also adapted the song 'I love the Mountains' for the event.

So far the event has raised €150 for TreeSisters and this money will plant an estimated 560 trees in the tropics. If you would like to donate, become a TreeSisters member, or

simply learn more about the women-led charity, check out the TreeSisters website on [treesisters.org](http://treesisters.org). Also if you would like to join the grove in Bray or form your own Grove Circle please ask to join TreeSisters Grove Circles Ireland on Facebook.

# MOTH INVASION!

The public is being warned of a significant increase in the presence of moths in homes and businesses over the past three years. Rentokil says it has experienced an increase in callouts for moth infestations of 54% since 2015. Callouts to deal with the butterfly-like pest have increased by almost 14% in 2018 when compared with the previous year.

Dublin was the county which accounted for the most callouts for moths in 2018, with 53% of all callouts to the capital. Cork (18%), Wicklow (6%) and Kildare (5%) were the next three counties which accounted for the most callouts for moths from

The presence of moths can become very costly for home or business owners, both financially and emotionally - nobody wants to find holes in a quilt handed down from a beloved

shaped holes in garments; Brown house moth larvae tend to prefer animal-based materials like feathers and leather; White shouldered house moth larvae scavenge on a

textiles."

Top Spring-cleaning tips to prevent moth infestations: Always clean clothes before storing them - dirty or soiled clothes are particularly attractive to moths; Keep stored clothing and textiles in sealed plastic bags or suit-



Rentokil.

Moths are most likely to be found in spare bedrooms, under mattresses, infrequently used wardrobes and attics and as moth larvae feed on fabric they cause significant damage to clothes, blankets, carpets, curtains and upholstery. By spring cleaning these areas and properly packing away winter clothes homeowners can reduce the risk of moth larvae eating into precious textiles.

grand-parent, or a carefully stored wedding dress.

There are four common moth species in Ireland, each with differing preferences for materials, and each causing damage to fabrics and materials in different ways: Common clothes moth larvae cause irregular shaped holes in fabrics; Case bearing clothes moth larvae create smaller, more regular

range of food, so are a little less damaging to textiles.

Richard Faulkner, Technical Field Consultant for Rentokil said: "Once inside the home, moths lay eggs in dark and rarely disturbed areas where clothes or other textiles are stored. High risk areas in the home include areas we use to store clothes and

cases; Vacuum regularly - ensure hidden areas such as under furniture are regularly vacuumed to remove moth eggs before they hatch. This is particularly important if there has been a previous infestation or if you have noticed increased levels of moth activity; Keep curtains drawn at night - draw curtains at night or use fly screens to prevent moths entering your home through doors and windows."

# Lifeboat launched to search for missing dog

A dog that chased some seagulls over a cliff's edge and went missing was later found safe and well in a cave after a search by Wicklow RNLI.

The Wicklow RNLI inshore Lifeboat was launched at 4:40pm on Friday 8th March to search for the missing dog, Otis.

The alarm was raised by the anxious owner, after Otis chased some seagulls down over the cliff edge at Wicklow Head.

The lifeboat was on scene eight minutes after launching and the crew began a sweep of caves and the shoreline at a location known as the Pond, near Wicklow Head lighthouse.

Otis could be heard barking from a cave during the search, so crew member John Stapleton was put ashore near the cave and with some persuading, the dog climbed back up the cliff and into the arms of his grateful owner.

The crew on the callout were Graham Fitzgerald (Helm), Ian Thompson and John Stapleton.





# WICKLOW SINGS CHORAL FESTIVAL

**Wicklow Sings Choral Festival 2019 will be taking place again on Saturday 6th April in Temple Carrig School, Greystones.**

This annual Festival, which is in its fourth year, is one of Ireland's top choral festivals and sees choirs from all over County Wicklow converge on Greystones for a singing and choral extravaganza.

The festival will showcase the best choirs based in Wicklow, with every type of choir from male, female, youth, community, large, small, young and old, singing everything from barbershop to pop to sacred music.

The highlight is a massed choir performance, featuring all of the festival choirs with over 400 singers participating. Plus there will be afternoon group singing workshops, open to everyone.

Wicklow Sings is a non-competitive festival and prides itself on being a real community event, welcoming and celebrating choirs, singers and members of the public, of every type.

Greystones singer and Wicklow Sings founder, Dara MacMahon com-

mented "This festival is a unique event showcasing the singing community in Wicklow. It is a great opportunity for anyone to hear the best choirs Wicklow has to offer. There is massive support and interest in this festival and almost 400 singers will be involved. The afternoon singing workshops mean that anyone can join in and be part of this wonderful event."

The Festival is a community event hosted by Temple Carrig School. School Principal, Alan Cox said "We are delighted to host Wicklow Sings again this year. Audiences will enjoy the diversity of choirs from all over the County. It is a fantastic evening and provides a great opportunity for the community to use the facilities of the school."

Afternoon Group Singing Workshops will be led by internationally renowned musician and coach, Katherine Zeserson. The Adult Workshop is supported by Wicklow County Council

& Creative Ireland and runs from 4.15-5.45pm. The Youth Workshop is being organised in conjunction with Music Generation Wicklow, for ages 8-16 and will be from 2.15-3.45pm. Both workshops are free events and can be booked online at [eventbrite.ie](http://eventbrite.ie). Enquires 0404-60505 (Youth Workshop) and 086-8146926 (Adult Workshop).

Katherine Zeserson will also lead and conduct the massed choir performance at the end of the evening concert. The nominated charity for this year's event is the new Youth and Community Space/Café at the YWCA, Greystones.

Tickets for the concert (€10/5) are available online from [www.wicklowsings.ie](http://www.wicklowsings.ie) and [eventbrite.ie](http://eventbrite.ie), and are also on sale in Temple Carrig's School Office or Greystones Business Bureau, Main Street Greystones. For further information or queries contact 086-8146926.



*The Temple Carrig School choir that will be taking part in the Wicklow Sings Choral Festival.*

## Bray artist and teacher with a growing global e-learning business

**Bray-based Róisín O'Farrell is among a rare breed of Irish artists who manages to make a living doing what she loves, creating and teaching art.**

Her original oil paintings are sold in nine reputable art galleries in Ireland and abroad, and Róisín's fine art prints sell through her website.

Her colourful style is described as vibrant, contemporary and feminine. Róisín is known for her charming 'Welly Boots' paintings and her pretty images of country home interiors that are full of character.

Her art has featured in advertising and TV drama, and Máiréad Ronan, Pauline McLynn, Gavin Lambe Murphy, Brendan Courtney and the late Sir Jack Leslie of Castle Leslie are just some of the successful artist's fans.

Róisín has a family

background steeped in art. Her mother, Patricia Ahern O'Farrell, is also a talented artist, as are extended family members. Róisín started painting professionally in 2009, after she was made redundant from a corporate marketing role.

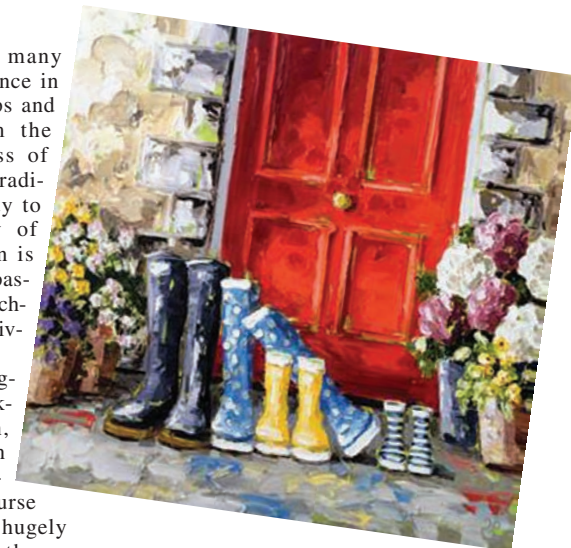
Declan Mulvany, owner of Killarney Art Gallery, discovered Róisín on Facebook back in 2009 and has supported the young artist ever since.

The established Kerry gallery will showcase Róisín's latest solo show at the end of June 2019, followed by an autumn show, curated by the Gallery Kinsale, in Cork in September.

Róisín is not just an

artist. She has many years of experience in giving workshops and teaching. From the serious business of passing on the tradition of creativity to the simple joy of painting, Róisín is committed and passionate about teaching, sharing and living creativity.

As well as staging painting workshops in-person, in 2017 Róisín launched an online painting course which has been hugely popular. With the e-learning market growing fast, her Love to Paint! Learn to Paint online painting course, has been a resounding success



with students in over 20 countries worldwide.

"I teach anyone who loves to paint, how to paint better, and how to nurture their creativity.

And I love nothing more than to help artists and creative entrepreneurs to get their business mojo going", the enterprising Wicklow artist says.

## 'Fusion' at Signal Arts Centre

**'Fusion' is the title of an exhibition in the Signal Arts Centre by RehabCare Resource Centre Dun Laoghaire in association with The Stillorgan College of Further Education. It runs from Tuesday 19th March to Sunday 31st March.**

The group of enthusiastic artists are based in Rehab Care resource centre Dun Laoghaire and they have been working in association with Stillorgan college of Further education.

The group said "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 combination 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 Centre."

## 'Lock In' at The Whale

**Award-winning Irish comedian Danny O'Brien went to prison three times to perform and once again by accident. He's performed relentlessly worldwide and taken up a new religion through the medium of a hangry hangover.**



Danny was handpicked last year to perform as part of the iconic Best of the Edinburgh Fest show touring Australia, has featured on The Comedy Channel and is a regular on Irish TV and Radio. He recently opened for American comedian Bill Burr in front of over 7,000 people in Dublin. 'Lock-In' has already sold out at Galway International Arts Festival, The Edinburgh Fringe Festival, a European tour in over 10 cities as well as shows in Dubai and South East Asia.

Join Danny in his new show Lock In at The Whale in Greystones on Friday 5th April at 8pm. Age guideline: 18+



*Bray-based artist Róisín O'Farrell with some of her paintings*





Representatives from Kilcoole Primary school at the annual Cumann na mBunscol National Awards in the Sligo Park Hotel

## Successful night for Wicklow at Cumann na mBunscol National Awards

The annual Cumann na mBunscol National Awards took place in the Sligo Park Hotel on 8th March and the Garden County had a very successful and enjoyable night.

Jim O'Riordan, stalwart of Cumann na mBunscol Chill Mhantáin, and current Leas-Cathaoirleach was a most worthy recipient of the Pat Trainor Memorial Award for 2019, for lifetime achievement and commitment to the promotion of Gaelic games in our primary schools.

Jim, a proud Cork man, began his lifelong obsession of Gaelic Games in St. Finbar's GAA club in Togher, Cork, where the famous Jimmy Barry Murphy (a dual All Ireland Winner with Cork) was fortunate enough to share the same pitch as him once upon a time! He spread his love for Gaelic games across the Atlantic to Chicago in the summer of 1974 where he was highly sought after by the local GAA clubs there.

It was no surprise that after his move to Co. Wicklow in 1978 that he became pivotal to the promotion and development of Gaelic games and culture in his local club and school in Newtownmountkennedy and throughout Wicklow. Jim and his family have strong links to the local GAA club. Both of his sons have represented Wicklow at a senior intercounty level, an achievement of which he is very proud. His grandchildren today grace the field of the local club, following in the footsteps of their grandad. Briseann an dúchas trí shúile an chait.

Cumann na mBunscol Chill Mhantáin said "The influence of teachers like Jim O'Riordan should not be underestimated. All in Cumann na mBunscol Chill Mhantáin thank him for his continued service, wish him well in his retirement and congratulate him on his award, what an honour."

The success of the night did not end there. Kilcoole Primary School also brought home awards, claiming 2nd place in both the 'Large School of the Year' and the 'INTO 150th Year Celebration Award' categories, as well as 3rd place in 'Promotion of Gaelic Games and Culture' category.

Cumann na mBunscol Chill Mhantáin said "This is a countrywide competition so it is wonderful news that Wicklow was so well represented and achieved such success. Well done to all involved, it is testament to the commitment of those involved in the promotion of Gaelic games and culture in our schools."

Representatives from Co. Wicklow on the night included Jim O'Riordan, Sinéad Ní Chrean Loinsigh, Míchéal Ó Murchú, and from Kilcoole Primary School: Joanne McDonagh, Emer Fahy, Claire Bowden, Claire Frawley, Eve Whyte and Pamela McDermott.

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# CLASSIFIEDS

## 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.; M.D.

## “WASTE MANAGEMENT ACT 1996

(Nypro Healthcare)

(Corke Abbey, Bray)

We are required to accept at (Corke Abbey, Bray), free of charge, for the purpose of recovery, packaging waste of the following categories (Plastic and cardboard). The products or packaging in question need not necessarily have been purchased from (Nypro).”

- Planning
- Notices
- Prayers
- Recruitment

### WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

I am applying to the above for permission for retention of 1) first floor extension constructed over existing sitting room to rear of my dwelling 2) permission for retention of change of type of on site wastewater treatment unit from that previously granted under Pl. Reg. No. 12/6855 and 3) permission for retention of existing domestic garage to finished floor level & permission for completion of same and all associated site works at Tombreen, Carnew, Co. Wicklow. Signed Harold Brownrigg. 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 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

Menzen Consultancy Services Ltd seeks retention permission for extension to marquee and permission for additional carparking at Tinakilly House Hotel, Rathnew, 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 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

**FULL PLANNING PERMISSION & RETENTION Sought for:**  
1. Proposed New Porch (4 Msq) to Front of Dwelling.  
2. Retention of Home Office Facility (31 Msq) to Rear Garden.  
3. All ancillary site works at 94 Ballybawn Cottages, Ballybawn, Kilmacanogue, Co. Wicklow. A98 RC65. Signed: Felim & Carol Sheridan. 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 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, Glynn Gillett, seeks planning permission, for the (a) demolition of all existing domestic single storey sheds to rear of dwellings, (b) extension and renovation of two existing semi-detached houses, no. 5 & no. 6, Knockroe, (c) construction of new boundary walls and boundary treatments, (d) construction of new single storey domestic garage to rear of no. 6, and (e) all site services and associated site works at No. 5 and No. 6, Knockroe, Delgany, 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 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. Signed: Glynn Gillett

### WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

We Robert and Edel Coyne intend to apply for permission for construction of detached dwelling to rear of The Croft, New Road, Greystones, connection to all services, new entrance off La Touche Park road, Greystones, demolition of existing shed and associate works at New Road, Greystones, 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 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

We, Longtown Partnership, intend to apply for permission for development at this site: Charlesland Neighbourhood Centre, Charlesland, Greystones, Co. Wicklow. The development will consist of: Change of use of first floor vacant shell unit 19 from bar/lounge to gymnasium / fitness suite with associated signage. 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 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. The planning authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to grant permission. Signed: CCH Architects Ltd. [Agent on behalf of applicant]

### WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Planning permission sought for variations to previously approved permission plan ref: 17/985, for extensions and alterations including new first floor living area and all associated works now including a second floor area and terrace at Cliff Cottage, Rathdown Lower, Greystones, Co. Wicklow for Peshawar Ltd. 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 (Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Station Road, Wicklow, Co. Wicklow) 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.

### WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Des and Maria O'Leary seek Permission for works to detached dormer dwelling consisting of ground floor extensions to rear (south-east) and front left (north) corner, first floor extension to front dormer window of previously converted attic, new first floor dormer extension with roof terrace to rear, new rooflight facing north-east, altered fenestration, and associated site works including altered steps to front door and part reduced levels in back garden at 55 Raheen Park, Bray, Co Wicklow, A98 E6V9. 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 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. Agent: Stephen Newell Architects - [www.sna.ie](http://www.sna.ie)

### WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

I hereby give notice of submission of significant further information to Wicklow County Council in relation to planning application 18/906 for Fiona Fanning who is applying for permission at Glassnamullen, Bray, Co. Wicklow for a 38 sqm garage to rear of existing dwelling, a 37.3 sqm garage joined to side of existing dwelling and permission for the removal of condition 1 of planning ref 91/6626 and associate works, wishes to state that significant further information or revised plans, as appropriate, in relation to the application has been furnished to the Planning Authority, and is available for inspection or purchase at the offices of the authority during its public opening hours. A submission or observation in relation to the further information or revised plans may be made in writing to the planning authority within the period of 2 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the revised newspaper and site notices. A submission or observation must be accompanied by the prescribed fee within except in the case of a person or body who has already made a submission or observation.

### WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

I, Danny McDermott, intend to apply for Planning Permission & Retention for  
1. Retention of Window at First Floor Level to Front Elevation (St. Mantans Road)  
2. Retention of Window to Side Elevation (in place of original main entrance door)  
3. Proposed New Entrance Porch to Front Elevation (St. Mantans Road)  
4. All ancillary site works  
At ST. MANTANS ROAD, WICKLOW, CO. WICKLOW A67 NH51. 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 (Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Station Road, Wicklow, Co. Wicklow) 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.

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