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Tuesday 5th March 2019

5 Eglinton Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow

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LUAS IN DOUBT

Cancellation of the planned Luas Green Line upgrade under the Metrolink Project could result in the Luas to Bray plan being abandoned, a Dublin Commuter Coalition group said.

Minister for Transport and Co. Wicklow resident Shane Ross recently stated that the Charlemont to Sandyford section of the MetroLink project (the proposed 26km metro from Swords to Sandyford) may be scrapped in order to prevent disruption to the Green line in south Dublin.

The extension of the Luas to Bray is a key part of Wicklow's County Development Plan 2016-2022. It states that "this is identified in the RPGs (Regional Planning Guidelines) as a critical strategic transport project and the vast majority of

the population growth for Bray is allocated for areas to be served by Luas. This will reinforce the role of Bray as the primary settlement in the county and will provide an option for removing car traffic from the N11/M11 north of Bray with the provision of park-and-ride facilities."

Cllr Derek Mitchell stated that "At present the Green Luas line is very overcrowded at rush hour, people can't get on, and the much higher capacity Metro is needed. The new large town of Cherrywood is being built on the Luas and the very overcrowded

M50/N11. The Metro must be extended to Sandyford, as was planned, and further, otherwise the existing Luas will be utterly full. The Metro should end in a large Park n' Ride site on the Southside, as is planned for the Northside near Swords, and a route should be reserved for a future extension to Bray."

Speaking to Wicklow Times, Stephen Donnelly TD said the cancellation of the MetroLink Southside section would be "very disappointing for commuters in Co. Wicklow."

"There are massive issues with traffic in Co.



Pictured are Mick Crowe and Miriam Murphy at the Wicklow Tourism Networking Evening in the Druid's Glen recently.

Wicklow and the announcement of the Metro South was very warmly welcomed by Wicklow commuters, as a welcome connection into Wicklow's transport system. This is part of a pattern we're seeing from the Government where promises are loudly made and quietly broken. People are being let down when it comes to transport and the Government don't seem to be taking it seriously. Funding for the N81 was pulled, and there's overcrowding on the commuter train from Wicklow Town."

The Dublin Commuter Coalition said it rejects totally any suggestion that the upgrade be abandoned.

The group stated "It is imperative that the Green Line Upgrade happens to continue its viability as a transit line."

The group said that the

cost of not upgrading the Green line would be "never-ending disruption".

"Not upgrading the Green Line serves only the private car users of Dunville Avenue, whilst Green Line users, housing developments along the line and the people waiting for extensions to the line in Finglas and Bray all suffer."

"The Luas will simply not be able to cope with a Metro train arriving at Charlemont every two minutes with passengers from North Dublin as well as passengers from Broombridge. This will therefore delay or even cancel the Green Line extensions to Finglas and Bray as extending the line would further impact capacity. Not upgrading the Green Line will have ramifications that will stretch across the entire Dublin Region."

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LOCAL ENTERPRISE WEEK 2019 Making It Happen from 04-08 MARCH

Work Smarter in Business using Tech' Seminar
Guest speaker and digital marketing expert Noel Davidson will help you manage your time and work more effectively. Wednesday 6th March, 1.30-4pm at Wicklow County Campus, Rathnew, cost: €10

'How to Increase Sales in Your Business' Course
Delivered by sales expert Terry Harmer on Thur 7th & 14th March, cost: €120
Up to €2,500 available towards your business website
Find out more at the: **Trading Online Information Seminar**
Wed 13th March, Wicklow County Campus, Rathnew from 9.30am till 1.30pm, Cost: Free but essential to book.

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Local Enterprise Office Wicklow, Wicklow County Campus, Rathnew, Co. Wicklow
Phone: 0404 30800

European Union European Regional Development Fund



Decko Hughes, Pat Crowe, Tony Hughes and James Reid were at the Alfie O'Leary benefit night in The Midway, Arklow.

Meeting for Sunbeam House families

The Sunbeam House Family Advocacy Group (SHSFAG) has arranged a meeting of all families of Sunbeam House Services in the Glenview Hotel on Monday the 11th March at 7.30pm.

This meeting will be chaired by Mark O'Connor of Inclusion Ireland who will also be available to discuss issues on disability and the Assisted Decision Making Act which the Family Advocacy Group hope to hold a workshop on soon. Up for discussion will be the outstanding recommendations in the Jeyes Report; the issue of lack of transport for many in the north of the county and also the lack of respite accommodation; and Staff/Client Ratios and activities with structure. If you have any matter which you would like included please contact SHSFAG and they will add it to the agenda.

Darkness Into Light 2019

The date for the 2019 Darkness Into Light 5K walk/run has been announced from Pieta House through the local DIL Wicklow committee.

This year's event will take place on Saturday May 11th in the small hours of the morning in Wicklow town.

Geraldine Mooney and Ann Chambers along with their team will once again look after the planning and organisation of this year's event. Early bird registration is now open and is available online only.

Irish Railway Record Society

The next meeting takes place at 7.30pm on Thursday February 28th in the Society's Hueston Station Dublin premises at which Brian Solomon will speak about 'General Motors Locomotives in North America' - members and their guests only.

People interested in joining the Irish Railway Record Society which holds lectures on various aspects of Ireland's railway history and heritage, can obtain a membership application form by post from the Dublin Area Representative, The Irish Railway Record Society, 48 Chalfont Road, Malahide, Co. Dublin - SAE appreciated or email: membership@irrs.ie.

What's Happening...

Wicklow Lions quiz final

Wicklow Lions Club will hold their Quiz Night final on March 6th in Wicklow Golf Club.

The local Lions Club will ask for the support of every club and organisation that took part in various quiz nights since last November. They would like a minimum of two tables from each charity to come along on the night and make it the quiz of the year, to help the Lions support the whole community.

The two beneficiaries at the recent Wicklow Lions Club quiz night in the Bridge Tavern were 'Move4Parkinson' and 'Wicklow Town Team'. With a total of 31 tables, by far the biggest turnout this season, the event had a wonderful atmosphere in lovely surroundings. The first-time winners Dervla Earls and Marian Earls, with their teammates Michael O'Brien and John O'Brien. The Neiland family came in second place.

World Book Day at Wicklow Library

Wicklow Library invites you to travel the world in books on World Book Day on Thursday 7th March, in the library. Browse the display of travel, biography, literature, poetry, food, sport, adventure, etc.

Learn about the extensive online resources available on your device. Bring your phone, laptop, or iPad along between 10am and 5pm or in the evening from 6pm to 8:30pm.

Rathmichael Historical Society

Patrick Salmon will be the guest presenter for the Wednesday March 6th 8pm meeting of the Rathmichael Historical Society, in Rathmichael National School, Stonebridge Road, Shankill, at which he will recall 'The Lost Village of Milltown' - all welcome - admission €5.

Jekyll and Hyde in the Pavilion Theatre

Dun Laoghaire Musical and Dramatic Society (DMDS) are delighted to announce that they will be presenting Jekyll and Hyde, the musical phenomenon based on the classic story by Robert Louis Stevenson, which will run in the Pavilion Theatre from 12th to 16th March 2019. DMDS have assembled a hugely talented cast and a wonderful production team including Paul Laycock, Director, Des Cox, Musical Director and Denise Donohoe, Choreographer.

Fundraiser for Orlagh Hanratty to be rescheduled

A planned fundraising event for Orlagh Hanratty that was due to take place in the Harbour Bar on Thursday, March 28th, is to be rescheduled.

The 25-year-old Bray resident was seriously injured in a climbing accident in New Zealand on 7th February. A gofundme page has been set up for Orlagh to help fund the costs of her recovery. Search for 'Please help Orlagh Hanratty's recovery' on GoFundMe. So far, over €20,000 has been raised.

STOP FOOD WASTE CHALLENGE

Baltinglass Fair Trade+ is hosting a Stop Food Waste Challenge as part of its current campaign to raise awareness about caring for our environment by recycling, reusing and reducing waste.

The Food Waste Challenge consists of a course of four 1-hour sessions. The Challenge is a community-based campaign that brings people together to learn and share ideas about reducing food waste. It is run by Wicklow County Council with support from the Stop Food Waste campaign.

The Challenge sessions, facilitated by James

Callery of Wicklow County Council, will take place in The Tea Room, Main Street, Baltinglass, on four consecutive Wednesdays (13, 20, 27 March & 3 April), from 7 pm to 8 pm. Admission to the course of sessions is free but places are limited. So to ensure a place, book by phoning 087-6659999 or registering through the 'event' on Facebook.

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Puppy love was in the air at Bray Retail Park when a lucky pooch scooped the Park's Valentine's Day Giveaway. Brooke Gamble's dog Tallulah Popcorn became the luckiest canine in Bray after Brooke scooped a €25 voucher from Maxi Zoo after taking part in the competition. She was presented with her prize by Sarah Nash of Maxi Zoo after taking part in the Facebook event. Pic: Paul Messitt.

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GREEN LIGHT FOR WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

An Bord Pleanála last week gave permission for works to go ahead on the upgrade of the Blessington Wastewater Treatment Plant, which will facilitate housing development in the area.

Up to now the development of housing projects in West Wicklow has been stymied due to a lack of wastewater infrastructure.

Permission for the upgrade works was granted to Irish Water by Wicklow County Council in September 2018, however the decision was appealed by the Ballymore Eustace Trout and Salmon Anglers Association.

Welcoming the decision, Cllr Edward Timmins said "Wicklow County Council must go ahead with planning permission for houses on the council land at Burgage. Blessington has a huge number of people on the social housing list and

almost every day I get contacted by people in Blessington who need a place to live because of overcrowding or the landlord selling their house or other reasons."

The works will include the construction of two new primary treatment units, one new anoxic tank, associated pump sumps, tertiary treatment infrastructure and associated site works.

An Bord Pleanála determined that an Environmental Impact Assessment is not required for the development.

The Ballymore Eustace Trout and Salmon Anglers Association appealed the Council's decision due to

concerns over ammonia emissions and effluent from the treatment plant and the impact on water quality and aesthetics in Golden Falls Lake.

In its decision, An Bord Pleanála say the treatment plant is necessary for "the policies and objectives of the Wicklow County Development Plan 2016-2022 and the Blessington Town Plan 2013-2019, which seek to improve and expand waste water treatment facilities."

ABP say that the treatment plant "would not seriously injure the amenity of the area or of property in the area and would not be prejudicial to public health". It stated "based on information

provided by the applicant and assessed by the Local Authority's Environment Section regarding the assimilative capacity in the receiving environment, the Board considered that the proposed development would not seriously injure public health or the environment."

The board was also satisfied that the proposed development, "either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, would not be likely to have significant effects on the Poulaphouca Reservoir Special Protection Area."



Pictured: Paul Burke and Deirdre Whelan at the recent Alfie O'Leary benefit night in The Midway, Arklow.

Resolution put forward to extend Luas to Blessington

At a meeting of the Eastern and Mid Land Regional assembly on Friday March 1st, Cllr Tommy Cullen successfully put forward a resolution that an extension of the Luas Line from Saggart Co. Dublin to Blessington is approved for consideration of appraisal, planning and design of the LUAS network expansion.

Cllr Cullen's resolution was unanimously approved and will now go out for public display.

Speaking afterwards, Cllr Cullen said "I argued that as the Government had refused approval for the funding upgrade of the N81 that the extension of the LUAS line to Blessington which only be one third of the cost of the N81 upgrade is a reasonable proposal.

"That I received full support from Board members throughout Leinster vindicates my position. This is the start of the process to extend the LUAS line and I would envisage a stop at the Lamb in

Manor Kilbride and Blessington with park and ride facilities to facilitate people from West and South Wicklow to access the LUAS line from Blessington.

"The LUAS extension from Saggart across country is 9 miles and can follow the route already approved by the Transport Authority for the N81 upgrade without impacting on that upgrade in the future. This is an historic day as the last light rail to Blessington in the 1930's and today's decision is the commencement of its return."

Aughrim and District Active Retirement

The R & R are presenting a spring concert in the National Concert Hall on Saturday 13th April. Further details will be given at the Aughrim & District Active Retirement March meeting. As in past years the group will March in the St. Patrick's Day Parade, it would be great if we had more members taking part.

Public meeting about Slaney River

A public meeting about water quality issues in the Slaney River Catchment will be held in Germaine's Hotel, Baltinglass on Tuesday 12th March at 7:30pm.

The meeting follows on from consultation on the draft River Basin Management Plan in 2017.

The Local Authority Waters Programme will be undertaking work to gain a better understanding of what is happening in the Slaney River Priority Area for Action. Information on plans for this area will be made available at the public meeting.

This is a new approach to water quality management in Ireland. Come along to the meeting and hear how you too can get involved.

There will be refreshments afterwards. For further info see www.watersandcommunities.ie.



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Pictured: At the Lions quiz in Ernie's Lounge in Wicklow Jimmy Balbontin Eilish Gillespie Sean Quirke Theresa O'Brien and Carmel Canterbury. Wicklow Lions Club will hold their Quiz Night final on March 6th in Wicklow Golf Club.

The local Lions Club will ask for the support of every club and organisation that took part in various quiz nights since last November. They would like a minimum of two tables from each charity to come along on the night and make it the quiz of the year, to help the Lions support the whole community.

The two beneficiaries at the recent Wicklow Lions Club quiz night in the Bridge Tavern were 'Move4Parkinson' and 'Wicklow Town Team'. With a total of 31 tables, by far the biggest turnout this season, the event had a wonderful atmosphere in lovely surroundings. The first-time winners Derola Earls and Marian Earls, with their teammates Michael O'Brien and John O'Brien. The Neiland family came in second place.

BRAY GOLF CLUB FIRE

There was nothing to convey that the recent fire at the old Bray Golf Club was suspicious, Gardai say.

Dublin Fire Brigade were called out to the fire at the old Bray Golf Club near the River Dargle in Little Bray the weekend before last. The blaze broke out at about 7pm on Sunday, 24th February.

Superintendent Pat Ward of Bray Garda Station, said that people had possibly been loitering nearby but that the fire was possibly accidental.

"There was nothing to convey that the fire was suspicious, the scene was examined but there was no indication of anything malicious. There had pos-

By Samuel Doherty

sibly been people loitering there," he said.

The fire is one of several that have occurred in Bray in recent weeks. Two fires broke out at premises on Bray main

street in early January. This was followed by a fire on Galtrim Road later that month, two cars going up in flames in Dargle Crescent in late January and a fire in an apartment in Green Park Road.



Bomb scare in Bray

Bomb disposal experts were called to a quiet residential road in Bray last Wednesday afternoon to examine a suspicious device.

The object, said by onlookers to resemble something wrapped in sellotape, was found at Wyndham Park. The area was cordoned off by Gardai and some residents were evacuated from their homes while the Explosive Ordnance Disposal team examined the device.

Superintendent Pat Ward told *Wicklow Times* that the object 'was a device that had the appearance of an improvised explosive device'.

Superintendent Ward added, "It was reported to the Gardaí by the public. The Gardaí attended the scene. An EOD was then called to the scene. They had x-rayed and examined the suspicious device and having done so, they determined that it wasn't an improvised explosive device."

'Delivery of community facilities is essential in Ireland's fastest growing village'

Sinn Féin representative and local election candidate for Wicklow East Muireann Dalton has expressed serious concerns about the failure to provide public facilities and infrastructure in Newtownmountkennedy, Ireland's fastest growing village.

Dalton stated "While it's absolutely wonderful to see houses getting built and our beautiful village expanding, it's very concerning that the community facilities that were promised for Newtown haven't happened. "There is no real plan on the table to show what the actual time frame for work or what facilities are going

to be provided. The people of Newtown are angry and can't afford to sit around waiting indefinitely for the critically important community infrastructure. Members of the community and I have started a petition calling on Wicklow to ensure that the needs of the community are met and a clear timeframe is put in place, we as a community

are not going to stand idly by, we want what we were promised.

"The community has been promised playing pitches, Public Park, community rooms, to name a few things, this should all be done in tandem with the construction of badly needed housing, not at some distant point in the future, if ever."



The burned out clubhouse at the old Bray Golf Club. Pics by Samuel Doherty



WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CILL MHANTAIN

SECTION 75 - ROADS ACT, 1993

PROVISION FOR TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF PUBLIC ROAD

Wicklow County Council hereby gives notice of the temporary closure of the following roads to public traffic on 17th March 2019 to facilitate the St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Roads to be closed:

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

To include the junctions of:

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

Alternative Routes:

Traffic management will be provided by An Garda Síochána during the passing of the parade. Traffic control will be at the following junctions:-
Killarney Road and King Edward Road; Vevay Road and Church Road; Quinsborough Road and Main Street; Seapoint Road and Galtrim Road; Seapoint Road and Seymour Road; Seapoint Road and Strand Road; Quinsboro Road and Strand Road; Albert Avenue and Strand Road; Sidmonton Avenue and Strand Road; Victoria Avenue and Strand Road; Convent Avenue and Strand Road; Putland Road and Strand Road

Local access will be facilitated in so far as possible. Wicklow County Council regrets any inconvenience this may cause.

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

Just eight election candidates have declared in Arklow

The Arklow Municipal District will see all six sitting councillors contesting the upcoming local elections. So far it appears that the people of Arklow will have just two new candidates to add to the ballot, though traditionally some Independent candidates will declare in the later weeks.

Fianna Fail have an unchanged ticket, with sitting Councillors Tommy Annesley, Pat Fitzgerald and Pat Kennedy all looking to keep their seats. At their selection convention earlier this month Deputy Pat Casey described the trio as 'an excellent hard working team that has delivered for the people'.

Fine Gael are hoping party stalwart Sylvester Bourke will retain his seat and have added a new face as a running mate. Chantal Kangowa is 26 and founder and CEO of her own medical research business Lucca Diagnostics.

Sinn Féin will put forward

ward Councillor Mary McDonald as their sole candidate.

Independent candidate Miriam Murphy will be on the ballot joined by another Independent, new candidate Tommy Breen. Tommy is part of a four person grouping of candidates who plan to remain Independent but operate as a grouping in Wicklow County Council. The others are Cllrs John Snell in Wicklow, Oliver O'Brien in Bray and Gerry O'Neill in Baltinglass.

There are no candidates in Arklow from the Labour Party, the Green Party, the Social Democrats or People Before Profit.



Saturday 9th March 2019 at 2:00PM
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Sun: 12.00-18.00, Bank Hol: 12.00- 18.00

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Pictured: Jessica Wolohan and Sarah Hall were at the Alfie O'Leary benefit night in The Midway, Arklow.

Uplands Council condemns uncontrolled burning

The current permissive season for the burning and cutting of upland vegetation ended last week on February 28th. Any burning in the uplands which occurs from now until September 1st will be in breach of the Wildlife Act 1976 (as amended 2000).

The Wicklow Uplands Council said "There is a perception among some that burning within the permissive season is 'controlled', while outside the

season is 'uncontrolled'. This is not the case.

"The unusually dry weather this week has seen a number of fires being lit around the

uplands but in some cases these fires are not controlled and are damaging to the environment and a threat to public safety and property.

"Controlled burning is primarily carried out to clear dense vegetation and regenerate fresh new vegetation for grazing livestock. As controlled burn-

ing is carried out on a small scale, and on a rotational basis, it results a mosaic of vegetation type and structure which in turn supports greater biodiversity. These are low intensity fires which do not damage the underlying soil structure.

"Controlled burning should always be followed with an appropriate grazing regime to reduce the need for future burns. Lighting a fire and walking away is not controlled and results in extensive environmental damage.

"In the past week participants in the new SUAS Project (Sustainable Uplands Agri-environment Scheme) have successfully carried out controlled burning activities. The area to be burnt was identified as part of a long-term management plan which aims to improve the ecological condition of the site. Before the burns were carried out, advance notice was sent to the Fire Service, An Garda, the NPWS and surrounding landowners. During the controlled burning activities there were sufficient people involved to ensure that the fires did not get out of control and afterwards the Fire Service was informed that the fire had been fully extinguished. The activity was fully supervised by SUAS project manager Declan

NEW ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP TO HOLD INAUGURAL MEETING

Bray Tidy Towns, in discussion with various groups and individuals in Bray, have decided that now is an opportune time to set up a North Wicklow Environmental Network.

This group's goal will be to bring together NGO's, voluntary groups, businesses and individuals who have a common agenda, which include a broad range of environmental issues, everything from wildlife conservation, waste reduction to climate change.

The Irish Environmental Network is an umbrella network that works to support environmental NGOs through access to funding and services. It consists of environmental NGOs that carry out their work through practical conservation work, campaigning, lobbying and raising public awareness of environmental and conservation needs. It is proposed that the North Wicklow group would be a local branch attached to the national parent body. There are similar groups in Dun Laoghaire and Dublin.

Details around the role of the group will be up to the steering committee, but as a principle it will have an environmental and conservation bias and support and develop the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, as set out in the European Environmental Bureau, within the North Wicklow area.

It will exist as a central body for groups to discuss how best to achieve these goals with each other's support.

The inaugural public meeting of the North Wicklow Environmental Network (NWEN) will take place at 7:30pm on Thursday 7th March at the Function room in the Martello. At this meeting attendees will elect a chair person, secretary and steering committee.



Controlled burning at Granamore with SUAS project

Byrne.

"Wicklow Uplands Council continues to seek the implementation of the Heritage Act 2018, which will allow for the controlled burning of vegetation in March when conditions are not conducive in the preceding months. The current dry spell is exceptional, as it is often the case that controlled burning cannot be carried out effectively within the current permissive season. Again we reiterate that we only support controlled burning and the best management of upland habitats."

BirdWatch Ireland meanwhile welcomed the decision by Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Ms. Josepha

Madigan, T.D. not to extend the open period for burning into March in 2019.

"The decision by the Minister not to grant an extension for burning is a responsible act considering the dry weather conditions experienced not only in the last week but in the previous months during the 6-month open period," they stated.

"BirdWatch Ireland calls on the Minister to take the time now to put in place a licensing system for burning activities in the uplands that guarantees protection for breeding birds and is compliant with the Birds Directive and the Habitats Directive.

"Sadly, the fact that the

Minister has not granted an extension will not mean an end to the fires in the Spring of 2019. BirdWatch Ireland calls on the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine to stringently apply cross compliance rules in relation to land eligibility.

"The activity of upland burning must be regulated and be supported by an effective agriculture policy which financially supports upland hill farmers for their produce and the public goods they can provide such as High Nature Value Farmland. We again call on the Minister to set up a Stakeholder Forum to work out the issues in relation to burning."



WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL
COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CHILL MHANTÁIN



NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE

Wicklow County Council Joint Policing committee will hold a public meeting on

Tuesday 12th March, 2019
At Greystones Tennis Club, Mill Road, Greystones
commencing 8.00 p.m.

The purpose of the JPC is to provide a forum where the local authority and the senior Garda officers, responsible for the policing of that area, can consult and make recommendations on matters affecting the policing of the area and in particular to keep under review the levels and patterns of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour occurring and the factors underlying and contributing to it.

Membership of the committee consists of the Chief Superintendent, Senior Members of the Gardai, Wicklow County Council Chief Executive, Elected Members and representatives from the voluntary and community sector.

The focus of the public meeting will be on policing, rather than individuals and obtaining the co-operation of the public in preventing crime. The local community will have the opportunity to make their views known and ask questions and all are welcome to attend.

To increase the productivity of the meeting and encourage greater participation written questions may be submitted prior to the meeting to lgallagher@wicklowcoco.ie or in writing to the undersigned.

Questioners should give their name and contact details, which will not be publicised. While every effort will be made to provide the information requested in certain circumstances it may not be possible for legal reasons or because it would not be in the public interest to do so.

Lorraine Gallagher,
Senior Executive Officer,
Wicklow County Council,
County Buildings,
Wicklow.

4th March, 2019.

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PayPal hosted a number of transition year students at its Ballycoolin offices in February. The students, including students from Loreto Secondary School in Bray - gained an insight into working at the company and participated in sessions covering CV preparation and interview skills. They completed a week of work experience with the company, at the end of which they received certificates during a mini graduation ceremony. Pictured at PayPal's Ballycoolin offices is Annette Hickey, PayPal's Vice President, Global Customer Solutions, Europe, Middle East & Africa, alongside students.

88 NEW SOCIAL HOUSING UNITS FOR RATHNEW

The Rathnew area is to gain 88 new social housing units through the Capital Advance Leasing Facility (CALF) Scheme. The homes will be part of a 144-unit development at Hazelbrook Rise.

Announcing the new social housing, Minister Simon Harris said "Fifteen of the new social housing units will be delivered through the Part V planning requirements - a measure in place to ensure housing developments have a healthy balance of housing.

"This is one of a number of projects currently being undertaken by Wicklow County Council and its partners in the

Approved Housing Body sector through the Government's Rebuilding Ireland plan. We know there is serious pressure on our local housing stock in Co Wicklow so it is really important that new housing is coming on stream for both private and social housing.

"I will continue to work with my Cabinet colleagues and Wicklow County Council to ensure we sustainably develop

our Wicklow housing development will be stock." located on a site in

The Hazelbrook Rise Ballybeg.



Stephanie and Oonagh Healy were at the arrival of the Relief Shannon class Lifeboat 'Jock and Annie Slater' at the RNLI in Wicklow.

Wicklow Municipal District February Meeting notes

by Cathy Lee

Councillors agree on plans for discretionary funding

Footpaths are to be widened from the areas of Glebemount in Wicklow Town to Kidzone, with €5,000 allocated to complete these works.

The existing footpaths here will be cleared and widened, with sleepers to be placed at the toe of the path. A further €20,000 has been allocated to widen the footpath to the Rugby Club, from the junction at Hawkstown Road to in Wicklow Town which councillors welcomed.

Cllr Irene Winters said that these works will serve the people living there who need to access the road.

Outside of Wicklow Town, €20,000 has been allocated towards the refurbishment of the existing public toilets in Roundwood.

Cllr Winters explained that this amount will not cover complete reconstruction cost of the toilets and so the team will have to go looking for additional funding in the future and at the moment the council are looking to the options here.

A total of €6,000 has been allocated to secure traffic calming measures on the road from Annamoe to Laragh. These measures are to be

looked into, but the members were advised that a speed ramp may not be needed, rather increased signage and road lining to highlight speed restrictions here. Members have also decided to keep back €13,000 in reserves, to allow for unexpected works that may arise during the year.

Cliff walk looking set for April

Members of the Wicklow Municipal District at their February meeting were informed that the Cliff Walk in Wicklow Town is expected to be open to the public in early spring.

A final mapping of the route has been prepared and an application has been submitted to Sport Ireland Trails for final inspection. Following this approval, the members expect to open the trail in the spring. Cllr Irene Winters said that the cliff walk will be "a fantastic addition to the town for both residents and tourists alike".

Wildflowers for the Murrough

A total of €3,000 has been allocated in the discretionary funding of the Wicklow Municipal District to the planting of wildflowers along by the Murrough in Wicklow Town.

These flowers will be planted behind the public gym and near to the playground section of the popular public open space. Cllr Mary Kavanagh described this wildflower meadow project as something vitally important for county councils to get

behind, in supporting biodiversity projects and helping pollinators. She added that she chose this site in particular "as it will have maximum impact for local people and tourists alike".

Approval for the Maritime Project

A total of €6,000 has been allocated for a new project that will include the placing old maritime artefacts along the quayside.

Cllr Mary Kavanagh described the project as the brainchild of local sculptor Thomas Flynn, adding that he is "delighted to finally have this project approved". Mr Flynn will work on preparing the artefacts and signs will be erected along the quay, to highlight these artefacts and tell the story of Wicklow's maritime history in Wicklow Town.

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Arklow Municipal District Meeting report *by Cathy Lee*

AIMS Vice-President Robert Donnelly, Liz Power, and AIMS President Seamus Power are pictured at the AIMS (Association of Irish Musical Societies) AGM in the Arklow Bay Hotel. Rob Donnelly from Avonmore Musical Society in Arklow was re-elected as National Vice President of AIMS.

Irish Water works ongoing

"The community are up in arms over the works. But these works are vital, we know they are", said Cllr Miriam Murphy addressing the issue of ongoing works underway in Arklow by Irish Water and Virgin Media.

Cllr Murphy said that it's "unfortunate that all these works are happening together" which is causing confusion for people. Going forward, councillors said that they'd like a list of works that are taking place at all times, simply to know exactly what's going on, in the form of updates from engineers.

Cllr McDonald said that the traffic management particularly at the Sea Road area where works are currently underway, needed to be looked at as the traffic lights are "not working in sync".

Cllr Sylvester Bourke also said that people are avoiding the road to avoid congestion and therefore blocking up other roads such as around the

Ferrybank area.

Cllr Fitzgerald said that "we want this work done but you can't have people in queues of traffic this way" and described the situation as a big issue for the town. Although supervision of works is the responsibility of Irish Water and their own contractors, Cllr McDonald suggested that councillors request for correspondence between the Municipal District and Irish Water on this given that the council do not have staff supervising it.

It was agreed that council members would try to make contact with Irish Water and speak to them further on this matter.

Arklow Heritage and Pottery Centre a step closer

The team constructing the Arklow Heritage and Pottery Centre say its construction will not impact on the progress of the Arklow Wastewater Treatment Plant, Michael Nicholson, Director of Services at Wicklow County Council, informed councillors at this month's meeting of Arklow Municipal District Council.

The three-storey Heritage & Pottery Centre will contain the main museum display showcasing works of art and pottery, which will exhibit the ways of life in Arklow since the foundation of Arklow Pottery in 1934.

A restaurant and a small shop will also be housed in the centre, as well as an open-plan space for optional further exhibitions, displays or even a meeting place.

An observation was raised by Irish Water as part of the consultation phase for the centre, asking about any potential impact on the progress of works on the wastewater treatment plant.

Mr Nicholson explained

that his team have been trying to develop this project over the last number of years, and he was happy to report that there had been no public submissions received by the closing date, back in early January.

Another observation was made however by the Heritage Office of Wicklow County Council highlighting that an archaeologist would need to be appointed due to the close proximity to Abbey Graveyard and the site of a friary which holds potential for archaeological discovery in Arklow Town. The office also highlighted that in order to ensure compliance with legislation of the National

Monuments, and archaeological assessment should be carried out on site.

Mr Nicholson assured councillors that an archaeologist will be appointed to conduct the initial survey and will then be on standby during the construction stages.

The building will contain a lift with capability to provide access to all levels, including wheelchair users. Mr Nicholson said that his team are confident that the proposal would get through this year, and requested support from the councillors. Cathaoirleach of Arklow MD, Cllr Miriam Murphy said that she feels a project like this doesn't hap-

pen overnight but it is now "coming to a reality, after all the years of it being discussed around the table. "It seems like it's going to be a brilliant feature and we have to thank Michael and his department as well as the local committee".

Mr Nicholson highlighted the team efforts of Arklow Chamber of Commerce, Arklow Town Team, Arklow Municipal District Council and former employees of Arklow Pottery in getting the project off the ground and following a vote proposed by Cllr Annesley, all councillors agreed to support the proposal.

Local Primary Health Care Centres to progress

During the meeting an update on the Primary Health Care Centres for Arklow and Rathdrum was heard, which was received from the secretary to Minister for Health, Simon Harris.

Cathaoirleach Murphy said that the members were "very shaky and worried" about the progress of the centres following the controversy in the Dáil about the construction of the National Children's Hospital, and had raised the issue with local TDs.

The update read that "Arklow Primary Care Centre will not be delayed by the construction of the National Children's Hospital" and that the developer of Arklow Primary Care Centre has received a full grant of planning and has informed the HSE that works are programmed to commence construction in 2019. Following discussions, Cathaoirleach Murphy said that the Municipal District should respond and go back with a question specifically around the lease that the developer has going forward.

Speaking about the Primary Health Care Centre in Rathdrum, Cllr Pat Kennedy said that he had been working closely with the developers, and could confirm that a lease has been signed there. In a statement from the secretary to the Health Minister, the centre in Rathdrum "Is being progressed under the same system as Arklow PCC so will be unaffected by the HSE Capital Budget".

Construction in Rathdrum is programmed to commence on site in March and be delivered in 2020.

Outstanding 2018 works in Arklow Town

Low-cost safety schemes for 2018 have all been completed but ESB connection works remain outstanding in Arklow.

Councillors discussed the lack of street lighting on the Beech Rd at Coolboy Bridge after hearing that staff have had meetings and direct contact here but are finding it difficult to set down a date with the ESB to come out to the site and make a connection, they said.

Cathaoirleach Miriam Murphy described this waiting time as a "serious complaint" following Cllr Pat Fitzgerald remarking that it has been nearly a year.

Councillors also suggested the need for remedial work on footpaths in the town,

describing some situations where tiles are missing and footpaths are sinking.

Cathaoirleach Murphy offered to demonstrate the issue to the engineer to highlight the issue further. Cllr Sylvester Bourke expressed understanding at the lack of money available but said that things are "Very bad, and it's something we're going to have to face. The bricks we have are coming to the end of their life, management are going to have to find some way to replace them."

Remembering Sheehan in Arklow

While discussing a new housing development site in Arklow Town, located at the old council depot and Sheehan's crisp factory, Cllr Tommy Annesley proposed that the name "Sheehan Court" be given to the new estate.

Cllr Annesley explained that this would be a gesture as a mark of respect to the former councillor and entrepreneur John Sheehan, who gave much needed employment to the local area before he died at the young age of 44 in 1958.

Cllr Annesley presented the members with some historical research, which included an obituary that had been read at a council meeting in 1958, honouring the late Mr Sheehan. The obituary labelled John Sheehan a "kind and generous employer" and added that his main concern was always "the welfare and benefit of his employees" who were employed in his local factories. Cathaoirleach Miriam Murphy said that this name would be a fitting tribute to the man, known locally as Johnny, and Cllr Mary McDonald seconded Cllr Annesley's proposal for the new street name for consultation that will take place in the early summer time.

Cllr Pat Fitzgerald, whose father worked for Sheehan, said that the next step should be to try and make contact with the Sheehan family about this proposal. Cllr Annesley said that "As time goes on, I realise that history plays an integral part in the future of Arklow" and suggested a plaque be erected on the wall with historical information on it.

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LEADER'S AWARD FOR KELLEHER

Former Fianna Fail councillor Kathleen Kelleher received the Leader's Award at the 79 u Fianna Fail Ard Fheis in recognition of service to the Party over the years. The Ard Fheis was held in Citywest Hotel on Saturday, 23rd February.

Speaking afterwards, Kathleen said the award was "unexpected, but much appreciated".



Kathleen Kelleher

Kathleen officially joined the Party in 1992, but had already been working in behind the scenes before that. She served the people of the Greystones Local Electoral Area for 15 years, as a member of Greystones Town Council and for five of those years an elected member of Wicklow County Council.

Kathleen said "All of us who serve or served as FF elected members are proud to do so under the FF banner. And we all can

claim many major achievements during our time. Long may it continue with younger members coming to the fore. I continue to serve Fianna Fail as Runaí of Fianna Fail Wicklow CDC Officer Board.

"Thank you to those who nominated me for the Leader's Award and special thanks to those who have supported me over the years. It has been an honour to serve the people of Greystones and of Co. Wicklow. And I continue to do so, as best as I can and in as many ways as I can."

Kathleen is currently Runaí of Fianna Fail Wicklow CDC Officer Board.

Stephen Donnelly TD congratulated Kathleen, saying "I look forward to working with Kathleen in the run up to the local election in May and long afterwards. I wish her every good wish, and know she will continue to do her utmost within the Fianna Fáil party."

Bray St. Patrick's Day to emphasise multiculturalism

This year the St. Patrick's Festival in Bray will be focusing on great family fun with a strong emphasis on celebrating the town's multicultural community.

Mick Glynn, St. Patrick's Festival Chairman said "I would really encourage local groups and organisations to take part in our annual parade. It is an opportunity to showcase our rich culture and heritage to thousands of visitors."

You can register bray.ie. The closing date for submissions is February 18th. The festival will run from Thursday, March 14th until Monday, March 18th and it will feature Bird's Euroshow funfair, live music, an open-air céilí, the St. Patrick's Day Parade plus loads more.

The committee is also looking for volunteers from the local business community to help with this year's Parade. President of the Bray & District Chamber of Commerce, Pat Ó Súilleabháin said "The St. Patrick's Festival Bray continues to attract thousands of visitors because of the different variety of events on offer. This year is no exception as there are 5 days of great family fun. We hope to see you and your family here in Bray to help us celebrate our national day'. Bray's St. Patrick's Festival is proudly brought to you by Bray & District Chamber of Commerce and Wicklow County Council. Full event details of this year's festival will be launched shortly on the award-winning website www.bray.ie."



Pictured: Bife students presented Tom Gordon from the Five Loaves Charity today with €657 raised from their Retail Business & Raffle held on the 13th of February.

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SPRING 2020 FOR 'FLORENTINE CENTRE'

The 'Forentine Centre' site development in Bray has been given an opening date of Spring 2020, it was announced last week.

It was originally hoped that the 25,000 square metre mixed use development, located on the former 'Florentine Centre' site in Bray Town Centre, would be open in time for Christmas 2019.

Savills has been instructed as lettings agents and confirm that - in addition to the reserved

anchor tenant - some substantial pre-lets have also been agreed with the market leading Press Up Group. The Press Up Group will be operating a 5-screen Stella cinema, an exciting new leisure concept, and the renowned Elephant and Castle restaurant.

The high profile 2.4 acre main street site has

been the subject of a number of retail-led development proposals since 1996. In November 2016, Wicklow County Council - owners of the site - sought a development partner to realise the sites potential. Oakmount were appointed to develop the site in March 2018.

Darragh Cronin,

Director, Savills Ireland commented "The development of the Bray Town Centre will transform the retail and evening economy of Bray, where the main street has been poorly provided for due to a lack of restaurants, larger retail units and leisure offerings. The existing modern design that compliments the towns historic evolution will bring modern retailing and entertainment to this successful town."

The 3-storey development will comprise space for 3 anchor tenants - one of which is reserved - in addition to 9 individual retail units, restaurant / café space, and 250 car parking spots.

The plans also incorporate the development of a new urban street - accessed from Bray Main Street - and a central plaza with pedestrian access from Quinsborough Road.



Eight Wicklow towns to be 'poster free'

Eight towns and villages in Co. Wicklow so far have agreed to a voluntary ban on election posters for the upcoming Local and European Elections.

So far, the Co. Wicklow towns and villages that will have no election posters are; Glenealy, Wicklow Town, Arklow, Grange Con, Blessington, Avoca, Dunlavin and Baltinglass. In total, over 50 towns and villages around the country have currently agreed to be 'election poster free', and the list continues to grow.

The 'poster free' initiative is being encouraged by Tidy Towns groups and the campaign group PosterFree, a joint campaign by Donegal councillor Séamus Maguire and ZeroWaste.ie.

In Bray, Green Party councillor Steven Matthews will bring a proposal to the Municipal District Council requesting that they endorse a request from Bray Tidy Towns to limit the number of election posters in the town.

The proposal asks that all candidates and referendum campaigners would

voluntarily agree to keep Bray Main Street poster free as well as parts of Quinsborough and Florence Road; That all local election candidates would limit to 50 the number of posters they erect in the Bray District area; and that all Local election candidates, post elections would ensure the removal of any remaining cable ties from poles while removing their posters.

Cllr Matthews said "If I can get agreement on this then I think it's an important progressive step closer to eliminating fly poster. I had proposed to Wicklow County Council that designated poster sites such as temporary or mobile billboards run by the local authority could be a solution to fly poster. This would improve the safety aspect and also present a managed 'level playing field' for all candidates.

"The proposal was

referred to an SPC group (of which I'm not a member) but this group failed to progress the idea any further. I have no doubt that someday the ridiculous pre-election frenzy of fly poster will be prohibited. Until then I hope small measures like my proposal will keep the momentum towards that goal."

The PosterFree campaign group say "This May we're calling on all candidates to go poster free (plastic free) during the 2019 Local and European elections. We request candidates to abstain from the use of single use plastics. We encourage candidates to align their green agenda with their actions by going poster free (plastic free).

"We ask that Tidy Towns and other environmental organisations support by coordinating with candidates to introduce voluntary bans and poster free zones. In a 2018

Claire Byrne Live/Amárah Research poll, 77% of respondents said that they thought the use of posters during election campaigns should be banned.

"Corrugated plastic, commonly known as Corriboard is the material of choice for election posters. Like other single use plastics, they take 400+ years to biodegrade. In the 2014 local elections, 2038 candidates ran for 765 seats. An estimated 611,000 posters were erected with a combined cost of €3M with posters covering the equivalent area of 23 Croke Parks. This produced 366 tonnes of Co2, the equivalent of driving an average car non stop for 592 days. In many areas, these posters were a safety and driving hazard, often obscuring important road signage. After 30 days of canvassing, the majority of these posters were sent to landfill."



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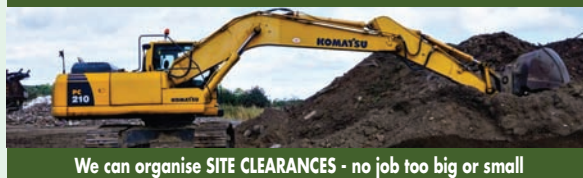
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Cumann na mBunscol Chill Mhantáin held their first ever 'Young Whistlers' refereeing course for hurling/camogie on recently in St. Brigid's hall, Kilcoole Primary School. Nine enthusiastic 5th class boys and girls from North-East Wicklow stepped up to the plate to be trained as Young Whistlers by GDA, Philip Campion. They learned how to be an effective and fair hurling/camogie referee, and how to follow the motto of 'Give Respect, Get Respect' in our games. Each Young Whistler received a certificate of achievement, an O'Neill's windbreaker and most importantly their whistle. Well done to the Young Whistlers who qualified from North-East Wicklow, we look forward to seeing you on the pitch, and thanks to Philip for facilitating the course! Pictured are the Young Whistlers with Sinead Ni Chrean Loinsigh and Philip Campion.

'Jock and Annie Slater' arrives at Wicklow

The relief Shannon class lifeboat Jock and Annie Slater arrived in Wicklow harbour on Sunday 24th February, after traveling from the RNLI headquarters in Poole, Dorset.

A large turnout of family, friends and supporters gathered as the Wicklow all-weather lifeboat Annie Blaker and the Inshore lifeboat escorted the relief Shannon into the harbour, while a lone piper on the East pier played a musical tribute to signal the arrival.

Staff Coxswain Pete Hanscombe accompanied the crew on the training passage, but Coxswain Nick Keogh had the honour of bringing the relief Shannon into Wicklow harbour. A short impressive display of the boats speed and agility was greeted with applause from the crowd, before it came alongside the pier.

The relief lifeboat will replace the present Wicklow lifeboat in the next few weeks after the crew complete familiarisation training. Temporary mooring facilities are being placed on the South Quay to support the lifeboat once it becomes operational.

The Shannon lifeboat is self-righting and the first jet propelled lifeboat to go into service with the RNLI. Two Scania engines give it a speed of 25knots.

She is self-righting and can endure up to 10 hours

in extreme sea conditions. She is highly maneuverable even in shallower waters, and her Systems and Information Management System (SIMS) lets crew monitor, control and operate many of the boat's systems from the safety of their seat.

These seats have impressive suspension to make arduous sea voyages in the worst conditions more comfortable and safer for crew by reducing the impact of vertical slamming forces.

Her distinctive hull shape is also designed to reduce the vertical and transverse slamming forces caused by rough seas, with a narrow bow to slice through water and a wide aft section to keep the Shannon steady.

Speaking after the arrival of Jock and Annie Slater, Tommy Dover, Volunteer Press Officer at Wicklow RNLI Lifeboat Station commented: "The arrival of the relief Shannon today marks the end of an era at Wicklow, as Annie will be retired soon and naturally, we will miss her. She has been the busiest all-weather boat since our station opened in 1857, rescuing 400 people during the thirty years on sta-

tion. But we are all excited with the arrival of the relief Shannon, the crew are now focused on the transition to a jet-propelled lifeboat, which begins with familiarisation training on Monday and continues for the next few weeks."



Members of the Wicklow RNLI at the arrival of the relief Shannon Class lifeboat 'Jock and Annie Slater' in Wicklow.

2 Purcell Square, Bray,
Co. Wicklow
(behind the Wild Goose pub)

Tel: 01 276 5277

E: freddiebraytile@gmail.com

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Mark Corcoran, Ciaran Doyle, and Des Davitt are pictured at the arrival of the relief Shannon Class lifeboat 'Jock and Annie Slater' in Wicklow.

Help make wishes come true for seriously ill children

Make-A-Wish is looking for volunteers to support its bag pack fundraising campaign at Tesco stores in Wicklow Town, Bray and Arklow this Wish Day, Friday 29th March.

Volunteers are required to bag pack in the supermarket for 3 hours during the flagship fundraising day to raise much-needed funds for the charity that grants the wishes of children living with life threatening illness, all across Wicklow.

Last year, Make-A-Wish granted the very special wishes of seven local children in Wicklow including some who are living with cystic fibrosis, leukaemia and cognitive heart conditions. Funds raised this Wish Day will help the charity to grant more magical wishes for other children in Wicklow, bringing them and their families hope, happiness and a welcome change from the drudgery of medical treatment.

To sign-up as a volunteer visit www.makeawish.ie/wishday or call (01) 2052012 / info@makeawish.ie.

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WOMEN IN BUSINESS



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International Women's Day

International Women's Day, originally called International Working Women's Day will take place on March 8th. The focus of the celebrations can vary from region to region but is generally a celebration of respect, appreciation and love towards women as well as a celebration for women's economic, political and social achievements.

The theme of this year's International Women's Day is 'Balance For Better', a call-to-action for driving gender balance across the world.

Network Ireland will host a major event at Thomond Park, the home of Munster Rugby, on Friday 8th March to celebrate International Women's Day.

The event will celebrate women in business and will also focus on the importance of building resilience. Hundreds of women from around Ireland including Wicklow are expected to attend the conference,

from budding entrepreneurs, SME owners, professionals and leaders in indigenous and multinational organisations to non-profits, charities, arts and the public sector. Tickets for the event are now available at networkirelandiwd2019.eve

ntbrite.ie. Rebecca Harrison of Fishers, in Newtownmountkennedy founded the Network Ireland Wicklow branch two years ago.

Their membership is made up of a very diverse group of women, from budding

entrepreneurs, SME owners, professionals and leaders in indigenous and multinational organisations to non-profits, charities, arts and the public sector. Tickets for the event are now available at networkirelandiwd2019.eve

Wishing continued success to all the Wicklow Women in Business from

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GREYSTONES, KILCOOLE, DELGANY & NEWCASTLE
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E: Elaine.Willis@Oireachtas.ie

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T: 087 2443610

Congratulations and continued to success to all the businesswomen of Co. Wicklow.

fine gael

The Green Room Flowers and Gifts

Ciara Quigley opened her first flower business in 2008 and since then has opened 3 successful flower shops. Ciara moved to the beautiful village of Roundwood five years ago, and saw an opportunity to open a new flower shop in the village. The Green Room Flowers and Gifts was opened in September 2017. Not only a successful entrepreneur, Ciara is the only Irish florist to have competed in the RHS Chelsea Flower Show three times.

In 2014 she won the Chelsea Flower Show Irish Hub, from there she went on to compete in one of the world's most prestigious flower shows, The Chelsea Flowers Show in London where she was delighted to bring home a Silver Medal, she competed again in 2015 and won the Irish Hub. In 2017 she won the Irish Hub for a third time and went on to bring home a Bronze medal.

Ph: 01-201 9810 www.thegreenroomflowers.ie



Ciara Quigley

I first began my early childhood education career when I was 16. I applied for transition year work experience here in Clare Elizabeth Creche and I have never looked back.

I finished my school education and went onto study childcare and I recently just graduated from Limerick university with a special award in leadership for inclusion in the early years.

I have been the Manager for the last two years and to describe my day would be impossible purely for the fact



Caroline Boyle, Manager, Clare Elizabeth Creche.

that each one in a 360 from the last. This is another one of the reasons I love it so much.

The best advice I could give anyone in management would be to have a strong, qualified, educated and experienced team behind you. People who have the same morals, focus and determination as you will drive you to be a better manager and therefore drive a better business.

I am approaching 19 years in childcare and every one of those years has been a privilege. I can't wait for the next 20.

Childcare Creche & Montessori, Bray. T: 01-2860011

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Rebecca Harrison is managing director of Fishers of Newtownmountkennedy Ltd - a unique family-run department store located in a tranquil setting at the edge of the Co. Wicklow village. She is also founder of Food at Fishers Cafe - an award winning casual dining daytime restaurant.

A graduate of Trinity College's Business School specialising in International Business and marketing, she is passionate about championing women in business, small business and the power of having a positive support network around you.

Rebecca served as President of Network Ireland in 2017 - Ireland's largest nationwide organisation for women in business and now serves on their advisory council and she co-founded the Wicklow Branch in 2016.

She sits on the Retail Consultation Forum for the Government's Action Plan on Jobs chaired by the Minister for BEI and is a member of their Digital Economy & Skills working groups.

Rebecca is on the board of Retail Excellence Ireland and a member of their Council and is on the Skillsnet Steering Committee with the Small Firms Association.

She has a regular slot on East Coast FM radio. Rebecca is a two time winner of the Regional Businesswoman of the Year and shortlisted for the Irish Businesswoman of the Year.

She was also a top 5 finalist in the Women Mean Business Awards in 2017 and 2018 for her work in empowering women.

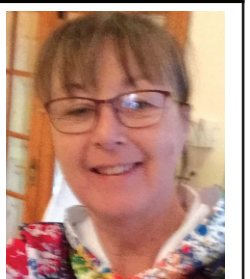
Rebecca also actively mentors others at various stages in their careers and is passionate about empowering others to achieve their potential.




crazyGlazing

Paint your own Pottery

Crazy Glazing Paint Your Own Pottery Studio recently opened by Siobhan Brennan in Wicklow Town (through the archway opposite The Coffee Shop), having relocated from Youghal, where she ran Crazy Glazing for 4 years. Great fun for all ages, you can walk-in to paint with friends/family. Camps are run during school holidays (now taking names for Easter Camp). Have a creative Birthday Party at Crazy Glazing - or your School Tour!! And for the grown ups - there's regular Wine & Design nights & lots more.



Siobhan Brennan

Drop into the shop, follow us on  or call Siobhan on 086 8500578

entrepreneurs, SME owners, professionals and leaders in indigenous and multinational organisations to non-profits, charities, arts and the public sector.

They have a strong voice and are interested in promoting diversity

and equality, entrepreneurship and leadership development; collaborating with like-minded people and organisations.

International Women's Day is a major day of global celebration of women. In different

regions, the focus of the celebrations ranges from general celebration of respect, appreciation and love towards women to a celebration for women's economic, political and social achievements. This year sees the 100th anniversary of the event.

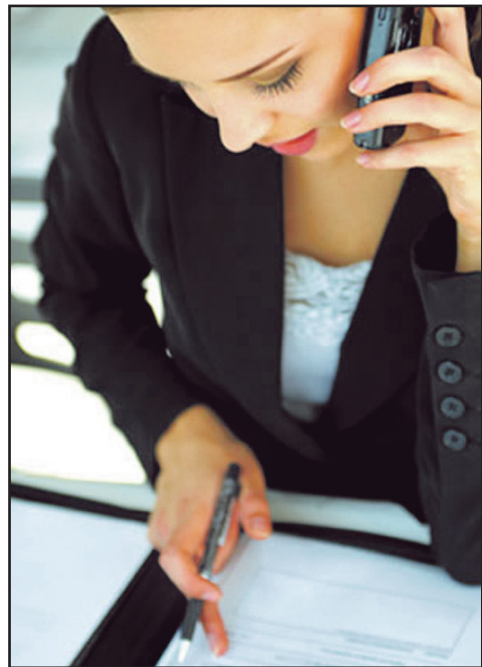
Started as a Socialist political event, the holiday blended in the culture of many countries, primarily Eastern Europe, Russia and the former Soviet bloc.

The day is an official holiday in some countries, in others it is not

an official public holiday but is widely observed nonetheless. International Women's Day will be celebrated globally and locally.

Hundreds of events around the world will take place not just on March 8th but throughout the month of March to mark the economic, political and social achievements of women.

Organisations, governments and women's groups around the world choose different themes every year that reflect global and local gender issues.

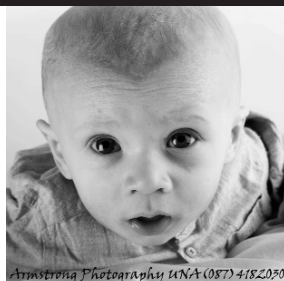


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WOMEN IN BUSINESS



Brooke & Shoals Fragrances

Brooke & Shoals is renowned for its award-winning fragrance products sold nationwide and also for its pretty gift boutique on the main street in Greystones.



Owner and founder **Alison Banton** is passionate about creating high quality products that are made in Ireland. Alison was recently awarded a Business Woman of the Year accolade and she knows well the hard work and dedication required to drive a business. A strong team is also part of the magic formula and the Brooke & Shoals team both in the Greystones shop and in the Kilcoole office are dedicated to growing the brand.

Call into Kay, Rita or Clara in Greystones to pick up a lovely candle, fragrance diffuser, or body products. They also have a range of stylish accessories, jewellery and gifts for that special occasion.



Church Road, Greystones, Co. Wicklow. Tel: 01 2874199
www.brookeandshoals.ie

FLORAL AFFAIRS

32 Main Street, Arklow. T: 086 2172659
E: floralaffairs.arklow@gmail.com



Anna Hayden

We may be new to Arklow but we are not new to floristry. Having worked in Flora Ltd a very well known Quirky florist in Dublin City centre for over 6 years to then making the move to the most iconic grand lady of Dublin city centre, The Shelbourne Hotel. With just over 4 years here as Senior Florist, I got to experience and create some amazing florals for both in house and outside events, working on our own and with some amazing event planners. As head florist for 12 months I was lucky enough to be featured in the second season of the TV programme made about the Shelbourne and hosted 3 wedding forums during my time there. I am super excited about the opportunity of opening my own shop in Arklow and have experience across the board from Bouquets, Sympathy Arrangements, Corporate and Weddings. I'm looking forward to creating some more marvellous memories in my floral career.

O'Brien's Bridal Couture

Tanya or Tatyana O'Brien is the owner of O'Brien's Bridal Couture. She and her husband Murt O'Brien opened O'Briens Bridal Couture in January 2014 in Rathnew, Co. Wicklow.

Tanya O'Brien who is originally from Ukraine, has been living in Ireland for 15 years, previously had her own independent dress making business. She has over 35 years of dress making and alterations experience. Tanya does all of the alterations on dresses bought in the store.

Tanya and Murt O'Brien were the owners of The Wicklow Art Gallery for 8 years before they opened their bridal boutique. Due to the recession, they were forced to close their art business. Two years later they decided to combine all of their experience running a business along with Tanya's dress-making and alterations experience and opened O'Brien's Bridal Couture

Since O'Brien's Bridal Couture was opened, it has had over 400 happy Irish and International brides, and has been featured on T.V programmes including 'Don't Tell the Bride' in October 2016 and 'Wicklow Matters'.



Tanya O'Brien of O'Briens Bridal Couture

You know you are in safe hands from start to finish at O'Brien's Bridal Couture from the moment you enter the shop for the first time until you collect your dress the day before your wedding.

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JAMES MCSWEENEY SOLICITORS

EMMA MEAGHER originally from Cashel, Co Tipperary and now living in Wicklow is a mum to three young children and works as a Partner and head of the Women's Medical Negligence Unit at James McSweeney Solicitors.

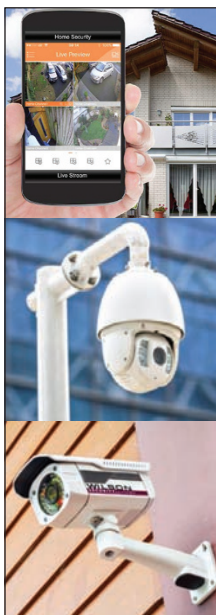
Emma joined James McSweeney Solicitors in 2008. She quickly established herself as an invaluable member of the Team and is now recognised as one of Ireland's leading Medical Negligence Solicitors. Emma has a keen interest in helping women who have suffered as a result of negligence during pregnancy, childbirth, and the postpartum period. As a result, in 2015, Emma established a



dedicated, mother-focused, legal advice unit and has built a support team with a wealth of interest and experience specialising in obstetrics and the Law.

When asked about what advice she has for women in the workplace, Emma stressed the importance of support from employers for greater flexibility. She believes that some employers forget that kids grow up and that the first two or three years can be very demanding but this eases. She believes employers need to invest in working mums and support them during this time, keep them in the workplace and they will come back stronger and more efficient than ever.

www.mcsweeney.ie



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Aisling Callaghan

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www.wilsonsecurity.ie

Wicklow Tennis Club launches plans for new 'state of the art' LED floodlighting system

Wicklow Tennis Club was delighted to welcome the Minister of State for Food, Forestry & Horticulture, Andrew Doyle TD along with the Chief Executive Officer of Tennis Ireland, Richard Fahey to support the launch of the club's recent Sports Capital Grant submission for the upgrading of the existing flood lighting to a new "state of the art" LED Sports Lighting System on Tuesday 26th February.



Minister Andrew Doyle with Wicklow Tennis Club members John Sinnott, Gerald Kane, Joan Gelletilie, Joe Kavanagh, Sinead Nolan, Robert Earls, Richard Fahey (CEO Tennis Ireland), and Tom Gorman at Wicklow Tennis Club

Addressing the launch, Club President, Robert Earls stated that Wicklow Tennis Club has carried on the tradition of serving the community on a voluntary basis with the promotion of the game of tennis to a population of 50,000+ people within the County of Wicklow.

"We are one of the few sports that caters for all ages and abilities and we start them very young from the ages of four right up to the ages of eighty," said Mr Earls.

Mr Earls stated that the Wicklow Tennis Club is "experiencing a rapid expansion of new members with the participation of additional tennis programmes in place: Blue Dolphins Special Olympics Club, Tennis Ireland 'Enjoy Tennis' programme, Active Retired-Over 65s, and Women in Sports Tennis Programmes."

He also stated that with primary schools having

virtually no tennis facilities, Wicklow Tennis Club is fortunate to accommodate all local schools so that they can enter for the Leinster Junior & Primary Schools League competitions.

Mr Earls also stated that the role out of Schools Tennis Programme has been a huge success with our club coaches visiting all local primary schools promoting the game of tennis to children of all ages and abilities. He stated that he hopes to continue this success with further schemes with the Wicklow Local Sports Partnership in order to increase participation in Tennis across the county of Wicklow.

Also, addressing at the launch, Chief Executive Officer of Tennis Ireland, Richard Fahey stated that "These exciting plans will enable Wicklow Tennis Club to meet the growing demand for evening matches and training

under lights will enable the club to reinvest the savings made from reduced electricity and maintenance costs back into the club.

"Wicklow Tennis Club is very much at the heart of the community and they want to keep providing the best possible facilities and service to everyone, which they feel can only be done by improving the facilities they offer," said Mr Fahey.

On the same night, Little Dino's Pre-School owner Loraine van Bronckhorst was delighted to present the Wicklow Tennis Club's Junior Development Squad with new "branded hoodies" to all junior members.

The Junior Academy Coaching Programme is delivered by qualified tennis coaches John Brady and Ashley Wynne and is proving to be very successful for the club.

With many members now with national rank-

ing, the junior Development Squad participates in many tennis tournaments nationwide flying the flag for Wicklow Tennis Club.

The following juniors who were competing in other clubs over the recent mid-term break - Colclough Byrne and Zoe Fitzsimons who played in the U11's Fast Four competition in Sutton Tennis Club, Dan McConnell and Conor Williams who played in the U11 & U12 Phoenix Competition in Carrickmines Tennis Club and Robin Brooksbank Percy who went to Galway to play in the U12 Connacht Junior Indoor Open.

If you wish to enquire about the current availability of tennis membership within the club, please email info@wicklowtennisclub.com or call our club administrator Sinéad Nolan on 085 1156051 for further details.

FEATURE



Running your own business is a stressful but good career and life choice. It demands your time and focus.

Start by expecting to live your work until it is established so it can get off the ground. There are many different opinions about how to start a business. Read below for some basic ideas and guidelines to get you started.

If you are thinking of starting a business there are a number of issues you need to consider. Different sup-

ports and regulations apply, depending on your particular situation. You may be employed, unemployed or someone who is coming from outside Ireland to set up a business. The Citizen's Advice Bureau highlights some of the important information you need to know with links to relevant topics. The

website www.selfemployed-supports.ie has information on the services and entitlements available if you are self-employed and setting up a business.

The most important thing is to come up with an idea. You will need an idea for a business before you do anything else. This should be something you are passionate

about, since your new business will consume a great deal of your time and money.

Come up with business ideas by identifying things people need which no one else currently provides, that isn't provided in your area, or which you can provide better than anyone else.

Determine your cost of operation. You will need a solid business plan to present to any investors and the best place to start would be with determining your basic cost of operations. This will outline and help you determine how much money is needed to produce the product or offer the service you intend to offer or produce. It includes production costs, shipping, taxes, worker's wages, rent for workspace, etc.

Write up a budget. Once you have a general idea of how much money you have to work with, write up a budget for marketing which indicates how much money you have available to spend on



advertising.

Create ideas fitting your budget. Once you know how much money you have, research the costs of different types of marketing and come up with ideas which fit those methods and are effective for the price

range.

Talk with your bank. Talk with a bank with whom you already have a positive relationship.

Ask about what kind of business start-up loans they offer and how they can benefit your business. By

using a bank you already know, the bank will have easy access to your financial records and will be more confident in investing with you.

Get local investors. If the bank loans will not be enough, look into local investors.

There may be a local business tycoon or other similarly wealthy person who would have a vested interest in seeing you succeed. Research people in your area who may have the funds and motivation to help you.

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and Gorey 053 942 2352**



Pictured: The Naval Vessel LÉ Orla visited in Wicklow Town on Saturday, 23rd February. Pic: Eric Ronan

Best Young Entrepreneur competition deadline

The deadline is fast approaching for those wishing to enter Ireland's Best Young Entrepreneur (IBYE) competition. Now in its fifth year, this dynamic competition is open to 18 to 35-year-olds who have an idea for starting a business or who are already running their own business.

The clock is counting down. We are fast approaching the closing date for applications for Ireland's Best Young Entrepreneur. Now is the time for you to visit www.ibye.ie to enter," says Vibeke Delahunt, Head of Enterprise for Local Enterprise Office Wicklow.

"We have a €50,000 prize fund to give away here in County Wicklow and we are looking for young entrepreneurs to enter in the three categories: Best New Idea, Best Start Up and Best Established Business."

All entrants are invited to an Enterprise Day with brilliant business advice and mentoring on offer. From there, a shortlist will be invited to an intensive Boot Camp and will move forward the #IBYE County Final.

2018 IBYE finalist Noel Dykes of Frankli had this to say about his IBYE experience: "IBYE gave us the confidence and validation we needed to press on with our business. It also opened up a valuable network of customers and investors."

LEO Wicklow has enjoyed considerable success in the IBYE competition. Former IBYE regional winners and national finalists from Wicklow include Kate Dempsey of Irish Mussel Seed company, Maurice Sheehy of Fleet, Shane Bonner of Newmarket kitchen and Cathal O'Sullivan of Game-X. James Keogh from Rathwood took home the National title for Wicklow in 2015 in the Best Established Business category.

The application process is quick, free and simple but applications close on March 15th so time is running out. "Just visit www.ibye.ie and take 15 minutes to complete your application. If you have any difficulties at all give our IBYE Coordinator Annette Rowsome a call on 0404 30800. We're just a call away and we are happy to help."

Head of Enterprise, Vibeke concluded "We love to see a young entrepreneur from #TeamWicklow making it to the National Finals of Ireland's Best Young Entrepreneur 2019 in Google this year. Come on, enter the competition today and who knows it could be you!"

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CLASSIFIEDS

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

I Thomas Nolan seeks full planning permission for the construction of a 1.5 story domer style 4 bedroom house with connection to all relevant services, new entrance and all ancillary works at Blackthorn Close, Newtownmountkenedy, 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

FURTHER INFORMATION

Planning Register Reference 18/1305: We, Little Explorers Childcare Ltd, have submitted significant further information to the planning authority in relation to this application for retention permission and permission for development at this site: Charlesland Neighbourhood Centre, Charlesland, Greystones, Co. Wicklow.

The significant further information 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 planning authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 2 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the newspaper notice and site notice.

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

I Jason Doyle intend to apply for permission for new garage for dwelling granted under planning permission 17/1093 and associate works at Red Lane, Sugarloaf, Kilmurry South, Kilmacanogue, 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

Tim Duggan seeks Planning Permission for the construction of a 4 bedroom, 2 storey house of 276sqm, with a new driveway entrance and driveway from an existing gateway on Killegar Road, associated site and landscape works including new boundary fencing and native hedging, septic tank and waste treatment system, percolation area, soak-away and bored well ; at Killegar, Enniskerry, 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.

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Specialising in Indian and Pakistani Cuisine.

Minimum of 2 years experience
€14.40 per hour - 40 hours per week
Gross Income: €30,000 per annum

Place of Work:
Daata Tandoori, Broadway, Strand Road,
Bray, Co. Wicklow.

Forward CV via email: info@daata.ie
Contact via Tel: 01 286 3006

SUNNY SITE SOUGHT IN GREYSTONES

FOR BUNGALOW OR DORMER
BUNGALOW BY PRIVATE PURCHASER.

Advertisers are pensioners, cash purchasers and the future occupiers. Site will ideally be within 10 minute walk of Greystones Dart Station. A site with Planning permission would be preferred, but one likely to get planning permission will also be of interest.

Property owners or estate agents only considered please.

All communications treated in strictest confidence by advertiser.

To initiate contact please email

privatehomeownergreystones@gmail.com

HSI High Schools International Host Families Wanted

High Schools International is recruiting families to host international students attending Irish secondary schools in Wicklow, Greystones, Bray and Kilcoole.

Students require a single room and full board.

Accommodation could be required for the full academic year or part thereof.

Ideal candidates would be families with children living in Wicklow, Kilcoole or Burkeen or with good access to secondary schools by foot or by bus.

Please contact Joanne
01 6784800 or
jmallon@hsinet.org

Shuttle Knit CLG Vacancy: Enterprise Manager

Purpose of Job: The overall strategic and operational management of the company in order to fulfil its mission and goals in accordance with Social Enterprise principles
Location: Shuttle Knit CLG CEART, Crinion Park, Wicklow Town.

The successful candidate will have:

- Clear and detailed knowledge of Traveller culture and ethnicity
- Experience of managing and promoting a project or a social enterprise, involving production & sales
- Excellent leadership and team building skills
- Excellent organisational, communication, interpersonal and writing skills
- Excellent strategic planning and evaluation skills
- 3 or more years' experience working in anti-poverty, social enterprise, preferably with Travellers or other similarly marginalised group (see person specification also)
- Ability to work on own initiative
- Commitment to equality and diversity
- Excellent IT skills

Closing date for applications: 15th March 2019 at 5 p.m. Late applications will not be considered. Applications can be submitted in hard copy or soft copy by email as a pdf document.

Application form and job description available from Administrator at:-
Tel: 0404-25641 • Email: shuttleknit@gmail.com

Applications by application form and cover letter only (CVs will not be considered). Applications should be addressed Chairperson, Shuttle Knit, CEART, Crinion Park, Wicklow.

The position can be full-time or job sharing is a possibility.

Shuttle Knit CLG is an equal opportunities employer.

Members of the Traveller community are welcome and encouraged to apply.

Canvassing will disqualify



This project is funded by The Department of Rural and Community Development under the Community Services Programme and administered by Pobal

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