



HOGWEED WARNING page 4



GREEN GILATO page 14



TRANSPLANT GAMES page 16

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Tuesday 16th July 2019 5 Eglinton Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow Tel: 01 - 2869111 www.wicklowtimes.net E-mail: wicklowed@localtimes.ie

'FAKE NEWS' KILLING CHILDREN

COUNTY WICKLOW HAS LOWEST TAKE-UP OF CHILDHOOD VACCINES

County Wicklow has the lowest uptake in the country of the MMR and Meningitis C vaccine. While no county meets the national target of 95% (in line with international and European targets) uptake most other counties range between 90 and 94%. However just 84% of children in Wicklow have received the MMR and only 82% received the Meningitis C vaccine.

The figures were released as part of the National Healthcare Quality Reporting System annual report. The report does not explore reasons for the disparity, stating that the reasons for the variation between areas 'require further investigation'.

establishment of a Vaccine Alliance of healthcare workers, policy makers, patient advocates, parents and educators 'to ensure that accurate evidence based and consistent messages about vaccination are spread, understood and acted upon.'

vaccinations is quite literally killing people. The lies anti-vaxxers peddle range from stretching the truth to straightforward Fake News. Some wrongly suggest that people have died from the measles vaccine itself, while unethical and completely discredited research linking autism and vaccines continues to be disseminated. In Ireland measles cases

Attempts are being made to increase the uptake of vaccines including a cross party Bill currently before the Dail calling for the

Fianna Fáil Health Spokesperson, Deputy Stephen Donnelly explained, "The spread of misinformation about



Dawn O'Brien, Pappy Frawley, Edel Cooke, and Abbie Cooke at the Win A Kool House draw in Colaiste Chraobh Abhann, Kilcoole.

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have risen by over 200%. It is a horrendous disease and very painful for children. In those with a weakened immune system it can be fatal. It's time that action is taken, and it is time that people realise there are massive consequences to not vaccinating their children. "I believe parents will always try to make the best decisions for their children but the scaremongering that is taking place, mostly online and via social media, needs to be tackled and called out for what it is.

"The simple fact is vaccines save lives. We inoculate our children not just to keep them healthy, but also to help protect other children around them. Part of living in a responsible society is making sure we do what's best for everyone, not just ourselves. The number of Measles cases in this country, for example, tripled between 2017 and 2018. So far this year there have already been dozens

of cases diagnosed here. A disease like that can be deadly for someone with a compromised immune system. We know that vaccination is one of the most effective ways of preventing disease. It currently saves between 2-3 million lives a year globally and a further 1.5 million deaths could be avoided if worldwide uptake improved. We owe it to each other to do whatever we can to help," concluded Deputy Donnelly.

The MMR vaccine protects against measles, mumps and rubella. These are highly infectious viral childhood diseases which can result in serious and even death. While Ireland has made progress to meet the European target for measles elimination in recent years, the threat of outbreak persists as long as there are immunity gaps within the population. Meningococcal C is a type of meningococcal bacteria that can cause meningitis,

septicaemia (also known as bloodstream infection) or both. The disease can cause death or serious

disability such as deafness, brain damage or loss of limbs. Prior to the introduction of the Men C

vaccine in 2000, Men C was responsible for about 30% of cases of meningitis/septicaemia.

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Emma Kinch and Brooke Wilson-Martin at the launch of the Arklow Seabreeze Festival.

What's Happening...

Family Time in Bray Library

Family Time in Bray Library, on Eglinton Road, takes place at 10am every Saturday in July and August with stories and crafts suitable for children aged 5 and up - no booking required.

Maritime Experience Workshop

Marine Dimensions will present the 'The Maritime Experience Workshop' from 3pm to 5pm on Thursday July 18th in Ballywaltrim Library, Boghall Road, Bray. The workshop will include a touch pool containing live sea creatures including starfish, shrimp, anemones, crabs, snails and lots more.

There will be an interactive display with sea shells, whalebones and stunning images of Ireland's marine life. Qualified marine biologists and environmental educators will be on hand to answer all those curious questions. This event is free. Further information from 01-2723205.

West Wicklow Outreach Service

There is a new domestic violence outreach service in West Wicklow provided by Saoirse Women's refuge in Tallaght. They can offer confidential appointments providing support to women suffering from domestic violence in the community, including Court Accompaniment. The drop in clinics areas follows: Every Monday 9:30am-11:30am Blessington Library, Every Wednesday afternoon 2:30pm-4:30pm Seomra Imaal Hall Dunlavin and Every Friday 9:30-11:30am The equestrian/The Lawlor centre Baltinglass. Call 085-2710378 for an Appointment.

Dunlavin Breastfeeding Support Group

This group meet in Seomra in the Imaal Hall every Tuesday from 10am to 12 noon. Details from Alice on 0851699425.

Swift sightings

BirdWatch Ireland wish to thank everyone who came along to their Kilcoole Little Terns outing and Arklow Swift Walk last month. Ricky Whelan urgently needs your Swift records for the Wicklow County Swift Survey as breeding is well underway and we need to locate those Swift nest sites in our old - and not so old - buildings.

To submit sightings of Swifts, especially if you've seen them enter a possible nest site, just go to the Biodiversity Ireland website at biodiversityireland.ie, or the new BirdWatch Ireland website at birdwatchireland.ie, or you can just send your sightings/nest records directly by email to: rwhelehan@birdwatchireland.ie.

Get yourself to Bray next weekend for Wings Food Fest

Craving chicken wings? Well, get yourself to Bray seafront next weekend July 19th, 20th & 21st for the mouth-wateringly brilliant Wings Food Fest. Again, this year top-notch wing pop up shops will serve up varieties of wings, sauces, sides and dips. There will be vegan options too.

The bravest can take part in the famous wing eating competitions. If you're not up for gorging on hot wings why not try bagging yourself some free wings over at the Wing A Roo - 'Spin A Wing' wheel or try out the Bingo Wing Tent.

The search continues for Ireland's favourite chicken wings venue in Wings Food Fest's annual Wing-Off. The ultimate chicken wing showdown will see these top wing venues battling it out to become Wing-Off Champion for 2019. The public has already recommended their top 20 venues who are now competing for a place in the finals.

But they are serving much more than wings... you can enjoy the Seafront Funfair, BBQ pit masters demos, street food and craft markets, live music and DJs spinning top rock anthems and some classic 80s tunes. Wings Food Fest has got something for all ages so bring the whole family and the best part is there's no entrance fee.

The Bootleg Beach Boys will open the festival with a selection of classic hits and cult favourites from California's most famous band on Friday, July 19th (on stage from 9 pm) with wings available from 6 pm, it will be an egg-cellent start to the weekend; then daily from 10 am to 6 pm on Saturday, July 20th and Sunday, 21st.

More information about the festival can be found at www.wingsfoodfest.com.

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Operation PolliNation will be creating a buzz in the Wicklow countryside

Bee-friendly flowerbeds will be popping up everywhere as the CountryLife Garden Centre network is donating free flowering perennials and wild flower seeds to 24 Tidy Towns and communities to help protect species at risk of extinction.

The leading farm and rural retailer, owned by Glanbia Ireland, is also giving free wildflower seeds to customers at its network of 14 award-winning CountryLife garden centres across Leinster and Munster and is highlighting in-store which plants are particularly pollinator-friendly.

CountryLife's in-store horticulturalists are promoting natural pest control methods and providing free information for customers to help them to reduce or eliminate their use of herbicides.

Across the wider Glanbia Ireland group, the company has added pollinator-friendly planted containers and bug hotels in all of its company offices dotted across Ireland. It has also distributed pollinator-friendly garden guidelines to all its 2,000 staff. In Wicklow, CountryLife's

centres are in Ashford and Rathdrum.

Glanbia Ireland's Jessica Kelly said their actions are designed to help further boost awareness among gardeners of the actions they can take to help biodiversity in their gardens. "Our Irish growers and suppliers, Tully Nurseries and Young Nurseries, donated 1000's of pollinating plants and Hygeia also donated thousands of Sutton's Wildflower Seeds for customers and staff.

"One third of our bee species are threatened with extinction. We want to play our part in protecting Irish bees. What better way to do this than helping our customers to sow Irish-grown plants that bees prefer.

"We also want to give back to our local communities in a visible way and support the tireless volun-

tary work done by our local Tidy Towns groups. The feedback from our own staff has been very encouraging and we're keen that this spreads across the wider communities we work and live in."

Horticulturalist at CountryLife's Castlecomer centre, Teresa Walsh, said even gardeners with a tiny piece of ground can do their bit to help our bees. She highlighted that it is critically important to choose the right site and proper terrain to get maximum results.

"More and more customers are asking us what they can do to help our bees and which plants or seed to choose. We're thrilled to be the drivers of Operation PolliNation. It is equally important though that seed bought is properly sown.

"When choosing your

pollinator patch, select wisely and do your preparation work. If you want to sow a wildflower garden, you need to prep and sow it properly. Dig out a flat area and rake it off. Don't add farmyard manure or anything - they don't like or need extra feed. Scatter the seed and rake it off again to provide a light dusting over the seeds. This also stops birds feasting on them. Sprinkle with water - particularly if rain is not due within 48 hours.

"Wild flower gardens thrive in sunny, flat terrain. But there are also shaded mixtures on the market as well as others that give you even more colour. Once the flowers bloom, sit back, relax and enjoy and know you're doing your bit to help pollinators do their work," she suggested.



Buzzing with excitement! At the launch of Glanbia Ireland's 'Operation PolliNation' programme were CountryLife Castlecomer horticulturalist, Teresa Walsh with bumblebees, Sofia Moloney and Pippa Wallace. Photo - Patrick Browne

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ICCL AND AMNESTY CALL FOR INQUIRY INTO SALLINS TRAIN ROBBERY

Following the broadcast of the RTÉ Documentary on One "Whistleblower" last week, the Irish Council for Civil Liberties (ICCL) and Amnesty International Ireland have reiterated their calls for an independent public inquiry into the Sallins case with both organisations writing to the Minister for Justice in this regard.

ICCL director Liam Herrick said: "Even after 43 years, the prosecution and conviction of Brian McNally, Osgur Breatnach and Nicky Kelly for the crime of robbing a train at Sallins in 1976 continues to cast a dark cloud over the Irish justice system and especially over Irish policing."



Nicky Kelly

In the 1980s Kelly achieved fame throughout Ireland after he had been sentenced, in 1978, to 12 years in prison for his alleged part in the Sallins Train Robbery. The ensuing campaign to release him became a symbol of the 1980s with 'Free Nicky Kelly' graffiti posted throughout the country. The evidence of torture committed against him and his two co-accused, Osgur Breatnach and Brian McNally, galvanized a campaign for his release. In 1984 Kelly was eventually released on "humanitarian grounds".

He received a Presidential Pardon in 1992, along with a reputed £1 million as compensation following campaigns by Amnesty and the ICCL.

Subsequently Kelly was elected to Arklow Town Council in 1991 and to Wicklow County Council in 1999. In 2008 he was elected Mayor of Arklow. He stood as a Labour Party candidate in the 2007 general election where he was beaten to the final seat by Mildred Fox by just 19 votes.

ICCL director Liam Herrick said "The State has called the Sallins case a 'miscarriage of justice' which suggests rights were violated through some mishap. However, the circumstances of the case suggest a purposeful campaign to frame men who were known to be inno-

cent for a serious offence. It also involved serious ill-treatment, potentially amounting to torture, of those men while in custody by a covert group of Gardaí who were organised to operate outside of the law."

Mr Herrick continued: "As we advance with a comprehensive process of Garda reform, we must address outstanding abuses from the past if public confidence in policing is to be restored. Cases like Sallins, and Kerry Babies, will continue to haunt our society and hold back reform of our justice system until they are properly investigated and the truth is uncovered."

From a human rights perspective, it is notable that this case arose around the same time that Ireland was bringing a case to the European Court of Human Rights concerning the use of abusive interrogation techniques in Northern Ireland.

Amnesty International Ireland executive director Colm O'Gorman said: "In 1990, Amnesty called for an independent inquiry

into what these men experienced in garda custody and during their trial. The serious and credible claims of garda ill-treatment in this case were never properly and impartially investigated. This remains a stain on Ireland's human rights record. We have commended Ireland for taking the UK to the European Court of Human Rights in 1978 in the Northern Ireland Hooded Men case, and for continuing to support those men's pursuit of justice. It is time for the government to finally live up to its own human rights obligations of truth, justice and redress in the Sallins case."

The Sallins case also exposed fundamental weaknesses in the non-jury trial system before the Special Criminal Court, a court whose continuing operation under a different evidential scheme continues to cause grave concern today. The key question of whether a case like this could happen again remains live.



At the launch of this year's Tinahely Agricultural Show were Ellen Durkin, Dolores Whelan, Thomas McDonald, Christy Perry, and Lorraine Kenny. See page 9 for details.

Kiltegan's 'Do Not Consume' notice lifted

Following consultation with the Health Service Executive (HSE), Irish Water, working in partnership with Wicklow County Council, confirmed last Tuesday that a Do Not Consume Notice for all customers on the Kiltegan Water Supply Scheme due to elevated levels of nitrate in the water supply has now been lifted.

Irish Water Drinking Water Compliance, operational experts and Asset Delivery teams worked with colleagues in Wicklow County Council to resolve this situation as soon as possible. Following the installation of a new nitrate treatment system at the Kiltegan Water Treatment Plant, testing has confirmed that the water supply is now compliant with drinking water regulations, and normal use of the water supply for drinking, food preparation, and brushing teeth can resume.

John O'Donoghue, Regional Operations Manager with Irish Water, said: "Irish Water is aware of the impact and inconvenience caused by this Do Not Consume Notice to homes and businesses in the Kiltegan area. We wish to thank the community in Kiltegan for their patience and cooperation while this issue was resolved. Irish Water's priority is the provision of safe, clean drinking water and safeguarding the water supply for the future is a vital focus."

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Wicklow Labour Party members Cllr Paul O'Brien, Anne Waithira Burke, Jack O'Connor, Cllr Anne Ferris, and Ian McGahon

Buoyed Labour Party seeks new members

Members of the Wicklow Labour Party met last Wednesday in the Parkview Hotel in Newtownmountkennedy to hold their monthly meeting at the request of the local councillor for the area, Cllr. Paul O'Brien.

The gathering was mainly to review the results of the Local Elections in Wicklow and to congratulate the four members who fought the elections in Bray, Greystones and Wicklow Town. Labour's National Chairperson and Dáil Candidate Jack O'Connor paid tribute to Anne Ferris and Paul O'Brien who took seats in Bray and Wicklow Town and also congratulated Ian McGahon and Anne Waithira Burke for their performances which resulted in a significant vote increase for the Labour Party in the constituency of Wicklow. All four candidates thanked the party members along with their families and

friends who worked tirelessly during the election campaign to promote the core values and principles of the Labour Party. Jack O'Connor, in his address to the members, gave a rousing and inspiring speech and reiterated his commitment to stand as a Labour candidate for Wicklow at the next General Election. "Labour was written off at these Local Elections but it has demonstrated that by winning two Council seats that we are re-building strength. All of my life since I was 16, I have stood for Labour's core values of improving the lives of working people and fighting for workers' rights. We will fight for decent work. We will

fight for decent wages. We will fight for the right to be represented at work. We will fight for investment in housing nationally. This is my pledge as Labour's General Election candidate here in Wicklow.

"I stand strongly and vehemently for policy proposals of legislating for collective bargaining for workers and for building 80,000 houses a year. As a candidate I pledge that after the next general election I will not support any proposed Programme for Government where there is not strong commitments for rights for collective bargaining to improve the economic situation for Irish workers and for a programme to

build 80,000 per year. "The Labour Party in County Wicklow is looking for people of all ages to join us. If you believe in decent work and decent wages and believe that you have a right to collective bargaining and representation in the workforce, then the Labour Party is the political home for you. We need to make our voices strong and loud, both here in Wicklow and right across the country, to effect the changes that have been largely ignored by the government over the last few years. Anyone who shares our values and wishes to join with us will be welcomed with open arms", concluded Jack O'Connor.

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'Bray needs a housing and homelessness task force'

Residents Sinn Fein councillor Dermot 'Daisy' O'Brien has proposed that a Special Meeting be called to deal with the housing and homeless situation in Bray. He described the current situation as a crisis.

Cllr O'Brien said that whereas his preference would be to set up a Task Force on Housing and Homelessness, a Special Meeting would give an opportunity for the eight councillors in Bray to have a full discussion on the issue and "make some collective decisions".

Outlining his proposal for the creation of a task force Cllr O'Brien said "The situation is not improving despite the intense efforts of the various stakeholders. It's time for all of the relevant organisations to come together and treat the situation in Bray as an urgent crisis. We are struggling at every level from those in desperate need of affordable and social housing to those who are finding it impossible to access and afford rent in Bray. Not to mention those who are on HAP, RAS, sleeping rough night after night or those whose lives are put on hold while they languish in emergency accommodation with little more than a wish and a prayer for a solution."

"All of the support structures are doing the best that they can but I believe the collective endeavors of those who have a role to play in responding to this urgent issue need to get together and formulate solutions and action plans immediately."

Commenting on the proposal Deputy John Brady said "The creation of a task force is an important move in tackling the issue that is impacting on so many lives. I would hope that all of the Municipal Districts in Wicklow would take the lead from Bray and set one up too."

Councillor Grace McManus said "I wholeheartedly support this call from my colleague for a housing and homelessness Task Force. It is a positive, solution focused proposal which is a glimmer of hope within a dark and bleak scenario. For me, this Task Force has the potential to harness the desire, drive and potential for a real change in approach to housing within the County. However, it is not just a good idea; from my first month as a councillor alone I can say that this crisis is very real, it is very much in Bray, and is causing immeasurable suffering. This Task Force is an essential move to begin to address this."

Cathaoirleach of Bray Municipal District Cllr Steven Matthews suggested that a workshop for the new councillors on all housing services provided by Wicklow County Council should precede the meeting and that the meeting should be a full Wicklow meeting, but this was rejected.

"I'm certain that it would be more productive to have the meeting in Wicklow Council with all the housing services represented and where we could discuss policy change on housing, but the members want this meeting to be in Bray District. The district has very limited function and control in terms of housing as policy and funding is controlled by a FG led council and government. In my view, insisting that the meeting be in Bray is about optics, if you want to change something you go to where the policy and control is managed and that is Wicklow," concluded Cllr Matthews.

Giant Hogweed claims another victim

Residents and visitors to Wicklow, and in particular Bray, are being warned to adopt caution near hedging after a young girl was badly injured after making contact with a highly toxic invasive plant Hogweed. The nine-year-old girl suffered extensive burns to her hands and feet when she came into contact with the plant at the back of the Egan Centre in the Dargle, in Bray.

The plant, which looks similar to Cow Parsley, grows to a height of five metres and is known for its ability to inflict painful burns and blisters on anybody unlucky enough to touch it.

The light-sensitive skin reaction causes dark painful blisters that form within 48 hours, and result in scars that can last anywhere from a few months to six years. Merely touching giant hogweed can cause long-term sunlight sensitivity and blindness if sap gets into a person's eye.

Children are at particular risk as the hollow stems of the plant are often used by them as pea shooters. Breaking the plant and touching the sap causes excruciating burns when exposed to sunlight.

Giant Hogweed is a non-native plant species that grows abundantly along the banks of rivers and streams. This statuesque plant can grow to a height of 4 metres and was introduced to Ireland from Asia as an ornamental in the late 1880s and was believed to have been deliberately planted by rivers and ponds.

While it appears that steps have been taken by the Council to address the hogweed in recent days, a broader and more long-term approach to the problem is warranted according

to local experts. Local horticulturalist Vincent Coey has been concerned about the growth of Hogweed for a number of years and has called on Wicklow County Council to implement a three point action plan, whereby the Council is informed of individual sightings, the sites are observed for up to five years (the amount of time a Giant Hogweed seed bank lasts), then eradication of the plants.

Mr Coey has spotted Giant Hogweed along the N11 and at the Harbour in Bray but says these sightings are nothing new as he spotted the plants at the same sites many years prior. He reported them to the Council and says 'in his naivety' thought they would be dealt with. This time around, Mr Coey contacted the Council again but received no reply.

Mr Coey told Wicklow Times, "As I highlighted to

the council there is a crèche just downstream from the sighting on the N11 in Riversdale. Plants have already spread about 200m on the road but I have not had a look on the riverbank. It wouldn't take much for a seed to take hold down near there and for an unsuspecting child to break a leaf off without knowing what it was. Each plant has the capacity to produce up to 20000 seeds. In a built-up area that is something a major concern considering how dangerous they are."

"The sightings in the aforementioned sites have been recorded there over the last couple of decades so there is nothing new here. It has been there; it is there and it will continue to be there and spread further afield till a proper plan is put in place. The fact that we are seeing these outbreaks is showing that the management is failing and that

whatever system there is in place, if any, is not adequate."

Mr Coey cited the Dublin City Council action plan as a possible plan for Wicklow to emulate. "First what I would suggest is either a link between the Biodiversity database to the council whereby when a sighting is reported the council is informed straight away if it is in their district or a separate app or web page run by the council to report sightings. That's always the first step is identifying the problem next, is devising a plan to get rid of it. So for Giant Hogweed, the seedbank lasts quite a while, from most sources I have read about its five years. So that is a minimum of five years that the area will need to be observed and treated. The third step is actually doing the deed and eradicating the plants. There are a number of methods used spraying and injecting with herbicide or digging them up but probably the best way is spraying as the less contact you have with the plant the better. It is also important to get to the plant before the flowering phase so timing is key."

John Brady TD, who spoke with the family of the young girl affected, told *Wicklow Times* that he would be supportive of an action plan being introduced. "As part of the flood protection works funds were set aside to deal with invasive species but that has all completely stopped now. I have asked for a comprehensive report on what is being done to deal with the issue."



Giant Hogweed



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Pictured are the Arklow Seabreeze Princess judges Suzanne Walsh, Elaine Cullen and Liam Redmond at the Midway Bar

Wicklow watermain replacement works completed

Customers in the Main Street and Fitzwilliam Square areas of Wicklow Town will benefit from a more reliable water supply, following the completion of mains replacement works.

Irish Water, working in partnership with Wicklow County Council, has completed the replacement of 350m of aging and problematic cast iron water mains with high density polyethylene (plastic) pipes.

Replacing old water mains and service connections will reduce the instances of bursts and water outages to customers and local businesses in the area. Operational and maintenance costs will also be reduced as the network operation will require less maintenance.

The work is part of Irish Water's national Leakage Reduction Programme as part of which over €500 million is being invested to reduce the level of leakage across the country by fixing and replacing aging water mains.

Irish Water said "This will ensure a safe, reliable water supply which is vital for our health, our environment and our growing population and economy."

The works were carried out by Ward and Burke Ltd, on behalf of Irish Water.

Speaking following the conclusion of the works, Joe Carroll, Irish Water's Leakage Reduction Programme Regional Lead, said: "We'd like to thank residents and businesses in Wicklow Town for their patience while we carried out these important

works. The replacement of these aging water mains in Wicklow Town will improve security of supply for local residents and businesses alike. We are delighted to complete the works ahead of Wicklow County Council's permanent road improvement works in the area. This will replace the current, temporary reinstatement in place following the works.

"Replacing the existing water mains with new modern pipes will provide a long-term solution to ensure a safe and secure water supply is delivered to customers. Irish Water is investing over €500 million to reduce the level of leakage across the country by fixing and replacing aging water mains in order to safeguard our water for our future."

Leakage Reduction Programme works continue in Bray and Arklow. Residents and businesses in the areas of these works have been notified and customers can call the Irish Water customer helpline on 1850 278 278 for any questions in relation to the works.

To find out more about Irish Water's national programme of works to reduce leakage and improve Ireland's water supply visit our Leakage Reduction Programme Page.

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*In contentious business, a solicitor may not calculate fees or other charges as a percentage or proportion of any award or settlement

Kilmacanogue man settles claim for €2.6 million

A 32 year old electrician who was knocked down by a car as he walked on a road near his home in the early hours and suffered a traumatic brain injury has settled his High Court action for €2.6m reports Tim Healy on Independent.ie.

Shane Vickers, the High Court heard, was wearing dark clothing and appeared to be "weaving" on the road in the moments before the accident shortly before 1am in the morning of 19 October, 2014.

Mr Justice Kevin Cross approved the settlement which represented 30 per cent of the full value of the case. Counsel for Mr Vickers John Rogers SC told the court the driver of the car said he thought something dark fell on his car like a tree and when he stopped and got out he

noticed a person on the ground. He said the man was wearing dark clothing.

Counsel said an independent witness who was travelling on the other side of the road said he had seen Mr Vickers walking in the middle of the opposite lane and he appeared to be walking from side to side. He also said Mr Vickers was wearing dark clothing and was hard to see and he beeped at him to alert him to the danger. He saw the oncoming car and when he looked in his mirror,

Mr Vickers was already in the air.

Counsel said there was a footpath at the other side of the road. Mr Vickers does not remember anything of the accident.

Shane Vickers, Rockfield Park, Kilmacanogue, Co Wicklow had sued car driver Andrew Moran, Ripley Hills, Killarney Road, Bray as a result of the accident.

He claimed the driver allegedly failed to keep an effective lookout and allegedly failed to see him

in sufficient time or at all so as to avoid the collision.

The claims were denied and it was alleged there was contributory negligence on the part of Mr Vickers.

Approving the settlement Mr Justice Kevin Cross said he was happy to hear Mr Vickers is making progress and he wished him all the best for the future. The judge said he knew the settlement was not the full value of the case, but he said it will give him some comfort in to the future.

Wicklow Polio Register Rollout

The National Polio Register is rolling out to get a clearer picture of how many polio survivors are living in Wicklow, to help advocate for their future.

"The Polio Register is of huge benefit to those who aren't accessing services that could be had by polio survivors if they need them," says Councillor Murphy, herself a polio survivor. "When you get older it puts a different slant on things. They may not have suffered when they were young, but now... it is important that survivors understand what services are available to help them."

It is believed that there are 7,000 polio survivors in Ireland, yet only 1,000 are members of the support charity. As they age, survivors can be impacted by Late Effects of Polio or Post Polio Syndrome. "It is great to have the Register," Councillor Murphy says. "I would have been slow, even ten years ago to look at what supports I can get. It can be tough for people to come forward, having been so independent all their lives and to say, 'I need help'. But if they sign the Register they are linked in and will know help is there if they need it."

By registering polio survivors are helping to safeguard the future of all polio survivors, whether

or not they are experiencing the Late Effects of Polio. With their help Polio Survivors Ireland can make sure that polio

survivors have a stronger voice.

For more information see www.polio.ie, email info@ppsg.ie or call 01

889 89 20, or sign the National Polio Register to create strength in numbers at polio.ie/national-polio-register/



Pictured are polio survivor and Wicklow County Councillor Miriam Murphy, with Niamh Murphy, Polio Survivors Ireland, at the Arklow Municipal District Offices, on Thursday 11th July

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Peter Mark has honoured five Wicklow employees for their valued contribution and long-standing service to the company. The Peter Mark Long Service Awards took place at The Westin Hotel, Dublin and recognised employees from salons who have worked at Peter Mark for over 10 years. The Wicklow employees honoured were: Orla Hennessy (Arklow, 10 years); Emma Jane Haughton (Arklow, 10 years); Louise Martin (Arklow, 10 years); Leah Rowe (Arklow, 15 years); Joe Corrway (Bray, 40 years).

KILDARE WEST WICKLOW SPCA LOOKING FOR NEW PREMISES

The Kildare and West Wicklow S.P.C.A. is seeking new premises after being asked to leave their current premises by Kildare County Council as they cannot pay their rent.

By Sam Doherty

They are being asked to take all of the animals off the premises. They are currently caring for 10 dogs, who now each need a new home, as well as eight kittens and eight adult cats.

The dogs include a German Shepherd cross, a Huskie-Akita mix, two terriers, two Jack Russell terrier cross puppies, a springer spaniel, a large Akita, and a Greyhound.

The Kildare West Wicklow S.P.C.A. (KWWSPCA) society was originally set-up in 1940, but they have only been on their current site in Oldtown, Athgarvan, Co. Kildare premises since 2014.

The current premises of the Kildare West Wicklow S.P.C.A. consists of converted stables, now used as shelter for the dogs being homed by the organisation, a main

building, a garden area for socialising the dogs and an area of land that adjoins the quarry and the KWWSPCA.

There is a separate premises for cats donated to the KWWSPCA. The KWWSPCA estimate that they will need €300,000 to buy or build a fit-for-purpose premises. Ideally, they would like two or three acres of land to walk their dogs around and build their new premises on. So far, they have raised a total of approximately €125,000 since they started fundraising in early February.

The money is being raised on donations from Facebook and Paypal users and from the campaign set up on gofundme.com. The shelter has also benefited from recent bake sales and other fundraising events in local schools.



The current premises of the Kildare West Wicklow SPCA

Tubridy shows continuing support of Tiglin

Following up on his visit to Tiglin's men's centre last summer, Ryan Tubridy lived up to his promise to see the work Tiglin is doing to help women who are stuck in addiction and homelessness. There are very few women's only residential facilities in Ireland for those in addiction, Tiglin's centre in Brittas Bay is one of them.

Speaking about his visit, Ryan Tubridy said: "I've always had an interest in what Tiglin is doing since I first heard about it. Last year, I was struck by the impact this service is having."

Chairman of Tiglin Aubrey McCarthy said: "I am deeply encouraged by the impact that Ryan's interview on RTE's Late Late Show last year with former Judge Gillian Hussey and Tiglin Graduate, Paul Mahon has had. There is one young lady here today as a result of seeing the interview. During the interview, Paul talked about how his life was transformed through Tiglin's programme and he inspired her to give our women's centre a call. Addiction could have taken her life away had she not heard that interview on the Late Late Show."

Patron of Tiglin, Gillian Hussey was there to greet Ryan once again. She said: "In my years on the bench as a Judge, I witnessed many lives that addiction had had a detrimental impact on. I was often faced with difficult decisions, but I was always aware that addicts are victims too.



Pictured are Gillian Hussey (Tiglin Patron), Ryan Tubridy, Kirsty Chapman (Tiglin), Audrey Evans (Delgany), Philip Thompson (CEO of Tiglin), Baby Wilde Thompson.

When possible, I would always look for options to send people to places like Tiglin to get help rather than to prison." Ryan's visit last year encouraged him to make a shout out to his listeners to help get Tiglin's polytunnel resurrected after taking a bashing from "The Beast of the East".

That call has not only

helped get the tunnel in the mens' garden but also the combination of donations and contributions pulled on the heart strings of Polytunnels Direct who donated a second tunnel for Tiglin ladies centre. Both gardens have been enhanced dramatically by the donations.

Tiglin's Centre for women, in Brittas Bay is

a special place where the counsellors and key workers help the individual residents carve out a care plan that they themselves get to design. Education, evidence based interventions, housing support, health, family and spiritual well-being are among the issues addressed along the journey through Tiglin.

Malfunctioning septic tanks are posing risks to people's health

The Environmental Protection Agency has released a review of over 2,000 inspections of septic tanks and other domestic waste water treatment systems in 2017 and 2018.

Nearly half of the systems failed inspection because they were not built or maintained properly. Faulty systems can contaminate household wells and pollute rivers. Household should avail of the proposed expanded grant scheme when it becomes available, to address malfunctioning septic tanks.

Commenting on the report, Dr. Tom Ryan, Director of the EPA's Office of Environmental Enforcement said, "If you do not maintain your septic tank, it can contaminate your own or your neighbour's well or your local stream, putting your health at risk and that of your family and neighbours. You can take simple steps to maintain your septic tank by making sure it is not leaking, ponding or discharging to ditches and by cleaning it out regularly."

The report also found that nearly one third of systems that failed inspections during 2013-2018 are still not fixed. Local authorities need to take appropriate measures to ensure householders fix systems that fail inspection.

Noel Byrne, Senior Scientist in the EPA's Office of Environmental Enforcement said, "It is important that householders fix systems where problems are detected. To improve water quality, the government's proposed expanded septic tank grant scheme, due to be launched later this year, will increase the maximum grant aid available to 5,000 and remove the means test requirements."

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All roads lead to Tinahely on August Bank Holiday Monday

As the second largest agricultural show in Ireland, the Tinahely show attracts more than 20,000 visitors each year and with good reason.

The show captures the essence of rural Ireland with a huge range of entertainment, livestock competitions, equestrian competitions, arts & crafts, family entertainment and the best of Irish food produce. This year is no exception and the line-up promises to be one of the best featuring familiar favourites and some exciting new displays.

Enjoy five hours of dancing on our giant dance floor with country music legends Derek Ryan and his band; Olivia

Douglas, Stuart Moyles, Theresa and the Stars and dancing with Declan. Enjoy traditional Irish Music with our local Tinahely Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann (CCE) and Irish dancing with Caroline L. Fleming Academy.

Back by popular demand, Rathwood will host a fashion show again this year featuring the latest fashions from Rathwood, Deirdre Minogue and Oonagh Conroy and compered by the ever stylish Marietta

Doran. This exciting new feature will bring some accessible physical, mental, emotional and spiritual wellness information to show visitors and will include; energy healing therapists; physical therapists; sound therapy; healthy eating; and as well as group talks and demonstrations.

The Tinahely Show features a wide range of livestock competitions including national championships with a €14,000 prize fund. A major high-

light in the cattle section will be hosting of the €4,000 Irish Pedigree Belgian Blue Calf Championship sponsored by FBD Insurances, Bank of Ireland and Tinahely Agricultural Show Society. The Belgian Blue Crossbred Finals will also attract entries from all over Ireland.

The highlight of the commercial cattle section is the Zurich Insurance PLC Commercial Championship Beef Bullock or non-pedigree Beef Heifer All Age any



Pictured are the Tinahely Show committee members, sponsors and friends, at the launch for this year's show which will be held on August Bank Holiday Monday



Pictured at the launch of this year's Tinahely Show were Denise Dunne, Claire Delaney, Phylis Mates, Florence Dagg, Cecily Mates, and Ger Shortle

Breed, which boasts a handsome €2,500 prize fund. This section will also feature the Derek Rothwell Memorial Stockperson of the Year Championship.

Wicklow's great sheep tradition will be evident at this year's show with a range of classes including Cheviot, Jacob, Charollais, Lleyn, Texel, Zwartbles, Suffolk, Crossbred and Commercial classes.

The Pygmy Goat classes will include male/female kid, adult female and goatling classes.

The Poultry Section will feature bantams, large fowl, water fowl and chicken classes.

The Red Mills Non-

Thoroughbred Two-Year-Old Gelding All Ireland Championship is sponsored by Red Mills Goresbridge and offers a grand prize fund of €3,000.

Show Jumping for registered horses and ponies will take place on show day in the show jumping arenas. The exciting Pony Club Games team competitions are always a crowd pleaser and will take place from 2.00pm. Donkey classes are also available and entries can be made through the Tinahely Show office.

The Home Industries and Quilt marquees are always a firm favourite and feature the best of rural Ireland's talent in crafts, baking, art, farm,

garden and photography. The junior marquee showcases the entries from the next generation of craftspeople.

Always a firm favourite for our young visitors' the pets corner features a wide range of common and unusual pets from; donkeys, rabbits, farm animals, pheasants, puppies and snakes to hairless cats. Entries are taken on the day before 10:00am.

Our dog show is always a popular attraction for all the family and entries will be taken on the day.

The mighty Michael O'Brien from county Clare will attempt to set a new Guinness World record in the sheaf tossing, having set many records down through the

years Michael is at the pinnacle of his career and feels the time is now right to attempt this great feat.

With over 200 trade stands, the IFA Food hall; talent shows; the wool corner; craft village; food court; vintage section; Tinahely Show Queen; Sheaf tossing; tractor pulling; and dog shows there is something for everyone at the Tinahely Agricultural Show.

It's never been easier to enter and online entries are now open at www.tinahelyshow.ie

Early bird tickets are also available online for only €12.50. For further information visit www.tinahelyshow.ie or contact the show office at info@tinahelyshow.ie.

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A Healthy Plan for Wicklow

Last month saw the launch of the HSE Community Healthcare East Healthy Ireland Plan. The emphasis of the Plan is on the promotion of health, healthier lifestyle choices, prevention of illness and to empower people to manage their health conditions in the community.

Work on implementing the plan is already underway; for example, the area's Directory of Services and Programmes for Adults with Asthma, COPD, Diabetes, Heart Conditions and Stroke has been completed to assist health care professionals to refer clients to initiatives and programmes that are the most appropriate for them. In launching the plan today, the Minister for Health Simon Harris, T.D. for Wicklow said, "Community Healthcare East (Dublin South East, Dún Laoghaire and Wicklow) has been a leader in terms of encouraging people to live healthier lifestyles for many years so I am really

delighted to be launching its new Healthy Ireland Plan today. Health and Wellbeing promotion is the cornerstone of Healthy Ireland and of Sláintecare. We know that we need to engage with all citizens to support, enable and empower them to make the necessary changes to improve their health and wellbeing. This plan demonstrates the commitment of the HSE in this area to making that happen. It lays out achievable actions to improving the health and wellbeing of the population for the area, and demonstrates the immense collaborative work underway with other agencies".

At the launch of the

plan, Martina Queally, Chief Officer, HSE Community Healthcare East, said: "Promoting the health of the population to prevent illness is an essential part of the Sláintecare strategy. The Community Healthcare East Healthy Ireland Plan is a framework for action to improve the health and wellbeing of the people who live in our catchment area. Our goals are to increase the proportion of people who are healthy at all stages of life, reduce health inequalities, protect the public from threats to health and wellbeing, and create an environment where every individual and sector of society can play their part.

We want to raise awareness and strengthen connections at local level so that we can bring Healthy Ireland to life in our community. I would like to acknowledge the significant support that we receive from our growing alliance of partners across many different sectors, including local authorities, schools and colleges, workplaces and community groups, and to extend a warm welcome to those who have joined us today to celebrate the launch of our plan. Finally, I would like to thank Siobhan Fitzpatrick, Head of Health & Wellbeing, for leading out on this important work."



Complementary health

Complementary health is now an integral part of the nutrition and health industry. More and more people are turning to complementary health practitioners, consultants and products to alleviate the pain and stress of a range of ailments.

Some of those seeking help from complementary health advisors are doing so after traditional treatment options failed to remedy the illness or symptoms, while others are undertaking a new course of treatment in conjunction with a conventional medical course of treatment.

There is a wide range of treatments available that fall under the umbrella banner of complementary health including: acupuncture, aro-

matherapy, reflexology, hypnotherapy, osteopathy and spiritual healing.

When undertaking any kind of treatment it is important to inform your self of what's involved, what ailments can be treated by what particular practice, what benefits the treatment will bring about, the timeframe for

these benefits and the costs involved.

Healthy eating guide

Earlier this year, The Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI) published the updated Healthy Eating, Food Safety and Food Legislation - a

Guide Supporting the Healthy Ireland Food Pyramid. The Guide describes how to make the best food choices for health and provides practical advice to protect people in Ireland from 5 years of age onwards against diet-related ill health.

According to Dr Pamela Byrne, CEO, FSAI - we live in an age where there are so many confusing messages and information about food and nutrition and this Guide provides independent and unbiased science-based advice that people can trust. It covers how to make the best food choices from every angle - nutritional quality, food

safety and food law. It is a comprehensive Guide that health professionals can use to help consumers make more informed food choices and that the food industry can use to provide the best food choices for consumer benefit.

"It is a combination of international best practice with up-to-date Irish research to ensure the advice meets the specific dietary needs of the Irish population.

It provides food-based advice that protects people from five years of age onwards against diet-related ill health such as heart disease, cancer, obesity and diabetes, which are major causes of ill health in Ireland.

Ayurvedic facial massage with Anne McGennis

Trained under Mary Dalgleish from river holistic Clontariff, Anne McGennis is a member of the Association of Reflexologists. Anne is fully insured and has 20 years of experience, having received her qualifications in London in 1999.

Anne can provide a Ayurvedic facial massage, which can produce results in one session, but 6 to 8 sessions are recommended to get the full benefits.

"This was an incredible treatment - my skin felt radiant and several people commented on how well rested and well I looked," said happy client Deirdre, from Bray. "It's the perfect treatment for anyone concerned about ageing and looking for a natural alternative to botox."



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Further information on Facebook Anne McGennis Reflexologist

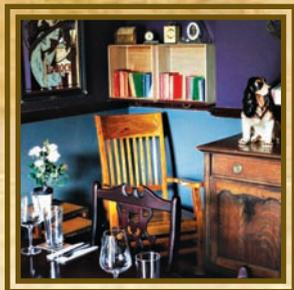
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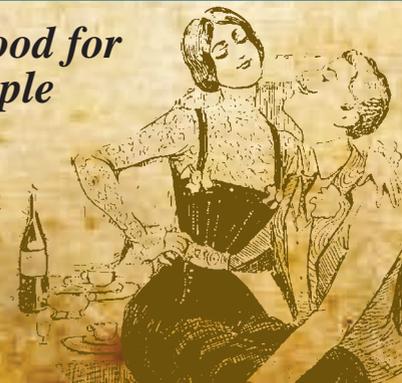


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Pictured at photocall to mark a new campaign from the HSE - mychild.ie - the HSE's new pregnancy, baby and toddler health website and books for parents and parents-to-be are: Monica Uí Dúill and Barra O Dúill and baby Liam (8 months old) from Roundwood. The set of three mychild.ie books are comprehensive reference guides - the 'My Pregnancy' book will be given to pregnant women at their first antenatal appointment. Parents will then receive the next books in sequence, 'My Child: 0 to 2 years' and 'My Child: 2 to 5 years', from their public health nurse. The mychild.ie site contains information on pregnancy, labour, birth, babies and toddlers, along with important advice on parenting. It was developed by doctors, nurses, midwives, psychologists, parenting experts, dieticians and many more experts who worked to create the content for mychild.ie and the books.

Potential gaps in service provision for children and young people in Wicklow

A new report by the Children's Rights Alliance points to potential gaps in service provision for children and young people in Wicklow.

The Children's Rights Alliance's first annual report of its Helpline and Legal Advice Clinics was published last week.

The Helpline and Legal Advice Clinics are part of the Access to Justice Initiative, which aims to ensure all children have access to free legal information and advice when they need it, regardless of their location, status or situation in Ireland.

According to the report Children as young as nine have contacted the Helpline. Twenty per cent of queries from children and young people related to Immigration. These have included incidences of racism, requests for information about transferring from a Direct Provision centre, advice on the rights of unaccompanied minors and the rights of undocumented children. Over 10 percent of calls relate to child protection. These have included issues parents have with Tusla, the Child and Family Agency and

how they have handled their case.

Speaking at the report launch, Tanya Ward, Chief Executive of the Children's Rights Alliance, said: "Our Access to Justice Service helps children, young people and their families in Wicklow and around Ireland through our Helpline and Legal Advice Clinics. It also identifies the areas in which families need further support such as disability, education, child protection, children in care, housing and homelessness.

"What this year's Report points to are potentially significant problems within the most pivotal systems in our society: our legal system, our education system, our healthcare system. We are hearing from children, young people and parents who are struggling to navigate them."

Key findings in the report relate to family law: Fifteen per cent of

calls received by children and young people were about family law issues, and over a quarter of all queries from parents and guardians were on family law issues.

Commenting on the findings, Ms. Ward said: "Young people are being pushed out of a family law system that is crying out for reform. The majority of calls we received on the Helpline related to family law. We have heard from young people worried that their voice was not being heard in family law proceedings.

"This was echoed by parents, who are often unaware of their child's rights in access disputes. We have heard from both children and parents about the stress and anxiety access visits can cause when the child does not want to visit the other parent. We need courts that are family-friendly to provide necessary information and guidance for families in Wicklow going through these pro-

ceedings."

According to the report, education was the top issue being addressed at the Children's Rights Alliance legal advice clinics. Recurring trends include disputes with schools and the difficulty securing places in appropriate schools.

Ms Ward continued "This Report is the tip of the iceberg when it comes to issues facing children, young people and their parents. We will continue to document emerging trends and areas of concern from our Helpline and fill the gap in service provision providing free legal advice specifically on children's rights through our legal advice clinics. However, it is clear that in the areas of family law, child protection, education and disability, a lot more needs to be done to ensure that these systems serve the young people coming to them often at very vulnerable points of their lives."

Funding needed for 'vital dementia supports'

The Alzheimer Society of Ireland has launched its Pre-Budget Submission 2020 'Dementia Supports Across Ireland - Still Asking, Still Waiting, Still Struggling' calling on the Government to start funding vital community supports and home care in a detailed €8.4m national investment proposal that will help support the 1,274 people living with dementia and their struggling families in Wicklow.

Still Waiting, Still Struggling' calling on the Government to start funding vital community supports and home care in a detailed €18.4m national investment proposal that will help support the 1,274 people living with dementia and their struggling families in Wicklow.

The ASI has the body of evidence to prove that people living with dementia and their families are still dealing with inadequate services and supports. Last year's mapping of dementia-specific services in Ireland shows that not only does access to community dementia-specific services vary depending on where you live, but no county has even a minimum level of dementia support.

There are serious gaps in the services provided in Wicklow, with none of the following services available according to the mapping project carried out by ASI and National Dementia Office (NDO): Dementia Cognitive Therapies, Dementia Counselling Service and Dementia In-Home Respite.

Dr Helen Rochford

Brennan, member of the Irish Dementia Working Group and Chair of the European Working Group of People with Dementia, who spoke at the launch in Dublin, has witnessed numerous false dawns as successive Budget Days have come and gone without ring-fenced funding for dementia supports. Helen, who was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease in 2012 and now also a carer for her husband who has a serious health condition, believes that the wait for extra funding must end.

As someone living with dementia, Dr Helen Rochford Brennan, said "I was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease in 2012 after a five year struggle to get a diagnosis. Since then I have campaigned relentlessly so that politicians will change policy and people with dementia are better supported from their diagnosis onwards. But I'm still asking, still waiting and still struggling. I do not believe that my own Government is actually listening. Dementia is the health crisis of our time and it has been completely

ignored in the Budget. People with dementia and their families are sick and tired of waiting - we need extra community supports and home care now. My message to the Government is clear: stop focusing on spreadsheets and start looking at reality and deliver on extra funding for people with dementia in Budget 2020, as I don't know how much more time I have to keep asking."

The ASI is calling on the Government to invest: €7.41m to urgently fund the service gap by providing a minimum standard of community services in each county; €1.68m to Increase the number of Dementia Advisers so that people diagnosed with dementia have access to this crucial support; €6m to expand the number of Intensive Home Care Packages available to people with dementia; €2.3m to fund the role of Dementia Key Workers to provide a care pathway for each person with dementia; €1m to increase the number of Dementia Inclusive Community Coordinators to continue

to support the development of a dementia inclusive Ireland.

The Alzheimer Society of Ireland CEO Pat McLoughlin said: "We were left extremely frustrated last year when the Government decided not to make specific funding available for people with dementia and their struggling families in Budget 2019. There are thousands of families up and down the country who have been struggling to access services for loved ones and as a society we are failing to provide these people with the supports they need. No county in Ireland provides even a minimum standard of care for people with dementia and our funding call on the Government for Budget 2020 would triple the number of services and supports available, including an increase of 13 day centres and 118 Alzheimer Cafés. Currently there are only nine Dementia Advisers covering the whole country and our funding call today would mean that families in every county in Ireland would have access to this key service. This funding could represent a first step in dealing with the inadequate and glaring gaps in services and supports so recently identified across the country."



ASI CEO Pat McLoughlin, Dr Helen Rochford Brennan, Teena Gates and ASI Chairperson John Clifford

Wicklow has less than two-thirds of CAMHS staff required

Co. Wicklow has less than two-thirds of the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) clinical staff it needs, while other parts of the country have less than half the recommended number of staff, it's been revealed.

Figures were supplied to Fianna Fail in response to a parliamentary question. Fianna Fail's spokesperson for Health Stephen Donnelly TD said he is "horrified" by what he termed "a postcode lottery for mental health services".

"Two Community Healthcare Organisation areas, CHO 5 and CHO 7 have less than half the staff needed. CHO 5 which covers the South East (Waterford, Wexford, Carlow, Kilkenny and South Tipperary) has just 44% of the recommended clinical staff", said Deputy Donnelly. CHO 7, which comprises Kildare, Dublin South West, Dublin West and Dublin South City, has 43% of the clinical staff required. This is the biggest CHO area in the country and together with CHO 5 makes up almost a quarter of the population. Wicklow, which is in CHO 5, has less than two-thirds of the clinical staff it needs.

"The criteria for staff numbers are based on the recommendations of the 2006 mental health strategy, A Vision for Change. Nationally some 57% of the personnel required are in place. Thirteen years on this is totally inadequate.

"Long waiting lists for Child and Adolescent Mental Health services stem from the fact that the CAMHS service has barely over half the staff required. The recent annual report from the Mental Health Commission highlighted the ongoing deficiencies in mental health services for children and indeed services generally. What is needed is a clear implementation strategy to bring CAMHS services up to scratch."

IS YOUR BUILDER CIRI REGISTERED?

Twenty-four Wicklow contractors are now qualified for the Construction Industry Register of Ireland (CIRI) competence in construction quality mark. Only 850 companies across Ireland currently have qualified for the CIRI register.

CIRI Spokesperson Lorraine Hosty said: "The consumer knows if a contractor or builder is on the CIRI register that they have passed rigorous examination of their financial, administrative and construction competence.

"With over 45,000 construction companies in Ireland, those 850+ on the CIRI register stand out and have demonstrated their competence and been approved by an independent Board of experts, some of which are nominated by Government. In other

words, the consumer should keep an eye out for the CIRI mark when they are considering home renovation or new build or looking for specialist contractors or tradespeople to carry out construction works.

"From the builder's perspective the CIRI mark is useful when trying to secure work as CIRI is now gaining momentum with public and private sector clients and is often being sought as a competency standard during the procurement process."

To date, CIRI comprises

of over 40 categories covering everything from plastering, plumbing, masonry, roofing, piling, demolition, masonry, glazing, carpentry, flooring, tiling, scaffolding, fire safety, and much more.

As the CIRI website explains, "CIRI is an online register, supported by Government, of competent builders, contractors, specialist sub-contractors and tradespersons who undertake to carry out construction works. Its objective is to be recognized as the primary online resource used by

consumers in the public and private procurement of construction services.

"When engaging a CIRI registered construction entity, consumers can be confident that they are dealing with experienced people. CIRI standards are high and only construction companies, sole traders and builders who meet the strict eligibility criteria are registered on CIRI.

"The registered title is a professional designation granted to an applicant who meets specific requirements as outlined by the CIRI Admission and Registrations Board. Becoming a Registered Builder means that the applicant has subjected oneself to an onerous



Pictured at the launch of the new construction register, the Construction Industry Register Ireland (CIRI), were: Tom Parlon, Director General of the Construction Industry Federation (CIF), Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government, Phil Hogan TD, Philip Crampton, President, Construction Industry Federation (CIF) and Hank Fogarty, Chairman, Construction Industry Registration Board. Picture Conor McCabe Photography.



Minister O'Donovan visiting the CIRI stand at CIF Digicon 2019 June 13th, Croke Park Stadium, Dublin. LtoR: Antoinette Fay, CIF, Paula Thornton, CPAS, Patrick O'Donovan, Minister of State, Department of Finance and Department of Public Expenditure and Reform, Lorraine Hosty, CIF, Sean Downey, CIF. Picture: Maura Hickey.

review process to obtain the designated registration category under the register.

"By registering with CIRI, members commit to delivering excellence in every aspect of their work. They are competent and capable to deliver the job at hand, they run their business in a professional manner and they sign up to continuous professional development to stay at the forefront of construction best practices.

"The Building Control (A m e n d m e n t)

Regulations 2014 state that a building owner is required to assign a competent builder who will construct in accordance with the plans, specifications and Building Regulations, and who will sign the Certificate of Completion. Builders included on CIRI are regarded as competent for projects consistent with their registration profile.

"Whether you're undertaking a renovation project, building or

engaging in home repairs, or a builder looking for a sub-contractor, CIRI provides you with a register of expert building professionals who commit to delivering excellence in every aspect of their work.

"They are competent and able to deliver on the project at hand, they run their businesses in a professional manner and are committed to continuous professional development (CPD) in order to ensure construction best practices at all times.

"The construction industry is regulated under the Building Control Act 1990 - 2014, designed to ensure the safety of people within the built environment. The purpose of the CIRI register is to promote safe and compliant work practices that consumers can rely on with confidence. Hiring a CIRI registered construction professional will ensure that your project is completed by a competent person/company."



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- DM Morris Ltd - Newtown
- Dunedin Construction Company Ltd - Bray
- Esmonde Developments Ltd - Ballynerrin Lower
- GCN Construction Limited - Grange con
- Hollybawn Ltd - Greystones
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Glendalough hosts early career researchers aiming to solve environmental and social issues

A group of 42 young geologists and social scientists from developed and developing countries visited Glendalough recently as part of the Researching Social Theories, Resources, and Environment (ReSToRE) International Summer School this week (1st - 5th July) to tackle the question of how society should meet the challenge of providing water, energy, and mineral resources in a sustainable way.



The group of young geologists and social scientists on their visit to Glendalough

Glendalough was chosen because of the areas historic and economic importance as a mine, as well as for the areas outstanding natural beauty. ReSToRE students studied the local geology and land use and applied this to what they were learning, as social and geoscientists, to the real world.

ReSToRE International Summer School is coordinated by iCrag, the SFI Centre for Research in Applied Geosciences and run under the patronage of UNESCO. It aims to solve the challenge of sustainably providing resources for present and future generations by improving our understanding of both science and society.

Dr Geertje Schuitema, Director of the ReSToRE International Summer School, said, "The ReSToRE Summer School is focused on bringing young researchers together to tackle complex issues of resource sustainability

across the globe. The nexus of social science and geoscience is key in ensuring that development, the environment and people are all considered as both population and resource demand continue to grow. Diversity is a key strength of ReSToRE and through the summer school, we will be building on the diverse experience and skills of participants from 25 countries."

The 42 strong group of researchers were drawn from developed and developing countries including Chile, Tanzania, Colombia, Afghanistan, Finland, Papua New Guinea, Botswana, and Canada. Five Dublin-based researchers also took part.

Participants took part in solution-focused workshops during the week-long summer school aimed at better understanding people's connection with natural resources; determining the best strategies to engage

communities in projects; discovering how to reduce and make use of waste generated during mining; and exploring how to source the earth's resources in a responsible and ethical way.

In addition to the workshops, participants learned from international scholars and practitioners on sustainable development. Speaking about this focus, Professor Murray Hitzman, Director of iCrag, said, "The responsible sourcing of earth resources is a key issue in addressing the UN Sustainable Development Goals. As we transition to a low carbon economy, the metals, natural resources, and energy sources we need will change. iCrag is proud to lead this confluence of geoscientists and social scientists in tackling how we will resource present and future generations in a sustainable way."

County Wicklow's Gelato goes Green!

County Wicklow family-owned business Gino's Gelato is going green having swapped 90% of its packaging for sustainable alternatives, and aims to be 100% sustainable by 2020.

The treat company has been using local sourced organic milk since its inception, creating freshly made traditional gelato daily, in all of its stores across the country. Over the past year Gino's has been making moves to be a completely guilt-free treat option for consumers, swapping around 5 million plastic spoons, tubs, cups and waffle and crepe containers with fully biodegradable replacements.

There is no denying the obvious hazards surrounding the way we consume plastic and the impact that has on the earth and Gino's Gelato founders Jonathan Kirwan and Anthony Murphy were eager to make their mark a positive one.

Co-founder Jonathan Kirwan was moved to change Gino's Gelato environmental footprint in recent years, after watching a documentary on plastic waste in the oceans and how it is affecting beaches in Southern Asia. After tackling the recycling in his own home, Jonathan realised he needed to tackle the issue within the business.

"It struck me that we sell millions of tubs and plastic spoons each year and this is where we started

making changes," explains Gino's Gelato founder Jonathan Kirwan.

"We strongly felt that it was our responsibility to lead the change in this area. We are taking responsibility for our own environmental impact and putting in the work, so that our customers don't have to. I now want to make our shops as efficient and environmentally friendly as possible."

Gino's Gelato CSR mission is to be a leading sustainable, ethical Irish business. Using organic Irish milk, from The Village Dairy in Carlow, the quality and origin of the milk is hugely important to the Gino's Gelato offering. They believe that its happy Irish cows that make the gelato so special.

"Overall we want our customers to know that choosing Gino's this summer, means choosing a guilt-free, Irish treat," says Jonathan Kirwan. "Happy staff, happy cows, happy customers, saving the planet each day. Not a bad day's work."



Gino's Gelato has swapped 90% of its packaging for sustainable alternatives

Noise action plan for Wicklow

A Draft Wicklow Noise Action Plan for 2018-2023 has been published, and John Brady has encouraged residents who are experiencing high levels of environmental noise pollution in the county to make submissions.

Deputy Brady said "I welcome the publication of the Draft Noise Action Plan; the objective of the plan is to prevent and reduce environmental noise where necessary and particularly where exposure levels can induce harmful effects on human health and to preserving environmental noise quality where it is good. The plan looks at our major road and railways in the county and provides an indication of locations which may be subject to undesirably high levels of environmental noise."

"The plan also outlines different measures that could be taken by the relevant authorities to mitigate against the noise."

Brady continued "This is particularly welcome for residents in places like Johnstown North in Arklow. I have been working with the residents from there for over a year now, and their lives have been made a living hell since the construction of the M11 Rathnew/Arklow Bypass. The road was constructed a few metres from their homes and no form of noise bar-

rier was constructed to mitigate against the noise. The residents have previously handed Wicklow County Council in a petition asking for action to be taken to construct a noise barrier to address the serious problem. I have also been in constant contact with the Minister for Transport and Transport Infrastructure Ireland and they have said getting the area included in the Noise Action Plan is the first step towards having the problem addressed.

"So including places like Johnstown North, Arklow in the Noise Action Plan is critical and I encourage as many people as possible to read the draft plan and make submissions as part of the public consultation process. Accessing funding to address high levels of environmental noise will be based on the final plan, so it's important people have their say. The plan can be viewed online or in the local authority offices and submissions can be made up until 15th August."



London Astrobeat Orchestra will perform songs from the iconic Talking Heads' 'Stop Making Sense' movie, live at Mermaid Arts Centre on Saturday 3rd August. Focusing on tracks from the cult classic albums 'Remain In The Light' and 'Speaking In Tongues' the 'London Astrobeat Orchestra' are a funky, rhythmic, hypnotic, anthemic, uplifting, groovy, percussive, smack on point, earth-shatteringly tight, live band. Tickets cost €24/22 and are available from Box Office on 01-2724030 or online at www.mermaidartscentre.ie



Minister of State for Agriculture Food and the Marine, Andrew Doyle TD, last week launched the next round of the National Apiculture Programme. The National Apiculture Programme will run for the next three years to 2022. It supports research into production standards. EU support for beekeeping is provided through the national apiculture programmes which aim through approved applied research projects to improve the general conditions for the production of honey and other apiculture products in the EU

Dog fouling on the rise in Arklow

Dog fouling appears to be increasing in Arklow. Speaking to *Wicklow Times* Cllr Pat Fitzgerald, Cathaoirleach of Arklow Municipal District, said that there had been an increase in dog-fouling in the area "despite the best efforts of the council". He added: "there are some people who pick up the dog poop, but others just ignore it. It is a disgusting habit."

When asked if prosecutions for dog-fouling have acted as a deterrent against the habit, Cllr Fitzgerald said that: "there have been some prosecutions, but not enough." Arklow is without a designated dog park, which might alleviate the problem. Cllr Fitzgerald said at

By Sam Doherty

the moment there were no plans for a dog park in Arklow. "It was discussed last year at a Wicklow County Council meeting. It will be brought up at a meeting next week," he said.

Bray Cathaoirleach Cllr Steven Matthews spoke to *Wicklow Times* about the need for a new designated dog-park in Bray: "I would favour the provi-

sion of a dog-park in the Bray district. Ballywaltrim has been previously discussed as a location and was assessed by the council engineer for suitability. I believe funding was proposed in Wicklow's Capital Programme 2017-2019 for provision of dog parks. Provided a dog park is suitably located, designed and well-managed it can provide a valuable social and recreational amenity for dog owners. It can also help reduce dog-fouling in an area. I plan to work to progress this issue during my term as cathaoirleach."

A new dog-park is also being developed in the Greystones Marina area. A substantial amount of work has already commenced on a new dog park in the area, as part of the marina's ongoing development. The planned park will be 15-acres according to Fine Gael councillor Derek Mitchell.

When asked about the issue of dog-fouling in Greystones Cllr Mitchell said that efforts to tackle it were "ongoing" and added: "we have quite a few dog-dirt bins already".

Speaking about the awareness of the public on the health-issue posed by excessive dog waste on the streets, Cllr Mitchell said that: "we have various campaigns to educate people on this".

Cllr Mitchell added "We do ban dogs on the beach, in the life-guard area in the summer."



Arklow resident Liam O'Loughlin says 'the ditch path', the lane connecting Castlepark and Collins Street, is a problem area for dog fouling.

BYE BYE, BIRDIES

A report published by the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, shows a significant decline in wintering waterbird populations generally in Co. Wicklow and countrywide.

The report is based on 25 years of data, with contributions from volunteer counters and staff from BirdWatch Ireland and the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

In the latest survey, Bray Harbour did not support the Mute Swan in numbers of significance despite having reported numbers of international importance in previous assessments - in fact, numbers almost halved over a four-year period, from 100 in 2009/10 down to just 54 in 2012/13.

Seven sites in Co. Wicklow were surveyed as part of the nationwide survey; Arklow Ponds, Avoca River/Arklow, Bray Harbour, Buckrone Fen, North Wicklow Coastal Marshes, Poulaphouca Reservoir, and the Vartry Reservoir.

Surveys of North Wicklow's coastal marshes revealed population declines of a number of species from 2009 to 2016, including the pink-footed goose, from 9 to 1;

the Greylag Goose, from 361 to 304; and the Teal from 552 to 369. Numbers of Little Grebe and Little Egret also declines, though numbers of Shag and red-throated divers increased.

The Avoca River was one of only two sites in the country where Herring Gull numbers fell below 200 since the former period (2001-09), and numbers here have continued to decline, from 187 in 2010 to just 133 at the last count in 2015-16.

The reports expresses concerns about the development of offshore wind technology, stating "Ireland's only offshore windfarm to date was deployed as a demonstrator project in 2004 at the Arklow Bank on the east coast. Licenses have been granted for a number of, larger developments in the Irish Sea which have yet to be built, and a number of other projects are in the early planning and consenting stages. In the short-term, offshore wind energy developments in

Ireland are likely to be concentrated in the Irish Sea as the east coast offers more accessible sites of depths under 50m. Much of the concern surrounding the ecological impacts of offshore renewable devices is centred around seabirds, including seaducks, divers, grebes, cormorants, gulls and terns."

It goes on to say that the impact on Irish seabird species "is based on their relative sensitivities to collision with offshore windfarms, displacement by offshore windfarms, and impacts from wave and tidal devices. Offshore renewable energy devices are thought to pose a high-level threat to Common Scoter, and a medium-level threat to Herring Gull and Lesser Black-backed Gull, as well as to Cormorant, Red-breasted Merganser, and both Great Northern Diver and Red-throated Diver."

One of the success stories in the report in the Gadwall, another breed of

duck, which has increased in population. Buckrone Fen, Brittas, was the second highest ranked site in the country for the Gadwall, and is a newly listed as a site of significance for the species.

BirdWatch Ireland staff made a presentation to the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Culture and Heritage on Tuesday July 2nd, where they revealed that their survey analyses shows that Ireland has lost about half a million waterbirds in less than 40 years.

"There is a long list of actions that need to be undertaken to protect wild bird populations including, strengthening our national laws and their implementation, working with communities to increase awareness of the importance of Ireland for birds, and ensuring that biodiversity on the island of Ireland - a single biogeographic unit, is protected as part of Brexit negotiations," they stated.

Youth voice to play part in Council climate policy

Social Democrats Councillor Jennifer Whitmore has welcomed the inclusion of a representative from Comhairle na nÓg on Wicklow County Council's Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) that will deal with Climate Change and Biodiversity.

Cllr Whitmore, Chair of the SPC, proposed the move to ensure that the voice of young people in Wicklow is heard when it comes to how the Council deals with climate change and biodiversity loss.

Cllr Whitmore said "WCC was the first county to declare a climate and biodiversity crisis, the call for which was made by children and teens across our county. Following on quickly from that declaration, WCC has established a Climate Change and Biodiversity SPC to develop and drive policy in this area. I am delighted that a representative from Comhairle na nÓg, as Wicklow's Youth Council, will take part in the SPC. It is important that youth voices continue to play a part in these policy discussions to as it is their future that will be most impacted if we don't get our responses to the climate crisis right."

Dermot O'Brien, Coordinator, Co. Wicklow Comhairle na nÓg, said "The key purpose of Comhairle na nÓg is 'to enable young people to have a voice on issues that affect them' so we congratulate the Councillors of Wicklow County Council and the Chairperson of the Climate Change and Biodiversity SPC Cllr Whitmore



Cllr Jennifer Whitmore

for having the foresight to include for the first time a youth rep on an SPC.

"We will take the role and the responsibility that comes with it very seriously and look forward to making a contribution on behalf of the youth voice of Co. Wicklow. We also hope that other County Councils follow Co. Wicklow's lead in this regard."

The draft SPC Scheme is currently out for public consultation until Friday the 16th of August. A copy of the draft scheme is available on the Council's website, wicklow.ie or by emailing lgallagher@wicklowco-co.ie. The draft scheme is also available at the offices of the municipal districts at the following locations and at all Wicklow County Council public libraries.

Application for Redcross houses

A planning application has been submitted to Wicklow County Council to build 10 housing units at Oghill Lower, Redcross.

The development would consist of five detached 2 storey 4 bedroom dwellings, two semi detached 2 storey 3 bedroom dwellings and a terrace consisting of three 2 storey 3 bedroom dwellings.

The application was submitted by Trentglen Ltd. The application includes provision of new service road and connection to existing services together with all ancillary site works. A decision on the application is due by 28th August.

Delgany Thursday Club

The next outing of the Delgany Thursday Club will be on Thursday 1st August to Warblebank Garden, Newtownmountkennedy, followed by light refreshments at Hunter's Hotel, Leaving Christ Church, Delgany, at 2.15pm. Cost is €25.00 per person to include coach, garden and light refreshments. However, if numbers booking are low, it may change to travelling by car by means of car-pooling from Delgany, in which case the cost will be reduced to €17.00 per person. To book contact Peter (086 8307644) or John (086 3566527).



Fáilte Ireland provided a platform for over 30 golf businesses to showcase the best of Irish golf to 100,000 overseas and domestic visitors attending the Dubai Duty Free Irish Open in Clare's Lahinch Golf Club last week. As a key sponsor of the Irish Open, Fáilte Ireland brought top Irish golf trade from every corner of the country to the event to promote golf tourism experiences across all regions, and across a longer tourism season. Pictured is Sharon Shadlow, Sales & Marketing Manager, Tulfarris Hotel and Golf Resort, speaking with Stephen Gooney and Darren Homes, from Mullingar

Bray Council to honour local sporting achievements

Whilst congratulating the Bray Emmets U14 girls camogie and football cup winners at the district meeting on Tuesday evening, the Cathaoirleach of Bray Municipal District Steven Matthews suggested that a sports civic reception be held to acknowledge the wealth of sports achievements in Bray District.

A number of local sports stars were suggested by the councillors including Bray Emmets U14s, Daina Moorhouse, Regan Buckley Katie Taylor and Darren Randolph. Speaking after the meeting Cllr Matthews said, "As we have just further advanced our objective for a major local community sports facility it's timely that we pay tribute not just to the sportspeople but also the parents, coaches and volunteers that give so much of their time to our clubs.

"The creation of a sports campus to provide for our growing population is firm objective of Bray Municipal District and I will continue to work on this proposal with our council officials and with the on going support of our public representatives particularly Deputy Stephen Donnelly who I know has been working to progress this."



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Local golfers gear up for World Transplant Games

Arklow man Philip Kavanagh and Greystones man Garry Campbell will be part of the 39-strong Irish Transplant Team that will compete at the World Transplant Games in the UK next month.

The largest ever Irish Transplant Team travelling abroad, they will be among 2000 participants from over 60 countries who will take part in the Games, in Newcastle Gateshead from 17th-24th August.

Philip will be competing in the 70-79 years of age category in Golf Singles, Golf Team, Petanque Singles, Track and Field - 100m. Garry will be competing in the 60-69 years age category in Track & Field - Ball Throw, Archery, Golf Singles, Golf Team, and Ten Pin Bowling Doubles (partnering with Michael Dwyer).

Philip is a retired scientist. His main hobby has been playing golf in Arklow Golf Links where he was Captain in 1988 and President in 1993.

Thanks to Transplant Team Ireland, he started running and has taken part in nine Run for a Life events. He won a gold medal in Poland and Silver medals in the 2010, 2014 and 2016 ETDC in golf respectively, and is looking forward to partaking in this year's games in Newcastle.

"Thanks to my donor I am able to partake in these Games and I am grateful and proud to be able to represent Ireland in promoting Donor awareness. It affords me an opportunity to promote Organ Donation through visible healthy participation in sport. The games are a great social occasion and I look for-

ward to meeting new and old friends. To come home with a medal from a World games would be very nice!"

Garry received a kidney transplant in 1996. In September he will celebrate the 23rd anniversary of his life changing kidney transplant which he underwent when he was 41 years old. Garry feels fortunate that he was only on the transplant waiting list for a year until his deceased donor kidney transplant came along.

Garry took part in three previous World Transplant Games including France, Canada, Thailand and Spain and he also took part in the European Games when they were held in Hungary and Dublin. An avid and successful golfer, Garry always took home medals when he participated at previous

games in Golf - a Gold from France, a Silver from Canada and Bronze from Thailand.

Garry said, "I am looking forward to returning to the team and renewing old friendships with other transplantees from all around the world. My participation and the Games are all about recognising our donors. I have had a great life thanks to my donor and my transplant has allowed me to see my children Tara and Gavin grow up and become a grandfather to Conor. I would like to acknowledge the support of head golf pro Karl Holmes from Greystones Golf Club for helping me prepare for the Games."

A keen golfer, Gary is particularly looking forward to this year's World Transplant Games, as he will get to play golf where Irish pro Paul Dunne won

the British Masters.

The Irish Kidney Association is responsible for Ireland's involvement in the Games and the National Projects Manager Colin White (from Balbriggan, Dublin) is the team manager. Speaking about the Games, he said, "I am excited about the diverse nature of this year's squad who will represent Ireland at the World Transplant Games 2019. We cover a wide range of sports and have a variety of levels of experience too. Our 5 competitors over the age of 70 are a fantastic example to us all in that sport can, and should, be a life-long habit. Each competitor is an ambassador in their own right and collectively the team sends out a wonderfully uplifting message about how life can be post-transplant".



Transplant Team Ireland's wicklow participants for World Transplant Games Garry Campbell, Greystones and Philip Kavanagh, Arklow with Team Manager Colin White (centre).

Councillors called on to back sports campus

Stephen Donnelly TD has called on the newly elected members of Wicklow County Council to lend their support to the development of a new, purpose-built Sports Campus in North Wicklow.

The Fianna Fáil Health Spokesperson has written to Councillors to congratulate them on their election and urged them to join him in backing the creation of the planned 49-acre facility in Fassaroe.

Deputy Donnelly commented, "Wicklow has a proud sporting heritage, and in recent years we have produced several world-class athletes across a huge variety of sports, including undisputed World Champion Katie Taylor, and Middlesbrough and Ireland keeper Darren Randolph. However, while we certainly don't want for sporting idols, all too often our clubs lack the facilities needed to develop the next generation of superstars.

"Despite the best efforts of the dedicated and selfless individuals that keep these clubs running, sport in Wicklow will never reach potential if we cannot provide clubs with the necessary facilities.

"Take Enniskerry FC for example. It is one of Wicklow's biggest and fastest growing clubs with plans in place for a vibrant and exciting future already mapped out. However, these proposals are currently limited by the club's inability to find appropriate facilities. There are endless examples of clubs in Wicklow struggling with the same situation.

"In light of this, the development of a Sports Campus in North Wicklow that is tailor-made to the needs of the clubs in the area is a once in a lifetime opportunity. It would allow us to create a bright sporting future for Wicklow, ensuring that every child hoping to follow in Katie Taylor's storied footsteps has the chance to follow their dreams.

"Wicklow County Council has signed a contract with a specialist sports consulting firm for the project. Repucon will help planners understand the sporting needs of the area. I have already written to all the clubs and associations in North Wicklow encouraging them to have their say and will facilitate consultation between the clubs and the consultants. Now, I am calling on the newly elected County Councillors to join me in supporting this plan and work together to ensure it moves forward", concluded Deputy Donnelly.

€59,500 funding for festivals

Festivals and Summer Schools across Co. Wicklow are benefitting from €59,500 funding this summer from the Arts Council and the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

Minister Josepha Madigan has confirmed that the Parnell Society (Avondale Trust) is to receive €4,000 in funding from the Government's Small Scale Local Festivals and Summer Schools Scheme.

Additionally Rathdrum Cartoon Festival, Wicklow Screendance Laboratory Arts festival, Bray Jazz Festival, Sacred Spaces Arts festival and

the West Wicklow Music festival are receiving €55,500 in funding from the Arts Council under the Festivals Investment Scheme 2019, receiving €5,000, €4,000, €33,000, €8,500 & €5,000 respectively.

Welcoming the funding, Minister Andrew Doyle said "With names like Parnell and Heaney associated with our wonderful county along with a

strong music and arts tradition; these festivals are reflective of the rich cultural heritage of Wicklow. All of these festivals have a positive impact on their local communities in terms of connecting the residents, attracting visitors, enriching local traditions and developing a sense of pride for the community.

"I welcome the increased funding alloca-

tion nationally of €111,000 from the Department to support Small Scale Local Festivals and Summer Schools taking place around Ireland in 2019 as this scheme assists local cultural events which may not be eligible under funding criteria for larger scale events such as those supported by Fáilte Ireland, the Arts Council and similar bodies.

Details announced for 31st La Touche Legacy Weekend

Details were announced last week for the upcoming 6th Festival of History and 31st La Touche Legacy Seminar run by La Touche Legacy Committee (in association with Greystones Archaeological and Historical Society) and held each year in the Greystones Golf Club.

This year's weekend takes place on Friday 13th -Saturday 14th September with the theme 'Ireland Through the Turbulent 30s'.

The Chairman of the La Touche Legacy George Jones said "since we have moved onto the 30s it is only natural Eamon DeValera who was the dominant figure having come to power in the 1930s would be centre stage of this year's seminar, with David McCullagh of RTE Prime Time returning with his second instalment of 'DeValera Rule 1932-1975'.

Chairperson of GAHS Rosemary Raughter commented "like all Festival of History weekends there are many other interesting talks on the Friday and Saturday including the Jim Brennan Memorial Lecture on Saturday by Dr Margaret Ward giving her views on "Hanna Sheehy



Cllr Tom Fortune, Cathaoirleach of Greystones Municipal District, with Garda Molly Corbett and Declan Green at the Win A Kool House draw in Colaiste Chraobh Abhann, Kilcoole. The house was won by Dave Madden from Ballinteer, Dublin. The draw was a major fundraiser for St. Anthony's Kilcoole FC and Kilcoole GAA Club.

Skeffington". Bray born Professor Fergal McGarry now working in Queen's University, Belfast will give his views on 'Ireland's View of Fascism and Communism'."

The weekend lectures will be rounded off with Historian John Dorney's talk on 'Franco's Irish Volunteers' and Dr.

Claire McGing of NUI Maynooth on 'Widows and Daughters in Dail Eireann'. The seminar dinner will take place on Saturday night at 8pm in Greystones Golf Club.

Tickets available at usual prices. All Lectures €30. All Lectures+Seminar Dinner €50 from GAHS, 01 2875678.

New Dunlavin defibrillator

A Life Saving Defibrillator has now been erected outside dressing room no 1. At Dunlavin GAA grounds.

Defibrillators can also be located in the following locations throughout the town: Outside Centra, Scoil Níocláis Naofa, St. Kevin's Community College, Dunlavin Health Centre, Dunlavin Bacon Factory, Dunlavin First Responders.

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Undisputed Lightweight Champion Katie Taylor was in attendance at an exclusive Sky VIP event in The Lighthouse Cinema in Dublin.

Wicklow delegation visits Wuerzburg

A 23-strong delegation from County Wicklow travelled to Wuerzburg in Germany recently for the St Kilian's Festival which coincided with the visit of President Michael D Higgins.

Amongst the delegation were the Chief Executive of Wicklow County Council, Mr Frank Curran, and the Leas Cathaoirleach, Cllr Pat Kennedy, who were invited by the Mayor of Wuerzburg to have lunch with President Higgins.

The full delegation was invited to a reception at the Mainfranken University Library where the President was accompanied by his wife Sabina; Tanaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Mr Simon Coveney TD; Ambassador Michael Collins and Mrs Collins; First Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs, Ms Aoife McGarry (who is from Bray) and Head of Protocol at the Department, Mr Feilim McLaughlin, amongst others.

The members of the delegation also attended a lecture by Dr Declan Marmion of Maynooth University, and also the Kiliani parade, the opening of the festival and the

procession and High Mass at the Cathedral.

Speaking at one of the events, Mr Curran said he looked forward to meeting the Councillors of Stadt Wuerzburg and the members of the German Irish Society, saying: "I know that there are very warm friendships established between our communities which even predate the official partnership. You are great Ambassadors for County Wicklow and we look forward to welcoming you, your friends and families to Wicklow again."

He pointed out that County Wicklow's very strong official relationship with the City of Wuerzburg was almost 20 years old and to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the signing of the Partnership Agreement in Bray "we look forward to welcoming a delegation from Wuerzburg in October of this year."

Cllr Kennedy said it was a great honour to lead the delegation from Bray and County Wicklow to

the wonderful city of Wuerzburg adding: "Since its establishment on 1st November 1999 our partnership has fostered genuine friendships and meaningful partnerships between our communities." Thanks were due, he said, to Matthias Fleckenstein of the German Irish Society and George Jones and the Irish German Society and their committees for maintaining this lively vibrant relationship.

He recalled how in April a group of 30 Vice Principals from Regierung Von Unterfranken came to Wicklow as part of an Erasmus Programme saying: "We were happy to help put together a diverse programme and to introduce the relevant colleges and government agencies in Dublin and in Wicklow."

Cllr Kennedy said that through the school exchanges - such as the long established relationship between St Kilians, Bray and the Matthias Grünwald Gymnasium

and the more recently established links between Coláiste Craobh Abhainn, Kilcoole and the Riemenschneider School, and Loreto Bray and the Marie Ward School - "the seeds of friendship had been sown on the very fertile minds of our young people and have seen life-long friendships grow and flourish."

On the 1st November 1999, the first part of the "Partnership Agreement" between Bray, County Wicklow, and Würzburg was signed "in the hope that the seeds of friendship sown between our communities, will grow and strengthen and will benefit our citizens." Cllr Kennedy added: "I think that it is fair to say that this hope has been realised."

The Irish German Society is open to residents of County Wicklow and events and visits organised by the society are advertised. This year marks the 20th anniversary of the partnership of Wicklow with Wuerzburg.

Toyota Land Cruiser Commercial returns as Corolla sales surge

Stats just issued showed that new car Sales in Wicklow for half year to end of June were down 13% on 2018. A total of 1625 new cars were sold across the county in the six-month period.

Nationally, sales of new cars, and UK imports are down approx. 7%. This is somewhat surprising as the economy has never been better - with full employment. But the uncertainty over Brexit is making people cautious and putting of get-

By Martin McCarthy

ting a car upgrade. Across the country for the 191 number plate: 5 Top Selling Car Brands: 1. Volkswagen 2. Toyota 3. Hyundai 4. Ford 5. Skoda; 5 Top car model's: 1. Nissan Qashqai 2. Hyundai Tucson 3. Toyota

Corolla 4. Volkswagen Tiguan 5. Skoda Octavia; Top Selling Car June 2019: Opel Astra.

Summer 2019 will see the return of the legendary, Land Cruiser Business model with a limited amount of first arrivals landing in July.

Earlier versions of the Land Cruiser were adored in Wicklow, where the combination of toughness, high towing capability and being cool made it a compelling combination

Last week I drove the new Corolla Hatchback Hybrid. This is the car that is well worth taking for a test drive if you have never experienced semi electric transport before.

Toyota have been developing and refining the Hybrid, since we first saw it in Mt. Juliet,

exactly 20 years ago. The benefits of mass production mean the price of duel powertrains- electric and petrol, is falling all the time as the combination gets more optimized.

Toyota's hybrids, which are in electric mode on average over 50% of the time, produce less emissions and allow

drivers to make fuel savings on every trip. As an added advantage, all Toyota hybrids are automatic cars. Toyota include 3 years servicing as standard on their new cars pricing is as follows;

Corolla Hatchback hybrid from €26,370 or €210 per month; Corolla Saloon hybrid from

€26,820 or from €215 per month; Corolla Touring Sports hybrid from €28,420 or from €220 per month.

It is interesting that the latest Corolla has push buttons to operate the radio and other electronics. I have often wondered how many people crash after they

pick up a hire car and try to get the all-electronic dashboard radio operate, while driving. The Corolla system has all the features - Bluetooth etc. but is idiot proof - exactly the spec for me.

Toyota have for years had an exceptionally good nose for sensing where their customers

are headed and this shows in every aspect of the new Corolla range. The Estate (Touring) version outsells the other variants in Ireland and it is an option that more Wicklow buyers are likely to opt for. You get a lot more space for a €2,000 premium.



There was a great turnout at the 'So You Think You Know Bray?' table quiz in The Esplanade with €1,400 raised for the Holy Redeemer Refurbishment Project. There was a competitive edge with each team scoring well and only four points separating 1st and 3rd. Mick 'The Book' Kelleher was the quizmaster, with Brian White and Ollie Mahony as MCs and Liam Kelly and Liam MacAidhne as scorekeepers. Pictured are Darine Nuttall, Glencormac, Penny Dunne, from Corke Abbey, and their winning team.

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APPLICATION TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY FOR A WASTE LICENCE

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Article 6 of the Waste Management (Licensing) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 395 of 2004) that Packaging Laundry Limited, having its registered address at The Burren, Manor Avenue, Greystones, County Wicklow, intends to apply to the Environmental Protection Agency (Agency) for a waste licence for its existing waste facility at Unit 4C, Oldcourt Business Park, Boghall Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow (National Grid Reference: 325594, 216897). The application for a waste licence will be made within ten working days of publication of this Notice.

The waste licence will permit Packaging Laundry Limited to accept up to 1,250 tonnes of hazardous and non-hazardous industrial packaging material at the facility per annum. These materials will include empty intermediate bulk containers (IBCs) and empty drums. The packaging materials comprise plastic packaging, metal packaging, composite packaging, paper and cardboard packaging, wooden packaging and packaging containing residues of or contaminated by hazardous substances. Packaging will be refurbished/reconditioned at the facility so that it is made suitable for re-use. Packaging materials (plastic and metals) that are unsuitable for re-use will be prepared for waste recovery or recycling, stored at the facility pending collection for transfer to authorised waste recovery facilities.

The Classes of Activity at the site, as specified in the Fourth Schedules of the Waste Management Act 1996, as amended, are as follows:

Principal Activity:

- Class R 4 – Recycling/reclamation of metals and metal compounds

Other Activities:

- Class R 3 - Recycling/reclamation of organic substances which are not used as solvents (including composting and other biological transformation processes), which includes gasification and pyrolysis using the components as chemicals
- Class R 5 - Recycling/reclamation of other inorganic materials, which includes soil cleaning resulting in recovery of the soil and recycling of inorganic construction materials
- Class R 12 - Exchange of waste for submission to any of the operations numbered R 1 to R 11 (if there is no other R code appropriate, this can include preliminary operations prior to recovery including pre-processing such as, amongst others, dismantling, sorting, crushing, compacting, pelletising, drying, shredding, conditioning, repackaging, separating, blending or mixing prior to submission to any of the operations numbered R1 to R11)
- Class R 13 - Storage of waste pending any of the operations numbered R 1 to R 12 (excluding temporary storage (being preliminary storage according to the definition of 'collection' in section 5(1)), pending collection, on the site where the waste is produced).

A copy of the application for the waste licence, and further information that may be furnished to the Agency in the course of its consideration of the application, will, as soon as practicable after receipt by the Agency, be available for inspection on the Agency's website or at the Agency's headquarters at Johnstown Castle, Wexford, County Wexford

(10th July 2019)

APPLICATION TO WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL FOR A WASTE FACILITY PERMIT

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Articles 7 and 8 of the Waste Management (Facility Permit and Registration) Regulations 2007 as amended that Peter Corrigan of Rathattin, Hollywood, Co. Wicklow intends to apply for a Waste Facility Permit at his lands at Rathattin, Hollywood, Co. Wicklow for the importation of inert subsoils and topsoil for the purposes of land reclamation of a disused sand & gravel pit. The sole activity is Class D1 of the Third Schedule of the Waste Management Act 1996, as amended (Deposit into or on to land (e.g. landfill, etc.)).

The Class(es) of Activity proposed at the site, as specified in Part I of the Third Schedule of the Waste Management (Facility Permit and Registration) Regulations 2007, as amended, are as follows: Class 5. Recovery of excavation or dredge spoil, comprising natural materials of clay, silt, sand, gravel or stone and which comes within the meaning of inert waste, through deposition for the purposes of the improvement or development of land, where the total quantity of waste recovered at the facility is less than 100,000 tonnes.

The application for a waste facility permit will be made to Wicklow County Council within 10 working days of the date of this notice. A copy of the application for the waste facility permit will be available for inspection or purchase, as soon as is practicable after receipt by Wicklow County Council, at the principal offices of Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Whitegates, Wicklow Town A67 FW96.

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Peter Curtis of Bray Specsavers Limited seeks Permission for this development that will consist of new external shop signage. This will include repairing and decorating existing plywood fascia and fitting conservation logo pod illuminated by new trough lighting, at 40 Main Street, Bray, Co. Wicklow, Ireland. 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

I, Tony Lyons, seeks permission for retention of 26.6m2 single storey out-house building used in the storage and handling of honey extraction including separately accessed W.C facility and all related activities and works at Brittas Bay, 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

Terrie Dunne seeks permission for partial change of use of the existing commercial premises including change of use of one of the existing retail units to a one-bedroom apartment at ground floor level and change of use of existing retail/office use to a one-bedroom apartment at first floor level, and associated site works at Terrie Dunne/Townhall Electric, Vevay Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow, A98T2H3. 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

Majorie Hamilton seeks planning permission for Demolition of Existing Garage, Extension to East of Existing House, Additional High level Window to West of House in Rear Bedroom and Widening of Existing Roadside Vehicular Entrance at 22 Mountain View Park, 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 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

S K Design (0402 94680) seeks full planning permission on behalf of Brenda Walker and PJ Mulhall for a change of house design and removal of garage from original permission granted under planning ref:17/1022 at Ballard, Shillelagh, 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

Alphaplan Design (Tel: 086 2461269, Email: eugene@alphaplansdesign.com) seeks planning permission for a dwelling, garage, waste water treatments system to EPA standards, new entrance, driveway and associated works at Cullen Upper, Wicklow, Co. Wicklow for S. Graham. 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 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

I David Morley intend to apply for permission for a 23.4 garden store with car port, 46 sqm garage extension to existing boiler house and associate works at Blackditch, Wicklow, Co. Wicklow. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of Wicklow County Council, County Council Buildings, Wicklow Town, during its public opening hours and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the planning authority on payment of the prescribed fee within 5 weeks from submission of application to Planning Authority.

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